

May Edition

# Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: Tuesday, May 18th. Time: 7:30 P.m.  
Veterans Memorial Bldg. (Northwest Room) Across from Fairgrounds

**Get there early for your free door prize raffle ticket!**

[www.wcflyers.com](http://www.wcflyers.com)

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

## 2004 Club Officers:

President: Stevo Smith (707) 523-4703 [bigtex@speakeasy.net](mailto:bigtex@speakeasy.net)



Vice President: Phil Leech (707) 538-8557 [leechstudios@sonic.net](mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net)



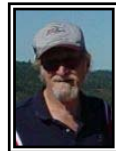
Secretary: Larry Miller (707) 577-0496 [exefire@aol.com](mailto:exefire@aol.com)



Treasurer: Tom Haddorff (707) 526-7058



Member @ Large Sid Maxwell (707) 584-4428 [airman1x@msn.com](mailto:airman1x@msn.com)



## 2004 Board Members

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## Newsletter and Website

Newsletter Editor	Phil Leech (707) 538-8557 <a href="mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net">leechstudios@sonic.net</a>
Contributing writers this month	Sid Maxwell, Phil Leech, sTevo Smith, Larry Miller, Ralph Grella
Website:	Patrick O'Halloran

## *A Preview of our April Meeting*

submitted by Phil Leech

The upcoming meeting next Tuesday should be special for several reasons.

We will probably be flush with excitement from the previous weekend's "Opening Day Event" but we will also have a report from Steve Cole and Brody Carlson about delivery of our new canopies and a preview of what to expect regarding their installation at the field. J.T. Williams plans to give us a heads up about the Healdsburg Planning Commission Meeting that he attended and the stunning results that he discovered. Looks like we can look forward to many more years at the Transfer Station Site, especially if we play it right. You won't want to miss this!

Ralph Grella has a nice line-up of prizes for May, see his article on page 7.

There will also be the traditional gallon of fuel for the door prize.

For Show and Tell we are lining up videos of the P-51 flight shot from the ground before takeoff and in-flight footage taken from Mike Cingari's Maule by Steve Cole half hanging out of the airplane to get the amazing shots.

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**May 4, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Stevo Smith.

Members present were Gary Child, Guy Nicholas, Tom Haddorff, Larry Miller, Phil Leech, John Reade, Sid Maxwell, Ralph Grella, and guest Rob Jensen.

The first item of business was the schedule of events for the Opening Day demos. Rob gave us a rundown on what he has lined up. A flyer will be sent out outlining what he has planned. Next was the work assignments being coordinated by Sid. So far, everything is under control. Ralph and Sid are setting up the raffle and getting the prizes. Brian Blackburn is making signs for the booths and parking.

Sid announced a work party for the day before the event, Friday, May 14th, for those who can make it. Any help would be appreciated. The new club T-shirts and hats are done and will be picked up in a day or two. Prices are

as follows: T-shirts are \$15.00, hats will be \$10.00, and polo shirts are \$25.00. More club applications and information sheets are being printed up to replenish our supply.

For those who don't know, Guy Nicholas took his P-51 flight on Monday, May 3rd, and it was video taped by several people and is now in the process of being edited. It will be shown for show and tell at the next meeting. Also, at the same time, Tom Haddorff went for a ride in an AT-6. Mike Cingari flew his aircraft in formation with the P-51 with Steve Cole in the passenger seat taking air to air videos. Ralph will again pick up the raffle prizes for the meeting.

Our Opening Day event will have as a special guest, **Glen Ballard**. Most of you newer members probably don't know him but he was a real special guy. Glen didn't get into R/C until he was **80** years old. He was a regular fixture at the field on weekdays and flew up until just a few years ago when his eyesight began to fail him. He will be **93** years old in just a few more days. A couple weeks ago, Joe Geiger was doing some repair work at Glen's house when the subject of model aircraft came up. Glen told Joe that he was in the WCF club also, so to make a long story short, he asked Joe if he could arrange for someone to bring him up to the field some weekend, as he can no longer drive, so that he could see some of his old friends and see the models fly once again. Well, Larry Frank has volunteered to go and pick him up and bring him up to our Opening Day event. He will be the guest of Joe and is looking forward to once again being in on the action at the field.

The county has approved of our new canopies, they have been ordered, and we will have a special meeting to discuss the installation procedure and put together a work party to do the work.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

## MINUTES GENERAL MEETING

4/20/04

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Stevo Smith.

There were 38 members present. New members were introduced to the group and welcomed into the club.

The door prize drawing was held with Gary Child winning the monthly free gallon of fuel.

**President's Report:** Stevo informed us that he can no longer publish the newsletter. Phil Leech has volunteered to take over that position. He has been helping with that chore for quite a while now and is well qualified to do the job. Stevo also mentioned that he was informed by one of the members that he had found the impound shed unlocked with the door standing open when he arrived at the field one morning. He reminded everyone to be sure to lock up if they are the last one to leave the area. He then proceeded to inform us that he had recently acquired a new helicopter so he'll probably be spending a lot of time down at the south end of the field.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom Haddorff reported on the club's finances and informed us that we now have 115 paid up members.

**Secretary's Report:** The membership voted to approve the minutes of last month's meeting as published in the newsletter.

**Old Business:** Sid Maxwell asked for volunteers to help out at the Opening Day Extravaganza coming up next month. He also reported that he has picked up for the club a new PA system. It is rated at 250 watts and has four speakers. He also had some ideas for the raffle at the event.

**New Business:** Steve Cole and Brody Carlson made a presentation on the results of their search for new canopies for the field. Everyone liked their choice and it was brought to a vote. Their decision was unanimously approved, so, pending approval from the County, we will go ahead and make the purchase.

John Reade announced that there will be a work party on Saturday, April 24th.

John Stoufer mentioned that his wife had made us a new wind sock for the field.

Rob Jensen reported that the flyers have been made for the Opening Day event and will be distributed immediately.

Ralph Grella told us that the winner of the P-51 ride can schedule the ride at their convenience as the P-51 will be out of town on the day of our event, thus no flyby. Sid showed us the plaques that will be presented to the winners of the next combat event.

**Next up was the raffle.** Our web site guru, Patrick O'Halloran, won a OS .40 AX, Jim Montgomery took home an Extreme 540 aircraft, little Brody got a club jacket, Tom got an aircraft stand, John Lehtio won a WCF shirt, Sid got a Ni-Starter, Gary won a shirt, and Stevo got the coveted hinges.

**Now came what everyone has been waiting for, the drawing for the P-51 ride. The lucky winner was Guy Nicholas.**

**For Show and Tell,** John Reade told us of his adventures flying at the open house at the Woodland-Davis flying field. He was having a great time flying his plane when, all of a sudden, he had no more control and it crashed. It seems that a pilot on his same frequency, had turned on his radio without the pin in his possession. This pilot turned out to be the vice president of the local club. He felt so badly of his dumb mistake that he immediately left the field and headed for the local hobby shop. When he returned, he had a new plane, new engine, and new servos for John to replace the items lost in the crash. He even offered to stay up all night and build the plane. John declined the offer to build the plane but gratefully accepted the replacement parts.

Wayne Frederick brought in a pattern plane and gave a great talk on pattern flying. Also, Larry Miller had his Fokker D-VIII on display.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

## COMBAT AIR SQUADRON

Extra-----Extra-----Read all about it. The results are in.....

On April 25,2004 the Combat Exhibition was held at Alexander Valley Field. We had many combat pilots flying in the , "Battle of Britain". We had one midair,3 streamers cut, nip and tuck battles for first place and enough fun to go around for everyone.

It was a hot day, temperatures in the high 90's. The contest went very smooth and the skill of the combat pilots brought joy to your heart and a smile to your face. Their skills were remarkable.....

The results were:

1st-----Kevin Rankin

2nd-----Brian Blackburn

3rd-----Patrick O'Halloran

All three received a good looking plaque with a P-51 engraved.

The next Combat Exhibition will be on June 5. On that day we will have the , "Invasion of Italy". Then the next Combat Exhibition will be August 29 so all the combat pilots who didn't make it this time will have enough time to their your planes together.

We need all the pilots we can get. The Combat Exhibition on June 5 is shaping up to be the best one ever.

Take the challenger-----fly combat.....  
Sid Maxwell



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Submitted for sTevo Smith by Phil Leech

Stevo will be leaving for a training session in Texas to learn how to coat bathtubs. The training session starts on Monday, May 17 and lasts through most of the week . So, he will miss the general meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Anybody out there want their bathtub rejuvenated? Stevo's got to be the guy! The following week Stevo and his wife Dee Dee will be enjoying a cruise in Southern California. Catalina Island, Baja California and parts south to Mexico. Bon Voyage, Stevo!

## FIELD HAPPENINGS

Submitted by Phil Leech

The P-51 ride was originally planned for our Opening Day Event. It was a great idea but it ran into a few snags along the way. The final blow happened when we were informed that the P-51, pilot Dan Vance and crew were scheduled to perform at an Airshow at Chino in southern Cal. on the 15<sup>th</sup>. So much for that. Ralph Grella worked with Dan Vance and Guy Nicholas to coordinate a time that would work for both parties and as it turned out there wasn't much time to get the word out to everybody, but we were able to get about a dozen guys together to share the experience with Guy. So, it was a beautiful early evening on Monday May 3 at 6 o' clock that we gathered at Dan and Art Vance's hangar where they were hard at work installing a recently re-built Rolls Royce Merlin engine in their military style P-51. It had always been a possibility that the ride would be in this aircraft but the engine re-build project made that prospect doubtful. The ride would have to be in the Vance's second P-51 "Lady Jo" , a beautiful silver and blue airplane complete with black and white "invasion stripes" that were used on WW2 aircraft during the Normandy invasion in June 1944. This aircraft has been modified to provide a passenger seat and dual controls. Somehow, J.T. Williams wangled about 4

minutes time sitting in the pilot's seat. Just enough time to get some great shots of J.T. with his shades on in the cockpit of the P-51. He did look great. Later, Dan Vance got Guy properly installed and buckled up in the rear seat. Guy was "ear to ear" and obviously enjoying it all as he called us all "you losers" which was of course, true. We all fell silent as Dan cranked up the Merlin and the prop began to turn with the starter motor wailing....and then..Pop...Pop...followed by that amazing roar of a Rolls Royce Merlin settling in to that famous purring, nasty sound! Amazing! Dan skillfully taxied the Mustang out to the taxi strip and proceeded to the north end of the runway where he turned and took off to the south. Mike Cingari was already airborne in his Maule with Steve Cole ready to play cameraman. They attempted to catch up with the Mustang but it looked like "Good Luck" as the Mustang pulled away as it climbed and turned back to the north. At about this time Tom Haddorff came taxiing by in a T-6, smiling and waving. They would attempt to get alongside the Mustang too but I don't think they would ever catch up. The ride was supposed to last 20 minutes and I noticed my watch was at 6 o' clock as the Mustang took off and there it was touching down at 6:20. At \$25/minute it gets pretty expensive and Dan had things timed accordingly. All in all it was a great experience and one that I'm sure we will all remember. Can't wait to see the videos at next Tuesday's meeting!



J.T. gets his four minutes in the Mustang cockpit



A "High Five" from Tom



"Hey, you losers!"



Installing the re-built Rolls Royce Merlin

## **R C Fashion Wear**

The new club hats and shirts(T-shirts and Polo shirts) are here and will be on display and for sale at the Model Air Show.

John Stoufer  
538-1636

## **DICE RAFFLE**

At the Model Air Show on May 15 we plan to have a raffle namely a , "dice raffle".

A large 6" dice you can roll for extra tickets. For every \$5.00 you spend you get one roll with a chance to get (1) ticket, (5) tickets, or (10) tickets. For \$20 you could get 60 tickets if you are lucky.....

So come on out for the Big Raffle and the Big Show

## **BATTLE FLOYD ALERT**

Building this , "Battle Floyd", is easy and fun and as it takes shape it looks like its going to be a real good flying combat plane. It will be ready to fly at the Model Air Show on May 15. It has a 42" wing with rubber bands, a 28"x2"x2" fuselage, 16" stab, 6" fin and a 15 Magnum engine. The Fun Bat had a 37" wing.

If anyone is interested in a Battle Floyd let know and I'll order a half dozen. They sell for \$25 and come from Eureka, California.

Sid Maxwell.....584-4428

FEARLESS FLYER

## **FLYING WITH A FLIGHT PLAN**

"If you don't know where you are going how do you know when you get there".

This is something we can use when flying. Knowing where you are going and flying with a flight plan can help your flying skills and reduce the chance of a mishap.

Here is a good article I came across recently.  
Flight Plan

Have a flight plan in mind for every flight.

This can be learning a new maneuver, improving a new

maneuver you already know or learning how a model behaves under certain conditions such as high and low rates. Not only do you improve your skills but more importantly you do not surprise yourself by impulsively attempting a maneuver and suddenly finding that you run out of time, altitude or airspeed. Every maneuver should be deliberate not impulsive. For example, if you are going to do a loop check your altitude, check your wind direction, remember to throttle back at the top and make certain you are on the desired rates. A flight plan reduces the chance of

crashing your model just because of poor planning and impulsive moves.

So always stay in control, fly in a safe manner, THINK, and don't forget to have fun.

There you have it. Now you know where you are going. You should be so lucky.....

Sid Maxwell

## **MONTHLY RAFFLE**

Tiger 2-ARF

OS .46 AX

Zagi electric

Ensemble of club wear (3)

Graphics-new feature this month(graphics provided by JT Williams & son)

Hinges-Red is researching some unique hinges for this month and they will be super secret and cool

Ralph Grella

## EVENTS CALENDAR 2004



Opening Day Air Show	May 15 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Pylon Racing	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday
Combat	June 5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Pylon Racing	June 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Learn to Fly Day	June 26 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Day on the Pond	July 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Pylon Racing	July 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Fun Fly	July 24 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Pylon Racing	August 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
PCAM Air show Santa Rosa Airport	August 21&22 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday & Sunday
Combat	August 29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Neil Taylor Day	September 11 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Pylon Racing	September 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Combat	September 25 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Christmas Party	December 11 <sup>th</sup> Saturday



**P.O. BOX 4198  
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