

Planes RAP

AMA Charter #128
The Western Soaring Capital
<http://www.1hss.org>



~~DECEMBER~~ Jan

From the President:

2002 was a good year for HSS. We have the City's blessing on letting electric planes fly at Fairview Park.

We also had a very good HSS Christmas party at the Chicken Coop (Zubies') in Newport Beach, and the food was very good too.

Ross was the Big year-end winner—way to go Ross. But, I am sure the club members won't let it happen again.

Casey Adamazek got the award for "Most Improved." Keep up the good flying. You could be #1 in the open Jr. class.

HSS needs an Editor and a V.P. So, take a job and give back a little.

I hope you all had a good holiday season and the cold and rain did not keep you from getting some stick time in.

The last time I looked at the flying field, it was greening up real nice and I could see a little water at the end of the vernal pond. We may need to get out the floatplanes and a fishing pole. Got to have a shrimp BBQ in 2003. We haven't had one for years.

On December 22, the last weekend of the year, I was flying my new Wingo at 4:48 PM and the sun was setting behind Catalina Island. It was so beautiful. What a way to end the year. You should have been there. It was so "bitchen." (Just at a loss for words to say how neat it really was.)

I would like to thank all the new club members for getting their membership applications in before the end of the year. There are still a few of you that haven't returned yours yet.

At the end of the year, HSS has 115 members. I think that is pretty darn good when a lot of club memberships are way down.

So for the January Newsletter, I will put the membership application in only one more time. So, mail them in before the end of January so HSS can get AMA paperwork in on time. Make sure your AMA is paid up or AMA will kick you off the HSS membership list.

Remember the AMA show in Pasadena, January 17th to the 19th

Club meetings:

January 7th, 2002, 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM show and tell, with the meeting being from 8:00PM to 9:00 PM. For entertainment, Karl will try to lay up a nose skeg. The meeting place is again at the Irvine Water District Office.

January 5th will be the first club contest of the year. It may be three (3) ten minute rounds or something like that. We will use one or two winches with called flight order to prevent sandbagging.

I know we will see all 65 contest flyers out for all the fun. It's kind of a Ross day. And if Joe comes out we will have 66—what a day!

Here's something New.

May 3 & 4, Anaheim Convention Center, General RC Mayhem sponsored by Hobby People. Check it out at 222.RCEXPO.com. If you have any questions, make sure you call me and I will give you the web site.

Remember to order your 3M Gnome kit now. The bent wing contest in Visalia is in May. TOSS kicked HSS last May, so lets go get them this coming May. Besides, it is a lot nicer in May than in October in Visalia. So, bring out whatever you have to fly after

the contest. It is usually over by 2 on Saturday and you can even fly gas there if you want to aero tow something. So, start your new big bent wing plane as soon as possible.

Coming in February: The San Diego Mid Winter Electrics, February 15th through the 18th. Save money, save gas, car pool!

Common sense safety rules at the flying field are a must! Save your flying field by not flying over walkers or over the pit area. I think you all know what I am talking about—that damn walkway is a pain in the ass and could be the demise of us all. Remember the AMA safety rules.

Model plane fliers allowed to spread their wings over Fairview Park

Noise from gliders,
electric-powered air-
planes not enough to
bother neighbors

By **BRIAN MARTINEZ**
The Costa Mesa Breeze

Remote-controlled model aircraft enthusiasts were gliding on air Monday after the

City Council secured their space at Fairview Park.

The fliers have used the park on Placentia Avenue for about 30 years. It is one of only two places left in the county certified by the Academy of Model Aeronautics for the hobby.

Newport Beach resident Roger MacGregor is among the fliers who frequent Fairview Park. He took up the

hobby to learn more about aerodynamics, carbon-fiber fabric and epoxies because he builds sailboats for a living.

"It's how I research," he said.

The council held back its approval Nov. 18 in order to check first hand the amount of noise produced by the remote-controlled aircraft. Newly-appointed Mayor Karen Robinson spent a few hours at

the airfield on a recent Saturday and determined that the noise from the gliders and electric-powered airplanes was not enough to bother neighbors.

Two years ago, the Fairview Park Citizens Advisory Committee had considered moving the launch site for the Harbor Soaring Society, but model glider enthusiasts rallied to keep their site.

"We want to stay right

where we are," said MacGregor in a June 2000 interview.

The City Council on Monday voted to reaffirm the modelers' right to fly at Fairview Park, but vowed to revisit the plan to create a no-fly zone, a motor-size limit, time-restraints and a method to ensure every flier has liability insurance.

The Harbor Soaring Society,

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2002, Quite a Year.

By Yani

It's the end of the year and I'm wondering if Santa is gonna get it right this time. If he doesn't, my wife is in deep do. Before I recant my wish list, however, I'd like to recant the past flying year.

Let's see, SULA lost their field to a soccer stadium (I learned to fly there back in the mid-seventies). Torrey Pines was closed to slopers for about half the year. Then after a full investigation by the justice department, slopers were allowed back in, only if they promised to quit trying to sishkibob the hang gliders pilots.

This year's Rose Bowl was a No Bowl. Pasadena also cancelled their sc2 commitment. Aliso Viejo TD flyers lost their flying site of 5 acres in Woods Canyon. And Aliso Viejo has proclaimed: No RC plane flying in any Aliso Viejo park. Let's see what else? Oh, the slopes of Chino Hills were burning out of control on last night's news. And then there's Lilly Shapell...

Laguna Niguel's dedicated slope park of 25 years, Lilly Shapell, is under a snowballing legal siege. Not to mention a media blitz. The issue of whether the city of Laguna Niguel can regulate its slope flyers to appease an irrational neighbor in a public park, has made it to the Orange County Register's front page and the Sunday LA Times. The Register's front page photo and article were followed by another article the very next day, along with hate mail to the editor in the opinion section. One week before Thanksgiving, evening news

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SOARING

FROM 1

a non-profit organization that unofficially regulates the fliers at Fairview Park, requires its members to have insurance with the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

While most of the enthusiasts who use the park are members of the club, the airspace is open to everyone. The club has 100 members.

The other AMA-certified club in the county is the Laguna Niguel Slope Soaring Guild, which uses a slope overlooking the Aliso & Wood Canyons Regional Wilderness Park.

The city of Laguna Niguel on Tuesday passed an ordinance requiring model-glider fliers to obtain a permit before sending their silent, motorless model gliders airborne. The ordinance is the first of its kind in the nation.

Laguna Niguel city officials were reluctant to regulate the sport, even though the fliers asked for the regulations. But city leaders stepped in after a resident sued the city, contending that the gliders were a hazardous nuisance and should be banned from the park.

The resident, whose house backs up to Lilly Shapell Park, said the ordinance doesn't go



HARBOR SOARING SOCIETY

Karl Hawley with his model sailplane, 3M Gnome.

far enough; he still wants a ban.

Fountain Valley in 1999 replaced a model airplane field at Mile Square Park with a golf course expansion. Many of the fliers relocated to Fairview Park.

The local spot is best known for its "thermals," said Karl Hawley, president of Harbor Soaring Society. The term refers to columns of rising warm air - the kind birds often circle around on.

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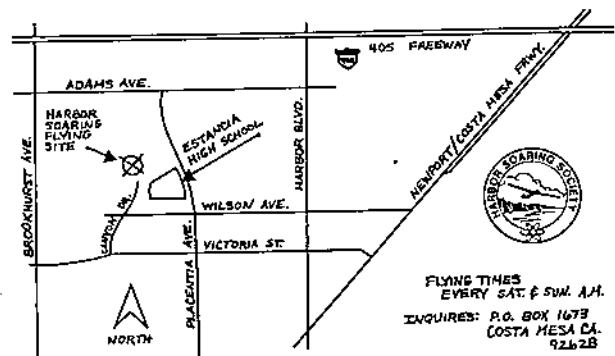
Upcoming Fairview Park Winter Tour

The Fairview Park Friends Committee has set the winter tour for Saturday, January 25, 2003, starting at 9:30 a.m. This seasonal tour will begin in the westerly parking lot, and will be conducted by Bob Graham, longtime Costa Mesa resident and avid Park enthusiast. Mr. Graham will point out Master Plan elements, as well as flora and fauna of Fairview Park, during the 1-1/2 hour hike. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. Bottled water will be provided. Dogs on a leash are welcome to join their owners. Although rain would enhance the Park's vernal pools, the tour may be shortened or cancelled, depending on the amount of rain, should it occur.

broadcasters Channels 4 and 7 both featured stories with video footage and interviews on the Lilly Shapell controversy. As it stands now, the City will issue special permits to flyers that can be revoked at the City discretion. What's next, a FAA clearance for kite flying? Tower, this is kite one, do you read me?

Let's not forget Fairview Park. President Karl has been walking city council people through the park on guided tours. Topics include, noisy little electrics, noisy little old ladies, future walkways, future landing areas and the club's future.

All in all, not a bad year if you like having less and less places to go fly. Remember that wish list of mine? Well, I wish I were President Bush. You know those troops ready to trounce on Saddam? I would dispatch them to Southern California first, for some practice. Their targets? Various City Halls throughout the southland. A little urban warfare practice? Yup. After all, we need to root out the terrorist and those who harbor them, right?



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