

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 15 February, 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

2005 Club Officers: (sorry no pictures yet)

President:	Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	Guy@Gui-Soft.com
Vice President:	Brody Carlson	(707) 545-8272	brody@connectionsit.com
Secretary:	Larry Miller	(707) 577-0496	exefire@aol.com
Treasurer:	Brian Blackburn	(707) 867-3470	bblackburn@santarosa.edu
Member @ Large	John Reade	(707) 545-9831	john.e.ream@gte.net

2005 Board Members:

Gary Child	(707) 579-2325	garychild@sbcglobal.net
Steve Cole	(707) 566-8838	stevecole@awesomehobbies.com
Rob Jensen	(707) 544-2827	Hangar1@Sonic.net
Mike Cracchiolo	(707) 291-2739	vdubbub@hotmail.com
Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net

Newsletter and Website

Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech, Larry Miller, Sid Maxwell
Website: Patrick O'Halloran

Presidents Report

By Guy Nicholas

Well another month has come and gone and what have we all accomplished? I had fun this month. We had our first pylon race and I think everyone had a great time. I learned that cutting really hurts your chances of winning. I also learned that your engine doesn't run well if the piston sleeve isn't properly lined up. The other day I also learned that if your aircraft is rapidly approaching the ground and you don't do something to stop it...well, you end up with something like this:



Lets see, what club business has come up of late. Oh yes, now I remember. I bought us a new amplifier for our P.A. needs. It was a AC/DC amp and I wasn't sure if it would really meet our needs so I bought it, brought it to the field and sang a song to a number of members. Unfortunately they could hear me over the engine noise of Eddie's heli. Those of you whom have heard his heli realize what a feat that was ☺. If anyone notices that the locks are missing from the lock box, fear not, I have them. I took them out to get them either re-keyed, or re-placed, whichever is cheaper. I also took the last thing of value out of the box until I get the locks dealt with.

Oh, here are a couple of pictures I snapped this past month. Notice how carefully I have kept the anonymity of the sad individual.



And here was Red, Brian, and Doc doing a bit of synchronized hovering...well, they weren't really very synchronized, but we all had fun none the less.



TidBits (Still) wanted

By Guy Nicholas

Just a reminder that I am still looking forward to adding all those cool articles all of you are going to write. Don't forget to snap some photos.

General Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Guy Nicholas, our newly elected President promptly at 7:30PM with 27 members present. For "**New Members and Guests**" we welcomed Richard Holman and Pete Jones as guests and Jack Dickey as a new

member. Kurt Hiner was the lucky one to win a gallon of fuel for the evening door prize.

For the **“President’s Report”**, Guy reviewed the importance of Field Safety Procedures and emphasized the need for vigilance and responsible, safe flying both for helis and airplanes.

For the **Treasurer’s Report**, our new Treasurer, Brian Blackburn informed us that our current total financial assets stand at \$9776.00 and that we have 68 paid up members and 4 new members for 2005. He urged members who haven’t paid their dues to get current and reminded everyone that after Feb 28 there would be a \$50 penalty for late payment.

The **Secretary’s Report** was stated as the minutes that had been published in the January Newsletter. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written, which was seconded and a unanimous vote affirmed them.

For **“Old Business”**, Steve Cole talked to us about Flight Instruction and called for volunteers for Flight Instructors for 2005. Steve will meet with guys that want to be Flight Instructors on Sunday mornings before noon to certify them. Ryan Muehlbauer, J.T. Williams and Patrick O’Halloran all indicated that they wanted to sign up to be Flight Instructors. Sid Maxwell will be serving as Flight Coordinator and will coordinate scheduling new students with Flight Instructors. Sid told us that he has a supply of Training Manuals at the field.

For **“New Business”**, Guy Nicholas told us that he is searching for an indoor flying site for electric planes and helis. He has contacted some schools to find out what the charge would be on an hourly basis. He will report to us next month. Guy also told us that he is the Newsletter “Editor”, not the “Writer” and called for guys to send articles and pictures to him for publishing in the Newsletter. Sid Maxwell mentioned the AMA requirement for identifying an aircraft’s owner by labeling somewhere inside the airplane. Guy authorized Sid to order 300 more labels from AMA. The recent theft at the field was discussed and the request for

donations from members that may have equipment to replace some of the items that were taken. It is obvious that the Lock box must be LOCKED and the practice of hanging a key above the box has been discontinued.

Pylon Racing will be a part of the 2005 program with the first event scheduled for January 30. Red Jensen will be the Pylon Race Coordinator. Sid Maxwell is willing to coordinate a Combat Flight Program if there is enough interest. He will also be coordinating Float Flies at the Salvation Army Pond Site. He is planning for Float Flies Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day. A request was made for the formation of an Audit committee and J.T. Williams Volunteered along with Patrick O’Halloran. They will meet with Brian Blackburn to review last year’s books.

Patrick O’Halloran presented his ideas for a club sponsored Swap Meet. Patrick would like to see the Swap Meet set up with tables renting for \$5 or \$10 to anyone with RC stuff to sell in our North Room meeting place in the Veteran’s Building. The space can be rented for \$9/hour.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to investigate the idea of locating a Heli pad that might be located some distance from the main runway. Ron Vann has offered to supply labor and materials to install a concrete pad for Helicopters if we can agree on WHERE TO PUT IT! Mike Cracchiolo volunteered to be chairman with J.T. Williams and Ralph Grella stepping up to join in.

For **“Show and Tell”**, Steve Cole demonstrated a Shogun Heli right in our meeting room, hovering and performing basic maneuvers.

The **“WCF January Raffle”** was held with Kurt Hiner winning the big prize of the evening, a Rare Bear RTF (Kurt won the gallon of fuel too...big winner tonight). John Lehtio walked off with the Shogun Heli, with Phil Heidt claiming a T-shirt, Julio Alvarez picked up a WCF hat. That left the hinges and a WCF jacket that was a small size with no other sizes to exchange for. Ralph Grella was the next winner and he took the hinges

because he couldn't use the jacket. John Reade was the next up with the winning ticket for the jacket. John looked around and spotted Ken Melani's son who looked like about the right size for the jacket and gave it to him. Such a guy!

That concluded the meeting that was adjourned at 8:45PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Phil Leech for Larry Miller who was plagued with the flu.

Board Meeting 2/1/05

-The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Guy Nicholas. All board members were present along with one guest.

-Guy started off with a discussion of field and flying safety.

-Steve Cole explained the flight instructor program he has planned and how it will be implemented. He will be conducting flight instructor training on Sunday mornings at the field for those people wanting to assist with the training of new students.

-Guy stated that we need to spend more time on checking aircraft for air worthiness and safety. Also, that they have the pilots name tag inside the fuselage per AMA rules.

-Treasurer Brian Blackburn informed us that we have 76 members paid up to date. He also presented a proposed budget for the upcoming year along with the bad news that the rent for our meeting room has been more than tripled by the county. We will be exploring ideas for a new place to meet. He also has been looking for an indoor flying site but most places are pretty expensive. We will continue looking, though.

-Guy said he will pick up a new PA system for us to use at our events. He also told us that the lock box was left open again so we will be changing the locks and issuing only one or two keys.

-The question of safety was raised concerning the pylon racing course set-up so Rob and Guy will research the possibility

of moving the course a little farther out from the flight line to keep a larger safety margin between pilots and spectators.

-Rob gave us a rundown of the first race of the year. With 18 pilots competing, it sounds like it was pretty successful. He will write an article on it for the newsletter.

-Guy said the heli people are still working on moving the heli pad to another location at the field for safety and convenience reasons.

-Phil Leech said that he and Patrick O'Halloran are working on putting together a swap meet for the near future. They plan on extensive advertising, including an ad in Model Aviation magazine and notices will be sent out to all the local clubs in northern California inviting them to join us.

-Rob presented a tentative pylon racing schedule for the year as follows: Feb. 27, Mar. 20, April 10, May 1, June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, Oct. 2, & Nov. 16. There will be no races scheduled for Sept. or Dec. at this time.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller, Sec.

INSTRUCTORS

Sid Maxwell
Instructor Coordinator
584-4428

Steve Cole and Red Jensen are looking for the 9 members who signed up at the February meeting to be Instructors. He is at the field every Sunday morning waiting to qualify everyone as authorized Flight Instructors. When that happens I will pair you up with anyone who needs RC flight instructions. We have 4 new members already this year with more coming. It looks like Steve's instructors plan will work out very well. All of us working together will make this endeavor something we can be proud of.

AMA Theft Report

Sid Maxwell

Here is a "Flash Report", from the AMA about the AMA theft rule.

"If you lose any airplane or airplane equipment through theft at the field, a locked auto or your locked home, you can recover up to \$1000 with a \$100 deductible". All you need for proof of purchase is a present day price of item.

TIMELY TIPS

Sid Maxwell

Before you put that plane in the water be sure to spray some, "Corrosion X", on all your radio equipment and electric plugs. Corrosion X is a spray that will stop the water from shorting out your radio equipment in case your plane goes in the Lake. The claim is, "you can spray your servos, drop them in a bucket of water and they keep working". What about that!!! If you want to try some, give me a call. My can has lasted 4 years. If you want a can for yourself call, Corrosion X, 800-638-7361 or corrosionx.com

Day on the Pond at Sal Lake

Sid Maxwell

OK you guys, get those float planes ready. We'll be flying at Sal Lake on July 4 and September 5. The Alexander Valley Field will be closed those days so why not join us and float fly at Sal Lake. Any kind of float plane will do, any size. We will also have a contest with awards to 3 places. So, let's see, that gives you 4 months to get ready until July 4.....plenty of time. Last year's, "Day on the Pond", on July 4 was a big success. We had 15 planes flying and 20 people watching. What a good time we all had. If you haven't tried flying on water before now is a good time to start. Also we may have a couple of other days to fly at the lake. We will let everyone know of the dates. John Reade will join me as CD of the Float Fly events. Together we extend an invitation to all of you to join us at Sal Lake for the time of your life on the water.

SWAP MEET PLANNED

Phil Leech

Phil Leech and Patrick O'Halloran are forming a committee to plan a swap meet for sometime this coming summer. We are trying to have it located in the parking lot at the Veteran's Building but at this point, nothing has been determined. It is intended that the swap meet will attract modelers and flyers from all of Sonoma County and maybe beyond depending on how well we get the word out. Start looking over all of your "model stuff" that you don't need or aren't ever gonna build and start planning to join us. We are looking at June or July and will probably ask a \$5.00 fee to participate. Anybody interested in helping out, just let us know email Phil at leechstudios@sonic.net and/or Patrick at wcflyer@sonic.net. More later.

Red's Corner

Robbie Jensen

Hey all. It's been a while since I've written for the newsletter, so I was asked to revive my monthly "corner". It will be a place for reporting on exiting news, building tips or whatever I ramble on about.

Sunday January 30 we had our first Pylon race of the season. I was very excited to see 18 entries between the two classes! A couple of new things we are doing this year include keeping track of cumulative points for an end of the season champion and collecting \$5 per entry for a racers only prize pool. We have \$80 so far towards that. Our goal is 10 races before the Holiday party.

Anyway the racing was great! We were flying 4 plane heats with a pace plane for a flying start. We got 3 rounds in for a total of 12 heats flown. Some notable highlights include Steve C. taking off his landing gear (again!) in the middle of his heat. "Doc" Wallace and his very competitive ELECTRIC racer were a highlight. Sadly this one bit the

dust in his last race. No worries though, he has a back up nearly done and another waiting to be built, he's hooked! If you missed it, don't miss "High Voltage Part 2" at the next race. It's quiet and fast! I nearly wasn't able to race. I hadn't touched my racer since the last time I flew it, which was Thanksgiving Day. In fact it had been sitting in my trunk that whole time until the night before the race. I figured I should at least charge it! Anyway, the Rx was dead so I had to borrow one to make it through the day. Ralph G. had the most wicked running L.A. .40 I have ever seen! His was taching well over 16K, when mine on its best day only sees about 15.2! This was a seriously fast plane. Anyway Ralph had a little trouble and will be building another racer real soon. The dirt pile claimed one plane and nearly a couple of others including mine.

Brody C., John R. Gary C. and Julio fought it out for the top spot in the trainer class. John and Brody traded the lead all day with Gary right on their tail to keep them honest. Julio was having problems keeping his plane running. In the end Brody edged out John for the overall lead in points after the dust (Balsa?) settled. The trainer class was some of the best, tightest racing all day.

I'd like to give special thanks to Kurt H. and Gary C. for unselfishly flying the pace plane to start the heats and Carlo and Brian for helping out with the pylon judging. We wouldn't be able to race without your help.

We will have computerized scoring and heat matrixes for the rest of the season. C'mon out and join the fun!

Decals for Aircraft

sid maxwell

I just received another 250,"Decals", for all of our club members. These decals are for ID to put in your plane, which is a AMA rule to insure your liability insurance is in force. They are free for all of our members. If you

need a few, check with sid maxwell, ralph grella, john stofer, phil leech or guy nicholas. We will have them ready at the February club meeting as well as at the field.

Name That Plane

Robbie Jensen

Ok, ok you guys remember this one. I give some clues about a famous person, plane or event and bring your answer to the general meeting and some lucky smarty-pants will win a fabulous prize.

I know I always say this but this one is fairly easy. Even if you don't know the answer, Google is you friend!

We all know Lucky Lindy flew the Ryan NYP "Spirit of St. Louis" solo across the Atlantic forever changing aviation history. Few people however realize that after that feat the plane was shipped back here and preceded to visit every state in the union and many countries in South and Central America on a goodwill tour. Name the pilot(s) who flew her including any test flights.

Later
~Red

For Sale

JR micro R610M 5 channel FM receiver
JR R600 6 channel FM receiver both with channel 49 crystals. Will trade for Futaba or compatible receiver.

Contact Bob Film 823-1165

EVENTS CALENDAR 2005



Opening Day Air Show	14 May
Learn to Fly Day	25 June
Day on the Pond	4 July
Fun Fly	23 July
PCAM Air Show Santa Rosa Airport	20-21 August
Day on the Pond	5 September
Neil Taylor Day	11 September



**P.O. BOX 4198
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