



HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
March 2021

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
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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 2021

Nothing is scheduled due to Corona Virus

Next Club Meeting Tuesday March 2 is a Virtual Meeting

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

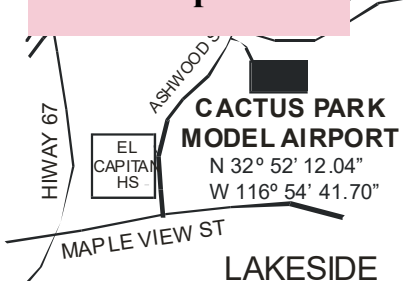
meet.google.com/shd-sesj-mzs



NEXT Virtual MEETING:

**Tues. March, 7:00
Google Meets**

Field Is Opened





Meeting Minutes February 2nd, 2021

Bruce Allen

The meeting for February 2nd, 2021 (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

Bill Simmons

John Boruff

Don Westergren

(This list maybe incorrect, sorry)

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 (no meeting in January)

Treasurers Report September

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

12/1/2020	Balance	\$12,686.66
12/18/2020	San Diego County	(\$500)
1/11/2021	United Site Services	(\$326.65)
1/21/2021	Windsock + AMA	(\$302.43)
1/21/2021	United Site Services	(\$326.65)
1/22/2021	Batteries + Banner	(\$479.05)
2/2/2021	Waste Management	(\$87.83)
2/2/2021	PayPal	\$2,960.40
2/2/2021	Deposit	\$1741.25
	Net	\$3404.04
	Income	\$5426.65
	Expenses	(\$2022.61)
	End Balance	\$16,090.70

Ron Keith – Safety Officer.

Just a reminder, if you have an Emergency on the Field & have to call an Ambulance, make sure someone is posted at the entrance to our Field so they can watch for it & flag them down.

President's Message March 2021

Monthly Meeting

We'll continue our series of virtual monthly club meetings using Google Meet on Tuesday **March 2nd**. 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!

Miramar Radio Control Flyers (MRCF) shut down

If you haven't heard, MRCF was shut down by the base commander as a matter of "security" with respect to flight operations of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter squadrons recently attached MCAS Miramar. There may have been a "trigger event" that kicked off the expulsion. One of their members had a signal loss which resulted in a model crashing on the base (no property damage or injuries).

In a gesture of club comradery, we've extended an offer to the MRCF leadership and their members that any MRCF member from 2020 or 2021 is welcome to join the Weedwackers without an initiation fee. It's not a "SUPER" deal, but it lessens the blow a little while their members got their flying season abruptly cut short. If you happen to be at the field and an MRCF member stops by to check out the field, welcome them and give them a quick rundown of our protocols. As long as they have current AMA and FAA sUAS cards, they're welcome to fly for a few visits to see how our field fits their liking.

Rules Revision – again

The Board was approached with a recommendation that we've discussed and agree to. This falls in line with the last change we passed which allows gliders to fly over the hill (to pick up lift). This revision proposal extends that allowance for all models. Of course, all rules must be presented to the club for a vote at the next regular club meeting (more on that topic later). Please join us for the next virtual meeting on March 2nd to discuss and vote.

The revision is based on providing a longer straight-line flight path for some of the larger and faster models. Warbirds in general are a bit



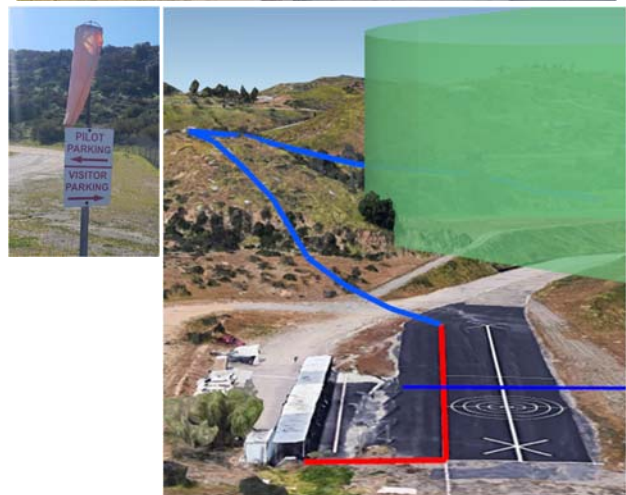
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faster than, say, my Sig Senior Kadet. We also have pilots that like to practice IMAC or Precision Aerobatics patterns in which a slow-roll or other maneuvers need some longer legs.

The proposed rule revises rule 11.a.:

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

As can be seen in the attached images, a guiding landmark that is in play now, and that becomes even more prevalent, is the pair of high-tension power line structures (the “twin towers”) on the ridge to our north. With this new flight pattern, it’s crucially important that pilots try to keep their models visually to the LEFT of those towers when flying deeper over the riverbed. This ensures that the models never cross over ranch property.



This proposal doesn’t change the fact that pilots may still fly patterns as they do today with low passes above the runway, as long as those flight patterns stay within bounds.

Bylaws Revision – Voting during pandemic

Given the continued COVID restrictions and the very bleak attendance at our virtual meetings, our bylaws may need a revision to adopt alternative voting methods. There are a couple of instances in which we’d not be able to pass certain types of motions, proposals, revisions for funds if we relied solely on club meetings. Of late, our virtual meetings consist of the Board and possibly two or three members. I’m considering some options to be considered as valid balloting processes, all of which rely on email responses. Yes, we have members who don’t do email often at all, but that number is far less than the number of people who simply don’t participate in club meetings. With a form of electronic balloting and tabulation, we will actually *improve* our response rates. The email system I use for club business (currently called



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“MailChimp”) not only helps me get past the Cox and Gmail spam limitations, but MailChimp also has polling tools that track responses easily and in a method that I can report directly to the membership. Keep an eye open for bylaws proposals that would allow us to implement such methods. And yes – y’all get to vote on it!

Nursery Update

We noted this week that ALL of the vehicles were removed from the property to our east. I called Roger, the owner of the nursery who was leasing the land. He confirmed they’ve decided to go elsewhere. It wasn’t a matter of permitting or use of the easement; they merely are looking for alternate locations.

Field Day events

Thank you all who have supported our field maintenance efforts.

On January 30th We focused on complete shed gutting, some weed-whacking (‘cause that’s what we do!). Dan Higdon and Ron Keith finished installation of the silhouette on the eastern windsock pole. For perspective, the profile model is the size of just about every Eflite and Hobbyzone foamy out there (just under a standard 40-sized trainer).

Others who helped with weeds and shed clean-out include Bill Bryan, Bob Frazier, Jeff Coskey, Tim Peterson, Richard Brown, Butch Weiser, Mel Ashdown and Dean Nickol. As is the norm, Jeff dedicated several hours in the shed removing unneeded cabinets (that were rat havens), sealing rodent entry points and reorganizing the entire area.

On the 20th of February, we made some ground (in a weird kind of pun) filling runway cracks (Dan Higdon, Jeramy Miller, Steve Shepersky), sprayed much of the plant growth (Richard Brown, Ron Keith, Tim Peterson, Lester Moore), and Jeff Coskey and Mark Huyser teamed up with David Goodwin to significantly trim back the deadwood on the tree in our picnic area. David Roche was also on hand to help with branch clean-up.



2020 Annual Awards

Congratulations to Dave Roche who we recognized as our 2020 Rookie of the Year.

David joined the club in May of 2020 having never flown before. Starting with a HobbyZone Carbon Cub with SAFE, he progressed through all modes of flight and put on several hundred flights in 2020, likely approaching 1,000 flights! No kidding! Dave can be seen flying nearly every day.

We also recognized Arnold Lipschutz as our Builder of the Year for 2020. Arnold built no less than three planes during the year which include two Goldberg Falcon's that he kit-bashed to resemble the Topsy Nipper, and a Lou Andrews Aeromaster Too biplane.



Also recognized as with a certificate of appreciation for our 12th Man Awards are:

Richard Brown- Donated and installed orange pool noodles on eastern fence top and participated in nearly all of our field maintenance events in 2020.

Butch Weiser – for performance of daily field maintenance, upkeep and cleaning and

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trash pickup, Butch also acts as one of our primary club greeters, collecting and storing dues and applications for new members.

Dick Milhausen – Dick also puts in the daily efforts such as trash pickup, sweeping and general maintenance.

Ron Keith – For continued and dedicated support throughout the year and during every and all club events and maintenance sessions.

Recovery of the Year (so far)

The mid-air collision last month that put one P-51 into the fence revealed what might be this year's best recovery.

Steve Shepersky's P-51 suffered extensive damage in the collision which 1) ripped off his left aileron, 2) put significant holes in both wings and 3) the throttle servo was ejected from the cockpit.

Steve had enough airspeed to bring her around in a 270 turn, just barely clearing the bare-wire fence and landed across the runway coming straight towards himself (engine-off).



AMA Gold Leader Club

– Congratulations to us! In keeping with the tradition set forth by our prior leaders such as Don Westergren, Ron Smith and most notably Don Madison, the Weedwackers continue to meet the requirements and qualifications as a Gold Leader Club for our 20th year!



This Time Last Year – In Feb of 2020, we had a Fun-Fly and BBQ. Remember those?

That was the last event prior to COVID-19 coming to visit. I can't wait to start holding "gatherings" once again.

Upcoming Events – We DO have a calendar of events for 2021, viewable on the Events section of our web site (<http://www.weedwackers.org/ww/events/>). Please understand that these are placeholders should the world suddenly become a better place and COVID restrictions are lifted.

In the immediate future, we have:

Swap Meet Sat 3/13/2021 at 7:00 AM

I fully expect these will be cancelled, but let's wait and see.

Administrative Duties Thank you Bruce Allen (our secretary) for updating the binder in our safety cabinet. In there you'll find all of our key club documentation (AMA charter, insurance rider, bylaws, rules, Electrical Safety syllabus and background information, San Diego County Parks lease, FAA Letter of Agreement, and a listing of club members (including some of those from 2020 who are still due to renew).

New members

Welcome to Craig Graham and Aaron Lutsko! Great to have you!

Until next time -
Keith

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