

OUTLOOK

Sky Knights dive in to cross-country effort

BY TIFFANEY O'DELL

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Gresham's Gregg Marshall joined a long line of pilots throughout the United States when he flew a radio control model airplane at the Sky Knights field in Orient on Friday, Dec. 10.

He became the 250th registered pilot to fly the SQUIRT WWA-08 park flyer over a portion of the United States as part of the Wings Across America effort. The monumental undertaking to get 380 registered pilots and 240 Academy of Model Aeronautics chartered clubs to fly the same battery powered airplane in all 48 contiguous states started in 2008. The plan is to cover a distance of 18,000 miles with pilots hand-delivering the plane to the next club. The model will never be shipped by mail.

"It left Virginia on June 7, 2008," Marshall says. "It began the year in New Mexico. It's a neat little endeavor. I'm glad I was part of it."

Marshall and other club members flew the model, and he delivered it personally to the next pilot in Auburn, Wash. The park flyer will now make its way back east.

For more information on the effort, check out the website, waa-08.org.



JIM CLARK / THE OUTLOOK

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