



# HANGAR NEWS

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

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron  
P.O. Box 2044  
Lakeside, CA 92040

Sign up for Email Delivery of  
Newsletter :

[news.weedwackers@gmail.com](mailto:news.weedwackers@gmail.com)

Web: <http://www.weedwackers.org>  
Club Officers Email:  
[info.weedwackers@gmail.com](mailto:info.weedwackers@gmail.com)

President: Keith Miller 619-405-0192  
keeferm@cox.net

V-P: Ron Smith 619-562-2594

Sec: Rich Crutchfield 619-722-1225

Treas: Scott Graupmann 858-945-6969

10938 Vivaracho Way  
San Diego, CA 92124

Fun Fly Chairman

TBD

Race Chairman

TBD

Safety Officer

Ron Keith

Field Marshals:

Bill Hutchins

Lee Main

Glen Merritt

Keith Miller

Ben Newkirk

Ron Smith (lead)

Wings Over Gillespie Liason:

Glenn Merritt

Editor: Don Westergren 619-660-1137

3942 Calavo Dr

La Mesa CA 91941

Webmaster: Tim Peterson

[webmaster@weedwackers.org](mailto:webmaster@weedwackers.org)

Instructors:

Ron Smith \*

619-562-2594

Scott Graupmann\*

858-945-6969

Keith Miller\*

619-449-7347

Lance Edmunson\*

619-995-1348

Richard Crutchfield\*\*

\*AMA Introductory Pilot Program Instructors

Electrical Aircraft Safety Technicians:

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.

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

May 5 Sun Electric Pylon race, Cactus Park  
May 11 Sat Cactus Park CLOSED for Polo Match  
May 18 Sat Scale Fly-In, Cactus Park  
May 20 Mon Carl Gwartney Service, Rosecrans Nat Cemetery  
May 25 Sat Fun Fly and Field Cleanup, Cactus Park  
June 1-2 Sat-Sun Wings Over Gillespie  
July 20 Sat SDAM Swap Meet—Chula Vista  
July 20 Sat Mid Summer Daytime Luncheon  
July 27 Sat Live Fire Training

## Scale Fly-In May 18

Plan to attend the Annual Scale Fly-In at Cactus Park May 18. We will be asking for volunteers to help at the next club meeting.

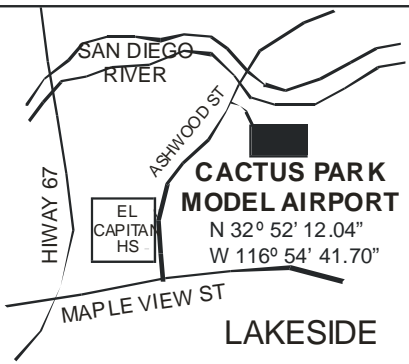
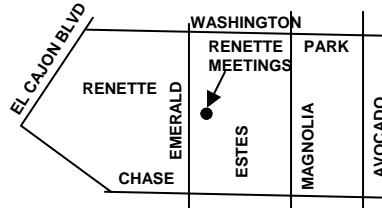
## July 20 Mid Summer Daytime Luncheon

You asked for it and we will have it. It will be at the HomeTown Buffet in Santee from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM.

## Carl Gwartney

Be sure to read the story about Carl's life and WWII service. The information was provided by Carl's family, his war buddy's son Layne E. Schultetus, and Fred Miller (Past Pres of FWW).

NEXT MEETING:  
**Tues. May 7, 7:00**  
Renette Park





# HANGAR NEWS

## Meeting Minutes April 2, 2013

*Richard Crutchfield*

The meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 was called to order by club President Keith Miller at 7:00 PM and the membership recited the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were 27 attendees including the board members President Keith Miller, Vice President Ron Smith, Treasure Scott Graupmann and Secretary Richard Crutchfield.

### Guests/New Membership:

No new guests or new members.

### Approval of the Meeting Minutes:

Lee Main had a few corrections for last month's minutes.

1. Page 2: "... flag disappeared after our December 2012 meeting, new one was donated..." should have been "... flag disappeared after our December 2012 meeting, a new one was donated..."

2. Page 2, Guests/New Membership: "He like build..." should have been "He liked to build..."

3. Page 2, Tabled Business...

This was just from page two. Lee pointed out a few other corrections. Lee, thank you for taking the time to look through the minutes and provide your comments.

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

### Treasurer's Report:

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

Beginning Balance: \$10,595.16

Income: \$553.00

Expenses: \$652.18

Ending Balance: \$10,495.98

(\$8,638.31 this time last year)

### Safety Officer Report:

Recent Lessons Learned: 1) If your ailerons aren't working, maybe the whole receiver isn't working. 2) If you don't have flaperons set up or you only have one aileron servo, don't flip to the flaperons mode, particularly at low altitude. 3) If you do switch to a flight mode and something unexpected happens, switch back. 4) When flying multiple aircraft from the same transmitter, make sure you have the proper plane selected.

### Committee Reports:

Race Committee – Lance Edmunson – New races are being scheduled, stay tuned.

### Upcoming Events:

April 19-21 – Lakeside Rodeo

April 20, Sat – Lakeside Western Days Parade

April 26-27 – RCX Expo, Long Beach, CA

April 30, Tue – Trauma Training (TBD); this may move to May 7<sup>th</sup>

May 11, Sat – Field Closed; Polo Event (moved from May 19<sup>th</sup>)

May 18, Sat – Scale Fly-In

May 25, Sat – Field Clean-Up and Fun Fly (Memorial Day Weekend)

June 1-2 – Wings Over Gillespie

July 13, Sat – SDAM Swap Meet (Chula Vista)

July 20, Sat – Mid-Summer Daytime Luncheon

July 27, Sat – Live Fire Training

Since the field will be closed May 11<sup>th</sup> for our neighbor's Polo Event, Butch Weiser suggested that we move the Field Clean-Up day to the same day. Excellent suggestion! Stay tuned.

### Old Business:

The Mid-Summer Daytime Luncheon will be held July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Santee Home Town Buffet. Ted O'Fallin presented a photo of the aircraft to be auctioned during the event. A brand new aircraft donated by Charlie McCracken.

During the last meeting, Butch Weiser said that he would collect information on getting new t-shirts made with the club logo on them... but he forgot. That's okay, the new solar powered charging station made up for it.

Ron Smith is planning the club's involvement with this year's Lakeside Western Days Parade. The flatbed trailer that the club has used in past years is no longer available. Lance Edmanson stepped up and agreed to donate his dump truck and trailer. Ron said they would put the plane rack on the trailer and allow people to ride in the back of the dump truck. If you are interested, please call Ron. Our participation in the parade gives our club standing with the community for community support. The required filing has already been submitted to the city and the number has been



# HANGAR NEWS

received.

Lee Main is preparing for the May 18<sup>th</sup> Scale Fly-In. Will the event be catered or something else? It will be catered. Keith Miller will look up the information from last year's event. Should we have a raffle? Of course! How much should the club put in? A suggestion was made to match last year which was \$500. The club usually collects about \$400 back from the raffle. A motion was made for the club to contribute \$500 to the raffle; the motion was seconded, approved and passed. Last year the pilots paid \$10 to compete, this year a suggestion was made to increase it to \$15, but the flyer already has \$10, so \$10 it is. Usually about 20 pilots participate. The categories for the awards were discussed and it was decided that Keith would order the plaques and Ron Smith would pick four up; one each for Pilot's Choice Military, Pilot's Choice Civilian, Judge's Choice and People's Choice. A safety inspector will verify the safety of each aircraft before it is permitted to fly. Who wants to be the safety inspector? More volunteers are needed for parking, the registration desk, flight line controller, judges, set up and clean up and boundary monitor. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lee Main.

Glenn Merritt has agreed to coordinate the Wings Over Gillespie event this year. He will be the liaison between the CAF and the club. This year's event is on June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unfortunately it was determined that the field would not be available for our model flight demonstration this year. The Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) on the field wanted to actually use the airfield to conduct their business. The static displays are still welcome. Should we still participate? YES! We are hopeful to get the same spot as last year. Please sign up if you can participate and indicate if you wish to bring a plane to display. Last year Bob Muhleman donated an enclosed trailer that was used to store the aircraft overnight. If you have a trailer you would like to donate, let Glenn know. Also, if you donate your time, you will

get free entrance to the show.

The membership would like to recognize Butch Weiser, Ron Smith and Philip Morris for the installation of the solar charging system. Over the last weekend, the system had 5 people charging at once. It may need a 3<sup>rd</sup> battery to cover the Saturday load. Ron will monitor the batteries including topping them off with water. The system includes a 30 amp fuse which automatically resets after a cooling off period if it should trip. Someone also donated a charger that can be used; it is in the pin box.

The solar charging system will require a change to the bylaws where it indicates that you will need to bring your own battery.

A user's guide still needs to be created for the usage of the system.

A member brought up that the club should have a CO2 fire extinguisher on hand. Ron Keith agreed to take a look at what was currently available and address any issues.

Last month, Bruce Allen spoke of the First Robotics competition and how high school students create robots that are used to complete tasks and are scored on their success. He showed a short video of some of the completion.

**New Business:** None

## **Drawing for Free Membership:**

And the winner is... Don Madison. Finally, someone who is present, but wait, isn't he a lifetime member? Yep, draw again.

Fred Moffit – you guessed it; you must be present to win.

## **Model Sharing:**

Wayne Aymar showed us what he does all day at work. He brought in his OMD inspired Hybrid. He re-designed the entire airframe and used a water jet to cut the wood. He has made 7 so far. The fuselage weighs 3 lbs, the wings weigh 1 lb. The fuselage is all interlocking so no planes are required to construct. Wayne, are you planning to make more or are you planning to sell them? Absolutely not! The materials cost \$410 which



# HANGAR NEWS



is too much. Did you say that you used water to cut the wood? A water jet uses super high pressure water to create a fine cut in the material. It only leaves a drop on the material when it starts and then another when it stops. The madden flight will be this Sunday.

## **Good of the Order:**

Glenn Merritt spoke of the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Reno Air Races. He indicated with the recent issues that this could be the last year. It is in mid-September. If you have never been, you will be amazed. There is nothing like it anywhere.

## **Raffle:**

A glider was donated and a set of PBY plans.

Lee Main	electric screw driver
Ron Smith	gallon nitro
Mike Aldrich	electric arming device
Keith Miller	Lipo sack
Ben Newkirk	Lipo volt meter and PBY plans
Fred Miller	Lipo battery 2100mAh
Art Flores	some wire stuff, whatever that is
Mike Aldrich	screw driver set
Ryan Crutchfield	starter motor
Keith Miller	glider

## **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

## **President's Message May 2013**

*Keith Miller*

Sadly, **Carl Gwartney** passed away peacefully at his home this month. He will be missed as a modeler, a veteran, and a family member.

We've re-arranged our calendar a wee bit this coming month. Our neighbors to the east are hosting a polo event on **May 11<sup>th</sup>**. Since we close our field to flying in support of these events, we'll hold our **Field Cleanup** on that day. Chuck Cassity offered to cook up some lunch for those who participate. Bring your brooms, rakes, scrub brushes, etc. and come out to lend a hand. We won't be doing the full-bore shed gutting like we did last year, but we can certainly tidy up the benches, pit area, and do some weed grooming. We need to refresh the pool noodles on top of the east fence, and do a good runway FOD walk-down. Let's set a meeting time of 9:00, with lunch around 11:30.

Lee Main is our Contest Director for the sanctioned **Scale Fly-In on May 18<sup>th</sup>** (AMA Event #13-1241). Plaques will be awarded for Pilots' Choice (MIL), Pilots' Choice (CIV), Judges' Choice and People's Choice. We'll also be raffling off \$ 500 in prizes. Food will be provided by The BBQ Pit for a price of about \$8.59 plus tax. The price has gone up a tad, but they put out HUGE portions, so be prepared to bring home a plate or two for the family at home, too! If you're available to help on the flight line, in the parking lot, at the property boundary or in any other way, please come to our May meeting and talk to Lee.

We'll hold our **Spring Fun-Fly on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any ideas for some new events or aircraft classes, please let me know.

Our participation in this year's **Lakeside Western Days Parade was a blast!!** Thanks to all of the participants: Bob





# HANGAR NEWS



Muhleman, Ted O'Fallin, Bruce Allen, Don Westergren, Clarence Legg. Special thanks go to Ron Smith who organized our participation, and the Lance and Robin Edmunson who graciously provided the trailer (float) for our display. The crowd was particularly responsive this year, and the weather couldn't have been better. We all took a vote - Robin wins "Best in Show"!

Take care, and have a great month!





# HANGAR NEWS

## Carl Gwartney

6/11/1920—4/19/2013

Carl Gwartney, Jr. will be remembered and honored by his family and friends on May 20, 2013 at 2:30 pm at



Rosecrans National Cemetery, 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Dr., San Diego, CA. Carl passed away on April 19, 2013 at the age of 92.

Dick and Maria Smith and family have been in Carl's life since he and Goldie, Dick's mom, became a couple almost 30 years ago. During that time he became a father, grandfather and great-grandfather to us and we cared for him deeply. We invite you to join us at Rosecrans for the celebration of Carl's life and after the ceremony are invited to Carl's home, 1515 Knoxville St., San Diego to share memories of Carl.

Carl was a man of many interests and talents who could educate and entertain us with a story on almost any subject. He was an intelligent, hard-working, loving and extremely organized man. Carl was born in Alamosa, Colorado June 11, 1920 and spent most of his younger years in Pueblo, Colorado before enlisting in the Army Air Force after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. He served as a glider pilot with the Troop Carrier 29<sup>th</sup> Squadron. Even though he never believed he was a hero, we know he was and will be remembered as one. After the war he moved to San Diego where he worked as a printer at the Union Tribune until his retirement in 1982. Carl never stopped learning and teaching and was active building and flying model airplanes until he passed away.

Condolences and comments can be made at [www.californiacremation.com](http://www.californiacremation.com) or [dick\\_mariasmith@comcast.net](mailto:dick_mariasmith@comcast.net)

*The following is written by Fred Miller, ed by Don Westergren*

Carl Gwartney was born in 1920 in Alamosa, Colorado. He spent his youth in Hooper and Pueblo, and therewith began his infatuation with flight...



Carl learned to fly at the age of 18 and he accumulated more than 300 hours flying in the Pueblo, Colorado area before enlisting in the US Army Air Corp Glider program in 1942.



Twenty Nine Palms, CA, (TG-2)

Carl's initial training was at Condor Field, CA, (Twenty-Nine Palms) flying the TG-2, followed by advanced training at Dalhart and Lubbock, TX, in the CG-4A. He completed his flight training in August 1942, and was assigned to the 313th Troop Carrier Group - 29<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron.



Carl initially served in Tunisia, Morocco, and Sicily. His squadron flew the 82nd Airborne into Sicily, and Carl's glider was named "Reluctant Dragon" and is pictured here.







# HANGAR NEWS

Following the Sicily operation, Carl's squadron relocated to Folkingham, England. Carl and his best buddy Lt Cletus Schuletus each flew one of 12 gliders into France on June 9, 1944 in support of D-Day. They landed safely unloaded their cargo and awaited the land link up to get back to England.

As the day wore on the glider pilots began digging their fox holes for the night along a hedge row on the high ground near the rail road. Carl was about half way into getting his fox hole dug when Cletus told Carl " We are not sleeping here" Cletus made Carl move away from the hedge row into the open field about 30 yards away. There they dug a fox hole together and bedded down. Carl fussed at Cletus for being in the open. Carl kept saying we could be in the shade. We could be under cover. Cletus remembers all the excuses and fussing that Carl raised. What Carl didn't know is what Cletus knew. That German ME 109s and FW 190s had a habit of strafing the hedge rows where you would assume that people may take cover.

Sure enough just at the crack of dawn a German fighter strafed the hedge row. Cletus and Carl ran over to check . Several of the glider pilots were killed or wounded. And there where Carl had been digging his fox hole were two machinegun holes in the dirt where Carl would have been lying.

Carl and Cletus then flew in August of 1944 in support of the Normandy invasion operations: Operation Market Garden.



On September 18, Carl's CG-4A ("Section VIII") was the 17th glider to land in Holland during Operation Market Garden.

C-47 "PAGLIACCI" towed Carl's glider, "Section VIII", in Operation Market Garden



Cletus and Carl had landed safely and delivered their cargo of medics and medical supplies. They

had spent several days holding LZ-N from being over run by the German's at the request of General Galvin. The road to the bridge head was one way traffic only and their getting back to England was going to take time. American and British forces held the road and about a 100 yard area on either side. When Cletus shipped out on May 12th 1943 his wife Melva Schultetus was about to deliver Clet's first born son. From North Africa to Sicily, Italy, then into England the men of the 313th had moved so fast that letters from home were slow coming. Cletus had gotten a letter from his Aunt Bess Meyers via the Red Cross that Melva had the baby and all was ok.. But that letter did not say boy or girl. As Carl would put it Cletus was "all enthralled "about babies and was on pins and needles waiting to hear from home.



The Bridges were secured and awaiting the arrival of the British forces to continue the push into Arnhem Holland. Carl and Cletus were moving along the road toward the a rally point. They were passing in front of a farm house and there was a Dutch woman with a baby in a stroller near the road. Cletus, who was selected for the Market Garden



# HANGAR NEWS

mission, because he was of Dutch decent and spoke the language, was immediately was attracted to the mother and infant. Cletus had picked up the baby and was conversing with the woman. Carl kept urging Cletus to go but that was not an easy thing to do. Carl knew full well, that two GI's with Thompson Sub Machine Guns over their shoulders would make a great target for a German sniper or an 88 gunner.

Finally, Carl became nervous, he grabbed the infant from Cletus and handed it back to the Dutch woman. Grabbed Cletus by the jacket and pulled him away from the woman and infant, Saying "We need to go." They had taken a few steps away according to Carl when a 88 gun round exploded. The Dutch woman and infant were gone. Carl and Cletus dove into the roadside ditch and survived to tell the story.

Carl spent 21 days walking, hitching rides, and fighting his way back. Shortly thereafter, Carl was transferred to Blackpool, England, in preparation for the invasion of Japan. Thankfully these preparations were curtailed on August 15, 1945, with the Japanese surrender. Carl Gwartney Jr. received numerous awards, decorations, and battle stars for his service and was a proud member of America's "Greatest Generation."

Carl was an avid RC builder and flyer and was active in several local power and glider RC clubs, most notably with the **First Weed Wacker Aero Squadron**. Carl joined the club in April, 1990.

Time magazine article about RC models and flying: "Flights of Fancy": October 30, 2000... Carl is the feature photo...

Carl flies "his" glider, Schweitzer TG-2 s/n 428720, again for the final time... June 9, 2006 at Tehachapi. Carl flew this very glider in training in 1942 at Condor Field\*



WINGING IT: Carl Gwartney of California's First Weedwackers Aero Squadron flew combat gliders in WW II. Now he builds them mini-size and flies from the ground



MONTH: JUNE		YEAR: 2007									
AIRCRAFT		PILOT TIME		TOTAL TIME		PILOT TIME		TOTAL TIME		REMARKS	
DAY	MODEL	PILOT	TIME	PILOT	TIME	PILOT	TIME	PILOT	TIME	REMARKS	
9	TG-2	428720	1/1	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5
9	TG-2	428720	1/1	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5

\* In January 1942, the site of the pre-war civil Twenty Nine Palms airfield was reused as the site of Condor Field, (Doug Fronius is the owner/restorer of this beautiful sailplane.)







# HANGAR NEWS

## First Weedwacker Aero Squadron Mid-Summer Luncheon

**Date: Saturday July 20,**

**Time:  
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm**

*Guests will pay for their meals.  
Raffle of over \$700 in prizes  
Special Awards and Recognition*

**HomeTown  
BUFFET**

HomeTown Buffet  
265 Town Center Pkwy, Santee, CA 92071  
(619) 562-1555



**DISCOUNT  
HOBBY  
WAREHOUSE**

**Welcome to:**

**Café** 

**Breakfast  
& Lunch**

**Take Home**  
MONDAY - SUNDAY  
6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
12381 Mapleview  
(Corner of Hwy 67 & Mapleview)  
Lakeside, CA 92040  
**619-443-4100**

**Delicious**

All sandwiches include a side dish: your choice of fruit, potato salad, chips, cottage cheese, applesauce, soup, or salad.

SUB SANDWICHES  
Lettuce, Tomato, Mayonnaise and Italian Dressing

**Entire Menu is available "To Go"**

**FIRST WEEDWACKER AERO SQUADRON**

**Fun Fly—May 25th, 2013**

**First Weedwacker Aero Squadron**

**Classes:** One class fits all

**Prizes** - The winner of each event as well as the overall points winner will take home some terrific prizes!!

**Schedule:**  
9:00 Pilots Meeting and Safety Briefing  
9:05 Warm-up and trim flights; Sound measurements  
9:30 Start the events

**Additional rules:**  
In the event of damage to that plane, a backup may be used, but half of the earned points with the first plane are deducted from the overall points score.

Pick your plane carefully!

Events may require both good ground and airborne handling.

**\$10 Entry Fee**

**9:00 AM to Noon**

**Possible Events:**

- Dixie Death
- Bomb Drop
- Climb 'n Glide
- Slalom
- 7-11 Craps!
- And more....

**\*\* No LIMBO—(too much destruction and demise!)**

**CD  
Keith Miller  
keeferm@cox.net  
619-405-0192 (c)**

**First Weedwacker Aero Squadron**  
P.O. Box 2044  
Lakeside, CA 92040  
Web: <http://www.weedwackers.org>  
Club Officers Email: [info.weedwackers@gmail.com](mailto:info.weedwackers@gmail.com)

**CACTUS PARK MODEL AIRPORT**  
N 32° 52' 12.04"  
W 116° 54' 41.70"  
LAKESIDE

**Map:** Shows the location of Cactus Park Model Airport in Lakeside, CA, near Highway 67 and the San Diego River. Landmarks include Ashwood St, El Capitan HS, and the San Diego River.



# HANGAR NEWS



AMA Charter #1651

## Scale Flyin

Sanction 13-1241

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:

Lee Main  
619-258-0812

Keith Miller  
keeferm@cox.net

