

SIERRA SIGNALS

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

December 2009 Edition

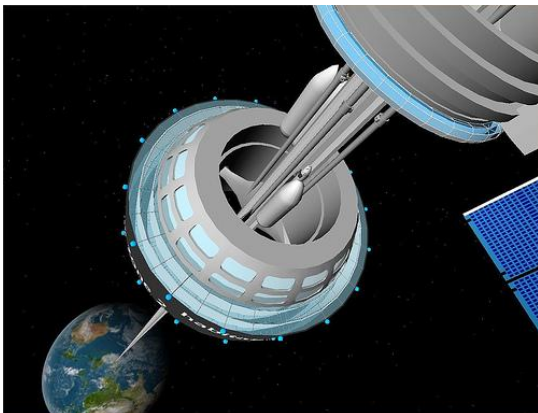


Next Meeting – Thursday, January 14th, Carson City Airport Terminal – 6:30 pm

“New ideas pass through three periods: 1) It can't be done. 2) It probably can be done, but it's not worth doing. 3) I knew it was a good idea all along!” — Sir Arthur C. Clarke

This has nothing to do with RC airplanes, but since I think that those of us that fly them are **GEEKS** in one form or another, this should interest you. There are two different contests that have been held this year that I think are amazing. The first was a space elevator contest. This blurb was taken from an article from Fox News; *“A Seattle team has collected a \$900,000 prize in a NASA-backed competition to develop the concept of an elevator to space — an idea spurred by science fiction novels. The team's robotic machine raced up more than 2,950 feet of cable dangling from a helicopter. Powered by a ground-based laser pointed up at the robot's photo voltaic cells that converted the light into electricity, the LaserMotive machine completed one of its climbs in about three minutes and 48 seconds, good for second-place money. The contest is intended to encourage development of a theory that originated in the 1960s and was popularized by Arthur C. Clarke's 1979 novel "The Fountains of Paradise." Space elevators are envisioned as a way to reach space without the risk and expense of rockets.”*

<http://www.spaceelevatorgames.org/>



The second contest was a lunar lander. From Space.com news: *“A California-based team of engineers has snagged a \$1 million NASA prize by winning a pitched competition to fly homemade rockets on mock moon landing missions. Masten Space Systems of Mojave, Calif., successfully flew its rocket Xoie (pronounced Zoey) twice within a set time limit to qualify for the top Level 2 prize in the Northrop Grumman Lunar Lander Challenge, a NASA-sponsored contest to build mock lunar landers. Carmack's Armadillo Aerospace won the \$350,000 first-place prize for Level 1 in 2008, with the Masten team nabbing the \$150,000 second-place purse earlier this month with a different rocket called Xombie. Level 2 of the contest was trickier, but with a much larger payout. It also required a round trip flight, but extended the flight to 180 seconds (3 minutes) and included a simulated moonscape for added difficulty.”*

<http://space.xprize.org/lunar-lander-challenge>

I have posted a video from each contest on our web site for your viewing pleasure! And yes, we are **GEEKS!** Be proud!



Just a reminder -

Our club newsletter, Sierra Signals, is mailed monthly to all members. The newsletter's primary mission is to facilitate communication within the club. Keep in mind that producing material for the newsletter is not the sole responsibility of the editor. All of us can and should contribute. It's important for club members to share their experiences and knowledge for the benefit of others. Did you just attend a special event that others might like to hear about? Have you bought a model product lately that you think is fantastic? Do you have an idea or a building technique you'd like to share? Want to make an announcement? Got something to sell? Remember that only a portion of our membership attends the meetings, but all of our members get the newsletter. Articles, how-to's, classified ads, etc. are always needed.

Thanks for listening everyone!

Did you notice that the rules issued by the AMA have been updated?

**Academy of Model Aeronautics
National Model Aircraft Safety Code
Effective January 1, 2010**

Go here to take a gander:

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/files/105.pdf>

At the last meeting, a major change occurred for our club. Joan Seymour was voted in as your new Treasurer. Welcome aboard Joan! That will teach you for kidding me about becoming a permanent fixture! Pay back? Yes, I think so!

Bob Brogan came late to the meeting and asked about the voting. When told that Joan would be the new Treasurer, I believe his exact words were, **"OH! Thank God!"** Bob then received a standing ovation for all of his years of service to the club. Thank you **Commander Brogan!** You've done more than your share of service for HSRCC and your country. We owe you big time!



! LAST REMINDER – HSRCC Christmas Dinner !

Thursday, the 10th of December at 6 pm.

The Fandango will again host the HSRCC Annual Christmas Dinner, with their world famous buffet. Cost this year is \$20.00 per person. There will be a 60 size Monocoupe as the door prize. If you want to participate, we will be holding a white elephant gift exchange. Bring a wrapped or bagged gift under \$20 appropriate for either man or women. The rules will be explained when it's time to exchange gifts.

***So come out, bring your significant other,
and enjoy an evening with Those
Magnificent Men and their Flying Machines.***



Here I am dwelling on that Airplane Tree House again. It reminded me of when I was a kid, going on some trip with my parents. An airplane fuselage, converted into a motor home passed us! I can still remember the driver/pilot was wearing a leather helmet and goggles. That one was bare aluminum and had a stubby tail section. Surfing on the internet the other day brought up some bizarre things!



And yes, there is even a House Boat conversion. The two photos above are of a motor home, but not the one that I saw as a child. I think this owner would be right at home at Burning Man!



The photo on top I believe is someone's home in South America. The next photos are of a hotel suite at an airport! Here's a link to some more conversions:

<http://www.airportjournals.com/Display.cfm?varID=0305005>

"All kidding aside, the Boeing 727 has proven to be a practical habitat for humans, providing a good 1,200 square feet of living space within a structure that is both durable and relatively maintenance free."



Your HSRCC Membership Card is enclosed in this newsletter, which means that it is that time of year to take pen to paper and write a check to HSRCC for your \$50.00 membership dues. Please mail your check to :

HSRCC
 73 Glen Carran Cr.
 Sparks, NV 89431

I need to update the membership list and then will send the dues on to Joan, your new Treasurer! You can also bring your dues to the Christmas Dinner and give them to Tom or Bob when you pay for your dinner. How easy is that? You can laminate your Membership Card to your AMA Card to use on the frequency board as proof of insurance. You did get your AMA card didn't you?

To everyone in HSRCC,

! Merry Christmas !

2010 HSRCC	Officers and Crew	
President	Tom Howell	884-2678
Vice President	Gary Fuller	883-5553
Secretary	Dan Etcheto	853-8245
Treasurer	Joan Seymour	883-3111
Field Marshall 1	Bob Harrington	883-1511
Field Marshall 2	Mike Santiago	450-1292
Safety Officer 1	John Pollock	220-7668
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