

# SAM SAYS

## NEWSLETTER OF THE SALINAS AREA MODELERS

Volume 42 Issue 7

July 2017

[WWW.SALINASAREAMODELERS.ORG](http://WWW.SALINASAREAMODELERS.ORG)

### FINALLY!! BACK AT SAN ANTONIO

As best I can determine the last float fly at San Antonio Lake was the Spring of 2013. I had to peruse old newsletters to determine that. I knew it had been quite while, but four years? Who would have thought. The rains this past winter brought the lake up to a maximum of 57% capacity which is enough water to give us the shoreline necessary for our event. But because Monterey County had actually closed all the campgrounds, getting things rolling again was quite a



task. California Parks Service is the concessionaire who was picked to run the county owned facilities at both San Antonio and Nacimiento Lakes. They were not able to open the North side until mid June so we couldn't go during our usual months of April and May.

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Photos by Robert Shaver and Mike Mc Cauley.



Friends of Chris Thomsen showed up to watch us fly. Think they got their fill of heat pretty quick.

Right - Mike McCauley (I think) bringing his bird in for a landing.

Below - The Duck made it into the sky once again.



### Float Fly (Continued From Page 1)

We decided to have a one day event on July 8 knowing we had a 50/50 chance of having some pretty warm weather. Warm it was! When we departed the lake between 3:00 and 3:30 the temperature had reached 108°! In spite of the heat we did get in some good flying. Lake McSwain is a fun event but it does not offer the nice open space available at San Antonio to fly our aircraft.

If my count is right, 11 hard-core float flyers showed up: Chris Thomsen and son Soren, Chuck Bosso, Randy Bonetti, Ben Gacayan, Dennis Stanley, Richard Ciampa, Mike McCauley and wife Cathy, Randy McGregor and Bob McGregor.

If you want to try your hand at float flying put October 13 - 15, 2017, on your calendar. It's really a blast - some of the most just "plain ole' fun" RC flying going, in my opinion. That will be the next event at San Antonio. Then pray for more rain this coming winter so we can continue next year.



Below and Right is Chris Kraft with his P-51 Mustang.



Right is Alexander Rupp with his Spitfire. Alexander is a new member and we are delighted to have him in the club.



The group to the left were setting timbers on which to place the additional storage container the Club purchased. However the Monterey County Building Department decided we did not have sufficient

setback from the property line in that location so we had to relocate the site east of the 40' storage unit already in place. The new one will be used strictly to garage the trailer obtained from Dale Oxford and the retrieval boat that goes with it, and the tractor along with it's related support equipment.

Aerial photo by Wayne Sweet





Left is Tristan Williams and Robert Shaver's Extra 300's side by side.

Below is Soren Thomsen. I do believe that shovel is bigger (at least taller) than he is!



Below Chris Johnson is getting in some 3D practice.



Below left and right are items for the auction that was held July 1. Many were from the collection of the late Dick Moeller.



## Let's Get Radical

### Upcoming SAM Pylon Race Event

On August 19 2017 we will be hosting another "Great Race" which includes the T-34, .46 Modified Warbird, and EF-1 (electric) Classes of Race planes. I would like to entertain the fact that this is indeed our finest Spectator Event and am hoping that many of you will answer the call to help us with this Event (PLEASE). I'm hoping to include 5 lap counter personnel to help our cherished CD Joe and his wonderful wife Sandra. We also need 4 pylon Judges (2 at each pylon) and of course a good cook and someone to man (or woman) the cook shack in lieu of Alice not being able because she will be calling for Dan. It's my belief that if we can provide more than adequate assistance for the races this year that the sport will grow into a "very financially benefiting event" for the club in the years to come via showing that we're very organized and proficient and therefore "can provide a very good time for all". Racing is an absolute kick in the pants and I've been trying to talk a few of you into joining the "Great Fun" of competing in this adrenalin pumping, combative, tactically scheming, Sport. Racing airplanes is a-lot like a dog-fight against 4 opponents, wild and wily.

Yes I did catch the racing bug but lets remember that although I did very well in my 1<sup>st</sup> pylon event "in the T-34 beginners class", I struggled in the 46 Modified Warbird Class and only eked

out one trophy; 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the "Trophy Dash Race". In the following race at Morgan Hill, Tristan and I had both practiced intensely and learned from each other to subsequently "emboss" a permanent SAM boot print in signifying that our members are truly a force to be reckoned with. This year at Oakdale although I did quite well, I'm heartbroken for Tristan in that he went there with a gleam in his eyes in wanting to battle with the best of the best but the R/C Goblins thwarted his "efforts and dreams" so I'm calling on SAM members to respond "encouragingly" for our racing club members and to "chip in" via helping us to promote SAM into being Pylon Race Central so as next year we stand a better chance of being a pilot-pulling Pylon Race Attraction. All in all our event attendance for every event has been on the downfall so I'm asking that we as SAM members should respond with vigor and steadfast intensity to regain the disappearing attendance of our events or we may fall victim to our own lackadaisical non-response. I'm working on a backup EF-1 race plane for Tristan and have also made two proper "real pylons" for this and future SAM race events. Further is that this club offers a great opportunity for "you" to try racing as we have many learned people such as Howard Powers that possesses expert know how in engine alterations, fuel mixing, and aerodynamics as well as having a ton of racing experience that he shares "enthusiastically"; the racing bug once caught never dies. Auggie is quite adept in the electric discipline and can guide you to victory if electrics suit your fancy. The T-34 class is the easiest class and is wide open too. Stock T-34s' makes for a very even and comparably slow playing field. The build is easy as well in that there are no alterations allowed to a "World Models T-34 ARF kit" that goes together very easily. With all this available help there's little reason "why not" to try it, Please Come and help at this year's event



Roberts racing entries.

Guess you need two for this business in case you get knocked out of the air.

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## Let's Get Radical (Continued From Page 5)

to get familiar with racing, I helped for 3 years and each year I told myself "next year I have to do this" and now regret that it took me so long to get off my derriere.



Above is one of the two pylons Robert Shaver built for the races. The larger object gives better depth perception.

Please put August 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and advise our President that you will be there for our Pylon Racing Event ASAP so we can efficiently plan to the size of our volunteer workforce. The outreach capacity of the Triangle Series Racers is such that there is opportunity to turn our pylon race event into "very worthwhile dollars" for SAM in the future if we can put on a grand show this year. SAM needs you to "exhibit your pride" of our wonderful club site that we work on so diligently to embellish. Thanks to all of you that continually "chip in" and foster your own self-respect; charms the morning mirror doesn't it!

P.S. I'm contemplating running for President this year but would really like to see an act of support for me from its members via providing SAM ample assistance at this years Pylon Races; Lets do this right!

Crazy Ivan

## Richard Moeller

As was mentioned in the Prez Sez article last month, the Salinas Area Modelers lost a long time member, Richard (Dick) Moeller. He took his eternal flight May 6, 2017. He had been a member of SAM for over 20 years before succumbing to a rare form of Leukemia. Dick liked all aspects of the hobby. He loved the glider events and very often succeeded in winning the competition. He was always present at the Float Fly events and provided entertainment for us with his, shall we say, unique way of flying. He took an interest in Free Flight and often accompanied Jack Jella to the events held at Lost Hills. Dick's son donated most of his RC "stuff" to the club and we held an auction, as most of you are aware, and our treasury gained \$867 due largely, but not completely, to Dicks collection.

Dick's smile and laugh will be missed at the flying field and we will all miss him as a friend and fellow flyer.



## Calendar of Events

## July 2017

- 8 Glider Contest 3
- 15 Memorial Fun Fly
- 17 Board Meeting - Location to be announced
- 22 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

## August 2017

- 5 Glider Contest 4
- 19 Pylon Races
- 27 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

## September 2017

- 9-10 IMAC II
- 22-24 Lake McSwain Float Fly
- 30 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

## October 2017

- 13-15 SAM Float Fly at San Antonio Lake - **FINALLY!!**
- 23 Board Meeting - Location TBA
- 28 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

## November 2017

- 11 Work Day
- 23 Thanksgiving

## December 2017

- 2 Toys For Tots
- 2 Christmas Dinner/Annual Meeting

## Club Contact Information

## 2016 SAM Officers

Dennis Stanley, President  
(831) 422-3474 [jsdenny@razzolink.com](mailto:jsdenny@razzolink.com)

Howard Power, Vice President  
(831) 235-3123 [howpow2003@yahoo.com](mailto:howpow2003@yahoo.com)

Gretta Williams, Secretary  
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Bob McGregor, Treasurer, Membership  
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## 2016 SAM Board of Governors:

Chuck Bosso, Board  
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To send any submissions to the newsletter editor:

**[newsletter@salinasareamodelers.org](mailto:newsletter@salinasareamodelers.org)**  
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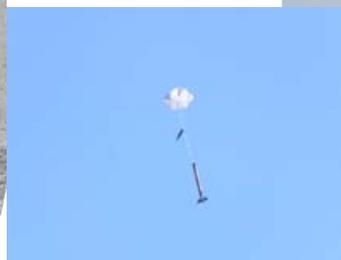
This includes pictures. The email above is checked regularly, so any submission will not go unnoticed.

Submissions for the newsletter of any kind (this includes opinions) are welcome and will be used on a space available basis. The newsletter editor retains editorial rights to any submission solely for the purpose of correcting spelling, grammar, etc., but not to alter the intent.

**There is now a link on the SAM website to the field camera. Just go to our website at [www.salinasareamodelers.org](http://www.salinasareamodelers.org) and click on SAM Field Cam in the center of the page.**



Looks like a serious discussion over who is going to set off the rocket.



Below is Mike McCauley with his newly acquired NexStar. You're moving up in the world, Mike



Above - Doing a little roof repair over the picnic area. As you recall the 75 mph winds that hit during one of the winter storms took off some of the roofing.

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