



HANGAR NEWS

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
August 2021**

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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 2021

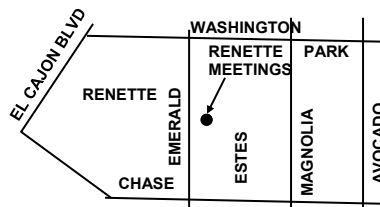
Sep 4 Sat Swap Meet (Chula Vista) TBD

Nov 7 Sat Veteran's Day Fly-In

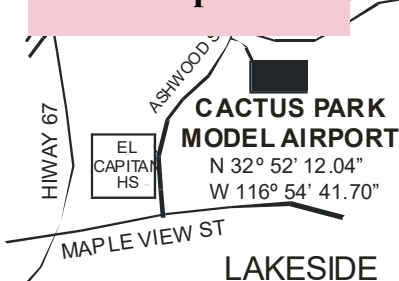
Nov 13 Sat Swap Meet and Toys for Tots Drive

Nothing to say

**NEXT MEETING:
Tues. Sept 7, 7:00
PM**



Field Is Opened





HANGAR NEWS

Minutes for August 3 meeting

Keith Miller

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers in attendance included the President, Vice President and Treasurer. Ten additional members were present.

Opening Comments

Ron Keith brought a sympathy card for John Weaver (Discount Hobby Warehouse) to send our condolences for the loss of his brother. Thanks Ron! [Presidents note: Ron delivered the card to John later in the week.]

Guests/New Members

Tony Moore joined us as a “relatively new” member, having joined in June and making it to his first meeting. Thanks for joining us, Tony!

Approval of Minutes as presented in last month’s Hangar News: moved by Ron Keith, seconded by Mel Ashdown, approved.

Treasurer’s report The treasurers report included months ending in June and July (report dates are as of meeting dates in July and Aug).

| | Jul | Aug |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Beg Bal | \$16,781. | \$16,445. |
| Income | 2,296.64 | 349.02 |
| Expenses | (2,346.67 | (761.86) |
| Net | (335.45) | (412.84) |
| End Bal | \$16,445. | \$16,032. |

A discussion of runway seal coat and paint costs followed. As planned, the seal coat cost is \$3,238.40. The option for striping the runway, originally at \$750, was reduced by \$400 to \$350 because the paving company (G. Scott Asphalt) couldn’t find striping paint which the club subsequently purchased.

The Treasurer’s Report approval was moved by Bobby Rink, seconded by Fred Miller, and approved.

Safety Officer Report Ron thanked those members who attended the Fire Fighting Training. As a reminder, if there’s a fire inside the shed (while closed/locked), call 911, and then expend the entire contents of the CO2 extinguisher into the fire duct. The fire duct is

on the left side of the shed (facing the roll-up door) and is situated just above the battery bank inside.

Be wary of scorpions! Recently a white colored 2” scorpion was seen in the pits near a table (let’s say it’s not there anymore...).

Tabled Business

Runway Extension to the West; Tabled pending turn of the year; don’t know how COVID will impact future membership renewals and treasury. Likely not needed given that nursery business has pulled out.

Racing (no volunteers)

Upcoming Events

8/11/21 Runway sealing and striping

Sat 8/14/21 National Model Aviation Day Pot Luck and Fun-Fly

Sat 9/11/21 Fun-Fly (Bobby Rink volunteered to cook a meal., budget to be approved at September meeting). [Keith’s note – CANCELLED]

Sat 11/7/2021 Veteran’s Day Fly-In

Sat 11/13/21 Swap Meet and Toys for Tots Drive

There are no known swap meets on the horizon from Alpine or Chula Vista.

Old Business:

TRUST: “The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST)” was discussed again. This is the federally required exam that is administered by the AMA at no cost. We discussed that, while seemingly overbearing, it takes maybe 15 minutes to complete and is completely idiot-proof. Members can literally keep clicking their way through the web-based exam until they hit the right answers.

Race planning – tabled due to lack of interest and no volunteers for Race Chairman

Runway sealing – last done May 2018

Contracted for Wed Aug 11th; Sealing \$3,238.40, payable upon completion and receipt of invoice

Paint labor only \$350; club purchased paint (\$268.55 thanks to Gary Lamb!)

Joe Cullum Estate

Still need to: Stow remaining models, boxes (Saturday Aug 7th?); plan is to store in field CONEX box; disposition transmitters and radio



HANGAR NEWS

systems as electronics waste

Storage unit roof (CONEX): No volunteers yet as project manager. Jeff jotting down requirements and a general plan. The roof needs a pitched cover on top of the existing ½" ply (warped, low spots).

Funding for the cost of materials, primarily wood, is estimated at \$600. Nails/screws are TBD.

A motion was made to allocate \$700 towards the cost of upgrading the CONEX trailer roof (Keith Miller moved), seconded by Max Brouard – Approved.

The Board asks the membership for a volunteer as Project Manager to execute this task.

Field Rules:

No rules reviewed this month.

New Business

DG and Gravel: Jeff discussed ideas to bring in some ¾" gravel and decomposed granite (DG) to be used for 1) smooth out the west run-off area of the runway 2) restore the parking area gravel cover (reduce dust brought about by vehicle traffic) 3) add a surface layer in the picnic area.

We're asking members who may have access to gravel or DG to stand up.

Active Military for free: The topic was visited once before with no traction. Tom Gibson refreshed the topic one weekend at the field.

The club had a short discussion on benefits and potential impacts. The only impact we (President) brought up was the potential for a mass influx of members. That was quickly dismissed as there's not a significant known population of active-duty modelers. The benefits are obvious – most importantly the club "giving back" to those who are actively serving. Active-duty members frequently deploy and likely don't want to pay full dues for partial years. The club's treasury and financial management methods don't support month-to-month dues collection.

A potential benefit to the club could be the increased exposure to friends and family of active-duty members.

Fred Miller described his active-duty days on base in Memphis. The base provided a clubhouse and control line field, free to modelers.

Further discussion found all positive agreement. The plan would be for active-duty military regardless of deployment status or duty station location. The plan would not apply to retirees/

veterans.

Action: The Board took action to develop a revision to the Club Bylaws for presentation to and vote by the membership.

Address shortage of Field Marshals: The club has only five Field Marshals (not including Club Officers). Only a few Field Marshals are at the field on a regular basis and we need more coverage. While at the meeting, Bill Bryan volunteered for the position. Actions: 1) The President to officially designate Bill as a FM, 2) The Board will work towards enlisting additional Field Marshals, 3) The President took action to hold a FM meeting.

Current Marshals are Gary Rold, Vernon Gilmore, Ron Keith, Dick Milhausen and Tim Peterson (as well as the Club Officers, by default).

Bylaws revision for voting during pandemic

The topic was previously posted in the Hangar News. The issue discussed at the meeting is that, given continued COVID reservations and the general low attendance at club meetings, the method of voting (for rules and bylaws changes) described in the Bylaws could be improved by allowing some method of electronic balloting. Hard-copy "mail" ballots are an option but were quickly discounted for two reasons. 1) The cost to mail out a paper ballot to each of our 130+ members would be about \$1 per ballot for printing and postage. 2) Prior President Ben Newkirk ran a paper poll many years ago asking members to respond on their preferences and ideas for events, activities and desires. He received roughly 20 replies.

Keith described a tool provided by MailChimp™ which he uses for routine email (weird speaking in 3rd person...). MailChimp™ has polling tools which keep a web-based tally of responses that avoid the temptation of ballot tempering by whomever mails out the ballots.

Action: The President took action to draft a Bylaws revision, accordingly, for club review, comment and approval.

Member Builds: The attendees went around the room talking about current projects. 1) Bobby Rink is working on a SIG 4-Star 40 kit that he acquired from one of our estates. He's also got a SIG Cougar on the table. 2) Members are using Oratex for covering but claim it's not as good as Solartex. Unfortunately, Solartex isn't available any longer. 3) Arnold Lipschutz is building a Top Flight "Holy



Smoke” – a 40-sized delta wing model that Jeff Coskey recently bought.

Drawing for free membership Ken Schwenck – Sorry! Must be present to win.

Raffle: Ron Keith held a raffle – thanks Ron! Winners were:

Max Brouard – air powered grinder (courtesy of Bill Simmons)

Bill Personious - \$10 Gift Cert to DHW

Tony Moore - \$10 Gift Cert to DHW

Arnold Lipschutz - \$30 Gift Cert to DHW

Bill Bryan – cutters (the really point kind!)

Fred Miller – (passed)

Bill Bryan – LED headlamp

Julian Sonderegger – Electric Drill (courtesy of Bill Simmons)

Max Brouard - Loctite

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Lyle Black, who by the way likely bought half of the estate models, has already restored and flown two. The first, which name I don’t recall, was actually in pretty good shape to start. This little .25-sized rocket was flying around really nicely this 3rd week of August. Lyle also brought with him the Waco biplane. I didn’t get a snapshot of the fully assembled restored model, but on close inspection it also cleaned up very nicely. The Saito 120 looks to be in superb shape! The only remaining restoration step, says Lyle, is to change the existing LEFT thrust to RIGHT thrust.



President’s Message Sep 2021

For your viewing pleasure, many of the photos posted here, and many MANY more are available for your viewing pleasure, in full resolution. Please visit: <https://keithmiller.smugmug.com/Club-Events>

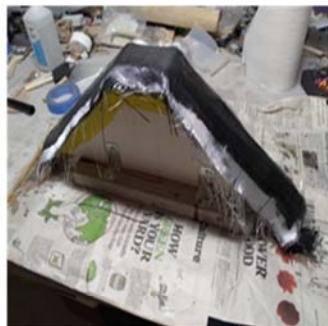
On the Modeling Front The topic on the top of my mind right now is the number of kit-builds and restorations going on.

Peter Hampton bought and restored this EAA Biplane. It cleaned up beautifully! The vintage OS FS 90 with rear rockers also cleaned up well and ran well. Jeff Coskey spent some time with Pete for some final grooming of control systems and needle valve arrangements and (re) maiden it on August 7th.



Jan “Mitch” Mitchel invested in this “unknown” classic pattern ship that had an OS 90 four-stroker in it. This one is taking way more work than Mitch bargained for, but he’s plugging along like a true builder. So far he’s removed the wing-mounted retracts and is going with a hand-made carbon fiber fuselage-mounted main gear (fixed). He wasn’t happy with the yard-stick (no kidding) main spar and really non-standard wing construction. We were both really perplexed as to why there was fabric covering on the underside of the wing skins. Mitch is also re-working the fuel hatch and is replacing the OS .90 engine with a Saito 1.15 cu in four-stroke.





National Model Aviation Day Pot Luck and Fun-Fly – Saturday Aug 14th.

The Pot-Luck was super! We had BBQ chicken wings, fried chicken, Ron's famous potato salad, quinoa salad, Annie Allen's (Bruce's) delicious cookies, chips and more. We closed out most of Joe Cullum's estate sales via silent auction. Unfortunately, there were only a couple of flyers interested in Fun-Fly events, so we cancelled that and had no carnage! Thank you all who participated!



On the building front, Bobby Rink recently finished up a Four-Star 40 kit that came to the club via Glen McClintic. The maiden flight was postponed this month due to cloudy gray skies which, with the accompanying shadows, would have made orientation a nightmare. There's no reason to risk a model when you know it'll be hard to see, right? I LOVE the colors, Bobby!





Continued Grooming of Picnic Area Jeff and Dave continue to make improvements to the picnic and storage areas, most recently by adding a set of steps going up (or down) the berm to the upper parking area. An additional set of steps is planned for the area approximately in the middle of the pit area.



Runway Maintenance, Seal Coat complete If you haven't been out to see us lately, we have a fresh seal coat on the runway, with brandy-new shiny stripes. It was a treat to watch someone else do the striping! You'll note that the red/white safety line has a new twist over to the west. As you might recall a recent rule change that allows us to fly over the hill to our west. This new bend in the safety line represents that point at which our flight path can deviate to the left and we can fly up to the hill, not to fly beyond the left of the peak.



Speaking of paving and sub-contractors, as I'm typing this long-as-heck President's Message, I'm on a Virtual Round Table Discussion with the County of San Diego's Board of Supervisors regarding An Ordinance Amending the County Code of Administrative Ordinances Relating to Employment on County Construction Projects and Property. This is a draft ordinance establishing new standards for employees and contracts on leased county property. To set the stage, this



applies to us; we're on a lease/contract with the County for use of the land. Next, we don't have employees, so no issues there. But lastly, we do hire contractors such as G. Scott Paving to maintain the runway. What I learned at this Board of Supervisors meeting is that we'd only be impacted if we execute a contract greater than \$25,000. Our last runway paving contract (full layer) was less than \$20,000. And even then, we'd only need to ensure that the contractor is aware that they're working on leased county property, and that they're responsible to meet the new ordinance (if it passes). Easy-peasy!

Joe Cullum Estate Update: as of this writing, we have left only three airplanes and lots of old radios. In all, Tana made more than \$4,500, with final cash delivery of about \$500 due to her this week.

Thanks to these folks who helped with the final move of the estate to our field for storage/distribution: Jeff Coskey, Rich Sherman, Ron Keith, Vernon Gilmore (drove 45 miles from a camping trip!), Mitch Mitchel, and Lyle Black who actually bought as much as we stored.

This Time Last Year – In August of 2020, we saw a (failed) attempt to use the thin strip of property directly to our east. This was the nursery that fell through. Yay us! In August of 2020, We had 129 members... Now we have 141! Yay us!

Upcoming Events – To view our calendar of events for 2021, visit (<http://www.weedwackers.org/ww/events/>).

In the immediate future, we have:

Fun Fly – Saturday Sep 11th – CANCELLED – Yours truly, the Fun-Fly chairman, will be working abroad (UK). I'll have to learn some British slang from Bruce before I travel??!

Also on the horizon, date TBD, will be a Celebration of Life for our friend Joe Cullum. His widow, Tana, asked if there's anything we could do for such an event, and the answer was "yes! of course!". Details will follow.

New members

Welcome to Sean Dolan, Ron Ratigan and Bill Personius. Great to have you! Bill and I actually crossed paths back in the late 1990s,

early 2000's serving on the USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74). Of course, we didn't know it then...

Current statistic: 141 members, from 10 to 91 years of age, all of us still kids at heart!!

Until next time -
Keith

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