

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 19 April, 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) 527-9645	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:
Website:

Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech, Larry Miller, Sid Maxwell, Red Jensen
Patrick O'Halloran



Presidents Report

Guy Nicholas

A lot of cool stuff happened this month and I can't wait to read all about it! Actually, I already did as I was putting it all in the newsletter ☺

The first thing I must address is the By-laws. It has recently come to my attention that the grievance procedure I referred to in an earlier newsletter was actually an amendment that has thus far not been formally adopted by the membership. We would like to vote on these by-laws at our next meeting so please view them at this address:

<http://www.wcflyers.com/docs/Bylaws.pdf>

We finally had our second pylon race and it was great fun. We had to modify the scoring a bit to keep it in line with the rest of the pylon world, and we will be posting the full results and current standings to the web site very soon (hopefully by the time you get this).

As usual, I would like to throw a safety tip out there. Make sure your prop nuts are tight, and try not to stand directly in front of your prop.



This baby had a spinner when it started the day...apparently it came loose during an engine run and the prop and spinner cleared the other side of the runway! Now, picture yourself standing right in front of that thing when it came off...can you say, "I need a band-aid"?

Take care and have a great month of flying.

Board Meeting Minutes

04/05/05

-The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President and Board Chairman Guy Nicholas. Other members present were Brody Carlson, Brian Blackburn, Larry Miller, John Reade, Steve Cole, Phil Leech, and Mike Cracchiolo.

-Phil presented the first draft of the flyer for the upcoming swap meet for review. A few minor changes and additions were suggested and will be taken under consideration. The final draft will be distributed in a few days.

-Steve brought us up to date on his talks with the Army Corp of Engineers on building us a new all R/C flying park. More on this at a later date when he has more details.

-Mike is working on a potential flying site near Sebastopol. He also will have more details at a later time.

-Since the annual Opening Day event is just around the corner, we held a discussion on what kind of activities will be featured. Shooting paintballs at a flying aircraft was such a hit (no pun intended) last year, we will again offer this event this year. Mike has paintball guns and will procure balls and CO2 for the event. Steve and Brody have kindly offered to furnish the targets (trainer type aircraft). Brian will talk to Ralph to see if he will bring out his old engines for display again this year. We will also try to get a full scale flyby even if it turns out to be an old Cessna or something. Chef Bob Film along with his able assistant Phil will once again offer their expertise at the barbeque.

-It was noted that the grass is getting pretty tall at the field so we will be having it mowed in the very near future. Also, we will be asking for volunteers at the next meeting for a work party to clean up the field a little bit the first Saturday (April 23) after the meeting.

-At the next meeting we will also be having a vote on an amendment to the club bylaws which will be made public before the meeting and copies will be made available at

the meeting for review by the members before the vote.

-It was suggested to the newsletter publisher that the pylon racing schedule be published monthly along with the other events so that people will know what's coming up.

- Steve gave a report on the recent children's birthday party held at the field. They all had a great time, including the parents, so much so that they made a substantial donation to the club and gave us a nice letter that we can use as a reference in the future.

-Steve will get together with Sid Maxwell to get a list of instructors posted at the field for new people who show up. It will also be posted on the web site.

-It was also noted that the club has been invited to fly R/C aircraft off the deck of the USS Hornet aircraft carrier docked in Alameda. For more information contact Brian Blackburn.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller, Sec.

General Meeting Minutes

03/15/05

-The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Guy Nicholas.

-Several new members and guests were introduced to the membership.

-There were 30 members present.

-The door prize drawing was held with John Lehtio taking home the free gallon of fuel.

-Sid announced that he lost his glow starter at the field and wondered if anyone had seen it. It was his favorite one and he misses it.

-The president explained the recent incident to the membership concerning Joe Geiger as mentioned in the last newsletter.

-Treasurer Brian Blackburn gave his monthly report concerning our finances. He also stated that we have 98 members paid up as of this date.

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

-The newsletter editor said that some people have complained that they are having a difficult time downloading the newsletter on their computer. He said that if they would rather have a hard copy snail mailed to them to let him know even though this poses a hardship on our finances. We are spending over \$100 a month now on postage and printing.

-A discussion was held on the recent complaints from our neighbors at the field. We need to be a little more considerate as far as noise and over flying their property.

-Sid Maxwell, John Stoufer, and Steve Cole volunteered to serve on the committee to look for an alternative flying site. Steve is already working with the Army Corp of Engineers on coming up with something.

-Phil Leech and Patrick O'Halloran gave us an update on the swap meet they have planned for later this year at the Veterans Memorial Building's west parking lot. The date they have come up with is Saturday, July 9th, rain or shine. Flyers will be sent



out to all clubs in northern California.

-The AMA requires all clubs have a safety officer so John Reade's title has been changed from officer-at-large to safety director.

-Patrick told us that he is continuously working on the web site and to have patience as this is a very demanding job.

-For show and tell people were encouraged to bring in any aircraft that will fly off water. John Reade brought in two planes, an Avistar and a 4 star 40, both on floats. They both fly great. Sid had his Hobbico 60 powered aircraft on floats on display and John Stoufer brought in his Mariner flying boat. Gil Delagnes showed his Goldberg

Cub which he flies on floats, skis, and wheels.

-Next up was what everyone was waiting for, the raffle. The first ticket drawn belonged to Phil Leech and he chose the new Cap 580 ARF. Patrick O'Halloran was the next winner and he picked the OS .46 LA engine. Steve Cole won a club polo shirt and John Stoufer got a flight box. Allen Spaeth picked up a wing bag and Mike Cracchiolo got himself an electric fuel pump. Ralph Grella chose a wing jig and new member James Cole won some tools. There were more winners too numerous to name them all. But there was one disappointment. There were no hinges this month. Not to worry though, as there will be a double supply at the next raffle.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Miller, Sec

FIELD HAPPENINGS

Phil Leech

On a recent Saturday there was a real turnout of guys that wanted to fly, I guess we had suffered from too much rain and when the opportunity presented itself everyone really took advantage of it. I had been struggling for several past sessions to get my J3 Cub in the air without much luck although several guys had tried to help me with it. Mike Cingari had offered to get the Cub in the air and I was hopeful that he had the right ideas to get it airborne successfully. The problem was during the takeoff roll the Cub would veer off violently in an uncontrollable, hard to correct direction. Mike suggested that for starters we change the prop from a 12x6 to a 13x4 and the reason was to cut down on the effect of torque that he thought was causing the plane to head off on its own. He also made a number of changes to the throws both mechanically and with radio trim. Mike then proceeded to take the Cub off, lifting in a soft, gentle way that made me want to give it

a try. With a little coaching from Mike, I was able to do the same takeoff and that made my day for sure. About this time I noticed a little commotion behind me to the north end of the runway but I was concentrating on getting the Cub trimmed and settled down. I didn't realize it then but several of the guys were putting together a sort of WW2 recreation flight. It consisted of three P-51 Mustangs (Hangar Nine types) and a T-6 Texan. The 51's were flown by Julio, Art Sutter and Kurt Hiner while the T-6 had Mike Cracchiolo for its pilot. They all roared by me taking off to the South and began making continuous circuits rolling, twisting and turning all the while snarling and challenging each other. And there I was in the middle of all of this with my little Cub! Even some encouragement from the Peanut Gallery behind me, "Go get 'em, Phil", didn't help. Do you remember the scene in "Tora Tora Tora" when the Japanese Naval Air Force is flying over Oahu on the way to Pearl Harbor when they encounter the lady instructor in a Stearman with her student? Well, that's the way I felt as the WW2 types blew past me. I did the same thing the gal in the movie did, a quick split S and head for the runway! Safely on the ground, I realized that these guys might be on to something as it looked like something we could use at PCAM or for our Opening Day Event. I think the crowds would really eat this up. It wasn't long until I heard Steve Cole shout, "they're gonna hit"! And they did. Kurt Hiner and Art Sutter had an amazing mid-air with pieces of stabilizer, wings, ripped fuselages, torn bits and pieces all exploded and then began to fall to the field.



I know that Art and Kurt took a hit but we were having so much fun with this that it just didn't seem all that bad.



After all, we're just boys having fun with our toys, aren't we?

BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE FIELD

Phil Leech

Several weeks ago, Steve Cole was asked by a customer in his shop if Wine Country Flyers would be interested in hosting a birthday party for private individuals. Steve brought the proposition to the Board for consideration because we had never done anything like that in the past. The customer, Marshall Bauer, knew something about our annual "Learn to Fly Day" and that we had given training lessons to kids and he thought it might be something that would turn out to be a great party for kids. Marshall had offered to pay us something for the service but most of the Board Members thought it would be better public relations to offer the

service free of charge. John Reade was instrumental in support for the idea and he stepped up and said, "Let's do it"! So, a date of April 2 was set and we made plans to have a number of instructors and airplanes at the field for the party that Marshall had in mind. The party was scheduled to run from 11:00AM 'til 1:00PM and Marshall was busy setting up two of our tables at 9:30, on a day that was blessed with excellent weather. They covered two of our tables with cloths and laid out favors for the kids, balloons and quite a spread of food. Around 10:30 or so kids and their parents began arriving with about 15 kids (all boys around 8 and one girl) and flying commenced at about 11:00.



Child, Tom Haddorff, Mike Cracchiolo, Steve Cole, Patrick O'Halloran, Brian Blackburn and Larry Miller. Flying proceeded until most of the kids had flown twice and then a number of the fathers stepped up to take a turn. Steve Cole also flew a nice demo with Art Sutter's Sukhoi with smoke that wowed the whole group



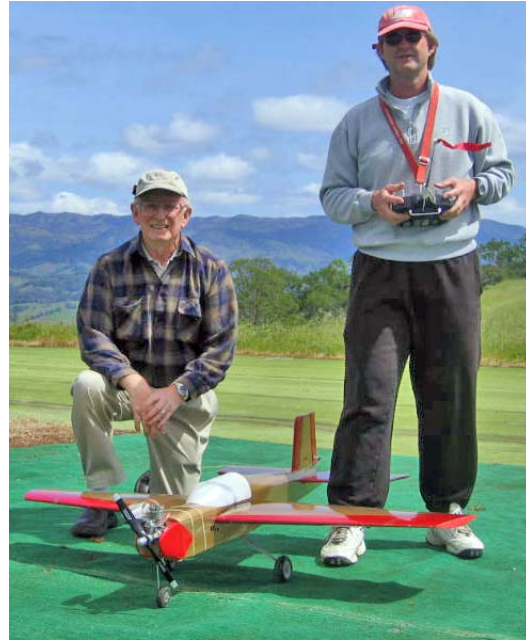
Later, Marshall presented a check to Brian Blackburn for \$250.00. We had already decided that we planned to do the party gratis but Marshall insisted on giving us a "donation" that Brian finally decided to accept. This turned out to be a great day for us, as Marshall and his whole group of kids enthusiastically thanked us all. What a winner this was! Let's do it again, guys!

Olie Burns

John Reade

Olie Burns, a member from Oakmont, watched Phil Heidt crash his pattern plane and throw it all in the trash can. So, Olie looked over the wings, decided they weren't damaged very badly, and took them home. He had a similar looking plane at home that was much bigger, but using the TLAR (that looks about right) approach, he cut 2 or 3 inches off each wing, scratch built the fuse and tail feathers. Cut down a fuel jug for the canopy. Found a formula on the internet about how to figure where the CG should be. He said the formula was very long and complicated, so he kinda guessed. Then using an old engine he bought from unlucky pilot, Phil Heidt, put it all together and brought it out to the field. Olie taxied it up and down the runway several times. Seeing that it handled fine on the ground, he asked Kirt Hiner to do the honors of the maiden flight. We warned him that it might not fly at

all. Not being sure about the CG. He said, "Well give it your best shot, if it crashes it crashes." So, he fires it up, Kirt taxis out, lines 'er up, throttles up and right straight down the runway she went, lifted off and flew like it was on rails!! Nice axial rolls, big loops, inverted and landed just as gentle as you please. Needless to say, Olie was pretty happy with himself and his building expertise. His wife was even there to witness it all.



Red's Corner

Red Jensen

We had our second Trainer and Sport 500 race Sunday. It should have been our fourth race but Mother Nature has not seen it that way! We had great weather, and another terrific turnout! 18 pilots rounded out the field.

In the trainer class, Anthony was up in the first heat and was showing everyone the fastest way around the course. It was obvious that he had been practicing! The first race was all him. He confided in me later that day that he had indeed been doing laps getting ready. He says his next plane will be a quickie. Way to go! John was also fast and eventually came out on top after Anthony had some muffler trouble. He and Brody had some great battles! Brody was fast too after a prop

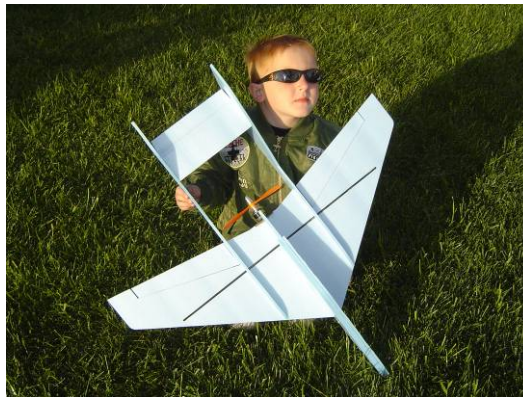
change. Unfortunately his trainer took a dirt nap right after the start of his last heat. Steve happened to be video taping that race and caught the whole thing. Can't wait to see that on the big screen! Kurt has a very fast plane and with a little more practice will be one to watch out for. Larry, the soft spoken unassuming guy, was right there to take up the slack if anyone screwed up. They did and he ended up second for the day.

Quickie had some new fast young blood too. Doc Wallace and his son Robert were there with their electric quickies. Robert had just built his the night before and test flew it that morning. He ended up being very fast and was a front running contender until a minor mishap (full throttle semi crash on the runway that took off the gear!) did a little damage in the second round and caused him a DNF. He was able to get it back together for the final round and finished well. Doc put in solid heat races all day and ended up in second place for the day. Look for season totals elsewhere in this issue.

I've been having a lot of fun with the laser cutter. Electric foamys have caught my eye and I've designed 4 in the past month. Here is my latest. It's a pusher park jet based on a BVM King Kat turbine jet. I call it the King Kit-E.



It uses an outrunner brushless and Lipo batteries and flies quite well. It has aileron and elevator control and zooms around great. Next I have to paint it up so it isn't so ugly. This is my son Jack holding it so you can get a better idea of the size.



The other planes are 3D aerobats. I have a Yak-54, an Edge 540 and an Edge 540T. I'll have one of the three to fly at the meeting. My all-wood quickie is nearly ready to cut, and I hope to be racing it soon. Look out!

See y'all at the meeting!

Float Fly Practice

Sid Maxwell
John Reade

On May 21 & June 4 we will have a, "practice", float fly at Sal Lake, 9am till? We can fly from sun-up to sun-down at Sal Lake. We still have, "Day on the Pond", on July 4 & Sept 5 but now we have two practice days to get your plane sea worthy.

When you come to the Lake it's a good idea to bring a small table and chair, shade cover if needed and food and drink. We may have a hamburger lunch served.....but that is still a maybe.

Bring any plane to fly, all are welcome. On the day of the practice go to the field pick up a frequency number leave your AMA card and bring the number with you to the Lake. If you have a cell phone leave that number on a small tag with your AMA card. If you don't have a cell phone you can leave my number 530-233-0263.

Two things which are a must for your float plane: 1. an inside switch and a charge jack with a cover, 2. spray all your electrical plugs, Rx and servos with Corrosion X. See me if you need some.

So all you guys that are thinking about float flying...do it!

And all you guys with a float plane...see you at the Lake.

Let's fly...

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



April 10	Pylon Races
May 1	Pylon Races
May 14	Model Air Show
May 21	Float Fly Practice at Sal Lake
May 28	Castle Air Base Fun Fly Atwater, Ca.
June 4	Float Fly Practice at Sal Lake
June 11	Float Fly at Redding, Ca.
June 19	Pylon Races
June 25	Learn to Fly Day
July 4	Day on the Pond
July 9	WCF Swap Meet at Santa Rosa, Ca.
July 17	Pylon Races
July 23	Larry Frank Fun Fly
Aug 14	Pylon Races
Aug 20-21	PCAM Santa Rosa Airport
Sept 5	Day on the Pond
Sept 11	Neil Taylor Fun Fly
Sept 14 – 18	Reno Air Races, Reno, Nev.
Oct 2	Pylon Races
Nov 16	Pylon Races
Dec 10	WCF Christmas Party Santa Rosa



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