

PCC Newsletter



September 2008

Next Meeting: September 17, 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](#).

RULES PROPOSAL

Jake Chichilitti

Proposed Addition to PCC Club Rules

Ban the operation of turbine engines and pulse jet engines at the PCC flying field. This would include start up, taxing and flying of aircraft and helicopters.

I don't feel our flying site is suitable for turbine operations because of the following:

- **Limited airspace** to the south of the field. We are strictly forbidden to over fly Martin's Beach. The new owners will not tolerate us violating this rule.
- **Fire hazard.** One grass fire will most likely cause us to lose our field. I realize that an electric-powered aircraft or for that matter a gasoline-powered aircraft has the potential to start a fire. But the probability of that is quite a bit lower than a turbine-powered aircraft.

Respectfully submitted,

—*Jake*

FROM THE FLIGHT DECK

Jake Chichilitti

Hello Everyone,

It's hard to know if anyone is reading my scribbling. I hardly get any feedback from the members. Maybe we need to shake things up a little, so here goes...

I'd like to have a theme for the column this month and the theme will be safety. I'll be the first to admit to breaking some safety rules along the way, but who among us hasn't at one time or another?

To my way of thinking there are three types of safety rules:

1. A rule that protects yourself, for instance: don't stick your finger in the propeller.
2. A rule that protects others, for instance don't fly over the pits or the highway.
3. A rule that protects our flying site, for instance don't let a non AMA member fly at our site because of insurance issues.

I know we can make a mistake and fly over the pits or reach around the propeller and risk an injury, but there really isn't a good excuse to jeopardize our flying site. It's been alleged that one of our members attempted to fly a turbine-powered model at our flying site without the proper AMA waiver to do so. That action would put our site at risk because we would lose our insurance protection and worse yet, our club's sanction.

There is one club in the Bay area that prohibits flying alone. We do not have that rule, but be aware if something goes wrong and you are at the field alone, there will be no one there to help you.

No one in our club wants that to happen. So please be safe, be courteous and everyone be a safety officer while at the field.

We had a very nice turn out for our Lake Hennessey get together on August 2nd. In addition to PCC members, we also had members from the Bayside R/C Club.

The weather was very nice all day, but did get a bit windy in the afternoon. Look on the PCC web site for some pictures of the event.

Our next event was a club BBQ at the field on Saturday August 23rd. There was a good turn out for the event and the weather was good all day. A great big thanks to Ken Martinez for planning the event and making it happen. Mike Peck did a great job on the grill and Mike Klass gave the field a once over with the PAM mower. The field looks very neat.

The weather should be getting better and better as we head into fall. I plan on making the most of our field in the next couple of months.

Keep flying and be safe,

—*Jake*

MINUTES: AUGUST 20, 2008

Mike Solaegui

The meeting began at 7:35 p.m. Guests were Joe Keenan and Adam Shoots.

President Ken Martinez announced that we have a new landlord at Martins Beach who will continue to rent us the field on a monthly basis. A longer lease is not an option for now.

Reminders:

- Do not leave garbage at the field.
- Collect your overflow fuel.
- Be careful not to fly over Martins Beach.
- Put your name on your planes, your transmitter, your batteries, your toolbox and any other pieces of gear that you might leave at the field. That way, you have a good chance of getting your stuff back if you leave it.

Harry Smith will check on whether we can level the dirt piled by the runway.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER: Ellsworth Crowell gave the treasurer's report. We have money in the bank.

SAFETY: Do not fly over the highway. If you cannot control your plane, bring it down as quickly as possible.

Dennis Fuente and Albert Sadakian discussed the feasibility of flying a gas turbine plane at the field. Because of the abundance of dry grass, fire is a big concern. The board will consider the issue and make a recommendation to the membership.

MEMBERSHIP: Joe Keenan is applying for membership.

FLIGHT PROFICIENCY: Lloyd Murphy is certified for Level B.

CONTESTS: Ken Martinez placed first and Dave Santana placed third in Open B Combat at Livermore.

NEW BUSINESS: Alonzo Richardson is clearing out his garage Saturday, September 20, at 2 p.m. Come by and take what you want. Address: 1809 Loyola Drive, Burlingame, CA.

Alonzo donated a back-pack leaf blower to the PCC.

SHOW & TELL: Dennis Lowry showed a micro size Warhawk, a past raffle prize, and a P-40 ARF.

Ken Martinez talked about his South Bay Racer Glider, built for very high performance.

Olivier is offering a trainer 40 plane for sale.

Pete Johnson and Mike Nadler brought some small electric wings they're using for direct-contact combat. Cut down from Wild Wings kits, they're EPP foam.

Mike Peck discussed his Pitts S2B ARF biplane, which he's working on.

Ray Granz showed a combat F16 1988 vintage slope glider, which has been flown off of Skyline.

John Bassetto talked about his in-the-bones biplane with a top saddle for giving scale gliders a ride.

Mike Solaegui showed his new E-flite Deuces Wild 25e2 ARF, which he hopes to fly soon.

Ken Barnes said that some JR X9303 2.4GHz transmitters have a problem with a wire rubbing against a voltage regulator. The issue is documented [here](#).

RAFFLE: Alex Holt and Dennis Lowry were the winners.

After the meeting, Jake Chichilitti, Bill Kuhse and Pete Johnson flew indoor streamer combat with their tiny VAPOR planes.

—Mike

LESSON LEARNED

Brian Chan

On my recent first trip to Lake Hennessey, I found that water can get through a very small opening to get into the fuselage. Making everything, err, kind of WET!

I went to OSH and bought a tube of GE 100% Silicone II for Windows and Doors to make a water-tight seal between the wing and fuselage, keeping the air inside and the water outside. Learned this long time ago when flying liquid-powered infernal combustion planes: tape a sheet of plastic wrap on the part (i.e. the wing) you want to separate from the silicone (on the fuselage) when it cures.

So far so good. Open the tube of Silicone II, put a generous bead of silicone on the wing saddle. Hmmm, kind of weird, no vinegar smell. Anyway glue is down and it's time to put the wing on top and push, done. Go to bed, still wondering why the stuff does not smell.

[Editor's Note: GE Silicone II cures with an ammonia smell, GE Silicone I has the smell of acetic acid.]

I gave it a good 36 hours to set, then touched the exposed part of the silicone—nice and dry. Time to pop the wing off and trim off the excess silicone. OK, pull the plastic wrap off, OK, pull, but not letting go. Hmmm, something is wrong here. The silicone under the plastic wrap is still not cured.

Oh oh, we have a problem... So I stripped the plastic wrap down to the silicone and poked a bunch of holes on the plastic to let the air in to cure it, or so I thought. Two days later in 100° Indian Summer heat, still not cured.

I don't know what it takes to cure the new non-smelly silicone. Whatever it is, I am not going to use this stuff again. Buy the smelly vinegar-smelling silicone-that-will-cure-stuff next time.

I guess I should read the instructions. No mention of use on aircraft!

—Brian

UPCOMING EVENTS

See PCC Website for more Northern California RC events.

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
- 5 Fall Fun Fly, Lagoon Valley Electric Flyers
- 10-12 Float Fly @ Salinas Area Modelers
- 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

Newsletter Submission Deadline: Third Tuesday before the next meeting.

PICTURES

Photos by Paul Lum, Brian Chan and Pete Johnson. 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](#).

Wild Wing full-contact combat demo at PCC picnic. PCC members Mike Nadler and Pete Johnson are joined by Gary Morgan, Akkana North and Dave North.

The sky was filled with lightweight but fierce little wings.

Paul Lum poses for cameraman Brian Chan.

Filling up the paper plate.

Jake's P-47 makes a low pass along the runway.

Lots of food for the picnic attendees.

PCC members and visitors share a perfect picnic meal.

More people enjoying the meal.

Ken inherited Jake's pink Mao collection.

Jake loves to fly!

Jake picks up the remnants of a nasty crash.

Tim adjusts his Hangar 9 Mustang.

Larry Smith flies his big electric-conversion helicopter.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 17, 2008, 7:30 p.m.