



Touch & Go



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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

December 2007

2007 Club Officers

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Secretary / Newsletter:	
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Mark Metzger	480-464-0816
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Don Manchester	480-854-8396

President's Corner

Larry Nichols, President
Arizona Model Aviators



With the delays in getting the Newsletter out there is time to report on the New Year's Day Fly-In which had very little flying as it was so windy. Some brave souls showed how it should be done but for the most part everyone waited for the food, which was even more special than normal. Anyway a good time was had by all. Word has just come through from Stu Richmond that there will be a series of special presentations at each of the upcoming Members Meeting for the next few months. See the details in the Column below. Don Hartdegen told me to inform everyone that the Club donated \$300 to the Salvation Army just before Christmas from the proceeds of the fall Jet Rally.

Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

Because the next Member's Meeting is not on Jan 1st (which would clash with the New Year's Day Fly In) this Newsletter has been delayed a week. Just as well with the hectic Holiday season.

We are now well into the new flying season and have had our first big Rally (the Jet Rally). The improvements to the field are working out nicely and we are settling into a routine.

The ballots for the Club Officers and Board Members are now out (after a few problems). I am always fascinated by how many ballots come back because the addresses on our membership roster are wrong or out of date. Same thing with the E-mail addresses. Please if you move or change your E-mail address, please let me or Don Manchester, our Membership Chairman, know. It saves a lot of hassles.

And talking of Don, he wanted me to remind everyone in the strongest terms that you need to get your membership renewal in NOW. Don is accepting renewals at the meetings, the field or by mail to him (a renewal form is at the back of this Newsletter). Do not wait for your AMA license to come back. With the sticker approach you can renew both at the same time and you do NOT need to send Don a copy of your AMA license. Don got the word from the AMA that they were mailing out the new cards according to Zip code numbers and ours should arrive about the first of the month. Looks like they have to be sorted by zip code to get a cheaper postage. So no matter when you renewed it still seems like we get the licenses late and without the license AND the



Next Club Meetings

Jan 8 and Feb 5, 2008

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Viewpoint Golf Resort

**8700 E. University Rd. Mesa, AZ.
Meetings in Room by the Ball
Field**

To view map visit our website:
www.azmodelaviators.com

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sticker, you will not be able to fly at the New Year' Day Fly In. Don Reports that the following new members have signed up in the last month: Kirk Hooper, Frank Lamothe, Andrew Russell, and Matt Ventura. Welcome to the Club and I hope you enjoy flying with us.

The word from Stu Richmond is that It has been arranged that an ACTION video of the 2007 Reno Air Races will be shown at the January 8th meeting. It runs 30 minutes (VERY INTERESTING!!!, I've pre-viewed it!!!). John Mangino will bring a TV and DVD player. The DVD was made by our own club member Mike Flanagan.

For the February 5th meeting, it is planned that a DVD made by J.J. Mangino at the Reno Air Races of STILL photos of the racing aircraft will be shown. J.J. works nights, so we'll get his Dad to bring the TV and DVD player and show the STILL photos, probably shorter than 30 minutes.

For the March 4th meeting, it is tentatively planned that our own George Joy (of Peak Electronics) will present a 30 minute (or less) program on rechargeable batteries.

I'm going to TRY to get a speaker for each AMA 2008 club meeting. These will be planned in advance, as I'm usually gone w/ Sweet Cissy for 3-4 warm summer months. I may not be successful in pre-arranging it!!!

Future speakers could be SlimLine Mufflers, Arizona Autogyro, Empire Hobby Distributors of Apache Junction-- (They are all-electric!!), Madison Products, Lewie Kear on "Making Engines Run", Kenny Kear on "Covering with Plastic". I have a marvelous AMA-produced video (runs 25 minutes) on hand titled "ALL BECAUSE OF MODEL AIRPLANES" which I'll hold in reserve to replace a no-show speaker/program. And such as I can arm-twist to entertain/educate us for 30 minutes or less.

If we get a newsletter out for the Jan. 8th meeting, it might be good to mention Mike Flanagan's Reno Air Races DVD will be well worth seeing.

My overall effort is toward making our meetings more enjoyable for attendees!!!!. I used to do this at the Orlando, Florida club.

Have a sunny day/Stu Richmond

As always we are still interested in receiving any material you would like to provide to help fill the pages of this Newsletter. If you have any news of interest please send it to me at david.t.balch@boeing.com. See you at the field and don't forget to check out our Web site at www.azmodelaviators.com for all the latest news.

Dec 4 Club Meeting Minutes

As Larry Nichols and Jim Compton were both unavailable, Dave Balch (Secretary) called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Dave asked if there were any visitors. Chuck Logan stood up and spoke. It was stated that the newsletter had been sent out to all those on the E-mail address list and was

available at the front of the room for anyone who needed a paper copy. A motion was made to accept the previous minutes, seconded and approved.

Under upcoming events, there will be a Fun Fly January 1st 2008. Every pilot will need their 2008 AMA card and the sticker from the club to fly. The AMA said the cards are being sent out by zip code so keep an eye out for yours.

There will be a 25 size race Sunday the 9th of Dec. The forecast is for rain the coming weekend. The Electric Festival is at the end of January (24th, 25th, 26th and 27th). Help is needed for registration. Please contact Austin Goodwin. There will be a meeting for the organizers of the Electric Festival Saturday morning at the field.

The Banquet will be January 19th, 2008. There will be a gift exchange. For information see Terry Mangino. GunSmoke will be March 7, 8, 9th, 2008.

Early in May we will be having a Giant Scale meet. IMAA rules will be followed but IMAA membership will not be required at this time. There will also be a fun fly coming up in the near future.

Davis Fiedler reported that the Jet Rally had 46 pilots this year. The advertising of the event left something to be desired and will be rectified in the future. The event made about \$3100.00. Event shirts were not available. The lack of overnight parking for RV's was said to hurt the attendance. A security guard should have been there for the vendors but was not available. Davis said that the contests are a necessity to support the club functions and the facility that we have. He also handed in receipts for the event to Don Hartdegen the Treasurer.

Under Old Business Don Manchester spoke about the membership. We have 311 members this year compared to 230 last year at the same time. He also stated that there have been some delays by the AMA due to the use of zip codes for mailings. 150 members have not renewed yet but it is still early (see application at the back of the Newsletter).

The next Members Meeting will be January 8th, 2008 so as to not clash with the New Year's Day Fun Fly.

The Auction took in approx \$800.00 profit. Next year the auction will be at the field at the beginning of November, 2008. There will also be a swap meet at the field during GunSmoke.

There was a suggestion that a new procedure be developed for the Spread Spectrum Radios. The idea of needing a frequency pin will be maintained but there will be additional pins slots and maybe a new procedure.

Please make sure that you put the frequency pins back when you are done flying. If you do not, the lack of the pin requires a new pin to be made which could cause problems when the old pin is returned as there will be two.

Dave Dunn gave a report on the instruction program. Things are quiet at the moment with no new students.

John Mangino reported that people are still spinning their wheels on the road and parking lot. We spent over \$9000 putting stone down for dust control. Please don't destroy all our hard work by throwing the stone all over the area. Speeding is also a problem. The speed limit has been lowered to 10 MPH. Please observe this limit. We also need some 1 gallon jugs of water for the impound area. Cigarette butts are turning up all over the place. Please use the butt cans. That is what they are there for.

Dave brought up the fact that 20 ballots were returned due to bad addresses. Please keep your address current. It doesn't take much effort to send an e-mail or make a phone call when you move.

Election results:

President	John Mangino
V. P.	Paul McDevitt
Secretary	Dave Balch
Treasurer	Mike Currier

Board members Gary Porter, and Roxanne Cottrell with John Mangino nominating Lewie Kear (as influenced by the voting) to take over the remaining term from Mike Currier as Mike has moved from Board Member to Treasurer.

Show and Tell: Steve Ross brought in an electric Yak 54 with a 48" wingspan and gave details of the set up. He should have flown it by the time this Newsletter is read.

The raffle was held. There were nine prizes given away which were bought from HobbyTown at a good discount. Please patronize HobbyTown, they help the club out quite a bit. 3 of the prizes were won with tickets given out to people who worked at the Jet Rally and the Work Parties held before hand.

A motion to adjourn was proposed, seconded and passed.

Dec 19 Board Meeting Minutes

Due to the absence of Larry Nichols, Jim Compton called the meeting to order at 7:05. Initial discussion centered on the Jet Rally and the income from it which has now been provided in detail. As previously voted, it was agreed to give a donation of \$300 to the Salvation Army. We have just received word that unlike last year Southwest Airlines will not be donating free airline tickets as part of the Electric Festival Raffle. Treasurer Don Hartdegen indicated that the income from the Jet Rally and Membership renewals has allowed us to put back \$5000 into Savings that had to be taken out to cover the cost of the runway resurfacing and the buying and laying down of the ABC aggregate on the roadway and the upper areas of the parking lot. This past year has been a record one for expenses but we should be set for a while (at least until the fencing by the side of the roadway is installed). The new laptop computer for use by the new Treasurer, is almost ready to be presented to Mike Currier. Dave Balch was asked to send out an E-mail to all members on the E-mail list informing them of the results of

the election for Officers and Board Members (so making it official which is needed due to the delay in getting the Newsletter out) and to make sure everyone is aware of the arrangements and requirements of the New Year's Day Fly In.

For the New Year Paul Goldsmith was re-appointed as Safety Officer and Dave Howells and Bill Adams re-appointed to the Noise Committee.

Aaron Lichtenwalner was at the meeting to update the Board on a few changes in the set up for the end of January Electric Festival. He indicated that there would be an additional 6 porta potties on site (for a total of 8) with 2 at the east end of the spectator area, 2 behind the storage sheds, with the remaining in the regular area (but facing south which will be the regular set up for even the regular 2 units in the future). Overnight security will be provided Thursday, Friday and Saturday by Club Member Larry Wende. With the expected large turn out of cars (especially on Saturday), the parking arrangements will have to be controlled very well. It is planned to have a work party on Saturday January 19th to set up posts (to have rope defining the parking rows during the event) to make sure there is no wasted space. This will require people dedicated to controlling the parking traffic as well as being on the gate. The area east of the east end bleachers will be designated as a handicapped parking area. Also the pile of aggregate will need to be lowered for safety reasons. Oh the joys of having a successful event!!!

Ed Long of the Parks Department had indicated that they will fix the washed out area on the roadway into the field. There are still problems with members going way too fast on the road into the field. The new aggregate has helped the dust control but excessive speed negates the effect and dust control is a major concern for the Parks Department, so please hold your speed now and PLEASE stop spinning your wheels when driving out as it throws the aggregate off the road and it will cost a lot to re-spread. If the speeding continues we will be asking for some suggestions from the Members on how to counter this (like speed bumps).

Paul Goldsmith presented a draft budget for the GunSmoke Rally in March. The budget was approved with the understanding there will be monthly updates.

Don Manchester reported on the current Membership numbers. The close out number for 2007 was 318 with 265 full flying members, 10 life members, 37 family members, 5 youth members and 1 associate member. For 2008 to date there have been 165 members signed up, 144 full flying members, 5 life members, 13 family members and 3 youth members. It is more important than ever to keep a close track of the membership numbers as the Parks Department requires us to send them \$6 for every member on the roster on March 1st.

Jim Compton closed the meeting at 8:12.

Events

- 25 Size Race Dec 9th
- New Year's Day Fly In
- Club Banquet Jan 19th
- Electric Festival Jan 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th
- 25 Size Race Feb 3rd
- GunSmoke March 7th, 8th and 9th
- 25 Size Race Mar 16th

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

2007 Membership, as of Dec 28 was as follows:

Members:	309
New Members:	9
Total Members:	318

Some Photos from the field

A view of the aggregate left after doing the road.
That is Paul Goldsmith on the top of the pile





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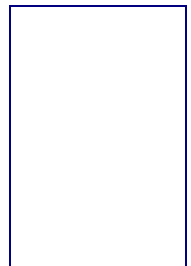
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