



# HANGAR NEWS

## NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER AEROSQUADRON AMA CHARTER August 2023

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HANGAR NEWS is printed for the members of the FIRST WEED WACKER AEROSQUADRON and its contents do not necessarily reflect the policies of the club. Editorial deadline is the 15th of each month. Articles, news items and classified ads should be sent to Don Westergren, 3942 Calavo Dr., La Mesa, CA 91941.

Articles originally published in this newsletter may be reprinted and published by modelers and club newsletters. We ask that credit to the author and this newsletter be acknowledged in the reprint. We will do the same.

CLUB FIELD: Cactus Park (East), Ashwood St. (1/4 mile N-E of El Capitan High School) in Lakeside, CA. Please be sure the last flyer to leave locks the pin box and the gate..

## R/C Schedule

Aug 5 Sat Club Meeting Cactus Park 9:00 AM

## Passing for your information and excitement!

At the upcoming club meeting, Saturday August 5th, Jeff will present options for procurement of our own hot-pour crack. The machine and raw material cost is less than what we'd pay a contractor.

This the RY10 Asphalt Crack Fill Machine at \$1,300.

Rough calculations for our estimated 2000 linear feet of 1/2" deep, 1/2" wide average cracks will need about 240 lbs of material which is ~\$850.

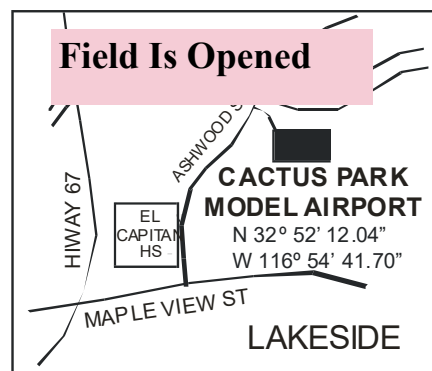
Please bring your thoughts and ideas.

v/r

The Board



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Sat Aug 5, 9:00 AM**  
**at Cactus Park**  
**Lakeside, CA**





# Hangar News

## Meeting Minutes 08 July 2023

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 08:57 am at the field. Club officers present were the President, Vice President, and the Secretary. A total of **seventeen** members signed the roster. (Keith's note – me thinks more were present). The meeting was kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance to a brand-new flag

On the topic of flags, Ron asked members to bring whichever DoD Service flag they'd like to have flown at the field for periods of 30 days. When a new flag is brought to a club meeting, the prior service flag will be lowered and the new one hauled.

**Approval of minutes:** Approval of the minutes of the June meeting was moved by Keith Miller, second by Vernon Gilmore, approved.

## **Treasurers Report:**

While the Treasurer wasn't present, he provided the monthly report for presentation.

Opening Balance    \$\$8,894.25

Income                \$783.75

Expenses            \$1,238.87

Ending Bal:         \$8,439.13

Major expenses include two payments to United Site Services (outhouse) at \$302 each, our annual web hosting fee (\$215.28) and food costs for a prior BBQ.

Keith moved and Vernon seconded approval of the Treasurer's report. Approved.

**Outhouse Issues:** At the very beginning of July, it was apparent that a member utilized the outhouse as a personal motor-home offload station. The outhouse had to be secured for several days until United Site Services could service it.

**Trash Can Issues:** as mentioned last month, Waste Management removed a broken gray bin but failed to replace it. No action had yet been taken by the Board to address the problem. During the meeting, it was discussed and agreed that we typically don't need two grey trash bins. Ron took action to call Waste Management to correct the billing and service.

**Daisy Chained Locks:** Once again, the front gate was found improperly locked on at least one occasion. Members were reminded that the locks must be closed in a daisy chain sequence to ensure that any of the property stakeholders, managers or tenants (us) can access the field at any time.

## **Safety Officer Report:** Ron covered a wide variety of Safety issues

When flying, members are reminded to stand behind the flight station fence to afford the protection from errant models.

When fighting brush fires (which hopefully never happens), keep the wind at your back and get on the phone with 911 immediately.

Julian made an excellent point that, if you're the one calling the Fire Department, be very careful in using the words "airplane crash". Either avoid those words, or very clearly say that there was a model airplane involved. Otherwise, a LOT of false excitement will brew about a full-size airplane crash.

If fingers get caught in a prop and someone offers to help wrap it, consider allowing them. If Ron (our President and Safety Officer) is on site, he's the most experienced nurse we have. If you're the nurse for someone else, be sure to stay with the injured until it's very apparent that they're stable. It's not uncommon for people to pass out from minor shock. Have the injured person sit in a chair so that, if they do pass out, they don't fall far.

Our AED is still in the ship awaiting fresh batteries. Ron is struggling to complete that task.



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The AED is not at the field for now, so members are advised to avoid heart attacks.  
A Fire Fighting training session is planned for January next year.

**Gate Checks:** If you drive past the field on your way to Mary's Donuts and you see the gate open, consider driving in to be sure that there's actually a member there. This may be an opportunity to find that member who's filling the outhouse with tons of crap! Or, it may be an opportunity to secure the gate that was inadvertently left open.

**Field Maintenance:**

**Runway Maintenance:** Frank & Sons (local contractor) was called and provided an estimate to fill all cracks, seal coat and stripe the runway. The total estimate was \$10,500. Ron asked them to provide an itemized breakdown.

(Keith's supplemental info, for reference:

in Aug 2021 the runway was sealed and striped for \$3,580. We bought the paint for \$240.

Total was about \$3,820 (no cracks).

in the summer of 2016, the runway was resurfaced for \$18,760 following a very aggressive funding exercise.)

Ron is still planning to purchase some aggregate filling material to experiment with crack-filling of our own.

**Shed Roof:** is back on hold due to lack of volunteers, excessive heat and our focus on runway maintenance. After all, the runway is why we're here!

**Brush Trimmer Repair:** The large brush trimmer runs only on a prime and needs servicing. Art Flores agreed to take on this task. Members opined that a very simple and low cost solution would be to simply replace the carburetor. All agreed.

**Members invited to work:** Ron invited all members to dedicate a little time out in the field cutting back the mustard plants/weeds. Maybe go out for 30 minutes or an hour at your convenience and make a little progress. Many members doing small parts will surely keep the growth at bay. Reminder; do this in pairs or with at least one other person at the field for safety reasons.

**County weed work planned:** The County is scheduled in July to cut back the growth in the EPA capped area between the bare wire and chain link fences north of the runway. In the meantime, members need to be vigilant in the event of downed models with LiPo batteries. Any small fire will grow very quickly in these hot and dry conditions.

**Badges and FAA Registration:** Members are reminded to wear their badges. Also, check your FAA Recreation Drone Pilot registration card. They expire every three years. Our Vice President (Jeff) offered to provide "ITS" support (computer geek) to help members navigate the FAA Drone Zone to renew. Don't get distracted by the hundreds of other false sites that will collect way more \$\$ than the \$5 the FAA needs.

**Rules Review:** Rule #4 requires members to call 911 in the case of a fire. We learned that 911 calls actually route through Sacramento before they're dispatched locally. Because, of course that makes sense. Be clear with the dispatcher and stay on the phone while another member goes to the driveway to flag down the engines.

**Previous events:**

**Pylon Races:** At the conclusion of our June monthly T-28 races, Glen hosted two heats of "race what you brung" which were a blast! We had something like eight planes in a very wide spectrum all running around the pylons with no incidents! We'll do it again at the July races.

**Upcoming Events:**

Pylon Races at the Weedwackers is every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. SEFSD (Mission Bay) hold their every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday.

National Model Aviation Day, Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>.



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Fun Fly Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup> is TBD.

**Drawing for Free Membership:** At each meeting, we hold a random drawing from names on the club roster. If the member is present at the meeting, they win a free membership for the following year.

Drawing for July: Joel Failla. Sorry – must be present to win!

**New Members:** Joe Donnelley joined the meeting is our newest member. Welcome Joe!

**Show and Tell:** None this month

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

## **Member Photos**

Update 7/22/23

### **Arnold's Air Force, assembled and flown by Lyle Black**

Over the past few months, Lyle put on the final pre-flight touches on six of Arnold Lipschutz' hand-crafted models. Included in today's air show were Arnold's Tiger Moth, PT-17, P-51, Ace 4-40 Biplane, Sig Skybolt and a Cox Pica Waco. Only the Waco had flown before – all others saw their maiden flights today.

All flights went very well, with a minor exception that Lyle learned the Tiger Moth's flying wires were in fact meant to be functional. Lyle was able to bring it down safely while countering the effects of significantly variable dihedral!

Congratulations to Arnold for the successful exhibition of his fleet, and well done to Lyle who successfully maiden them all!

This is Arnold Lipschutz' 4-40 Biplane. Lyle Black has been preparing many of Arnold's planes for maiden or re-maiden flights.

Lyle's plan is that, when Arnold and he can get a common day together, Lyle will fly Arnolds latest fleet of four models which includes this 4-40 Biplane, a Tiger Moth, PT-17 and a P-51. Lyle's calling it "Arnold's Air Force".

I hope we can get pics of that if/when it happens.

Keith Miller





# Hangar News

## All Hands,

The next time you visit the field, notice that it is clean and weed free. The jungle at the east end of the field was higher than the lawnmower. **Rich Brown** and **Dick Milhausen** cut down everything that was green. What a great job! With the temperature in the 90's they started at 0615 and finished at about 0830. Thanks is something I have said many times and their effort is greatly appreciated. The rest of the club members might say thanks too!

For those who did not show up for the July meeting or have not read the minutes, I've pushed everyone to be cautious about crashed planes and fire potential. The growth of weeds to the northwest is a big problem; it's tall and very dry. A small fire could evolve into a big fire very fast. So stay sharp!

If a plane goes down, two people should respond to the crash site with the crash bag.

If you see smoke, watch for fire. If it's small campfire size, attempt to extinguish.

If the fire grows into something larger, immediately call 911. Tell operator, "MODEL" airplane crash and make sure the word "MODEL" is in the conversation. Move quickly to the runway and stop all flying.

If I'm not at the field, call me ASAP – cell: (619) 988-7667

Remember, the wind is usually out of the west. Move to the south onto the runway or the nearest road or into burned area behind fire. The County is scheduled to cut and clear the area between Weedwacker road and Polo road sometime in July.

The shed roof repair is on hold until later in the year when the weather is cooler plus we're not expecting any rain in the near future. The club members that attended the July meeting voted to apply the \$600 intended for the shed to be spent on the runway. The runway bid for \$10,500 was too high so we will do it ourselves. The more members that participate will make the job easier and go quicker. We are looking at different ways to repair the cracks – it is a work in progress.

The AED is back at the field and is ready if needed. We haven't needed it so far and that's good news!

The next meeting will be 5 August 2023, at 0900 at the field. I would like to see a large turnout. I will provide donuts from Mary's for all those that attend the meeting. Don't forget to bring your own drink.

If you have any ideas to improve Weedwackers, bring to the meeting for discussion or reach out and let me know.

Ron  
(619) 988-7667

