

PCC Newsletter



August 2008

Next Meeting: August 20, 2008

AMA Chartered Club # 139

Visit: <http://flypcc.org/>

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Fresh Photos! In addition to pictures in this newsletter, you'll find lots more photos and videos on the [PCC website](#).

FROM THE FLIGHT DECK

Jake Chichilitti

Hello Everyone,

Well we're right in the middle of summer and flying season is in full swing. We've already had one PCC Fun Fly and with any luck we will have had our first float fly at Lake Hennessey by the time you read this column.

We have had some fog at the field the last few weeks, but it only affected the guys who like to fly really high. Otherwise everyone seems to be flying as much as they want. The fog does keep my old timers on the ground since they are designed to climb as high as possible on a limited engine run and then glide for the maximum duration.

If you were at last month's meeting you saw Bill Kuhse's indoor electric flier called the VAPOR by Park Zone. I took one look at it and knew I had to have one and by Friday afternoon I was buying one for myself. It was the best \$140 I have spent in awhile.

(Ed note: Though the VAPOR weighs only 12 grams, it flies with surprising zip. It's agile enough to fly in a moderate-size room.)

Bill and I both have access to large warehouses where we work and I've been putting mine to good use this week. The guys that work in the warehouse are amazed by it and I'm pretty sure one or two of them will give our hobby a try. Bill

promised to bring his to the meeting in August and I'll bring in mine for some indoor pylon racing. We will need two PCC members to be the pylons. Who will volunteer to be the pylons? I've even put a T.P. streamer on mine and it doesn't seem to affect the flying qualities of the model at all. I hope Ken buys one and we can fly indoor combat.

I'm making up different colored steamers for the planes so we can tell them apart.

I am also happy to report that I applied for an AMA Contest Director's License and have been approved by AMA to actually run a contest. I have asked another contest director to give me a hand running an old timer contest so I can get the hang of it and not make too many mistakes.

It appears the tick season is in full swing. Please be careful if you are walking in the grass and especially around the tall weeds. The ticks like to lurk on the weeds and then attach themselves to you as you brush up against the weeds. Please check yourself for the little critters.

On another safety note, please do not drive your vehicles anywhere on the field except the mowed parking area. The last thing we need is a grass fire set by one of us. That is a request from the land owner.

I hope you are all getting in some flying time in spite of the fog that sometimes inhabits our field. We are planning a free picnic at the field on Saturday August 23. That is the Saturday after the meeting. I'm hoping for good weather and a large turn out. We'll take a head count at the meeting.

Keep flying and be safe,

—*Jake*

MINUTES: JULY 17, 2008

Marco Pinto

Meeting started at 7:32 p.m., called to order by President Ken Martinez.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER: Ellsworth Crowell gave the financial report.

SAFETY: Please don't park or drive cars outside designated areas at the PCC airfield in Half Moon Bay. The grass is dry and can easily ignite with current dry, hot weather.

Turbine pilots must get special certification and a waiver from the AMA in order to fly, test or start a turbine model at our airfield. This applies to everyone, including PCC members.

Don't leave planes in the hot pits if you are not actively starting, adjusting or getting ready to fly.

Frequency pins are getting rides home with pilots. Please return them. If you discover that you've taken a frequency pin home with you, let ken or Jake know that you have it and return it as soon as possible.

FIELD: The mower will be repaired by Phill Hill at his repair shop in San Francisco at 23rd and Guerrero St.

No change on the runway expansion.

MEMBERSHIP: Larry Smith and Mike Solaegui were voted in as new members.

RAFFLE: John Bassetto and Eric Einarsson presented the raffle prize, a Hawker Sea Fury 400 from E-Flite.

Please support the raffle—it pays for coffee and donuts at our meetings.

FLIGHT PROFICIENCY: Lloyd Murphy passed his "B" Level.

CONTESTS: July 26 at 9 a.m., Open B Combat at Livermore.

OLD BUSINESS: The runway is waiting for something. (Weeks after Marco made this note, Pete is unable to remember what this means as he transcribes the minutes.)

NEW BUSINESS: Combination locks are hard to open. They might need lubrication or replacement.

Marco reported on the very fun Fun Fly June 22.

Time for another barbecue: Saturday, August 23. Check the PCC website for more details after the August meeting.

DUMMY OF THE MONTH: Jake crashed his ARF after an aileron started fluttering. He heard a strange noise, landed to check it out, didn't see anything obviously wrong and took off again. He wrote about this in last month's newsletter.

HITS & MISSES: Eric thanked Jake for dumping the "Dummy of the Month" trophy.

Frank Phelps warned everyone to make sure buddy cords are tightly connected to both transmitters and to keep the airplane in view of the instructor.

SHOW & TELL: Greg Romine showed a great-looking vintage indoor flyer with extensive rigging consisting of multiple lengths of line which are used to set the wing attitude and trim. It's powered by a speed 300 electric motor and covered with polyester fabric finished with red paint.

Olivier brought a P-49 Schoolboy, free for the taking.

Eric showed his South Bay Flying Society racing glider, which is half-built. The fuse is framed up. It has foam wing cores sheeted with 1/16-inch balsa. It's a very simple design built from a laser-cut kit.

Jake demonstrated his Playboy Junior with a .15 diesel engine, built for an old-timer flying contest. It's covered with polyspan finished with red and white Brodak dope. The short kit is available for \$50 from [Klarich](#). It's ready for flight.

Bill Kuhse introduced his new Park Zone Vapor, with a 12-inch wingspan and weighing about half an ounce. It achieves 20-minute flights, with 20-minute charging times. He then flew the plane around the room above the heads of our members. It's a very fun and docile flyer. The plane uses a 2.4GHz radio system and is available with or without a transmitter. It takes off in about 10 inches. Cost is \$99 without a transmitter.

New member Larry Smith gave us a tour of his Century Falcon 46 helicopter which he converted from gas to electric power. Featuring a Funkey body, it uses two 5000MAh 5-cell LiPo battery packs and a 1250-watt brushless Z-Power motor. Larry fabricated an aluminum motor mount and a pinion gear to enable the conversion. He outfitted the model with a LED lighting system for very realistic navigation.

Dennis Lowry completed a Brodak Junior Lightstream for control-line flying.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

—*Marco*

Newsletter Submission Deadline: Third Tuesday before the next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See PCC Website for more Northern California RC events.

August

20 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Room

23 PCC Barbecue, PCC Airfield

22-24 IMAA Fly In, Salinas Area Modelers

September

6 Annual Fun Fly, Livermore Flying Electrons

14 Annual PCC Club Picnic

17 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Room

October

4-5 Pattern @ Sacramento Area Modelers

10-12 Float Fly @ Salinas Area Modelers

14 Annual PCC Club Picnic

15 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Room

November

1 Swap Meet @ SCCMAS, Morgan Hill

19 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Room

PICTURES

Photos by Brian Chan and Lew Chee. You can view these in color at <http://flypcc.org/coppermine/>

Help make the newsletter and website better: take pictures and send them in! Want to learn how? Check out this helpful page: [How to Send Photos.](#)

Launching a Piper Cub at the Lake Hennessey Float Fly.

Ray's Cub taxis out for its flight.

Pit area under the tree—the early birds got the shade!

Aerial shot of the Pit area.

Pit area.

Part of the support group.

Mark's plane on arrival.

Jake launches Kenny's TCWOF.

Ray's large floater on approach.

Mighty Seamaster.

Jake on a rescue mission, one of many that day.

El Presidente's twin combat wing on "arrival," bounce and go.

Ray Squires' Cub.

Ray's sending the Cub out.

Brian hiding behind Jim's E-Seamaster.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 20, 2008