

The Comets Tale



January 2021

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Board of Directors

George Boston, Berny Hammer, TJ Moran,
Alastair Brenman

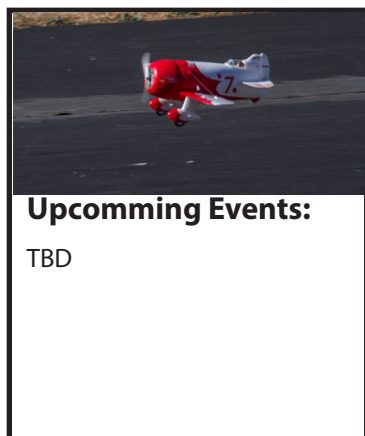
Instructor Pilots:

Dave Fishman, Steve Billings, Andrew Carlson, Bob Root, Ron Scott,
TJ Moran, Steve Steinmetz

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

Editorial contributions are always welcome.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, TBD
At the Oak View Community Center



Upcomming Events:

TBD

Presidents Message:

Hello everyone. As I write my message I feel so fortunate that to the best of my knowledge everybody in my family (children, brothers, sisters, etc.), and all my close friends are Covid free. In fact I don't know of anybody that I have come into contact with who has either contracted Covid, or have had to go into quarantine because of exposure to someone who has. About a month ago my wife Linda had a bad reaction to her second vaccination for shingles and she was showing signs of Covid, so we immediately got tested, and the results were negative. It was a scary day until we got the test results in the afternoon. We used the testing facilities at the Ventura County Fair Grounds. I share this with you because as you are well aware it's all getting much worse

than better. For us older folks hopefully we will get the vaccinated in the next month or so, and the exposure will go away. But for younger folks their exposure will continue until the middle of this year or later. In my opinion we are still a long way off from resuming life as normal, with kids back in school, attending sporting events, and having large gathering, like our fun flies and business meetings. Please don't lose your vigilance with social distancing, washing hands and warring face coverings. Virtually all of our members out at the field are doing an outstanding job of caring for themselves, and their fellow members.

I want to take this opportunity to bring you up to speed with the runway repaving project. The fund raising effort up to the last month was doing very well. As you will recall our goal is to raise \$20,000. We have received approximately \$15,300 in contributions. As I shared in previous updates, many members contributed \$500 and more, and we received a contribution from a non member of \$1,000. Unfortunately it appears the well has dried up. If you take a minute and look at TJ's treasurer's report you will see that we have a little over \$30,000 in the treasury. The project cost is estimated at a minimum of \$30,000, but could be more due to inflation, and other incidental costs that will most likely come up during the project execution. We have many members who have not contributed to this project, or who contributed very little. I suggest that you consider the cost of a new plane, or other flying gear as a good measuring stick of what should be contributed. If we all kick in our fair share we spare the burden of depending on the more generous contributors. We need to raise an additional \$5,000 to meet our funding goal. With putting down a new asphalt surface, all of us are investing in our future use of our fly site, and ensuring our continue love and enjoyment of our hobby and sport. We need your help!

I am putting the final touches on our application to the AMA for a Flying Site Improvement Grant which will be submitted later this month. We submitted a draft and received favorable comments on our application. We won't know until April or May how successful this effort will be, but hopefully it will put additional funds into the kitty. As soon as we have sufficient funds in the treasury, we will send a letter to all the contractors who submitted preliminary project cost estimates, stating precisely what we want done, and ask for their best price. Based on least cost, factored by their past work performance, we will make a selection of a contractor to do the paving. I am hoping that by the end of May to have this project completed. Thanks again for your support and generosity.

The county health officer mandate of prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people is still in effect. So the January 2021 Comets business meeting is cancelled. Here is my update of business issues affecting the club:

New Members: We have a new member, Chip Gierhart. Welcome to the club Chip. Hope to see you out at the field soon.

Approval of November 2020 Meeting Minutes: The November meeting was cancelled

Treasurers Report: The January 2021 Treasurers Report is attached to this months Tale

Safety Report: Nothing specific to report. We are still experiencing a lot of crashes. All have been in flight and did not present safety issues. Please be safe when flying and operating your model.

Park Liaison Report: Nothing to report

Old Business:

FAA NRPM on Remote ID of UAS

The FAA has issued a final rule on the requirement for remote ID of UAS. Most of you have probably seen the many emails from the AMA regarding the new rule. If you have not please take the time to go to the AMA web site and review what has been posted under the link, About AMA, Advocacy, AMA Govt Blog. There is also a link on the AMA home page on remote ID that provides a very informative summary of the new rule. Bottom line for us flying at the Comets Field, nothing has changed and we can continue to operate as we have in the past. Hooray!!

Repair/Repaving the Runway:

Enough said above

New Business:

It's that time of year to renew your AMA membership, and pay your club dues for 2021. Also, if you have not already done so, you need to renew your FAA Small UAS Certificate of Registration. It expired 12 December 2020.

End of Business Topics

Thanks again for your continued help and support to our club. It is sincerely appreciated by me and all the members of the Board.

George Boston, President

Treasurer's Report:

VENTURA COUNTY COMETS	
PERIOD 16 Nov 2020 to 10 Jan 2021	
CLUB ACCOUNT	THIS PERIOD
CHECKING: \$32,397.24	EXPENSES: \$390.00
CHECKS - \$50.00	INCOME - \$13,422.64
CASH - \$1,000.00	
TOTAL - \$33,447.24	
MEMBERSHIP 2021	
2019-78	2017-93
2013-78	2014-86
	2015-83
	2016-92



AMA Charter Club #173

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