

SIERRA SIGNALS

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



April 2016

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Safety Officer.....Paul Ciotti 453-1507
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UPCOMING EVENTS

April Meeting – 4/12/2016

May 14, 2016 Annual Roll Out Party / Chili Feed

Paul Ciotti's New Bat Plane looks menacing on the tarmac. Picture courtesy of David Vandenberg



SAFETY NOTES

Now that the cold weather is mostly gone, it's time to bring up the parking situation. Because of the snow, members have been taking liberties and leaving their vehicles by the tables along with other excuses for why they did not park where they are supposed to. We also have the double standard of it being OK to leave your vehicle by the tables on weekdays but not weekends. Personally, I do not agree with the current parking policy am recommending we review the policy and make a decision one way or another no matter what day it is.

Your Safety Officer,

Paul Ciotti

It is still my intention to recognize club members that have made considerable contributions to HSRCC. Although I know of several people that have done a lot in the past for HSRCC, my history with this club does not date back far enough to tell the stories correctly. I'm going to leave the below article up from last month in hope that someone sends me a story or some stories for next month.

I want to thank everyone **past and present** that have volunteered their time to make the HSRCC the club what it is today. Like many small organizations, key members stand out as leaders for un-selfishly dedicate their time to help the club and usually end up doing a lot of the heavy lifting when it comes to volunteering. Since I am a relatively new member, I am sorry I don't know all the stories and all the past members that have played important roles in keeping this organization going. I was inspired by last month's winter party that also served as a dedication to Tom Reinbolt for all he has done for the HSRCC. With that in mind, I want to feature at least one person a month in this newsletter and recognize their commitment to leadership. Please send a small write-up of anyone past or present that you feel should be recognized and we'll give them a mention and a Thank You in the newsletter. You can also let people know how much you appreciate them

and give a quick thank you to people helping out the club when you see it. We are all lucky to have such a nice flying field supported mainly by our own volunteers. We all benefit a lot without paying out a lot to be part of the club. We will be doing some maintenance projects this year and could use the help, so please volunteer when you can. Also, please send me an e-mail when you notice anyone doing good deeds for the club. Just give me a small write-up of anyone past or present that you feel should be recognized. My direct e-mail is at, Steve@RealtyMover.com

From Eddie P.

"Dearly Beloved we are gathered here today to witness the departing of one of the last bastions of truly great park flying in Reno, NV. Today, we mourn the passing of the Wedge Parkway dirt strip."

Sounds funny, right? Well, unfortunately, the Wedge Parkway field is no longer. That part is not so funny. The Wedge Parkway dirt strip is the RC park located across the Yellow Library on Wedge Parkway at the South County Sport Complex (between Mt Rose Highway and Arrow Creek Pkwy).

Wedge Parkway was known by friends as "St. Joe's International Model Port" (for Airport Manager Joe S. and his Merry Band of Flyers) and "Poke Park" (for the thistle thorns and puncture vine weeds that grew on the east side of the runway in the late spring and summer). It was also known as "The Wedge Spaceport" (for Paul C. and his many amazing night flyer and day flyer space ship designs).

Wedge was loved by many. It was one of the few places dog walkers and RC pilots seemed to get along. The runway was generously wide and long - at least 80 to 100 feet wide by about 550 feet long (or much longer if you relegated yourself to the more narrow run-out on the north end). The surface ranged from semi-improved to nice depending on when you flew there; and how long it was since it was last graded and cared for by some of the flyers. The field has been open meadow since local Indians were hunting there and before the area was settled by European Immigrants. The dirt runway has been there for at least fifteen years or so. I've been flying there (moved from the soccer fields to the RC dirt strip) for about ten years but consistently for the last 8 years since I live less than 1/4 mile away. My wife and other friends actually suggested our current house as a candidate 9 years ago based on the RC activity "at the field across from the yellow library".

The end came quickly for Wedge. Though, to be honest, long term health has been in question since "The Great Drone Scare of 2014" came on with vigor. In the end it was claimed that a group of go cart or small car drivers were zooming up and down the runway all last week and the land owners, a new housing development, used that as an excuse to seal off the field to allow an adjacent housing development construction company use the area as a staging ground for water tanks and other items. I have to think, the "go cart" excuse seems rather contrived and I've never seen anything like that on the grounds. The Wedge field is slated to be track homes within a short time. It seems like "Go Carts" and "Destructive Activity" is an easy excuse to shut down a field though. And for once, "Bad Drone Behavior" was not blamed for the loss of another flying area.

Speaking of behavior, I've always seen nothing but the best of behavior by all flyers at Wedge. We flew well, we were respectful, and we kept a close watch on the area. At the end of the day, the land owners have a right to use their land and restrict unauthorized use. The fence posts were placed today and tomorrow by 9am there will apparently be gates and No Trespassing signs posted. New barb wire has been run as well. So this is how a field is lost. It's happened many times before and will happen many times again. Though today, it seems to sting a little more, to us at least.

All the best to all the "St. Joe's International Model Port Pilots". Tailwinds, and Blue Skies!

Thank you Bob Sullivan! It's fixed!



Dues? Remember that pesky little thing? If you have not paid up for the year, please do so.

Thank you for supporting the club.