

The Comets Tale



September 2019

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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, **September 19, 2019 7:00 PM**

At the Oak View Community Center



Upcomming Events:

Oct. 12&13 Giant Scale Event at AMOS field. See attached flyer

Oct. 19 Lake Casitas Fun Fly, BBQ and Swap Meet

President's Message:

Fall is just around the corner. Where did this summer go? Flying out at the field has been great even with all the heat. The mornings have been clear and cool, with virtually no wind. Some of the best flying weather for the year is from September through November. So if you haven't been out at the field recently, get out there and have some fun.

I was under the weather back in July when we had our last meeting. I had to ask Berny to stand in for me. Thanks Berny for running the meeting. I also missed the War Bird Fun Fly, Swap Meet and BBQ which was held the following Saturday.

The members I talked to said the turnout was good with a lot of stuff being sold and traded at the swap meet. They said the hamburgers and hot dogs were outstanding, thanks to Mike and Steve Steinmetz for serving up an excellent lunch. Coming up on 19 October will be our last planned event for the year.

We will be having another Fun Fly with everyone invited, there will be a swap meet and BBQ lunch provided by the Club. So don't forget to mark your calendar for 19 October and we hope to see you there.

I want to take few minutes and express my thanks to four of our members who consistently go the extra mile supporting the Club. But before I do, I have to preface my comments by saying there are so many of our members who are always ready to help out when called upon. If I offend anyone by not mentioning their name I sincerely apologize.

Dave Berthiaume has been the editor and publisher of the Tale for the last couple of years. Whether at home, or on the road Dave has been there getting the Tale published and distributed before each of our business meetings. Beyond his editorial effort, he has contributed many photos with narrative comments highlighting special events, even some outside of the Club, such as the annual float fly at Lake McSwain. It takes a good deal of time to organize the articles coming from me and others, and getting it all compiled into a presentable format. Thanks Dave for your outstanding support with getting the Tale published in a professional and timely manner.

Alastair Brennan has been a long time member of the Club, and is always volunteering to help out when the Club is working on special projects/events. A few years back Alastair accepted a new job offer in the bay area. To our good fortune he decided to return back to the Ventura area just this past winter. Upon his return he volunteered to relieve Lynn Breedlove as our Secretary. In fact he submitted his name as a candidate for Secretary months before his return date. Most recently Alastair headed up an effort putting together a display at the Union Oil Museum in Santa Paula of planes, building materials, engines, electronics and descriptions of RC flying activities. He also spends Sunday afternoons at the exhibit, working on building projects, and answering questions that the visitors have about our hobby. If you haven't already seen the exhibit, you should plan to take an afternoon and go check it out. It's very impressive and does an excellent job promoting the Club.

Dave Fishman is very similar to Alastair. He is always looking for ways to promote the club. He frequently invites friends out to the field to see first hand what the hobby is all about, and is a certified pilot instructor/trainer. This past summer he coordinated the activities of many members who volunteered their time to put together a float for the Ojai 4th of July Parade. There were multiple work days involved with getting the float prepared, and when the parade took place he coordinated our walk along participation promoting the Club. I got a chance to walk along with members from my family, and the Club. It was a lot of fun. This is the second time Dave has coordinated our effort with getting a float in the parade. Had it not been for Dave leading this effort, it would not have happened.

I can't say enough about how much all of us are indebted to TJ Moran for his support and dedication to the Club. His duties as Treasurer are more time consuming than the duties of all the elected officers, combined. He coordinates with the staff at AMA Headquarters and responds to many queries coming from people that are viewing our web site on the internet. He also responds to questions from folks that have been given his name with questions about the Club, or our hobby in general.

But beyond this, TJ is the glue that holds the Club together in so many ways. When he isn't riding a lawn tractor cutting down weeds around the field, he is repairing tables, emptying trash cans or heading up an effort to clean out the storage shed. There are very few initiatives taken on by the Club that TJ isn't in the middle of, or serving as the catalyst to see them through to completion. He is a mentor to many of us when it comes to solving building and flying problems, and is just a great friend to sit and chew the fat with. Thanks TJ for all you do!

We are so fortunate to have such generous, caring and dedicated membership. Thanks to all of you.

Our next meeting is scheduled for the 19th of September at the Oak View Community Center. The meeting will start with pizza and subway sandwiches for dinner at 7pm. And please don't forget the Fun Fly in October. It will be the last scheduled event out at the field this year. Thanks, and see ya on the 19th.

**Safe flying,
George Boston, President**

July 2019 Meeting Minutes

Called to order at 7:26 PM

There was one new member

Meeting minutes were approved

Treasurer's report stated the funds are in good shape and was approved.

Membership stands at 76

Safety report: "All's well"

Park Liaison: Nothing to report

The proposal for the new storage shed is drafted. As a reminder the proposed shed is an additional storage shed that (if accepted by the Lake) will be installed next to the current shed.

No progress has been made on the Ad Hoc committee for flying drones.

Glider day was a big success.

Next event is the warbird fun fly, swap meet and (free) BBQ.

Model of the month:

There were two.

1) Greg N brought a Neptune sea plane ARF. This was made by League models. 60" wing span power by a O.S. 40. Greg mentioned the "usual" ARF troubles during assembly.

2) Jerry D brought an SE5A. This was a balsa kit. Finished in Litespan and clear-coated.

Jerry won the MOM

Meeting adjourned at 8:11

**Respectfully,
Alastair**





**Cachuma Float Fly
August 2019.**



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August 2019.**



**Cachuma Float Fly
August 2019**

Santa Paula Oil Museum

The team of Lynn B, Greg N and I, with parts and planes lent to us by other club members, set up a little display at the Santa Paula Oil Museum. This idea started when I visited the museum to see the Hot Wheels (toy cars) display that was on display at the beginning of the year. On the way out I asked what it takes (who you have to schmooze) to set up something like this. I told them about my involvement with our clubs, presentations the club had done at schools and at the flying field. The receptionist gave me a couple business cards with names to contact.

I wrote up a proposal, describing what the display would look like and what we are trying to accomplish, and they agreed. I got the word out the club and a couple members let us borrow some planes and equipment. Labor Day weekend previous issues of Model Aviation magazines were added to the display for visitors to take as well as a couple one-page flyers telling of the club (flight lessons and upcoming fun fly)

The display goes through Nov. 17th. I was there Sunday ("1st Sunday") and did a little building for over 2 hours. Three other club members (Lynn, Greg, Gordon) stopped by as well. Admittedly only a few museum visitors stopped by to chat. Perhaps most people left town due to the holiday (Labor Day).

I plan to do this again and if you have ideas for a model airplane activity during the display's run the museum will most likely support it. Let me know and together will propose it to the museum staff.

Thanks to all that have helped.

Alastair





Editors Note:

I am adding FLYERS to facilitate that information being available for the membership as well as providing space for airplanes and accessories for sale when someone has passed on. This issue will contain one of each of the aforementioned.

Nor-Cal Huckfest

Giant Scale Event
Saturday & Sunday

October the 12th
and 13th, 2019

At the AMOS field Located at
4015 East Catlett RD, Roseville, CA

One Mile from the Thunder Valley Casino

****Great Event Lodging****

Any Giant Scale 79" and above wingspan
3D Model Airplane can Fly

Free overnight RV parking

Pilots can arrive on Friday 11th to Practice

Flying at the field.

\$10 Landing Fee Saturday - Sunday no charge

AMA insurance is Required

Great BBQ - Hamburger or Hotdog \$7 meal Tri-tip \$10

The AMOS Field is a Gold Member AMA field
One of the Best in California

Contacts: Basil 916-410-2791

Geordan White 916-521-8590

Gary Meyer 916-276-6990

Web www.amosrc.com



These items are from Patrick McBee a former member who passed away last April. Danny Graham is his friend.

For more information regarding these items please contact:

Danny Graham 805-443-4031cell

There is a lot of stuff here

3 complete airplanes

2 helicopters

A fueling station

And there are 3 boxes of balsa wood

Tool boxes

Chargers

Extra engines for each airplane

Several radios



AMA Charter Club #173

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