

newsletter of the

# Salinas Area Modelers

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Serving the California Central Coast since 1976

September 2003

Salinas Area Modelers, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6351  
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## President Says!.....

By the time this newsletter reaches you, either via snail mail or the mystery of the internet, the IMAA event will be history. Just a word of thanks to all of you who helped make it a success. We will report more in detail in next month's issue.

There was an Italian economist (whose name escapes me) back in the 19th Century who first put forth what we now call the **20-80 Rule**. Although his application was in the field of economics, modern organizational theory now recognizes it as applicable to many human situations. For example, charitable organizations can expect 80% of their contributions from 20% of the membership. It also translates to volunteer involvement, where 80% of the work gets done by 20% of the people available.

Looking at this 20-80 Rule as it might apply to SAM indicates that if we have 80 members (our current enrollment) then we can expect 16 (or 20%) to do 80% of the work of running the club. With seven members involved in the officers/board roles it leaves nine others of you to make up the 20%. Adding those who are faithful in maintaining the field, working on the web site, and helping with the cook shack we get very close to the 16. Also, when you consider that 16 is a typical attendance at Club Meetings, we know right away who is doing the hard work of running the club & being involved in the decisions at Club Meetings.

My reason for pointing this out is two fold. First, although we complain at times that not enough of the members contribute to running the club, we need to recognize that we are a typical volunteer organization; i.e., 20% do 80% of the work. Second, there are many of you (80%) who do little to help out with the task of running the club. We do recognize that many of you have serious health problems that make much help impossible. Having been there myself, I know that those of you still working for a living also have limited time to give to SAM.

Having said all this, I simply want to remind everyone that it is that time of year when we must come up with a slate of officers & board members for 2004. Some of the current officers/board members have indicated they need to be relieved of their responsibilities, at least for a time. If you get called or approached at the field to serve as an officer of the club, please give it careful consideration. Maybe its your time to give back to the club what others have been generously providing over the years. And, of course, if you are ready to go please don't hesitate to approach one of the club officers & volunteer your service.

September brings our first Float Fly of the Fall season, September 12-14.



President John

**REMEMBER  
TO PACK  
YOUR  
TRASH!**



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Hope to see many of you at Lake San Antonio. There will also be our monthly RudderGate on the 28th. At this point we don't have anyone to man the cooker, so here is a good chance for one of you to step up and become head chef for a month.

How about that resurfaced runway? Please get out there and lets work hard to put those black streaks on the surface from our hot landings! Let's make it look like the LAX runway!

John Midgorden, President 2003

**More from the runway .....**

Taxing down the tarmac, the DC 10 abruptly stopped, turned around & returned to the gate. After an hour-long wait, it finally took off. A concerned passenger asked the flight attendant, "What, exactly, was the problem?" "The pilot was bothered by a noise he heard in the engine," explained the flight attendant. "It took us a while to find a new pilot."

**REMEMBER**

**These Coming Events**

Sept. 3	Board & Club Meeting	Salinas
Sept. 12-14	Float Fly	Lake San Antonio
	Members & Guests only	
Sept. 12-14	Full Scale Racing	Reno
Sept. 19-21	Float Fly	Lake McSwain
Sept. 20-21	IMAC	Morgan Hill
Sept. 27	Electric Fun Fly	Half Moon Bay
Sept. 28	RudderGate	SAM Field
Sept. 28	Airshow	Livermore
October 1	Board/Club Meeting	Salinas
October 10-12	Float Fly	Lake San Antonio
	Members & Guests only	
October 11	Annual Auction	Fremont
October 17-19	Salinas Air Show	Salinas Airport
October 18	Swap Meet & Fun Fly	Pittsburg
October 26	RudderGate	SAM Field

**Next Time You get Bored With Flying, TRY THIS!**

**By DON MEEKS**



**ATTENTION PILOTS!**

You say your engine just quit & the starter won't crank? Just follow the procedure pictured in the photo & you'll be OK.

This is why I always have a smart mechanic with me :) Good thing he doesn't believe in parachutes because there isn't room for one!

**HINTS AND TIPS**

FLOAT PLANES: Want to keep water out of your boat or plane, try "Silly Putty" around those joints. Make your float or seaplane get off the water faster, give hull or floats a good cleaning with "Rain-X."

When selecting floats for your aircraft, make sure they are large enough for the model they will be used on. Many commercial floats are on the small side. The length of floats should be at least 75% of the length of the aircraft fuselage, measured from the back of the prop to the elevator hinge line. Next, place the floats so the step on the float is just a bit aft of the center of gravity. If you are installing floats on a previously flown model, check & mark the balance point on the side of the fuselage. Balance without fuel, but with all the landing gear & wheels in their normal positions. Chances are after the floats are installed it will be tail heavy so bring it back to its former balance point by adding weights to the floats.

## Minutes of August Meeting:

by Dick Moeller

Meeting was opened at 7:30pm. Minutes of July meeting were approved. The Treasurer reported that we are solvent & have 81 members.

The August glider contest at the field went well with **Malcolm Beety** winning by a large margin. A couple of gliders were taken home in pieces.

The Memorial Fly-In was successful. A number of deceased members were remembered by those present. It was discussed that we should combine it with a RudderGate next year.

The runway will be seal-coated in about two weeks. Meanwhile, we need to patch a couple of holes.

The planning for the Quail Lodge event on Friday, August 15th is proceeding well. The SAM club website is up and running. Some more work remains. No advertising will be accepted for the website.

Planning for the SAM IMAA Mini-Festival is in good shape. Les Florence will be our chef again. **President Midgorden** has sent hundreds of announcement letters to District IMAA members, previous participants & manufacturers. It was discussed whether we should have a grand prize in addition to all the other prizes. The Mini-Festival will be on August 29-31.

The Marina Air Fair is scheduled for October 4th. No conclusion was reached on our participation.

Officer candidate recommendation forms were handed out for 2004 offices.

A technical questions & answers session was held at the meeting. Questions included: fuel tank position, cut edge of covering film, tape for striping, sealing edges of film, covering solid structure with film, side thrust while maintaining alignment with cowling, fiberglass finish coat, paints (especially water based), need for tank pressure, control arms. You had to be there to hear the answers.

**Alan Brown** presented his second course on wing design – aspect ratio vs angle of attack & tip stall.

SHOW & TELL: **Walt Newman** showed his Wright Flyer. **Dick Moeller** showed his Aeronca C3 park flyer.

RAFFLE WINNERS:

**John Midgorden** – gift certificate

**Gary Sobak** – epoxy

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

### SEPTEMBER 15TH

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

*Darlene*, 831.688.6283 or email: francis@got.net

## FLOAT FLY.....

Lake San Antonio  
September 12,13,14



.....by Dale Oxford

The weekend of our September Float Fly is fast approaching which means we have to get on the ball and get those planes ready to fly. We will be flying from the same location as in previous fly-ins so I will not elaborate on directions to that site as most of our people know how to get there. Should any new members wish to attend, please give me a call at 663-5066 and I will detail the route to the site. The rescue boat will be available from noon Friday the 12th through the rest of the weekend. Come on down and enjoy the fun of flying off of water, good food and great people to share it with. Also, you must try out the new gate recently installed by the Parks Department. Cool! Sure beats that barbed wire monstrosity we had to fight in the past. See you at the lake! Questions? Call **Dale** at 663-5066.

## SAFETY RULES 7 & 8

Always point aircraft away from people during run-up in pilot box. Do not occupy a pilot box except to fly.

Remove plane & equipment when not flying!

## MODEL PLANE FLOWN ACROSS ATLANTIC

Pilot: Dave Brown,  
President of American Academy of Model Aeronautics  
By: Jack Garland, Associated Press  
Submitted to SAM by: Paul Jennings



Tom Frawley / AP

Dave Brown holds the model airplane near Marrin Beach in County Galway, Ireland, where it arrived after flying 1,888.3 miles from Canada.

London, Aug. 12 – It didn't fly high and it didn't fly swiftly, but The Spirit of Butts Farm made it all the way from Canada to Ireland with a few drops of fuel to spare, a group of model airplane enthusiasts say. They are hoping for a distance record for the flight of 38 hours, 23 minutes over 1,888.3 miles by a model plane that weighed just 11 pounds when it took off from Newfoundland.

FOR DAVE BROWN, who was at the controls for Monday's landing at Marrin Beach in County Galway, it was a great moment.

"A great cheer went up when we saw it, and four minutes later I landed it in the field. It was so thrilling," Brown said in a telephone interview.

The balsa wood-and-mylar plane was designed by retired engineer Maynard Hill, 77, of Silver Spring, MD. He launched it from Cape Spear, Newfoundland, on Saturday night.

The nearly 6-foot-long craft was packed with instruments that sent telemetry back to mission control and helped guide the plane. Once in sight of the Irish coast, the plane came back under human



Irish Tam 5 crew with Tam 5 in hand in front of the Alcock and Brown monument.

Maynard starts  
Tam 5 for  
Takeoff



control for landing.

Brown president of American Academy of Model Aeronautics, said he flew to Ireland to handle the landing. Hill kept in touch by telephone from Newfoundland.

"At one point our instruments began telling us the aircraft was inexplicably dipping up and down 100' at a time, and then we lost contact of it," he said. "We thought it only had fuel for 37 hours and we were saying that if it gets there it would get there by pure will, and by God it did." "There was even about a shot-glass of gasoline left in the tank."

About 50 spectators met the aircraft. If the flight is certified by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, it could set world records for distance traveled by a model airplane and duration of flight.

The federation's assistant secretary-general, Thierry Montigneaux, said from Lausanne, Switzerland, that the modelers had seven days to give notice of their record claims and 120 days to submit a dossier of evidence.

Joe Dible, president of the Model Aeronautics Council of Ireland, said he notified the federation by e-mail. He was at the field where The Spirit of Butts Farm landed.

"It's very exciting for me, and it was an unbelievable achievement," Dible said.

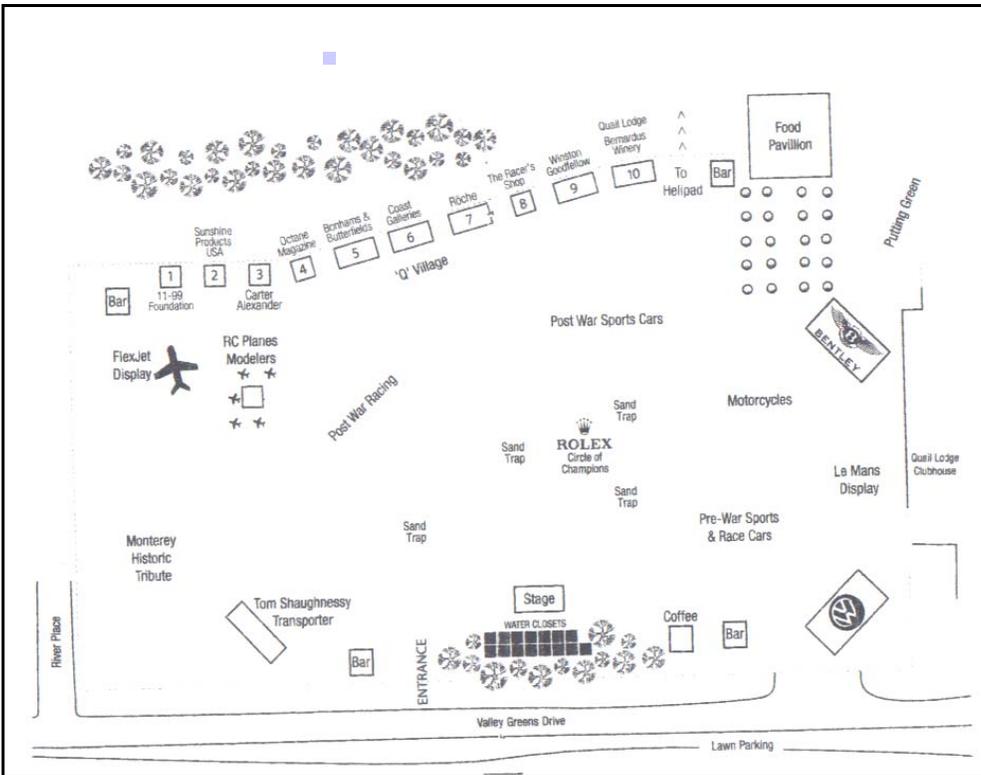
Brown said when Maynard first mentioned 10 years ago his plan to fly a model plane across the Atlantic, "I have to admit that at first I thought he was daffy.

"But I've since learnt that he is not the kind of guy you

**SAM MEETING**  
**September 3rd, 7:30pm**

**"Surprise Program"**  
**"Show & Tell"**  
**"Raffle"**

**We need your input! Be there!**



### THE QUAIL.....

As you can see from the diagram, the SAM display at The Quail (a Motor Sports Gathering) was in a very prominent position. Thousands of people passed by on their way to see the fabulous sports cars and motorcycle displays. Many flyers and brochures were handed out by the faithful members that volunteered to help **Walt Newman** make this one of our top events of the year. SAM had a very good full page information sheet regarding the various planes displayed in the "program" handed out to all visitors. Hopefully we will get invited back again next year. You don't want to miss it! **Walt** deserves a real "pat on the back" for this one.



### SAM MEMBERS Out and About



**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 Roth .....758-3799  
Bob Francis.....688-6283

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

**Club Internet Site:** <http://www.redshift.com/~modeler>  
**Webmaster:** Bob Dooley .....375-4874

**NEXT CLUB MEETING**

**Wednesday, September 3, 2003**  
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, September 3, 2003**  
6:30pm  
Salinas Recreation Center

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