

CLEARLAKE MODELERS CLUB

AMA Club #1275

NEWSLETTER – January 2018

Next meeting – Friday February 2, 2018

First Baptist Church in Clearlake 7:00 PM

14500 Pearl Avenue in Clearlake (at the corner of Pearl and Mullen)

Clearlake Modelers on the Web at <http://www.clearlakemodelers.com>

<p>In This Issue:</p> <p>Minutes President's Flap Meeting Pictures At the Field Safety Note Flu Season Caution</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clearlake Modelers Club Meeting – January 5, 2018 First Baptist Church, Clearlake</p> <p>Club officers present: President Michael Dolan, Vice President Andreas Muller, Secretary Dennis Locke, Treasurer Scott Drew. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by President Michael Dolan.</p> <p>GUESTS Steve Abel, from Clearlake Oaks. Steve is interested in learning to fly RC and is a prospective club member.</p>
<p>For club dues and other club business use:</p> <p>CLEARLAKE MODELERS P.O. BOX 1693 CLEARLAKE, CA 95422</p>	<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS None.</p> <p>PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES The December meeting minutes were approved as published.</p>
<p>ALWAYS USE GOOD FIRE SAFETY PRATICES</p> <p>We have fire safety equipment at the field. Remember to unlock the cabinet so it is ready to use.</p>	<p>TREASURER'S REPORT Scott Drew gave the Treasurer's report, all outstanding bills have been paid. Scott reviewed the end-of-year and Christmas party financials.</p> <p>CLUB BUSINESS Michael said that the club will developing a checklist to qualify prospective club instructor pilots. The club will also be awarding senior pilot aviator wings to instructor pilots.</p>
<p>Readers of the hard copy version of the newsletter may find fewer pages than in the online version.</p>	<p>Michael said that the prizes for the monthly attendance raffle will be changed this year from a single \$100 gift certificate to four \$25 gift certificates. Dennis Locke reviewed club membership. The club added nine new members in 2017 and lost two existing members. There are currently thirty-seven regular members, one associate member and one honorary member. There are three prospective members. Dennis reminded everyone that some members now have AMA memberships that expire in months other than December. (Continued on page 2)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Club Officers for 2018</p> <p>PRESIDENT Michael Dolan mndolan@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT Andreas Muller andreasario@mac.com</p> <p>SECRETARY Dennis Locke dlocke@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>TREASURER Scott Drew swdrew@att.net</p> <p>SAFETY COORDINATORS Don Wicks, Safety Officer dkwicks@att.com Fred Constantine fredconstantine18@gmail.com Scott Drew swdrew@att.net</p> <p>HISTORIAN Tom Overton toverton@sonic.net</p> <p>NEWSLETTER EDITOR Fred Constantine fredconstantine18@gmail.com</p> <p>WEBMASTER Mike Giancaspro gian.mike@hotmail.com</p> <p>FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS Paul Biehler pjb@pacific.net Scott Drew swdrew@att.net Richard Bachman bachmanr2009@gmail.com</p>	<p>Minutes (cont. from page 1)</p> <p>Those members will receive a reminder from Dennis at the beginning of the month in which their AMA membership needs renewal. Scott reminded members that the flying field gate and storage cabinet combinations were changed on January 1.</p> <p>Andreas Muller reviewed plans underway to develop new sailplane bungee and winch launch areas within the powered aircraft flight and runway areas. There will also off-runway landing areas developed for aircraft not equipped with landing gear. There was discussion about how do best configure and manage these areas.</p> <p>Michael said David Andersen continues to work on the remote weather station at the flying field. Michael reminded members that electrical power at the flying field will be turned off on some afternoons during pipeline construction. There was discussion of equipment needed to stock a modeling supplies and tool kit at the flying field. Plans were made to roll the flying field runway sometime after the current rain subsides. Scott will be leading a work party to clean out the storage sheds at the flying field in February or March.</p> <p>Michael said AED training will be held in April or May. Andreas Muller was appointed as the club safety coordinator. Scott will be getting a quote to purchase an extension to the flying field pits shade structure.</p> <p>SHOW & TELL Jack Tatum showed his latest model, a kit called the Uproar from Tower Hobbies, powered by a .70 Magnum 4-stroke engine.</p> <p>Doug Skjerseth showed a self-designed and built flying wing made of mixed EPP and white foam.</p> <p>Tom Overton showed a Phoenix 1600 sailplane model.</p> <p>Michael showed a P-40 ARF model made up in the American Volunteer Group colors.</p> <p>MOVIE TIME Tom Inderkum showed a video of Shuttleworth, a collection of vintage aircraft and automobiles at the Old Warden Aerodrome in Bedfordshire, England.</p>
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President's Flap February 2018

Business as Usual...

While we wait through the in-climate weather here in the middle of winter, visiting the field when the wind and rain allows, we look forward to getting back to some serious sunshine and flying.

As the club officers assembled this morning I raised the idea of looking ahead to chart a course for the upcoming year. I wanted suggestions for a vision of what we might do to improve the outlook for our club in 2018. After kicking the concept around a bit the consensus was that about the only idea we could come up with besides to hold the course was to integrate a little more fun into our meetings! And really that says quite a lot about where we are currently. We have some money in the bank, the bills are paid, membership is up modestly and we continue to add to, improve and expand our facility in compliance with the wishes of the members.

Personally, each month when I see the email from Fred announcing the monthly newsletter attachment, it makes me smile. It's something I look forward to reading and I always enjoy the pictures as well. One of the things I like to read is any of the technical articles. If you come across anything that you think other modelers would like to see or know about such as building tips and tricks, safety issues or whatever- please send a copy or link to Fred Constantine at fredconstantine18@gmail.com. It will make his job easier to have material to select from and it will make for a content rich newsletter for everyone, so don't be shy.

I hope at least some of you have been working on new projects to show off and that you all come to the upcoming meeting, as well. In the meanwhile you can expect "business as usual" from your club officers with maybe a little extra fun thrown in for good measure. Happy flying everyone!

Michael

Meeting Pictures



Doug Skjerseth has become a master at producing foam wings. Thin sections like those held here by Doug are especially difficult. Photo by Locke.



JET (Jack Tatum) and his Tower Hobbies "Uproar". While not his usual warbird this ship with a .70 four stroke should move out warbird style. Photo by Locke.

At the Field



Steve Abel one of our newest members shown here with Scotty's ubiquitous "Fledgling Trainer". Steve is progressing rapidly with R/C flight. Photo by Drew.



Andreas and his "Bird of Time". Converted to electric it is a capable soarer. Photo by Drew.



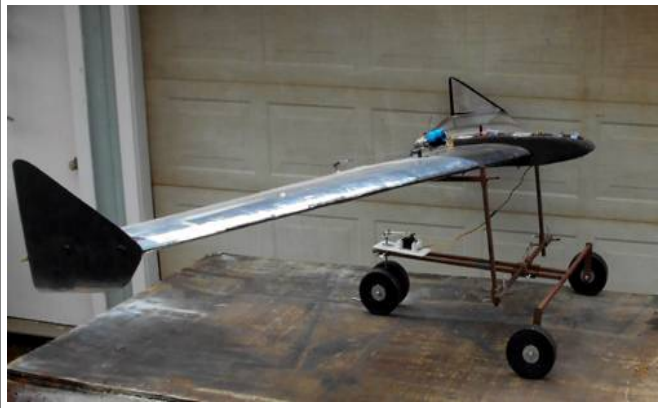
Tom's sailplane takeoff dolly. Large sailplanes can be a handful to launch and benefit from the takeoff dolly. Photo by Drew.



Takeoff dolly in action. Simple lightweight construction of PVC pipe and R/C wheels. Photo by Drew.



Doug's takeoff dolly for a sailplane. Doug's design is of welded steel square stock with a steerable tail wheel. Photo by Skjerseth.



Another of Doug's takeoff dollies designed to fit his large flying wing sailplanes. Tail wheel servo is connected to the receiver by means of a loose fitting extension cable! Photo by Skjerseth.

SAFETY NOTE

Scott Drew related the following chain of events as they happened to him. He points out that things can and do go wrong, always when not expected.

“Some of you are aware that I have been doing a re-engine project on my old 1/5 scale Piper Cub. It involved removing a Magnum .61 FS engine and installing a new Saito .80 FS engine.

Well I finally got the engine running properly at home, and was doing the final run up prior to bringing it to the field for a test flight.

After starting the engine at a fast idle I moved in back of the propeller arc as is always prudent to do.

While I was running the engine up (using the tach to see the top end RPM), the engine backfired..... Guess I had it a little too lean.

I had not previously had an engine like this one backfire at high RPM. It caused the prop nut to unscrew itself and the prop leave the engine.

I vividly remember seeing the large aluminum Higley prop nut, washer, and prop leave the engine. The prop continued in forward flight until it hit the screen door. The prop nut and washer hit the ground, bounced around a bit before coming to rest. The prop wasn't damaged at all, just a small mark on one of the painted tips.

I wanted to mention this incident to reinforce that we always need to make it a habit to follow safe practices when we are working around our model aircraft, especially when we are running up the engines. We must do these safe procedures ***EVERY TIME!*** Things **DO** happen!”

Scotty

FLU SEASON CAUTION

If your feeling a bit out of sorts, maybe a bit “fluish”. It would be wise to skip this months club meeting. Normally we would never advocate missing a meeting, but this flu season is brutal. Definitely a case of better safe than sorry.

