



# HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER  
AEROSQUADRON  
AMA CHARTER # 1651  
April 2013

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron  
P.O. Box 2044  
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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  
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Articles, news items and classified ads should be sent  
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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 2012-2013

Apr 20 Sat Western Days Parade, Lakeside CA  
May 5 Sun Electric Pylon race, Cactus Park  
May 18 Sat Scale Fly-In, Cactus Park

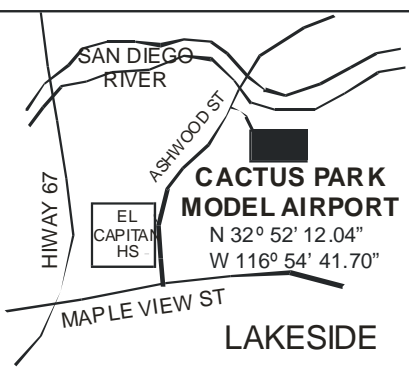
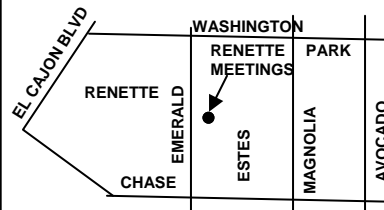
## Lakeside Western Days Parade

Lakeside will have their annual parade on April 20, 2013. Our club  
has presented a float in the parade for many years, showing off our  
models. We don't have details yet where to meet, but plan to be  
there by 7:30 AM in the Parade Assembly area. Bring any kind of  
model.

## Solar Powered Charge Station

Thanks to Butch Weisser and Ron Smith for setting this up at  
Cactus Park. It is available to any Weedwacker to recharge batteries  
at the field. A Users Guide will be written and posted at the field  
soon. More details on this system is in the President's Message,  
Page 4.

NEXT MEETING:  
**Tues. Apr 2, 7:00**  
Renette Park





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## Meeting Minutes March 5, 2013

*Richard Crutchfield*

The meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 was called to order by President Keith Miller at 7:00 PM. Since the flag disappeared after our December 2012 meeting, new one was donated by Chuck Cassity a larger spare flag was also donated by Ron Keith. Thank you for the donation. In attendance were 31 attendees including one guest and the board members President Keith Miller, Vice President Ron Smith, Treasure Scott Graupmann and Secretary Richard Crutchfield.

### **Guests/New Membership:**

Phil Morris joined us from the world of RC boats. He is just starting to fly RC planes and is currently fly a trainer without ailerons. He like build both planes and boats. Some of the boats travel over 100 mph.

### **Approval of the Meeting Minutes:**

M/S/P to approve the minutes from the February meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

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

Beginning Balance:	\$10,078.73
Income:	\$870.00
Expenses:	\$353.57
Ending Balance:	\$10,595.16 (\$8,954.42 this time last year)

### **Committee Reports:**

Race Committee – Lance Edmunson – Races from Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>; results are not yet available. Next races to be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Miramar.

### **Tabled Business:**

AMA revised the FPV, Failsafe, Stabilization and Autopilot Systems policies: As long as the club members follow the AMA rules, the club will not require any additional regulations. Please see the club website for the AMA rules.

The Mid-Summer Daytime Luncheon event, presented by Ted O'Fallin: Ted spoke with the

management of the Santee Home Town Buffet and they are willing to reserve the back room for 30+ people. The cost would be only the cost of food which is about 8 or 9 dollars. Ted stated that he has a sea plane from Charlie McCracken that he can use for the raffle. He suggested a Saturday lunch so the membership can start their morning by flying and the meet for lunch afterwards.

The club subsidized the January banquet at about 35% so the club can match that for the Mid-Summer Daytime Luncheon. The idea for the Saturday was brought up and voted on along with the 35% subsidy. Both had a motion, second, approved and passed.

Due to the logistics of the 35% subsidy and the individuals paying for the lunch, it was determined that the subsidy would be used to purchase raffle prizes.

Next the membership suggested July 20<sup>th</sup> with July 28<sup>th</sup> being a backup. The date was also voted on and approved.

If you and your spouse are interested in attending the Mid-Summer Daytime Luncheon, please contact a board member.

Ted and Keith Miller will work out the details and will discuss them during the April meeting.

Butch Weiser suggested that we offer the local hobby shop owners and spouses to join us at no cost.

### **Old Business:**

The Cub Scout event discussed previously will be postponed until further notice while arrangements are being made with scout leaders.

Shirts and decals discussed during the February meeting will tabled until the April meeting. Keith Miller identified himself as a slacker (hardly!). Scott Graupmann forgot to bring the hats as well.

Butch Weiser suggested that we visit the t-shirt store on Main Street in El Cajon. They can imprint the club artwork on just about any shirt.



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Butch will see what information he can find and make it available to the membership during the next meeting.

## **New Business:**

Congratulations to Don Madison for his recognition in the March issue of Model Aviation. Check out the District X report.

The Lakeside Rodeo Parade is planned for April 20<sup>th</sup>. Ron Smith will take the lead on this event. If you are interested in having your model displayed, please contact Ron.

A Scale Fly-In is in preparation and Lee Main has agreed to direct the contest.

The field will be closed May 19<sup>th</sup> for an event at the neighboring polo field.

Ron Scharck suggested that the club should host a Want Ads section on the web site. Well, it went live last week. Check it out. The Classifieds section allows you to post your ads, including pictures. You can also subscribe to an item and it will notify you when someone is interested. A forums section has also been added. Thank you Tim Peterson for updating the site.

Butch Weiser proposed solar powered charging stations. He suggested that the club purchase 3 solar panels from Harbor Freight, 2 batteries, conduit and wire. He would donate his time to assemble the equipment so that the club would have a 12 volt junction box at both of the charging tables. He estimated the cost would be about \$400 (excluding batteries). The idea was motioned and voted on and the membership agreed to pay up to \$400 for Butch to start. Scott Graupmann suggested that we refer to the Model Aviation article on how to construct such a system.

Mike Barry lost his GoPro camera from his airplane. He has offered \$100 reward for the

camera. If it has not been found by Friday, Keith Miller suggested that a group of volunteers come out Saturday morning to search for it.

## **Drawing for Free Membership:**

And the winner is... Mel Duggie – not present. You must be present to win.

## **Model Sharing:**

Rick Mathews showed his Sig 1/5 scale clipped win Cub. He said it was the easiest plane that he has put together. It is covered with Solar Tex (what, not silk). He planned to fly it last week but he didn't have enough thrust. He is waiting for the new motor to arrive.



Ken Lawrence showed his scratch built 1930 Curtis Wright CW1. It is powered by a Rim Fire 10 covered and painted with Krylon Hunter

Green paint. It has flown but was damaged (and repaired) after it had a wing tip stall and broke the nose.



## **Good of the Order:**

Bruce Allen stated that First Robotics was having a robotic competition at



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the San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> for high school kids. The kids build robots that perform tasks that are judged (Bruce is a judge). 44 teams, including 1 from Mexico are set to compete. If you are interested, you can find more information at [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org). You are welcome to watch for free.

## Raffle:

Leroy Brooks	receiver battery
Bruce Allen	gallon of nitro
Fred Miller	cordless screwdriver
Larry Bagalini	screw driver set
Rich Crutchfield	transmitter case
Ron Smith	starter battery
Tim Peterson	charging equalizer
Bruce Allen	rubber bands and a meal ticket

## Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.



**DISCOUNT  
HOBBY  
WAREHOUSE**



## President's Message April 2013

The Weedwackers web site forums and classifieds are now LIVE! Our Webmaster (with some encouragement from an avid member) took the next step in web site feature improvements. We now have a fully functional forum and classified section! We've had several requests in the past to include a "For Sale" section in the Hangar News publication. We've shied away from that idea for two reasons. Firstly, by the time the ads make it to the newsletter editor, then get into print, chances are the item is sold. The ad goes stale. Secondly, the club puts out roughly \$20 in postage per month (not counting supplies such as paper, staples and Westergren stamp-licking spit). The more we add to the printed newsletter, the more we spend. Ergo, a real-time "for-sale" section on the web site. Users can post descriptions and photos at will and delete them when the items sell. No cost, no fuss (well, a little fuss to get used to the posting tools). As with most other internet forums, you'll need to register and create a user ID and password. New features include (but are not limited to): post photos or attachments to a given topic, personal messaging among members, subscribing to a topic to get email notifications of updates, and a new topic editor to allow for formatting and photo inclusion.

A couple of reminders from the left seat, if I may. Recently we discovered at least one member who was flying electric models (for a while) but wasn't a "Circle-E" member. He'd not yet completed the Certified Electric Airplane Pilot (CEAP) seminar. All members should be attentive and remind each other that, in order to fly electric, they must bear a Circle-E badge. We conduct the short seminar after every club meeting, and Scott and I have been holding one-on-one seminars at the field just about every





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weekend.

I'd also like to remind everyone that, once you've unlocked any of the gates or the safety cabinet, the lock tumbler needs to be spun immediately before the lock leaves your hand. This practice assures that casual passers-by (primarily at the front gate) cannot see the security code left displayed on the tumbler.



Just for grins, I've included a photo of dear ol' Dad (Fred) spinning circles while flying Control Line. If anyone's

interested in joining us, we often fly on Friday mornings in Santee while the park is free of kiddies. The City of Santee has blessed the use of one of its parks for tethered and muffled control line flying. It's a blast from the past and actually quite an active aspect of the hobby!

The Lakeside Western Days Parade is just around the corner - April 20<sup>th</sup>! If you've got a model you'd like to display on the "tree" or on the flat-bed, please join us at the April meeting and sign up! It's a blast waving at all the locals of Lakeside, and it's great exposure for the hobby! Check out the photos from last year.

The Swap Meet held March 22<sup>nd</sup> was another success with approximately 20 sellers and



many buyers. Many, many thanks to those who helped with the setup and coordination to include Don Madison (the head dude), Gary Rold and Ron Keith who directed traffic and handled entrance fees. Gary Roehl and his son Justin brought in the Sound of the Oldies, keeping some good ol' tunes going throughout the morning.

By now you may have seen the new solar powered charging stations installed by Butch Weiser. Ron Smith took care of the battery segment in the shed, while Bruce installed the solar panels, conduit, cables and stations. The system is up and operating and was installed in a most professional manner! Specific details will follow in future newsletters. Basically, two deep cycle 12v batteries are in the shed (in parallel) feed the charging stations. Solar panels are tied into the system through a controller installed in our Safety/Pin box. The solar panels recover the charge we pull out at about 3 amps. CEAP certified members can tap into the POS and NEG terminals at the charging stations and charge at will. Butch carefully marked the charging station posts, and also took care to follow the standard material





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selection for (+) and (-). The (+) post is gold in color while (-) is silver. The stations have



simple posts to accept alligator clips which work for 90% of the chargers on the market. If your charger requires banana plugs, you'll need to adapt. The system should easily handle the normal charging duty we expect from our e-flyers. Should we draw too much instantaneous current, an automatic-reset fuse



at the battery will trip, then reset after a cool-down period. In order for the solar panels to charge the system, the POWER switch on the controller (in the Safety/Pin box) needs to be ON. Battery voltage can be checked by turning the DISPLAY ON. **IMPORTANT** - leave the POWER switch ON to ensure the panels keep the batteries charged. **IMPORTANT** - don't leave the display on. You can tell that the POWER switch is ON by

turning the DISPLAY ON and seeing numbers (then turn the DISPLAY OFF). If you happen to see battery voltage below 12v, please let one of the club officers know so we can evaluate. Nicely done, Butch and Ron!

One of our newest members, Phillip Morris, built a third charging table (tiled by Ron) so now we have a total of THREE stations. Phil, you're a GREAT guy, I don't care what your wife says....



Glen Merritt has attended meetings in March in support of our participation at Wings Over Gillespie coming up on June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. He plans on presenting the current status at the April meeting. As been in the past, this is a huge opportunity for us to present the hobby to the entire San Diego community. As always, we're asking the membership for participation so please consider joining us at the next meeting to get involved.

My plans to become more involved with the local Cub Scouts and High Schools are dwindling. Seems my job and honey-do list are conflicting with important stuff like balsa carving and community involvement. We could really use a leader in these ventures. If you're willing and able, maybe you would be interested in heading up a youth program or educational event. Let us know!



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AMA Charter #1651

## Scale Flyin

When: **Saturday May 18, 2013**  
Where: First Weedwacker Aero Squadron Field, Cactus Park  
Time: Checkin 08:00 AM  
Flying: 09:00 to 1:00  
Landing Fee: \$10.00

Pilots Raffle and Open Raffle

Food Available

Scale and Semi-Scale Models Welcome

Awards for: Best Civilian, Military, Peoples Choice and Judges Choice

There are strict sound regulations. Engine noise cannot exceed 96 DBa @ 3 m  
Sound Meter available at field.  
Must show AMA card to enter.

For more information call:

Leroy Brooks  
619-466-8049  
Or

Keith Miller  
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