



Northwest Skyraiders Newsletter  
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AMA Charter #330  
September, 2007

## NEW FLYING SITE AT CHEHALIS AIRPORT

Thanks to the efforts of our new C/L show team, the "Skyraiders Flying Circus," we have a new flying site at the Chehalis-Centralia Airport.

The team put on such a good show at the airport's Air Fair 2007 celebration on July 27-28 that the airport board not only invited us back for next year but also granted permission to use the site for the rest of the year.

Team members were: Walt Russell, Bill Darkow, Doug Oertli, Ron Cannan, Ben Jones & wife, Gary DuBois & wife as well as Leo Mehl and Jim Cameron from the NW Fireballs.

Site is a concrete-surfaced 150-ft. diameter painted circle on the apron of an abandoned runway. There's also room for a grass circle and plenty of parking and pit area. Site is fenced with access controlled through an electronic-coded gate.

### CONDITIONS OF USE

1. Control Line Model Airplanes Only.
2. NW Skyraiders Members & Guests Only.
3. All Flyers & Pit Crew members must have valid AMA licenses.
4. Please notify Bill Darkow (360) 273-0320, Walt Russell (253) 833-3988 or Doug Oertli (360) 330-5774 at least 24 hours

before you plan to fly at the site so one of them can open the gate for you.

5. Parking preferred on concrete-surfaced area, but grass area may be used if necessary.
6. No parking close to hangar near the flying site.
7. Muffled engines preferred.
8. All appropriate safety requirements listed by the AMA, such as wrist thongs, must be followed.
9. AMA Flying Site Owner's Insurance must be in force.
10. Remember that we are their guests using their property and act accordingly.

Driving directions and map on page 2 of this newsletter.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING THINLY ATTENDED

Despite plenty of advance notice on our website, only two officers: Steve Helmick, Dave Gardner and six members showed up for our meeting at the Masonic Lodge in Auburn. There was a lot of discussion about the Stevenson Memorial Meet at Sand Point on September 22-23.

Since our June, July and August meetings were canceled, we may simply have fallen out of the routine of attending club meetings.

Our bylaws state, "Regular business meetings will be held on the third Friday (now amended to the second Thursday) of each month unless otherwise scheduled by

majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting and upon due notification of the membership.”

How about it? What can we do to increase participation in our meetings? Should we try to operate the club without regular monthly meetings? (That would mean changing our by-laws.)

## NW SKYRAIDERS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULED THURSDAY, OCT. 11<sup>th</sup> from 7pm – 9pm at the MASONIC LODGE IN AUBURN.

Agenda: Nomination of Officers for 2008-2009

Program: Indoor Electric Speed

## AUBURN GOOD OLD DAYS C/L DEMO BIG SUCCESS

Blessed with good weather both days, the “Skyriders Flying Circus” rescued this Aug. 11-12 event from the scrap heap and turned it into a good C/L show. Although it was originally canceled, team members dug in with “the show must go on” spirit and reorganized it successfully – complete with BBQ!

Vern Bryant did an especially good job with the mower and showed how to put an end to all the complaints about long grass. Way to go Vern!

Dave Gardner and Rod Claus came through with a gas-fired BBQ, meat and condiments as well as an awning shelter from the sun. Caroline Darkow played chef and was rewarded with a birthday cake.

Oh, yeah. There was also some outstanding showmanship with C/L flying. One of the highlights was Walt Russell’s impressive stunting Gruman F-7-F “Tigercat” twin. Your editor got in some pretty good licks with his “Bi-Slob” novelty stunter. That thing is pure FUN!

A camera crew from a local access TV channel interviewed Rod and Dave and shot some flight footage. Dave made a public plea for a local flying site but no word of any results yet.

Chehalis Airport



### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

1. Take Exit 79 (Chamber Way) from I-5.
2. Turn RIGHT at first light. Go approx. 1 block.
3. Turn LEFT at 2nd light onto NW Louisiana Ave.
4. Follow that to 1<sup>st</sup> major intersection.
5. Turn RIGHT onto NW Airport Way.
6. Follow that to Airport Entrance sign.
7. Turn RIGHT onto airport entrance road.
8. Follow that approx. 1/4mi. to electronic gate.

## NEW EDITOR

One thing that was accomplished at our September meeting was a “changing of the editor” for THE SKYWRITER. Dave Gardner (gladly) turned the job over to Bill Darkow.

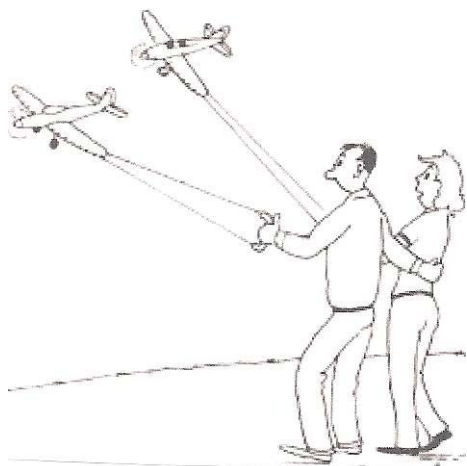
As your new editor, I welcome any contributions you may have: how-to articles, pictures, drawings, news articles, contest reports, suggestions, etc. that you believe will benefit the club and are appropriate for the newsletter.

I do reserve the right to edit all contributions for language mechanics, space considerations and appropriate content.

The newsletter has been removed from the web-site and will now be sent to current members via e-mail.

## NEW CONTEST DIRECTOR

As of this month, Walt Russell has passed the AMA test and is now a certified Contest Director. Congratulations, Walt!



When you said, “Lets go for a spin, I thought you meant something else.”

## RESULTS

by Joe Just

### Columbia Basin Fall Classic

#### Saturday, Sept. 15

##### Classic Stunt

1. Pat Johnson 552
2. John Miller 513
3. Mike Foley 455
4. Mark S. 369
5. Todd Ryan 309
6. Dave Miller 179

##### Profile Stunt

1. Pat Johnson 444
2. Mark Scarbouro 433
3. David Miller 205

##### Clown Race

1. Todd Ryan 301 laps
2. Dave Miller 88 laps

#### Sunday, Sept. 16

##### Precision Aerobatics

##### Intermediate

- Mark S. 434

##### Advanced

- Mike Haverly 476

##### Expert

1. Howard Rush 576
2. Pat Johnson 552

## HOW OUR CLUB WORKS

(A series on the Skyraiders inner workings)

## WHO ARE THESE GUYS?

### Executive Committee:

President:

Rod Claus ..... (253) 631-0992

[kraut180@yahoo.com](mailto:kraut180@yahoo.com)

V.P./Webmaster:

Steve Helmick ..... (425) 255-1887

[sbasser@yahoo.com](mailto:sbasser@yahoo.com)

Sec'y./Treas.:

Thadd Fausset ..... (360) 893-5786

[thaddiii@comcast.net](mailto:thaddiii@comcast.net)

Safety Officer:

Dave Gardner ..... (425) 235-5190

Registered Agent [davegardner55@msn.com](mailto:davegardner55@msn.com)

According to our bylaws, the Executive Committee should consist of the club officers and one Member-At-Large. We've added Webmaster to the Vice-President's duties since Steve is computer-literate and agreed to accept it. However, Webmaster is not an executive position. Neither is Newsletter Editor.

We've combined the other positions and left off the Member-At-Large who is appointed by the President. Registered Agent is required by the State of Washington as a contact person to maintain our non-profit organization status. He is appointed by the Executive Committee.

The intent of having an Executive Committee is to streamline the business phase of our meetings so the social aspects of meetings can be enjoyed by the members. Executive Committee meetings, which are open to all members, are determined by the President and announced in the newsletter.

The Executive Committee guides the general business operations of the club and sets the agenda for the regular monthly meetings.

The order of business at regular monthly meetings should be:

1. Call to Order.
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report.
4. Reading of any correspondence.
5. Committee Reports.
6. Old Business.
7. New Business.
8. Introducing Guests.
9. Introducing New Members.
10. Adjournment.
11. Program, Show & Tell, Socializing.

**(Next month: ELECTIONS ISSUE : YOUR OFFICERS & THEIR DUTIES)**

## WANTED: A FEW FUN FLYERS

The "Skyriders Flying Circus" needs your participation! Organized this year by Bill Darkow, Walt Russell and Doug Oertli to help the Skyriders promote C/L model aviation, the team has already enjoyed a couple of successful performances. (See earlier stories.)

Plans for 2008 include return engagements to those venues and as many others as we can line up. Potential sites include: community celebrations, aviation museums, airports, etc.. For example, Paine Field celebrates General Aviation Day in May, the Olympic Air Museum stages the Olympic Air Show at the Olympia Airport in June and McChord AFB may bring back their show in July .

What's also needed are flyers willing to commit to at least one C/L line demo show in 2008. It's a lot of fun. You get to fly at an interesting site in front of an appreciative crowd. In addition to the usual stunt routine, you can get creative with "novelty flying" such as streamer or banner towing, smoke trail, glider pick-up, two-up maneuvering, staged combat, throttle flying, weird "flying machines," etc. You're limited only by your imagination and your performing skill.

So how about it? Start planning now to get in on next year's action.



I thought the PLANE was supposed to do the stunting.

## STEVENSON MEMORIAL MEET – BEST FOR LAST

The Skyraiders last meet of the year turned out to be one of the best - good Fall weather, well-run with plenty of participation – 18 entrants. It didn't start out that way with CD Dave Gardner and the set-up crew getting drenched Friday evening Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. Saturday dawned cool, cloudy and a little breezy but by noon it had cleared, warmed, calmed and stayed that way thru Sunday.

Paul Walker, Steve Helmick, Bob Parker, Bruce Hunt, Dan Rutherford, Pat Johnston, John Thompson, Mike Haverly, Mike Conner and Randy Powell split the judging duties. Scoresheet runner was Pete Ferguson. Tabulators: Howard Rush, Paul Walker and Dave Gardner. Pit Boss: Vern Bryant.

### OT STUNT, NW PROFILE, CLASSIC

OT Stunt saw the closest finish ever with Bob Smiley edging Mike Conner by .25 of a point! Buzz Wilson and Ken Burdick followed at a respectful distance. Ken's diesel-powered Super Clown blew some elevator hinges which resulted in an unplanned hard landing.

In NW Profile, the top three were closely bunched with Pat Johnston at 509, Dan Rutherford with 501.5 and Bob Smiley at 493. Randy Powell, Rick Cochran and Mike Scarborough rounded out the rest of the field.

Classic was another close finish with Bruce Hunt edging Pat Johnston - 514 to 511. Mike Haverly took third at 481 with Bob Smiley not far behind at 469. Dan Rutherford, Mark Scarborough and John Thompson finished out the field.

### 1/2-A, 80 MPH COMBAT

1/2-A Combat was fought out among Gary Harris, Mark Hansen, Ken Burdick, Jeff Rein and Buzz Wilson with Jeff taking first, Gary second and Ken third.

80 mph Combat was led by Jeff Rein followed by Robert Smith, Don McKay and Gary Harris in that order.

### INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED, AND EXPERT PRECISION AEROBATICS

Buzz Wilson had Beginner Stunt all to himself with his old reliable Ringmaster.

Rick Cochran and Mark Scarborough dueled it out in Intermediate with Rick coming out on top.

Advanced saw Mike Haverly winning with John Thompson, Jeff Rein, Bob Parker, and Mike Connor following in line.

E-Power prevailed in Expert with Paul Walker and his Impact XLE taking the top spot. Howard Rush and his RO Jett 65-powered Impact came in second. Pat Johnston placed third with Bruce Hunt, Dan Rutherford and Randy Powell rounding out the field.

Overall Champion and Crocks Pot Winner was Pat Johnston.



John Thompson gets away in Classic Stunt.