

# Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 17 January, 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

## 2006 Club Officers:

President:	Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	<a href="mailto:Guy@Gui-Soft.com">Guy@Gui-Soft.com</a>
Vice President:	Jon Stychno	(707) 888-6885	<a href="mailto:jon@epsinsurance.com">jon@epsinsurance.com</a>
Secretary:	Larry Miller	(707) 577-0496	<a href="mailto:exefire@aol.com">exefire@aol.com</a>
Treasurer:	Brian Blackburn	(707) 527-9645	<a href="mailto:bblackburn@santarosa.edu">bblackburn@santarosa.edu</a>
Member @ Large	John Reade	(707) 545-9831	<a href="mailto:johnereade@earthlink.net">johnereade@earthlink.net</a>

## 2006 Board Members:

Steve Cole	(707) 566-8838	<a href="mailto:stevecole@awesomehobbies.com">stevecole@awesomehobbies.com</a>
Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	<a href="mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net">leechstudios@sonic.net</a>
Sid Maxwell	(707) 584-4428	<a href="mailto:airmanx@inreach.com">airmanx@inreach.com</a>
Jerry Williams	(707) 762-5368	<a href="mailto:jerrywilliams99@comcast.net">jerrywilliams99@comcast.net</a>

## Newsletter and Website

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



## ***Presidents Report***

Guy Nicholas

Well, I couldn't have cut it much closer, just one or two days more and this would have been called the January newsletter ☺. Sorry for the delay but it is a busy time of year.

This morning I did what will most likely be my last official act as President of the club. I signed the amendment to our original ten year lease. This amendment is a ONE year extension. They were originally going to give us a two year extension but apparently there have been a few noise complaints about us, and the Sagio hills development is hoping to break ground sooner than we originally expected. First to address the noise complaints, we must continue to be vigil with regards to where we fly. Nobody has an exception to the no fly zone! That being said, it is my opinion that the complaints started after the Department of Public Works notified our neighbors of our pending extension. Of course this is only my opinion. As to the Sagio hills development, all we can do is wait and see.

The extension I signed is not official until signed by the appropriate county people and that will happen after the 16 Jan Board of Supervisors public hearing on the matter. Our neighbors have expressed to Public Works they will be attending the meeting to voice their opposition to the extension, and we have a contingent of people attending the meeting to counter their statements and to address the noise issue that they will most certainly bring up. Along those lines the club is setting up a sound survey at the field to get some information about how loud our aircraft really are. It is my strong belief that the db levels of our aircraft at the property lines of the neighbors will be negligible and not very discernable over the ambient background noise.

I would like to say, "thank you" for allowing me to serve as President of the club. I had a great time doing it and was proud to help out. I would like to welcome in the new officers.

(what a rag-tag bunch)



I would like to thank Karlo for doing the, "how to make a bathtub in a lake" demo. Very nicely done!

## ***Board Meeting***

By Larry Miller  
12 Dec. 2006

-The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Guy Nicholas.

-Other members present were Roy Domke, Sid Maxwell, Phil Leech, Larry Miller, John Reade, Jerry Williams, and Steve Cole.

-Phil reported on the final preparations for the Christmas party and we went over the agenda for the evening.

-Roy filled us in on the progress of the field acquisition committee. He informed us that the county board of supervisors will hold a hearing on renewing our lease on January 16th at their usual board meeting.

-After lengthy discussions of the above items of business, the meeting was finally adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

PS: After holding the position of secretary for over 10 years, this will be my last official report. I've enjoyed being on the board and doing whatever I could to help the club grow and prosper. I feel it's now time to step down and let some new blood take over with some new ideas. It's been great fun and a lot of work. I'd like to welcome Brooks Robertson as the new secretary and wish him well in this position.

Larry

( Ed. Note: I would like to extend a warm thank you to Larry for his many years of service. Thanks Larry! )

### ***WCF General Meeting***

By Larry Miller  
21 Nov. 06

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

-We had 31 members present plus 1 guest.

-Treasurer Brian Blackburn gave his monthly report to the membership.

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

-It was reported that Jerry Williams was in the hospital so John Reade volunteered to send him a get well card from the membership.

-Patrick and Jon gave a report on the last pylon race and the overall standings for the season. A discussion was held on next year's schedule and possibly some rule and course changes. Steve Cole suggested a new racing class for electric foamies which we may try out if there is enough interest. Helmets will be mandatory for next year's racing as per the AMA rules.

-The Christmas party chairman, Phil Leech, reminded us of the party coming up on December 16th and went over the schedule for the evening. There will be lots of free prizes given away for the attendees and even a few for the ladies.

There will also be a number of awards given out.

-John Stoufer reported on the power boat regatta held recently at the lake. There were 20-25 boats entered with lots of fast and furious action on the water. Needless to say, the retrieval boat was kept quite busy that day.

-Jon gave us the latest update from the new field committee.

-John Reade showed us the result of not getting your finger out of the way of the prop quickly enough. Serious but it could have been much worse. I guess the safety officer wasn't paying attention. Oh, wait! I think John is the safety officer.

-The election of club officers was held with the following results: Your new president will be Jon Stychno, Guy will move to vice president, Brian Blackburn will remain as treasurer, the new secretary will be Brooks Robertson replacing Larry Miller, and new member at large will be Adam Clement.

-The usual monthly raffle was held with many really nice prizes awarded to the lucky winners, too numerous to list.

-There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

### ***Dues Are Due***

By Sid Maxwell

WCF club members dues are due on January 1,2007. Dues paid on or after March 1,2007 are considered delinquent and members will be assessed a late fee of \$50 . Remember,,,,,,it's OK to pay early. Dues notices were mailed to all club members, the workers and the watchers. If you didn't receive one contact Brian Blackburn.

Pay on time and save the fine.....

Sid Maxwell

## ***Christmas Party 2006***

By Phil Leech

We broke all the records for attendance and participation at our annual Christmas Party this year as we had 64 members and guests at the Cattlemen's Restaurant in Montgomery Village. I had to scramble to find a seat as we filled all of places that were set for us. The place was buzzing with conversation and camaraderie that only modelers and flyers understand.

After a great meal of Steak, Prime Rib, Teriyaki Chicken or grilled Salmon (your choice) our President, Guy Nicholas began the evening's program that included a brief review of the past season. We really did have a schedule packed with events that many clubs can only wish they had. Guy proceeded to present plaques to outgoing Officers and he introduced new Officers for 2007. A Special Award for Outstanding Contribution and Dedication was presented to Roy Domke for recognition for his efforts to intervene for us to save our field.

Patrick O'Halloran presented plaques to the top three places for all of the Pylon Racers both Quickie 500 and Trainer classes. In addition to the plaques, Patrick had selected prizes that included engines and kits that the guys can use for the 2007 season. Jon Stychno won the top prize for the Quickie 500 class and Joe Giddings took top honors for Trainer class.

Sid Maxwell presented the coveted "Crash Corrigan Award" for the member with most crashes for 2006. That special honor went to Merle MacGregor who filed for the award with four crashes. Sid created the special plaque in collaboration with Wayne Frederick who

made all of the evening's plaques with the exception of Sid's creation. The plaques that Wayne made were really beautiful. Thanks Wayne.

Raffle Master, John Reade conducted the evening's raffle that included prizes that were exceptional. Special thanks to Steve Cole for providing the prizes to Wine Country Flyers at his cost. He also donated a park flyer just for good measure. Big winners for the evening included Charlie Cox with a Hangar Nine Spitfire, Wayne Frederick with a Sopwith Camel, Patrick O'Halloran with a Hellcat, Jerry Williams with a Saito 100 and 22 other smaller prizes that ranged from park flyers, starters, tools, fuel and of course the ubiquitous hinges.

It was a great night with a lot of fun for everyone including six cash prizes for our beloved ladies. See you next year!

## ***Merry Christmas from the Board***

By Sid Maxwell

Some people say we are bored but we are the Board. How could we be bored in this Club, when there is something going on all the time. We had 26 events this year with plans to add at least 4 more for next year. Now you have 30, how's that! Are we screaming uncle yet? As you can see the Board is looking for a reason to be happy. What the Board really wants to do is say, Merry Christmas to all our smiling members and to have a Happy New Year.

Sid, Phil, Roy, Jerry, and Steve

## ***Election Results for 2007***

By Sid Maxwell

President:	Jon Stychno
Vice President:	Guy Nicholas
Secretary:	Brooks Robertson

Treasurer: Brian Blackburn  
 Member at Large: Adam Clement

## ***GPS and Albert Einstein***

by Russell Knetzger  
 M.A.R.K.S. Remarks, Milwaukee WI

Some aeromodelers own hand-held GPS meters (global positioning systems) for their boats or full-scale airplanes. In remote areas they may even use them in their cars or for remote-area backpacking. Did you know the GPS technology relies upon the theories of Albert Einstein, the great physicist of the 1900s?

Last year, 2005, was the 100th anniversary of the publication written by Albert Einstein at age 26, of four astonishing technical papers, all in one miracle year, any one of which would have catapulted him to the stardom in physics that he achieved and still holds. Prior to Einstein, Sir Isaac Newton was the most revered physicist.

In his first 1905 paper, Einstein theorized why the “photo-electric effect” occurs when light hits metal—basically that photons of light are knocking surface metal electrons out of their orbits, causing an electrical current to flow. His second paper went further into the makeup of the atom. His third paper was the whopper: the contention in his theory of “special relativity” that produced the fourth dimension—time—along with length, width, height, and that nothing can move faster than the speed of light at 186,282 miles per second.

Einstein’s fourth paper was almost as big a whopper: the famous equation  $E=mc^2$ , that energy and mass are interchangeable, where e-energy released is m-mass times c-the speed of light, squared. The formula later led to the atomic bomb.

Ten years went by and in 1915 he produced his fifth major paper: “General Theory of Relativity.” Both the general and special theories hold that time is not a constant.

To celebrate these remarkable insights, the 2006 edition of the World Book Encyclopedia supplement contains this quote by Alfred J. Smuskiewicz, a freelance writer in science and medicine:

“Almost 100 years later [of the 1905 special relativity and the 1915 general relativity theories], scientists used both theories to construct the global positioning system (GPS). This worldwide network of satellites transmits radio signals to receivers around the globe. By measuring the transit times for these signals—which travel at the speed of light—GPS allows people to identify their precise position anywhere on earth.

However, due to the effects of relativity, the clocks on the satellites tick at a different rate than clocks in the receivers. Einstein’s special theory of relativity showed that moving clocks—such as those on satellites—tick at a slower rate than clocks at rest. His general theory of relativity argued that clocks closer to a massive object—like the receivers on earth—tick at a slower rate than clocks farther away.

“Because the GPS computers need extremely accurate transit times to measure precise distances, engineers designed the GPS satellites to compensate both for special and general relativity.”

## ***Winter Wear***

—Rob Coniglio  
 The R.J. Hhog Roslyn Heights, New York

Here we are at the close of another flying season—for most of us anyway. We do have a few members who fly year round. But don’t give up on the weather just yet.

The past several weekends have seen good flying weather and we should have several more before the cold really sets in. When the cold does come our way, you don't have to go into hibernation until spring; just be prepared for it.

First, protect your body from the cold. I got myself a full cold-weather jump suit—you know the kind you see guys wearing at gas stations. In fact, my car mechanic got it for me.

Next thing is to protect your hands. Some fliers use transmitter gloves that cover both hands and the transmitter. Personally, I prefer gloves but I found that I couldn't feel the sticks and that bothered me, so I found a solution. I got a pair of hunting mittens.

They look like regular mittens, but the part that covers the fingers actually can fold back, presumably so you can fire a weapon. I just stick out one finger and my thumb to fly. Between flights, they join the other warm digits inside.

Also, remember to keep batteries fully charged because they lose their charge faster in the cold.

### ***Convenient Cleanup***

from Hangar Talk  
Orange City, Iowa

Want a nice, neat, convenient way to clean up that airplane? Use baby wipes—those soft wipe tissues that come under various brand names and are packaged in handy plastic boxes. The wipes must contain some kind of cleaning agent because they remove oil well and the lanolin acts like a polish.

### ***Marking Dark MonoKote***

from Hangar Talk  
Orange City, Iowa

Putting any kind of decent marks on MonoKote is difficult, especially if the MonoKote is dark in color. This becomes a hassle for you when trying to accurately place control horns or mount a switch to a surface that's already covered.

Try putting down a piece of masking tape in the approximate location then line up the horn or switch plate and make your marks on the tape. The marks are visible and you can cut or drill right through the tape. You can pull the tape off easily by pulling it sideways over itself—don't pull straight up or you may lift off the covering.

### ***Lock on the Gate***

By Sid Maxwell

The gate at the field needs to be locked every time, if you are the last one to leave. First one in opens, last one out locks.

Sid Maxwell

### ***Rubber Bands Don't Hold in the Cold***

By Larry Dudkowski  
Plane Talk, Prop Masters newsletter

This is probably one that many don't know about, but a temperature of anything below 40° is too cold for rubber bands. I've experienced it personally and it's not a good feeling watching the wing separate from the fuselage as you're flying across the field. Actually you stare at the wing because it flutters slowly down like a leaf, while all of the important stuff in the fuselage does a kamikaze dive into the woods. So keep those models where the wing or anything else is held on by rubber bands home when it's cold. This holds true for glow and electric models. After all, rubber bands are rubber bands.

## ***Fly with a Buddy***

By Larry Dudkowski  
Plane Talk, Prop Masters newsletter

In the wintertime there are fewer people using the flying site. This is both good news and bad news. The good news is that you have fewer people to watch out for, not to mention more parking. The bad news is you have fewer people watching out for you. If you get hurt, there are fewer people to help.

It's just good practice to fly with a buddy—especially in the winter months. We do this without thinking during the summer months. In the summer, usually every time I see someone flying, there is a spotter standing next to him watching out for all that ground clutter. In the winter, not only could we use the extra set of eyes the spotter gives us, but we're not alone in the "great white north" if a problem does arise. Besides, I always

find it more fun to fly with friends than alone.

## ***Aerobatics in 2007***

By Sid Maxwell

Look for the Fearless Flyer flying Aerobatics next year. We will go over the (10) 2007 Basic IMAC maneuvers for the Aerobatic contest later in the year. The best airplanes to use are the Extra, Edge, Cap, Yak, etc or any airplane that will do aerobatics.

Sid Maxwell

## ***Pleas***

By Guy Nicholas

You may notice this newsletter is nearly picture free. I wish it wasn't. So please take this as my official plea. Send me some pictures! Please ☺

Happy New Year!

EVENTS CALENDAR 2006

**Hey we're done for the year!**



**P.O. BOX 4198  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95402**