

The Comets Tail



**January
2017**

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Board of Directors

Dave Fishman, Dale Nash, TJ Moran, George Lanquist,
Alastair Brennan

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 County Comets, AMA Chartered Club #173 and is published monthly at the Comets' Tale Lair, in Agoura Hills, CA.

Editorial contributions are always welcome.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 19, 2017 7:30 PM

At the Oak View Community Center

**Upcoming
Events:**



TBD

President's Message:

Happy New Year everybody. I sincerely hope all of you had a wonderful holiday and found some time to get out to the Field and do some flying. As your new President I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself and share a few thoughts regarding the upcoming year. I served as President some 4 years back and have a pretty good idea of my duties and responsibilities working with the other officers, Park management and the AMA. Most importantly it is my goal to serve all of you with the goal of sustaining a active/vibrant club, an impeccable safety record at our flying site, and having fun with our fellow members and guests flying our RC model aircraft.

I would not have volunteered to serve as your president if it were not for the continued dedication and commitment on the part of TJ, Dale, George Lanquist, and Don Sorenson to serve in their respective positions. We all owe a debt of appreciation for the hard work expended by Dave Fishman as our past President, Alastair Brennan as Secretary, and Jonh Dugan as our Park Liaison Officer. A special word of thanks goes to Marilyn for running the monthly raffles, and organizing the Christmas Party, and to each and everyone of you that volunteered to help out with club events.

On a final note I encourage all of you to share your thoughts with me regarding any matter/issue associated with the Club. Whether out at the Field, at the monthly meetings or directly by email (georgeflysrc@gmail.com) I look forward to hearing from you. Safe flying.

George Boston

Meeting Minutes:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by President Dave Fishman.
 - Dave asked if there were any new members or guests. President Dave introduced his brother-in-law who put together the flyer for free rc flying lessons to be distributed in local hobby shops etc. In addition, a couple of wives were introduced as it was the first time for them to attend one of our meetings. They are wives on new members from the Santa Barbara Club.
 - The previous meeting minutes were approved and seconded by the attending members.
 - Treasurer, T.J. Moran gave the Treasurer's Report and it was approved and seconded by the attending members.
 - Safety Officer report was given by George Lanquist. He reported that Ron Ross put his hand in a turning prop and it took 7 stitches to close him up. Ouch! Be careful out there boys.
 - Old Business:
 - Elections – George Boston will become our new President and Lynn Breedlove will become the new Secretary effective on January 1st, 2017.
 - Note: Mike Taylor's daughter has MS and needs to go to Chicago for a treatment which is supposed to cure the MS or at least put it into remission. The club voted on and approved a 300 dollar donation to the Taylors for this required treatment.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.
 - THE NEXT BIG THING ON THE MEETING AGENDA WAS CHRISTMAS DINNER! EVERYONE SUCCESSFULLY STUFFED THEMSELVES AND IT WAS SOOOOO GOOOOD.
 - THANKS TO MARILYN NASH AND HER BAND OF HELPERS FOR AGAIN PUTTING TOGETHER A GREAT CHRISTMAS DINNER. ALSO THANKS TO DAVE FISHMAN AND ALASTER BRENNEN FOR THEIR SERVICE AS CLUB OFFICERS.
 - MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL THE COMET MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.
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Root's Ramble:

It is the time of year when some of us go to the AMA model show at the Ontario convention center. I took pictures of most of the static display models. The following is a description of the models I saw for those who weren't able to attend. I should point out that they represent my interests as opposed to yours. You can't have everything!

Every year Lawrence Klingberg displays a new model. This year he built the 1931 bi-plane glider on floats shown in pictures 1 and 2. The full size airplane was designed and built by a famous aviator named Ed Heath. I must admit it is different than anything I have seen before.

The control line model shown in picture 3 caught my attention as being one of the older designs. This model was built by John Wright in the 90's from a 1955 (!) Guillows kit called the Swiftly.

The beautiful 1/4 scale Pt-17 Stearman shown in picture 4 was built by Jim Reed. He utilized a Flair kit from the U.K. I thought the details were well done as shown in picture 5.

Another nice Stearman is shown in picture 6. This is a 1/3 scale (116 inch span) model built by Steve Parola. Power is an Evolution E7 160 gas radial engine and the weight is 42 pounds.

The next model which caught my attention was the large Diamond HK36 model shown in picture 7. It was built by Dennis Brandt from a German kit. The airplane he modelled is based in Austria. The model has a wing span of 18 feet (!) and weighs 45 pounds. It is electric powered.

The T-28 model in picture 8 started out as a Horizon Hobbies ARF. Sam Wright completely refinished it with Acrylic paint and graphics from Cali Graphics. The wing span is 78 inches and it weighs 12 pounds which is light for an electric powered model of this size. He says "it fly's like a dream".

One of the events which have become popular in some areas is R/C pattern flown using models and flight maneuvers from the past. In 1968 one of the popular pattern models was the Kwik Fli Mk III as shown in picture 9. This model was built by Cal Orr and is electric powered with a well done dummy glow engine. Note also the old style Kraft transmitter which has been converted to the modern 2.4 frequency. Picture 10 shows another of these models which has copied the paint scheme from the 1968 Model Airplane News magazine cover shown in the background. The magazine cover shows Bill Northrop and Phil Kraft with Phil's Kwik Fli and his Kraft transmitter. Some of us remember these as the good old days. Okay I admit the equipment is a lot more reliable these days.

I thought the Cessna 185 in picture 11 looked nice on floats. I wonder if we will ever get enough rain to allow another float fly. This model is electric powered and was built by J. Greer. I don't have any other information on it.







The above is half of the pictures I took at the show. I will show the rest of my pictures next month. The last photo missed last months publication so I included it this month. It's a great photo of Bob.

Bob Root

EDITORS NOTE:

As the new editor I am open to any suggestions and or submissions. Additionally, a portion of Dave Fishman's article last month vanished in cyberspace so here it is. Don't ask how I found it.

Dear Comets,

I had a great time being your President for the last two years. There was more fun holding office for this great club than there was actual "work". Even though I will not be holding an office after this month, you guys are still stuck with me. I'll still be helping out wherever I can, and I'm looking forward to building an even better parade float next year! Also, I volunteered to be the monthly meeting "Coffee Guy" (don't worry, I promise not to spike the decaf with Baileys Irish Cream!!) The two highlights of my presidency has to be the Ojai 4th of July Parade and giving the boy scouts and girl scouts introductory flight lessons. I've had great times, met many new friends, and I've got tomorrow ahead of me. Thanks to you, the Comets Members for a great couple of years!

Sincerely,

Dave Fishman

If anyone needs an electronic copy of this "Learn To Fly" flyer, drop the Editor an email and i will send you a PDF copy.

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