



HANGAR NEWS

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST WEEDWACKER
AEROSQUADRON
AMA CHARTER # 1651
April 2022**

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 2

April 2 Sat Electric Pylon Racing
April 7 Sat Electric Pylon Race Cactus Park
April 23 Sat Western Days Parade, Lakeside
May 14 Sat Scale Fly-In + BBQ, Cactus Park

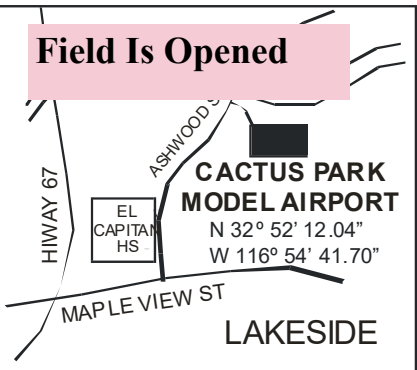
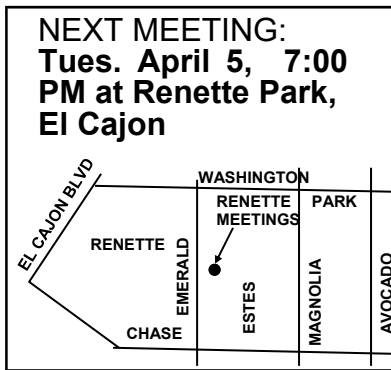
A Little Reminiscence

By Don Westergren

I joined this club sometime around 1977, about 6 to 10 months after it was formed. I was 34 years old at the time. Now I am 78 and a little slower. As far as I can tell, I am the longest current member of the club, so I am the defacto club historian. I am fortunate that I still have my health and mind, and can contribute to the club.

Our club has many long term members, and as we age, we find we have the effects of age and that can become a handicap. So I thought I would write about our club's history of helping handicapped members. The most handicapped are members in wheel chairs, but also those who have injuries, use crutches, or like me—I would rather sit than stand. The one outstanding thing about our club is that our members help each other, to share all the good things about our club and our hobby

So read my little history of our club in this newsletter.
Don





Hangar News

Meeting Minutes March 1st 2022

Bruce Allen

The meeting on 1st 2022, 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 10, including board members, Secretary Bruce Allen, Vice President Jeff Coskey,
(Treasurer Scott Graupmann Absent)

Opening Comments

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

Ron's Tips! (NEW) If you have a useful tip let Ron know & you could get a valuable Raffle ticket!

Frank Gagliardi's Tip of the Month:

For scale appearance of aluminum aircraft, uses aluminum duct tape. For large models, weight gain is not significant and equivalent to primer/color/topcoat. Takes panel lines and rivet markings easily.

No problems with 2.4 GHz reception if satellite receivers are used.

Shared a photo of his B-29.

Even works on foam airplanes, and provides structural strength

Palomar Flyers were featured on CBS8 by reporter Jeff Zevely. The club is looking for 25 acres for a new home as they are losing their current location.

Approval of Minutes in last month's Hangar News

Proposed: Ken Lawrence, Second: Ron Keith
Unanimous

Treasurers Report

(Not available)

Safety Report

Ron Keith- Parts missing from Fire Kit! If you must use anything let Ron know!

There was an incident of an Electric Plane Jumping off a table as it was not restrained. It was a close call, but no one hurt.

Reminder for Electric Plane flyers: ALWAYS disconnect the Battery from the plane BEFORE switching off the controller! The reason is the ESC losing the signal can cause it to turn the Motor on at full speed, maybe this happened above?

Fire Fighting – Training May 21st at the field.
(rain date TBD)

Events

Check the Calendar at our Website.
www.weedwackers.org

TEDx-TEDxKids@ElCajon on April 30, 2022, at The Magnolia. It is an inside venue only so there is no need for us to participate.

FYI- “The Magnolia in El Cajon Formerly known as the East County Performing Arts Center, upgrades include a reconfigured seating layout showcasing great sightlines for 1200 fans, a completely refurbished lobby bar serving craft beer and cocktails, a brand new VIP Lounge, plush front row seating, updated guest amenities and elevator access to the upper level seating for easy accessibility.”

As you will read in the Presidents message the **Swap Meet** was a great success, I sold my Westland Lysander & a kit or two. Many thanks to all who participated.

Pylon Racing ([See Presidents Message](#)) Plus Feather Flags 12 Ft x 2 \$400 for both.
Proposed David Pothier Seconded By Jeff Coskey
Unanimous (?)

Lakeside Western Days Parade (See Presidents Message)

Scale Fly in May 14th

Storage Roof

Dave Pothier Has 22 Sheets of siding, needs to be cut down to size.



Hangar News

President's Message April 2022

Field Rules

See Presidents Message.

New Business

Runway cracks – Dick Milhausen pointed out: lengthy and wide.

Jeff: Magic Crack Filler

Alternative/additional: filler from G Scott Paving offered sealer at cost in 5 gal cans

Keith is looking at getting the proper tool for filling cracks

Weeds – There is RoundUp in the MRCF shed; someone please spray.

Ron did 2 weeks ago

Use it up and buy more.

Riding Mower – belt came off in February but worked it back on. Needs TLC

Drawing for Free membership

Jan Mitchel's name was drawn for a free membership, but he wasn't present. So, no membership was awarded.

Model Sharing

Julian Sonderegger – Various small electric planes. See video on Weedwacker Facebook page.

Raffle

No Raffle today

Meeting finished 20:00hrs

It finally happened! After a few decades of handling nitro engines safely, I finally got bit! Thirteen stitches and an infection in my right index finger reminds me that 1) *always* paint my prop tips white and 2) never reach for a glow igniter from anywhere other than from behind the prop! Duh!

So, I'll keep this month's message short, given the challenge of typing.

Building and Flying: Missing from last month's newsletter was the smiling face and photos of Ken's "Bat", presented here. Sorry we missed you last month, Ken!



Jeff Coskey's Holy Smoke is coming along in Arnold Lipschutz' workshop. They've added retracts and retro side-force generators for that spaced-out look. Power will be an OS 46.





This is Dusty Bennett, 12 years old, with his Carbon Cub that Steve Shepersky's been coaching him on. Way to go, Dusty!!

I recently acquired a P-51 Miss America and B-25 from "Mitch" Mitchel. The builder, who I've not yet met, was Frank Burke. He did an outstanding job on these!

The P-51 flies absolutley beatifully, even with a wing loading of 31.9 oz/sq ft. The B-25 will prove to be a challenge, with a 41.0 oz/sq ft loading! I'll let my son Jeramy do the maiden flight. The port engine on this beast (a pair of OS AX 55s) is the one that tried to bite off my right finger. We need to get those two inverted two-stroke engines running reliably before this thing will take to the air. On-board glow is our friend, for now.





Jeff Coskey is spending some time doing what he enjoys, talking new pilots through the paces of first flights.

This treasure was found along the bare-wire fence; a remnant of a recent crash and small fire that you all may remember from just a few months ago. I think the warranty should cover it. It just needs some new bearing, that's all.



Rules Review: This month I'd like to remind everyone that there's no parking within 15 feet of the pit area (Rule #18). Loading and unloading adjacent to the pit area is fine, but then our cars need to be parked clear of the pit area. This provides access for emergency response vehicles, should that become necessary.

This Time Last Year – Arnold Lipschutz finished his Mini Bell project and was subsequently awarded Builder of the Year; we had our first post-lockdown swap meet; and sadly Joe Cullum passed away.

Recent Events Our recent springtime Swap Meet saw 29 sellers and enough buyers to fill our parking lot to capacity. Thanks to Dan Higdon for the photos!



Upcoming Events –

Pylon Racing, Saturday April 2nd, start time 9:30 am. Look for 6-lap heats to get us started. Starts will be air-starts to a spoken countdown recording courtesy of the SEFSD club. The rules allow the stock FMS 800 mm T-28s to be modified only by 1) no restriction on ESC, 2) LiPo's may be 3S with sizes anywhere up to 1300 mAh, 3) the stock 3-blade prop may be replaced with an APC 7x6E two-blade prop, and 4) the nose gear can be reversed 180 degrees to avoid the prop from striking the front wheel. Creative color schemes are recommended to help judges track the planes in the air. Tim



Hangar News

Peterson is our Event Coordinator.

Lakeside Western Days Parade – Saturday April 23rd. Bruce is looking into sourcing the trailer we used last year from the San Diego Aerospace Museum. Look for emails as the event approaches. Historically, we display up to twenty or so of our prized models on the trailer as a float and ride along the parade route through the city of Lakeside. Those interested should let the Board know.

TEDx Kids is on **Saturday April 30th**. Bruce is researching the event details and venue. In the past, we've brought static models to show, computer flight simulators for kids to try out, and we've flown aerobatic demonstrations over an outdoor field. The event really is rewarding as kids come through to learn and enjoy what we do. It's our opportunity to get in front of families of all ages!

Scale Fly-In will be on May 14th – more to follow on that.

New members: Tim Tanzey, Joe Zaitz, David Goree and Elizabeth McCormack all joined us this month. Welcome guys and gals!

Until next time -
Keith

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History of FWW Club Handicap Operations

Don Westergren March 2022

Our club has accommodated handicap members and guests since day one. To my knowledge, none of the handicapped members have ever demanded or even asked for special privileges.

The Club's first meetings were held in the hobby shop in Santee – owned and operated by Harold (forgot his last name) who himself was handicapped, in a wheel chair. Harold drove a big truck with a hydraulic lift in the back for him to get in (Like the truck used on the old Ironsides TV Series). He wheeled forward to the driver position. He was a regular at the local FWW field in downtown Santee. Our flying fields in the early days were barren, just open pits and a runway. If a handicapped modeler landed way out, other members went to retrieve the model. It was all natural.

When we moved to Cactus Park in the middle 1980's we added logs along the runway to keep runaway taxiing models out of the pits. Later these logs were replaced with 4-1/2 foot chain link fencing. I witnessed a near catastrophe when a popular member Griff Davies was sitting in his wheel chair backed to that low fence (facing away from the runway when a model went out of control – flying south across the runway at 4 foot altitude and was stopped by the top of that fence – directly behind Griff's head. The top of that fence saved Griff's life (I don't think anyone told him how close it was). The club immediately (weeks) installed much taller fencing that we have today. Griff didn't have to ask for it. We also made field rules to keep all personnel back from the fence when not flying.

When the club decided to provide a porta-Potty at the field, it was a Handicap version and has been since. The club added cement

parking and walk way (wheel chair) to the pits. In the 1990's the club replaced the muddy carpets in the pit areas with blacktop and also reservised the runway. The blacktop pit area allowed wheel chair access to all the pits.

