



Hangar News

May 2025

Newsletter of the First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
AMA Charter #1651

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron

P.O. Box 2044
Lakeside, CA 92040

Sign up for Email Delivery of the Newsletter:

news.weedwackers@gmail.com

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

Club Officers Email: info.weedwackers@gmail.com

President: Ron Keith 619-312-0968

V-P: Jeffrey Coskey 619-913-1455

Sec: Mark Gray 619-993-6548

Treas: Richard Brown 619-887-7273

15198 Picturesque Point
El Cajon, CA 92021

Field Marshals:

Vernon Gilmore, Ron Keith, Dick Milhausen, Gary Rold, Tim Peterson, Richard Brown

Fun Fly Chairman Keith Miller

Race Chairman Glen Merritt

Safety Officer Ron Keith

Newsletter Editor: Keith Miller 619-405-0192

Webmaster: Vernon Gilmore

webmaster@weedwackers.org

Instructors:

Scott Graupmann 858-945-6969

Keith Miller 619-405-0192

Jeff Coskey 619-913-1455

Butch Weiser 619-713-6096

Dean Nickol 619-208-7906

Dick Milhausen 619-561-5323

*AMA Introductory Pilot Program Instructors:

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 AERO SQUADRON** 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 news.weedwackers@gmail.com.

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.

Headlines:

Upcoming Events

Next Meeting:

Saturday May 3rd, 2025 9:00 am at our Ron Smith Memorial Flying Field.

Armed Forces Day Fly-In, Sat May 17th

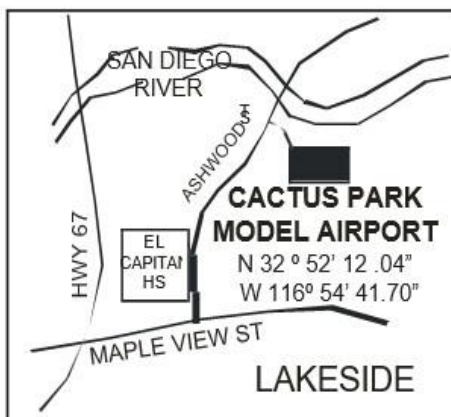
Bylaws Revision Approved

The Bylaws amendment was approved to eliminate the \$50 initiation fee for new members.

Eastern Boundary:

Ron achieved agreement with Jake (property to our East) allowing planes to fly over the NE corner of his pump house at the East end of the runway for landing approaches. If a longer downwind is needed to set up a longer final for larger aircraft, it is ok to extend further over his structures as long as it is just for an approach to land. No additional flying over his structures is permitted.

**** Read Ron's President's Message inside for more details.**



**DISCOUNT
HOBBY
WAREHOUSE**

Hangar News

Mark Gray

Meeting Minutes 5 April 2025

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM at the field. Club officers present were the President, Vice President, and the Secretary. A total of 19 club members were present. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes: Keith Miller moved the minutes of the March 1st 2025 meeting be approved as submitted. Seconded by Ken Lawrence. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Starting Balance: \$19,337.51 March 1, 2025
Income: \$360.00
Expenses: \$5,864.48
Ending Balance: **\$13,833.03** March 31, 2025
• Balance March 31st, 2024: \$8,779.01

Table Repair Fund: \$900.00
Expenses: \$768.74
Current Balance: **\$131.26**

March Swap Meet – 24 sellers = \$120

Keith Miller moved the treasurer's report be approved as submitted. Seconded by Butch Weiser. The motion was approved.

General Notes:

- Ron is offering fire extinguishers FOC to any that are interested. Please contact him if you want one.
- Ron is having lunch with Jake today to discuss options/times for potentially flying over his property.

Field Maintenance:

- 2 more tables need to be sealed – Jeff is looking for volunteers and will set a date for early May; Todd Ferguson volunteered to help. He has experience and tools!
- Planning to sweep the West end of the runway after the meeting.

Upcoming Events:

May 17, 2025 – Armed Forces Day Fly-in.

- Ron will connect with Art Flores about being the event coordinator.

- Brian Knutsen volunteered to cook burgers and hot dogs.
- Keith Miller moved and Butch Weiser seconded we allocate \$300 for food. The motion was approved.
- Jeff Coskey moved and David Roche seconded we have a raffle. The motion was approved.
- Jeff Coskey agreed to run the raffle.
- David Roche moved and Keith Miller seconded to allocate \$500 for the raffle. The motion was approved.
- There was agreement among all present that awards will be in the form of certificates.

May 24, 2025 - Pylon Races

Old Business:

Initiation fee additional background and vote to eliminate.

- About 50% of other clubs in the area still assess this fee.
- Originally, it was to help the club with monetary resources when the club was newly started. It seems to be a burden now and may prevent people from joining the club.
- Quorum check – 118 members on current roster, 10% = 12 (we're good)
- Ken Lawrence moved and Vernon Gilmore seconded to remove the \$50 initiation fee from the by-laws. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Shed door:

- The proposal is to install 2 doors that open out.
- A gentleman who works with Curtis is coming Monday to meet with Ron and discuss options.
- Butch Weiser moved & Keith Miller seconded that we allocate up to \$1500 to replace the door. The vote to approve was unanimous

Safety Officer Report: None.

Rule review:

Reminder to use the 4 run-up tables near the fence to run up your engines and not the tables under the cover.

New Business:

Introduction of the new website – Vernon Gilmore.

- Switching to a new one – not trying to redo the old one.
- Auto payment for old website has been cancelled.
- Existing website is poor, lacks visibility, unable to post photos, etc.
- Looking for the right place to host it.

Model Sharing:

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Ken Lawrence is published on p44 of the April 2025 edition of AMA magazine. Congratulations Ken!

- Old School Model Works Polaris named Erin.
 - ♦ He also brought his Irish Origin, Callie graphics.
- Old School Model Works kit - Blue Angels Raven
 - ♦ Callie graphics.
 - ♦ V-tail control is very weird on nose gear steering.
 - ♦ It has flown but has a tendency to tip stall.
 - ♦ It has a 64 mm 12 blade fan.
 - ♦ Lester has been helping with the control adjustments.



- Cox QT.
 - ♦ The wing is 25-30 years old.
 - ♦ Ken's brother had the kit, he liked it and built one from the same plans.
 - ♦ It crashed during a hand launch when Ken forgot to change the model he was flying and it's been hanging in his garage for show and tell for the past 25 years.
 - ♦ About a month ago, Ken decided to bring it out of the rafters and rebuild it. He fabricated a new fuselage and tail by drawing plans from measurements he took from the old fuselage and tail. The structure of the wing was ok, he just recovered it.
 - ♦ He added some modern equipment including a Cox .049 and it is a "sweet flyer"!



Frank Gagliardi moved and Ken Lawrence seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 AM.

April 2025 President's Message

Greetings!

April has turned out to be a great month!

- Jake (tenant east of field) and I went to lunch so I could request we fly over his property. I explained that we have larger A/C requiring more air space for landing. **NOT for aerobatics for smaller planes.** He stated that as long as I have control, he will be fine with the fly over. He does not want a lot of people retrieving crashed planes or pieces. So only the pilot and one or two people depending on crash site (fire or location). Do not forget to take crash bag. If Field Marshal is on duty, ask for their assistance. If Jake is on site, be respectful and explain what happened. Clean up any parts and call me ASAP! (619) 988-7667. I worked hard to get fly over rights again so please help me to keep it. The short yellow marker north of runway is still preferred. Take a look at the blue and orange pool noodles on the fence. The orange one is in line with the center line on runaway. Hope it helps. Steve Shepersky helped me with his task. Thanks Steve!

- Snakes are out and active! Should you have to retrieve a downed plane, be aware of your surroundings. I recommend you consider using a long stick in front of you as you walk and when reaching for a plane, check first for critters. Rich Brown killed one while cutting weeds. Another one was spotted by the storage sheds. I had an encounter with one by the East County fence crawling into a squirrel hole. If you come across one, try to avoid it and notify others of the location.

- If you are bitten, move away and have someone call 911. If possible (from a safe distance) take a picture of the snake so medical personnel can identify the snake for the correct antivenom. Stay calm! Do not run back to the pits; walk away from the snake. Sit down then administer first aid. Fire Department will arrive in a few minutes. Do not take drugs for pain or apply ice. Clean wound with soap and water. Do not try to suck out venom from the wound, cover with a clean, dry bandage. Send somebody to the street to direct fire department to victim.

- I have been in contact with the County regarding removal of the fence north of the runway. The

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request was submitted 30 days ago. They have 60 days to determine when it will be removed. We should have a date by July. I will keep you apprised.

- Jeff is trying to find time to finish the pit tables. Please contact him if you are interested in providing assistance.
- May 17th is Armed Forces Day. We are having a Fly In, raffle, and BBQ (hot dogs and hamburgers). Potluck will help to round out the event. Brian Knutson volunteered to cook; any help is appreciated!
- Replacement of storage shed door is still on "to do" list. It will soon be replaced with a set of doors that will be easier to open and close. I am waiting for the bid.

Do not forget to wear your badge at the field and display the **required** FAA identification numbers on your aircraft.

If you have any questions, feel free to call.

Ron
(619) 988-7667

More News:

Recommended Reading:

<https://www.av8n.com/how/htm/intro.html>

This site is an excellent source of information and training on basic aerodynamics with 22 amazing

You may be wondering what all this has to do with airplanes. Well, this sort of reasoning is exact to explain the angle-of-attack stability of an airplane. The situation is shown in figure 6.3.

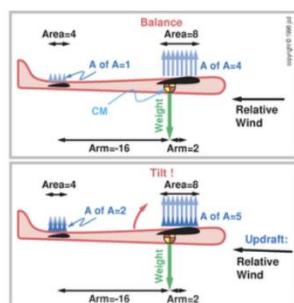
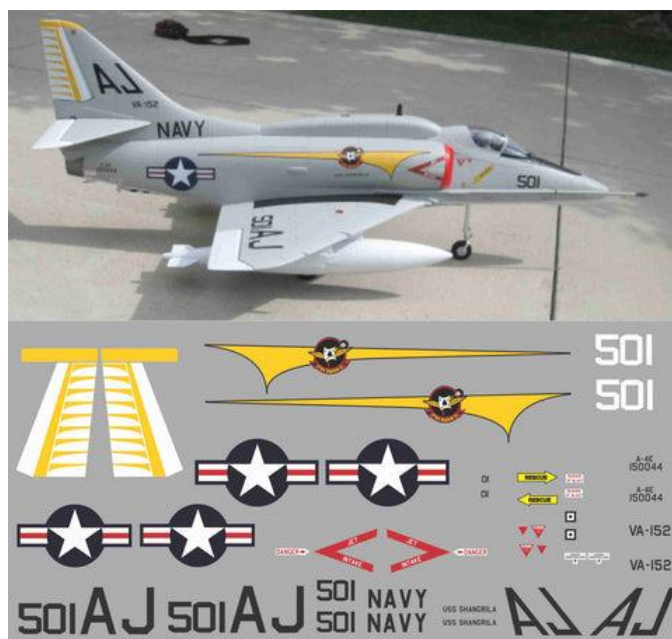


Figure 6.3: Aircraft Sensitive to Angle of Attack

In the top panel, the airplane is just cruising along in still air. The wing is flying at a normal angle of attack. While geared towards full-scale aircraft, many of the chapters have excellent explanations of many of the aspects of aviation including angle of attack, lift / thrust / weight / drag, roll dampening, stalls, stability, trim, gyroscopic precession, P-factor – MUCH more.

Callie Graphics is a well-established and renowned provider of custom vinyl transfer graphic for our models. Callie Gagliardi (no relation to Frank, but Frank is a big customer). She has a very large selection of pre-designed scale graphics sets for warbirds (bombers, jets, WWI), civilian aircraft, cockpit details and more. She also can take your drawings and designs to make custom graphics.



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Lyle Black restored what he calls the “Blue Beauty”, an apparent vintage free flight biplane that he essentially saved from certain fate with a dumpster. Kurtis had acquired its “remnants” from a woman’s estate who’d apparently built it with her father when she was 16. Kurtiss left it under a table at the field for some time until Steve Shepersky urged Lyle on – “Hey, here’s a challenge!”

It was covered with silk and dope, at least what parts still had covering. Lyle rebuilt the entire wing structure and refreshed the sewn control surface hinges. He added pull-pull to the tail controls, flying wires to the top wing and installed a brand-new Super Tigre 51 engine.



After an exciting first flight, he reduced the decalage by shimming the trailing edge of the top wing. All flying surfaces are held on with rubber bands including the entire tail! It flies *beautifully* and floats at idle due to its very light weight. It’s stable and climbs mildly with power.



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Hints and Tips – Pull-Pull techniques

Lyle completed a framed-up Carl Goldberg Tiger 60 he picked up from a recent estate. He employs a clever method of connecting adjustable pull-pull cables to the servo arms.

He uses fishing leader nylon-coated braided wire swaged to a cotter pin that is fitted through a swivel connector on the arm. The cotter pin is held securely to the servo arm by a quick-connect swivel connector. The setscrew pressing into the split of the cotter pin provides extra pressure to hold the pin securely.

In these images, the rudder servo is quite busy! He's run pull-pull aft to the rudder, forward to the nosewheel, and a pushrod can be seen going forward to the left which



steers the pilot's head!

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Armed Forces Day

Saturday, May 17th, 2025

Scale Fly-In

Raffle



Awards for:
Best Civilian
Best Military
Judges' Choice
Best Flight Performance

Event Coordinator
Art Flores
(619) 715-1842

Schedule:

8:00-9:00 AM Check in
9:00 AM—1:00 PM Flying
11:00 (approx.) - LUNCH

\$10 Landing Fee

\$5 for Burger/Hot Dog Lunch
(participating pilots eat FREE!)

Scale and Semi-Scale models
welcome—ARFs too!



Event site: Weedwackers are
located at:
10295 Ashwood Street
Lakeside, CA
Across from the BMX track

www.weedwackers.org

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Pylon Races

Saturday May 24th, 2025

Class: FMS 800mm T-28 Trojan

Schedule:

7a-9a Practice and warm-up flying, field is open to all flying.

9:00 Pilots Meeting and Safety Briefing

9:15 Start the events

The field will be **closed to regular flying** from 9:00 until the event concludes, usually only an hour.

WHERE: Ron Smith Memorial RC Flying Field (Weedwackers)

Plane Details:

The **ONLY** plane we will be racing is the **FMS T28 v2 (the 800mm version)**.

You can purchase one at [Horizon Hobby](#) or any hobby store that has them in stock.

- **ESC:** This plane comes stock with a 20A speed controller which in our testing, rides the edge of safety. For this reason we are allowing any ESC you wish to install in your plane but you must stick with the stock motor.
- **Prop:** We will allow the stock 3-blade prop or an APC 7x6E.
 - **Gyro:** The stock plane comes with an orange gyro and a bunch of servo / receiver wires. Feel free to pull out that dead weight if you want.
 - **Battery:** The only limitation on the battery we have is that it must be a 3 cell battery. Pilots have had success with 800mAh to 2200mAh in size.
 - **Markings:** Each plane will be expected to have a **unique marking so spotters and pylon judges will be able to identify your plane. It can either be a color scheme (paint job) or a VERY visible decal with a number. Be creative!**

Race Details

- Three qualifying heats of five laps each followed by three medal rounds (bronze, silver and gold) at 10 laps each. Plan your battery size accordingly.
- Starts will be from the air.
- Left turns around the pylons. No cutting! Pylon judges will deduct your score if you turn prior to the pylon.
- Take off will commence 30 seconds prior to race start
- Each pilot will have his/her own spotter to call out when they cross the lap / finish line. Spotters can be anyone at the field not currently flying in the race.
- We will have up to 5 planes running in a single heat. Fly safe!

Contest Directors

Glen Merritt (619) 405-5731

David Roche (619) 733-2632

