

Servo Chatter

January 2004 - Issue # 102

Official newsletter of the SCCMAS "Tomcats"

AMA club charter #110

Editor: Chris Luvara

<http://www.sccmas.org>



Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 28th, 2004 @ 7:30pm

Location: Hayes Elementary School, Poston Drive in San Jose. See page 3 for map.

Future Meeting dates: March 26th, May 20th

Meeting Program: Raffle prizes will include the usual - a radio, an engine, a kit, glues, and lots of other neat stuff! Bring your latest creation for show and tell and receive a free raffle ticket. Coffee and Donuts during the break. There will also be a special workers raffle at this meeting for all that helped at events throughout 2003.

Cover Photo: Babe Caltabiano's *Cosmic Wind* (Photo by Chris Luvara)

In This Issue:

From the Editor.....	2
VP News.....	2
Secretary's Building Board.....	3
Treasurer's Report.....	4
Contest Corner.....	4
Toys for Tots.....	5
Training.....	5

From the Editor

by Chris Luvara



I hope everyone had a good holiday season, and that the new year has started off well. We've had a few changes on the SCCMAS governing board, including shifting of positions and the addition of one new member. It is covered elsewhere in the issue, so I'll spare all the details.

Included in Richard Groen's article is the 2004 contest schedule for the club. Based on your input from the contest surveys, Rich was able to put together a great schedule for the upcoming season. If you especially like Fun Flies, not only is there two, there is a new event. along with them that you would very much enjoy!

Incase you didn't notice, *Servo Chatter* has a slightly different look this month. In an effort to make it cleaner and more readable, I changed small parts of the layout, along with font structure. Please give me feedback so I can continue to improve. After doing this for the last six+ years, it was looking a little repetitive to me.

One comment I have been hearing that would be a great addition to the newsletter is short bio's on the club members. Would anyone like to write one? The newsletter is only published six times a year, and we have 400 members. Pretty good odds that we have plenty of people to write about. I think it would be neat to see other people's shops (whether it be the kitchen table, or a fully "modelerized" garage.) If you have a picture of your shop, digital, or film, send it in! Additionally, if you have any content or submissions, please send them to the address listed below.

I'm looking forward to another great year with the SCCMAS. This is my 16th year, and I'm sure it will be just as great, if not better!

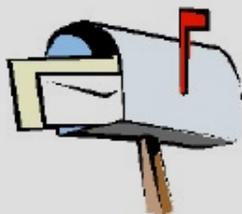
Fly Safe,

Chris

Send submissions to:

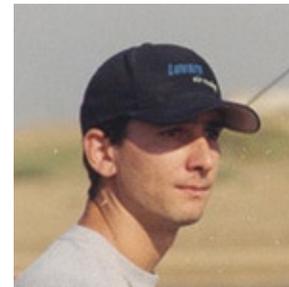
Servo Chatter

1365 Buchanan Dr.
Santa Clara, CA 95051-3950
408-246-3857
servochatter@sccmas.org



Flyin Fast - VP News

by Michael Luvara



Welcome again to another issue of *Servo Chatter*. I hope you and your family have had an enjoyable holiday season and we at the SCCMAS wish you a prosperous new year.

The contest season is fast approaching and Rich Groen has set up a wonderful set of contests for the 2004 season that all of us should enjoy. The responses from the club surveys guided the decisions and we thank you for your input and time in responding to the surveys.

I would like to welcome and introduce our newest board member, Mike French. Mike is taking on the training position and will be helping to get new students hooked up with instructors and ultimately get their wings. Please welcome Mike and feel free to offer your suggestions or comments for training to him. I know that he has a lot of great ideas and knowledge to offer to new and current members.

If you have not received your renewal package in the mail for the SCCMAS, please give us a call at 408-292-1212 and let us know. Likewise, if you have not yet sent in your dues, please do so as they are due on February 1st, 2004. Also, if you are not a current AMA member for 2004, you cannot fly at the field until you have a 2004 AMA card.

The January meeting will have our annual workers raffle for those that have helped at any event in 2003. Last year we gave away more than \$600 in prizes. This is our way of thanking those that have helped at events and given their time to the SCCMAS.

On behalf of the SCCMAS, I would like to thank everyone that showed up for our Toys for Tots and Bob Whitacre memorial. The day was an astounding success and we filled more than two barrels full of toys! Thanks again for your support.

In December, the club suffered a break-in and took a heavy hit. Losses included our PA system, flying lawnmower, edger, blower, weed eater, lawn mower sharpener, three BBQ's and 4 EZ up shelters. If you have any leads on this matter, please contact me so we can forward it to the Sheriff. There's certainly an empty feeling when one loses property and some anger that goes along with it. The flying lawnmower sticks out like a sore thumb and it may be a clue that could lead to the stolen property.

So, be sure to get those planes ready for the upcoming events... June will have an interesting event, dubbed "Junk Yard Wars". The name says it all. Details to come.

Until next month.

Michael

From the Secretary's Building Board



by Rich Luvara

Club Meeting Notes December 6th, 2003
Members Present: 47

New Members:

Ron Maver
Yukio Nakagawa

New Solos :

none

Show and Tell

Lynsel Miller - Brought his Top Flite 1/5 Scale Mustang that he stripped, added a B-model turtle deck and glassed it with 1 1/2 oz glass. The Mustang is equipped with Robart Retracts, and powered by a Brison 2.4.

Jacob Raquet - Showed off an all composite Quickee 500, featuring skin hinging, and a Dub Jett motor that swings a 8.8x9 prop.

John Ribble - A neat little battery discharger - 1/2 amp for 4-18 cells from an October and December issues of Model Aviation magazine. Costs about \$35.00 for two.

Alain Laederach - Hobby Lobby "Ruby Red" electric arf. Said its a real bargain because it makes a better car than airplane.

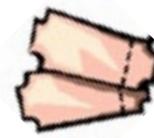


Dumb Thumb

Winner: Bob House



"I don't see what good this will do... Some guy told me it would start easier if I primed it!"



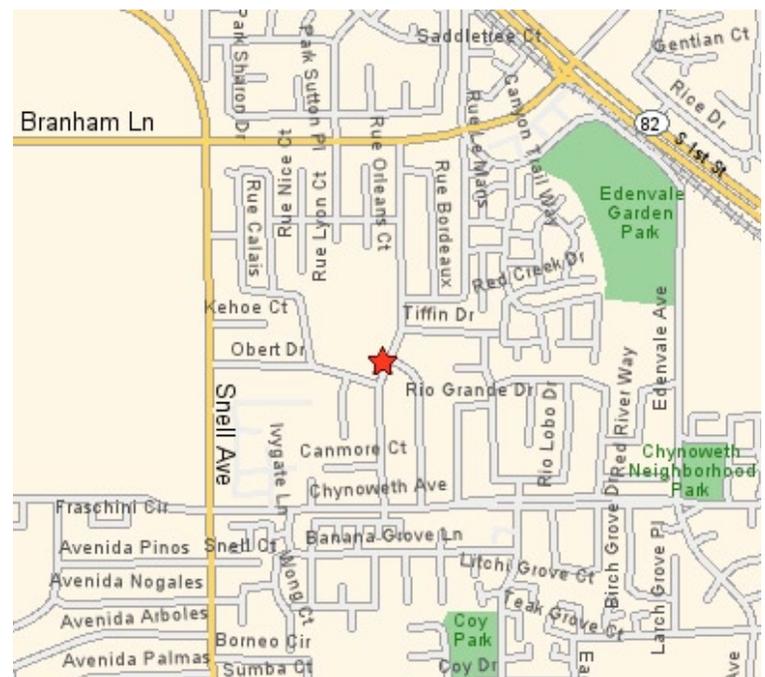
Raffle

Jack Patterson	Radio
Ray Frazier	Engine Servo Tubes
Dick Gardner	Glo-starter
Ken Kightley	Fuel Pump Glue Gift Certificate
	Epoxy
Larry Spector	Kit
Brian Patterson	Gift Certificate
Pat Rose	Sander
Bill Moore	Tailwheel
Babe Caltabiano	Epoxy Screws Servo Tubes
Kip Turley	Glue
Ron Bodewell	Screws
Bervin Britt	Glue Screws
Mike French	Epoxy
Rich Groen	Glue
Deen Sala	Screws
Ivan Cifuentes	Glue

This month, we have to thank D&J Hobbies, RC Blimp Productions and RCAT Systems for their help with our raffle. Without contributions from sources like this, our raffle would in no way be possible. Please support all of our local hobby shops that are listed on the back cover of the newsletter. Remember, the local shops are the ones that donate to our club. The mailorder ones do not.

MEETING LOCATION MAP

Hayes Elementary School, 5035 Poston Drive, San Jose, 95136



Treasurer's Report



by Jim Patrick



I have started wearing a new hat, that of club treasurer. I will be writing the treasurer's report for the next newsletter and beyond. I am currently processing member renewals and remind you to look over your renewal form very carefully. Make any changes necessary, then sign and initial the bottom of the form. PLEASE, include a copy of your current AMA card. The club must have on file the proof of your AMA membership and the signed form. If you have not signed your form, I will be mailing it back to you. Sign it and return it to me. Club cards will be mailed near the end of January. Those members with incomplete forms or no proof of AMA will not receive club cards.

I no longer wear the training hat. Mike French has taken over those duties. He is coordinating training activities, setting up sessions between students and instructors.

Until we find someone to wear the Safety hat, I remain the club safety officer. We are looking for a member to take over this position. If you are interested, please contact either myself, or Mike Luvara.

This time of year we get foggy conditions. Do not fly if you can not figure ceiling height. You will also find that during the few minutes that you fly the fog can quickly drop to the ground in many places. At the same time you can see clear areas. This is so deceiving that you may not notice this condition until you suddenly fly into it. Don't ask me how I know. You could loose sight of you plane very quickly. Be very careful.

Fly safely and see you at the field.



Jacob shows why it's not a good idea to fly through pylons

Contest Corner

by Rich Groen



Happy New Year one and all !

The long awaited 2004 schedule has been completed. I want to thank everyone who took the time and responded on the contest survey. It is truly my goal to schedule what the majority of members request and thanks to your responses I believe we have a schedule that most will enjoy. I plan to keep track of the surveys and myself or the event CD may call you for help at various events if you had marked that you may be able to help. We are a 100% volunteer run club, and all the events this year can't be done without your help. If there are any questions to any of the events, please e-mail me at contests@sccmas.org you can also call me @ 408-593-3735.

As the various events come closer, flyers will become available explaining more details.

SCCMAS EVENTS 2004

March 13th	Flea Market
March 27th	Inter Club Fun Fly
April 17th	Warbird Races
May 1st	Triangle Series T-34 race
June 12th	Electric Fly-In
June 26th	Junk Yard Wars
July 10th&11th	Invitational Air Show
August 7th	Flea Market
August 14th	Giant Scale Fly-In
September 25th	Open T-34 Race
October 23rd	Open Fun Fly
November 6th	Pattern Contest
December 4th	Flea Market
December 12th	Toys 4 Tots Fly-In

* These are finalized dates for SCCMAS events. Next month we will publish all the approved NCRCS dates which were set during the annual scheduling meeting.

Toys for Tots

Thanks to all that came out to support the Bob Whitacre Memorial Toys for Tots fly-in. We collected two full barrells of toys that we were able to pass on to those in need.



Participants with the toys and Frank Banks "toy," - I mean beautiful P-38. (photo by Jim Caparelli)



Matthew Smith poses with a full barrell of toys at the Bob Whitacre Memorial Toys for Tots fly-in (Mike Luvara)

Training

by Mike French



I am pleased to be able to serve SCCMAS members as the coordinator for flight instruction. Jim Patrick's guidance will be a hard act to follow as he has served in this capacity with distinction for many years. My objective will be to maintain and expand the club's training services to ultimately encompass all the types of A/C we see being used at the field. If club members are interested in expanding their flying interests, SCCMAS should be able at least to guide their pursuits.

Based upon the most recent roster of SCCMAS, there are almost 400 members. 133 of those members are listed as not being solo qualified. This offers an ample opportunity for our 21 primary flight instructors to help the one in three club members get their solo rating. This matches 6 1/3 potential student members for each instructor. Needless to say, 133 students flying on the same weekend would be impossible. Even finding that many time slots with instructors over a year would be a challenge. But it does point out the necessity of matching capability with opportunity.

In the opportunity category, the first table (located on page 6) shows the list the names of instructors willing to teach on specific days. The second table (the bottom one located on page 6) was generated from phone conversations made with each instructor and reflects which days they are available to provide training to students. It gives an idea of what days are better to find instructors and to plan how to earn a solo rating. If members are interested in obtaining instruction, contact me, Mike French at 408-373-5301 and I will forward your name to available instructors who will contact you for training arrangements.

(charts are shown on the next page)

HINTS!

Push rod Tip

Did you ever go through all the trouble to make up your control surface push rods only to find at installation that they were a quarter inch too short? Try this easy way to get the lengths just right. Tie a string to the control horn on the control surface. Drop the free end of the string through the fuselage. With the control surface in the neutral position, tie the other end of the string to the servo arm. Cut off the excess string at both tie points. Now, cut the string at the two and what you end up with is a piece of string that is the exact length of the push rod you will need to fabricate.

(taken from the AMA National Newsletter January 04)



Daily Flight Instruction Availability

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	No Sched
Dell Aquila	Celsi	Oliver	Celsi	French	Dell Aquila	Dell Aquila	Blum
Oliver	Gardner	Patrick	Gardner		Laederach	Laederach	
	Ledain	French	Ledain		French	French	
	Patterson	Loughridge	Patterson		Groen	Groen	
	Ribble		Ribble		Patrick	Sala	
	Rich		Rich		Patterson	Luvara	
	Sunzeri		Sunzeri		Sala	Dara	
					Shadwick		
					Saunders		

Flight Training Specialties

Primary	Warbird*	1/4 Scale*	Heli*	Glider*	Electric*	Racing*	Seaplane*	Turbine*
Blum	Dell Aquila	Dell Aquila	Christian	French	Loughridge	Luvara	Loughridge	
Celsi	Groen	Groen	Saunders	Dara	Dara			
Dara	Dara	Dara						
Dell Aquila	Oliver	Oliver						
French	Patterson	Patterson						
Gardner	Ribble	Ribble						
Groen	Sunzeri	Sunzeri						
Laederach	Dara	Dara						
Ledain								
Loughridge								
Luvara								
Oliver								
Patrick								
Patterson								
Ribble								
Rich								
Shadwick								
Sunzeri								

* The SCCMAS does not yet support active training in these areas. Listed names are individual knowledgeable volunteers.

Current Governing Board Members of the S.C.C.M.A.S. "Tomcats"

General Manager	Brian Nelson	408-463-0604	<i>nelson711@aol.com</i>
Vice President	Michael Luvara	408-292-1212	<i>mike@sccmas.org</i>
Newsletter Editor	Chris Luvara	408-246-3857	<i>servochatter@sccmas.org</i>
Treasurer	Jim Patrick	408-356-0817	<i>jpqt7@gte.net</i>
Contest Coordinator	Richard Groen	408-593-3735	<i>richdutch@aol.com</i>
Secretary	Richard Luvara	408-246-3857	<i>rluvara@hotmail.com</i>
Food Service Manager	Pat Luvara	408-246-3857	<i>pat@luvaraairracing.com</i>
Safety			
Flight instruction	Mike French	408-373-5301	
Webmaster	Steve Snell	831-438-7624	<i>webmaster@sccmas.org</i>
Field Weather & Information (AUTOMATED)		408-776-0101	
On site Field Telephone		408-776-6844	
SCCMAS Business Office		408-292-1212	
SCCMAS WWW address:		<i>http://www.sccmas.org</i>	

AMA Intro Pilots (These pilots can fly-non AMA members, certain restrictions apply.)

Reggie Dell Aquila Jim Patrick Jack Sunzeri

Please help support these companies and organizations as they help to support us.....

RADIOS • PARTS • ACCESSORIES • SPECIALIZING IN
RADIO CONTROL AIRPLANES, BOATS, CARS
RETAIL MAIL ORDER

Sheldon's Hobbies

Mon. & Fri. - 9:30 to 5:30
Tues. & Wed. - 9:30 to 5:30
Thurs. - 9:30 to 9:00
Sat. - 9:30 - 6:00
Sun. - 10:30 to 5:00

2135 Old Oakland Road
San Jose, CA 95131
(408) 943-0220



R/C BLIMP PRODUCTIONS

Professional Piloting
Leasing • Sales • Service
Pilot Training

SHAWN BERKHEIMER
Owner / Producer

MARLENE BERKHEIMER
Co-Owner / Promoter

408-829-5708 • 408-835-4948

Hobby World



6148 Bollinger Road
San Jose, CA 95129
Phone (408)873-2109
Fax: (408)873-8413

www.hobby-world.com

All Makes & Models of Radio Control Equipment
Skateboards - Trains & Train Supplies - Rockets
Models - Paints - Airbrushes - Hobby Tools & Supplies
Doll Houses & Accessories - School Projects - Science Kits
D&D - War Hammer - Magic & other RPG's - Comics
Tamiya & Okami Mini Race Cars - Parts & Indoor Track
Slot Car Track - Slot Cars & Supplies
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

PIC

® Penn International Chemicals
A Division of PIC Adhesives, Inc.
A California Corporation
P.O. Box 4202
Mountain View, California 94040

(800)722-GLUE
(650)322-1030 ph/fax

Reggie Dell-Aquila
President

96 N. San Tomas Aquino Rd.
Campbell, Ca 95008
Phone: (408) 379-1696 Ext 124
Fax: (408) 379-1652
Email: Roger@djhobby.com
Web: www.djhobby.com

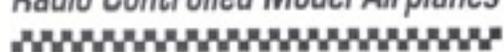


Roger Dahlberg
Radio Control Manager

D & J Hobby and Crafts
Your Hobby and Crafts Shop

R/C Unlimited

Radio Controlled Model Airplanes



Phone: 408.377.3771 Fax: 408.377.2211
14918 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95124
www.rc-unlimited.net
Jim Blum jimblum@earthlink.net

NOTE: D&J and Hobby World both give 10% discounts if club members show their club card.



Jim Patrick's Rambler does an inverted pass (Photo by Chris Luvara)

The Servo Chatter is published bi-monthly by the SCCMAS "Tomcats" radio control club located in Morgan Hill, CA. For info E-mail: servochatter@sccmas.org. Views expressed in the Servo Chatter are those of the writers. They do not necessarily represent the views of the club, its members, or officers. The SCCMAS is a non profit organization. The Servo Chatter welcomes all letters and comments. Permission is granted to reproduce anything printed in Servo Chatter as long as the source and author are credited.



Servo Chatter c/o SCCMAS
1365 Buchanan Dr.
Santa Clara, CA 95051-3950



*Next meeting: Wednesday, January 28th, 2004 @ 7:30pm
Location: Hayes Elementary
(see page 3 for a map)*