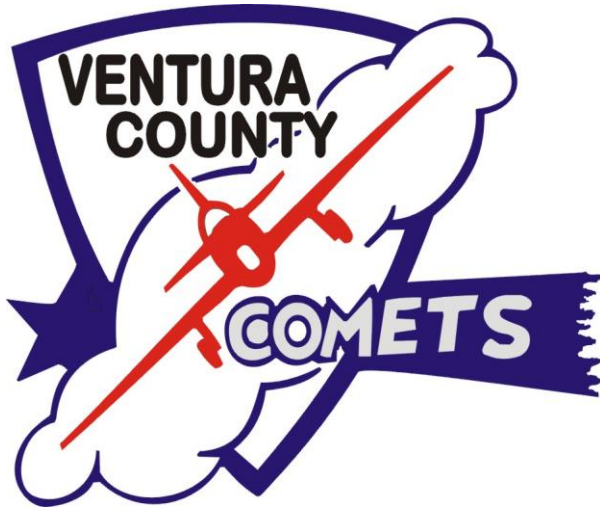


The Comet's Tale



November 2023

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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, November 9, 2023,

7:00 dinner, 7:30 Meeting

At the Oak View Community Center

Prez Sez:

It's been a great year so far flying at our beautiful Lake Casitas field. I recently was reminded about how great of team players all our members are. There is always someone willing to step in and help or take over a project if needed. We have a great club and members. Thank you to all. Special thanks to the grounds team who always seem to show up and keep our field cut and dirt off the runway. And of course our cooks Steve & Mike for all the BBQs this year. Plus all the officers and volunteers who keep things ticking. Enough said, we have a great site and wonderful members.

Remember we have a meeting this Thursday November 9th at 7:30. **It's a week earlier than normal.** Pizza and sandwiches at 7:00. We need to go over quite a few new business items so please come to the meeting if you can possibly make it.

1. Next year's events Calendar.
2. New President
3. Christmas Party
4. And anything else we can come up with.

At the flying field, the usual is happening. Typically 12-16 flyers every Saturday, Tuesdays and a few less Thursday. I usually fly Sunday and we are only 3-5 flyers. Watching TJ, Greg, Dave and Bob fly their 100MPH pylon plane is fun - Especially when Harold joins. TJ has some good pictures. Been a few collisions lately. I helped Paul destroy his Maul from a good altitude straight into the ground. Sun was involved. Feel bad about that one. Will make it right soon.

November 18th is EDF Jet day at our field. No Turbines. You can fly anything but if you have a jet please bring it. There will be a BBQ by the brothers two.

Ok, that's about it. See you Thursday night.

Meeting Minutes:

There were 13 members when our early meeting started at 5:01pm.

The meeting minutes were approved.

Safety officer reminded us to check the FAA cards. They are all pretty much expiring this year.

Link to renew: <https://faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/>

And put your FAA and AMA numbers on your aircraft.

Also, if you are bringing a furry friend (dog), tie it up as we don't want the animal involved in a mishap with taxing airplanes.

The treasurer reported that funds are in good standing. We have 88 members.

Float fly:

At time of writing there were 24 prepaid pilots. President-Mike says thanks to all those that have helped so far. There will be inspections at 10am on Friday and again, yet 7:30am start, Saturday and Sunday. Expect 5 flying stations. Plan to sell tickets for the BBQ lunch. Sunday we will break-down the site soon after lunch.

New business

The FAA, FRIA requirement has moved to March 16, 2024; about a 6-month reprieve. However, the Comet's field just got approved.

Need an election committee and hold a vote for officers at the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36.

A few float fly photos, thanks to George Boston and selfie(?) by Ken:





TJ's Tips

An excellent product to use for pushrods is a carbon fiber arrow shaft. This is a convenient method to attach a clevis rod to a carbon fiber pushrod. I use 4-40 hardware on all aircraft powered by .40 cid and larger engines. The 4-40 clevis rods are typically .093 inches in diameter. The arrow shafts I used are about .240 ID.

Reduce the OD of a 1/4 inch wood dowel to get a slip fit into the arrow shaft. A lathe is good, or you can chuck the wood dowel in your hand drill, and reduce the diameter using a sanding block. Drill a .093" hole through the center of the dowel. Cut the dowel to about 3/4" long. Drill a .093" hole, 3/4" from the end of the arrow shaft.

Determine the length of 4-40 rod you need and allow about .240" extra for a bend as shown. Slide the dowel on the 4-40 rod and bend a 90° angle on the end of the rod. Apply a liberal amount of epoxy to the rod, wooden dowel, and inside of the arrow shaft. Insert the rod in the arrow shaft and hook the 90° bend into the .093" hole. Slide the wooden dowel into the end of the arrow shaft and the 4-40 clevis rod will be locked in place.

Place the arrow shaft in a vertical position to allow the excess epoxy inside to harden against the end of the dowel and the bend in the rod. When finished, the arrow shaft can be turned and the 4-40 rod can be tweaked to center it.



Upcoming Events

Nov 18 Jet Fly (EDFs only, no turbines), other non-EDF planes welcome, BBQ & swap meet at the **Comets**
December 9, Christmas party at the field. Catered by Marshalls BBQ.

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

