

# PCC Newsletter



January 2012

Next Meeting:

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012

AMA Chartered Club # 139

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

Field Phone: 650-712-4423

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING @ PCC



Mark it on your calendar,

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

**Harry's Hofbrau**, Redwood City.

No host cocktails will start at 6 P.M

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

## 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

## CLEAR DA PROP!

**Dennis Lowry**

I admonish you to . . .

**COME TO THE BANQUET THIS YEAR!**

**January 21st.**

It's at **Harry's Hofbrau** in Redwood City.

The more folks we have, the better it is; and this year it is going to be an exciting event.

This is our chance to meet each other away from the field and enjoy a meal, a libation together, and good friendship. It is my chance to thank those members who have contributed to the club. It is your chance to be honored for your efforts. And it's our chance to install the new officers.

Thanks to Ray Squires who has put together a great slate of door prizes, and organized the event again this year to be an entertaining evening. He says it's going to be so fun that I don't even need to bring in the strippers. (Good thing too, because they were going to be expensive!)



The YAK Building Committee will all be there and they are going to present the Barbarossa Yak to Eddie Andreini.

If you've never heard Eddie speak, this alone would be worth coming out. He is very entertaining, and full of great stories.

I highly recommend marking your calendar and making the effort to come out.

Thanks to all, for making this club great. I'll say more at Harry's.

**Dennis**

## DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

**Mike Solaegui**

36 members in attendance

Guests, Mark Claudius and Abby.

Raffle prize, Bind and fly Corsair from J & M hobbies and a SAD jacket won by Abby.

Membership, as of this date we have 49 paid up members for 2012, we will close the year with 114.

Safety, Matt Abrams suggested that making sure that the prop adapter for electric motors is mounted in such a way that the flat spot on the motor shaft is bridged by one of the collate segments.

January dinner on the January 21<sup>st</sup>, tickets \$30.00 available at the door and at the regular meeting the previous Wednesday (January 18<sup>th</sup>).

Darwin Allen literally burned up his Nexstar, magnets debonded, speed control over heated, big flames, very cool!

Hacker motors and other higher priced electric components that have a higher efficiency rating will produce about 20% more power than other popular brands, however, 40% more that low price direct import products, thanks Matt, we appreciate you input.

AMA has established rules and guidelines regarding First Person Video (FPV), requires use of a buddy box and spotter, more on AMA web site.

We have promoted the former secretary to President, you know how the Peter Principle works.

It has been my pleasure

Mike Solaegui

**Mike**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*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. New Officers Installation.*
- 29 *February Newsletter material submission dateline.*
- 31 *Dues still at \$135.00.*

### *February*

- 1 *Dues renewal: \$145.00*
- 4 *Lake Hennessy Float Fly, Napa, Jake Chichiliti.*
- 12 *Lagoon Valley Electric Fun fly, www.lagoonrc.org*
- 15 *PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae*
- 29 *Last date to pay dues before you have to reapply as a new member.*

### *March*

- 4 *March Newsletter material submission dateline.*
- 21 *PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae*

\$

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. It will be \$145.00 if paid after February 1<sup>st</sup>!**

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

## LAKE HENNESSEY FLOAT FLY

*Jake Chichilitti*

We have set a date for the next float fly at Lake Hennessey in beautiful Napa Valley. The date is February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

I will update you all on the Wednesday before the event with a weather check to make sure the conditions will be favorable.

I'll make a go/no go decision at that time, but try to have something ready to fly, you won't be disappointed.

The last session in November was fantastic. Some of the best flying conditions we have ever had at the lake.

## SIG MFG. CO. SOLD, TO STAY IN

### MONTEZUMA

by DHAYES on MARCH 3, 2011

• **Owner Chris Le Heron sells the company to David Martin of Montezuma and two Chicago-area businessmen**

By J.O. PARKER [joparker@dmreg.com](mailto:joparker@dmreg.com)

Sig Manufacturing Co., Inc. turns 60 this year, and now has new owners who plan to keep the model airplane company flying in Montezuma.

The company recently announced that Chris Le Heron of Wellington, New Zealand has sold the business to three investors, including David Martin, vice president and general manager at Sig Mfg., and Chicago-area business-men Herb Rizzo and Ron Petterec, both avid modelers. The deal was finalized in Montezuma on Friday, Feb. 18.

*David Martin, vice president and general manager of Sig Mfg. Co. Inc., holds a Sun Dancer 50, one of more than 100 popular model airplanes the Montezuma-based company makes and sells. Martin is one of three investors who recently purchased the company Feb. 18 from Chris Le Heron of Wellington, New Zealand. The other investors are Herb Rizzo and Ron Petterec, both avid modelers and Chicago-area businessmen.*

“All other options would have taken it out of Montezuma,” said Martin, who will continue to oversee the daily operations of the company under the new ownership.

Martin said Le Heron, who has owned the company since 1999, sold the company due to health reasons.

That's good news for the 30 employees who work for the company, some with more than 40 years of service.

“I'm really pleased”, said company founder Hazel Sig-Hester of Montezuma. “I'm happy it's going to stay and that the people are going to have a job.”

Sig-Hester and the late Glen Sigafoose founded the company in the basement of their Montezuma home in 1951 when they started cutting, packaging and selling balsa wood for

modelers in the Midwest. The company quickly grew and by 1955 the couple's business moved to a larger location at 401 S. Front St., where it continued to grow and expand. Today, the company encompasses nearly 80,000 square-foot and produces and sells more than 100 different balsa wood model airplane kits, both radio control and control line, and thousands of products and accessories from decals to glues, paints, engines and instruction manuals.

“The most popular has been the Kadet series of training models that have been used to train model airplane pilots (around the world),” said Martin.

The company also specializes in the Almost Ready to Fly (ARF) models that are designed in Montezuma and produced in China. ARF models are pre manufactured and the modeler has to do little from box to air.

Martin said it was Le Heron who increased SIG's selection of ARFs, “Which was a big boost for Sig at the time.”

During his tenure, Martin said Le Heron also upgraded the company's computer system and developed a Web site that is used by hobby shops in all 50 states and model enthusiasts the world over.

Martin said Rizzo had expressed interest in the company in recent years and that both he and Petterec are very excited about the future.

“They are both active modelers and so they understand the business,” said ISig-Hester.

Rizzo will serve as president while Martin and Petterec will serve as vice presidents of the company.

Martin has been with Sig Mfg. since 2004 and hails from the Nashville, Tenn., area where his family owned business Hobby Lobby International (not the chain store) is located. Martin said he first met Hazel when he was around 12 years old at the Toledo, Ohio RC show that she attended every year. Martin's wife, Andrea, hails from Nuremberg, Germany where her family owned a hobby manufacturing business named KAVAN.

Sig purchased KAVAN in 2003 and it was through that purchase that brought the Martins to Montezuma. Le Heron Corporation now owns KAVAN and Andrea remains as president of the company.

Martin said that Andrea's parents had visited Montezuma years ago, and Sig-Hester took them on a very memorable airplane flight.

“Congratulations to the new owners of Sig,” said Jacque Johnston, the now retired past president of the company who spent 40 ½ years in the business. “The recent sell of Sig is a very positive move forward for the employees and community. I expect good things to happen now and in the future.”

# AMA EXPO 2012

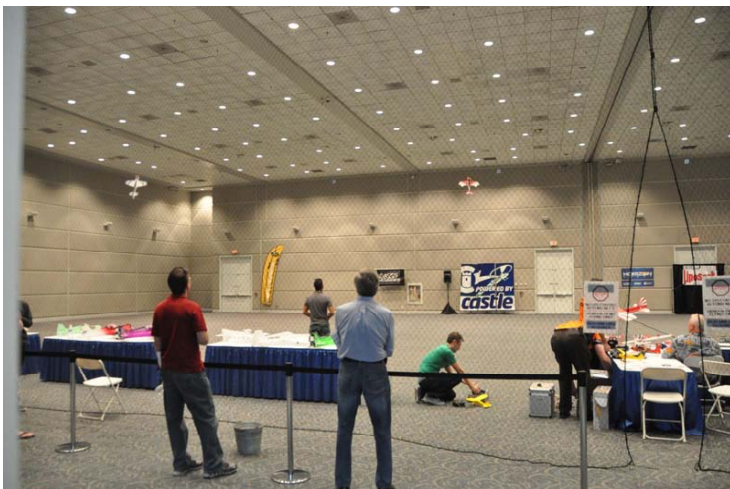
*Brian Chan*

We left The Bay Area 6:30 am and drove to Ontario to attend the 20112 AMA Expo at the Ontario Convention Center. Other members of PCC club are heading down at the same time, as we are, Mike S, Mike P, and Ray S. We arrived in Ontario about 12:30 pm. After checked into the hotel, we headed to the Expo right next to the hotel.



Friday was the first day for the Expo. When we arrived, the crews still have not got the program sorted out. We were sent to many places to find the pre-paid tickets.

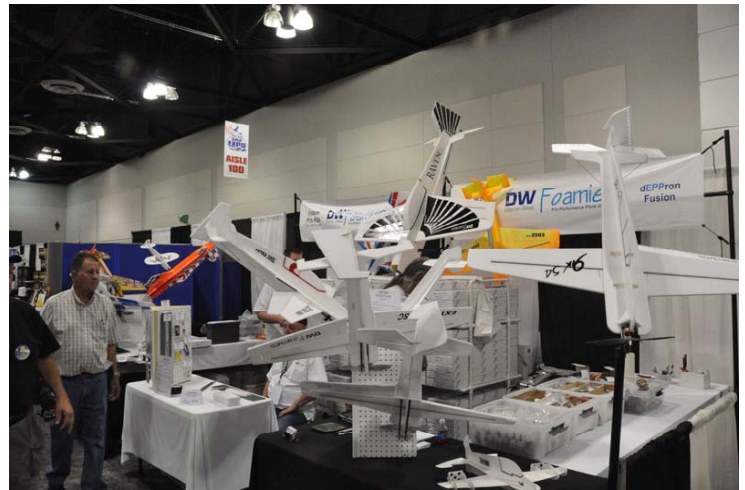
The Show... it was housed in a big hall about the size of three basketball courts side by side. AMA has arranged to have two indoor flying areas right next to the show floor. One small one for free flight and a larger one for radio control. The spectator area was separated from the flying area by a net from ceiling to floor.



It was not very busy on Friday, as many are still at work (I hope). It was a good time to visit the show as you can roam freely without bumping into other show attendees. We went through the show floor about 5 hours, with frequent stops to support the venders (i.e. buying stuffs!) and took photographs

of displays. The evening was topped by invited to dinner by the Neu Motors/Castle Creations hosts.

The thing I noticed at the show was, there were a lot of ARFs and a lot of FOAM!! There were only TWO wood airplane kit manufacturers, the rest of pushing the foam and fiberglass ARFs. One other observation was that was lack of young people attending the show.



We went back to the show the next day, before heading back home. There were noticeable more people coming to the show, at 10 a.m. there were about 300 people waiting in line to get in. There was also a swap meet at the adjacent hall. There were many sellers and many more stuffs. It was interesting to scan through the swap meet.



We depleted the wallet about noon and left for the Bay Area. It was a nice show, small but many products to see and manufacturers to talk to. Also there are many venders to separate you and your hard earned money! If you have not been to a model trade show, this is one to attend. It is a short drive from home, but if you want to experience a bigger event, try Toledo Show. You need to experience it at least once!



AMA Expo Show floor.



Turbine jet on display.



Xoar Propeller displays.

o Work Cessna LC-126 on float plane.



Free flight flying area.



There are some familiar faces.



Evolution 7 Cyl 260 c.c. ignition engine. (buddy's hand for sizing.)



Vender display, AeroWorks booth..



Helicopters on display.



Mold making supplies, The Composites Store, Inc.



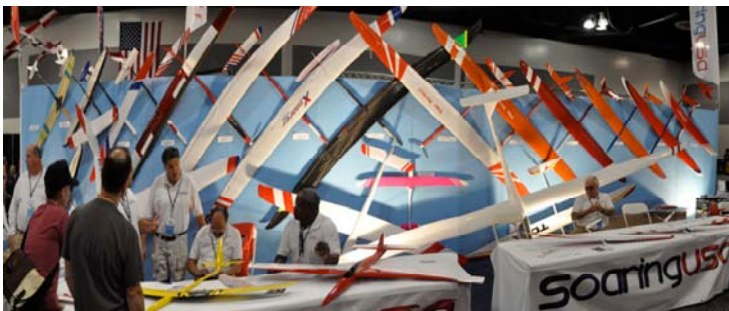
Batteries and speed controllers.



Spektrum DX-8 and DX-10 tray-type transmitter.



AMA booth.



SoaringUSA display.



Swap meet area.



F3A motor from Neu Motor Inc.



Vintage radios on display.



Turbine powered A-10 on display.



The Yak 3 to be presented to Eddie at the Holiday banquet.



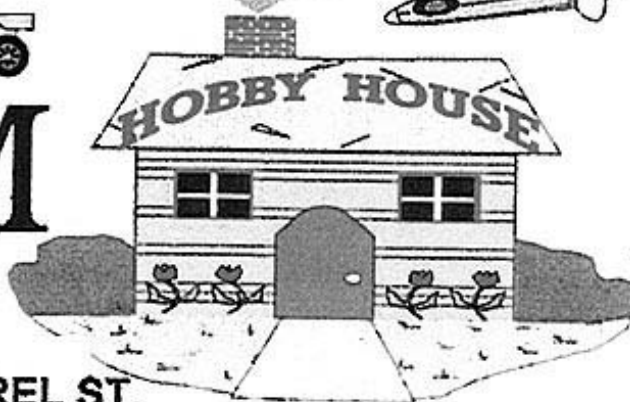
*Peninsula Channel Commanders*

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

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 18th, 2012, 7:30 p.m.  
Holiday Banquet Tickets available at the meeting. Look for Ray.**



**J&M**



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