



HANGAR NEWS

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
December 2020**

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
P.O. Box 2044
Lakeside, CA 92040

Sign up for Email Delivery of
Newsletter :

news.weedwackers@gmail.com

Web: <http://www.weedwackers.org>

Club Officers Email:

info.weedwackers@gmail.com

President: Keith Miller 619-405-0192

V-P: Jeffrey Coskey 619-913-1455

Sec: Bruce Allen 760-789-3745

Treas: Scott Graupmann 858-945-6969

10938 Vivaracho Way

San Diego, CA 92124

Fun Fly Chairman Keith Miller

Race Chairman

Safety Officer Ron Keith

Field Marshals:

Vernon Gilmore

Dick Milhausen

Butch Weiser

Tim Peterson

Ron Keith

Ken Bryant

Gary Rold

Wings Over Gillespie Liason:

TBD

Raffle Chairman

Ron Keith

619-312-0968

Editor: Don Westergren

619-660-1137

3942 Calavo Dr

La Mesa CA 91941

Webmaster: Tim Peterson

webmaster@weedwackers.org

Instructors:

Scott Graupmann* 858-945-6969

Keith Miller* 619-405-0192

Richard Crutchfield* Jeff Coskey*

Butch Weiser* Dean Nickol*

Dick Mulhausen

*AMA Introductory Pilot Program Instructors

Electrical Aircraft Safety Technicians:

Scott Graupmann, Glenn Merritt,

Jeff Coskey, Butch Weiser,

Bruce Allan, Larry Bagalini and Keith Miller

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 2020

Nothing is scheduled due to Corona Virus

Next Club Meeting Tuesday Nov 3 is a Virtual Meeting

Members receiving the PDF version can click CTRL + click on the links here to join the meeting:

meet.google.com/shd-sesj-mzs

Membership Renewals

You need to renew your membership in the club by Feb 1, 2021.

We'll accept checks (directly to Scott's home address on the cover page), cash at the field, or the use of the PayPal button on the web page. Or you can go to the PayPal web page for the club at:

paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com

Or click on this link:

PayPal Club Membership

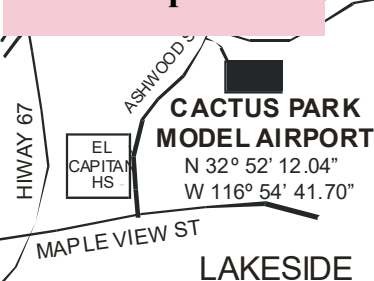
PayPal costs \$2.50, so sending a check to Scott Graupmann is preferred. Scott's address is above left (as the Treasurer). Send a self addressed stamped envelop to Scott for your membership card for 2021.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

NEXT Virtual MEETING:

**Tues. Dec 1, 7:00
Google Meets**

Field Is Opened





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Meeting Minutes November 3rd, 2020

Bruce Allen

The meeting for November 3rd, 2020 (because of the Covid-19 restrictions) was carried out via Video Conference from members homes. These Minutes have been compiled from my notes. (No Audio transcript available)

Present on the call:

Keith Miller President & invigilator, Jeff Coskey VP, Scott Graupman Treasurer & Bruce Allen Secretary, Ron Keith Safety Officer.

Other members who attended during the meeting:

Julian Sonderegger

Gerry Conklin

Don Westergren

Bill Simmons

Opening Comments

Attending Video members names will be added into the January Banquet Raffle 2022(?)

(Apologies if I missed anyone, please email me so I can make an addendum)

Approval of Minutes in September Hangar News (Sorry didn't get names)

Treasurers Report September

Proposed? Seconded? Unanimous (Sorry didn't get the names!)

Date	Item	Amount	Total
10/6/2020	Balance		\$13,735.96
10/23/2020	Site Svc	(326.65)	\$13,409.31
11/3/2020	Site Svc	(326.65)	\$13,082.66
11/3/2020	Waste Mgmt	(87.83)	\$12,994.83
11/3/2020	Deposit	340.00	\$13,334.83
Net		(401.13)	
Income		340.00	
Expenses		(741.13)	\$13,334.83

County Lease

All terms & conditions are agreed to.

Anticipate signing this month, to go into effect January 1st, 2021

Proposed Runway Rule Change as Published in last month's Hanger News

(Rule 11a modified)

Proposer Keith Miller Voted yes Unanimous.

Rule Change adopted.

Runway Extension to the West.

Tabled to turn of year, don't know how COVID will impact future membership renewals & treasury?

Personal Note from Bruce Allen:

With regards to COVID when I am out, down the field, I ALWAYS wear a mask as I am at risk. I would be grateful, as per County rules and CDC Guidelines, that you also wear a mask! I always have spare masks in my van, just ask they are free! Thanks

Many thanks to all my fans that voted for me to continue my Secretary ship for 2021! 8years & they said it would never last.....

Meeting closed 19:45hrs.

**DISCOUNT
HOBBY
WAREHOUSE**

**EL CAJON
HOBBIES**
LAND ★ AIR ★ SEA ★ GAS ★ ELECTRIC

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President's Message December 2020

Monthly Meeting

We'll continue our series of virtual monthly club meetings using Google Meet on Tuesday December 1st. The link is <https://meet.google.com/shd-sesj-mzs>, and it starts at 7pm. We're usually done in less than an hour. If you have anything you'd like to bring up or recommendations for club operations, please consider joining us! If you can bring a show-and tell model or item in front of your computer camera, that would be nice!

This Time Last Year – the eucalyptus tree came down!

Membership Renewals

Dues for your 2021 renewals are due and payable **on or before the February meeting**. Renewals can be paid in many methods including cash, gold, check and PayPal. Cash and checks can be collected by any club Officer in person (at the field or otherwise). Checks can also be mailed directly to Scott Graupmann at his home address 10938 Vivaracho Way, San Diego, CA 92124 (shown on the front of the newsletter). Mailing dues to the club P.O. Box will delay processing.

For PayPal, you have two options.

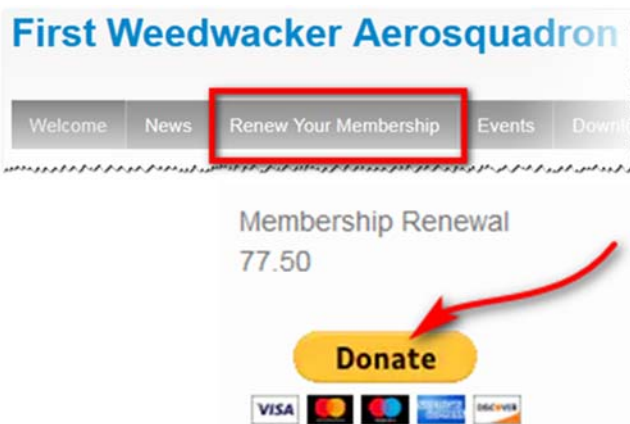
The "easy button" is on our website under the "[Renew Your Membership](#)" tab which has a "Donate" button. However, due to the way PayPal buttons work on websites, you'll have to pay the associated fees which comes out to \$2.50. To avoid the fee, you can also log in to your PayPal account and send your dues "as a friend" directly to our account at paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com. You may see Scott Graupmann's name come up which is fine, as he's the treasurer holding the PayPal account open. In either case, please be sure to add either your full name or AMA number to the PayPal payment note. If we see only your PayPal login as "Im_a_catlover", we'll have no way of processing your dues.

Gate Code Change – An advantage to paying your dues by January 1st is that the gate combination changes on that day, and you

won't be issued the new code until you've renewed and get a new badge.

Trailer Batteries for Charging Stations

The bank of six 12-volt batteries we have connected to the solar panels and charging stations have met the end of their useful lives. Even at the charging stations against the storage shed and at closest electrical distance to the source, the bank has a hard time staying above 11.7 volts under even a small charging load. Jeff has taken an action to find suitable replacements.



Flying over the Nursery – To be clear, while there are no personnel working in the area just east of our runway (on the other side of the boundary fence), we're clear make our landing approaches over the property. I've asked the business owners (and they happily agreed) to park their vehicles on the south or east ends of their property to limit the chance of a problem during our landing approaches. However, the soil in those areas isn't yet compacted well enough for them to park safely, so you may see vehicles up against the eastern fence. It's incumbent upon us to keep our landing approaches high enough to avoid any incidents. When people are actively working at the property, then is when we can't fly over the area.

Annual Awards Banquet The banquet is cancelled for January 2021. There was some discussion that we might be able to hold some type of event in the springtime, but that was



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met with reality. So, we'll forgo a banquet, but will still take an opportunity to recognize members for their contributions and accomplishments. Please take 15 minutes and jot down an email (or call me) with your nominations and recommendations.

Here are some examples:

Weedwacker of the Year	Recognition for significant contributions or accomplishments for the past year.
Lifetime Membership	For exceptional and long-term (decades) service towards the club. Recently, has been awarded in conjunction with the Distinguished Service Award
Distinguished Service Award	Recognize long term dedicated service to the club
Annual Jim Bailey Community Service Award	Significant contributions and efforts within the club <u>and community</u>
Builder of the Year	For building models from scratch, plans or kits. <i>Not ARFs...</i>
Rookie of the Year	Self-explanatory
Most Improved Pilot	Self-explanatory
Most Stitches	Self-explanatory
Most Demanding Recovery	Self-explanatory
Most Crashes	Self-explanatory
Special Awards	One-time recognition for a single event (funniest crash, stupid injury, something funny)
12th Man Awards	Those who contribute to the daily support activities that make the club "a club"!



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Club Officer Elections

As is captured in the minutes, the current club Officers retain our seats by acclamation, with no opposition. Let me personally thank the Officers for their continued service. To summarize, the Officers consist of myself as Prez (6th consecutive year, 8 years total), Jeff Coskey as VP (6th consecutive year), Scott Graupman is our Treasurer (15th consecutive!!!), and Bruce Allen as Secretary (8th consecutive!).

The Board of Directors includes the club Officers and our newsletter editor Don Westergren (41 years total service, 3 as Prez, 3 as Secretary and 35 years as editor in chief!).

Positions that I have appointed include our Safety Officer and Raffle Chairman Ron Keith (10 years), Webmaster Tim Peterson (8 years) and field marshals of various longevity (Vernon Gilmore, Ron Keith, Dick Milhausen, Butch Weiser, Gary Rold, Tim Peterson).

Social Distancing

On occasion we need to be reminded of the criticality of compliance with the Health Orders issued by the State, and the protocols and postings at the field.



This is one of those occasions, and much of what I'm saying below has been said before.

- I've been told that it's nearly impossible to maintain social distances at the flying field. I challenge that belief and contend that it's actually quite simple. We have a lot of room in the pits. I often see conversations being held from ten feet. But there ARE those instances in which we find ourselves needing to close in to lend a helping hand or check out how busted up someone's plane is after a bounce. And there are also those instances in which people have been seen transiting from point A to B without a mask, and pass close to others without realizing it; or maybe while realizing it and not masking up.

I reiterate:

We're not going to tape 'X's or paint circles all over the flight line or pit area to create "safe zones". Our flying field is a dynamic area in which we enjoy moving about. We're not a gro-

cery store. We're more like the Santee Swap Meet - people milling about in free motion.

- We're not going to put up even more signs that remind us to maintain social distancing.
- What I'm going to do is to remind you all again that we're tasked with following this very simple protocol.

The California Department of Public Health requires that we must wear face coverings "while outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence is not feasible."

It's important that we observe this requirement. You must have a mask on your person, and if you approach someone to within six feet, put it on.

This is important!

While we all have a duty to help mitigate the spread of the virus, we have a couple of members who feel threatened and very strongly object to the fact that a few others don't adhere to the 6'/mask policy, regardless of their proximity to the concerned members. Those individuals have made me very aware, on several occasions, of their feelings on the matter. It's to the point now where I honestly fear that we are at risk of some action that could shut the field down for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Don't let this happen!

It's up to ALL OF US, Field Marshals, club Officers and members alike, to simply wear a mask when within six feet of others. Do your duty to protect each other and to protect our ability to enjoy our field!

New members

Welcome aboard to Lyle Black! Lyle is one of us cool "nitro" guys and is a builder. Great to have you Lyle!

Current membership sits at 136, ranging in age from 9 to 92, and averaging at 56.26 years old.

Until next time -

"You come from dust and to dust you will return. That's why you shouldn't dust. It could be someone you know."

Keith