

Feb 2010 Edition

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 16 Feb 2010, 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

2010 Club Officers:

President:	Red	(707) 481-9504	rjensen@arcturus-uav.com
Vice President:	Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
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	merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com

2009 Board Members:

Roy Domke	(707) 395-0411	Runabout@aol.com
Steve Cole	(707) 433-4888	stevecole@awesomehobbies.com
Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	Guy@Gui-Soft.com
Adam Clement	(707) 433-4113	adamclement@comcast.net
Jon Stychno	(707) 888-6885	jon@epsinsurance.com

Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech
Website: Patrick O'Halloran



Presidents Report

By: Red Jensen

Now is the time of year most people refer to as "building season". The weather is unsettled and most people are either taking a break or working on their next project for when the sun shines again. It's a bit of a bittersweet time for me. As with any addictive personality I don't really take any breaks per se, and well, I have a heater in the shop so I've been busy. This is the time when my creative juices get flowing and I like to build. I've drawn 3 complete sets of plans and cut kits from them in the past month. The problem is once I get going like that, I want to fly, but I have to wait on the weather!

If any of you have the itch to scratch build, I suggest downloading a simple CAD program <http://modelcad-3000.uptodown.com/en> and giving it a shot. I'd be willing to give you a hand with it and then cut it on my laser. There is nothing quite like seeing your own creation fly!

If you have not paid your dues, this will be the last newsletter you receive. If you plan to rejoin, please get your check as soon as possible.

REMINDER: the gate combo will change at the end of this month. You will receive the new code with your 2010 badge in the mail.

REMINDER: We are a private club! This means we have a limited membership and restrict access to guests. You are allowed to bring a guest TWICE before they are expected to join. Please do no abuse this.

Board Meeting Minutes

5 Jan 2010

Chair Persons for upcoming events.

Opening Day May 15th, Red to chair.

Learn to Fly on June 12th , Adam to chair, Jeff as backup if needed.

PCAM, Jon Stychno to chair.

Larry Frank, Neil Taylor, Phil Leech and Jon Stychno.

Christmas Party, Jeff, Roy and Phil.

Discussion of possible Paint Ball event with planes in the air as targets, new fun fly event added on July 24th for this.

Opening Day Event will include a free barbeque for all invited. Robbie to put together a list of possible features for the day. RJ and IR to work on flyer for this event.

Swap Meet. Adam Clement and Steve Cole to coordinate venue and date plus with Chuck Green possibly.

General Meetings venue, suggestions for new site because current rates are increasing. Agreement to stay at the veterans building.

Christmas Party venue for 2010. Trentadue versus a new site that might be less expensive. Consensus was to stay at Trentadue even if it is more expensive.

Guest Policy ...for non-members flying at the Trentadue field.

Motion to change current field rules. Robbie motions and Roy seconds that non-members only get to fly twice at the field in any calendar year. Further flying will require membership of WCF.

Passed by all present motion accepted.

Robbie agreed to help with welcoming new members. Some welcome package docs to be hosted on the site.

Financial information. Accounts for 2009 presented by Jeff Penner. Robbie motioned and Roy seconded motion to approve accounts for 2009. Accepted. WCF needs to find a person to audit the documents for no fee.

Meeting closed at 7:52pm.

General Meeting Minutes

19 Jan. 2010

The meeting was brought to order by Red Jensen at 7:30 pm., with 37 members present.

- The Door Prize of a gallon of fuel was won by Wayne Frederick and he walked off with a smile.

- For New Members we did have two new members and a guest. The new members are Jake Boatman and Jack Jensen who is Red's son. The guest is Larry Gustafson who later in the meeting joined up and I guess that means we really had three new members after all.

- For the President's Report, Red told us about his concern about the club's Non-Profit status and whether we should have been filing reports with the government all of these past years. Turns out that as long as our total income is \$25,000 or less we are not required to file anything with the Feds. That's a relief.

Red also told about a joint Propbusters/WCF pylon race this past Sunday. We flew at their field with Tony McDonald sponsoring the event. No one from Ukiah participated except for Tony and Jake but Dan Sciacca is interested in developing a race team from each club to meet on alternate two

week intervals like the first and third Sundays of each month. More later.

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Jeff Penner. Last year our expenses were \$15,300 and our income was \$15,423. That's cutting it pretty close. We currently have \$7600 in our accounts and there are 46 paid members..

- The Secretary's Report was as published in the Newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

- Red reviewed the Christmas Party and suggested that it was probably the best one that we have ever had. The food was great, the place was great, Julio's video was first rate and for the first time, we had live music! A free raffle is hard to top too.

NEW BUSINESS

- The annual Hobby Expo that is sponsored by Hobby Town in Petaluma is scheduled for Saturday, February 20. Adam Clement is the Event Director and he is lining up display models, a flight simulator and a video projector for Julio's videos. We will probably do a little flying outside at the pond weather permitting.

- Red is reviewing the By-Laws for possible revisions and updates. The next Board Meeting will discuss any changes and prepare suggested changes for presentation at the February General Meeting.

- Pylon racing rules have been formulated and published in the Newsletter and they allow for a new 1/2th scale racing class. Sunday, March 14 has been designated for the first race.

- Jon Stychno told about a solar powered charging station that was featured in Model Aviation. Jon is working on determining what materials would cost for us to build one for the field.

- Red conducted a "Name the Plane" contest. The plane he selected was published on the cover of the Newsletter. He plans to have a contest each month. Guys submitted their entries and of the entries, Red found that four were correct and put the names in the raffle cage. And the winner was: Merle MacGregor. The correct answer was the Bell XP-63 or L-39. The plane was a modified P-63 with swept wings. Red tells us that next month's plane won't be so easy.

THE RAFFLE

- Jon Stychno won the big prize, an electric "Addiction". Jeff Penner was next up taking a P-51 Thunder Tiger. Dick Maddock got a Phillips screwdriver set and Roy Domke liked the Piper Cherokee that was donated by Steve Cohen. Next was Jack Jensen selecting a High Sierra Glider while Merle MacGregor settled for a Gentle Lady

Glider. Dave Mercer took the Deans connectors and Chris Seppeler picked the X-Acto set leaving Larry Gustafson with a Merlin Glider kit. John Lehtio selected the miscellaneous stuff that John Reade donated and Julio Alvarez picked an electric meter. That left Bill Van Asdlan with a set of wheels and Bob Rose who took a peanut scale Monocoupe kit and that ended the Raffle!

SHOW AND TELL

- Roy Domke set up a projector and showed Julio Alvarez' video of the '09 PCAM show lasting 20 minutes or so and it was appreciated by everyone.

- Steve Cole displayed a 1/12 scale Corsair that he is building for the new Pylon Race class. He suggested that there are several kits available for different airplanes that are WW2 types.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55

Report prepared and submitted for Ian Rickard, Secretary by Phil Leech.

Name the Plane

By: Red Jensen



Last month we had quite a few correct guesses, it was a Bell XP-39 or L-39. Congratulations to Merle McGregor on the win! It was used for research into the then unknown realm of swept wing aircraft and transonic flight. Going into the WWII era, the Germans were more than 5 years ahead of us in this area of design. To understand just how little we knew about this technology, Bell, the company who built the X-1, the first supersonic aircraft, used a straight wing! Since it seems we have so many smart people, this one will be a bit tougher!

Odyssey of the Mind

By: Phil Leech

(ed. Note: see photo on cover)

(ed. Pictures courtesy Patrick O'Halloran)

This is a story that most modelers will love to hear.

Last Fall, Patrick O'Halloran, our webmaster, was contacted through our website requesting help for a children's group that needed assistance about modeling and the principles of flight. It was explained that a group of kids from the Austin Creek Elementary School were planning to participate in an "Odyssey of the Mind" program and a competition to be held at Santa Rosa High School in Feb. 2010. They would be competing against four other Northern California schools with the winner going on to a state competition in Sacramento later in the year. There were seven kids in the group of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Three girls and four boys and they knew very little about the principles of flight or how to construct a model plane. The mother that contacted Patrick desperately needed help because she and two other mothers didn't have a clue as to how to proceed. Could he help?

"Shazam". "Of course we can help", was Patrick's reply.



So, Patrick set about trying to figure out how to proceed. He started by downloading plans for a simple rubber powered balsa and tissue model that would be suitable for indoor flight. Then he contacted me and asked if I could assist him meeting the kids on Tuesday afternoons just after school for about an hour each week until the Christmas break. The plan was to help with basics of flight and construction of simple models.

The competition required 6 separate flight performances by different types of aircraft design but the design was to be by the kids themselves and not us. After Christmas the kids were to be on their own and they had about 2 months to prepare for the competition in February.

We had seven sessions with the kids and we built about two planes each with them. Steve Cole donated some rubber power stuff to help get us started. Once we had some finished planes we practiced flying the planes in the school gym where we tried to teach them about balancing and trimming the planes. The kids were very conscientious about carefully building the planes and loved the flying sessions that usually resulted in broken and damaged planes that Patrick and I were continuously repairing with them.



We parted ways before Christmas with both Patrick and me wondering how these kids were going to solve the flight challenges that the competition required. We agreed that we would return sometime before the competition to see if they needed more help.



Last week we e-mailed the mothers to see how they were doing and were invited to join

the group to see how they had progressed. Yesterday, we got a preview of the presentation of their flight program and Patrick and I were impressed with their progress and surprised by some of their solutions that neither Patrick nor I had imagined. This is the intent of the Odyssey of the Mind program, which is to stimulate creativity and to seek solutions that reflect, "thinking out of the box".

You can bet that Patrick and I will be on hand Saturday, Feb 27 at Santa Rosa High School to watch "Our Kids". What a great experience this has been. I wish this program could be repeated next year but apparently a new theme is selected each year and "Flight" was for just this year and won't be repeated until maybe sometime in the future. The bottom line here is that it is really rewarding to

see young kids responding with so much enthusiasm and interest in learning something new. I am glad that as modelers, we had something to contribute.



WCF 2010 EVENTS SCHEDULE

HOBBY EXPO	SAT FEB 20
PYLON RACE #1	SUN MAR 14
PYLON RACE #2	SUN APR 4
SID'S FLOAT FLY #1	SAT APR 24
PYLON RACE #3	SUN MAY 2
OPENING DAY	SAT MAY 15
SID'S FLOAT FLY #2	MON MAY 31
PYLON RACE #4	SUN JUN 6
LEARN TO FLY	SAT JUN 12
SID'S FLOAT FLY #3	SUN JUL 4
PYLON RACE #5	SUN JUL 11
FUN FLY	SAT JUL 24
PYLON RACE #6	SUN AUG 1
PCAM	AUG 21-22
SID'S FLOAT FLY #4	MON SEP 6
PYLON RACE #7	SUN SEP 12
LARRY FRANK/NEIL TAYLOR DAY	SUN SEP 19
SID'S FLOAT FLY	SAT SEP 18
PYLON RACE #8	SUN OCT 3
PYLON RACE #9	SUN NOV 7
PYLON RACE#10	SUN DEC 5
CHRISTMAS PARTY	FRI DEC 10



P.O. BOX 4198
SANTA ROSA, CA 95402