



Touch & Go



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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

May 2007

2007 Club Officers

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Membership	
Don Manchester	480-854-8396

President's Corner

Larry Nichols, President

Arizona Model Aviators

I have just got word that the Auto Collision Repair business is so good and the help is in such short supply, that Larry does not have a spare moment to either do a column or even to attend the next Members Meeting.



Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

Bob Franklin sent me a very good poster that he is having made up for display at the field. It is to warn everyone about the snakes. One was reported lying under one of the cars in the parking lot, so you need to be careful at all times. A copy is included at the back of this Newsletter. Nice job Bob.

As most of you know we had our Spring/Summer FunFly this month on Saturday May 12th. 31 flyers registered and there were 19 prizes handed out. The day was hot but by starting early it never got uncomfortable. There were lots of beverages available (coffee, soda and water) and donuts and cake, and a lot of folks turned out to watch to see what this Fun Fly event was all about. Three different events were planned but with the large entry only two were completed before it got too hot. The two events (blind taxi round a series of cones with a helper giving the pilot directions and a climb for a minute to altitude then kill the engine and glide with the plan to touch down exactly after two minutes on the spot with points being lost for every second over or under the two minutes and every foot away from the centerline spot) gave everyone a challenge. The prizes were given out by drawing so in fact the top prize was claimed by the person who came in 18th. Everyone had a good time and Paul Goldsmith and his group of volunteers did a great job. Paul wants me to thank the following for their help in running the event. As Paul says "These are all the names I could think of. If you can remember anyone else just add their name. I hate to miss any one so rather be safe than sorry." John Mangino Teri Mangino Don Hartdegen Don Farr Jim Stanley Gary Mangino Gary Bailey David Balch Joe Bailey Stu Richmond Gary Porter Mike Currier Larry Ayotte Dave Croteau (Donated the airplane he won to the meeting raffle) Cas Cusimano Paul Goldsmith Rick Smith (Donated Extra money to the event)

Jim Compton has given us details of the 25 size Race held on May 20th. It was the last race of the current season and 12 pilots entered. Bill Adams came away the winner with 17 points with JJ Mangino second with 14 points. A three way tie for third (with 13



Next Club Meetings

June 5 and July 3, 2007

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

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points) was settled by drawing from a hat with Scott Compton taking the money and Lewie Kear and Stu Richmond still getting the points. The action was hot and there was another mid air involving Kenny Kear (this time with John Mangino). As this was Kenny's third contest in a row with a mid air, he is now being called the Eliminator. Overall for the 2006/2007 season, Lewie came out on top with Scott second and Bill third. Jim asked to make sure that the following event helpers were mentioned so they can get their free ticket at the next Club Raffle: Terri Mangino, Don Manchester, Paul Goldsmith, and Mark Metzger. After the racing was over there were some minor changes to the rules approved and these impact the wheels and spinners and these can be viewed on the Club web site. For anyone interested in racing when the new season starts up again in the fall, the approved engines for 2007-08 Race season are OS, Irvine, Webra, GMS, and Fox in the 0.25 size.

Earlier this month I got the chance to visit the Pima Air Museum down in Tucson. If you are into aircraft, this is a trip worth taking. There are about 150 aircraft there to view. Lots of them are Post WWII jets of many shapes and sizes. I have included a few photos in the back of the Newsletter for those that might be interested.

As many of you are aware I am really up on trying to get everyone that has a computer at their disposal to accept, if at all possible, getting their Newsletter sent to them electronically. Whenever I get details of a new member (or an existing member) that has provided their 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 snail mail. I do not ask that everyone agrees if it is not possible with their computer system, but I would like it if everyone I asked told me yes or no. What I do not like is to be ignored. So please could the following members let me know if you would like your Newsletter sent to you via E-mail. Please send your "yes" or "no" to me at balch_d@msn.com.

Ralph Azbill Don Bain Shoab Bokhari Thomas Clarke William Cleaveland Al Culver Leland Davies Clark Hans Edward Godfrey John Hall Sr George Heidel Nick Hynes John Isely Brad Johnson Thomas Klinec Leighton Liesner Thomas Minick Mark Morrissey Alfred Mostardo Gordon Murphy Jr. Kevin Nordquist William Olsen Raymond Olthouse Robert Page Jr George Piersol James Richardson George Rosati Harold Sams Jean Savoie Charles Shaver James Soza Leon Spielbusch Terry Voirin Scott Volk Frank Wallace III Eric Weisbrod Victor Westlund Glenn Williams.

The word from our Membership Chairman Don Manchester is that we have had 4 new members and one late renewal since last month which corresponds to 69 new members since Oct 1 last year. The most recent sign ups since the last newsletter are:

Anthony Falconieri Robert Geiser Ronald Pogue Jim Harris and Elijah Jackson.

Although this Newsletter is the normal size, we are still interested in receiving any material you would like to provide like the material provided by Davis last month. Talking of Davis he recently reported to me that he had a Li-Po battery lead catch fire 4 hours after the model crashed. This delay must be some kind of record, but it does emphasize that you have to be constantly on your guard when using this type of battery. Never take chances.

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.

May 1 Club Meeting Minutes

President Larry Nichols opened the meeting at 7:04. As a number of the Club Officers were unable to attend, it was not a very long meeting and no notes were taken for use in generating minutes of the proceedings, so no details can be provided at this time. I know you are all heart broken to hear that.

May 22 Board Meeting Minutes

Larry Nichols opened the meeting at 7:05. The meeting was delayed from the normally scheduled date so that some of the Board could attend a meeting with members of the Flood Control Board which was scheduled for the previous week. Naturally the first order of business was to get feedback on how the meeting went. Tom Timmons was present representing the Parks Department but he did not bring up any new issues. The primary priority of the Flood Control members present was to ensure that there is limited access to the water catch area which is located of the left of the road about 300 feet in from Meridian Road. This limited access now seems to have become a greater issue than the dust control that was the concern of the members of the Parks Department. To ensure this limited access, the Flood Control members initially suggested that we should have members close and lock the entry gate after them at all times, entering and leaving. We indicated that this would cause major issues with not allowing interested members of the public from coming in to see us fly or for attracting new members. Alternatively it was suggested that a smooth wire fence could be installed. This would either be from the Meridian Road entrance gate to the parking lot (about 1000 feet) or from a planned Y turn off which would give the Flood Control access to the catch area with the Flood Control putting in a gate to access the catch area (and even pave the road from Meridian to their gate with a 14 foot wide, 4 inches thick ABC surface) while retaining the gate at Meridian. The later idea was the agreed to Board's recommended approach with a suggestion that the fence could be installed by the members as a cost saving measure. The Flood Control even proposed putting in a culvert at the first major dip in the road. It would not totally smooth out the road but would result in a much smaller dip.

In support of the meeting with the Flood Control and Parks people we were asked to provide a Profit and Loss statement for the last year. This would require one that is more formal than the existing statement. Don Hartdegen agreed to generate the report as a date to date document. With that document in hand James Reece of the Flood Control would champion our cause. When Don completes the report he indicated he will send out copies to everyone for review before submitting it to James.

It was mentioned that a security guard would also be required any time that the field was in use but it was agreed that a Club member could act in that capacity and the responsibilities would just be an extension of the overall responsibilities of our Safety Officer.

Ed Loy, another of the Flood Control people indicated he was willing to show us how to maintain better dust control and how far south the current parking lot could be allowed to go and still satisfy the Flood Control objectives. Similarly Carlos (another Flood Control guy) offered to generate an evacuation plan for us should we need it. The need for such a plan is suspected as being required by the Flood Control Supervisors. Overall the consensus feeling was that the meeting was very positive and will lay the foundation for future cooperation. It was also agreed that we need to solidify our counter proposal on the agreements with the Parks Department and get it back to them ASAP. One of the proposed agreements that we did not feel we should agree to, was the requirement for a \$3 million insurance coverage. As the AMA offers a very competitive \$2.5 million coverage, the Board agreed that we should get that coverage (which only costs \$60) and make that level of coverage part of our counter offer. The coverage will not hurt even if the Parks do not agree to that level (but it is suspected they will). Dave Balch was directed to send in the application as soon as possible.

On regular Board topic, the plan is to have new speed limit signs installed on the entry road in an attempt to minimize dust being kicked up, although these are not likely to be ready before July.

As VP, Jim Compton reported that he had attended the CAMAC meeting on behalf of the club. At the meeting he indicated that there was a lot of talk about the no overnight R/V parking being allowed at the various fields plus it was obvious that model flying fields are getting scarce so we need to hold on to what we have.

Paul Goldsmith then brought up the issue of field maintenance. He thought there was a need to drag the parking lot to level it off more. Plus some of the boards in the bleachers need replacing. Because of the dry conditions at the field it was agreed that the ban on turbines and smoking will be implemented until the rains return.

It was mentioned that the Arizona Pilot's Association (AMPS) Club had just had their runway resurfaced. This led to a big discussion on how we should handle upgrading our runway in the future. It was agreed to hold off any decisions

until some cost quotes could be obtained so we can investigate our options.

Larry Nichols closed the meeting at 8:35.

Events

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

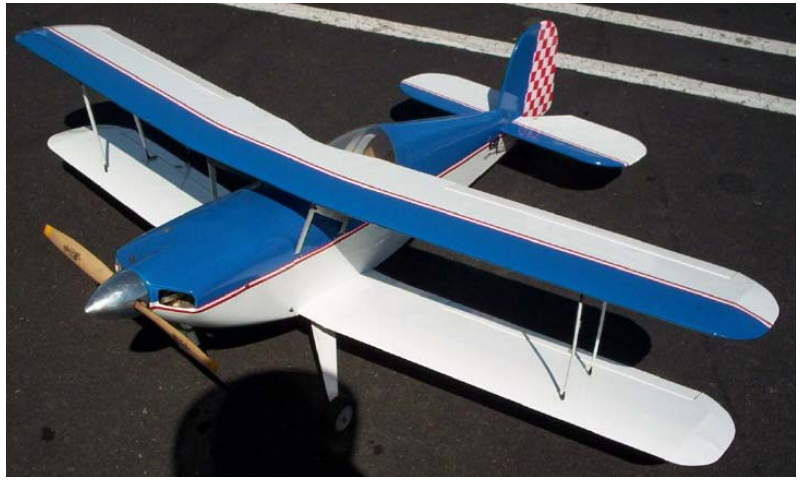
All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

2007 Membership, as of May 27, was as follows

Members:	284
New Members:	5
Total Members:	289

Some Photos from the Spring Fun Fly showing some of the hard working crew





Some Photos from the Pima Air Museum



Some Photos from the field



**They are out there now,
BE CAREFUL !!!**

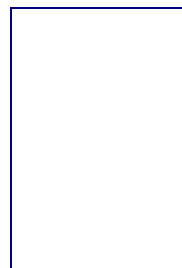


Diamondback Rattlesnake

**Watch where you step
and never reach into a
bush for parts of a
crashed plane without
checking first.**

**If you receive a snake bite, stay calm and get
help immediately.**

Arizona Model Aviators
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