



The Gold Country Flyer

December 2010

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The Meeting : Was the Christmas party that was held at the "Sons of the Golden West meeting hall in Sutter Creek. There was a great raffle with many really good prizes , thanks to Mike Belmont !! A special thank-you also goes out to Alan Ross for securing the hall for the club Christmas party and all those good members who worked behind the scenes to helped to make the party successful. The food was really good and there was more than enough to go around. There was really an election , but it was really low key and all the same officers as last year were reelected . There was also a Special Perpetual T-34 Racing award that was awarded to Fred Weaver for his great performance in 2010. When the Party broke up I was most impressed by all those that stayed to clean up .

Safety Report : There was no safety items at the Christmas party and Quite frankly , not much flying going on at the field due to rain and the cold weather. With the lack of activity at the field it is the time to give our equipment , especially batteries a good check up , before you fly again. I have found that NiCad batteries for receivers tend to deteriorate quickly after a couple of years. It is a good idea to cycle them several times and checking the ma . Capacity on the label of the battery , to see if it approximately compares to the actual capacity as read on your battery tester.

A tool that comes in handy is receiver battery pack tester .

(Cont.)



A good turnout at the Christmas party.



Mike Belmont and Alan Ross handle the calling out of numbers at the Christmas party raffle.



These battery testers check the pack “ under load “. It is especially useful when checking Lithium battery packs that do not need to be charged for every flying session. When checking Lithium batteries , do not let them go below the voltage listed on the pack, For instance a 7.4v Lithium battery should never go below this value and when they are charged to full capacity are well over 8 V.s . You can monitor them after several flights to see how fast they are going down in voltage. With the higher voltage packs it may require a voltage regulator to protect the receiver and servos.



The Prez sez : Well , December has been a slow month fro flying due to the rain . A lot of other events have been a lot of fun. Tom , Dave, Jerry and myself took a

Trip to fly indoors with the Deltamodelers. It was in the Stockton Fairgrounds and while it was sparsely attended, we showed up on time only to find two folks setting up tables , unsure of when it would start. It was billed a “Flea Market” and indoor flying event. Only two people showed up to sell stuff. The organizers said it was a problem with notice on when the hall was available. Our club would be more than glad to spread the word , but I only found out about the event two weeks ahead. Oh well, it was fun to watch Jerry and Tom fly my little Vapors .Tom had a small “Stick” and made one take-off then a left turn right into the wall !! No D.O.M. Award ‘cus he didn’t break anything ! Since we didn’t have much flying , there was no D.O.M. Award this month. We need some folks step up to the mark and admit their crashes . Fred we heard about the T-34 Smack Down Event . Nuff said Fred (Thursday meeting Fred) .



Raffle Prize table at the Christmas party.

The Prez sez (cont.)

The Christmas party was a blast ! A lot of folks attended and a lot of food was left over . Alan Ross , as always got the Hall set up and running like clock work. Thanks Alan. Mike put on a great raffle with lots of goodies. Thanks to all the volunteers for their help . The raffle was well attended but my wife kept saying , “Iwant the yellow electric” . She was so disappointed when my money didn’t win it for her ! There were other events , the Scottish Walk in Volcano , the Parade of lights in Sutter Creek and many other events in the area. Take a drive and see what our neighbors have done with lights. Well the rain will stop (we do need it) and the flying will resume. Don’t forget the meeting on Thursday Jan 6th . See you there, John

Up coming Events : Next club meeting Thursday , Jan 6 at 7: 00 Pm. At the Amador County offices .

T-34 Race : Scheduled for Jan 22 at 10am . (weather permitting) We encourage everyone in the club to join us. More information will be coming up .