



PROP WASH

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Presidents Message

A Month of Accomplishments

By Dan Metz

It is hard to believe what our club has done in the past month. The activities and accomplishments have ranged between menial and magnificent. We were fastidious in cleaning up the field, magnificent in building an award winning float, talented in showing our building and flying skills at Jackie Cochran Air Show, successful in running our annual "Demo" day and generous in supporting "Toys for Tots". It seems that our efforts attract new members too, because our club roster is about to exceed the 200 count.

Field Clean-up

Thank you to the crew that came out and hoed and scraped and removed the growth around the runway on October 19th, and Bill Hughes who brought donuts, coffee and cold water for all of the workers. During the cleanup I found a baby sidewinder underneath a small bush, which means that there is a nest of them to the East of the field. Heads up when you are out retrieving parts or planes. The "Mother of All Snakes" is around somewhere close. Later in the month the pit area was blown clean and Craig did a great job of washing the tabletops. The field is in good shape for coming events through January.

Golf Cart Parade (October 26th)

Your club was well represented at the annual Palm Desert golf cart parade with a Judge's Trophy win. We are truly "Magnificent Men with our Flying Machines." Dick Knapp provided the cart and Mike and "6:30 a.m." Joe Scuro along with Murray Ross, Craig Waters, Dick and Fran Knapp and your president built a trophy winning entry. Too bad it had to be painted in Mardi Gras colors. Let's see what the theme is next year; I certainly hope the color choice is more appropriate for airplanes. The kids in the crowd, along the way, showed terrific enthusiasm for our towed planes too. Lots of questions were asked as we passed by. Thanks to John Rogers and Chris Ritter for the 40%, Joe Scuro for the Lancair, Craig Waters for the Tri plane and his two beautiful helpers, his daughters. I finished out the marchers with the Sky Cam.

Jackie Cochran Air Show (November 1st)

It was a huge privilege to be invited to fly in the Jackie Cochran Air show. Jackie was the first woman in this country to break the sound barrier. Ours was the first model plane club to fly in the show and it seemed that we received the greatest round of applause after our segment was over. Thanks to the air show pilots, Chris Ritter flying John Rogers 40% Yak; Matt Durand with his 35% Yak; Kevin Nokes and his 27%; Chacho Gomez with his Super Cub; Duane Vandermolten with his DC-3; Manny Torres flying his Hughes scale helicopter and Tom Chant flying his electric Eindecker. I flew the HeliCam to round out the show. Thank you to each and everyone. Flying in front of a huge crowd can be highly "butterfly-making" for the old tummy. But we were terrific and safe.

Open House (November 2nd)

Traditionally our Open House takes place the day after the Cochran air show. At the early hour of 6 a.m., a half hour public service announcement spot was broadcast on three local radio stations courtesy of Ralph Squillace (our member and radio DJ). Thank you Ralph for letting me pontificate about our club's open house and other activities over the airways.

**Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade
“Magnificent Men and their Flying
Machine”**

By Murray Ross

On October 26th, Dick Knapp’s dream for a “flying machine” float for the annual Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade materialized and we won the “Judge’s Trophy” for the most unusual entry. Three engineers, a chef, a helicopter pilot and a master mechanic, all CVRCC members, teamed to convert a golf cart into the “crate” airplane pictured. The bizarre coloring is a concession to the Mardi Gras theme of the parade.

The structure added to the cart followed good airplane kit modeling. The wings and empennage were framed with 1” by 2” wood and covered with 1/8 “ poster board. The fuselage was built around plywood formers planked with poster board segments held on with staples. The simulated engine was fabri-



Left to right: Joe and Mike Scuro, Murray Ross, Dan Metz Dick Knapp and Craig Waters pose with masterpiece.

cated from a foam crankcase and radial soda bottle cylinders. The 4-blade propeller was made from plywood with a wood hub and turned by a barbecue spit motor powered by an inverter.

During the parade the float was followed by an entourage of pilots towing their model planes.



Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

One of the highlights of the open house was our official flag raising ceremony. Frank Durand from the Recreation and Parks District attended the 10 a.m. event with the American flag, courtesy of Mary Bono Mac’s office and Stan Ford. Durand presented the flag to the color guard from La Quinta High School ROTC, Lt. Col. Ardo Commander. Two Cub Scouts from The Desert Hot Springs den raised the flag while the gathering recited the Pledge of Allegiance. It was a rather moving scene, as some in the crowd showed real emotion during the raising. Thank you Stan and the Board of The Recreation and Parks District for making the funds available for this patriotic project. We salute you.

Our open house included lots of great crowd-pleasing flying. The club owes many thanks to Craig Waters for organizing the flights, and special thanks to Manny Torres and his beautiful scale nitro helicopter. The aerial parade of aerobatic birds was spectacular; the combat was chaos and the pylon race was exciting especially since I won. (Sorry Duane, we are now tied). Our new board member Tom Chant made sure that all first fliers got an r/c flyer certificate to award their experience. The members who brought out a trainer for guests to fly are commended.

(Editor’s note: See additional articles and pictures about club activities throughout the newsletter..)

Reminders from Dan

The pit area and tables are now clean, please keep them that way. If you crash in the pits or on the runway pick up all of your debris. Please police all of the crash site debris field as broken pieces may pose a hazard. Please remember we do not have a maintenance department, that means that its your responsibility to keep the field clean. Use the trash cans and remember that the butt cans are just for cigarette butts. On Sunday, November 2nd, we experienced a fire in a butt can that was full of trash. A fire like that could jump to a fuel can and then some really bad damage could occur.

On the subject of fire, I always have a fire extinguisher with me, Do you?

On Monday, November 17th, the last person at the field left without locking the gate. In addition, the lock was open with the combination showing. It is important to twirl the combination lock right after opening the gate so the code is not revealed. And, of course, equally important to lock the gate if you are the last to leave. Also please take care not to let the lock touch the ground.

Please cooperate and take your responsibility seriously. I thank you in advance.

Jacqueline Cochran Air Show Nov. 1, 2008

By Murray Ross

For the fourth year in a row our club has had booths at the Jackie Cochran Air Show, but this is the first time that we were invited to perform with our radio controlled model airplanes. We had been trying to convince the air show officials for several years that our show segment would be a treat for the spectators. Well, we backed up our claim this year. Our performance was a huge hit with the spectators. They cheered and clapped at our excellent flying.

In addition to our performance segment, we had success in selling raffle tickets and raising awareness of our open house the next day.



The aerobic stars of the performance segment.



CVRCC triple wide booth at Air Show.



Boy I wish I could do that stunt!



Club flyers assemble under the shade of the huge C-17 cargo plane on Saturday morning..



Duane's DC-3 and Tom's Einoacker await their turn to show off.

OPEN HOUSE DEMO DAY November 2, 2008

By Murray Ross

The club members arriving early Sunday morning were greeted with a beautiful sky but a challenging breeze at our open house on November 2nd. The plan for the day included the dedication of our new flagpole and flag, buddy box training for visitors, aerobatic and scale model demos, combat and pylon racing.

Open flying began early but stopped at 10 a.m. for the flag dedication ceremony. The flagpole had been donated by the Coachella Valley Recreation and Parks District (CVRPD) under the auspices of Stan Ford and installed by the club members. The La Quinta High School ROTC color guard began the ceremony. The new U.S. Flag came from Representative Mary Bono Mack's office. Frank Durand from CVRPD presented the flag to Dan Metz, who in turn handed it to the Cub Scouts from Desert Hot Springs, who raised the flag accompanied by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Buddy box training of cub scouts and other visitors resulted in awarding "RC Pilot" certificates to James, Cannon, Jojo, Conner and Stuart Mc Robert, Dimitri D'Amico-Gambino, Andy Nielsen, Cameron Lucas and Cindy and Curtis Stiede.

The pylon race was won by Dan Metz who finally beat his nemesis Duane Vandermolen. The combat event was limited by reliability problems with only two planes eventually in the fray. The day was concluded with the raffle and the winner was Craig Waters.



Cub Scout gets buddy box time from Tom and Duane



La Quinta High School ROTC Color Guard



Cub Scouts raise new flag.



Old Glory over the Coachella Valley Model Air Park on November 2, 2008

Greater Palm Springs Toys for Tots Fun Fly Saturday and Sunday November 15 -16, 2008

By Murray Ross

For the fourth year in a row, our club sponsored a Toys for Tots event. The first two years were mostly a scale competition fly-in with participation from San Diego, Gilman Springs and Hemet scale enthusiasts. For the last two years there has been more emphasis on pure fun-fly competitions and open flying. Nevertheless, we seem to have a lot of fun and collect big sacks of toys and money for the kids.

The fun-fly events for this year were the same as in 2007. This year's winners are Chris Ritter for "Climb and Glide," and Dan Metz for "Beans Express" and "Bomb Drop". The scale model events were "Scale Flying Skill," won by Derek Fife and "Scale Beauty" by Ron Vincent.

The Marine Corps picked up the toys and money on Monday afternoon and promptly sent a Commander's Award to our club (see scan below).

We thank the members who helped make the event a success. Joe Scuro was our hotdog cooker. Shirley Brenon and Bev Holmwell handled the registration. Dick Knapp collared everyone in sight to sell raffle tickets. Serge Puis helped with table set-ups. Tom Chant was our scale flying judge. Steve Fornelius scored the fun-fly events and also manned the public address system, providing spectators with a very enjoyable, colorful description of field events .



Above: Murray is engulfed in Toys waiting for Marine Corps pick-up.
Below: Ron Vincent's beautiful model Cessna airplane.



This Commander's Award was signed by LtGen Jack Bergman, Commander of the Marine Forces Reserve. It is the first time we have received an award, but certainly not the last time our club will support this worthy cause.

CVRC Club Now Has Over 200 Members

By Murray Ross

This past month, Don Gronewald of Indio became the 200th member of the Coachella Valley R/C Club. This was quite a shock to me for several reasons. When I joined the club in 1999 we had only about 24 members, a lot of growth in nine years. Also I realized that the email roster I have been using for newsletters is severely out of date. When I looked at my old roster sheet and compared it with the new one Dick Knapp gave me, I found that I was missing about one third of the new member names. Therefore, I suspect many of you members have not been getting newsletters by email. That problem has been remedied, but if you are missing your copy then send me an email and I'll get another one to you. Your email return address will serve to correct an error in the roster and we will both benefit.

BEST IN THE WEST JETS LOGO TEE SHIRTS

By Murray Ross

Club members may pre-order "Best in the West Jets" LOGO tee shirts. The price for medium, large and extra large is \$11 and 2X or 3X is \$13. Those of you who have already ordered and not paid, please send me a check made out to CVRC Club for the appropriate amount. Mail to

Murray Ross
74457 Zircon Circle E..
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The price for these will be substantially higher at the event in January, so take advantage and order now.

Welcome Snow Birds

Snow birds are coming out to the field and renewing friendships with full-timers and other out-of-towners. The flying weather is usually very good this time of year and this is also a good time to renew your half-year membership to the club. So make your check out to "CVRC Club" and mail to:

Dick Knapp
73800 Flagstone Lane
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Be sure to include address, phone and email changes.

Next General Club Meeting is Tuesday November 25th

Main order of business is the nomination of officers for next year.

At 7 p.m., November 25th, we will have a general meeting at Sloan's Restaurant at the corner of Dr. Carreon and Highway 111 in Indio. During this meeting we will have the nomination of officers for next year. In addition we will be starting to assemble a cadre of club members to work at the Jet Rally in January 2009.

Please attend this important meeting. Come early and have dinner with us.

Multi-bladed Propellers

Originally from Hooked-on-rc-airplanes.com

Three-bladed model airplane propellers are less efficient than two-bladed propellers. In fact, the more blades that are added, the less efficient the propeller becomes. The only advantage of a multi-blade propeller is a smaller diameter. Multi-blade propellers are used with full-scale airplanes when ground clearance is an issue. World War II fighter planes are a good example. For this reason, many pilots use multi-blade propellers on their scale model airplanes to make it look more like the full-scale airplane.

Twin-engine airplanes often use multi-blade propellers because the smaller diameter is needed for the propeller to clear the fuselage. This is true of full scale airplanes and often the case with twin-engine model airplanes as well.

Evolution Engines offers a three-blade propeller to be used with a trainer. The inefficiency of the propeller "tames" the engine a bit for the beginner by allowing the airplane to fly slower while maintaining the thrust needed for easy takeoffs and climbs. The extra blade also helps to slow the airplane down when landing. After the beginner becomes comfortable flying the airplane, he or she can tap into the rest of the engine's power by changing to a more efficient two-bladed propeller. □

September 2008 General Meeting Minutes

By Murray Ross

Dan, who welcomed back 29 members from the long hot summer, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The treasurer, Dick Knapp, was absent, so Dan gave his report. The club bank balance is \$1024. Some of this covers committed expenses, until the end of the year, for Burrtec Environmental, Cochran Air Show booth table covers, *Model Aviation* subscriptions for two libraries and one school and printing expenses. Starting next year, our major expenses will be repaying member loans and having our runway resealed and lined.

The secretary's report of the June general meeting minutes was accepted as published and emailed.

Old Business

With open house approaching on November 2nd, Dan requested a volunteer work party to clean up the field on the prior weekend.

Dick Knapp has ordered new club logo tee shirts from AMA at a substantial saving and will have 50 at the field on Sunday, October 19th.

The "Golf Cart Parade" will start at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 26, 2008 on El Paseo. The club entry (a simulated "crate" type airplane) has been designed by Dick Knapp, but still requires four club volunteers to assemble it on the Friday and Saturday just prior to the parade. The actual judging will be on Sunday at 10 a.m. In addition, Dan asked for five volunteers to accompany the golf cart towing their scale models. The volunteer marchers should be at the start point, Portola and El Paseo, before 12:30 p.m. The parade is from Portola to just before Monterrey and will last about an hour.

The club has new rack cards available at Uncle Don's along with a map to the field.

The club will have two booths reserved at the Jackie Cochran Air show on November 1st. This year we will have more planes on display and may give a live R/C air show at the event.

November 2nd is the Open House with lots of open flying demos and free trainer lessons. Craig Waters will organize the demos.

Craig has also provided a list of the upcoming 2008 club events.

- 21 Sept. Pylon Racing (won by Duane Vandermolen)
 - 5 Oct Balloon burst - open to all aircraft (Cancelled due to wind)
 - 19 Oct Combat Carnage- .46 max size glow (gas or electric)
 - 26 Oct Golf Cart Parade
 - 1 Nov. Jacqueline Cochran Air Show
 - 2 Nov Demo Day (including pylon race)
 - Demo Sky Divers
 - Demo Aero Tow
 - Demo Combat
 - Demo 3D
 - 9 Nov Marathon
- The group discussed the distance for the Marathon at length. The consensus was to use the Box Canyon route, which is a total of 20 miles. The club needs participation of members with open trucks or convertibles to chauffeur the flyers.
- 15-16 Nov Toys for Tots (Final pylon race)
 - 7 Dec Combat Carnage

A new club flag has been purchased and will be displayed at the formal raising of the U.S. Capitol flag on Open House Day, November 2nd.

New Business

Murray Ross said that the response to letters requesting sponsorship for the Best in the West Jet Rally in January is progressing poorly. He said that we need sponsor money to purchase tee shirts and award plaques, in addition to donated merchandise for raffles. The question was posed whether to borrow some of the needed money from the membership. The total required for the tee shirts exceeds \$1000, however, the proceeds from selling the shirts would yield almost

100% profit. The final resolution of this issue will be tabled until Murray can send out another group of letters to potential sponsors in October.

There were some suggestions from the floor regarding the "Best in the West" logo. Murray said that the BITW logo has been well established, but thought that the logo should include the words "20th Anniversary".

The club has been approached by a group of other clubs to eventually host a "TOP GUN WEST" scale event at our field. The others are the "Gilman Springs, Hemet, MARKS and "Scale Squadron of Southern California" clubs. The spokesman for this group is Mel Santmeyers, whose latest suggestion is to have a Scale Fun fly on the weekend of February 6,7 and 8 and defer the big "Top Gun" event until November of

2009. This would give the group more time to arrange for judges, sponsors and contestants.

There will be a Boy Scout day trip to our field led by Curtiss Stiede, Scout Master of Pack 59 of Desert Hot Springs.

The standing board made a suggestion to the membership that to benefit the future of our club; members should volunteer for board and associate board positions. In particular, an assistant newsletter editor would be a great help.

Dan has received information about the future development plans for the area between Coachella and the I-10. If the planned home construction were to proceed quickly it would have an impact on the use of our field. However, it is very likely that the construction will not begin for as much as eight years, and when and if it does, we could go to "European" noise rules or all electrics.

October 2008 General Meeting Minutes

By Dick Knapp

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Dan Metz. There were 33 members present and nine guests from the La Quinta High School Air Force ROTC program, including Lt.Col. Ardo.

Dan announced that the Board had just elected Tom Chant as a member of the Board.

Dan then asked for any additions or corrections to the September meeting minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as previously published.

Dick Knapp then gave the Treasurer's report. Our account stands at \$2,155.18.

Dan then thanked everyone who participated in designing and fabricating our club entry in this years Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade. Our float won the Judge's Trophy for "most unusual float". It was also followed by five club members with their planes in tow. Dan was controlling his electric powered Rascal with his transmitter. There were lots of positive comments from the crowd as we passed by. Maybe we'll even attract a new member or two.

Dan then introduced Kevin Koch from Uncle Don's Hobbies. Kevin made the point that he wants to "earn" our business. He is starting an "Uncle Don's Club", which will cost \$25 to join. This will entitle you to 10 percent off all purchases, which are Tower prices. If you need anything, get the order to him before 11:30 AM and he will have it in the shop the next day. Kevin then discussed fuel pricing. He tries to order 16 case lots to keep the unit prices down and only makes five percent on the sale.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dan then introduced Lt.Col. Ardo, who is heading up the La Quinta High School ROTC program, the one Ron

Vincent handles. Dan also introduced Dick Norberg, who just joined our club.

Craig Waters said that he was out at the field and cleaned off all the tables and chairs for this weekends event. Thanks a lot Craig!

Dan also stated that he and Dick Knapp would be meeting with the Jacqueline Cochran Air Show staff to resolve final details. We are now scheduled to fly in the morning from about 10 to 10:30. We will also have additional booth space next to ours to display our demo models.

Dan then asked for volunteers to man a refreshment stand selling hot dogs and cold drinks on Sunday. Kevin Koch said that he would handle that assignment.

Dan then discussed our initial flag raising ceremony to be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday. We expect several members of the Coachella Valley Parks and Recreation Board to be in attendance. Lt. Col. Ardo also said he would try and attend.

Dan reminded everyone that we will have our second cross country event on Sunday, November 9th. Craig and Chacho agreed to drive open vehicles and hopefully George Phillips can also participate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dick discussed the Indio Community Centers "Glider Day" set for Saturday, November 1st. Joe Scuro volunteered to handle that assignment for the club. If you can lend a hand, please give Joe a call at 345-9168.

Dan said that we were now adding the "Viper 500" to our list of pylon racers since the Sonic 500's are no longer available. Dan is trying to put together an order for 10 airplanes so we can get a price of \$107.44 each. If you are interested in joining in the pylon racing event, give Dan a call 469-8302 and order your plane now.

October 2008 General Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Murray Ross then discussed our annual Toys for Tots event that will be held on Saturday and Sunday November 15-16. Entry fee is a \$10 unwrapped toy. There will be a "Beauty" event and a "Scale Flying" event. There will also be a series of "FUN" events, like bomb dropping and beans in the cup, so bring whatever you have to fly and join in this low pressure fun event.

Murray then discussed next years "20th Anniversary, Best in the West Jet Rally." He wants to order about 200 tee shirts plus polo shirts for the pilots but needs to finalize our list of sponsors since their names will appear on the back of the shirts. Murray is working hard on this event since the shirts and plaques need to be ordered in late November.

Dan then discussed a potential "Top Gun West" scale event that would be held at our field next November. This group will handle all the event duties. All we have to do is supply our field and provide parking and refreshments. They would also like to schedule a "Fun Fly" here in February so some of the contestants could fly at our field and spread the word.

Dan then introduced Ron Vincent who gave a very interesting presentation on the RC pilot training classes he is conducting with the Air Force ROTC at La Quinta High School. Ron pointed out the substantial increase in the military's use of RPV's and the real shortage of pilots they are experiencing. He also covered briefly his teaching methods utilizing Real Flight G 3.5 flight simulators. Ron also asked if anyone in the club was updating their own system to G 4.5, would they consider donating their old 3.5 system to the school. Ron can also use extra video cards for use with Real Flight

Our raffle raised \$115. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.