

# PCC Newsletter



February 2009

Next Meeting: February 18, 2009

AMA Chartered Club # 139

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

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## **FIELD NEWS**

After days of non-stop effort by Ken Martinez and a dedicated corps of hard-working PCC volunteers, Richardson Field was open for flyers on Sunday, Feb. 1.

You can see lots of pictures of our new field in the website [Photo Galleries](#). Need instructions on how to get there? The [Where We Fly](#) page has a map, driving instructions and GPS coordinates.

Come to the Feb. 18 meeting to hear the latest news.

Aerial view of Richardson Field. Photo by Roger Mihara.

## **\$65 DUES**

Annual PCC dues are restored to \$65 for 2009 since we now have a ready-to-fly airfield. If you paid \$20, you owe the PCC an additional \$45 for 2009. See Ellsworth Crowell's **Treasurer's Column** for details.

## **PCC FLYING RULES**

In addition to current AMA membership, pilots at Richardson Field are required to sign the [PCC Flying Rules](#) at <http://flypcc.org/pages/media/PCC-Flying-Rules.pdf>. You can print this PDF file, sign it and bring it to the field. Full dues-paying members who have signed the document are eligible to fly.

## **CLEAR THE PROP!**

***Dennis Lowry***

**SUNDAY, 1/18/09**

Yesterday I worked with a bunch of guys on the field and this morning as I coffee up to go out and do it again, I am so sore I can hardly move. But late yesterday as Dave Santana and I were standing there admiring our work—the pit turf laid out, the graded and packed runway and all our clutter from the

storage sheds strewn all around—I turned to him and said, “Dave, I’ll never forget the last day at the old field when you, Roberto, Marco, Ray, Jake and myself dragged these same rolls of turf and stowed them into the cut.” He said, “Really?” “Yeah, remember the overcast and the mist on your face?”

If you haven’t helped Ken Martinez rebuild this field, you’ve missed a hard but unforgettably valuable experience. Who remembers the day at the old field, the Gary Ware field, when the wind was blowing so hard, and we were struggling so valiantly against it, when suddenly a strong gust came up, lifted the entire 150-foot strip of turf and rolled its length like an ocean wave, catching Harry Smith from behind and folding him under its kinetic weight? A collective cry went up, “Harry!” because we thought he was dead.

But he wasn’t. I bet he was sore the next morning though.

That’s our history. Thank God I’m part of it. And now we’re flying again!

**THURSDAY, 1/22/09**

Now, I’m writing up an AMA grant application for field improvements. The grant amount is for up to \$5,000, and it’s mostly a simple form to fill out until, guess what. There are two blank pages. The first one says, “Describe the community service projects your club has undertaken” and the second one says, “Describe the club programs for newcomers and youth.”

We need to address these issues and mount a campaign to organize ourselves with them in mind. We need to revitalize our efforts and polish our perception in the public eye.

Remember, if you are the person to do it, take responsibility and do it.

**—Dennis**

## **TREASURER'S COLUMN**

***Ellsworth Crowell***

Make sure you pay your PCC dues for 2009.

If you paid \$20 during the period when we announced reduced dues, you owe the PCC an additional \$45. This enables us to pay the lease on our new flying field. If you haven't yet paid any dues, please send me a copy of your AMA membership card for 2009 and a check for \$65.00 made out to PCC.

Mail to:

**Mr. Ellsworth Crowell  
424 Oxford Way  
Belmont, CA 94002-2752**

**—Ellsworth**

## **MINUTES: JANUARY 21, 2009**

***Mike Solaegui***

**ATTENDEES:** 59.

**GUESTS:** Mark Bettis, former member; Dan Williams; Rick Simons, former PAM member.

**LAST MINUTES:** Approved.

**RAFFLE PRIZES:** Edge 540 from J & M Hobbies.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Just fine.

**SAFETY REPORT:** None.

**FIELD REPORT:** Members are to sign off on an agreement to not over fly the north fence. It was unanimously agreed NOT to introduce our club's presence to the Buddhist temple one half mile north of the northern fence of our field. No one is to fly until insurance policy is in the landlord's hands **and** the safety fences are in place, Roberto will arrange for a scrap metal company to take the rusted PCC shed away and PAM has donated their shed to us for our use.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** No new members. An additional \$45 is due in addition to the \$20.00 if already paid for full annual membership.

**FLIGHT PROFICIENCY:** None.

**CONTEST REPORTS:** None.

**SAD STORIES:** Jake flew into a leafless tree with authority. Mike Solaegui dead stick landed on the levee across from SACRATS field.

**SHOW & TELL:** Mark Bettis, Cadet Senior utilizing an engine from Alonzo's garage, Jake Chichilitti a scratch built Gizmo.

**—Mike**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **February**

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

### **March**

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

### **April**

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

### **May**

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

### **June**

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

### **July**

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

### **August**

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

**Newsletter Submission Deadline:** Third Tuesday before the next meeting.

## **PICTURES**

Photos by Mike Klass, Brian O'Neill, Roger Mihara, Brian Chan and Mickey Darata. Thanks, guys! 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.](#)

## **PHOTO TIPS**

If you want to add photos to the PCC Photo Galleries, please do the following:

- Size the photos to 640x480 pixels horizontal @ 72 dpi
- Turn off the datestamp feature!
- Provide a caption

Scraping and 'dozing the ground into shape.

Unloading a small tractor.

Lots of sore arms, legs and shoulders after this kind of effort.

Tugging the AstroTurf into position.

All hands out the day before the field opens.

Men work while the machinery rests.



*Peninsula Channel Commanders*

1181 Glenn Avenue,  
San Jose, CA 95125  
<http://flypcc.org>

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

**J&M**

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SAT. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM**