

The Comets Tale



September 2021

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|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
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Board of Directors

George Boston, Berny Hammer, TJ Moran,
Alastair Brenman

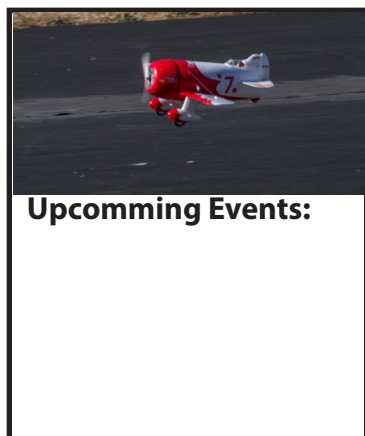
Instructor Pilots:

Dave Fishman, 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 16, 2021
At the Oak View Community Center



Upcomming Events:

Presidents Message:

Approximately 2 months have already passed since publishing our last Tale. How the time flies! Our first business meeting in over a year and one half (held on July 15th) went well with around 25 members attending. The pizza and sandwiches were great and there was virtually no leftovers, so everybody came hungry. It was a good meeting with a lot of discussion on what has taken place since the Covid lock-down. Two major items were covered under the category of New Business, 1) holding elections for the offices of President and Safety Officer at the September meeting, and 2) holding a fun fly on the 28th of August.

At the present time we have two candidates: Mike Taylor for President and Gerg Nowland for Safety Officer. Nominations will remain open until they are closed at the September business meeting. Any member interested in serving in these positions can submit their name to me and I will add it to the list of candidates. We will conduct voting at the September meeting and the new officers will assume their positions on 1 January 2022. The term of office for both of these positions is two years.

With respect to the Fun Fly in my opinion it was a great success and well attended. There were at least 25 pilots and three times that many planes. We got underway around 9:30am with a Limbo-Run competition. There were all types of planes, electric and glow power, large and small. The starting height of the tape was set at around 7'. The rules were one pass per pilot. You must fly under the tape without striking it, and no contact with the runway before passing under the tape. There were 9 pilots competing. Two were eliminated at the starting height. The tape was lowered to around 4' and we did a second pass of the remaining pilots. All but 5 were eliminated. The tape was then lowered to around 2' and three made it successfully under the tape. The final pass was with the tape set at around 1' to 6" given the wind. Greg Nowland was the only pilot to successfully make it. It was a lot of fun and everybody had a good time.

In fairness, I have to point out that all the pilots who got past the second round were flying electrics, some very small. If we hold Limbo-Runs in the future we should have categories that the pilots compete in based on the size and power source of the plane (electric vs gas/glow).

The balloon drop was also a lot of fun. There were around 6-7 pilots competing. We had to restrict general flying during the Limbo-Runs for obvious reasons, but there were no restrictions during the balloon drop. There were no designated rounds, and pilots could make as many drops as they wanted. We had plenty of water balloons, thanks to Greg Nowland, so there was no limit to the number of passes. Bob Root, flying his Cloud Cruiser (Grandpa) was the winner with a drop 4" from the center circle.

The swap meet had a large collection of planes, motors and support gear for sale. There was a lot of horse trading going on, and anybody looking for some excellent planes and gear could take advantage of the great buys. Steve and Mike Steinmetz, as always did an outstanding job of preparing a delicious lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs, with all the fixings. It was a great day, and to my observation everybody had a lot of fun and enjoyed themselves. Included in this issue of the Tale are pictures of this fun day.

The September business meeting is set for the 16th. We will start at 7pm with pizza, sandwiches and soft drinks/coffee. This meeting is important because we will be voting on candidates who are running for President and Safety Officer. Don't forget bringing along your favorite plane for model of the month competition, and any old gear you want to get rid of for the give-away table.

On a final note is the recent mandate from the Ventura County Health Officer that all individuals attending indoor gatherings, regardless of size must wear face coverings. If you have a problem with wearing a face mask, and refuse to do so, DON'T PLAN ON ATTENDING! Of course no face coverings are required while we are eating dinner. And if you feel more comfortable sitting outside while eating there are all the tables on the patio next to the meeting room.

I hope to see you on Thursday 16 September. Take care, and safe flying.

George Boston, President

July 2021 Comets' Meeting Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 7:30. We had 22 members and 1 new guest.

Treasurer's report was accepted and funds are in good shape. Currently there 86 members.

Safety officer reports, all OK.

A member told/reminded us that there is a white flag on a stick that you should walk with when searching for a downed model in the brush. This way the observers can call you (cell phone) and give direction on where to look as you maneuver through the brush.

Park Liaison said there were no concerns.

A quick historical summary of the club was brought up. Club established in 1958 and chartered with the AMA in 1969.

Old business: The Camarillo flying circus had a “big turnout” at their latest fly-in.

New Business:

UAS safety test.

Currently will be a requirement but not for a couple years. You cannot fail the test; the on-line keeps asking you the same multiple choice question until you get it right and then moves to the next question. Once passed, print the certificate and keep with you when you fly at the field.

One of the links:

https://trust.pilotinstitute.com/?gclid=EAlalQobChMIInqm0x8Sq8gIVBAmRCh3LEQFiEAAAYASAAEgLWp_D_BwE



Trust Certificate Example

Language: It was brought up that we should be aware of our (fowl) language at the field and to limit (not use it) around folks and kids, that find it offensive.

San Diego Air and Space Museum was to host a behind the scenes tour of the facility that the membership could have been part of (for a fee), however this has been cancelled.

The new storage shed keeps improving, yet there is restricted access to it. See TJ, Greg Nowland, or George Boston for access; they will open it for you to use tools or the work bench, etc.

A fun fly is planned for August 28th. There may be such games as a balloon drop, limbo, and a swap meet is expected. Free lunch is part of the event.

Dave Fishman brought up an opportunity to have cub shirts printed.

It is that time for some club officers to change. We need nominations.

Model of the Month:

Jeff brought a "Fullhouse" made from a kit from Stevens Aeromodel (<https://stevensaero.com>). A laser cut kit, covered in aerolITE. The plane uses a 2-cell battery and weighs 26oz.



**Santa Maria Giant
Scale Event July 2021**



The "Money Shot"



**Ventura County Comets
"Fun Fly & BBQ"
August 28, 2021.**

A great time had by all.













