



HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
September 2012

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
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Ben Newkirk Ron Smith (lead)

Wings Over Gillespie Liason:

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Scott Graupmann, Glen Merritt

Joe Stutzman 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.

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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..

R/C Schedule 2012

Sept 23	Sun	E-Stick Racing, Cactus Park
Oct 12-14		Miramar Airshow
Nov 10	Sat	Vet Day Flyin, Miramar RC Flyers
Nov 17	Sat	Crime Victims Flyin, Cactus Park

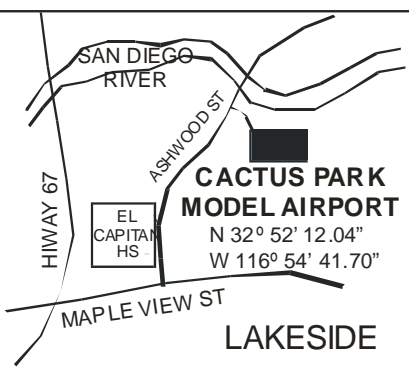
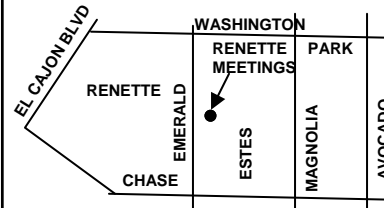
Fire Safety is Always a Concern

We had a very vivid demonstration of Fire Danger and how to use the fire extinguishers and other tools at the field to control fires. Several members got first hand experience using fire extinguishers. But probably the most instructive moments were when a LiPo battery pack was damaged and began to burn. Several methods were used to fight the LiPo fire, and basically, the LiPo burned until it burned out. See the video at http://www.weedwackers.org/ww/photo_galleries/

A LiPo fire is what we fear most at Cactus Park, however any fire can be dangerous and possibly start an area fire that threatens Lakeside.

Keep in mind that the Club maintains fire extinguishers and sand buckets at the field. But the most important tool is a Cell Phone to call 911 for help if there's a fire—ANY FIRE!

NEXT MEETING:
Tues. Sept 4, 7:00
Renette Park





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Meeting Minutes Aug 2012

Richard Crutchfield

The meeting on August 7th, 2012 was called to order by President Keith Miller at 6:59 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited to a flag donated by Ted O'Fallin. Lee Main also brought a flag, just in case. Thank you guys. 25 attendees, including one guest, 4 new members, and the board members President Keith Miller, Vice President Ron Smith, Treasure Scott Graupmann and Secretary Richard Crutchfield were present.

Guests/New Membership:

Bruce Allen (new member) – Bruce is a retired avionics engineer from the Royal Navy. He saw us at Wings Over Gillespie and decided to become a member.

Larry Bagalini (new member) – Larry is a past member and decided to get back in the hobby. He has a project on the board and is looking to get into e-flight.

Greg Carter (new member) – Greg is also a past member who just sold his 39 foot sail boat the day of the meeting. He has a Curtis Jenny at home and hopes to have it ready to fly by January.

Jason Taylor (new member) – Jason is the owner/operator of Taylor Films Co. He starting from gliders and is moving to power and is taking flight instruction from Ron Smith.

Gene Albin (guest) – Gene is new to RC, his father-in-law gave him several aircraft and he is looking to learn to fly.

President Keith Miller welcomed the new members and guests. He spoke of the AMA's Intro Pilot Program and that the club has several intro flight instructors and trainer aircraft available with buddy boxes.

Electric Seminar:

The Electric Seminar was to be held after the meeting for at least 3 members.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes:

One correction to July's Meeting Minutes; Ron Smith spotted the snake in front of the shed, not Keith Miller.

M/S/P to approve the minutes from last month's meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Scott Graupmann said that ending balance on July's Treasure's Report was off by 2 cents. The correct ending balance was \$8,078.24 rather than \$8,078.22.

M/S/P to approve the Treasure's Report.

Beginning Balance:	\$8,078.22
Income:	\$95.00
Expenses:	\$326.27
Ending Balance:	\$7,846.97

Safety Officer Report:

Hey, we have a Safety Officer! Ron Keith reported that the Live Fire Training put on by the Lakeside Fire Department was a success. They used 12 fire extinguishers! During the demonstration portion, a LiPo battery was compromised and after repeated attempts to put out the fire, using different methods, it was determined that the battery is going to burn until it is done. Check out the video at www.weedwackers.org. Ron will get the address of the Lakeside Fire Department so the club can send them a letter of appreciation.

There was some conversation about the field and brush on the approach end of the runway. The property is not part of the Herring Ranch. Ron Smith said that he would try to contact the owner to see if we can work with him to clear the weeds.

Watch out for the brown spiders. They like to hide on and around the tables and plastic chairs. They have a bite similar to a bee sting. At the end of the conversation, Keith Miller said "now I have the heebie jeebies" which was followed by a round of laughter.

Committee Reports:

The Race Committee, now chaired by Lance



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Edmunson, spoke of the E-Stick Air Races held on July 22nd. 13 aircraft joined in on the fun racing 6 Mini-Sticks and 7 T-28s five laps around the 2 pylons. Wayne Aymar crashed his Mini-Stick (that's okay, he has a spare, see the pictures on the website) and Tom (unknown last name) crashed his plane as well. The BBQ was a success with most people staying until 1:30 or 2:00.

Old Business:

The club has several upcoming events on the schedule. A Fun-Fly is scheduled for Saturday, August 18th. Keith Miller will host this event with either 4 or 5 events with prizes. A prize will be given for each event. The Pilot Briefing will be held at 9:00 AM and the event will start at 9:30. Another E-Flight Race is possibly in the works for Sunday, September 23. Lance Edmunson will provide details once confirmed. On Saturday, October 6th, Keith is planning to host another Fun-Fly.

The brand spankin' new web site has gone live! Our Web Master, Tim Peterson, has done a fantastic job. Check it out at www.weedwackers.org. Tim took center stage. Using the meeting room's monitor and Scott Graupmann mobile phone as a WIFI hot spot, he showed us the new site. He presented each of the sections and spoke of the ease of maintenance. New sections were added such as Crash of the Week and News. Some comments and suggestions were made including the addition of a classified ad section. Tim finished up the demonstration by showing a slightly altered video of Lee Main helping out Fred Miller with a range check.

Need of a New Home: The club has a Hobbico Superstar 40 (trainer) which was donated by Ron Green for training purposes. It needs someone to store it and make it available for flight training. It needs a transmitter, receiver and battery. Greg Carter said that he may have an Airtronics transmitter available.

Ben Newkirk was not present but asked for Keith

Miller to read a statement about the recent death of Joel Blodgett. The statement was read. Joel will be missed. Thanks for the tribute Ben.

New Business:

The club is looking for a Toys for Tots chairman or committee to coordinate donations to be included with Miramar RC Flyers. The activities occur in November. Last year the club collected toys and cash and donated it to Miramar RC Flyers and we hope to do the same this year. Who can help?

Other New Business:

A fishing rod has been donated to help retrieve planes which have been "parked" in a tree.

Drawing for Free Membership:

Buddy Shupe – Sorry Buddy, you need to be present to win.

Demonstration:

Lee Main showed his newly reconstruct cowl on his Cessna Skylane which he demonstrated last month. His friend, Gary Rold, constructed a mold using the old fiberglass cowl and built a replacement. Similar repairs have been made to the wheel pants.

Raffle:

Ron Smith	gallon of nitro
Bruce Allen	plane stand
Leroy Brooks	prop balancer and glue
Fred Miller	protective foam and glue
Hervey Langevin	plane balancer
Ron Keith	meal ticket and 4-way wrench
Don Westergren	screw driver set
Hervey Langevin	eflight lipo battery checker
Michael Martak	plane balancer

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned around 8:15 PM.



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President's Message Sept 2012

Wow, just last month I'd mentioned the exposure we've seen for the club, and at our August meeting we had four new members plus at least one more who joined at the field! Welcome to all of you!

At the meeting we'd made mention of the Hobbico Superstar 40 trainer in need of a home. I'd like to thank Lee Main who since has made some structural repairs as well as installing a receiver. Thanks, Lee!

Unfortunately the summer heat claimed one casualty – our August Fun-Fly! I'd made a note to myself last year not to plan any events in August due to the heat, and go figure – I didn't pay attention to myself. Our next scheduled Fun-Fly is on October 6th which will see much nicer weather!

E-Stick racing is growing! As Rich recorded in the minutes, the SEFSD event that we hosted in July was well attended. September 23rd is the next race at Cactus Park, so you have at least three weeks to go pick yourself out an E-Flite Ultra Stick or ParkZone T-28 and join the fun! You can get some details at the Silent Electric Flyers web site (sefsd.org), but unfortunately they don't post a race schedule beyond September.

At the September meeting we'll hold an all-hands Certified Electric Pilot Seminar which I'll try to keep to 30 minutes. While many of our regular attendees are already 'Circle-E' certified, the objective is to start adding recurring training events as a matter of regular business. A recommendation was made a few months ago that we train everyone in the club on the aspects of electrical and battery safety, so we'll kick it off in September. If you have a training or presentation topic you'd like to develop, we can make a laptop available for

presentation on the screen made available in the meeting hall.

And lastly, Chuck Palmore of Lakeside Fire provided some excellent hands-on firefighting training at the field using a propane-fed water pool. Following that, Lance Edmunson and Ron Keith (Safety Officer) coordinated for the LiPo battery fire demonstration. To be clear, the LiPo fire demonstration was purely a club function and not part of Lakeside Fire's training session, but the attention and safety gear was on-hand and it fit perfectly in the scenario. The training value was unbeatable!

Stay cool this summer and bring lots of water to the field with you!

Keith

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Views of the Fire Training at Cactus Park

A video is on the Weed Wacker Web Site at http://www.weedwackers.org/ww/photo_galleries/

That shows what a damaged LiPo battery pack does, and HOW HARD IT IS TO EXTINGUISH. This is MUST VIEWING for all members who fly electric.

