



# THE AERIAL VIEW

## A Publication of the Las Vegas Radio Control Club

October 2008

### IMAC SW Regional Championships a Huge Success!

Contest Director Tim May led a successful IMAC (International Miniature Aerobatic Club) Regional at Bennett Field on Sept. 26-28 hosted by LVRC. Over 40 pilots attended this event.



To fully experience the power of these scale models you had to be there. How would you like a thrust-to-weight ratio greater than 1-to-1? Well, OK, a ratio of 1-to-1 is very uncommon but models of 2-to-1 are typical and some may be 3-to-1.

There was some 40 percent scale aircraft on the flightline. Twin-cylinder gas engines that are 9.0 cubic inches (150 cc) and produce close to 20-hp power these large-scale models! Why so big? Size does count. Typically, 40 percent aircraft weigh 35 to 40 pounds and this combination of power, weight and size tend to fly and present themselves better than

their smaller cousins. But size alone does not make you a winner. Some highly skilled pilots won in their class flying smaller aircraft.

The Freestyle event contained incredible maneuvers, including some really wild stuff called "3-1". How about starting a torque roll at 10 feet above the ground and letting it slide back to the runway surface, torque rolling all the way, touching the rudder on the ground and then going to full power shooting up like a rocket. Or how about doing the "elevator?" This is a very high alpha maneuver where the aircraft is pitched up to about 60 degrees with zero



ground speed and then descends to a landing. There are many more freestyle maneuvers and this type of flying could be the subject of an article itself. Final words - Don't miss the next one!

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### From the Pilots Seat

*By Tom Brandt, President, LVRC*



**This Month's Topic - Leadership!**

A leader is anyone who influences a group toward obtaining a particular result or goal. It is not dependent on title or formal authority.

Leadership can be defined as one's ability to get others to willingly follow. Our informal organization operates best with leaders at each level, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

What are some qualities of a leader? Here are a few:

- **Integrity** - the combination of outward actions and inner values
- **Inspiration** - attractiveness to others and the ability to leverage this quality to motivate others

- **A clear sense of purpose** - clear goals - focus - commitment
- **Results-orientation** - directing every action towards a goal. Prioritizing activities to spend time where results are most achievable
- **Cooperation** - works and plays well with others
- **Optimism** - few pessimists become leaders
- **Determinism** - belief in one's own ability to make a difference
- **Self-awareness** - the ability to "lead" one's self prior to leading others
- **Awareness of what's going on** - the ability to understand the environment they lead and how they affect and are affected by it

## From the Pilots Seat, continued

- **Empathy** - Understanding what others say, rather than listening to how they say things – to use a common cliché I could partly sum up this quality as ‘walking in someone else's shoes’
  - **Sense of Humor** – holy cow, a sense of humor is a must to be a club officer
- But enough about me!

Where has the year gone? Here it is October and it is time to start planning for 2009. The membership will, at the October general meeting, nominate those who will lead the club in 2009 so keep the above leader qualities in mind. We may nominate anyone we wish as long as they accept the nomination prior to the November vote. When you are

## In Memorium

Long time aeromodeler, Irv Kuenzi passed away Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Irv was a Charter Member of the Las Vegas Radio Control Club. He was an active member for more than forty years.

An accomplished model builder and flyer, Irv was never known to bring less than three airplanes to the field. He regularly contributed to the club newsletter.



Left to Right: Art Leis, Will Robinson, Bobby Haight, Irv Keunzi

His interest in airplanes was his vocation as well. Irv was an aircraft mechanic for George Crockett's Alamo Airways. He was lead mechanic during the 1959 world-record endurance flight commemorated at McCarran International Airport.

Most recently Irv attended the Las Vegas Radio Control Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration where he was recognized for 50 years membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Services were held at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada.

nominated please say “I'd love to serve the members of the LVRC”.

Why? Because this is an opportunity to make a positive contribution to your club. It takes a lot of work on both sides of the table to have a viable club and the current membership and board members have done an outstanding job for you. One way to thank them is to volunteer to take over. The saying, “many hands makes light work” comes to mind. Rotating the leaders makes sense for the vitality and growth of the club. New leadership keeps the club from doing the same ol' things the same ol' way.

At the November meeting voting will take place, votes counted and your new officers announced. The December Holiday Party will see the officers

installed and they will commence their term January 1st, 2009. There will not be a General Meeting in December.

This is your club. Do some volunteer work and help the club become better and stronger. Don't forget to help out each other as well.

See you at the field,

TOM



## Mark Smith runs for Executive Vice President

By Greg Clemensen

Mark Smith is running for the Academy of Model Aeronautics Executive Vice President. He is an outstanding person for this position. Please vote for him.

The Executive Vice President will assist Dave Mathewson. The duties of the AMA President are far more than one person can do. It takes at least two. Mark Smith has been assisting Dave since Dave became president.

Mark Smith called me for lunch March of this year. He was in town to visit his son, who lives here. Mark is one of the brains behind the Park Pilot Program. He inspired me to form the first park pilot club, the Vegas Aces.

Speaking of brains, Mark holds an MBA. He retired early after a successful career in sales at Sprint. He is a mover and a shaker...the kind of guy we want as Executive Vice President.

Mark has been in model aviation nearly his entire life. Since 2004 he has

been the Vice President of District IX. Mark was instrumental in getting the AMA video on ESPN this month.

He has lots of fresh ideas to grow the AMA. One of them is to use some of the AMA financial reserves to provide low or no-interest loans to clubs for flying site acquisition. You can find more information about Mark Smith on the web at <http://home.everestkc.net/>

marksmith

The Executive Vice President position is a volunteer position. As in “no pay!” We are lucky to have an individual as capable as Mark volunteer for this position. In my opinion he deserves your vote.



Mark Smith



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# Did You Know...There's Model Aircraft Field at Lake Mead?

By Greg Clemensen

On a dusty dirt road, about a half mile from the busiest boat launch in Southern Nevada is a radio control airfield...at least that is what the signs say. But if it weren't for those two banged up signs and a decrepit frequency pin post, there would be no way of knowing how the field came to being.

Nowadays the patch of asphalt is about a quarter mile from the shoreline at Boulder Beach. But that hasn't always been the case. That's what eight years of drought will do.

Robert Rich, who is now deceased, was an active LVRC member. He had a passion for float flying. In the early '90's the shoreline was just across the road from the present flying field. Retired park ranger Bob McKiever and Mr. Rich agreed this area would be set aside for radio control flying. The club went along and provided the liability insurance for the site.

Fast forward eighteen years, Robert Rich and Bob McKiever are not around. But the club has dutifully paid the insurance. Susan Warner, Administrative Assistant for the Lake Mead Recreation Area, files the certificate of insurance in a putty colored file cabinet. Beyond that, there is no relationship between LVRC and LMRA.



Bob McKinney flew some of his planes there a couple days ago. "The backdrop of Lake Mead against your airplane is beautiful," he said.

Radio control flying sites are at a premium, especially one as unique as the Lake Mead site. It is important we preserve our flying privileges. The field is in need of maintenance. These are good reasons for us to be pro-active in re-establishing contact with the authorities. Rick Hatch and I are working to accomplish this task. We welcome anyone who can arrange an introduction.

It is a 35 mile drive from my house to the Lake Mead flying site. I encourage all club members to take the drive. Just take US 93 to Boulder City. Turn left at the second traffic light to continue on US 93 towards Flagstaff/Phoenix.

About 4.4 miles turn left at Lakeshore Drive. You will need \$5 to get admission to the LMRA. Turn right 300 feet past the toll booth. .6 miles turn left at the sign that says "PWC Launching &

Beach Access. The field is about a half mile to the left.

## CANOPY CONDOMS

Got your attention didn't I. Do you want to protect your expensive custom canopy from damage? Get a canopy condom. OK, what is it? Well, put simply, it is protection for your canopies paint job. This custom, hand crafted product guards canopies against dust, fingerprints and hangar rash from storage and transporting your helicopter.

Manufacturers offer a broad range of custom handmade condoms for many of today's most popular helicopters and they come in black, blue or gray. How much? For example, the Aligns Trex 500 is 30 bucks from U-Neak Designs.

Not much when you consider the cost of replacing a custom painted canopy. Guess you could fly with it but the condom will



not protect the canopy from an encounter with Mother Earth.

And, your purchase helps with an important cause! in cooperation with HeliFreak.com, U-Neak Designs will be donating money to both the American Cancer Society and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

So purchase a Canopy Condom with a HeliFreak logo, and we will donate 20% of the proceeds to these two wonderful charities".

If you are interested in a canopy condom consider U-Neak's offer.

Have some helicopter news fit for print? If so, how about becoming a contributing editor. Contact The Aerial View Editor for information.

## Show and Tell!



Kevin Acuff shows his modified wing built-in LEDs for night flying. Very cool!



Gene King shows what's left from a recent mid-air collision with the ground!

## Upcoming Events!

### Las Vegas Superfly VII

October 25-26 - 9 a.m. To 4 p.m.

Manufacturer Demos, airplane limbo contest, electric helicopters, multi-engine aircraft, sport scale, extreme 3D aerobatics, and open flies are all a part of this event! Lots of raffle prizes!

### 2nd Annual Sin City Jet Rally

November 7-9 - 9 a.m. To 4 p.m.

3 days of you've guessed it - Jet aircraft! Displays, flight demos, competitions, and much more. A very exciting event with some of the fastest model aircraft known! Volunteers are needed, please contact Chad Russell for more information.

### Aviation Nation at Nellis AFB

November 7-9

Need volunteers to talk about the RC hobby at a special showcase at the annual Nellis Air Show. If you have time that weekend, give Tom Brandt a call.

### Club Holiday Party

December 13 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Mark your calendars now! This year's party will be a great one, with food, fun and comraderie.

The cost will be \$10.00 per person for a nice holiday meal and the club will be hosting an open bar for all to enjoy. Look for an invitation to come in the mail!

## County Park Update

*By Steven R. Corry, Assistant Director  
Clark County Parks and Recreation  
Dept.*

The Clark County Parks and Recreation Department offers the residents of Clark County fun opportunities to recreate and enjoy quality of life in nearly 8,000 square miles of service area. .

Due to the size and scope of unincorporated Clark County, providing all the resources the County would like to offer and patrons would like to receive, is sometimes difficult. The opportunity to operate facilities in many jurisdictions across the country depends on the ability of public government to form public-private partnerships with user groups and individuals in the community.

Examples of these kinds of partnerships within Clark County include a Friends of the Wetlands Park group, Friends of the Clark County Heritage Museum group, as well as several parks. The recently initiated Park Ambassador program is also an

extension of citizens helping insure that facilities offer well-managed amenities while providing individual attention to users.

The Parks and Recreation Department also appreciates an organization such as the Las Vegas Radio Control Club that has a group of enthusiasts who help manage a special facility such as the William Bennett Air field.

The LV Radio Control Club has many users that take extra care to help the County keep this special facility in safe and enjoyable condition. Without this individual attention, the care and use of the facility might be detrimental instead of the great lift provided to users from all over the Las Vegas Valley.

Please accept this article as recognition and appreciation of service to the facility and to individuals with whom you share your skill and knowledge. The Parks and Recreation Department looks forward to your continued use and enjoyment of William Bennett Airfield.



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