

December 2007 Edition

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 15 January 2008, 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

2007 Club Officers:

President:	Jon Stychno	(707) 888-6885	jon@epsinsurance.com
Vice President:	Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	Guy@Gui-Soft.com
Secretary:	Brooks Robertson		Dr.lector@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Brian Blackburn	(707) 527-9645	bblackburn@santarosa.edu
Member @ Large	Adam Clement	(707) 433-4113	adamclement@comcast.net

2007 Board Members:

Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
Sid Maxwell	(707) 584-4428	airmanx@inreach.com
Jerry Williams	(707) 762-5368	jerrywilliams99@comcast.net
Roy Domke	(707) 395-0411	Runabout@aol.com
Merle McGregor	(707) 585-1061	m.mcgregor@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter and Website

Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech, Brooks Robertson, Sid Maxwell

Website: Patrick O'Halloran



Presidents Report

By: Jon Stychno

Wow, what a year! The Wine Country Flyers had more events this year than any other year in existence. Thanks to all of the members who participated and helped organize them. I also want to thank the members who came to the Christmas Party at Cattlemen's, and recognize Phil Leech, Brian Blackburn, Sid Maxwell, and Guy Nicholas for helping it all come together. It was nice to see everybody having a good time. Although I must say that was probably the last year we will be having the party there, as a few problems arose due to lack of oversight on Cattlemen's part. I was disappointed that they did not provide the sound system as promised, and I apologize to everyone who could not hear me. We will discuss options for the 2008 Christmas Party at the first board meeting, and I will have a report at the next general meeting. If you would like a copy of the movie that was shown at the party, I will be selling them for \$5 at the January meeting.

As far as field news goes, there are a few things in the works, but most importantly we are closely looking at developing a new flying site at the Meham Road Landfill south of Cotati. The site, which is on the southwest end of the property, (and has its own access gate), seems like it was made to be a future flying site, and it even has an area for slope soaring! The next step in the process is to meet with the appropriate officials from the county to see if we can make this a reality, and that will be happening in January 2008. In the meantime, enjoy the Healdsburg site and be sure to obey all rules, as we still do not know the exact future of our wonderful facility. See you at the field!

Board Meeting Minutes

18 Dec. 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Jon Stychno. Officers and Board Members attending were Jon Stychno, Guy Nicholas, Brian Blackburn, Sid Maxwell, Roy

Domke, Merle McGregor, Phil Leech, Adam Clement and guest Jeff Penner.

Items for the Christmas party; Guy will bring the projector, the awards were picked up today, the raffle prizes are on order, and we have 37 members that have paid as of now.

There was some discussion whether we should reduce or suspend the dues because we may not have a field after next April. The board decided that it was premature to make this change; even if we do lose our field in April we will continue to have events as a club and will persist in our search for a new field.

It was voted to give a donation to the Salvation Army in the amount of \$200.

There are several sites that are being looked at for our new flying field. One possible site is at Infineon Raceway, more information is being gathered. Another new possibility is at the Meham road transfer station. Both of these sites have promise and are being actively pursued.

The 2008 Calendar will be worked out at the January board meeting.

Another BMW club event might come together next year in August many details still need to be worked out. The Hobby Expo will be on February 9th we should have a much larger space this year.

There was also some discussion about our website. We will try to have our web address on all flyers in the future, also all flyers should also be posted on the website linked to the calendar. Jon suggested that the board email address be added to the website so that more people would have access to the board as a group.

The December Board Meeting concluded at 9:00pm.

Report prepared and submitted for Brooks Robertson, Secretary by Jeff Penner.

more information to come as details are available.

The election of the 2008 officers was as follows:

President – Jon Stychno
 Vice President – Guy Nicholas
 Secretary – Jeff Penner
 Treasurer – Brian Blackburn
 Member At Large/Safety Officer – Sid Maxwell
 The new board members will be determined by the end of the year.

Raffle:

Dick Maddock took home the big prize a Twist 150. Joe Kagan was up next for the Tribute 36. The Weller covering iron will get much use by Sid Maxwell. Jon Stychno thought he could be a little more balanced and chose the prop balancer. Ray Peterson got a charge out of the meeting by picking the Prodigy II Peak Charger. John Lehtio went with the VoltWatch. Bob Rose took the foam wrap, while Ken Melani chose the canopy scissors. Merle McGregor selected the XActo Knife. Ken Ribardo needed to tighten his glow plug so he picked the glow plug wrench. A first for the raffle, as long as I have been coming to the meetings, the hinges did not go last, Oliver Burns took them home. And last the box of rubber bands went to Jerry Williams.

Report prepared and submitted for Brooks Robertson, Secretary by Jeff Penner.

Christmas Party 2007 – Best Yet

By: Phil Leech

This was the sixth time we have held our Christmas Party at Cattlemen's in Montgomery Village and the attendance was the largest we have ever had. We paid for 59 dinners and actually had cancellations for three more due to various changes of plans and personal problems. The atmosphere was somewhat chaotic and noisy but there was excitement in the air in anticipation of the

General Meeting Minutes

20 Nov. 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by our President Jon Stychno. Charlie Cox won the gas raffle. There were no guests present and no new members at the meeting. There was no treasurer's report or secretary's report as neither officer was present. It was announced that Wayne Frederick is going in for shoulder surgery, hope all goes well for him and his family.

Old Business:

There were 23 people at the Moonlight Float Fly, only 8 or so planes took to the air as it was quite windy. We had one night flyer when Jon flew his Tribute which he had outfitted with lights. Maybe we will have more night flights next year.

The Pylon races have almost wrapped up it looks like it will be Steve Cole for both the foamy and Quickie 500 classes and I don't remember who is in line for the Trainer class. We need more helpers for the pylon races so try to come out next year and help/race it's a lot of fun and doesn't take a lot of time.

New Business:

A new flight station has been added at the south end of the current flight line and the north most flight station removed. This was done to help enforce the no fly zone at the north end of the field. There was some discussion about how this will affect the heli pilots, but it did not seem like it would pose any problems.

Christmas dinner will be on December 15th at the Cattlemen's in Montgomery Village. It will start with cocktails at 6:30 dinner at 7:30. Lots of prizes!!! Also we are supposed to have video entertainment this year.

A small group of members are working to get an indoor flying site at a gym in Healdsburg,

annual free raffle and the video program that Jon Stychno and Guy Nicholas had prepared. We shared the Safari Room with another organization and that was normal but we didn't get the P/A system that had been promised to us and that caused Jon to have to try to shout over the babble and noise. Felt sorry for Jon. He had prepared a program to recognize the efforts of our Officers and Board Members in 2007 for all of the successful events of the season. I think we sponsored some 23 events including float flies, Learn to Fly Days, Pylon Races, IMAC and scale events, a record number for Wine Country Flyers. We ARE an active club!

Jon had assembled a spectacular 20 minute movie of our flying for the 2007 season. The movie came with full musical background, graphics and was probably the high point of the entertainment for the evening. I'd like to see it again sometime. It featured flying sequences from many of our members as well as clips from float flies, pylon races and some really great aerobatic routines. I hope Jon will continue to record events for 2008.

The free raffle was started with six prizes for our wives and girlfriends and then proceeded to the good stuff for all of us guys. Adam Clement had selected the prizes and continued to conduct the raffle. This year the raffle was held on a first ticket called, first choice basis and the first ticket called was for Jon Stychno! Fancy that! Jon was certainly surprised but regained his composure and selected the Spitfire ARF. There were a total of 30 prizes passed out but let me give you just a few of the highlights. Ken Melani with the Spektrum radio, Ken Ribardo taking the Hellcat ARF, Anthony Lee picked the Edge 540, Bob Rose got a XT40, Charlie Cox took the Tiger 2 and Eddie Garcia walked with the Saito 100. That left the rest of us with everything from hinges (I got a package) to power panels, field stands and rubber bands. Richard Beck from Sonoma Hobbies donated an ARF and so did Steve Cole from Awesome Hobbies and all in all it really was quite an array of good R/C stuff.

It was a bunch of happy campers that closed the evening at about 9:45 and headed for home.

FAST REPORT

By: Sid Maxwell

Another month closer to April 14. So now we have 4 months. Well the Board checked out the dump site on Mecham Rd. in Cotati. It is a good possible site. This looks like the one. Also checked out Infineon Raceway and it has some possibilities. I checked out 400 acres on Lakeville Highway owned by Vasco Brazil. There is 10 good acres in front but it borders the highway and there are some trees. Most of the other 390 acres floods. Kendal-Jackson in Alexander Valley and HP in Cotati is still a maybe.

Keep looking!
Never give up!

Sid Maxwell

DISPOSAL OF LIPO BATTERIES

Unlike NiCd batteries, lithium-polymer batteries are environmentally friendly. For safety reasons, it's best that LiPo cells be fully discharged before disposal (however, if physically damaged it is NOT recommended to discharge LiPo cells before disposal - see below for details). The batteries must also be cool before proceeding with disposal instructions. To dispose of LiPo cells and packs:

1. If any LiPo cell in the pack has been physically damaged, resulting in a swollen cell or a split or tear in a cell's foil covering, do NOT discharge the battery. Jump to step 5.
2. Place the LiPo battery in a fireproof container or bucket of sand.
3. Connect the battery to a LiPo discharger. Set the discharge cutoff voltage to the lowest possible value. Set the discharge current to a C/10 value, with "C" being the capacity rating of the pack. For

example, the "1C" rating for a 1200mAh battery is 1.2A, and that battery's C/10 current value is (1.2A / 10) can be used, such as a power resistor or set of light bulbs as long as the discharge current doesn't exceed the C/10 value and cause an overheating condition. For LiPo packs rated at 7.4V and 11.1V , connect a 150 ohm resistor with a power rating of 2 watts (commonly found at Radio Shack) to the pack's positive and negative terminals to safely discharge connecting it to an ESC/ motor system and allowing the motor to run indefinitely until no power remains to further cause the system to function.

4. Discharge the battery until its voltage reaches 1.0V per cell or lower. For resistive load type discharges, discharge the battery for up to 24 hours.

5. Submerge the battery into bucket or tub of salt water. This container should have a lid, but it should not need to be air-tight. Prepare a plastic container (do not use metal) of cold water. And mix in 1/2 cup of salt per gallon of water. Drop the battery into the salt water. Allow the battery to remain in the tub of salt water for at least 2 weeks.

6. Remove the LiPo battery from the salt water, wrap it in newspaper or paper towels and place it in the normal trash. They are landfill safe.

No Fly Zone

By: Sid Maxwell

Wouldn't it be great if we had a flying site where we could fly anywhere we want, make as much noise as we want and fly as long as we want. Maybe our new site will be that way. Dreams do come true.

Well for now, everything is quiet with the No Fly Zone, whatever you guys are doing, keep it up.

See you next year.

Sid Maxwell

For Sale

Graupner Elektro Kadett

(See Cover Photo)

motor: E-Flight Power 25 outrunner

ESC: Electrify Silver series SS-45 w/Bec disabled

RX batt: 6v 1400mah NiMh

Receiver: Futaba FP-R127DF(7channels) dual conversion, APC 12x6 prop.

Rudder / elev. servos: Futaba s3003

Aileron servos JR MN48 mini

recommended battery: lipos:

3 cells (2100, 2500 - 3000mah)

4 cells (2100mah)

Price: \$250, only needs your radio + battery

Call Sid Maxwell, (707) 584-4428

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