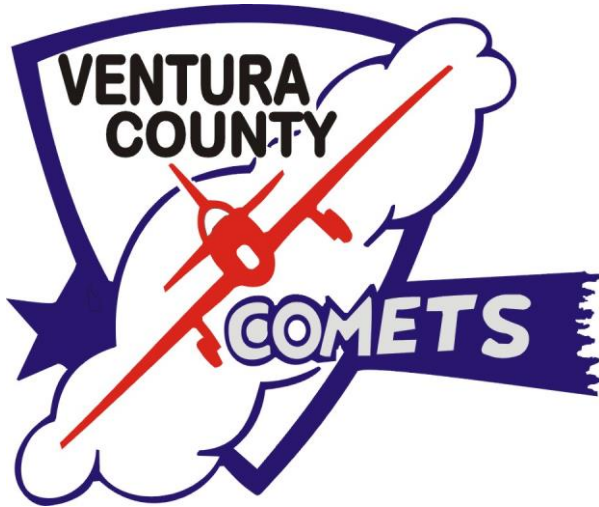


The Comet's Tale



May 2023

President	Mike Taylor	(805) 701-6536
Vice President	David Strassman	(323) 316-4552
Secretary	Alastair Brennan	(805) 338-8114
Treasurer	TJ Moran	(805) 890-2217
Field Marshal/Safety	Greg Nowland	(805) 889-8911
Park Liaison	George Boston	(805) 750-0901
Webmaster	Don Sorensen	(805) 968-4288

Comets Web Site: www.VCComets.com
Comet's Tale Editor: Alastair Brennan, jet_a@yahoo.com

Board of Directors:

Mike Taylor, Dave Strassman, TJ Moran, Alastair Brennan

Instructor Pilots: Dave Fishman, Bob Root, Ron Scott,
Greg Nowland, Alastair Brennan

The Comet's Tale is the official newsletter and record of the Ventura County Comets AMA Charter Club #173 and is published every other month at the Comet's Tale Lair in Camarillo, CA. Editorial contributions are always welcome.

Next Meeting:

**Thursday, May 18, 2023, 7:00 dinner, 7:30 Meeting
At the Oak View Community Center**

Prez Sez:

The Lake is Beautiful. At about 74%. Our upcoming Float fly will be a lot of fun. George Boston is our lead person on all the legal running parts of the event. We will need a lot of Volunteers so get ready. Camping right at the flying site will also be happening. So get ready for a fun filled weekend of Flying float planes, night flyers, and some good parties. As we get closer I will be writing more about needs and fundraisers.

As I write this I am in Moab Utah. Out of all my extensive traveling this is the most jam packed exciting place I have ever been. There are unlimited activities here. Biking, hiking, unbelievable rock formations, camping, any type of water event you want to do, 4 x 4 in your own car or rental of every type of vehicle you can imagine. I recommend this place.

The San Diego gang was here this month. Most of those guys are expert flyers. They commented on how nice our runway is. I agree.

TJ has brought up to me that it might be a good idea to secure your engines with a leash so that an unexpected water landing doesn't take your engine to the bottom of the lake. Sounds like a good idea to me.

We will be having another field cutting session somewhere around May 15-19th. We need volunteers for weed-wackers and blower operators. We will train you if needed. Thank you in advance for your support.

Courtesy of lifetime member, Don Ashworth, we now have a plane hold-back that is refurbished and in good working order. It sits on the shelves in the small shed. On a temporary basis, it is for anyone to use if you forget yours. Anyone is welcome to use it, just return it to the shed at the end of your flying session.

Alastair will be running the show next Thursday since I am gone. Please be nice to him and he will feed you. Pizza & Sandwiches at 7:00. Bring anything you want to donate to the club or sell.

Meeting Minutes:

We started with the usual dinner of pizza and sandwiches then...

President Mike called the meeting to order at 7:33. There were 15 members in attendance.

Lake capacity was brought up. We are at 58%, which segued into talk of a Float Fly. A team plans to review a potential site in a few weeks.

A note that the Point Mugu airshow is this weekend.

A club member (Don Ashworth) has donated their stash of airplanes and supplies to the club and were laid out at the meeting for donations.

The mention of TJ fixing planes was brought up again, and continued that he fixes stuff around the flying field too. Thanks TJ.

The minutes were approved.

The treasurer's report was that funds are in good shape. Expenses were the club meeting dinner, club fun-fly lunch and the website fees. We have 61 paid members and an additional 8 lifetime members for a total of 69 total members.

Safety officer's comment was to use restraints on the aircraft when starting/tuning.

Park Liaison had no news.

Old business

Pay dues if you haven't already, an email went out before the March meeting and we read the names at the meeting in case anyone knew someone that has yet to pay.

New business

Float fly – George B will initiate the scouting of the site. We will need a Contest Director (CD) and need to think about how to accomplish a raffle, advertise in Model Aviation and BBQ lunch. We are planning for Sep 22 to 24, which will replace the Fun Fly event we have on the schedule.

We plan to move the April 29th warbird day as it is the same weekend as the Lake Cachuma float fly.

The lawn area needs moving. TJ will lead the charge on that task.

Runway assessment has moved to late Spring/early Summer

The meeting adjourned at 8:03

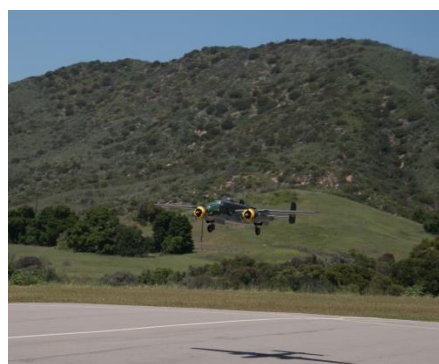
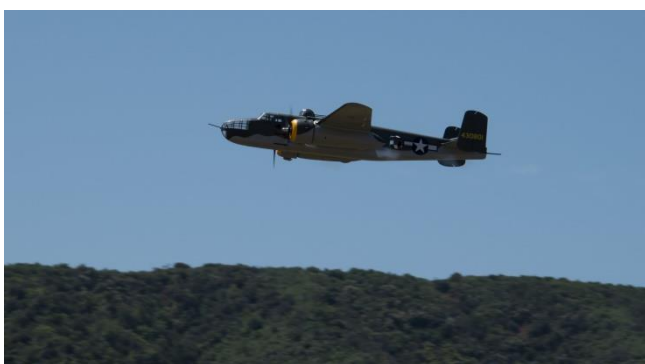
Photos from the April Warbird day:

WW1 German Planes



Early Fighter Trainer and a Late WWII Fighter





Is that a 2-stroke muffler up front?



Parking lot close to overflowing



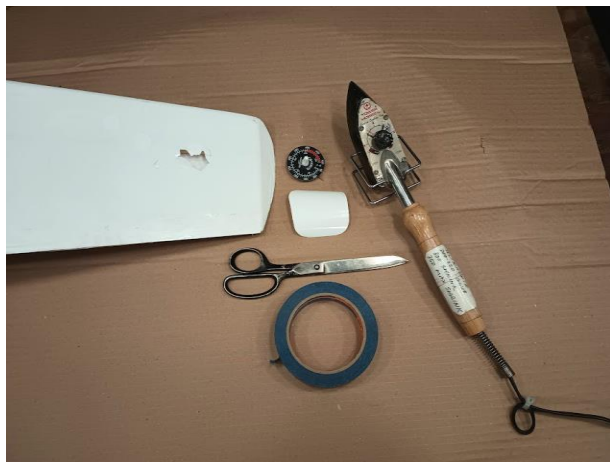
The BBQ Crew



Lunch!

TJ's Tips

When repairing a hole in film covering, the edges of the repair patch will often loosen and pooch up as you shrink the central area of the patch. My technique will greatly reduce or eliminate this problem. After ironing down the perimeter of the patch using the film's adhesive temp setting, let the repair area cool, and apply 2 layers of masking tape to the perimeter where the patch has been adhered to the original covering. Set the iron to the shrink temperature and shrink (heat) the central area of the patch. Let the area cool, and remove the tape. The tape should insulate the patch's adhesive perimeter so the adhesive does not loosen which would allow the whole patch to loosen at the higher film shrinking temperature.



Upcoming Events

May:

20 Glider fun fly and competition (TBD) +BBQ + Swap meet, **Comets**

June

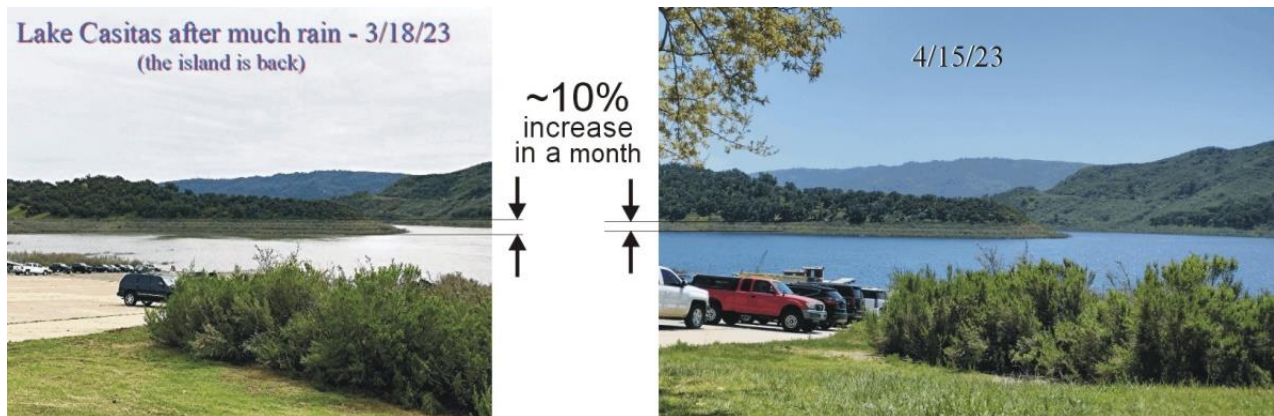
2-4 Lake Cachuma Float Fly, Santa Barbara Modelers

11 Simi Valley Fliers, Warbird Day, BBQ and Swap meet

24 Fun Fly and Balloon Drop / Competition (TBD) BBQ and swap meet, **Comets**

Random Lake Photo

Ron Scott took the photo on the left, AB took the photo on the right:



Club Facebook Page: [Comets RC Club and Airfield at Lake Casitas](#)

