

The Comets Tale



November 2022

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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, November 17, 2022
At the Oak View Community Center



Upcomming Events:

Presidents Message:

Finally, some rain. To bad it's not enough for a float fly. Those were great times camping at the lake, getting up and going float flying. Hopefully we will be lucky enough to do it again.

I was lucky enough to go to the Tucson Shoot Out in October. It was a real eye opener. Professional RC Pilots are a different breed. There were teams there from Spain, Mexico, Italy, Australia and a couple other countries. It was quite an experience. Do it if you are ever able. Desert Aircraft was one of the

sponsors who were there. On the last day I found out DA was doing tours of their Facility. I missed it because we were on our way out that afternoon. Shucks. Maybe next year. Luke Ackerman (one of our members) was in the competition. Our annual Christmas party is coming up December 10th at the flying field. I will update everyone via e-mail the time and specifics regarding the party. We will probably have a swap meet before and a fun fly event. The meeting is this Thursday the 17th at 7:30. As usual we will have Pizza and Sub sandwiches at 7:00 for whomever is hungry.

Hope to see you there. We will discuss the Christmas party, presents and swap meet details.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Mike Taylor

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Comets Club Meeting Notes

9-15-2022

7:00 PM: Mike delivers 3 Pizzas from Ojai Pizza and Sandwiches from Subway

7:35 PM: Meeting called to order

Attendees:: 14 Signed the roster

President: Mike

Safety : Greg

Secretary: Jeff

Treasurer: (TJ) Absent due to recent shoulder surgery

Members: 11

New Members/Guests: None

Motion to approve old minutes was submitted, seconded and approved.

Old Business:

1. Check our club airplane by-laws for requirement to have a switch or disconnect on all electric planes. Mike and Greg could not find any written requirement. Group discussion with the following points addressed.
 - a. Install a fuse, switch or Deans plug
 - b. Switch or plug is a point of failure
 - c. Check our LiPo Safety document for electrical switch requirements
 - d. Member Greg read the following safety documents from our website
 - i. Ventura County Comets AMA Chapter 173 Li-Po Power Compliance Safety Form
 - ii. Ventura County Li-Po Battery RC Aircraft Safety Check List
 - e. The Li-Po Safety Check List is an Airworthiness Review which states: **The ultimate responsibility for the safety and airworthiness of this aircraft rests solely with the owner and/or pilot.**
 - f. The Safety Checklist also has a line addressing a "kill switch". **Kill Switch/throttle adjustment properly set (Can I kill the engine with the radio?)** This was discussed and noted that members need to check that our throttle kill switch is "On" before connecting the battery to the plane.

New Business:

1. What can we do for deceased members whose families have donated their plane collection to our club. The following ideas were discussed.
 - a. Send their name to the AMA website for publication
 - b. Donate \$100 to the AMA from club donations raised from the proceeds of the donated airplanes.
 - c. Buy a commemorative brick from the AMA, with the members name to be placed in the Walk of Fame, Muncie, IA.
 - i. Mike will check on the cost
2. Public Outreach-We discussed many avenues to create interest and inform local people of our club and great facility at Lake Casitas.
 - a. Displays at local businesses
 - b. 4th of July parade participation- Trailer required
 - c. STEM event held at Camarillo airport includes robotics, drones and planes
 - d. Ventura County Fair exhibit at the Home Arts section
 - e. Flying Field Open House-Cost per guest car at \$20 each is prohibitive
 - f. Push/Pull Parade in Ventura-Wagons with planes
3. Santa Maria Fun Fly was attended by Mike and he saw a huge variety of planes.
4. Tri-Valley R.C. Modelers have lost their flying field in Santa Maria.
5. Contact S.C Edison Drone operator to come to a club meeting and share their knowledge and experience flying drones for power line inspections.
6. Ojai Pharmacy, next to the hospital in Ojai, has the new and improved COVID booster shot available.

Safety:

1. Greg reminded everyone to go to the AMA website and complete the **Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST)**, which is a collaboration between the FAA and industry to provide TRUST and educational material to Recreational Flyers.
2. Upon completion of the test recreational flyers should print or save a digital copy of their completion certificate and keep it on their person when they fly. The Academy of Model Aeronautics cannot re-issue your completion certificate if it is lost. The FAA cannot re-issue your completion certificate. Should you lose your completion certificate, you will need to re-take TRUST and obtain a new certificate.
3. Time to complete the test is 15-30 minutes. This an open-book test which you take until you pass, impossible to fail.
4. **Restrain, Restrain Restrain** your aircraft before starting your engine or connecting a battery to your aircraft. We have a few near misses due to unrestrained aircraft t our flying filed.

8:00 PM Meeting Adjourned

























Editor's Note:

Thanks for the ride. I've trully enjoyed being part of the Comets Tale team for the past several years and look forward to seeing you all in the near future,

Dave