

# SRQ Flight Line

January 2012

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Sarasota R/C Squadron Newsletter



International  
Miniature  
Aircraft  
Association



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8730 Bee Ridge Road

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## JOIN US!

Meetings are held the fourth  
Wednesday of each month at Twin  
Lakes Park, Sarasota, FL

## NEXT MEETING:

January 25, 2012

7:00 pm

## Sarasota RC Squadron Board of Directors:

Paul Jantzen, Pres. . . . . 366-3200

Jim Martin, VP . . . . . 925-1618

Mike Winter, Sec. . . . . 966-7786

Steve Sundheimer, Treas. . . . . 400-5255

Vince Veltri . . . . . 724-1532

Don Janssen . . . . . 488-4470

Carl Ziegler . . . . . 879-3878

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Newsletter Editor . . . . . Fred Bigio

941-926-3373/fredbigio@verizon.net

Web Master . . . . . Mike Winter

966-7786/mikeandeva@comcast.net

If you have an interesting story/article  
to relate or photos to share, please  
send them to either Fred or Mike.



A little excitement at SRQ on Saturday 7 January. Seems that Dave Speed tore the tag off of his mattress. Just kidding, the field was shut down for about an hour while the local law enforcement officers searched for a fugitive who stole a car and fled on foot in the Rothenbach Park Area. Thanks to Al Jensen for the info and photo.

## Mark your calendar now

All SRQ members are cordially invited to have a Saturday filled with fun, flying, socializing, good food and it is all free. We have set aside Saturday, February 18, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm to distribute awards (including the "Man of the Year Award") to our deserving members. You must register in order to be part of this fun-filled day. This event is free for you and your spouse. You are welcome to bring guests, your children and grandchildren, however, there will be a nominal fee for anyone other than the SRQ

member and their spouse. The next announcement will include information on registration, the menu, fees and other activities.

Phil Bender, Chairman,  
920-5437.



**SRQ Minutes****Membership Meeting**

December 28, 2011

Twin Lakes Park, Sarasota, FL

The meeting was called to order @ 7:04 pm by President Paul Jantzen.

Paul led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 33 members present.

New members or guests: Andy Novetzke was a member back in the 90s. After taking a few years off, he is back. Emerson Lathe joined us for the first time. Welcome to both of them.

**Announcements:** Carl Ziegler is the new training coordinator replacing Al Jensen. It will be hard to fill Al's shoes. Thanks to Al for temporarily filling in as training coordinator and doing a great job.

If you have not left something at the field at sometime in your life, you are better than most of us. If you are at the field and you know an item was left by mistake, please place the item in the box that is riveted to the desk in the operations building and lock the box. Please notify Dick Bobb that you have placed an item in the box. If you have left an item at the field and can't find it, call Dick Bobb and tell him what you have lost. If it is in the box, Dick will return it to you.

Manatee RC is having an Open House on Sunday January 8th from 9:30 until?? No fees, just come and fly. Free food! Open to all SRQ members.

We currently have 329 members and will have about 250 as of the 1st of the year due to non-renewals.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the November minutes as published. The motion passed.

**Safety Report:** A member was starting a 120cc engine at his house and the restraint failed. The plane lurched forward and the member put his hand in jeopardy to protect himself. He lost half a finger and 7 surgeries have attempted to repair the others. Be careful out there!

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Sund-

heimer presented the November financial report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report as presented. The motion passed.

**Old Business:** George Jenkins gave a report on the Warbirds event. There were planes in the air most of the time and everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to all those people who helped make this a fun event.

**New Business:** George Jenkins swore in the new administration. The outgoing officer and board members were thanked for their service. The new administration was wished good luck for the year 2012.

The election of the Member of the Year was conducted by secret ballot. The votes were tabulated by Jim Behanna. The winner will kept secret until the Awards Banquet which will be held on Saturday, February 25th. (*Secretary's note: Due to a conflict with another event in the area, the Awards Banquet has been moved to Saturday, February 18th.*)

Phil Bender asked the membership what they would like for food at the Awards Banquet. After discussion, it was decided the banquet would be catered by Sonny's Bar-B-Q. Don't forget to put this event on your calendar!

**Show and Tell:** V.P. Jim Martin thought it would be interesting to have some of the members talk about how they got involved in this hobby. When did they get hooked? Several members got up and spoke about their personal experiences of seeing that first plane. You missed some good stories if you weren't there. More reasons to come to your club meetings.

The raffle for a *Radian Pro* sailplane was conducted by Steve Petitto. The raffle was won by Andy Novetzke. (Yes, this is the member that had not been to a meeting in many years!) See what you are missing!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

David M. Speed, SRQ Secretary

**SRQ Minutes****Board Meeting**

Monday, January 2, 2012

Board members present: Paul Jantzen, Steve Sundheimer, Mike Winter, Vince Veltri, Don Janssen and Carl Ziegler

Board members absent: Jim Martin

Guests: Dick Bobb

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Jantzen at 7:00 pm.

The President welcomed the new members to the Board.

Safety Officer Don Janssen discussed violations of the Field Safety Rules that had been observed: deliberate repeated flying south of the foul line during a flight; taxiing in the pits by electric aircraft, flying from the grass 45 degree runway with the pilot not in the established stations.

Treasurer Steve Sundheimer presented his report for December. Mike Winter motioned that the report be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

During the treasurers report a discussion ensued concerning the cost of the monthly meeting raffle. For the past several months the cost to the club has been significant. Mike Winter motioned to limit the raffle cost per month to \$125. The motioned passed. The Board also recommends that multiple items be raffled by multiple drawings to broaden the interest base.

President Jantzen discussed the Name Tag situation. We have tried to contact all members who have not picked up their name tags; however we still have over 100 unclaimed member name tags with a value of over \$500.00. The program is not working as planned. Steve Sundheimer motioned that the program

See "Board" on page 3

“Board” from page 2

be discontinued immediately and that the name tags that have not been claimed in 60 days be disposed of. The motioned passed.

Secretary Winter discussed the 2011 members who have not renewed for 2012. He motioned that a list of the 2011 members who had not renewed for 2012 be posted on the Operations Building bulletin board with the reminder that they no longer had flying privileges. The motion passed.

President Jantzen reported that he had received an email from a disgruntled member. The Board recommended that he be sent an answer thanking him for his concern and for his continuing interest in the well-being and safety of our club.

President Jantzen led a lively discussion of our field safety rules and the apparent disregard of same. The Field Rules are clearly defined on page 14 through 19 of the recently reprinted Member’s Handbook. It is recommended that **ALL** SRQ members review the rules and abide by them. The Safety Officer will be following the rules in regard to issuing a warning letter to violators of the Rules.

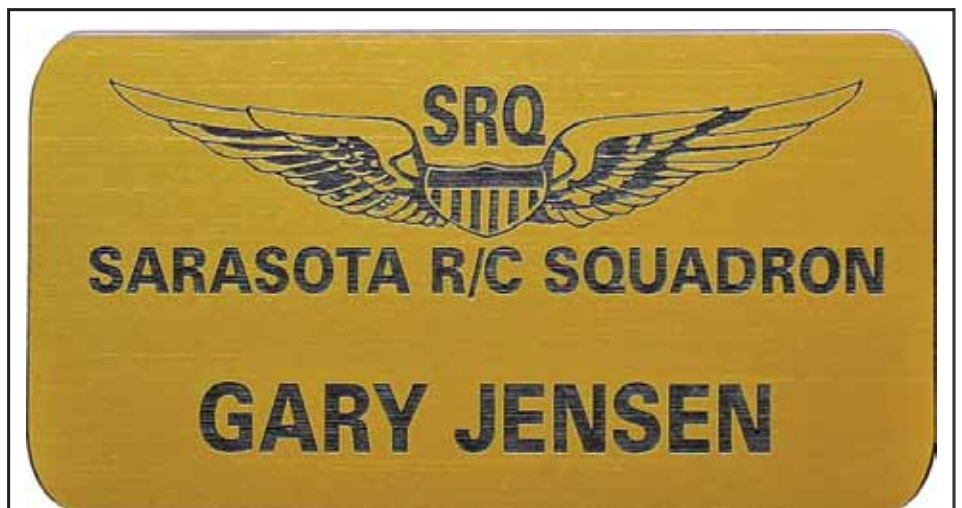
The major events that the club sponsors were discussed, specifically the Corvin Miller Memorial Scale Contest. Vince Veltri with the backing of Nick Zeroli expressed an interest in running the contest. Mike Winter motioned that Vince Veltri obtain his AMA CD license, at his expense, and that he then be appointed CD of the Corvin Miller Memorial Scale Contest. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

*Mike Winter, SRQ Secretary*



Arturo Gualdo receives his “Solo Certificate” from Instructor David Speed



### Name tags

Since late 2010 SRQ has been ordering name tags for all members. This was part of the celebration of our tenth year at our current location. Last year it was decided to continue to make name tags for all new members in the future. The program is not working as planned and may be dropped due to the lack of participation by the membership.

We have tried to contact all members who have not picked up their

name tags, however we still have over 100 unclaimed member name tags with a value of over \$500.00.

If you do not have your name tag it is waiting for you in the operations building at the field. We have not mailed the tags due to the cost of mailing. The name tags are locked up but arrangements can be made to have them put on the board in the operations building. You can arrange to pick up your tag by emailing Al Jensen at [ajensen34@verizon.net](mailto:ajensen34@verizon.net) *These are no longer available.*

## R/C Darwin Awards

On February 18th I will be giving some great and well deserved awards to our members at the annual "Member of the Year" picnic at the SRQ field.

However, I need your help. I need you to recall any funny, dumb or stupid thing a member did at the field and let me know. To help you out, the list below details some of the past awards that have been made. If they fit, use them, if not just tell me what happened and the member's full name and I will make sure they get the award whether they come to the banquet or not.

Please call me at 345-3243 or email me at [unc-george@comcast.net](mailto:unc-george@comcast.net) with your nominations.

1. Dirty airplane.
2. Greases airplane.
3. Most broken props.
4. I burnt my battery up.
5. I burnt my airplane up.
6. Most crashes.
7. Longest learning student pilot.
8. Most complete crash.
9. Finger in the prop award.
10. Runway crash.
11. Mid-air crash.
12. Bird Strike.
13. Spinner blew off in the air.
14. Engine fell off in the air.
15. I lost a wheel in the air.
16. Backward prop.
17. Rubber bands broke and wing came off.
18. Wing off in the air.
19. Fence hit.
20. I dropped my transmitter.

George Jenkins



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## The Multiplex Dogfighter

by Roger Lockwood

If you're looking for an adrenaline rush and something to keep your flying skills sharp, the Multiplex Dogfighter (DF) is the ticket. Fast, agile, and performs like a Spitfire on steroids, the Dogfighter will supply all the excitement any retired military pilot needs.

### Building:

First and foremost, **DO NOT USE FOAM SAFE CA**. It was recommended by the local hobby shop, and that was wrong. As it states very clearly in the manual, medium CA is fine, then add a little patience. In areas that require more support, use a kicker with it. But I opted for Gorilla glue on the critical areas, such as the control horns. The Elapor foam is CA proof and not effected by the heat from either. Foam safe glue will allow your plane to disintegrate at high speeds. Not a good thing. The plans are very clear. Building time was one evening. The fuselage and wing are supported with several graphite rails and flats, making it a sturdy tight-flying bird. No flex. I love the simple motor mount. It simply glues to the sides and two screws hold the whole motor assembly in place. Very efficient.



### Essentials:

Contact me for info about where to buy the DF. I run 2200, 11.1, 35C minimum LiPos in my DF and it provides about 12 minutes of flight, with some energy conservation thrown in. It all depends on your style of flying. I prefer to use dynamic energy a lot and it saves on component wear and tear. As for the rest, I have an Emax 60 amp ESC—which I own several of. I have a programming card that makes it easy to adjust what I need for each plane. This bypasses the “beep” method of programming and it is very simple to use. Motor-wise I chose the Emax GT2815/05



outrunner brushless. With an APC 8x4, it produces 50 oz. of thrust at 36 amps (400 watts) and with an 8x6, 49 oz. at 46 amps (500 watts). The 8x4 is great for climbing and the 8x6 makes it go fast! Either one is a good choice.

### Flying:

Flying the DF is straight forward. It cranks and banks faster than you can operate. Very authoritative in all it's movements and stays where you leave it. I have 50/75% expo

on a switch, but this is usually too high for some pilots. I like 75% for launch, and 50 for flying. The DF takes very little throw to maneuver. Launching was a learning curve for me. I finally settled on two methods. I hold the TX against my side with a neck strap, forming a triangulation support, with thumb on stick. Holding the plane in my left hand I bring the throttle to 90% with my mouth, give it a gentle



toss. My second method involves PVC launches and it works great when I don't have anyone to help. Having someone help launch is best, that way your hands are on the controls. It has a tendency to curve left on slow launch, so being on top of it from the start helps save props. First flights should have a partner and plenty of room. With the grass field closed, I did most of my test launches at the sod farm. Crashing new models into pavement is not recommended (duh). Landing the plane requires grass. Keep the prop on freewheeling or medium free wheel setting. Do not brake it or the prop WILL break. Straight, level, and as slow as it will fly—make for a smooth transition to the ground. Some guys are adding wheels but without much success from constant breakage.

The Dogfighter makes an exciting addition to anyone's hangar. It is small and engineered perfectly. Very tough and repairable. Add streamers and several of these in the air at one time, and stand back for some kind of fun!

## Biography: Hobby Marketplace

Jim Smentowski's journey to owning a robotics website netting millions of page hits per month and two hobby stores serving the local R/C community began when he landed a job with George Lucas' Industrial Light & Magic. Jim and his wife Erica made an unexpected move to California in December 1995, launching an unforgettable decade for the Colorado couple.

Working for ILM gave Jim many new opportunities. He worked on special effects for movies such as "The Mummy," "Galaxy Quest," & "Space Cowboys." He appeared as an extra in "Star Wars Episode 1." He has closely worked with A-list celebrities, from Michael Bay to Clint Eastwood.

He was also introduced to combat robotics by friends at Industrial Light & Magic.

August, 1996 saw Jim Smentowski attending his first "Robot Wars" event. He, like many others, came away thinking "I could do that!" He took that thought very seriously and built a low budget, 185 pound robot to compete in the next year's "Robot Wars." That first robot didn't fare well against the creation of Jaime Hyneman, now co-host of the "Mythbusters" TV series. Learning from his first experience, Jim Smentowski went on to build competition winning and iconic robots for "Robot Wars" and later, "BattleBots."

One robot, "Nightmare" took home the "most aggressive robot" award and directly influenced some safety standards in combat robot competitions. "Backlash" won 1st and 2nd place in its first two BattleBots events.

Jim Smentowski's original website, robotcombat.com, provided easy access to robot combat news, history, and as much information as he could update. As the website traffic increased, Smentowski saw an opportunity. In 2002,



helped Hobby MarketPlace gain many loyal customers. A second Hobby MarketPlace store opened in the Sarasota Square Mall just in time for the 2011 holiday rush. The Sarasota location brings the same

robotmarketplace.com was born. It serves as a one stop shop for robots and robot related parts. The Robot MarketPlace sells to hobbyists and professionals worldwide, including fellow combat robotic competitors, police, military, students and teachers, and everyone in between.

quality customer service and many of the same products to hobby customers in the Sarasota area.

A retail hobby store also serves as an outlet for Smentowski's need to smash metal machines—by hosting robotic combat events. Robot MarketPlace sponsors small scale "insect class" events every 3-4 months. The robots have three classes, from 150 grams to 3 pound weight limits. The spectator crowd has grown with each free event, and many new people go home thinking "I can to that!" The Robot MarketPlace's combat robot events are now going global by live-streaming their events online.

Visit Hobby Marketplace at 5129A 53rd Ave. East, Bradenton FL, 34203 OR inside the Sarasota Square Mall by Macy's. Call (941) 753-5100 (Bradenton) or (941) 921-2777 (Sarasota) [www.hobbymarketplace.com](http://www.hobbymarketplace.com)



The Robot MarketPlace moved to Florida in 2005 and soon outgrew their small home-based office. After frequent requests from customers, the Smentowskis plunged into brick and mortar retail by opening Hobby Marketplace on State Road 70 in Bradenton, while continuing to grow The Robot MarketPlace online.

Jim Smentowski is adamant that the only way to grow a business during a recession is to focus intently on customer service. His employees are expected to put customers first in attitude and action. The focus on customer service has





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**[www.HobbyMarketplace.com](http://www.HobbyMarketplace.com)**

**Posted January 5, 2011**

[The following two-page pictorial story was taken from the SRQ website:]

*B-17G by Brad Fuller*

My latest project, which in truth has been on and off for at least 3 years, is a 138 inch B-17G, and will be painted as "LITTLE PATCHES". I'm using Robart retracts, Glennis scale wheels and brakes, 4 Saito gas 4 stroke, ignition engines, 14 inch Gropner 3 blade props, will have all the rivets, doors will work, full interior, the whole shebang.

**Posted January 9, 2011**

*Continuing B-17G by Brad Fuller*

This is the first time she's been on the gear, all assembled, only 300,000 rivets, paint interior, bomb rack, radio and more to go, HALF WAY THERE!!



*B-17 Right side high*



*B-17 Left nacelles*



*B-17 First time ground view*



*Above: B-17 Top of cockpit area*



*At left: B-17 First time overview right*



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B-17 Vertical



B-17 Nose, pre-primer



B-17 Gear up, not sheeted



B-17 Fresh paint



B-17 Tire down start 2



B-17 Nacelle hatches in



B-17 Elevator painted



B-17 Overshot of main gear



B-17 Gear start 2 with tire



B-17 Bottom, stage 4



B-17 Nacelle

**Random images from the  
December Warbirds event**



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R/C Cars, Planes, Helis, etc welcome too.**

\$5.00 setup fee for sellers (bring your own tables)  
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**Open water running 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM  
Location: Ackerman Park, Sarasota, FL**

Ackerman Park is located just east of I-75. Exit 210 to Fruitville Road and head east. After approx 0.7 mile, turn right (south) at the traffic light onto Coburn Road and proceed to East Sawgrass Road. (again approx 0.7 mile). The lake will be located on the right hand side and the 1/6 mile course markers can be seen.



No boats will be allowed in the water during the swap meet for safety reasons. You are welcome to stay for the open water portion of the day for test 'n' tune.

For more information contact  
Scott Kubinski  
email: [wfmbc.scottk@yahoo.com](mailto:wfmbc.scottk@yahoo.com)

Bill Hunt  
email: [captdanno@yahoo.com](mailto:captdanno@yahoo.com)

Club Website: [www.wfmbc.com](http://www.wfmbc.com)