

# PEAK CHARGE

*Dedicated to the promotion of electric propulsion in all types of aeromodeling.*

SEFSD Newsletter

November 2001

Volume XI Issue XI

## CALENDAR

### October Meeting

7:00 pm November 27, 2001  
Automotive Museum, Balboa Park

Electro Glide Saturday  
December 1 at 9:15 am

Christmas Dinner and  
December meeting on  
December 9, 2001 at Tom  
Hamm's LightHouse

## NOVEMBER RAFFLE

Three ARF kits.  
Pair of servos.  
Battery.  
ESC.  
And others.

**hitec**

**San Diego Mid-Winter Electrics**

Presented by  
the Silent Electric Flyers of San Diego, Hitec RCD and Model Airplane News

Come to the West Coast's largest Electric Airplane event in warm, sunny San Diego, California and enjoy up to 4 days of electric airplane flying on our new hard surface runway at beautiful Mission Bay. San Diego is a great family vacation destination, just minutes from the world famous San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, Sea World, and other parks and attractions. This year's new format will include fewer events and **MORE OPEN FLYING.**

**Events**

- Speed 400 Electroglide
- Speed 400 Pylon
- Sky Scooter Pylon
- Sky Scooter "All-Up, Last Down"
- Limbo Combat

**Demos Include**

- Helicopters
- Aerobatics
- Ducted Fans
- FSB and FSD

**Prizes**

Hitec sponsored \$1500 pilots raffle  
PLUS \$2000 open "buy a ticket" raffle

**Supplier Booths**

Aero-Model, Airtronics, Astro-flight, Aveox, Cavazos Sailplanes, Diversity Models, Electric Jet Factory, EMS Jomar, Hobby Club, Hobby People, K&A Models, Leisure Electronics of Downey, Peak Electronics, R/C Direct, Sheelair

**Information**

For information on events, schedules, accommodations and for pre-registration form, see [www.sefsd.org](http://www.sefsd.org) or contact **Bill Everitt** at:  
Phone (760) 753-1055  
Fax (760) 633-2271  
Email [bill-everitt@cs.com](mailto:bill-everitt@cs.com)  
or **Glen Merritt** at (951) 748-6948 x310

**When**

President's Day Weekend  
Friday thru Monday  
(Open Flying Monday)  
Feb. 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2002

**Where**

The NEW, easy to find  
Silent Electric Flyers  
"hard surface" flying field,  
directly east of the Sea World  
parking lot. See web site for  
detailed directions.

**How Much \$**

Fri-Sun \$15 a day or  
\$25 for all 3 days  
Monday is FREE!

**Indoor Flying**

Last year we featured a  
popular indoor flying  
opportunity and this year, we  
hope to do the same. Check  
the web site or call for  
updated times and locations  
for this event.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

**Airplane**

**hitec**

# Mission Statement

The objective of the Silent Electric Flyers of San Diego is to promote and further the technology of electric powered R/C aeromodeling: encourage competition in Electric Soaring, Pylon Racing, FAI-F5B/D, Scale, Old Timer, and Pattern Electric categories by hosting major Industry sponsored events and sanctioning "Fun-Fly" types of contests; provide forums for the exchange of technical information, instruction and experience; and participate in demonstrations of electric propulsion in area wide model aviation events.

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## Silent Electric Flyers of San Diego

### Club Information

Web Site: <http://sefsd.org/>

#### 2001 Officers

President Wayne Walker  
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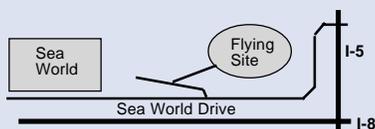
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#### Flying Site

Located one half mile East of  
Sea World on Sea World Drive  
at South Shores Park Drive



#### Membership or Subscription

\$25 per year, \$15 for subscription only. \$10 for under 18 or additional family member. Mail to the Subscription Secretary: Dennis Collins, 5150 Corte Playa Catalina, San Diego, CA 92124.

The SEFSD annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2001 at Tom Hamm's Lighthouse restaurant on Harbor Island. The dinner is a 7 pm or there about with a cocktail hour (or so) beginning at 6 pm. The cost for this affair is \$25 per person, or \$50 per couple.

You can sign-up at the November meeting on November 27. If you are unable to attend the club meeting but wish to attend the Christmas Party, contact Wayne Walker at 284-6119 or email at [Wayne@Walker.org](mailto:Wayne@Walker.org). For you folks in north county, call Bill Evertt 753-1055 or email him at [Billeveritt@cs.com](mailto:Billeveritt@cs.com).

This year there is a special treat. The annual "Parade of Lights" will take place on December 9 and can be viewed from Tom Hamm's Lighthouse. The view from the second floor is spectacular, a good 180 degrees.

The quality of the meal served by Tom Hamm's is just outstanding and the affair is always great fun and camaraderie. Be there!

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At the last meeting for the year 2001 will be a discussion and demonstration of "Muffling the Zagi". The high pitch whine of these models has created a need for an attempt to reduce the noise at the Mission Bay flying site. If you fly one these, plan to attend the meeting and join the discussion.

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Several years ago, the club developed a servo tester kit. These kits sold for \$18. There are still about 6 of these kits still available. If you are interest, contact Charlie White at 619-223-8903 or better yet, email at [charliewhite@home.com](mailto:charliewhite@home.com). The kits are complete, check with Don Wemple or Warren Eding who just recently complete one of these kits.

# October Meeting Minutes

By Tom DeShon

## Introduction –

The October meeting was called to order on 10/23/01. There were a few visitors/new members. Jerry Kronovet and Don Propper both fly Ezettes; and Randy Ritter is new and interested in the hobby.

## Old Biz –

As discussed in the last few meetings, the new field proposal is still moving forward. Apparently, the drainage plan must be redone and reviewed. If any members have access to used telephone poles or the use of a water truck, the club would gladly accept the donation.

The club's video library has been stable for quite some time now. As always, donations are accepted and videos of more current topics/events would be greatly appreciated.

There are still some "club" sponsored products for sale. T-shirts, polos, and club patches may still be available for sale at the meetings and at the field on selected weekends. Please see Wayne Walker.

## New Biz –

### Club Competition –

The S400 Electroglide will take place Saturday, 10/17 at 9:15 AM. This event always occurs on the Saturday following the monthly meeting. A change in rules was announced for the future. All Junior pilots, 17 years old and under, will now be able to fly any configuration of plane regardless of motor size or cell count. Future competitions are planned for 9:15 AM on 12/1, and 12/29. The F5B Selection Trials was completed this past weekend (10/19 – 10/21). The world championships will be held in Switzerland on 7/12/02 – 7/21/02. Events were held in three different categories: F5B, 7-cell, and 10-cell. The results were:

### F5B

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Steve Neu

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Thomas Pils

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Jeff Keesaman

4<sup>th</sup> Place – Dieter Manheim

5<sup>th</sup> Place – David Pitcairn

### 7-Cell Competition

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bruce Flockheart

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Eric Swensen

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Dieter Manheim

### 10-Cell Competition

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bruce Flockheart

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Wayne Walker

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Steve Belknap

### Club Programs -

The 2002 MWE (Mid-Winter Electric) is scheduled for 2/15/02 – 2/18/02. This year's new format will include fewer events and more open flying. Currently the formal events are: Speed 400 Electroglide, Speed 400 Pylon, Sky Scooter Pylon, Sky Scooter "all up, last down", and a Limbo Combat contest. Demos include Helicopters, Aerobatics, Ducted Fans, and F5B and F5D. Suppliers will be on hand as usual. The cost will be \$15 a day or \$25 for the entire event. An indoor flying event is still in the works but not yet defined.

The annual Christmas Dinner will be held at Tom Ham's Lighthouse restaurant on 12/9. Last year was a lot of fun and this year should be more of the same. Everyone is welcome and more details will follow.

## Other Events –

The Weed Wackers club in Lakeside is sponsoring its annual Warbird Fly-In on 11/10/01 at Cactus Park. Competition includes civilian and military scale planes, both flying as well as static display. Current members of San Diego flying clubs (with valid club and AMA card) will receive free registration and lunch. All other pilots must pay \$10 for registration and \$4 for lunch.

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Otay Lake Float Plane Fly-In is scheduled for 11/18/01. Cost to fly is \$10 and there is no fee to watch/park.

Morley Field Pilots are having their annual swap meet on 12/8/01 at 7:00 AM. More detailed information relative to these events is available at local hobby stores.

## Special Presentations / Internal Events–

Nominations were accepted for the Club elected positions below. Voting and any additional nominations will take place at the November meeting.

President – Bill Knoll

Vice President – Tom DeShon

Secretary – Tim Ardoin

Treasurer – Mike Neale

Editor – Charlie White and Bob Davis

Safety Officer – Steve Neu

Membership Secretary – Dennis Collins

## Safety, Safety, Safety....

There was no specific discussion regarding safety at this evening's meeting.

## The Training Program-

The club simulator is again available for loan. As a note, this software requires an 8mb (or larger) video card and 366 Mhz operating system to run properly. See Bill Knoll with questions.

## How To-

Tonight's "How-To" was a demonstration of fiberglass repair methods. Mike Morgan happened to have a "real live" example to explain. Doug "Was that my plane?" Rubin had an "event" with his fiberglass hot-liner last Saturday. The fuselage was in numerous pieces. Mike started with ca glue and a squirt bottle of zapping agent. The first thing Mike does is to rough up the inside surface where he believes repair epoxy and fiberglass will eventually be placed. He then takes each piece and test fits it back into its original position. Once satisfied with the fit, Mike places a drop of glue to hold it and zaps it with the kicker. He continues in this fashion until the shape of the fuse is back to its original configuration. For the structural repair, Mike lays up the fiberglass and epoxy internally over the repaired area. Cosmetic repairs are made on the exterior surface by filling with a mix of epoxy and micro-balloons. This is then sanded and painted. Mike explained that his entire repair of a partially destroyed fuselage took him about two hours. The finished product looked great and Doug commented that he flew it the very next day and had no problems.

## Show & Tell-

Bill Knoll (in an attempt to fly something even smaller than Mike Blott usually flies) brought an ultra-small rubber powered foam plane that he has converted to electric R/C. It primarily uses micro gear and has yet to be flown.

Bill also brought his new float plane, a fiberglass PBY Catalina. He flies it on two Pro-Maxx cobalt motors (similar in size to a S400) with 8-2400 MAh cells using a 6 x 5.5 prop.

Mike Morgan brought his new Electro Streak that has been modified to perform more like a 3D aerobatic plane. Mike flies it using an Aveox 1005/2Y motor, 4 x 1 Maxon gearbox, and a 9 x 4 prop on 10 cells. The plane weighs approximately 42 oz.

Ray Fulks brought his new Extra 300 ARF. Ray powers it with an Aveox 1409/2Y motor and 2.38 gearbox. It uses a 14 x 8 prop, flies on 12 cells and pulls approximately 70 amps.

Steve Neu brought his contest plane, an Avionik 2001 F5B competition model. Steve is using a Kontronic motor with 17-inch prop on 24 cells. The plane has 4 wing servos for ailerons as well as flaps and makes about 250 watts/lb. Vertical performance is not a problem.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30 PM.

There will be no PEAK CHARGE newsletter for December 2001. The next newsletter issue will be January 2002.

## TREASURERS REPORT 2001.

The bank account began the year at \$19,350 and I estimate it will close the year at approximately \$25,209.

Thus our net income for 2001 has been \$5,859 – well done!

Subscriptions, flying members (\$25) and newsletter only members (\$15) accounted for \$4,230 income. The other main income sources were the Mid Winter Electrics (net income \$3,008) and sponsorship from Hitec (\$1000).

Our most significant expenses have been the Peak Charge newsletter (\$1,957) and our membership of the Automotive Museum (\$150).

We have now been recognized as a Tax Exempt Organization by the IRS.

As before Bill Everitt has run an excellent raffle using the sales of raffle tickets to buy the next month's prizes. So we have broken even on the raffle.

Dennis Collins has been a great help this year by running our membership activities. Here is what has to say:

The evidence is in - electric flying is the way of the future. An indication of this trend is clearly visible in our club with the addition of 75 new members this year. We now stand with a membership of 224 pilots plus an additional 17 newsletter members. This year is coming to a close and membership in both the club and AMA will be due. Please assure that you acquire your AMA renewal, as it is a requirement to fly at the field. Your money is willingly accepted by me at any meeting or by mailing it to me at:

Dennis Collins, 5150 Corte Playa Catalina, San Diego, CA 92124.

As we did this year current members need not fill in application forms to renew for 2002. Just send Dennis any changes to your information when you renew. SEFSD membership runs from January to December. If you do not renew your membership by March we will stop sending you Peak Charge and assume you are no longer a member.

Flying membership for 2002 will be \$25. Non flying, newsletter only, membership will be \$15. New members joining later than July will get a reduced membership fee of \$10. New members joining in November or December will get free membership until the next January when they join up with everyone else.

San Diego Electroglide  
Results of October 27th, 2001

Flight	One	Two	Three	Total
Don Wemple (Pulsar)	45	38	45	128
Tim Ardoin (Sunbird)	50	18	57	125
Tom DeShon (Sunbird)	0	30	75	105
Larry Brown (E-Joy 1.5)	36	34	26	96

Apologies, apologies.....but that's what happens if you wait until the publication deadline to write up contest events!

However, we seem to have uncovered a new literary talent in our club! I propose that the author (not me -- I would never misspell my own name!) start a new regular column in "Peak Charge". Refreshing, yes indeed!.

What can I say about this months Electroglide? Well, I hung on!! I was lucky enough to peg all three landings within the 30 foot lines -- the first time I've ever been able to do that! I know that that's old stuff to one of our regular Electrogliders , Bill Knoll. But Bill forgot that this was the day and left his airplane home!!

Tim and Tom were able to catch that elusive thermal on the last flight. I couldn't hang on at all. They had great 9 minute flights. Not too bad with a 40 second motor run! Larry is a fast learner with his E-Joy and was right up there in the scoring,too.

Sadly there were no younger pilots this month. Remember that there are no restrictions for those 17 and younger -- just that your motors stop at the CD's command. Join us next month. The November Electroglide will be Saturday, December 1st with the first launch at 9:15 AM.

If you need further information regarding the rules and regulations, call me at (619) 469-5566 or e-mail me at <DonK126@cts.com>.  
Don Wemple

Got Brake?  
by Don Wemple

## SEFSD Video List

## October 2001

1994 KRC Electric Fly  
 1996 KRC Electric Fly  
 1997 KRC Electric Fly  
 1996 London Bridge Seaplane Classic  
 1996 NATS Highlights  
 2000 San Diego Midwinter Electrics  
 A-10 Warthog  
 Airborne R/C Video ( In-flight video )  
 Airplane ( Joe Wurts )  
 Airforce Top Gun  
 Basic Construction for Beginners  
 Building with Foam  
 Byron Originals show season 1985  
 Celebration of Eagles ( AMA )  
 Combat Models / F-16  
 Desert Storm/ Tornado  
 Double Eagle  
 Electric Flight ( Building & Flying )  
 Electric Flight & Schneider Cup  
 Electrifying the FANTASY  
 Endless Lift  
 Float Flying – John Sullivan  
 Gas to Electric Conversions  
 Let's get serious about Electric Flight  
 Mini-Max Motor Gliders  
 Monokote I  
 Monokote II  
 Polyspan Covering Instructions  
 Power for performance Electric Flight  
 QSAA Fly-In 1994 ( Vol. 1 )  
 QSAA Fly-In 1994 ( Vol. 2 )  
 Schneider Sport Electric  
 Speedy Bee / Lazy Bee – Clancy Aviation  
 T-Birds  
 U.S. AirCore building tips  
 Vacume Bagging tips  
 Warbirds over Schenectady  
 Wring it Out ( Vol. 1 )  
 Wring it Out ( Vol. 2 )

Got Brake?  
 by Don Wemple

The AstroFlight 215D speed controller is a good one. It was recommended to me over two years ago by Bruce Cronkhite when we were considering possible power train combinations for the upcoming Speed 400, F5B event at the Midwinter Electrics. One of its best aspects is its brake. It really stops the prop instantly, allowing it to fold so that one can enter the course without any worry of a windmilling prop and its subsequent drag. We had a lot of fun in that MWE, but interest in Speed 400 F5B seemed to drop off.

Still not giving up on the concept of speed 400 F5B (it's cheap, challenging, and lots of fun), here I was in 2001 with a new 1.3 meter ship, the Honey Electric from Northeast Sailplanes -- a perfect candidate for the event. I used the same power train -- 4.8v Graupner, 4.5:1 planetary gearbox, 7 cell pack of 500AR's and a relatively new AstroFlight 215D.

On the first flight the Honey flew perfectly, but seemed to have a rather poor glide ratio once power was cut. As the ship got nearer the ground I noticed that the prop was windmilling. What happened to the brake? The next week, I changed to another 215D supposing that for one reason or another, the brake function just didn't work on that controller. Still the windmilling!

I told my story to all the guru's including my main one, Professor Cronkhite. Ideas were put forth. I even went so far as to buy a pair of Schottky diodes at Hobby People. However, before I installed one of them, I thought about calling up AstroFlight to see if they might know what my problem might be.

Well, it took about a week -- seems as though all the engineers were up on the roof for one reason or another. I finally got "Astro Bob", told him the story of my windmilling prop, and then -- Revelation! He asked, "When did you buy your 215D's?" I told him that it was within the last year. "Well..... about a year or so ago we did some tweaking on the circuit board to improve the controller and the brake got WIMPY (his word!) in the process!" "Later we improved the brake so that all the controllers produced after July 2001 have good brakes". I said, "Send me one!"

End of the story! I have the new controller installed and the Honey will fly day after tomorrow, hopefully with a quickly folding prop when the power is cut!

P. S. All the AstroFlight products are dated as to their manufacture. If you want a good brake, get a 215D marked 0701 or later!

Mr. Town, A toy airplane, is a thing you wind up with a key, and it rolls along the floor" from the movie "Flight of the Phoenix"

# Membership Application

NAME: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

AMA NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Note: AMA Membership **Required**

Flying membership \$25, Newsletter only membership \$15. Join after July \$10. Bring to club meeting or mail with copy of AMA card and check to **Subscription Secretary: Dennis Collins, 5150 Corte Playa Catalina, San Diego, CA 92124.** Do not mail your application or subscription to the SEFSD newsletter.

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SEFSD c/o Charlie White  
4420 Ladera Street  
San Diego CA 92107

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