



HANGAR NEWS

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

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron
P.O. Box 2044
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Scott Graupmann, Glenn Merritt,
Jeff Coskey, Butch Weiser,
Bruce Allan, Larry Bagalini 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 2019

Nov 1-3 AMA Expo West, Faiplex, Pomona CA
Nov 16 Sat Swap Meet—Toys for Tots Cactus Park
Jan 10 Fri Awards Banquet, Carlton Oaks Country Club

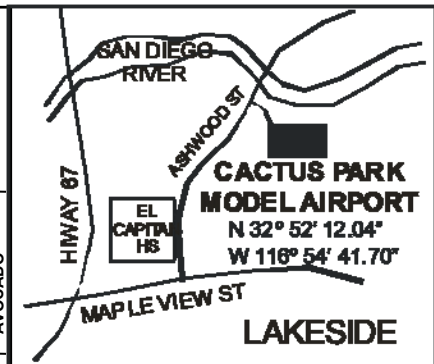
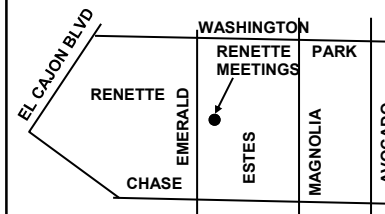
Club Officer Elections at November Meeting

Our November meeting will include election of club officers for the next year, starting Dec 2019. Nominations are open until the election is held. So if you desire to run for a club office, you are welcome to self nominate or have a friend nominate you. Currently the existing officers have agreed to run for their respective offices.

2020 Awards Banquet

Planning for the awards Banquet to be held in January 2020 will be discussed and set at the November meeting. The planned date is Friday Jan 10 at the same location as past years at the Carlton Oaks Country Club in Santee.

NEXT MEETING:
Tues. Nov 5, 7:00
Renette Park





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Meeting Minutes October 1st 2019

Bruce Allen

The meeting on October 1st, 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 14, including board members, Secretary Bruce Allen, Treasurer Scott Graupmann, Vice President Jeff Coskey was unable to attend.

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: Rich Crutchfield Second: Ron Keith Unanimous.

Comments on cost of mailing out the Newsletter to 27 members. Pricing on photocopying have increased. Review?

Treasurers Report

Opening Balance:	\$10,525.45
Income:	\$1,613.96
Expenses:	\$(488.96)
Ending Balance:	\$11,650.45

Proposed: Fred Miller Sr, Seconded: Bill Simmons – Unanimous

Fun Fly & BBQ

This Past Sat Sept 14th the final Fun-Fly of the year was held:

We had \$80 in (6 Entrants ay \$10, including Lunch)

\$25.96 ice. Water, Jellybeans.

\$50 Gift Certs (prizes)

\$9.64 gliders (prizes)

Net \$4.40 Less Ron's cost for food.

Keith – Various expenses for September: \$85.60

Ron also mentioned that Mark brought a

large pot of Chili, very good!

Keith Proposed to pay Mark \$35 for his chili. Second (?) Unanimous

Safety Report

Steve put a bucket of salted water in the field for putting LiPo suspect batteries

Upcoming Events

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

Oct 5, 9AM-4PM, Ramona Airfair

Oct 13, 7AM-12 Noon, Discount Hobbies Swap meet

Nov 1-3, AMA Expo West, Fairplex Exposition Pomona CA

Nov 16, 6:30 AM Swap Meet & Toys for Tots, Miramar Flyers*

*Helpers needed for parking, collecting seller fees (\$5)

-Sellers Fees Waived with a Gift

-Field will be open for Flying during event

-Consider forego holding at the gates?

-Bruce will provide Coffee

Awards Banquet will likely be held on Friday January 10th, 2020. We'll cover the funding/subsidy/pricing plan at the November meeting.

Gold Leader 15 Years- AMA sent another plaque plus patches (in the Pin cupboard)

Field Rules:

10 - Pilots must stand behind the fence in one of flight stations for takeoff, flight & landings (5 planes maximum at any time).

Show & Tell

Bill Simmons- Brought his Durafly "SlowPoke" plane:

"The Durafly SlowPoke is an EPO foam model of the classic design. Adding to the easy flying design of the SlowPoke, Durafly has added some larger wheels to make it even easier to



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take off and land on a wide variety of fields. A great plane for your first low wing tail dragger or for the discerning experienced pilot wanting a great looking, easy flying plane.”
The video of Bills talk is on Facebook.



Welcome to:

Café CALIFORNIA 67

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

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".

Draw for free Membership (Must be present to get it!)
Steve Shepersky

Raffle
Julian Sonderegger - Saws
Don Westerham - Batteries
Bruce Allen - Flashlight
Mel Ashdown - Nitro
Keith Miller - Power Cables

Adjourn: 20:10

DISCOUNT
HOBBY
WAREHOUSE





President's Message Nov 2019

Scott McCurdy shared this photo of his Klingberg Wing which he recently acquired through the Max Meredith estate. He replaced the on-board electronics (which were old Royal/Airtronics) and flew his maiden flights out at Torrey Pines, drawing allot of attention!



Club Officer Nominations

Nominations for the club officer positions will be accepted between now and the November meeting. Officer positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. All other positions are by appointment. Self-nominations will be accepted! If you're interested or wish to nominate a fellow member, please speak up! For now, the current Officers plan on running for their current positions. Contenders are welcome!

Per the club bylaws:

C. Elections:

(1) Officer Qualifications

- a. All officers shall be a Regular Member*
- b. A candidate for President must be a member in good standing for a least one year. Candidates for the other offices must have been a member in good standing for a minimum of six months prior to the election.*
- c. An officer may serve more than one year consecutively in one office.*
- d. A member may be nominated for only one office since a single*

secret ballot will be cast for all offices simultaneously.

Membership renewals:

With the upcoming year comes our annual renewal period. Annual dues renewals are \$75.00 and can be paid to any club Officer by check or cash. Scott or I can take PayPal if you're so included. Gold is also accepted, but our rate is \$45 per ounce. There are a lot of us who's AMA renewal cycle also falls at the end of the calendar year, so please be sure that your AMA is current and paid up.

I don't think there are any of us yet whose FAA certificates are expiring, but that's just another thing we need to keep current.

Upcoming Events:

Polo Event Sunday November 10th

Hering Ranch is hosting an event on Sunday the 10th of November. To ensure their event is held without any safety risk, we'll close the field to flying at 11 am.

Annual Fall Swap Meet and Toys for Tots Drive

- On Saturday November 16th we'll again coordinate with the Miramar Radio Control Flyers to host a joint Swap Meet and toy drive supporting the US Marine Corps Reserve Center. Buyers and sellers alike are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy of \$10 or more in value that would be appropriate for kids 6 to 16 years of age. The collection will be distributed to the US Marine Corps Reserve as part of their annual event. We've had HUGE success in past years and I look forward to another great contribution!

Awards Banquet

Our annual Awards Banquet will likely be held on Friday January 10th 2020. We'll cover the funding/subsidy/pricing plan at the November meeting.

Please check our Events listing on the club website for additional events.

New Members - No new members this month - we hold at 121, with ages ranging from 8 to 89 (averaging at 55.4)!

See you soon!
Keith



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

**A cooperative event between the MRCF and
Weedwackers**

Hours: 7:30 am – 11:30 am

\$5 Seller's Fee --- Buyers Free

Refreshments Available

Information:

Buyers and sellers are encouraged to bring an unwrapped gift appropriate for boys and/or girls from ages 6 to 16 valued at \$10 or more. Cash gifts will also be accepted. Seller fees are waived with a gift.

Gary Rold (619) 504-9936

Keith Miller (619) 405-0192

10295 Ashwood Street

Lakeside CA 92040

1/4 mile N-E of El Capitan High School in Lakeside



An Unofficial History of the Club

Don Westergren Sept, 2007, updated 2019

Our club was formed by a group (Ron Smith, Lee Main, Don Rice and two others) of RC flyers at the Santee corner of Mission Gorge and Cuyamaca St. back in 1976. I came to the flying site and the club in about 1977, after the club was formed. I believe the first President was Ron Smith. We met in the local hobby shop in Santee for several years – standing room only so we tried to keep the meetings short. The flying field was owned by the school district which allowed the local Little League to set up baseball diamonds in the area. We had to share the field, and curtail flying when baseball games were held. That area became the Trolley Station in Santee.

We moved essentially across the street to Hahn Field, a dirt embankment overlooking the river bed. It's all Shopping Center now. We had several good years there, flying sport, T-6 Racing, and Fun Fly's. The field was dirt, so we had regular work parties where several cars and pick ups dragged chain link fencing and steel beams to smooth out the regular donuts left by RV's after each rain. There was no shade and the pits were all dirt. When Hahn Corp. was getting ready to develop the land, we set up flying at two sites: a dirt strip in the middle of the gravel company land off Riverford Road and at Cactus Park. I was President (for a three years!) in 1985 when we moved officially to Cactus Park with permission from the county. We had to share the field with the BMX track which was where our upper parking is now. We often couldn't fly on Sundays because of the BMX races – their parking was on the runway. When we were flying at two fields only 1.9 miles apart, we test flew planes on the same frequency to see in there was any interference – there wasn't any.

Around 1987, Jerry Howell donated the

awning structure for the pits area. We had several work parties to out it up. Joe Cullum used his tractor to contour the land, actually raising the pit area above the mud lakes in winter. The runway was originally pavement used in the 1950's to 1960's for truck access to an asphalt mixing plant for paving the local freeways. The hill southeast was a DG mine for the asphalt. In the early 1990's the runway was deteriorating. Thank then Treasurer Mike Aldrich for creative financing (collecting multiple years dues and contributions) to pay for paving the whole runway and getting rid of all those 3 inch holes. Our pits were several layers of rugs contributed over the years. Thank Walt Wilson as President (for 3 years) for getting the club to clean up the pits, getting rid of the rugs and paving the pits.

Safety has always been a concern in our hobby. Originally when the club set up Cactus Park we put log posts between the pits and runway to keep taxiing models away from the pits. Later the logs were removed and replaced by a four foot fence, with openings at each pilot station – after a model flew through the pits and another plane hit a parked car behind the pits. Then we had a very dangerous “near miss”. A model flew across the runway and hit the top rail of the four foot fence just inches from one of our members sitting in his wheel chair, looking away from the runway. That friend of mine was not hurt. But the club immediately installed the higher fences we have now.

In the early days, we flew using 27 MHz “Citizen Band” radios. In the 1970's we had 5 frequencies we could use – plus the 6 meter Ham band. Pilots stood in or near the “pilots box” so we could communicate for take-off, landings, and any other messages. This worked well at Santee, Hahn Field, The River Bed and early Cactus Park. But when the FCC authorized using the 50 channels in the 72 MHz Band, we ran into 3IM interference. The 1991 certified radios had a problem where two channels could cause intermodulation that interfered with a third channel. The fix was to always use the transmitters apart from each



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other by 50 feet. This dictated we set up flight stations all along the pits instead of a "Pilot's Box". Now with 2.5 GHz radios the problem of interference is completely gone and there is no need for "getting the pin". But our field layout has proven to work, and we have had very few safety issues as long as we remain vigilant.

Our club dues have grown from \$1.00/month over the years. The dues increase has allowed us to keep our field in good condition and pay for increased expenses for the newsletter, meeting hall, and toilet rental at the field. Through the years we have applied a new layer of asphalt at least twice and several coats of sealer to keep the runway fit for models. These were all major expenses relying on contributions, multi-year dues and dues increases. We have to do regular maintenance on the runway at least every three years or so.

Currently the yearly dues are \$75 per year. Our club in 2019 has about 120 members. Club membership has varied over the years, with the highest membership at 235 in 2003. Many of our members are also members of other clubs in the San Diego area. A major factor in club membership is having a good field to fly our models. Of course, the cost of dues is a factor for both membership and maintaining a good flying field.



We have had annual awards banquets since the very early days to recognize achievements and the contribution of many members. Fred Miller instituted the 12th Man Awards to recognize the many members each year who do extra service for the club.

For some 17 or 18 years our club has been an AMA Leader Club. That entails being community minded. We participate in activities for school support, Toys for Tots, the Lakeside Western Days Parade and airshow events at nearby airports (Gillespie and Ramona) and activities at the San Diego Air Museum.

There's a lot more history and stories about the "old days" and I may have some dates and details misplaced. If you have details to correct or add, or stories to tell, let me know. Our club doesn't have a complete written history. Some of the early members are still very active in the club and they have contributed much to the character and success of our club. Thank you all.

