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2013 Membership Cards

For 2013, please remember to get your AMA insurance renewed before you renew your MMM membership. In order to have a 2013 MMM card issued, you need to provide a copy of your 2013 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.

Christmas Potluck Dinner

Will be held at

The Boulders at the Ranch I

40701 Rancho Vista Blvd.,

Palmdale, CA 93551.

First Signal Light south of Ave. N and 50th St. West.

Friday, December 7th, 2012

6:30 P.M. until 10:00 P.M.

The potluck food assignments are as follows:

Last Name Beginning:

A thru G - bring Vegetables and/or Potatoes

H thru N - bring Desserts

P thru Z - bring Salad & Bread

On the Safe Side (AMA Insider)

See and Avoid

by Jim Tiller, *On the Safe Side* Author

In response to my last safety article on 3-D vision and depth perception, Jim Rice, retiring District VIII vice president and Safety Committee Chairman, sent me some good information that I will pass on to you. Jim commented on the thoughts I had about keeping "blue sky" between you and other airplanes in your flying space. He pointed out that this same advice has just been added to an AMA document concerning RC airplanes and full-scale aircraft.

His message:

"Ironic that you would describe a way to keep separation between aircraft in the same week that we added a paragraph to PDF 540-D that tells them the same thing ... only with different words.

The FAA work group has been using the term 'Blue Sky' for about three years and the FAA seemed to like the concept."

AMA document 540-D provides guidelines for RC operations in the NAS (National Airspace System). As Jim pointed out, there is a new advisory in that document that recommends using "Blue Sky" between you and full-scale aircraft to avoid depth perception mistakes. Here's an excerpt:

"Blue Sky" is a term used to explain the method used to increase separation between a model and a manned aircraft in the same vicinity. The modeler should maneuver the aircraft in such a way as to increase the amount of *blue sky* perceived between the model and the manned aircraft. By increasing the blue sky separation, the question about depth perception is taken out of the equation and the modeler need not worry whether the model is closer to him than the manned aircraft or further away. Increasing the blue sky between the model and the manned aircraft

automatically increases separation between them.

Thanks Jim, for that great follow up to my last article.

When I pulled up the document and read it in its entirety, I thought that the rest of the information should be brought to your attention as well.

These guidelines are great safety rules to follow, not only for operations with full-scale aircraft in the vicinity, but for flying in general. You might want to bring the document along to your next meeting or post it on your website. Here's a link:

www.modelaircraft.org/files/540-D.pdf

Skin Cancer

Jim Rice also told me a little bit about his recent bout with skin cancer. Jim related his diagnosis of a malignant melanoma last January and the ensuing surgery and recovery over the next six months. He has made a full recovery but cut back on his AMA activities, including resigning from his position as District VIII Vice President.

If there is a more compelling statement than his about the dangers of skin cancer I don't know where you would find it. Our hobby puts us high on the list of those susceptible to this disease. If you have not already read the full article in the September issue of *Model Aviation*, do yourself a favor. Pull it out and read it. Here's a link if you can't find the paper issue:

<https://library.modelaviation.com/ma/2012/9/1?page=48>

Thanks, Jim, for volunteering that personal information and all you have done for the hobby.

Thanks again for all your emails and advice. They make this job much easier. It's coming on winter up here in the outback of the US, so I guess I'll have to think about this year's winter adventure into aeromodeling. I learned long ago that I should not use the words "winter project." My wife has a completely different concept of what a project is. She tends to think of finishing up that kitchen remodel I started in 2008.

MMM Meeting Minutes

13 November 2012

The November general membership meeting of Muroc Model Masters was called to order by our club President Ron Scaggs at 6:33 P.M. (1833 hrs for all you military types). The meeting was held at the Fox Field Airport Terminal Lobby in Lancaster, CA. There were fifteen members and guests in attendance.

A motion was made by Charles Threewit and seconded by John Sturgeon that the reading of the October minutes be waved and it was a unanimous vote by the attending membership.

Treasures Report:

Treasures report was given by our treasurer Charles Threewit. Bills were paid and we have not received any new membership renewals as of this time. Motion made by Evelyn Accurso and second by Tony Accurso that the report be accepted.

Old Business:

Christmas party is still on for 7 December 2012 at Boulders at the Ranch I, 40701 Rancho Vista Blvd., Palmdale, Ca. 93551.

New Business:

We held nominations and voted for new club officers this meeting. The membership in attendance voted on and accepted these results: Tony Accurso is now our new club President, George Becker is our new club Vice-President, Ken Zakar is our new club Treasurer, Jerry Rice is still the club Secretary and John Sturgeon is still our newsletter editor. We would like to thank all those members who have participated in taking care of

our club business in the past and thank those who have accepted their new positions for the future of our club.

On a sad note one of our past members, Leslie Monforton has Pancreatic Cancer and is currently undergoing chemo therapy. We wish and pray for her and her family the best with her recovery.

Our members and guests in attendance were as follows: Ron Scaggs; Lou Figueroa; Charlie Threewit; Jerry Rice; John Sturgeon; Tony Accurso; George Becker; Ken Zakar; Evelyn Accurso; Bob Smith; Jim Holland; Don Martin; John Pazybyszewski ; and our guests this month were Nicole McKeon and Bill McKeon.

Bill & Nicole work at the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory at Edwards A.F.B. They gave us an insight as to some of the things that go on at the lab. Nicole works with Solid Rocket motor propellants and Bill works with Liquid propellants for liquid propellant engines. They brought films to show how some of the different things are tested and brought about by the work force at the lab. They showed us that most of the things they work on are developed at the lab and then sent to different companies to expand. We would like to thank Nicole and Bill for coming to our meeting and sharing some of their experiences with us.

It was moved our meeting close at 7:46 P.M. (1946 HRS) by Lou Figueroa and seconded by John Sturgeon.

These minutes were compiled by Secretary, Jerry V. Rice on 23rd November 2012.

Tower Hobbies Helpful Hints

Refuse to lose the Screws

Make a handy screw holder by gluing a small magnet inside your airplane fuselage to hold the small wing screws when you disassemble your airplane for transport and storage. *Ernie Lee*