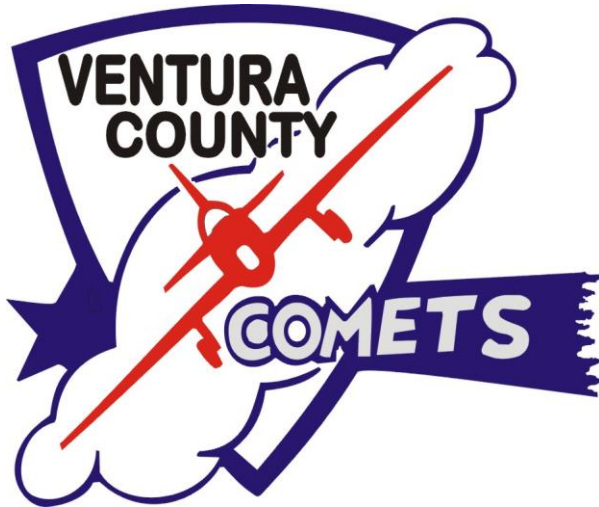


The Comet's Tale



December 2024

Special Edition

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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.

**Christmas Dinner, Silent Auction and Swap Meet
Saturday, December 14, 2024,
Fun starts at 4pm, Dinner at 6pm
At the Oak View Community Center**

Prez Sez:

What a year of ups and downs 2024 has delivered to us. Two amazing float flies, numerous fun flies and barbeques, but the loss of our beloved friend and mentor TJ Moran will always be our lasting memory of 2024. The field has now been officially renamed the TJ Moran Memorial Field, with a heavy-duty, stainless-steel sign mounted on our shed for all to see.



Our Christmas party is Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Oak View Community Center located at 18 Valley Rd in Oak View. We have 40 people planning to attend the delicious BBQ dinner and great raffle prizes to win. Here is the itinerary for the event.

- 4-6PM Swap Meet and TJ Moran Silent Auction
- 6-7PM BBQ Dinner by Q-Time BBQ
- 7-8PM Dessert and Raffle Drawing

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Your Prez,
Jeff

Web Site

Are you keeping up with all the changes to the web site? Prez Jeff has got the site really dialed in and you can do all sorts of things from it. If you have trouble or questions/concerns, get hold of Jeff and he can help.

...Speaking of the web site (editorial piece)

You were asked to enter an emergency contact name and number in the web site. It only takes a minute.

This request is important for a number of reasons. What if you get hurt at the flying field and we need to reach your emergency contact? In a perfect world one of us will already know how to reach your emergency contact, but that someone would need to be at the field, too!

What if you have not showed up at the field for a couple of weeks and efforts to reach you have been ineffective? Again, in a perfect world your emergency contact will reach out to us with a call/text/email if you are in the hospital or die (Yikes! That was blunt), but they will have a lot of their plate and may not think about it, leaving us to wonder if you are alright.

Anyway... I see us as a big family and we will worry about reaching your emergency contact if you are hurt at the field. And we will wonder what's going on if you are a no-show for flying for a few weeks. All that to say, please let your emergency contact know to reach out to us if something is amiss.

Updates to the Comet's by laws:

1. Junior member fees reduced from \$10 to \$0.
 2. Added President will appoint Membership/Website Administrator
 3. Added Membership/Website Administrator role and duties
 4. Changed Christmas Party from, to be held on "3rd Thursday in December", to "the month of December".
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*If
You
Know
You
Know*



Photo, Nov. 30, 2024

An interesting article from a few years ago – From the Bob Root “Library”

ONE SECOND IN THE LIFE OF A RACER

BY TOM FEY

THE UNLIMITEDS GO FLASHING THROUGH THE RACECOURSE, ENGINES HOWLING, AIR SHEARING, HEAT WAVES STREAMING. FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY MILES AN HOUR IS 8 MILES A MINUTE, AND THE ELITE RACERS TAKE ABOUT 70 SECONDS TO COVER THE 9.1 MILE RENO COURSE. IF YOU COULD TAKE A SOUPED P-51 RACER FLYING THE CIRCUIT AT RENO, SLOW TIME DOWN, AND EXAMINE JUST ONE SECOND, WHAT WOULD YOU FIND?

IN THAT ONE SECOND, THE V-12 ROLLS-ROYCE MERLIN ENGINE WOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH 60 REVOLUTIONS, WITH EACH OF THE 48 VALVES SLAMMING OPEN AND CLOSED 30 TIMES. THE TWENTY FOUR SPARK PLUGS HAVE FIRED 720 TIMES. EACH PISTON HAS TRAVELED A TOTAL OF 60 FEET IN LINEAR DISTANCE AT AN AVERAGE SPEED OF 41 MILES PER HOUR, WITH THE DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT REVERSING 180° AFTER EVERY 6 INCHES. THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY POWER PULSES HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED TO THE CRANKSHAFT, MAKING 360 SONIC BOOMS AS THE EXHAUST GAS IS EXPELLED FROM THE CYLINDER WITH A VELOCITY EXCEEDING THE SPEED OF SOUND. THE WATER PUMP IMPELLER HAS SPUN 90 REVOLUTIONS, SENDING 4 GALLONS OF COOLANT SURGING THROUGH THE ENGINE AND RADIATORS. THE OIL PUMPS HAVE FORCED 47 FLUID OUNCES, ROUGHLY ONE-THIRD GALLON, OF OIL THROUGH THE ENGINE, OIL COOLER, AND OIL TANK, SCAVENGING HEAT AND LUBRICATING THE FLAILING MACHINERY. THE SUPERCHARGER ROTOR HAS COMPLETED 348 REVOLUTIONS, IT'S RIM SPINNING AT MACH 1, FORCING 4.2 POUNDS OR 55 FT³ OF AMBIENT AIR INTO THE COMBUSTION CHAMBERS UNDER 3 ATMOSPHERES OF BOOST PRESSURE. AROUND 9 FLUID OUNCES OF HIGH OCTANE AVIATION FUEL, 7843 BTU'S WORTH OF ENERGY, HAS BEEN INJECTED INTO THE CARBURETOR ALONG WITH 5.3 FLUID OUNCES OF METHANOL/WATER ANTI-DETONANT INJECTION FLUID. PERHAPS 1/8 FLUID OUNCE OF ENGINE OIL HAS BEEN EITHER COMBUSTED OR BLOWN OVERBOARD VIA THE CRANKCASE BREATHER TUBE. OVER 1.65 MILLION FOOT POUNDS OF WORK HAVE BEEN DONE, THE EQUIVALENT OF LIFTING A STATION WAGON TO THE TOP OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

IN THAT ONE SECOND, THE HARD-RUNNING MERLIN HAS TURNED THE PROPELLER THROUGH 25 COMPLETE REVOLUTIONS, WITH EACH OF THE BLADE TIPS HAVING ARCED THROUGH A DISTANCE OF 884 FEET AT A ROTATIONAL VELOCITY OF 0.8 MACH. FIFTEEN FLUID OUNCES OF SPRAY BAR WATER HAS BEEN ATOMIZED AND SPREAD ACROSS THE FACE OF THE RADIATOR TO ACCELERATE THE TRANSFER OF WASTE HEAT FROM THE COOLING SYSTEM TO THE ATMOSPHERE.

IN THAT ONE SECOND, THE AIRCRAFT ITSELF HAS TRAVELED 704 FEET, CLOSE TO 1/8 MILE, OR ROUGHLY 1.5% OF A SINGLE LAP. THE PILOT'S HEART HAS TAKEN 1.5 BEATS, PUMPING 5.4 FLUID OUNCES OF BLOOD THROUGH HIS BODY AT A PEAK PRESSURE OF 4.7 INCHES OF MERCURY OVER AMBIENT PRESSURE. OUR PILOT HAPPENED TO INSPIRE DURING OUR MEASURED SECOND, INHALING APPROXIMATELY 30 CUBIC INCHES (0.5 LITER) OF OXYGEN FROM THE ON-BOARD SYSTEM, AND 2.4 MILLION, YES MILLION, NEW RED BLOOD CELLS HAVE BEEN FORMED IN THE PILOT'S BONE MARROW.

IN JUST ONE SECOND, AN AMAZING SEQUENCE OF EVENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE BENEATH THOSE POLISHED COWLINGS AND VISORED HELMETS. IT'S THE WORLD'S FASTEST MOTORSPORT. DON'T BLINK!

Christmas party... one more time

This Saturday – Dec. 14

\$15 copay for dinner and raffle ticket

2nd TJ Moran Memorial Silent Auction & Swap Meet 4-6 PM

BBQ Trip-Tip, Ribs, Chicken, Salads & Bread 6-7 PM

Win over \$1000 in Raffle Prizes 7-8

Raffle Prizes:



Reminder: Pay your dues

You can do it on the Comets' web site

Upcoming Events

Bear Mountain IMAC
2025

May 24th-25th
Bear Mountain Flyers
8100 Sycamore Cyn. Rd. Arvin, CA. 93023
AMA:4563

RVS Welcome
Lunch Saturday
Freestyle & Night 3D
Raffle
Open Practice Fri.

IMAC **THUNDER POWER** **DeepForce Aviation** **JR PROPO**
International Model Aircraft Club RC DEPOT PROFESSIONAL RADIO CONTROL SYSTEM

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(805)223-5737
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Comet's Facebook Page: [Comets RC Club and Airfield at Lake Casitas](#)

