



PROP WASH

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Presidents Message

What Next for our Club?

By Dan Metz

This past year our club has compiled such an impressive list of achievements that would easily qualify us as a "SUPER" gold leader club. Our involvement with local schools continues to grow. This fall we will be advising three Middle and two High Schools. The school programs include disciplined ROTC flight instruction and a High School wide Radio Control Plane Club. Also, the new Middle after-school activity will feature entry level RC plane construction leading to flight training at our field. The construction will not be ARF assembly but true balsa and glue kit building.

The list of remaining old business tasks is becoming shorter and shorter. The 35' Flag Pole will be installed this month, displaying a flag that has previously flown over the Capitol in Washington DC. (Courtesy of Rep. Mary Bono/Mack) We also need to rebuild the racing pylons. The new ones are designed to be easily lowered for the Jet Rally and then quickly re-erected. We will have no excuses for not flying those races now. We also will move the Conex to the upper parking lot. That move alone will change the flight line forever. The newly found area can be used for overflow pilots with EZ-Up shades. The Conex move will also make room for bleachers at our Jet Rally.

We have made some outstanding field improvements in the last few months. These include an asphalt multi-purpose pad with concrete pit area and shade structure for control line, helicopters, and small electric flyers. We have installed bollards to protect those shade supports and a 27 MHZ. park flyers frequency control board. That concrete area will be used for vendor booths at next years Jet Rally.

We had our first Cross Country Event, and we now have an extended route that could include flying up and back down Box Canyon for a total of 58 miles. "Gentlemen, start your engines ". We need to try again to have that Aero-Tow Event that could bring out some really large sailplanes to enjoy our great skies. We also have an upcoming National Solar Powered Record Flight attempt, that will happen during June. Stay tuned for more about that.

What else should be done? Well, we should reconstruct the Larry Eaks Freedom of Flight sculpture and move it to the flag pole and monolith area and extend the runway by 100 feet on each end. Any other ideas? I implore you to make suggestions to help the board improve your club and field. Please email me or call with your ideas.

Thank you for allowing me to be your club president for this past year.

Marathon Race April 5, 2008

By Dan Metz

Bob Taylor and Ernie Chapin laid out a neat short course for our first marathon race that went South on Pierce to Ave. 60, East to Buchanan, North to Ave. 56, back up Pierce to 54th and finally up to the field. Ernie parked at the half way point to make sure everyone made the turn. Fuel was allocated equally in each contestant's tank and then measured again upon landing. The pilot who finished using the least amount of fuel won. Craig drove everyone in his truck around the 9 mile course. He had installed a 3 man seat with seat belts in the back of his truck. (Craig you are a good man.) The truck back window remained open for easy communication. There were lots of "Speed up, oh!!! Now Slow DOWN...." exclamations for Craig to respond to.

6 Flyers started the course and all 6 finished except for Dan, who ran out of fuel and landed on the road coming into the field. He had hydraulically locked the engine trying to start it and dumped out at least 1.5 ounces of fuel thru the

muffler. Oh well, spilled milk. He did get a pretty good 17 minute video from the camera that was mounted on top of his plane. All went well until the engine died over the field and then suddenly the camera showed a face full of bushes. Dang it.

The first 3 places went to 4 stroke engines. Trainers ruled the day, so nothing special is needed to join in the fun. Flying and looking to the rear is different but not really that hard. Reminds me of flying a sailplane from Vista Point to Palm Desert. That was a lot harder because of the various road cuts in the rocks that you had to fly over and thru. The biggest improvement would be a swivel seat for the pilot. NOW that would be the cats meow.

The winner was Chacho Gomez, Duane Van Der molen was second, Dick Knapp was third, Craig Waters fourth, Jason Hawkes fifth and Dan DNF. **Marathon fever, catch it, its a lot of fun!**



Dwavne and Dan in the back of Craid's truck.



Marathoners and their planes.

If you smoke cigarettes, you must deposit your butts in the butt cans. It's not fair to others who have to clean up after you! We are your flying buddies not your janitors.

Please attend the CVRCC general meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, 7 p.m., at Sloan's Restaurant at the corner of Dr. Carreon and Highway 111. Come early and join us for supper.

Multi-purpose Pit Area Completed



Concrete forms in place and surface being watered in preparation for concrete pour.



Photo from Dan's helicopter shows completed multi-purpose pit area and our Coachella Valley Model Air Park.

CVRCC Member, Tom Chant Wins First Place in Open Scale At the San Diego SEFSD Spring Fling

Tom Chant, made a profitable trek to San Diego with his Eindecker and came back with a first place plaque for the open scale event. Tom said, "You got to get out of town to win something."



Eindecker on the Runway



Tom, Eindecker and Judge who looks a lot like our old friend Curtiss Kitteringham.

Flag Pole Base and Conex Footers Installed

By the end of this month, the new flag pole will be erected and flag unfurled. Also the footers for the new Conex location are in place and ready for the move (see picture below) .

The people who contributed to this effort are: Daniel Martinez for forms and concrete pouring, Chacho Gomez for digging the the flagpole base hole and John Rogers who has volunteered his crane to erect the flag pole and lift the Conex in place.



BEST IN THE WEST 2009 Activity

By Murray Ross

Our next Jet Rally is many months away, but there is always something to do to get ready.

PUBLICITY

The BITW now appears in the "Palm Springs Life" magazine web site and I hope will be published in an edition later this year.

The May 2008 edition of "Jet Power" magazine contains a beautiful article on the BITW 2008 by Andreas Kanonenberg. The club has an "acrobat" file copy of the article, but will also order several copies of the magazine when available.

We will send a write-up to "Westways Magazine" (AAA) for publication on their web site and magazine.

SPONSORS

An email and phone campaign for sponsors did not result in an overwhelming response. The next tactic will be a formal mailing to a large list of companies requesting support for tee shirt and award plaque purchases. The participating companies will have their name on the tee shirts and plaques and be invited to have vending booths at the event.

"January 16,17,18 is sooner than you think."

CVRCC Board Meeting Minutes April 8, 2008

By Dick Knapp

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM by President Dan Metz. Also present were Murray Ross, Dick Knapp, George Muir and Serge Puis.

Dan pointed out that the concrete pit area has been completed for the new U-control area. He will now call Chacho to arrange for grading the area and adding bollards to protect the shade structure poles. On Saturday some local "visitors" decided to drive their off-road capable vehicle over the new cement and up over the berm. Fortunately, the cement was cured enough to take the abuse. Some members saw the incident, but did not get a license number.

Dan asked for a discussion on the club's future requirements for both power and water. After some discussion, it was decided that bringing either one on to our field added more potential problems than benefits. The board voted unanimously to not take any action to acquire either one. Dan will e-mail our decision to the Coachella Valley Recreation and Parks Department.

Dick then announced that he has placed the order for a 35-foot flagpole that will be funded by the CVR&P Department. The pole will arrive in two sections and Dick has already downloaded the instructions for installing it. The CVR&P Dept. already has a flag that was donated by Mary Bono and has been flown over the capitol building in Washington.

Dan then discussed moving the Conex storage shed up to the upper parking area. This will improve spectator viewing and provide for future expansion of our flight line if needed. We need to obtain 4 railroad ties to set the Conex on before we move it. Hopefully we can move it at the same time we set the flag pole since it will probably take a crane to lift it in place.

Dan presented the letter from CVR&P to Steve Salado, Parks Supervisor for the City of Coachella regarding our (free) use of the city's bleachers during our Best in the West Jet Rally in January. We will need to make pick-up and drop off arrangements. Dick is to obtain pictures of the bleachers so we have a better idea of what is available.

Dick announced that Kevin Koch at Uncle Don's Hobbies had donated a great trophy for our pylon racing event. The board authorized Dick to obtain a suitable base for the trophy including brass plates for engraving the name of the annual points winner. Murray and Dick will also take on the task of designing some better pylons for our race course.

Dan reminded everyone of our up coming Air Show event on Saturday, May 10th at the Redlands Airport. There will be five clubs participating. Call Dan if you want to participate.

CVRCC General Meeting Minutes April 29, 2008

By Dick Knapp

President Dan Metz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 30 members present and 7 guests.

Dan asked if there were any additions or corrections to either the April Board Meeting Minutes or the March Meeting Minutes, there being none, the minutes were approved as previously published.

Dick Knapp gave the Treasurers report. We have now paid for the new shade structure, the concrete for the pit area and the new 27 Mhz frequency control board and our account balance is \$2,715.56.

Dan then introduced Stan Ford, General Manager of the Coachella Valley Recreation and Parks Department. Stan opened his comments with the statement that the Recreation and Parks Department does not like multi-use facilities. He also stated that they would not invest money in a park on Federal land, so any concerns about future development on our site are groundless. Stan then responded to questions from the membership. A question was asked about getting water or power to our field, but the expense is too great to justify it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dick announced that our new flagpole was expected to ship on May 5th. He then introduced Kieffer Koch, who is working on his Eagle Scout rating and will be coordinating the entire project. Kieffer expects to get his scout troop involved in the actual work of digging the hole and pouring the concrete around the flagpole sleeve. The scouts will also dig the holes for the protective balusters in front of the new shade structure. Dan asked Stan Ford to attend our first flag raising ceremony, by the Boy Scouts of Troop 277, probably on Saturday, May 17th (Armed Forces Day).

Dan then asked Craig Waters to discuss the status of our street sweeper. Craig said that he has been able to get the engine to turn over, but there doesn't seem to be any spark. We may have to try and replace the coil. Craig has also found a dealer who might be interested in trying to sell the sweeper on consignment, but it has to be in running condition.

Dan then announced that the Redlands Air Show on May 10th has been reduced to mostly a static display with only three flying slots available. Andreas, the president of the MARKS club told Dan that he hopes to have a bigger presence at the 2009 show.

Dan then asked Murray Ross for an update on the 20th Annual Best in the West Jet Rally. Murray stated that the response from manufactures has been under whelming so far. He expects to follow up his initial e-mail with a formal letter in the next couple of weeks.

Dan announced that our new 27 Mhz frequency board has arrived and will be installed in the next week or two. As soon as we get the parking area leveled and the flag pole installed, Dan will take a new aerial photograph to use on our updated rack cards.

Dan then discussed our recent cross country flying event, won by Chacho Gomez, and indicated that next years event would involve a longer flight and that Bob Taylor and Ernie Chapin would be

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General Meeting Minutes continued

competing. Since four cycle engines took the first four places, their use seems to help and any "trainer" type aircraft seems to work well. Start planning now for a FUN event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dan mentioned that Matt Durand arranged for the First Grade class of the Christian School to visit the field on Thursday with 23 students from 6-8 years old. They all got a chance to fly a trainer using a "buddy box". Some of the parents and teachers also tried their hands at maintaining level flight.

Dan also asked for volunteers to help out this Fall with the Lower Valley Middle School aviation program. The school board has purchased 50 trainer kits, plus engines and radios and will need our help in getting the planes assembled by the students and teaching them to fly. Please give Dan a call, 469-8302, if you are willing to help out.

Dan stated that one of our members, John Rogers, owns a crane business and has offered to move our conex to the upper parking lot and set our new flag pole, hopefully before May 17th.

Dan also said that we can pick up and use any of the old assembly tables at the old car racing site at Hobby Town USA. We need volunteers who have open pickup trucks to get at least one table out to the field for our U-control flying area.

The Palm Springs Air Museum has also asked us to help with more Delta Dart Days this summer. We will let you know when we have more information on dates and times.

Dan then discussed an AMA sanctioned Solar Powered Record attempt to be made by Peter Young and some graduate students from MIT at our field in June. They need to fly for over 12 hours to break the old record. Dan has volunteered to be the assistant CD on the attempt. We will let everyone know when a firm date has been established, probably around June 21st to get maximum daylight.

Dick announced that the club would be helping with a catapult glider day at the Indio Community Center this Saturday, May 3rd from 11 AM until 1:30 PM.

Murray Ross asked for stories from the membership for the newsletter. Call Murray at 340-0836 to discuss any ideas you might have.

Dan announced that Randy Martin was recovering nicely and hoped to get back to flying in the near future.

The raffle raised \$107.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM