



# The Sky Ranch Flyer

Come Fly with us!

Issue 4, 2006

## Lead Story: A year in Review.

This has been a fantastic year for the Sky Ranch Flyers. Take a look back on the year, and you'll see we kept busy.



We started off with our annual Spring Cleanup and Picnic, where we fixed up the field and "hoisted the sign" after some unfortunate driver skidded off the road and crashed into it this winter.

Next, came Air Show 2006 and, despite a little rain, the morning and afternoon turned out to be great crowd pleasers!



And, who can forget the first annual "Charlie's Bonfire".

That was a great evening - and no rain! We had plenty of food, and guys like Matt Mueller "went to town" Hey Matt, was that a **triple** cheese burger?



And last, the Corn Roast. A perfect day, a great evening, lots of friends and family, and great food!



## Up Coming Events !

**Sunday, September 17th, 6:30pm**

**Club Meeting at the field!**

Time to go over the rules and by-laws again, so please attend. We still have left-over food, so well be cooking brats and burgers until they are gone. Show up early!

**Sunday, November 12th, 6:30pm**

**Club Meeting at Rytec Corp.**

Prepare for elections.

Who wants to be President?

**Sunday, December 10th, 6:30pm**

**Club Meeting at Rytec Corp.**

It's Election Time! Show up and vote. We'll have pizza and pop, and watch the latest Crasher Video from SKS Productions.

### Officers:

**President:**

Tom Blackstone  
(262) 689-8852

**Vice President:**

Jeff Reuwsaat  
(262) 629-9262

**Treasurer:**

Al Broecker  
(262) 626-2073

**Secretary:**

Don Boettiger  
(920) 625-3523

**Field Marshall:**

Paul Straub  
(920) 533-4147

**Safety Officer:**

Randy Knapp  
(262) 335-1512

**Website Editor:**

Daryl Matthies  
(262) 334-2880

## Lawn Mowing!

This schedule has been posted on the website.

This schedule is **SUBJECT TO CHANGE**, so check the web site often.

The schedule to the right is as of Wednesday, August 30th.

Week of Cutting	Team Member 1	Team Member 2
9/3/2006	Steve Powers	Don Gruetzmacher
9/10/2006	Todd Tillmann	Paul Newbauer
9/17/2006	Larry Discher	Mark Wood
9/24/2006	Dennis Boettge	Allen Broecker
10/1/2006	Tom Blackstone	Don Burdick / Josh Tinch
10/8/2006	Kerry Kanies	Mark Matuszcak
10/15/2006	Jim Steinmetz	Charlie Doll
10/22/2006	Philip Schumaker	Greg Nass
10/29/2006	Randy Knapp	Vernon Morrison

## Flight Instruction

Jeff is now working third shift so he is only available in the morning or Tuesday and Thursday evenings. You must call him in advance to let him know if you will be at the field. His number and email information is listed in the member access area. Tom, Charlie, Al and Randy will also be there on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

## From the President



Recently, I forgot how to fly my own airplane ...

Not because I've lost my ability (although *some* will say otherwise), but because most of my time this summer has been dedicated to training.

*Thank God* for guys like Charlie Doll and Al Broecker, who really, really helped out this year. Next time you see these guys, give them a \$20 bill, a strong handshake, and a heart-warmed "Thank You" for their work !

Recently, we've had a surge of new pilots out at the field wanting to fly the Hangar 9 P51 PTS . It's a good bird, once you've got the hang of flying, but last Thursday we lost our 2nd P51, and it's my 7th crash for the year.

As an Instructor, I know I shouldn't let this bother me, but as any pilot, I feel bad when we loose a plane. Fortunately, Horizon Hobby came to our rescue the first time, but I don't think I'll have any pull with their Donation's department this second time around.

Fellow pilot Mark Matuszcak told me after the second P51 crash that I shouldn't be counting the crashes, but rather the hundreds of times I saved someone's plane during training. Maybe next year I'll start.

On a lighter note, the B25 is going in for painting on Thursday, August 31st. I was hoping to fly it by he end of September, but I'm not going to rush the flight. Safety first. Check out the progress at [www.TomsPlanes.com](http://www.TomsPlanes.com).

Well, night is coming upon us earlier and earlier as the season comes to an end, so get out to the field

## August Certified Pilots:



### Don Boettiger:

Abraham Lincoln once said "The leading rule for the lawyer, as for the man of every other calling, is diligence. Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today."

On August 15<sup>th</sup> .. with light winds from the west, and three wheels touching down, Don Boettiger, age 73, completed a course he set upon three years ago - and graduated into the class of Certificated Pilot.

What sets Don's journey apart from *any* individual we have ever certified, were his efforts and diligence in accomplishing his goal. Every chance Don had, he took advantage of. Every set-back, crash, bump or bruise - he put behind him, and persevered on.



### Tim Mueller:

Tim started with the club last year when his son, Matt, learned to fly. This year, Tim decided it was his turn.

What stands out about Tim is that he had the "*patience*" to let his son teach him how to fly. Now, you might be thinking - *I'm missing the joke here* - and you probably are if you don't know the full story.

When Tim's training started, all was fine and well. By the end, Tim was referring to his son as "Rommel." You know, the famous German General from WWII. *Don't you guys watch the History channel?*



### Paul " Yikes! " Newbauer:

Paul's achievement came really fast. By his second time out to the field, he was already landing. Paul attributed his success to his FMS flight simulator and, in no time at all we had Paul certified.

Paul got his nick-name while training. Every mistake Paul made was followed by him yelling " Yikes! ".

One interesting item to note about Paul is his wife Debbie, who usually joined him at the field. What a lucky guy - a wife with an interest in R/C. Most R/C wife's will schedule a "Root-Canal" rather than come out to the field!



### Mark Wood:

Mark Wood, a computer geek, joined the club this year. Flying the smaller Thunder Tiger ( Phil Schuster's old bird ). Mark took to the skies and conquered flight in no time at all.

Chalk this pilot up on Al' Broecker's board, as he did most of the training.

Mark's solo flight stopped for a few minutes as he had a bent nose wheel. But rather than taking time to "tweak out" the issue, Mark just fueled up, took to the skies, and finished his test with flying colors!



### Gerry "Fire - in the Hole!" Brown:

Talk about perseverance, here's another one of those guys that didn't quit - despite him "swearing off" on a few occasions. Due to unfortunate events this year, Gerry is flying his *third* plane, and Certified this August.

"Gerry's been ready for months," said instructor Tom Blackstone. "We've just run into dumb luck - repeatedly."

Despite the down-falls, Gerry kept coming to the field and getting back in the air. He endured wing failures, engine failures, instructor failures, nose gear issues, and a dozen other little mechanical problems throughout his training.

"I'll hand it to him, though, he's undergone the most comprehensive repair training any rookie has ever gone through. He did all his repair work himself," said Tom Blackstone.



### Joe Fischer:

Whoa, where did this guy come from?? Like a cowboy riding into town, Joe roared into Sky Ranch not with experience in the sky, but with experience from a flight simulator, and just a few visits later he was ready to be certified.

And, what almost stopped Joe from certifying that night was that he wasn't even an official club member!

Ready to be certified, and not a dollar in his wallet, several members of the Sky Ranch Flyers broke out the cash and covered his tab, while Joe tested out with Tom Blackstone and Al Broecker.

"O.K. that's a first for me," stated Tom Blackstone, "*usually we get the cash first!*"

Joe was already an AMA member, so I just figured we had his application too!

## Agenda for September 17th Club Meeting

1. Set the schedule for the next club meetings. I would like to do meetings on the following dates:

Sunday, November 11th, 6:30pm - Club Meeting at Rytec Corporation to prepare for elections.  
"Who wants to be President?"

Sunday, December 9th, 6:30pm - Club Meeting at Rytec: It's Election Time! Show up and vote.  
We'll have pizza and pop, and watch the latest DVD from SKS - "CRASHER 4!"

2. Begin discussions again on club fees for next year. Several suggestions have come up regarding dues, now that we have the mower. I also have been asked to discuss the first year initiation fees. Should they be higher to compensate the club for "instructor services" for those that don't know how to fly, and waived for those that do know how to fly?
3. Should we still do the "Open House" thing?
4. December Elections - we should start to promote this now, so all the new members can start thinking about it. I'd like the officers to describe their role in the club, their responsibilities, and how much of their personal time they put into it.
5. Review the clubs Field Rules and By Laws with the members, and make corrections as necessary.