

# The Valley Flyer



Academy of Model Aeronautics Charter Club # 152

[www.valleyflyers.com](http://www.valleyflyers.com)

## FAI Team Trials Begin at Apollo II Field

Preview - Friday - August 21, 2008

## August 2008



## Meeting This Tuesday! ROG Event / Pizza Night

Sam Gengo - Public Relations

This is to remind you that the monthly Club meeting of the San Fernando Valley RC Flyers is this coming Tuesday, August 26 and it's going to be a good one:



It's the annual ROG (Rise Off Ground) event held at the Encino Community Center (where we normally hold our meetings). Only this time, we won't have chairs in the middle of the room because that area will be reserved for flying!

Bring any Peck Polymer or similar rubber powered wind-up balsa wood airplane that has wheels. Once the rubber band is wound, starting from the floor Take off! Hence the name Rise Off Ground.

Pizza and cold sodas will be available for purchase.

Best Regards and See You There!



### This Month's Newsletter

Chuck Thompson - VP and Guest Editor

You may not know it, but the Valley Flyers are again in need of a Newsletter Editor. I'm hoping that someone will step up and take my place in the near future.

This month's issue is photo packed, and includes shots from many recent events including LA Jets, the Scale Masters Qualifier, our 1st Annual Warbird Race and more.

Mark your calendar for the Valley Flyers BBQ and Fun Fly on Sunday, September 28th. It was already a great event, and now it's even better! We've added a Swap Meet. See flyer on page 12.



Position	Name	Phone	Email Address
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Giant Scale Director	Adam Gelbart	310-441-9408	adam.gelbart@verizon.net
Electric Flight Director	Binyamin Elkouby	818-253-9098	Bennyel@worldnet.att.net
Media Director	Clifford Sonnentag	818-558-1157	clifford@bobeproductions.com
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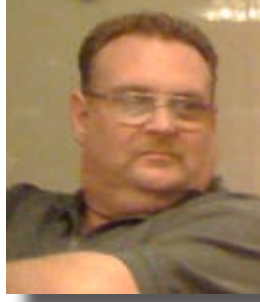


... Yes, but I was declared the winner !!!

## Membership Report

Gary Stevens - Membership Director

Here we are, two-thirds of the way through the year and our membership has reached yet another milestone. We are currently at 317 members and still growing. Rumor has it that we are only about 50 or so members away from being the largest AMA club in the United States.



I thought this was going to be an easy gig being membership director just a short 2 years ago, 80 maybe 90 members no problem, little did I know how the club would grow in a short period of time... Thanks Jason.

Obviously we have had a dozen new members sign up since the last report. I thought I would share with you some of the comments that have been typed on the online applications. Below is a small sampling:

**FeedBack:** I used to go to this field almost 20 years ago and I had to quit going because it was basically taken over by a bunch of thugs that would never take down their flags and if you were flying and they wanted that frequency, they would turn on their radio and crash your plane. I am SO DELIGHTED to see how you guys run the field, it's a REAL Pleasure to attend now. Honest, Fair & FUN!

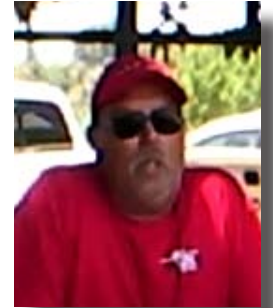
**FeedBack:** The L.A. Parks staff often are late opening the gate in the mornng. This occurs very often. I would like a Valley Flyer to have a key for the gate. I'm sure this problem has been discussed before but if the city workers cannot do their job their supervisor really ought to fix the problem and/or give us a key! Thanks!

Lets see if we can reach that #1 club status this year.

## Treasurers Report

Gregg Fullington - Treasurer

Gregg reports that we have approximately \$12,000 in the bank.



## WHAT'S ON TAP?

Bob Smith

In the current and prior month newsletters, a copy of the flyer for the Valley Flyer BBQ and Fun Fly was attached.

Please see it for any details regarding the event but e-mail me at [flynbs@socal.rr.com](mailto:flynbs@socal.rr.com) with your BBQ reservation information (beef or chicken and the number of orders for each member of your party including yourself). Or you can just see me at the next meeting, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

The August monthly give away/drawing will feature the Hanger 9 TANGO. This ARF can be powered by 2/4 stroke or electric.

Did you know that club member (and Giant Scale Director) Adam Gilbert was included on the closing credits for the movie "The Dark Knight"?

Regards, Bob Smith



## **Board Meeting Minutes**

August 6, 2008 - Scott Ramos

Members in attendance:

Jason Pakfar, Dave Sweany, Sam Gengo, Eugene Haban, Gary Stevens, Tony di Lio, Chuck Thompson, Ricc Bieber, Binyamin Elkouby, Adam Gelbart, Gregg Fullington, George Finch, Cliff Sonnentag, Scott Ramos, Bob Joyce, Gary Stevens



Members absent: Mitch Kahn, Don Farra, Billy Edwards

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

### *Jason Pakfar*

A decision needs to be made for videos at the field. There are a number of VHS tapes that need to be reviewed and selected for transfer to DVD. Chuck will digitize the archive of newsletters. Scale Masters Qualifier this weekend. The new audio system works well and is ready. The concession stand is ready



Pad for the shed is done. Two more needed for the park flyer shade area. We need to look into benches and shelters (4-5). Costco has 8' x 2' powder coated tables (about \$200). Material to build tables would be about \$500. Ricc will look into park equip suppliers.

Once the south end is done, work will start on the Heli pilot stations. We need a 25m circle by pylon 2 for FAI event Park & Recs. will be working on water pipes out in the field. Tabletops are painted, logos added and have been clear coated. We need 240 feet of edge guard for the tabletops. Ricc will look into the cost and supply. We will start putting the tops on tomor-

row. We need a secure storage for the new sound system. Chuck suggests that it be raised off of floor level.

New shed. We need a 48' container. Sam and Gene will look into prices. We want a flat-sided container.

The night of the club meeting at the field, Jason and Chuck were there until midnight. There needs to be better organization on closing down the field. Who ever handles a specific section, food, audio, tents, extra projects, should make arrangements for takedown. We have multiple types of people to come out and help. Some come in for a couple of hours, some stay all day. How do we handle work credit? Each 5 hrs of work will earn one ticket. The real help that is needed is at the start and the end. Perhaps we need more incentive for setup and teardown. If you take on a task at an event, it needs to be covered from start to finish. Any questions should go to that person, not to Jason.

### *Adam Gelbart*

Scale Masters Qualifier will be this weekend. Adam will be there on Friday, and will have Judges for the static event. Trophies are ready. The cost was \$240 for trophies for all 4 classes and Best of Show. Entry fee will be \$25. All concession funds need to be turned in to the treasury after each event. Ricc suggests workers get lunch coupons. Jason suggests we hand out tickets with person's name to track what is going out to workers. Scott will help with registration on Saturday and man the TX impound. Adam has been taking fliers to hobby shops. Chuck will post next event posters at the field.

### *Sam Gengo*

SAE event is being planned for 2009. Sam is in contact with them. Dave suggests a web cam for the event. The SAE nominally donates \$1000 for the 3-day event. Jason suggest we ask for more of a donation this year, but will make allowance for their budget. Sam called one of the sponsors and

spoke with them about the cost. Any negotiation will need to go through the local SAE chapter. Last year there were two channel news reporters and several newspaper reporters. Sam will look into contacting news agencies for coverage. Jason has purchased the domain names aerodesign-west.com and ADW2009.com

### *Gary Stevens*

The largest club in the country is under 400 members. Our current membership is 308. Sam will be sending out notices to those pending AMA numbers. There are 73 people who were members last year who did not renew.

### *Bob Joyce*

ROG event is next month. The following month Common Sense will make a presentation.

### *Scott Ramos*

Don Farra suggested that the club build a heavy lift plane for a demonstration at the SAE event

### *Ricc Bieber*

The ROG is this month. Ricc has been sending monthly reminders in the newsletters. It is also pizza night.

Sam is asking for a task chart for the concession. Ricc is working on it.

### *Chuck Thompson*

The warbird race made \$340 on registration and \$400 on food. There was great response from the attendants. Chuck made a setup sheet for the audio system. We sold \$90 in shirts and caps at LA Jets. Chuck will be bringing Valley Flyers shirts and caps for the Scale Masters Qualifier. Chuck suggested that we should have a small card with basic club information that can be handed out. Sam will put together something that can be printed on our equipment.

### *Tony di Leo*

One trainer needs some repairs after contact with the runway. The second trainer is flying fine. The third trainer needs to be completed.

Two of three starters are not functioning. Tony will need some help with training. Jim Di Gregorio can help one day, and Bert will help for helis.

### *George Finch*

He got a call from someone who is requesting to set up a display at the Scale Masters. George is repairing a trainer. FAI sanctions have been pulled. George is trying to get a hold of the gardener about the container. We need to start on next year's schedule. We need to announce Western EFly and LA Jets and Howard Reed events as early as possible.

### *Cliff Sonnentag*

CDs can contact cliff directly for posters and fliers.

### *Gene Haban*

There's a fun fly/bbq at the end of Sept 28. Gene motioned that a swap meet be held at the event. The motion was seconded and passed. Gene will try to get the info about the swap meet to local clubs. Jason suggests that since we have 300 members and it is free to members, we may be able to attract vendor participation.

### *Benny Elkouby*

The park flyer area is almost done. Two more slabs need to be poured then work will start in on the Heli area. There is one electric trainer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM



VALLEY FLYERS  
1ST ANNUAL

# WARBIRD RACE



Thanks to Jason Pakfar for securing some great prizes!



1st Place in Unlimited Class went to Scott Manning



1st Place in Stock Class was to Dave Gavin flying an AT-6



2nd Place in Unlimited Class was won by Dat Le



Marc Winz captured 2nd Place in Stock Class



3rd Place in Unlimited Class went to Billy Edwards



3rd Place in Stock Class was won by Tony Naccarato

## **AMA Basic Safety Rules**

Gene Haban - Safety Officer

There are 10 Basic AMA Safety Rules, of which I will go over them thru the course of this and upcoming news letters so as to not take away too much article space from everyone else.

For some good reasons the AMA had decided way back when to implement the safety code for model airplanes. This is something that really goes unnoticed by the average RC modeler, so I'm going to take this chance to basically, and I mean basically go over it with you guys at home to give a simple explanation of what they mean for the lay person.

1. A model aircraft shall be defined as a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere. It shall not exceed limitations established in this code and is intended to be used exclusively for recreational or competition activity.

This means that you have some type of RC aircraft may it be an airplane, helicopter, gyrocopter, blimp, free flight airplane or control line type aircraft that fall within a weight class (which will be described next) that is used for fun or for some type of event where you can fly within some kind of set rules of competition like a race or scale event.

2. The maximum takeoff weight of a model aircraft, including fuel, is 55 pounds, except for those flown under the AMA Experimental Aircraft Rules.

This goes for the "Heavies" (no pun intended), here we have a maximum weight class being no heavier than 55 pounds for your aircraft unless you are flying within the guidelines of the Experimental Class. If your aircraft falls within the Experimental Class, I suggest the you go see Billy Edwards, as he is familiar with this class (must have something to do with his Big A-10, if you haven't seen it already).

3. I will not fly my model aircraft in the presence of spectators until I become a proficient flier, unless I am assisted by an experienced pilot.

Here we have the "Newbie Clause" where if you're learning to fly, you will have someone teach you while there are other people around.

Our club has various trainers with free instruction for club members, yes free, just ask Tony di Leo for further details.

4. At all flying sites a safety line or lines must be established, in front of which all flying takes place. Only personnel associated with flying the model aircraft are allowed at or in front of the safety line. In the case of air shows or demonstrations a straight safety line must be established. An area away from the safety line must be maintained for spectators. Intentional flying behind the safety line is prohibited.

The idea behind this rule is so that people don't get in the path of aircraft which is zipping around at speeds of up to 200 MPH and get taken out.

We are lucky that the main runway has some good distance from the pit area, but please be careful at all times, especially in the park flier area as people are always flying just feet from spectators and other pilots. Hopefully we will have more room in the next coming months after completion of the new park flier area (all that concrete going in as I type and you read).

More to come in the next newsletter issue of The Valley Flyers.....

P.S. Sam wanted me to mention that all you guys with 4 stroke engines on your planes, Please make sure you use a Check Nut on your props, running a 4 stroke engine without a check nut on the main nut holding your propeller on can lead to a trip to the hospital due to the propeller flying off under certain circumstances.

AMA-District X

# Scale Masters Qualifier





# WILLIE @ WORK

Willie Gardener is at it again. He has recently taken his attention to the club's "Engine Break-in Tables" and to repairing the old club logo sign that has hung for years near the main entrance to the pit area. Thanks Willie!



Table for "Clamp" or "Screw" down engine mounts



Two tables for Aircraft "Only" Engine Break-in

***PLEASE keep tables "clean" when done using for the NEXT person.***



Same table for various size engines break-in



# LA JETS

TURBINE EVENT





CLUB MEMBERS

**BBQ  
POTLUCK**

# SAFE FLY & SWAP MEET

PRODUCT CLINICS  
AND GIVEAWAYS!

AMA SANCTIONED EVENT  
>SAFE FLY STARTS 8:30 AM  
FIELD OPEN TO ALL AMA CARD HOLDERS  
>EVENT ENTRY FEE \$10.00  
**FREE TO CLUB MEMBERS**

PILOTS MUST ABIDE BY POSTED AND WRITTEN VALLEY FLYERS RULES  
SEE [WWW.VALLEYFLYERS.COM](http://WWW.VALLEYFLYERS.COM) FOR MORE INFO

**BBQ POTLUCK STARTS AT 12:30 PM**  
>BBQ FREE TO MEMBERS OF THE VALLEY FLYERS  
AND ONE GUEST  
>\$5.00 FOR ADDITIONAL GUESTS

>**STEAK AND CHICKEN ON THE MENU**  
>EACH FAMILY PLEASE BRING ONE SIDE DISH  
YOU ARE WELCOME TO ADVISE US ON YOUR CHOICE OF MEAL IN ADVANCE  
AT THE REGULAR MEETING OR BY EMAIL, 'flynbs@socal.rr.com'



LOCATION: APOLLO XI FIELD

## SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28th

Photo: Clifford Sontag

TO HELP WITH THE EVENT  
AND FOR MORE INFO PLEASE  
VISIT [WWW.VALLEYFLYERS.COM](http://WWW.VALLEYFLYERS.COM)  
OR CONTACT: BOB SMITH CD  
661-298-2614 FLYNBS@SOCAL.RR.COM



NEWS from CPSC - U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission - Office of Information and Public Affairs Washington, DC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 19, 2008 - Release #08-364

Firm's Recall Hotline: (866) 462-2426  
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

### Hobbico Inc. Recalls Batteries Used In Radio-Controlled Helicopters Due to Fire Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Batteries Used In Radio-Controlled Helicopter Kits

Units: About 11,000

Importer/Distributor: Hobbico Inc., of Champaign, Ill.

Hazard: The rechargeable battery can overheat and catch fire while charging, igniting nearby combustible materials. This poses a fire hazard to consumers.

Incidents/Injuries: Hobbico has received 28 reports of batteries overheating and/or melting, including 27 reports of flames and minor property damage. No injuries have been reported.

Description: This recall involves the Electrify lithium-polymer batteries (part #GPMP0401) sold individually or with the Heli-Max Axe CP-L radio-controlled helicopter kits. The kit includes a 23-inch long plastic helicopter, a battery, a radio transmitter, a balance charger, a car adapter, an AC wall adapter, decals that read "HMX", "AXE" and "Heli-Max" and training gear. "Electrify" and "GPMP0401" are printed on the battery.

Sold at: Hobby Stores nationwide and online from November 2007 through March 2008 for about \$35. The helicopter kits were sold for \$200.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled batteries and contact Hobbico for instructions on returning their battery for a free replacement battery.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Hobbico toll-free at (866) 462-2426 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or visit the company's recall Web sites at [www.helimaxrc.com](http://www.helimaxrc.com) or [www.electrify.com](http://www.electrify.com) to register for the recall

PROMOTE YOUR CLUB

## Valley Flyers Shirts & Caps

CAPS \$10

EMBROIDERED POLO SHIRTS \$20.00

NEW POCKET T-SHIRTS \$15.00

EMBROIDERED POLO SHIRTS \$20.00

NOW AVAILABLE AT GENERAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

# Apollo XI Facility Schedule – 2008

**Organized Events Provide Field Improvements for Everyone!**

Date	Club	Event	Contest Director (CD)	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
9	SAT	VF	Numb Thumb Fun Fly/Night Fly	Jason Pakfar
17	SUN	VF	Valley Flyers Winter Fun Fly	Sam Gengo
<b>MARCH</b>				
2	SUN	BSS	Electric C/L	Tony Naccarato <b>Runway not affected.</b>
9	SUN	VFGSS	Giant Scale Fly In / Night Fly	Marv Zauss
<b>APRIL</b>				
4	FRI ½ Day	VF	Q40/Q500 / APRA/AMA West Coast Racing Series	George Finch
5 – 6	SAT & SUN			
20	SUN	BSS	All Electric Fun-Fly	Tony Naccarato
<b>MAY</b>				
3	SAT	VF	Valley Flyers Fun Fly / Hobby People Engine Clinic	Dave Hendrex
4	SUN	VCB	C/L Stunt Clinic – 2 circles	<b>Runway not affected.</b>
17 – 18	SAT & SUN	VF	LA JETS Spring 2008 - 2 Days	Billy Edwards
<b>JUNE</b>				
6	FRIDAY	VF	Western States 3-Day Electric Fun Fly	Tony Naccarato
7 – 8	SAT & SUN			
20	FRI ½ Day	VF	Howard Reed Memorial Q40/Q500 / APRA/AMA Pylon Races <i>Western Championship</i>	George Finch
21 – 22	SAT & SUN			
<b>JULY</b>				
5	SAT	VFGSS	Giant Scale Fly In / Night Fly	Adam Gelbart
13	SUN	VF	First Annual Warbird Race	Chuck Thompson
22	TUE	VF	Club Meeting at Field 7:30 PM	Jason Pakfar
26 – 27	SAT & SUN	VF	LA JETS – Summer 08 – 2 Days	Billy Edwards
<b>AUGUST</b>				
8	FRI	VF	Scale Masters Qualifier AMA Scale, Expert, Sport & Fun	Don Goeschl
9 – 10	SAT & SUN			
9 – 10	SAT & SUN	VCB	Hi Johnson Memorial C/L Stunt Contest – 4 Circles	J. Silver <b>No Heli Flying</b>
22	FRI	VF	FAI F3D Team Trials	George Finch
23 – 24	SAT & SUN			
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
14	SUN	VFGSS	Giant Scale Fly In / Night Fly	Jay Repogle
28	SUN	VF	Valley Flyers Fun Fly / BBQ	Bob Smith
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
4 – 5	SAT & SUN	VCB	Hi Johnson Memorial C/L Stunt Contest – 4 Circles	J. Silver <b>No Heli Flying</b>
10	FRIDAY	VF	LA 3-D Helicopters	Mitch Kahn
11-12	SAT & SUN			
26	SUN	BSS	All Electric Fun Fly	Tony Naccarato
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
8	SAT	VF	Valley Flyers Fall Fun Fly	Jason Pakfar
8	SAT Evening	VF	November Night Fly	4pm-9pm Jason Pakfar
30	SUN	VF	LA JETS – Fall 2008 – 1 Day	Billy Edwards
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
14	SUN	VFGSS	Toys-for-Tots - Open to all sizes	Darrell Martin

**½ Day:** Although the schedule states ½ day for the first day of a multi day event, the field may be closed before noon if a significant number of event participants are present and ready to fly. The exception to this is Pylon Racing in which the field will always be open for sport flying during the practice day morning.

<b>APRA</b>	Arizona Pylon Racing Association	Quickie pylon racing rules committee
<b>BSS</b>	Black Sheep Squadron	Peanut scale, miniature, electric, and indoor aircraft
<b>VFGSS</b>	Giant Scale Squadron	Giant Scale Squadron of the Valley Flyers

# 2008 Schedule of Events

## Club Meetings

Club meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Please bring a few extra dollars for refreshments and raffle tickets.



**We have the Meeting Hall reserved until 9:30 PM on meeting nights so we have plenty of time for Show & Tell!**

### 2008 Club Meeting Schedule

January	22 <sup>nd</sup>	July	22 <sup>nd</sup> - <b>Field Nite Fly</b>
February	26 <sup>th</sup>	August	26 <sup>th</sup>
March	25 <sup>th</sup>	September	23 <sup>rd</sup>
April	22 <sup>nd</sup>	October	28 <sup>th</sup>
May	27 <sup>th</sup>	November	25 <sup>th</sup> - Raffle
June	24 <sup>th</sup>	December	Party !

## Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month.

### 2008 Schedule

January	3 <sup>rd</sup>	July	3 <sup>rd</sup>
February	7 <sup>th</sup>	August	7 <sup>th</sup>
March	6 <sup>th</sup>	September	4 <sup>th</sup>
April	3 <sup>rd</sup>	October	2 <sup>nd</sup>
May	1 <sup>st</sup>	November	6 <sup>th</sup>
June	5 <sup>th</sup>	December	4 <sup>th</sup>

### Notice of Meetings for the Sepulveda Basin Users

To confirm schedule date & time:  
(818) 756-8189  
Quarterly Meetings are the following dates:

January XX	7 PM
April XX	7 PM
July XX	7 PM
October XX	7 PM

The meetings give the club a voice to the City Recreation and Parks for our flying field. For more information on attending a meeting, see any of the Valley Flyers Board members.

## SUPPORT THE HOBBY SHOPS THAT SUPPORT YOUR CLUB!

<b>eHobbies.com</b> Brian Carlevato	14325 Alondra Blvd., La Mirada, CA 90638 Valley Flyers Online discount will be deducted in the shopping cart by using link from the Valley Flyers website.	<b>(877) eHobbies (346-2243)</b>
<b>Evet's Model Shop</b> Colby Evett	1636 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica CA 90405 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 11-5:30); (Sun 10-1)	<b>(310) 452-2720</b>
<b>eHobby House</b>	17721 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA	<b>(818) 609-1968</b>
<b>Hobby Lobby</b> Tony and Addie	3512 W. Victory Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505 (Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 10-6:30); (Mon & Sun Closed)	<b>(818) 842-5062</b>
<b>Hobby People</b> Chris	5541 Balboa Blvd., Encino, CA 91316 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri 10-9); (Sat 10-6); (Sun 10-5)	<b>(818) 995-1162</b>
<b>Hobby Zone</b> Edwin	1617A Victory Blvd., Glendale Ca 91201 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 10-7); (Sun 1-5)	<b>(818) 546-2291</b>
<b>Marty's Hobbies</b> Marty Friedman	1728 Moorpark Rd., Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91360 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 10-8); (Fri 10-9); (Sat 10-6); (Sun 10-5)	<b>(805) 497-3664</b>
<b>Robin's Hobby</b> Robin Hambley	1844 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale, CA 91201 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 10-7); (Sun 12-4)	<b>(818) 240-2093</b>
<b>Smith Brothers</b> David	8941 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA 91325 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 10-7); (Sun 10-5)	<b>(818) 885-8636</b>
<b>TdL Model Systems</b> Tony di Leo	CNC Foam Cutting by Appointment www.TdLModels.com	<b>(818) 652-9366</b>