

December 2011 Edition

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 17 January 2012, 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

2011 Club Officers:

President:	Jeff Penner	(707) 292-4234	sonicjeff@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Dave Mercer	(707) 235-8340	mcdave@sonic.net
Secretary:	Paul Kohlmann	(707) 837-9437	ptkohlmann@aol.com
Treasurer:	Adam Clement	(707) 322-5318	adampclement@gmail.com
Safety Officer:	Merle McGregor	(707) 585-1061	merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com

2011 Board Members:

Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
Red Jensen	(707) 481-9504	rjensen@arcturus-uav.com
Patrick O'Halloran	(707) 321-0400	patrick@tiburon-da.com
Steve Cole	(707) 481-7989	stevecole@awesomehobbies.com
Guy Nicholas	(707) 544-2141	guy@gui-soft.com

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



Presidents Report

(Ed: None Received)

Vice Presidents Report

By: Dave Mercer

Greetings everyone,

Well, we just had our first self-catered Christmas dinner and it turned out awesome! There were a few last minute challenges but the dinner team pulled it off. Guy, his wife Wendy, Phil and his wife Ann, did a tremendous amount of work to make it all happen, along with Adam, John Reade, and Merle all contributing. The food was great, and plentiful. As always, the Trentadue Winery provides a first-class setting to hold our annual party. A huge thumbs-up to all involved.

As anticipated, the pylon racing came down to the final heat of the last race. Tony McDonald snuck past Jake Rosen to capture the T-28 championship. For that he earned a cool \$175.00. Now there's a nice incentive to go racing!! In the Reno 450 class Adam snuck past Steve Cole, by ONE point, to earn the championship. Adam also came out on top in the Nitro 12th-scale class. Way to go Adam. We haven't finalized the racing structure for next year, but I'm sure whatever we come up with will result in as much, or more, fun and excitement as this year. I hope to see some new faces out there racing with us next year.

While I do enjoy the holidays, this time of year, for me, is kind of a bummer. Going to work in the morning to a freezing cold shop, or it's raining. But worst of all are the short days. I hate leaving work and it's dark already. It's too dark to do any flying after work. So.....what can be done about that? Well, recently I've been taking my little Blade mCPX heli to work with me. It barely fits in my transmitter case, after carefully cutting out the foam, but I managed to make it all work. So now I can fly everyday at lunch. Even if it's raining, the shop is plenty big enough to fly indoors. This has been a heck of a lot of fun!! The micro aircraft on the market today keep getting better and

better. Anyone who hasn't tried one really should. It certainly helps cure my wintertime blues.

One last note. Don't forget to mail in your dues for next year. It's a small price to pay to be involved with a great group of people, and fly at our field. I hope to see all of you again next year.

Dave Mercer

Board Meeting Minutes

By: Paul Kohlmann
6 Dec 2011

- Christmas Party - in reviewing the RSVP list, it looks like no vegetarians will be attending. The bar options were reviewed including what drinks the club can provide without corkage fees. Ladies prizes will be \$200 cash split five ways.

Key roles that have been filled as follows:

Greeter - Merle

Wine - Pat

Audio-Video - Adam and John

Emcee - John

Raffle - Adam and Jeff

- Pylon Racing - with the season concluded it is time to present awards. Wayne has provided the awards in the past, but this year John put in an order with D&S Awards. Their bid was \$25 each - now we know how good we had it with Wayne! A discussion followed regarding whether racers would want the plaques or the cash. Having the club pay the tab rather than taking from the entry fees was also discussed. Ultimately, a vote was passed for the club to pay the plaque fee this year as the pylon races are good for the whole club, but next year a more cost effective source of awards will be sourced.

- Management of the races, selection of classes, and the like was discussed. Adam suggested forming a race board to ensure a broader consensus. The results of Red's poll on the club website were noted to be very unfocussed - not a bad thing as our membership has a broad range of interests. About the only direction gleaned from the poll

was that most racers want to go faster and a significant number of people were interested in the new Dogfighter. Plenty of discussion followed regarding how to get the most racers engaged.

- What was agreed on was the for 2012 there will be a Reno 450 but that it will be slowed down for our field by mandating that only one prop type be allowed. The prop has yet to be decided. It is also likely that T28 will be split into two classes - novice and pro.

- 2012 Membership - membership peaked at 90. It is expected that several members will not renew this year, so we should be on the lookout for new prospects. We also discussed how we might encourage members to renew promptly rather than trickle back like 2011. We declined to impose a late fee at this time but opted to communicate more regularly. Imposing a late fee next year was noted as a good topic for a Membership Meeting.

- New Board Meeting Site - Guy's office will no longer be available. John is working on a new venue by the airport. This site may be better for the Membership Meeting as well, which would save the club a few bucks that we are paying to the Vet's Hall. John will check it out soon.

- Flying Field Mowing - Bill Walters has been mowing the field regularly. The Board voted to waive Bill's membership for 2012 as fair compensation for continuing to mow once a month.

Meeting convened at 8:30pm.

General Meeting Minutes

15 November
By: Phil Leech

The meeting was brought to order by Jeff Penner at 7:40 pm., with 18 members present.

- The Door Prize of a gift card from Jake's was won by Dave Mercer.

- For New Members and Guests we didn't have any tonight. - For Members Sick or Injured, John Reade told us about his recent trips to the hospital. First, he had a stent placed on his lower aorta and then a week later he had a tumor removed from his

bladder with more Chemo in the future with a rebuilt bladder to be inserted in a yet to be determined time. John will be off work for several months. We wish him the best.

- The Treasurer's Report was not available. Adam promised to have one next month.

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

OLD BUSINESS

- There really wasn't any left over from last month, so we moved on to...

NEW BUSINESS

- I presented a review of progress for the Christmas Party and explained that we will need help from our membership on the night of Dec 9. Bill Van Asdlan will be bringing a movie screen and Charlie Cox, Dave Mercer and John Reade stepped up when I asked that we need help packing up the rented items after the party. Brian Germone was drafted to pour wine and beer in his absence by friends of his. All in all there was good support and I felt that we were on our way to a new experience by doing the cooking and preparations for the party ourselves.

- Jeff proceeded with a presentation of the slate for new officers for 2012 as prepared by the Board. The slate was as follows:

President - Jon Stychno

Vice President - Dave Mercer

Treasurer - Adam Clement

Secretary - Paul Kohlman

Safety Officer - Merle McGregor

The vote to install the slate was almost unanimous with Larry Gustafson the only dissenter mostly on principle, I think.

SHOW AND TELL

- Gabriel Black presented his new "Outrage, Fusion 50" heli that he plans to power with electrics including 12s batteries. Should be a show stopper.

- Steve Cole continued with his series describing upgrades to his P-51. The plane features a prop reduction mechanism that turns a scale four blade prop. Steve is creating a new carbon fiber prop from scratch, beginning with a new mold. He explained the process and received several questions and comments.

THE RAFFLE

- Larry Gustafson won the big prize, a Beechcraft Stagger wing electric. Bill Van Asdlan picked up the 65c battery and I got a book on programming RC radios. Dick Maddock selected the set of aviation books that were donated by Charlie Cox. Merle accepted the video donated by Jake Rosen and Dave Mercer settled for the CA glue. Adam had to be satisfied with a spinner while Jerry Leister took the charger that was donated by Gabriel Black. That left the hinges for Jayce Cole, Steve's son.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35

2011 Christmas Party Review

By: Phil Leech

This was our third year at Trentadue Wineries for our Annual Christmas Party and I think all will agree that the setting at Trentadue is by far the best we have ever enjoyed. We've had problems in the past with caterers and caterer's prices and that has caused us to have to charge more for our members, but this year we tried something new and unique that allowed us to lower the ticket price. We did our own catering! And we have learned a few things from the experience. Most of the planning and execution fell to Guy Nicholas and myself but we have had support from several other members including Adam, John Reade, Merle, Dave Mercer, Paul Kohlman and of course, our Emcee Jon Stychno.

The food preparation was done by Guy and his wife, Wendy, my wife, Ann, Paul Kohlman and Suzanne Cole. We'll probably do a few things differently next year but all and all, the

food was served on time and preliminary opinions are positive. We would like to hear your candid assessments for taste and quality as well as suggestions. Preliminary pricing looks like we are about \$1000 under last year's costs and that looks pretty good. We may begin to think about an even lower ticket price for next year. Guy, Adam and I will be able to present a more detailed financial report soon.

Jon Stychno presented the 2011 Program along with the Pylon Racing Awards. The T28 class was won by Tony McDonald followed by Jake Rosen and Wylie Walters. Reno 450 was won by Adam Clement then, Steve Cole and Tony McDonald. 12th Scale Nitro was Adam for 1st, then Steve Cole and in 3rd place, Red Jensen.

The Free Raffle prizes were selected by Adam and Jake Rosen who supplied the prizes to us at discounted prices. They presented us with a tasty selection of RC goodies with some cash envelopes for our ladies. There were 7 large airplane kits along with a number of smaller items but the big winners were, Richard Maddock - Pilatus Porter, Larry Gustafson - Cosmic Wind, Paul Stychno - Cessna 152, Phil Leech - Fun Cub, Wiley Walters - Velox, Paul Kohlman - Dogfighter, Gabriel Black - Yak 55, and Jeff Penner with the \$100 Gift Certificate.

I hope everybody had a great time, let us hear from you for your ideas and suggestions for next year!

Phil Leech

Christmas party pictures courtesy John Reade:

John and Phil getting ready to do some drinking



The Booty



Dinner is served



Chef Boy-R-Dee's



Victor and Steve share a laugh in the kitchen



Wendy setting tables



WCF 2011 EVENTS SCHEDULE

We be done



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