



# HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER  
AEROSQUADRON  
AMA CHARTER # 1651  
March 2019

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 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 2018

Mar 16 Sat Swap Meet, 07:30 AM, Cactus Park  
Mar 23 Sat Rain Date Swap Meet, 07:30 AM, Cactus Park  
Apr 6 Sat TEDx Event Kids, Greenfield Middle School  
Apr 13 Sat Fire Extinguisher Training, Cactus Park  
Apr 27 Sat Lakeside Western Days Parade  
TBD Ocotillo Desert Fly-In / Camp-out Half Moon Dry Lake

≡ Flight Restrictions during Construction Operations,  
Property to the East



• While personnel are working on the property, our flight pattern shall maintain at least a 25 foot margin from them.

• If there are people at the pump house, the flight and landing pattern that shall not extend beyond our boundary fence .

• If work is occurring up to the fence, our flight and approaches must be *well within* the fence.

• If personnel are in the office trailer, we have no additional restrictions other than our existing boundary.

Those flying fast models that need a long approach (warbirds, EDF jets, even fast sport planes), **consider grounding yourself** while people are working on the property.

Those flying average models, but **who don't have the ability to turn a short approach or to land from the left, take the day off.**

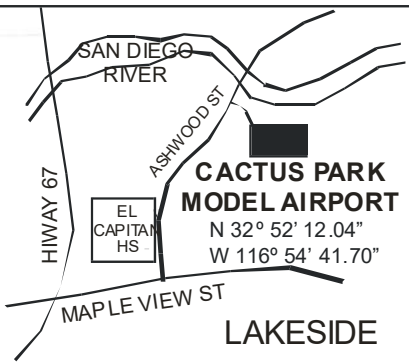
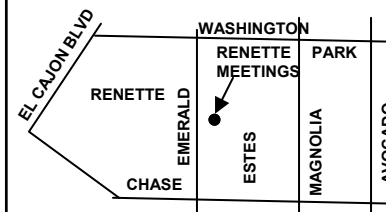
If there's no one the property, there are no additional flight restrictions.



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Secretary: Bruce Allen 760-789-3745  
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**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Tues. Mar 5, 7:00**  
Renette Park





# HANGAR NEWS

## Meeting Minutes February 5<sup>th</sup> 2019

*Bruce Allen*

The meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, was called to order by the club President, Keith Miller at 7:00 PM and the membership recited the Pledge of Allegiance in the direction of the flag provided. In attendance were **only** 9, including board members Vice President Jeff Coskey, Treasurer Scott Graupmann & Secretary Bruce Allen.

### Opening Comments

(Be sure to add your attendance raffle ticket to the tub for the drawing at the January banquet)

### Approval of Minutes in last month's Hangar News

Proposed: ? Unanimous.

### Treasurers Report

Opening Balance:	\$5,783.82
Income:	\$6,137.50
Expenses:	\$(4,058.30)
Ending Balance:	\$7,863.02

Proposed: ? Seconded: ? - Unanimous

Keith talked about club expenses he had spent but had not claimed:

**Banquet Plaques** , \$292.42 Approved at Nov meeting (amt not specifically called out in minutes, but plan was presented at meeting - \$200 was in the plan) .

**Estate Management** , \$345.37 no club motion; offset by estate income; estate brought in \$3400 .

**Field Maintenance** , \$118.26 IAW bylaws

**Luncheon** , \$18.25 Fronted 16 people at \$14, forgot to collect for tax

Misc , \$25.00 Board approved gift card for

Ted - raffle debacle

**Runway Paint** , \$418.40 Mtg 5/1/18, \$5500, however paint wasn't specified.

**Grand Total** , \$1,217.70

(The items were discussed & approved as needed, unfortunately I didn't get the Seconder names....)

### Safety Report

Ron Keith – Watch out for “**Stinging Nettles**” Ron had some examples in Ziplock bags Check Keith's Presidents letter for a photo & a description on using Baking Soda & water to make a paste.



Dock Leaves

“Side Note: In the UK, the use of [dock leaves](#) on nettle stings is an established folk remedy, and revolves around the sap released from rubbing the leaf over affected areas of skin, which provides a cooling sensation. Docks and nettles regularly grow in the vicinity of each other due to both plants favoring the same soil conditions, and this may have aided the dock's popularity as a treatment for nettle stings. There are a few theories to suggest why dock leaves appear to help nettle stings. It has been found that the sap in dock leaves contains an antihistamine this can soothe the stinging sensation.” (Bruce Allen)



# HANGAR NEWS

## Upcoming Events

Calendar of events are on our Website <http://www.weedwackers.org/ww/events/>

Sat Feb 16 9-12 Fun-Fly, Cactus Park

Sat Mar 16 7:30-11 Swap Meet Cactus Park

Sat Mar 23 Rain Date Swap Meet Cactus Park

Sat Apr 6 TEDx Kids Greenfield Middle School

Sat Apr 13 9-11 Fire and Safety Training, Cactus Park

Sat-Sun TBD Ocotillo Desert Fly-In Half Moon Dry Lake

## Fun Fly -

Events to include Taxi Slalom, Can-Can, Hauling Jelly Beans

Scouts / Plus – Keith will follow-up with Bobby Rink.

**Field Rules:** *Rule 12. Pilots in stations 1-5 should normally fly in a right hand conventional oval traffic pattern when in the landing pattern and other planes are also flying (except for dead stick landings or when the wind is from the east). Aerobatic maneuvers and helicopter flight shall be performed north of the paved runway unless in a landing pattern.*

Rule 13 for Station “H”

- Primary intention - trimming
- Allows 3D flying within boundaries
- AMA Safety guidelines (25ft from flight line, pit Areas, people etc)

## Shrimp Farm

Laminated information has been attached to the Fence in 4 places please read & take note!

A copy is attached to this Hanger News.

Raffle – postponed due to lack of people!

Adjourn: 19:55





# HANGAR NEWS

## President's Message Mar 2019

**Fun-Fly Results:** We had seven contestants line up to try their skills, and the carnage was light! Four events were competed, with the first being a simple **Taxi Slalom**. Tim Peterson had the shortest time of 26 seconds as he snaked quickly around the cones, popped the balloon at the end of the line and snaked back.

In the **Jelly Bean Haul**, the task was to take off with 10 jelly beans in a small cup attached to your plane, execute one loop, then land. Most everyone lost all their beans, likely on the single required loop. But Jeremy Miller hung on to all 10 all the way through landing! The **Can-Can** event tests pilots' ability to tow an empty soda can on a long string, and then touch that can in the runway target rings for points, without touching the landing gear to the ground. Everyone did very well on this event, hitting some of the outer rings. However Jeremy hit the 2<sup>nd</sup> closest ring to the bullseye three times in a row for 8 point each, winning the event. The final event was **7-11 Craps** in which the timer says "Go!", and the pilot's assistant must then roll the dice for a 7 before the pilot and take off. Then the roller must hit an 11 before the pilot can land. Steve Shepersky was rolling for Glen Merritt. Poor Steve got blisters on his rolling hand before he could hit that eleven. Tim Peterson's roller got Tim up and down inside of 23 seconds for the win. After four events, Jeremy and Tim were tied for first place did a **Bomb Drop** as a tie breaker, with Jeremy barely holding on by keeping his bomb on the runway, taking home first place. Event and contest winners had their choice of prizes which came from Ben Newkirk's estate including four gallons of fuel, a large stash of glow plugs, a few new 3200 mAh LiPo packs and a handful of tools. Other pilots included myself, Glen Merritt, Pete Pease, Scott McCurdy and Julian Sonderegger.

I wish to thank Glen Merritt for being the Contest Director, and Ron Keith for cooking up some terrific burgers and making an outstanding home-made potato salad!

At the February club meeting, our Safety Officer Ron presented a very interesting tidbit on **stinging nettles**, a plant that thrives in our park. He showed a plant in a clear plastic bag (less than an ounce) and described the effects when it rubs against flesh. He also explained how to treat the blisters with a baking soda and water paste.

If you see these near the picnic area, shed, or out in the river bed, avoid direct contact with your skin! You may soon see a nettle kit in the pin box.



The **Ocotillo Desert Fly-In** is still on, but will likely shift to the right, likely 29-31 March. Details will come out by email.

**Tedx Kids** is confirmed and will again be held at Greenfield Middle School in El Cajon on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. We're asking those with quality PC displays (and ideally with Real Flight or some other good RC simulator) to consider attending. While the booth is under shade, we'd like to use better monitors overcome daytime glare.

### **Flight lines, aerobatics, and safety**

We had a great discussion during the meeting specific to rules 11.a and 12.

11a says "Other than landing or taking off, flying is prohibited south of the SAFETY LINE, situated 25 feet from the PILOT LINE." I was reminded that this facilitates hand launching, and that quads should be able to take off from inside the red line. I have no problem with that, as long as the flight then departs the area immediately.



# HANGAR NEWS

For Rule 12, we come to the definition of “aerobatic”. The rule includes “Aerobatic maneuvers and helicopter flight shall be performed north of the paved runway unless in a landing pattern.”

From Wikipedia: “*Aerobatics (a portmanteau of aerial-acrobatics) is the practice of flying maneuvers involving aircraft attitudes that are not used in normal flight.*”

Does aerobatic mean 3D? Yep. How about a low pass? Hmmm - that’s an attitude used in normal flight. Inverted low pass? Yeah, that’s aerobatic.

When do Field Marshals need to “enforce” this rule to the letter? As far as the AMA Safety Code is concerned, flight shall be 25 feet from any person other than the pilot or his helper. So why did we move aerobatics out to the grassy area (or beyond)? That’s WAY more than 25 feet. For the most part, it’s to minimize the risk to pilots at the flight line who’s attention is on *their* model, and to reduce the distraction and annoyance factors of planes that are flying close. How does this play out when there’s only one pilot in the air? Or if there’s only one person at the field? OK, I give up on trying to justify every angle. Flying north of the paved runway will always increase our safety margin, regardless of how many planes are flying. But for now I’ll leave it to the Field Marshals to make a judgement call.

## FAA Tries Again

The FAA is once again working their rule to require FAA registration numbers on model aircraft. Yes, our models fit into the category of sUAS (small unmanned aircraft system) or “drones”.

I think what caught my eye first was their term of “Interim Final Rule”. That carries the same logic as the registration numbers, in my honest opinion. A rule can’t be interim and final at the same time.

The only change I’ve been able to discern between this new ruling and that from 2015 is that the marking need now be on the exterior of the model, accessible without the use of tools. It

must be “legible”, but there are no requirements for letter size or contrast against a background. So 1/16” letters of olive drab against dark green would be legal.

I’ll not go on too much about my own personal opinions on the FAA’s methods. They definitely are challenged by the goofball’s who fly quad cop- ters within Class C airspace and within airports - that’s a difficult problem to solve. But I’m of the opinion that a broad-sweeping unenforceable rule carries no merit.

The FAA rule won’t impact our operations at the Ron Smith Memorial Flying Field, at least not in the foreseeable future. It’s not an AMA or club requirement, so we’ll not actively enforcing it. It’s your responsibility to read the [Code of Federal Regulations, Title 14, Chapter I, Subchapter C, Part 48](#).

Sure, I got myself registered a couple of years ago, and promptly put a sticker on just two airplanes. And that’s probably as much attention as I’ll pay to the issue.

## Estate Sale, Ben Newkirk

I mentioned this last month, and you’ve seen the emails. Ben’s collection is now in safe keeping and being sorted, cleaned and prepared for sale or distribution. The engine list is already released. Jeff has segregated batches of items that are appropriate for raffle and event prizes, and other items that are swap-meet grade. We’ll tackle the kits and models through February for a possible Silent Auction in March or April.

## Swap Meet March 16<sup>th</sup>

Our upcoming swap meet is planned for Saturday 3/16, with a rain date of 3/23. Rain? I’m actually enjoying it to some extent, but it’s sure cutting into our fun-time, eh?

**New Members** - Welcome to our most recent additions -Scott McIntosh!

As of this writing, our active membership is at 110, up 10 from February, still about 20 shy of last year. We’re working to get those last few renewals up to date.

See you soon! Keith



# HANGAR NEWS



**Site: Ron Smith Memorial Field  
(SD County Cactus Park, Lakeside)**

**Hours: 7:30 am – 11:30 am  
\$5 Seller's Fee ----Buyers Free  
Refreshments Available**

**Information:**

Gary Rold (619) 504-9936  
Keith Miller (619) 405-0192





