



HANGAR NEWS

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

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 2

Nov 19 Sat Club Meeting, 9:00AM Cactus Park

Dec 6 Tue Club Meeting CANCELLED

Jan 6 Fri Awards Banquet 6:00 PM El Cajon Elks Lodge

Nov meeting Nov 19

Greetings Weedwackers -

Our Elections for Club Officers will be conducted at a club meeting on Saturday 19 November, 9am at the club flying field (Ron Smith Memorial Flying Field).

The nominees are:

President: Ron Keith

Vice President: Jeff Coskey (incumbent)

Treasurer: Scott Graupmann (incumbent)

Secretary: Keith Miller

Safety Officer: Ron Keith (incumbent)

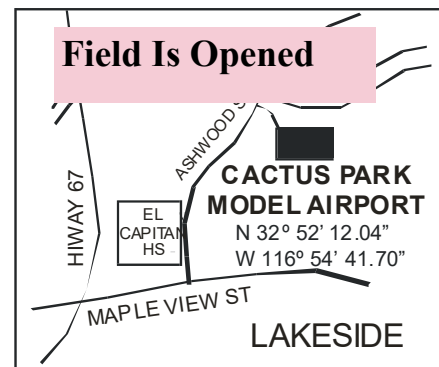
As of this writing, there are no opponents.

Other agenda to be covered at the November meeting will focus on planning 2023 calendar of events and detailing the Awards Banquet plan.

Nominations and suggestions for awardees should be provided to the Board of Directors.

Please support the club and consider participating in our meetings and events!

**NEXT MEETING:
Sat Nov 19, 9:00
AM at Cactus Park
Lakeside, CA**





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Meeting Minutes Oct. 2022

#

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am at the field. Club officers present were the President, Vice President and Treasurer. The Secretary was otherwise detained. A total of twenty members were present.

The meeting was kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance was recited to new US and POW/MII flags hoisted at the field.

Also noted was that a generous member provided a new flag of the United States Marine Corps which will be flown when the US flag is taken down. After the meeting, Butch Weiser and Jeff Coskey discussed lighting of the US flag so that it can stay raised at all times. Butch generously donated a solar-powered light which will be purchased (Jeff) and installed in coming weeks!

The remainder of this year's meetings will be held at the field. The date of the November meeting is TBD. Keith considered holding it the morning of the Veteran's Day Fly-In, but that day will be busy. The prior Saturday is the swap meet. The meeting date is pending.

Approval of minutes: Approval of the minutes of the September meeting was moved, seconded and approved

Beg bal	8336.53
Expenses	1517.30
Income	235.00
Bal	7054.23

Scott reported that the treasury balance is about \$2000 shy of this time last year. There was discussion that we've not had the boon of donations to the club as we'd had in past years and the funds are slowly dwindling.

On the matter of monthly expenses, the monthly cost of the outhouse to United Site Services is currently upwards of \$411. At the September meeting, the Board took action to reduce that cost. Scott's investigation found several alternate suppliers, however with each, we'd either lose wheelchair access and/or the sink with only marginal (if any) savings). United Site Services can provide bi-weekly service for \$242.95 which is a fair savings. A survey of members indicates that we can easily go two weeks between services. Scott took action to make that change. Members were asked to monitor the condition of the outhouse over the next several months.

Safety Officer Report: Ron's recent inspection of safety equipment revealed two of the extinguishers to be dead. It's unclear if they were expended or simply lost pressure. He asked the membership, and there's been no reports of use of the extinguishers, so likely they just died. Ron will replace them.

Upcoming events:

Swap Meet and Toys-4-Tots Drive, Saturday Nov. 5th

Helpers are asked to meet at the field between 6:00 and 6:15 am to guide traffic and parking. Ron will collect entry fees. Richard Brown will monitor buyers at the berm. Frank Gagliardi and Lester Moore have collaborated to collect donations and cash. Frank reminded the members that toys for young teen girls make for a good donation as they're often forgotten. Those who may not feel comfortable choosing gifts are welcome to donate cash. Lester will turn that cash into treasures.

Veteran's Day Fly-In, Saturday Nov. 12th

Bobby Rink volunteered (prior to the meeting) to cook. Keith said that he'll ask Bobby to repeat the carne asada feast from last year. We'll also invite pot-luck dishes to supplement. Attendees will be asked to donate \$5 to offset the club's cost for the club-provided portion of the meal. Those who bring a pot-luck dish eat for free. Funding for the raffle prizes was moved by Keith Miller at \$500. After the motion and discussion that \$500 isn't enough, the motion was revised



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to \$650 by Ron Keith, seconded by Steve Shepersky and approved. Ron will purchase the prizes and run the raffle. To supplement the raffle, Julian Sonderegger recommended that we ask members to bring donations of prize-worthy items. The membership agreed and Keith will put the word out.

Awards will be presented for Best Sport/Civilian, Best Military, Judges' Choice and Best Flight. Keith moved for expenditure of \$100 to cover the cost of four trophies at \$25 each, seconded by David Roche, approved.

Annual Awards Banquet, 06 Jan 2023

Keith reported that he's made initial contact with the Elks' Lodge in El Cajon, the venue we first tried last year with great success. We're waiting on confirmation from their Exalted Ruler. Further planning and budget allocation will be discussed at future meetings.

Old Business:

Storage unit roof is still on hold pending cooler weather... which is here. The Board will touch base with Mark Lukens as POC. The storage unit charging system is also in the works.

West-end charging system is still pending final connection by Kurt Meade. He's a hard-working guy.

Race Flags were finished by Jeff (and subsequently used after the meeting in our pylon racing event).

Runway cracks are on hold for now. The hot-fill tools and material that Jeff had selected may be a cost we'll defer for a short while. In the meantime, the cracks don't appear to be getting worse.

Rules Review: Keith reminded the membership of the AMA Safety Code that requires we avoid flying directly over unprotected people and moving vehicles. This comes into play anytime cars are on the dirt road or when members are walking about north of the runway. The code will also apply in coming months as San Diego County Parks continues to remove overgrowth of tamarisk (saltcedar, "tamarix") from the riverbed. The County work will continue through February. Members are reminded to adjust flight patterns to ensure that there's no chance of incursions on loss of control.

Flying over people or moving vehicles

New Business:

Remote ID and FRIA: Keith reminded the club that the Board will establish club status as a FAA-recognized identification area (FRIA) as soon as the FAA AC is issued. There was some discussion that, while there's no direct impact on the club or our flying, there will be impact on manufacturers of ready-to-fly (RTF) models since suppliers will have to comply with the FAA's remote-ID hardware requirements.

Estate Auction, Frank Gagliardi for Mike O'Donnell: Frank briefed the club on an extensive collection of scale kits and models that he'll be auctioning on October 15th. The auction will be at his driveway. For those who can't attend, sealed bids will be accepted. All auction proceeds are going directly to Toys-4-Tots!

Elections at November Meeting

Current VP, Secretary and Treasurer will run for their existing seats. Ron Keith approached Keith before the meeting to step up and run for President. During the meeting, **Keith formally nominated Ron Keith for the office of Club President.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 am followed by a Pilots' Briefing for the pylon races.



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President's Message November 2022

Meetings: Our November club meeting will be held at the field at 9:00 am, Saturday November 19th.

Agenda will include our elections for 2023 club officers, and banquet funding approval and planning (in Jan 2023).

Club Officer Elections at the November meeting:

Ron Keith approached me and mentioned that he's considering running for Club President. With his tremendous give-a-\$h*t and dedication, I absolutely agreed that he would be a fine candidate. To help Ron with the onslaught of administrative work that goes along with it, he's supported by and backed by his better half, Mona.

At the October meeting, I formally nominated Ron for the office.

Running for their current offices are Jeff Coskey for VP and Scott Graupman for Treasurer.

In the course of this past month, Ron nominated me to run as Secretary which will give Bruce a break from his toils. I've accepted the nomination. Assuming we have no other nominations in the days leading up to our election, I'll be able to help transition Ron into his new role. For those who've followed Ron's activities and efforts over the past ten years will agree that he's a superb candidate!

New this year, the position of Safety Officer is an elected post (note bylaws revision approved at the September meeting). Should Ron be elected to the office of President, the position of Safety Officer will be open. If there are no nominees, Ron will retain the office until such time that we have a candidate.

Renewal Season: We're approaching then end of the year and our club fiscal and membership calendar begins in January. We're now accepting your 2023 renewals!

Dues are \$75 for the year and are payable by cash, check or PayPal. Cash can be paid to any Club Officer. Checks can be made out to FWAS, or "First Weedwacker Aero Squadron" and handed to an Officer or mailed directly to Scott at his home address listed on the cover page of this issue of the Hangar News. PayPal can be sent to paypal.weedwackers@gmail.com. At the turn of the new year, members paid up and in good standing will receive their 2023 membership badge and new gate code. We'll have one or two "badge days" at the field during which you can take care of business. We'll also issue badges at the Awards Banquet. Stragglers will be taken care of on a case basis after that, either by mail or in-person at the field.

Be sure that your AMA membership and FAA registration are both current.

Lighted Flag! – As mentioned in the minutes, Butch donated and Jeff procured a solar-powered light for the flag pole. The next day, the light was installed!! Very nicely done gentlemen!

Runway Courtesy: Consider this: you land and your model ends up down on the far west end, either dead stick or you're stuck in the weeds. Now consider your path to retrieve the model. Please avoid walking down the middle of the runway. That is unless, of course, you're the only person there or there's no one waiting to take off or land. We've seen several instances in which pilots are waiting on a member to get off the runway. Consider walking down the driveway area, and when you get close to your model, cut directly across and then go back to the driveway. This minimizes the time you're tying up the runway.

Front Gate: Somehow over the last couple of months our front gate was damaged, most likely due to evening "residents" backing their motor homes up against the gate. We've seen it before, people parking back into our driveway while the gate is closed. It's apparently a good place to get some overnight shut-eye. At some point, the very bottom of the pole that normally drives into the ground when securing the gate was bent so badly that it kinked and had to be broken off to get the gate shut.

I called County Parks (it's their gate, after all) to bring it to their attention and to ask if they



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wanted to do anything about it. They've seen similar damage on other gates. The consensus is to just leave it alone. The gate is secure enough with the chain holding the two halves of the gate together when locked. It's not worth the effort to repair the post since it will likely be bent/broken again in the future.

Building and Flying:

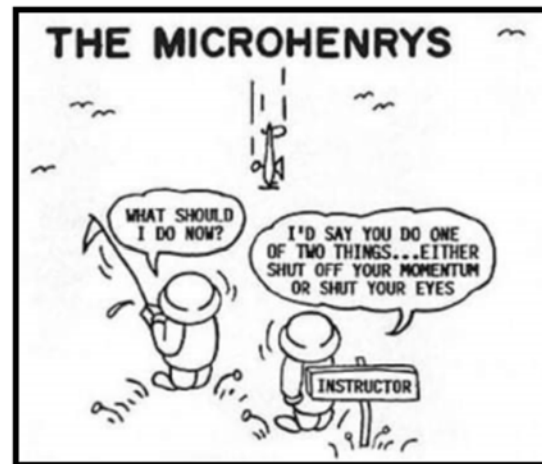
Lyle Black brought out an F7F that he picked up on a web-based auction site. It's an ARF, but surely NOT for beginners. It was equipped with twin gas engines – Fuji I recall, but don't trust me.



It also has pneumatic retracts and wheel brakes. As of this writing, he hasn't flown it yet and plans to do that up at Victor Valley RC Flyers field where there's much more room.

"Mr. Bob" Frazier brought out his new Waco Cabin biplane outfitted with an AXI motor running 6s2p 5500 LiPo batteries. It weighs in at 22 pounds. I understand it flew in the last week of October and it flew well! Congrats Bob!

And finally, Charlie Raff's new P-36 was maiden this month courtesy of Steve Shepersky. It sports an OS 95 and weighs in around 9 pounds. Looking good, Charlie!



This Time Last Year – Lyle Black was featured, having restored several of the aircraft he picked up from Joe Cullum's estate. Former member Philip Morris and his wife survived a horrific incident when a full-scale airplane plummeted into their home in Santee.

Recent Events - Pylon races - Gavin had a great set of heats and would have won had he not clobbered the west pylon while leading in the last heat! Tim Peterson won overall and with several tied for second. Going into 2023, I expect we could have enough participation to break out into bronze, silver and gold fly-offs.



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10/1/2022 - Pilot Points

Name	Race 1			Race 2			Race 3			Total
	Heat	Place	Cuts	Heat	Place	Cuts	Heat	Place	Cuts	
Leann				2	0		2	1	X	7
Jim	2	1	0	1	1	0	X	1	1	3 (4)
Keith	1	2	0	2	2	0	X	2	0	6 (8)
Jeremy	2	3	0	2	1	0	X	1	0	6 (8)
Dave	1	3	0	1	4	0	X	2	1	8 (9)
Ken	2	2	1	1	3	0	X	3	0	8 (9)
Sutton		4	0	2	3	0	X	3	0	10 (10)



Upcoming Events –

Swap Meet and Toys-4-Tots drive, Saturday November 5th 7:00 am.

Ron Keith will be our gate guard and collect sellers' fees which will be waived for sellers who bring a Toy for a Tot.

Richard Brown and others have agreed to be our security eyes.

On Saturday 10/1, Julian Sonderegger donated to the club a small fleet of nitro-powered models that he'd compiled over the past few years. The models will be brought out at the upcoming swap meet. Thanks Julian!!

Jeff Struthers of SEFSD dropped off a very nice Kiosho Calmato ARF as a donation. The original owner, SEFSD member, had passed and Jeff was gracious to donate it to the Weedwackers. It will be offered at the swap meet. It's I EXCELLENT condition with a nearly new Evolution .46 engine and Futaba FASST receiver.

Veterans' Day Fly-In and Pot Luck / BBQ, Saturday November 12th.

Veterans will be honored in a short ceremony as we invite everyone to a fly-in event. Prizes will be awarded for Best Sport/Civilian, Best Military, Judges' Choice and Best Flight Performance. ALL types of models welcome!

Our raffle is valued at over \$750!

No landing fee! All pilots welcome

Ron Keith will prepare carne asada meet for street tacos.

I need members to bring pot-luck sides, snacks and drinks. The theme is Cali-Mex, so we're asking for sides like rice, beans, pico de gallo, guacamole, etc. Please contact me, Jeff or Ron if you can bring a dish!

Those not bringing food are asked to donate \$5 to offset the cost of the carne adada.

Planning for the 2023 Annual Awards Banquet is well underway.

We have a proposed contract with the Elks' Lodge in El Cajon. For those who didn't attend last year, please know that the venue and food are excellent!!! Earlier in the month (in October) I sent out a poll talking about raising per-plate ticket cost. I apologize to those who tried to response to the poll and finding that the MailChimp tool failed. Since that day, we've **received an anonymous donation of \$1,000** to keep pricing as it was last year. Thank you to Mr. A. Nonny Mouse! Admission will remain at \$25 per person! (In prior years, it was \$30/person, \$50/couple, but we're dispensing with that. It's \$25 per person, period, dot.) With this donation and a few other small cuts we're making, the net cost to the club will now be just over \$900, a significant drop from last year. This will still allow us to host a huge raffle valued at more than \$1,000. We're also asking members to consider donating prize-worthy donations to be raffled off.

**First Weedwacker Aero
Squadron
Annual Awards Banquet**

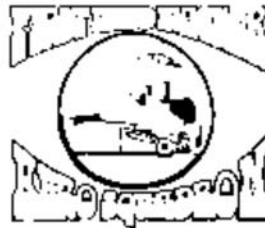
Date: Friday 1/6/2023

**6:00 pm Bar
7:00 pm Dinner**

Admission—\$25 per person

*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
Coffee, Tea at station*



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





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Scale Flyin Nov 12, Cactus Park Results

Best Scale Frank Gigliardi B-24

Best Civilian Sport Jason Miller P-51 Miss America

Best Flight Performance Mark Davis OV-10 Bronco

Judges Choice Trent Alford DR-7

