

Servo Chatter

December 2005, Issue #113

Official Newsletter of the SCCMAS "Tomcats"

AMA Club Charter #110

www.sccmas.org



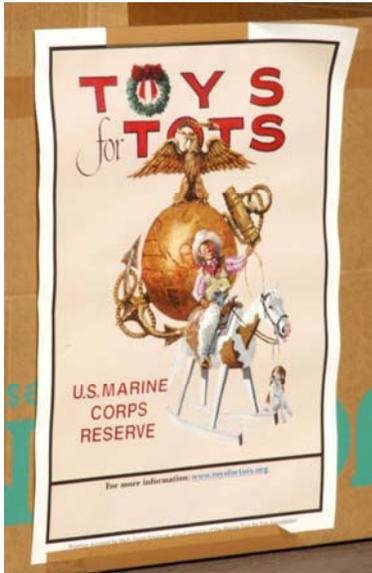
Next Meeting: Thursday, January 26, 2006 at 7 PM

Location: Hayes Elementary School, Poston Drive in San Jose. See page 4 for map and meeting details.

Cover Photo: John Motta's Yellow Aircraft P40, powered by a G26. Jim Patrick photo.



Jerry Anderson flying his Hangar 9 Edge 540 during a Wednesday afternoon flying session. Pat Rose photo.



See group photo on page 10



SCCMAS Entrance Road Sign

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Flyin Fast - VP News

By Michael Luvara

First off this issue, I'd like to welcome on two new Board members to the SCCMAS. As mentioned in the last newsletter, Chris Luvara has elected to pass on the baton for the newsletter editor position after nearly 10 years in the editor position. Club member Pat Rose has stepped up and volunteered to be our new newsletter editor. Pat has been a member of the SCCMAS for many years and an active flyer. Having worked with Pat at a previous employer, I know that he will do an excellent job with the newsletter. Thanks for stepping up and taking this on Pat! There is a lot of work that goes into producing a newsletter.

Secondly, I'd like to welcome Steve Smith on as our co-contest coordinator. Coordinating the events for the SCCMAS is no easy task. Steve will be working with Richard Groen to ensure that the SCCMAS's events are a success. Welcome Steve. I know that Steve has many great ideas that he would like to implement for our events.

I need to once again remind members that the pond area North of the field is still considered a wetlands and off limits to over flight. We seem to get lax on this every so often and it is critical that ***EVERY*** member comply with this and restrict their aircraft to the designated flight areas. While I realize this is difficult to do, we must all do our best to stay within bounds.

You'll notice this issue that our next scheduled meeting is in January. We originally had scheduled a meeting for November, but with the newsletter editor change and short timeframe between meetings, it was elected to cancel the November meeting.

I'm sure the memories are fresh for many who recall the flooding at the SCCMAS in the mid 1990's. While this was some 10 years ago, it certainly seems like yesterday. Being without a field to fly at is a hard one. During the inaccessibility of the SCCMAS facility, we received offers from other clubs allowing SCCMAS members to fly at their fields. Recently, another club in the Bay Area has had issues with their field being inaccessible. The Peninsula Aero Modelers (PAM) club in Half Moon Bay is currently under negotiations with the city over their facility, and thus not able to fly at the field. The SCCMAS has made the offer to PAM members such that they may utilize the SCCMAS facilities through January 31st, 2006. You will find in this newsletter the details for this agreement. Please welcome the PAM members to the SCCMAS facility and of course help in answering any questions or concerns that they may have.

If you missed the last club meeting in October, we had a guest speaker from Castle AFB Museum. Joe Pruzo, a board member of the Castle AFB museum, was on hand to discuss the museum and its collection. During the meeting, it was mentioned that a special day for SCCMAS members could be set up for a tour of the restoration facility and the museum area. Two dates for such a visit have been proposed. They are Saturday, January 21st, and Saturday, January 28th, 2006. If you are interested in going to the museum, I need to hear back from you on what day is preferred so that we can arrange it with the museum. Further details will follow once we have a date. This is quite the opportunity to see the restoration area and the museum itself.

Renewals for the SCCMAS are right around the corner. You should be seeing a package mailed to your home shortly which includes a personalized renewal form, updated waiver to sign, and annual surveys. Please return the renewals ahead of time so that we can get your renewal processed in a timely fashion. In order to fly in 2006, you will need a current AMA card. Please submit a photocopy of this card with your renewal or it may be delayed. Please take the time to fill out the surveys. These are a very important part of the SCCMAS and we do read each one of them. They are the rudder that guides the SCCMAS.

continued on page 7



From the Editor

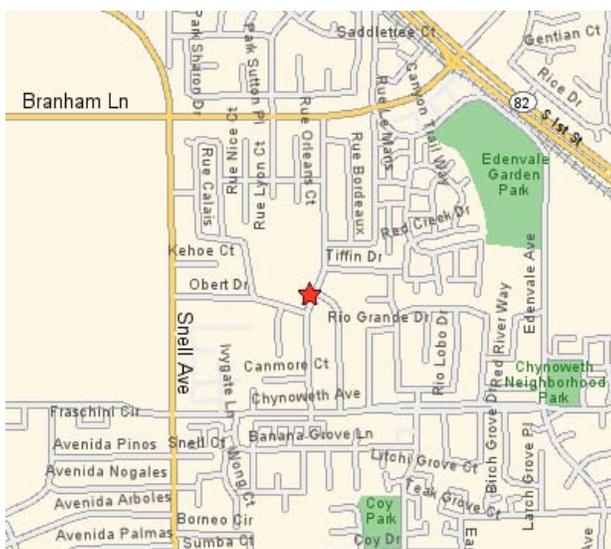
By Pat Rose

It is my pleasure to assume the duties of editor of the SCCMAS newsletter Servo Chatter. It is an honor to have the same responsibilities formerly fulfilled by Chris Luvara. Join me in thanking Chris for his many years of volunteer effort for the club.

I have performed volunteer efforts for the club whenever time allowed in the past. I have emptied trash cans, picked up countless discarded rubber bands (who drops these, anyway?), ordered and mounted many signs that now adorn the club's flying site, modified the transmitter impound to accept the larger computer radios, and most recently helped to replace the spectator benches. This job as editor is just another volunteer effort by me for the Tomcats. Why do I do these things? While pursuing my favorite hobby, I have met some of the most generous people that live in the Bay Area; people with whom I share a common interest. And besides, my membership comes at a bargain price for the use of a first class facility. Volunteers are constantly needed to keep the club running smoothly, and I plan to continue doing my part. I know that there are volunteers cutting the grass, painting benches, emptying trash cans, and etc. who are never adequately recognized for the work they do. I hope to provide some exposure for their efforts. What do you think?

Since I am using Microsoft Publisher as the vehicle to produce the newsletter, there are a few changes to the layout; I have had to completely create a new format, while at the same time implementing some new ideas that I have. One thing I'm asking for is photos. PLEASE send me photos of any club related activities for inclusion in the newsletter - I know some club members have very nice digital cameras. In your email, include photo credit plus some description of the aircraft, engine, whether the photo was taken during takeoff or landing, etc.

The schedule for publication will be the same, about once every two months, to roughly coincide with the meeting dates. Please email the editor at patroserc@aol.com because as of this date the address servo chatter@sccmas.org is not working. I can also be reached at 408-910-9421.



Map to Hayes Elementary School, the usual meeting location.

Future Meeting Dates

Thursday, January 26, 2006. Thursday, March 23rd, 2006, Thursday May 25th, 2006.

January 26 Meeting Program: Raffle prizes will include the usual - a radio, a kit, adhesives and lots of other stuff. Bring your latest project for show and tell and receive a free raffle ticket. Coffee and donuts during the break. An announcement of the meeting agenda will be sent out just before the meeting.

From the Secretary's Building Board



By Rich Luvara

Secretary's notes, October 21, 2005 meeting

Attendance: 44

New Solos: Several listed, but we missed their names!

Guest Speaker:

Joe Pruzo, Castle AFB Museum Board Member
 Joe spoke about the Castle Air Force Base Museum, and its collection. The presentation included a 5 minute video showcasing the museum. Discussion about having a club tour of the facility in early 2006.



Dumb Thumb

Don Loughridge/Jerry/Bruce – "You got it? No, you got it!"
 Results in a mid-ground collision.

Show and Tell

Lynsel Miller brought a Fokker DVIII, near complete. Scale guns, color scheme.



Raffle

Radio winner, don't forget the donuts!
 Thanks to Sheldon's this month
 Radio- Mike French
 Kit – Bervin Britt
 Fuel – Don Loughridge
 Fuel - Abbas Raissi
 Engine – Larry Spector
 Fuel Pump – Jim Thompson



Treasurer's Report

By Jim Patrick

SCCMAS Profit & Loss Oct. 6 through Dec. 1, 2005

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Contest entries	1,300.00
Food sales	489.91
Membership dues	339.00
Raffle	711.00
Student vouchers	100.00
Vending machine	176.00
Total Income	3,115.91

Expense

Bay Alarm	135.00
Computer supplies	289.34
Equipment Rental	92.85
Food	839.91
Garbage service	168.94
Postage and Delivery	380.46
Printing and Reproduction	225.16
Repairs and Maintenance	
Janitorial Exp	50.00
Total Repairs and Maintenance	50.00
Sanitation service	877.34
Supplies	594.57
Telephone	221.94
Trophies	134.75
Utilities	
Gas and Electric	252.18
Total Utilities	252.18

Total Expense 4,262.44

Net Ordinary Income -1,146.53

Net Income -1,146.53



Training

By Mike French

Provisional Certification

It seems odd to say that SCCMAS is not an exclusive organization, but that is precisely the fact. It is necessarily inclusive. Our organization is dedicated to including all people with diverse R/C flying interests. As the technology of our sport changes, SCCMAS must also change to accommodate this evolving reality. If a member wishes only to operate park flyer electric R/C aircraft, it seems pointless to require a solo pilot certification oriented towards gas driven engines. The Solo Pilot Certification is nothing more than a verification process, which establishes that the individual can operate safely under the rules with which our field is chartered. The SCCMAS Board Members recently discussed an event in which an individual requested a solo pilot certification but under limited operating provisions. The Board felt that if the individual could operate the aircraft safely under his requested constrained conditions and was at all times in compliance with AMA and club regulations, then a Solo Pilot Certificate would be granted subject to his requested constraints which would be listed on the certificate itself. The member would otherwise have all rights and privileges of the field. This provisional process would have to be addressed necessarily on a case-by-case basis and subject to a review by the club's administration. It would seem reasonable to say that if the individual would wish at some future time to have his desired restriction upgraded to, say, flying gas driven aircraft, he would then be asked to demonstrate his ability in operating this type of plane. He would be asked to establish his competence in dealing with the hazards of this type of aircraft as others would through the normal certification process.

The first priority of everyone using our field is safety. We want no one ever to be injured as a result of not being adequately trained or of lacking necessary flying skills. But we also wish that the fullest range of opportunity be provided everyone interested in radio-controlled aviation even as our sport evolves with advancing technologies.



Safety

By Tim Jones

Kind of slow this time of year. The weather's been good though. The short days make it tough to get out to the field for a bit of flying in the evenings. The weather is starting to set into our harsh winter pattern here. This means that our flying will probably be limited to 15 or 20 flyable days per month for a while. What a great place we live in.

We've had a couple of small incidents or concerns brought to my attention. With the winter months comes a time when attendance at the field is low. So, I wanted to get a few reminders out this month. First, please keep physical control of all aircraft in the start-up area. This means no taxiing into or out of the start-up area. This is an issue of the utmost importance with safety in mind. Also, those who are longtime veterans, who feel that they can do this safely, are in fact breaking an obvious club rule and setting a bad example for others. Second, the helicopter hover area is to be used for hover practice only. The SCCMAS defines hovering in this area as " Stationary Flight Below Eye Level". Any flying of helicopters other than hovering practice is to be done over and beyond the runway as with all fixed wing radio controlled aircraft, including the use of pilot flight stations and the six aircraft limit. Small, foamie type of electric planes are considered fixed wing aircraft and as such, are not allowed to be flown in the helicopter hover area. Control line flying may be done in the helicopter hover area with some limits and careful consideration given to safety.

Finally, a reminder that it is not an advisable practice to fly at the field alone. It is strongly suggested that a second person be in attendance at the site while flying any aircraft. This second person does not need to be a flier, but he or she should be able to call for some sort of help should the need arise. I think we can all agree that this is a good idea. After all, any accident is unplanned. And, as close as the field is to the nearby cities, it is still pretty remote when someone is hurt, or a car catches on fire.

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Contest Corner

By Rich Groen

As the 2005 year comes to a close, the 2006 year's schedule is already in full bloom. We have done some adjusting to the 2006 event calendar, and also to the people. This next year will incorporate the additional ideas of Steve Smith. Steve will be co-coordinating all the SCCMAS events with me. With all the events we host at the SCCMAS field Steve will be a welcome addition to the coordinating team. We will work together on all events, please feel free to talk to either one of us on any ideas you may have. Steve and I will communicate frequently to incorporate your ideas.

The 2006 event schedule listed should be good, there may be minor changes after the NCRCS meeting in January. The NCRCS meeting is a coordination of all clubs to help eliminate conflicts among RC clubs in California. Typically the conflicts are rare, if any changes arise I will post with the entire NCRCS calendar in the next newsletter.

Food Shack Manager people can reserve any event they want for 2006. Thanks to many, all of the 2005 events were handled by are members. Thanks again for volunteering. For 2006 we will offer the same deal. For each event/day you manage the food shack you will receive ½ off next years dues. In 2005 Bob Rich, John Ribble, Eric Spitzer, and John McCollum will all receive free membership for 2006 as they managed 2 events. Bob House, Dan Walsh, Matt Campi, and Chris Tryhorn will all receive ½ price for 2006 membership for managing 1 event. Thanks to these guys again. If you are interested in managing an event for 2006, e-mail or call me and I will reserve you choice of events.

Preliminary 2006 Event Schedule

March 25 th	Flea Market
April 15 th	Inter-Club Fun Fly
May 20 th	War Bird Races
June 10 th	T34 Triangle Series
June 24 th & 25 th	Giant Scale Weekend
July 8 th & 9 th	Annual Invitational Air Show
August 12 th	Flea Market
September 16 th	Electric Air Day
September 23 rd	Pattern Contest
October 7 th	T34 Triangle Series Championships
December 2 nd	Flea Market
December 10 th	Toys 4 Tots - Whitacre Memorial

Safety (continued from page 6)

Again, just a couple of reminders this month. And as I say to my classes quite often, "Take note of these reminders, as THERE WILL BE A QUIZ".

Flyin Fast VP News (continued from page 3)

I mentioned in the last newsletter that the SCCMAS and several members were involved with a National Geographic documentary on pterosaurs, set to air in 2006. I have just learned that the show, titled Sky Monsters, is scheduled to air on Sunday, January 22nd, 2006 at 9pm on the National Geographic Channel. This should be an exciting show to watch as part of it was filmed at the SCCMAS field. If you miss it, the show will also be on DVD some time after the show airs.

As the year draws to a close, I wish you a happy holiday season and prosperous new year.

Until next issue, Michael



Santa Clara County Model Aircraft Skypark

812 Asbury St, San Jose, CA 95126 (408) 292-1212 <http://www.sccmas.org>

Santa Clara County Model Aircraft Skypark (SCCMAS) and Peninsula Aero Modelers (PAM) Field Usage Agreement

Effective November 5th, 2005 through January 31st, 2006

Due to the current status of the Peninsula Aero Modelers field, the SCCMAS has elected to extend an invitation to current PAM members to fly at the SCCMAS.

PAM members may utilize the SCCMAS facilities through January 31st, 2006, pending the following conditions:

- Possess a current and valid AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) membership
- Possess a current Peninsula Aero Modelers membership in good standing

PAM members must also

- Read, understand, and accept the SCCMAS rules, regulations and flight boundaries
- Sign the SCCMAS release form
- Fly only when an SCCMAS member is present
- Be accompanied by SCCMAS member for first flight

PAM members may also submit for a temporary membership card. Send a SASE envelope to:

SCCMAS – PAM Card
16345 W La Chiquita Ave
Los Gatos, CA 95032

These privileges will cease on January 31st, 2006. At this time, we would ask that any Peninsula Aero Modelers wishing to utilize the SCCMAS facilities kindly join the SCCMAS.

The SCCMAS reserves the right to modify or terminate this agreement without notice.

S.C.C.M.A.S. PRESENTS

RACE FOR GOLD!

MAY 20, 2006

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For class rules, specifications and race
guidelines, please visit

www.sccmas.org

Rules, Specifications can be found in the forum
under racing.

RACE DETAILS

AMA SANCTIONED & PROOF OF AMA INSURANCE REQUIRED

RACE CHECK-IN @ 7:30-8:30 AM (PRE-REGISTRATION
RECOMMENDED)

NO DUPLICATE FREQUENCIES ALLOWED IN INDIVIDUAL
CLASSES. PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE FREQUENCY

ENTRY FEE \$25.00 PER CLASS (**PRE-REGISTERED PILOTS \$**
20.00 PER CLASS PRIOR TO APRIL 20, 2006)

PRACTICE FLIGHTS 8:30-9:00 AM

RACING STARTS @ 9:30AM

4-6 ROUNDS OF QUALIFYING & TROPHY RACE

TROPHIES 1ST - 3RD IN EACH CLASS - TOP FIVE POINT LEADERS IN
EACH CLASS QUALIFY FOR TROPHY RACES



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

General Manager	Brian Nelson	408-463-0604	nelson711@aol.com
Vice President	Michael Luvara	408-292-1212	mike@sccmas.org
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Treasurer	Jim Patrick	408-356-0817	jpqt7@gte.net
Co-contest Coordinator	Richard Groen	408-832-7432	richdutch@sbcglobal.net
Co-contest Coordinator	Steve Smith	408-234-0095	stevejsmith2001@hotmail.com
Secretary	Richard Luvara	408-246-3857	rluvara@hotmail.com
Safety	Tim Jones	408-281-2915	TJKof57@aol.com
Flight Instruction	Mike French	408-373-5301	french913@aol.com
Webmaster	Steve Snell	831-438-7624	webmaster@sccmas.org
Field Weather (automated)		408-776-0101	
On Site Field Telephone		408-776-6844	
SCCMAS Business Office		408-292-1212	
SCCMAS WWW address		www.sccmas.org	

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

Reggie Del Aquila, Mike French, Jack Sunzeri

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Bob Parks Kangaroo jet photographed during landing. Engine is a British Wren 54 Mk III. Karen Dillon photo.

Servo Chatter is published bi-monthly by the SCCMAS "Tomcats" radio control club located in Morgan Hill, CA. For info email: patroserc@aol.com. Views expressed in 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. Servo Chatter welcomes all emails and other comments. Permission is granted to reproduce anything printed in Servo Chatter as long as the source and author are credited.



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