

February 2013 Edition

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 19 March 2013, 7:30 P.M.
Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Drive

Get there early for your free door prize raffle ticket!

www.wcflyers.com

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

2012 Club Officers:

President :	Paul Kohlmann	(707) 837-9437	Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com
Vice President:	Dave Mercer	(707) 304-3967	mcdave@sonic.net
Secretary:	Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
Treasurer:	Patrick O'halloran	(707) 321-0400	patrick@tiburon-da.com
Safety Officer:	Wylie Walters	(707) 235-6383	raidery73@yahoo.com

2012 Board Members:

Merle McGregor	(707) 585-1061	merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com
Tony McDonald	(707) 894-0823	tmcdp51@sbcglobal.net
Jeff Penner	(707) 292-4234	SonicJeff@yahoo.com
Red Jensen	(707) 481-9504	rjensen@arcturus-nav.com
Steve Cole	(707) 481-7989	p38extreme@aol.com

Newsletter Team: Guy Nicholas, Phil Leech

Website: Patrick O'Halloran



Presidents Report

By: Paul Kohlmann

Hangar Queens.

We all have them. You know, those airplanes that need repairs that you don't feel like doing. Or the ones where the honeymoon is over and you just don't have time for them anymore.

I had one last year. It was a Parkzone P47. I was thrilled when I bought it new and it flew pretty well, but for some reason from the very first flight it just didn't do it for me. Oh, I tried. I flew it a lot. I had some minor crack ups but dutifully repaired it. Then finally, I got the excuse that I was looking for. My son Drew and I had a midair between the T-bolt and his T28. He was totaled but the rugged Jug was easily repairable. But not by me. I donated it to the raffle pile at a Membership Meeting where it was snapped up and repaired by Merle McGregor. Then Phil Leech talked him out of it and now it is in a better place.

So what's my point? My thought is why hang on to stuff you just don't care for. Quite a few of our members have come to the same conclusion. John Reade, Ollie Burns, and Chuck Greene have all donated whole flyable airplanes while other folks have brought in motors, electronics, and field gear. Rather than let this stuff gather dust, they have been dropping these items on the auction block.

This year, Phil Leech has been working hard to make sure that we have plenty of stuff to auction at each month's meeting and he's doing a great job. In fact, now that word has gotten out, he's even been getting donations from RC flyers from outside the club. The routine is to sort through the offerings, perform some repairs or inventory when necessary, photograph and describe the items so that this info can go onto the WCF website in advance, and then to hold the auction.

The goals of the auctions are threefold: 1) to make the Membership Meetings more interesting and entertaining, 2) to encourage

members to horsetrade that gear that they aren't using, and of course 3) for the Club to make a few bucks.

So far, we have been working with straight donations but we have also discussed using the auction as a means for members to make a few bucks, too. In the case of items that a member can't afford to give away, the Members Meeting can become a venue for them to unload these gems. In this case, the owner can set a minimum bid and negotiate how any profit will be split. If the minimum isn't met, there would be no sale.

So if you have a hangar queen that isn't likely to see the light of day anytime soon, or some gear that just never seems right for your current projects, consider turning it loose. It's not doing you any good loading up your hangar! Plus, there is a karmic aspect to it: who knows what treasure you will be rewarded with for unloading your old stuff.

2013 Renewal Packet

On a completely unrelated note, I'd like to update you on the Renewal Packets that will soon be on their way. This year things will change a little as we phase out the nametags and year badges that hardly anyone uses anymore. Instead, each member in good standing will receive a laminated membership card with your name, AMA #, and WCF #. These cards will be issued each year and are printed with the year and a distinctive color like your license plate renewal to confirm that your membership is up to date. Ideally, these will be clipped to transmitters or used like a nametag (Phil has self-adhesive pins that can be bonded to the back, just ask him if you'd like one.)

Your renewal packet will also have the new gate code in it. The goal is to have these packets to you by the end of the month so that we can change to the new code for 2013. The code will only be issued to current members, so please make sure that you are up to date! You can now check the club roster on our website.

Polaris FunBuild Update

Last month I announced that I would be working with Red to produce a number of Polaris waterplane kits for any member who was interested in building one for the upcoming Float Flies. Red cut ten of these and they went like hotcakes. In fact, I've asked Red to cut a few more when he has some time.

My thought on this project was that it might create an opportunity for members to collaborate. So far this has exceeded my expectations as Paul Eason quickly stepped up to donate the foam. That means that the kits are FREE! Drew and I have ours nearly completely framed and will easily fly before the first Float Fly on April 28th. You can check out our progress on the WCF forum at http://www.wcflyers.com/index.php?option=com_smf&Itemid=28&topic=117.0

Have fun! Koh

General Meeting Minutes

By: Phil Leech
15 Jan 2013

The meeting was held at Round Table Pizza in Montgomery Village. Pizza was served at 7PM with the meeting brought to order by Paul Kohlmann at 7:30 pm. 25 members and 5 family members were present.

INTRODUCTION

- Paul introduced himself as our new president and gave us a short background of his modeling history and he talked about the coming year for the club. He suggested that we need to work toward increasing our membership with emphasis on community outreach programs to schools, scouts and any group interested in aviation.

NEW BUSINESS

- Paul presented the new 2013 Board including Jeff Penner, Merle McGregor, Steve

Cole, Red Jensen and new board member Tony MacDonald

- Officers for 2013 are Dave Mercer, VP, Patrick O'Halloran, Treas., Phil Leech, Sec and Wylie Walters, Safety Officer.

- Paul asked anyone interested in taking over the Newsletter from departing Guy Nicholas to begin thinking about assuming the job as Guy is willing to continue putting the letter together for the time being.

- Paul reminded members that it is time to get their dues paid for 2013. The cutoff date is Feb 28 and this year there will be a \$20 late fee for dues that are paid after that date. The policy of allowing half dues after June 30 applies only to New Members not to Previous Members.

- This year we will be providing members with a laminated membership card that can be attached to a flying hat or shirt to show the current year and the individual's name. These will be mailed sometime in March.

- February 9 is the date for this year's Hobby Expo sponsored by Hobbytown in Petaluma. Paul asked for volunteers to set up and man our booth. Merle, Larry Gustafson, Jeff Penner, Adam and myself all agreed to be there. Jeff Penner was asked if he could set up a simulator like we have done in the past. I'm pretty sure Jon Stychno will be there too.

- This year Steve Cole will be in charge of the Pylon Races with the first race to be scheduled for March. Dates will be established at the next Board Meeting but the plan is to continue with the 3rd Sunday of each month. We anticipate three classes...T-28, Reno 450 and EF-1. Red has asked for response to an e-mail he sent to past participants for ideas and requests for this year's season. One idea is for an endurance race that would last for maybe 100 laps which would require pit stops. Should be interesting.

- Larry Gustafson asked if there was interest in Combat Flying. This can be glo or electric with a popular plane, The Battleaxe. Several guys expressed interest so, Larry is the "go to guy".

- Paul Kohlmann told us about a scratch built foam delta wing airplane called a "Polaris". This is a float plane that can easily be

assembled. Red can cut the foam and several guys were familiar with the plans. If you are interested, give Paul a call.

- Jerry Leister asked whether the club could provide an elevated platform for him to fly from. Seated in his wheelchair, Jerry has difficulty seeing above the safety fence. Brian Young volunteered along with others to build something for Jerry.
- Members asked Adam if he was planning to have a Swap Meet sometime this year and it looks like he will begin putting plans together soon.
- We missed having a door prize this meeting so Paul asked that since the club is providing free pizza, whether eliminating the door prize in lieu of the free pizza was OK. An affirmative response was apparent.

SHOW AND TELL

- Charle Cox brought a pulse jet called a "Dyna Jet". I first remember seeing these in the early 50's and haven't seen one since. Red explained that the technology of the unit is the same as the V-1 winged bomb used by the Germans in WW2. It is a simple engine that provides jet thrust and burns fuel with a pulsing ignition. The engine is started using a bicycle pump to get the airflow going and then is ignited. I remember that they are really loud, almost deafening. Charlie has two of them and they are apparently still manufactured.
- Paul Kohlmann brought in one of his beautiful scratch built projects. This was a very nice Ki-61 Japanese "Tony" fighter from WW2. Wingspan is 30" with electric power. Weighs in at 8.75 ounces. Paul hasn't completed the trim painting yet but he has flown the model and it flies very well.
- Red Jensen brought a new EF-1 racer that he has designed for Hobby King of Australia. Hobby King has manufacturers in China. The model is a prototype of the production model that is supposed to be available in 2 to 3 months for an amazing price of \$80-\$90. He passed the model around and it appears to be of very high quality. Red has test flown the model and reports the results to be

outstanding. Red is currently working on a new design called "Endeavor". This is really big league stuff from our own group of guys!

- Adam brought in a powered Parasail model also from Hobby King. I have never seen anything like this before. Adam plans to fly it this coming weekend.

AUCTION

- Adam conducted the auction and first up was a Goldberg Ultimate Bipe complete with motor and all servos – ready to fly. The bidding was between Julio and Brian Germone starting bid was \$50 and ended up with Brian taking the plane for \$70.

Next was a Decathalon aerobatic plane with a Saito 65 ready to fly. Steve Koll got this one for \$35.

Julio did get an OS 26 4 stroke for \$31 and Adam got the OS 40 4 stroke for \$35.

- These planes and motors were donated to the club by Jack Collins with the total revenue to the club of \$171. Thanks Jack!

THE RAFFLE

- There was only one raffle prize for the evening, a Multiplex "Acro Master" that was won by Jerry Leister. Total revenue from the raffle was \$80.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00

Report prepared and submitted by Secretary Phil Leech.

Board Meeting Minutes

By: Phil Leech
6 Feb 2013

The meeting was brought to order by Paul Kohlmann at 6:30 pm. at the JDSU Offices 1402 Mariner Dr. Members attending were Patrick O'Halloran, Paul Kohlmann, Steve Cole, Dave Mercer, Jeff Penner, Wylie Walters, Tony Maconald and myself, Phil Leech.

- Paul initiated a “Special Meeting” to make a couple of revisions to the By-Laws. A “Special Meeting” of the Board Members is all that is required to make the revisions. The first revision was made to simplify the meeting time for Board Meetings and the second revision was to lower the amount that a check could be written for without Board approval from \$1000 to \$500. Vote for these revisions was unanimous.
- Jeff and Patrick will arrange to meet to review the use of “Quicken” as a tool to assist with accounting procedures.
- I presented a tentative Events Calendar for 2013 and the dates were discussed with a few revisions. The revised calendar will be published in the next newsletter.
- Paul sent a renewal request to the membership to encourage members to send in their dues. We currently have 55 members.
- Paul told us that Jon Stychno won’t be able to participate in as many events this year and will be stepping down as an instructor. Jeff Penner stepped up to take on an Instructor slot.
- Patrick and Phil are detailed to create membership cards for 2013. Patrick has found a source of plastic pouches that can be used to laminate the cards. Paul offered to do the laminating.
- Treasurer’s Report – Checking account is \$4,258.58, CD is \$7221.94
- Hobby Expo – Merle and Phil will be there for early setup with the banner and Jeff Penner will bring a simulator. Several guys are scheduled to bring display planes.
- Pylon Races – Steve Cole discussed the coming season. It is looking like the same four classes from last season but they are thinking about four rounds instead of three. There will be only one series but maybe the fifth pylon race might be an endurance race.
- Newsletter Editor – Dave Mercer stepped up and offered to take on the Newsletter. He said that he would need some help and guidance from Guy to get it started but he is willing to make it work. Thanks to Dave! I’m sure he will do well with the Letter.
- Tony MacDonald had a suggestion regarding the platform that was planned for Jerry Leister

so that he could see to fly better from his wheelchair. Tony thought a better solution to building a platform would be to lower the center rail of the safety fence for one section so that Jerry could see better. Great idea, Tony!

- Tony also has a contact in Cloverdale who makes custom T-shirts and would like to pursue the idea of getting shirts with the club logo printed on them

And that wrapped it up!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Our Members

By: Paul Kohlmann

I’m just starting my fourth year with the club, and over that time I’ve come to know quite a few of our members. There are some guys like Steve Cole and Red Jensen that everybody knows. Then there’s there rest of us that keep a lower profile. Well, I thought that it might be fun to interview a member or two for the newsletter so that some of us less flashy types might get to know each other a little bit better.

My first subjects are Dobie and Dylan Baltazar. I met these two characters last year and was impressed with their enthusiasm. Dylan is 9 years old, and he flies like a pro! Dad Dobie is pretty respectable, too;)

Dobie and Dylan told me that their RC experience began with a “really bad” pusher plane for beginners. The plane was Dylan’s Christmas gift, and they drew an audience of 30 friends and neighbors for their first ever maiden flight. Well, you can probably guess how this story ends. Yep, the walk of shame in front of the whole crowd.

The pair took the next six months off to nurse their egos, but eased back in to model aircraft with some rubber-powered models. Pretty soon, they returned to RC when both soloed a Champ. While flying in a park they met a

Liberty pilot who invited them down to the Petaluma field for some lessons. This is where they met Merle McGregor who provided them both with flight instruction on an Apprentice. Pretty soon, they were flying a Parkzone T28, at which point Dobie reports things really took off for them.

Not long afterward, Dobie and Dylan met the WCF crew at the PCAM airshow. Dylan was really excited to see Gabe and the Mackles boys flying at the airshow right along with the big guys. They became members right away and have been flying at the field whenever time permits. In fact, they both squeezed in some pylon racing last season in their first year with the club. I asked Dylan if he would like to see a race event just for kids or if he was comfortable flying with the adults. He said he'd like both!

It's tough to say whether Dylan is more excited about RC than his dad or vice versa. What is clear is what an important bond RC has become for these two. Dobie has seen tremendous opportunities for Dylan to learn aerodynamics, math, and history in a natural and interesting way. As an example, the Baltazar family visited Pearl Harbor last December and Dylan was beside himself learning about the aircraft that flew on that fateful day. After seeing a Dauntless divebomber there, he got one of his own with retracts and functional airbrake (and don't

forget the machine gun!) This is his pride and joy and he has flown it a lot.

And finally, I've got to tell you about Dobie's job—he is a set designer for Pixar. He reported that it is really interesting but that it gets tremendously intense as they work to match the production schedule. But fortunately they typically get a month or two of downtime between projects. This lull is perfect for catching up on RC projects and may even allow for a balsa build. Also on the upside, Dobie and some work buddies squeeze in some flying time there at work. And here's a hot scoop for you: Pixar has a movie in the works on par with Cars but its about a cropduster. Yep, it's called Planes!

Report prepared and submitted by Phil Leech.

On the Cover

By: Guy Nicholas

In light of Koh's piece:
http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1691917/?ref_=fn_al_tt_1

WCF 2012 EVENTS SCHEDULE

HOBBY EXPO	SAT FEB 9	Merle
PYLON RACE #1	SUN MAR 17	STEVE
PYLON RACE #2	SUN APR 21	STEVE
FLOAT FLY #1	SUN APR 28	MERLE
WORK PARTY	SAT MAY 11	WYLIE
OPENING DAY	SUN MAY 19	PHIL/JON
PYLON RACE #3	SUN MAY 26	STEVE
FLOAT FLY #2	MON MAY 27	MERLE
PYLON RACE #4	SUN JUN 16	STEVE
DAN SULLIVAN – UKIAH	JUN 22-23	PROPBUSTERS
LEARN TO FLY	SUN JUN 23	STEVE/JEFF
FLOAT FLY #3	THU JUL 4	MERLE
SWAP MEET ?	SAT JUL 7	ADAM
PYLON RACE #5 endurance	SUN JUL 21	STEVE
WINGS & WHEELS	SAT JUL 13	PETALUMA
PYLON RACE #6	SUN AUG 11	STEVE
PCAM	AUG 17-18	?
FLOAT FLY #4	MON SEP 2	MERLE
PYLON RACE #7	SUN SEP 15	STEVE
RENO RACES	SEP 19-22	
LARRY FRANK/NEIL TAYLOR	SUN SEP 29	PHIL/JON
PYLON RACE #8	SUN OCT 20	STEVE
PYLON RACE #9	SUN NOV 17	STEVE
CHRISTMAS PARTY	FRI DEC 6	GUY?/PHIL