



# January 2006 Newsletter

[www.simiflyers.com](http://www.simiflyers.com)

**This Month's Meeting:**  
Simi Valley Library  
Friday, January 27, 7:30 PM

**Bring items for Show-n-Tell  
Plan next event.**

President	Alan Hoff	805-581-2884	amhoff@pacbell.net
Vice President	Jeff Raven	805-527-8779	ravenworx@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Bob Fricke	805-527-2032	BobRF@adelphia.net
Membership	Andy Weir	805-583-1746	acweir@DSLExtreme.com
Safety Officer	Curt Adams	805-492-8789	Curtster@aol.com
Secretary	Joshua Fint	805-801-5338	jfint@line6.com
Newsletter	Rick Rupel	805-558-9635	rupelr@pacbell.net

## President's Ramblings:

Greetings and Happy New Year. This is my first article as your president so I will let you know what my priorities are for the year. Rather than ramble on for each of the priorities here's the short list:

1. Safety at the field. No injuries, no loss of limbs, fingers, etc.
2. Keep and improve the field.
3. Have fun. Construction derby, fun fly's, BBQs, Lightweight combat for those interested.
4. Make the general membership meeting more interesting (shorter business portion, guest speakers, technique demonstrations).
5. Reduce operating expenses for the year.
6. Get the current members flying more often. Some joined the SVF to learn to fly, but aren't making the progress they wanted to.
7. Get new members flying.
8. Publicize the SVF to the community.
9. Get more members
- 10.

What are your priorities? Let me, or any member of the SVF Board know your ideas and feelings. This is your club, and your participation is what makes it work. In the end, the club is ruled by majority vote, come to the general meeting and express yourself. The 2006 board, which you elected, will do their best to move the club in the right direction.

Phone numbers and email address for the SVF Board are on the top of the newsletter and on the website. Call or email your comments, concerns, etc.

I hope to see you at this Friday's general meeting (Jan 27 at 7:30) to discuss the year's events.

I'm excited to find out how the **Harvey Bushong Memorial Construction Derby** is unfolding under the chairmanship of Andy Weir.

Josh Fint is the chairman for the (what I call) "**Lightweight Combat**" a plan for what should prove to be both fun and challenging. Josh has included material in this month's newsletter and will discuss it at the meeting.

Please examine the newsletter for "for sale" and "wanted" items. This is your chance to advertise for what you want to part with and tell others what you need. Remember, one person's junk is someone else's treasure. By the way, I need a carburetor.

The SVF recognizes and thanks Mark Penikas for serving as President from 2003 through 2005. Also for donating an ME-109 ARF for the Holiday Party raffle.

The SVF recognizes and thanks Rosellen Curtis for collecting raffle prizes for the Holiday Party.

The SVF recognizes and thanks Dale Challinor, departing Vice President, for years of service, organizing BBQs, raffles and assistance for the Holiday Party.

The SVF recognizes and thanks the Harvey Bushong family for the donation of model airplane kits of various sizes. We will cover the disposition of the kits (raffle, auction, other) at the Jan 27 meeting.

The SVF recognizes and thanks Jerry Simon for the donation of a Nutten Special, all balsa, ready to cover. He has recommended that we use this as a raffle prize at one of our big events.

Smooth Landings,  
Al Hoff

## And Now A Word From Our Safety Guy:



Hey, Gang! It's your friendly neighborhood Safety Guy again, here with the January mumbling! First off, Happy New Year to everyone! I sure hope that everyone got what they wanted for Christmas (not what they DESERVE, just what they WANT!), and that this New Year is full of great landings and NO CRASHES!

That having been said, it's time for S.G. (Safety Guy) to vent a little, ok? The job of being S.G. at SVF is usually a pretty easy one, as most of us do a pretty darn good job of knowing and following the SVF rules. Oh sure, from time to time I get to make a phone call, but that usually takes care of the problem right then and there.

Remember, these are the SVF RULES, not Curt's Rules, or Al's Rules, etc. WE as a club have established the rules for some pretty obvious reasons, and some for some less obvious ones, but they are OUR RULES, and each of us has promised to follow them, right???

So then, can anyone tell me why, on any given day at the field, I am constantly being told by someone WHICH RULES THEY IGNORE WHEN NOBODY ELSE IS AROUND???

From the old standbys of not taxiing in the pits, to flying over the freeway, to sitting in a lawn chair and flying from the middle of the runway, I get to hear it all. Does anyone have any ideas here? It can't just be a lack of knowledge of OUR rules, because these people KNOW they are breaking them! As far as I can tell, it's either a case of 1: not caring about the rules, or 2: thinking that they are stupid, or 3: thinking that there's no way something will happen if they violate a rule.

The way I see it, if you break safety rules because 1: you don't care about them, GO FIND ANOTHER CLUB.

WE all voted for the rules and promised to follow them. WE all felt they were needed to KEEP our field. If you break rules because 2: you think they are stupid, COME TO A MEETING WITH A PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THEM. Don't just criticize from the sidelines and say the rules and the people who voted them in are stupid. And if your violations of OUR rules are 3: because you don't

think anything bad can happen, you'd better hope and pray that the next airline flight you take, the pilots don't have that attitude! In airline flying, EVERYTHING is done with the "what if" in mind, and we'd be well served to take that same attitude with our model flying. Whew! Glad I got that off my chest! Hopefully, all of us will take a look in the mirror, and make a commitment to follow the rules, even when we're the only one flying!

And now, without further ado,

**THE ALWAYS EXCITING SVF SAFETY QUIZ!**  
According to our club rules, who needs to have proof of current AMA insurance coverage?

Remember, the first person who emails [Curtster@aol.com](mailto:Curtster@aol.com) with the correct answer wins 5 raffle tickets to be used at the next SVF club raffle (board members excluded, ok?).

Fly Safe!  
Curt

## Are your dues paid for 2006?

**If not please bring a fat wallet or checkbook to the meeting and receive as an added bonus, the beautiful 2006 Simi Valley Flyers membership badge at no additional charge.**

## Calendar of Near Term Events:

Date	Event
January 27	Regular Meeting (4 <sup>th</sup> Friday)
February 14	Board Meeting (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)
February 24	Regular Meeting (4 <sup>th</sup> Friday)

**Please let me know if you are willing to receive the newsletter by E-mail notification (a link to the SVF web site E-mailed to you each month instead of hard copy). [rupelr@pacbell.net](mailto:rupelr@pacbell.net) or 805-558-9635 Thank you. Ed.**

## Let's destroy some planes:

In a "Lightweight Combat" Competition.

We will be building the planes, having flight training and then competing in local contests with other clubs in the area. Come to the meeting 7:30pm this Friday 1-27-2006 at the Simi Valley Library and Josh Fint will present all the details.

The goal of this event is to provide an inexpensive and fun activity for members of any of the several local RC clubs to get together and participate in a light hearted sporting event. As a wonderful side many pilots will see a sharp rise in skill level, while not having to worry about an expensive aircraft.

### The Aircraft

The proposed aircraft is a Mini Speed Wing 250 from [www.speedwing.net](http://www.speedwing.net). This is a 24-inch EPP foam-flying wing with a plywood keel. This aircraft has been extensively tested by the contest chairman and has been found to be extremely durable, taking some very extreme abuse without any hindrance to flight performance.

The airplane comes equipped with a brushed motor, which is a very adequate power source for the plane's weight and will allow for a very even field of competition. Spare motors are readily available at a very reasonable price. The cheapest GWS micro gear you can find is more than adequate for electronics on these aircraft. I have been quoted a rate of \$40 per kit on these aircraft from the builder

### Build tips:

- Be sure to CG the aircraft with the battery prior to carving a battery compartment out of the foam.
- Iron covering may look better, and be a bit lighter, but tape is tougher.
- Any sort of small covers for servo horns that are purely defensive (see rules) are great for avoid a death sentence. If another aircraft breaks your control horn.
- Try to be unique in colors, the easier it is to pick out your plane the less chances you have of losing it in the fray and earning yourself a negative point.

A light 1000mah –1500mah 2-cell lithium battery is recommended for optimum power to weight.

### Rules of Engagement:

#### The Field Arrangement

- All pilots must have a valid AMA card.
- A combat "box" of reasonable size shall be designated explained at the pilots briefing and shall not be deviated from by any pilot who can maintain control of his/her aircraft.
- All pilots and spotters must wear head protection during heats
- Only Pilots and spotters are allowed on the flight line during heats
- Each host field must decide upon the flight line and whether outside aircraft will be allowed in the air during combat.
- The contest organizer shall decide the number of aircraft to take part in each heat, and how the pilots will be bracketed. This decision should be made based upon the number of combatants and any frequency conflicts that might exist.
- Heat brackets will be announced at the pilots briefing.

- A lead spotter will be in charge of each heat, calling out launches, and timing the heat.
- A heat shall last 5 minutes; with current battery technology no pilot should have trouble keeping his or her aircraft in the sky for this long.
- Every effort will be made to give pilot at the event shall be given the same amount of time in the air with the same number of opponents.

### Scoring

- Combat is full contact and a 5 point kill is defined as:
  - o Initiating contact with another aircraft
  - o Forcing that aircraft to the ground
  - o Performing a "Barrel Role" to verify the aggressor still has complete control of their aircraft
  - o The killed aircraft receives no points
- Any midair contact, which results in neither aircraft being forced to the ground, will result in a point for both pilots.
- Should an aircraft be forced to the ground early due to pilot error (crashes) that pilot shall receive a -1-point.
- Controlled landing due to power or batteries issues will neither count for or against a pilot unless the spotter determines that the problem was caused by the most recent midair contact, in which case this will be a kill.
- No pilot may retrieve their aircraft until all aircraft have landed
- A pilot may not rejoin a heat once his plane is on the ground (The lead spotter may allow pilots to re-launch their aircraft if there was a problem on launch)
- Each pilot's scoring is kept by their spotter
- Every pilot is required to spot for other participants.
- Spotter should avoid spotting twice for the same pilot.
- In the event that there is not a 1-1 spotter to pilot ratio, then available spotters will call out points, and each pilot must keep track of their own score.

### Aircraft

- Any 24-inch EPP foam wing with Johnson 250 power is acceptable; the speed wing 250 is the officially endorsed aircraft.
- No additional hard points shall be added to the original aircraft design.
- With the exception of balsa elevons, a plywood keel, and chloroplast tiplets, foam is the only structural material allowed.
- Minor design modifications for aesthetics or control defense are allowed.
- Power sources shall be limited to electric brushed Johnson 250 motors, with batteries at 9.6 volts or less. (Run 3-cell packs for fun if you have extra motors to burn up, but this extra power will provide an unfair advantage during combat)
- The contest organizer must decide upon any questionable aircraft or modifications.

Airplane and motor:	\$40.00
<b>Budget Setup</b>	
Blue Arrow 5 amp ESC (will need new connector soldered on)	\$13.00
Poluquest 1100 MAH 2cell 7.4V li-po battery	\$22.00
2-cell li-po charger for cigarette lighter (needs connector) 2 @	\$5.00
GWS R-4P micro RX	\$20.00
GWS RX XTAL	\$4.50
Micro Servos \$15.00 X 2	\$30.00
Budget setup total	\$134.50

<b>Not So Budget</b>	
Pixie 7 ESC	\$20.00
Thunder Power 1320mah proliate battery	\$31.00
Berg 4L RX	\$30.00
Berg XTAL	\$8.00
Apache Li-po Charger (on special now)	\$30.00
BMS-380MG servos 20.00ea X 2	\$40.00
Not so Budget Total	\$199.00

\*All prices are from [www.lightflightrc.com](http://www.lightflightrc.com) I have met Dave personally, and he is a trustworthy vendor and his prices are extremely competitive.

### Minutes for the December 2005 Holiday Party/Meeting

- The party started at 4:30pm the food and drink was enjoyed by all 43 people in attendance.
- SVF President Mark Penikas opened the general meeting at 18:12.
- The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.
- Mark Penikas welcomes everyone and checks off Dinner, 2006 Election, and the Raffle off his list.
- Mark Penikas states that the AMA has stated the Safety Officer must be elected for 2006.
- Mike Reiber & Les Littlefield declined the nominations for Newsletter Editor and Secretary.
- Mark Penikas shows his "magical list" of kits he is selling due to his emending move to Arizona.
- Mark Penikas Presents the board members with their Plaques and shows special Plaques for Harvey Bushong and Bill Stullick.
- Mark Penikas thanks the board for the extra help over the recent months, and for the 3 years as president.
- SVF Vice President Dale Chalinor presents Mark Penikas with a special Plaque, and His Wife Debbie with a gift certificate to a Day Spa.
- Mark Penikas thanks Rosellen Curtis for getting the raffle gifts for the ladies at the party.
- Dale Chalinor motions that the club extends a lifetime membership to Mark Penikas, it is seconded (and thirded, forthed etc) and passes unanimously.
- Mark Penikas thanks Mike Reiber and Rick Rupel for the new flight box.
- Mark Penikas thanks the "Gopher Squadron" for the new run-up pad.

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- Mark Penikas announces the results for the 2006 SVF Executive Board:
  - President-Alan Hoff
  - Vice President-Jeff Raven
  - Membership Chairman-Andy Weir
  - Treasurer-Bob Fricke
  - Newsletter Editor-Rick Rupel
  - Safety Officer-Curt Adams
  - Secretary-Josh Fint

### New Business

- Josh Fint brings a Motion that the newsletter should be emailed out while a printed version can still be mailed for \$10.00 a year. The Motion is seconded and tabled until the January meeting due to much opposition. Ken Fricke states that the newsletter is always posted on the web site (usually before it is mailed). Al Hoff points out that the club tried it several years ago but scraped the idea due to lack of turnout at meetings and other club events.
- Mark Penikas states that the club still has some "logo gear" left from the first order.
- Mark Penikas states that the flags will be in soon and needs some help to put them up.
- Al Hoff states that there were 74 newsletters sent out.
- Josh Fint states that he has contacted a manufacturer that will discount the planes by \$20.00 for a group order for the "combat" meets. He will have more info at the January meeting.
- Mark Penikas thanks Nicole Raven for picking the raffle tickets.
- The Raffle took in \$190.00.

-Jeff Raven 2005 Secretary-

P.S. Thanks to everyone for putting up with all my asking for names at the meetings and club events, remembering faces is something I have always been horrible at.

### For Sale:

Contact-Patricia Neff at [patricia.neff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patricia.neff@sbcglobal.net)

1. Cox Flyboy Elec. 1/12 scale RC plane 27" wingspan 20" long #90440
2. Cox Sundance PN 94604070 55" wingspan 35" length
3. Cobra Digital Proportional R/C 2 channel Guidance Sys #918320 A (in separate box)
4. Cox R/C E-Z Bee sport #90480, 55" wingspan 31" length Single channel failsafe Radio control sys
5. EZ R/C Elec. sailplane Luta 1700E

### Wanted:

Carburetor for .28 size "Brat" 2-stroke.  
Al Hoff (805-581-2884)

## **2006 CALENDAR R/C EVENTS**

VENTURA

COUNTY & AROUND (By Ron Scott)

### **January**

28 Camarillo Flying Circus – Fun fly.

### **March**

18 – 19 IMAC @ Bear Mountain – Bakersfield, CA

25 – 26 Float Fly – Lake Cachuma – SBRCM club only

### **April**

1-2? IMAC Las Vegas NE, (Tentative date)

22-23 Float Fly, @ Lake Casitas. (Comets)

29-30 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Giants event @ Condor field

### **May**

5-7 San Diego – Mid Winter Electrics @ Mission Bay

[www.sefsd.org](http://www.sefsd.org)

6-7 RCX Hobby Show @ Anaheim Convention Center.

[www.RCX.com](http://www.RCX.com)

15? Comets – Float-Fly –**Full Scale** and models on floats @ main ramp (Club members only)

13-14 Float Fly – Lake Perris – per Oscar Weingart

20-21? IMAC @ Riverside, @ Perris CA (Tentative date)

26-29 Castle Air Force Base (near Merced) - Giant Scale

### **June**

3-4? IMAC @ Oakdale CA (Tentative date)

9-11 Float Fly - Lake Cachuma

24 – 25 Simi Valley – Construction derby – Andy Weir

### **July**

4 Robin's night fly @ Robin's Hobbies field

8-9? IMAC @ Livermore CA (Tentative Date)

22-23 IMAC @ Condors Field, Camarillo, CA

### **August**

3 – 14 Static display, Ventura County Fair

19-20 IMAC San Diego @ Chula Vista, CA

### **September**

9-10 IMAC Salinas, @ Salinas CA

9-10? Float Fly @ Lake Castaic

16? Freemont R/C Flea Market & Swap meet

<http://www.baysiderclub.com/>

### **October**

7-8? Glider Festival @ Visalia, CA

28-29 Lake Cachuma Float Fly

? Float Fly @ Comets Lake Casitas

16-17? Float Fly @ Lake McSwane

28-29 Lake Cachuma Float Fly

25-29 Tucson Aerobatic Shootout – Like TOC

check [www.desertaircraft.com](http://www.desertaircraft.com)

### **November**

11 War Bird Day @ Condors Field

10-12? Float Fly, @ London Bridge, @Windsor Beach Park, Lake Havasu, Az. (Desert Hawks R/C Club)

18-20? Float Fly @ Comets – Club members only.

Thank you Ron Scott for the great info!