

# PCC Newsletter



March 2009

Next Meeting: March 18, 2009

AMA Chartered Club # 139

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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DREAM MACHINES.** Every year, the PCC is proud to participate in the Pacific Dream Machines Show in Half Moon Bay. The event takes place Sunday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Featuring 2,000 magnificent driving, flying and working machines from the 20th and 21st centuries, the Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Coastside Adult Day Health Center.

You can find more information on the show at the March 18 PCC meeting, or check out the Dream Machines website: <http://www.miramarevents.com/dreammachines/>

*At the 2008 Dream Machines show, Tim Boyle poses his model P-40 Warhawk just past the shadow of the real thing.*

**FUN FLY.** Richardson Field's first members-only Fun Fly is slated for Sunday, May 3 at 10 a.m. Join us in celebrating this fine new flying venue.

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

## CLEAR THE PROP!

***Dennis Lowry***

I got an email from one of our members just after last month's newsletter posted. Here are some excerpts that I've edited only for the sake of space:

"I visit between 3 and 6 schools annually and have done so for the last 22 years. My name is Mark Heckman, and I have been a member of the PCC for the last 25 years.

"In 1987, a Menlo Park school contacted the PCC and asked if we would provide someone to present seminars on R/C modeling, the science of flight, and to help students construct and fly rubber band powered free flight airplanes. I drafted my

father, Warren Heckman, since a mechanical/aeronautical engineer might not have the best teaching/presentation skills. Dad helped me develop a program and continues to help when he can.

"The program was a success and we've been invited back every year that they have held a science fair since then. We have also contacted several schools, and been contacted by several schools to put on our demonstration/seminar. I estimate that we have made our presentations to more than 2000 students over the past 22 years, introducing them to the joys of model aviation.

"The program is made up of a science section, how to construct a flying model, and actual flight or flight demonstrations. Additionally, information is provided about the AMA, and PCC, including web site and contact information. I also provide information about local hobby shops such as J&M.

"The program has yielded some exciting results, including: advising and coaching 2 bay area science fair grand prize winners, advising and coaching a California State Science Fair winner of Outstanding Engineer and Outstanding Aeronautic Engineering Awards, being invited to advise and coach the University of California Davis SAE Aero Lifter, instructing several new R/C pilots and their fathers and having them stay in the hobby, and having several teachers contact me after a noticeable improvement in interest and academic performance of certain students following our program."

I would like to thank Mark, but I also want to ask you to consider the tremendous gift he allowed himself by volunteering that one time in 1987. The one step led to that program that has sustained him through 22 years of rewarding experiences. Think about it.

Thank you Mark; PCC thanks you; and the community thanks you.

—*Dennis*

## **PCC FLYING RULES**

In addition to current AMA membership, pilots at Richardson Field are required to sign the [PCC Flying Rules](http://flypcc.org/pages/media/PCC-Flying-Rules.pdf) 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.

## **TREASURER'S COLUMN**

*Ellsworth Crowell*

Make sure you pay your PCC dues for 2009.

Perhaps it's the rainy weather, or the confusion over this year's annual dues, but some members haven't yet sent in their 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.

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: FEBRUARY 18, 2009**

*Mike Solaegui*

Guests, Mike Fox, Jay Emerson, Skip Moon.

30 attendees.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** \$9,150 spent so far on Richardson Field, \$1,600 spent on banquet prizes.

**FIELD REPORT:** Farmer Marsh has accepted our offer to compensate him for reduced production caused by our walking on the field to the east due to downed plane retrieval.

Members must agree to and sign a form to limit flight to the north fence. The intent of this rule is noise abatement.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Members-only Fun Fly Sunday, May 3. Watch for details.

Yak 9 to be built for Eddie Andreini in appreciation for his help with the field.

**SAD STORIES:** Mike Peck lost two planes in two flights. Kenny downed his Ugly Stick.

**SHOW & TELL:** Dave Wayman finished an unknown mid-wing 120 size electric, an old timer with a video camera wind shield mounted.

Dave Santana with his SBSR club project slope racer shared his muffler research improving performance on the Mako combat engines.

Mike Solaegui brought a not-yet-flown Eratix 3D 32 size ARF.

Jake Chichilitti showed a slope racer covered as only he can the old but better, the old-fashioned way.

Claire Murphy told us about her Aero Bird Swift that she said crashes as well as it flies.

Frank is still trying to enroll converts to RC car racing.

Jim Cummins won a Fun Jet made by Multiplex, once again J & M hobbies giving the club a great deal.

—*Mike*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **March**

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

### **April**

15 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Room  
26 Dream Machines, Half Moon Bay

### **May**

3 PCC Members Fun Fly, 10 a.m., Richardson Field  
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.

## **WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

*Pete Johnson*

After 15 months of publishing, I intend to step down as PCC newsletter editor.

I've enjoyed putting out the newsletter since I inherited it from Paul Lum in January of 2008. Paul put in seven years as newsletter editor, so my career is quite brief compared to his.

Why would anyone want to edit the PCC newsletter?

Well, it's fun. You're writing the ongoing the history of a very lively and social group of flyers.

It gives you a role within the group, an opportunity to get to know the PCC better and to help define the character of the club.

In my case, I've always enjoyed the process of bringing a publication to life and the activities that entails: telling stories, broadcasting news, sharing photos.

But I also manage the PCC website, and that's sufficient to satisfy my publishing lust. More than sufficient: I've spent hundreds of hours on the website, and the job never ends. Nevertheless, I intend to continue updating, maintaining and growing the website.

So I'm looking for someone to take over the newsletter.

Here's what you need to do each month:

- Create the publication in your preferred word processing program. In my case that's Microsoft Word.
- You can grab photos off the website. Then you'll need to edit them with an application that lets you resize them correctly. I use Photoshop or iView MediaPro, but there are many alternatives.
- Save the issue as a PDF file. I work on a Macintosh computer, and Mac OS X makes this easy.
- Maintain the PCC membership roster in a spreadsheet. Ellsworth sends me additions and other changes as they occur. I use the roster to contact PCC members who've asked to be notified of newsletters via email. I also generate a monthly mailing list of members who want to receive their newsletters via mail.
- Send the PDF file, a mailing list and a couple of other files to the outfit that prints the newsletter.
- Send the PDF file to the webmaster (that's me!) to post to the website.

That's it.

I will, of course, work closely with and help the new editor, and I will continue to publish the newsletter until a likely replacement steps forward.

If you're interested in taking on this vital position or have questions, please drop me an email: [petej@petej.com](mailto:petej@petej.com)

—*Pete*

## ***PICTURES***

Photos by 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

Brian Chan captured this aerial view of Richardson Field.

Look up a bit and you can see the ocean!



*Peninsula Channel Commanders*

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

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