



Hangar News

July 2025

Newsletter of the First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
AMA Charter #1651

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron

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Sec: Mark Gray 619-993-6548

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15198 Picturesque Point

El Cajon, CA 92021

Field Marshals:

Vernon Gilmore, Ron Keith, Butch Weiser, Steve Shepersky, Dick Milhausen, Gary Rold, Richard Brown, Keith Miller

Fun Fly Chairman Keith Miller

Race Chairman Glen Merritt, David Roche

Safety Officer Ron Keith

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Dean Nickol 619-208-7906

Dick Milhausen 619-561-5323

*AMA Introductory Pilot Program Instructors:

Scott Graupmann, Glenn Merritt, Jeff Coskey, Butch

Weiser, 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.

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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

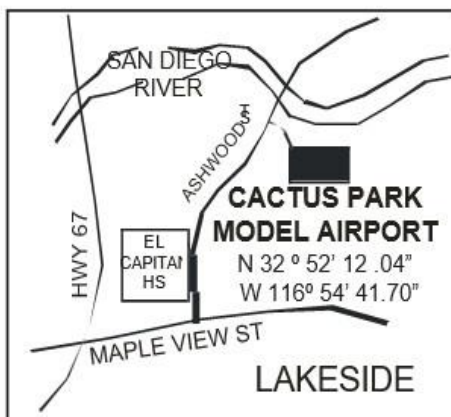
Next Meeting:

Saturday July 5th, 2025 9:00 am at our Ron Smith Memorial Flying Field.

There was some consideration of moving the meeting based on proximity to the 4th of July holiday, but the consensus is that the planned meeting on July 5th will remain as-is, as the normal attendees would likely attend. Also, there's no critical agenda requiring a large club presence.

The County approved the removal of the fence! Read the President's Message inside.

We have a new roll-up door!!!



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Meeting Minutes 7 June 2025

Mark Gray

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM at the field. Club officers present were the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and the Secretary. A total of 12 club members were present. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes: Keith Miller moved the minutes of the May 3rd, 2025 meeting be approved as submitted. Seconded by Lyle Black. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Starting Balance:	\$14,090.84	April 30th 2025
Income:	\$940	
Expenses	\$1,945.41	
Ending Balance:	\$13,085.43	May 31st 2025

- Balance May 31st 2024: \$8,083.16

Table Repair Fund: \$900.00

Expenses: \$1,022.00

Current Balance: **\$(122.00)**

Armed Forces Day Fly-in May 2025

- 18 pilots – 20 aircraft
- Food revenue: \$310.00
- Food cost: \$259.67
- Food cost net: \$50.33
- Raffle cost: \$507.27
- Raffle revenue: \$250.00
- Raffle net: \$(257.27)
- Net cost to club: \$206.94

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

General Notes:

- Thank you for observing the traffic pattern, all is quiet with the neighbors.
- Brian Knutsen did a great job on the BBQ for the Armed Forces Day Fly-in. Thank you!
- Jeff Coskey is organizing the Dick Halbert estate sale in Del Mar. 50% of the proceeds will go to the club. A group of about 7 volunteers from the club will go to Del Mar from 11 AM –

2 PM today to sort models and prepare for the sale which will take place on June 14th. There is a flyer that has been sent out by email with all the details. Keith has secured tables and pop ups to set up in the driveway. We're hoping to get all the set-up completed today so there is no need to return on Wednesday to finish. Volunteers are needed on the 14th from 6:15 AM – 1:00 PM. Remnants from the sale will be taken to the swap meet at DHW on Sunday the 15th.

Field Maintenance:

- When mowing/weedwacking is needed, the field will be closed at the beginning of the day before any flying commences. The field will open to flying only when the work is completed for the day.
- Table repairs are almost complete, and all material has been purchased. There is still some painting to do.

Upcoming Events:

- Wedding today at 1:00 PM at the Polo field. The field is closed from 1:00 PM to Dusk.
- Pylon races will continue on 8/23/2025 and will be added back to the calendar for the 4th Saturday of the month from 9-11 AM.

Old Business:

- The shed door has been ordered. Total cost \$1826 – originally budgeted \$1500.
- It will be delivered within the next week or so.

Safety Officer Report: See rule review and note #1 under field maintenance.

Rule review:

- Rule #8 - Flyers give way to vehicle traffic on runway.

New Business:

- Richard Brown moved to approve an additional \$400 for the shed door. Seconded by Keith Miller. The motion was approved.
- A runway is opening up at Art Flores' place in Lakeside on Saturday's during October. This will be an opportunity to showcase our club.
- Brian Knutsen volunteered to place a camera at the gate. The county is also considering adding

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a camera at the gate to catch the person(s) who are dumping yard waste.

Good of the Order: None

Keith Miller moved and Craig Graham seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 AM.

June 2025 President's Message

Greetings!

June has turned out to be a good month for the Club.

The new rollup door is on the storage shed! Rich Brown really stepped up to make this happen. Thanks Rich for all your hard work!

He also researched gas-powered weed eaters and found one best suited for the Club. However, since the great state of California does not allow them to be sold here he drove to Arizona to make the purchase. What a difference in the appearance of the field. Once again Rich Brown and Dick Milhausen have done a tremendous job trimming weeds and the tree in the BBQ area – looks great!

Jeff Coskey put together an estate sale that was a logistical undertaking. The home was in Del Mar and so was the Del Mar Fair traffic. Most of the 150+ models were stacked on the second level of the garage and in a craft room. The gentleman liked to collect kits from past decades. We had to take everything out to the driveway, separate good ones from bad (incomplete) and crashed planes, both foam and wood. This effort took up most of the day. Then we had to return them to the garage and get ready to sell. On the first day of the sale very few people showed up. Luckily, a buyer showed up and bought quite a lot. We took the leftovers to the swap meet that started at 0700 at Discount Hobby on Father's Day. Jeff set up at 0530, I arrived at 0630 along with other members

volunteering to help. Thanks to everyone that participated!

I will ask Jeff to announce the total amount the Club made from the estate sale at the July meeting.

Items keep disappearing from the first aid box!! If you use something, such as scissors please return it to the box. Let me know if you notice supplies are low or anything is missing. Same for the crash bag!

The County approved the removal of the fence! They will also cut down and remove any potential fire hazards. This will take place in July; the field will be shut down that day. I will notify everybody when we close the field. We are still waiting for notification – stand by!

Just a reminder to wear your badge at the field and display the **required** FAA identification numbers on your aircraft.

I will be out of town 27-30 June – fish are calling!



Ron
(619) 988-7667

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New shed door



More News:

Pylon Racing - Results from last month's (5/24) pylon races in order from winner to non-winners: David Roche, Jim Elgie, Glenn Merritt, Kenny Dunlap, Jeff Coskey.

DICK HALBERT ESTATE SALE

WHEN
Saturday June 14th, 2025
7:30 am – 12:00 pm

WHERE
4616 Rancho Reposo
Del Mar, CA 92014

BACKGROUND
At 92, Dick is an artist by profession and a Veteran of the Korean war. He flew at many local clubs in the Bonsall/Fallbrook area over the past 20 years. Dick also spent some time in Alaska, possibly prospecting. He may have been a member of Wingmasters.

WWW.WEEDWACKERS.ORG

HUGE VARIETY
Nearly 160 clean kits and models including ARFs, BNF & PNP.
Many assembled models as well.
Kits are by Giliows (large stock), Flyline, Hobby Lobby, Aero Craft, Midwest, Hott, Berkeley, Great Planes, Duro Engineering, MANY more!
Even three Noble Hawks!
ARFs / BNFs by Elite, Multiplex,
See the photos at:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/euqtiV2BLqtsUvXn37>
and
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/XR9u6Fbc3HAWEHVg7>

COORDINATORS
Jeff Coskey
(619) 913-1455
Ron Keith
(619) 988-7667

BENEFITING
Dick is the beneficiary of any proceeds as he is living at an assisted living facility.
This will help with his expenses.

PARKING
The home is in a quiet residential area with plenty of on-street parking.

Workers supporting the 6/7/25 Saturday Dick Halbert Estate Sale preps

These individuals spent quite a bit of the day sorting through a huge collection of kits, models and pieces, staging them for the sale the following weekend:
Led by **Jeff Coskey**: Brian Knutson, Brian Kidwell, Jeramy and Keith Miller, Ron Keith, Glenn Merritt, Mr. Bob, Scott McCurdy, Kurtis Schuettehelm, Todd Ferguson, Mark Gray, and Steve Walts from Costa Mesa.

Estate sale day 6/14/25 in Del Mar

On the day of the actual sale, these people deserve recognition, again led by **Jeff Coskey**:
Scott McCurdy, Keith Miller, Vernon Gilmore, Brian Knutson, and Walter (from Mission Bay)
The estate sale had poor turnout – maybe only five buyers, even though advertised by flyers to all clubs including Palomar, Facebook, Craigslist, and Offer-up.

But the DHW swap meet turned out to be a huge success.

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Swap Meet: And for all of the items NOT sold during the estate sale, these people hauled the remnants in several vehicles and were up at oh-dark-thirty and met up at DHW by 05:30 to finish off the sales: Again, led by **Jeff Coskey:** Vernon Gilmore, Keith Miller, Ron Keith, and Brian Knutson.

Charging on metal tables

Ron put out a club-wide email earlier in June, copied below. There's a significant risk of conductors shorting batteries:

Date: June 9th, 2025

From: Ron Keith, President and Safety Officer

Re: Battery Charging

As a matter of personal & club safety, please ensure that all battery charging is done only at the designated battery charging stations. There is never to be any charging of batteries on the tables with metal surfaces, regardless of whether they are in a Lipo bag or not. No exceptions!

Call or talk to Ron Keith in person if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation