

*Wine Country Flier*



**Next meeting: TBD**

**www.wcflyers.com**

**Promoting Model Aviation in Sonoma County**

**2024 Club Officers:**

<b>President:</b>	<b>John Cole</b>	<b>(623) 824-6529</b>	<b>johncole8182@gmail.com</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Nat Seavy</b>	<b>(707) 241-5185</b>	<b>nseavy@gmail.com</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Jake Chichilitti</b>	<b>(707) 535-0977</b>	<b>jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Paul Gibson</b>	<b>(707) 318-5926</b>	<b>paul@4gibson.us</b>
<b>Safety Officer:</b>	<b>Josh Bernstein</b>	<b>(707) 486-3303</b>	<b>joshbernstein2@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Field Maintenance:</b>	<b>Colin McRae</b>	<b>(707) 298-8227</b>	<b>colinlouismcrae@gmail.com</b>

**2023 Board Members:**

<b>Guy Nicholas</b>	<b>(707) 291-2781</b>	<b>Guy@Gui-Soft.com</b>
<b>Bill Van Aslan</b>		<b>billv@sonic.com</b>
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<b>Walker Alecock</b>		
<b>Kristin Nagata</b>	<b>(949) 294-4681</b>	<b>kristin.nagata@gmail.com</b>

**Newsletter: Guy Nicholas**  
**Website: Patrick O'Halloran**

# Acting Presidents Report

By: Nat Seavy

Dear WCF,

I am writing this month as your acting club president, as John Cole has had some family matters that are requiring his attention right now. Until John has more time, I will be stepping up to assume his duties.

I wanted to start by thanking everyone who helped disassemble the field. So many people showed up to help that there is no way I can name them all without leaving someone out. We could not have done it without all the hands we had working together. I would like to give two special mentions. First, Kristin and Matt, and their son Walker have graciously provided us with a space to store our equipment until we find a new site. Second, Mike Retterer supplied a semi-trailer truck, forklift, and the machine operating expertise that allowed us to move all the runway rolls, shed, and shade structures in a single day.

While it has been extremely disappointing to lose such a fantastic flying site, I did appreciate that I had a chance to spend time with people who I don't normally interact with while I'm over at the control line circle. For those of you who I haven't had a chance to meet, I wanted to briefly introduce myself. I grew up in Washington State, where I started building and flying models (control line and a few RC gliders). I recently came across a photo from the late '80s of Dynafite Piece O'Cake that I built when I was early in my teens. I fell out of the hobby when I started college, but started building again during the pandemic, and joined WCF in 2021. I originally thought I was joining primarily for a place to fly, but since joining, I've discovered that I enjoy the camaraderie as much as the flying (and crashing). I'm happy that I have an opportunity to serve the club and I look forward to interacting with more of you in the future. If you have any questions about the club, please don't hesitate to contact me at [nseavy@gmail.com](mailto:nseavy@gmail.com)

For the rest of this calendar year, the WCF board has two priorities: finding a new place to fly, and keeping the momentum of the club going until we do. As we ramp up our search for a new field, please send any sites you think might work to the board (you can email the WCF board at [contact@wcflyers.com](mailto:contact@wcflyers.com)). The more detail you can provide, the better - at least a rough address and any information or relationship you have about the landowner. We will provide more details about our search for a new site in the next newsletter. In terms of keeping up the momentum, we'll continue our newsletter, and in January we'll resume our monthly meetings at Mountain Mikes. In the meantime, there are opportunities for float flying and slope soaring. To help us keep the momentum, please submit any updates about your modeling activities to the newsletter.

Until the next newsletter,

Nat Seavy

Acting president, Wine Country Flyers





## *Colin's CL Shop*

By: Colin McRae

Progress on my Yakovlev Yak-9 CL project has been relatively slow but it is finally coming together. After a little finish-up painting, all that is really left to do is to hook up the flap and elevator controls, mount the engine and fuel tank, landing gear, etc. It will be powered by an OS 26 four-stroke engine. Since my build and painting skills are somewhat limited, I did not do it in a conventional WW2 military camouflage scheme. But this is my hair-brained version of a hypothetical Reno Air Race plane. Ha-Ha!





Moving Pics





## ***General Meeting Minutes***

26 September, 2024

By: Jake Chichilitti

- Our flying site will be closed to all flying on Oct. 1.
- It was reported that Liberty Flyers is losing their flying site. There was a suggestion that we join forces with them in locating a flying site for both clubs.
- Work parties will begin in Oct. to remove our runway, tables, shed, etc. Contact Paul Gibson at: paul@4gibson.us and let him know what days (Saturday and Sunday) you will be able to help out.
- The club is attempting to make arrangements with Ya-Ka-Ama to store our field equipment on their property. We may have to store our equipment off site. The expense for a commercial storage facility could cost between \$75.00 to \$150.00 a month.
- Nat S. along with members of the board have produced a letter of introduction to prospective land owners the spells out our needs.
- Treasurers Report: The club has 79 members as of this meeting. The club will not be collecting dues at this time for 2025 depending on how quickly we can find a new field. We will continue to hold general meetings at Mt. Mike's, but the club will no longer provide free pizza.
- Adam C. suggested we should still hold our annual Swap Meet at the Vet's Building.
- There are several possibilities to continue enjoying our hobby,
  - 1. Currently a group of us are float flying at Lake Hennessey on the second Friday of the month, weather permitting. I have a float fly list that goes out to interested pilots. email me at: [jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com](mailto:jake.chichilitti@yahoo.com) if you would like to be included.
  - 2. We also fly our electric powered and non powered gliders at the coast. We do not have any specific days, depends on the wind conditions.
  - 3. There is an AMA club in Napa that is accepting members. And there is a control line circle in the same area.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jake Chichilitti

## ***Board Meeting Minutes***

10 October, 2024  
By: Jake Chichilitti

In attendance Nat, Bill, Guy, Jake & Eric  
By phone Kristin, Colin & Paul

The entire meeting was centered around moving and storing the field equipment and locating a new flying field.

- A large dumpster will be delivered to the field on Friday the 11th
- There has been no agreement to store our field equipment on Ya-Ka-Ama property. The board is leaning toward not storing our equipment on Ya-Ka-Ama property. The club is exploring two more options for storage.
- Eric will be looking into the rental of a forklift and flat bed trailer to move our field equipment from Ya-Ka-Ama to another site until we find a new field. .
- The field should be pretty much ready to be moved by the time this is published. So far there has been a good turn out for the work parties.
- So far we have not had any leads for a new field, but we may try to enlist the help of an AMA VP in our search.
- We floated the idea of joining with Liberty Flyers of Petaluma in a field search and possibly combining the clubs. It would appear that Liberty Flyers are not interested in joining clubs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Jake Chichilitti