

SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

NORTHERN NEVADA'S R.C. SAILPLANE & ELECTRIC FLYERS CLUB

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

JULY/AUGUST 2002

Hello all,

Summer is winding down and there are only three more S3 contests left. Also in a few months it will be time to elect new officers. For better or worse, I have always included a letter in the newsletter to offer a thought, OK usually half a thought, and most of all to help out our excellent editor for doing the thankless task of putting together a regular newsletter. Several times we have asked for contributions from the membership to be included in the newsletter, and with few exceptions have had little success. This is after all YOUR club and if we hope to survive and grow, it should take a little effort from everyone, not a huge effort by just a few. Not long ago a member supplied some pictures for the newsletter (which was greatly appreciated) but wasn't willing to provide any report or captions to go along with them. We shouldn't have the attitude that

someone else is in charge, let them take care of it. I realize many of us are busy with other things in our lives, but a tiny little effort steered toward S3 can go a long way, which brings me to my last point. (YIPPEE!! I hear you say)

At the last meeting it was agreed that we will seriously look into hosting a TD contest next July, in hopes of generating a little income for S3 and maybe help grow the club. (see August minutes on next page, ed.) If this is going to work, it is going to require a large effort by the entire membership. I think it could be very fun and rewarding to put on a successful contest if everyone is willing to jump in and help.

I now more than ever appreciate the work all of the officers and members that preceded me put into keeping S3 going strong. So take a few pictures of your latest project and write a few lines for the newsletter, it really helps!

Sincerely,

Adam Kremers

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S3 OFFICERS FOR 2002:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| President | Adam Kremers |
| Vice President | Dave Hagander |
| Secretary | Ron Marston |
| Treasurer | Jim Brady |
| Safety Officer | Lyn Disbrow |
| Newsletter Editor | Ron Marston |



TREASURER'S REPORTS

Period ending July 2, 2002

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance: | \$1355.35 |
| Income: | |
| June Contest fees | \$25.00 |
| Total Income | \$25.00 |
| Expenses: | |
| None | |
| Total Expenses | \$00.00 |
| Closing Balance: | \$1380.35 |

Period ending August 6, 2002

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance: | \$1380.35 |
| Income: | |
| July Contest fees | \$35.00 |
| Total Income | \$35.00 |
| Expenses: | |
| None | |
| Total Expenses: | \$0 |
| Closing Balance: | \$1415.35 |

Submitted by Jim Brady

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2002 MEETING

Meeting was called to order August 6 at 7:40 pm.

Minutes were read by Ron Marston, and approved with no corrections.

Ron guessed at the Treasurers Report. He was off by \$35.00. (see above)

Correspondence:

Adam said he received papers for our AMA membership. We are all up to date.

Old Business:

Trailer - Lee and Adam looked at some trailers in July and Lee found one that will suite the needs of the club. It is a 1993 Wells Cargo trailer - 5'x5'x8' with full sized wheels and a single side hinged door. It's aluminum with rounded edges. Lee purchased it with his own money for \$1200.00. It was a good deal and the seller would not budge on his asking price. Arlee made a motion that the club purchase it from Lee (for \$1200). Bill seconded, and the

club voted unanimously in favor. We will need to purchase a spare wheel for it and make some kind of hinged table for it and battery boxes, etc.

Red Rock cleanup: we need to set a date for the Red Rock clean up discussed last month. Air Races Weekend is Sept. 13, 14, 15, and we want to get it done before that. Adam will call the BLM to make sure it's okay with them. He will email the club members with a date when he has information.

Non-profit paperwork - Lyn Disbrow volunteered to take over the paperwork from Adam. (for a free checking account for S3)

New Business:

New Trailer: we need to register the new trailer. After some discussion it was decided the club should use Bill's Registered Ink address as the address to put on the registration. Lee will take care of the registration.

High Sierra Models - was sold two months ago and the new owner is putting old S3 stickers on the electric airplane kits in the store. I had never seen one before (I've been a member for 4 years), but they have the S3 logo and old contact info for Bill and Adam, and a statement congratulating the buyer on purchasing an electric airplane. I (Ron Marston) will produce an updated version of the stickers for the store to use.

2-day AMA sanctioned contest put on by S3

Lee suggested S3 put on a really good 2-day contest. After much discussion it was decided by all to be a good idea. July of 2003 is the tentative date, at Laura Springs where there is room for parking, camping, etc. We could do T-shirts, trophies, etc. We would need to update the winches with reel balls (our winches got no balls now). We could bill it using the gambling/mafia angle. People could stay in Carson, Gardnerville, South Shore or Reno. This will require lots of effort on the members of the club, but everyone at the meeting seemed willing to pitch in. We will pick a date at next month's meeting.

continued next page



AUGUST MEETING MINUTES (CONT'D)

What to do with the old trailer -

It was suggested that the old trailer could be cut down and have a winch/battery installed. This could stay in Reno for members to use. One other option discussed was turning it on its side and using it as a Sani-hut.

Leonard Mackey mentioned that S3 members have full flying priviledges at the RC flying field in Coloma B.C. See Leonard for details.

Matt Reppas was introduced as a new member, and John Hunter was introduced as a potential new member. Matt's contact info is in the club roster (pg. 7), and John can be reached at jhunter382@aol.com. Add them to your contact list.

Show and Tell -

Max Weiss brought in a Superstar EP ARF he just purchased. It's powered by a direct drive speed 600 swinging a 9x5.5 prop on 8x1900 mah cells. See picture below.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Marston



Max Weiss and his new plane at the August meeting.

JULY 2002 CONTEST REPORT

Adam and Arlee were the CDs for the July contest held Sunday, July 21.

The weather was hot, but great for flying thermal duration. Adam presented the pilots with a five round, pick any one of six options contest. The options went from an easy 2 minutes (Option #1) to a challenging 10-13 minute window - no points outside the window (Option #6). There was also a ten loops or rolls option with no time requirement. Of course harder options were worth more points.

You had to fill out your score card for all five rounds before you started flying the contest. Nine pilots flew, with no major carnage to report. Results are below:

July Contest Scores:

| <u>Place</u> | <u>Pilot</u> | <u>Score</u> |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Dave Hagander | 8011.5 |
| 2. | Lee Cox | 7792 |
| 3. | Ron Brown | 6738 |
| 4. | Adam Kremers | 6349 |
| 5. | Charlie Maschal | 5904 |
| 6. | Ron Marston | 5255 |
| 7. | Ron Madison | 4963 |
| 8. | Pete Casti | 4152 |
| 9. | Harold Siegfried | 3576.5 |



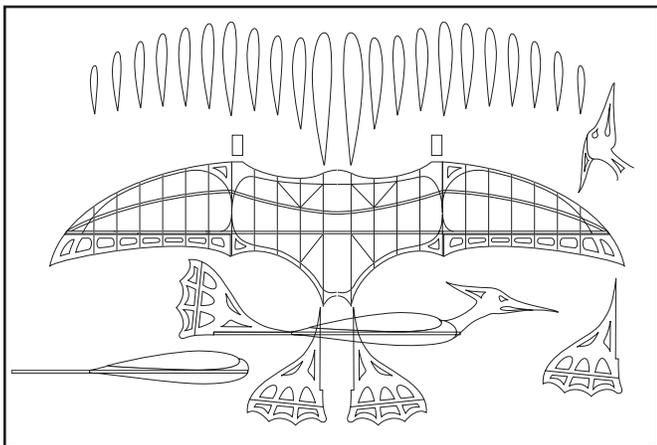
THE EVOLUTION OF A PTERODACTYL

By Ron Marston

As many of you know, I have been playing around with bird and dinosaur shaped planes for about four years now. Recently I finished a prototype of the nicest of all the flying dinosaurs, or Pterodactyls, I've made so far. I'm toying with the idea of producing a short kit (laser cut parts and plans) if I can find the time to make it happen.

I've built three Pterodactyls now. The first had 4 tiny motors across a 30" span, elevons (no tail), cool looks, but it was under powered and under reflexed and it wouldn't fly. The second one spans 42", has two speed 280 motors, and weighs 17 ozs RTF. It required several rebuilds from the first version to get it flying right. It has a "tennis shoe" symmetrical airfoil and I guessed on virtually every design parameter involved. It was trial and error, but I still have it and it flies great.

For this most recent Pterodactyl I decided to be a little more serious about the design, so I drew the whole thing out in a vector based computer Illustration program called Adobe Illustrator (see below). I chose this software because I already knew how to use it. I used a real airfoil (NACA 2414) and attempted to be as precise as possible.



Pterodactyl drawn in Adobe Illustrator

I printed out the plans full size on a laser printer on 11x17 paper and tiled together what I needed to. I cut out all the wood by hand. Much of my design called for laminating



Ron Marston with the Pterodactyl right before its first flight. It barely survived.

two pieces of sheet balsa or ply together, and there were lots of curved pieces (in fact there are almost no straight lines on the whole thing). It took me almost a full year to build the whole thing.

The first flight was not a total disaster, but there were problems. The picture above was taken by Gordon right before it went into the air for the first time. I could barely control it in the air and was able to land it immediately without damage. It was back to trial and error! It turned out to need about one degree more positive wing incidence and the CG needed to come forward about one inch. On its second test flight I stripped a wing servo due to a nasty aileron flutter. I put in bigger servos and gap sealed the bottom of the ailerons, but it still fluttered on its 3th flight. I revised the wing by replacing the ailerons with shorter ones and adding fixed wing tips. I also sheeted part of the leading edge and gusseted some weaker points. (See picture below)



Wing bones with the revised wing tips to eliminate aileron flutter

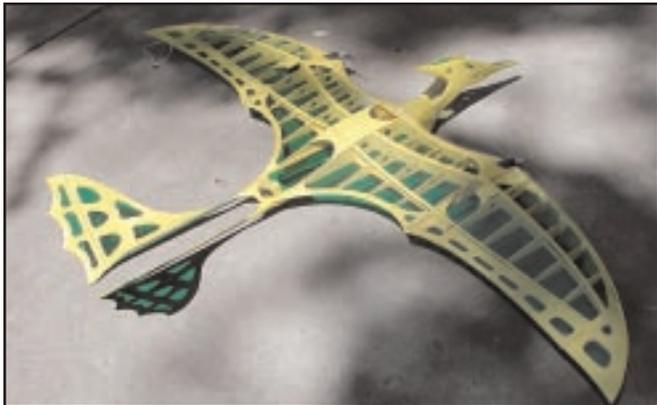


PTERODACTYL (CONT'D)

On its 4th flight with a new CG revision it never made it into the air, crashing into the tall grass at rancho right out of my hand and cracking the fuse in half.

On its 5th flight with the revised wing and a rebuilt/revised fuse it flew great. I'm sure I will still be tweaking it here and there, but after about 10 flights its 95% there. It flies for 6-8 minutes and has plenty of power. I'm glad I didn't put heavier more powerful motors in it. It feels almost overpowered with the Permax 480 motors.

I'm already planning a newer version with some improvements to the design and a thinner airfoil.



Finished Pterodactyl in its most recent incantation

Specs: Wingspan- 62"

Weight RTF w/8 cell CP1700: 43 oz

Current draw: 30A full throttle on a fresh charge with apc 6x4 props

Wing loading: 10oz/ft² (a guess)



Pterodactyl in flight

MISCELLANEOUS



Back of my station wagon with 3 RC cars, 4 RC planes, 4 model rockets, and a bunch of big illegal fireworks.

On a recent trip to the Stagecoach dry lake, this is what the back of my station wagon looked like. We went in the evening, arriving on the playa at 6:45 pm. It was cool, there was no wind and the sunset was beautiful. We played with toys till 10:00, then packed it up and promptly got lost trying to find a road out. Then my all wheel drive wagon got high centered on a pile of dirt. Despite all that, my son, brother and I had a great time. I highly recommend the dry lake in the evening in the summer.

NEW MEMBERS

S3 welcomes new member
Matt Reppas of Gardnerville

Kites Plus
We teach you to fly!

Phil Kalenowsky
Reno NV 89503
Phone: 775 747 8941
Fax.VM: 775 747 2803

Kites, radio controlled
airplanes and accessories

www.KitesPlus.com
Phil@KitesPlus.com



S3 CONTEST SCHEDULE FOR 2002

| MONTH | S3 CONTEST DATE/CD | | SVSS CONTESTS (SAC.) |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| March | 3/17 | Bill and Dave (rescheduled to 3/30) | 3/9 |
| April | 4/21 | Ron Marston and Bill | 4/13 |
| May | 5/19 | Pete Casti and Ron Madison | 5/11 |
| June | 6/16 | Jim Brady and Lee Cox | 6/15 |
| July | 7/21 | Adam and Arley | 7/13 |
| August | 8/18 | Bill and Dave | 8/10 |
| September | 9/23 | Oliver and Ron Marston | 9/14 (Lee Cox is CD) |
| October | 10/21 | Jim Brady and Bill | 10/12 |

OTHER FLYING EVENTS

SPRING FLING (SACRAMENTO)
VISALIA FALL SOARING FESTIVAL

June 22-23
 Oct. 4-6

2002 S3 CONTEST SCORES (NORMALIZED)

| Pilot | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | Total |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|
| C. Adams | 0 | 957.18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 957.18 |
| J. Brady | 950.89 | 703.27 | 979.48 | 896.79 | 0 | | | | 3530.43 |
| R. Brown | 715.78 | 909.96 | 0 | 1000.00 | 841.09 | | | | 3466.83 |
| P. Casti | 603.00 | 933.02 | 691.68 | 885.02 | 518.29 | | | | 3631.01 |
| L. Cox | DNF | 791.93 | 1000.00 | 769.52 | 972.66 | | | | 3534.11 |
| L. Disbrow | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| B. Gillis | 645.75 | 1000.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 1645.75 |
| D. Hagander | 1000.00 | 837.22 | 0 | 0 | 1000.00 | | | | 2837.22 |
| M. Karpchuck | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| A. Kremers | 720.33 | 732.91 | 832.65 | 0 | 792.54 | | | | 3078.43 |
| L. MacKey | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| O. Lieder | 961.35 | 920.40 | DNF | 0 | 0 | | | | 1881.75 |
| R. Madison | 388.81 | 550.37 | 570.93 | 393.04 | 619.52 | | | | 2522.67 |
| R. Marston | 627.10 | 687.07 | 768.76 | 896.79 | 655.97 | | | | 3635.69 |
| C. Mashcal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 736.99 | | | | 736.99 |
| H. Siegfried | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 446.45 | | | | 446.45 |
| A. Simpson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| T. Walters | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 |





SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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Reno, NV 89509

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

Tuesday, September 3rd, 7:00pm • Round table Pizza • McCarran and Mira Loma

NEXT CONTEST IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 18ST BE THERE!



CHECK OUT THE S3 WEB SITE AT: www.scrollsander.com
and the new version at www.lesley.edu/faculty/tharring/reno/010415

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