

Jan 2009 Edition

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 20 Jan 2009, 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

2009 Club Officers:

President:	Adam Clement	(707) 433-4113	adampclement@comcast.net
Vice President:	Roy Domke	(707) 395-0411	Runabout@aol.com
Secretary:	Ian Rickard	(707) 975-2916	ian@americantartaric.com
Treasurer:	Jeff Penner	(707) 292-4234	sonicjeff@yahoo.com
Safety Officer:	Merle McGregor	(707) 585-1061	m.mcgregor@sbcglobal.net

2009 Board Members:

Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
Steve Cole	(707) 433-4888	stevecole@awesomehobbies.com
Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	Guy@Gui-Soft.com
Patrick O'Halloran	(707) 321-0400	patrick@wcflyers.com
Sid Maxwell	(707) 584-4428	airmanx@inreach.com

Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech, Sid Maxwell

Website: Patrick O'Halloran

Presidents Report

By: Adam Clement

Happy New Year everyone!! I would like to start out by giving a big THANK YOU to John Stychno for leading us for the last 2 years. I would also like to thank Brian Blackburn for being the treasurer for the last few years and not buying himself a few new airplanes. I would also like to thank Steve Cohen for filling in on the board when Ken had to step down. That was a huge help. It was pretty amazing how fast we all got together and moved the field in one weekend. As far as I can recall

there were no problems either, it went as smooth as could be and all because of teamwork. Go ahead, pat yourself on the back, you deserve it. There are still a few things to take care of at each place, old and new, which we will discuss at the January general meeting. If you have not heard by now we had a pretty bad accident at the flying field. Member Sid "Airman X" Maxwell had a plane runaway from him at the field. Sid's hand got into a full throttle Saito 100. Let's just say it wasn't pretty, I know I saw it. New member Mike Davis had just gotten to the field

when this happened and was able to get Sid to the Hospital. Doctor's did what they could but he has lost the tips of his index and middle finger at the first knuckle on his right hand. Sid is doing okay and staying pretty upbeat. I'm sure I can speak for all when I say I hope he has a speedy recovery.

Some things have arisen because of the accident. We are trying out some new starting poles on the tables. These are just trials and we know some modifications will be needed. Also the heavy chain will soon be replaced with a lighter cable. If Sid would have been by himself He may not have gotten out through that gate. So that said, it is recommended that nobody fly alone. If you go to the field, try to plan on going with someone. A fellow flyer or a family member if you not sure someone will be at the field. That way if there is an accident there is help on hand. This is just a recommendation. The board is in the process of finding out about having events at the field. Details will come soon. We will also be resuming the pylon racing this year, and are deciding on the classes. Looks like the T-28 class will resume. We may add the Park Zone corsair into that class but have not made a decision. Some testing on Q500 went well by switching to an APC 9x7 the db at 10 feet was 95. Still thinking about classes. If you have any ideas let myself or Steve Cole know.

This Year's main focus, Let's Have Some Fun and let's do Safely. But above all let's have FUN. Dust off those planes and come join in the fun. If you need help flying just ask someone. Please keep in mind that planes should have some type of muffler. Some of the planes are a bit loud and by putting a stock muffler back on your, or even running a higher pitched prop can quiet a plane down. Some tuned pipes are even pretty quiet. Throttle management can go along way also. When you Fly a plane please don't just fly around at full throttle. That sustained noise for a full tank is pretty annoying. Until we figure out a trash plan please pack out you own garbage. I hope this year can finally be a little more relaxing for the people who have worked hard to bring the new field together. If anybody

needs anything, don't hesitate to ask me or another board member for help.

Your humble new president, Adam Clement

Board Meeting Minutes

By: Ian Rickard
6 Jan. 2009

Held January 6th 2009 at Adobe Systems, Santa Rosa. CA.

Board members present:

Sid Maxwell (SM)

Merle McGregor (MM)

Patrick O'Halloran(PO)

Phil Leech (PL)

Guy Nicholas (GN)

Jeff Penner (JP)

Adam Clayton (AC)

Roy Domke (RD)

Ian Rickard, Secretary. (IR)

Meeting started at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Items

- Start up tables at the flying field were discussed in view of the recent accident. It was agreed that all 4 start up tables will be modified to have restraints fitted to prevent running planes from moving forward, thereby avoiding the need for pilots to be holding the plane and the transmitter while starting. The spacing of the restraints on each of the 4 tables will be 24 inches apart and these will be approximately 24 inches high. The orientation will be so that the motor of the model will be pointing towards the runway. Set back of the restraints from the edge of the table will be approximately 24 inches also to allow space for starting boxes etc. This modification will be done using PVC piping with foam cushioning and it will be put in place by IR within the next 2 weeks.
- Discussion of having Christmas 2009 party at the Trentadue Winery. AC to determine costs based on the four recommended caterers that Trentadue already uses regularly. GN and SM were both happy with Oakmont. RD mentioned the positive that a relocation to Trentadue might be for our relationship with Victor Trentadue. Also

mentioned was possibility of moving party to a Friday. Ongoing dependant on costs.

- Newsletters. Vice President reminded board members that all reports need to be submitted in a timely manner, preferably within 3-4 days of the meetings. Newsletters will be produced in printed form for those members who requested this otherwise they will be available on the web site where there is also more flexibility in terms of content.

GN and PO reminded all present that content for newsletters and new content for the web site must come from the board and also from the members, i.e. not from GN or PO! All members will be reminded of this at the next members meeting. AC confirmed that a Presidential Report will be issued monthly. It was also agreed that the newsletter will continue to be sent to local hobby stores as in the past.

- The storage shed that is at the old field will stay for now until the board determines if moving it to the new site will be acceptable to Victor Trentadue (VT).

- Membership application has been revised by JP to reflect new dues and rule changes. JP to add new club recommendation on 2 person minimum for flying. (see other business) WCF info (field location, etc) will be sent by JP to SM in new format electronically, copied to PO for web site inclusion.

- Welcome package. It was agreed to continue to send this printed package of materials to each new member. SD and PL agreed to add information in the welcome package to cover sound levels and throttle management to reduce impact on neighbors of the flying field.

- Facilities at the new field. AC to investigate with VT if handicapped members and/or their guests can use the handicapped toilet facilities at the Trentadue Winery. The impound shed also needs to be painted, AC to investigate color choices for the shed with VT.

- Formation of committee to assist new members for assessment of flying abilities, sound checks, safety of aircraft and throttle management. Not fully addressed.

- Float Fly's. SM has asked that someone else take over his duties for 2009. John Reed and

John Leito (Sp!) were both mentioned as possible likely candidates. Sandwich runs to Healdsburg will cease for 2009 unless popular demand is overwhelming. Replacement will need to contact the CDF and also Roger Swan at the Salvation Army to arrange dates for 2009 Float Fly's (x5 hopefully).

- Motion by SM "to limit the annual donation to the Salvation Army to \$100 for 2009" seconded by AC, all present were in favor. Motion Passed.

- The Trek to Ukiah. Nothing is scheduled for 2009.

- Pylon Racing. T-28 class will be run in 2009 starting on the first Sunday of March and continuing on the first Sunday of every subsequent month until the fall. Other classes are possible but not determined at this point, more ideas to be discussed at members meeting.

- Combat flying. To be discussed further at next members meeting. Electric aircraft are more likely due to reduced noise levels.

- First event of 2009. The Hobby Expo in Petaluma on February 21st. SM to organize, AC and IR to assist. Considered by the board an essential part of promoting the clubs position as a positive asset to the local community. Raffle to be held at Expo venue as in 2008.

- Upcoming events for 2009. PO to update website with dates for Hobby Expo, Pylon Racing and PECAM. Other events yet to be determined.

Other Business.

- SM has promised to send copies of byelaws and field rules to JP and IR electronically in next few days.

- Motion by SM for "new club rule that states that at least 2 people must be present at the flying field when flying". Motion was not seconded.

- Motion by AC for a "new club recommendation that at least 2 people are present at the flying field when flying". Motion seconded by PL, all present were in favor. Motion Passed.

- AC to notify local emergency services organizations of the location of the new field and discuss access for emergency services.
- AC and Steve Cole to discuss the replacement of the heavy chain at the entry to the flying field with VT. A lighter cable is preferred.
- Clean up of the old field. AC & RD offered to tidy up the old site in the short term until the club is required to remove the remaining items.
- AC to verify with VT the status of the contract signatures as soon as possible.
- Repairs needed at new field.
 - a. Large puddle by the impound shed.
 - b. Flight line barrier needs some minor repair.
- All members asked to assist when at the field, gravel is in a pile just near the puddle that needs filling in.
- AC to investigate with VT for permission to place "Private Property" signs at the entrances to the flying field to avoid visits from interested by passers while flying.
- AC to verify with VT club status for maximum number of people on site.
- GN requested list of upcoming articles that he can expect to receive for publishing in the newsletter and on line. This request needs to be mentioned at the next members meeting.
- Membership Limits. The existing cap on the maximum number of members is to be re-examined at the next board meeting. Currently enrolled for 2009 are 64 members and 14 in waiting to join.
- WCF cash donation to cost of raffle prizes at monthly members meeting to cease
- Suggestion by AC that monthly meetings might be held at the field during summer months. PL to investigate effect this might have on our ongoing reservation at the Veterans Building.
- AC mentioned that members are welcome to attend indoor flying at the Healdsburg High School for small electric aircraft only. 6-8pm on Sundays. Contact AC for more information.
- JP mentioned that very few members had supplied copies of their current 2009 AMA membership cards when renewing WCF membership for 2009. (Secretary also guilty

here). GN to investigate with AMA to see if AMA number can be correlated to AMA membership status.

- AC mentioned new ideas for the WCF online forum, including an area for electric aircraft as a teaching tool for those new to electric flight.

Meeting ended at 9pm.

Board Meeting Minutes

By: Jeff Penner
2 Dec. 2008

The December Board meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by President Jon Stychno. Officers and Board Members attending were Jon Stychno, Guy Nicholas, Jeff Penner, Merle McGregor, Phil Leach, Steve Cole, Roy Domke, Sid Maxwell and Steve Cohen. We had one guest Adam Clement.

We went over the agenda for the up coming Christmas party. Jon will take care of the program, Guy and Roy will bring the projector and screen. Jeff will bring change for drink sales. Phil will bring the raffle tickets and Adam will bring the raffle prizes.

A big thank you was expressed for all of the people that came out to the work parties to set up the new field!! It could not have been done without you.

A motion was made to re-key the lock for the gate each year to reduce non-paying members from just using last years key to get in. The motion was passed, so we will be handing out new keys early next year. We will iron out the details at the January board meeting so watch for updates after that to see how to get your new key.

Remember to check the event calendar for Trentadue events, there is a wedding on December 27th at 2:00 pm so no flying after 12:00 that day.

The expenditures for 2008 were reviewed by the board; Jeff will provide an updated report for the January meeting so a final 2008 review can be done.

The new member web page and application were reviewed to make needed changes; Jeff will rewrite and present at January meeting for final review.

The new member waiting list was reviewed; all current members have until 1/31/09 to pay their dues, so no new slots will be opened up until February 1st. As of December 6th we had 35 paid members for 2009.

Sid Maxwell is going to explore the opportunity of a flying site at Liberty field in Petaluma, check in with him for more information if you are interested in flying in the Petaluma area.

The December Board Meeting concluded at 9:15pm.

Report prepared and submitted by Jeff Penner, Secretary.

General Meeting Minutes

By: Jeff Penner
18 Nov. 2008

The November general meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Jon Stychno with 36 members present. There was one guest and one new member in attendance. Phil Leach was the lucky winner of the Gas raffle.

Old Business:

The pylon races are over for the year . . . and the winner is . . . Jon Stychno coming in first with a point total of 85. In second place is Merle McGregor with 81 points and tied for third is Adam Clement and Steve Cole with 72 points each. The tie for third place was broken by looking at who had more first place finishes and that was Adam. Awards will be given out at the Christmas Party.

New Business:

It looks like we have a new flying site. An agreement should be signed with in the next few days to allow us to move our site to the Trentadue Winery. We are currently planning a work party the weekend of November 20th and 21st. Also the following weekend if we do

not finish in just one. Meet at 9am at the old site to start the tear down.

At the new site our hours of operation will be from 9am till 5pm. We will be restricted on some days when the winery has events. Most of the events are weddings and will be in the afternoon. The will have schedule that will be posted on the web site as well as in the frequency shed. Please check the schedule before you fly.

Two changes have been put in place around club membership for 2009. The first is annual dues are going up to \$100.00, if you have earned work credit that will still count, but this is the last year that you can earn work credit toward your dues. The other change is that the club membership is limited to 90 members. This is to help minimize the impact at the new site and help us keep the site for a long time to come. A waiting list will be set up if we hit the limit. Current members must pay their 2009 dues before January 31st or lose there spot on the roster and if we are at the limit they will then have to go on the waiting list to wait for a slot to open up.

The 2008 Christmas party will be Saturday December 6th at Wild Oak Saddle Club, the cost is \$35 per person. No host cocktails will start at 5pm with dinner at 6. Please RSVP soon so we can get a good head count for dinner.

Looks like we are on for the Hobby Expo in Petaluma next year on February 21st set the date aside so you can come support the club and check out all of the other booths as well.

Elections were held for 2009 officers, all votes were passed unanimously;

President: Adam Clement
Vice President: Roy Domke
Secretary: Ian Rickard
Treasurer: Jeff Penner
Safety Officer: Merle McGregor

Raffle:

Roy Domke was first up and he picked the F4U Corsair. Ollie Burns singled out the 18 amp ESC. Ian Rickard, our new secretary, chose the receiver. Jon Stychno went with the Lipo Sack so that he would have something to keep his batteries in. Steve Cohen decided to take home the X-Acto knife. Jerry Williams picked up the landing gear. Jeff Penner decided to take the hinges early because he actually needed some. Ken Melani picked up the canopy scissors. Sid Maxwell chose a glow plug wrench. The hinge tape went home with John Reade. And at last Tom Haddorff went home with some new wheels.

This report prepared by Jeff Penner, Secretary.

Board Meeting Minutes

By: Jeff Penner
12 Nov. 2008

The November Board meeting was called to order at 6:40pm by President Jon Stychno. Officers and Board Members attending were Jon Stychno, Guy Nicholas, Jeff Penner, Merle McGregor, Phil Leach, Steve Cole, Roy Domke and Sid Maxwell.

The first topic that was brought up was dues for 2009. After much discussion and deliberation a motion was brought to the floor that had three points. 1) Raise the 2009 dues by \$20 dollars; 2) Eliminate the discount for work effective for dues in 2010; 3) Limit membership in the club to 90 members. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The way this will work for the first two points are that the dues will now be \$100 per year, if you have earned a work discount in 2008 towards your 2009 dues you will receive that discount, but there will no longer be any work discounts after that. On the 3rd part of the motion if you are a current member of the club your dues are due on 1/1/09 and are late on 2/1/09. If they have not been received by 2/1/09 then your spot in the club will be given to the first person on the waiting list and you

will have to move to the bottom of the waiting list if there is one.

We went over the upcoming Christmas party, the menu will be a buffet serving prime rib, salmon, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, green salad, fruit salad, apple crisp with ice cream. All for \$35, drinks will be extra at \$3 per drink. No host cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be at 5pm with dinner at 6pm. You should be getting an invitation about mid November.

Jon has been in contact with the county about the disposition of our current flying site. He will continue to work with them to make sure the transition is a smooth one.

Ian Rickard was nominated for the position of secretary for 2009.

Our flying site search has a new possibility in Petaluma, Liberty field. Jon meet with the owner and says that it would be a nice place and we should keep it in mind as we move forward with our other sites.

The rest of the meeting was spent going over detail of the new proposal for our site in the north county. Please come to the next general meeting for more details.

The November Board Meeting concluded at 9:30pm.

Report prepared and submitted by Jeff Penner, Secretary.

General Meeting Minutes

By: Jeff Penner
21 Oct. 2008

The October general meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Jon Stychno with 25 members present. There was one guest and no new members in attendance. Steve Cohen was the lucky winner of the Gas raffle.

Old Business:

We had a recap of the October pylon races, there were 8 planes and pilots at the race. A

big thank you also to Phil Leech for coming out and being pylon judge at each race. The action was hot and heavy, just one more race for the year.

Sid Maxwell gave a wrap up on the Trek to Ukiah, it was a very well attended event we gave out 46 burgers for lunch. There were about 15 Wine Country Flyers and 16 Prop Busters at the field. Thanks Sid for making this event such a success.

On September 20th the club was invited to do a demo at the Clear Lake Splash-In. There were about 30 full size seaplanes at the event. Jon Stychno, Steve Cole, Adam Clement, Steve Cohen, and Tom Haddorff came to give the demo. There were also three pilots from the Prop Busters there Ray, Darren, and Dan. The demo was about an hour long and went very well. The festival and full size planes were enjoyed as well. There are plans to try to have an all RC float fly next year at Clear Lake, the city seems very excited with the possibility.

Phil Leech gave a short recap on the Larry Frank Scale Electric Fly-In. There were 30 to 35 planes at the event, Bob Film and crew cooked up the burgers. The Neil Taylor award was given out during the event. The winners this year were Jon Stychno and Roy Domke, both were a little surprised. Bob Film also received an award for all of his hard work on the kitchen crew.

New Business:

Bob Film presented an award to Bob Rose for all of his hard work on the kitchen crew. As was said at the meeting it can't be done alone, and everyone that works on the kitchen crew works hard at each event.

The flying site search seems to be going a little better. We have a proposed site in the north county near our old site. Testing and planning is going on right now. There should be further information soon.

Nominations for 2009 club officers from the meeting are as follows:

President – Adam Clement,
Vice President – Roy Domke

Secretary – Patrick O'Halloran – pending Patrick's acceptance

Treasurer – Jeff Penner

Safety Officer – Merle McGregor

Elections will be at the November meeting, if you would like to nominate someone in addition to those listed above please let one of the board members know or come to the meeting.

Steve Cole gave a quick run down about the Davis Jet Rally. To sum it up in one word; Windy. There were a few brave folks who flew but not many, Steve was one of the few and was able to get checked out for his turbine waver, congratulations Steve!!

The last pylon race will be on November 2nd. Also indoor flying will start up soon, check with Awesome hobbies to find out times and dates.

Raffle:

Bob Rose was the big winner of the night choosing the Thunder Tiger P51D. Next up was Steve Cohen, he went with the Beechcraft. The three cell Lipo was next to go home with Merle McGregor. Jon Stychno picked the Enticement F3P foamy plane. Jeff Penner decided to take the Common Sense Balancer. Damien Garcia went with the digital tach. John Reade chose the 30 min. epoxy. There was a nice selection of thread lock that Roy Domke selected. And last Dave Mercer went home with a covering iron.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. This report prepared by Jeff Penner, Secretary.

Who's Club is It?

By: Guy Nicholas

It's YOUR club! Who's newsletter is it? It's YOUR newsletter. In line with our President's statement, I would like the newsletter to be fun. I don't want to have to scour the web for cool articles on how to recover a plane, or best ways to land in a crosswind. I want YOU to give me materials. Each and every one of you has a story to tell. Tell us about your last build, or review a kit or motor or radio. Tell us

about yourself, how you got into RC. Don't be afraid to write something down. I know a lot of you are probably afraid, 'I don't write well', or 'nobody cares what I have to say', don't worry about it. It is always interesting to hear what others in the club have to say. The point of joining a club is to share our common interest and help each other out. So come on, take some pictures, write down your experiences, and send them to guy@gui-soft.com. Your club will thank you for it ☺

Next Month...

Ever wonder how the club came to be? Well Phil Leach has the answers, and next month he will be telling us all about it.

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