

# SAM SAYS

## NEWSLETTER OF THE SALINAS AREA MODELERS

Volume 42 Issue 12

December 2017

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

### The Prez Sez

**Wowza!** Here we are at years end again. Where has the time gone?

Well, let's do a quick recap and take a look back at 2017.

The beginning of the year brought drought breaking rains that flooded the entrance to our field. Fortunately, we skirted any real damage because the river stopped just short of overflowing its banks. However, we did end up losing parts of the shelter roof to the mini hurricane that blew through in February. But, that ended up being a fairly easy repair.

In March we started the flying season off with our traditional slope soar event in Seaside which got soured by the weather. In April we hosted, quite successfully, our first money making IMAC event of the year. Then in May, June, July and August we held our regular summer glider contests. This year's pylon race in August fell short on participants due to a change in the Triangle Racing organizations leadership and consequent reduction of interest. Looking forward to new leadership and, hopefully new interest for next year. In September we hosted our late summer and final IMAC of the season.

Somewhere in between these activities a second and successful attempt was made to put a roof coating on the main container. We then added a new 2nd container to store our club retrieval boat and trailer, which had been kept at a members house for many years. We then moved the tractor to its new quarters with the boat freeing up space in the old container for other uses. Recently at the last work day a new door was installed on the food shack replacing the original that was showing its age, and the old shack has been cleaned and the floor painted to give it a new outlook on life.

Another project worth mentioning include the installation of a weather station that now reports

the current conditions to our webpage and the bringing on line of our second club camera that covers the pits and flight line.

Many kudos to the all the members that pitched in to make these events work, to the maintaining and upgrading of our facility, and moving us into the 21 century.



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## Dale Oxford - Final Flight West

Dale Oxford became a Salinas Area Modeler in 1990. He had retired a few years prior to that from Monterey County. Dale resided in the Prunedale area with his wife Joanne, who preceded him leaving this earth. They have two sons, Michael and Dennis. Many of you have met Mike as he has visited the club numerous times.

Dale enjoyed building airplanes and he was quite prolific in that venture. Many of Dale's airplanes are still flying with other club members. Malcolm Beety has the Flying King, the Robin Hood and the PT-19. Gary Sobak has his Sig and Mike McCauley has the Anniversary Cub that belonged to Dale. I'm sure there are others. So Dale's memory lives on with his creations still seen around the field and lakes. Speaking of lakes, Dale loved going to the float flying events. When they were both with us, Dale and JoAnne would attend. He was the keeper of our retrieval boat and always dragged it to the lake. Dale was a person that never had a bad word to say about anybody, a very admirable trait. He enjoyed people and people enjoyed Dale. He always had a smile on his face.



**Relaxing as Dale enjoyed doing.**

As long as he was able, Dale was always a big contributor at work days or on any projects at the flying site. After the 1995 flood Dale was part of a small group that were 90% responsible for getting our field back to flying conditions. It was virtually wiped out by mother nature. Dale built and installed the security bars on the #1 container and the little container next to the shades. He was responsible for the tail restraints at each flying station. The list goes on and on.



**Dale and his Beaver at San Antonio Lake**



**Cranking up the Robin Hood at San Antonio Lake**

Most recently Dale resided at Brookdale in Salinas, his place of residence when he took leave of this earth. Dale was 89 years of age. He and his big smile will be missed.

There will be a memorial service for Dale either in January or February. When learned, the date will be announced.

# Salinas Area Modelers, Inc.

## 2018 Renewal Application

Annual Dues = \$75, Associate Member = \$35,  
Dues for Youth under 19 = \$15 (Free with paid adult immediate family member)

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**AMA Number (Required)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Copy of card not necessary**

SAM membership requires  
current Academy of Aero-  
nautics (AMA) membership

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**Salinas Area Modelers**  
P.O. Box 1225  
Salinas, CA 93902-1225

**NOTE:** Your Sam membership card will  
NOT be processed until your AMA mem-  
bership can be verified online. **PLEASE**  
**FILL OUT APPLICATION COM-**  
**PLETELY.**



### OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Dues Rec'd

Card Issued

Newsletter Editor Notified

AMA Verified

Things to know about being a SAM member:

- ◆ **Club Meetings** are held the last Wednesday of each month January, February, and March at the Flying Artichoke. April, May, June, July, August, September and October meetings are held in conjunction with ruddergates at the flying site (see below). There is no meeting in November.
- ◆ **Annual Banquet:** On the first Saturday evening each December the club holds its annual banquet (location to be announced).
- ◆ **SAM Says . . Newsletter:** The club produces a monthly newsletter and is published via link to the website – salinasareamodelers.org – where you can either read it or download it. It is also emailed to every member possessing an email address. If you do not have web access or an email address, it is mailed via USPS.
- ◆ **Ruddergates:** On the fourth Saturday during the months April through October the club sponsors a potluck lunch. The club provides the main course and each participant is asked to bring drinks, salad, chips, or dessert.
- ◆ **Membership Card:** All members receive a club membership card each year upon renewing that includes the gate lock combination. The combination is changed the second Saturday if January.
- ◆ **All members are safety officers** and are obligated to point out in a friendly and non-threatening manner unsafe acts to anyone committing such.

I hereby certify that I will abide by the AMA Safety Code and the Salinas Area Modelers Constitution, Bylaws and Rules & Regulations. I further understand that I am responsible for keeping myself apprised of any published changes to the above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

## Jack Jella Takes Last Flight

Jack Jella (Herbert Jack Jella) was born and reared in Lawrence Kansas. He migrated west in the mid 50's and started working in Monterey as a sheet metal worker. Always having a love for aviation Jack bought Air Trails from a man named Floyd Perry in 1959. Floyd formed the corporation but never did anything with it. Jack took Air Trails and built it into a very reputable business and operated it for 25 years. Many of Jack's former students and employees went on to the airlines for very successful careers. Jack was also a FAA Designated Examiner. Jack had the reputation for being fair and open minded in his examinations. You didn't have to do things "Jack's way." Jack realized there was usually more than one way to get from point A to point B and if you could prove to him you could do it safely with sound reasoning, you earned your certificate.



Jack at a RudderGate taking part in a universal sport - eating!

Something many did not know about Jack is that he took part in Formula I racing for a short period of time. He raced at the Reno Air Races. He gave that up after a race or two having had a close call and figured the rewards didn't outweigh the risks.

Those of you that knew Jack well remember his wife Irene, whom he married in 1968. Many of us enjoyed her cooking over the years as she was a gourmet cook. If you ever attended a party that Irene catered, you know what I am talking about. Irene preceded Jack in death. Jack has two daughters, PJ who lives in Hawaii and Kathy who lives in Arkansas.

Jack was one of the charter members of Salinas Area Modelers. The Club was incorporated Feb 2, 1965. Later on Jack (and others) went to work on obtaining the non-profit status which was granted July 14, 1988. The Club had a couple of different flying sites before landing the lease at Chualar in April 1986. Jack was instrumental in obtaining the Chualar site.



Jack with one of his beautifully covered airplanes.

Jack loved modeling almost as much as he liked flying full scale aircraft. Jack told me he quit keeping a log book many years ago, but estimated his flying time between 20,000 and 25,000 hours.



Jack in his Formula I racer Little Bit

Jack's biggest love in modeling was free flight. He loved to go over to Lost Hills and chase his free flight models on his Honda motorbike. He was also an expert builder: better said, he was a meticulous builder. Jack's models were strong, light and beautiful. He excelled in covering with silk, an art that is practically non-existent today.

There will be a memorial service for Jack in Salinas in the future, most likely after the Christmas Season. You will be kept informed. Jack was 92.

## The Prez Sez (Continued from Page 1)

### Toy's for Tot's

I would like to give special thanks to all of you who participated in our annual Toy's For Tot's this year. The turn out was the best in recent memory. You guy's and gal's dug a little deeper into you're wallets and opened those purse strings to bring Christmas cheer to many local kids that might otherwise have little or none. Thanks to all.

As we say good by to 2017 let's take a moment to reflect on the good fortune bestowed onto us and not to forget the passing of 4 of our friends and fellow club members that left us this year; Dick Moeller, Bob Tuscany, Dale Oxford and more recently, Jack Jella. Gone but not forgotten.

This is my last Prez Sez as my term has run out. I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and may all your landings be walk-a-ways.

The Prez

Over and Out

## PILOT'S BRIEFING FOR DECEMBER:

By Incoming President Augie Caresani

Hello Pilots – The new year will be upon us very quickly, and this upcoming year is full of activities, contests, events, and of course – flying. This next year we will be holding many contests, like the IMAC, pylon race, a possible drone race, and many other activities. In order to get us organized for all of these activities, I will be creating a list of opportunities to volunteer for an activity that might be of interest to you. Of course, no one is expected to volunteer for everything, all I ask is that you consider volunteering for one thing. Some of us may not be able to help out on a work day, but they might be able to man the food shack for an hour, or be the contest director for an event. If we all pull together, I



know we will produce professional events, and have a great time doing them. I will be sending the list out in the next few weeks, please keep an eye out for my e-mail. Two other announcements that you might not be aware of is that Richard has the second camera operating, and we will be beginning the cover over our new drone flying station. In conclusion, it is a great honor to be your new president, and with your help, I am looking forward to resolving the challenges our club might face next year. Thanks again for your kind attention -- Augie

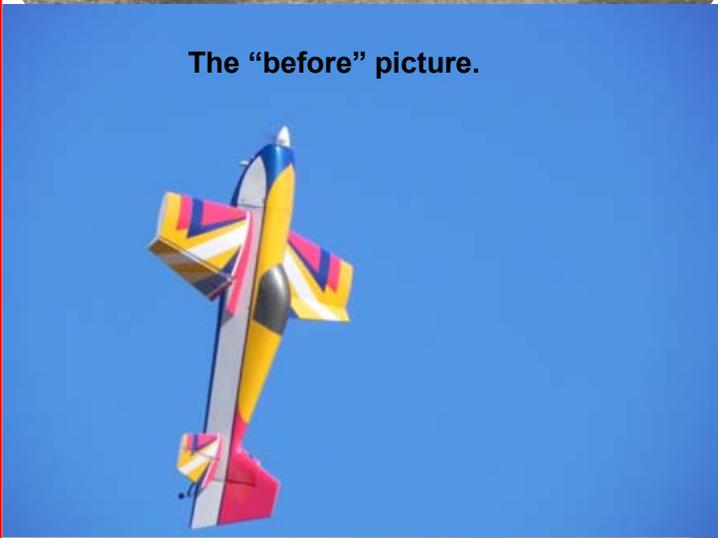
A time for mourning. This is what happens when an airplane sheds a wing. I'm not sure who was offering the prayer.



Another view of the remaining components—

that apparently didn't like Joe's gentle maneuvers.

The "before" picture.



Randy Bonetti's T-34



Mike McCauley prepping the top of the "garage" container before putting a coating on the roof that should help it last for many years.

Cathy McCauley is oft seen at the field helping Mike. Thanks, Cathy, for going above and beyond the call of duty!!



Not sure what it is, but it belongs to Ed Glynn



Party time! Everybody had a good time and a good meal provided by the Flying Artichoke.



The gift exchange (not pictured) was a blast.



## Calendar of Events

### December 2017

- 2 Toys For Tots  
2 Christmas Dinner/Annual Meeting

### January 2018

- 24 Membership Meeting - Flying Artichoke

### February 2018

- 28 Membership Meeting - Flying Artichoke

### March 2018

- 17 Slope Soaring - Seaside  
28 Membership Meeting - Flying Artichoke

### April 2018

- 1 Easter  
6-8 SAM Float Fly San Antonio Lake  
21-22 IMAC I (There's more in April)

### May 2018

- 5 Glider Contest I  
11-13 Float Fly San Antonio Lake (Hopefully!)  
13 Mothers Day  
24-27 Castle - West Coast Giant Scale  
26 Rudder gate and Membership Meeting

## Club Contact Information

### 2018 SAM Officers

Augie Caresani, President  
(831) 424-7999 [augustcaresani@gmail.com](mailto:augustcaresani@gmail.com)

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

Gretta Williams, Secretary  
(831) 484-8918 [ganddwilliams@razzolink.com](mailto:ganddwilliams@razzolink.com)

Bob McGregor, Treasurer, Membership  
(831) 595-3681 [xpilotwon@gmail.com](mailto:xpilotwon@gmail.com)

#### **2016 SAM Board of Governors:**

Chuck Bosso, Board  
(831) 659-4303 [chbosso@gmail.com](mailto:chbosso@gmail.com)

Malcolm Beety  
(831) 236-5306 [lowflyer8@yahoo.com](mailto:lowflyer8@yahoo.com)

Tristan Williams  
(831) 484-9818 [tristanwilliamsr@gmail.com](mailto:tristanwilliamsr@gmail.com)

To send any submissions to the newsletter editor:  
**[xpilotwon@gmail.com](mailto:xpilotwon@gmail.com)**

This includes pictures. The email above is checked regularly, so any submission will not go unnoticed.

Link for field weather station: <https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KCACHUAL3>

If link doesn't work, cut and paste it to your browser.

**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.**

## A Message from the Editor

I would like to recognize the outgoing officers and the efforts they have made to help our club. First, the outgoing president, Dennis Stanley, has served 4 years in that capacity having first been elected in 2014. Dennis' efforts are seen around the field every day with the cleanliness of the site and the improvements that have been made under his direction. The field cams and weather station were supported by Dennis and his board. Many field work days were headed up by Dennis and the results are apparent. We have a fine flying facility. One thing Dennis never could figure out, however, was how to get the wind to stop blowing. Maybe the new president can work on that! One thing for which I am very grateful is the continuing support I received from Dennis in the form of his monthly contributions to the newsletter. In four years Dennis missed only two or three issues. That's a good record. Thank you, Dennis.

Others going off the board at the end of 2017 are Gary Mallett and Mike McCauley. Gary has been on the board since 2013 serving as secretary 2013 through 2015. Thank you, Gary, for your service.

Mike McCauley decided to leave the board after a year to concentrate on other things. Mike is regularly seen actively pursuing maintenance items, many of them preventative items that will certainly pay dividends in the future. Thank you, Mike, for your past service and continuing service. When you see these people at the field, thank them for what they have done. The Editor, Bob



Left - Robert Shaver must really like this Cub because he sure photographs it a lot. But on the other hand, who can blame him??!

Below - More Christmas celebrants. 27 people made reservations for the event, but Mike and Cathy McCauley had to cancel as Mike contracted the flu. The party was a lot more fun than the flu, Mike. We missed you both, especially Cathy! 😊



Salinas Area Modelers  
P.O. Box 1225  
Salinas, CA 93902-1225