



# News Letter

Fall, 2023

News of the field

The Club Charity Airshow was again a hit with spectators and participants! Medium attendance both days meant there was plenty of room in the bleachers and parking didn't get crazy. Thanks Sean Mersh and Raoul Salem for traffic control. That is a long hot job.

Thanks to everyone else who helped set up and did tear down. That was accomplished very quickly and efficiently.

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There have been some pylon races and lots of sport flying. There have also been a normal number of crashes, 2 or 3 good enough to be considered for the Broken Prop award.

A spectacular (and expensive) helicopter crash, with fire. Good thing we have a portable water fire extinguisher!

A frightening ducted fan jet crash that had guys in the pits scrambling for cover. No injuries thankfully.

One crash in the road behind the parked cars, another in the control line area.

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Then we had smoke.

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Vintage R/C days started damp and cloudy on Friday. Most of us added extra clothing because it was much cooler than we expected. Kind of a quiet day, more airplanes than fliers. Good conversations, donuts, relaxed flying.

Saturday was a more normal September day, blue skies, sunshine, puffy clouds, faster airplanes. There was a fun raffle for those who participated.

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The annual NSRRC Pattern Contest District 7&8 Shootout was held just after some of the nicest weather of the summer. Yes, cool temperatures and kind of a lot of smoke. Poor air quality helped keep attendance low and made airplane watching difficult. Didn't stop competition however!

This report from Sean Mersh:

## **Pattern Contest, NSRCA D8 Championship, and D7/D8 Shootout**

Eleven pilots competed at our pattern contest on 23 and 24 September. We had three pilots from D7 and eight from D8. The National Society of Radio-Controlled Aerobatics (NSRCA) districts are different from our AMA districts: D7 encompasses CA, AZ, HI, NV, and UT; D8 has AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, and WY.

We flew four rounds on Saturday and two on Sunday with nice temperatures and no wind at all, BUT a lot of smoke from fires, especially on Sunday. The results for the contest:

### Advanced

- 1 Scott Hudson (OR) 4000.00
- 2 Jerry Stinson (OR) 3956.34
- 3 Nathan Wingert (ID) 3909.96
- 4 Rick Bergeron (OR) 3256.02

### Masters

- 1 Lynn Burks (CA) 3000.00
- 2 Bob Crump (OR) 2859.16

### F3A

- 1 Derek Emmett (CA) 4000.00
- 2 Sean Mersh (OR) 3958.51
- 3 John Bentley (ID) 3875.96
- 4 Bill Wallace (CA) 3846.81
- 5 Rex Lesher (OR) 3793.28

We won the D7/D8 Shootout trophy 😊!

The rules were written by John Carter from CA, a former NSRCA president. First place gets 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> gets 2, and 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> get 1 point. The number of pilots per district determines how many places count for the calculation. If the lowest number of pilots per class in one of the districts is 0, one pilot counts; if that number is 1, two pilots count; for 2, three pilots count; for 3 or more, five pilots count. Sounds complicated, but really is pretty straight forward. In our case:

|               | D7 Pilots | D8 Pilots | Count    | D7 Points | D8 Points |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Advanced:     | 0         | 4         | 1        |           | 3         |
| Masters:      | 1         | 1         | 2        | 3         | 2         |
| F3A:          | 2         | 3         | 3        | 3         | 3         |
| <b>Total:</b> |           |           | <b>6</b> |           | <b>8</b>  |

The 2023 D8 Champions are determined by a pilot's best scores in three contests during the season, plus double the points earned at the D8 Championship contest. The 2023 champions with congrats to all:

Advanced: Scott Hudson  
Masters: Bob Crump  
F3A: Sean Mersh

I would like to thank all of the D7 pilots for making the trip from CA to Medford – it was great seeing you again! Thanks also to the RE RC club for supporting the contest, and in particular a big thanks to Mike Dunham, Jess Walls, and Jeff McNeil for helping out with the many things that need to be done for a contest, such as pilot registration, refreshments, and lunch. We had a great time – come and join us next year!

Photo below by Nicole Sommerfeld.

From L to R, 1<sup>st</sup> row: Derek Emmett, John Bentley, Sean Mersh; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Bob Crump, Lynn Birks, Rick Bergeron, Bill Wallace, Rex Lesher, Scott Hudson, Jerry Stinson.



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October 7 will be a busy day!

First the Rogue Eagles swap meet 9 AM – 1 PM

The final pylon race of the season will also be flown 9 AM – 11 AM.

Then the World Wide Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon October 8 & 9 from 9 AM – 3 PM. We will have several airplanes for guests to fly. If you want to get reacquainted with control line this would be a good time. Last year there were over 10,000 flights made world wide, all by Ringmaster airplanes.

<https://ringmasterflyathon.com/> (Keep scrolling down there is a lot of information on that page.)

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October 14 is the TOP GUN Fun Fly. Fun challenges (bomb drop) and an AUCTION!

Great airplanes available at huge discounts. Don't miss this one!

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Thanks to Scott Hudson, for working with Jackson County, our road has been "oiled" to keep down dust. It is not really oil, but something biodegradable, like molasses. Speed limit is still 10 mph. Excess speed causes "washboard" which is hard to fix.

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Jess Walls  
Newsletter Editor