



Touch & Go

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IMAA Club Sanction No. 770

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June/July 2008

2008 Club Officers

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President's Corner

John Mangino, President
Arizona Model Aviators

Here is the fifth of a series of write ups in which our Club Officers giving details of their model flying background and experience. This month we have the first of our Current Board Members, Paul Goldsmith our Safety Officer and the Guy who organizes all of the work needed to make improvements to the field.



I was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in April, 1947. I lived in a row house in the East Falls section of the city until I was 15 years old. We then moved to the Logan section of the city which probably means absolutely nothing to 99.9% of you, but Dave asked for information and I had to fill up some space somehow. I have a sister and a brother who still live in Pennsylvania. After graduating high school, I worked in a corner grocery store for about 6 months until I got into the Electrical workers union in Philadelphia and started my apprenticeship. The apprenticeship was supposed to last 5 years but a stint in the United States Navy shortened that to 4 years because they gave me a year's credit for my service time. While in the navy I met my wife of 40 years, Paula, on a beach in Ft. Lauderdale Florida. After 6 months we were married. I worked for 39 years as a construction electrician and enjoyed just about every moment.

My radio control flying started and finished the first time when I was about 8 years old. I bought a Sterling Cessna 180 kit from a local hobby shop. There was nothing in the box but sticks and a few die crunched sheets. I built the plane in the basement and covered it with silkspan tissue. Back then there was a spraying attachment for most vacuum cleaners and my mother's vacuum was no different. I sprayed the plane dark blue right in the basement with no windows or exhaust fan. My father had finished the front half of the basement before he died in 1955, but the back half was not done. As you may imagine the whole basement now had a dark blue tinge to it due to my painting. My mother's vacuum was never the same after that either. The plane had a citizenship radio with a tube sticking out of the middle and 67.5 volt batteries to power it. The rudder only control was an escapement. After playing around with it for a while I took it out to fly it. With my infinitesimal knowledge of batteries and lack of a meter, the plane flew away forever. I was out of the hobby.

Next Club Meetings

Aug 5 and Sept 2, 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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In 1992 I got bit by the R/C bug and got back into the hobby and have been going strong since then. I retired in October 2004 with an early retirement option from the local union. We moved to Arizona to be near my son and have never regretted it. I found the field on the internet and have enjoyed the people and club ever since.

Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

Most of you will have noticed that this is the issue of the Newsletter that covers two months of activity instead of the normal month. With the heat and humidity, not as much is going on out at the field.

We have recently had a rash of equipment going "missing" and even aluminum from the bleachers. It looks like someone may be taking advantage of our leaving items out, so please be aware that we may need to be more careful in keeping track of your items. Just a word of caution.

With the coming of the hot weather and now the monsoon rain, flying has tended to slow down a little but if you make it out to the field, make sure you keep a watch out for snakes and other hazardous creatures out there. With the generally dry conditions, the Parks Department has required us to implement a temporary ban on the flying of turbines due to the possibility of starting a fire. This generally is required every summer season.

During one of the Board meetings it was approved that there will be a change in the wording of the safety restrictions for flying over the runway. It was agreed that flying directly over the runway should only occur when taking off, landing, doing touch and goes, during landing approaches and when having an emergency. When doing HI and LOW speed passes that are not intended to be landings then these must be made no closer than the north edge of the runway. All forms of aerobatics and 3D type maneuvers shall take place north of the berm on the north side of the runway. Even electric Foamies should follow the same rules as the larger size aircraft.

Don Manchester our Membership Chairman has just informed me that our currently membership total is 290 members. This consists of 243 regular members, 8 Life members, 5 Youth/Juniors and 34 family members. The newest members include Kamran Hakimnia; Paul, Caitlin, and Kevin Mandzuk; Robert Taylor; Brad Hale; Henry Laborde; Steve Leenstra and Ron Cannell.

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.

John Mangino promptly opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. When John asked if there were any guests no one responded. Dave Balch read the minutes of the last Members meeting and Gary Porter proposed the minutes be accepted as read. Mike Currier then gave the Treasurers report and indicated the treasury was at the level it would normally be at this time of the year even though we have spent a lot recently on field improvements. Mike noted that we had placed an order for 100 Club Logo decals in two sizes. The 4 ¼" x 5" will sell for \$3.00 each and the 3 ¾" x 3.2" size will sell for \$2.50. A question was raised as to whether the Club will be offering T-shirts in the future. The response was that the Board is looking into it, but we still offer two types of hats, the Straw version and the baseball cap version.

Don Manchester then reported on the membership status. As of May 5th, the membership stood at 285 with a total of over \$17 thousand being handed over to the Treasury since October of 2007. To get a better idea of the membership situation, John Mangino asked Don to give him a list of the current and past Club Life members and for those not current, what year were they last on the list. Don promised to provide John with that information.

Paul McDevitt then reported on the only recent event which was the May .25 size race. There were 14 entries and Bill Adams and Lewie Kear tied for first at the end of the 5 heats with 19 points each. They tried a fly off twice but in both cases their competitive flying gave them too many cuts to have the results count so they flipped a coin and Bill won. Dave Reichart came in third with 18 points. The next race is in September and will be the first of the new season. Some new models will be allowed to race and they will be evaluated to see if they are competitive. If they are and are voted in, it will make an interesting new season of racing. It was noted that the 1/8th Air Force Fly-In will be held at the Sun Valley Flyers field this Fall and next Spring.

It was mentioned again that there will be no Member's Meeting in July although there will be a Board meeting on July 15th.

Pail Goldsmith's only comment on safety is watch out for snakes if you go out to retrieve a downed aircraft.

For instruction, Dave Dunn indicated that we have one new Instructor, Jim McEwan. John Mangino asked Dave Balch to register a number of instructors as AMA certified Intro Pilots so that if someone comes to the field they can get some preliminary instruction without them requiring an AMA license. This request was prompted by one of the members coming out to the field with a bunch of kids that he was intending to teach to fly. However without him being a registered Intro Pilot any instruction has to be limited to one flight. With the new list of registered Intro Pilots, this problem will not occur again. If anyone wants to bring a bunch of kids out to the field to

June 3 Club Meeting Minutes

give them an idea of what R/C flying is all about please let the Board know ahead of time and we will make sure they have the right instructors and a good number of them and model on hand.

John again let everyone know that tapes on flying are available to check out, just see Jean Savoie. Jean also has a couple of simulators that can be checked out.

Under old business, Joe Miele thanked the Club for sending a card to his wife who had been ill recently.

For the raffle, John noted that 4 of the prizes were from Viper Hobbies. Joe Miele won the electric ARF, and Don Hartdegen won the Gas powered P-51 ARF model, while Steve Ross won the 4 way wrench and Joe won the epoxy.

In closing John mentioned that D&D Hobbies will be closed for 4 weeks as the owner has gone to Kansas to be with his sick mother. John was given some fuel to sell and has done so with the proceeds going to the Club. John closed the meeting at 7:31.

June 17 Board Meeting Minutes

As John Mangino was not present as he was recovering from an operation, Paul McDevitt called the meeting to order at 7:00. The first order of business was to discuss a draft Emergency Evacuation Plan that (together with an up to date income and expense report for 2007) has just been requested by the Parks Department. It was understood that the income/expense report had already been filed with the Parks but a check will be made with the current and previous Treasurer to see what the situation is on that topic. After considerable discussion on the Emergency Evacuation Plan it was agreed that in many of the cases a different plan would be required depending on what constituted an emergency. It was also realized that no plan can be implemented unless those people at the field are informed that an emergency has just been announced. With the lack of phone lines or even Club Officer's cell phone numbers being available to the Parks Department, no-one at the field may ever be aware that an emergency could be developing. It was agreed that this aspect of the plan needs to be better defined by the Parks Department.

It was agreed that a review of the current AMA rules is needed to see if we need to make any changes to our Club rules to make them more compatible with the AMA rules. In that area it was agreed that the Club Constitution needed to be revised to only call for 11 Member's Meetings per year instead of the current required 12. It was discussed about posting some of the flying rules at the field like no night flying without getting prior permission from the Parks Department. Dave Balch reported on the fact we now have 7 registered Intro-Pilots who can handle any instruction activities without the student being an AMA member.

Paul Goldsmith asked that the IMAA charter club number be added to the front of the Newsletter. This has now been added. It was noted that the club field looks good on the new flight simulator software. Even the hole in the transmitter impound that resulted from a runaway model can be clearly seen on the images of the field.

Paul Goldsmith noted that the Fall Auction will be on November 1st (a Saturday) at the field for the first time. Paul proposed to sell hot chocolate, coffee and donuts to help out. He also announced that he will run another Wings Over Arizona IMAA event (this time with full sanction). This will be a two day only event December 6th and 7th. He submitted a proposed operating budget which the Board approved. He does not plan to offer any T-shirts this time.

In the area of field upkeep, Paul proposed that we should repaint the parking lot curb stops and use longer rebars to hold them down with as they are being knocked loose.

Under Safety it was mentioned that someone went out to fly without taking the frequency pin. Fortunately the flier turned on the receiver before the transmitter at which point it became obvious that someone was already flying on that frequency. Please do not attempt to fly without the frequency pin. Fortunately no crashes were involved this time but there could easily have been one.

Paul Goldsmith indicated that he had found someone who could make up Club shirts. The T-shirts would be about half the price of the polo shirts and a minimum order of 73 would be required, but that total could be made up of any mix of T-shirts and polo shirts. It was agreed that we need to get a price for embroidered versions before we commit to an order.

Due to the declining number of entries for the Jet Rally, there was some talk about making the event this fall the last one if the interest does not pick up.

Paul McDevitt closed the meeting at 8:08 pm.

June 22 out of cycle Board Meeting held at the field

As the previous normally scheduled Board meeting had a limited attendance a follow on Board meeting was held at the field on Sunday June 22nd. John Mangino called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Paul McDevitt brought a rough draft of the evacuation plan that was created in the previous board meeting. It was agreed to keep it to one page. The plan was edited and completed at this meeting. The plan will be posted along with the emergency agencies contact list and numbers and officer contact list and numbers at the field. The plan will also be periodically put into the newsletter to communicate it to the membership. The plan was motioned to be accepted by Paul Goldsmith and seconded by Gary Porter and then unanimously approved.

Mike Currier discussed the need to deliver a Profit and Loss (P&L) plan to the Parks Department per the contract. Mike agreed to get this P&L statement completed Sunday and sent to the Parks.

As a follow up: The request from the Parks came to Gary Bailey and he asked Mike Currier to send the evacuation plan with the P&L statement via email Monday 6/23/08

Mike Currier also stated he could not locate the insurance policy. Gary Porter stated it should be in the safe deposit box. As Mike Currier could not locate the Key, he called Don Hartdegen the previous treasurer. Over the phone, Don gave Mike instructions as to where in the files the safe deposit box is located.

The theft of the aluminum from our bleachers was discussed and it was noted that a police report was filed. It was found that a key was used get gain access to the field. In the future a member of the Sheriff's Department will patrol the field at night.

Discussion then began on the repairs to the bleachers. John Mangino noted that we do not need to repair them right away because our next event is some time away. Paul McDevitt stated that if we replace the stolen aluminum with more aluminum it will probably be stolen also. Paul Goldsmith agreed to look into the cost of replacing the aluminum with wood and composite material. He will get some quotes on this materiel for the next meeting.

10:00 am Meeting adjourned.

July 8 out of cycle Board Meeting

This meeting was held in Gary Porter's building room. John Mangino called the meeting to order at 7:00. Mike Currier gave a quick overview of the state of the Treasury. He then indicated that he had received notice from the Hartford Insurance Company that our insurance renewal was coming due. Currently only the insurance covers the field, the Ramada roof and the sheds. There was some discussion about maybe also including the contents of the sheds and the bleachers. A review of the cost and benefits of the additional coverage, resulted in an agreement to renew the existing policy, to which everyone agreed.

Dave Dunn indicated there was nothing to report on Instruction. Paul Goldsmith noted he had called the Parks Department to check on their position on fires. As a result it was agreed to post a notice indicating that the flying of turbines will be prohibited until the fall. This then prompted a discussion of whether a smoking ban should also be implemented. In the interests of safety and still allowing members to smoke if they wish, it was agreed that smoking would be allowed if conducted in their own vehicles but to make sure that disposal of the butts is done with an eye to safety.

Also in the interest of safety it was agreed that there needs to be a better definition of what types of flying can be conducted where. The following wording was agreed to be included in the Club Safety Rules:

- The only maneuvers permitted over the runway are takeoffs, landings, touch and goes, landing approaches and emergencies.
- HI and LOW speed passes that are not intended to be landings must be made no closer then the north edge of the runway. All forms of aerobatics and 3D type maneuvers shall take place north of the berm on the north side of the runway.
- Foamies are to follow the same rules as normal aircraft.

If requirement B is adhered to it would eliminate the other discussed addition that when flying 3-D type maneuvers, the flyer should try to not fly directly in front of a pilot at one of the nearby stations as that is very distracting. It was recognized that it was agreed that foamies could be flown in the areas between the fence and the runway but it was also understood that the flying should also be restricted to that same area and not to encroach onto the area over the runway.

It was noted that in the Club Safety Rules the speed limit restriction on the road is still 15 mph, so that need to be corrected to 10 mph. Also it was agreed that the sign stating the allowable start times for the flying needs to be changed to make the message clearer.

Paul Goldsmith reported that someone has stolen some of the aluminum panels from the bleachers. As some of the aluminum was left, it was felt that it would be best to replace those remaining panels (and sell them ourselves) and replace with wood rather than wait for the thieves to come back again. This way we would at least be able to pay for some of the wood replacements. It was agreed that the needed priming and painting should be done before the wood is installed. Paul agreed to check out the bleacher situation the following Thursday and find out the sale price of the aluminum and the cost of the wood.

Dave Balch showed the T-shirt which the club had received from the US Scale Team Fund Raisers as a thank you for the Club contribution to the effort. It was agreed that the shirt would be included as one of the items to be sold at the Fall Auction. John Mangino closed the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Events

- **Flagstaff Fun Fly July 26/27th**
- **.25 size race Sept 21st**
- **Rye Fly In, September 27th**
- **Fall Auction November 1st (at Field)**

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

2008 Membership, as of July 15 was as follows:

Members:	281
New Members:	9
Total Members:	290

Some Photos from the field





Earn More with Less Risk

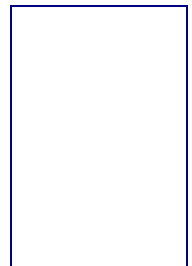
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