

The Eagle's Nest



Sacramento Valley Soaring Society

The Official Newsletter of the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society

July 2008

Volume 18, No. 7

President's Message

By Rich Beardsley

Hi All:

It's been a long month with lots of things happening, with the finale being our club contest and meeting. June started with the cross-country contest at Montague, a 3 day contest that had good weather and interesting new contestants. A group from North Carolina State University came all the way to Montague to fly their autonomous SBXC. They did very well with the autopilot flying 90% of the time. Check out their website for all the info: <http://soaring.goosetechnologies.com/>

Next I was off to Reno to instruct in the Pylon Racing School. I got home Friday night, ready to host the Spring Fling. The Spring Fling went very well with very few complaints and 99.9% good comments. We did well, considering that entries were down from last year. The Road Kill Crew did their usual excellent job of grilling up squirrel burgers and possum dogs. Their efforts gained the club \$441 in profit. The Spring Fling realized about \$2,750 to fund our Club operating expenses through next year.

I would like to extend a hearty "THANKS" to all the volunteers that made the Spring Fling possible. **Thanks again!!!!**

Today, the postponed club contest came off without a hitch. It was smoky but the lift was good. The contest was followed by the club meeting and discussion of a number of issues.

I previously sent an e-mail out with an explanation of the issues covered.

First was the proposal to hold quarterly meetings, at the flying field after our monthly contest. The measure was approved, with one slight variation—**we will be meeting every other month, starting with the meeting we had today. The next meeting will be in August immediately after the club contest.**

I will be sending a reminder e-mail to notify everyone that they should NOT come to the SMUD meeting room in July.

In the same vein, in non-contest months, the second Saturday will be a work-day, fun-fly and picnic, weather permitting.

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Published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society.

Purpose

Founded in 1989, SVSS is a social organization whose purpose is to promote the safe and skillful operation of radio controlled model sailplanes. SVSS is an AMA chartered club, number 2752. Membership is open to the general public.

President	Rich Beardsley 707-455-8279
Secretary	Kipp Geisler 707-693-1771
Treasurer	Stan Scharosch 919-987-1173
V.P. Contests	Scott Meader 916-660-9080
V.P. Field	Manuel McLure 916-359-2444
V.P. Equipment	Jonathan Heritage 530-756-4931
New Member Mentor	Dave London 916-944-3948
Instructor	Dave London 916-944-3948
Instructor	Cameron Clarke 916-596-0986
Web Master / Newsletter Editor	Dudley Dufort 916-991-1266

Monthly Meetings

SVSS general membership meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 7 PM in the meeting room at SMUD, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, California. Our meetings are open to the public and visitors are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Contests

Monthly contests are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM. Beginners and spectators are always welcome.

AMA

Membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics is required prior to flying in any SVSS organized event or using and SVSS equipment.

Club Rules

1. Have fun
2. See rule #1

Editor's Corner



By Dudley Dufort

Happy 4th of July!!

Seems to me that changing the club meeting schedule is a good thing. Meeting attendance has been on the decline ever since we were "evicted" from R/C Country. The truth is we really weren't evicted, Chet and Teri simply needed the space.

Most of the club's communication now takes place through the internet. A web site and two list servers provide a greater level of communication than what was accomplished through a monthly club meeting.

Combining a club contest, training day for new guys, a barbecue and semi-monthly meetings offers something for everyone. President Beardsley is to be congratulated for initiating this change.

This issue provides a full-page financial statement from Club Treasurer Stan Scharosch. Spring Fling has a two-fold purpose. One is a fun event. The other is to raise funds for the club. It would appear that we were successful in both endeavors. Favorable comments from our out-of-town guests always follow our contest and this year was no exception. It appears that we netted about \$2,700 for our efforts. Many people worked tirelessly to make Spring Fling the success that it was. Too many to mention. Hats off to all of you. Thank you!!

Montague was a blast. More in a future edition.

July 2008

SVSS Key Dates

7/4 Independence Day
7/12 Contest & Meeting

Happy Birthdays

Rich Beardsley 7/7
Jonathan Heritage 7/10
Paul Myers 7/14
Ron Kucera 7/22
Bob Mosher 7/22
Mark Hilliard 7/29

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Club Contest & Meeting
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2008 Club Contest

By Kipp Geisler

We held a very fun and successful monthly contest on June 28, 2008. Despite the smoke in the air which frankly I thought was going to be a big problem, it turned out to be a real nice event. The smoke along with a modest south breeze kept temperatures down. It also kept the booming thermals down as well. They were out there but you had to find them, track with them, and they had ceilings. So in most cases one thermal was not enough.

This was the "Odd-Ball" contest. Due to the weather conditions we scaled it back to 3, 5, 7 and 9 minute rounds. As it turned out, that 9 minute round turned out to be a real tester even though you got to fly them in any order. Think about the decision making required when you had your 5 and 7 done and you had to quickly decide within the first minute if you had 9 minute air or was it time to come in and set up a landing for your 3 minute. I think I used 3 small thermals, hardly rising above launch height to squeak out my niner. It was a little tense.

And for the "Ball" landings...no one brought their formal gowns, though it couldn't have hurt the landing scores overall. It sounds so easy in relatively calm conditions to nail an 80+ point landing on each round.

(continued on page 7)

New Member



This month we welcome yet another new member to the ranks of SVSS. Rick or “Axle” Griess joined SVSS in June. He was born in Lincoln Nebraska in 1950. He grew up in Omaha. He’s married to Karen. Rick retired from the State of California as a Human Resources Manager.

Rick describes his experience with R/C gliders as follows; “I started flying gliders back in the early 70’s in Camarillo. The first R/C plane I built was a Q-Tee with a 049 engine, after the engine would quit I used to thermal it. I friend talked me in to giving up power and start gliding. This was in Camarillo, CA. I and two other friends

broke off from the power club and started Channel Island Soaring club. Then in early 1976 I got the bug and got my full scale glider license and R/C soaring took a back seat during the summers. In around 1981 developed a health condition that grounded me from flying. I moved up to Sacramento 1993 and have been out of the hobby for about 18 years. After recently retiring I decide to get back into the hobby. I’ve built and flown just about every popular model from the 70’s to 90’s, Olympic II, Mirage, Pardon, Bird of Time, .Sagitta 600. I am building Sprit 99 right now to get me back in the sport.”

Rick’s other hobby is R/C sailboat racing. He found out about us through the internet and R/C Country. Rick’s interests in gliders include Slope, Contests, Building, Fun Flying, as well as the social and technical aspects of our hobby.

Rick, welcome to SVSS. Your gonna have a lot of fun!!

(pres message continued from page 1)

Another hot button topic was smoking. By unanimous vote of the club members present (the meeting today at the club contest was attended by a greater number of members than any meeting I have hosted prior to this), the smoking rule will remain as published – **smoking will only be allowed in your vehicle in the parking lot.**

Another much-discussed topic was safety. We will be publishing a map that will show the areas in which electrics will fly and land, which is separate from where sail planes fly and land, according to launch direction. AMA requires that we publish flying zones and no-fly zones as well as club rules concerning where we can fly safely. **I will publish a map and set of rules to be posted at the flying site and included in the website.**

We will be scheduling a barbecue for sometime in July, that will be club hosted. We will also be scheduling a cross-country event for the end of September or early October. This will be a one day event.

I urge you all to remember that the club runs only with the help of volunteers. Club officers will be selected for next year before you know it. Please step up and offer your services. **Remember, you are the only person who can make this club a successful entity.**

See you at the Field

Rich B

July Contest Announcement

Scott Woodward is the CD for the July Club Contest. The tasks will be 6-8-10-12, any order, 100 point tape. Scott adds; “If it's windy, can adjust to something shorter.”

Neil Nolte Fun Fly

SUNDAY! SUNDAY! SUNDAY! July 20th is the date for an SVSS fun fly. Neil Nolte will be directing several organized tasks beginning around 10 a.m. & finishing at noon. Everyone can do their own thing thereafter.

SVSS Preliminary Financial Statement

June, 30 2008

<u>Checking Acc.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Debits</u>
Starting Balance			\$7,463.92
Income;			
	Food S/F Concession	\$442.00	
	Monthly contest	\$167.00	
	Spring Fling Entries (30)	\$1,395.00	
	Total	\$2,004.00	\$9,467.92
Expenditures;			
	Spring Fling Trophies		\$348.46
	Spring Fling supplies		\$24.12
	Club Plane		\$350.00
	Winch Line		\$207.93
	Mailing Stamps		\$42.00
	News Letter Printing May		\$89.14
	News Letter Printing June		\$72.43
	News Letter mailing		\$69.83
	Porta-Potty (5-22 / 6-18 Service)		\$136.41
	Porta-Potty (6-19 / 7-16 Service)		139.36
	Total	\$1,479.68	\$7,988.24
Ending Balance			
Increase/decrease in operating funds			\$524.32
Spring Fling income and expense break down			
Income;			
	Food S/F Concession	\$442.00	
	Spring Fling Entries	\$2,775.00	
	Total	\$3,217.00	\$3,217.00
Expenditures;			
	Spring Fling Trophies		\$348.46
	Winch Line		\$103.00
	Scorecards		\$24.12
	Total	\$475.58	\$475.58
Spring Fling Prophet for 2008			\$2,741.42

(June contest report from page3)

Only Neil and JT will say it was simple. Our two winners in the Gray Cup and Masters class are the only contestants who can boast all four landings with 100 points next to their scores. A few more had 3 of 4.

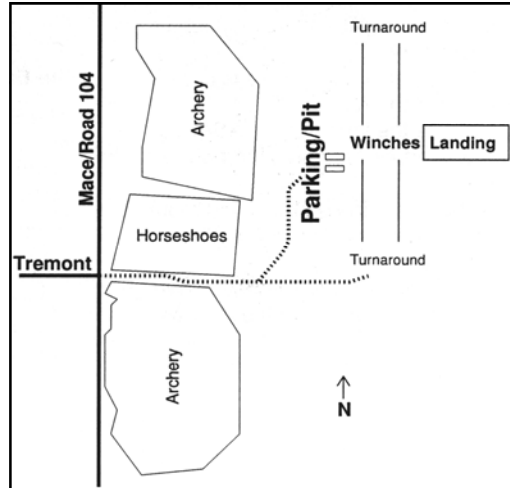
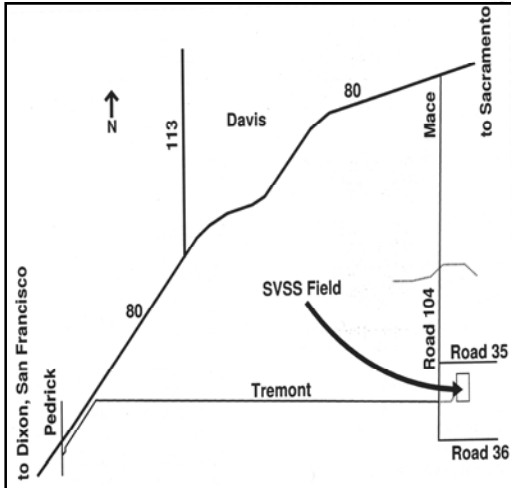
We also got to test out our emergency response plan for how to hold a contest without Dudley and his computer.



Sorry to say this Mr. Editor Dude but we managed quite well thanks to Scott and Neil's pre printed scoring matrix for our format. We also learned the value of a \$5 calculator. Special thanks to Jim and Cheryl Thompson and Joan Nolte for your help scoring. By the time everyone pounded a couple of road kill dogs, we were ready for the presentations.

Special notice goes to Kai Yang who drove home with the Expert class trophy (we do give trophies don't we?) and rookie sensation Roger "yeah right" Lackey was squeezed out of a 2nd by old man Martin F in Masters. And what do you say for Mr. Nolte who put the exclamation point on the big win with a PERFECT score of 4400 points. Holy Crap batman!

Thanks to all that came out and supported the contest.



The SVSS Flying Site is located at Yolo County Grasslands Regional Park, south of Davis, CA.

Lat: 38° 29' 49" N, Long: 121° 41' 28" W

Directions: From I-80, take the Mace Blvd. exit. Go south on Mace Blvd. 3.8 miles to the intersection of Tremont Rd. Turn left (east) on the gravel driveway and drive past the horseshoe and archery areas road to the field.

Shortcut from eastbound I-80: From I-80 take the Pedrick Road exit. Follow the frontage road eastbound on the south side of I-80 for 0.8 miles. Turn right on Tremont Rd. Follow Tremont for 5.4 miles. Cross Mace Blvd and enter Grasslands Regional Park.

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