

# Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: Tuesday, September 21st. Time: 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

## 2004 Club Officers:

President: Phil Leech (707)538-8557 [leechstudios@sonic.net](mailto:leechstudios@sonic.net)



Vice President: Sid Maxwell (707) 584-4428 [airman1x@msn.com](mailto:airman1x@msn.com)



Secretary: Larry Miller (707) 577-0496 [exefire@aol.com](mailto:exefire@aol.com)



Treasurer: Tom Haddorff (707) 526-7058 [thaddorff@neteze.com](mailto:thaddorff@neteze.com)



Member @ Large John Reade (707) 545-9831 [john.e.reade@gte.net](mailto:john.e.reade@gte.net)



## 2004 Board Members

Brody Carlson	(707) 545-8272	<a href="mailto:brody@connectionsit.com">brody@connectionsit.com</a>
John Stoufer	(707) 538-1636	<a href="mailto:jmstou@sonic.net">jmstou@sonic.net</a>
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Ralph Grella	(707) 539-0187	<a href="mailto:rgrella@msn.com">rgrella@msn.com</a>

## Newsletter and Website

Newsletter Team  
Website:

Phil Leech, Sid Maxwell, Larry Miller, Ralph Grella, Patrick O'Halloran, Guy Nicholas  
Patrick O'Halloran

## ***A Preview of our September Meeting***

submitted by Phil Leech

There will be a review of the very successful "PCAM Airshow". Guys are already thinking and planning for what we can do at PCAM 2005. Larry Miller is coordinating the event that has become our most important contact with the general public.

We will also review our Combat and Pylon Race Events as well as the Neil Taylor Day. We've really had a busy schedule this past month with lots of fun and just a few crashes that we'd rather forget about.

Mike Cingari is on board with a Show and Tell talk about helicopter fundamental flying principles and a demo flight of a Shogun Electric heli. You won't want to miss this one.

Ralph Grella has a nice line-up of prizes for September starting with a Hangar Nine "Funtana" ARF. This is a really nice major prize that most everyone will appreciate. Ralph plans to have an additional array of tools and accessories. And there will also be the traditional gallon of fuel for the door prize.

### **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES August 17, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Leech at 7:30 pm.

There were 30 members present.

Three new members were introduced, Paul Swank, Anthony Lee, and James Belisle.

The drawing for the door prize was held with Tom Haddorff taking home a free gallon of fuel.

Chuck Green, who is moving to a smaller home, brought in lots of goodies that he no longer has room for, free for the taking.

Phil brought in a Piper Cub, complete with radio and engine, that was donated to the club by Larry Frank. We will be holding a silent auction to raise some money for the club. Minimum starting bid will be \$350.

This aircraft is worth far more than that so it's a real bargain.

Treasurer Tom Haddorff gave the monthly report on our finances.

The Secretary's report was approved as published in the newsletter.

Larry Miller gave us an update on the upcoming PCAM Airshow. Rob has an outstanding flight demo lined up featuring turbine jets, extreme helicopter aerobatics, a Sukhoi with a smoke system, and Tom towing his WCF banner.

Larry and Sid gave a report on the pylon racing event held recently. The trainer racing proved to be popular and lots of fun. Sid announced that there is a combat event coming up with the addition of trainer combat being tried out for those without traditional combat aircraft.

It was also announced that the annual Neil Taylor free club picnic and fly in is right around the corner, coming up on Saturday, September 11th.

New solo certificates were presented by Kurt Hiner to Anthony Lee and Paul Swank, and Julio Alvarez had one for Mike Hogan.

Steve Cole announced that he is opening a new hobby shop in Healdsburg called Awesome Hobbies. He'll be carrying R/C planes, boats, cars, and an assortment of accessories.

Chuck Green, a 747 pilot for 29 years, gave a talk explaining the real reason why several recent airline disasters occurred. What you see published in the media is not always the whole story.

Last thing for the evening was the raffle.

Ralph outdid himself this month with some outstanding prizes. John Lehtio had the first winning ticket and he picked an Alpha trainer. Mike Cracchiolo picked up the .60 size AT-6 ARF that he had been drooling over all night. Bob Rose took home an Easy Tote flight box while new member James Belisle got two cans of something that was donated by Chuck Green. Brody Carlson and Brian Blackburn both won a set of floats and Julio Alvarez got the extra special hinges we had tonight.

There being no more business to take care of, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Larry Miller, Sec.

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 31, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Phil Leech. Other members present were Guy Nicholas, Tom Haddorff, Larry Miller, Gary Child, Brody Carlson, John Stoufer, Ralph Grella, and John Reade.

A review of the recent PCAM airshow display and flying demonstration was held. It was determined that this was the most successful year yet. Rob did a fantastic job lining up aircraft for the flying demos; the jets were especially impressive. In the booth, Mike Cingari did a great job promoting the helicopters. We would like to thank all those who helped out with the show.

We also held a silent auction for the Piper Cub that Larry Frank donated to the club, with new member James Belisle being the top bidder.

There was a discussion of the pros and cons of having paid advertising in the newsletter. We reviewed the addition of .40 size trainer racing along with the Quickie 500 competition. It appeared to be quite successful and everyone had a great time. We also reviewed the .40 size trainer addition to the combat event and this also proved to be successful and a whole lot of fun. They are easier to see and to fly than the smaller .15 size combat planes. We did have one midair between Brian Blackburn and John "Midair" Reade who now has a total of 5 midairs. You might want to stay away from him when he's flying. Thanks to Sid for running a great event.

This was followed by a discussion of the rules for the .40 trainer events. This year these competitions are in the trial stage. For next year, we should have the bugs worked out and will have a set of hard and fast rules. A safety meeting was held after several members have noted some unsafe practices at the field. The safety committee chairman will address these issues with the persons involved.

Tom will be checking with the Redwood Credit Union to see if we can get a better return on our CD with them.

Flyers are ready to be sent out for the upcoming Neil Taylor Memorial Picnic. This event features free food for all members and their families. There will be open flying all day interspersed with a few demonstration flights.

Ralph volunteered to work on the flight training and instructor review.

Brody says the new training syllabus will be ready in two weeks.

With the new year fast approaching, it's time to start thinking about new club officers for 2005. Anyone out there who might be interested in helping run the club for next year, contact any board member for more information.

Ralph briefed us on what prizes he has planned for the next general meeting.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

### PCAM 2004 What a Weekend!

This is the second year that Wine Country Flyers have been asked to do our Airshow routine and we didn't let them down. What a showstopper! The weather on both days started with low overcast clouds that wouldn't allow for flying full scale planes...but we could fly our planes! It was the perfect solution for the PCAM guys because we could fill a slot in their schedule when nothing else would work for them. After we got done with our flying the ceiling began to lift and they were able to proceed with their own schedule. We filled our 25 minute time slot both days with an amazing array of airplane and heli flying. The most dramatic flying was done by the jets. We had guest flyers Chris Setting and Will Whiteside flying their turbine jets and it's a pretty safe bet that most all of the general public had never seen one of these amazing planes fly. Of course there were many more of our guys flying demonstrations.

Here are a few shots from the event taken by Wayne Frederick.



Will Whiteside's "Eurofighter".



Larry and Tom with the WCF Banner Plane



Art Sutter's Sukhoi flown by Red Jensen  
All in all we had a great weekend with no crashes, no missteps of any kind and on

Sunday we even got to do our own announcing in an interview with PCAM's Joe Perez and Phil Leech.

There was a lot of positive interaction with the public as people who had watched the flight demonstrations came around to see what we were all about. And to top it all off we sold Larry Frank's donated Piper Cub to one of our own –James Belisle!

### **PCAM Airshow Display Demonstration Flight Pilots**

Rob Jensen-----Sukhoi with smoke system  
Steve Cole-----P-38  
Chris Setting-----Bobcat turbine powered jet (Non member)  
Will Whiteside-----Eurosport turbine powered jet, A-10 Warthog (Non member)  
Guy Nicholas-----Aerobatic helicopter  
Loren Fong-----Scale helicopter  
Eddie Garcia-----Aerobatic helicopter  
Mike Cingari-----Aerobatic helicopter  
Tom Haddorff-----WCF banner towing  
Brian Gaither--Extreme 3D aerobatic aircraft

### **Booth and Support Personnel**

Larry Miller  
Phil Leech  
Kurt Hiner  
Bob Rose  
Wayne Frederick  
Ralph Grella  
Steve Jensen  
Mike Cracchiolo

### **THE BATTLE FOR BERLIN**

It was 1944, we were flying P-38's and P-51's. The Battle for Berlin had begun and we had air superiority. Nine combat pilots arrived at the ready room ready for battle on August 29. Bryan Rankin, Kevin Rankin, Julio Alvarez and Sid Maxwell were flying .15 size Fun Bats and Battle Floyds. John Reade, Larry Miller, Brian Blackburn, Art Sutter and Kurt Hiner were flying .40 size Trainers. Having the .40 size Trainers join the combat was a new attraction that went over big. The event started with some good combat flying. In the first Trainer round there was a mid-air

between Brian and John. Both planes totally destroyed. Then in the second round of the .15 size, Sid and Kevin had a mid-air with no damage at all, just a little scratch. We flew round after round having more fun as the rounds came to an end. The winners were:

1st---Bryan Rankin

2nd--Larry Miller

3rd---Sid Maxwell

Our next and last combat event of the year will be on September 25, .15 size and 40 size Trainers.

So get those combat planes ready and come out and join us.....you'll see how much fun we are having. Remember, you can fly .15 and/or .40 Trainer size for this, "anything goes", fun time.  
sid maxwell      event coordinator



The remains from John and Brian's combat

### **FEARLESS FLYER**

#### **FLYING AT THE NEIL TAYLOR DAY**

Flying at the Neil Taylor Fun Fly on September 11, the almost last event of the year, was really fun. There was no competition, no awards to fight for, just loads of fun flying your favorite plane, watching demonstrations, a free lunch by the Kitchen Kommander and his side-kick Bob Rose, and yes.....the Neil Taylor Award. The Neil Taylor Award is given to the hardest working member for the year. This year the award was given to two deserving members.....Sid Maxwell our Vice President and Event Coordinator .....and Tom Haddorff our Treasurer and tireless Instructor. The day started out with the sounds of full size War

Birds flying by. We then had a moment of silence for the anniversary of the 9-11 tragedy. Tom Haddorff started the Demos with the flying of the club banner. That was followed by Demos every hour such as :::::Patrick O' Halloran doing his, "thang", his control line combat; a .15 size combat event in which the Rankin Boys, Bryan and Kevin had a mid-air and then there was the sound of silence; a .40 size Trainer combat; Steve Cole flying Art Sutter's large scale Sukhoi with smoke trails galore and low fly-bys. Last on the agenda was Kurt Hiner low flying his 100mph Delta Wing and Steve Cole low flying his Voodoo Mustang. All this, a free lunch for some 50 people, plenty of Open Flying and lots of visiting. What more could you ask for. Another fun event for all of us happy flyers!!!!!!  
sid maxwell

### **HEALDSBURG TRIBUNE**

We had a newspaper reporter at the Neil Taylor Fun Fly on September 11 named Kim Jensen, from the Healdsburg Tribune. She is from the Virgin Islands and has only been in the U.S. for one year. She has two young sons who are eager to learn to fly RC. She was very interested in RC and especially our club and it's history. I gave her much information about the club and a recap of RC and learning to fly. She will write an article about us and it should come out on September 15 or September 22. Thank you Kim for your interest.....

sid maxwell

### **WEB SITES**

Here are a few web sites you can check out.....

1. theprobros.com
2. serge-rc
3. mini-iac.com
4. wildharerc.com
5. rcuniverse.com
6. chiphyde.com
7. cuttingedge.com

## **PYLON RACE 9/12/04**

Last week we had another fun day of racing Quickie 500's and trainers. As usual, Sid was there bright and early getting things set up for the days events. We had seven Quickie pilots but only three folks showed up to race their trainers. It was a hot day and several pilots had trouble getting their engines to perform well enough to keep up with Red.

Rob and Brian Gaither were the one's to beat this day. Brian didn't have an aircraft of his own so he used Red's which means that we never got to see them go head to head. That would have been a great race.

In the first heat we had Brian pitted against Steve Cole, Guy Nicholas, and Stevo Smith. Brian pulled off the win but Steve was hot on his tail the whole way. They were followed by Stevo and Guy brought up the rear. Guy was plagued by engine trouble all day long. In the second heat we had Red against Mike Cracchiolo and Ron Vann. Red dominated this race with Ron close behind followed by Mike. (Note: When Mike wasn't racing, he was flying the pace plane).

The third heat was composed of Red, Mike, and Stevo. Again Red led the way followed by Mike and then Stevo.

In the fourth heat Brian got beat out by Ron in a real exciting race with three planes flying very close together. At one point, all three planes tried to occupy the same airspace, but they all survived to continue on. Steve was hot on their tail the whole race while Guy had more engine trouble and couldn't finish the race.

The next race was for the trainers with Steve Cole, Julio Alvarez, and Sid Maxwell competing. Steve's beat up old plane amazingly pulled off the win without falling

apart in mid air. He was followed very closely by Julio and then Sid, who's engine decided to pick that time to start running rich and slow down.

We again ran another Quickie heat composed of Red, Steve, Ron and Guy. Guy couldn't get his engine to run right so he wound up sitting this one out. Red took off and no one ever got close again. Steve did his best but could only hang on for second with Ron coming in third after experiencing some control problems which made for an exciting race.

The final Quickie race had Brian against Stevo and Mike. Again Brian showed the way with Stevo coming in a close second and Mike bringing up the rear.

Overall finishers were Red in first, followed by Brian, Ron was third, Steve was fourth, Stevo and Mike tied for fifth, and Guy, who had engine trouble all day, was sixth.

In the trainer category, Steve Cole finished in first place, followed by Julio, and then Sid, whose engine also gave him trouble during the race.

All in all, everyone had a great time, there were no crashes, and everyone went home happy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Miller, Sec.

## **Combat !!!**

The next combat event is 10am 25 Sept. Both .15 and .40 size planes will be battling it up. Come join the Fun. Awards to first 3 places.

# EVENTS CALENDAR 2004



Combat	September 25 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
Christmas Party	December 11 <sup>th</sup> Saturday



**P.O. BOX 4198  
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