



HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
January 2023

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
P.O. Box 2044
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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
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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

Jan 6 Fri Awards Banquet 6:00 PM El Cajon Elks Lodge
Jan 14 Sat SEFSD Pylon Race Mission Bay
Jan 21 Sat Field Clean-up 8:00AM-10:00AM
Jan 28 Sat Pylon Race Cactus Park

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron Annual Awards Banquet

Date: Friday 1/6/2023

6:00 pm Bar
7:00 pm Dinner

Admission—\$25 per person
Tossed Greens with Variety of Dressings
Parmesan Crusted Chicken with Jalapeno Cream Sauce (on
the side)

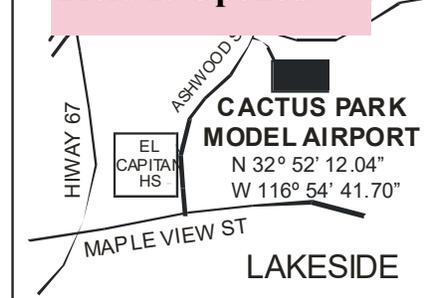
Tender Roast Beef with Au Jus and Horseradish
Roasted Redskin Potatoes
Fresh Vegetables
Rolls and Butter
Coffee, Tea at station



El Cajon Elk's Lodge #1812
1400 E. Washington Ave, El Cajon



Field Is Opened



NEXT MEETING:
Friday, Jan 7, 6:00 PM
1400 E. Washington
El Cajon

Awards Banquet



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Meeting Minutes Dec 2022

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am at the field. Club officers present were the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. A total of **thirty** members were present the most in more than two years!

The meeting was kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes: Approval of the minutes of the September meeting was moved by Keith Miller, seconded by John Loerke, approved

Treasurers Report:

Beg bal	7995.60
Income	--
Expenses	--
Closing Bal	7989.39

Scott admitted his register was momentarily “jacked up” and didn’t have detailed income and expense values available for discussion at the moment. A majority of the expenses were for the Veteran’s Day food and raffle and the deposit for the Elks Lodge (banquet).

Motion to approve – Keith Miller, seconded by David Roche, approved.

Safety Officer Report: Lithium Polymer battery disposal: LiPos left in the red cans in the pit area should be discharged as much as possible. Ron (still Safety Officer) makes a practice of soaking the batteries in salt water for a long time before taking them to Lowes for recycling.

Fire Extinguisher at gate: Ron will be installing a fire extinguisher near the northern gate by the dirt road in a small can, buried part way in the dirt with the cover held down with a square stepping stone. The purpose is to have an extinguisher at the ready should responders get out to the riverbed without the Crash Bag and then realize they need an extinguisher. Having an extinguisher at the gate will significantly shorten the response time to a small fire.

Calling out runway intentions: Ron reminded the members to call out intentions at the flight line *loudly*. There have been many recent near-misses due to failed or weak announcements.

Previous events:

Review of Toys for Tots campaign Lester Moore reported \$443 total cash collected during the November Swap Meet and Veteran’s Day events. That translated to \$449 in gifts, 22 for boys, 26 for girls.

Lester delivered the toys to Frank Gagliardi for delivery to the Marine Corps Reserve Center. In addition, Franks recent efforts to auction off the generously donated kits and models from Mike O’Donnell resulted in seven bicycles he picked up from the Miramar Exchange. While there, a passer- by asked him if the batch of bikes were gifts to which Frank responded they were Toys for Tots. The person quickly donated \$40 which the Exchange manager quickly turned into another large batch of gifts!

Upcoming Events:

Annual Awards Banquet, 06 Jan 2023. Ron refreshed the reminder that the club is taking reservations. Members were also reminded to make their nominations for those who are deserving of recognition for their contributions or accomplishments.

Pylon Racing is now on the club calendar every fourth Saturday of each month (*opposite of the SEFSD schedule of every second Saturday*). Glen Merritt is the new Event Coordinator for the Weedwacker races.

Schedule of events: The remainder of the 2023 calendar is populated and viewable on the club web site and includes all of the annual events we normally run.

Old Business:



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Remote ID and FRIA: Keith reminded the club of the recent emails from the AMA that they're recognized by the FAA as a Community Based Organization. FAA-recognized identification area (FRIA) applications are now available through the AMA. Ours will be submitted shortly. Keith reminded the members that this allows the club and members to continue operations without the need to have remote-ID systems in our models.

New Business:

Multi-Rotor operations: One member asked for guidance on where "drones" (i.e., DJI's) could fly, and if would be possible to hold drone flying sessions. Ron said he'll make every attempt to talk to multi-rotor pilots face-to-face.

Keith took action to re-publish the flying site boundaries. The use of multi-rotors to photograph events was discussed, including the Event Directors discretion to allow multi-rotor craft to fly and position themselves outside the flight boundaries to safely capture pictures/video.

A member asked if multi-rotors can be flown/hovered at Station "H" which is our helipad. The answer is yes, and the Board took action to update the Field Rules to address Station "H" being moved to the west end of the pits and to clarify that multi-rotor hovering is also allowed. [Secretary's note: Subsequent review of Rule 13 found that multi-rotor models are already identified for use of Station "H".]

BBQ Duties: Bob "Mr. Bob" Frazier volunteered to run the BBQ grills during future club events.

Estate Planes for sale in Menifee: Keith reminded the club to review the recent email sent out on behalf of Jennifer from Menifee who is selling three models that belonged to her deceased husband.

Desert Fly-Ins: Frank Gagliardi described desert fly-ins frequently held near El Centro at the Superstition off-road park around 95 miles from here. Attendees fly all day and cook/eat/drink all night, sleeping in tent, trucks, campers or RVs. The site is very near the Blue Angels practice area. Frank will pass the word when the next event is planned.

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

Drawing for November: Lyle Black was drawn for the 2nd month in a row. Sorry! Must be present to win.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 am.

Keith

Toys For Tots 2022





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All Hands,

As 2022 winds down I reflect back on the change in attitude of members doing their part to ensure the field is a better place:

Less phone calls from our polo field friends
Ideas for improvements
Turnout for field maintenance and special projects
Rules still need “just a little nudge”

Some of the things I would like to accomplish in 2023:

Rearrange the BBQ area
More events to entice members and their family, such as:

Female pilots fly in
Kids only event
Lunch and trip to Midway
Easter egg hunt at field
Group trip to Miramar air show
Question and answer session with different pilots:

- i) Fire helicopter pilot
- ii) Osprey pilot
- iii) F18 pilot
- iv) C130 pilot and aircrew
- v) MAYBE P51 pilot

The December meeting was great! Best turnout in a long time! Field meetings will continue on the first Saturday of each month. The first meeting in 2023 will be 4 February at 0900.

I want to thank all who have decided to attend the banquet in January/2023. Please remember to bring any raffle quality prize to boost ticket sales. Those who are unable to participate, we hope to see you at the 2024 banquet.

Thanks again to all for your support and comments on my decision to fill the position of President.

Regards,

Ron

(619) 988-7667



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FIRST WEEDWACKER AERO SQUADRON

Field Rules

1. All pilots must observe the AMA Safety Code and directions of the Field Marshalls.
2. No flying is permitted at Cactus Park on Red Flag Warning days.
3. Any pilot wishing to fly electric powered airplanes shall be a Weedwacker club member in good standing and will have attended a "Proper Electric Airplane Protocol" seminar to become a certified and safe electric airplane pilot. Guests may fly electric powered models under the direct supervision of a certified electric pilot.
4. In case of any fire event witnessed by a member at the Cactus Park site or surrounding area, the Lakeside fire department will be called upon immediately in order to respond. Call 911.
5. There must be an operating cell phone at Cactus Park whenever aircraft are being flown.
6. Running or flying engine-powered models is permitted from 9:00AM to sunset. Electrics and gliders are permitted from 7:00AM to sunset. Quiet helicopter flying is allowed in the vicinity of the runway from 8:00AM to 9:00AM.
 - 6a. Turbine, pulse jet and rocket powered models are not permitted.
7. All model aircraft must meet AMA noise guidelines (96 dBA at 3 meters).

Sound Limits - All model aircraft must measure less than or equal to 96 dBA at 3 meters (10 feet) taken as the highest of measurements measured from the front, rear and on each side of the model.

Note: upon receiving a noise complaint from a non-member neighbor of the field, a field marshal or board member may ground an aircraft until measures have been taken to reduce the aircraft's dba level. Any field marshal or board member may sign off on modifications and OK the aircraft for flight.

8. Flyers give way to vehicle traffic on runway.
9. Transmitters operating on 72 MHz must not be turned ON unless the pilot has the appropriate frequency clothespin on the transmitter. Pilots will place their current AMA card (or a copy) on the pin holder when using the pin. Channel numbers must be displayed on all transmitters.

Pilots are considered financially responsible for damage caused by violating this rule. Pilots using 2.4 GHz are not required to utilize transmitter identification pins.

10. Pilots must stand behind the fence in one of five flight stations for takeoff, flight and landings (5 planes maximum at any time). Refer to Rule 13 below regarding Station "H" for helicopters.
11. Flying should be confined to the area over the middle of the river flood control channel to the North, bounded by the flag/plane marker to the East, entry gate to the west and the northern runway edge to the South.

11a. Other than landing or taking off, flying is prohibited south of the SAFETY



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LINE, situated 25 feet from the PILOT LINE. The red and white SAFETY LINE extends in both easterly and westerly directions in a straight line extending from the line painted on the paved portion of the runway.

- 11b. At the west end of the runway, the safety line breaks towards the south-west in an imaginary line that passes through the parking sign situated at the base of the upper-plateau access driveway. The boundary extends to the visible peak of the hill to the west as viewed from the flight stations.
- 11c. A pilot may be grounded at the discretion of a field marshal or board member for the remainder of the day if any of said pilot's aircraft violate the eastern boundary more than once in a single day
- 11d. All aircraft will yield to aircraft landing and taking off. Pilots shall announce intentions to take off and/or land.

12. Pilots in stations 1-5 should normally fly in a right hand conventional oval traffic pattern when in the landing pattern and other planes are also flying (except for dead stick landings or when the wind is from the east). Aerobatic maneuvers and helicopter flight shall be performed north of the paved runway unless in a landing pattern. .

13. Helicopter, Multirotor, FPV and Heli-Pad Rules - Station "H"

Note

Station H is primarily for testing and trimming of Heli and Multirotor aircraft or close-in flight that precludes the normal flight operations in stations 1-5.

- 13a. Helicopters and multi-rotor aircraft may fly at the heli-pad to the west of the pit area bounded by the westerly fence, and between the south edge of the runway paving and the orange safety cones. The pilot will stand on the side of the fence directly facing the heli-pad so as to keep the fence between the pilot and the pits.
 - 13b. FPV flights must follow regulations of AMA Document 550. Most importantly, FPV flights require an FPV pilot to have a spotter next to him/her maintaining visual line-of-sight with the FPV aircraft throughout its flight.
 - 13c. Helicopter/multirotor pilots flying from Station H shall remain aware of fixed wing aircraft and helicopters that are flying in the normal pattern from stations 1-5..
 - 13d. Flights from Station H must remain within Heli Pad designated boundaries. Flights from station H's Heli Pad may not enter into the regular flight pattern area.
- 14. No taxiing in the pit area, or behind the pilot line. Models shall be carried or hand guided for absolute control in these areas.
 - 15. Model should be pointed such that prop blast with engine running will be directed away from other models or people.
 - 16. Club members must wear Club ID Badge when flying at the field. Non-club members may fly at the field as a guest under the guidance of a badge-wearing club member. Guest may fly on three visits, after which they must join the club to continue flying at Cactus Park.



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17. Inexperienced pilots should seek the help and be given help by experienced pilots or club instructors.
18. Parking is permitted in designated areas only; at least 15 feet clear of the pit area.
19. Gate must be locked except when Club Members are present. The last member out must lock the gate regardless of the time of day.
20. Smoking and vaping are strictly prohibited within the boundaries of Cactus Park in accordance with San Diego County Ordinance, 41.118 and 4.118.5.
21. Charging of Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries at Cactus Park shall be in accordance with the posted Weedwacker Lithium Polymer Battery Charging Protocol (and should be followed when charging batteries of any type).
22. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or use of illegal substances is prohibited at the flying field.
23. All dogs must be on a leash not exceeding six feet in length (San Diego County Ordinance, 41.123).
24. Radio control cars (and trucks) are permitted at the field under the following conditions:
 - 24a. Members may operate R/C cars in the upper south parking lot (south of the berm) but must remain at least 30 feet clear of parked vehicles when operating (to preclude collisions or rocks from hitting cars). Should vehicles enter the southern parking area, R/C car operations must stop while the car is parking/moving.
 - 24b. Cars may be operated on the runway when no aircraft are flying or on the runway. Cars must leave the runway when a pilot is ready to taxi out.
 - 24c. At no time will radio control cars be driven in the pit area (between the pilot stations and the parking berm).
 - 24d. Members' children may operate R/C cars while under direct supervision.
25. All flyers shall comply with FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems Regulations and be registered as a Recreational Flyer within a Modeler Community-Based Organization
 - 25a. Flyers shall present, upon request, their current sUAS Certificate of Registration issued by the FAA
 - 25b. All models shall be marked or labeled with the flyer's FAA sUAS registration number.
 - 25c. Flight altitude shall be limited to 400 feet AGL.

Last updated: Jan, 2023: moved Station "H" to west end of pits.