

# SIERRA SIGNALS

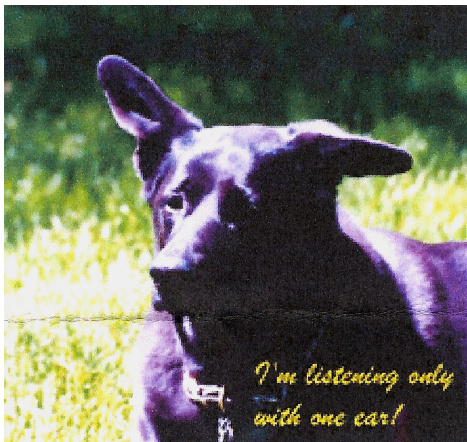
Newsletter of the High Sierra R/C Club  
AMA #1362 and SAM 34  
Carson City, Nevada



February 2007 Edition

Next Meeting - 6:30 pm, February 13th at Round Table Pizza on East College Pkwy

## Remembering Lucky



Lucky went to sleep peacefully for the last time on the morning of December 18<sup>th</sup>. She was about thirteen years old. I'm not sure of her exact age because she was supposed to be two years old when we got her and after coming to us, she gained thirty pounds and grew another

six inches long!

What I do know however, is she loved to ride in the car, enjoyed walking, but most of all she liked to go the then pony express RC Model Airpark. She would start squeaking and banging her tail on the side of my van as soon as I turned off Flint Road and on to the dirt road leading to the field.

She especially liked "Food Days" at the field. I still remember how she would "smoke" the hot dogs so many people gave her. She would walk around with half a hot dog sticking out the side of her mouth savoring the flavor until she would finally give in and chew and gulp it down then look hopefully for the next soft hearted participant for another!

On days that I went out to fly, she was content to lie in the shade of

one of the sunshades, watching me intently. If I had a good flight and I brought my plane back to the table she would just lie there watching, but if I went out on the runway, or worse yet, into the sagebrush to retrieve my plane she would escort me wherever I went just making sure that I wasn't wandering off without her.

She was my loyal companion and flying buddy, I miss her happy greetings and unquestioning friendship! Rest well Lucky, you earned it!

- Frank Chase

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## From Da New Prez (from the 'LOST IN THE EMAIL' file)

(Sorry Lou that this did not get into the January Newsletter - Dan)

My first official duty, trying to come up with a January news column. Please bear with me.

We are trying something new this year, a survey to determine what activities you guys (& gals also) would like to see in 2007. The response has been better than I expected, over (20) returns, and many good ideas were suggested. I was surprised at the number of requests for a water fly event. I wonder if there really are that many sets of floats in our area. Back in the 50's, my wife (Mary) used to run RC boats, and as I remember, there were lots of wet retrieves involved, even using a duck hunting Golden retriever dog on occasion. Really hard for a dog to grab those slippery boats while swimming, so there were always some tooth marks left. Anyway, from these suggestions several members have drawn up a proposed events list which we would like to use as a starting point in creating the 2007 schedule during the Jan meeting. This is not a final list, just something to start the discussion going. There are so many

kinds of fun events, that we need all of you to help recall and discuss adding them. We really want to see all of you there (the East College Round Table Pizza) full of ideas, or maybe just for the free pizza.

## **XMAS PARTY**

Seemed to me that our Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Christmas party (my first ever) at the Pinion Plaza was a great success. Bob says that we had 49 great people attending. Many thanks to those that went to all the effort to make it happen, probably lead by our APP (able past prez). Really appreciated seeing all those great looking ladies. My wife usually frowns on my viewing of other women. Lets get them all out again at the picnic!

Don Morse presented several innovative awards, The DID IT AGAIN Award went to Bill Smith for crashing the same ship three separate times ( Bill says that it, the B26, is now ready for a fourth), one to Allen Annett called the DAYLIGHTS AWARD, for having the daylighters scared out of him when Don's ship crashed at his feet while he was protecting his own ship, and The Order of the Arrow (totally undeserved) to me for destroying the clubs only trainer. I had no idea that you couldn't see a ship against the sun. Anyway, that one third of a flight was really not worth having to buy and assemble the replacement for it. Expensive lesson, one not readily forgotten.

Don also presented Frank Chase and Bob Borgan with surprise lifetime memberships in the club. A great idea, they were well deserved!

Frank Chase then presented two nice looking awards to Harold Siegfried and Tom Reinbolt for their many years of efforts put into both the club and flying field. He also had several interesting stories to relate, including the Damn beavers. Frank asked that Dan Etcheto read the story of "Yes Virginia There Really Is a Santa", saying that reading it always breaks him up. I believe that Frank is a really sensitive person, a rarity.

Course there was the usual (I am told) raffle to close the party. Since it was conducted by the APP, you might guess who won the grand prize, Don M, a sailplane ( gliders sink, sailplanes soar) that was so big that he probably couldn't get it home, or into the house if he did get it there. Bill Smith, who wins a new AFR kit at every raffle, won still another. Bob Canadian walked off with a complete JR control system, and there were several other kits and t-shirts won. Mary and I had all red tickets, so course Don concentrated on the blue tickets.

I don't know about the ham and some of the salads, but the turkey, dressing and spuds and macaroni salad were great. There were many comments at my table concerning the very weak coffee, until the waitress explained that we were drinking tea. Seems that you have tea before dinner, and coffee after.

## **MISC**

I have just returned to RC after 46 years since my last efforts. Really start feeling old when I think back to my RC life in the fifties. Building our own radios, with vacuum tubes, nine foot

antennas, and using Walt Good as an information source. Then on to the more sophisticated COMPOUND escapement; next was two channel pulse; and finally four channel reed and home made servos. And never enough money to do things right (we were all raising kids). Although Model Airplane News did buy a two part article from me once. That cash really helped even if Mary got half of it for new living room furniture. In those days club members were in their twenty's, not their sixties and up. It would be great to have some of that old Kraft, Citizenship (with dipole antenna) and Orbit equipment now. What a life!

If anyone is in need of a house with modeling room, Bill Smith has one for sale. Course I would hate to see him sell it, as that would mean his moving to Washington, and I would much rather keep him here.

Had a nice discussion with John Miller. When he mentioned the amount of funds the Reno RC club have accumulated, I was absolutely amazed. They have so much cash that they have to keep it invested. How about that Bob? Maybe we should start putting on paid for shows, as John said they did. Only where??

Haven't been to the field in four or five weeks, much too cold for me, so I don't know how much flying has been going on. I've never seen a model operate on ski's, but do know that full size aircraft are very hard to manage on ski's, and impossible in a cross wind. Also tend to freeze to the ground, lots of wing rocking before a flight.

Hear from Larry Johnson that he has received his new Pitts Special kit, and is hard at work on it. Spoke with Merrit Dunlap, he says that both he and his 10 yr old son have been flying, and are on a second ship already, a SIG Cadet, not that they crashed the first one. Hope to have them in the club soon.

I would really like to hear what your winter projects are. For myself, Mary is having a modeling room (a small one) added to our home. A great Xmas gift, huh?

Anyone have a spare set of 46 size floats for sale? Sounds like I will be needing them this year.

Be sure to take a look at, and browse, the new Club web site. As a new comer, I was really impressed with the club history as presented by Dan. He has done a great job with the site. (*The "History" was not written by me Lou, I copied it from the old web site. Needs updating though. - Dan*)

If you have not yet paid your dues, this would be a great time to do so. I understand that Bob is standing by to accept them. It may also be time for your AMA renewals, best check it out.

Stay well,  
Louie

## From Da Prez

I'm going to try again, hopefully this one will make it up to our editor. Seems that not all email arrives as intended. I really did have a January letter ready in time for the SIGNAL, and e-mailed it up to Dan so that he would not have to retype it from a snail mail hard copy. Unfortunately it did not get to him.

In this issue, hopefully, you will find the High Sierra 2007 events schedule. After considering the results of the December 'WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO IN 2007' events survey, the board came up with, and presented, a proposed schedule at the January general meeting. After some discussion, the proposed schedule, as found elsewhere in this issue, was voted on and accepted. I hope that we have found something for everyone. I am asking Dan to also include the actual results of the survey elsewhere in this issue.

In visiting with Al Messler, of the Sagebrush Flyers Gardnerville club, I learned that club has scheduled their Pattern Flying contest for the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of August. It is hoped that the Carson and Reno clubs will be well represented, both as participants and as spectators. The prizes are truly awesome, big bucks, and the level of flying should be great. We have some really outstanding pilots ourselves, and we would like to see you folks out there showing them how it is supposed to be done.

Along those lines, our own Flying Scale contest will be dubbed the Tri-Club Scale Contest, as it intended that members of the Gardnerville and Reno clubs will show up to give us some real competition, and new ships that we have not seen before. This contest is now scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

Following the Tri-club theme, the Reno club will be sponsoring a War Bird Contest, again a Tri-club event. I have not yet learned of a date for this event.

To make these truly Tri-club affairs, I suppose that there should be volunteers from each club for each event. I hope that a few of us will do so. It would probably be fun to see some of the events even if not competing. I know that Pattern and War bird racing sure impress me.

Actually, we have planned two High Sierra scale events for this summer. The first will be the cornerstone of Les Harris's Memorial Fly Day. This will be a static only contest (although the ships can certainly be flown also), judged on scale and appearance, with a controlled taxi required. The second, an actual flying scale event, as held last year, will be judged on a proof of scale drawing (or photo), and on a pilot on board. There will be two classes, as per last year. Classes will include ships flown by the owner/builder, and ships flown by someone other than the owner. This will also be our annual OPEN HOUSE day, the general public invited, free food, open flying, entertainment, and hopefully a couple of JET and/or HELI demonstration flights.

If any of you would like to do a soaring day, we could work it in on one of the Pony Express non-event days, we can certainly set something up during one of our summer meetings. Sounds like an engineless day might be fun, especially to one who does full size soaring on the odd week days. It's pretty easy to ride a thermal

when you can feel it in the seat of your pants, but I don't see how one does it from hundreds of yards below.

Fullers Fruit Fly might want a little explanation. What Gary intends is that each person that makes a flight on the day of his event will receive a raffle ticket after completing the flight. At the end of the day, real live fruit will be raffled off to the participants. You will not have to win the event, just make a flight, and have a knife and fork ready for eating your prize.

We are going to try to participate in the Carson Airport Open House again this year. If so, it is planned that Tom R will set up his tent, Don M will transport the tables needed, and Gary F will be one of the hosts. If you still have a clean looking ship that far into the season, bring it out to the field and let us show it off. We might even pick up a new member or two that can keep us on our toes next year.

Now is a great time to do a really deep cycle battery servicing, especially those that you use the least. Most manufacturers recommend a full deep cycle at least four times annually. If you have been doing just one or two flights on a ship, those nicads will assume that you will never need their full rated capacity, and train themselves to deliver only what you normally use, not the number of flights that what you may want to do on a really great day. If you do not have a manufactured deep cycler, simply use your ammeter to determine a resistor (or pilot lamp bulb) that will draw appx. 350/400 mils from each of your batteries, then leave it connected to them until they are down to 0 volts. Then do a full charge, the same as was in your equipments manual for the first time charge. Of course, this may not be readily feasible with your TX, so you might just turn it on and leave it run until it shuts down, then do the full charge. If you can disconnect it's battery and do a full deep cycle, so much the better.

Don Morse made the trip to the annual AMA convention. Perhaps we can get a report at the Feb meeting. Made it myself last year, and there certainly is a lot of material for sale (and swap) displayed.

If you are going to be buying any new equipment this year, spend a few minutes browsing all that is available on Ebay. I just bought four brand new, still in factory boxes, Fatuba Digital BB servos (S-3151's) for \$62.00 (list at Tower is \$34.99 ea). You can also make great buys on complete systems, batteries, kits, etc.

Lastly, the first meeting to be held at the Round Table Pizza went quite well. Food for all, and the warm room complete with tables was nice. Also, it was surprisingly quiet with the doors closed, I was actually expecting a lot of customer noise from the main room.

**PLEASE NOTE** It was decided at the meeting to change our meeting time from 7:00 PM to 6:30, so that some of the buying of drinks and eating can be done ahead of the actual business meeting.

Stay well, Louie

Received some pictures at the last meeting. I guess these guys are all 4F (Fabulous Frozen Fingered Flyers). I think it is a cult of some type. Too bad there was no snow. They'd be in heaven.



Some of you may have seen this before. Something I have been working on for several years. —————>



The main reason for having a web site is advertising. If you can't find it, it does no good. After much consideration, the club web site has been moved to it's own location. The reason is, is that when someone new wants to do a web search for information about our club, they would not find the site because it was attached to one of mine. Now that it is on it's own, search engines will have an easier time finding it. The new location:

<http://www.hsrcc.com>

I'll be "tweaking" it from now on and updating on a timely basis. You can find past issues of this newsletter as well as the minutes of the meetings. Also, you will find the combined event schedule for all three local clubs there.

In this issue I am including the combined schedule for you to see, but please note that the Reno club will not have their's firmed up until their next meeting. I also have to contact "the powers that be" in the Gardnerville club to add their's.



High Sierra RC Club - Reno RC Club - Sierra Sagebrush Flyers

Combined Event and Meeting Schedule - 2007

Event	HSRCC - Carson City	RRCC - Reno	SSFI - Gardnerville
Meeting		Jan 3	
Meeting	Jan 9		
Annual Banquet		Jan 20 or 27	
Meeting		Feb 7	
Meeting	Feb 13		
Meeting		Mar 7	
Meeting	Mar 13		
Fun Fly		Mar 24 or 31	
Meeting		Apr 4	
Meeting	Apr 10		
Fun Fly # 1	Apr 14		
T-34 Race		Apr 21 or 28	
Meeting		May 2	
Meeting	May 8		
Fun Fly # 2	May 12		
Sam # 1	May 19		
Electric Fly In		May 12 or 19	
Washoe Float Fly		May 26	
Carson Airport Open House	Jun 2		
Meeting		Jun 6	
Fuller's Fruit Fly	Jun 9		
Meeting	Jun 12		
Float Fly	Jun 23		
Rotary Rendezvous		Jun ?	
Military Fly In	Jun 30		
T-34 Race		June 30	
Club Picnic / Swap	Jul 7		
Meeting	Jul 10		
Meeting		Jul 11	
Float Fly	Jul 14		
Memorial Fly In	Jul 28		

T-34 Race		Jul 14 or 21 or 28	
Meeting		Aug 1	
Tri-Club Flying Scale	Aug 4-5	Aug 4-5	Aug 4-5
Sam # 2	Aug 11		
Meeting	Aug 14		
SWOAS Scale Contest		Aug 18	
Tri-Club Pattern Contest	Aug 18-19	Aug 18-19	Aug 18-19
Float Fly	Aug 25		
Fly In Swap Meet		Aug 25	
Meeting		Sep 5	
Pizza Fly In	Sep 8		
T-34 Race		Sep 8	
Reno Air Races	Sep 10-16	Sep 10-16	Sep 10-16
Meeting	Sep 11		
Fun Fly # 3	Sep 15		
Float Fly	Sep 29		
R/C Warbird Races		Sep 29	
Meeting		Oct 3	
Sam # 3	Oct 6		
Meeting	Oct 9		
T-34 Races		Oct 13	
Fall Colors Float Fly		Oct 20	
Meeting		Nov 7	
Meeting	Nov 13		
RRCC Turkey Shoot		Nov 17	
Meeting		Dec 5	
Christmas Party	Dec		
Meeting	Jan 8, 2008		

**This issue turned out to be a regular novel!**

**Remember the next meeting is at 6:30 pm**

I am changing the return address on the newsletter so that returns come back to me instead of bothering Frank!

### 2007 Officers and Crew

President	Louis Scheel 267-4283
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