



Touch & Go

Sanction No: 1600

Volume 29, Iss. .03

ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

March 2008

2008 Club Officers

President:	Phone
John Mangino	480-982-4873
Vice-President / Contest:	
Paul McDevitt	480-282-8679
Secretary / Newsletter:	
Dave Balch	480-830-3816
Treasurer:	
Mike Currier	480-984-4786
Board Members:	
Gary Bailey	480-807-3360
Larry Nichols	480-926-3729
Roxanne Cottrell	602-321-7955
Paul Goldsmith	480-588-6941
David Dunn	480-357-7504
Gary Porter	480-984-6290
Lewie Kear	480-234-0041
Membership	
Don Manchester	480-854-8396

President's Corner

John Mangino, President
Arizona Model Aviators

Here is the second of a series of write ups in which our Club Officers giving details of their model flying background and experience. This month we have our Vice President Paul McDevitt.



Wow, another year has passed by. I am very proud of being a member of the Arizona Model Aviators and representing the membership as vice-president this year. I know most of you but our club is large enough I would like to introduce myself to you all. I will be 46 years old in 2008. I was born in Sioux City, IA and raised in Northeast Nebraska in a small, small town. I have been married for 18 years to my wife Kay. Kay and I have two grown children Darren and Cara. I graduated college in Nebraska and started my own business in Norfolk Nebraska selling UHF two-way radios and business telephone systems. I learned much in the 1.5 years trying to make this new business work! I was recruited by the competition Motorola and moved to Mesa in late 1984 with Motorola's Semiconductor Division. Years later this part of Motorola became ON Semiconductor. I am a manager of a new product test engineering operation at ON Semi.

I have been in this hobby a relatively short time, 8 years. I started with a small electric powered glider and then glow and now back to smaller and bigger electrics. I have invested heavily in the hobby with a trailer, tools, batteries, chargers and too many kits that I can finish in my life time! I think that is pretty normal. I have learned a lot from the membership of our club and truly enjoy my time at the field even when I do not fly. I enjoy all types of aircraft and power plants. I am more comfortable with the electric power so this is what I use. We have a great field and a beautiful back drop of the Superstitions. We would like to keep the membership experience for all of you active and fun. We would like to advance our club's positive attitude towards each other and visitors. We must continue to foster our club's growth and participation from its members at club events. The "new blood" in our organization is important to keep the membership motivated. We have a common problem in that a similar group of people provide most of the labor. This is true in most clubs. We have noticed that our club has many volunteers for most events but it is usually the same group. When you are reading this please make a note to look at the club calendar and see if you can volunteer any time for upcoming events.

Next Club Meetings

Apr 1 and May 6, 2008

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 **President's Corner**
- 2 **March Club Meeting Minutes**
- 3 **March Board Meeting Minutes**
- 4 **Events, Members and Photo**
- 5 **More Photos**

Please look at the officers' phone numbers in this newsletter and feel free to give any of us a call about volunteering for an event and we will make sure that we put you in contact with the CD of that event. Time seems to be the most precious commodity for most of us. I will be coming up with some ideas this year on how to make this volunteering process easier, especially to those who cannot make it to the club meetings.

We would also like your help on controlling the 10 mph speed limit on the entrance road. This speed limit is to control the dust and keep the rock on the road. The officers and the board would like your help with ideas to control the speed on the road. Please contact any of us with your ideas via telephone, conversation at the field or club meetings along with email. This is a situation that must get under control! When somebody comes and tells you to slow down on the road don't get angry. I know you did not do it on purpose, it is just easy to forget, so please thank anyone who tells you to slow down for reminding you. Think of this with equal importance as staying on the right side of the deadline.

More to come,

Paul McDevitt

paul@paulmcdevitt.net

Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

As most of you know we closed the field from 12:00 to 3:00 pm on Thursday March 6th for "site photography". Many of you wondered what that was for. Initial information given was that the Arizona Electric Festival (AEF) success created a large amount of requests to the Knife Edge Company (the makers of RealFlight, the RC flight simulation software), to add our field into Real Flight software. This was accomplished by making a 360 degree series of photographs using a tripod in various locations at our field. Mr. Dave Lauch flew down from Portland Oregon, and was at our field Thursday March 6th from 1-2 pm. We suspended flying at this time to allow Mr. Lauch to take complete photographic scans at several locations on the field. He thanked us for giving him exclusive access to the field. The weather for the photography was much improved from the previous day as the winds on Wednesday cleared the air and the "brown cloud" was gone for the photographs. Dave indicated that our field will be in expansion pack 5 of RealFlight G4. This expansion pack will only work with G4 and not previous versions." So there you have the full story. If you want to practice flying on the simulator with our own field in the background, you now know what system to get. No word yet on potential discounts.

GunSmoke was held on the March 7-9th weekend and seems to have been a success. The weather was certainly great and although there were not a lot of entries (so the organization was not pushed too much), the

spectator turn out was good and the income from the parking alone was better than expected. More details will be made available later.

This month we held our 25 race the day the temperatures dropped overnight by 20 degrees and the winds really picked up. The entries were down a little from last month at 10 but again the racing was close (in spite of the wind) with no crashes. After 5 rounds two fliers had 5 wins so a fly-off for first had to be held. Lewie Kear nipped John Mangino to claim the win. Bill Adams came in third with 18 points. Even with the cold a good turn out of helpers made the event flow smoothly for Jim Compton the CD.

For the next in our series of "Shows" for the Members Meeting on April 1st we have got an agreement from Joe Miele to give a 20 minute presentation on the items made by his company, Madison Products.

Don Manchester just contacted me to let me know that we have just registered 2 new members. I would like to welcome the following as new members to the Club. Gary Lilly from Queen Creek and Codi Wilson a Visitor from Denver.

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.

March 4 Club Meeting Minutes

John Mangino called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. When John asked if there were any visitors or new members, John Malstreen was interested in joining the club. Dave Balch then read the minutes of the last Member's Meeting and Treasurer Mike Currier gave an update on the current financial situation. This included spending \$1500 for GunSmoke preparation and \$957 for the materials to build the fence from the Y to the Parking Lot as required by the agreement with the Parks Department.

Don Manchester then reported that the membership now stands at 267, 14 of which signed up in February. Paul Goldsmith reported that help was still needed in some areas for GunSmoke, primarily in registration and on the flight line. Roxanne Cottrell showed off one of the GunSmoke shirts which are available and can be purchased for \$20 for regular sizes and \$25 for the larger sizes. She indicated that as part of the GunSmoke noon show Betty Blade will talk about her experiences flying as a WASP during WWII. She was checked out to fly 36 different aircraft, more than anyone at the time, man or woman. John mentioned that on Saturday at the noon show, the Club will put on a combat demonstration.

Also in the list of upcoming events are a 25 size race on March 16th, a Fun Fly on March 30th and the Electric Fly Expo on April 25-27th. On the CAMAC calendar, it was noted that the Tucson Jet Rally (March 14-16) was cancelled but some flying will take place. There is also a Float Fly at Lake Pleasant March 15th, a Warbird Race at Speed World on March 22nd and the One Eight Air Force Fly-In at Adobe Mountain Park March 29 and 30th.

Under the topic of Safety, Paul Goldsmith said everything was pretty good, apart from the one incident which was reported last month. The only significant item of interest from the instruction area is that Dennis Lau will be leaving just before he has got to the point of soloing. We wish Dennis luck in finishing off his training.

Under field maintenance, Paul Goldsmith reported that Larry Wende will be using a tractor to clear the weeds and leveling the dirt around the runway, so flyers need to give him a break and do not fly until he is finished. Paul McDevitt then told everyone that the field was to be closed the coming Thursday between noon and 3:00 pm so the G4 Simulation Software people can photograph the field so allowing our field to be one of the field options in the simulator. Paul will enquire if a discount will be made available. See more details on what the closure involved in the Editor's section on Page 2.

The new flag pole mount has been installed in the pits behind one of the safety fences. This set up allows a temporary flag to be set up and was approved by the Board for use during the major events we hold and got its first use at GunSmoke.

John Mangino let everyone know that the Board had agreed that holder of the new AMA Park Flyer Licenses will not be allowed to fly at the field unless they also have a regular AMA license due to the limited insurance coverage of the Park Flyer License.

John then announced the death of two of our members recently, Jeff Rice and Paul Lorenz. Our condolences go out to the families.

Jim Compton then reported on the February 25 size race which had a good entry of 14 members with Bill Adams coming in first with perfect 20 points, followed by Lewie Kear with 16 points and Terri Mangino with 15 points.

Under new business, John polled everyone as to their interest in obtaining Club hats/caps, and about 40% of the members liked the idea. For T-shirts/polo shirts the response was close to 70%, while Jackets got 20% and patches/decals 30%. The Board will start to look into the available of some of these.

As part of our continuing effort to present interesting presentations at the Member's Meetings, George Joy then gave a talk entitled "Battery Maintenance". George is the owner of Peak Electronics and is an agent for Hitec, Multiplex, and Airtronics products among others and produces his own "Sirius" chargers and discharges.

To start, George said the #1 killer for all types of batteries is overcharging. Among the wealth of information George provided are:

- You must use a load volt meter to really know the voltage on any battery
- NICADs need to be cycled every 3-4 months to ensure they are working properly
- NiM Hydride batteries have no memory problems but lose their charge more quickly than other batteries when not used
- NiM Hydride batteries also experience more damage than other batteries if overcharged and only recently has a new type of NiM Hydride battery come on the market that is more similar to Ni-Cadmium. These are Sanyo's new "Eneloop" cells and another cell called "Hybrio". They are the ONLY NiM Hydride cells that George will recommend.
- All batteries should be charged for the very first time for 18-20 hours at their 1/10th charge rate (known as "form charging"). Fast charging for the first time will never allow the battery to reach its maximum capacity. This "form charging" should also be used if you inadvertently leave the Tx or Rx on and the battery totally goes flat. The form charge will allow you to save the battery. George has a charger that cuts off at 95% capacity so it will not harm your battery and allows you to only charge just before going out to fly (or on the way to the field).
- On Li-Po batteries even the peak detection chargers can overcharge the battery and will then cause a fire.
- If you want to do a discharge/recharge cycle, you need a rest period between the two phases as the discharge heats up the battery, as does the charging. Heating the battery is not a good idea at any time.
- Balancing Li-Po batteries is VERY important and ideally should be done before and after charging if you do not have a balancing charger.
- Be especially careful to not charge a 2S Li-Po battery when using a 3S setting on the charger as it could catch on fire or explode.
- The new 123 Li-Po batteries have a lower peak voltage so be sure you do not charge at regular Li-Po battery voltages or the cut off voltage will be too high.
- Reverse pulse chargers are good as they strip the oxygen bubbles off the plates which will minimize battery damage.
- George's Sirius units have all of the latest features that have been found by experience to be the best way to work. George offers a nice discount for Club Members and also sells a servo driver analyzer that can help a servo set up to be optimized.

John Mangino and many of the members warmly thanked George for his very informative talk which most felt will really help them get better battery service in the future.

After a break the raffle was then conducted. Dave Dunn had his ticket pulled first and chose a plug wrench and a set of drivers. Tom Kelly (a new member) chose the second prize of a Tiger Shark kit. John Mangino chose a starter battery as the third prize while Don Hartdegen for the fourth prize chose an Electric Takara kit as did Lewie Kear for the fifth prize (although Lewie is likely to convert his to gas power). Roxanne Cottrell chose the 5 minute epoxy for the 6th prize while John Malstress (another new member) chose the fuel for the 7th prize. Neil McAlpin got a 3S Prodigy Li-Po battery for 8th prize and Gary Porter got the 9th and final prize of a set of tools. John Mangino closed the meeting at 8:06 pm.

March 18 Board Meeting Minutes

John Mangino called the meeting to order promptly at 8:00 pm. Mike Currier gave a run down on the various budget activities. Because of the membership renewal income and the fact that we have had two of our larger events in the early part of the year, the treasury balance has increased in spite of the fact that we had some large expenses recently for the field upkeep and the installation of the new fence. But Mike noted that without the two events, the balance would not have gone up.

Don Manchester was not available to report on Membership. Paul McDevitt indicated that there was to be a CAMAC meeting the following Tuesday and he and John would be attending. John reported on the recent 25 size race which was held the previous weekend. There were 10 entries which was good as the weather was very cold and windy. In spite of the wind, the full 5 rounds were flown with no significant model damage. The scoring showed that Lewie Kear and John Mangino both won all of their heats so requiring a fly-off for first which Lewie won. Bill Adams came in third with 18 points.

Dave Dunn reported on Instruction. There is one new student and 4 or 5 students are being looked after on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Paul Goldsmith indicated that there are no major safety issues being seen except he reported that a full size Cessna had twice tried to that set up for a landing at the field before deciding that the strip was too short. This certainly got the attention of the members flying at the time. Mike Currier volunteered to make an attempt to see if anyone at Falcon Field knows about our field and is aware of the situation so the word can be spread around about not trying this again.

Paul Goldsmith then presented the final tally on the GunSmoke contest expenses/income. Paul reported an overall net income of about \$1000. This was because most of the expenses came in a little under the budgeted value. He indicated that there were no bad reports turned in from the competitors. There was a lot of good publicity before hand which generated a good turn out of spectators. So that allowed us to send \$366 for parking money to the Parks

Department. Many people had indicated to Roxanne Cottrell that inviting Betty Blake to be a guest at the event was great idea and maybe we should build on the idea and use other local people prominent in the aviation industry as guests at our events. For those that do not know Betty was a WASP during WW II and was checked out on 36 different aircraft and her job was to deliver the aircraft to the war front. She had some really nice stories and her favorite aircraft was the P-51. Roxanne agreed to investigate some alternate contacts. The only slight negative feature was that there were not a lot of entrants to the contest. Although none of the spectators seemed to mind, Paul McDevitt indicated that next year he was going to call everyone to try to drum up a few more entrants.

Under old business Roxanne reported that she had checked the cost and availability of both patches and vinyl stickers. The patches turned out to be a little pricey but the digitally printed white vinyl stickers with a sticky backing sounded more like what we should be offering. Roxanne was asked to get a price quote for two sizes both with the Club Logo on. John Mangino offered to show a sample of the Jackets that might also be ordered together with T-shirts and polo shirts. A few caps and straw hats are still available.

There was also a discussion about getting some event signs made but based on the quote we got, it was decided that it might be more cost effective to make our own. However it was agreed that more and larger signs are needed to make sure people are aware of how to get to the field when we hold our larger events.

Under new business Paul Goldsmith indicated he thought we need to paint the ramadas. He just needed to work out the best approach, brush or spray. Mike Currier offered to check with the Parks Department to see how they paint all of their ramadas. It was also mentioned that we need to do some work on the pit area to fill the cracks, seal and restrip. John Mangino indicated that he would get an estimate for what the work would cost.

Based on these ideas on field improvements it was mentioned that we should have a "plan" for all of the upgrades needed so that a more systematic sequence of upgrades can be agreed to, to make each upgrade work better within the overall system.

There was then some discussion on what it would take to get the Club back to having a Gold medal status. Dave Balch agreed to pull together a plan on what is needed.

Finally John reported that the April Raffle at the Members Meeting will be the last one before the fall. John closed the meeting at 8:16 pm.

Events

- **GunSmoke March 7th, 8th and 9th**
- **25 Size Race Mar 16th**
- **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.

2007 Membership, as of March 24 was as follows:

Members:	266
New Members:	3
Total Members:	269

Some Photos from the Electric Festival





Earn More with Less Risk

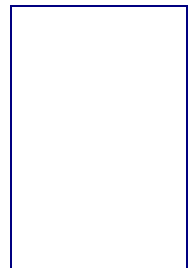
Matthew R Sylvester
Financial Planner
New England Financial
A MetLife Company
5050 N 40th St, Ste 100
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Ph 602-279-3791

Investments, Insurances, Financial Planning
Estate Analysis and Conservation
Education Funding Strategies
Disability Income Insurance
Business Succession
Financial Products
Retirement Plans
Life Insurance

New England Financial is the service mark for New England Life Insurance Company, Boston, MA 02116 Progressive Financial Concepts is a general agency of New England Life Insurance Company. Please do not leave securities trade requests by email as orders cannot be honored in this manner.

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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED