

June 2012 Edition

# Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 17 July 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](http://www.wcflyers.com)

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

## 2012 Club Officers:

President:	Jon Stychno	(707) 888-6885	<a href="mailto:Jon@epsinsurance.com">Jon@epsinsurance.com</a>
Vice President:	Dave Mercer	(707) 304-3967	<a href="mailto:mcdave@sonic.net">mcdave@sonic.net</a>
Secretary:	Paul Kohlmann	(707) 837-9437	<a href="mailto:Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com">Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com</a>
Treasurer:	Adam Clement	(707) 322-5318	<a href="mailto:adampclement@gmail.com">adampclement@gmail.com</a>
Safety Officer:	Steve Cole	(707) 481-7989	<a href="mailto:p38extreme@aol.com">p38extreme@aol.com</a>

## 2012 Board Members:

Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	<a href="mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net">leechstudios@sonic.net</a>
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Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech

Website: Patrick O'Halloran



## **Presidents Report**

By: Jon Stychno

Summer is definitely here! There has been plenty of flying going on at their field, especially with the dry spring we had. As always, there is work to be done as well to keep the flying site in tip top shape. On May 6<sup>th</sup>, the additional gravel was added to the entrance road, and it was graded and rolled. Thanks to Jimmy Galea at Galea Construction for giving us a great deal on the tractor work and to Canyon Rock in Forestville for the discounted gravel. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, a dust inhibitor was applied to the road, which is good for the grapes, and our vehicles. This was done just in time for the first night flying event in the clubs history! Attendance was very impressive, but it was tough to see who was actually there until I wandered through the pit area and checked out the planes and pilots up close. It was neat to see the different approaches taken to lighting up an aircraft. LED technology has certainly advanced. The current generation of lights are super bright, and weigh mere grams. They come on adhesive backed strips and are almost ready to use, just solder on some leads to your flight battery. They are relatively inexpensive too. Jakes Performance Hobbies has them in stock, so pick some up before the next night fly. We had so much fun we're having **another night fly on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**. Be there!

WCF held its annual Memorial Day Float Fly on May 28<sup>th</sup> Merle McGregor organized the event, with 17 registered pilots, and more than 30 aircraft. The weather was great and there were plenty of smiles. There are now some micros on the market that are float ready and a few were there. The next float fly will be held on Wednesday July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our final race of the 2012 Pylon Racing Spring Series will be held on Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

The points are close in EF1, with most racers having a mathematical chance at winning the championship! Mike Kahlua holds a commanding lead in the T-28 class, 10 points ahead of Brian Young in second. As usual, Steve Cole is running the table in Reno 450,

but he still has to fend off Tony McDonald, Bryan Germone, and Adam Clement to secure the title. I was fortunate enough to clinch the championship in the Dogfighter class in May, so Adam Clement and Brian Young will fight it out for second place, only 5 points separate them. The 5 round Summer Series starts July 15<sup>th</sup>. A few members attended a 3 pole pylon race at the Woodland Davis Aeromodelers site, and they'll talk about the experience at the next general meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

The club has been once again asked to perform in the Pacific Coast Air Museum's Wings Over Wine Country Air Show this year. The event will take place August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to fly in the demo or help out at our display please contact me at [jon@epsinsurance.com](mailto:jon@epsinsurance.com), or be sure to attend the June monthly meeting to get signed up. We will have a practice day on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of August and a dress rehearsal on Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of August. Let's make this years performance the best one yet!

-Jon Stychno

## **Vice Presidents Report**

By: Dave Mercer

Greetings everyone,

Summer is just around the corner, as far as the calendar goes, but here in beautiful Wine Country it doesn't really matter since there's not much difference between spring or summer. It's all been good. It's time to get out there and fly. The weather's been perfect for weeks on end. I've been flying as often as I can, but.... truth be known, this time of year I'm inundated with work obligations that limit my flying chances. In fact I recently acquired some "side-work" that further reduces my free time to enjoy my hobbies. It's a vicious circle, either work slows down and I have plenty of spare time, but little extra cash, or I'm working like crazy, drawing overtime, with much better cash flow and yet no time to enjoy it. Am I the

only one with this dilemma ? Surely I can't be the only one with this situation. I don't mean to snivel, but it's very frustrating. If I'm not out at the field as often as I would like, now you know why.

On a happier note..... I just bought another plane!! I've been attending the recent Float Fly events, as a spectator since I had nothing on floats to fly. I've been waffling between an Icon A5 and a Seawind. The Icon seemed nice though it has some weird tail wagging issues, and then I watched Brian Germone fly his Seawind. That thing flew sweet!! Still I held back and did nothing. I don't know about the rest of you, but ever since I bought a couple of servos from Tower Hobbies, on-line, I've been inundated with e-mails from them. Seems like every day there's another "special" offer or there's some desparate enticement..... "we want you back, free shipping, use this discount code".....whatever. Usually I read it, shrug my shoulders, figure "ain't nothing I need" and delete it. And then they hooked me. There it was, the Seawind, twenty bucks off, free shipping, no sales tax to boot. I couldn't resist. It arrived in two days, I've completed the minimal work necessary to finish it and I can hardly wait till the next Float Fly event on July 4th. Finally I have something to fly off the water. Come on out July 4th and watch the maiden flight.

That's all for now,  
Dave Mercer

## *General Meeting*

By: Paul Kohlmann  
17 April 2012

18 members present

- Treasurer's Report: ~\$3500 in the bank, \$7096 in the CD, 74 members in good standing including 2 new.
- Opening Day: this event went over well and a number of good stories were told. Special thanks go to Phil for organizing, Glen for BBQ, Wyley (A10) and Merle (T28) for the

shootdowns, and Adam for the rockets. \$110 was earned by the club with only a \$10 expenditure.

- Indoor Fly-In: good weather reduced the head count at the last event, as expected. The pending event has been cancelled but more dates are expected later in the year as the weather turns.
- Float Fly: the opening water event drew 22 flyers and was more organized than previous years thanks to Merle. Overall the flying went well with perfect weather but a Beaver went into the drink and Red's Sea Dart went China Syndrome with a wet ESC (CorrosionX is your friend!). The second event is scheduled for 5/28.
- Entrance Road: rock was dropped and spread just in advance of the Opening Day Air Show. Dustoff will be applied later in the year when it will do the most good in protecting Victor's grapes.
- Cub Scouts: Jon, Adam, Jerry, and Gabe introduced a group of Santa Rosa scouts to RC with a demonstration. They showed off a 4Site and a UFO coax heli.
- Events: Ukiah held their Ray Morris event but not many WCF's attended as there was a conflict with our Float Fly. Same with the Woodland/Davis slope fly on the coast that was also afflicted with a lack of wind. WDA also has a big pylon race scheduled for 5/19/12. Steve, Red, and Bryan are planning to race this event.
- Night Fly: the inaugural WCF Night Fly is scheduled at our field for 6/2. Not a lot of guys have lighted planes—yet. This might be a motivator, though.
- Liberty Flyers: Merle reported that the hangar at the Liberty field collapsed damaging a car inside, but that several ultralights and other stuff was undamaged.
- Show and Tell: Red kicked it off with his EF1 racer that he's developing for HobbyKing. He reported that HK contacted him about ARFing his Nemesis but that ultimately they agree to work up a new design.

Paul brought in his Grumman Goose that was in the May Model Aviation. It flew at the April Float Fly.

Gabe brought in his latest heli project—a Goblin 700 12S monster. Designed by SAB, this is a top shelf heli with many advanced features. Gabe has gotten the maiden out of the way and is working on optimizing it.

Steve updated us on his Byron giant P51. He has produced a full set of hand made carbon fiber prop blades to replace the flexible ones the project came with. He is now working on converting his ply motor mount mock up with the aluminum replacement.

Adam showed off his fully illuminated AcroMaster. It has a bazillion watts of LED's and is expected to put on a show at the 6/2 Night Fly.

- Misc: Jon updated us on some radio problems that he believes were the cause of several crashes he recently had including some during pylon races. The result was an aileron that intermittently developed a mind of its own. He's sending in his radio and hopes for a report from the vendor. Jerry also lost his tricked out MiG in the vineyard—unfortunately a total loss.
- Raffle: \$55 taken in. Adam: Albatros ARF, Merle: wheels, Paul Eason: hinge tape, Dave: fiberglass, lil Cole: gas tank, Jon: wheels, Gabe: fuel tank, Joe: fuel tank

Adjourned at 8:50

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

By: Paul Kohlmann  
5 June 2012

- Airshow Recap: a review of the event expenses was had, but without Adam present there were some questions left unanswered. Merle reported that a table broke during the event and needs to be repaired as it is a safety hazard. Merle will take care of the repair when he is able.
- 2011 Financials: Jeff was asked to bring up the Quicken report from last year when he handed off the Treasurer function. A discussion regarding the cost of the PortoPottie followed. This may be an area where we could save some money, but we need determine what the costs are.
- Float Fly #2: another smooth event; no major splashdowns this month. 18 pilots showed up.

- Entrance Road: the Dust Off has been applied and the road looks great now. The cost for the rock, delivery, and application was \$890—a bit higher than expected based on the estimate. The road looks great, though.

Night Fly Recap—the inaugural event drew more flyers than expected and it was great fun. Lots of spectators were there. There is interest in doing this again, but looking for a date with less moonlight! After some discussion we settled on July 14<sup>th</sup>, with the approval of Trentadue.

- T-shirts: no progress with designs, too busy. All are encouraged to visit CustomInk.com and try their hand at design.

Wings Over Wine Country 2012—Jon has confirmed that we will be part of the event again. Not much detail yet, but it is expected that the show will be structured the same as years past. WCF members will be encouraged to participate. Demo pilots from outside the club will be sought as well. Jon will be the point person. Practice will be planned for 1 week prior to the airshow.

- Heli Fun Fly: Steve and Jeff will co-organize the event as a low-key event with a number of fun events. Spot landing, drags, limbo, etc. were discussed. The event will be open to members and their families. A method of defining flying areas to allow multiple pilots to fly will be needed. The date was set for July 8. Jon will make up a flyer.

- John Reade: he is on the mend but it's a longer road than hoped. A call or email might be appreciated.

- Dan Sullivan: this annual two-day event is coming up soon.

- WDA Pylon Race: Red, Steve, and Bryan attended. The event was a little more sophisticated than ours with transponders to monitor planes, more complex arrangement of judges, big digital race clock, and electronic lap and cut counters. The management of the race including starts was more complex, too.
- Meeting convened at 8:00pm.

### ***On the Cover***

by: Guy Nicholas  
Breezy: <http://breezyaircraft.com/about.html>

## WCF 2012 EVENTS SCHEDULE

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|---|--|
| July 4 <sup>th</sup> -Float Fly                     | September 30 <sup>th</sup> -Larry Frank Scale Fly-In |
| July 8 <sup>th</sup> -Helicopter Fun Fly            | October 21 <sup>st</sup> - Pylon Race #4             |
| July 14 <sup>th</sup> Night Fly                     | November 18 <sup>th</sup> -Pylon Race # 5            |
| July 15 <sup>th</sup> -Pylon Race # 1               | December 8 <sup>th</sup> -Christmas Party            |
| July 22 <sup>nd</sup> -Club Learn to Fly Day        |  |
| August 18-19 <sup>th</sup> -Wings over Wine Country |  |
| August 26 <sup>th</sup> - Pylon Race # 2            |  |
| September 3 <sup>rd</sup> -Float Fly                |  |
| September 12-16 -Reno Air Races                     |  |
| September 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Pylon Race # 3         |  |



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