

PCC Newsletter



December 2011

Next Meeting:

December 21st, 2011

AMA Chartered Club # 139

Web Site: <http://flypcc.org/>

Field Phone: 650-712-4423

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Vice President	Oliver Salles	650-375-1960	N.A.
Secretary	Mike Solaegui	415-314-6261	mikes@perfectedgecutlery.com
Treasurer	Greg Romine	650-736-7230	gsromine@stanford.edu
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Membership Chairman	Ellsworth Crowell	650-591-0851	N.A.
Editor	Brian Chan	650-577-0687	pcceditor@gmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ PCC

PARTY,  **PARTY,**
 **PARTY** 

Mark it on your calendar,

January 21st, 2012.

Harry's Hofbrau, Redwood City.

No host cocktails will start at **6 P.M.** (dat's da little hand pointed down and the big hand pointed to the sky)

The tickets will be **\$30.00** that will include dinner and raffle prizes. The tickets will be available at the next meeting.

CLEAR DA PROP!

Dennis Lowry

December 7, 2011 (Pearl Harbor Day)

Well here it is December 7, 2011, and this will be the last time Brian Chan will have to bug me to get the column done so he can publish the newsletter. Well, let me say up front, before the changing of the guard, "THANKS BRIAN for your patience and gentlemanly prodding." When you see Brian, please thank him for his service. Communications is

imperative for a good club, but it takes a lot of work. Brian has done that work during my tenure, and I appreciate it. Not only has he published the letter, but also sent out e-mail blasts for work parties, Obama visits that shut down our runway, and any number of issues that deserve immediate attention. "Thanks Brian for your friendship."

And now that I'm atop a soap box, "THANKS KEN MARTINEZ". Do I need say more? Ken Martinez has single handedly made all you lazy SOB's get out of bed on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon and put the field into tip top shape. He's worked with Eddie Andreini driving a compactor for hours on end, a glamorous job for about 20 seconds. He's offered his time to Oceana High School teaching kids the right way to build and fly. He goes to Lake Hennessey to fly floats. He flies combat. Ken is not afraid to tell you what is wrong and right, and his membership is a benefit to the club. Thanks Ken for being there for the last ten years.

Matt Abrams for being Web Master, THANKS. Matt might be one of our smartest members, and I'd outright say he was, but all you SOB's would lynch me. Matt is also our safety officer, and that is really not easy. It takes some courage and diplomacy to say to the hottest hot shot, "Hey, you're flying too far west of the highway, bring it in a little." (There's no "flying" west of the east edge of the runway.) Thanks Matt, good luck. You are the next generation.

To my fellow officers: Thanks, one and all.

Mike Solaegui: thanks for your support, and I will, in return, help you through the hard decisions. Stay focused on what it is that makes a good strong club where we can go to have fun, a club that the community respects, and a club you can be proud of. Don't let the SOB's get you down, and take care of business as you have to.

Greg Romine: Thanks for your correct addition, subtraction, collection of dues, buying of badges, and paying of bills. May your actions always be honest.

Oliver Salles thanks for being there for so long as a stalwart.

So I retire into the group of people who can give good advice. THANK GOD!!!! Curmudgeon. Just another SOB. I'm ready.

I'd like to thank all of you for giving me this opportunity to work with a club that I am proud to be associated with. If it had been up to me, I would never have had undertaken the upgrade on the runway this year, but a club member came to me and said "I'd like to see it happen, because I have a passion for it. . . (or something like that). . . and I'm going to put in the seed money". I said "!!!!!!". There was no turning back. To a person when I asked our members, your members, directly, they said "Hell yeah! Let's do it." Not exactly, but that's what quotation marks are for, emphasis. Even though I would not have done it, the membership wanted it. So I called in the big guns, and BY GOD we did it. AND, it was done totally AMERICAN. We did not outsource one piece of Astroturf!

But also, we continue to host the Oceana Interim Classes, and I am especially proud of starting that. Thanks Ken, and Jake, and Mike Nadler, and Mike Klass, and Ethan Jug, and Mike Solaegui, and Marco Pinto and Dr William Warmbrodt of NASA Ames Research, and all those who take help with photography and lectures.

Well that's it. Thanks again to all and for all. (I hope I didn't forget anything.)

It's a great club. Let's don't piss off the cops or the landowner.

Good luck to you all.

Hey COME TO THE BANQUET THIS YEAR. We are going to have strippers.

Dennis

**Dennis, don't worry, I will still bug you for the meeting minutes!! You are not getting away so easily!! Brian.*

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

Mike Solaegui

November 16 2011 meeting

37 attendees

Guests, Larry Schaefer and Glen Biagi.

Raffle prize, PnP Albatross, Thanks again to **J&M Hobby House.**

Treasury, doing just fine.

Safety: an inexpensive speed control burned up a plane due to a 90 size motor locking up, loose magnets seem to be the cause. Brock Siegel's trainer was an up in flames show.

New business, PAM members have advised PCC that they are donating the balance of the clubs funds, we will add it to our savings account.

Officers for 2012,

President: Mike Solaegui

Vice President: Olivier Salles

Secretary: Dennis Lowry

Safety Officer: Matt Abrams

Field Chairman: Ken Martinez

Web Master: Matt Abrams

Newsletter Editor: Brian Chan

New Junior Membership, the annual fee for under 18 will be \$25.00 in no field assessment charges.

Membership building topic will be addressed during the December meeting.

Holiday dinner will be held on January 21st, Hoff Brau, Redwood City.

Darwin Allen has started a stick kit.

Greg Romine is building a Taube, right out of Jurassic Park.

Phil Cole brought to show and fly a Quad Copoter.

Mike

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

21 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae

25 Christmas Day. Happy Christmas.

31 New Year's Eve.

31 Last Day to pay dues without penalty.

January 2012

1 New Year's Day

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

21 PCC Banquet @ Harry's Hofbrau, Redwood City. Ray Squires.

DUES, DUES, DUES.

Yes folks, it is that time again. Thanksgiving is almost here, that means the end of the year is not that far away. Did you send in your AMA renewals yet? Also, it is time to submit

you 2012 PCC dues. The current renewal for 2012 is **\$125.00**. Also proof of AMA membership is required.

Renew your AMA membership now in order to get the 2012 Card before January. AMA renewal can be done online @

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/joinrenew.aspx>

You will need the 2012 AMA license to renew your 2012 PCC membership, NO EXCEPTION.

When you receive your 2012 AMA card, mail a copy of it along with your **\$100.00 + \$25.00 (field fee)** check made out to "PCC" to:

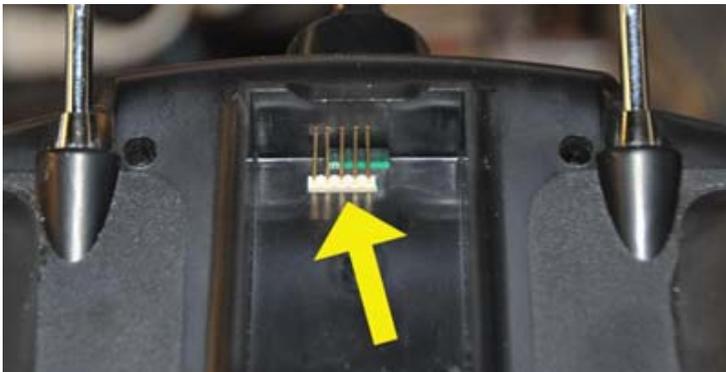
**PCC Treasurer
1779 Woodland Ave., Ste. #28
Palo Alto, CA 94303**

Or bring your AMA card and a check to the next PCC meeting (save you 44 cents and an envelope!) **Dues are \$125.00 if paid before the New Year, \$135.00 after January 1st 2012. It will be \$145.00 if paid after February 1st!**

If you have not paid by March 1st*, you will need to reapply as a new member.

FUTABA 9C TX RF MODULE CONNECTION PINS PROBLEM

Brian Chan

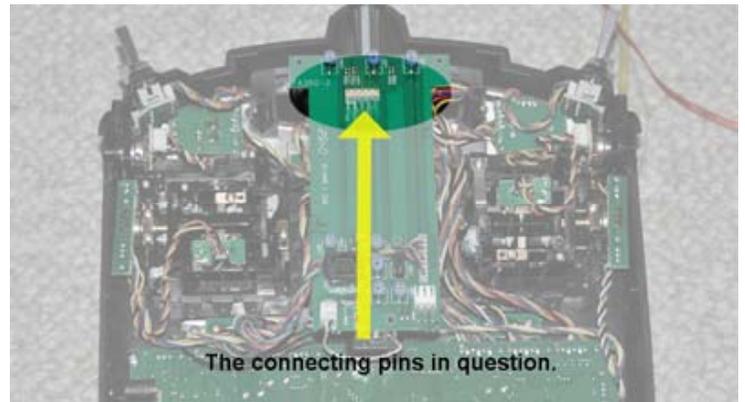


I have a Futaba 9C transmitter that I use a Futaba TM-8 Module to communicate with the new 2.4GHz receivers. The TM-8 module is bigger than the original 72 MHz modules so it will not fit in the transmitter case, with the module attached. I have to remove the module in order to put the transmitter into the transmitter carrying case.

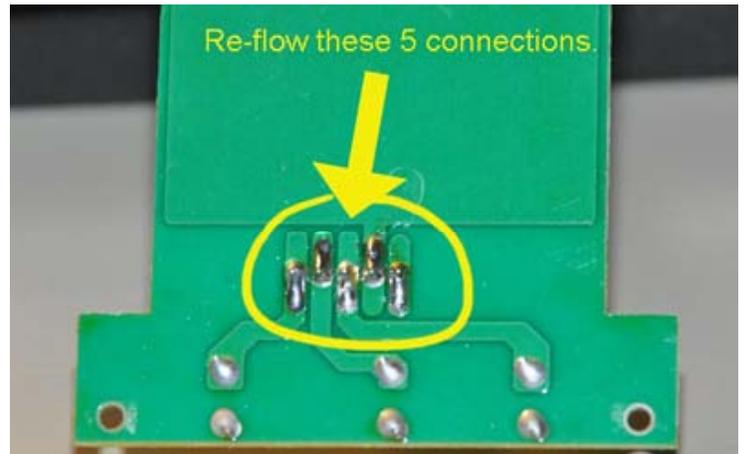
Lately, I have experienced unexplained drops in communication with the receivers in several occasions. I have yet to find out the reason but credited it to bad receivers.

Couple days ago, I was setting up a new planes with the Futaba 9C. I noticed a really faint beep come from the

transmitter and after that the receiver does not response. I look around and noticed the little green LED on the TM-8 Module was not led. After I push on the module, another faint beep was heard and then the green LED came on!! I further investigate the issue, I pushed on the module again and a faint beep was heard again and the green LED went out. Aha, I think I found the problem I had experienced, the module has a bad connection to the transmitter, every time the module was bumped, and the power was interrupted. Multiple installation and removal of the module has weakened the solder joints of the 5 connection pins from the transmitter. After I re-flow the solder on the traces that the 5-pin connector was anchored, the problem went away. I have pushed on the module several times and the connection was solid, the LED on the TM-8 Module did not shut off.



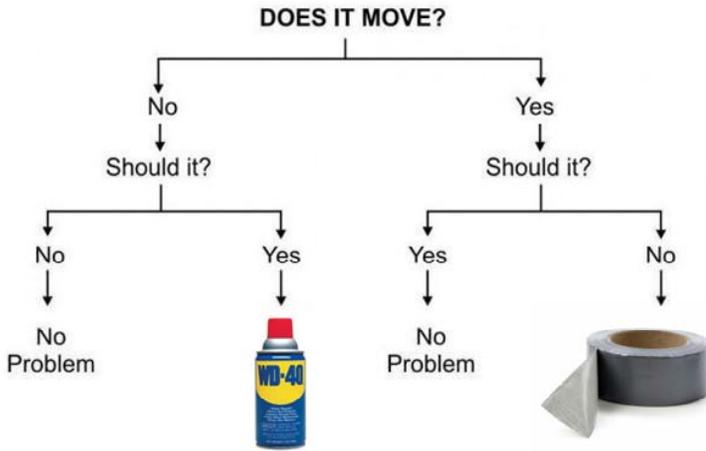
So if you have a Futaba 8U or 9C transmitter and have removed the module numerous times, and you have experienced unexplained radio failures. Check the connection or just open the transmitter and re-flow (melt the solder and let it re-flow) solder just to be sure. If you are not comfortable with soldering small parts, contact me and I can help you re-flow the solder on the junctions in question.



The original 72 MHz modules do not emit the faint beep when the power is interrupted, only the 2.4GHz module have the beeper and LED. So you don't really know with the 72 MHz modules until the receivers have stop working.

ENGINEERING THOUGHT PROCESS
*Borrowed From SACRC Newsletter,
Jim Utley, Editor*

Engineering Flowchart



When you left the fork at home and you're hungry.....



Kenny must have had a happy meal? Or a happy pill!!! That is how you should feel when you are flying!! He is just happy.



Albert's jet on a take off run. He uses all of the runway!!

Below: Matt's 3-D ballet.





Mike & Mike's "Lot's of Watt" before the maiden flight.



Can you believe this is in the middle of December?



Pilot and Co-pilot sharing the flight control duty.



Phil's Zero, also taken in the middle of December, no snow!



All three are safely back on the ground and happy!



What is that Phil is talking into?

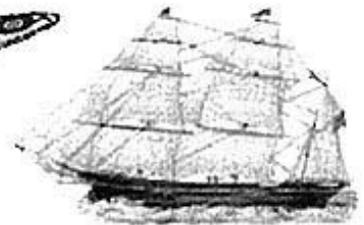
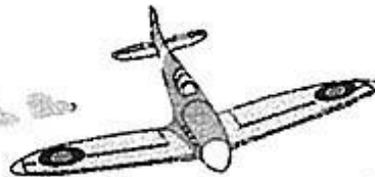
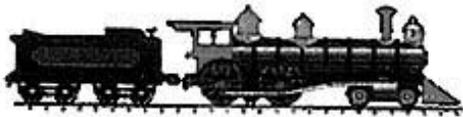


Peninsula Channel Commanders

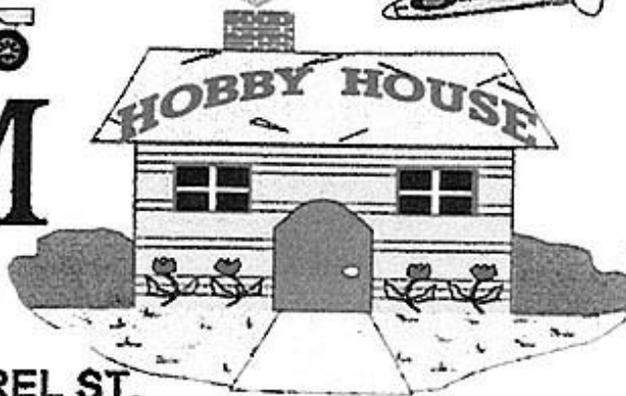
113 Starlite Drive,
San Mateo, Ca 94402
<http://flypcc.org>

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 21st, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

Perfect time to pay the 2012 dues if you haven't already. Pay your 2012 AMA ?



J&M



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WEEKDAYS 11AM-6PM
SAT. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM**