

Radio Waves

Newsletter of the Santa Fe Dam Radio Control Modelers

May
2009

President	Wayne Brown	(562) 818-8181	Vice President	Frank Ross	(626) 337-5190
Secretary	Gary Stevens	(626) 914-6779	Treasurer	Ed Roberts	(626) 966-2725
Editor	Earle Levine	(626) 254-9315			

NEW - web site www.sfdrmc.com

e-mail SFDRCM@hotmail.com

Meeting May 13, 2009 Arcadia Red Cross

President's Desk

I have been impressed with the many members who have contributed time, energy and finances over the years. I started to list the contributors and realized that I am a newbie, there are too many people known and unknown for me to cover the thirty plus years the club has existed and thrived. I am totally humbled by just the few I have met and those that members have talked about and I will let you reminisce about the people you know that have added to the clubs existence. I want to end this by saying "Thank you" to all who have made this club all that it is.

We are adding a service to our meeting this month that may help our members. Our own "SFDRCM Club Store". We are only carrying a few things that are not competing with our local hobby shops. The table will have a few of the following items: Altimeters, Slow Sticks (SS), SS servos, SS motors, speed controls and batteries and I'm sure there is more. Come check out the table. Also, elsewhere in the News Letter check out the raffle items. This month the raffle items have in excess of \$400.00 value.

We have a few members that want to have Slow Stick competitions, bring your ideas and help get it going. Don't let me forget to bring this subject up at our May 13th meeting.

See you at the next meeting Wednesday, May 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Wayne Brown

Kent's Komments

Well, it's been some time since my last article, but, like a bad dream, I just keep coming back. Our president opened the door by asking if I would like to write an article on safety. As you will recall when our last safety officer dropped out, Mike Jones, Gregg Stockdale and I volunteered to take over the duties, and between the three of us we will "handle it". Being one of the 3 field safety officers I'm not to sure how I got to be the lucky one to write the news letter article, but, in any case here goes.

Now before I go on with this meaningless dribble I would like to make it perfectly clear that all club members are responsible for safety at the field, so please keep that in mind. When you see someone starting his plane by himself, go over and hold the plane. It makes the situation so much safer, and you are doing your part for the safety of the field.

At this time of the year we need to be aware that the Western Diamond Back Rattlesnakes also likes our field. They were here long before we were and they will be here long after were gone. It is not uncommon for the snakes to come out and get some sun in the morning and the late afternoon. That makes the concrete apron of the dam an ideal place for snakes to get a little warmth. When you're the first one at the field you should approach the potta potty with caution, it could be a hiding place. When you leave you should look around you car. Once it warms up the snakes would like the shade of the vehicle. Keep in mind that we share our field with Mother Nature. If you do see a snake and it's not hurting anything then let it alone. If you feel the snake needs to be relocated you should call the Park office and request help. And never kill or molest the snake! It could have serious consequences for the club and it's against the law.

And with the warm weather we need to keep hydrated, so don't forget the bottle of water. Last, but not least, remember the sun block and a hat. It doesn't take long in the summer sun to damage the skin.

See ya at the field.

Kent Smith



May Birthdays

Ed Allison

Ed Honeywell

Richard Machuzak

Wil Manthey

Rick Silva

Instructor List

The individuals below have *kindly* volunteered to serve as training instructors. We all had to learn from someone and most of us feel good about giving back. Being an instructor *is* an imposition on time and energy. New instructors are always welcomed. Following the rules below will go a long way to make the student / instructor experience happy and enjoyable for both.

√ Training by appointment only. Do not show up at the field and expect someone to break away from their activities to help you. They might or they might not.

√ **MOST IMPORTANT!** If you make an appointment, **keep it**. If you can't, call your instructor as soon as possible. We all have cell phones. This is our biggest cause of losing instructors.

√ Bring all the supplies you need - fuel, propellers, rubber bands, glow plugs, glow starter. You will need a compatible **buddy box** and **cord**. Bring your own or arrange with instructor. This is a must!

√ Follow the instructors instructions. Some of the things might seem routine or boring but they are all part of the skills you need.

√ If you don't understand, as why! You will hear new words and expressions. Ask what they mean!!

√ Instruction is free, but that doesn't mean you can't offer your instructor a soda or snack!

Peter Del Colliano	(213) 760-1766
Tom Traeger	(818) 926-0874
Kent Smith	(909) 578-8529
Jerry Suszcynski	(626) 335-3253
Richard Arbogast	(626) 358-9394
Tony Ferraro (helicopter)	(909) 971-9592

FIELD EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

USE ALL 10 DIGIT WHEN CALLING FROM CELL PHONE

SANTA FE DAM PARK	626 334-1065
IRWINDALE FIRE	626 337-8919
IRWINDALE POLICE	626 962-3601
DUARTE FIRE DEPT	
1105 Highland	626 444-2581
PARK POLICE	800 834-0064

Possible July Float Fly?

The board will discuss the possibility of a July float fly at the meeting. The weather may be warm / hot and the park will be open to the public. We will discuss the pros and cons

Hobby People®

Tonys Hobbies

1315 N Hacienda Blvd
La Puente, CA 91744
(626) 917-5290



Hobby Zone

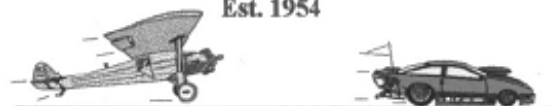
Edwin - (818) 546-2291

www.hobby-zone.com

Hobby Zone now will only be available by telephone and internet

COVINA HOBBY CENTER

Est. 1954



Radio Control Model Airplanes and Cars
Plastic Kits, Tools, Airbrushes Trains (HO & N)
140 N Citrus Ave Ed, Marge, Eddie, Terry Bzovy
Old Town
Covina CA 91723 (626) 331-1910
(626) 331-1910 Covina CA 91723 (626) 331-1910

From the VP's Desk

I have to apologize to the members for getting my article in too late to be published last month. In it I had thanked all of you for the support given to the board during all that has happened this year. Hopefully after this month's meeting we will be able to get back to using the meeting to discuss the hobby what we all enjoy so much.

Speaking of enjoyment, I was able to meet with a man who had been observing our field from the freeway and wanted to bring his grandson in to see the planes (thanks for letting him in ED). The grandson was obviously excited about the prospect of being able to fly a model airplane and it would have been great to be able to put him on a buddy box, but alas the equipment was not available. I mention this because, as many of you, I have children and grandchildren many of which would love to learn to fly. I want to make it possible for us to bring our kids to the field and introduce them to the hobby. In that respect I will be looking to you for guidance in how to accomplish this task. Give it some thought and let me know your ideas. One idea I've had is to have at least one weekend a month where we can monitor the gate and let people from the surrounding community come in and share in what we do. Who knows it may cut down on graffiti.

I'm not sure which is the most difficult, twisting the manufacturers arms to get them to come to our meetings, or having to tell them to not come because our agenda is too full. Hopefully I will be able to keep my promises and get one to come in next month. I will certainly give it my best effort.

In closing I will insert my bit of trivia by asking. "Who shot Liberty Valance"?

Frank Ross

Big Raffles Continue

For May we will have the following:

- 1 Assembled Slow Poke w/eng & servos!
- 4 Battery packs!
- 1 Altimeter - HowHigh!
- 1 Epoxy !!
- 2 2 oz CA bottles !!!



Similar to Slo Poke pictured

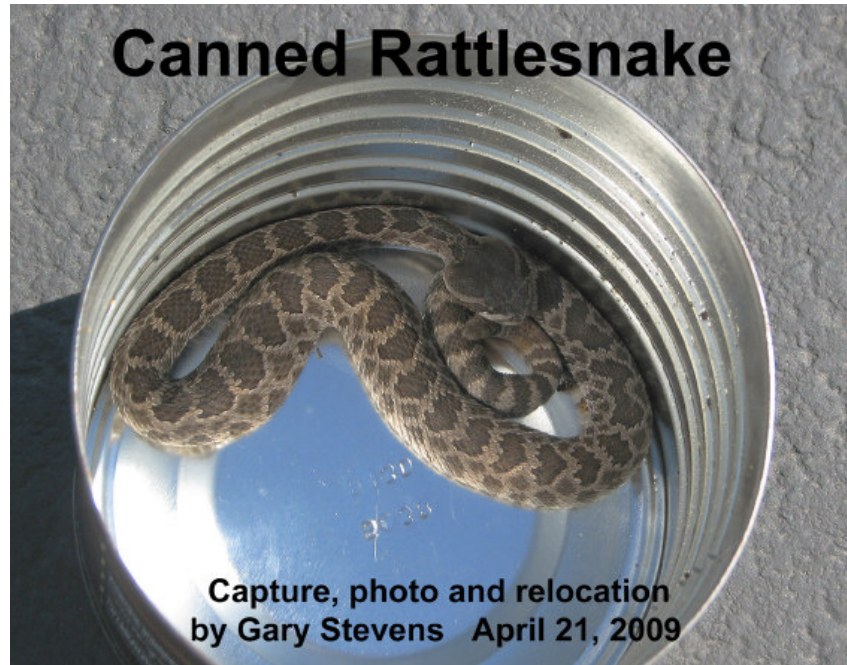
ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2009
APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 14
learn more

The goal for the "Bringing Modelers Together Begins With You" membership drive is to recruit new members for the Academy of Model Aeronautics so more people can participate in the fun of flying model aircraft safely.

The membership drive will begin April 1, 2009 and will end September 14, 2009.

Club to Club

The club winners will be based on the highest number of new members gained through the efforts of the club. Clubs of similar size will be grouped into five divisions from small to large to create competition equality. In addition to the recognition and awards listed below, each winning club will receive \$500 and a banner for their club flag.



From the Secretary's Desk

The first quarter of 2009 brought many changes to the Club. New leadership arrived with three new members in the Executive Committee. The Club underwent a temporary field closure, a significant runway reconfiguration, and we've implemented a 400-foot flight ceiling.

The length of our runway shrank from 879 feet to 500 feet. The southeast end of the runway now terminates in a concrete "Black Hole" that will likely destroy your airplane if you land a bit long from the West or touch down a few feet short on approaches from the East. What used to be an embarrassing excursion onto the dirt has become cause for airplane replacement.

Westbound landings are a bit like landings on an aircraft carrier. If you're even a tiny bit short on your landing approach you'll experience a very sudden stop when your plane hits the concrete barrier. We must all get comfortable landing on a runway whose useful length is significantly less than 500 feet.

With our shortened runway, landing into the wind is more important than ever. Get used to landing "from the freeway" if the wind is coming from the West. Burn a few tanks of fuel practicing touch-and-go" landings and you'll become a pro at landing in either direction.

Given the new runway configuration and the variability of the winds at our field, I hope that all pilots will feel free to ask for help in landing their aircraft if the need arises. We've all experienced flights started in near-calm conditions only to find ourselves having to land in strong winds or choppy turbulence created by southerly winds rolling over the dam. Having another experienced set of eyes at the flight line can help you make a successful approach and landing.

On another subject, I want to pass along this reminder that springtime brings out the snakes. On April 21 the little guy pictured below slithered across the pit near a group of seated members. The week before, Tony Villanueva found another rattler between two cars parked at the field.

If caught in the hot midday sun, snakes will naturally seek the shade that can be found under tables, chairs and cars. That places them uncomfortably close to us humans and our pets, so keep your eyes open for their presence.

The percolation basins beyond the berm provide ideal habitat for snakes. Keep that in mind when retrieving downed planes. Injury from falling down on the boulders is not the only risk! With the tall growth of weeds in the basin it's difficult to see what you might be stepping on. It might be good to have someone keep visual track of you from atop the berm.

Gary



Events Listing

Channel Islands Condors 21st Annual Gathering of the Giants

5/16/09-5/17/09 - Camarillo, CA (C-Restricted to IMAA) Channel Islands Condors 21st Annual Gathering of the Giants. Site: Camarillo Regional Park. John O'Brien CD, PH:818-991-2139 email: aronca@sbcglobal.net. Visit www.cicondors.com. \$15 registration fee includes lunch on Saturday and Pilot's raffle on Sunday. Lunch both days, noon flying demos, vendors welcome. Sponsor: CHANNEL ISLANDS CONDORS

Hemet Pattern Contest

5/16/09-5/17/09 - Hemet, CA (AA) Hemet Pattern Contest for 401, 402, 403, 404, 406(JSO). Site: Club Field. Robert Gillespie CD, 12271 Epsilon St Garden Grove CA 92840 PH:764-539-9400 email: plnhlr@sbcglobal.net. Sponsor: HEMET MODEL MASTERS

Bear Mountain Spring IMAC

5/23/09-5/24/09 - Bakersfield, CA (AA) Bear Mountain Spring IMAC for 411, 412, 413, 414, 415(JSO). Site: Club Field. Joe MacGregor CD, PH:805-237-9321 email: joemac@tcsn.net. Sponsor: BEAR MOUNTAIN FLYERS

LA Jets Spring 2009

5/23/09-5/24/09 - Van Nuys, CA (C) LA Jets Spring 2009. Site: Apollo XI Model Airport. Dave Hendrex CD, PH:310-214-0613. Visit www.lajets.org. Turbines, electric, ducted fans welcome. Sponsor: SAN FERNANDO VALLEY RC FLYERS INC

Castaic Days Float Fly

5/30/09-5/31/09 - Castaic, CA (C) Castaic Days Float Fly. Site: Castaic Lake Lower Lagoon. Wally Briggs CD, 4507 West Ave N Quartz Hill CA 93536 PH:661-722-0029 email: wallyb470@yahoo.com. Visit www.canyoncrosswinds.com. Sponsor: CANYON CROSSWINDS

Scale Squadron Scale Fly In

6/06/09-6/07/09 - Chino, CA (C) Scale Squadron Scale Fly In. Site: PVMAC Field. John Randy Wilbur CD, PO Box 91 Irvine CA 92650 PH:949-683-9662 email: rwilbur@videotecheng.com. Visit www.scalesquadron.com. Anything scale can fly, sorry no turbines. Sponsor: SCALE SQUADRON SO CAL

Giant Scale/Night Fly

6/06/09 - Van Nuys, CA (C) Giant Scale/Night Fly. Site: Apollo XI Model Airport. George Finch CD, 18127 Wakecrest Drive Malibu CA 90265 PH:310-459-1577 email: gwfinch@aol.com. Plane must be 1/4 scale or 81" wingspan. Sponsor: SAN FERNANDO VALLEY RC FLYERS INC

