

AMA Charter #128
The Western Soaring Capital
http://www.lhss.org



HSS is the oldest AMA chartered R/C Soaring Club in the USA Founded in 1964

NOVEMBER 2003 VOLUME NO. 40

# IN MEMORY OF BOB WALKER

After a long bout with cancer, our good friend and flying buddy Bob Walker, passed away.

Most of us who knew Bob will long remember his cheerful presence at our field. I was always very happy to see Bob when I drove up.

Given my limited experience with electrics, Bob would often stop what he was doing and help me out. Once, after I had burned out my fourth or fifth electric motor. Bob invited me to his house. He showed me his workroom and we chatted on and on about flying, our various friends (past and present), and when we used to fly contests together. Bob generously loaned me a motor to use until I purchased a new one. During that visit, he patiently and gently suggested that I should stop flying my little plane as though I was in the Reno air races. He told me to throttle back and relax with some nice slow-flying once in a while, and the motors would probably be fine. I used Bob's motor for one or two careful flights until I bought a new twin motor. Then, of all things, I managed to burn that one out also (or so I thought!) At this point I was ready to throw in the towel and go back to RES soaring. When I told Bob that I had tried to be very careful and couldn't understand what happened, he said that it was quite possible the motors were faulty. He encouraged me



Bob Walker and his big Piper Cub

not to give up but to send the motors back to the manufacturer and see if they would replace them – and if they did, to try again.

I knew Bob had been ill but I had hoped that today when I went to the field, he might be feeling well enough to come out. I was very anxious to tell him that his suggestion had worked and the new motors had arrived last week. Sadly, his good friend Chuck Hollinger told me that Bob had passed away. It was an extremely sad moment for me.

Happy flying Bob. We will all miss you.

Don Ramsay

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## **November Presidents Message**

Sorry to say, but this year is almost gone and there was a lot of things I still wanted to get done. But, there is always tomorrow.

It is time to vote in our Board of Directors, so make sure to come to the next meeting and VOTE! (Alternately, mail in the ballot on Page 10 marked with your selection for club officers). There are two (highly qualified) people running for president (and two similarly capable people running for contest director), so show your support.

I would like to thank all of you for your support over the past two years. Now it is time for me to move on, - and work on some of the other things going on in my life.

(As a parting reminder) We need to keep Fairview Park CLEAN. I don't like seeing cigarette butts all over the place at the end of Canyon Drive. They contaminate the environment. (Same for the other trash and airplane parts left on the flying field. Lets keep it clean. The city will be glad we're there.)

So, as an individual and a resident of Costa Mesa, I'll look into what I can do to make a difference in Fairview Park.

Love, Karl

Editor's and Secretary's Note: THANK YOU KARL! You are one of the most caring presidents we have had. We appreciate how hard you have worked, and your accomplishments are monumental. You have contributed immense good will with your Saturday training classes, and we hope you continue in that endeavor. The biggest difference you made? We can and will continue to fly at Fairview Park! You worked hard for that one.

# **November Treasurers Report**

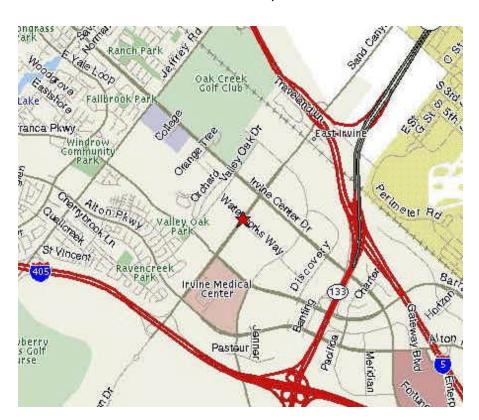
Financially: The news letter cost \$93.60 to print and mail; 3 winch motors were purchased: \$71.11; (SC)<sup>2</sup> event fees to the city of Costa Mesa: \$15.00. We have \$105.00 on hand to deposit.

## **November Meeting Notice**

The next meeting will be Tuesday November 4, 2003 at the Irvine Water District. The address is 15600 Sand Canyon Drive. There are exits for Sand Canyon Drive on both the 5 and 405 freeways.

The executive council meets at 7:00 PM, and the business meeting starts at 7:30 PM. This is a particularly important meeting because we elect our 2004 club officers.

Come be a part of history and join the fun.



## **Meeting Minutes**

## **October 2003 Harbor Soaring Society Meeting Minutes**

At least 40 were in attendance. If you weren't there, you really missed a great meeting for sure! Thank Roger next time you see him.

There was little new business to discuss. Some older topics were mentioned again.

SC2 is on October 26, 2003. Please volunteer to help so the event goes well. Let's look sharp as we host this regional event.

Jim Hanson has made up a map of the flying site. Troy Peterson will help finish it up and get it posted.

Eight guys have signed up for the club t-shirt. We need at least two more, let Karl know if you are interested.

When you are walking around the field and you see trash or other refuse, please take pride in your field and pick it up. Thank you.

Elections will be held next month. Below are those nominated for positions on the 2004 HSS board of directors. Please be at the November meeting to cast your vote. If you cannot make it, please send your vote to the PO Box. Look for enclosed ballot on Page 10 of this newsletter.

President, Troy Peterson Tom Copp Jim Parsons VP Fred Hesse Editor Winch Coordinator Karl Hawley Field Clean-up George Acevedo General Director Troy Peterson Contest Coordinator Tom Copp **Ross Thomas** Don Ramsey Secretary

brought his 199" sailplans of his own design. It is approximately

Jim Parsons brought his 123" sailplane of his own design. It is approximately 80% carbon and quite cool. Check it out at the field. Thanks Jim.

Phil brought in his fiberglass Gnome fuselage. It is still under development but looks good and should help Karl keep the Gnomes together a little longer! Thanks Phil.

Roger MacGregor showed his Sky Bench. It has a fiberglass fuselage and a built-up wing. This baby floats well and flaps it's wings on the winch-up. It was built from a \$200 kit according to Roger. Thanks Roger.

Fred Hesse states that archives indicate that the Harbor Soaring Society was started in 1964. That means we are coming up on 40 years. Any ideas for a celebration?

The October meeting was at Roger MacGregor's boat building facility on Placentia in Costa Mesa. It was loads of fun. Roger put on some impressive demonstrations and presented some of the different stages of his boat business, from computerized engineering, to laying up molds, to the finished product. Very cool stuff, intriguing to say the least. You should have been there. Roger, thanks for your warm hospitality and a great meeting.

Also at the meeting were a full size glider and a 40% RC glider. Thanks to the participants who brought these beautiful birds.

Warren Greer, HSS Secretary

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## **Additional Meeting Notes**

**Club Shirts -** Contact Karl Hawley if you would be interested in getting a club shirt. Polo shirts will be about \$38, and T-shirts will be less (about \$12 to \$14). The proposal is for an embroidered logo on the front and a three-color silk screen on the back.

**Real Gliders -** Larry Tuohino trailered in and assembled his PIK-20D78 sailplane for the October meeting at Roger MacGregor's facility. This plane won the 1976 world soaring championship held in Finland. WOW! One beautiful glider. Larry had many stories, both grand and humorous about his flying experiences (For instance: Pilots should try not land in recently harvested potato fields). The surfaces were finished so well, they were glass smooth, and how about that 14% airfoil thickness?

**2004 Dues -** It's time to bring (or send) in your 2004 HSS club dues. It's same as before (no inflation at HSS), that's \$20 for senior members, \$10 for junior members (Under 17) and \$25 for new members (The extra \$5 is for your name pin). Be sure to fill out the continuing membership form that will be included in the December Plane Rap, or available at the November and December meetings. Give your dues and application to Chris Adamczyk at the meetings, or mail them in: Attention Chris Adamczyk, P.O. Box 1673, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

**Christmas Party -** Everyone interested in an Awards Banquet and Christmas Party should contact Karl Hawley, or Fred Hesse (Addresses and phone numbers on page 12 of this newsletter). We should try something different like a Hornblower Dinner Cruise in Newport Harbor. How else are we going to give recognition to the departing officers, install the new club officers, and pass out the annual competition awards to those hard working glider guiders that have supported our monthly thermal duration competitions? We could also justify this as the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the club. Lots of reasons for a party!

**Remember -** One should always strive to speak distinctly over the phone. No, we are not the "Harbor Sewing Society".

# **This Month's Featured Model**

Preston King shows off his beautiful 71" Wilga which was scratch built by Ken Blasius (714) 891-9813. The motor is an AXI 21-20-18 brushless. powered with 10 GP3300 cells. Preston gets up to 12 minutes flying time. The prop is 13 x 8 direct drive. The plane has full flaps, real hydraulic spring/shocks (from R/C cars) and weighs 3.5.lbs. Preston can be reached at (714) 840-9680. The photo was taken by Jim Ward (714) 774-9273.



## **Coming Events For 2003**

Tuesday	October 28	Indoor Fun Fly. 6 to 9 PM. Independence Park Gym, 801 W. Valencia Drive Fullerton North of the 91 freeway near Euclid
Saturday	November 1	Orange Coast R/C Club Fall Swap Meet, 7 AM until Noon, at the El Toro Flying Field. Obtain entry invitations as described on page 6 of this newsletter.
Sunday	November 2	HSS monthly thermal duration competition, at Fairview Park. This is the last contest of the year. A contest director is needed.
Tuesday	November 4	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Irvine Water District offices. Address is 16500 Sand Canyon Avenue, in Irvine. See map on page 2.
Tuesday	December 2	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Irvine Water District offices. Address is 16500 Sand Canyon Avenue, in Irvine. See map on page 2.
Sunday	December 7	No monthly thermal duration competition.

# **October 12 Thermal Duration Contest Results**

Sorry, but Tom Copp is busy getting ready for the (SC)<sup>2</sup> event. See competition results in December. Hope you-all are out there Sunday 26 Oct. either flying your wings off or helping to make this event a great success.

## **Year To Date HSS Contest Results**

Look to the December issue of Plane Rap to see who is the best club pilot for 2003.

#### Plane Rap Archives (Repeat)

We have nearly 20 years of Plane Rap, now archived in ten binders. But, we need your help. The following lists what is still missing, and if any one has any part of these old Plane Rap newsletters, we would love to add them to our archives (or at least a copy of what you have).

1964 through 1983: All issues missing.	1995: Aug missing.
1984: Jan through Sept and Nov missing.	1996: Feb, June missing
1985: June missing.	1997: Feb through Nov missing.
1986: May missing.	1999: Dec missing.
1987: Feb missing.	2000: Jan, Feb, May, July, Sept, Dec missing.
1994: Nov missing.	2001: Jan, Feb, June, July, Aug, Nov missing.

These archives are open to all members. Copies can be made upon request, or issues may be checked out for temporary use. If you have any of the missing issues, contact Fred Hesse (address on page 12).

## **Visalia Results**

Joe Wurts won first place overall with a 2-meter glider. Mike Reagan earned second place overall with an AVA, a 40 ounce, 3-meter copy of Mark Drela's RES Bubble Dancer. Our own Jim Sneed took first place in the Open Class, and third place overall with a Tragi 705X from F3X.COM. Congratulations to Jim and all of our club participants. Complete results are at Southern California Soaring Clubs web site, www.sc-2.org.

There were 7 flights over 2 days. Each flight time second was worth 1 point. A total of 40 minutes flight time was possible. A total of 2400 flight time seconds was possible. Each landing was worth a maximum of 25 points. A total of 175 landing points were possible. A total of 2575 points was possible for the contest. A summary of the results is shown on the next page.

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# **Visalia Results (Continued)**

2 Meter Class (19 competitors)			
1	Joe Wurts	2555	
2	Gordon Jennings	2485	
3	Dave Kornberg	2445	
4	Edgar Vera	2419	
5	Arthur Markiewicz	2280	
9	Mark Browning	2080	

RES Class (51 competitors)			
1	Michael Reagan 2511		
2	Don McNamee*	2448	
3	Dan Borer	2428	
4	Don Richmond*	2411	
5	David Judson	2388	
7	Chriss Adamczyk	2375	
14	Ross Thomas	2278	
17	11033 THOMas	2210	

Open Class	<u>(217</u>	competitors)	ĺ

1	Jim Sneed	2508
2	Larry Jolly	2501
3	Daryl Perkins	2500
4	Patrick Dionisio	2495
5	Thomas Akers	2495
16	Mark Taylor	2477
22	Chris Jolly	2464
24	Tom Copp	2461
44	Ben Clerx	2423
51	Jim Parsons	2408
57	Mark Ferreira	2394

## **Other Local Activities**

Access to El Toro Flying Field - Remember, access to El Toro is limited to invitational events. To get an invitation, go to <a href="www.flyocma.com">www.flyocma.com</a>, select Events, and search for the activity you wish to attend. Select the activity and look to see if invitations are available. If so, print a copy and put it on your dashboard. The sheriff's deputy will let you in at the gate. Occasionally, someone may be stationed at the gate passing out invitations, but not always. For non-invitational events you must accompany an OCMA member. Talk to Dennis Brandt about how this is done. Dennis can be reached at (714) 952-4210.





#### **Editorial Issues**

#### Radio Interference and the FCC

After watching a big, beautiful, Ultimate Bipe get totaled recently at the field, I felt there should be something we could do. This was not a case of a beginner blaming radio problems for his lack of skill, but rather one of the best pilots around, flying a well prepared airplane and using the best available radio equipment. He had been shot down by radio interference. A call to the Federal Communications Commission (888) 225-5322, revealed that we have no protection and little recourse. A very helpful and knowledgeable public relations specialist described the situation as follows. We are flying in the 72 MHz band which is non licensed as defined by FCC Section 15. Unfortunately Regulation 95.207 states that the FCC is to provide no protection for interference violations in this band. Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) from Citizen and ham band operators is not investigated except where it is interfering with life threatening activities such as air controllers around airports. If we were able to isolate an offender, and provide a name and address, the FCC would be willing to at least check it out. I personally have observed RFI while driving through the neighborhood in the vicinity of Wilson between Canyon and Placentia. There are a number of homes in the area sporting radio antennas. With a model receiver on, interference can be detected by observing servo chatter. This rather unscientific survey was done on a Saturday afternoon, a time when operators might be more active. Yes, there was some frightening interference, but difficult to isolate. I feel we have an interference problem, which comes and goes. Does anyone have sufficient background and the equipment (sensitive spectrum analyzers) that might help clean up the electromagnetic environment surrounding our flying field? Contact the editor.

## **Fairview Park Developments**

A package recently received from the City of Costa Mesa contained a few encouraging statements that influence our beloved flying site at Fairview Park. The plans for area D, that is the area North and West of the paved path (that crosses from the end of Canyon Drive and goes North East towards the restrooms) have been approved by the Costa Mesa Parks and Recreation Commission. The included master plan drawing dated 27 April 2003, shows specifically a "Glider Launch Area on the overlook (bluffs) due east of the (Waldorf) elementary school. In addition, the area North of the paved path is shown as the "Silent Flyer Launch/Land Site" and the surface is specified as LAWN! We also have new ten foot tall sign posts with paragraphs of fine print describing that the dirt, rocks, and concrete in that area are to be removed. No comment about holding one's breath, but this does sound like progress compared to the status discussed last winter in the city council hearings.

#### Saving Banning Ranch

We have been approached by a new group that is dedicated to saving the Banning Ranch property. This property is South of Victoria and approximately West of the bluffs in that area. Troy Peterson will look into how we can work with this group. A question that comes to mind is how does this group fit in with the River Park supporters that wish to integrate the area starting with the bird marshes at PCH and East of Brookhurst all the way up to include the county property immediately West of Fairview Park.

#### **Proficiency Exams**

Jack Frost, the AMA Education Coordinator, mentioned in the July 03 issue of Model Aviation that he has been asked to look into the quality of flight instructors and also the capability of solo pilots. He will develop a set of proficiency guidelines or standards that might be used voluntarily by clubs.

#### **Classified Ads**

For any one with something to sell, we are glad to provide an advertisement here in Plane Rap. Remember, this publication reaches 125 members, and goes to the AMA and a number of hobby shops as well as local clubs. Also, it is published on our web site which has nearly 100,000 visitors to date. If you wish to advertise something, call or E-mail the editor at the addresses given on the last page of this newsletter.

# Adopt-A-School Status Report

For Month of September 2003 (Submitted at club meeting 7 Oct 2003)

Two series of classes of radio controlled model aircraft flight training classes are now in progress at the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Valley, on Brookhurst in Mile Square Park.

The first series started 11 Aug 03 with 10 students having received their AMA Licenses. Four ground school classes have been held plus six flying classes. The actual flying classes are conducted at the soccer field adjacent to the club. As of Labor Day, classes are only on Thursdays (during school). Six students have had multiple flights on gliders and electric powered trainers. Our most enthusiastic student, Erik Vehmeyer, age 9 (who has expressed interest in joining HSS), just flew a 25 minute first slope soaring flight, has purchased his own radio, a Watt-Age Thermalaire motor glider, and is now working on his own Zipper Park Flyer flying wing.

A second series of classes at the Boys and Girls Club started September 18<sup>th</sup>. This group is supervised by Jason Le who is very interested in R/C flying. The Boys and Girls Club has paid for his AMA membership. Seventeen students in this class now have their AMA licenses. Two ground school classes have been given, and students are also using the Great Planes RealFlight (Lite) flight simulator program effectively. They are beginning to attend flying classes at the soccer field and at Fairview Park.

A new series of classes were begun September 17<sup>th</sup> at Heninger Elementary School in Santa Ana, under the supervision of Joseph Romero. He is an instructor there who has selected a group of eight extremely enthusiastic students, all of which now have their AMA licenses. Classes are twice a week, and six of the students have multiple flights using the Cirrus glider (donated by Hobby People), and our electric powered trainer. Joseph obtained a donated computer and has personally purchased the RealFlight simulator for his school. He is documenting the group with photos, and plans to develop a short video of the flying club.

Our Adopt-A-School program with Fountain Valley School District for their Teen Activities Program (TAP) under the supervision of Jennifer De Sousa will not be starting until mid to late October.

Carl Marony of the AMA legal staff has approved the revised Club and Instructor Release Agreement with minor corrections. The form is now in use.

As should be obvious, the principal problem with these classes is the shortage of instructors. The sad situation is that eight to ten children stand around bored to death waiting to take turns on the single buddy box. A major part of the flying is now taking place at Fairview Park. If any one could spare a few hours on Saturday morning to help these kids, it would be immensely appreciated. The kids all have AMA licenses, so you don't need to have the Introductory Pilot's rating from the AMA. A buddy box would really help, and Karl claims to have one or more. The kids are stoked, the planes are available, we just need your help.

Thanks, Fred Hesse (Adopt-A-School instructor)

# **Donations to Adopt-A-School**

Many thanks to Don Lawrence, an ex-member of HSS, who came by the field Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> and donated a fabulous collection of equipment, free to the HSS Adopt-A-School program. This included a perfectly flyable House of Balsa Two T glider (that's two meter span with a T tail) with drawings, a four channel Focus transmitter, the eight channel receiver and two servos for the glider, a bright pink hi-start, a field stand, a CG locator, and (best of all?) four rolls of MonoKote in the colors that match the plane (You know how repairs go on training planes). Look for the kids happily flying a bright yellow, two meter glider with black and red trim.

Also, thank you Tim Beegan who donated one of Bob Walkers beautiful weight lifters. This 96 inch wingspan motor glider with an Astro 05, receiver, servos, ESP, and two sets of batteries is one sweet flyer. It is so big and stable that it will be a dream for the kids to fly. Thank you Tim and Bob. P.S. Tim: Keep autogyrating!



Members of the Heninger Elementary School Flying Club of Santa Ana directed by Joseph Romero. All helping hold one of the Cirrus 2 meter gliders donated by Hobby People, from left to right, Rosalie Arroyo, Jonathan Lomeli, Jorge Hernandez, Daniela Lomeli, and Daisy Ayala. Not shown but attending was Mark Tierrablanca who stayed into the afternoon, and flew over a dozen flights.

#### **NEEDED!**

PLANES, RADIOS, AND STUFF For The Adopt-A-School Program

Give me your tired, your poor, your discarded parts yearning to fly free, the wretched refuse of your cluttered garage. Send these, the homeless, the tempest-tossed to me, I lift my Exacto and CA beside torn Obechi.

(Courtesy of 1998 Plane Rap Editor Lyndon Johansen)

You too can encourage the bright, enthusiastic, inquiring minds of our Adopt-A-School students. Donate what you are no longer using, and help a child learn the delights of our hobby.

Alternately, if you have used aircraft and especially radios that you want to sell, we have buyers. In addition, Training Pilots needed. In all cases, contact Fred Hesse (714) 963-5838

#### Election of HSS Officers for 2004

It is time for elections of our 2004 club officers. The following persons were nominated at the October general meeting. Mail in your vote postmarked by Monday 3 November, to P.O. Box 1673, Costa Mesa, CA92626, or come participate in the election on Tuesday 4 November at the general meeting held at the Irvine Water District. See map on page 2.

#### **HSS 2004 BALLOT** President (Vote for one) Tom Copp **Troy Peterson** Vice President Jim Parsons Don Ramsey Secretary Treasurer Christoff Adamczyk General Director Troy Peterson Contest (Vote for one) Tom Copp Coordinator Ross Thomas Editor Fred Hesse Volunteer Publisher Mike Gaczkowski Volunteer Webmaster Steve Hendry Volunteer Winch Coordinator Karl Hawley Volunteer Field Cleanup George Azvedo Volunteer

# **HSS Sponsors**

The following companies are the proud sponsors of Harbor Soaring Society. They give us special offers, and make contributions to our Adopt-A-School program. In return, please support them, and mention that you saw them advertised in the HSS Plane Rap newsletter.

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HSS members, show current HSS club I.D. prior to ring up for 10% discount off regularly priced items. 17432 Brookhurst Unit 107, Fountain Valley or call (714) 378-8924

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Tom Copp tom@f3x.com



# HARBOR SOARING SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 2003

President	Karl Hawley	(949) 574-9379	www.1hss.org
Vice President	None		
Secretary	Warren Greer	(714) 540-6171	
Treasurer	Christoff Adamczyk	(949) 760-5083	czyk@adelphia.net
Editor	Fred Hesse	(714) 9663-5838	fhesse@socal.rr.com
Publisher	Mike Gaczkowski	(949) 582-9390	ppagano@concentric.net
Winch Coordinator	George Azvedo	(714) 832-7819	No E-mail address
Webmaster	Steve Hendry	(714) 996-6183	4hendry@adelphia.net
General Director	Troy Peterson	(714) 429-7980	troyflyboy@aol.com
Contest Coord.	Tom Copp	(949) 645-7032	tom@f3x.com

See our web site at <a href="www.1hss.org">www.1hss.org</a> for news, the color issue of Plane Rap, activities, pictures, and more. Now approaching 100,000 visitors.