

# Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: Tuesday, August 17th. Time: 7:30 P.m.  
Veterans Memorial Bldg. (Northwest Room) Across from Fairgrounds

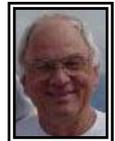
**Get there early for your free door prize raffle ticket!**

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

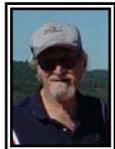
Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

## 2004 Club Officers:

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



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



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



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



Member @ Large John Reade (707) 545-9831 [john.e.reamde@gte.net](mailto:john.e.reamde@gte.net)



## 2004 Board Members

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

## *A Preview of our August Meeting*

submitted by Phil Leech

There will be discussion and planning regarding the upcoming "PCAM Airshow" that is scheduled for August 21-22. Larry Miller is coordinating the event and Red Jensen is scheduling the flying that WCF will participate in. Red is planning an even more ambitious program this year with several jets, aerobatic displays and the popular helicopter aerobatic sequence.

John Reade has prepared solo flight certificates to be presented to two new solos, Paul Swank and Mike Hogan.

Mike Cingari will be onboard with a Show and Tell talk about helicopter fundamental flying principles and a demo flight of a Shogun Electric heli. You won't want to miss this one.

Ralph Grella has a nice line-up of prizes for August starting with a Hangar Nine T-6 ARF. This is a really nice major prize that most everyone will appreciate. Ralph plans to have an additional array of tools and accessories. There will also be the traditional gallon of fuel for the door prize. For Show and Tell,

### **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**July 20, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by new President Phil Leech.

There were thirty one members present. Phil introduced the new Vice President Sid Maxwell, and new board member John Stoufer.

Several new members and guests were recognized by the group.

The door prize drawing was held with Dan Coffman taking home a free gallon of fuel. Treasurer Tom Haddorff gave the monthly treasurer's report. He also stated that we now have 121 members and still growing. The secretary's report was approved as published in the newsletter.

Under old business, Sid gave us a rundown on last month's Learn to Fly Day. We had 31 people take a turn at the controls.

Despite the high winds, it turned out to be a

successful event, and the barbeque was great as usual, thanks to Phil and Sid.

Rob gave us a report on the recent pylon races. We had quite a few competitors show up for a very successful event. There were no midairs this time.

Also, Sid reported on the Day on the Pond event at the Salvation Army Lake. They had a great time even though a few planes were lost to the creature that lurks just under the surface and reaches out from time to time to grab an aircraft. So Sid tells us.

Steve Cole briefed us on the progress of the new canopies. By the time you read this, they will be up and making shade.

Under new business, Ralph Grella briefed us on the upcoming fun-fly he and Guy Nicholas have planned for the 24th of this month. The guest of honor will be Larry Frank, who, for many years, was the driving force in keeping the club strong.

Rob announced that the next pylon race will be held on August 15.

Sid made a proposal concerning using .40 size trainers for combat and pylon racing. Quite a few people thought that this sounded like a lot of fun. Sid will be drawing up plans for these events and an information sheet should be out soon.

Rob suggested that we look into obtaining the main auditorium at the Vets Building for some indoor flying. He will be checking on this for us.

John Reade related to us an experience he had while training at the field.

Ralph talked about raffle prizes for the meetings. The more money we spend, the better the prizes for the next meeting.

Joe Kagan announced that he has a plane for sale. Make an offer.

For show and tell, Rob and Brody brought in their Eurofighter turbine jet model. a very complex aircraft that hopefully will be ready to fly for the PCAM airshow.

The last thing for the evening was the monthly raffle. Jerry Williams was the big winner, taking home an Ultra Stik ARF.

Other winners were Des Shapiro with a digital servo, Ken Milani got a Super Tigre .40 engine, Julio Alvarez won a Monokote iron, Chuck Green got a gallon of fuel, Larry

won a T-shirt, plus a number of other winners to numerous to mention. There being no more business, 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 President Phil Leech.  
Members present were Ralph Grella, Gary Child, Larry Miller, and John Stoufer. Phil brought in a beautiful Piper Cub that was donated to the club by Larry Frank. It was complete, ready to fly, with radio installed and a four stroke engine in place. Larry would like us to auction it off in order to help raise some money for the club. Many thanks to Larry for his generous gift. We will start accepting bids at the next meeting. Ralph gave us a review of the recent Fun Fly held at the field. He did a great job organizing the event and it went quite well. Food sales were down though as we only served 29 meals.  
We discussed the upcoming PCAM airshow and things are coming along nicely. Rob has some great aircraft lined up for the flying portion but we could always use some more scale aircraft for the display area.  
We also talked about the upcoming Pylon Races. In addition to the regular Quickie 500 aircraft we will also be trying out the new .40 size Trainer Racing event. We also talked about the AMA requirement of wearing hard hats during the competition. After researching the AMA rules, it was determined that only officials or competitors actually on the course are required to wear them.  
Phil has given up his role as head chef at our barbeques and turned over his spatula to Bob Film. Since Phil has been using his own barbeque tools, we will be needing to buy a few new tools and plastic containers for the new chef. Cost should be minimal.

Sid's fund raising proposal was tabled until the next meeting due to his absence. Planning was started for the annual Neil Taylor Picnic coming up next month. Gary is still working on finding a bank with a better return on our CD. John Stoufer volunteered to dispose of our old canopy frames. Ralph briefed us on what he plans to get for prizes for the next general meeting raffle. There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

## **LARRY FRANK FUN FLY**

**Saturday, July 24, 2004**

The day started cool and foggy but ended clear and nearly perfect with 15 event participants and 50-60 people attending. Ralph Grella administered the event and it became apparent that our new P/A system with generator as donated by Jack Collins is a tremendous asset. How did we get along before? Ralph was able to announce who was "on deck" and to generally control who was flying and who was up next and finally who had won each event.. It was easy to follow and it made the whole event seamless and consistent.  
The high point of the day was the presentation to Larry of a plaque recognizing the service and dedication Larry has given to us for the past 15 years or so. Larry graciously accepted the plaque along with words of appreciation from Phil Leech and John Reade.



Phil has just presented Larry with his plaque



John tells us about Larry helping him do a little bit of scratch building

Here are the winners of the events:

**MOST LOOPS Will Whitside 39 loops**

**CLIMB/GLIDE Mike Cracchiolo 3:12**

**7-11 Steve Cole :11**

**LIMBO Eddie Garcia**

**HELI DRAG RACES Eddie Garcia**

**AUTO SPOT LAND Mike Cingari**



And what would you do if you had a daughter as cute as Steve Cole's?

### **FLYER OF THE MONTH LARRY FRANK**

When you find a club member that is hard working, sincere, dedicated and loves to fly, you will find Larry Frank. For 14 years Larry has been giving his time and hard work for the improvement and progress of the WCF. His love for the club, RC and scale building has been an inspiration to everyone.

Larry Frank was born in 1921 in Los Angeles. Moving many times from LA to Baltimore over the years. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942. He was discharged in 1946 and bummed around the country for 2 years. Then he settled in LA and started a career as a machinist that would last 43 years, with the last 31 years owning his own tool company.

Larry moved to Santa Rosa from Chico in 1963 and started the "Santa Rosa Tool Co. He retired in 1989. then became interested in RC. While living at his lake front property he decided to build a 5 ft. electric boat, "a destroyer." . It wasn't very exciting because it never left the water. Then he built a PBY with a 8 ft. wing and (2) .61 engines. Well it never flew so he put it on display . Now the RC bug had bitten and he was hooked. So here was Larry, retired, 70 years old and

ready to learn to fly RC. He started with a good teacher, Doug Boucher, a buddy cord and, "a don't give up attitude," I asked Larry how he learned to fly he said, "The hard way but I kept at it until I learned". It took Larry 6 months to solo but he told me how it was for him, "The flying skills went up to a point, when you are in your 70's your reflexes change, you get so sharp then you fall to pieces. Your learning process can be slow". Larry also had a good teacher at the lake, but he had to fly in a cow pasture.

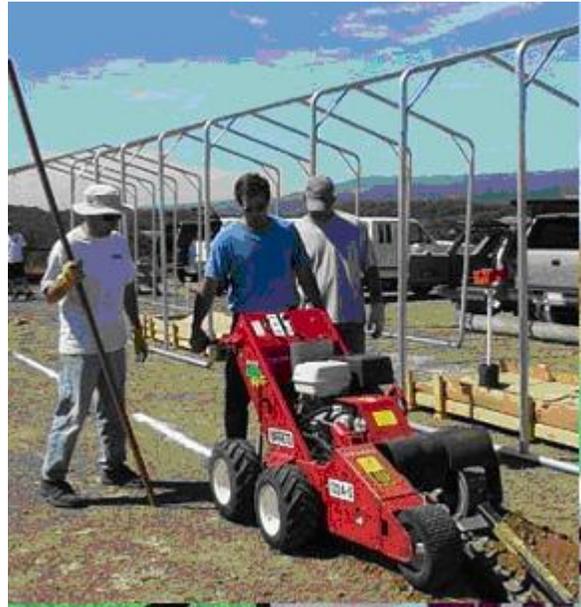
Larry's favorite RC is building scale airplanes. Scratch building and even scratch drawing the plans for his own airplanes. Most of his planes.....no one has ever heard of. "I have built so many planes I can't remember how many, " he said, "but I've built about 20 scale planes".

He joined the WCF in 1989 and has been an active member until recently having trouble with his health. He has been President, Vice President and Board member. I asked him what he liked about the WCF. "The ability to get up and do what you want to do and fly model airplanes. I think it's great, that's why I've stayed with it for 14 years". I asked Larry what advice he could give. "Be congenial and then work everything out, that's a good step forward." For beginners he said, "start with a good flat bottom wing trainer, don't give up and have fun. Larry has trained a number of people to fly and says, "I just enjoy getting up there to fly and just having fun." I asked him about his flying now. "If I get my health back, I'll go fly, until then.....", "For a final word he said, "Don't look back, look forward and have fun". Then he showed me a sign he kept on his desk, it said, "Standing still is preparatory to sliding backwards"

Larry has been married to his first wife Dorothy for 53 years and they have 3 boys, the youngest is 40. When you look back at Larry's enjoyment of the WCF, RC, all the things he he is working on now, you see a guy with a true desire to forward the progress of RC. Larry Frank, "The one and only".

as told to .....sid maxwell

## JULY WORK PARTY



Saturday, July 17 Steve Cole operates a trencher as we work at installing the six new canopy frames. This was followed up by another work party the next day. There were additional work parties the following Tuesday and a final push on Friday to have all of the canopies complete and ready for the LARRY FRANK FUN FLY. A truly amazing display of teamwork and dedication. Special kudos to Brodie Carlson for handling the ordering of the canopies and really special thanks to Steve Cole who took the ball and ran with it all the way to completion. We owe Steve big time.

## KITCHEN KOMMANDER

The changing of the guard has taken place and a new Chief and Cook of our monthly BBQ"S has taken charge. The Chief, Phil Leech, and the Cook, Sid Maxwell, are no longer in the kitchen..The new KITCHEN KOMMANDER will be Bob Film. We will be looking forward to his great burgers and dogs with all the trimmings at our next FUN-FLY.

sid maxwell

## **P C A M E V E N T**

AUGUST 21 & 22

### **SANTA ROSA AIRPORT**

WINE COUNTRY FLYERS WILL FLY AN  
EXHIBITION AT 9am

### **AFTER LEARN TO FLY DAY**

When we first arrived at 8am for the, "Learn to Fly Day", the wind was already blowing 15 mph. The wind sock was straight out and we all had a, "too bad", look on our face. At first appearance you would think there would be no flying today much less teaching someone to fly. We decided if nothing else we would BBQ and play it by ear on the flying. The event was all lined up with 9 Instructors ready to go, John Reade, Brian Blackburn, Steve Cole, Larry Miller, Ryan Muehlbauer, Brodie Carlson, Patrick O'Halloran, Julio Alvarez, and Stevo Smith. We had 6 trainers to fly brought by some of the Instructors and 2 brought by Tom Haddorff and Bruce Haskell. The ground school was in the hands of Ralph Grella, the Quick Charging was covered by Charge Captain Bob Rose and the fuel was handled by Fuel Master Joe Kagan. The Kitchen crew was led by Phil Leech with Ralph Grella, Joe Kagan, Sid Maxwell and John Stoufer helping out. John Stoufer also set up the RC Wear table for our club clothing. All we needed now was the Student Pilots ready for instructions. About 9:30 am Steve Cole arrived and began to fly. Brian Blackburn put his trainer in the air and within a few minutes many other Instructors were flying. I turned the sign-sheets over to Brodie Carlson and he managed the student sign-ups all day long and what a job he did. Good job Brodie. Ralph Grella held a very educational ground school with Steve Cole and Wayne Frederick helping out. In no time there were Instructors teaching and Students flying. There were many families with their own trainers and were receiving much needed assistance from Julio Alvarez, Larry Miller, John Stoufer, Mike Cingari,

Stevo Smith and others. As time went by and the wind increased to 25 mph trainers began to crash. Four trainers went down with only Steve Cole and Brian Blackburn's planes remaining. Then Brian's plane crashed. The nose gear was gone. With only one trainer remaining Steve helped Brian bend the main gear and make it into a tail dragger.....and then there were two. Much thanks are due to Steve and Brian for their relentless determination to continue to teach the also determined Students to learn. In all there were 31 Students flying, learning about RC and learning about what a great club we have, all working together towards one common goal. I would like to give a BIG, "thank you", to everyone involved in this event. It was a fun day..... a day you would call a success.....

Sid Maxwell

### **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 August Meeting.

John Stoufer

### **WINE COUNTRY FLYERS 40 SIZE TRAINER PYLON RACES**

How would you like to do some Pylon Racing??? Well you do not need a Quickie 500 racer. All you have to do is get that 40 size Trainer out, get it ready and.....let's race.

It's open to anyone with a 40 size high wing Trainer, . Flat bottom or semi wing is ok. Nose gear or tail dragger is ok. 46 2-stroke to 72 4-stroke is ok. No shoulder or low wing. We'll race around (2) pylons, one on each end of the runway. 10 laps with 4 or 5 Trainers in each race. Does that sound like fun??? Yes it does, and the more you race the more you want to race. So get ready because the first race is coming up real quick, on August 15 at Alexander Valley Field at 10am. We'll have (1) Quickie 500 race then (1) Trainer race and so on. It

looks like we are in for a lot of fun so don't miss it. There will be Open Flying between each race. If you don't want to race come out anyway and join in the fun.

Red Jensen 585-3170.....Larry Miller 577-0496.....Sid Maxwell 584-4428

## **40 SIZE TRAINER COMBAT**

I guess by now you have heard of the 40 size Trainer Plyon Racing. Well now we are starting 40 Size Trainer Combat. Just get a 40 size Trainer, it could be the one you use for racing, high wing, .46 2 stroke to .72 4 stroke, nose gear or tail dragger and come out to the COMBAT EVENT on AUGUST 29 at Alexander Valley Field, 10am. If you have always wanted to fly combat but the .15 size combat planes were too small, here is your chance to drag out that old Trainer (everybody has an old trainer) fire it up, put a streamer on the tail and join us for our combat event. We will have a round for 40 size, then a round for 15 size. Each round will last 4 minutes. Now you will see how much fun we have been having. Streamers will be provided. Fun will also be provided. Don't miss this chance to fly COMBAT.....

Colonel sid maxwell

## **FREQUENCY NUMBERS**

We are completing a new list of Frequency Numbers. If you are not on the list or it is in error.....

contact.....sid maxwell  
584-4428

## **HARD COPY**

If anyone would like a HARD COPY of our monthly news letter even if you have a e-mail address or not let me know and you shall receive.....

contact:::sid maxwell  
584-4428

## **Larry Frank Donates Cub**

Larry Frank has donated a beautiful J-3 Piper Cub to be auctioned off and the proceeds given to the club treasury. The Cub will be on display at the August 17 meeting for members to check it out. This is a kit built plane complete with a nearly new Saito 56 engine, a JR radio and receiver, servos, volt minder and is a ready to fly total package. It is covered with coverite and Larry has built the plane with his typical modifications to add strength where needed. The plan at this point is to offer the plane to the public in the form of a "Silent Auction" where people will be able to write their offers on a sheet that shows continuous bids each increasing until the time limit for the auction expires. We plan to exhibit the plane at PCAM with a minimum starting bid of \$350.00.

## EVENTS CALENDAR 2004



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  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95402**