AMOS RC NEWS

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with friends, family, and great food! The member meeting this month was very well attended and we had possibly the largest number of votes ever for the 2024 Board and the proposal to raise the membership dues. We had good weather for the meeting and there was conversation both for and against the dues increase. All election results have been posted so I won't repeat them here. We have the club Christmas Dinner on 12/14 at the Aerospace Museum see the flyer attached at the end of the newsletter for more info. Last year was a lot of fun surrounded by all things aviation related. You can sign up and get your tickets on the club website, hope to see you there!

This month's Member Spotlight features Brian O'Rourke check it out below. If you have any comments, ideas or suggestions for future newsletters feel free to email me @ ngraham_03@icloud.com.

Member Spotlight Brian O'Rourke

How long have you been a member of AMOS?

9 Years

Where are you originally from?

Bally, Pennsylvania, in the SE part of the state. There was plenty of wheat, alfalfa, and corn fields and open spaces, but somehow we were randomly able to land our errant planes unto somebody's TV roof antennae on their house or crash into the only tennis court in town.

How long have you been flying RC?

You had to ask that, didn't you! Over 50 years, sometime around 1968, when owning a 4-channel radio on the 27 megahertz band was up there with the big boys. (Except if a CBer with a high-power radio or a "slider" might had sent your beautiful balsa wood airplane on its own trajectory). But during this time, it was pretty amazing that moving a stick on your transmitter moved the primary control surfaces with it. However, you did not have to worry about reversing a servo in your transmitter, or which switch your dual rates were on, because there was none of those very simple options.

Continued….

What do you, or did you do for a living?

Mowed lawns for $3 a day, then worked in a factory lifting metal sheets into bins for 8 hours for $2.45/hour (took a long time to buy that $150 radio). At age 18, I joined the Air Force, hoping to be a meteorologist, but since I could not even spell the word at the time, and I was at a kindergarten grade level in physics and math in high school, they let me be a jet engine mechanic on RF-4C Phantoms, and a few other planes. Since I did so well in that career field, I got an endorsement from many generous people that let me go off and lay on my stomach and pass gas for the next 24 years of my life. I retired after 31 years of both military and civilian service flying in a KC-135 refueler.

How did you get started in RC?

I was mentored and helped by another very noble and magnificent person in my life, who watched me fly my control line airplane upside down. Whether he thought I had potential with RC, or just needed entertainment, he never told me, nor did I ask. I was always fascinated by the sky and flight, and it was an exciting time to look up and wonder what that silver object on the end of a snow white contrail was as a kid in the late 1950's.

Who got you started in RC?

A wonderful man by the name of Raymond Kline, Jr. Ray was an exceedingly talented woodworker who made furniture, harpsichords, and various other wood items in his regular job. He could build any airplane either from plans or scratch. He at one point built 23 1/3 scale Laser 200s, and any wing, fuselage, or tail panel were interchangeable! When someone crashed, we used another guy's wing if the servo connection was the same.

What other clubs around the country have you flown at?

Too many to mention here, but at a club in South Carolina in 1974, I left my mark by putting the nose section of a plane through a church roof. Fortunately, there were no people or services at the time, however the patrolman who was summoned to straighten things out forgot to mention it was a MODEL plane, and not a jet from the base that had just crashed. Also, I was a member in small clubs in New Hampshire, Southern Cal (Riverside RC Club, Cactus Avenue Regulars, Perris RC club), and up here in Nor Cal, the Beale RC club till it closed.

Continued...

Have you competed in RC? What have you competed in?
Barely. Pattern- Sportsman level.

What haven't you done in RC that you would like to try?
Proclaiming "I will never crash again"! Seriously, I have never tried building and flying my own gliders.

What else have you done in RC other than airplanes?
Nothing, but I am working on a remote-controlled girlfriend. Aso, an RC sub with a down link to a camera would be neat.

What do you like best about flying at AMOS?
The amazing talent of other people I can only marvel at, along with their background and lives. Plus, all the people who help others. I meet really interesting folks, and it is a shame we are so time limited flying.

What other hobbies or talents do you have? (Non-RC)
Studying weather and climate, fly tying, hiking and fishing the Sierras. That's where the RC sub could help.

What is your favorite plane that you either currently own or have owned?
A Bridi Dirty Birdy .60 pattern plane with an OS/tuned pipe and spring aire retracts.

What plane would you have if money was no object?
A model KC-135A with 4 turbine engines, or a B-58 Hustler (hint, hint, LeRon) with the same.

What keeps bringing you back to RC day after day?
It is a constant challenge. And probably a constant challenge for the other members when they see me show up at the field.

Who do you nominate for next month's member profile?
Nick Graham, Van Berg, Les Klear.

Event Dates 2024 (Tentative)

AMOS Christmas Party	Dec 14th 2023 @ California Aerospace Museum
Freeze Fly	Jan 1st 2024 @AMOS
Electric Event	April 13th & 14th 2023 @ AMOS
Warbird Event	May 11th 2024 @ AMOS
3D Event	June 14th 2024 @ AMOS
Pattern Event	June 23rd 2024 @ AMOS
Jet Rally Event	Sept 19th - 21st @ AMOS
Heli Fest Event	Sept 26th - 28th @ AMOS
Profile Event	Oct 5th @ AMOS

How can YOU help the club?

Join The Volunteer List

Participate in preparing and helping with our events, email Dave Long @ davelong9050@comcast.net if interested.

Be A Leader

Volunteer to "Manage" an event. We have a simplified system of successfully managing an event. Just follow the check list, training, guidance and help will be provided!

Become A Trainer

Without partnership with the Aerospace Museum Of CA, we will soon be attracting a LOT of kids and we will need the staff to "Buddy Box" with them. Being a trainer is a very rewarding aspect of the hobby! The club has the planes. We will provide training and guidance. Sign up today!

Donate!

We are slowly building our war chest for the day when we move. Although this is going to be for many years in the future, it's now time to plan.

*****The following is an editorial written and submitted by Rob Ryerson*****

AMOS November 2023 Elections Editorial

The votes are in and likely have been fully posted in another article. Congratulations to my opponent for Secretary Mike Dunbar. I wish him well for the coming year.

While I am not too surprised to lose my bid for office, I am surprised that the total number of votes cast constituted less than 43% of the total voting membership. I can't help but wonder where 57% of the current membership was?

I think in general something less than 100% voter turnout is expected. But I do question why almost 60% of our membership either chose not to participate or couldn't understand and or execute the current voting requirements.

Aside from a non-participation decision, lets take a look at possibly why others were unable to vote. I'll give you three considerations.

1) During the meeting our current Treasurer brought up the point that our Constitution and By-Laws are due for a major review and considered revision. He suggested a committee be formed for that exact purpose. I couldn't agree more with the thought. However I deviate from the idea of one committee's full review and suggest that the task be broken down into several segments, sequentially spread over a few committees. As he said it's a big task. Breaking it into segments works better towards a successful completion.

2) The dread proxy. In the days leading up to the meeting I personally fielded several questions on where to obtain a proxy document. Heard the exact same request at the meeting. In addition it's current form requires the exact date of the voting be filled in. That particular requirement is problematic when a meeting date is shifted. As an initial suggestion the date blank should simply require the month and year, eliminating the exact, often shifting, day requirement.

3). No ballot was provided prior to the meeting. A sample should have been attached to the news letter. Said news letter should always be distributed a week to 10 days ahead of any voting process, instead of the afternoon prior. As a suggestion, why not attach the proxy form to that same news letter.

I firmly believe the club should be conducted in the best interest of the majority of our membership. I have to ask, how can our officers/board act in that interest when they only receive votes or feedback from less than half of the eligible voting membership.

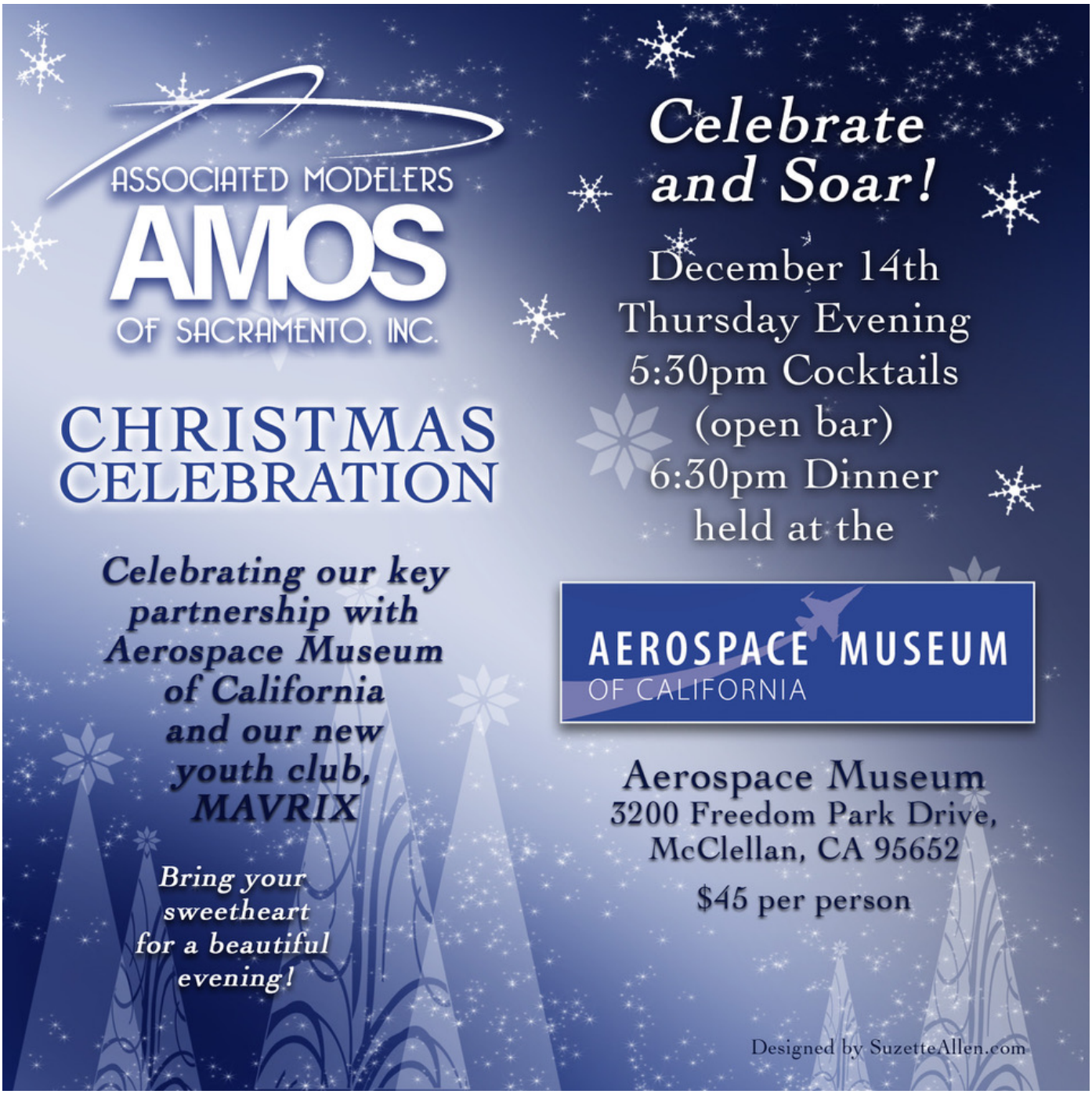
If I can be of any assistance to any member please email me at rcrewamosrc@gmail.com For the moment we only have the existing proxy system for voting. I'll be happy to help you understand what's required, and I can get you one.

We say in the hot air balloon world, Gentle Breezes and Soft Landings. That somewhat applies here so I wish it to you all.

Rob Ryerson

Well that wraps it up for this month, I hope to see everyone at the Christmas Party!

Nick


ASSOCIATED MODELERS
AMOS
OF SACRAMENTO, INC.
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
Celebrating our key partnership with Aerospace Museum of California and our new youth club, MAVRIX
Bring your sweetheart for a beautiful evening!
Celebrate and Soar!
December 14th
Thursday Evening
5:30pm Cocktails
(open bar)
6:30pm Dinner
held at the
AEROSPACE MUSEUM
OF CALIFORNIA
Aerospace Museum
3200 Freedom Park Drive,
McClellan, CA 95652
$45 per person
Designed by SuzetteAllen.com