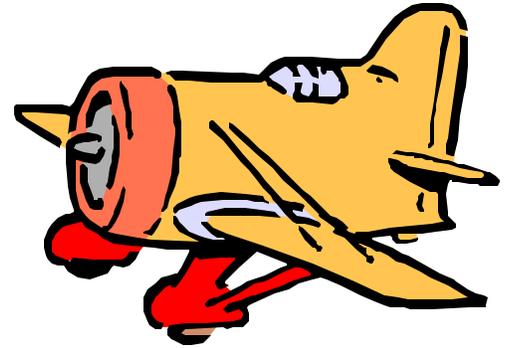


M.A.R.K.S.

Miniature Aircraft Radio
Kontrol Society



SEPTEMBER 2005 A.M.A. Charter No. 133

President: George Manning
Vice Pres.: Robert Boehm
Secretary: Bill Payne
Treasurer: Chuck Comstock
Event Coordinator: Scott Workman/Dan Payne
Field Directors: John Richardson/Pat Wahrer
Safety Officer: George Manning
Newsletter co-editors: Dan Payne and Scott Workman
Email: dpanddm@aol.com

Check us out on the WEB
at
RCMARKS.COM



*** Next Meeting ***
Thursday, September 8th
7:00 pm SBIA Security Office
165 S. Leland, San Bern. CA

Birthday Boys

Sven Blaser 9/1
Robbi McClellan 9/4
James Salmon 9/10
Allan Alvord 9/13
Jim Keller 9/16
Jacob Addison 9/19
Gerald Snider 9/24
Dan Payne 9/26
Anthony Jaworowski 9/28
John Maxwell 9/28

Known Closed Field Dates for Glen Helen

September 10th, 11th
October 14th, 15th

From D.J

Hey guys!

We are alive and kicking in Sacramento. Every evening and weekends we are out looking for a home that fits our needs and price. Most homes here are in the 400k to 900k. And on top of that, idiots come here and pay that from the bay area.

I have been going through some R/C withdrawals since I've been here. I don't have anything here to fly, storage has taken all my R/C stuff in captivity. I haven't even gone out to look at the local flying fields knowing it would depress me. I did however apply at the local hobby shop for work and they said they will call me if needed.

Work wise I haven't been called yet. Lots of resumes and applications sent out with no response yet. Maybe I shouldn't try for CEO of every company I apply at? My wife says she will take me to McDonalds and drop me off if something doesn't happen soon. I surely don't like their food and if she drops me off I'll just have to order something :(Yuck! Anyway, I am trying and something will happen soon.

(Continued on page 2)

This letter has been sent to you and all members of the MARKS. It was determined that the situation at hand was too important to wait for the next newsletter.

I am sure most of you know I prefer no confrontations and for us to have fun so I am sorry I have to write this and please read it all the way through.

Unknown to me until last Thursday, evidently there has been a tension building between the personnel who run and maintain the Glen Helen Racing facility and our club members. My understanding is that this has been building over the last year and has put our use of the facility at a high risk of ending. There have been several reports of incidents where by model flyers at the field have been rude and even told the workers building and laying out the motorcycle racetracks to leave. The workers have been told when and where they can and can't build their track. Even not to do it until we leave. The top management people had to come out to see what was going on and they too were spoken to rudely. We've had a couple of incidents where I assume by accident our lock was not locked through their lock and they were not able to access their own facility. The worse part is that during the first lockout incident my understanding is that things got out of had at the gate when we arrived to open it for them. I stated earlier that this was done by model flyers since I hope this was done by bootleggers using our site, however after talking to the management I am fairly sure by the descriptions given at least some of the incidents involve members.

I am not interested in hearing anyone trying to defend our side of any of the situations! The reality of the whole thing is we are guests. Yes we pay a rent however it is not enough to make it worth Glen Helen Raceway putting up with anything and in a blink of an eye we can be out. We have the run of the place most of the time and need to move out of the way when it comes to how they want to conduct their business. No motorcycles and no racing, no park for us to use. For the most part you all know they tend to stay away from us and let us do our thing. If they want to build a track down our runway they can, although I doubt that will happen again if we treat them with respect. Although I was not told directly that the deal with the track down the runway was intentional I'm pretty sure it was a show of disrespect toward us for ours toward them. If they are exaggerating the situation or not we must maintain a pleasant attitude toward everyone who approaches us. I do believe the situation is smoothed over now however things like this take time to erase and it will take a few times of them coming around and seeing a good attitude by us. Unfortunately if things continue down the wrong road the member or members involved will be asked to leave the MARKS club.

I have known most of you for several years and this is not our style. I know we have quite a few new members who might not be familiar with our history of field hunting. If anyone is not sure trust me it's hard to find a place for us to fly. If any of you have the ambition to develop a flying site you are more than welcome to help all of us however the ones we have although not the best are not all that bad. Especially when you consider the way all our land is getting used up around here. We are most likely good for at least another two years and possibly many more at Glen Helen however we are not allowed to put up permanent shade as many of you would like. The rumors of a go-cart track are true however most likely several years if at all away due to environmentalist.

We have a new group sharing the area however they are staying on the first flat parking area we normally cross to get to our area. They are a racecar group called gcrallyX, run buy a guy named Scott. They pay more for one day than we do for a whole year and are a friend of the racing facility owner. They are very nice and easy to work with, there is no noise or really any dust associated with what they are doing and the only thing we have to do is take the path they have laid out for us to our site when they are there. It's smoother than our normal way anyhow. They have already had two Saturdays there and everything is just fine so far. As long as we don't cross the track we will be ok. Again this is only when they are there and you can expect to see them only one more date this year, August 27th.

George Manning Jr.

(Continued from page 1)

So far we really like it up here. It takes about twenty minutes and we have our boat on the river. The Sacramento and the American rivers run right through Sacramento. It is quite beautiful at night on the water with all the city lights glistening on the water. Three weeks ago we broke down on the river about 40 miles south of Sacramento and managed to limp back at 9 knots. The river flows at 6 knots. Do the math, it took six hours to get back. At least we made it safe.

Well guys, I sure miss everyone down there. I will surely say "Hi!" if we are in the area. Keep the flying fun and the landings smooth. — D.J.

CONGRATULATIONS

To MARKS Member Ammon Becar who won the Evelyn Wilcox Youth Service Award a few months back.

GOOD JOB!

www.rcmarks.com - Our new Club Web-site

Why a new website?

For about two month our club has a revamped club web-site. We have added more content, many new and useful pages, and realized a couple of ideas that have been floating around for a while. Terry, who has done a great job in creating the initial set of pages, has moved North to Oregon this August. His leaving the club made it necessary to re-host the original MARKS web-site (www.marksrcclub.com). Change means opportunity and therefore we decided to setup a new domain (rcmarks.com) and host it on a dedicated web-host. There are a variety of advantages in doing this, speed accessibility, and available features are the most important reasons. The old domain name (marksrcclub.com) will be valid for another two years, after that only the new name is active.

The following sections will give you an overview about what is new, what has changed, where to find a particular topic, and how the web-site can be useful for our hobby. As with many other projects this web-site is work in progress. Comments and suggestions are highly welcome, just send an email to webmaster@rcmarks.com – Thanks!

Andreas – your new webmaster

General Features

The new web-site has two parts: a Navigation pane on the left and a content pane on the right. The navigation pane gives you direct access to the root topics or the most frequently used pages that our club site hosts. A root topic is, for instance, “Club Activities”. Some of the sections are only open to club members. These are sections that require a user ID and a password. You get the current UserID/Password from webmaster@rcmarks.com. This combination will be changed when it starts to be misused. Protected areas are currently our club roster and the frequency distribution page. – In this context, please do not disseminate that information to non-club members.

MARKS Home Page

The MARKS home-page (www.rcmarks.com) has three parts: A quick summary of our club (Who/What is the MARKS club?), our club’s **News Flash**, and a general section talking about the web-site in general. The News Flash is the part that you want to checkout frequently! This is the place where we will post important information, such as flying field conditions, upcoming meeting reminders, special events, etc. If you want to post such a news flash item then click on the **Add Messages** link and your message will be posted the same day. In order to make the list of news flash items short, old messages are moved to the **Recent Message** page. The link to that page is just under the News Flash items.

Club Info Section

This area features information about our and neighboring club flying sites, maps and directions to get to the various places, our club’s main contact and access points, information how to join a club, including a simplified on-line registry form, and finally our club’s history pages. The history pages are currently in the works. Woody has committed in bringing the old archives alive and this will be a great place to check out the rich history of the MARKS club. – In this context, if you have information that could be used for the history pages please send it to historian@rcmarks.com.

Club Activities

The Club Activities section host references to various activities of our club, such as the pylon races, war-bird rallies, fun flies, float flies, and our meetings. The **Club Calendar** shows you when events are scheduled. Besides this, Club Activities section features access to the Model of the Month, Picture of the Month, and Photo & Movie Gallery pages.

Model of the Month

For quite some time we have chosen a model of the month during the end of each club meeting. Now we have a place to list and show those models - for instance, to club members that could not attend a meeting. If you have had a model of the month in the past and would like to have it listed as well, then send a picture with description and the date when your plane was model of the month to webmaster@rcmarks.com.

Picture of the Month

This is a new “contest” where all digital pictures that are submitted are judged by all club members that are on the marks club e-mail list. Once everything is setup and running the picture of the month will be featured in the News

Letter and in the Picture of the Month Gallery on the web page. For additional instructions please check out the web-site.

Photo and Movie Gallery

This too is something new. The Photo and Movie Gallery is basically the MARKS club's photo album. All pictures that are sent in by club members are organized either per event or by month. This is a great way of keeping those special moments, so please send in your pictures. For information of how to do submit your pictures or movies please check out the Photo and Movie Gallery page.

RC Flight Training Page

Since Joe took over the office of the club's sanctioned flight instructor we have a place on our web-site where we can feature graduates, provide tips and hints on how best to learn to fly, and let potential pilots know where they can get a hold of Joe. In this context if you'd like to become a club instructor as well, please check with Joe he surely welcomes getting a hand from time to time.

Club Calendar

We now have a month to month club calendar. All club officers can add and edit events, hence the calendar is highly updated and a very good source if you want to know what is going on.

Newsletters

This page give you access to the current and previous news letters. – If you want to add your own story to a newsletter please send an e-mail to newsletters@rcmarks.com. On this page you also have an opportunity to subscribe to the newsletter electronically.

RC Weather

This is a very cool and useful page that shows the current weather conditions on all of our frequently visited flying fields. Besides the weather summary there are links to very accurate weather forecast sites, each one preconfigured for the particular flying fields. – Check it out, you will love it!

Member Pages

You are a MARKS member and would like to have an own web-page? – No problem, the MARKS club sponsors you some web-space and provides you with a template if you would like to have the same look and feel as our main web-page. The Member Pages section lists all member pages. Currently there is just Don's page listed. Scott's page is in the making. So make the step, creating a web-page is easier than it looks!

Frequency Distribution

Once we have the frequencies (collected during the next member survey) -later this fall, early next year-, we will post the availability of frequencies on our flying sites. This should help you pick out a frequency that is not already used 1001 times. The current charts are fake placeholders.

Useful Links Page

The most important information as usual at the end: This page list all pages of our site (and some extras), besides this there are links to local hobby stores and well proven on-line shops. If you would like me to add your favorite store/shop please send that to me.

For more information simply check out our new web-site directly, most pages should be pretty self explanatory. If you have trouble finding something, you can go to the Useful Links section or send me an e-mail at webmaster@rcmarks.com.

Thanks and happy flying!
Andreas