



# Touch & Go



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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

October 2007

## 2007 Club Officers

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Jim Compton	480-892-4475
<b>Secretary / Newsletter:</b>	
Dave Balch	480-830-3816
<b>Treasurer:</b>	
Don Hartdegen	480-345-7132
<b>Board Members:</b>	
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
<b>Membership</b>	
Don Manchester	480-854-8396

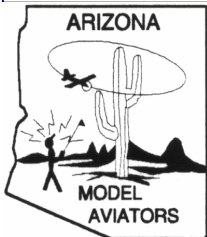
## President's Corner

**Larry Nichols, President**  
Arizona Model Aviators



Things are happening fast at the field these days and when the Jet Rally and the Electric Festival happen, we will have the finest flying field we have ever had. All this is because of the club members who have given so much time, money, hard work and experience to make it happen. This has been a year of changes and decisions and a lot of discussions on many levels. If we can ever get back to normal club operations and some kind of routine, it will be so nice to look around and see how far we've come.

I have only been a member for ten years and I have seen a lot of changes so I can't imagine what the club was like when our founding fathers first set up the rules and bylaws. We are fortunate to have a few of them still active and watching over us with the experience we need when years like this one come along. I am coming to the end of my term and I can honestly say it's been a tough one for me. When you just come out to fly and enjoy the field it's so nice to see club members doing the same, however when you have the responsibility of being a board member or officer and have to answer for your actions to close to 300 members, you have a lot over your head and you look at things differently. This is something every member should have a taste of whether it is sweeping, raking, working an event or running for office. It will give you a sense of pride and devotion to this club. I would like to thank you for this year. Along the way I have made some new friends, got closer to some old friends and probably lost some friends but I am glad to have served. Thank you--Larry



### Next Club Meetings

**Nov 6 and Dec 4, 2007**  
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](http://www.azmodelaviators.com)

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### **Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):**

Just before finalizing and sending out this Newsletter, I got the word from President Larry Nichols that he wished to have the delivery of the Newsletter delayed so that we could include the ballot for the new officers and Board member for 2008. Now it turns out that we need to send the ballots out separately by regular mail (as required by the Bye Laws) so the number of members responding can be found and to ensure no-one votes more than once. The roster was agreed to at the November 6<sup>th</sup> Members meeting as listed below for information only. Please be sure to fill in your ballot when it arrives and then either bring it with you when you come to the December Member's Meeting or send it back to the address listed on the ballot.

The new ballot will have John Mangino running for President, Paul McDevitt running for Vice President, Mike Currier running for Treasurer, and Dave Balch running for Secretary. Gary Porter, Roxanne Cottrell and Len LaRosa will be running for the 3 open slots on the Board. Anyone can write in a Club member for any positions, but if that person wins, they must agree to serve in that position.

As many of you may have noticed, the runway has had the cracks filled (using a better, more long lasting, approach), some of the bumps smoothed out, the whole area resealed and re-stripped.

The result is very impressive and should keep us in the flying business for quite some time and especially make the runway ready for all of the big upcoming events. Also the Parks are working on the improvements to the road leading into the field.

This leads to the next point that there was a glitch in our communication process this month. We were aware the Parks Department wanted to work on the culverts that channel rain run off water as it crosses the road, especially the culvert closest to the field. We got the word they were going to close the road into the field with very short notice and the word did not get out till the next day. The entrance to the field is now via a gate to the south of the concrete channel. Hopefully not too many people were inconvenienced. The work on the road will continue for a while but should be completed before the next big event at the field, the Jet Rally over the weekend of November 16-18<sup>th</sup>

At the same time that work is going on, the Parks has an effort to surface the road in with ABC aggregate and fence the initial part of the road into the field up to the Y where the new gate will be located. We will be planning to coordinate the surfacing of the road from the Y to the parking lot at about the same time so we can take advantage of the Parks equipment (with a considerable cost saving to us). Eventually we will also have to fence in the road protecting the south side of that section of the road (just as the Parks is putting in their section). All of this work will need a lot of volunteer work so I hope when you see the work being done you will give a hand and not just turn around and go home muttering about being inconvenienced. Most of us think we have the best flying site in Arizona and with these improvements the field will be better still.

The new competitive flying season has certainly started off with a bang, literally. The first 25 race of the season saw two spectacular mid air collisions knocking the 14 entries down to 10. The second race of the season saw the reduced entries of 7 (due to conflicts and replacement models not being ready in time) further reduced by another mid air. This time taking out the fastest model and the model that won the first race the month earlier. Hope this attrition does not continue but the races are now wide open

for someone to step up and take charge. Come on out and enjoy the excitement. The three winners of the latest race have their smiling faces in the photo section at the back of the Newsletter. There will be a break in the 25 size racing action because of the up coming Fall Auction and the Jet Rally so the next race will be in December on Sunday the 9th.

Bob Brackney has just contacted me and indicated that he has a nice Saito 1.8 powered ¼ scale CAP for sale. If anyone is interested in finding out the details, just access these two URLs with a Ctrl and Click, or contact Bob at [b\\_brackney@cox.net](mailto:b_brackney@cox.net).  
<http://www.goflyrc.com/projects/25Cap/25CapRebuild.htm>

<http://www.goflyrc.com/forsale/forsale.htm>

As we are now into the fall, the club renewals and/or new memberships cover the rest of 2007 and all of 2008, so it is a good deal and a large group of new members have taken advantage of it. I have been asked by Don Manchester (our Membership Chairman) to welcome the new/returning members. These included Michael Bacosa (and family Isabelle and Leighton), Kerry David, Jason Lambert, David Reynolds, Gary and Kathleen Rheault, Mike Austin, David Hill, Lee Kitchens, Ronald Smith, and Jim Spurlock. This adds up to 304 members, a new Club record. Last year 50 of the previous year's members did not renew but I suspect (and hope) we will loose less this coming year. We have already had quite a few members sign up for 2008, so do not delay as you will need both your AMA membership card with your Club sticker on it to be able to fly at the New Year's Day Fly In and so qualify for one of the great raffle prizes. A copy of the 2008 Membership renewal form is included at the back of this Newsletter.

Please note the Members meeting will revert back to being held at the room near the ball field that is accessed via the Hawes Road entrance to ViewPoint.

There are a lot of improvements planned for the field in the upcoming months so please take a note of any temporary road diversions or field closures. We will try to let everyone know as far ahead as possible but there maybe some changes made at very short notice.

Also notice that the first of what we hope will be a series of small adverts is included at the rear of this Newsletter. If anyone is interested in getting their message here, please let me know. The cost is \$10 per issue or \$100 per year.

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](mailto:david.t.balch@boeing.com). See you at the field and don't forget to check out our Web site at [www.azmodelaviators.com](http://www.azmodelaviators.com) for all the latest news.

## Oct 2 Club Meeting Minutes

Larry Nichols opened the meeting at 7:04. There were no guests this time. The minutes of the last meeting (as reported in the last Newsletter) were approved by a vote. Don Hartdegen gave the treasurer's report which showed a good working balance.

Under upcoming events Jim Compton reminded everyone that there was to be a 25 size race on the 14<sup>th</sup> and one on December 9th. For next month there will be the Auction on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> and the Jet Rally on Nov 23-25<sup>th</sup>.

Dave Dunn reported that the level of instruction activity was still fairly low but should ramp up when the winter visitors arrive. He indicated that Jim Compton had just got his only student off the buddy box.

Under safety Paul Goldsmith mentioned that way too many people are taking their frequency pins home after they have finished flying. If they are not returned quickly, a temporary will be used which may cause safety issues when the original is returned. So please remember to return the frequency pin to the board before you leave. A plan is in the works to have the runway sealed plus the Parks will be working to improve the culvert crossing the dirt road in which is closest to the parking lot. Larry Wende has been cleaning up rocks and weeds on the field which will soon lead to the need for a new working party work day. A notice will be sent out to let people know we will need volunteers. With all of this activity at the field plus closing of the road in, everyone needs to be flexible until all of the work is finished.

While talking about improving the facilities at the field, Larry Nichols mentioned that there is a need to repair some of the bleachers in time for the Jet Rally. The plan is to redo the seats first then the foot boards. It is anticipated that we already have enough aluminum for everything.

As a point of interest, it was mentioned that the AMPS club had approached the 1/8<sup>th</sup> Air Force group about them permanently holding their Fly In at the AMPS field. This is primarily because the AMPS field allows overnight R/V parking. Their runway is way smaller than ours and some consider it too small (short and narrow) for safety so it was agreed that we will look into alternate sites near the field that will allow overnight R/V parking. Bob Geiser had expressed approval for such an arrangement on his property and it is planned to try the idea for GunSmoke. Everyone agreed that we want to continue to host the 1/8<sup>th</sup> Air Fore Fly In as it rotates around the current three fields. They should be back in about a year and a half.

Everyone was then reminded we have a large library of tapes that are available for taking out at no cost. Also there are 4 simulators some of which are of an older vintage but the newer ones (including the new one donated by Paul Goldsmith) are very helpful to advancing your skills.

Davis Fiedler then gave an update on the preparations for the Jet Rally. He has revised the pilot's

entry form with T-shirts now only being available by pre-registration or on line. He reported that the preparations are going well although he needs someone to run the security. Davis has the raffle and trophies set up. He made a suggestion that it would be a good idea to have some of the profits donated to charity. This prompted some discussion which lead to a proposal from Paul Goldsmith, seconded by Dave Dunn, to have such an arrangement which will not only generate good publicity but could lead to additional donations and would allow us to re-qualify as an AMA Gold Club if we wanted to re-apply in the future. The proposal was accepted and the flyer will be revised to reflect the new approach. It was understood that once we start this approach we will probably have to continue to do so in the future and maybe apply it to other events.

To keep everyone up to speed on the upcoming hardware Stu Richmond gave a quick talk about a new HITEC servo that will be coming on the market soon.

Stu then mentioned that the Apache Junction/ Gold Canyon Newspaper had announced that 200 acres of land had been given to the town Parks and Recreation Department, and they were asking for suggestions as to what would be the best use of the land. Stu suggested it would be a good idea if a group of Club Members should go with him to the planned meeting to talk to them. To give some idea as to what 200 acres looks like, the current field (runway and parking area etc. but the fly over area) is 80 acres. This new area bounds Route 60 and has a noise buffer so that it could be a nice alternate site to use in the future.

Alan Jones then gave a show and tell of his new design set up where two servos can be used to give double the torque input into a control surface while allowing a very easy set up (without the need for a "matchbox"). He is planning to patent the design and maybe even offer it to others. The set up gives a pull/pull control linkage and uses a split shiv with the second servo sliding on rails to give the automatic adjustment for dissimilar servos. Very ingenious.

As there is a need to agree on a list of candidates for next year's Officers and Board members before the election, Larry asked for 2 nominees for the Nominating Committee. Paul Goldsmith volunteered.

As a final note, Larry mentioned that some of the club members will be making a presentation to the Citadel Retirement Home as they had expressed an interest in knowing more about the hobby/sport.

The activities closed with the traditional raffle and after the raffle Larry closed the meeting at 7:48.

## Oct 16 Board Meeting Minutes

Larry Nichols opened the meeting at 7:02. It appears that the Nominating Committee has been working hard with the ballot filling up well. So far there just

appears to be 2 slots open and when those are filled there will be one name for every post. And if we get more than the 2 nominees, then there will need to be an election with people having to make choices, which is always a good sign. The ballot needs to be set so it can be sent out to everyone to give them enough time to get their selections back before the December Members meeting where the results will be tabulated and announced.

As a result of an incident at the field it was agreed that notices will be posted that members working on upgrading the field will be given the right of way over those wishing to fly. Thinking safety must always be the way we need to be if we wish to keep the great facilities we now have.

Dave Balch mentioned that the first paying advertisement in the Newsletter was featured in the September issue. As a thank you for the help we receive from them, it was agreed that we will include a small ad for All American Rentals for the coming year.

The work on the runway refurbishment was then discussed with the agreement that the approaches used this time were likely to hold up for longer than the last work. Plus it was mentioned that the bump in the runway close to the center has now been flattened which should help the take-off of some of the better flown scale models (no premature launching into the air).

Also discussed was having the Club apply to be an official IMAA sanctioned Club. The IMAA organization is for people who like big model (minimum wing span for monoplanes is 80 inches and 65 inches for Bi-planes, or be 1/4 scale or bigger). The sanction is only \$25 and lasts for as long as the Club has 5 or more members subscribing to IMAA (at \$25 per year). This way we can hold sanctioned IMAA Fly Ins with publicity through IMAA's own bi-monthly magazine. It is hoped that we can get the sanction in time to hold a late Spring Fly in at the field.

Larry Nichols closed the meeting at 8:14 pm.

## Events

- **Fall Auction Nov 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **Jet Rally Nov 16,17,18<sup>th</sup>**
- **25 Size Race Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**

**All upcoming events are also listed on our website.**

2007 Membership, as of Oct 24, was as follows:

<b>Members:</b>	<b>291</b>
<b>New Members:</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total Members:</b>	<b>304</b>



## Some Photos from the field



## **Earn More with Less Risk**

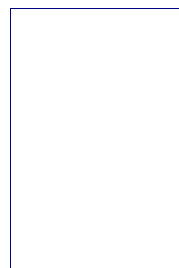
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