

Salinas Area Modelers

AMA Club Number 1554

Volume 44 Issue 5/6

SAM SAYS



May/June 2019

PILOT BRIEFING

During the month of July our club will be preparing for several upcoming contests. The first event will be our third glider contest on the 6th of July. On July 13th we will be holding our yearly Memorial fun fly. So, if you have a new bird, that will be the weekend to show it off. On the 27th of July, we will be holding our rudder gate for the month of July. As you can see, an event almost every weekend.

On the weed control front, I have arranged for the Dune Company to come down and spray the weeds. This is a very busy time for them, thus they are working us into their schedule when they can. Since they cut us a good deal on the spraying, I feel obligated to work with them. The paving company will be coming out to fix the spots that lifted-up. They too are quite busy, so I'm not sure the day they will showing up. Please watch your e-mail for the notice when these two jobs will be done.

Our new camera system is operational, and our DVR is recording. Our DVR has a terabyte of storage, which will allow approximately 40 days of recording. The system is also sending text messages to certain officers if there is any movement at the field at night. Certain officers can access the cameras remotely, and if a movement text is received, the Sheriff's office can be called. It's not a perfect solution, but it's a lot better than not having anything at all. I still have some work to do on the system, and when I finish that work, I will begin the process to add these cameras to our web site.

Well that's all I have for this briefing. Thanks again, and Happy Landings -- Augie

No, the aircraft to the right does not belong to Augie. It has a real turbojet engine in it, not one of those fake electric ducted fan things! Just another example of the beautiful airplanes at Castle. (see page 4)



WELCOME TO "CRASH's CORNER" ONCE AGAIN!!!

This time around I'm not doing my normal article. I will get back to pictures and bio's about the "missing members" with the next newsletter. I needed to get this done NOW as the weekend for our next Annual Memorial Fun Fly, where we honor all of our missing folks, will be on July 13th. We will have open flying until noon, when we will stop flying to all have hamburgers together and I will read off the list of the missing members. The club will furnish the hamburgers, I will make a pot of my Chili Beans, and hopefully some of you folks will bring a salad or desert please. We do this so the members that have left us will NOT be forgotten. I pray that when the day comes that I join this list, someone else will pick up the event and keep it going. I understand that most of you don't know many of these folks, but there are a few of us that know most of them. Unfortunately a lot of the folks on this list are ones I have spent time flying with over the last 40 years. So please come and honor these folks with us!!!

HAPPY LANDINGS!!! Jim "CRASH" St.John

GLIDER FLYING

Both the May and June glider events were held at the field. Dennis Stanley headed up both events. Thank you Dennis! He gave the newsletter editor the results of the events, but apparently yours truly misplaced them, so those that won won't get any credit.



The good news is that the losers won't be em-



barrassed!! Thanks to Stu Tschen who provided some pictures of the June event. The July event will be held on July 6.



MAY FLOAT FLY

It was questionable whether or not the May 2019 float fly would be held - again because of water - but not the lack of it this time. The Lake was at 42% capacity. Rain was in the forecast and as usual the outlook changed throughout the week. As we got closer to the May 17 - 19 date the situation was looking better. All indications were that we would get a couple of good days of flying at the least. On Thursday the Sobaks, Gary Mallett and the McGregor boys headed to San Antonio Lake in hopes of being able to fly Friday and Saturday. Gary and Barb Sobak had journeyed from Redding for the event so they were COMMITTED!!



When we arrived Thursday it was quite windy - as had been forecast. Friday morning brought reasonably calm winds and sunshine. Airplanes were assembled and began to fly. The wind would come and go all day Friday. Saturday morning was beautiful, but as the morning progressed the western sky began to show signs of ominous clouds. All flying pretty much ceased by 1:00 PM as the wind began to pick up and it was looking a LOT like rain.

We all packed up and headed for home, except for James Collins. He arrived late Saturday morning as we were getting ready to leave. He and his family decided



to spend the night and relax even if he couldn't fly. We hit rain at the turn from Jolon Road to Hunter Liggett and it rained the rest of the way home. Our departure time turned out to be timely. Now we are looking forward to McSwain and October at San Antonio - IF there is water!!

CASTLE - WEST COAST GIANT SCALE FLY-IN

During the Memorial Day weekend a handful of SAM members journeyed to Atwater and the old Castle Air Force Base, now known as Castle Merced County Airport, for the West Coast Giant Scale Fly-In. According to the powers to be, the attendance was down a little this year and some empty RV spots substantiated that observation. Even with that note in mind, the event was well attended and was the usual success. Randy Bonetti, Joe Francis, Rick Maida and Bob McGregor were participants from SAM. Ed Glynn, Chuck Bosso, Mike Aliotti and Sal DiMaggio made the trek on Saturday for the day. Both Chuck and Bob were trying to sell an airplane and both were



This half scale beauty makes Bob's quarter scale look like a 40 size. Wingspan is 18'.



Detail was amazing. The fake engine was detailed right down to the nuts and

unsuccessful. There were a number of airplanes for sale but apparently no buyers to speak of. It is always an interesting event with a lot of neat airplanes. This year rides were being offered in a P-51 during the event. Wasn't cheap, however, as a half hour ride cost \$1200. But those



This one is full scale



things aren't cheap to operate either. If you've never been to

Castle, it's worth the two hour ride just to observe the event.





Join us for the
**7th Annual
Central Coast**



Giant Scale Fly-In

July 25th - 28th, 2019

Hosted by the Tri-Valley RC Modelers of Santa Maria, Ca.
AMA Gold Leader Club #170

The facts:

- Landing Fee: Only \$25.
Includes: Parking, lunch on Saturday, and a raffle ticket;
- Dry camping for \$10/night;
- Pre-register @ rcflightdeck.com;
- Only giant scale planes until 5pm;
(Mono 80", Biplanes 60");
- Proof of current AMA required;
- Early arrival by pre-arrangement.

The fun stuff:

- World Famous Santa Maria Style BBQ dinner on Saturday night;
- Beautiful Santa Maria weather;
- Food & drinks available daily;
- 500' paved runway, expanded pit area, shade, and electricity;
- Open flying after 5pm;
- Outdoor Movie Saturday Night;
- Pilot's Raffle.

Qs? Call Chuck Barnes (805) 886-7921 or email Cdbarnes10@comcast.net



Editors note: This is a great event hosted by the Tri-Valley Club. They put on an excellent bar-b-que Saturday evening. Can't beat Santa Maria Tri-tip! It's fun to attend other clubs' events and get to know modelers outside our area.



A few photos from the Castle event. Thanks to Joe Francis and Sal DiMaggio for the pictures.



The PBY Catalina in the two pictures is the creation of Mel Dunham. It is a 1/8 scale aircraft with a wing-span of 14 feet. It has retractable



gear, retractable tip floats, rotating turret, operating windows above the pilot and co-pilot and many more scale features. Mel has not flown it yet but plans to in the near future. He said taxi tests are next. At this point the engines had not been run. It's a beaut!

Calendar of Events

June 2019

- 12 Board Meeting
- 15 Work Day
- 16 Father's Day
- 22 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

July 2019

- 6 Glider Contest 3
- 13 Memorial Fun Fly
- 17 Board Meeting
- 27 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

July 2019

- 6 Glider Contest 3
- 13 Memorial Fun Fly
- 24 Board Meeting
- 27 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

August 2019

- 3 Glider Contest 4
- 21 Board Meeting
- 24 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

September 2019

- 7-8 IMAC II
- 20-22 Lake McSwain Float Fly
- 25 Board Meeting
- 28 RudderGate and Membership Meeting

Club Contact Information

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To send any submissions to the newsletter editor:

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 or cor-

PLEASE NOTE: If anybody has any interest in publishing the newsletter, I would be appreciative of some relief from the job. I took the job on a temporary basis, but it obviously has become more than that. You must be computer savvy and have a publishing program (like Microsoft Publisher - others are available and some are free) to accomplish the job. If anybody is interested, please get in touch with me.

Tristan Williams and Ed Glynn both looking skyward at the glider fly.





Above is the beautiful full scale P-51 Mustang that was offering rides at the Castle West Coast Giant Scale Fly-in. Given the price he was charging, he had a lot of customers. After all, how often do you get a chance to ride in one of those historic birds? And to think it went from paper to the first flight in some 90 days. When it started escorting B-17's and B-24's in Europe during WW II, many more of them completed their missions AND returned to base. The P-51 had a longer range than any other pursuit aircraft at that time and was able to stay with the vulnerable bombers to protect them from the enemy fighters and pursuit aircraft.

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