

newsletter of the

Salinas Area Modelers

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Serving the California Central Coast since 1976

April 2004

Salinas Area Modelers, Inc.
P.O. Box 6351
Salinas, CA 93912

Editor & Publisher
Darlene Francis
831/688-6283
francis@got.net

Everyone already knows the definition of a "good" landing is one from which you can walk away. But very few know the definition of a "great" landing. It's one after which you can use the airplane another time!
.....*Courtesy of Fred Newman*

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President Says!.....

I have just come from **Dick Miller's** memorial service in Hollister. It was good to see the goodly number of SAM members there to honor one of our finest members. **Dick** will certainly be missed, but we are also thankful that he didn't have to suffer any longer. Those who spoke on his behalf at the memorial gave us all a better glimpse into this unique and wonderful man. I assured Cindy, **Dick's** wife that SAM stands ready to assist her in disposing of the considerable collection of **Dick's** modeling items.



President John

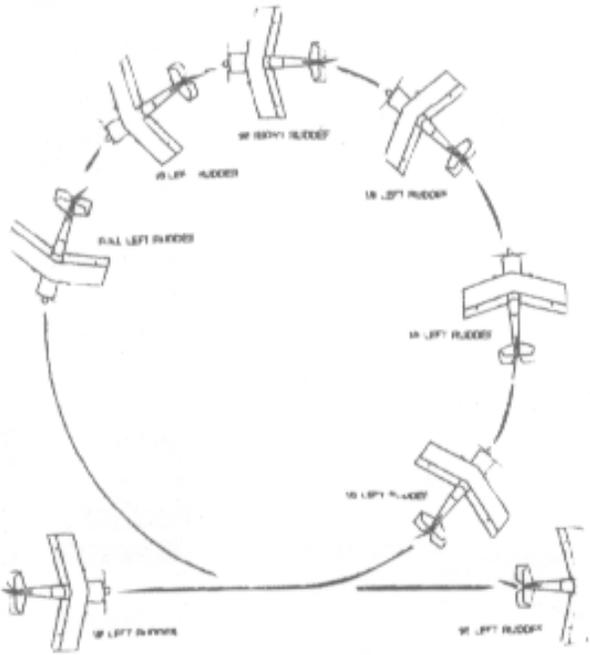
I will need lots of help with this task and I trust many of you will be willing to help me. It is the Miller's wish that part of the proceeds from the sale of **Dick's** hobby materials will come to SAM as a memorial to **Dick's** love and devotion to our joint RC enterprise. He was a faithful and long time member of SAM!

Our first glider fly at Los Banos was a success, if you count the number who showed up. Unfortunately, without an electric powered glider/airplane you wouldn't have been able to fly – NO WIND! There was a lot of flying of electric powered models. Our second attempt at a Los Banos glider fly will be April 3rd. This will be a Saturday event, so please note your calendars. A word to the wise is: don't come without an electric powered model in addition to your slope flying gliders. See pictures of the first glider fly in this newsletter.

All one has to do is glance through the modeling magazines these days and wonder what ever happened to gas/glow powered modeling. It seems the articles and ads predominately having to do with electric power. The so called Park Flyers seem to be about all that the big hobby houses are pushing these days. Many of us have toyed with these electric powered models some, but if you are like me there is still a lot I don't understand about watts, amps and volts. **Dennis Stanley** is a SAM member who has had considerable success in flying small electric powered models and has agreed to provide our program at the April club meeting. I have asked **Dennis** to provide some insight into the electric power system; motors, speed controls and the various battery combinations. This will be a good opportunity to learn and ask questions. Don't miss it!

Just so you all will know, your Board does listen! There was a strong voice last Fall that the September float fly was just too hot for those of us who live in the marine layer of the Monterey coast. So, the Board decided to drop the September float fly this year. But, since some of you web-footed flyers can't live

continued on page 2.....



ADVANCED AEROBATICS: BY SPAN Newsletter

The Knife Edge Loop is not for the faint of heart, nor for low-powered aircraft. It takes a lot of rudder, a lot of power, and a lot of control. Lastly, it takes a lot of guts when the airplane goes into the downside of the loop – assuming you get that far.

The diagram here is taken from Dave Patrick's *Advanced Aerobatics*. Learn to fly knife-edge straight and level before you try the loop. "Roll to the left or right and hold a bit (10%) of top rudder. When ready to start the loop, add more rudder."

Some airplanes do knife edge maneuvers much better than others. A biplane & perhaps an airplane with a lot of fuselage as an airfoil with a symmetrical wing will have a better performance.

without at least three float flies a year, it was decided at the last Board meeting to look into an April date for an additional float fly this year. **Dale Oxford** has contacted the Rangers at Lake San Antonio and reserved the weekend of April 16-18. There is the slight probability that if it rains it will be risky to get to the site. **Dale** will be checking with the Rangers about a week before the float fly to make sure it will be safe. Thanks, **Dale**, for your handling this communication with the park rangers!

Here is to **Dick Miller** who has taken off for the last time from our world. Happy Landings, **Dick**, at your new flying site.

John Midgorden, President 2004

FOR SALE.....



9' Sea Eagle Inflatable Boat.

Excellent Condition! Comes complete with Electric air pump, as well as a foot operated pump, 2 oars, floor boards and storage bag. Only \$250.00!

Contact Dale Oxford (831.663.5066) for further information.

SPRING FLOAT FLY

Well, it appears another spring has sprung, and with that comes FLOAT FLYS. So get ready to go. We have a new date for our first one of the year. That will be April 16, 17 & 18th. Mark your calendar, it is not in our regular schedule of events, as it is replacing the normal September fly in. This way we beat the heat. Should the weather (rain) be iffy, we could end up with a cancellation, but I will check with the rangers and they will inform me of the situation regarding access to our flying site. Most old time float flyers know the procedure to get to our flying area, so I will not detail that again. Anyone needing information on access to the

lake, call me for directions. Come on down, follow the signs and close the gate behind you. Be sure and tell the Ranger at the gate, you are a member of SAM. If we get a good number of campers, perhaps we will get a discount on the camping fees. The rescue boat will be available about



noon on Friday. See you at the lake and if you don't fly come on down and enjoy the wildflowers, they should be spectacular at this time.

Call anytime – **DALE OXFORD**, (831) 663-5066

doxford@redshift.com

SAFETY RULE #12 & 13

All Salinas Area Modelers are Safety Officers. There will be no dumping of any kind at the field. Take all trash off site for proper disposal.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

April 15TH

Send me all your news, pictures and "For Sale" items.

Darlene, 831.688.6283 or email: francis@got.net



Pictures
By
Dick
Moeller



Remembering DICK MILLER by Jim St.John

We must remember **Dick** for the person he is, not morn his passing. **Dick** has been an inspiration to a lot of the club members, and hopefully to a lot of others outside the club. We must remember **Dick** in a "Celebration of his Life!" **Dick** has been a great flyer and a super fantastic friend to all of us! Please join me in thanking **Dick's** family in sharing him with us. He will be missed but never forgotten.

COMING EVENTS

April 3	Glider Fly (Saturday)	Los Banos
April 7	Board/Club Meeting	Salinas
April 16-18	Float Fly	Lake San Antonio
April 17	Fun Fly	Livermore
April 17	Warbird Races	Morgan Hil
April 17-18	IMAC	Hollister
April 23-25	Giant Scale Fun Fly	SAM Field
May 1-2	Scale Masters Qual.	Woodland-Davis
May 2	Glider Fly	Los Banos
May 5	Board/Club Meeting	Salinas
May 14-16	Float Fly	Lake San Antonio
May 15-16	Pattern	Hollister
May 15-16	Giant Scale Fly In	Fresno
May 22	Swap Meet	Fresno
May 23	Ruddergate	SAM Field
May 28-31	IMAA Festival	Castle Airport

Mark Your Schedule
Electric Fly In, July 17-18, SAM Field

HELPFUL TAKEOFF HINTS.....

Like it or not, cross controlling is the only way to make a safe, straight, good-looking takeoff. You have done it many times, but you may not have thought of it in those terms.

A good technique is to taxi and lineup on the runway centerline. Before increasing the throttle, think about using the ailerons to keep the wings level and the rudder to track straight through the takeoff. Initially, apply about half aileron stick into the crosswind. As you increase throttle, the aircraft picks up speed, which means the controls are generating more and more lift. With the increase in lift, less aileron is needed. Meanwhile, continue to track straight with the rudder. As the aircraft cleanly breaks ground, keep the wings level, and use enough elevator for a consistent rate of climb. Slowly take out all rudder and continue your flight.

Although somewhat confusing and thought-provoking at first, talk yourself through these techniques, then give it a fair chance with practice. Remember: the two most important maneuvers of flight are taking off and landing.

.....from the *Prop Wash*, Dawson Gillaspay, editor

Minutes of March Meeting

By Dick Moeller, Secretary

Opening Business:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by President Midgorden.
- The Treasurer reported that the Club is solvent.
- Fourteen members were present. Total membership is 62.

Old Business:

- **Dave Roth** brought samples of a club hat and jacket in the color we prefer and also a sample of our modified emblem. The jacket color will be "putty" and the hat, "putty" with a "charcoal" bill. Polo shirts will also be available in "charcoal". Jackets will be around \$45 and caps around \$13 depending on the quantity we purchase. The new hats will be given to all new members as they join.
- The spring rain seems to have washed away the excess sealer on the runway and the surface is now acceptable except for gopher damage in one or two areas.
- The newly purchased aluminum boat for our float fly airplane retrieval has been registered with DMV. The boat is stored at **Dale Oxford's** home.
- The inventory of **Dick Millers** models, engines and equipment is complete. The next step is to price everything and store it in a computer.
- A show of hands indicated 5 members intend to attend the glider fly at Los Banos Reservoir.

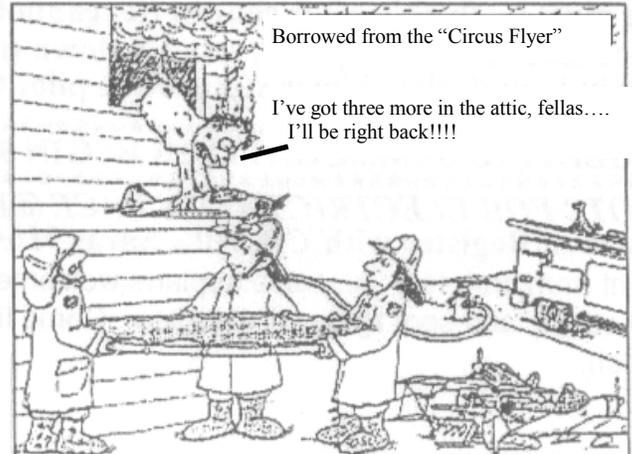
New Business:

- It was noted that the Tomcats (Morgan Hill field) are having a flea market sale on March 13th. They are also having an interclub fun fly on March 27th. Teams will consist of 5 members from a club. Events to be flown will be announced at the meet. No interest was shown by members present at the meeting.
- A letter from the U.S. Scale Team asked for donations and the sale of raffle tickets for their trip to Poland. No donation was made but the raffle tickets were sold to members.
- The possibility of an early club float fly in April was brought up. It will be more informal than our other informal float flies and will probably occur on April 16-18th, weather permitting. **Dale Oxford** asked the Park Rangers at San Antonio Reservoir if we could bring our boat into the Park without paying a daily boat fee, since it is not for pleasure riding and is used only for short runs to retrieve planes. They agreed to not charge us.
- Questions asked in the Q&A part of the meeting were mainly about servos and members were able to answer them.

Show & Tell:

- **Dave Roth** showed his Rascal
- **Dick Moeller** showed his Blitz flying wing

- **Dennis Stanley** showed his electric Eindecker
- **Malcolm Bruce** volunteered to prepare the Rudder-gate lunch in May and **Chuck Bosso** volunteered for June.
- Meeting was closed at 8:45pm.



Borrowed from the "Circus Flyer"

I've got three more in the attic, fellas....
I'll be right back!!!!

CONVENIENT CLEAN UP!

Want a nice, neat, convenient way to clean up that airplane? Use baby wipes, those soft wipe tissues that come under various brand names and are packaged in handy plastic boxes. The wipes must contain some kind of cleaning agent because they remove oil very well, and the lanolin in them acts like a polish. Try it!!!

ROSTER CHANGES:

Robin Constance
3680 S. Higuera St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
805-543-2738
Tinarc1@aol.com

Jerry Arana
R0undagain@aol.com

Jim St. John
Tigger999@sbcglobal.net

If your roster-information is not correct, be sure to let me know.



GLIDER FLYING AT LOS BANOS



Hand-Launched Glider Contest Tips

By Tom Clarkson

Okay, while I am nowhere near the world's expert in hand launch, I have made a very large number of mistakes participating in the International Hand-Launched Glider Festival. I suppose that in some sense this qualifies me to pass on some dos and don'ts that I have learned.

Do: Spend some time getting in shape. It is a long event. Some walking, or more, might just help you concentrate on the airplane instead of being winded from running around.

Don't: Build your airplane the week of the event. This may be the most common mistake. You need time to shake out the airplane, determining its weak spots, and learn to fly it.

Do: Practice. Get out and fly. Maybe mornings or lunch hours or even after work.

Don't: Bring just one airplane. Bring at least two and a repair kit. Things like fiberglass and glue are often needed.

Do: Build the airplane to be sturdy. In contest conditions, it is easy to break an airplane. You will lose more points going for your back-up than you will adding an extra half-ounce to your airplane to make it strong in the places that count.

Don't: Forget to eat. Bring some snacks and water to keep your energy level up.

Do: Have morning and afternoon trim settings. Have a ballast system and spend some time working out how you want to be trimmed for the afternoon rounds. Go fly in the wind. It is different.

Don't: Show up late. Many a hurried pilot have used

the wrong program or thrown an airplane with the battery not connected.

Do: Develop a plan for each of the tasks. Know what the best strategy is for each possible condition for each task ahead of time. Trying to figure out the best strategy as you walk out on the field is not a good idea.

Don't: Land off field. It can happen, but spend time really understanding how well your airplane can come home. Contests are lost by landing off field.

Do: Take a few trim flights to make sure the airplane is adjusted well before the heat starts. Be sure and get back in plenty of time for the start of the heat.

Don't: Neglect to charge the airplane before rounds.

Do: Be very careful. Avoid mishaps such as channel conflicts or midairs during the week before the contest.

Do: Arrive very early and get everything ready and trimmed.



**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS
APRIL 4, 2004!**
Spring Forward
And
Fly Longer!

OFFICERS

President: John Midgorden.....633-4026
Vice Pres: Dave Florence.....678-1334
Secretary: Dick Moeller.....663-2613
Treasurer: Bob McGregor.....422-3049

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Malcolm Beety.....393-9304
Dave Roth758-3799
Bob Francis.....688-6283

Field Maintenance: Malcolm Bruce.....449-4471
Malcolm Beety.....393-9304

Club Internet Site: <http://www.redshift.com/~modeler>
Webmaster: Bob Dooley375-4874

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Wednesday, April 7, 2004
7:30pm

Salinas Recreation Center, Lincoln Ave.
Between Alisal & West San Luis
Salinas, California

Club meets the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Next Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, April 7, 2004
6:30pm
Salinas Recreation Center

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SEND IN YOUR ARTICLE AND PICTURES NOW!



Salinas Area Modelers, Inc.

2611 Estates Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

