



# HANGAR NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER  
AEROSQUADRON  
AMA CHARTER # 1651  
January 2022

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

Sign up for Email Delivery of  
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Race Chairman

Safety Officer Ron Keith

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Vernon Gilmore Ron Keith

Dick Milhausen Gary Rold

Tim Peterson

Wings Over Gillespie Liason:

TBD

Raffle Chairman

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Butch Weiser\* Dean Nickol\*

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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 2

Awards Banquet

Jan7 Friday

### First Weedwacker Aero Squadron Annual Awards Banquet

Date: Friday 1/7/2022

6:00 pm Bar

7:00 pm Dinner

*Tossed Greens with Variety of Dressings*

*Parmesan Crusted Chicken with Jalapeno Cream Sauce (on the side)*

*Tender Roast Beef with Au Jus and Horseradish*

*Roasted Redskin Potatoes*

*Fresh Vegetables*

*Rolls and Butter*



El Cajon Elk's Lodge #1812

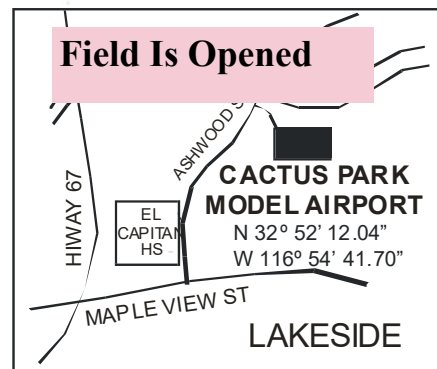
1400 E. Washington Ave, El Cajon



Field Is Opened

NEXT MEETING:  
**Friday, Jan 7, 6:00 PM**  
1400 E. Washington  
El Cajon

Awards Banquet





# Hangar News

Meeting Minutes Dec 12th, 2021

Bruce Allen December the 12th 2021, held at Renette. These Minutes have been compiled from my notes.

**Attendees:**

Keith Miller President & Invigilator, Jeff Coskey VP, Scott Graupman Treasurer & Bruce Allen Secretary, Ron Keith Safety Officer.

Other members who attended during the meeting:

Don Westergren Ken Lawrence  
 Frank Gagliardi David Pothier  
 Richard Brown Arnold Lipschutz  
 Gerry Conklin Peter Hampton  
 Mark Huyser

**Previous Minutes**

Propose, Ron Keith, Second, Richard Brown  
 Unanimous

**Treasurers Report November/December  
 October Expenses and Income**

| Date       | Item           | Amount     | Total       |
|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| 11/2/2021  | Balance        |            | \$10,343.78 |
| 11/2/2021  | Newsletter     | (14.00)    | \$10,329.78 |
| 11/2/2021  | Field Supply   | (39.11)    | \$10,290.67 |
| 11/13/2021 | Fly-in Food    | (401.18)   | \$9,889.49  |
| 12/6/2021  | United Svs     | (354.07)   | \$ 9,535.42 |
| 11/29/2021 | Field Supplies | (338.27)   | \$9,197.15  |
| 12/07/2021 | Paypal Deposit | 948.31     | \$10,145.46 |
| 10/18/2021 | Deposit        | 150.00     | \$10,295.46 |
| 12/7/2021  | Deposit        | 1,787.00   | \$12,082.46 |
|            | Net            | 1,738.68   |             |
|            | Income         | 2,885.31   |             |
|            | Expenses       | (1,146.63) | \$12,082.46 |

Approval: Proposed Arnold Lipschutz  
 Seconded Gerry Conklin  
 Unanimous

Ron Keith ? Safety Officer

Had an occurrence with disposed battery arcing against metal, please try & make sure if you can that any batteries dumped are exhausted!

Bruce Allen ? added this information on Battery Disposal, this came from Ramona, but the information is correct for San Diego, please

follow the rules: (It includes LiPo (lithium Polymer) batteries as well).

**SAFETY REMINDER - FIRE DANGER**

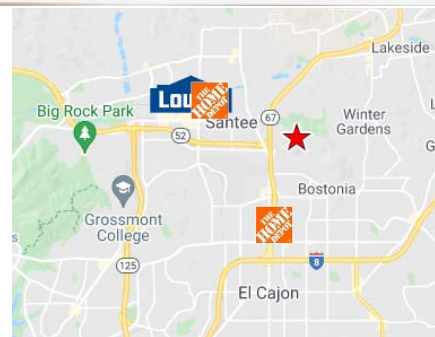
Please keep all batteries, cell phones, and all other electronic waste out of your trash and recycling containers!



Lithium Ion (Li-Ion) batteries are commonly found in cell phones, laptops, cordless phones, household electronics or power tools and are considered hazardous waste when they are discarded. Unfortunately, more and more dangerous incidents are being reported involving explosions or fires caused by improperly disposed cell phones or Li-Ion batteries. All batteries and electronic waste must be properly recycled or taken to a household hazardous waste disposal facility or event, and

**NEVER placed in trash or recycling containers!** If batteries are not discarded properly, they can potentially explode and cause a fire in a collection cart, truck, or in a disposal facility when crushed.

Drop off your old batteries for free at many convenient locations across the county, including select Home Depot, Lowe's and Staples locations. Visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org) to find a location near you!



When using the Link, select location as San Diego other wise you will not get any locations! If SD is selected, you should get a map which is movable to a location you want. (See extract below):

With regards to Li-Po batteries I recommend that you still carry out your methods of making sure they are totally discharged & cut the plugs off.

Events Partial List (check the Weedwacker Calendar on our website)

Annual Awards Banquet Friday, Jan 7th, 2022, 6:00pm

Field and Runway Maintenance Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 7:00pm

Fun Fly Saturday Feb 19,

Pylon Racing Saturday, March 5

Swap Meet Saturday, March 12 7:00am

**Old Business**

Storage Unit Roof ? No project Manager yet. A tarp has been put on as a temporary solution.

Some discussion on the needs to provide a permanent solution. Looking for an organizer,



# Hangar News

David Pothier? No pressure! Of course our talented jack of all trades Jeff Coskey will be helping? (TBD)

AED is in place, thanks Ron!

Field Marshal Meeting ? Taking Place on the Saturday the Dec 11.

## Planning for Awards Banquet

Keith & others have done a lot of organizing & it will be at the El Cajon Elk's Lodge. You should have received an email with all the details, prices etc. In addition, we will have space for showcasing your favorite model plane in various categories (TBD) They will be judged by the members & prizes will be given! Of course, there will be a superb Raffle prizes, including Ladies only prizes. Consideration has been given to placement of people they can accommodate where & how many people sit at tables. 8, 6, 4 places etc.

Why do we subsidize the Banquet? Well, its great fun & we deserve it!!

Reminder: Entry is \$30 per person, or \$50 per couple, and additional family members are \$25, collectable between now and the evening of the banquet (now is better, of course). The club has a PayPal account. paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com

If you have a Hanger Queen, or a kit in good condition & would consider donating them to the Raffle, the club would be very grateful! Our thanks to John Irwin for his valuable donations of planes etc!

## Complaint Dept

We have had a several complaints from the Polo people of flying over their field, the owner who is a very understanding person, has phoned & texted Keith several times. As Keith says it can be perception, they hear a noisy plane up there & ? presume? it is over their field & it isn't. Field Marshals have been briefed to keep a lookout & so should all of us.

## Membership for next year

- Scott has membership cards through Banquet, then at the field
- Dues payable by cash, check, PayPal - paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com
- Renewals are \$75 regardless of renewal month; just can't fly until you're current.
- Military and Juniors <19 yrs old are free
- MRCF Inductees covered through 2022
- AMA must be current
- Gate code will change on Jan 1.

Drawing for Free Membership (Has to be present)  
Fred Miller Sr!

## Tips for Tickets

David Pothier - Used Sticky Notes to mask areas of the plane he was painting. The advantage is that they do not leave gum residue behind. Good one Dave! Enjoy your Raffle tickets.

## Raffle

After considerable discussion Ron & I decided he would make list of winners & prizes? Well that was a SNAFU in motion, I only have the following:

- Gerry Conklin- LED Lamp, Storage ?
- Keith Miller ? Screwdriver
- Arnold Lipschutz ? Cutters ?
- Was there more, Ron?

**DISCOUNT  
HOBBY  
WAREHOUSE**

**EL CAJON  
HOBBIES**  
LAND ★ AIR ★ SEA ★ GAS ★ ELECTRIC



# Hangar News

## President's Message Jan 2022

**No meeting in January!** The Awards Banquet takes its place.

**Building and Flying:** Steve Shepersky has been doing more wet flying at Lake Poway. In early December he flew his Great Planes SeaWind powered by an OS 95 four-stroke engine.

Isn't it just AWESOME that we, here in San Diego, can post pictures of flying on a clear, warm sunny day on a thawed-out lake?? It's "building season" in much of the rest of the country.

Earlier in the month, I shared the Skimmers flying schedule at Lake Poway. Check it out!



**FAILSAFE mode:** Last month we learned about counterfeit SPEKTRUM receivers being sold on Amazon. This reminded me of several discussions we've had at the field about off-brand receivers (Orange, Lemon, Corona, etc). Sure, I still fly a couple of Orange receivers; the two that I have left have proven worthy, but I've trashed the rest. The two I fly are in small foamies that I fly very close. In the same breath I can admit I've lost at least one plane to an Orange receiver.

We've collected several reports of signal loss ("packet losses") in a certain apparent "dead zone" just past the west end of the runway, up about 80 feet. In some cases, the receiver regained control, in others, not.

My goal this month is to bring your attention to the FAILSAFE capabilities of your receiver(s). All of my 2.4 GHz receivers (even my Orange receiver) have basic FAILSAFE functionality such that, **upon loss of RF signal at the Rx**, the signal to the throttle servo (or ESC) goes to the low-throttle setting. I believe this is the standard for any of the newer 2.4 GHz name-brand systems. Some are also equipped with a "preset FAILSAFE" mode in which the control surfaces can be set to a desired deflection when RF signal is lost. We might desire this mode to put the model into a flat turning glide so as not to wander too far until the RF link recovers, if it does.

Some 72 MHz PCM systems are equipped with FAILSAFE capabilities, but in my experience and intrawebs searches, not many.

Of course, none of this applies if we have an **electrical power system failure** such as dead battery, battery connector comes loose, switch failures, etc. On a loss of power to the Rx, they turn off, plain and simple. There's no control of the airborne system at all, and hence no way to drive the throttle servo to low, and no power to move the control surfaces to any pre-set position.

A power "failure" may also occur if a **servo jams** and draws so much current from the battery that its voltage drops to less than what the Rx requires. **Surface flutter** can have the same effect. Surface flutter is the effect of, say an aileron or elevator with loose linkages, starting an oscillation during high-speed flight. Kinda sounds like someone giving you a raspberry – "pbbbbbbt". When that happens, the surface is literally beating the crap out of the servo that's trying to hold it still; current goes WAY up, and battery voltage drops, possibly to the point of stalling the entire control system. If you hear that, slow down and land!

Many of our members outfit their larger planes with redundant Rx batteries, switches and in some cases receivers. Awesome! BZ!

I encourage you all to take a few minutes to evaluate your systems, to test your FAILSAFE, and inspect your flight pack power systems.

**Membership Renewals:** Membership dues for



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2022 are due by the February club meeting. Dues can be paid to any club Officer in the amount of \$75 in cash, check or by PayPal. If by check, make it payable to FWAS or First Weedwacker Aero Squadron. Checks can be handed to us at the field, or mailed directly to our Treasurer, Scott, whose address is on the cover of this Hangar News. PayPal payments go to [paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com](mailto:paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com). Note that you'll see Scott Graupmann's name appear on the transaction, which is expected and a good thing.

**Safety Item:** Recently seen at the field – taxiing in the pits, and standing out in *front* of the fence. Don't. Thanks.

**This Time Last Year** –In Dec of 2020, we entered our first official lease with County Parks and Recreation.

## Recent Events

**Swap Meet and Toys for Tots Drive Nov 6<sup>th</sup>:** Thank you to Lester Moore and grandson Gavin for turning cash into toys!

**From:** Lester Moore

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:05 PM

**Subject:** Toys for Tots

Hey Keith,

Shopping is done ! Wife and I did pretty good we think. We wound up with 30 gifts total, and “teens” were the target as you guys requested. Lucky I had Gavin and his teenage sister (Maddie) to steer us. Gavin says you can never go wrong with Footballs, Soccer balls or a table Foosball game for the guys and Maddie says the Hair, Nails, and Eye makeup will be a hit with the girls.

\$276 from the Swap Meet

\$50 you (Keith) handed me at the Fly-in

\$25 today at the field from Pete Pease

\$351 TOTAL

We went a little over and kicked in the difference. Gavin and I will be dropping the toys off this weekend and will try to take a couple more pics. See you soon, Lester

**From:** Lester Moore <[les4029@cox.net](mailto:les4029@cox.net)>

**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2021 3:51 PM

**To:** [keeferm@cox.net](mailto:keeferm@cox.net)

**Cc:** 'Frank Gagliardi' <[jazzdrmr@gmail.com](mailto:jazzdrmr@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Toys for Tots

Hey, we wound up knocking it out today. We found a perfect “toys for tots” drop location at the UPS store in Lakeside. Gavin was able to **FILL** the box!!

*The employees at UPS store loved it, they had to go in back and get another box. Job complete!*

*See you guys soon, Lester*



## Incursion into Cactus Park Baseball Field:

We recently had a rather disastrous incident in which control was lost and an airplane crashed onto one of the baseball fields at Cactus Park proper (across Ashwood Street). Fortunately, the field was unoccupied at the moment. County Parks was notified by a staff member from the baseball fields, and I was subsequently called by County Parks. An incident report is underway on their end, and I'm standing by to field questions. In this case, the cause of control loss is unknown, but is suspected to be from any of power loss, RF signal loss, or failure of tail surface hinges (which were found to have no glue upon post-mortem). The pilot is an experienced pilot, the model has flown successfully for a few years, and a pre-flight



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check was performed. So who knows...

**Upcoming Events** – To view our calendar of events for 2021, visit the Events tab of our club website. The next field events are a Field/Runway maintenance period on Sat 1/15, and a Fun-Fly on Sat Feb 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Awards Banquet – Friday Jan 7<sup>th</sup>:** I know you've heard it from me many times before. Don't miss out! Scott and I need to know how many are in your party! Call me. Call Scott. Send a text or email. Let Jeff or Bruce know when you see them!

We'll be at the **Elks' Lodge of El Cajon on Washington Street**. See the attached flyer. We have tons of prizes (like, more than \$1200 worth!). Prizes include a 2 meter Night Radian bind-and-fly (BNF), 1.1m RV-7 BNF, ASW-17 plug-n-play (PNP) glider, an MOA 1.5m RTF glider, an 800 mm FMS T-28 (the kind to RACE with!), and many other items.

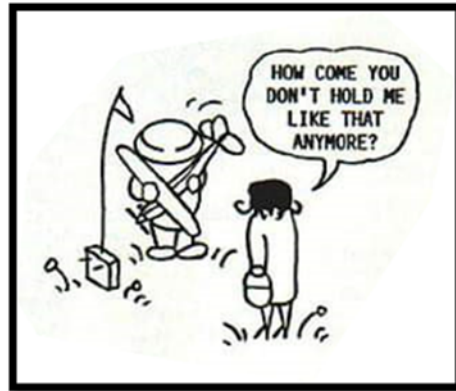
As in the past, we're inviting members to donate prize-worthy items as well. I'm bringing a Carl Goldberg Tiger II kit. Beat that!

**Reminder - FAA sUAS** numbers must be affixed and visible on your models w/out having to disassemble any parts.

**New Field Marshals:** I've assigned Field Marshal title and the duties that go along with it to Richard Brown and Bill Bryan. Field Marshals are identified by their distinctive yellow badge. Their duties are to ensure safety of our membership, abidance of the AMA and club rules, and above all to protect the wellbeing of our club. It's their job to let us know if we need to attend to and issue. It's a job that sucks, and I thank them for doing it! It's *our* job to take their corrections on board. If we choose not to, they have the authority to ground us for the day. Don't be that guy.



**New members:** Welcome to Michael Janicki and Charles Raff. Welcome aboard guys! Membership is at 146 members!



Until next time -  
Keith

# **First Weedwacker Aero Squadron Annual Awards Banquet**

**Date: Friday 1/7/2022**

**6:00 pm Bar**

**7:00 pm Dinner**

*Tossed Greens with Variety of Dressings  
Parmesan Crusted Chicken with Jalapeno Cream Sauce (on  
the side)*

*Tender Roast Beef with Au Jus and Horseradish  
Roasted Redskin Potatoes  
Fresh Vegetables  
Rolls and Butter*



El Cajon Elk's Lodge #1812  
1400 E. Washington Ave, El Cajon

