



# NEWSLETTER

and MEETING NOTICE

August 3, 1976

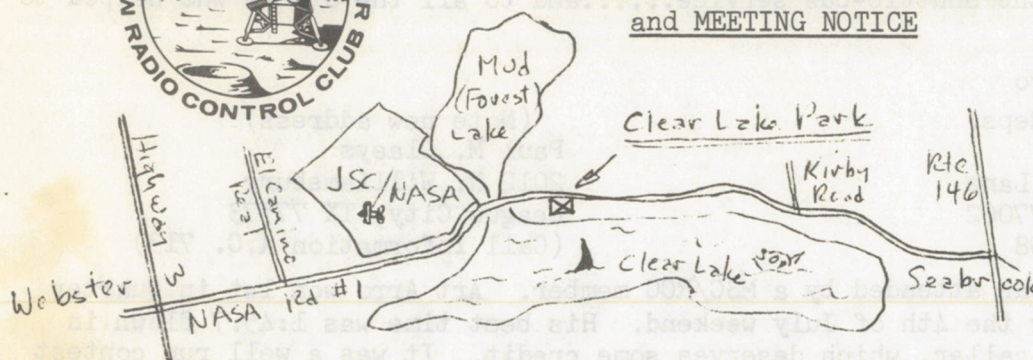
Date: Thursday, Aug 12, 1976

Time: 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Place: CLEAR LAKE PARK BLDG.

on NASA Rd. #1  
(see map)

Program: "Finishes" by  
Melvin Reed



HAPPY NATS WEEK!!! Here we are in the middle of the "Biggie" of the year -- the AMA Nationals! Hope that all of the MSC/RCC members who are in Ohio right now are enjoying the festivities and will bring home some of the hardware. We should have lots of good pictures to look at pretty soon after they return.

MSC/RCC BICENTENNIAL RALLY or "WHERE DID ALL THE CONTESTANTS GO?" - The contest held on July 17-18 was successful in every way except the number of entries. Everyone seemed to enjoy it, the weather was good, field layout was excellent -- but, where were the contestants? Saturday - Fun Fly Day - produced a total of 9 entries in the Scramble and 8 in the Las Vegas events. Too bad, for these were set-up so that anyone with anything that would fly could participate. Maybe the air show at Ellington was too much competition! Anyway many thanks to Art Arro & Gil Symons who directed the events and Hal Rosenberg (and others) who helped with the timing, etc. The final results were:

## SCRAMBLE

1. Paul Claeys
2. Phil Vance
3. Art Arro

## LAS VEGAS!

1. Art Arro
2. Paul Claeys
3. Harvey Duck

Unfortunately, there were a couple of wipe-outs during these events, neither apparently caused by interference.

Sunday morning was even worse in terms of contestants! The Sport Biplane event had only 3 entries and one of these was Phil Vance's PT-17 which had been brought for Sport Scale. The "Sportsman Class" flight plan was used and the winners were: 1. Paul Claeys 2. Dennis Drysdale 3. Phil Vance. It's really sad about the turnout because several club members have biplanes which they could have brought. After all, anything with two wings was eligible since there were no scale bonus points awarded. Paul Claeys was the Event Director and judging was done by Don White and J. W. Smith.

Sport Scale fared very well with 9 entries! Aircraft included a B-25, Stearman PT-17, F4U Corsair, FW 190D, P-51B & P-51D Mustangs, Fairey Fulmar, J-3 Cub, and a (sort-of) Sorceress racing plane. Static judging was done Sunday morning while the biplane event was flown. Two rounds were flown Sunday afternoon to get an average-of-two score. Once again, tragedy struck!! Owen Morris' B-25, Don White's P-51D, and Dennis Drysdale's Sorceress were totalled in unscheduled optional maneuvers called "vertical landings". None of these was interference, either. The hardware was collected by: 1. Mel Reed/P-51B 2. Don Williams/Fulmar 3. Don White/P-51D. Dave Church was the Event Director and he had persuaded Add Evans and Dick Sculley to come over from Port Arthur to do the judging. Tim Brown filled in as 3d judge. As an extra treat, Add Evans brought along his 1/3 scale Taylorcraft (that's like 12' of wing in one piece!) powered by a chain-saw engine. This was flown during lunch and was most impressive. We have now finally seen something that makes C. Palermo's J-3 Cub look almost small! Special thanks to Add and Dick for making the trip over -- and sitting out in the judges' hot-box for most of the afternoon.

And finally there were the unsung heroes of the weekend -- the workers!! Our usual thanks to Owen Morris, the ever-present CD.....to the ladies - Pat Thomasson, Moree Morris, Juliana Symons, and probably others who manned ("personned"?) the registration



and score-keeping area.....to Mike Gaudiano, Gil Symons, & John Kiker who arranged for the field equipment and grass-cutting.....to Charlie Palermo who made up the registration forms and provided most of the shuttle-bus service.....and to all the others who helped make this a fun weekend!!!

PYLON CORNER by Art Arro

MSRCC District 8 Reps.  
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(Note new address)  
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Only one race in July was attended by a MSC/RCC member. Art Arro won 1st in Quarter Midget in Sulphur, La., over the 4th of July weekend. His best time was 1:45.7 flown in the rain with an unfamiliar caller, which deserves some credit. It was a well run contest and it presented an opportunity to race against our Cajun Cousins over in La. A lot of discussion revolved around the District 8 "500 Class" rules and we'd have a lot more entries if Schnuerle engines would be permitted. This is where the interest lies in La. and we asked to be notified of any meets there since several of us Houstonians are ready to race no matter what the rules are!!

On the controversial subject of airplanes, it is this writer's opinion that winning races is more dependent on piloting skill rather than aircraft design. My best times, 1:10 on a Formula I course and 1:33 on a QM course (with muffler) were both flown with a "plain vanilla" Spickler Quickie 500 and an engine turning less than 14,500 RPM. I've flown RCM 15-500's and Slo-Pokes and don't feel these designs are any better than the Quickie. However, I plan to build Gale Helms' new Half-Fast design to see what it does.

Next year's rule proposals are coming in hot and heavy, but let's all remember to keep 500-Class racing low key, simple, and fun!!

The next area race will be held in Alvin, TX, on August 22. Paul Claeys is the CD, be sure to contact him at his new address for more details. The race will be jointly sponsored by the Alamo Hobby Distributors, the Houston Area Pylon Racing Association, and The Hobby Warehouse. The course will be the 2 mile AMA QM length to conform with the rest of the District. Fuel (15%) will be provided and no mufflers are required. Show your support for 500-Class racing and plan now to attend. It will be a good race!

SPACE SHUTTLE - Hope all of you have seen the pictures and stories recently in our magazines concerning the John Kiker-Owen Morris 1/40 scale Orbiter and Boeing 747 which John talked about at the last club meeting. They have recently gone back to flying the Orbiter off of the Sterling "Gazariator" since it is quicker, easier, and can operate off of our flying field. Current studies concern the differences in flight performance with the Orbiter tail-cone both on and off. The new Model Builder has a page on this.

SAFETY - Also hope that you have seen some of the recent "horror stories" in our magazines. Fiberglass catalyst splashed in the eye cannot be stopped -- it will destroy the tissue regardless of how well and quickly it is washed out. Instant glue, of course is causing many serious problems. The latest story concerns the explosion of a metal fuel can when it shorted across battery terminals. The name of the game is BE CAREFUL and BE SMART!!!

That does it for this month. In addition to the free door prize (gallon of fuel) at the meeting, there will also be a raffle. Don't forget -- August 12th!!

*Tim Brown*