



AMA Charter Club #128
<http://www.HarborSoaringSociety.org>
<http://www.1hss.org>

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

JUNE 2006

VOLUME 43

Plane of the Month

Many of you have had a chance to see George Peters' magnificent scale B-25, and now we get to feature it as plane of the month. We like to use the photos taken by staff photographer Rob Askegaard because he has such capability for capturing realistic views. Many of his pictures are available on our web site since Rob got his new digital camera. Thanks again Rob.

George reports that this is a B-25G version, made from a KMP kit. It has an 84" wing span, 960 sq. in. area, and weighs in at 16 lbs. Power is provided by two AXI 4120-14 out-runner motors, each driven by a five cell (that's 18.5 volts) 6 Ahr Lithium ion battery. The props are 12 x 8 three bladed, by Master Airscrew. George has 8 servos on board which control the ailerons, rudders, elevator, flaps, retracts, and bomb drop. The Spring Air retracts use 90 psi of compressed air in a cylinder that provides 6 cycles. Working strobe lights are included, top and bottom, and the landing lights in the wing turn on with 10 degrees of flaps. George has gone all out with the interior detail with a full cockpit kit featuring a back lit instrument panel, engine controls, and 50 caliber machine guns with ribbons of shells all meticulously hand painted. Of course the exterior received equal attention with outlined panels, machine gun barrels, a great paint job, and the classic nose art graphics prepared by Jim Hanson.



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Executive Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday May 4th 2006

Walt Cloer opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Walt (President), Tom Burgess (Vice President), Jim Hanson (Treasurer), and Fred Hesse (Secretary), were present. Later, John Anderson (General Director) was able to join the group subsequent to his meeting with Friends of the Park.

Jim Hanson has the applications for the following events sponsored by HSS at Fairview Park:

Saturday June 17 - Annual Bent Wing thermal duration glider competition.

Sunday June 29 - SCSC thermal duration glider competition.

Saturday July 29 - Scale Electric Fun Fly for AMA Sport Scale and AMA Scale electric planes.

Jim Hanson had award placards for the monthly HSS contest. These cost \$32 and contest entry fee income will cover this expense.

Walt wants to ensure that only scale electric aircraft participate in the July 29 fun fly event. Foam models will not be allowed. Walt also wants quality trophies for the scale competition. A discussion was held as to judging the event by experienced modelers and spectators. Efforts will be made to set up a barbeque lunch, and acquire vendor contributions for the raffle. This event will need a city permit as well as AMA sanctioning.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40. Respectfully submitted, Fred Hesse, Secretary.



General Meeting Minutes for Thursday May 4th 2006

Walt Cloer opened the meeting at 7:45 PM. Five officers plus 6 members were in attendance.

Walt announced that the 5 year Use Agreement with the City of Costa Mesa was completed. He passed out several signed copies.

Walt has finished work on the wagon for Tuan Le's charging station. Walt has a 200 foot extension cable which allows the charging station to be rolled out to the runway pits area.

John Anderson and Walt Cloer are to meet with Robert Staples of the Costa Mesa Parks Department to review progress on the new flying permit ordinance being developed by the city.

John Anderson reported about his proposal for an HSS Air Show some time this summer. He had brought the idea up at the Friends of the Park meeting, and said it was well received. The Friends of the Park requested some assistance with set up of the Dogs in the Park event scheduled for Saturday May 6.

Walt concluded that the Steering Committee meeting time shall remain at 7PM, just prior to each monthly general meeting.

Jim Hanson submitted a Treasurer's Report. Year to date shows \$2,125 income and \$1,410 expenses. Jim does an excellent job with the reports. Anyone interested in details should contact Jim.

The HSS kiosk has had the Lexan windows replaced recently. Jim Hanson was ably assisted by Ron Obrecht who had the tools and materials to do a first class job. Previously, the windows had been damaged by graffiti artists. Ron was able to coat the Lexan with a material that prevents paint sticking. Many thanks Ron, for a really great job.

William Vincent II provided an indoor demonstration of his electric helicopter. It was very impressive, and William was able to control the dual rotor aircraft with remarkable precision. Thank you William.

Other issues: Field maintenance – The runway was mowed by Walt Cloer and Jim Hanson. Thanks, guys.

The meeting was concluded at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Fred Hesse, Secretary.

HSS Aviation Class at the Scout Sea Base

Beginning on May 3rd, a second Ground School Class is being conducted at the Scout Sea Base. This will run for 5 weeks and is attended by 4 students. An Advanced Class was started on the 10th of May, made up of 5 graduates of the first Ground School Class. The advanced class receives lessons on battery technology, flying techniques, and guidance in procuring one's own model aircraft and radio.

We have had very good response with students from the initial class attending flying lessons at Fairview Park. Below we have instructor Don Hofeldt, student pilot Vince Villeli, Walt Cloer (supervising), and student Jonathan Steele. Don teaches with electric trainer aircraft. We also have the able assistance of Karl Hawley who instructs with a 3 meter Gnome glider on the winch, and Fred Hesse with smaller gliders on a hi-start. Rob Askegaard took this well composed photo. Thanks, Rob.





Anyone interested in assisting in the classroom (typically one day a week from 4 to 6:30 PM), or helping with flight instruction at Fairview Park on Saturday mornings (from 9 to 1 PM) is urged to contact Fred Hesse by phone at 714-963-5838, or E-mail at fhesse@socal.rr.com . All equipment is provided. Also, anyone who has used RC aircraft and/or radio equipment that they would like to donate should also contact Fred Hesse.

Donations to the HSS Adopt-A-School Program

Long time HSS member Charley McPhee made a fabulously generous donation of 10 aircraft and kits to the HSS Adopt-A-School Program recently. Charley was reducing his armada, but has still a large number of planes that he still flies in between trips to the shooting range for his new hobby, trap shooting. Included among the donated aircraft are the following:

- Carl Goldberg Tiger 2. This is a 2 meter low wing stunt plane. It has an Astro-40 brushed motor, 65 Amp ESC, a receiver, and 4 servos. It is ready to fly, and has a spare wing and the original plans.
- 36" Formosa foam low wing stunt plane with 3 HS-55 servos.
- 72" scratch built high wing trainer originally intended for a .46 engine. Plans included.
- 2 meter Spectra motor glider that has 2 servos and the original plans.
- Ultimate flat foamy bi-plane for some fun 3-D flying.
- 2 meter scratch built high wing trainer with two servos for ailerons and two for rudder and elevator.
- Reduced size copy of the Carl Goldberg Tiger that Charley calls a Tiger 1.5. It has a 44" span.
- Trainer 40 from Hobby People with a Thunder Tiger .40 engine. No servos.
- 1 meter flat foamy kit that builds a park flyer type 3-D aircraft.
- Raven Fun Fly 40 kit. This has a profile fuselage, and the wings are partly assembled.

Every model is in really great shape, and hardly any repairs are needed. Many thanks to Charley McPhee for such a generous donation.



George Azvedo also got the spirit and donated two beautiful gliders. One is a 2 meter polyhedral glider called the 2-T by Balsa USA. It has a T tail and is in very good shape. The other is a 1.5 meter Gnome with two servos. It needs a receiver and flight battery and will be ready to go.

And finally, Tom Burgess just donated a 2M Explorer in great condition, and he included a spare wing.

All in all, some great donations that will brighten the life of our junior pilots. Thank you all for your generosity.

We intend to use some of these planes as intermediate trainers, and as donations directly to those of our students in need. However, others will be sold at the swap meet to gain funds for class expendables such as props, speed controls, and batteries. If any HSS member is interested in purchasing one of these models for a good price, please contact Fred Hesse (714-963-5838).

Karl Hawley spoke with Airtronics, who has a special Buddy Box (Model VG-400-TR) that is like a transmitter but no RF electronics. It normally sells for \$35, but we have sent them a letter requesting two as a donation. Late News - Airtronics did indeed donate two buddy boxes. This is very much appreciated.

AMA Survey for a Park Flyer Program

Most likely, we all may have received an E-mail recently from Joyce Hager who is the acting General Director of the AMA. The subject involved ideas that the AMA Executive Council had come up with for how to handle park flyers, and she was asking the membership what they thought about these new approaches. Below is the original E-mail, followed by your editor's reply. Your editor may not necessarily speak for the entire club, so all members are invited to give him a piece of your mind, if you don't agree.

From: [Joyce Hager](#)

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2006 2:56 PM

Subject: Survey of Modelers on New Proposed Program

Dear AMA Member,

I am sending this E-mail to you in a request for your assistance. With recent advancements in electric R/C technologies and the advent of the very popular "Park Flyer" aircraft, the demographics of the modeling community are rapidly changing. In order to better serve our members the AMA Executive Council is considering instituting a membership program that is specifically aimed at addressing the needs of the park flyer pilots. We have defined these "park flyer modelers" as having models that weigh 2 pounds or less, do not exceed 60 mph, and do not fly higher than 200 feet.

This proposed program would have less insurance coverage, be limited to non-sanctioned events, and include a bimonthly magazine focusing on electric-powered aircraft. Additionally, we view this new membership group as establishing electric-power flying fields in urban areas and not being part of existing clubs. We have priced this program at \$29.95 per year.

To better assess the views of the membership, the AMA Executive Council is seeking your input in answering the following questions:

- 1) Given your current involvement in the hobby, would an "electric only" program as described above better meet your needs?
- 2) If such an alternative membership program was offered, would you be inclined to choose this program over your existing full-service membership



Again, I want to underscore that this is a proposed program.

Thank you for your assistance!

Joyce Hager

Acting Executive Director on behalf of the Membership Development Committee

Program comparison details:

	Current Open AMA dues	Benefits	Park Flyer AMA dues	Benefits
Rate	\$58		\$29.95	
Insurance		\$2.5 million individual liability coverage		\$500,000 individual liability coverage
		\$25,000 medical coverage		No medical coverage
		\$1,000 Fire, Theft & Vandalism coverage		No Fire, Theft & Vandalism coverage
Participation in sanctioned events		Yes		No
Flying site		Fly at current AMA chartered fields		New park flyer E-fields to be established.
Magazine		Monthly <i>Model Aviation</i> magazine		Bimonthly E- focused AMA magazine melding MA E- type articles and E-flight articles from existing publications



AMA Survey for a Park Flyer Program (continued)Your Editor's Reply:

Dear Joyce and the AMA Executive Council: Our club is intensely interested in your concern for park flyers. Let me explain our position.

I am the secretary, newsletter editor, and principal instructor for our Adopt-A-School Program, for the Harbor Soaring Society (HSS) of Costa Mesa. We are Charter Club No. 128, and have been working very closely with the City of Costa Mesa to establish a lasting location to safely fly model aircraft. We have just signed a 5 year Use Agreement of which we are extremely pleased. It took a lot of work, and we are only allowed to fly gliders and electric powered R/C aircraft. We now share a portion of a 500 acre park in Costa Mesa, and had to establish many provisions to ensure the safety of other park users. The city is now developing an ordinance that requires all model aircraft pilots to have a city permit to fly here. This ordinance basically requires everyone to carry financial responsibility, and to promise to follow the flying rules. Financial responsibility is most easily met with AMA membership, but can mean suitable home owners insurance. The flying rules are primarily the AMA National Safety Code with adaptation to our field safety needs. We expect the permit system which will be enforced by the park rangers to be fully established in the late 2006 time frame. The city has been very specific to ensure that membership in HSS or the AMA is not required, but is highly recommended.

Presently, this program allows park flyers to use our field. We enjoy having this level of enthusiast, as exposure to many of the other wonderful types of model aircraft will bring them to greater participation in all forms of model aviation. We do, however, have major concerns about uncontrolled use of other parks in the city which will cause radio interference. We will encourage the city to outlaw park flyers in other locations partly to reduce radio interference, and partly because we feel the city has been extremely benevolent to set aside this one park for model aviation. Many cities simply outlaw all forms of model aviation.

So, to return to the survey for which you would like answers, here are our replies.

1) Would an "electric only" program as described above better meet your needs? We feel the answer is No. A Park Flyer Program would only add complexity. The need for a field safety officer is just one point. In addition, we are uncomfortable about establishing more flying sites in areas as populated as where we exist.

2) If such an alternative membership program was offered, would you be inclined to choose this program over your existing full-service membership? Again, we answer No. These new flyers will advance to other types of planes for which they will be uninsured. You offer excellent cost saving methods already. The \$20 fractional year membership is good, and we heartily support your \$1 membership for juniors. Any other serious adult should be able to afford the normal \$58 membership charge.

Thank you for your time, and feel free to contact us further if you wish.

Respectfully, Fred Hesse AMA 728073

Ground Crews Wanted for Full Size Glider Flights

Are you interested in adventure and adding to your aviation and glider knowledge? Every weekend from Spring to Fall cross-country pilots flying straight out from Crystal Gliderport need support crews. Its a weekend all expense paid road trip! If you are interested contact Larry Tuohino at LarSwan@aol.com or 714-319-9988. He'll hook you up with pilots from the "Crystal Squadron".

New Club T-Shirts

Karl Hawley has HSS T-shirts. They have the club logo on the back in full color, and a small sailplane on the front. These high quality shirts are priced as follows: T-Shirt, no pocket, \$5; T-Shirt with pocket, \$7; Golf shirt with a polo collar and a front pocket, \$13. These are available to all members. Contact Karl.



Coming Events For 2006 (Updated with SC-2 schedule)

Thursday	June 1	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base, Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	June 4	Sixth HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.
Saturday	June 17	Annual HSS Bent Wing Soaring Competition. Fairview Park. Jim Hanson CD, Karl Hawley contest manager.
Sunday	June 25	Third SC-2 Thermal Duration Competition at HSS Fairview Park Costa Mesa.
Sunday	July 2	Seventh HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.
Thursday	July 6	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base, Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	July 16	Fourth SC-2 Thermal Duration Competition hosted by Santa Clarita Soaring Association. See web site for location.
Saturday	July 29	HSS Scale Electric Fun Fly. 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Fairview Park Costa Mesa. AMA Sport Scale, and AMA Scale, electric. Jim Hanson CD. Awards & raffle.
Thursday	August 3	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base, Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	August 6	Eighth HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.
Sunday	August 20	Fifth SC-2 Thermal Duration Competition hosted by Thousand Oaks Soaring Society (TOSS). See web site for location.
Sunday	September 3	Ninth HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.
Thursday	September 7	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base, Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	September 24	Sixth SC-2 Thermal Duration Competition hosted by Inland Soaring Society (ISS). See web site for location.
Sunday	October 1	Tenth HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.
Thursday	October 5	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base, Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	October 22	Seventh SC-2 Thermal Duration Competition hosted by Torrey Pines Gulls. Held at TPG site in Poway.
Thursday	November 2	HSS monthly meeting, 7:30 PM, at the Newport Sea Base. Steering Committee at 7:00 PM. Address is 1931 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach.
Sunday	November 5	Eleventh HSS monthly club thermal duration competitions at Fairview Park.

HSS Meeting Agenda for Thursday 1 June 06**Old Action Items -**

- Prepare our non-profit corporation submittal to the State of California. Tuan Le has all inventories. He needs the check for the application fee.
- The Activities Committee to determine additional electric Fun Fly events for our Coming Events Calendar.
- The steering committee needs to plan educational activities to be undertaken, and the public service projects that we should participate in.
- Discuss status of FAA altitude limits and what can be done. Fred Hesse still needs to contact the FAA concerning NOTAMS.

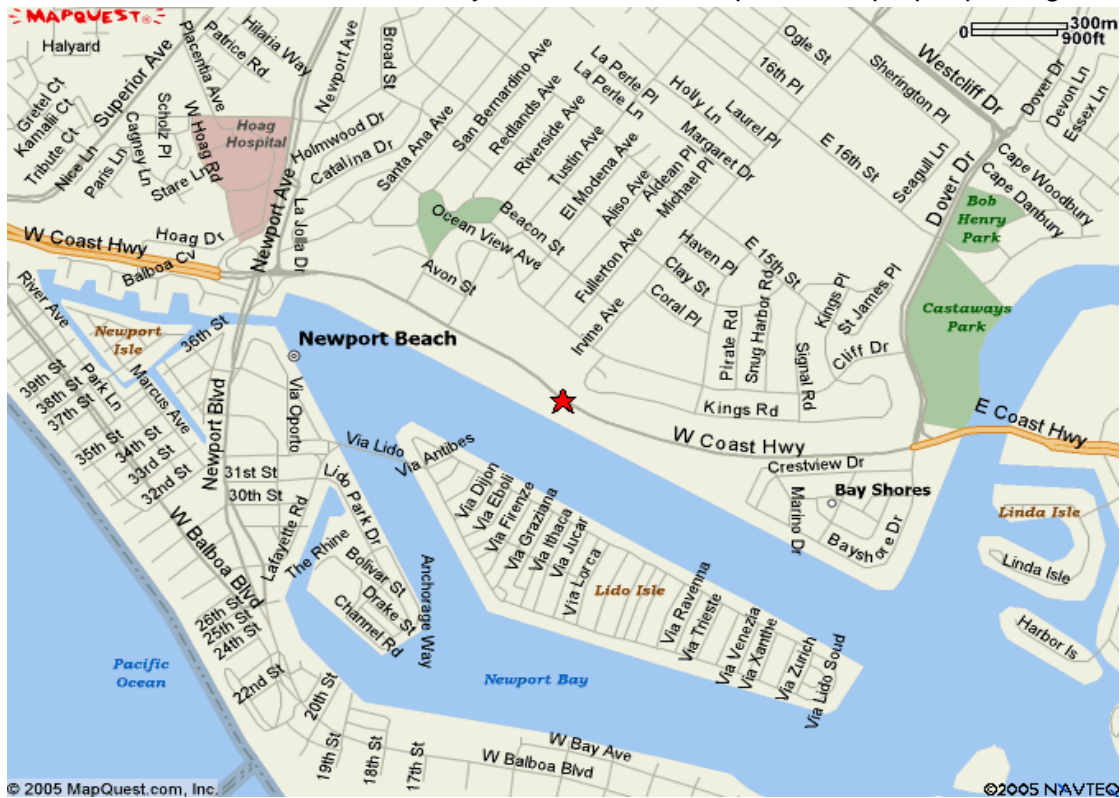
New Action Items -

- Discuss next steps to support City of Costa Mesa permit program and field rules.
- Review Intro Pilot Procedures (splinter group?).
- Discuss what to do for meeting information presentations, entertainment, raffles.
- Determine assistance needed for the June 17 glider contest and July 29 scale electric event.



June 1st 2006 Meeting Notice - NEW LOCATION AND NEW DAY

We have obtained a new meeting facility for our monthly HSS general meetings. Our next meeting is the 1st of June 2006 which is the first Thursday of the month, a new day, starting at 7:30 PM. Our new location is the Newport Sea Base at 1931 West Coast Highway, in Newport Beach. We will be meeting upstairs in the "Yacht Room". Berkeley Green, our alternate web master and Program Director at the Sea Base, has made these no cost arrangements for us in exchange for HSS providing model aviation instruction for the Boy Scout Aviation merit badge. This facility is large, new, and magnificent. It is right on the water, and overlooks a number of the sailboats that Berkeley uses for youth instruction. There is a parking lot in front of the building, and an additional public parking lot a short block up from the corner of Coast Highway and Tustin Avenue (City of Newport not City of Tustin). Some metered parking is also available on Coast Highway. This is much closer to our flying field, and is easy to reach from the freeways. We have included a nice large map to assist everyone, but it is easy to find. Take anything to Coast Highway, then go East on Coast Highway several blocks East of Newport Blvd. It is adjacent to the UC Irvine/Orange Coast College sailing facility. Warning, do not park in business lots such as Ardels or Taco Bell. They have observers to prevent improper parking.

**Adventure to Visalia by Larry Enger**

I admit that I am not the competitive flyer of just a few years ago. I had not flown a glider in almost a year and it was a year again before that. Kind of like riding a bicycle except a guy gets real rusty, especially on those spot landings. The annual Bent Wing Soaring Festival in Visalia was coming up (May 6 – 7) and Steve Hendry agreed to go along and be my timer. A new 3 meter Gnome didn't get finished but hey, the old one flies just fine.

Now just going to a contest is one thing but to really get motivated a guy needs to do properly plan the trip. We left the Wednesday before the contest.

I had seen a clip on TV a few years ago about BBQ King in Los Angeles and wanted to check it out. Only problem is I was not about to drive 80 miles for a hamburger but it's only a little out of the way if heading north on the 5 freeway. 867 Cesar Chavez Avenue in the heart of downtown just a few blocks from Union Station.



What an incredible place and loaded with ambiance. Imagine 5 large barrel cookers outside filled with various meats and pouring large quantities of smoke out into the city. The customers were uniformed cops, homeless, hookers, and smartly dressed business folks along with two RC fliers. Outstanding, add this to your own places to visit list.

From there it was on to Tehachapi for more adventures from the things to do list. First stop was at a friend's residence so we could be treated like the wonderful guests we are.

The next morning we went to CST- The Composites Store www.cstsales.com which is located at the airport and world known glider port. These folks have everything you could ask for if building in glass or carbon. They are gracious hosts and a tour of their building was fascinating. If you are in the area the stop is worthwhile and certainly gets the ideas flowing as you wander among all of the products. We did buy some glue, which we needed, and some fiberglass tissue, which we did not know, existed but which will be very useful.

The rest of the day was spent bouncing around the Mohave desert in a couple of 4 wheel drive vehicles exploring old mine shafts and tunnels. A side trip to the Indian Wells Brewery kept Steve happy, especially the free samples of the various brews. If you want to buy beer with rattlesnake labels on the bottles then this is the place.

Friday morning prior to heading for Visalia we stopped at the slope site at Convict Hill. I had wanted to fly this site for several years and it was worth the wait. It was only ten in the morning but the lift was enough to fly our 60" Gulps and would only get better in the afternoon. You can find directions to this site on the Internet but the instructions are vague and it took local friends to properly direct us to the place. If anyone plans to visit the slope I will be glad to send accurate directions.

We finally reached the Visalia contest site late Friday afternoon only to see Tuan Le swimming after his airplane in the overflow water storage pond that surrounded the flying field. Tuan will be writing about his experiences so I won't go there.

Visalia is a great place to fly but I felt dated with my 3 meter Gnome. Sure there was one other Gnome, an Oly II, a Marauder, a couple of Paragons, a Bird of Time, and a couple of mixes but everything else was ARF composite stuff. You'd think the contest was in the Ukraine or Eastern Europe. That's okay, the built up wooden airplanes float much better. Fortunately, mine stayed dry. That's our adventure. Remember, he who has the most fun wins.

Thanks Larry. This is a really fun article. Lots of human interest, and well written. All members are enthusiastically encouraged to contribute to our newsletter.

Tuan Le has been too busy with family to tell his own story, but a condensed version goes like this.

A few days before the Visalia Soaring Festival, the land management people decided to flood all the space around the flying site! If you haven't been there, the actual launch and landing area is a raised area surrounded by lower flat land. This is normally fine until they flooded the low land. Well Tuan is getting a couple of test flights on his brand new AVA and his landing pattern brings him in over the nest of an Avocet. That is a medium sized shore bird. This Avocet might as well have been an Exocet, because it shot up after Tuan's AVA and attacked it. The AVA ends up in the flooded area. Well, Tuan goes charging into the water only to find out it is chest deep. He actually had to swim, but unfortunately had neglected to first remove his cell phone, his flight timer and his MP-3 player. The plane is salvaged, but really full of water. Over the next 24 hours, he gets it dried out and works his way up to 9^h in class. But his problems are not over yet. Someone bumps the stabilizer and breaks the V-mount. At this point, the trim and balance was sufficiently screwed up to where Tuan was no longer competitive. Tuan still feels it was a really great soaring event.



Plane Rap Classified Ads - For Sale

Larry Enger is doing a stock reduction. He has 17 airplanes ready to fly plus another half a dozen in various stages of construction. They range from gas to electric in addition to slope and thermal gliders. There are many gas and electric engines/motors, covering material and building supplies. Even control line kits and engines, plus accessories galore. Inventory available soon. Contact Larry at ljbenger@comcast.net or 951-245-2521.

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See our NEW web site at www.HarborSoaringSociety.org for a bright new club image. Our other web site can still be viewed at www.1hss.org . Both feature the latest news, the color issue of Plane Rap, photos, and more.

NEXT CLUB MEETING WILL BE AT OUR NEW LOCATION! 7:30 PM, THURSDAY JUNE 1, 2006 AT THE NEWPORT SEA BASE AT 1931 WEST COAST HIGHWAY, NEWPORT BEACH. SEE MAP ON PAGE 9 OF THIS ISSUE FOR DIRECTIONS AND PARKING INSTRUCTIONS. SEE THE COLOR VERSION SENT BY E-MAIL AND AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITES.