



Servo Chatter



September 2024 Issue

Pg. 2 - President's Message

Pg. 3-5- From the Editor's Desk
An Action Packed Summer at the Field

Pg. 6-7 - Updates from SCCMAS
Columns from Volunteers

Pg. 8 - Construction Article
ME 109 1/2A Pylon Racer

Pg. 9-13 - SCCMAS Work Party
May 18, 2024

Pg. 14-20 - SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In
June 8, 2024

Pg. 21 - AMA/FAA News

Pg. 21-26 - SCCMAS Members' Meeting
June 2, 2024
Pg. 27-48 - Photos

President's Message

By Steve Smith



Hello Tomcats,

Reflecting on 2024, it certainly was a busy and productive year at the field. The visiting public and the membership who flew during summer endured extreme temperatures for prolonged periods. These heat conditions are rare for the bay area for prolonged periods. With the support of County agencies and the goats, the grass areas around our facility were trimmed, creating a safe and enjoyable experience for the members and visitors to the SCCMAS.

The SCCMAS continues to experience a steady stream of newcomers excited to learn to fly R/C aircraft. In 2024, our flight instructors, led by Dave Neves and Mike West, instructed and soloed new pilots, including youth and families. I'm really pleased to see the enthusiasm from our instructors and student pilots. This is the SCCMAS mission to promote the R/C hobby to the public.

During 2024 we hosted several club events at the field. The annual field cleanup day, with over 20 members volunteering, tackled all of the items on the list and spruced up the field for summer. We even replaced the broken charging shelf with a much larger shelf to accommodate more charge stations. The second annual club Warbird fly-in brought a large turnout of Warbird enthusiasts. It was enjoyable to see Warbird R/C aircraft from all eras buzz the skies. This was a successful day enjoyed by the public riding in on bicycles.

Looking forward to 2025, events added to the calendar will include the club Fun-Fly. The Fun-Fly is open to all skill levels and is a great way to check your basic skill at the sticks. In the past, even the most experienced pilots improved upon their basic flying skills during the



Fun-Fly. More details coming in 2025. Our contest coordinator will be reaching out to the membership for volunteers for the 2025 events.

As a reminder to all current SCCMAS members, the annual renewal process will begin in October 2024. This is a good time to check your AMA card expiration date and confirm coverage for the January 1st 2025 through December 31st 2025 period. For those who need to renew their AMA membership, the AMA offers online renewals at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/membership/enroll>

For new members a SCCMAS membership application is available for download at www.sccmas.org.

Have an enjoyable day at the SCCMAS.
Steve

From the Editor's Desk

Newsletter Editor - Liam O'Connor

Greetings Tomcats -

Welcome to the September 2024 issue of Servo Chatter!

This issue of Servo Chatter is jam-packed with information and photographs from the many exciting events we have had at the flying field over the past few months, including our May 18, 2024 Work Party, June 2, 2024 Club Meeting, and June 8, 2024 Warbird Fly-In. Of course, this issue also includes key information from SCCMAS leadership and volunteers, a summary of upcoming events, plenty of photos of our recent activities at the flying field, and a construction article by SCCMAS member Andy Keates (ME 109 1/2A Pylon Racer).

In addition to participating in all of the events at the field, I have now logged about 20 flights on my CARF Joker (see photos on following pages). With the help of some SCCMAS jet experts, like Sia Vossough, I am continuing to "fine-tune" the fuel system to eliminate small air bubbles that stubbornly keep finding their way into the fuel line from the UAT.

Also, after several months of stalled progress on my Zirolu Hellcat project, Lynsel Miller was kind enough to help me overcome a large hurdle in the build. We spent an entire day in Lynsel's garage routing/installing the pushrod for the rudder; and setting the incidence and permanently attaching the horizontal stabilizer. (See photos on following pages). Thanks to Lynsel, I now have renewed energy and

Tomcats Reminder:

—All Tomcats Members must lock the main entrance gate behind them each time they enter and leave the SCCMAS Flying Field.



enthusiasm for my Hellcat project, which has been several years in the making! I hope you all continue to enjoy what you build and fly.

I would also like to remind our members that if you have anything you would like to share in our newsletter, please send it to me at the email address below. We are always on the lookout for stories, articles, building tips, photos, etc. that we can include in Servo Chatter.

Until our next issue, I wish all of you a fantastic fall season full of flying, fun, and happy landings.

See you at the field!

Liam

servochatter@sccmas.org

Cover Photo: courtesy of Dave Neves. Younick Sung celebrates certification of completion of his solo test flight with instructor Dave Neves.

From the Editor's Desk, Con't.



Above: Inspection of the fuel system on Liam's CARF Joker



Above: Liam's CARF Joker ready for another flight.

From the Editor's Desk, Con't.



Above: Lynsel Miller helps Liam with his F6F Hellcat Project.

SCCMAS Officers and Volunteers



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Fixed Wing, Drones, and Helicopter Flight Instruction

Coordinator

Dave Neves

Congratulations New Pilots!

Younick Sung was soloed on 5/25/24. He was trained and soloed by Dave Neves.



I would also like to report that, a while back, I lost our club trainer in a mid-air crash. I would like to thank Liam O'Connor who started a Go-Fund Me account to help replace the club trainer. A number of my students and club members (including Alex Saroyan and Esskia Hastings) contributed enough to cover the cost of the replacement plane. Gabriel Pantic also donated a powered glider to be used as a club trainer. Roger Borovoy also donated an Agwagon and a RV-8 which will be available to new members who may be interested in trying their hand at flying a low wing plane from the safety of the buddy box. Thanks to all who contributed to help our new members to become successful RC pilots.

I would like to thank SCCMAS member, Mike Tate for donating our new wind sock. I would also like to thank Tim Jones and Chris Luvara who installed it. Steve Smith is also working on replacing our old wind meter with a new one.

For anyone who is interested in flying a model airplane, but does not have a plane yet, please contact me and I would be happy to take you up on a buddy box flight on my club trainer (pictured below left). Just give me a call or email at: (510) 673-4467 or rcheliquy7@gmail.com

We now have a number of additional instructors who are available to help with flight instruction. If you are a new member who needs help, please check with them for their availability. You can find their names and contact information on our website in the training section.

Thanks,
Dave Neves





Construction Article

By SCCMAS Member, Andy Keates

ME 109 1/2A Pylon Racer

25 years ago ...

1999 was the year of 1/2A pylon racing at SCCMAS. Anybody as old as me will probably associate 1/2A with .049 engines. Control line and free flight were the norm with these engines when I was a kid.

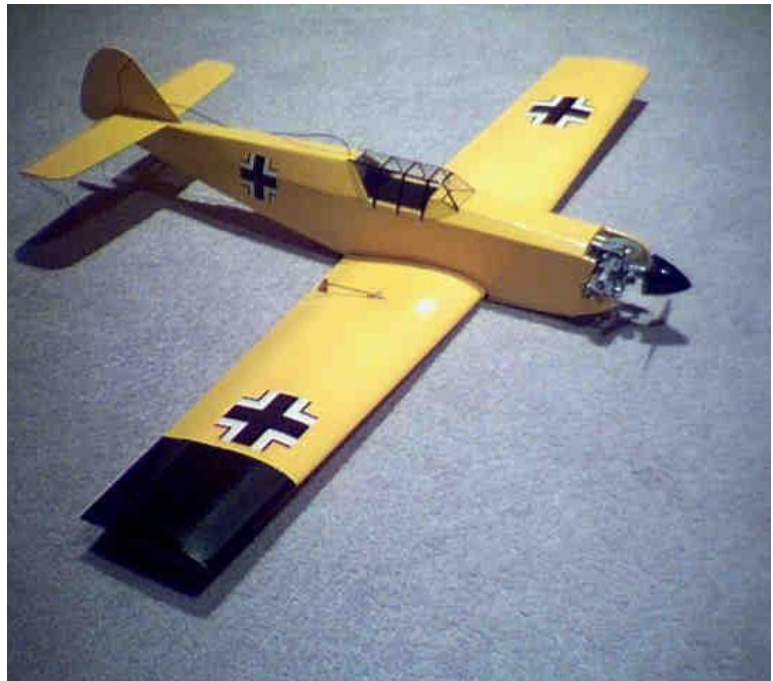
Anyway, I leapt at the chance of racing and the ACE RC "Simple Series" offered a selection of very simple to build aircraft.

Mine was a yellow ME 109,

seen here. The rules called for an 049 engine and a Simple Series plane. We had 17

competitors, 6 heats, and if the engine kept running well and if

you didn't crash, you probably placed. As a complete novice, I won the runners-up race and placed 5th overall.



Eventually I ran the 109 into the runway and totaled it. Wanting to relive the fun I had been looking on eBay, where they occasionally have kits from the Simple Series on sale, but never the ME 109. So, I recently created a CAD version of the plans by tracing a PDF of the original plans. I have a laser cutter, so cutting out the parts is easy. Engines are still available on eBay. I bought a 1cc PAW diesel just because I remember the smell of them when I was a kid. Cox TD .049 engines are commonly sold on eBay. If nothing else, it's been fun working on it because it's a simple plane to build.

So, the diesel ME 109 will be in the air before too long. If anybody is interested in racing me, I think it should be simple enough to cut out more ME 109s. Maybe somebody still has a 1999 vintage racer or .049 engines lying around.



SCCMAS Work Party

By SCCMAS Member, Liam O'Connor

On May 18, 2024, a number of Tomcats modelers (who are listed below) participated in a work party at our field. The work party was a success, with many members completing several long overdue projects. Among other things, the work included mowing, weed whacking, painting of all of our picnic benches, a thorough cleaning of the clubhouse kitchen, and the construction, painting, and installation of a new electric charging shelf on the back side of the radio impound area. Work also started on the removal of the FM frequency pin organization/storage system on the front of the radio impound, soon to be replaced by additional electric charging stations.

It was excellent to see a core group of our members contribute to making our flying field even better than it already was. The SCCMAS is truly blessed to have some of the most committed and hard working members of any club in the area.

The contributions of our membership help to make our flying field one of the best in the nation. If you were A HUGE thank you to the following members that participated at the work party: next one, and be sure to reach out to our club leaders if you would like to contribute in any other way.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| ● Steve Smith | ● Alex Saroyan |
| ● Mike West | ● Liam O'Connor |
| ● Sharam Shirazi | ● Steve Kunze |
| ● Mike Leggett | ● Bill Mears |
| ● Dave Neves | ● Krishnan Natarajan |
| ● Doug Evans | ● Andy Keates |
| ● Jim Witkowski | ● Karl Allmendinger |
| ● Dave Meador | ● Dave Stubbs |
| ● Jacob Meador | ● Ken McBride |
| ● Amogh Vasudevan | |
| ● Suchi Vasudevan | |



SCCMAS Work Party, Con't.



SCCMAS Work Party, Con't.



SCCMAS Work Party, Con't.



SCCMAS Work Party, Con't.





SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In

By SCCMAS Newsletter Editor, Liam O'Connor

On June 8, 2024, the SCCMAS held our Second Annual Warbird Fly-In. Sharam Shirazi and Lynsel Miller organized the event, and served as the Co-CDs. Numerous other Tomcats members (who are listed below) volunteered in various ways to coordinate the event.

The Warbird Fly-In was a spectacular success, with a total of 31 registered pilots from the SCCMAS, as well as from other bay area clubs, including SACRATS, Livermore Flying Electronics, Hollister Wavemasters, and Woodland Davis. A full day of flying, camaraderie, and fun were enjoyed by all. A catered lunch from Togo's for all of our pilots was the icing on the cake.

Special thanks to Alex Saroyan for picking up the sandwiches; Cyndi Cougoule for registration and cash handling duties, as well as collecting donations for the Club; Lynsel and Dave Neves for CD Duties; Eric and Krishnan for treacherous long-hours gate duties; Alex and Keyon Vossough for music selection; Sia Vossough for the new fire extinguisher and shovel; and Steve Smith for getting approval from Parks for our event.

Many thanks to all of the following members that volunteered to make the Warbird Fly-In a success:

- Sharam Shirazi
- Steve Smith
- Lynsel Miller
- Mike Leggett
- Chris Luvara
- Dave Neves
- Cyndi Cougoule
- Alex Saroyan
- Eric Sander
- Sia Vossough
- Keyon Vossough
- Roger Borovoy
- Scott Yow
- Michael Radu
- Mike Luvara
- Liam O'Connor



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, Con't.



Additional photos of the Warbird Fly-In are included later in this newsletter.

AMA/FAA News

Please note that some of this may be new to you...

In addition to your SCCMAS Membership, you need:

- A current AMA membership
- An FAA Small UAS Certificate of Registration
- Place FAA registration number on your aircraft
- Complete the AMA TRUST test

The Recreational UAS safety Test (TRUST)

<https://trust.modelaircraft.org/>

FAA Drone Zone Website for Small UAS registration

<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>

<https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2021/05/11/update-to-faa-drone-zone-registration-and-renewal-process/>

FAA Recreational Rules: https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/

[Advisory Circular AC 91-57B](#)

[AMA Safety Code](#)

AMA Know Before You Fly <https://www.modelaircraft.org/know-you-fly>

Mark Your Drone



All drones must be marked on the outside with a registration number.

You can mark all drones that you own and fly exclusively under [The Exception for Recreational Flyers](#) with the same registration number.

Example FAA Small UAS Certificate of Registration



Federal Aviation
Administration

Small UAS Certificate of Registration

REGISTERED OWNER: YOUR NAME HERE

REGISTRATION NUMBER: XXXXXXXX

ISSUED: 01/14/2016

EXPIRES: 12/12/2023

This Small UAS Certificate of Registration is **not an authorization to conduct flight operations** with an unmanned aircraft. Operators of unmanned aircraft must ensure they comply with the appropriate safety authority from the FAA. To operate as a recreational flyer, a person must meet all of the statutory conditions of the exception for limited recreational operations of unmanned aircraft (49 U.S.C. 44809). Persons who do not meet all of the statutory conditions may not operate under the statutory exception for limited recreational operations of unmanned aircraft.

To fly under the exception for recreational flyers you must:

- Have a current registration
- Fly only for recreational purposes
- Follow the safety guidelines of a community based organization
- Keep your drone within your visual line of sight
- Give Way and do not interfere with any manned aircraft
- Fly at or below 400' in controlled airspace and only with prior authorization
- Fly at or below 400' in uncontrolled airspace
- Comply with all airspace restrictions
- Pass The Recreational UAS Safety Test (Coming Soon)

This Small UAS Certificate of Registration is not an authorization to conduct flight operations with an unmanned aircraft. Operators of unmanned aircraft must ensure they comply with the appropriate safety authority from the FAA. To operate as a recreational flyer, a person must meet all of the statutory conditions of the exception for limited recreational operations of unmanned aircraft (49 U.S.C. 44809). Persons who do not meet all of the statutory conditions may not operate under the statutory exception for limited recreational operations of unmanned aircraft.

For U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and certain non-citizen U.S. corporations, this document constitutes a Certificate of Registration. For all others, this document represents a recognition of ownership.

To fly under the exception for recreational flyers you must:

- Have a current registration
- Fly only for recreational purposes
- Follow the safety guidelines of a community based organization
- Keep your drone within your visual line of sight
- Give Way and do not interfere with any manned aircraft
- Fly at or below 400' in controlled airspace and only with prior authorization
- Fly at or below 400' in uncontrolled airspace
- Comply with all airspace restrictions
- Pass The Recreational UAS Safety Test (Coming Soon)

SCCMAS Members Meeting May 18, 2024



SCCMAS Members Meeting (con't)



SCCMAS Members Meeting (con't)



SCCMAS Members Meeting (con't)



SCCMAS Members Meeting (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In, June 8, 2024



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



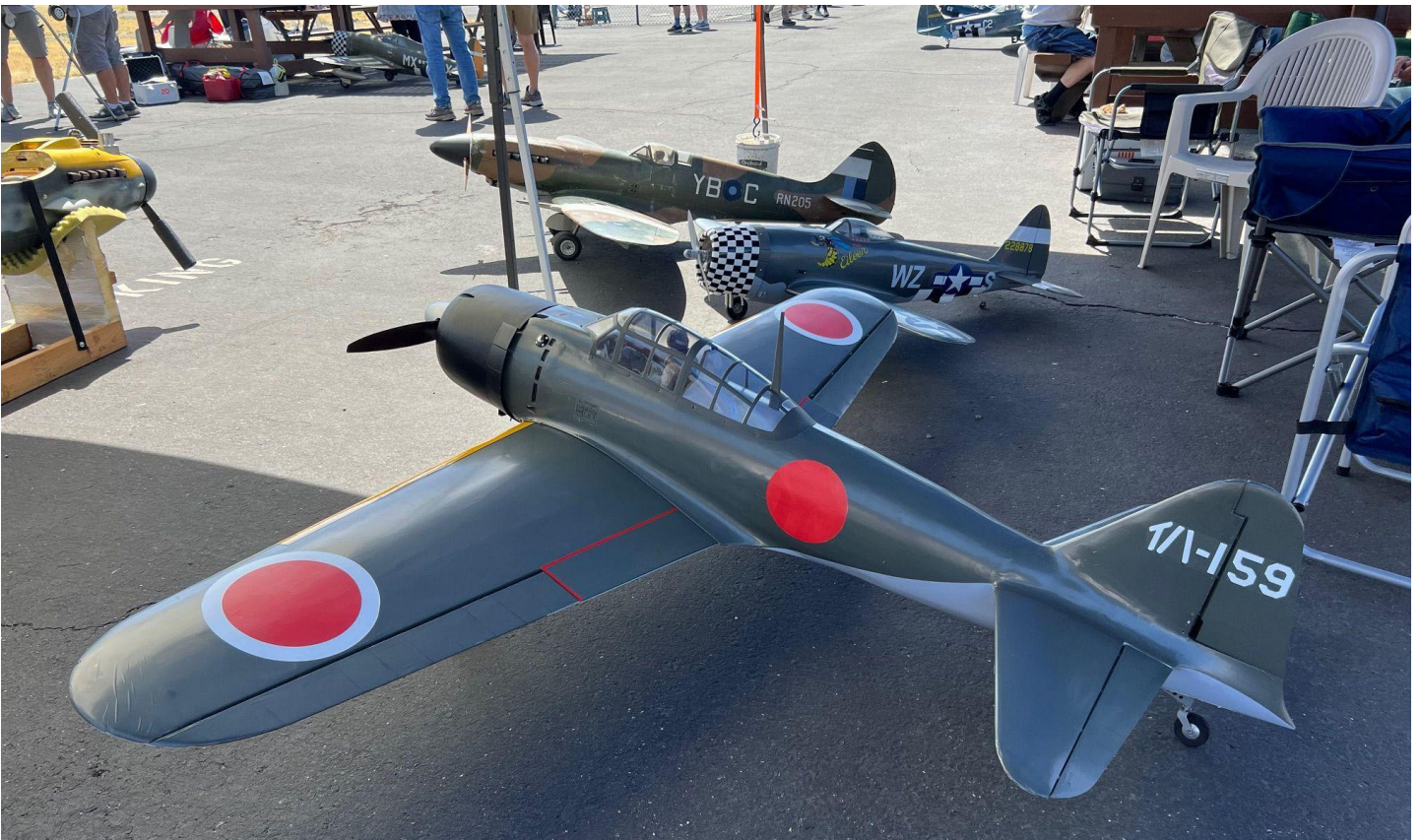
SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



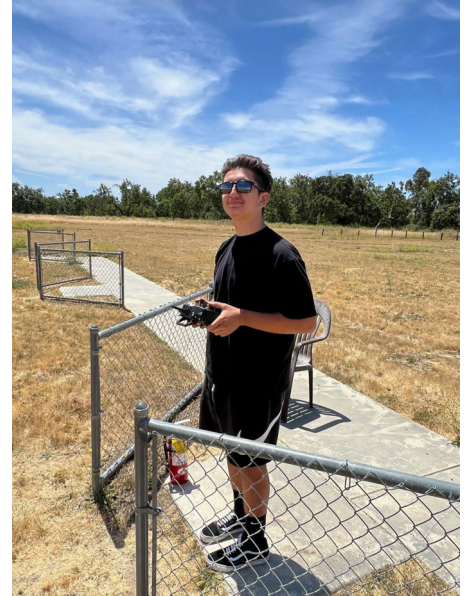
SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



Did You Know?

—The speed limit on the SCCMAS Vehicle Access Road is 15 MPH.



SCCMAS Warbird Fly-In (con't)



SCCMAS: Scenes from the Field



SCCMAS: Scenes from the Field (con't)



SCCMAS: Scenes from the Field (con't)



Above and Below: Bob Zuk's SIG Astro-Hog. Covered with Oratex fabric, with O.S. 2 stroke gasoline engine



SCCMAS: Scenes from the Field (con't)



SCCMAS: Scenes from the Field (con't)



Above: Lynsel Miller with his recently completed P-47. The plane started out as a Hangar 9 ARF. Lynsel stripped the UltraCote covering, then fiberglassed the entire structure. He also added panel lines, rivet detail, etc. The finished model is 24 lbs, 11 Oz. G45 Zenoah power. Robart retracts w/scale wheels.



Servo Chatter is published several times annually by the SCCMAS "Tomcats" radio control club located in Morgan Hill, CA. Views expressed in Servo Chatter are those of the writers. They do not necessarily represent the views of the club, its members, or officers. Mention of any product, material, or service shall not, nor is it intended to, imply approval, disapproval, or fitness for any particular use. The SCCMAS is a non-profit organization. Permission is granted to reproduce anything printed in Servo Chatter as long as the source and author are credited.



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