



Touch & Go



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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

June/July 2007

2007 Club Officers

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Vice-President / Contest:	
Jim Compton	480-892-4475
Secretary / Newsletter:	
Dave Balch	480-830-3816
Treasurer:	
Don Hartdegen	480-345-7132
Board Members:	
Gary Bailey	480-807-3360
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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



Next Club Meetings

**Aug 7 and Sep 4, 2007
(no July meeting)**

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Viewpoint Golf Resort

**8700 E. University Rd. Mesa, AZ.
Meetings in Green Room**

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

President's Corner

Larry Nichols, President
Arizona Model Aviators

My little input this month is about our officers and board members, (excluding me). This group of members are putting in lots of time and thought trying to make the best possible deal with local and county government so we will have a nice place to fly and visit with our friends.



Now you might think it's a walk in the park to create such an agreement but I can tell you from their side, it's a real chore. They have had several meetings with all the interested parties and it's really tough when one group says it's OK to do something but the other says no, that can't be done like that because we need it to be this way. So the board meets again and comes up with some possible solutions and meets with the first group again. And so on-- and so on--. These board members and officers are holding special meetings and making appointments and getting facts and figures together just to keep up with the flow of discussions. At the same time all this is going on, they have a club to oversee with all the little problems on a daily basis. This body of people have all this to think about plus trying to control spending on your behalf in a way you will approve of, and I promise you there are club members who will say (why did they do that) and (that's the dumbest thing I ever heard) and (I don't care what they do, I'm going to do what I want), etc., etc.. There are several Club members who have really been a plus to this Club and they are not on the Board. They put in their time just like the officers and most of the time no one even knows about what they've done but I do and I thank you a lot. I hope you know who you are. If you don't then you are probably not one of them. Thank you for all the help while I have been so pre-occupied with my business. Larry

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Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

As most of you know there was no July Member's Meeting or a separate June issue of the Newsletter. This issue of the Newsletter covers June and July and I can tell you it has been nice to not have the pressure to get this issue out at the end of June.

So on to the business at hand. Because of concerns about member's safety and medical coverage when an emergency occurs (even if it is as simple as a cut finger from a prop) Paul Goldsmith has generated a list of local hospital ER locations. This list has been posted at the field and he asked if we could also list it here in the Newsletter. So here it is.

1. Banner Baywood Medical Center 981-000
6644 E. Baywood Mesa (Baywood & Power)
2. Mesa General Hospital 969-9111
515 N. Mesa Dr., Mesa (University & Mesa Dr.)
3. Banner Mesa Hospital 834-1211
(Higley and US)
4. Banner Desert Hospital 835-3000
1400 S. Dobson, Mesa (US 60 & Dobson)
5. Tempe St. Luke's 968-2000
1500 S. Mill Ave., Tempe
6. Gilbert ER
Power Rd., South of Ray Rd.
7. Gilbert Mercy Hospital
Williams Field Rd. & Greenfield Rd.

Even though it seems a long way off, plans are being made for the running of the events for the upcoming season. To help identify volunteers Lewie Kear, who is in charge of gate security at the January Electric Festival, is looking for people who can help out. With 4 days of flying (Thursday through Sunday) there need to be enough helpers that any one volunteer does not get burned out. Helpers will be asked to man the entry ways for 1-2 hours before being relieved. If you can help out, let Lewie know what day and time you can help. He can be reached at (480) 234 0041.

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter I am trying to get everyone that has a computer at their disposal to agree to get their Newsletter electronically. Whenever I get details of a new member (or an existing member) that has an E-mail address, I send them an invitation to save the Club the cost of printing out copies and then attaching what is now a 41¢ stamp and send it via the Postal System mail. I do not ask that everyone agrees if it is not possible to accept the Newsletter electronically with their computer system, but please tell me yes or no. I am really disappointed that of the 38 members identified in the last issue who needed to contact me, I only got replies from 4. That is barely 10%. I did get replies from members not on the list (for which I thank you). I also have had a number of contacts asking why their Newsletter had stopped being sent. My apologies for not forewarning everyone that the next issue of the Newsletter would not be until July. Those members with E-mail addresses that did not respond to my E-mail requests and the plea in the last Newsletter, will now only get their Newsletter sent via E-mail until they specifically ask to have it sent via regular mail. This was a decision of the Board and it will save the Club up to \$400 per year.

As this time of the year is generally slow, our Membership Chairman Don Manchester reports that there is only one new members to welcome at this time and he is Jason Lambert.

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.

June 5 Club Meeting Minutes

Due to the absence of President Larry Nichols, Vice President Jim Compton opened the meeting at 7:04. Larry had earlier indicated that the pressure of work made it impossible for him to attend. No visitors or new members were present and no reading of the minutes of the previous Club Meeting could be given as no record of the happenings at the meeting were made. The first order of business was for Jim to report that the Club had received a thank you from Jim Deming thanking the Club on the plaque that he received for his services. Don Hartdegen then reported on the status of the treasury. He reported that the current balance was more than last month to allow for future field improvements. Also a CD had been taken out to make the surplus work for us. Don Manchester then reported that 5 new Members (technically 4 new and 1 returning) had signed up giving a new Club roster total of 289 members, which is the highest it has been since the move to the new field. We must be doing something right. Don has the new member's badges ready to be given out. Everyone was reminded that in spite of what it says in the May Newsletter, there will not be a Members meeting in July. The next meeting will be on August 7th. Similarly the next Newsletter will be a combined June and July issue.

As VP, Jim then gave a listing of the upcoming contests and Club events, all of which will be in the fall. See later in the Newsletter for the listing. Jim gave a run down on the May 25 size race which was the last of the season. At that race Bill Adams came in first with JJ Mangino second. Over the whole season, Lewie Kear came in first with Scott Compton second and Bill Adams third. There were some minor rule changes made which can be viewed on the Club Web Site. Jim returned to the Treasury some of the seed money not used for support of the races.

Jim also reported on the Fun Fly which was flown at the beginning of May. There were 31 entrants and there were 19 prizes given out to the top flyers using a random draw system. Most everyone was happy with the Fun Fly even though only 2 of the planned 3 events were held. Everyone agreed that we should have another Fun Fly next year.

Due to the dry conditions, everyone was reminded that there is a ban on turbine flying till the rains return and the associated smoking ban will be relaxed as necessary to more closely match (but not be more restrictive than) the Parks smoking ban. The exact details will be worked out at the next Board meeting. The presence of snakes at the field was also mentioned as they seem to be getting bolder and are being seen even in the parking lot.

Mike Currier than gave a run down on how the discussions with the Parks Department were going regarding the new operating agreement. Parks is looking for an agreement renewal. This is still in discussion at the Board level, as their initial proposal was not close to what we would like. Our counter proposal will be submitted to them soon. Dust control is a hot issue with them and is one of the reasons we need to keep our speed down when driving into the field. The Flood control would also like to put in a gate accessing the lower flood plain area. Overall the discussions have been positive and we are the first of many local clubs that will be going through this process, so we are the guinea pigs here. The Board made a note that the efforts of Mike Currier, Bob Franklin and Gary Bailey while working with the Parks and Flood Control People, has been great and everyone appreciates their efforts.

In connection with improving the field, it was mentioned that Larry Wende has weed whacked the area around the runway and he did a better job than when the area was sprayed for weeds. The use of an industrial strength weed whacker was a big help.

As part of the report on the flight instruction, Jim Compton presented a Flight Certificate to Bailey Flansburg, who at the age of 10 years is our youngest member to qualify for a certificate. Dave Dunn and Bailey's father Robert were his instructors. Overall Dave Dunn reported that the instruction activity is relatively quiet.

A question was raised about advertising in the Newsletter and Dave Balch confirmed that advertising will be accepted preferably in a format based on the use of a business card which can be reproduced on the final page.

To round off the meeting John Mangino presented a show and tell of his new Hobby People C-130. Normally it would use 4 .25 size glow engines, but John is planning to use 4 electric motors of power comparable to the power of 4 .32 engines. The current is controlled by a 40 amp speed controller and the battery is a 10,000 mAH Li Po unit. The wiring from the battery is 10 gauge wire with 12 gauge going to the motors which will not be individually controlled. The model is basically formed from plastic with wood covering on the wings. The model will be equipped with flaps, a loading ramp and full air driven retracts. He hoped to have the model in the air two weekends after the meeting.

After a break, the raffle was held with one of the prizes (a glider) being donated by Dave Croteau and the tachometer and starter were donated by Tony Miologos.

Jim Compton closed the meeting at 7:48pm

June 19 Board Meeting Minutes

Larry Nichols called the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 pm. The Bye laws Committee reported that there are some proposed revisions to the Bye Laws

that they hoped could be brought to the Board for review and then on to a future Membership Meeting for a vote.

The first prime topic for discussion was the response to the recent proposed Parks Agreement. Mike Currier reported that our latest proposed amendment had been sent to Jennifer Johnston (Parks Supervisor) and Tom Timmons, her Supervisor but we have not heard back anything officially but have heard about some of the items in the message. Mike promised to contact them again to see what their official response is. We have been told by Ed Loy of the Flood Control Board about when they will be laying down the ABC on the road so we can coordinate getting our element done at the same time. As most members know, the metal gate at the entrance off Meridian was broken when a stolen mini van crashed through it. We are happy to report the gate has been welded back together.

There was then a discussion about the coverage and cost of the current insurance that covers vandalism, comprehensive and flood/fire. It was agreed to research to see if a better policy can be arranged.

Don Hartdegen indicated he was pulling together some ideas for coming up with a 5 year budget plan. This will include items such as resurfacing the runway and preventive maintenance (like applying a seal coat), ABC coverage for the road from the Y to the parking lot and the upper parking lot (redone every 2 years), a fence from the Y to the parking lot, obtaining additional bleachers, making an new impound area, extending the Ramada, weed control equipment and preparing the ground for the new electric foamie model flying area.

John Mangino agreed to write up a description of the tasks that will be the responsibility of the Contest Coordinator.

The Board agreed, in the interest of encouraging everyone to slow down when driving into the field to minimize the generation of dust (as this is a new hot point with the Parks Department), to ask Danny Condruti (via this Newsletter) to please slow down as he seems to have the record for the shortest time transiting from Meridian to the parking lot.

To aid in helping potential new members find out about our Club, it was agreed that we should give Membership Application forms to the local hobby shops for distribution. It was also agreed that those members that have an E-mail address but have not indicated which delivery system they prefer, will have their Newsletters sent via E-mail until they indicate to the Secretary that they want delivery made via the postal system.

Finally it was agreed that there needs to be a more formal set of rules set up and adhered to when running any of our events. This will mean that future CDs will have a better understanding of the things that have to be taken care of. This set of rules will also define the responsibilities of the Contest Coordinator so that it will

reduce the duties of the CD so they can concentrate on running the event itself instead of the support activities.

Larry closed the meeting at 8:42.

July 17 Board Meeting Minutes

Before the Board meeting formally started, the members present were given a quick run down on the first draft of the five year Budget Plan that had been pulled together by Treasurer Don Hartdegen for general review by the Board. The document, as presented, represents a first cut and is a very good start at defining the estimated income and expenses projected for the next five years. This Profit and Loss plan is one of the new requirements called out in the initial draft of the Operating Agreement that is currently in negotiation. A number of suggestions were made to improved the set up including calling out the Land Use fees (they were there but not specifically called out). These fees are expected to start at about \$1700 per year and increase \$500 each year. To aid the new Treasurer for next year (Don has already indicated he will not run again), a suggestion was made for the Club to buy a laptop for the Treasurer and have the required Quicken software installed. However after the meeting was formally opened at 7:06, it was agreed that it was best to delay any purchase until a potential volunteer for Treasurer is identified, as the new Treasurer may have different ideas as to what computer and/or software would be preferred. It was agreed that when the Treasurer backs up files, the extra back ups should be stored on the Club Web Site with limited access granted. In this way if the Treasurer's computer crashes, the effort to restore the files will be much easier.

As requested at the last Board Meeting a copy of the current Insurance Policy was made available. This will be used as the benchmark when investigating possible alternates with the purpose of reducing our yearly expenses.

On the topic of the Parks Operating Agreement, Mike Currier reported that the Club's counter proposal to the initial Parks document has been submitted but nothing further has been received.

It was agreed that two of the primary Club events this year will have co-CDs. Gun Smoke will be run by Dave Dunn (who was assistant CD this year) and Paul Goldsmith. The Jet Rally will be run by Davis Fiedler (who was CD last year) and Mike Currier. Helping in their effort will be that all of the peripheral efforts (like garbage and Porta-Johns) will be handled by John Mangino, the Contest Coordinator. Also to help future potential CDs, Mike Currier offered to pull together a rough draft of a list of rules and activities that the CDs need to know, and follow, to ensure a successful vent. His initial draft will rely heavily on the AMA handbook for CDs. This year the Jet Rally will be the traditional weekend before Thanksgiving and GunSmoke will be March 7, 8, and 9th of March 2008.

As there will only be a formal Auction this Fall, (no Spring Auction is planned), and it will clash with the Lake Havasu Float Plane event, Paul Goldsmith suggested that it might work out well if an open air Auction could be arranged in combination with GunSmoke. He agreed to look into it.

It was reported that the organizers of the Electric Festival held their first planning meeting the weekend before. Aaron Lichtenwalner will be at the next Board meeting to present a proposed budget breakdown. If within the expected range, the budget will probably be approved by the Board and seed money will be provided to start getting all the necessary activities started. Like last time, the plan is to limit the pilot entries to 200 with only 4 models each allowed in the pit area at one time. The Parks Department has told us that no overnight RV parking is to be allowed and no overflow parking. The latter means that a closer control of the spaces used for parking will be needed if we are to accommodate all of the anticipated vehicles.

Due to an incident at the field where a member was training someone else, it was clarified that anyone can be an instructor. Any "Club" instructor has to be certified and it would be a good idea if the Club laid out a set of procedures in the best way to use a buddy box, for anyone else who would like to instruct a friend or family member.

It was noted that it is getting that time of the year when the New Officers Nominating Committee needs to be set up so that a good roster of candidates can be offered to the membership for election for the 2008 Board. Jim Compton noted that due to pressure of work and the requirements for travel, he will be unable to run again for Vice President, so, at a minimum, there will need to be 2 new names on the ballot, for VP and Treasurer.

Jim Compton closed the meeting at 8:16.

Events

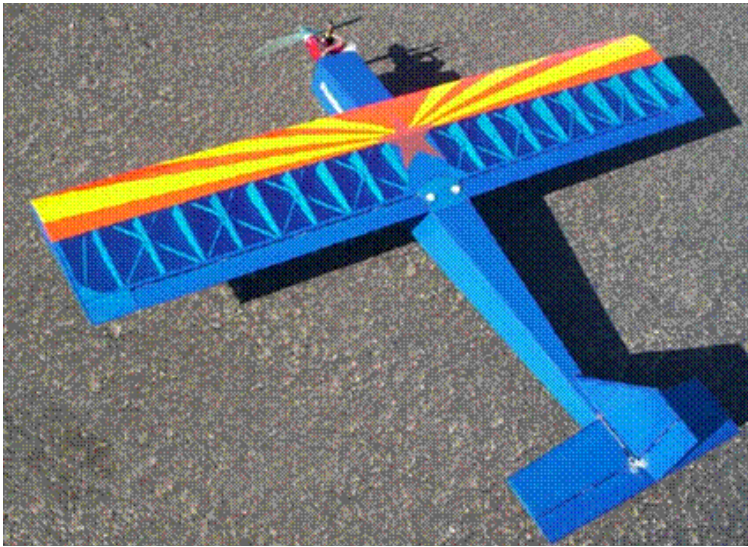
- **25 Size Race Sep 16th**
- **25 Size Race Oct 14th**
- **Fall Auction Nov 10th**

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

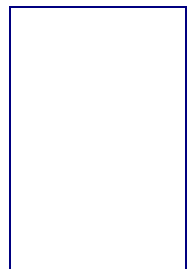
2007 Membership, as of May 27, was as follows

Members:	284
New Members:	5
Total Members:	289

Some Photos from the field



Arizona Model Aviators
Touch & Go
2058 Leisure World
Mesa, AZ 85206



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED