



# Sky Lines

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

March 2003

AMA Charter Club # 169

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

## 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 and 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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## February Meeting Minutes

**Roll Call:** 6 members present

**Treasurer Report:** The report is not posted online. Contact the Treasurer if you would like this.

**New Members:** None

### **Old Business:**

Due to the low member turnout again, nominations and elections of 2003 club officers could not be held. Mark Maral reported that about 25% of the membership is now getting the newsletter online. Gene Moore reported he is looking into the cost of having hats with the club logo embroidered on them. These will probably cost more, but should look better than the screen printed hats.

### **New Business:**

Pete Bowen reported that Nor Cal IMAC is looking for more participants. They would like to put on a demonstration at our field in the spring. Pete will set up a date for this and report back at a future meeting.

**Guests:** None

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:45 PM

## Upcoming Events

**Next Club Meeting:** Tuesday, March 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.

## 2003 Dues

This is the final reminder that 2003 Dues are due and payable by the close of the Club meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Dues are \$30 for adults and \$15 for juniors. Again, 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.

## Club Website

The Tracy Skyliners website continues to evolve. Since the last newsletter announcing the site, I have added a number of new items. Changes to the website are posted to the Web Updates page. Key announcements are posted on the main Home page.

Many thanks to Doug Fahrney for his suggestions as well as all the great pictures Doug has taken. Doug has been bringing his camera out to the field so we can begin to post pictures of our members and their planes to the website. Look for them in the Gallery and Members Hanger. Doug has also taken pictures of our current officers, which we have also posted to the website. Thanks Doug!

Mark Maral - Webmaster

## Online Newsletter

Last month I announced that we are now posting the newsletter on the website. I encouraged members to contact me if you would be willing to view the newsletter via the website versus receiving it in the mail. First, I want to thank those members who contacted me and volunteered to forego the snail mail newsletter. We now have 28 members getting the newsletter via the website. That is about 33% of the membership. This is a great start. Again, I'm encouraging members to contact me via email at [maral@charter.net](mailto:maral@charter.net) or by phone at 209-599-0785 if you are willing to view the newsletter via the website. It not only saves the club money, but it makes use of a better forum for distributing the newsletter and other time sensitive information. For those on the email distribution, 7-10 days prior to the next club meeting I will send out an email

notification that the newsletter has been posted to the website. Also, if you have yet to pay your dues, you can take this opportunity to add your email address and the channels you fly when you submit your payment.

Mark Maral – Newsletter Editor

### Classified Section

We have added a Classified Section to the website. Members may post a note for items they are looking for or for items they wish to sell. If you have something you want to sell, are looking for, etc. send me an email or give me a call and I'll add it to the website's classified page. If you have a picture you want to post with your ad it is preferred you email it to me in .jpg or .gif format. It is understood that the items listed here are on a buyer beware basis and the club assumes **NO LIABILITY** for any ad listed on the site. Items will be listed for 90 days. After that they will be removed unless you ask me to continue to list them for another 90 days. It is also your responsibility to notify me when the item has sold or you to have your ad removed. If space allows I will also post them in the snail mail newsletter.

Mark Maral - Webmaster

### Channel Usage Chart

I have collected data from 23 members and have populated the Channel Usage Chart and posted it to the website. Again, I'm requesting that members PLEASE contact me with the channels you use so we can have a meaningful and useful chart.

Please contact me 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 and Frequency Control Policy Change

This is a reminder that beginning in February it is **MANDATORY** to have a copy of your current AMA card, Club Membership card or a pin with your Name and AMA Number to fly at our field. By the time you read this we will have implemented a new Frequency Channel Control Policy whereby you will clip your Identification Pin onto the channel you will use displayed on the Frequency Channel Control Rod. Basically the Frequency Channel Control Rod is made up of two PVC pipes with "T's". We have installed the two PVC pipes across the Impound Stand. The pipes have "T's" that are numbered with the Channels 11-60. The top pipe has ODD numbered channels and the bottom pipe has EVEN numbered channels.

**NOTE:** If you fly HAM you need to let me know so we can add this to the Frequency Channel Control Rod.

### The New Frequency Control Process is as follows:

1. Upon arrival at the field you **MUST** impound your transmitter in

the Transmitter Impound Stand.

2. Prior to removing your transmitter for use you **MUST** verify that no other Identification Card is clipped to the "T" of your channel on the Frequency Channel Control Rod.

3. If the channel is free, clip your Identification Card to the "T" on the channel you wish to use. If there **IS** an Identification Card clipped to your channel, it means the channel is **IN USE** by another flyer. **DO NOT TURN ON YOUR TRANSMITTER UNLESS THE CHANNEL IS FREE.**

4. If the channel is free, and you have clipped your Identification Card to your channel on the Frequency Channel Control Rod, you may now remove your transmitter for use.

5. It is advisable that you check the flight line and other flyers as a safeguard to insure no other flyer is on your channel prior to turning on your transmitter.

6. Upon completion of your flight, return your transmitter to the Transmitter Impound Stand and remove your Identification Card from the "T".

Please follow this new process so we do not have an unfortunate accident.

### 2003 Elections

Well, as mentioned in the minutes, due to the low turnout at the February meeting the election was not held. We'll try again in March

### Safety

A little incident happened at the field the other day which involved yours truly. While filling up the fuel tank the fuel fill line came off squirting fuel into my eye. Well, I had no water with me to flush out my eye so I hastily packed up and made a dash to the market on the corner of Kasson and Durham Ferry. I purchased a bottle of water, flushed out my eye and then went to my eye doctor. I was pretty lucky. There was no corneal damage and only mild irritation to the conjunctiva. I have learned to be more careful when filling up, wear eye protection, and to carry a first-aid kit AND a bottle of water in my car. - Mark Maral

### FOR SALE

62" Ultimate Biplane built by Jim Conachen of [www.conachenaircraft.com](http://www.conachenaircraft.com). Fiberglass fuse, form core sheeted and glassed wings, new quality automotive paint. New Quadra Aerrow 400M 40cc gas engine, new Bisson pitts muffler, 4" Tru-Turn spinner, manual and servo actuated kill switch, pull-pull rudder. All servos included, RX not included. An example of this plane can be seen at <http://www.conachenaircraft.com/Ultimate.html> I have the vinyl "Yellow Hawk" fuse decals. Asking \$850.00  
Email Alan Cluff @ [alan\\_cluff@yahoo.com](mailto:alan_cluff@yahoo.com)