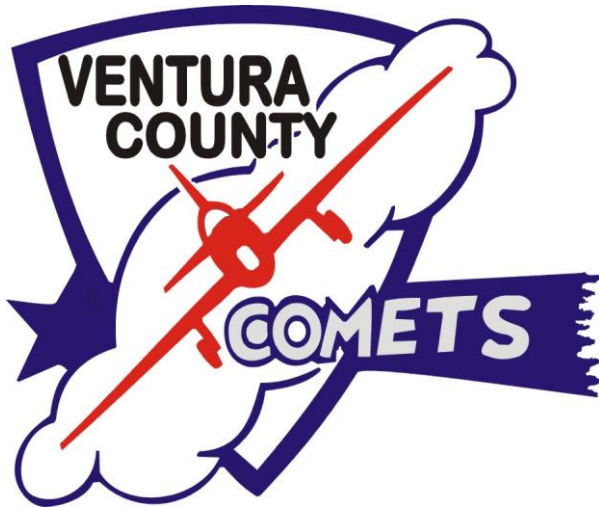


# The Comet's Tale



## May 2025

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### Board of Directors:

Jeff Hall, Dave Strassman, John Green, Alastair Brennan

Instructor Pilots: Dave Fishman, Bob Root, Ron Scott,  
Greg Nowland, Alastair Brennan

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, May 15, 2025

## 7:00 dinner, 7:30 Meeting

## At the Oak View Community Center

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### Prez Sez:

Good news for those of us who like to fly high in the sky. The FAA, on April 11, 2025, authorized unmanned aircraft operations in Class G airspace up to **1200ft AGL (Above Ground Level)**. This authorization is effective from April 11, 2025 to April 30, 2027. A copy of the Certificate of Waiver or Authorization is required to be on site and will be posted in our Frequency Box.

## **Upcoming Events**

**Club Meeting- Thursday, May 15 7-8:30PM** Join us at the meeting to review our Float Fly profits and discuss the replacement of two pop-up shade covers that were destroyed by the wind and rain.

**Murray Cooper Memorial Quaker Fun Fly – Saturday, May 17 8-2PM** Bring out your Quaker planes and show off your skills hitting the bullseye in our Balloon Drop competition. We will have a free BBQ with a 50/50 raffle, with a chance to win half the cash!

**Flight Training – Saturday June 21 8-2PM** Bring a friend who wants to fly, and we will have certified instructors with buddy boxes and planes they can fly and learn to love the sport. We need form a small committee at our meeting on Thursday to take charge of this event to make it successful.

Welcome to our newest member, Steven Kiefer, from Santa Barbara, who joined after meeting me at our recent Float Fly. Our current membership is ninety-nine and growing.

Pizza, Subs and Cookies at our meeting Thursday.

Your Prez,  
Jeff

## **Meeting Minutes:**

Dinner at 7 and then.

Meeting called to order @7:32

There were 20 members present, plus 1 new member and a guest

We opened with a moment of silence for Murray Cooper, a long-time Comet's member and famous(?) for building many many Quakers. We heard that he build 37 or these airframes.

The minutes were approved.

A reminder that the Float Fy is next month (April). George B will be the CD .

Treasurer's report: Funds are in good shape. 95 members. We sold the last of TJ's R/C bits and the funds went to TJ's widow.

A reminder to ensure that you have an FAA number and it is on your plane. Junior members need an FAA number.

Safety Officer report: Use the painted pilot boxes while flying. Use a restraint when starting your plane or preparing to fly. A reminder to call out your takeoffs (plan to go to the runway) and landings. And a recommendation to mow the field.

Park Liaison report: We are set for the float fly. George will talk to the Lake staff closer to the date. The Lake management has filled in the potholes on the entry road.

Old Business: Flying field maintenance. a) Need to spray the weeds. b) part of the cover over the tables is sagging and needs sealing c) Seal the cracks in the runway – We have 2 gallons of sealant that can be used for the cracks.

We need to decide on a day to do the work, at the meeting it was suggested to meet March 26.

Yearly Budget: Jeff crunched some numbers and put together a quick review on income and expenses

Treasurer-John to look at CD rates in invest some3 of the club's money.

A member brought up combat plane club event, which would consist of build a plane of one design and then combat flying. The club member has a set of proven combat airframe. More details to follow.

Model of the month

Alastair brought a "Bat", a flying wing by Old School Model Works that he built for Ron G. He said the kit was easy to build and finished in Ultacoat. The kit can be powered by nitro or electric.



### Float Fly April 2025







**Safety tip from the AMA Facebook page**

Something to think about:

Gun people talk about trigger discipline that is keeping your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot. We should practice throttle discipline if you have a live airplane even if your electric is in throttle cut, you need to make sure that you have the throttle secured like this (see photo) if you are moving around or moving the plane and you are not actually in a position to start flying.



**As a reminder: The Flying Quaker**

The Flying Quaker was originally designed (in 1936) as a free flight model. It has an 84" (7') wing span. The Comet's club became enamored with this model years and years ago and soon it seemed almost every club member had one. I would bet all of them scratch built - No box of parts, just plans; the builder had to source the balsa and start tracing/cutting. For a while you could buy a "short kit" which came with all the hard to cut parts – If I remember right it was all the wing ribs and maybe the curved laminated pieces for the wing tips and tails.



Club members powered the models with all sorts of engines (before electrics took off). 2-cycle/4-cycle, small displacement/large displacement. One of club members also improved the main landing gear to a more conventional look. And that became the look to copy. He would also sell you the landing gear so you did not have to get the wire and bend it yourself.

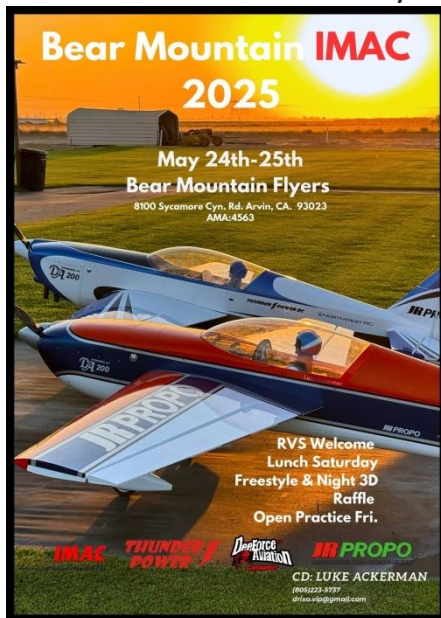
Three channel only, Rudder, elevator and throttle, no ailerons. And now you see the Quakers with bomb drop compartments just for events like we are having next week (May 17).

## Upcoming Events

Quaker Day and BBQ: May 17

Flight Training Day and BBQ: June 21

Bear Mountain IMAC: May 24-25



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

