



# HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER  
AEROSQUADRON  
AMA CHARTER # 1651  
March 2020

First Weedwacker Aero Squadron  
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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 2020

Nothing is scheduled due to Corona Virus

## Next Club Meeting is a Virtual Meeting

Members receiving the PDF version can click CTRL + click on the links here to join the meeting:

Meeting number (access code): 622 855 264

Meeting password: CMyP3P792Jw (26973779 from phones and video systems)

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 7:00 pm | Pacific Time

[Join meeting](#)

(<https://meetingsamer8.webex.com/meetingsamer8/j.php?MTID=m90f43a4b7a37427903690c9e0e926cec>)

## Join by phone

Tap to call in from a mobile device (attendees only)

[+1-408-418-9388](tel:+14084189388) United States Toll

[Global call-in numbers](#)

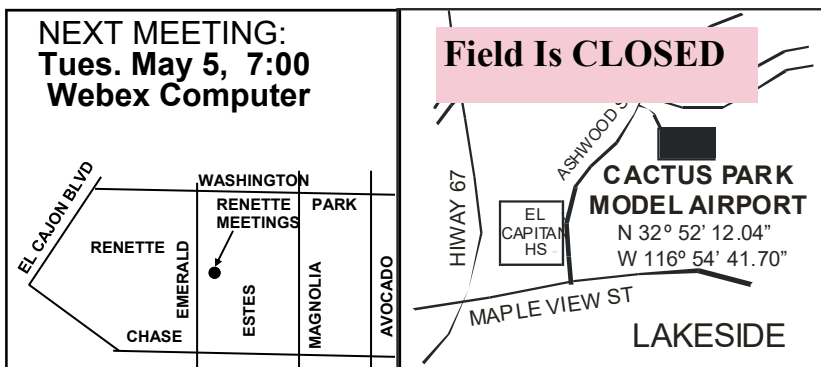
## Join from a video system or application

Dial [622855264@meetingsamer8.webex.com](tel:622855264)

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

## Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business

Dial [622855264.meetingsamer8@lync.webex.com](tel:622855264)





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## President's Message March 2020

### President's Message May 2020

With no recent events to report on, and no upcoming events to plan, I don't have much to put out this month. If you're a recipient of regular club emails, you've seen many of the projects keeping our members busy during this COVID-19 isolation period. Me? I'm one of the fortunate (?) ones in an "essential" industry and continue to work. As some of you may recall, I work for the largest privately owned defense contractor who specializes in.... big R/C planes! OK, UAVs. My building is quite vacant, with most engineering tasks being performed from home. But production and testing continues, and of course all of the necessary protocols are in place to protect our staff. We're at full production capacity.

### Field Status

We all know that we closed the field to comply with San Diego County Parks direction (COVID-19 response). For the record, Lester Moore was the last to fly before the shut-down.

As soon as that changes, we'll open 'er back up again. I can't wait! A few of the Board members dropped in last weekend to check on the general condition of things and to cut back some growth. So when we open up again, it won't be "too" ugly.

### May Club Meeting - virtually

By the time you read this, you should have received an email or invitation to a virtual club meeting this coming Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> in lieu of our regular meeting. We'll give it a shot anyway. I'd insert the URL for the meeting here, but I haven't figured out what it is yet. Still learning! We'll run it through WebEx. For those who work in some larger industries, you may be familiar with it. It's a teleconferencing system well known to be robust and secure, a far cry better than Zoom or that Google social networking thing. We recently had a virtual Board meeting and it worked great. If nothing else, please consider calling in to join in by audio. If you have a computer, you can connect and see any documents we might present. You'll also see the

faces of others who join in. If you have a laptop with a camera, yours will be one of those faces! Here's a screenshot from our board meeting. You recognize me top left, Ron Keith (Safety - middle), and Bruce (bottom right). Top-right is Don Westergren. It was kinda funny in that his link to the meeting sent us the feed from his TV. Weird. And Jeff, bottom left, just stepped out for a snack.



Here's some correspondence from one of our members - passed along as a good read.

From Richard Murphy, here's [an interesting read](#) on LiPo bags, an example that they may NOT provide the protection we thought! "Weedwacker, Dudes! Ran into this post today on RCG...quite the eye-opener! Cheers, Richard (from exile in South Carolina) "

*I just wanted to share something that many know, I am sure, but there may be a few like me that were not acutely aware. The lipo bags you buy to put your batteries in for storage and charging are not very effective. Recently I was in my TV room and had a 3 cell Lipo (for a Traxass Rustler) charging on a TV tray near my chair. it was in a bag, charging at 1.0 rate. After about 30 minutes, it suddenly starting making a spewing noise, like air coming out of a tire going flat. Then instantly it filled the room with smoke and flames burst out. The bag disintegrated before my eyes. I had a large bath towel laying across the arm of my recliner, and I grabbed it, grabbed the battery by the charger leads and wrapped it up in the towel which was still damp. I ran out the front the front door and pitched the towel in the flower bed that had recently been turned over so no vegetation was there. It burned the towel to ashes and continued to smolder until I hosed it down with a nearby garden hose. My TV room was filled with smoke*



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*and soot. The entire house was filled with acrid smoke, the smoke alarms were screaming and my family was in panic. The fire burned a place in an area rug as the escaping gases caused it to slide off the TV tray. I just wanted to warn everyone about how little protection the lipo bag provides. Since the fire, I have made extended leads for my charger and only charge batteries out in the driveway, well aware of anything flammable. I have put each of my batteries in a separate lipo bag, and store the bags in an industrial case that is air tight. I store the case in my backyard store house, in a metal bucket. The fire scared the crap out of me. Had I gone to the kitchen for a glass or tea, or made a trip to the bathroom, there is no telling the amount of damage I would have encountered. It took hours to get the smoke out of the house and days to get the soot cleaned up and the smell out of the house. I just wanted to enhance what I have read over and over again about the risk of a lipo fire. They get very serious in only seconds. You CANNOT be too careful. NEVER charge a battery unattended, even for seconds. Charge them outside well away from any structure or flammable objects. My neighbors may think I'm senile, but at least I won't burn my house down, as I came close to doing that day.*

Stan

Rich also gave us a run-down on his recent escapades between El Centro and South Carolina. His perspective is very enlightening!

**From:** (Richard Murphy)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020 4:17 AM  
**To:** info.weedwackers@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Weedwacker Memo - News from the top

Hey Ya, Weedwackers!  
I've been working on trying to get home. February I bought a house in El Centro, thought I'd come out to South Carolina to visit my Daughter and Grand Kids while escrow works itself out.  
Well...I'm here a few weeks and the stay put

order hits.

So, now:

I own a house I can't move into. I'm paying rent on an apartment I don't occupy or can't move out of. A 180lb Great Dane uses me for a chew toy...all day long.

On the "up" side:

\*My Grand Kids love me...as does the Great Dane, She cuddles with me when we take naps.

\*My Daughter is a great cook and never lets me go hungry, #CoronaVirus makes me fat!

\*Daughter's house is right on Lake Wylie, we have a private marina so we can go boating and hiking as we please.

\*Everyone here is still healthy and safe.

\*All my crap at home is packed up in boxes and ready to move so that's out of the way.

All in all...not a bad position to be in if I can't be home. Still no clue as to when I can come home, but hey...it could be a lot worse!

Cheers, Be Safe and Stay Well!

Richard

ps...when I get moved into the new house the first project on the table will be my BTE Vortex.

And I have two UMX airplanes here to keep me sane!

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I hope to have more to report next month!

Until then - Remember - "The road of life is paved with flattened squirrels that couldn't make a decision."

Keith



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## Burnelli CB-16

The **Burnelli CB-16**, also known as the **Uppercu-Burnelli CB-300**, was a passenger aircraft designed by the American company Burnelli in 1928. It was the first twin-engined aircraft to have [retractable landing gear](#)<sup>[2]</sup> and the first to maintain altitude on only one out of two engines. Only one was built.

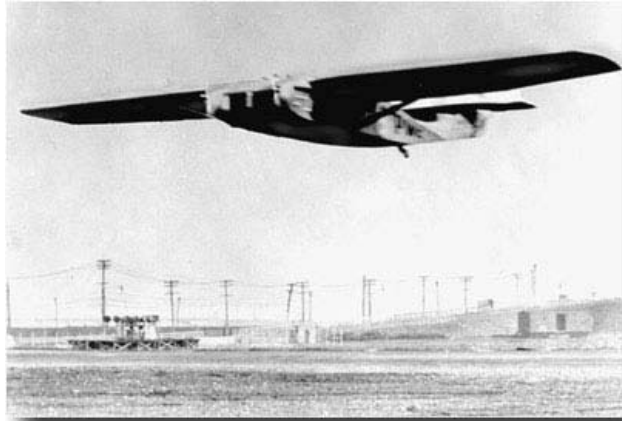
### General characteristics

- **Crew:** 2
- **Capacity:** 2 pilots, up to 20 passengers
- **Length:** 47 ft 0 in (14.33 m)
- **Wingspan:** 90 ft 0 in (27.43 m)
- **Wing area:** 1,018 sq ft (94.6 m<sup>2</sup>)
- **Empty weight:** 8,700 lb (3,946 kg)
- **Gross weight:** 11,700 lb (5,307 kg)
- **Fuel capacity:** 1,000 US gal (834 Imp gal, 3,790 L)
- **Powerplant:** 2 × [Curtiss Conqueror](#) V-12 piston engine, 500 hp (370 kW) each
- **Propellers:** 2-bladed

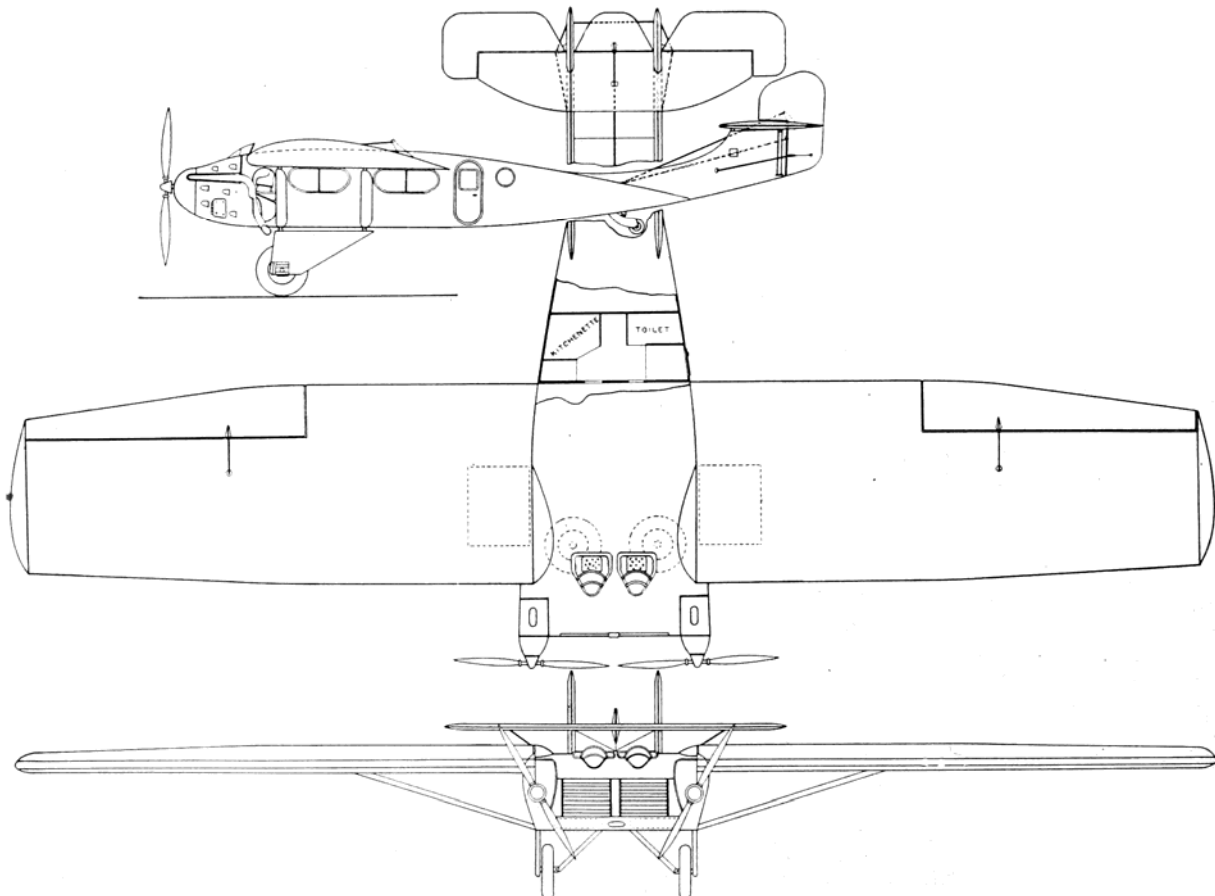
### Performance

- **Maximum speed:** 145 mph (233 km/h, 126 kn)
- **Cruise speed:** 115 mph (185 km/h, 100 kn)
- **Stall speed:** 52 mph (84 km/h, 45 kn)
- **Range:** 800 mi (1,300 km, 700 nmi) <sup>[2]</sup>
- **Service ceiling:** 16,500 ft (5,000 m)

**Rate of climb:** 940 ft/min (4.8 m/s)



Burnelli CB-16





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