

## THE FLIGHT LINE

By David Raff – President

I personally do not put a lot of faith in some of the old adages but I do have to concede that the month of March this year, has definitely had its share of “windy” days. It seems like just about every weekend we were facing at least 10 MPH winds with much higher gusts challenging even the best pilots.

One of those weekend, while training a new member, my Sensei trainer (weighs in at about 3 1/4lbs) decide to do a direct vertical accent to around 30' after rolling only 3 feet on take off. I made the comment to my student that one of the most important decisions that an R/C pilot can make is the one - **WHEN NOT TO FLY** at which point I promptly decided that we were through training for the day and landed the airplane.

For many of us, this is a decision that unfortunately is learned the hard way. One of my favorite airplanes was a 61" Lancair MKIV by CMP. This was one of those great



flying aircraft that looked as good on the ground as it did in the air and made the pilot look better than he really was. A bad decision to take it up on a day that I knew I shouldn't ended with a 20 MPH gust catching under the right wing 3 feet off the deck and cart wheeling it until the wings sheared off, snapped and cracked the fiberglass fuselage all the way back to the vertical stab - I remember it well!

While on the subject of loosing aircraft, I would like to remind everyone to please be sure that your contact

information including your AMA # (if not on the aircraft) is securely attached on the inside of every aircraft you fly. We have had a few instances recently where planes have been lost outside of the flying field and in some cases the remnants have been returned. However, without knowing who it belongs to, it makes it very difficult to be sure that it gets to the rightful owner. This is not only a good idea to do but is also an AMA Safety Code requirement.

Congratulations to Scott Smith, Rick Ruede and all of the volunteers and pilots that participated in the Spring Southern 500 Pylon Races. As in years past, this was a very successful event with this year achieving a big part of the IRCC, SEMPRA & NMPRA's goal to reduce the number of volunteers needed to man these races. The first part of this was to raise enough money between the race and donations combined with the matching funds from the AMA to purchase the Electronic Scoring System - I am very happy to report - **Mission Accomplished!**

The second part will be to purchase the GPS Tracking System sometime next year which will be able to track the flights, speed and identify pylon cuts with automatic scoring capabilities which in turn will make these races virtually worker free! For those of you that may not understand the magnitude of this - volunteer to man turn one at the next race in the fall ---- if you dare!

Reports from David Dewitt confirmed that despite the winds and a few crashes, Florida Jets was also a success both for FTE and the IRCC. Wally Sundey and George Nauck did an outstanding job with the raffle which included donations from Hobbytown in Lakeland and Frank Tiano.

Thank you David & Frank and all of the IRCC members that volunteered!

One of the last things I want to touch on is we will be scheduling a work day sometime in April or early May (before it gets too hot) to take care of some of the maintenance issues that need to be done at the field. I will coordinate this with Ian Clark (Field Maintenance Officer) and will include among other things, the running of the electric cable from the propane generator that was donated to the club to the concession and flight pavilions. We may also try to combine this with the place-

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ment of the Marquee Sign at the field entrance if it is ready. Further details and information will be made available once the date(s) are set.

Until next month, that is all from the Flight Line!

**IRCC Meeting Minutes**

March 9, 2013  
Recorded by Ian Clark, Secretary

Meeting brought to order at 9:10 am by David Raff

**New members and guests**

New member Don Wasilewski  
Guest Ron Wyncoop

The minutes from the February meeting were voted and accepted.

**Treasure Report**

In Gary Snyder's absence, Dave Raff gave the financial report. We have \$xxxx.xx in our checking account. We took in money during the month of February and we spent \$xxx.xx. We are in great shape.

**Membership Report**

There are 65 full time members and 19 juniors, giving a total of 84 members at this time.

**Field Maintenance Report**

Don LaPoint suggested the club purchase a small push lawnmower to aid in trimming the runway and taxi ways. A motion was made and carried to purchase it. We are still on track to install the new sign. We will need a few members to help set the posts. A memo will be sent out for volunteers. We are still going to install the power cable from our new generator. Direct bury cable will be used. There will be no need for conduit.

**Safety Report**

The flying of quadcopters should follow the same rules as all other aircraft.

**Instructors Report**

All is quiet at the present time.

**Newsletter/Website**

We always welcome any contributions and articles for the newsletter. Send your

articles to John King at [shinodavette@gmail.com](mailto:shinodavette@gmail.com). It was suggested that we post the names of our raffle winners.

**Past Events**

Our family day was a big success! There were about 65 members and family there. It was reported that everyone had a good time and the food was great. Thanks to Larry Loucks and staff for their cooking. We even had guests from the Plant City Chamber of Commerce. They got to share in our fun, flying, and great food.

Florida Jets put on a wonderful show. Even though the weather was a little cool and breezy, there was a good turnout in pilots and spectators. We want to thank our club members for their turnout. Our work there helps the event run smoothly. George Nauck and Wally Sundeey need special recognition for their hard work in selling raffle tickets. Because of their efforts, our club raffle made \$xxx.xx. That was one of the best raffles we have had. We also want to thank David Mottern, the owner of Hobbytown, for his generous donation of an airplane for the raffle.

**New Business**

Don Lapointe said that he has been approached multiple times by people wanting information about our club. He suggested we have business cards printed up with our information on the front and a map showing our location on the back.

**Future Events**

The Southern Mulberry 500 pylon race is taking place on March 16 and 17. Scott Smith said he has enough volunteers to run the event, but is always ready to welcome any other volunteers. Scott also said that representatives from the AMA will be there. They will match all the money raised at this meet. The money is going toward a new electronic timing and scoring system for the pylon racing. With this new system, there will not be the need for as many helpers.

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles. This is the annual event put on by the Plant City Chamber of Commerce at the Plant City airport. Our club is again invited to set up static displays, and an area to fly our smaller aircraft. There will be two time slots when the runway will be shut down and we will be

The IRCC monthly club meeting will be held at the IRCC Flying Field.  
The next meeting will be on Saturday, April 6th and will start promptly at 9:00 am.

invited to fly our larger airplanes. Our display area is set up next to the entrance so all attending will see us as they enter

Channel 13's Charlie Belcher will be televising a live broadcast on Thursday, March 22 of the event. We will have the opportunity to fly our airplanes on live television.

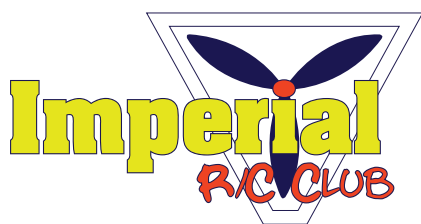
We have been invited back to Top Gun! Frank Tiano has asked our club to help support his event. We will work the flight line and provide crowd control. This is the premier flying event with the finest display of model aircraft from around the world. By volunteering to help at this event, we are treated to one of the greatest shows in model aviation.

We had a special guest show up at our March 8th night flying event. A former club member from many years ago showed up to watch. Douglas Gee saw the lights, so decided to come in and watch. He was warmly welcomed and invited to come back any time.

#### Sportsmanship Award

This prestigious, and highly coveted award was given to Wally Sundry for his hard work at Florida Jets. Wally spent a lot of time selling raffle tickets. The money generated really helps our club.

A motion was presented and passed to close the March meeting at 9:49



#### AMA Vision

We, the members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, are the pathway to the future of aeromodeling and are committed to making modeling the foremost sport/hobby in the world. This vision is accomplished through:

- Affiliation with its valued associates, the modeling industry and governments.
- A process of continuous improvement.
- A commitment to leadership, quality, education and scientific/technical development.
- A safe, secure, enjoyable modeling environment.

#### AMA Mission

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is a world-class association of modelers organized for the purpose of promotion, development, education, advancement, and safeguarding of modeling activities. The Academy provides leadership, organization, competition, communication, protection, representation, recognition, education and scientific/technical development to modelers.