

WEST WIND

January 2024

Newsletter of the
Portland Area Sailplane Society

Vol. 2024 Issue 01 January



Happy New Year!

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PASS Club News

Editor's Note:

In this issue you will find some of the responses I have received to this question I posed to our membership:

"How and when did you get introduced to model airplanes and started in RC flying either power or sailplanes?"

When I read through the emails there was typically one common theme. Somewhere along the way a person has stepped up to help us succeed in this hobby. Think about that the next time you are asked a question or to help a person get started and enjoy model aviation.

I will continue to publish responses as I receive them, space permitting, in future issues. Thank you to Martin Baumer for the newsletter suggestion.

Jim

Club Officers & Officials

President

Bruce Rose 503-848-2228

Vice President

Keith Ragsdale 503-680-2427

Treasurer

Tom Culmsee 503-358-8421

Secretary

Pat Chewning 503-341-3648

Director

Scott Fintel 971-330-5149

Director

Ken Eaton 541-206-7344

Contest Coordinator

Jim Gibson 503-669-7271

Safety Coordinator

Tom Culmsee 503-358-8421

Librarian

(Position Open)

Web Page Editor

Tom Culmsee 503-358-8421

Newsletter Editor

Jim Gibson 503-669-7271

jimgibson6237@gmail.com

New Club Website

Passoaring.org

PASS Meeting Notice January 9th:

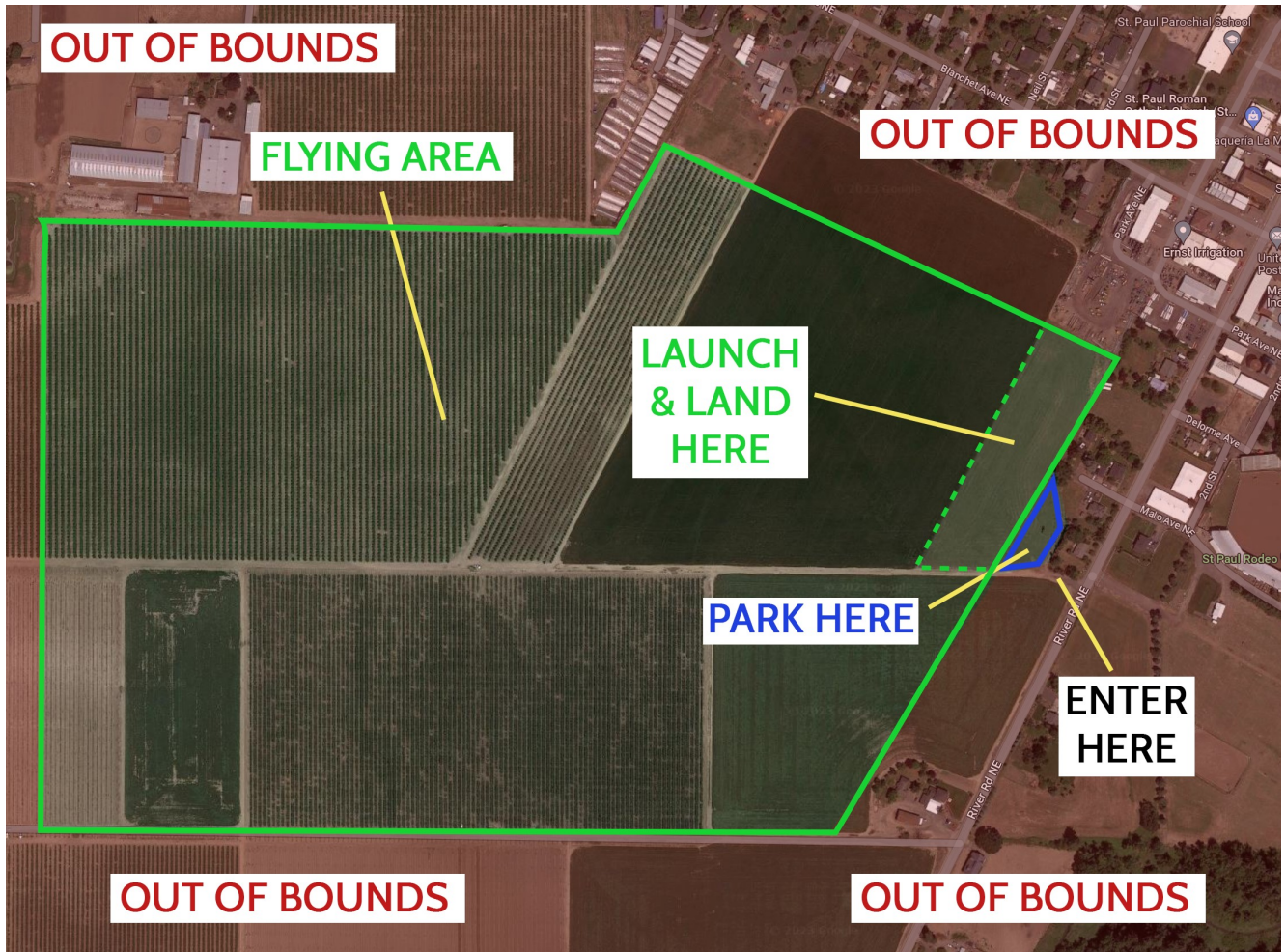
The club meeting will be on Tuesday the 9th. Gather about 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Round Table Pizza
16444 Boones Ferry Road
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
503-636-3350

St. Paul Field

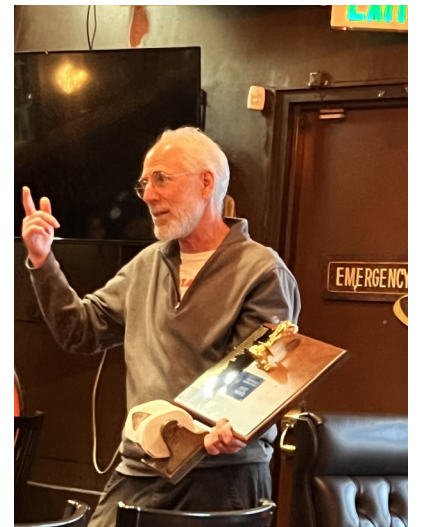


Out of Bounds-Revised 08-01-2023



PASS Banquet January 20, 2024
Save the Date!

The PASS banquet has been scheduled for:
Saturday January 20th, 2024 @ 3pm
Stark Street Pizza
9234 SE Stark St.
Portland, Or 97216
503-255-2364
\$20 per person cost which includes one raffle ticket
Big Honkin' Raffle featured along with year-end club awards





DUES ARE DUE!

Portland Area Sailplane Society 2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ AMA# _____
Write all names as you wish them to appear in the roster (e.g. David or Dave?)

Address _____ CD? (Y/N) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Bus. Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Do you want your email address included on the PASS webpage? Yes No

Spouse or SO _____ LSF# / Level _____ / _____

Radio Frequencies _____

Additional Family Members

1. Name _____ AMA# _____
 LSF# / Level _____ / _____ Radio Frequencies _____

2. Name _____ AMA# _____
 LSF# / Level _____ / _____ Radio Frequencies _____

3. Name _____ AMA# _____
 LSF# / Level _____ / _____ Radio Frequencies _____

Dues	Full year	after 3/31	after 6/30	after 9/30
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior - under 19 - includes newsletter	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual - includes newsletter	\$30.00	\$22.50	\$15.00	\$ 7.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter only	\$15.00	\$11.25	\$ 7.50	\$3.75

\$ TOTAL PAID _____

For the newsletter, please send the:

- e-mail edition
(Adobe Acrobat format)
- download from website
(Adobe Acrobat format)

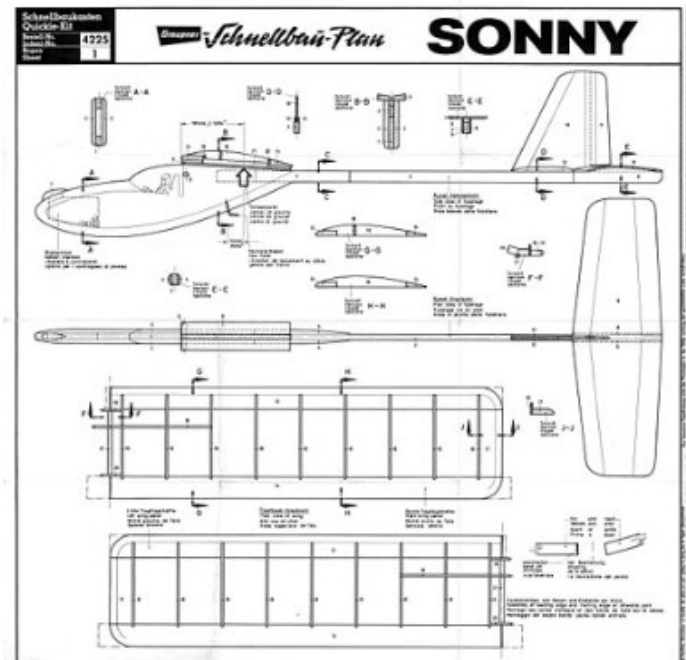
Make check payable to: Portland Area Sailplane Society
Send to: PASS
 PO Box 115
 Molalla, OR 97038

What Got You Started? (Some Member Responses)

Martin Baumer

I was 11 years old when a rubber-powered toy airplane sparked my lifelong interest in all kinds of flying. A neighbor then gifted me a Graupner Sonny kit. I enjoyed building it and must have played with it enough to convince my dad that this should be pursued some more.

About a year later, he got me together with a workmate of his who was an avid RC flyer. He took me across the border to Austria for an introduction to his RC club, and then shortly thereafter handed me a plan and materials for something resembling an Ugly Stick. I successfully built that but was too intimidated to fly it. So next up was a Graupner Amigo II 2m sailplane kit, something akin to a Gentle Lady here in the US. I still remember the first flights. Growing up in the Rhine Valley, the river's overflow channel provided unobstructed grassland, and my father would toss the Amigo from the nearby bridge.



Somehow the Amigo survived all this and I ended up learning to fly RC with it. First came hand tosses, then high-starts with my school buddy doing the pulling, then rubber-power highstarts. I was able to fly in farmer's fields near our home and did so almost every day after school. Once I turned 14, I traded my racing bicycle for a beaten-up moped, built a transport trailer for my planes, and joined an RC flying club. The club had about 10 junior members and for the next 6 years, it was essentially my second family.

What Got You Started? (Some Member Responses)

Pat Chewing

I got started in model airplanes approximately 1968 in Denver. We had just moved there for my Dad who was training pilots on the new 737 airplane at United Airlines. My brother and I got plastic Cox control line planes for Christmas. We flew the heck out of those.

Then we build Goldberg "Lil Satan" planes out of balsa, using tissue paper for covering and painting with Dope. We built bigger control line planes like the "Voodoo" and "Ringmaster". I built a few free flight planes too. My dad would always encourage us and helped us learn about balance, flight forces, etc.

I took private pilot flying lessons from my dad. The airplane we had available was his friend's Citabria (Airbatic spelled backwards). This is a 2-seat tandem taildragger covered in fabric and dope -- just like a model plane. That's what I did my solo flight in just after my 16th birthday. That was a fun plane to fly. My dad and I would take it up and do aerobatics: loops, stalls, spins, rolls -- so much fun.

My high school was just down the road from the Cherry Creek Eagle's flying site near Cherry Creek Reservoir. That's where they did R/C flying. I got a good deal at their swap meet on a Goldberg "Falcon 56" with an Enya glow engine and 4 channel Royal radio. I spent every dime I had on that. One of the instructors there would spend hours with me as I did figure-8 turns with that plane forever on weekends and after school.

I did not do much flying in college (1975 to 1979).

It was only after moving to Hillsboro in 1980 that I became involved in R/C soaring. I happened to buy a house a couple of blocks away from Mike Bamberg, one of the most active members of PASS at that time. He re-introduced me to R/C through sailplanes, and that has been the primary model airplane flying that I've done since.

Terry Erickson

My previous partner Beverly got me a stocking stuffer for xmas. A 32 inch Schweizer 232 sailplane kit by Sterling Models. While building it there was mention of making it radio control. I went to Tammies Hobby and met Mike Bamberg & he had one word "don't". He then told me about PASS and the building program the club had building a gentle lady and the rest is history.

Dan Fiedler

I started flying guideline models when I was in the fifth grade 1956. I got a paper route to make the money to buy the planes, engines, and fuel, I didn't know anyone that was flying or building model planes, so I was on my own. I had to build a holder to hold the plane for me so I could run out to the handle and then I would pull the string and release the plane, needless to say I crashed a few times before I learned to fly

I flew guideline planes until I was married and had my first child, then I didn't fly anymore until 1973 when I built my first RC Plane a Falcon 56 and joined a club and flew for several year flying pattern planes and eventually becoming the club president

I flew a Super Kaos that I still have in my attic, I flew in many contests and managed to even win a few, but as you all know life goes on and I didn't fly for years

Later in life I wanted to start flying again and bought my first glider a \$79.00 2M, that was when I realized that I was a lot older and could just barely fly anymore and join the Salem and PASS clubs and the rest is history....Needless to say I have never regained the flying skill I had when I was 27 years old....Now at 78 years old I guess I'm lucky to still be flying, HA HA

What Got You Started? (Some Member Responses)

Jim Gibson

I got started in this hobby as a kid when Santa gave me a Cox Spitfire control line airplane complete with a .049 engine. It lasted less than a lap before it was rekitted. I progressed to balsa kit control line planes and had more success plus I caught the plane building bug! With a summer job I was able to step up to RC in the early '70's and joined the Portland Sky Knights.

I bought my first radio from Dick Hansen who was also a big help in teaching me to fly RC. Although I did more crashing than flying. Soon college and life had priority over model airplanes and I was not able to get back into the hobby until 1978 when I built a two meter Wanderer from a Mark's Models kit. We were living in Spokane and the sailplane guys from the Red Barons RC club were a big help to keep me from crashing (most of the time). It wasn't long before I transitioned to a big sailplane.....the Airtronics Oly II!

A move back to Portland in 1980 enabled me to meet the guys from PASS who were flying out at Blue Lake. I was soon a member and it's been a great lifelong hobby!

Bruce Rose

My father built and flew a few balsa gliders and rubber powered kits when I was about seven years old but we never had much success.

I received a control line Cox plastic PT-19 with an .049 as a gift about a year later. We flew it for a short while, but spinning in a circle thing has never been good for me.

A few years after that I built and flew some free-flight gliders and had many fun afternoons with them but never 'hooked' a thermal.

When I was about 13 a friend bought an RC airplane with an escapement and Cox .049 engine. We never got the 'hang' of how many button pushes to send the airplane in which turning direction, but learned lots about repairing balsa models.

When I was perhaps 15 I joined the Fly-A-Ways RC club and flew where the large Intel facility in Hillsboro is now located. I built and flew 2-channel .049 powered airplanes and with guidance from the older club members had many enjoyable flights and only a few crashes. One plane I remember is the Thornburg Honker but I built and flew other similar models. In one flight the model was 'dead stick' but not coming down as I was circling, it was later that I realized I had flown the plane in a thermal. In about 1990 I bought my first electric powered glider, complete with NiCd batteries and brushed motor; the glider flew good enough for me and I enjoyed flying it often. At about that same time I joined PASS and have had the honor and pleasure to be a member of the club and fly with a great group of people. Since joining PASS I have flown primarily two and three channel gliders, HLGs, and electric powered gliders. Recently I have found a group that flies in a park less than two miles from my home and I am now beginning to fly in patterns and attitudes other than smooth upright circles looking for thermals.

Victor Trucco

I have been a lifelong lover of aviation. As a kid I would ride my bike down to the Sonoma County Airport in Santa Rosa, CA and spend the day watching airplanes taking off and land. I loved the summer months because I would hang out at the California Dept of Forestry Air Attack Station meeting the pilots and watch the air tankers come and go. My introduction to RC slope gliders came in 1990 at Coyote Hills Park in Fremont, CA. I was amazed by slope flying and knew someday I would be in the hobby but it wasn't until 2002, after finishing school and starting a young family, I finally got around to building my first model. I taught myself to fly through many, many crashes and repairs. It was a love affair from the start and something that is in my blood now. I primarily fly slope gliders but have enjoyed getting back to flying thermal gliders recently.



Portland Area Sailplane Society

PASS
P.O. Box 115
Molalla, OR 97038

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
PASS Monthly Meeting @ Round Table Pizza – 7:00pm
Saturday, January 20, 2024
PASS Banquet @ Stark Street Pizza – 3:00pm
Sunday, February 4, 2024
RES Floater Contest – 10:00am
Sunday, February 11, 2024
RES Floater Contest – 10:00am
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
PASS Monthly Meeting @ Round Table Pizza – 7:00pm

NOTE: Event calendar subject to change. Changes to the calendar will be sent via email as they become available. Contact Jim Gibson at jimgibson6237@gmail.com or the event CD with questions.