

The Comets' Tale

*The Official
Newsletter of the*



February 2014

President	Alastair Brennan	(805) 388-0180
Vice President	Dale Nash	(805) 532-1433
Secretary	Lynn Breedlove	(805) 933-6647
Treasurer	TJ Moran	(805) 890-2217
Field Marshal/Safety	George Lanquist	(805) 646-5365
Park Liaison	John Dugan	(805) 646-6898
Webmaster	Don Sorensen	(805) 968-4288

dsorensen@tri-counties.org

Comets' Tale Editor Jerry Deanda (805) 641-3730 deandamid@charter.net

Comets' Website: www.vccomets.com

Board of Directors

Alastair Brennan, George Lanquist, Dale Nash, Lynn Breedlove, TJ Moran

Instructor Pilots

Emery Balasa 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 Plaza, somewhere in Ventura.

Editorial contributions are welcome.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, 20 February
7:30 PM at the Oak Park Community Center**

**Coming
Up!**



12 - 13 April 2014

Saturday & Sunday

Comets' Float Fly at Lake
Casitas

25, 26, 27 April

Friday—Sunday

SBRCM Float Fly at Lake
Cachuma

CANCELLED!

First Sunday of each Month

Open House at Santa Paula

Airport

Free Young Eagle rides for kids
8-18 years old

Prez Sez:

A weekend or so ago we scouted out the Float Fly area, mapping out parking, pit area and flight-line areas – The Float Fly is starting to come together. In the interest of safety we plan on drawing a line in the sand... well dirt, that will separate the pit from the start-up area. In other words one side of the line, no running engines, the other side running engines are allowed.

John Dugan has been following up with the lake for scheduling rangers and the inspection procedure, amenities moved in and grass mowed or weed-wacked.

The inspection is scheduled for:
Friday 11th 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Saturday 12th 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Sunday 13th 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Remind your fellow flyers to get there on time, pack your AMA card and bring a couple extra bucks for the BBQ lunch and the raffle.

John has been very proactive in his CD duties – Thanks John. I expect the usual cast of characters (helpers) will be there too. Thanks in advance for those that have signed up to help and those that will be talked into helping.

At this stage the only unknown is the weather, does anybody know what the long range weather forecast says - let's cross our fingers.

This will be the last meeting before the Float Fly, so if there are questions or concerns make sure you voice them at the meeting or contact John D or myself.

Scheduled for the meeting is Richard, a gentleman that will give us a quick rundown on vinyl stickers for model aircraft. He's been running a shop locally and has done work for some professional race car teams.

I'll pass on a scheduling note that you may already have: The April Lake Cachuma (Santa Barbara) Float Fly is **cancelled**.

Forget the doom and gloom of the drought and come out and fly. We had a great group just a couple weekends ago. Arguably perfect weather with non-stop flying, from a bunch of different types of aircraft.

See ya at the meeting,

Alastair Brennan

Root's Rambling for March 2014



So, which one is the model?

This month I will show some of the pictures I have taken of interesting club member's models.

I finally finished and flew my 1/5 scale WACO YMF-5 model. It flew great! I'm a happy camper. TJ Moran gave me an old Pica kit (from the mid 80's I think), that he got from one of his buddies in the Santa Barbara R/C Modelers. I started construction about 2 1/2 years ago. I chose to model an airplane which I saw at the Santa Paula airport about two years ago (I took 140 pictures!). This beautiful airplane (picture 1) was manufactured in 2005 and was based at Long Beach. The model (picture 2) has 6 foot wing span, weighs almost 19 pounds, and is powered by a 1.6 cu. in. glow engine.



Tom Wolf brought out his smaller Mosquito (pictures 3 and 4) a few weeks ago. He has been flying this model for many

years. He built his new larger Mosquito to better compete with the giant scale models usually flown at the scale competitions these days. It was a joy to see his older model which seemed to fly beautifully.



4



5

George Lanquist finally finished a DC-3 model built originally by Murray Copper from a Great Planes kit and then reworked by Ken Marsh (picture 5). It really came out nice. It



6

is shown in picture 6 in a fly by and picture 7 on final approach. Unfortunately George had an engine failure as shown in picture 8. The approach was high and George tried to go around for another try. Twin engine models are notorious for not flying well on one engine and the model crashed out of control. The damage wasn't as bad as it looked and he says he will rebuild it. Pictures 6 and 8 were taken by Tom Wolf.



7



8



10

Dick Metzger built the new Quaker shown in picture 9. He has had lots of great flights with this model although picture 10 shows the outcome of what can be called a less than perfect landing.



9



11

TJ Moran has been flying and fine tuning the setup of his Quickie racer. Tom Wolf is releasing it in picture 11. Picture 12 shows this extremely fast racer in flight.



11

Bob Root

MINUTES of the FEBUARY 2014 MEETING

Meeting was called to order by Club President, Alastair Brennan, at:

- 7:31 pm

New Members & Guests:

- 25 members present – no guests or new members.

Treasurer`s Report: (T.J. Moran)

- T.J. went over the Treasurer`s Report – no major expenditures or expenses. The report was approved by the membership.

Safety Officer`s Report: (George Lanquist)

- No problems to report for this month.

Park Liaison Report: (John Dugan)

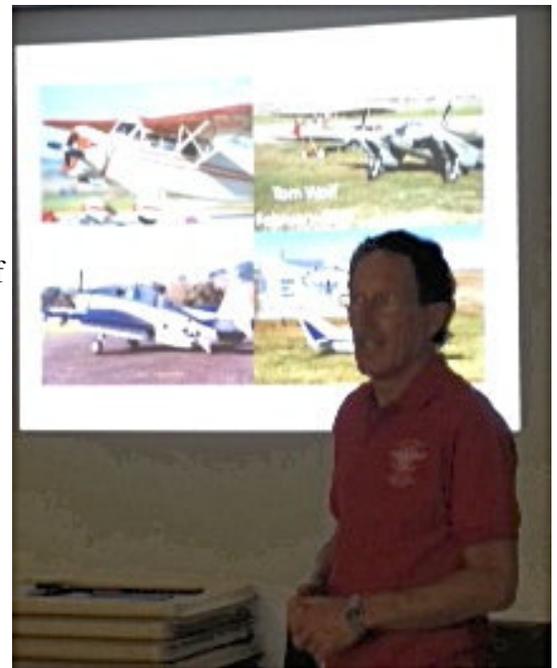
- The April “Float Fly” has been approved by Lake Casitas Rangers.
- This year the Park Rangers will spray the floats with a solution of chlorox and water.
- John Dugan will be the CD for the float fly.

Old Business:

- The striping of the runway was brought up. T.J. stated that he will still head up the project – waiting for the runway fabric to more or less complete the shrinking process.

New Business:

- Change to the January meeting minutes: The minutes did not reflect that our President was not in attendance and the Vice President, Dale Nash presided.
- T.J. brought up that the AMA club insurance certificate has been received.
- Our member, Tom Wolfe gave an excellent presentation of the 2013 Scale Masters competition. As most of you know now, Tom won “Scale Masters Grand Champion” last year. His presentation included a bio of his modeling history and a slide presentation overview of the rules and regulations of the competition. In addition, he discussed scoring, documentation, judging and competing. There was also a slide showing the different classes of competition including a beginner class. Tom discussed these in more detail and encouraged anyone who was interested to compete. Tom took questions and gave answers thru-out the presentation. Great job Tom – many thanks.





Model of the Month:

- Bob Root presented his newly finished Waco Biplane. It was built from a Pica kit which he had purchased from T.J. The plane weighs approximately 19 lbs. has about 1530 sq. in. of wing area. It is powered by an O.S. 160. The plane is absolutely beautiful. Bob has not flown it yet.

Raffle:

- A few of our members won some good R/C model stuff.

Meeting adjourned at:

- 8:57 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn Breedlove - Secretary

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

As per our usual policy:
 Unpaid members will be stricken from the newsletter mailing address list as of 1 April, 2014.
 Also, the various combination padlocks at the field will be changed as of 1 April, 2014.
 If you want to renew your club membership, please mail the \$50 annual fee and a copy of your 2014 AMA card to:

VC Comets
 PO Box 333
 Ojai, CA 93024-0333

If you have any changes to your club contact info such as telephone number(s), E-mail addresses, home addresses, etc., please include those changes.

Thanks,

TJ Moran

Treasurer, Ventura County Comets



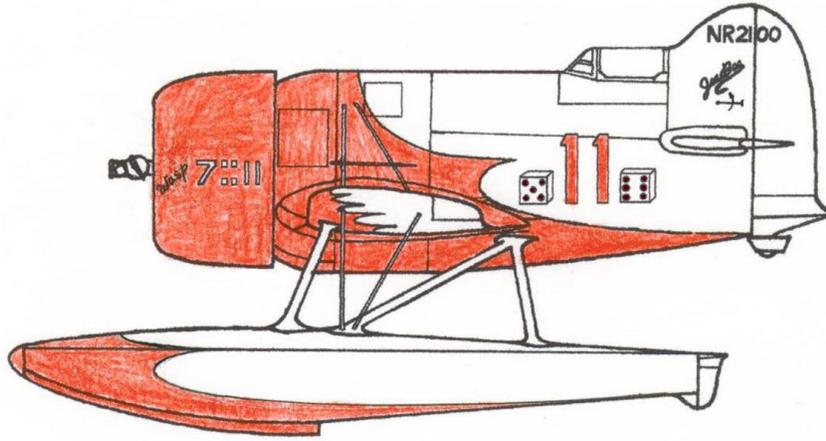
A MYSTERY PLANE

OK, maybe not so mysterious to everybody. If you think you can identify this airplane, write your answer on the back of a twenty dollar bill and send it to:

***The Comets' Tale
 Comets' Tale Plaza,
 Somewhere in Ventura 93001***

As always, offer void where prohibited by Law or Common Sense, which is almost everywhere.

And Bob Root is not eligible.



NO WHEELS

Ventura County Comets' FUN FLOAT FLY!

12 & 13 APRIL, 2014

Entry Fee: \$20.00 (No Pre-registration)

IMPORTANT NOTE!! All models MUST be inspected for mussels by a Park Ranger on Saturday 7:30AM to 10:30AM or Sunday, 7:30AM 9:30AM. If you miss this inspection, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO FLY!!

Hosted by:

Lake Casitas Recreation Area

And

The Ventura County Comets

There Will Be A Great Raffle!

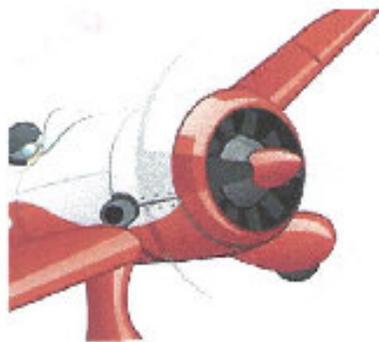
***Your Original A.M.A. MEMBERSHIP Card is REQUIRED ,
no copies, please .***

No helicopters, no flight training!

- AMA Sanctioned Event
- RV Parking at the Flying Site (No Hookups at the Flying Site)
- Hookups in Camping Areas with Reservation by calling 805-649-1122
- Adjacent Picnic Areas
- 10 years or older in the pit area
- Great Spectator Viewing Access
- Food and Drink Available
- Plenty of fun

Need More Info? Call:

John Dugan 805-646-6898 OR Bob Root 805-648-7293



2nd Annual Central Coast Giant Scale Fly-in



*Hosted by the Central Coast Flying Giants IMAA #801
And the
Tri-Valley R/C Modelers AMA #170*

Aug. 1-3, 2014

Early arrivals ok by pre-arrangement

Landing fee: \$20

*(Includes: parking, lunch on Saturday and pilots raffle)
Dry Camping \$10 per night*

Registration starts at 7:30am Friday

[Pre-register @ rcflightdeck.com](http://rcflightdeck.com)

*IMAA Legal planes only till 5pm. Open Flying after 5pm.
Night Flying ok 3D ok*

Proof of current AMA Required at registration!

500'x50' paved runway, shade canopy and power available in the pits

*Santa Maria Style Tri-Tip BBQ for dinner Saturday
(Pre-Pay at registration)*

Food and drinks will be available for purchase Sat and Sun

Come enjoy Mild Central Coast temperatures.

Contact: Chuck Barnes (805) 886-7921

Cdbarnes10@comcast.net

<http://www.trivalleyrcmodelers.com>

IMAA 

International Miniature Aircraft Association

