

PCC NEWSLETTER

PENINSULA CHANNEL COMMANDERS INC.



August 2016

Next Meeting:

August 17th, 2016

AMA Chartered Club # 139

Web Site: <http://flypcc.org/>

P.O. Box 812, Half Moon Bay, CA 94014

President	Jeff Mate	650-856-1102	stick_time2@yahoo.com
Vice President/Field Marshall	Mike Solaegui	415-314-6261	mikes@perfectedgecutlery.com
Secretary	Open	Looking for it....	TBD
Treasurer	David Santana	650-533-0976	Santanahouse@email.msn.com
Webmaster	Matt Abrams	415-370-3323	matt@matt-abrams.com
New Member Chairman	Open	Looking for it....	TBD
Flight Proficiency Chairman	Open	Looking for it....	TBD
Editor	Brian Chan	650-867-8813	pcceditor@gmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING @PCC

***We have a new meeting place!
Starting August 2016, PCC
General Meeting will be held at***

Peter's Cafe

10 El Camino Real, Millbrae.

7:30pm, 3rd Wednesday of the month.

***We are currently looking for a
member who will take on the
role of Secretary.***

***(current board members will have the
subsequent year membership weaved!)***

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jeff Mate

The President's Corner Column is a way to communicate what has been going on since last months meeting, and perhaps a vision on what the PCC Board is planning for you and our flying site, going forward.

First, lets all thank Dave Santana for offering his time and services as your New PCC Treasurer. Dave and I met with Wells Fargo last week and he now has control of the PCC Accounting Financials. When you see Dave at the field or concentrating on finding that next thermal, give him your thanks.

New Club Meeting Location

Club Member Peter Liu has offered his restaurant backroom at Peter's Cafe as the new home for PCC Club Meetings. We will bring back the coffee at meetings from the Cafe and donuts from Ray Squires. You can order dinner or whatever from Peter's Cafe and eat while you meet. Peter's Cafe is at 10 El Camino Real at the Northeast corner of Millbrae Avenue and El Camino Real in Millbrae, very close to the Library. See you there @7:30 on August 17th. There is plenty of parking.

This year @PCC, we have been met with change and challenges on many levels for our small RC Club. We have gotten much done with your participation, hard work on weekends, understanding and the love of RC Flight.

I sent Brian Chan a history story of PCC and our former President, Ken Martinez. Perhaps it was more of a history lesson than a story. The column was written about the years PCC had to endure, in moving from one flying site to the next by Landlords that made decisions to re-purpose their land.

The article also goes on to explain the outcry from neighboring communities that did not understand the joy of RC Modeling and Flight. I hope we are changing that perception, but we must do more than just change perceptions. We need to participate in all level of club activities and share who we are with the community.

I believe James Ramsey, our Landlord understands our hobby, our interests within the HMB community and our continued commitment to make RC Modeling and RC Flight a safe and fun experience for individuals and families alike. We are making it a bigger priority to be good stewards of the Coastal Land we have been gifted to maintain.

You will see changes in PCC Safety and AMA Obligations and Rules. We will have a GPS presence with HMB Fire Department, Sheriff's Office and Emergency Services. We will see a greater influence for our own Safety and Field Operations.

We have a New Five (5) Year Lease thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey and their continued support for recreational RC activities on their property. This is an unbelievable gift. If you don't think so, just read the History Lesson Brian will publish.

A Special Thank You

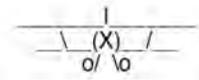
I also need to ask all of you along with me, to give thanks to Dennis Lowry for his years of service as your Club Secretary. Dennis has a few items to close out, then he will be resigning his position on the PCC Board this year. VP Mike Solaegui will fill in as Secretary.

Once again, I find myself asking each of you to look inside and at the gift we are given for RC flight. I am asking you to serve as the new PCC Secretary. We as your Board will want to fill the Secretary Position on the PCC Board as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your thoughts and consideration.

Thanks again,

Safe Landings

Jeff



MEETING MINUTE

Jeff Mate

July 20, 2016

Call to Order: By Jeff Mate, PCC President.

Raffle: A nice Bind and Fly from *J&M Hobby House* Mike Solaegui won the Raffle for the second month.

The June Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Membership Report: Membership is now at 132.

We have a new Roster. New members are being listed and new badges will be created as soon as we receive new badge materials.

Greg Hoffman

Joe Stephens

Dave Buhrman

Tom Fogerty

A new member, Darrel Vance came to the meeting and signed up with his AMA Card and PCC Application.

Treasury Report: The PCC Treasury is healthy.

We have 10,385.05 in our PCC Checking

We have 11,272.88 in our Savings

Totals for the July Record is 21,657.93

We have had higher than normal expenses for June and July. Most are due to Field Expenses and Outreach Event. Expenses total to date, 3,448.45 includes Mike's expenses.

Expenses were paid to Mike Solaegui for 2015 and 2016 Field Expenses.

Questions were asked about the CD. Additional information will be presented along with discussion on moving the the CD to Wells Fargo.

Events Chair Report: *Jeff Mate*

Our Community Outreach went very well with 20 LDS youth in Attendance. Thank you to all Pilots that participated in the Event and Demonstrations.

Dave Mosher

Ken Atawan

Mike Peck

Mike Solaegui
Lew Chee

New Business:

Orientation and Instructors Report: TBD

We need 4 to 5 Field Instructors/Trainers/Observers. In addition we need trainer planes donated with receivers. The team will be announced at the August meeting.

Safety Officer Report: VP Mike Solaegui

Standing/sitting in Taxiway
Lipo Batteries left on site
Drinking and Smoking
HMB Fire Dept. Visit and GPS Dat
All Gas in Storage Locker
Tics are back in season.

A. Motion was brought and passed:

A motion to provide Peter Liu with a free PCC membership each year we use his Restaurant back room was passed.

Field Maintenance Report: VP Ken Martinez

Dave Santana and Ken's shade structure
Storage Clean-out - all
Junk Hauling - Mike Peck
Mowing - Ken Atawan and Mike S
Weeding - Dennis Lowry, Ray Razon & Fam,
Tire stops - Jeff Mate, Scott Eldridge
Weeding and Mower Repair Mike Peck - Ken M and all
New Plane Barrier Fencing - Mike Peck - all
Weed wacker repairs - Dennis Lowry

Technology / Weather Station Report:

Steve Williams, Bruce Crawford
Caulking all screw holes for leaks -Bruce Crawford
Weather Station repairs - Steve Williams

An Amendment was passed:

A required approval for Budget Statements, Approvals and Expenses was motioned, second and passed. This action provides for formal club approval of Monthly Bank Statements.

A vote to move the PCC 3rd Wednesday Meetings to Peter's Cafe at 10 El Camino Real and Millbrae Ave was passed. This move will save the club up to 1,500 per year. In the addition a motion to provide Peter Liu with a free PCC membership each year we use his Restaurant back room was passed. Coffee at meetings will resume at the clubs expense. Ray Squires will provide donuts.

Old Business:

- a. Shade Complete
- b. Equipment Repairs - Dennis - all
- c. Work Day's Complete

New Business:

- a. 2 mowers and large weedwacker to shop this week.
- b. New Meeting Room
- c. Document Revision Committee
- d. Training/Orientation Team
- e. New Web Site Planning Committee - Investigate
- f. Kids Flying Day ?

B. Fun Fly's request - We had a request to sponsor a PCC Fun Fly Event. There were no volunteers to CD the event, so there was no further discussion.

Keys to Storage were made and distributed to Greg Hoffman and Steve Williams.

C. A request went out to all members present at the meeting for a volunteer to take over the Board, Club Treasurer position. Dave Santana volunteered for this 2016 replacement position. Many thanks to Dave Santana.

Show and Tell:

Gary Leopold brought a small electric plane.

Raffle:

Mike Solaegui won again.

Adjournment:

Time was spent in discussion until 9:45 as this was our last PCC meeting in the Dave Chetcuti Room over the course of many years.

Next Meeting:

August 17, 2016 , 7:30 pm @

**Peter's Cafe Back Room,
10 El Camino Real, Millbrae, CA. 94030**

**Northeast corner of El Camino Real and
Millbrae Avenue, Millbrae CA**

Jeff

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

17 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae

20 Warbirds Over Livermore, Livermore Flying Electrons, Livermore

September

3 SCCMAS Summer Swap Meet.

5 Labor Day.

9-11 41st Crash N Bash, Schmidt Ranch, Elk Grove

21 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae

24 SAM21 Clash of the Titans, Livermore Flying Electrons, Livermore.

October

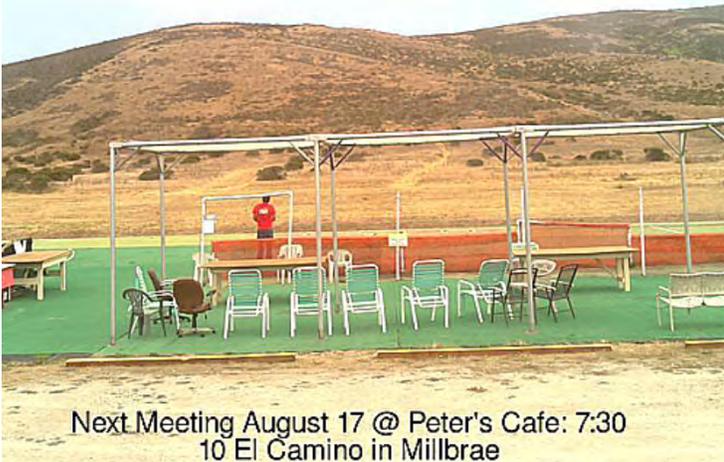
10 Columbus Day

19 PCC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dave Chetcuti Rm, Millbrae

See <http://www.ncrcs.com/> for more detailed information.

FIELD SAFETY:

Just to remind all members that the flight line safety for safe flight operation.



Next Meeting August 17 @ Peter's Cafe: 7:30
10 El Camino in Millbrae

All pilot must be in the flight station while flying. Even when you are the only one at the field!

JAKE CHICHILITTI

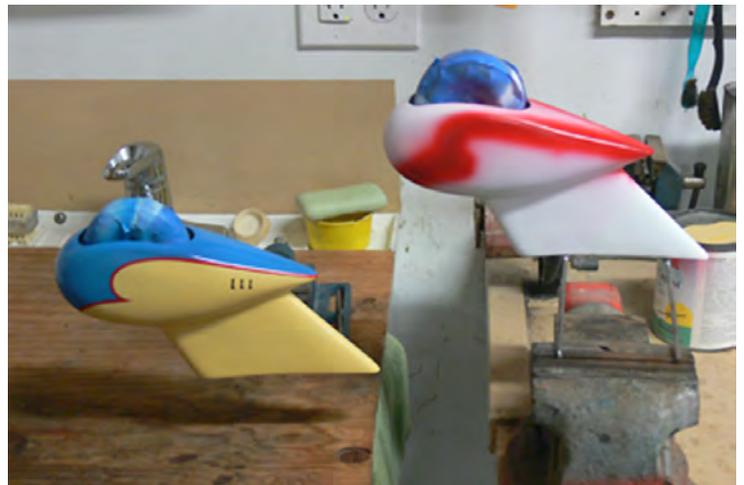
Some of you might remember this older gentleman who used to fly with PCC and immigrated to Santa Rosa? Anyway, I received an email from Jake,

I'm putting the finishing touches on my Gee Bee. I just have the wing left to paint and then clear coat the whole thing.

Here is a picture of the wheels pants and the assembled model before I started painting it.



Jake's Gee Bee, look at that shop!!



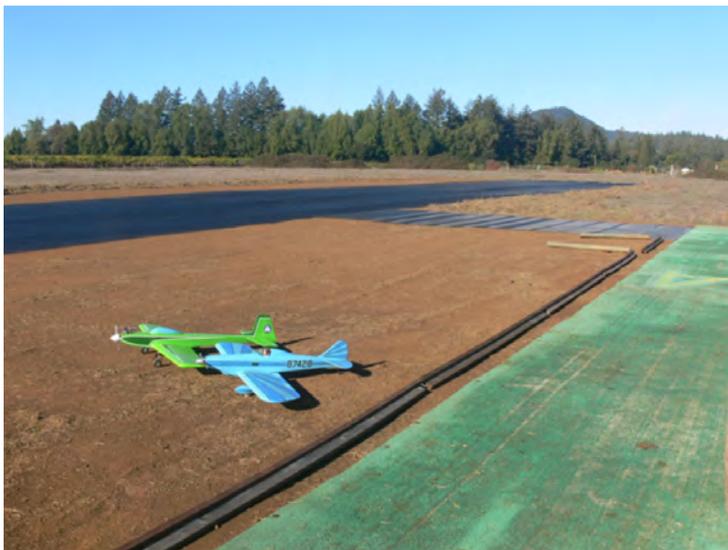
Two wheel pants in different stage of painting.

Jake also mentioned the Wine Country Flyer found a new field in Winsor.

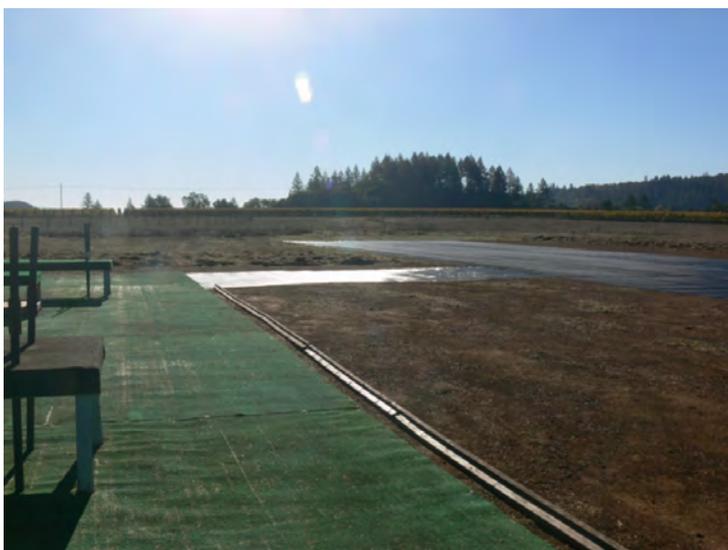
Yeah, we lost the field at the winery, but the club found another field almost immediately. It is much nicer without any vines growing right next to the runway and the trees are pretty far away. 400' X 30' geotex material. The pictures show it when it was just laid down. We had to wait for some hot weather and it tightened up just like Monokote. We hadn't put up the safety fence yet.



Jake with his planes at the Wine Country Flyer field. (Now do you remember who is Jake?)



Part of the runway.



The other end of the runway.

NEW PROPERTY OWNER FORCES RADIO FLIERS TO MIGRATE

By Greg Thomas

This article appeared in the Half Moon Bay Review in Oct 15, 2008.



Frank Phelps rolls up the turf runway of the Peninsula Channel Commanders airstrip after a new landowner served notice on the club to cease operations on the premises.

A group of old-timers rolled up the last bit of AstroTurf airstrip over the weekend under a favorite bit of Coastside airspace. The occasion signifies yet another in a series of displacements for the Peninsula Channel Commanders over the group's 47 years of operation.

For more than 10 years, the group, a nonprofit organization created by and for radio-controlled model plane enthusiasts, ruled the skies south of Half Moon Bay near Martin's Beach. But shortly after the parcel exchanged hands in August, the club received a notice of eviction from the new corporate owners of the 53-acre property, Martin's Beach, LLC. The Commanders have until Halloween to take off.

"The new property managers have said it's a problem that we're flying over their beach," said Ken Martinez, Commanders president. "More than likely they can see planes from the beach, even though we're not flying over the beach. I think this new company doesn't want to (risk) the headache of any people complaining about the planes flying overhead."

Martinez said the corporation hasn't been returning phone calls, essentially turning a deaf ear to the pleas of the club's 110 members.

Several fliers met and dismantled the 500-foot airstrip over the weekend — the first and most significant of steps members are taking to uproot their 10-year ties to the property. The only thing left to do is to remove the maintenance storage container and rolls of AstroTurf, Martinez said.

"We've been screwed again," said Alonso Richardson, recalling several relocations the group has been forced to make since its inception as an affiliate of the Academy of Model Aeronautics in 1961. The 92-year-old World War II pilot veteran is revered as the patriarch of the club.

"We did everything we could do to be a good neighbor to contribute to the community activities, and things were going fine until Mr. Deeney had to sell the property," he said. "The people who bought it wouldn't hear anything except us getting the hell out of there."

Richardson remembers when the club was first ousted in the late 1960s from their original fly zone atop Trousdale Drive in Burlingame and found land in undeveloped Foster City. Throughout their five-year stint in Foster City, group members were bulldozed out of their sites several times by developers and county agencies, Richardson recalled.

"We had to move about five times to get out of the way of tractors (when they were developing the neighborhood)," he said. "Finally we went to Half Moon Bay to Alves Dairy (in the early 1970s) and we had a wonderful set up there — probably the best ever. But again (in 2000), the housing development got us, the county took over the property and we had to sell our assets, such as we had, to the county."

That's when the group moved to its most recent field near Martin's Beach. But now the group is once again being removed against the will of its members.

"It's a shame," Richardson said. "It seems the county doesn't have a place for radio fliers anymore."

The majority of Commanders members are over 65 years old; many of them long-time members who understand model airplane flying to be more than just a hobby.

"It teaches discipline and skill because a lot of people build their own airplanes," member Harry Smith said.

"You build them from the bones up, so to speak. It can be an educational thing.

"It's not something that's just a pastime," he said. "The stuff we use in the military these days came about from this type of radio-controlled flying."

Over the course of their more than 40-year stay in Half Moon Bay, group members have tried to engage the community to gain recognition and visibility — working with the Boy Scouts of America to give lessons, and air time to anyone who stopped by the strip.

Two years ago, Commanders membership expanded when Peninsula Aeromodelers, a similar group of radio fliers, was displaced from its fly zone on the 208-acre Wavecrest property due to a "conflict of landowners," Martinez said. The Aeromodelers ran afoul of the city of Half Moon Bay, which eventually issued a cease-and-desist order against the club.

"That's not an uncommon situation," according to Wes De Cou, Academy for Model Aeronautics western region flying site coordinator. "Generally when the properties change hands this becomes an issue whether they can stay on the property or not."

De Cou said he's been advising "an awful lot" of AMA clubs caught in desperate circumstances recently. He recommends groups always be on the lookout for potential fields to move to at a moment's notice, even if they already have secured a location. In the Commanders case, he suggested talking to San Mateo County Parks and Recreation.

Commanders members are currently scouring nearby areas and contacting county agencies, but say they are a bit anxious trying to find a new location.

"We certainly hope (that the group survives the transition), but a flying club can't do a whole lot or attract new membership if we don't find a place to fly," Smith said.

"We're not in absolutely critical times but moving is expensive, which cuts into the funds," Martinez said. "If we don't get something really fast, that'll make it tough for the club to continue."

For more information on the club, visit the Peninsula Channel Commanders' Web page:

<http://flypcc.org>



The new Shade in action. No, it did not move!



Ray with his free FunCub.



Mark returned from a good flight, he looked happy!



Presidente Jeff in action. No, he did not move either!



This is what Mark was flying, could not find name of plane in my notes!



Phil and Bob flying. It was a very nice day, weather-wise!



Phil's TL-2000 "coming in HOT!"



Phil's helicopter from another angle.



Mike tried to tame this Yak! Ride them cowboy!



Extra protection for the pilots, only if you stand behind it!



Phil's beautiful helicopter.

J&M HOBBY HOUSE

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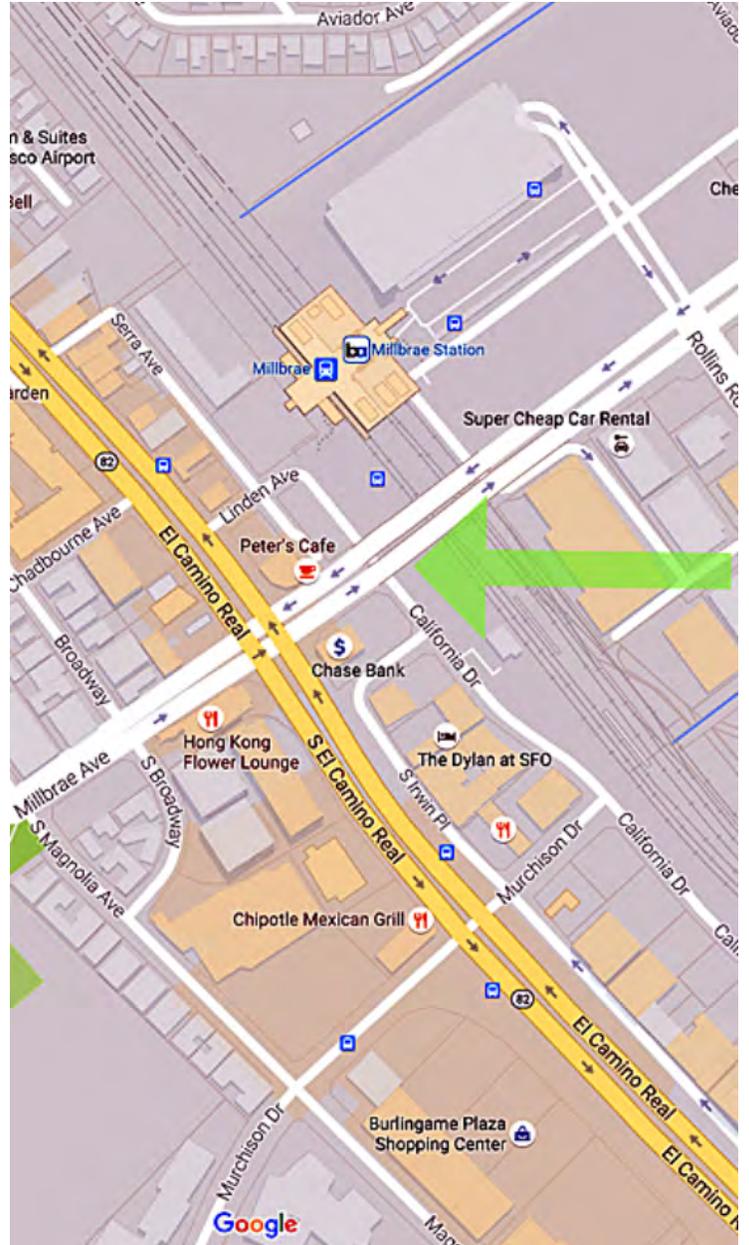
HOURS
WEEKDAYS 11AM-6PM
SAT. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM

Support your local hobby shop!

Map to the new meeting place.



<http://www.flypcc.org>



Next Meeting:

August 17th, 2016