

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 22 August Mountain Mike's Pizza at 6:30

www.wcflyers.com

Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County

2024 Club Officers:

President:	John Cole	(623) 824-6529	johncole8182@gmail.com
Vice President:	Adam Clement	(707) 322-5318	adamclement@gmail.com
Secretary:	Jake Chichilitti	(707) 535-0977	jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Paul Gibson	(707) 318-5926	paul@4gibson.us
Safety Officer:	Josh Bernstein	(707) 486-3303	joshbernstein2@yahoo.com
Field Maintenance:	Colin McRae	(707) 298-8227	colinlouismcrae@gmail.com

2023 Board Members:

Guy Nicholas	(707) 291-2781	Guy@Gui-Soft.com
Bill Van Aslan		billv@sonic.com
Eric Bergesen	(707) 494-0562	ebergesen@gmail.com
Walker Alecock		
Kristin Nagata	(949) 294-4681	kristin.nagata@gmail.com
Nat Seavy	(707) 241-5185	nseavy@gmail.com

Newsletter: Guy Nicholas

Website: Patrick O'Halloran

Presidents Report

By: John Cole

Hello folks;

This past couple of months have been challenging for me and my family, but we are working through the issues and will continue to hope for the best! Health problems are never easy or convenient, and the best thing we can do is try our best to comfort and support our family members when we can.

The down side to this is that I have very little free time to spend with my hobbies. But I know from experience that all of my projects will patiently wait for me to return!

Our vice president Adam Clement has stepped down from his position due to time constraints, and I fully support his decision to do so. I consider Adam to be one of our most accomplished members, and a huge resource of expertise and flying ability. I want to thank him for his help and support, and hope that he will find some time to enjoy our hobby.

Well, the time has finally come that I will fully retire at the end of September!! I've got mixed feelings about this since I very much enjoy working at this music store, and the people I work with. But it's time for me to move on, although I will continue to help them with guitar repairs as an independent contractor.

We have still not heard from the folks at YaKa Ama regarding the field lease, so I'm sorry to say that we are still waiting for their response to our proposal. In the meantime, please continue to enjoy the use of the field, and respect our rules associated with our membership agreement.

John

Safety First

By: Josh Bernstein

Safety at the club is a team effort, and this effort is particularly important during this time of uncertainty around our ability to remain at our current flying site. Over the last two months we have had a dramatic reduction in the number of times we've had to go on to Shone Farms' property to retrieve downed planes. This is outstanding and is the result of all of our efforts to remind each other to keep the planes within our borders, and to avoid flying over the vineyards. Along these lines, we recently had a situation where Ya-Ka-Ama had an event (Softball) which involved the use of the baseball field just down from the South end of our runway. Apparently there was some flying over that field when it was in use. Even though Ya-Ka-Ama did not request ahead of time that we cancel flying during the event, it is essential that — as the AMA rules state clearly — we NEVER fly over people.

This issue was discussed by the WCF board during our last meeting and it has been decided that in the future, if Ya-Ka-Ama has an event that utilizes that Western-most baseball field, flying MUST be shut down immediately. Flying can resume once that field is no longer in use.

On another note, we've had some issues with some members driving too quickly on Ya-Ka-Ama property, and particularly down the gravel drive from the gate to our parking area. Not only does this create a safety issue, and disrespectfully spreads dust over members vehicles, it also conveys a lack of respect for the property we are so fortunate to have access to. If your ears are burning when you read this... SLOW DOWN! And if you see someone driving too quickly, please take a moment to give them a friendly reminder.

Again, thanks to all for the ongoing efforts to help our club maintain good relations with our landlords and neighbors, and let's continue the safe and responsible flying that puts us in the best position for holding on to this fantastic flying location.

Josh

Tiger 2 Damage and Rep

By: Jake Chichilitti

I had an OOPS moment when buddy boxing with a student. I managed to plow the model into a safety fence post at half throttle.

It will fly again.

Jake



Control Line Stunt Competition Meet-n-Meat in Napa, CA

By: Colin McRaei

Weather permitting (particularly if windy conditions), there will be a local control line stunt competition (Meet-n-Meat) held at Kennedy Park in Napa, CA in September. The event is held at the Jim Tichy Memorial Control Line Circle within Kennedy Park. It is also a free event to watch. Dates are as follows:

Friday Sept 20: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced stunt classes
 Saturday Sept 21: Classic and Old-Time stunt classes
 Sunday Sept 22: Expert stunt class

Even though it is a local control line competition, the Bay Area is fortunate to have quite a few expert CL pilots that live locally. These are amazing pilots with amazing model planes. Just to name a few experts, Dave Fitzgerald, Brett Buck, Dennis Nunes, Jim Arron, and our own club member Paul Pomposo. Plus, others that are equally talented. A few of these pilots have competed and won at the NATS, and also the World CL competition.

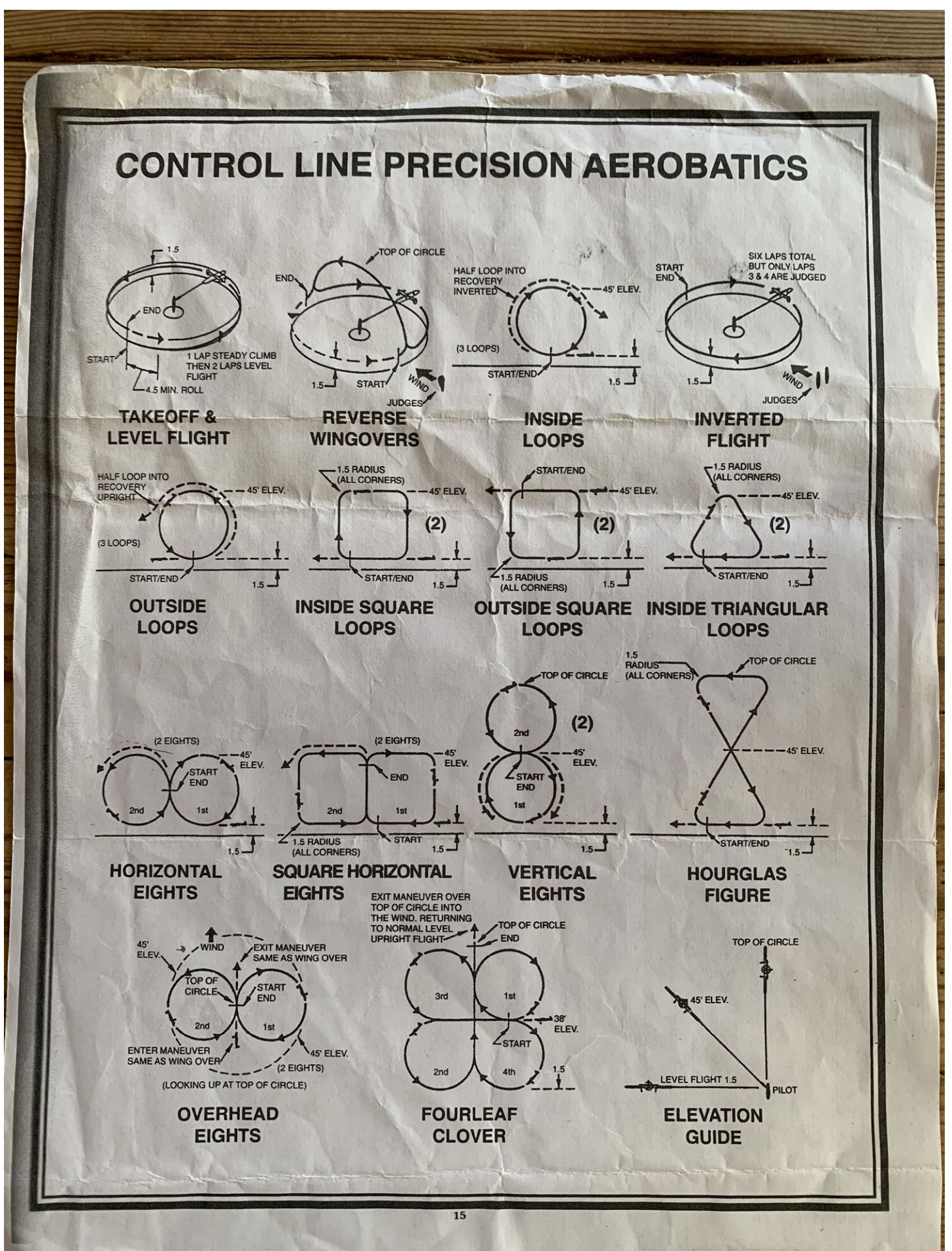
The planes that will fly at the competition will include both glow engine and electric powered control line models.

Colin McRae will be competing in the Beginner stunt class while Paul Pomposo in the Expert stunt class. Paul will be flying his newly built Imitation model that he has been flying and trimming lately at the field. The Imitation model was originally designed by Ted Fancher, and Paul built his model based on the original design. It is powered by a Super Tigre 46 glow engine. Here are some pictures of Paul's new Imitation stunt model.



Each day, the competition starts around 8:30 am and is usually completed by noon- 1 PM.

The Classic, Intermediate, Advanced, and Expert stunt classes fly and are judged on specific control line precision aerobatic stunts as indicated here.



The Beginner and Old Time Stunt classes fly a simpler set of flight maneuvers for good reason since the full stunt pattern is quite difficult requiring well-trimmed models and superior piloting experience.

Come to Napa in September and see what real control line flying is all about!

General Meeting Minutes

25 July, 2024
By: Jake Chichilitti

- President John C. and vice President Adam C. were absent. Guy N. ran the meeting in their absence.
- Ten members present and no guests.
- Pizza ordered and enjoyed by all at 6:30 PM and meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
- As reported last month WCF submitted a proposal to Ya-Ka-Ama to continue to fly from our present flying site.
- As of this date we have not heard back from Ya-Ka-Ama. Their next board meeting will take place during the first week of August. We are hoping they give us a positive response to our proposal.
- It was also reported that the county has unused land that could be used as a potential flying site for our club.
- Treasurer's Report
- There are 79 paid up members in the club as of the meeting night.
- The treasury is holding up o.k.
- New business
- The Liberty Flyers R/C club may not have the use of their flying field as the property has been sold and the land use is up to the new owners. The property is not in escrow as yet.
- A proposal was made to create a Field Search Committee. And create a white paper to outline what we need for a flying site and the liability insurance provided to a land owner. Once completed it will be published and can be printed out for any member to use as an introduction to a prospective land owner.
- The club held a War Bird fly in on Sunday July 14. Many war bird models were in attendance. And Nat S. provided a BBQ lunch for the hungry fliers. Thank you for a great lunch.
- Jim W. purchased a kayak that he uses to retrieve downed float planes at Lake Hennessey. We have a list of interested float flyers and have scheduled our float flies for the second Friday of each month. Weather permitting. Contact me at jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com if you want to be included on the list.
- Show and tell
- Merlin W. damaged his float plane at the lake earlier this month. A radio or electrical issue caused the crash. Merlin contacted Horizon Hobby and they replaced all the damaged parts free of charge.
- Guy N. showed very nice servos purchased from Thomas Lin Studio (<https://tomas-liu-studio.com>). They look very well made and can accept many cool accessories.
- No raffle this month.

Respectfully submitted,
Jake Chichilitti

<ed. note> Here is Chef Boyarnat, happily cooking away.



Board Meeting Minutes

18 August, 2024

By: Jake Chichilitti

- In attendance: Nat S., Paul G., Bill V., Guy N., Eric B. and Jake C.
- In attendance by phone: John C. and Josh B.
- Adam C. submitted his resignation as WCF Vice President. The WCF Board thanks Adam for his years of service to the club. Please add your thanks to Adam when you see him.
- Nat S. volunteered to fill in as VP. Thank you for stepping up Nat.
- The WCF written proposal to remain at our present flying field was sent to the president of the Ya-Ka-Ama board of directors in July. As of the 8th of August the club has not received a reply from Ya-Ka-Ama.
- A safety issue was raised at the meeting. It was observed that models were flown over the baseball field while it was occupied. It is an AMA and WCF rule that models will not be flown over people.
- There will be an EAA event at the Sonoma Co. Airport on Sept 21. The club is invited to participate with members to answer question and models for display. This event will be attended by lots of families.
- The Larry Frank Scale event will not be judged this year. It will be a scale fun fly event. Check the club newsletter for the exact date. I believe the event will be held on the 3rd weekend of Sept.
- The club will entertain bids for field mowing. It's possible we won't have to mow again this year.
- Eric B. suggested a night fly later in the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Jake C.

Events Calendar

- Pylon Racing 25 August
- Larry Frank Scale Event Saturday September 14th, 21st or 28th.
- Pylon Racing 29 September