

November 2014 Edition

Wine Country Flyers



**Next meeting: MONDAY 19 January 2015, 7:00 P.M.
At Round Table Pizza**

Once again the meeting will be held at Round Table Pizza
2424 Magowan Dr. in Santa Rosa
Pizza served at 6:30 PM, meeting starts at 7:00 PM
www.wcflyers.com

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

2014 Club Officers:

President :	Tony McDonald	(707) 479-2152	mcdancing1@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Wylie Walters	(707) 235-6383	raidery73@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Paul Kohlmann	(707) 837-9437	Paul.Kohlmann@jdsu.com
Treasurer:	Phil Leech	(707) 538-8557	leechstudios@sonic.net
Safety Officer:	Wylie Walters	(707) 235-6383	raidery73@yahoo.com

2014 Board Members:

Merle McGregor	(707) 585-1061	merle_mcgregor@yahoo.com
Dave Mercer	(707) 975-4723	mcdave@sonic.net
Jacob McDonald	(707) 327-6627	Jmcdracer@yahoo.com
John Reade	(707) 545-9831	jqireade3@sonic.net

Newsletter Team: Dave Mercer, Phil Leech
Website: Patrick O'Halloran

Cover Image

Flyer submitted by: Tony McDonald
Caption and comments by: Dave Mercer

Here's a flyer for the last official event of 2014
(aside from our upcoming Christmas Party on Dec. 14th)
Weather permitting, this should prove to be as much fun as the earlier Fun Flies
Don't miss out on this opportunity for fame, bragging rights, accolades and more.

Wine Country Flyers
December 7th FUN FLY!

Three Events:
Wingless Pylon Race
Golf
All Up, Last Down
(same plane must be used
for all events)

\$5 entry per pilot,
Cash payout to the
winner of each event.


AMA
SINCE 1936

More info on the
WCF Club Website: WCFlyers.com

Presidents Report

By: Tony McDonald
7 November 2014

I've had a passion for model aviation for 38 years now. There's been distractions; the occasional RC car racing, Archery, firearms, water skiing, and always a dirt bike or two. But building and flying model airplanes has always been my favorite pass time.

I spent a number of years flying pattern airplanes. Flying pattern teaches you to fly precise without making mistakes, and thinking ahead to your next maneuver. It was during

this time that I started teaching some of my friends how to fly model airplanes. It's rewarding to be able to teach somebody to control a model airplane when previously they've had no success. I incorporated some of the practices in pattern flying into the teaching of new pilots. This seemed to work and get people flying solo sooner. I love to see the joy in a new pilot's eye when they've made their first successful landing.

So remember that all of us were new pilots once upon a time, and that we too once relied on the instruction of an experienced modeler.

When you see a new person to the hobby, take the time and get to know them. Put them at ease with the knowledge that you are willing to help them. Most of the time, that's all that person is looking for that day. By spreading the enthusiasm of model aviation you will be helping build up our community of modelers and may just end up with some new friends also!

Tony McDonald

Vice Presidents Report Safety Officer Report

By: Wylie Walters
25 October 2014

Editors note: This is a reprint from last month, since my repeated e-mail reminders have gone unanswered. Deadlines loom and I'm forced to carry on. Perhaps he's sleeping it off after an overdose of turkey, I just don't know.

For those of you who have not heard it is with great sadness that we will need to find a new flying site for Wine Country Flyers. I would like to thank the Trentadues for the many great years they have let us fly on their property. I know I have had many great times, met many great people and made a lot of new friends there over the years.

Looking towards the future we will need to find a place that will meet the clubs needs. The Trentadues have been gracious enough to give us a year to find a new home. So please keep your eyes and ears open to anything you see or hear about. If you have any ideas please let any of the board members or officers know.

Wylie

Editors Update

By: Dave Mercer

Here we are again, with another year of exciting flying, racing and other events winding down to a close. Only a few things are

left on this year's agenda. By the time you receive this, our annual Christmas Party will be about two weeks away. I hope all of you have already sent in your RSVPs to Phil, confirming your attendance. But if not, you still have a small window of opportunity to do so. Don't delay. This is most certainly an event that you don't want to miss. Between the food, drink, socializing, reminiscing, blatant bragging, dubious recollections, outright BS and general hoopla, a great time is had by all. And let's not forget the raffle; not sure what John Reade has in store for us, but I'm sure it will be impressive. This year we are returning to Cattlemans in Santa Rosa, on Sunday December 14th, starting at 6:00 P.M. Hope to see all of you there.

This year's pylon racing was as good as ever. From beginning to end there was close exciting racing, hard fought battles, carnage, points chases that weren't decided till the final heat of the final round, more carnage, and a whole lot of fun for racers and spectators alike. Just like every other year.

Though this year, my own efforts at pylon racing did not start off with a whole lot of fun. Month after month I was plagued by one mishap or another. Whether it was my own ineptitude, a "racing incident"—like a mid-air, the wind, or whatever....three or four times during the first five months I brought my poor T-28 home as a pile of wreckage. It was very discouraging. I came close, oh so close, to heaving my Spektrum DX-7 out into the vineyard, stomping back to my truck in a petulant fury, and driving out of there, abandoning my flying efforts forever. But I didn't. I gathered up the pieces, went home and surveyed the damage later, in a calmer frame of mind. Over the course of the next month, with whatever available time I had, I resurrected the poor thing with the help of my steady companions CA glue, two-part epoxy and Krylon paint. My skills at restoring foam T-28s have increased considerably—lots of practice!!! By mid season I stopped having all these mishaps and by the end of the year I miraculously ended up third in the points

standings. I was stunned. Did I suddenly morph into a top-notch pilot over the course of the year? No. I did not. I'm still routinely mediocre and occasionally inept. But it does go to show what dogged determination and relentless pursuit of a goal can accomplish.

Speaking of relentless pursuit of a goal and dogged determination.....by now a month has passed since the news broke that we needed to locate another flying site. A core group of members have already been assembled and efforts are underway to establish contact with potential property owners and public/private entities. The process is just beginning. Obviously much more needs to be done. In fact each of us needs to help out, in whatever manner that we can, in a dogged, determined and relentless fashion to accomplish our goal of finding a new site. I have a promising location in mind and I'm carefully pursuing it, though it's much too early to draw any conclusions. It may pan out, or it may not. Each of us should be doing likewise. You never know, sometimes things just fall into

place. If things progress further at the site I have in mind, and a meeting gets set up with the owners involved I will most likely defer that to our committee; people who are far better than I at making a "presentation." The last thing I want is for me to spoil it all by bumbling through a "presentation," feeling as nervous as a long-tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs. I don't do presentations. It's way outside my line of expertise. Our committee members, on the other hand, are eminently capable of that sort of stuff. All of us, as club members, need to keep our eyes and ears open for any potential solutions to this challenge.

WCF Newsletter Editor
Dave Mercer

Guess This Mess!!

By: Dave Mercer

Last month's shop: Paul Gibson

Winning Guess: Only one!!! Paul Kohlmann managed to nail it. Well done.

Whose shop is this? Anybody care to guess?



Below is another hint:



General Meeting Minutes

November Meeting

By: Paul Kohlmann
17 November 2014

November 17, 2014

Round Table Pizza

Called to order by Tony MacDonald at 7:00pm
13 members and 2 guests were present

VP/Safety Report—no report.

Treasurers Report—no report, Phil was away on vacation. George filled in by reporting balances of \$4,963.73 for the checking account, and \$7,527.62 in the CD. Membership renewal packages and Holiday Party invites together have all gone out.

Secretary's Report— a core group of our best communicators has been identified and supporting documents describing the Club and its purpose are being drafted. Good discussion was had with quite a few suggestions from the group. Larry has been prepping a Real Estate attorney who may be able to help us if needed.

2015 Officers—officers were nominated and unanimously confirmed: Adam Clement for President, Paul Gibson for Vice President, Richard Skaff for Secretary, and George Leap for Treasurer. Congratulation, fellas!

X-Mas Party—moved from Trentadue to Cattlemans' in order to save \$1500-\$2000. Steve Cole worked things out with Trentadue, as it was important that we make a graceful exit.

Swap Meet—all of the tables were sold and the attendance was excellent.

Pylon Report—the 2014 season ended yesterday with an excellent day of racing. The 2015 season will begin in January in order to squeeze in a full season before we must make our exit from the Trentadue field.

Learn to Fly—one of the prize-winning kids (Dominic) was at the field yesterday with his dad. Jake McD helped put their Apprentice together and he and Tony helped them both to get flying. Dominic solo'd almost immediately. His dad took a little longer;)

Show/Tell—Paul Gibson brought in his FMS Mustang. He's been working on lots of electronic mods including a sound system, fully sequenced landing gear, and a squat switch that prevents the gear from retracting while the aircraft is on the ground. Paul wrote all the software and has been working on this for months. He offered to teach anyone interested in this technology how to set these systems up.

Auction/Raffle—

The Auction pulled in \$36
Doug paid \$36 for a huge Extra 300L

The Raffle pulled in \$106
George, a gentleman if there ever was one, took the CA
Paul Gibson walked away with the RocHobbies Voodoo
Adam took the Flying Styro Bf109.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Board Meeting Minutes

November Meeting

By: Paul Kohlmann
2 November 2014

Board Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2014

Meeting convened at 9:15 A.M.

VP / Safety Officer's Report (Wylie)—no report.

Treasurer's Report (Phil)—Checking at \$4814, CD \$7527 for a total of \$12,341. This includes \$1375 from the full refund from

Trentadue for the Christmas Party deposit. \$790 of this was collected as pylon racing entry fees and will be paid out as prizes for pylon racing.

Secretary's Report (Paul)—no report.

Pylon Race Report (Jake)—next year's racing season will be shortened due to our loss of the field in October next year. In order to compensate, the season will begin in January for 2015. Weather may be an issue but we will play it by ear.

Christmas Party Planning—Richard was able to book the Santa Rosa Cattleman's for December 14th, at 6pm. There will be a no host bar. Invitations with the menu and payment info will be out soon.

Pylon Racing Summary

By: Jacob McDonald
26 November 2014

As you all know our Wine Country Flyers Pylon Racing season has finally come to an end. Our last race of the year was held on November 22 and started at 10:00 a.m. All the pilots came out ready to race and raced their hearts out trying to make podium position. As a result of this there were some points changes and carnage.

First the T-28/Corsair class. This class is intended to be the entry level class and a baited hook for the pilots who are interested in furthering their racing career. Even though it is the entry level class it was still interesting to watch because of the dire need to cross the finish line first. Whether it was family rivalry or just the need to beat out the next competitor. Along with that came some pylon cuts, mid airs, and air to ground strikes. But the pilots broke out the glue and tape and got their planes back together for the next race. It was amazing to see how fast the pilots can get their crippled airplanes back to flying condition.

Site Search—the Board discussed the make up of the Site Search committee in response to Trentadue's request that the Club vacate the current field by October 2015. Paul Kohlmann will lead the committee. A core group of 4-5 will be pulled together within days. Nominees will be contacted and asked for participation before any announcements are made.

The committee will be tasked with organizing and driving the search for a new flying field, but each and every Club member is needed to seek out leads.

Meeting adjourned at 1045am.

Now for the Parkzone Warbird class. This class was created this pylon racing season. It is designed to be the next step up from the T-28/Corsair class. This is because the airplanes have bigger motors and are meant to have an intermediate pilot at the controls. This class came with quite a bit of Spitfire carnage along with a Bf-109, and a Mosquito. The Spitfires were known for their spectacular mid airs. One also had the motor mount come apart during the dive to begin the race. Now the Mosquito had its rudder chewed off by a P-51 Mustang. The Mosquito did flat spins and some good tumbles before it impacted the ground. The P-51 finished the race with a knick on one of the four blades of the prop.

Next up is the Dogfighter class. This class is one of the two advanced classes. These airplanes are 100+ MPH! Unfortunately this class will be discontinued next year do to the lack of pilots. It will be replaced with the RocHobby Reno Racers. Even though there was a lack of pilots in this class there was still a lot of great racing and good battles this season. There weren't very many casualties in

this class because of pilot skill and a max of three airplanes on the course at one time.

Lastly is the EF-1 class. This class is the second advanced class we offer at Wine Country Flyers. This class is a National class held by AMA. They have their own rule book that can be found at http://www.nmpr.org/rules/EF1NewRules4_15_2014.pdf These airplanes clock at 115+ MPH! These pilots are interesting to watch because of the strategies they come up with and the lines they pick on the race course. There has been some carnage in this class but usually the pilots can make it back to the runway safely. Rarely do the airplanes meet their fate in the vineyard.

And to sum it up I would like to say thank you to all the pilots who came out and competed this year and a special thanks to Wylie

Walters for putting the pylons up before the race, Adam Clement for judging the South pylon, Charles McDonald, Richard Skaff, and John Reade for judging the North pylon, George Leap for getting everybody signed up to compete each race, and Tony McDonald for making the matrix every race and helping me run the races. If you think you might be interested in racing next year come out and watch one of the races and talk to the pilots next year and see what you think. Our pylon racing season will begin in January next year to get as much racing in as we can before we need to relocate our flying site. The plaques for podium positions will be handed out at the Christmas party, see you all there!

Jacob McDonald

Treasurers Report November 2014

By: Phil Leech

Membership:

Total: 87

Returning: 72

2014 New: 15

Youth: 9

Financials:

Checking balance: \$4963.73

CD balance: \$7527.00

Upcoming Events

By: Dave Mercer
25 November 2014

2014 Christmas Party

As mentioned above, our upcoming Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 14th at Cattlemans in Santa Rosa. The location is at 2400 Midway Drive in the Montgomery Village shopping center. The festivities start at 6:00 P.M. with dinner served at 7:00. All of you should have already received the

envelope package containing the details, the RSVP card and member renewal form, along with a stamped, addressed envelope to mail it back to Phil. Send it back in and confirm that you'll be attending. Don't let this slip by and then regret it later, by not partaking in the festivities. See you there!!!

Last Fun Fly of 2014
7 December 2014

Again, as mentioned above, we have our last Fun Fly scheduled for Sunday, December 7th. Provided the weather cooperates it should be as good as all the previous Fun Flies. Tony and others have been working hard to put this together, due to popular demand. There ya go, one last chance in 2014 to showcase your skills and make a name for yourself. Once again, don't pass this up. Check out the flyer posted above as the cover image for the details, or go on our website. Either way the info is there for your perusal. Show up and compete!!!

WCF 2014 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Event	Date	Contact
FUN FLY	SUN DEC 7	TONY MCDONALD
CHRISTMAS PARTY	SUN DEC 14	RICHARD SKAFF