

# FLIGHT LINE

The Communication Forum for the  
SkyKnights R/C Club

Web Page <http://www.sky-knights.org/>

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March 2004

## **February Meeting Highlights**

President Chuck Adams opened the meeting. Guests included Sam Bacon, a Skyknight from some time ago; who brought his son Scott, also Chuck Velaney; all three joined the club at the meeting. It was reported that last Saturday, sometime after one p.m. the last person to leave the field did not fully latch the gate lock. Please, when you close the lock, try to pull it open again to ensure that it is completely locked. Tom Ries has donated an O.S. 40LA engine to go with one of the club trainers. Steve Martin reminded us that the club tape library is available for all members to borrow a tape, call him for a list or to have him bring a tape to a meeting or maybe to the field. Bill Ely reminded any member who doesn't have a club ID nametag, to contact him. Mike Whitney has volunteered to coordinate the club field picnic on May 18, it was reported that Pete Shull may assist. The shed is being repaired after someone broke into it a little while ago. The spring opener date was set as Apr 18. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of buying/owning a club field. Several members volunteered to pledge \$1000.00 each to help when we get to that point. For show and tell, Dean Roundy brought his now complete Ryan STA; and Dennis Meyer his F51, and related the history of the A/C, and the differences between it and the more well known P51. at the raffle, Trevor

Howell won an ARF airplane, a Sky Raider Mach I. Steve Martin got a miniature precision screwdriver set. Ron Caspell has a new dial caliper. Glenn Thornton is the proud owner of a Fourmost Products Miter Cutter. Andy Tidwell's ticket was pulled for a Hobbico AC/DC Multi Charger.

## **Indoor Flying**

Going on right now, on every other Wednesday evening quite a few modelers assemble at the Camp Withycomb armory and fly at night. The variety of models is amazing. Some are kits, some are built from plans, but many leap out of the builders mind and into the covered, lighted, and; wind free environment. Bob Tinsley has graciously arranged for the use of the facility; which all fliers donate five dollars to cover the rent for each night. For that price you get to fly from 5:00 pm until around 9:00 pm. No limits on how many flights or aircraft you have; however, all fliers must be current AMA members. Frequency control is somewhat informal, list your channel number(s) on the sign up sheet, then call out or coordinate your use with anyone else with the same frequency. The only cost involved to stop by and observe, is the gas to get there, and the time you lose that you could be home building your new spring model that might have to wait another month before you can bring it in to show and tell. Modelers come from

many of the local Portland/Vancouver area clubs. So stop by some time to see an interesting mix of small, slow indoor fliers (aircraft and pilots), and maybe see some old friends or meet some new ones. Plus if you come to fly, you can keep those flying skills honed for when the weather breaks, whether you get out every third Saturday that it is or isn't raining; or if you wait until it gets warm and sunny outside.

**Letter to the Editor**

**To the SkyKnights,**

Just a note of thanks for the recognition of my efforts over the past years from Chuck Adams and the members and spouses in attendance at the Awards Banquet. And a special thank you for the gift from the club: "Wings, A History of Aviation from Kites to the Space Age" by Tom D. Crouch. I look forward to reading this fine book. The best part of the club has always been the fine people that make up the membership with a common interest in aviation of all types. To quote a very famous man: "Thanks for the memories" and many happy days, months and years of building and flying to you all.

Gary Norton

**Training**

Tuesday night training will resume next April 6<sup>th</sup>, the first Tuesday after daylight savings time begins. If you need help during the winter give one of the instructors a call.

Current instructors are:

- Don Curry                    503-761-9321
- John Fox                     503-657-4354
- Dale McDonald            503-761-3109
- Pete Shull                  503-668-2886
- Jim Kist                      503-669-8208

**\*\*\*\*\*CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\***

April meeting at Camp Withycombe on the 12th, starting at 7:00 P.M.

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**Apr 18**  
**Spring Opener at Roslyn Lake, 0900.**  
**Event coordinator Jim Weaver**

**May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Celebration of Silent Flight, Fern Prairie Modellers field. Contact Jerry Holcomb**

**May 18**  
**Skyknight Picnic, Orient Field**  
**Event coordinator, Mike Whitney**

**\*\*\*\*\*Exec board meetings\*\*\*\*\***

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**Mar 1st** Dale McDonald (503)761-3109

**Apr 5th** Dave Higgs (503)777-2413

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** Chuck Adams (503)698-2955

**Club Jackets**

Chuck Adams has taken over the jacket orders from Bob Tinsley. Jackets are available in sizes of large (L), extra large (XL) and extra-extra large (XXL). These are ready-to-wear and come in Wolf Grey with appropriate club logos. Prices range from \$33.25 to \$34.25. Contact Chuck at (503) 658-2955 to order.

**Classifieds**

*Classified ads will be published for 90 days. Ads may be re-published by contacting the Editor. Deadline is the Tuesday before the regular Monday night meeting.*

**Estate Sale**

Quick Learner EMS Helicopter; engine is an OS .32SX-H; fibreglass main rotor blades; composite tail blades; some upgrades to aluminium parts; complete with JR 8103 8 channel radio. This machine is fully assembled and has only been hovered. **\$950.00 OBO.**

Three drawers of RC parts including various engines, starters, \$70 worth of special screws, gyros, wood main rotor blades, etc. Will sell individually or as a package. Make offer.

Brent Strange, 503-805-5127

**Orville Brooks Estate Sale**

OS 5 cylinder radial FR5-300, nib \$850  
OS 4 cylinder flat Pegasus 320, nib \$850  
Kavan FK 50 MKI Twin wet sump, like new \$750  
Super Tigre 56, like new \$50  
Super Tigre 71, used \$20  
Ross 60 Twin, factory rebuilt like new \$150  
Fox 120 Twin, used \$100  
Astro Flight 035 cobalt with battery pack, new \$50  
Proctor Fokker D-VII, fuselage framed \$395  
Der Jager 1/3 scale, new \$225  
Stinger 84" wingspan, kit, new \$115  
Dick Hansen, 503-653-2578

**Wanted: F4F Wildcat**

1/5<sup>th</sup> scale F4F Wildcat with scale retracts and fiberglass fuselage sold about 1998-99 possibly. Would like to buy back or would entertain the purchase of any 1/5<sup>th</sup> or larger scale Wildcat.

John DesIlets 503-666-4606

**Wanted: OS 40 SF**

I need an OS 40 SF case to rebuild an engine for club use.

Bob Tinsley 503-257-3057

**Wanted: Used R/C Gear**

Looking for any kind of R/C gear that you are not using. It will be used to recycle equipment to younger members of the club.

Bob Tinsley 503-257-3057

**FLIGHT LINE**

*Flight Line* is published monthly by SkyKnights for its members. Articles, letters and ideas for publication should be sent to the editor at 3925 S.E. 136th, Portland, OR 97236 no later than the first Monday of the month of publication. Feel free to call in information at 503-761-3109 or email to [dalemcdonald@comcast.net](mailto:dalemcdonald@comcast.net)



Joe Topper, Gary Norton, and Gary Parker, in the Proctor booth at Puyallup.  
G. Norton photo



Martin Mars flying boat, in fire fighting service.  
D. McDonald photo



A very large Four Star on floats  
D. McDonald photo

## FLIGHT CHAT

My column this month is a brief news report. I am traveling in Arizona and California. In Arizona I flew with the Speed Flyers R/C Assoc. near Phoenix. They rent part of an old auxiliary field that has been given to the county. They paved their own runway. They have a great Quicky 500 race course there with three pylons. This is the home of the International Speed Flyers pylon races, where flyers come from all over the world to compete. They use Quicky 500 size birds with Nelson high performance engines. These birds reach 160 mph+ on the straight away. While I was there I visited with Darrel Kady from Vancouver, Wa. He is a well known guru of pylon racing and graphite rods for control rod and surfaces. He was working on a new model that was composite. He had worked for days polishing the surface to reduce friction. There are no gaps for control surfaces. The control surfaces are not separate tabs connected to the wing or tail. They are an integral part of the wing or tail and made of a lighter weight material that flexes under the pressure of a moving servo to deflect against the airstream and change the flight attitude.

In California I joined the Coachella Valley OR/C club located near Indio so I could fly during the winter. It has a great flying field. They rent land from BLM for \$1 per year and have constructed a paved runway with sun canopies over the tables. The tables have restraints built on each so as you start your model it is in harness against the restraint. You then carry your model or steer it by holding on to the rudder until you get to the barricades protecting each flying station. After flight you stop the engine and carry or wheel the model back to the tables. It is a super safe

*system and no one objects to using this system. I think all of our fields in the N.W. would benefit from using this system. The field cost about \$160,000. The dues are \$150 per year or \$75 for 6 months for snow birds like me.. To get started they obtained a few loans and now they have almost paid off all loans. They have about 150 members. They fly 7 days per week and on most days there are 8 or more at the field. On weekends there are 12 to 16.*

*I am attaching a couple of photos of the Speed Flyers as well as the Coachella Valley fields and hope they show the great layouts they have.*



*I checked with Scaled Composites to see if there was any more news on their attempt to launch a manned space flight. As is their custom they would not say when the next scheduled flight is. I am guessing about March or April. Their flight in December was a great success with the White knight dropping the SS-1 (manned rocket ship) at about 35,000 and SS-1 reaching Mach 1.6 at 58,000'. That is about it for now. I know everyone in the N.W. is getting cabin fever and hoping the weather will begin to warm so you can get back to the fun stuff again. Until next time keep building.*

Ken Solomon

**Error!**



Children's  
Cancer  
Association

7524 SW Macadam, Suite B  
Portland, Oregon 97219  
Phone: (503) 244-3141  
Fax: (503) 892-1922  
www.ChildrensCancerAssociation.org

December 17, 2003

Portland Skyknights  
c/o Guy Foreman  
11621 NE Oregon  
Portland, OR 97220

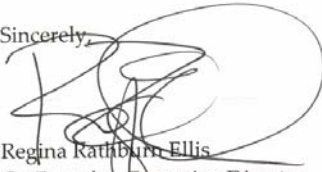
Dear Friends at Portland Skyknights,

Bob and Bev Veley truly showed their gracious spirits this holiday season by organizing their annual fundraiser on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Together you raised \$500 on behalf of the Children's Cancer Association. We thank you for your heartfelt support, which will make such an impact on the lives of seriously ill children in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

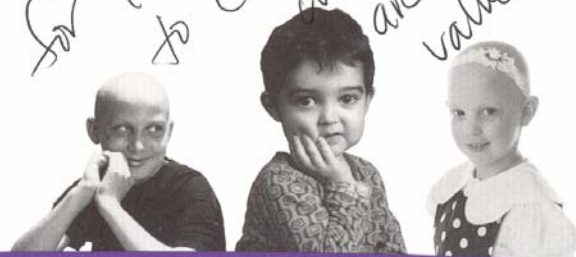
The Children's Cancer Association was inspired by the life of our oldest daughter, Alexandra, who died of cancer in 1995. Together, with your help and involvement, we are dedicated to bringing laughter and happiness to children and their families while they face a very scary and uncertain future. Through our programs, we help ease pain and inspire joy in kids suffering from cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

**Thank you for believing in the human spirit; we could not be here without you!**

Sincerely,

  
Regina Rathburn-Ellis  
Co-Founder, Executive Director  
Children's Cancer Association

*Guy - Thank you  
for your ongoing generosity  
to CCA - your kindness  
and the SkyNights  
are so deeply  
valued here!*



This is a copy of the letter the club received in thanks to our contributions from Pearl Harbour Days. Thanks to all of the volunteer helpers, contestants, and spectators; whose donations helped us become so recognised.

