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2012 Membership Cards

For 2012, please remember to get your AMA insurance renewed before you renew your MMM membership. In order to have a 2012 MMM card issued, you need to provide a copy of your 2012 AMA card and driver's license and an [updated application](#). The application is on line at <http://www.murocmodelmasters.org/>. Click on "About Our Club". Club applications may be mailed to **Muroc Model Masters, Post Office Box 2194, Rosamond, CA 93560-2194**. Checks can be made payable to Muroc Model Masters. Membership dues are still just \$25 for the whole year. If applying in person, please see Charlie Threewit, Treasurer, at the field or meetings.



A Note From The Vice President

Hello everyone. Hasn't this been an amazing weather season so far? When you look at it, we have had more flying days this year at this time than in the past few years. The lakebed got wet enough this last rain for the first time to keep us off for a few days. I remember in past years it would be several months before we can get anywhere near the lakebed.

Now it is time to put on some fresh paint on the old desert to reflect that it is also serving the purpose as an official RC runway. Like anything that we own, if it is used a lot, then it will need some type of maintenance. During the last club meeting, it was decided that Saturday, May 5th, starting at 7:00 a.m. to begin the preparation before we paint the strips back on the field. In order to get this done with the minimum amount of work, we will need as many folks to come out to work this project. Ron and I will be checking out the paint equipment the week before to make sure it is all ready to go. We have the paint, the machine, and the permission. Now we need commitment from our membership to come out with brooms, dustpans, plastic bags, and plenty of energy. I will be bringing my generator and electric blower to move the broken flakes that the brooms knocked down. If anyone has any kind of blower, please feel free to bring it with you. We'll also need a bunch of string and large nails so we can mark the lines.

Next Meeting – 8 May, 2012 – Fox Field

Did I mention that you need to bring your appetite for an after painting Bar B-Q? The club will be purchasing the hot dogs, hamburgers, and some soft drinks for those that participated; non-participants will be charged a fee for the food. I will be sending out an email asking for help on May 5th. You will find more information about the Muroc Field Maintenance Day in the minutes of April's meeting. Don't forget that the field will be opened within a couple of hours or sooner after we get done so we will have plenty of time to eat and fly after. The sooner we start the sooner we can get finished before lunch.

Besides bringing a broom or dustpan, don't forget your planes, comfortable chair, a push up (to keep the sun off of you) and maybe a cooler with water or soft drinks. Hope to see you at the field on May 5th. Remember "Muroc Model Masters need you".

Lou Figueroa VP, MMM

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Propwash

APRIL, 2012



MSgt Tony Accurso is retiring from the Air Force

Friday, 20 April 2012, I'll be retiring from the United States Air Force after 24 years of service.

I would like to thank everyone for their support over these years of military life. This is the greatest country in the world and I'm proud to have served. Your support of our men and women in the Armed Services is very much appreciated.

I'll be enjoying 6 weeks off before starting my new job, the most time off since high school, so, you know what that means.....lots of RC building and flying!

😊 Thank you again,

Tony

A Note from the Editor

Yes you guessed it, another Newsletter format. Now that I won't be mailing the newsletter I can make it as long as needs be. A classified ad section would be nice if I had anything to put in it and "Look what I'm working on now" section that would include status and pictures of your project. When you are out at the flying field, take some pictures with your phone or camera and send them to me - I'll put them on the website and in the newsletter. I can use all the help I can get. Send them to: oldcrow@roadrunner.com Thanks!

ElectriFly Gee Bee Product Review

By Tony Accurso (xplaneguy's Blog – RCGroups.com)

For those of you who missed the last meeting, here is the product review of an aircraft that Tony discussed....

Here's a plane that my daughter Evelyn talked me into buying at our local hobby shop and I'm glad I did. The Gee Bee is one of Evelyn's favorite planes...so...I had too! 🍷

ElectriFly did a great job with this model. The manual was very well done and easy to follow. Assembly was quick with rare earth magnets being used in many places to put this plane together and they are strong. The majority of the assembly time was spent installing wing support wires/elastic thread which took about 20 minutes.

The maiden flight was very easy and the plane has good power on the 11.1V 25C 2200mAh recommended battery. The Gee Bee looks awesome in the air! Remember, it's a Gee Bee...so...keep the speed up on the landing.

For more info, check out the ElectriFly Gee Bee link:

<http://www.electrifly.com/largeelectrics/gpma6020.html>

Here are a few photos!

Best,
Tony



RC Pilot Evelyn holding the New ElectriFly Gee Bee.



ElectriFly Gee Bee



RC Pilot Evelyn holding the New ElectriFly Gee Bee.



ElectriFly Gee Bee in flight



ElectriFly Gee Bee

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MMM Meeting Minutes

10 April 2012

The club meeting was brought to order at 6:38 P.M. by the club president, Ron Scaggs. The meeting was held at Fox Field terminal lounge. March meeting minutes were read by club secretary, Jerry V. Rice. It was moved the minutes be accepted as read by George Becker and seconded by Tony Accurso.

Treasurers Report:

There was no Treasurers report. Charlie Threewit was ill and did not attend.

Old Business:

Authorization has been approved from base personnel to paint/stripe the runway and pit area of the flying field. The members in attendance at the April MMM meeting voted and approved a field maintenance work party to be held at 7:00 A.M. on Saturday May 5th, 2012. Lou Figueroa will meet with Ron Scaggs and check the machine and make sure it will function as it should. We are asking members to bring push brooms to brush loose dirt and small gravel from the area to be painted. We have also decided to combine our Spring Picnic with the work party. Tony Accurso motioned we use \$50.00 from our club funds to purchase Subway Sandwiches and Pizza after the work has been completed. The motion was seconded by Ken Zakar. Membership in attendance voted to approve the action requested.

New Business:

Wes Parmeter talked about Canyon Crosswinds RC Club having their annual fun / float fly at Castaic Lake on Sunday April 22nd, 2012. There is a \$15.00 landing

fee, AMA registration is required. Registration for the event is at 8:00A.M. and it is \$11.00 per car or \$14.00 per RV to enter the park. Wes Parmeter said for those wanting to attend this event it would be good to car pool and pay for one vehicle. To contact Wes Parmeter for more information on this event his email is wesparmeter@yahoo.com. It would be great to support other RC Clubs in our area.

Tony Accurso stated that he had been a product evaluator for several companies, Banana Hobbies.com and is currently testing for Nitroplanes.com. He said he will do the paperwork for AMA so that he can be an instructor for our club. Wes Parmeter said he is also a test pilot for HeliPros.

John Sturgeon also said he is changing the Propwash News Letter format. He will be adding a classified section, so if anyone out there has something they want to trade or sell let John know and he will list it.

Members and guests in attendance are as follows: Ron Scaggs; Lou Figueroa; Jerry V. Rice; John Sturgeon; Joe Breda; Wes Parmeter; Don Kissack; Tony Accurso; Evelyn Accurso; Ken Zakar; George J. Becker; and our new members Eric Favilla; Noi Favilla and Daniel Price.

Lou Figueroa motioned to close the meeting. John Sturgeon seconded the motion and it was carried by the majority of attendees. Meeting officially closed at 7:30 P.M.

Show and Tell: Tony and Evelyn brought a Stearman PT-17 sold through Nitroplanes.com (electric) very good looking Receiver ready plane.

These minutes were compiled by Secretary Jerry V. Rice on 12 April 2012.

This Month's Tips

Summertime Flying

When flying in a small yard or field, beware of the way the heat will "bounce" your airplane. Once you come in for landing in a small area, the heat will have a much greater effect on how smooth your landings are due to a tighter space which

makes for a bumpier landing. I have noticed if you come in and do a 45 degree crab through the open field and straighten it out before touch down, you will succeed almost every time.

Jason Cox
Tower Hobbies Helpful Hints



On the Safe Side



Odds and Ends

by Jim Tiller, *On the Safe Side* Author (AMA Insider)

Disposing of Batteries

You can't be in this hobby without using batteries. With the proliferation of electric flying, even more batteries entered our lives. These batteries eventually go bad, so we are faced with how to dispose of them. For many years it was the trash can. Now, with all the exotic combinations, it is more of a hassle. "Green" environmental laws and regulations are also a consideration. In some states, it is illegal to dispose of any kind of battery—even alkaline cells, in the trash.

The easiest and most environmentally friendly way to dispose of all your batteries is to put them in a plastic bag, and when you've collected enough, take them to a battery recycler. Many hardware stores or home centers have boxes or bins that will take batteries. There are also battery retailers such as Batteries Plus or Interstate Batteries that will take them. There is even a website that will send you a box to put your batteries and other hard-to-dispose-of items such as fluorescent bulbs. When it's full, you just drop it in the nearest FedEx box. (www.lamprecycling.com/)

LiPo cells are the ones that are the biggest concern for most fliers. There is plenty of Internet information about the care and feeding of LiPo batteries. You simply *cannot* charge LiPo batteries without a proper peak charger and a fireproof container. If they overcharge, they build up gases. If those gases produce enough pressure, the cells will rupture energetically (notice I did not write explode), releasing those gases that then combust mixing with air. Most have read and heard the horror stories associated with LiPo batteries.

But this essay is on disposing them. If you simply must dispose of them yourself, here are some simple instructions, but you can search the internet for a more complete set.

Before you dispose of a LiPo battery, you should discharge it. (Don't try to discharge a damaged pack. If it is damaged, skip down to soaking the cells in salt water.) Many LiPo chargers also discharge the same packs. If so, just discharge the battery to the lowest point allowed on your charger (less than 1 volt per cell). Follow the same safety instructions while discharging as you do for charging.

If your charger won't do it, a 12-volt light bulb wired between the poles will do the job for smaller packs of three cells or less. Let the pack discharge an hour or so after the light bulb goes out.

Soak the cells in salt water ($\frac{1}{2}$ cup of salt per gallon) for a few days. Soaked and discharged LiPos are safe to put in the trash or the recycling bag depending on local regulations.

The biggest environmental concern is the Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd) and Nickel Metal Hydrides (NiMH) batteries. First of all, the metallic residue can be recycled and reused. Second, they are toxic waste if they find their way into the landfill and/or our water supply.