

January 2014 Edition

# ***Wine Country Flyers***



Next meeting: **Monday**, 17 February 2014, 7:30 P.M.

Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Drive

Show up at 7:00 P.M. for the free Pizza!!

**Starting Monday, January 20, membership meetings  
will be the third MONDAY of each month**

[www.wcflyers.com](http://www.wcflyers.com)

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

## **2014 Club Officers:**

|                 |               |                |                                                                    |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President :     | Tony McDonald | (707) 479-2152 | <a href="mailto:mcd racing1@yahoo.com">mcd racing1@yahoo.com</a>   |
| Vice President: | Wylie Walters | (707) 235-6383 | <a href="mailto:raidery73@yahoo.com">raidery73@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Secretary:      | Paul Kohlmann | (707) 837-9437 | <a href="mailto:Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com">Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com</a> |
| Treasurer:      | Phil Leech    | (707) 538-8557 | <a href="mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net">leechstudios@sonic.net</a> |
| Safety Officer: | Wylie Walters | (707) 235-6383 | <a href="mailto:raidery73@yahoo.com">raidery73@yahoo.com</a>       |

## **2014 Board Members:**

|                |                |                                                                        |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Merle McGregor | (707) 585-1061 | <a href="mailto:merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com">merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com</a> |
| Dave Mercer    | (707) 304-3967 | <a href="mailto:mcdave@sonic.net">mcdave@sonic.net</a>                 |
| Jacob McDonald | (707)-327-6627 | <a href="mailto:Jmcd racer@yahoo.com">Jmcd racer@yahoo.com</a>         |
| John Reade     |                | <a href="mailto:jjireade3@sonic.net">jjireade3@sonic.net</a>           |

Newsletter Team: Dave Mercer, Phil Leech

Website: Patrick O'Halloran

## ***Cover Photo***

By: Dave Mercer

**Proud father Andrew Mackles preparing Ben's airplane for another flight**



## ***Presidents Report***

By: Tony McDonald

It looks that our membership has been taking advantage of the great weather conditions we been experiencing in January. What a way to start off the new year. I'm sure it won't last much longer. At some point it should rain this winter I hope.

The board has been working to get the 2014 schedule put together and posted on the web page. We need some help from members that will be willing to be contest directors for some of the clubs usual events. As to date Jacob McDonald is Pylon race director, Merle will be hosting the Float fly's, Paul Kohlmann with "Wings over Wine Country". I will CD two Fun Fly events and Andrew Mackle will host

one in late summer. Phil will be heading up the Neil Taylor award. This leaves some gaps that we are asking help with filling. The Larry Frank scale event, Learn to fly, and the Christmas party all need some one to step up and take charge of them. You don't need any experience here just the willingness to volunteer and participate at a different level. Andrew Mackle has made a commitment to CD a Fun Fly event with no prompting by me. Myself and the entire board would love to see more involvement by any one willing to help. After all the WCFlyers club is what we make it!

The second issue that we have been working towards is encouraging some new growth in our membership. The past trends indicate that we lose a couple of members while gaining a couple of new members. Therefore we have been able to remain with the membership in the seventies. While we

have around seventy members on the roster I believe we only see about half of them using the field regularly. I live relatively close to the field and have a lot of time to observe if the field is being used or not day to day. The majority of the time it sits unused. This leads me to believe that there is enough room to add new members to the club. Hopefully by removing the one time one hundred dollar initiation fee we will see some new faces in the club. I believe it is a small step in making our club more inviting to the new modeler and experienced ones as well. This brings our club more inline with the AMA's goal of promoting model aviation as well. I hope to see everyone at the field enjoying our hobby.

Tony

### ***Vice Presidents Report Safety Officer Report***

By: Wylie Walters

Welcome to the New Year. With the beautiful flying weather we've had so far a lot of projects have stayed on the shelf and the field has been as busy as it usually is in the summer. For those of you that have not been out for a while come join us, there has been a lot going on.

For you that miss the smell of gasoline at the field since electric has taken over and nitro is \$30 a gallon come on out. There has been a resurgence at the field with Adam, Mike C, Paul E, Jake B, Gabe and myself all getting out with gassers most weekends from 30cc to 100cc, many with smoke. So if you want to see airshow smoke in the blue sky come on out.

The race season is coming up soon so there have been a lot of guys out practicing. With the new parkzone warbird class this year there have been a lot of guys trying to get the feel of the new planes. So if you like to see

Mosquitoes, Focke Wulfs, Spitfires, P-47's and Corsairs chasing each other you will love to fly or watch this new class. And for you guys that love speed Red's new EF1 Invictus has been released by Hobby King and I'm sure you will see a lot of these racing down the course at 100+ mph.

For you Biplane fans we are trying out WWI combat. The most popular plane has been the Parkzone Albatross, but any WWI plane you have will work. Last weekend we gave it a try and it was a blast. So if you want to have a lot of fun bring out your WWI plane or pick one up from Jakes Performance Hobbies. On that note I would like to thank Jake Rosen for all of his support of our club. He gave us a great deal on the Parkzone Albatrosses to help us get the combat going. He also helps us out in a lot of ways that most people don't know about. Everything from flyers, general meeting raffle prizes, promoting our club to his customers and too many other things to list. So for all his support of our club please support him and Jakes Performance Hobbies.

If that's not enough for you, you can see Larry and Glenn with their stick built slow flyers; John Reade always has some cool nitro planes in the sky, and you never know what Julio is going to pull out of his car. So come join us and take advantage of the beautiful weather while it lasts.

Wylie

### ***Editors Update***

By: Dave Mercer

Welcome back everyone,

Another year of fun-filled flying is in store for us, here at Wine Country Flyers. The weather has been fantastic; sunny skies, calm winds, and not a drop of rain in sight. It's been uncanny, almost eerie how dry it's been. We sure could use some rain (I'd be even more concerned if I lived on a piece of property with

a well system....but I don't.) It's looking more and more like it's going to be a dry year. That's OK....I've lived in Sonoma County long enough to realize that our average rainfall is just that , an average ; either we get five times the "average" one year, and the Russian River is flooding its banks in spectacular fashion, or we get one-fifth our average rainfall and everyone's lawn is brown and dead, with water rationing the next year. There's no need to panic, this is just par for the course in Northern California. I say we take advantage of the recent dry weather and make the most of it. Get out there and fly while you can. You never know, it could rain all of February, or we could have a spring deluge in March or even April.

Newsletter content is a bit sparse this month, with it being a new year and no prior events to summarize and keep you up to date. Our first event, only days away as I write this, is a Fun Fly on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Don't miss it !! It should prove to be as entertaining as the last one. All of you should already know about it since it's been prominently displayed on our website for some time now. You are routinely checking the website, right? That's where you need to go to get the latest info – days posted with minor flying restrictions, upcoming events, and current forum topics. The newsletter comes out once a month....some of the info is a little stale by the time you receive it. I can't do much about that. I try to include all the important club-related information, along with some newsletter exclusive tidbits to keep it entertaining. Help me out by submitting links, articles, or anything you run across relating to RC flying. It will be much appreciated by me, along with all the other members.

I'm already fired up about 2014. I've been feverishly working on resurrecting a pylon racing ready T-28 out of the spoils of several years pylon racing carnage. I must have about four carcasses littering my "shelf of shame." I seem to have a hard time throwing crap out. Sifting through the wreckage, I managed to find two wings that seem repairable. I've got

one almost finished. Next I went down to Jakes Performance Hobbies and picked up a fuselage for only 30 bucks – less than even the on-line price! I love that place. I went down there with a list.....T-28 fuselage, Rim-Fire motor for my Seawind, various other items to complete my projects.....expecting to have to order everything and come back days later to pick it up. But no, Jake had everything I needed right there on the shelf. I walked out of there with my wallet a wee bit lighter, but there was no down time, no shipping charges, no on-line hassles, plus all of my questions or uncertainties were answered by people with sound advice. Jakes Performance Hobbies epitomizes why people are encouraged to support their Local Hobby Store. Great knowledge, great inventory, and great customer service are all right there at your disposal at Jakes. Who could ask for more than that?

One other thing I should mention....The Events Calendar listed below is a tentative schedule. Some of the dates might change, based on scheduling conflicts and other "oops" realizations. Next month's newsletter, and the rest carrying forward should have a more definitive and locked in schedule. Stay tuned for that.

That's all for now,  
Dave Mercer  
Wine Country Flyers Newsletter Scribbler

### ***Guess This Mess!!***

By: Dave Mercer

Last month's shop: John Reade

Winning Guess: Tony McDonald,  
with Paul Kohlmann coming in  
with a correct guess an hour and a  
half later.





**Whose shop is this? Anybody care to guess?**

***General Meeting Minutes***  
***December Meeting***  
 By: Dave Mercer

No meeting in December, since the Christmas Dinner takes its place. Be sure to check the Newsletter next month for the January General Meeting summary.

Dave

## ***Board Meeting Minutes***

### ***January Meeting***

By: Paul Kohlmann  
7 January 2014

Meeting was brought to order by Tony McDonald at 6:30pm at the offices of JDSU. All Board Members were present.

**V.P./Safety Officer Report**—no report

**Secretary's Report**—no report

**Treasurers Report**—Phil reported the account balance as \$5713.47 and that he is holding \$300 in checks to be deposited. There are currently 43 members who have renewed for 2014, which is consistent with the pace from last year. Charlie Cox's dues were returned to his family after he passed away. Phil gave us a general profit and loss related to the many activities that the club held in 2013.

Phil also committed to produce an Annual Report within 90 days as required by the WCF Bylaws. The Board agreed to ask Jake Rosen to serve as an independent auditor again this year. (Jake has since agreed.)

**Tshirts/Hats**—Tony to post on our forum to gauge interest. Wiley suggested that we might plan to sell WCF shirts at PCAM this year as a number of people enquired last year.

**2014 Goals and Objectives**—Tony queried the Board on what goals might be set for 2014. The consensus was that we need to host more events.

**Field Assessment Fee**—the Board discussed doing away with the one-time assessment fee of \$100 for new members. The goal is to increase membership by lowering the bar to new members. The Board felt that the loss in income would likely be offset by an increase in membership. Currently, we are only adding 4-5 new members a year. The Bylaws were checked and they present no obstacle, but the

Board agreed that this should be taken to the Members for a vote.

**2014 Calendar of Events**—work on the 2014 was begun:

Hobby Expo—2/15

Fun Flies—3 will be held this year (Tony will handle two, Andrew Mackles to do one)

3D Bowling—proposed by Wiley, this whacky event sounds interesting

BBQ Nights—it was proposed that we might pick some summer evenings for informal meets

PCAM—Paul will manage this year

Pylon Racing—Jake McD will manage, first race will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup>

Float Fly—Merle will manage again this year, with events on April 13<sup>th</sup>, Memorial, Labor, and Independence Days

Swap Meets—we are hoping to hold a spring and summer swap meet this year

Larry Frank/Neil Taylor—needs a manager

Opening Day—needs a manager

**2014 Pylon Racing**—Jake reported that T28 and Dogfighter classes will be unchanged but that Reno 450 will be replaced by a PZ Warbird class. The rules for PZ Warbird will be largely the same as T28. Tony and Jake have been testing the Mosquito, FW190, Spit, and Bf109 and have found them to be comparable in performance.

## ***Info From Other Clubs***

By: Dave Mercer

**Editor's note:** the following was forwarded to me from Tony McDonald concerning a racing series some club members may be interested in.

I met Joe DeLater at the Woodland/Davis races. He is interested in getting some of our members to join in on some racing this year. I'm going to try and make it to a lot of these races. It is addicting. The following is an e-mail I received from him:

Below you will find the schedule for 2014.

The Oakdale club is going to be bringing back racing so we'll have 5 events this year (another may still be added to mid/late October).

Also, the Oakdale event will be a two day event with Saturday our normal 2 pole line up of T-34, Warbird and Electric Formula 1.

Sunday will be 3 pole racing with 2 classes. Electric Formula 1 and slow Q500 (stock TT .40's).

So great chance to try some 3 pole racing for those of you with EF1's for the 2 pole racing. For those wanting to try or get back into Q500 here is a chance to do it without having to travel far.

As usual we are fortunate on the west coast to have a lot of racing to choose from. You will find the complete list (that I know of) at [www.rcpylonracing.com](http://www.rcpylonracing.com)

Here is the Triangle series schedule:

- March 29th: Triangle Series T-34, Warbird, Electric Formula 1 Race Fresno, CA

- May 3rd: Triangle Series T-34, Warbird, Electric Formula 1 Morgan Hill, CA
- June 21st/22nd: Saturday -Triangle Series T-34, Warbird, Electric Formula 1 Sunday - 3 pole Electric Formula 1 and 424 Q500 Oakdale, CA
- August 9th: Triangle Series T-34, Warbird, Electric Formula 1 Salinas, CA (no unlimited)
- October 4th: Triangle Series T-34, Warbird, Electric Formula 1 Morgan Hill, CA

As usual, please send me any questions, requests for help or suggestions.

I'll post same info on RCUniverse and RCGroup forums so we can have any thread discussions there. I put everyone's e-mail in bcc (usually if I remember) on these messages to protect privacy).

Regards,  
Joe

## ***Treasurers Report*** ***January 2014***

By: Phil Leech

Membership:

Total: 58

Returning: 58

2014 New: 0

Youth: 8

Financials:

Checking balance: \$5713.47

CD: \$7,351.00

## WCF 2014 EVENTS SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

| <u>Event</u>           | <u>Date</u> | <u>Contact</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| FUN FLY #1             | SAT FEB 1   | TONY           |
| HOBBY EXPO             | SAT FEB 15  | TBD            |
| PYLON RACE #1          | SUN MAR 16  | JACOB          |
| SWAP MEET              | TBD         | ADAM           |
| FLOAT FLY #1           | SUN APR 13  | MERLE          |
| PYLON RACE #2          | SUN APR 20  | JACOB          |
| WORK PARTY             | SAT MAY 11  | WYLIE          |
| OPENING DAY            | SUN MAY 19  | PHIL/JON       |
| PYLON RACE #3          | SUN MAY 25  | JACOB          |
| FLOAT FLY #2           | MON MAY 26  | MERLE          |
| DAN SULLIVAN – UKIAH   | JUN 1-2     | PROPBUSTERS    |
| PYLON RACE #4          | SUN JUN 15  | JACOB          |
| LEARN TO FLY           | SUN JUN 22  | STEVE/JEFF     |
| FLOAT FLY #3           | FRI JUL 4   | MERLE          |
| SWAP MEET              | SAT JUL 5   | ADAM           |
| PYLON RACE #5          | SUN JUL 20  | JACOB          |
| WINGS & WHEELS         | SAT JUL 12  | PETALUMA       |
| PYLON RACE #6          | SUN AUG 17  | JACOB          |
| FLOAT FLY #4           | MON SEP 1   | MERLE          |
| PYLON RACE #7          | SUN SEP ?   | JACOB          |
| RENO RACES             | SEP 10-14   | RENO           |
| PCAM                   | SEP 20-21   | PAUL           |
| LARRY FRANK/NEILTAYLOR | SUN SEP 28  | PHIL/JON       |
| PYLON RACE #8          | SUN OCT 19  | JACOB          |
| PYLON RACE #9          | SUN NOV 16  | JACOB          |
| CHRISTMAS PARTY        | FRI DEC 5   | PHIL           |

## EVENTS IN THE PLANNING STAGES, STILL UNSCHEDULED:

2 MORE FUN FLIES  
 3D BOWLING  
 BBQ NIGHT AT THE FIELD  
 NIGHT FLY



