



-Touch & Go

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ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS, INC. MESA, ARIZONA

May 2008

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President's Corner

John Mangino, President
Arizona Model Aviators

Here is the fourth of a series of write ups in which our Club Officers giving details of their model flying background and experience. This month we have Mike Currier our Club Treasurer.



I was born in a small town in Germany with bombs raining all around, which lasted through my 3rd birthday. After WWII my mother met and married my step father in 1949, a CWO in the Air Force, stationed at Wiesbaden AFB, Germany. This began a new chapter of my life, beginning with a two week crossing of the Atlantic to Ellis Island,

New York. I was naturalized under my mother's citizenship papers, fortunately because I couldn't speak a word of English.

The plan was to drive from N.Y. to Seattle Wash. In a used Crossly, if anyone remembers, it's much smaller than a VW. Two adults, a seven year old, plus luggage, and lots of Dramamine!

Seven days later we arrived in Seattle, My aunt gave me an intense four weeks of English instruction, thank you Jane!

Next stop all the way back to Washington D.C. where my father would be stationed for seven years. Next assignment, London, England four years, consecutive tour back to Wiesbaden, Germany, for four years where I graduated from High School.

As the Military does every three or four years, you move, sooo next stop was Hamilton A.F.B. California, the country club of the Air Force. I spent one year attending Santa Rosa Community College.

Raised with wonder lust, I decided to visit a High School buddy of mine in Tempe AZ. and I fell in love with the place. 1964 enrolled into the business program at A.S.U. and managed to graduate three years later with a B.A. and a gold bar on each shoulder. Qualified for pilot training at Williams A.F.B. twelve months later I received my wings and an assignment to Nationalist China (Taiwan). The job was flying C130's in and out of Vietnam and Thailand hauling everything from an entire Vietnamese Villager to 105 Howitzers.

Fifteen months later I found myself at Forbes A.F.B. Topeka, Kansas. Another "bag drag" job, only now we were doing Europe, again hauling anything and everything. I was discharged 1971, and came back to AZ. to find employment, which I did with Motorola. I retired in 1998 after 25 yrs. and started the best time of my life, not



Next Club Meetings

June 3 and Aug 5, 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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working!

My new found hobby of RC flying which I found by joining Arizona Model Aviators, is serving me well. John Mangino taught me how to fly, so I learned from one of the best.

I volunteered for a board position in 2005, and really stuck my neck out for the Treasurer's job in 2007.

The best parts of this hobby are:

- A. Meeting a bunch of great people.
- B. Learning to build and fly these fantastic airplanes.

At the Board meeting it was agreed that the Club will offer high quality vinyl decals of the Club logo to the members in two sizes. The larger size at 4 ¼" x 5" will be \$3.00 each and the 3 ¾" x 3.2" size will be \$2.50. The decals will first be available at the next Member's meeting on June 3rd for anyone that is interested.

Note from Dave Balch (Secretary/Newsletter Editor):

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, for the summer, the Member's Meetings (and the Board Meetings) are now being held in the Garden Room in the main building at ViewPoint. With the warmer days we also do not hold a July Member's Meeting so the next meeting after the June one will be on August 5th as listed on the front page of the Newsletter.

As many of you know, Bill Adams lost his IMAC model at the Wings over Arizona fly in. After an initial successful flight, when he came out to fly again, the radio was not working. After shutting down and checking the systems, when it was power up again, everything checked out OK. However the radio failed again soon after take off. The very next day, Bill got the word that the Futaba 2.4 Ghz FFAST radios go into a fail safe mode if the receiver gets too hot. This mode can only be de-activated by turning the radio off, then letting the receiver cool below 85 deg F before turning the system on again. Bill's receiver was directly under a transparent canopy and the ambient temperature at the time was close to 100 deg F. The initial word was that the critical temperature for this failure mode was 165 Deg F. After further testing Bill now puts the critical failure temperature closer to 136-138 deg F. Interestingly, I had a similar fail safe on my FFAST radio the following weekend. Fortunately for me the neutral fail safe setting occurred at the right point in the flight and the model settled undamaged in the top of a tree. Talk about luck. So be warned that the Futaba FFAST 2.4 Ghz radios have a major problem working in our summer heat and can only be assured of working if a major effort is put into

cooling the receiver installation. Naturally, this is now the hot topic on all of the R/C web sites.

Don Manchester just contacted me to let me know that we have just registered another seven members. So I would like to welcome Jim McEwen and Carl Jacobs who joined at the last Member's meeting, and Richard Ebenhoch, Derek Bailey, Jimmy Williams and Eugene Wilson, who joined by the more normal mail approach.

For our last .25 race of the season we had a good turn out of 14 entries. The only casualty was Gary Porter who had his radio fail. After some hot racing, we finished up with a tie for first. Bill Adams and Lewie Kear both had 19 points. Dave Reichart came in third with 18 points. With the tie it was agreed that there should be a fly-off to decide the outcome. Well the first try resulted in 17 pylon cuts and the second try had 8 cuts, so both of them had zero points. The subsequent coin toss gave the win to Bill. After there were a number of rule changes voted in which will be either applied at the first race of the next season (starting in September), or will be tried on an experimental basis for one race only.

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.

May 6 Club Meeting Minutes

Due to the absence of John Mangino, our Vice President Paul McDevitt called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. When Paul enquired if there were any visitors or new members, Gene Wilson indicated he was a guest and had been flying for about 40 years but is just coming back to the hobby after a break of about 15 years. Dennis Schappell indicated that he is just getting into the hobby and so will be needing help. Jim Mateel said he was visiting from Albuquerque. He has been in the hobby for 30 years except for the last 5 years and is now into sport flying, scale and turbines. Jim McEwen said that he had been flying for 9 years but not the last 6 years. Michael Bacosa said he was now back in the hobby and was now hoping to teach his two children Leighton and Isabelle how to fly. Carl Jacobs indicated he has been in the area for a few weeks and has visited the field. He is from Texas and has been flying for 2 years.

After welcoming the guests and new members Paul suggested that instead of having the minutes of the last meeting read out, as they are in the newly released Newsletter, that the minutes be accepted as read. Austin Goodwin proposed that approach and Len LaRosa seconded it and the motion passed. 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 noted that the treasury balance was not much less than it was this time last year which is a good sign as there have been a lot of expenses paid out recently.

Don Manchester then reported that as of May 1st, the membership stood at a total of 279 members (234 full members, 32 family members, 8 life members and 5 youth members). This number compares to 284 members this time in 2007, so we have lost a little but are basically holding our own.

Paul McDevitt then gave the updates to the upcoming events calendar. The May 25 size race will be held on May 18th. There will also be a Free Flight event in Eloy on May 17th. If anyone is interested in knowing what other events are going on in Arizona in the up coming months, Paul recommends going on to our web site and looking at the CAMAC calendar for all of the details.

Paul Goldsmith then reported on safety. The only issue is to watch the deadlines, and be aware that they extend all the way out to the East and the West and do not just exist in the region of the runway. Everyone was then reminded that Gene Savoie is the guy to see about checking out a video or a Flight Simulator.

Dave Dunn then talked about instruction. He presented Art Ashenden his certificate for being able to Solo.

Paul Goldsmith then reported on the Wings over Arizona Giant Scale Fly-in. 34 pilots registered which was considered good for a first time event. In discussion is whether we should hold the event again with a date sometime in December to catch the interest of the Winter Visitors. The mid day event with the combat went over well (but there needs to be more attention to the well being of the streamers (only 1 of the 4 held on or deployed after launch). Overall about \$300 was lost running the event as due to minimal publicity generated before the event, not too many cars came through the gate. It appears the only cars that did come through the gate were drawn in by the signs for the event that were put out on the 6 new A-frame sign boards. If anyone wants an event shirt, there are a number still available. See Paul if you would like one. One positive on the publicity side was that a reporter from the "Independent" newspaper was present and talked to a number of members and took some pictures which appeared in a later issue of the Newspaper.

Paul also reported on the effort to have the pit area cracks filled, the whole area sealed, and repainted. Also the Ramada roof structure was power washed and painted. Both of these activities were completed before the Wings over Arizona event.

Under new business, Paul McDevitt mentioned that as we are now into the summer flying season, the flying can start at 7:00. Because most people will now only fly in

the morning, if you are the last one to leave, please remember to lock the gate after you. Also check that if you leave before the last person, make sure that they are a club member who has a key. We do not want the gate left open for most of the day.

Paul then noted that the next big event we will be holding will be the Jet Rally in November. This will be the twentieth running of the event, and we need an assistant CD to help run it. If anyone would like to help in this area, please contact any of the Club Officers or Board Members.

It was mentioned that there may be a Fun Fly coming up sponsored by Viper Hobbies. Paul McDevitt agreed to call Viper to confirm if they were still interested. We then got a run down on the Electric Flight Expo held in the Cardinal's Stadium in Glendale. It was claimed to be the largest show ever. Certainly half of the stadium was used for flying with the dome open. The rest of the arena was set aside for vendor booths (although there were not as many as expected). There was a dinner Saturday night and the event was a good show with a good turnout. It is expected to have the event for at least two more years.

After the raffle, Paul closed the meeting at 8:00pm.

May 20 Board Meeting Minutes

John Mangino opened the meeting at 7:01 pm. Mike Currier presented the Treasurers report which again showed a small reduction in the funds but as this is a direct result of improvements to the field, all felt it was acceptable. Mike reported that he had submitted a financial report to the Arizona Corporate commission as required by law if we expect to retain our non-profit status.

Paul McDevitt then reported on the competition activity. On May 18th we had the last of the season's .25 size races and had a good entry of 14 flyers. The racing season will start up again in September. A question was asked as to the potential status of a summer Fun Fly that was talked about as being sponsored by Viper Hobbies. It turns out that Viper is still interested but wants to wait until the Fall before preparation are started. Everyone was reminded that the next big event will be the Jet rally, which is the last weekend before Thanksgiving in November.

Dave Dunn then reported on Instruction. His main news was that a new member Jim McEwen has volunteered to be an instructor. Apparently Jim has a lot of experience with other clubs (even being a Club President), so his background should be of great help. It was reported that nothing special was happening with safety and similarly Public Relations had nothing to report.

John made it clear to everyone (and to make sure there was a note to that effect put in the Newsletter) that if anyone wants to spend money on anything that is Club related, they need to come before the Board for approval, before laying out any cash. Without pre-approval there may be circumstances where the costs may not be reimbursed.

One of the issues that may be impacting the entries at our larger events is that the Parks Department will not allow overnight parking at the field. It turns out this is a very sensitive topic with the Parks but it is a topic that needs to be raised again. If the correct approach is used, there may be a chance of a change in regulations. These new regulations may entail a "permit". However the topic is still very new.

In other business, Roxanne Cottrell indicated she had got some quotes for club decals in two sizes. It was agreed to buy 100 of each size and offer them to the members at the next meeting to see what level of interest exists. See the note prior to the editor's column above about size and price.

Under new business Paul Goldsmith showed a flyer for the fall auction (see copy below), which this year will be held at the field instead of at ViewPoint (so saving \$400 right off the bat). The Board asked to have a note added that parking is free but there is a \$3 admission, to avoid possible confusion.

As a follow on to the Wings over Arizona event, Paul Goldsmith proposed that we try for a full IMAA sanction for another event on December 6th and 7th. The sanction will require anyone entering to fly will be required to be an IMAA member (membership will be available on the field for \$5). This will also mean the models flown will have to conform to the IMAA wingspan requirements (80" monoplane, 60" biplane or true 1/4 scale). The event was approved. In addition Paul is proposing to hold next year's GunSmoke on March 6/7/8, 2009.

John Mangino let every one know that D&D Hobbies will be closed for the two weeks starting May 24th, and will be selling fuel 25% off before the shut down. John also mentioned that there will be a free Fly In to be held at the Rye flying site (on the way to Payson), September 27th.

The aluminum for the bleacher repairs are now stored in the bunkers. Paul Goldsmith also mentioned that we need to repaint the yellow bumpers at the flight stations as they are starting to look scruffy.

John Mangino closed the meeting at 7:54.

Events

- **Giant Scale Fly-In May 2nd, 3rd and 4th**
- **.25 size race Sept 21st**
- **Rye Fly In, September 27th.**

All upcoming events are also listed on our website.

2008 Membership, as of May 29 was as follows:

Members:	273
New Members:	8
Total Members:	281

Some Photos from the field

Kenny Kear's Waco (RIP)



ARIZONA MODEL AVIATORS R/C AUCTION

R/C KITS, ENGINES, AIRPLANES, BOATS,
CARS, TOOLS, RADIOS, ETC.

SATURDAY November 1, 2008

SUPERSTITION AIRPARK
MERIDIAN & LEVEE DR.
MESA ARIZONA

REGISTRATION AT 7:00 AM – STARTING TIME 8:00 AM
ADMISSION \$3.00 FOR BUYERS & SELLERS
CLUB RETAINS 10% OF SALE PROCEEDS
MINIMUM BID - \$35

SALE TABLES AVAILABLE FOR ITEMS UNDER \$35

Note: This Auction brings a different format than previous auctions. All auction items will be picked randomly instead of selling all a persons items at one time. This will allow us to present the best possible program to both buyers and sellers.

HOT COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE &
DONUTS WILL BE
AVAILABLE ON SITE

FREE PARKING

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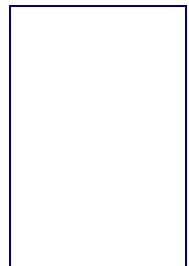
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