

Wine Country Flier



Next meeting: 26 September 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 members;

By now I'm sure that most of you have been informed that Ya Ka-AMA has decided to end our relationship and lease on their land. Our board members and officers worked hard to appeal the ruling from Ya Ka Ama and after a very long time, they finally responded with their decision. This has left us very little time to vacate the field by the end of October. An email was sent to them that requested more time for this work to be completed, and that we might also be able to store our equipment somewhere on their property until a new site can be found. As of today we have not heard back from them. It's been really quite frustrating waiting for responses from them but that's where we are at.

We must stop using the field for flying by the end of the month!! There can be no flying activity after September 30th.

As of now, we will begin dismantling our equipment October 1st. We will need help from members to accomplish this!! Please help in any way possible.

I want to encourage everyone to attend our upcoming meeting this week to discuss how we can coordinate specific dates to accomplish the work ahead. The more volunteers we can get, the easier the tasks will be. In the meantime, please be respectful and considerate to Ya Ka Ama and continue to follow field rules. We do not want to leave on bad terms with them.

John

Spad Maiden

By: Jake Chichilitti

The SPAD XIII made its maiden flight on Labor Day
How it all began on August 13, 2022. Just a big box of balsa and plywood.



The upper wing under construction on Sept. 27, 2022



Ready for the paint job on 10/21/2023



Undergoing taxi tests at WCF on 10/21/2023



It Flies! On Labor Day 2024 at Woodland Davis Aero Modelers. Jeff Lovitt at the controls.



Napa RC Flying Site

By: Colin McRae

I went to Kennedy Park in the city of Napa to fly CL and also stopped by the local RC club field at the park. The RC club is West Coast Flyers (WCF). Here is a link to their website. Contact is Jim Elwood (707) 280-8164, and his club email is westcoastflyers@gmail.com

WCRCF (westcoastrcflyers.org)

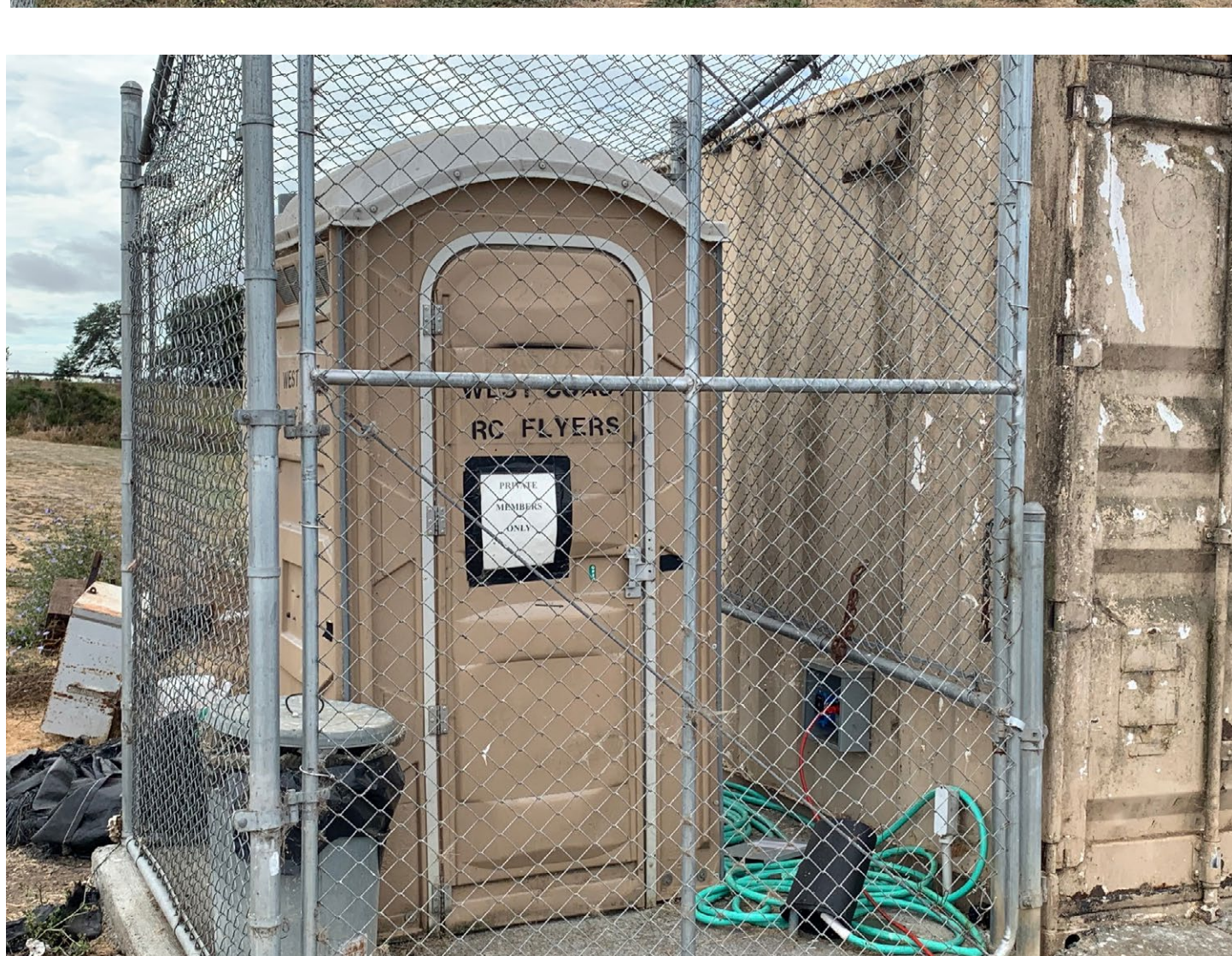
WCF is an AMA sanctioned club (AMA club number 2114). Even though the club field is in a city park, you still must be a club member to fly RC there.

There is a one-time \$30 initiation fee plus \$80 annually for adult members (18 and over). For 17 and younger is \$15 annually and no initiation fee.

A few details:

1. I met a couple of pilots that were relatively new members. Nice guys flying 3D models similar size to Josh's planes.
2. You can fly as a guest of a member 2x. But you must join the club to fly after that.
3. I was told there were about 30-35 members.
4. There were only 2 guys there on this Wednesday. I was told maybe a maximum of 6 on a typical weekend.
5. New members are welcome to join.
6. Their field is somewhat like ours. Petro mat runway (looks to be a bit bumpy to me, but not too bad), pit area w/ lots of tables, picnic tables, port a potty, storage shed, close parking area.
7. The runway is approx 380 ft long and 50' wide.
8. Since the field is in a city park, there are public walking paths not too far away near the perimeter of the flying area. It looks to me that the RC flying area is smaller than our 10 acres.
9. Away from the runway, the field flying area has lots of tall grasses and bushes. The city does cut it down from time to time.
10. Access to the field driveway is locked. Members have the lock code.
11. I did not notice a field perimeter fence.
12. The port a potty is locked and for members only. (This makes sense since it is a public park)
13. The storage shed is locked. It is a huge semi-trailer. I was told some members store their models in the shed.
14. You can read the club rules in their website.
15. Read the aircraft requirements – very important.
16. FAA transponder is not required. (The field is far enough away from the Napa airport)

To me it seems like a reasonable place to fly RC until we find our own north bay field.



General Meeting Minutes

22 August, 2024

By: Jake Chichilitti

- Wine Country Flyers General Membership meeting minutes 8/22/2024
- Meeting called to order by John Cole at 7:00 PM
- Old Business: Ya-Ka-Ama has not responded to our proposal to remain at the current flying site.
 - Treasurer's Report: Paul G. reports we have 79 members and some more on the waiting list while our flying field is in limbo.
- New Business:
 - John Cole will obtain a mowing estimate for the field.
 - Liberty Flyers of Petaluma is in danger of losing their field as reported by Larry G.
 - Ken M. suggested the club put together a written proposal for a new flying site to be available for all members to use.
 - A reminder to keep your FAA registration up to date.
 - There will be an auction/flea market at the flying field on Sunday Sept 15 starting around noon. There are models and supplies in the shed that will be auctioned off and members are encouraged to bring their unwanted stuff to be sold not auctioned. Guests and visitors are welcome.
 - It was reported that Fr Sky has a remote ID selling for \$50.00
 - Our next event is the Larry Frank Scale Meet on Saturday Sept. 21. Not a contest, but a scale model fun fly.
- Show and Tell:
 - Larry G. is working on a Pteradactyl model. Twin electric motors. It has ailerons and a V-Tail. Soon to be finished if his wife stops giving him home improvement projects.
 - John C. brought in his contest scale Jenny with a fishy paint scheme. It's 1/6 scale and powered with an O.S. .70 4-stroke. He reports it's not the easiest model to fly.

Meeting adorned with plenty of pizza to take home.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jake C..

Board Meeting Minutes

23 September, 2024

By: Jake Chichilitti

- In attendance John C., Eric B., Nat S., Jake C., Paul G.
- In attendance by phone Josh B., Colin M., Kristin N.
- Wine Country Flyers flying field will be closed to flying as of Sept. 30th. The board of directors of Ya-Ka-Ama has declined to accept our proposal to remain on their property.
- John C. will request Ya-Ka-Ama to let us store our field equipment on their property until we can find a new flying site.
- The club will begin dismantling our flying site beginning Oct. 1.
- It was suggested we hire day laborers to help with this process.
- Paul G. will check on the cost of offsite storage of our field equipment.
- There will be work parties scheduled for every weekend in Oct. until the field is dismantled and trash hauled away. We would like our members to volunteer for the work parties by letting the board know who will be available and what days they can work.
- The board will be writing up a letter of introduction with the requirements we would need to set up a new field. This letter will be available for all members to print and distribute to prospective land owners or anyone else you think can be of help to us.
- All Members: Please plan on attending the next general meeting on Sept. 26.

Respectfully submitted,
Jake C.