

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: Tuesday, July 20th. 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

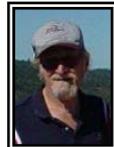
Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

2004 Club Officers:

President: Phil Leech (707)538-8557 leechstudios@sonic.net



Vice President: Sid Maxwell (707) 538-8557 airman1x@msn.com



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



Treasurer: Tom Haddorff (707) 526-7058 thaddorff@neteze.com



Member @ Large John Reade (707) 545-9831 john.e.reade@gte.net



2004 Board Members

Brody Carlson (707) 545-8272 brody@connectionsit.com
John Stoufer (707) 538-1636
Gary Child (707) 579-2325 garychild@sbcglobal.net
Guy Nicholas (707) 544-2141 guy@gui-soft.com
Ralph Grella (707) 539-0187 rgrella@msn.com

Newsletter and Website

Newsletter Team
Website:

Phil Leech, Sid Maxwell, Larry Miller, Ralph Grella, Patrick O'Halloran, Guy Nicholas
Patrick O'Halloran

Presidents Corner

Fellow club members,

As you may or may not be aware, I have been having a difficult time balancing my workload and personal time with my club responsibilities. I have served on the board for about 3+ years now and 6 months as president. Due to my workload, health issues and personal obligations I feel I can no longer serve in these positions. It is with a heavy heart that I have come to this decision but feel I must in the best interest of the club and ultimately myself and family. I have struggled with this because I have really enjoyed serving on the board and trying to do things that will benefit the club as a whole. It was my goal as president, along with the board, to help get a few things done this year and I feel that together we have accomplished quite a lot. I am proud of the job we have accomplished and know that our new president, Phil Leech along with the rest of the board will continue to carry on in the best interest of our fellow members. Please accept this to be my formal resignation as President of the Wine Country Flyers and also from my duties as a board member. I hope that when I get things in a little better order that I can serve again in some capacity but at this time it is just not possible. Thank each of you for your support personally and of the club. See ya at the field.

Sincerely, sTevo smith

Stevo Steps Down

With much regret Stevo Smith has made the decision to resign his position as President and Board Member of Wine Country Flyers. We all appreciate the many contributions that Stevo has given to us over the past several years but respect his need to take care of personal affairs and priorities. The Board has acted to fill Stevo's Offices as per our By-Laws and their actions are highlighted in the Board Meeting Minutes. We all wish Stevo the best and hope that he will be able to participate in whatever way works best for him.

A Preview of our July Meeting

submitted by Phil Leech

There will be discussion and planning regarding the upcoming "Fun Fly" that is scheduled for July 24. The Board has decided on a theme for the Fun Fly and that is to recognize the service the club has received over many, many years by Larry Frank. So the "Larry Frank Fun Fly" will feature a number of events including a Limbo Event.

We are told that the Limbo Event is one that has challenged Larry a number of times in the past. The Event Directors are Ralph Grella and Guy Nicholas and we can expect them to give us a rundown of what they have planned for us.

Sid Maxwell will give us a play by play of what happened on SAL Lake at the July 4 Splashes and Crashes Float Fly.

Steve Cole will be on board to bring us up to date on the progress at the field with the Canopy Project.

Ralph Grella has a nice line-up of prizes for July, see his article on page 6.

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

For Show and Tell, Red Jensen and Brody Carlson will present their jet turbine powered "EuroFighter" This is a very sophisticated airplane with so much wiring and plumbing that it seems like you must need a degree and a license to fly it. This is something most of us can only dream about but it is a spectacular airplane that you won't want to miss!

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES June 15, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Phil Leech at 7:30 pm.

There were 26 members present.

Several new members were introduced to the group.

Sonoma Hobby Shop owner, Richard Beck, was in attendance and he brought along some nice items which he donated to the monthly raffle. Thanks, Richard.

The first order of business was to hold the drawing for the free monthly door prize. A gallon of fuel was won by new member Ken Sweet.

Treasurer Tom Haddorff gave his monthly report on the status of our finances.

The Secretary's report was voted on and approved as printed in the newsletter.

Rob gave a report on the last pylon race which turned out to be a rather informal event.

Sid reported on his progress on putting together the Learn To Fly Day event. It appears he has everything well under control as usual.

The new canopy committee reported that they are on the road from the factory and should be here within days.

Larry Miller, chairman of the PCAM airshow committee, stated that he has been in contact with the show director and they are looking forward to having us there again this year. Our flying demos last year were a big hit with the spectators. Rob will again put together the flying demo and we will be looking for scale aircraft for the static display.

Sid reminded everyone of the upcoming July 4th float fly event at the pond. Since the regular field will be closed for the holiday, put some floats on your plane and come on out for some wet and wild fun. Sid always puts on a great event.

The next pylon race will be on Sunday, July 11. There will a flyer out about this soon.

Phil announced that there was a swap table at the back of the room so, for future meetings, bring in your unwanted stuff to sell or trade.

For Show and Tell, Guy Nicholas brought in the video of the P-51 ride he won at our opening day event. We also had Gary Child with his Great Plains Super Sportster .60 sport aircraft that he just recently finished putting together. John Reade related to us the fun he had at the recent Northern California Float Fly up north. He didn't lose any planes at this event.

Lastly, we held our usual meeting ending raffle. The first ticket drawn belonged to Ralph Grella and he chose the Ultra Stik .40

ARF. Ralph then drew a ticket held by Dan Coffman, who chose a new pilot figure to put in one of his aircraft. The next winner was Gary Child who picked a field box followed by Bob Rose who got a Hi Starter. Steve Cole won an assortment of glue, John Reade got some Z-bend pliers, Phil got a volt meter, Joe Kagan got an aircraft stand, Guy won a prop reamer, Tom got a wing hanger, Sid Maxwell took home a FF airplane, and Ken Melani won several rolls of Ultracote. The members were extremely disappointed that Rob had forgotten to bring the hinges for the raffle, but he promised to bring twice as many for next time.

There being no more business to take care of, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller, Sec.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 6, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Phil Leech at 7:00 pm. Members present were Guy Nicholas, Larry Miller, Sid Maxwell, Ralph Grella, Brody Carlson, Gary Child, John Reade, and Tom Haddorff.

The first order of business was the reading of a letter of resignation from President Stevo Smith. He stated business and family obligations are demanding a lot of his time and it is only fair to the club that he leave his post. With reluctance, the board accepted his resignation. He has done a lot for the club in his short time in office.

Phil Leech was select to move up to the office of President, Sid Maxwell will take over as Vice President, and John Reade will become the Officer at Large. Ralph stated that he had talked to John Stoufer and that he would be willing to fill the vacancy left on the board by the reshuffling of positions.

There was a discussion of sending everyone a hard copy of the newsletter because some people have mentioned that they either rarely check their email or they just aren't receiving it. Due to the cost to the club of

mailing it to everyone, we will keep it as is for the time being.

A discussion was held on the outcome of our recent Learn to Fly day. It was determined that it was quite successful in spite of the terrible wind we experienced that day.

Steve Cole will be putting up the framework for the first several canopies next weekend. By the time you read this, the framework on most of them should be in place.

Tom and Guy talked about coordination of the roster between them. They have something worked out to better keep track of things.

On Saturday, July 24th, Guy and Ralph will be hosting a fun fly at the field. Larry Frank will be our guest of honor at this event.

Larry has been a tireless contributor to our club in the past but in recent times health issues have caused him to have to take it easy. We miss seeing him at the field and looking at the beautiful scale aircraft he builds.

Sid suggested that we look into soliciting paid advertising for the newsletter. He will be investigating this idea to report back to the board at a future date.

Sid also gave us a briefing on the recent float fly he hosted at the pond. They had a great time despite the loss of several aircraft. John Reade, Julio Alvarez, and Art Sutter were presented plaques for their expertise at the event.

Ralph gave us a rundown on what he has planned for prizes at the next raffle.

Larry reminded everyone of the upcoming pylon race on Sunday, July 11th. We should have a pretty good turnout for this event.

A discussion was held on the issuing of credits for work parties, etc.

Brody reported that he and Rob are still working on the new training syllabus.

Tom mentioned that he noticed that we are not getting enough interest on our CD so he will be looking at other banks for a better deal.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller, Sec.

YOUR NEW PREZ

Hey, I wasn't elected to this Office but I'll still do the best I can for the remainder of the term. I know I can count on all of you for help when it's needed. We still have a lot to look forward to so let's get with it!

Your new President
Phil Leech

VEEP

At the July Board meeting I was elected the new Vice President of the Wine Country Flyers. Because of the recent changes in the club officers.

I will be your VP for the next 6 months. And then.....it's your turn.

Yes, it will be election time and you will have your turn to be an officer, just having fun running the club and helping everyone to help themselves.

I welcome this opportunity to do what I can to benefit the club and members.

your new Vice President
Sid Maxwell

NEW BOARD MEMBER

And a special thanks to John Stoufer who has enthusiastically agreed to join the Board. We'll be putting him to work ASAP! Thanks, John.

DAY ON THE POND REVISITED

The 4th of July was the day for our first annual Float Fly at Sal Lake.

It was a beautiful day, a fun day, a wild day and a day to remember.

Temperature in the high 80's with a medium wind blowing right down the center of the lake. There were 28 people attending with 10 float planes flying.

After about 2 hours of flying the Creature from the Black Lagoon appeared and started snatching as many planes as he could. He was hanging out in the center of the lake and any plane flying over that spot was sure to be pulled in.

After 6 crashes things got back to normal. We had a contest with loops & rolls, touch & go's and splash & dash. It was a fun event with awards to three places. Good looking plaques made by Wayne Frederick.

The results were:

1st.....John Reade

2nd....Julio Alvarez

3rd....Art Sutter

If you didn't make it you missed a lot of fun.

We'll do it again next year so maybe

you'll get a float plane ready and join

us.....

see you there

sid maxwell

FLYERS AT THE POND

This question was asked at Sal Lake on the 4th of July.....

What did you think of our first annual , "Day on the Pond" ????????

It was a blast!!!!!! We should do this more often. It was fun even though I was trying to land with the wind and the bank and rocks was only 30 ft away.

I had a good time.....

John Reade

I liked watching the float planes. It was fun. That's it. Ralph Grella

It was a day to remember. It had everything. Beautiful setting at the lake, perfect day, more than 25 people, crashes, contest, good flying, good fun. What more could you ask for.

sid maxwell

More fun than a barrel of monkeys except for all the crashes. John Stoufer

Wonderful day. The only problem was the crashes. We need more practice on the water. We should go out more often. We should go once a month. It was fun.

Julio Alvarez

It was a great day. The best thing was the camaraderie that we all shared together. Phil Leech

As told to: sid maxwell



Sid's "Sea Dog" is in airplane heaven



"I don't know, what do you guys think?"

Pylon Race - Sunday July 11

The day started out beautifully. It was sunny, warm, and no wind. Since we hadn't seen much sun in several weeks, it was the makings for a great day of racing. Since we were expecting a good turnout and some close racing, we were not disappointed. We had 9 competitors signed up for the days events. Unfortunately, in practice before the racing began, we lost one of the aircraft. Mike Cracchiolo had a mishap on pylon number two and it knocked him out of the action for the day. But he did go on to fly the pace plane for most of the races until it met with apparent radio failure and had to drop out, literally.

Results for the first heat were, in order, Steve Cole, Guy Nicholas, John Reade, and Brian Gaither with a borrowed plane since he doesn't own one yet. Some good, close racing.

The second heat went as follows: Rob Jensen, Brody Carlson, Larry Miller, and Patrick O'Halloran. Both Larry and Patrick cut a pylon and were penalized a lap. Another good race. Rob led the entire time and nobody could even get close.

In the third heat, Rob again kicked butt followed by Steve, Larry, and Patrick. Nobody can catch Rob today.

The fourth heat was anybody's race. But Brian came out on top with his borrowed plane followed by Guy, Brody, and John bringing up the rear.

In heat number five, Rob again beat out everyone followed by Steve, who was having engine trouble, Patrick was third, and Guy brought up the rear by virtue up a cut pylon.

In the sixth and final race, Brian took the top spot ahead of Larry, John, and Brody who did not finish because of a mechanical failure.

Overall winners were Rob in first, Steve second, third was Brian, Guy and Larry tied for fourth place, John and Brody tied for fifth, and finishing up in sixth place was Patrick. Rob's plane wasn't really any faster then anyone else's, it was just his perfect, tight

turns on the pylons that did the trick. Great exhibition of flying.

For some of these racers, it was their first time at this kind of event and they did quite well. I'm sure they will all be back for the next pylon race which will be held on Sunday, August 15th.

At the end of the racing season we will be giving out awards for the best racing performances of the year.

We would like to thank the folks who didn't compete but showed up to help out, especially Joe Kagan and Wayne Frederick, who judged the pylons. Without members like these folks, our events wouldn't be the successes that they are. Thanks again.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller

One final note. After the racing was complete, a number of people stayed to help Steve Cole assemble several more canopy frames that he had brought up with him. Steve's planning on erecting the final two next weekend and maybe getting some of the roofing on, too. So, if you show up to fly, plan on doing a little work first. Steve has put a lot of effort into getting these things up for us so it won't hurt other members to help out a little.



Ace Racer Red

R C Fashion Wear

RALPH'S RAFFLE

The raffle prizes for this month
 Ultrastick .40 with the new color
 scheme of white, blue and red
 ++++++ plus a whole bunch

of little stuff

Proceeds were down a little this month
 because we didn't take in as much money as
 usual last month. So come on guysdust
 off those wallets and pull out some \$20's so
 we can get some better raffle prizes next
 month.

Ralph Grella

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

John Stoufer

EVENTS CALENDAR 2004



Larry Frank Fun Fly	July 24 th Saturday
Pylon Racing	August 15 th Sunday
PCAM Air show Santa Rosa Airport	August 21&22 nd Saturday & Sunday
Combat	August 29 th Sunday
Neil Taylor Day	September 11 th Saturday
Pylon Racing	September 12 th Sunday
Combat	September 25 th Saturday
Christmas Party	December 11 th Saturday



P.O. BOX 4198
SANTA ROSA, CA 95402