

newsletter of the

Salinas Area Modelers

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Serving the California Central Coast since 1976

February 2004

Salinas Area Modelers, Inc.
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There are three simple rules for making a smooth landing. Unfortunately, no one knows what they are...

by Fred Newman

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President Says!.....

I apologize for missing the January meeting. My son from Arizona came up and we both attended the Macworld Expo in San Francisco. It was one of those once in a lifetime opportunities and it was good to have four days together.

One of the things that might be of interest to some of you who are computer users is the super computer that Virginia Tech put together using 1,100 new Mac G5 computers with 64-bit IBM processors. For \$5.5 million they produced the third fastest computer in the world. The only two faster are a Japanese super computer that cost \$350 million and a NASA computer that cost around \$300 million. Needless to say, this has really caught the attention of the scientific community. There were other great things, but unless you are a Mac user you wouldn't understand!

I understand there were a good number at the January meeting. All this gives me pause. Maybe I should stay away more often. Thanks to **Dave Florence** for pinch hitting for me. I understand you did a great job **Dave**. Thanks also for **Alan Brown's** presentation on control surfaces. I have heard nothing but good reports.

Thanks to Dolores Slater for trying to run down the art work from the vendor that produced the jackets for the club some years ago. Unfortunately, the person has evidently gone out of business and taken our art work with her. The good news is **Dick Moeller** has a daughter in a business that may be able to supply our needs. **Dick** is sending his jacket to her so their artist can duplicate our logo and give us a quote for jackets and hats. This quote should be available before the February meeting. Those of you interested in buying authorized club wear come prepared to the next meeting to place your order. We will also try to have order forms at the field.

A few months ago we had a Q & A session where members got information on building/flying techniques. This seemed to be very helpful and we will do this again at the February meeting. So bring your questions and undoubtedly someone will be there with an answer. I also plan to drum up a surprise for the February meeting.

The gate combination has been changed. I trust that all of you have finally received your 2004 AMA membership cards. The weather should be improving now, so let's get out there and enjoy our beautiful flying field. Hope to see you at the February meeting!

John Midgorden, President 2004



President John

GATE LOCK!

Unfortunately we are still having trouble with the gate lock. Complaints are coming from the County workers as well as members who have left the gate unlocked entirely. So **listen up!**.....

Last person out must **NOT** lock the gate lock to one end of the chain only. You must lock **both ends.**

If the County is working on the field, lock the chain around the post. If there is no sign of the County workers then lock the gate securely.

It is necessary to protect our field from vandals, etc. Or at least slow them down!

FOR SALE

LANIER, 540T with 4.6 Twin and six JR4721 Servos. Incls brand new Wing Bags, **Ready to Fly!** \$2000. Call **Gary Pozzi** @ 831.385.5871.



Minutes of January Meeting

By Dick Moeller

The meeting was opened by Vice President Dave Florence at 7:30pm. The December meeting minutes were approved. No Treasurers report was given.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jack Jella reported that the Toys For Tots collection was good but less than last year. Jack asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Sarah Lincoln of Seaside for her participation in the Toys For Tots collection.

New member Jerry Enloh was introduced. Visitor Philip Sosna also introduced himself.

There was no report on the runway fix-up due to the absence of Bob McGregor.

Information is still being collected on club hats and jackets.

RC (Robin Constance) has obtained the aluminum boat for our float flies. Dave Florence will bring it up to Dale Oxford who will store it. There was a discussion of the appropriate asking price for the rubber boat. Dale Oxford suggested \$250.00. Bob Francis will obtain more information on its value.

The web site is still being updated.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was suggested that we stop raffles at the meetings since they do not increase attendance and are not profitable. Instead, more valuable prizes will be raffled at the Christmas Banquet. These prizes will be model aircraft related.

The Elks Club will no longer be available to the club for Christmas Banquets. Jack Jella, the only SAM member with the Elks Club membership, is dropping his membership.

No one raised any concern or objections to the clubs 2004 calendar.

The gate lock combination will be changed on January 8th. Those who have 2004 AMA membership but have not received their club card should call a club officer or board member to obtain the combination.

John Midgorden has applied for the September 3-6 IMAA Mini Festival permit.

There was a consensus that we should have an all electric event with other clubs invited. The date and nature of the event to be decided by the February meeting.

Meeting was closed at 8:25pm.

Alan Brown gave a very interesting and useful lecture on control surface design.

Alan Brown and Bob Francis both displayed electric planes.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

February 15TH

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

Darlene, 831.688.6283 or email: francis@got.net

FIREFIGHTER'S TRADITION

Content Edited from Monterey Herald. Original by Dan Laidman

Distributing Christmas toys to the children of Chualar and its neighboring labor camps is a yearly ritual for the Salinas Rural Fire District and the Salinas Area Modelers. This year firefighters delivered thousands of dollars worth of donated gifts to hundreds of kids.

Traditionally, local kids in Chualar get the first batch of presents before the firefighters take to the road. Fifteen years ago it started out as driving around in Chualar throwing candy out of a fire engine. It grew over the years to serve the nearby labor camps. This year the firefighters got some help from non-profit groups, including the Kinship Center and the Salinas Area Modelers.

Because of the rain this year the presents were delivered in the muddy center of their Camp. Children came nervously at first, wrapped in blankets & holding frayed umbrellas against the downpour.

December is a bad time for Monterey County's migrant farm workers. Their next round of field work will not come until March. People are very friendly and everyone shares.

The gifts that were donated, were gladly accepted and the kids eyes were glowing when they received them.

COMING EVENTS

February 4	Board/Club Meeting	Salinas
March 3	Board/Club Meeting	Salinas
March 7	Glider Fly	Los Banos

Screw Holes and Strong Joints

A good way to line up where the screw holes should go when fastening your cowl to your fuselage is to put a rubber band around the cowl and use it as a guide to keep all of the holes lined up. If you want to beef up the stress points or where two halves of a cowl or wheel pants are glued together, try this. Apply a piece of fiberglass tape over the desired area on the inside of the cowl. Next glue it down using PVC pipe glue.

The PVC glue will soften the plastic and allow the fiberglass to permanently bond to the cowl. This process makes a very strong joint and is easy to do. PVC adhesive is cheap, fiberglass parts are not.

F.Y.I.....

No matter what else happens, fly the airplane. Forget all that stuff about thrust & drag, lift & gravity; an airplane flies because of money!

by Fred Newman

Links Removable Tail Wheel Assembly

From the Simi Valley Fliers Newsletter

A lot of kits out these days either have you mounting the tail wheel right on the rudder or having the tiller sunk into the rudder. There are some problems here. If the tail wheel is mounted on the rudder, all the shocks from that wheel are taken up by the rudder hinges. This is not recommended for long life.

The better system to use is a tail wheel bracket to take all the loads. However, if the tiller is embedded in the rudder, there are still potential problems.

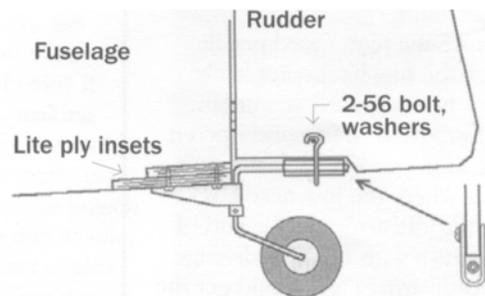
1) There is little turning shock absorption. Most of those shocks will be transmitted back to your servo.

2) After several landings, the tiller tends to turn the inside of the rudder to mush.

3) If the tiller breaks through the rudder, or if the wire strut breaks, there is no way to remove and replace it without ripping up half the rudder.

A removable assembly, as shown in the diagram below, circumvents these problems.

Use a wheel collar on the bottom to transmit the loads to the bracket. On the tiller, put on a piece of inner nyrod, then some fuel tube. This will help dampen turning shock loads, easing the loads on the rudder servo. The yoke that goes around the tiller and is bolted to the rudder easily can be bent from clevis to rod wire. The bracket does not have to be lined up with the rudder hinge line.



NOTICE.....from your Editor

I think it's a pretty safe bet that you noticed we have no pictures in this issue. I know the weather has a lot to do with this. If any of you have some old pictures laying around, send them to me. I will send them back! And we will all enjoy the variety.

SAFETY RULE #10

Do not fly over the pit area. Observe the flight deadlines as posted at the field!

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, February 4, 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, February 4, 2004
6:30pm
Salinas Recreation Center

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SEND IN YOUR ARTICLE AND PICTURES NOW!



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First Class

