



Touch & Go

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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

April 2008

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President's Corner

John Mangino, President
Arizona Model Aviators

Here is the third of a series of write ups in which our Club Officers giving details of their model flying background and experience. This month we have yours truly, the Secretary/Newsletter Editor Dave Balch.



Well I am not sure I can match Paul McDevitt's write up from last month but here goes. As I grew up under the flight path, literally, of London's Heathrow airport, I got to know and love everything associated with aeroplanes (note the right spelling). I got interested in flying model when a friend built a rubber motor powered Chipmunk model. This interest

was heightened by living opposite a large grassy Park where free flight sport power models were flown on a regular basis. Once hooked, I quickly progressed up the ladder from gliders and Jetex power free flight to diesel powered sport free flight to control line sport flying on into competition control line. I did quite well in this area winning at the British Nationals a few times. I also represented England at two World Championships (being on the winning Team Race Team in Hungary) and three European Championships. While this was all going on I was learning the skills needed to be an Aerospace Engineer. As sometimes happens, the UK industry at the time was going through some slow times and so I joined the "brain drain" and came over to the US and joined Sikorsky in Connecticut. This was a massive change as apart from the change in location, I was shifting from the fixed wing aerospace industry to the rotary wing side of things. After a few years of flying control line and free flight on the east coast with fair success, I cut back my flying and concentrated on my job. A few years later an opportunity arose for us to move to Arizona to head up the Flight Performance group at what is now the Boeing Mesa Helicopter plant. When here, one day on a trip to the swap meet, we saw some guys flying R/C from a dirt lot near by. That looked like fun, so I thought I would give it a try. The first few attempts were not a great success (no buddy box system was used by the group) so I got discouraged. However I heard about the Arizona Model Aviators and visited the field to check it out. I could not believe the great flying site I saw and when I found that a friend from work was not only a member but an instructor, I was off and running again. Progress was slow but by

Next Club Meetings

May 6 and June 3, 2008

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Viewpoint Golf Resort

8700 E. University Rd. Mesa, AZ.
Meetings in Garden Room

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



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now I could see improvements. Of course I crashed during my check out flight and that lead to me eventually being nicknamed "Sir Crashalot". Since then I have been involved in most of the types of R/C flying and when the opportunity arose I even ran for the Board as I felt (and still do) that I needed to give back something for all the help I had received from the Club. Of course I did not get elected (no-one knew who I was) but I got co-opted later and quickly learned the ropes. A year or so later they were looking for someone to step up and become the secretary, and as no-one else wanted the job, I got elected. I have been secretary now for a number of years and it has been a lot of fun, but a lot of work, so I have told everyone that this is my last year on the job. When someone gets elected (or even before) I will show them how to do things and then they can work out how it really should be done. I will then be able to get a few models built that I am thinking about, although I do not aspire to any of the really fancy stuff. However, there is one twin engine canard scale model that I fell in love with years ago that I would really like to build.

Dave

Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

Note that with the May Member's Meeting we are planning to hold the meetings in the Garden Room in the main building at ViewPoint where we traditionally have our summer meetings. However, sometimes the ViewPoint reservation people are not kept up to speed on the changes and we may finish up back at the room by the ball field. So stay flexible.

As some of you know, one of our members, Mike Flanagan, is responsible for producing some very nice videos which he has shared with us a few times. He did a show for us at the January Member's Meeting of a video he took of the 2007 Reno Air Races. Mike made some short videos of some of the fliers and their models at the recent GunSmoke contest. He has been posting these on "youtube" and suggested it might be an idea to make these directly available to those members who may be interested and have computers. So I have included their URLs which, when you click on them, take you directly to the videos. The three show the models and the builder/pilots of the P-47, Fairchild PT-23A and the Alexander Bullet. They give details of themselves and their models. Hopefully Mike will continue with his videography and he will be kind enough to share them with us in the future.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuVsJCMduO4> P-47

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfci-RvQa8E> PT-23A
Fairchild

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAFpxOhOWNE> Alexander
Bullet

On April 13th we had another 25 size race and as it always seems to be the case this season, the weather was less than ideal, in this case with a strong, gusty wind. There were only 8 entries as there was a conflict with a 1/8th Air Force meeting and the message about the date change did not get through to everyone. Any way the racing was very close with this time lots of cuts (most due to the wind). The only real damage to a model came when Ryan Compton pulled out too low after taking the pylon and took a lot of covering off the left wing (mostly on the top), but he landed OK. After it was over, Stan Abbott took first with 15 points, Bill Adams was second with 13 points and Gary Porter came third with 12 points. See a photo on page 4 of the Newsletter of the happy winners of the March race.

Don Manchester just contacted me to let me know that we have just registered another new member. I would like to welcome Ron Cannell from Chandler to the Club.

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.

April 1 Club Meeting Minutes

John Mangino called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. When John enquired if there were any visitors or new members, John Magish indicated he was a new member and worked locally. Bill Shepard also indicated he was a new member and had been active in the hobby since high school. Henry Laborge noted that he had just joined the Club that day. Dave Balch then read the minutes of the last Members meeting and Gary Porter proposed the minutes be accepted. Treasurer Mike Currier gave an update on the current financial situation. Mike noted that it was expected that most of the major expenses for the year have now been handled. He indicated that he had paid out the seed money for the upcoming May Large Scale Rally and \$366 to the Parks Department to cover their cut of the parking fees for the GunSmoke Competition.

As Don Manchester was not in attendance John Mangino reported that the Membership as of March 31, was 272, which consisted of 229 full members, 5 youths, 8 life members and 30 family members.

Paul McDevitt then gave the updates to the upcoming events calendar. The April 25 size race will now be held on the 13th. He reported that He and John Mangino went to the recent CAMAC meeting. There it was noted that the restrictions place on us by the Parks Department (no overnight RV parking and a 1\$

contribution for all parking fees taken at our major events, were way better than most of the restrictions placed on the other clubs in the organization. Paul noted that the photograph session that was conducted last month by the Real Flight Software folks will be incorporated as an option #5 expansion package to their latest G4 version of the Real Flight Simulation. This should be available in a month or so.

Paul Goldsmith then reported on the GunSmoke Competition. He especially wanted to thank everyone that helped run the event. He reported that the event made over \$1000 even though there were less flyers that previously. Much of this was due to the excellent pre publicity in the local papers that was generated by Jim Deming. Paul mentioned the next big event will be the Wings over Arizona large Scale Fly In which will be May 2nd through the 4th. As usual, help in some areas is still needed. These areas include parking on Sunday, security, safety, registration and some help on the flight line. Please talk to Paul G if you can help out in some way.

Paul McDevitt also mentioned that the Electric Expo was coming up at the end of the month (25th through the 27th). This will be held at the Arizona Cardinals Stadium in Glendale and will have areas for vendors, displays, competition inside the Stadium and general flying outside the Stadium in the parking lots. This outside flying will include training flights (on a buddy box) for anyone that would like to experience flying an electric R/C model for the first time. Entrance will only be \$7 and it should be fun and the first of many (we hope).

Under safety Paul Goldsmith mentioned we need to be more careful about not flying over the deadline. This is happening a lot and needs to be stopped. Paul mentioned that a full size Cessna has tried to land at the field and it took the pilot two tries at an approach before he realized the runway length we too short. Paul also reported that one of our members, when flying at the One Eight Air Force Rally, had inadvertently taken the wrong frequency pin from the board when he went out to fly. Someone then came out on the same frequency with the right pin and the resulting interference caused our member to crash his model for a total loss. Make sure you use the frequency board and take the right pin, the model you save may be your own.

Dave Dunn then reported that there a few new students in the instruction program which already is handling 4-5 students, so we are looking for anyone that might like to become an instructor. If you do, please contact Jim Compton out Chief Instructor or Dave Dunn.

John Mangino noted that there was no-one to report on Public Relations but he did note that the levels of publicity we are getting are very good. John mentioned that there are still plenty of videos available for check out

plus a few simulators. Jean Savoie handles the check out for these.

On the topic of field maintenance, Paul Goldsmith noted that he would like to paint the steel frames of the ramada. This will probably need to have a power wash on the beams first so the paint will hold. Paul also has a quote for the cost of re-doing (filling the cracks, resealing and re-stripping) the pit area. It was been a while since it was last done. Paul is looking to get another quote before proposing the repairs to the Board for approval.

As a word of caution, it was noted that the warmer weather is starting to bring out the snakes at the field. Plus a number of javelinas and mountain lions have been seen. So be careful if you go out to retrieve a downed aircraft.

As a continuation of our Spring Meeting show and tells, Joe Miele of Madison Products (web site QualityRCProducts.com) showed a number of RC related items that his company offers. Among the items are transmitter stick knobs, transmitter trays (in two versions, aluminum and plexiglas) and transmitter stands. Joe indicated that he advertises in three of the model magazines and rotates through them regularly. He also has refueling fuel buttons, ceramic fuel filters (heavy so can be used as a clunk), hatch magnets and lots of Electrotek electronic items. He also sells the Aerofile documentation CDs and will do so at \$10 per CD until they are all gone. He also distributes the Jersey Models refueling cans which can be used for diesel, glow or gas fuels.

After the show and tell under new business Paul Goldsmith announced that the Fall Auction would be held this year at the flying field, exact date to be announced. Steve Ross mentioned that he had made up some PVC posts that had been adapted to be used as engine break in mounts. Nick Hynes of Viper Hobbies then indicated that they were looking for people to work part time in the store and part of the perks will be that they could buy anything at cost plus tax. He also indicated that the Club Hobby Membership Card was still being offered for \$199.

John Mangino mentioned that the next meeting could be held in the Garden Room instead of the room used this time. If there is a change, it will be announced on the web site Calendar.

In the raffle, John Mangino won the first prize and chose a T-34 model. Gar Agle won second prize and chose the electric T-28 which included the radio, and motor. The other 3 major prizes were won by Don Methfessel, Gary Mangino and Jose Luis Moreno-Romero.

John closed the meeting at 8:18 pm.

April 17 Board Meeting Minutes

A special Board meeting was called on April 17th, ahead of the regularly scheduled meeting so that some important potential expenses could be discussed. After the meeting it was decided that this meeting would replace the later regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The main issue for discussion was to do with the painting of the ramada. The board decided to rent 2 scaffolds, instead of one, to paint the ramada. Together with painting the ramada it was agreed that the black top area in the pits should have the cracks filled, and the surface re-sealed and re-painted. The blacktop sealing work was awarded to the Affordable Seal Coat and Patching Company. The work was planned to be undertaken on 4/25 and it was agreed that a notice of field closure will be sent out before the date to all members who are on the E-mail address list. Also the closure would be highlighted on the Club Web Site.

It was also decided to order 6 A-frame signs to put out on the streets for the major events that are open to the public. Paul Goldsmith mentioned that he was in the process of getting prices for club shirts from a new vendor. The Board is looking into the cost and availability of tee shirts and polo shirts. Mike Currier gave a financial report. Paul Goldsmith then talked a little about safety, mainly about putting our names in our planes as per AMA rules. Lewie Kear proposed a fun fly the middle of May and the Board agreed to hold it. Subsequent discussions with Viper Hobbies had them agree to sponsor the fun fly. John Mangino mentioned that we have to get the Aluminum planks for the new bleachers out of Larry Nichols' shop. John agreed to pick them up on Tuesday 4/22. We will have to make room for them in the bunker. It was agreed that there will be a meeting for the principles at Gary Porter's house 4/23/08 for the Giant Scale meet.

My thanks to Paul Goldsmith for providing the details of the meeting so minutes could be generated.

Events

- **25 Size Race April 13th**
- **Electric Expo Apr 25th, 26th and 27th**
- **Giant Scale Fly-In May 2nd, 3rd and 4th**

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

2008 Membership, as of April 19 was as follows:

Members:	266
New Members:	7
Total Members:	273

Some Photos from the field

Winners from the March 25 size race







Earn More with Less Risk

Matthew R Sylvester
Financial Planner
New England Financial
A MetLife Company
5050 N 40th St, Ste 100
Phoenix, AZ 85018

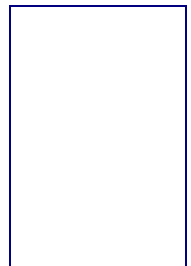
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