



## January 2024 News Letter

AUTHOR: Patrick Murphy

**The January 13 Members meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.**

### **COVID Devastates Newsletter Staff**

This month's newsletter is a brief one. Fully 100% of full-time newsletter staffers were stricken down with COVID, beginning in early December, and continuing through the end of the year.

Much of what you see here is gleaned from Dan Tolleson's meeting minutes and Doug Allen's Facebook reporting.

### **Membership**

Club membership is unchanged at 112, plus five Junior members.

### **New Planes**

Right, Doug Allen poses with his new Freewing F/A-18 Blue Angels 90mm EDF. Doug reports that the plane flew great right out of the box, requiring minimal trim adjustment.





Nick Tocco is preparing another innovative plane for the flight line. This is an F-16 that he 3D-printed at home. Add Nick to the list of people you know who have access to a 3-D printer.

This airframe is impressively light. Nick intends to paint it, and add some simple, lightweight, non-retractable gear.

You can see Nick holding the tiny 30mm EDF in his hand. The volume of air that this fan moves is impressive. This plane is going to be fast. A real lawn dart.

The most common reaction Nick gets to this project seems to be “I wanna be there when you fly it.”

It probably won't be ready to fly until the middle of January. All you ghouls out there should keep your calendars open.



Left, Steve with his beautiful new 1400mm FMS Pitts. It has the classic red and white sunburst pattern of the original “Red Devils,” who swept the 1972 World Aerobatic Championships.

Steve's model flew great. Bravo Steve!

## Solo Certificate for Jerry Wyant

*Reporting by Special Correspondent Doug Allen.*

It was my distinct privilege to award Jerry Wyant his Solo Certificate today at our monthly club meeting. Jerry has worked very diligently to get him and his son Ethan to this level of accomplishment. I have been blessed by their family that has been so supportive of their hobby. L - R, Doug, Jerry and Randy who did the solo check flight. BRAVO ! Jerry.



## The Walk of Shame

For whatever reason, Jonathan Moore feels it necessary to deodorize his glow engines. These “fuel fragrances” are popular for devices like chainsaws, in which the operator is positioned in the exhaust cloud.

For glow engines, fuel fragrance appears to be a solution in search of a problem. Jonathan asks, “Do you think anyone will notice?”

If you get a whiff of Jonathan’s exhaust, be sure to compliment him on it.



## Vandalism

The club owes a debt of gratitude to President Dan Tolleson, and all the others who have worked to improve security for the field. Without revealing any secrets, we can now say that we have a layered and diverse array of sensors, alarms, and locks. Stealing from our club is still possible, of course, but it would be unwise to attempt it.

## AMA Memberships

Remember to renew your AMA membership! Current AMA membership is a prerequisite for club membership. For many of us, our AMA membership expired December 31.

## **Club Memberships**

Remember that Club memberships expire December 31. There is a one-month grace period, so dues for 2024 must be paid by January 31.

## **Club Officers**

At the December 16 meeting, the slate of 2024 Club officers was accepted as nominated:

President: Dan Tolleson

Vice President: Jack Shafer

Secretary: Patrick Murphy

Treasurer: Gary Johnson

Chief Safety Officer: Mike Hinkle

Chief Flight Instructor: Eric Charley

Members at Large: Howard Brown, Mike Macintyre, Randy Wegner, Steve DeBord.

Non-voting club officers are:

Editor: Patrick Murphy

Webmaster: Alex Luke

Event Coordinator: Doug Allen

**A Reckless Nature Gone Away**  
*By Special Correspondent Randy Wegner*

Before I got into R/C, I graduated High School in 1977, and a school buddy of mine (friends to this day), recommended we hop in my 1964 Plymouth Belvedere that I bought for \$375 and go on a final trip together to Florida. I was set to join the USAF so we took advantage of a few weeks open on our schedules to go have some fun!

With about \$400 bucks in our pockets, we drove the roughly 1300 miles and stayed at relatives' homes along the way. Finally at the hotel on the beach, I unloaded our stuff along with a free flight glider I brought along with me. Once on the 8th floor, we strapped sparklers to the wing tips and, with visions of this sacrificial 2-meter bird flying straight out into a salty sea in the dark of night. We thought, what could possibly go wrong... this'll be so cool?! With a half ounce of forethought and visions of a flawless flight, I gave it a herculean toss. To my amazement, it sailed straight out into the dark with sparklers ablaze. We should have called T.V.9!!

But wait! gradually my glider started to veer left and ride a tail wind around the side of our high-rise hacienda. We looked at each other in the relative silence and Jeff said, "Hmmm.....that didn't go well." Suddenly we both got the same fear-filled vision. We practically flew down eight flights of indoor fire escape and blew through the lobby like Gale Sayers running back a kickoff.

Expecting serious injuries on the street or at least a busted window or two, we couldn't see or hear anything. I was relieved and scared at the same time. Not considering how it seems the wind always blows in off the beach, and how it's so likely that a plane like that usually ends up down wind, I felt quite lucky to have just gotten by without a plane!

So, the glider (just before my R/C days) was gone forever, I sat watching the news that night rather than hitting the dance floor somewhere. Fortunately, it appeared we would continue on with our journey unhindered (or arrested) and ever so slightly wiser.

Things we do when we're young.....

Randy

**Please attend the January 13 Club Meeting  
0900 Hours**