



# Sky Lines

The Official Newsletter of the Tracy Skyliners R/C Club  
P.O. Box 793 Tracy, CA 95378

February 2003

AMA Charter Club # 169

Next Meeting Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM -*Election Day!*

## Club Officers

**President:** John Elliott 209-835-5259  
**Vice President:** Pete Bowen 925-443-7052  
**Treasurer:** Gene Moore 209-835-3780  
**Secretary:** Doug Fahrney 209-599-9313  
**Safety Officer:** Doug Fahrney 209-599-9313

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**Newsletter Editor:** Mark Maral [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net)  
**Webmaster:** Mark Maral [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net)  
209-599-0785

*Newsletter article submission deadline is the THIRD Friday prior to the next club meeting. Send articles to Mark*

*Contact Mark to request additions or changes to the website.*

*Tracy Skyliners website: <http://www.tracyskyliners.com>*

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## January Meeting Minutes

Roll Call: 11 members present

Treasurer Report: Treasury Report is not reported online.

New Members: None

Old Business:

Due to the low member turnout, nominations and election of 2003 club officers will be held at the February meeting. Questions regarding repair of the runway were asked. John Elliott said this will happen once the weather improves, probably in late March or April. After the runway is finished, a workday will be scheduled that will include replacing the poles and safety netting. John Elliott also reminded the membership that all flyers must have some kind of pin to clip to the frequency board that will identify them.

New Business:

Mark Maral unveiled the website he designed for the club. A motion was made to set up an account to put the website online at a cost of \$8.95 a month plus a one time setup charge of \$15.00. The motion was passed unanimously. Doug Fahrney reported that he has turned over the newsletter editor duties to Mark Maral.

Guests: None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30

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## Upcoming Events

**Next Club Meeting:** Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM Safeway Supermarket at the corner of W 11<sup>th</sup> St. and Corral Hollow Rd. in Tracy.

## New Club Website!

The Tracy Skyliners have moved onto the World Wide Web with the release of our new club website. The URL for the webpage is:

<http://www.tracyskyliners.com>

The website contains a variety of information about the club including an **online version of "Sky Lines"** – more on that later. The website provides a quick source of other information as well. We have posted the Club Meeting dates and times, Upcoming Events, Pictures, Links to other websites such as commercial websites, organizations, and Local R/C Club websites. If you would like to add something such as an article or **PICTURES** (we can always use more pictures - I know I'll be out there with the camera) send them to Mark Maral at [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net).

## Online Newsletter

Now, back to the newsletter. Since we are now on the web, it provides us with a great opportunity to bring you the newsletter in a more efficient (meaning it costs less) way. I would like to request that any club member who has the ability to access the newsletter from the website and would be willing to stop receiving the snail mail newsletter to please contact Mark Maral by email at [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net). I will then remove your name from the snail mail distribution of the newsletter. We accomplish a few things by doing this. First, it saves the club around \$6 per member/year in postage and copy costs. That's about \$500 per year. Second, by getting your newsletter off the web, you receive it about a week earlier than the snail mail newsletter.

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Third, I can add additional pictures (in color, too!), and other information to the online newsletter that may not be in the snail mail copy. It's also less time consuming for the Newsletter editor.

No computer? Most libraries have free internet access. Or, drop in on a friend or neighbor and ask if you can log on to their system and read the newsletter. Who knows, you might entice a friend or neighbor who isn't currently involved with R/C planes to get the bug!

Once the newsletter is posted to the website, I will send out an email to the members on the online newsletter alias. I will use a blind copy so that email addresses are kept private.

So, beginning with the MARCH NEWSLETTER, for those members who provided me with an email address I will send out a notification via email to you that the newsletter has been posted to the web. You will NOT receive a copy in the mail. If you still want to receive a copy in the mail please let me know no later than the week prior to the March meeting.

Anytime you want to re-start the snail-mail newsletter, just let me know.

Mark Maral – Newsletter Editor

### Channel Usage Chart

We would like to begin collecting data as to what radio channels the members are using. This data will be used to populate a chart, posted to the website, that will show the number of users on a particular channel. So when you select that next radio you can avoid choosing a channel that has a high usage – this is especially helpful for new members. In addition, we would like to know if you are experiencing "hits" on a particular channel. We believe that channels 30, 31, and 51 are suspect and could cause problems. Please contact Mark by email at [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net) or by phone at 209-599-0785 with a list of the channels you use.

### Frequency Pin Reminder

This is a reminder that beginning in February you are required to have a copy of your current AMA , Club Membership card or a pin with your identification clipped to the frequency board in place of the frequency you are using. We will be implementing a new frequency control process that will NOT be using frequency pins so it will be mandatory to have a pin with your information displayed.

### 2003 Dues

It is that time of the year again to pay club dues. Dues are \$30 for Adults/\$15 for Juniors and must be received by the club treasurer by the end of the March meeting , which is Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. To make it easier on Gene, it is preferred that dues be mailed to the club's mailing address listed at the top of the newsletter, however you can pay them at the club meeting. Those who haven't paid their dues by the March meeting will be dropped from the club roster.

### 2003 Elections

2003 Club elections will be held at the February meeting. Nominations are open and will be accepted at the meeting prior to the election. If you would like to nominate someone or run for an office this is your chance. Let's have a great turnout!

### February Aviation History

4	1902	Charles Lindbergh born in Detroit
6	1971	First time a golf ball is hit on the moon
20	1962	America's first manned orbital flight takes place with John Glenn in the "Friendship 7"
22	1921	Transcontinental airmail service begins
23	1909	First sustained Canadian flight by the "Silver Dart"