

The Comets Tail



**February
2017**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 16, 2017 7:30 PM

At the Oak View Community Center

Upcoming Events:



April 22; Fun Fly & BBQ

May 20; Electric Fly & Glow-power

June 17; Quaker Fun Fly & Ballon Drop

President's Message:

At the Jan meeting we approved two new Fun Fly's, one in April the other in October. The goal is to replace the Fun Float Fly's with one day events including a swap meet and BBQ lunch. Also discussed was the merit of hosting raffles at these two events. We decided not to have raffles; however, this topic move to an open discussion of how to improve participation in the monthly raffles. A few days later TJ came up with a survey form, listing items that could be included as raffle prizes. Many of these items are already included in the raffle, but many are not. We will be passing around this survey at the Feb. meeting and will give the results to Dale for possible

inclusion in future raffles.

Attached to the Tail is the 2017 Event Schedule. Please take a couple of minutes and lock in the dates on your calendar.

TJ shared with me that the gate next to the showers is not getting locked when the last person leaves

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| President | George Boston | (805) 750-0901 |
| Vice President | Dale Nash | (805) 532-1433 |
| Secretary | Lynn Breedlove | (805) 766-2211 |
| Treasurer | TJ Moran | (805) 890-2217 |
| Field Marshal/Safety | George Lanquist | (805) 646-5365 |
| Park Liaison | George Boston | (805) 750-0901 |
| Webmaster | Don Sorensen | (805) 968-4288 |

Comets Web Site: VCComets.com

Comet's Tale Editor: Dave Berthiaume - dave@flyingastudios.com

Board of Directors

George Boston, Dale Nash, TJ Moran, George Languist,
Lynn Breedlove

Instructor Pilots:

Dave Fishman, Steve Billings, Andrew, Carlson, Bob Root, Ron Scott,
George Lanquist, TJ Moran, Steve Steinmetz, Alastair Brennan

The Comets' Tale is the official newsletter and record of the Ventura Count Comets, AMA Chartered Club #173 and is published monthly at the Comets' Tale Lair, in Agoura Hills, CA.

Editorial contributions are always welcome.

the field. I can't stress how important it is to make sure the gates get locked when we leave. It's a privilege the lake extends to us to allow our access to the model airplane field during the time when they restrict public access to the back campgrounds. Please don't assume that the guy behind you will be coming out soon, and will lock the gate. LOCK THE GATE when you leave!

With the exception of a few rainy days the weather has been outstanding, and couldn't be better for flying. The hillsides are green, the air is fresh with the approach of spring and it's hard to find a better time to be at the lake. If you haven't been out to the field lately, I encourage you to take a morning and get out and do some flying. You won't regret it.

George Boston

Meeting Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by new incoming Club President, George Boston. President Boston gave a brief review of his modeling history and his history with the Comets RC Club. VP, Dale Nash and Raffle Queen, Marilyn Nash are under the weather this week and not present.

New members or guests: none in attendance.

Previous months meeting minutes: approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report: T.J. Moran gave the report on the financial state of the club. The club finances seem to be in reasonable shape. Treasurer's report was approved by the membership.

Field Report: Field Marshall, George Lanquist stated that there were no apparent problems at the field.

Park Liason Report: John Duggin was not present at the meeting so "no park liaison report was given". John Duggin has stepped down from the position and our new Prez said he would take it over as he is acquainted with the Park Ranger that acts as our club liaison. (So I guess George is really bored)

New Business: President George talked about the Comets Tale having a new editor, Dave Berthiaume. Dave has been somewhat of a professional photographer for the movie industry and will be a good editor. Thanks Dave for jumping in there. Also George asked who is not getting there Tale, by mail or e-mail. Anyone who is not should talk to George and give him their info and we will get it corrected.

New Business (cont)

The club received an e-mail from Mike Taylor thanking the club for their donation for his daughters MS procedure and apparently it was a success.

General discussion by those who went to the AMA show in January, Main comment was how much the show has shrunk, maybe 50%. Discussion as to why amongst the members present. Apparently the show is now mostly electric which may account for the reduction in size and attendance.

President George Boston reviewed the calender of events for 2017 – event will be about the same and suggested that the events be the Saturday following the club meetings. Proposed replacing the "Float Flys" with a "Fun Fly" with no raffle but "food" will remain.

AMA article called "generations" is requesting interesting things on has done or built with pictures to possibly publish.

Old Business:

None.

Model of the Month:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM

Respectfully submitted

Lynn Breedlove, Secretary

Root's Ramble:

Last month I presented some of the models I saw at the AMA show in Ontario. I would like to continue this now. It is nice to see that there are still a few people out there who enjoy building models. Although most of today's modelers take advantage of the large number of ARF's available at least a few of us still enjoy building.

One of the most popular model types today is the molded foam electric powered scale war bird. Although it's not my thing some of them really look nice. Picture 12 shows an F7F-3 model built by Justin Link from a Flightline F7F ARF kit. He detailed the engines, added a rear cockpit, new decals and applied gloss clear for a more realistic look. I guess this is the future.

The Senior Aero Sport shown in picture 13 was built from an old Walt Moucha kit by Gary Funkhouser. It is 1/4 scale and powered by a big Saito 4 stroke engine.

The F-86 Sabre shown in picture 14 was built by Richard Burman. Although I am not usually into jets (yes I'm old) I thought this was a nice looking model. It was built from an old 1985 BVM fan kit modified to electric ducted fan power. It has a 63 inch wingspan and weighs 17 pounds.

At the opposite end of the aviation spectrum is the 1932 Aeronca C-3 shown in picture 15. This model is smaller than I thought it was when I saw it. The info lists the wing span at 64 inches with a weight of 14 pounds and powered by an OS 60 four stroke. It was built by Steve Parola. I am currently building a 1/4 scale version with a span of 108 inches. I will probably talk about this project at a later date.

I was impressed with the Luscombe models in pictures 16 and 17. The Luscombe model 8E in picture 16 is shown on floats but the builder also had landing gear with wheel pants. The model in picture 17 is a Luscombe model 10. Both models were built by Jack Dunkle.

The Piper Arrow II in picture 18 was built from a Top Flite gold edition kit by George Pollard. It has an 81 inch wing span weighs 15 pounds and is powered by Saito 91 4 stroke engine.

The AMA had several models hanging from the ceiling. I took the picture of the Cirrus 22 in picture 19 because as an aerodynamics kind of guy I was impressed with the large slotted flaps although I think the slot may be on the big side.

The Air Force was in attendance and I thought the little F-22 in picture 20 was kind of cute. I see a helicopter in the background which I hadn't taken a picture of. I'm not a helicopter fan so I usually walk right by them.

Lawrence Klingberg builds unusual scale models. They seem to be all scratch built original designs of unusual airplanes. Besides the Heath bi-plane glider on floats which I discussed last month he had the model shown in picture 21 on display. Note the built up ribs. I'm impressed. Although not finished it is a 5/8 scale model of Pou-Du-Ciel Flying Flea. This was a small tandem wing no tail home built airplane. It had some bad flying characteristics which were mostly fixed in later models.



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22

Bob Root

EDITORS NOTE:

I am attempting to keep the "Tail" to between 6 and 7 pages for now. Once I have gained more experience with the news letter I will increase it as required.



AMA Charter Club #173

Ventura County Comets
P.O. Box 333
Ojai CA 93024-0333

