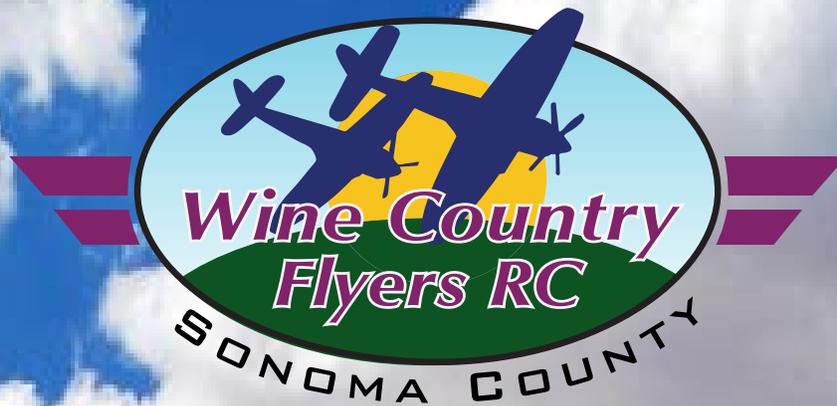


Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: Cancelled due to Covid-19.

www.wcflyers.com

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

2019 Club Officers:

President:	Guy Nicholas	(707) 291-2781	guy@gui-soft.com
Vice President:	Adam Clement	(707) 322-5318	adampclement@gmail.com
Secretary:	Chris Bailey	(707) 490-6206	chrishobiecat1985@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Paul Gibson	(707) 318-5926	paul@4gibson.us
Safety Officer:	Jake Chichilitti	(707) 535-0977	jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com

2019 Board Members:

Buzz Russell	(707) 537-5299	brmaruss@sbcglobal.net
Bill Van Aslan		billv@sonic.com
Steve Koll	(707) 297-0247	imatrekki2@gmail.com
Eric Bergesen	(707) 494 0562	ebergesen@gmail.com
Steve Cole	(707) 481-7969	P38Extreme@aol.com

Newsletter: Guy Nicholas

Website: Patrick O'Halloran

Presidents Report

By: Guy Nicholas

Wow! I think that about sums up the situation at this point. I want to start with our current health situation. We are currently under a “shelter in place” order which you can read about here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs>. The FAQ for that order mentions you can still do some outdoor recreation as long as you maintain at least 6’ distance from yourself and non-family members. As I am sure you are all aware, the virus is extremely contagious and a good deal of our membership falls into the most affected demographic.

This whole stay home thing will affect us all psychologically. I work from home, so I normally spend the better part of my day sitting in my office writing code. However, my normal routine would be to get up and go to Starbucks to have a coffee and read my news. After work, I would go to the gym for an hour or so. Now, I wake up and lay in bed thinking, what am I going to do. I realize it isn’t a huge thing, but it was my way of getting away from “the office”. It is going to take an adjustment, and we will all be looking for things we can do in place of the things we now can’t do. It is unclear how long all of this is going to go on. We just went through our first week, and I am sure people will start getting stir crazy. I haven’t gone to the field yet, but I want to, and I am sure all of you do as well.

I am going to make a few suggestions for those heading to the field. Stay at least 6’ away from others, and this means don’t shake hands, don’t elbow bump, etc. When I am on my motorcycle and I pass by a fellow rider, I give them a little peace sign wave, perhaps that, or a, “hey” and a head nod. Be careful what you touch, and avoid touching your face until after you wash your hands. We have, or at least we had, hand sanitizer at the field. I wouldn’t rely on that being there and I suggest you bring your own. I know that like toilet paper, sanitizer is in short supply, so in case you haven’t heard, it is basically just aloe vera and alcohol, look it up and make some of your own and bring it out there with you.

On a non-health topic, some of you may have noticed a piece of turf at the field. That was a test piece Steve Koll and Paul Gibson drove to Sacramento to pick up (thanks gents). Unfortunately it was quite a bit different than the small samples I had picked up a couple weeks before. It is way longer and totally not usable. The place has a test piece of something we think will be much more appropriate, so we are looking for a volunteer to drive up during the week with a truck to pick it up. The caveat is we need to take the piece that is at the field back up for a swap. I will try to get to the field with my son to roll up the roll we have in preparation of the swap. So, if you have a truck, and want to help in our field improvement project please contact me. The place is right off the freeway on the other side of the causeway.

That’s all I have for you this month, stay healthy!

- Guy

Safety Matters

By: Safety Officer, Jake Chichilitti

Spring is almost here and the weather hasn't been too bad for winter flying. I know we need the rain, but take advantage of the good days we are having. As I write this the weatherman is predicting 70 degree plus for today.

Several of us took a ride to Lake Hennessey last week and did quite a bit of float flying. I am emailing folks that have shown interest in this activity, so let me know if you are interested and I will let you know when we will be going again.

Here are a couple more Field Rules I would like to mention.

Rule #4 The club recommends you don't fly alone. Accidents unfortunately do happen and having a buddy flying with you could turn a bad situation into just an inconvenience.

Rule #5 Members are responsible for their guests. Guests have to be accompanied by a WCF member. The member should go over the club rules as posted and go over the field boundary. Do a safety check of their aircraft just in case. Put them on a buddy box if they have not soloed. When you leave the field your guest must also leave, unless another club member will be responsible for them.

I haven't heard of any injury accidents so I guess we are doing o.k. Be aware of what you are doing and don't get distracted when you are getting ready to fly. I once saw a very experienced pilot get distracted while he was getting ready to fly and he forgot to bolt the wing to the fuselage. All went well until he flipped the plane inverted. The wing made it, the fuselage didn't.

Here's another story that happened to me. I was flying my .91 4-stroke powered Cosmic Wind before the Night Fly event last week. About half way through the flight my wing broke in half. Half the wing stayed attached to the fuselage and the other half just fluttered to the ground. I've crashed my share of models, but that was a first for me. Lesson learned, give the model a through check before you fly.

Jake

P-47 Building Project

By: Safety Officer, Jake Chichilitti

I haven't spent as much time as would have liked on the P-47 this month. There is a glider event at Los Banos at the end of March and I have been getting my glider fleet ready for the event. Mostly battery cycling and some repair work.

I have made some progress on the P-47. I managed to install the main landing gear retracts and have the servo mounted and working properly. I am still futzing with the tail wheel landing gear doors. Getting the doors to open and close properly has been a bit of a challenge, but they will work eventually. The wing is almost ready for sheeting and I should have it completed in a week or two. The engine and muffler are mounted along with the fuel receptical and remote glow phone jack. Still lots to do.

Jake



Proctor Nieuport 11

By: John Cole

I've started another model project, a Proctor Enterprises Antic Monoplane. The kit and its variations have been in continuous production for over 40 years! This design is not really a scale model of a particular full size airplane, but a composite of a couple of different designs, using scale-like construction methods and materials. I'll keep the membership updated as it progresses. It's a basic 4-channel airplane, and I'll power it with an OS .70 4-stroke engine. Span is 81" which is a nice size for realistic flight. This design is perfect for an electric motor as well. The kit I'm building was issued in 1972, but current kits are nearly identical.

This is the fourth Antic that I've built over the years, and it is an excellent teacher for the hobbyist in full scale aircraft construction methods. Since most of the construction is done in spruce, birch ply, fir, and bamboo, I'll use Titebond wood glue to build with. Epoxy is used for high stressed joints only.

Following are a few pictures of the wings being built. I've routed the spruce spars to shave off some weight, but this is really not necessary. Being an old free flight modeler, I'm always thinking about weight savings! The ribs are constructed by bonding balsa cap strips to the pre-cut ply rib. This method is very light, and very strong.

More to come!!

John Cole



General Meeting Minutes

27 February 2020

By: Chris Bailey

- Meeting started @ 7pm
- 24 members present
- John Cole, new member, first meeting
- Treasurer's report: Paul says 66 paid members so far this year
- Auction results- nice profit for club
- Safety report: Jake says flying field looks good, we found the "no spectators beyond this point" signs, thank you to Adam Clement for spraying weeds, Guy shared a story of flying with Patrick, he tipped running nitro plane up to check fuel mixture, wing came loose, lucky it happened before take off, accident averted, always troubleshoot a problem, especially if accident has occurred, before next flight, determine cause, take necessary corrective action before next flight. Mike C reminded everyone that with electric power planes, be careful to adjust servo travel so as not to overdrive the servo, which may cause a power system overload, resulting in a power brown out, loss of power during system reset, and loss of control until receiver resets and binds with transmitter.
- Runway update: Bob Mathews' son will help us with runway project, he owns a business with earth moving equipment
- Flying field table rebuilds: Trex decking would be very expensive, we will use painted exterior grade plywood to replace the table tops that are most severely damaged, and beyond repair, all table tops will be painted
- Buzz and Bilal: thank you for investigating options and cost of signage for flying field
- Guy: reminder to be sure to send your letters to FAA and government representatives by this Sunday
- Liberty Flyers Jet presentation: Steve K and Adan attended meeting, very nice gas turbine jet, 50 pounds weight, 200 mph, very large investment monetarily and mentally
- Best of the West jet gathering, October each year, check online for more information
- WCF Night Fly and pot lunch: Saturday, March 7th
- WCF Annual Swap Meet, Santa Rosa Veterans Building, Sunday April 26
- Show and Tell: Bilal shared his "Ugly Bug", which he built from a kit, flew great on maiden flight, new club member John Cole shared his Carl Goldberg Falcon Jr, built from a kit, Rudder and elevator control only, no throttle control, Cox .049 engine
- Raffle : \$50 gift card to Jake's Performance Hobbies, Star Wars Drone
- Meeting Adjourned : 8pm

Board Meeting Minutes

12 March 2020
By: Chris Bailey

- Meeting started @ 6:30 pm
- Present: Guy, Jake, Steve Koll, Paul, Steve Cole, Adam, Eric, Chris, Bill, Buzz
- Guy: asked that the secretary note tasks assigned to board members in a separate section of the meeting minutes/newsletter, so that it would be easy to follow up on those tasks at the next meeting
- Runway Project:
- Guy brought 2 samples of used artificial turf from a supplier in Sacramento for board members to examine, one sample was about 1 ¼" tall, the other sample was about ¾" tall
- Steve Koll has been checking with various suppliers on Craigslist, Facebook, etc, and recently discovered that there is really only 1 major source, a company known as Turf Distributors, that has 90% of the used turf market, they are located in Sacramento, off HWY 50. They have provided Steve with a quote for the 22,500 square feet we need at 20 cents per foot.
- Adam stated that we had spent \$6000 on Petromat, \$800 on shipping
- Steve Koll pointed out that while a little more expensive, the artificial turf could be reused over and over, while the Petromat was a one time use
- Guy shared his thought that if the rock base, with Petromat top would solve our gopher problem, and we were at our current site 20 years without needing to regrade our runway, then Petromat might be the way to go, but if we are concerned that whether or not we use rock, we are going to have to periodically regrade the runway, then we are going to have to consider the cost to replace the Petromat each time
- Steve Cole asked a question: When you drive in to field on the gravel that was put down, has anyone seen any gopher holes in it? A number of no answers from various members
- Paul stated that everytime we drive in to the field, we compact the gravel road, making it much harder than the runway area
- Adam observed that for this reason, the roadway to the field will always be more compacted than the runway, and less subject to gopher activity
- Steve Koll reminded everyone that the runway area was never compacted, rolled, but never compacted
- Eric pointed out that there is a big difference between rolling and compacting with a sheepsfoot soil compactor
- Steve Cole mentioned that runway at Trentadue lasted around 8 years
- Adam asked about how we would be seaming artificial turf?
- Steve Koll said turf supplier suggested either seaming tape or sod staples. Seaming tape is about \$40 per 100 foot roll, more expensive than sod staples
- Guy suggested visiting some local athletic fields to check height of their turf
- Eric ask if we might want to get the artificial turf without having the rubber fill extracted, since it would be heavier, and stay in place better
- Steve Koll reminded everyone that even with 50% of the rubber fill extracted, (1) 7 ½ X 50' roll still weighs between 350 and 400 pounds. We will save on material shipping if we have 50% of the rubber extracted before shipping, and rolls will be easier to handle.
- Eric asked if 20 cent per foot material would work, or if we needed to consider 30 cent per foot material?
- Steve Koll played portion of a video from the turf distributor Eric, where he states that the 20 cent per foot material is a very dense turf, fibers matted down and curled together, he thinks it would be ideal for our use, and he has much better price flexibility on this product
- Steve Koll suggested picking up a sample of the turf in question from the distributor in Sacramento
- Adam asked Paul to give an estimate of how much club could spend on runway project
- Paul's estimate shows that we could afford to use this artificial turf product to top our runway, including cost of conditioning, compacting, and grading existing soil at our flying site
- Adam asked about longevity of artificial turf product we are looking at?
- Steve Koll stated he was told 30 years by the Turf distributor
- Paul suggested picking up 1 roll (sample), bring to our current runway, lay it out, try it out before deciding to buy this product
- Adam pointed out that planes with small wheels and wheel pants fly fine on our current runway, but may not work on artificial turf, depending on length of turf
- Steve Koll suggested that it would cost about \$75 to get 1 roll, bring to our field, roll out on existing runway, let everyone try out a piece of the actual material we are considering buying
- Steve Koll and Paul volunteered to drive to turf distributor in Sacramento and buy 1 roll of artificial turf product being considered
- Adam proposed auction for right to be the first club member to fly off new runway surface
- Steve Koll asked if we like the sample, and get the full order delivered to the flying field, would we be able to have the field ready for opening day, Saturday, May 2?
- Adam said that Bob's son Steve is ready to go on the dirt work, should be no problem
- Eric proposed ribbon cutting ceremony
- Guy: motion, we use dirt base, no rock, astroturf surface, Adam seconded motion, all members present were in favor, motion passed
- Use of sand layer under astroturf? To be determined later
- Guy: volunteered to put up spectator signs at flying field, buy plywood sheets to repair damaged tables, and buy paint for table tops
- Night Fly wrap up: Great, fun time, great fun, lots of people, Adam suggested taking photo of event attendees at beginning of event, before people start leaving, Steve Koll suggested offering some "how To" training for those night flying for the first time, at general meeting or in newsletter? Jake's Performance Hobbies has supplies
- Adam shared that Adan has a business making custom T-shirts, our club has wanted to have club T-shirts made for quite a while, he can customize shirts with picture of your favorite plane, your name, etc., we will do a pre-order for club T-shirts with our logo, individuals wanting custom shirts can contact Adan directly
- Adam has been in contact with Jake Rosen from Jake's Performance Hobbies, Jake is concerned that with a lot of large venues being closed due to the Corona Virus COVID-19 outbreak, our swap meet on April 26 could be canceled. Adam will contact the Santa Rosa Veterans Building to find out details of our contract with regards to cancellation of our event, we will have to wait and see how situation develops, how rules for events change
- Castle Event: has moved to Reedley Airport venue, on Memorial Day weekend
- Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm

WCF 2020 EVENTS SCHEDULE

- **Work Party: Sat, 25 April**
- **Swap Meet: Sun, 26 April**
- **Opening Day: Sat, 2 May**
- **Fathers day Fun Fly: Sun, 21 June**
- **Warbird Fly Day (all military style aircraft): Sat, 11 July**
- **Learn to Fly Day: Sat, 8 Aug.**
- **Larry Fran Scale Event: Sat, 12 Sept.**
- **Christmas Party: TBD**
- **News Year Day Fun Fly: (take a guess)**