The Antique Model Glider Meeting Switzerland

Aeromodelling enthusiasts don’t just love making use of cutting edge technology and latest research results for their interesting hobby, they also enjoy the old model planes used by their predecessors and pioneers. This is demonstrated at the popular annual Antiques Meeting in Arosa.

The Arosa Antique Model Glider Meetings are not held on some aeromodelling club’s airfield, but at the historic airfield Tschuggen at 2000 m above sea level, where legendary model flying competitions were held between 1937 and 1948.

Competition for classic plywood model gliders, but also for engine-powered models. The Arosa aeromodelling club no longer exists, but the friends of antique aeromodelling are supported by various partners. Viviane Keller, widow of the late Hans Keller, who looks after his collection of drawings is particularly worth mentioning. In the 1970s Hans Keller put a lot of idealism into collecting old drawings of Swiss plywood model aircraft. Without this unique collection of drawings the impressive variety of model aircraft to be seen in Arosa would not be possible. Arosa’s hospitality is another important component of the Arosa Antique Model Glider Meetings. The “Tschuggenhütte”, a mountain hut near the airfield, provides a venue for meetings in poor weather.

The engine-powered classic “Riedstern” plywood model airplane 1941.

Antique Model Glider” Pilot 5”, 1944 Span: 2 m

models were propelled by 2 ccm dyno diesel engines. The diesel engine dating from 1941 is a Swiss invention that was later copied in other countries. These engines have proved to require a lot of very fine tuning and the altitude of 2000 m reduces their efficiency. In the 1940s such models were of course flown without radio control. Demonstrations are beautifully set off by the glorious alpine panorama and our incredible aeromodelling history is carefully treasured. The next meeting in Arosa will be held on 24th and 25th June 2006.