

# PCC NEWSLETTER

PENINSULA CHANNEL COMMANDERS INC.



March 2013

Next Meeting:

March 20th, 2013

AMA Chartered Club # 139

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

Field Phone: 650-712-4423

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Treasurer	Greg Romine	650-736-7230	<a href="mailto:gsromine@stanford.edu">gsromine@stanford.edu</a>
Field Safety Officer / Webmaster	Matt Abrams	415-370-3323	<a href="mailto:matt@matt-abrams.com">matt@matt-abrams.com</a>
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Editor/Flight Proficiency Chairman	Brian Chan	650-867-8813	<a href="mailto:pcceditor@gmail.com">pcceditor@gmail.com</a>

## WHAT'S HAPPENING @PCC

On March 5th, 1917 a baby boy was born to the Richardson family! This year Alonzo celebrated his 96th Birthday .



## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

*Dennis Lowry*

February 20, 2013

Call to Order: Mike Solaegui called meeting to order.

**Guests:** Dennis English Is a New Member. He's paid his dues, and he's an intermediate flier. Welcome Dennis.

**Raffle Prize:** It was the best prize offered this year. J&M donated it at cost. Tickets were sold at \$1.00 each or seven for \$5.00. It was a great prize and somebody won it. . . Actually the secretary was distracted and missed what was offered, because the Raffle Masters donated \$50.00 from the Raffle Pot to the Oceana Interim Classes, and Mr. Secretary, in charge of that effort, had to put the donated proceeds in a safe place while the Raffle Masters went over the details.

**Treasurers Report:** All is good.

**Membership Report:** 85 to date and growing.

**President's Report:** President, Mike Solaegui had had surgery on his ankle earlier in the day and reported that he had no agenda and no gavel; but he put his cast on the table and everybody was in awe that he was even present.

**New Business:** Ken Martinez and Mike Klass single handedly together fixed the rut at the entrance to the club. The club membership resolved to make sure everybody thanks them for their work.

**Ken Martinez resolved that thanks can be paid by keeping the place clean.**

**Elections:** The existing officers are re-elected and confirmed for the 2013 term by default: Default of the officers.

**Contests & Events:** No Contests.

**Oceana High School Interim Classes:** March 25 through 29 (5 days). All members are welcome to help. See Dennis Lowry or Ken Martinez. We teach Physics (Greg Romine); Engineering (Mark Heckman); RC Flying (Ken Martinez, Ethan Jug, and Dennis Lowry); and U-control flying (Ken Martinez and Jake Chichilitti.) We provide (PROVIDE) a tour of the NASA Ames facility thanks to Brian Chan and Dr William Warmbrodt of NASA Ames. THANKS to Raffle Masters for the PCC contribution.

**Safety Report:** Poison Oak: Be Careful near the piss area, and near the pot area. Ouch! (This is an old note, but I'm gonna leave it in until it stops being funny to me.)

**Flight Proficiency:** Don't fly across Highway One and we'll call you proficient enough.

**Sad Stories:** Daniel dumped an F-86. Full scale pilots used to tell a story about the deadly SABRE DANCE. If a pilot tried to take off before he had airspeed he would enter the Sabre Dance and very seldom recover. The plane entered a steep attitude and could not climb out nor get forward motion, so usually it fell out to one side or the other to the ground. I guess the new class of foamies are fairly unstable as well, because Daniel is an excellent pilot.

**Hits and Misses:** The Hobbico 9XR Transmitter for \$50 with a module for \$20 has to be a hit. It is recommended by Matt Abrams. This Hit had some discussion, so check it out. Save a \$.

#### **Show and Tell:**

Matt showed a 43" Slick being sold by Jay Emerson. It was bought. We wish the BEST of luck to Jay who is temporarily pursuing other interests.

Mike showed his ruptured tendon. (I'll say that's worth a free ticket. Heck, give him two!)

Maurice showed a nice school yard trainer.

Carlos showed a Chipmunk. One of a few various ones he's tried. It has a Supertiger 2 stroke, but the 91 Surpass 4-stroke is better. He's put lots of improvements on this one. Next for him is an E-Chipmunk, then a Gasser. Sounds like he goes through Chipmunks like some guys go through girlfriends. Good luck Carlos.

Dave Santana brought in a Jeff Obertelli-built Sea Master for sale. Jeff Obertelli is a past president, and he hosted one of the best Club Banquets I ever attended. (That's this secretary's opinion.) If you see Jeff, give him my regards, and tell him I wish he were still a member, and mostly that he still pursued the hobby. (Don't tell him that I want his dues in the pot, but I do, especially after all the money he spent on that banquet! No – seriously it was a party we all will not forget, those of us who went.) SEA MASTER SEA MASTER SEA MASTER! It sold.

Eric brought in a very elegant foil he designed for sloping: 30" wingspan; Covered in Docu-lam; VERY nice work. His airfoil is off the web, but the engineering is all Einnarson.

RAFFLE: Secretary missed what it was and who won. He was checking his numbers.

## **JAKE HAD LEFT THE BUILDING**

*Brian Chan*

Yes, by the time you read this, Jake and Maryanne had been relocated to the North Bay, Santa Rosa to be exact. I am sure he will stop in once in a while but he will not be at the field every Sunday! We will miss him, as he established himself as an icon at PCC!



(circa 2000, photo taken by Paul Lum)

## **TAKE WHAT YOU BRING HOME!**

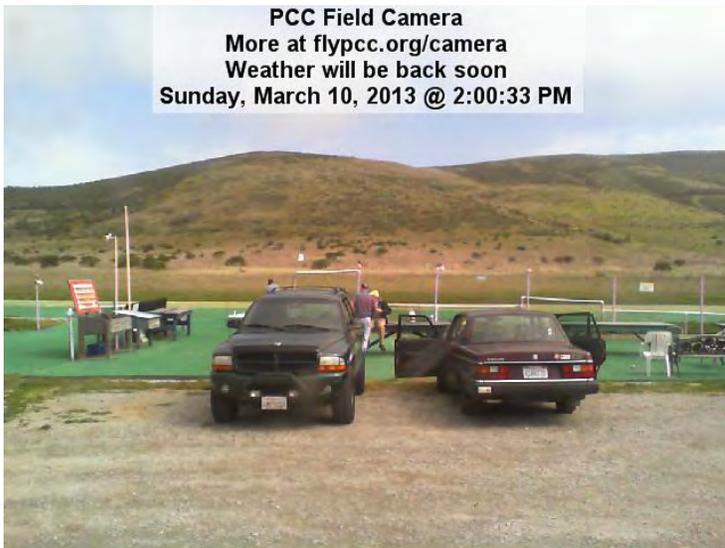


**No garbage on the ground**

Cups and water bottles had been spotted at the field lately, this is not acceptable. Please removed all the refuse from the field, there is no clean up service at the field. It will make Kenny very happy. It is a good idea to keep a few large trash bags in the car, you never know when you will need one!

## FIELD CAMERA AND BATTERY

You have noticed that the Field Cam does not have wind/temperature info on it. That's because a couple of weeks ago Steve W. saw that the image wasn't changing for a few days. Rebooting (his universal fix) only worked for one or two images then the webcam software froze again although the same image was being uploaded for days. The quick fix was to use a different webcam software but it is not linked to the weather data stream. Steve has a duplicate weather station and webcam at home. He has set up a second notebook and has been testing an updated system at home and will swap it in shortly. Also the solar cells are doing pretty good, once the Sun came out from hiding. The voltage of the batteries reached 13 volts.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *March*

- 20 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae
- 23 SACRC Starter Scale event, Union City. Contact Jeff Whitney ([jeff.whitney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeff.whitney@sbcglobal.net)) for information.
- 25-29 Oceana High School Interim Classes. Contact Dennis Lowry if you would like to help out.

### *April*

- 13 SCCMAS Swap Meet, SCCMAS, Morgan Hill.
- 17 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae

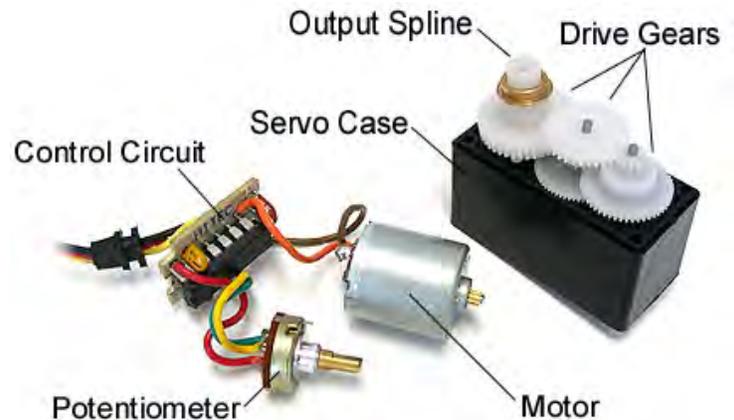
### *May*

- 12 Mother's Day
- 15 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae
- 18 Wings of History Museum open house. South County airport.

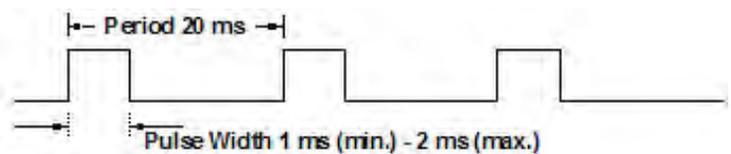
## HOW SERVOS WORK?

*From ServoCity website*

The purpose of this information is to give an overview of how servos operate and how to communicate with them. Though we have taken steps to assure the quality of information here, ServoCity makes no guarantees about the information presented. ServoCity cannot be held liable or accountable for any use or misuse of the provided information.



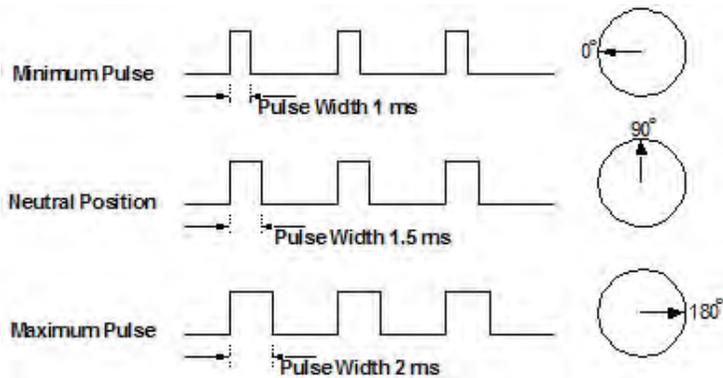
Servos are controlled by sending them a pulse of variable width. The control wire is used to send this pulse. The parameters for this pulse are that it has a minimum pulse, a maximum pulse, and a repetition rate. Given the rotation constraints of the servo, neutral is defined to be the position where the servo has exactly the same amount of potential rotation in the clockwise direction as it does in the counter clockwise direction. It is important to note that different servos will have different constraints on their rotation but they all have a neutral position, and that position is always around 1.5 milliseconds (ms).



The angle is determined by the duration of a pulse that is applied to the control wire. This is called Pulse width Modulation. The servo expects to see a pulse every 20 ms. The length of the pulse will determine how far the motor turns. For example, a 1.5 ms pulse will make the motor turn to the 90 degree position (neutral position).

When these servos are commanded to move they will move to the position and hold that position. If an external force pushes against the servo while the servo is holding a position, the servo will resist from moving out of that position. The maximum amount of force the servo can exert is the torque rating of the servo. Servos will not hold their position forever though; the position pulse must be repeated to instruct the servo to stay in position.

When a pulse is sent to a servo that is less than 1.5 ms the servo rotates to a position and holds its output shaft some number of degrees counterclockwise from the neutral point. When the pulse is wider than 1.5 ms the opposite occurs. The minimal width and the maximum width of pulse that will command the servo to turn to a valid position are functions of each servo. Different brands, and even different servos of the same brand, will have different maximum and minimums. Generally the minimum pulse will be about 1 ms wide and the maximum pulse will be 2 ms wide.



Another parameter that varies from servo to servo is the turn rate. This is the time it takes from the servo to change from one position to another. The worst case turning time is when the servo is holding at the minimum rotation and it is commanded to go to maximum rotation. This can take several seconds on very high torque servos!

## **TITEBOND GLUE BOTTLE**

*Ace Wilson, Pioneer RC Club*

Have you ever had a bottle of Titebond glue that you can't open with the red slider cap? It is not an uncommon problem when you use white glue for wood projects or for building and repairing model airplanes. It recently happened to me with a 16 ounce bottle of Titebond glue with a red cap. In fact after using the bottle of glue a number of times and closing and opening it successfully each time, I got to the point where I couldn't open the slider cap even by prying with a screwdriver and a pair of pliers. What happened next was a real surprise when the whole spout broke off leaving me with a 3/8 inch hole in the cap. I thought, now what do I do? I decided to get some masking tape and seal up the top until I could find a solution to facilitate dispensing the glue in the future. I inquired at the next Club Meeting (Pioneer RC Club meeting) and Brian Chan said to contact the company who made the Titebond glue (Franklin International) as he received six new bottle caps.

Consequently, I went to the company's web site at [http://www.titebond.com/contact\\_us.aspx](http://www.titebond.com/contact_us.aspx)

and submitted a complaint on the form provided by the Customer Service group. Then within a couple of days I received an email note from the Sr. Technical Specialist

saying they were sending me a number of new caps and would give me an opportunity to look at a new prototype cap and report my results which I agreed to do.

It proved out to be well worth my time to file a complaint and they were very responsive and took care of my problem. If you have a similar problem or complaint, look up the customer service and send them a note as it does pay to complain when something isn't right.

JGW Modeler

\*\*Another solution is to transfer the glue to a plastic squeeze bottle, available in craft stores or Harbor Freight Tools, 3 for less than \$4.00.



<http://www.harborfreight.com/pack-of-3-8-oz-storage-bottles-with-twist-caps-66170.html>

Check the bottle for leak before you buy it. Some of these type of bottles do not have a good seal. Also make sure you buy the one with RED caps. I have some that has a cap that is the same color as the bottle, I had a hard time finding the cap after I left it on the work bench.



Dennis's U/C model after performing the drugged figure-9 maneuver.



Three generations of Heckman, Mark, Warren and Dave.



A good collection of different vintage of aircrafts!



Jim R and Warren H.



Martin's Super Dimona powered sailplane landing.



A good gathering at the field.



Martin's ME-262 on a low pass, twin ducted fans, retractable landing gears.

**SACRC STARTER SCALE  
MARCH 23, 2013  
RAIN DATE: MARCH 30, 2013**



**LEARN HOW TO FLY US SCALEMASTERS MANEUVERS!  
PREPARE FOR SCALEMASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
OCTOBER 10-13, 2013**

**“GUIDES” AVAILABLE TO HELP WRITE FLIGHT ROUTINES,  
BRIEF THE JUDGES, SET UP AND PERFORM MANEUVERS AND CALL  
POST-FLIGHT CRITIQUE AND SUGGESTIONS BY US SCALEMASTER  
CERTIFIED FLIGHT JUDGES**

**REGISTRATION STARTS 8AM, PRE-FLIGHT BRIEFING AT 845  
ROUND 1 COMMENCES AT 9AM (2 ROUNDS FLOWN)  
REGISTRATION \$20 (A PORTION OF THE ENTRY FEE SPLIT AMONG TOP  
3 PLACES AS PRIZE)**



For details on field location and directions visit the SACRC website  
[www.sacrc.org](http://www.sacrc.org)  
Or contact Jeff Whitney at  
510-861-3214 or  
[Jeff.whitney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Jeff.whitney@sbcglobal.net)



**WARBIRDS BY THE BAY  
JULY 20, 2013**



**ALL ERA WARBIRDS! GAS! GLOW! ELECTRIC!  
ELECTRIC FLYING STARTS AT 7AM  
GAS AND GLOW AT 9AM  
SORRY, NO TURBINES  
E-FLITE ULTRA MICRO WARBIRD RACING!  
LIMITED LANDING APPROACH, SEE PICTURE ON BACK  
LUNCH SERVED ON SITE  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE VIOLA BLYTHE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER**



For details on field location and directions visit the SACRC website  
[www.sacrc.org](http://www.sacrc.org)  
AMA Sanction Pending





*Peninsula Channel Commanders*

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

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 7:30 p.m.**

**J&M**

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