



Touch & Go



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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

January 2007

2006 Club Officers

President:	Phone
Larry Nichols	480-926-3729
Vice-President / Contest:	
Jim Compton	480-861-5559
Secretary / Newsletter:	
Dave Balch	480-830-3816
Treasurer:	
Don Hartdegen	480-345-7132
Board Members:	
Gary Bailey	480-807-3360
Bob Franklin	480-835-5546
Gary Porter	480-984-6290
Mark Metzger	480-464-0816
Paul Goldsmith	480-588-6941
David Dunn	480-357-7504
Mike Currier	480-984-4786
Membership	
Don Manchester	480-854-8396

President's Corner

Larry Nichols, President
Arizona Model Aviators



Thank you for letting me serve as Club President again. I became a member in 1998 and have enjoyed being a part of a great growing group of airplane modelers since then. Within this select group we have scratch builders, kit builders, ARF builders and some who just like to fly. We have new members who cannot fly and are eager to learn. We have new pilots wanting to learn more and are working toward the type of plane they admire. Then we have the pilots who can fly any type of plane in any event. We even have members who have gained high praise and recognition from national events. This is what the club is about. Flying model aircraft.

Now let's get into what makes this club successful. This club is full of people from all walks of life. I'm not talking about their financial status; I'm talking about their skills. If you are new to our group you will be exposed to more than 200 people wanting to help you in this hobby. Many times I have seen someone with a problem which would keep them on the ground but with help from friends they don't even know, they found themselves in the air in record time.

Behind the flying and building part of this hobby stands a great organizations, known as the Arizona Model Aviators. The one thing we sometimes forget is "this is a business". Any business needs structure, direction, and foresight to make it run smooth and grow.

In any company operated by more than one person there are discussions, meetings, ideas and disagreements. We are no different. When you have input from many people from different backgrounds, age, and gender etc, you have a wealth of information. This is a good thing and can be productive if the information is taken as constructive and given the respect it deserves.

The originator of the suggestion should qualify the plan by expressing the advantage, cost, and the benefit it will produce. Credit for the plan should be accepted by the maker. This business is governed by a board and officers who are volunteers and are working for you. Respect them and expect respect in return. Make your skills work to make this a great organization. We need you. All of you. You might not be a great builder or pilot but you could be a great officer, board member, committee head, C.D. or supporter. Please get involved---thank you Larry Nichols

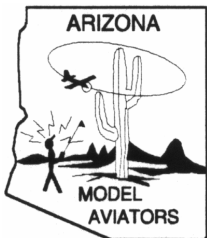
Next Club Meetings

Feb 6 and Mar 6, 2007

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Viewpoint Golf Resort

**In the Meeting Room by the
ball field (Hawes Road)
8700 E. University Rd. Mesa,
AZ.**

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



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Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

Firstly I have to report the sad news that Larry Clawson, our Club President from last year passed away at 11:00 on Tuesday January 30th. Here is the message from his wife giving the details of the Memorial Service if anyone wants to attend.

"On January 30 Larry passed away. He left this world very peacefully; it was his desire to not linger any longer. His son Mark is here in Arizona from Illinois. Larry will be interred at the Veteran's National Cemetery tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 2 with a private ceremony. Then on Sunday February 18 at 1:30 pm we will have a memorial celebration at our church, Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, Kings Ranch Road, Gold Canyon, AZ; any and all are invited. The choir in which I am a member will sing, there will be a piano duet, solo, words from our pastor, and a time for folks to share any memories they have. This will be recorded so that the family will have a keepsake. After the service, we will have refreshments in the adjoining building, which will give us all a chance to chat it up!

Thanks for your emails; I request that you hold your "forwarded" emails for the time being. Thanks for your cooperation.

Love to you all,
"Sam"/Mary Jean."

As most of you know Larry had been fighting cancer for a number of years and it had been in remission for a while but it returned last year and this was the primary reason he was forced to step down from the Presidency.

Back to normal Newsletter business. The word from our Membership Chairman Don Manchester is that we have had 35 new members since Oct 1 last year. The most recent since the last newsletter are:

Glenn Williams Danny Allen Gordon Murphy
Rodney Steagall Marvin Chase James Newman
Leon Spielbusch (the newsletter editor for the East Valley Aviators Club) Grizz Wallace Gary Mayberry

Paul Goldsmith also sent me a note about the people who have been helping out with setting up the electrical outlets in time for the Electric Festival (so the flyers can recharge their batteries in greater comfort) and those that helped cleaning up the field:

The gentlemen who helped get the pipe work started on Tuesday were:

John Mangino Mike Currier Bob Franklin
Don Hartdegen Larry Wende Paul Goldsmith

Those gentlemen that helped Paul with the pipe work for the new receptacles on Wednesday were:

Joseph Hughes Neil McAlpin Al Mostardo

The people who showed up for the work party Thursday were: Don Farr Dave Walker Dan Picciuto
Gary Mangino John Mangino Larry Wende
Jon Hamilton Davis Fiedler Cas Cusimano
Joseph Hughes Paul Goldsmith Don Hartdegen
Bob Franklin Don Manchester Joe Bailey and his tractor

Paul would also like to give a special thanks to whomever anonymously donated the pipe couplings for the project and to Gary Bailey for getting us the conduit and wire.

He also wanted to be sure to add that if we forgot someone, we do apologize. Sometimes it gets a little hectic and he admits he is terrible with names.

Shawn Perry contacted me and asked if I know anyone that would like to buy a:

Great Planes U Can Do 3D 60 size ARF Aircraft built but never flown. The model includes Futaba T6XH computer radio Channel 53 with all servos and receiver already installed. The Tower 60 engine installed was flown ten times in another aircraft Sold as Package only for \$550.00

If anyone knows someone who might be interested contact Shawn at 480-982-5867 home

This month's Newsletter is back to the usual size we are used to due to large number of events and photo opportunities after the slim version of a few months ago. However we are still interested in receiving any material you would like to provide so please, if anyone has any news of interest that they want included in the Newsletter, send it to me as any help in getting interesting topics in the Newsletter is welcome. See you at the field and don't forget to check out our Web site at www.azmodelaviators.com for all the latest news.

January 2 Club Meeting

Our new President Larry Nichols opened the first meeting of 2007 at 7:05. As there were no visitors or guests, Larry then introduced the Officers and new Board Members for 2007. Apart from himself, these included Jim Compton as Vice President, Don Hartdegen as Treasurer, Dave Balch as Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Board Members Paul Goldsmith and Mike Currier. Don Manchester, the Membership Chairman was also introduced. Larry did not require a reading of the minutes of the last meeting but did ask for a proposal to accept the minutes as published in the Newsletter, which was proposed by Joe Bailey and seconded by Austin Goodwin. The proposal was accepted with the understanding that the timing of the upcoming GunSmoke event was wrong in the minutes but correct in the Event Listing further down in the Newsletter.

Don Hartdegen then gave the Treasurer's report and indicated there was a healthy increase in the balance due to the new membership sign-ups and some initial inputs from the Electric Festival pre-entries. Gar Agle proposed the Treasurer's report be accepted and Paul McDevitt seconded and the proposal was accepted.

Don Manchester then reported that the 2007 Membership currently stands at 223 with about 62 of the 2006 members not having yet renewed. Traditionally about 50 members do not renew each year so that would leave about 12 who are likely to be outstanding. Of the 223 members, 25 were new since October which is a healthy sign. The lock on the gate at the field has been changed so the old key will not now work and all old keys should be dropped into the daily fee can at the back of the fence behind the frequency board so they can be recycled in future years. If you have a new key and you find that it does not work well, please return it to Don so a replacement can be provided. The key will also open the box holding the fire extinguisher. As the unit is getting low on chemicals, Austin Goodwin offered to have the existing fire extinguisher unit refilled if a temporary replacement can be placed in the box until the recharging is completed. Such a unit was offered and accepted. It was also indicated that a First Aid Kit should be added to the box as there is currently no first aid box provided by the club available at the field.

It was noted that the meeting was just one after the New Year's Day Fun Fly and may explain why the turn out was down from the previous 2 meetings. The Fun Fly was a great success with a large number of members and their families turning out for a great deal of flying on a nice day with a great meal set out for everyone at noon. The raffle prizes were very nice and all of the winners went away happy.

Terri Mangino noted that the Banquet is coming up on January 20th and she needs to collect money from those that have signed up. The buffet dish selections are to be beef and chicken and the cost is \$10 with the club picking up the excess cost. The Club will also be providing tickets for water and sodas and a mixed drink as appropriate. There will be a gift exchange with a recommended gift value of \$10. If more than one soda or mixed drink per person is needed the cash bar will be available with mixed drinks costing \$1.75 and extra sodas at \$0.75. Because ViewPoint now have a liquor license, bringing your own wine or spirits for your own use will not be allowed but these can be brought as items for the gift exchange as long as they are never opened. The Banquet will start with a happy hour at 5:30 with the meal starting at 6:30 and the gift exchange at 7:00. Jim Luby has agreed to be the Master of Ceremonies again so it should be another fun event.

Paul McDevitt then gave details of the end of the month Electric Festival. There will be a cut off for pre-entries of 200 and that number is quickly approaching

but entries on the day will be accepted. Each flyer will be restricted to 4 models in the pit area at any one time. If they have more and want to fly one of these, it will have to be exchanged for one of the models in the pits. Paul will still accept names now for people who will help and you can even offer on the day and that will be acceptable. The event will be for 4 days this year running from Thursday through Sunday.

Jim Compton reported there will be a 25 size race on February 4 and there has been a rule change now requiring the club provided fuel to be 15% PowerMaster.

Dave Dunn then indicated that the preparations for the GunSmoke event are coming together well. Roxanne Cottrell will be running the raffle and currently has among the prizes lined up: 2 airline tickets and 3 ARF airplanes, a TV/VCR and a lot of other items. She will be concentrating on covering the photographing of the models so most of the actual running of the raffle and the selling of tickets will be done by her husband Lonny and any additional help that can be found. As with the Electric Festival, any help offered on the day will be very welcome.

Paul Goldsmith reported on Safety and indicated that a number of members are still taking the wrong frequency pins and in some cases others are forgetting to return the pins after use. This can lead to potential problems. Please be careful.

Under Instruction, Jim Compton reported that Rick Smith has stepped up to be a new Flight Instructor. Alan Jones has just been certified as meeting the criteria to fly solo and so he was presented with his certificate. Alan then admitted that on the very next flight he crashed his plane when the aileron servo stopped responding to commands.

Under Old Business, it was asked that everyone please wipe up any fuel spills on the preparation and start tables. The prep tables are having the paint taken off and the start tables are getting messy.

Jean Savoie indicated there were plenty of videos available for check out and there are also 4 flight simulators for anyone to improve their flying skills.

John Mangino announced there were 9 items in the raffle this time with 2 timers from Roxanne and 7 items obtained from Hobby Town at cost. One of the winning tickets was awarded for doing volunteer work at an earlier club events.

Under New Business Alan Jones asked about facilities where a new motor can be broken in. The bunker area to the west of the field was identified but it currently does not have a start table. Alan offered to build a table for there if the Club provided the supplies. The offer was accepted and membership voted to approve the funding.

Larry closed the meeting at 7:43pm.

January 16 Board Meeting

As an experiment, the Board Meeting was held in the East Room of Serrano's Restaurant. Our new President Larry Nichols opened the meeting at 7:02. All of the Officers and Board Members were present together with a number of members who were present to hold a GunSmoke meeting after the Board Meeting. The first order of business was to decide on the way forward for the set up of the Auction and Banquet in the future due to a number of issues that have arisen with regard to the support (and cost of the support) we are getting from the ViewPoint RV Resort. ViewPoint has said they cannot guarantee that we can have an Auction in the Fall on the date that we have asked for (and paid for). We requested the first Saturday in November and we are likely to only get a late October date without any food support. This was what happened for the Fall 2006 Auction and the Auction suffered from the earlier date. Larry indicated that he had researched the availability of rooms at the Tower Point RV Park and had found a larger room was available (with both breakfast and lunch food support) at a significantly lower cost. After a good discussion a proposal was made by Mike Currier and seconded by Bob Franklin that we should continue with the arrangement for the Spring 2007 Auction at Viewpoint (too far along on the planning to change venues now) but to plan on using Tower Point for the Fall Auction and if that works out well, plan on holding future Auctions there. Larry indicated that he will coordinate with Dick Brush to see about getting our payment back for the Fall Auction due to the uncertainty by ViewPoint that they can meet their commitments. As a side comment, it was mentioned that the set up for the Auction will be changed to help speed up the event while still satisfying the buyers and sellers.

Due to the small size of the room being used for this year's Banquet (a nominal limit of 104 in the room) and the enforced requirement to have a Cash Bar set up (no more BYOB) it was also agreed that if Tower Point can provide the needed facilities, we should look into planning to move the 2008 Banquet there too.

Under upcoming events it was mentioned that another work party will be set up for the coming Thursday to do some final clean up of the field before the Electric Festival and Joe Bailey will undertake another run with the drag to further smooth out the parking area. Mark Metzger indicated he will talk to Brad Halfen the Channel 3 helicopter pilot to confirm the plans to have him take some aerial photos of the event which will be good for future publicity. It is hoped that Brad will also attend the event after to talk to us. Don Hartdegen indicated that Bob Ruff had send him a final check covering pre-registration. This input means we already have covered the seed money expended for this event.

Under new business, Bob Franklin indicated he has a need of an electronic copy of the Club logo in high

resolution form so he can use it for the fabrication of plaques. Roxanne Cottrell indicated she had such a copy and will forward it to Bob.

There followed a lot of discussion about the need for and the availability of the Contest Director Information Package. There have been a number of earlier versions around but none that is generally available. Davis Fiedler recently pulled one together based on his experience organizing the Jet Rally. It was agreed that a single comprehensive version needs to be generally available so as it makes event organizing much easier. It was agreed that we need to ask for a volunteer (or appoint someone) to pull this together and that person can then be a member of the Contest Committee which Jim Compton will then oversee. Also part of the committee will be an Event Coordinator who will be someone who will be responsible for all of the peripheral elements of the event organization, such as arranging for the extra Porta-Johns, trash collection, food services, road watering, field maintenance and parking. That way the event CD need only worry about the flying side of the event and there will be consistency (plus experience learned about problems with providers) which will ensure a smoother run event.

On the subject of volunteering, Terri Mangino offered to be the prime, working with the Vice President, for running the Banquet each year. It was agreed that the Banquet should be set up to be the third Saturday of January each year.

Jim Compton suggested it would be a good idea in the light of the difficulty in maintaining copies of the various documents that need to be available each year even when the Officers and Board Members change each year, that the Web Site Server would be a good place to locate important Archive information. This would include things like the Club Constitution, Latest Safety Rules, CD information, Instructor and Student Pilot Handbooks, etc.. The information would be set up so it was only available to Officers, Board Members and nominated people who need access. After the suggestion was accepted based on a proposal by Don Hartdegen which was seconded by Gary Porter, Jim requested that those people that have that type of information in electronic form, should E-mail it to him and he will set it up and make it that only the Web Master can make changes. He noted that he will provide a list of the available information at the next Board Meeting for review and identification of possible missing material. The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:36.

The GunSmoke Coordination meeting then started immediately. Roxanne noted that she had already got a good selection of items for the pilot's and general raffle including donations from Costco, D and D Hobbies, Hobby Town, Royal Hobbies, Hobby Depot in Gilbert, and US Airways. Plus a number of other items such as a 27 inch TV and a DVD player have been

bought. Jim Compton indicted his sons (with a lead from Scott) will be running the parking. Harry Scaggs had volunteered to run the impound but had recently had a stroke while he was in hospital. Although he is improving, Steve Ross has agreed to take over for Harry if he cannot handle it. Don Hartdegen said he will handle the arrangement of the 2 extra Porta Johns and the trash pickup. Mark Metzger indicted all of the paper work is complete and the trophies are in work. All of the judges are set so the event preparation is going well.

On a separate topic, John Mangino offered to run a Fun Fly in April if a date can be agreed to. The method of prize selection will be different to usual as the member with the largest number of points will draw a ticket first and each ticket will be preassigned for each prize so making the prize award somewhat random.

Events

- 25 size Race February 4th
- GunSmoke February 23, 24 and 25th
- Spring Auction March 3rd

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.



Photos taken at the New Year's Day Fly-in



Some Photos taken of the awards given during the Electric Festival

To Bob Ruff, the Event Contest Director



To Austin Goodwin for his work running GunSmoke and other events



Some of the models seen at the Electric Festival



A selection of Photos of the Awards given at the Banquet

Davis Fiedler (Jet Rally CD)



Dave Balch (Secretary)



Mike Currier (Membership)



Paul Goldsmith (Safety and Field Upkeep)



Gary Porter (Board)



Jim Luby (Auctioneer and Banquet MC)



John Mangino (Safety and overall help)



Jim Compton (New VP)



Joe Bailey (Field help)



Gary Bailey (Past President)



Don Hartdegen (Treasurer)

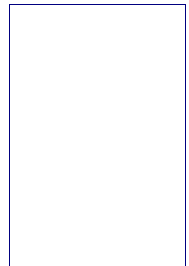


Bob Franklin getting special trophy from John Mangino





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