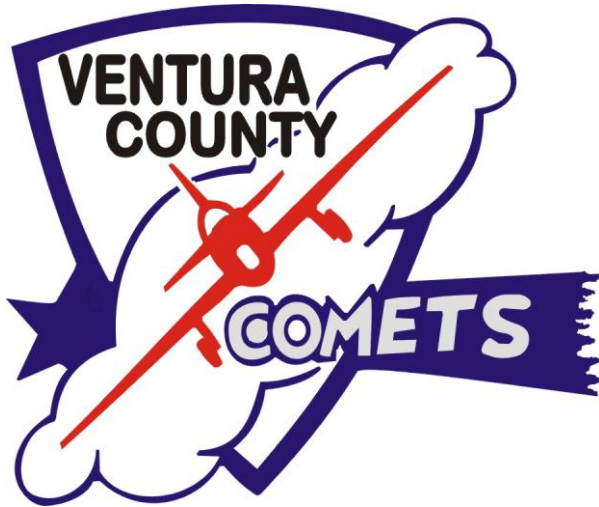


# The Comet's Tale



## July 2025

|                      |                  |                |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
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| Secretary            | Alastair Brennan | (805) 338-8114 |
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| Field Marshal/Safety | Greg Nowland     | (805) 889-8911 |
| Park Liaison         | George Boston    | (805) 750-0901 |

Comets Web Site: [www.VCComets.com](http://www.VCComets.com)  
Comet's Tale Editor: Alastair Brennan, [jet\\_a@yahoo.com](mailto:jet_a@yahoo.com)

### 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, July 17, 2025

## 7:00 dinner, 7:30 Meeting

## At the Oak View Community Center

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### Prez Sez:

How the time flies between our meetings, with many of our members cruising the highways during the summer months, we can get back together at our upcoming meeting this Thursday and share a few stories of our travels and flying at other sites.

I have been to the Denver R/C Eagles site at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Sky Park Soaring site near Lake Arrowhead and Tehachapi Crosswinds field for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to join in flying our Night

Radian gliders with fireworks in the background. Interesting perspective on how different clubs have set up their flying fields.

Here are a few topics for discussion at our meeting on Thursday.

- A Warbird event in August was suggested by Bill Rauch.
- Two more “Learn to Fly” events in August and September
- Safety at the “Learn to Fly” events.

Greg and I are planning a field maintenance day on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. I will send out a reminder email to those members that have volunteered in the past, but all hands are welcome. We also need to do a more permanent repair job on our field rules board.

Our membership continues to grow with new members joining and old members renewing. Please welcome Roger Vecchio, Bill Bunce, Rich Reed, Mark Luton, and Bryan McCann to the club. We are now at 104 active members!

Pizza, Subs and Cookies at our meeting Thursday.

Thanks,

Your Prez,  
Jeff

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### **Meeting Minutes:**

Pizza and sandwiches were the usual dinner, then...

The meeting was called to order @7:31. There were 15 members present.

Saturday (May 17<sup>th</sup>) is Quaker Day.

The president thanked those that mowed the flying field area

The newsletter minutes were approved.

The Treasurer’s report was given by President Jeff as John the treasurer was out.

A mention to update your info on the web site. For example a number of members do not have their phone number entered.

Safety Officer Report: An “Atta boy” was given on the use of restraints. A follow-up to call landings and take offs – Perhaps ask the question, “OK to land?” “OK to take off?” and wait for a response.

*As a side note to this, there was this incident recently, a pilot called "landing" and another called "taking off" and neither yielded and guess what happened. – Editor*

Park Liaison: Things are going well. No issues

The next float fly is October 10-12, 2025. Jeff to have this posted in the AMA magazine.

### **New business**

The AMA/FAA approved model fights to 12000ft AGL

We agreed to buy three new canopies (EZ-up type) for the club to replace the old and broken ones. The cost for the three is ~\$600.

Need to order/acquire parts for the tractor and mower, estimate the fee to be ~\$50.

Flight Training Day is in June. This is an event, open to the public, to come out and fly an airplane with one of the club's trainers. At the time of writing we had 3-4 members that could help (training aircraft and "buddy boxes") Club members will get the word out

Meeting adjourned at 8:23

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## **Quaker Day / Balloon Drop**

It was a drizzle day and not many showed up. Nevertheless we flew some Quakers and dropped some balloons.

George Boston won the balloon drop contest, followed by Bob Root.

And there was a nice lunch that followed the event.

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## **Flight Training Day**

We had an awesome turnout for our flight training day with challenging crosswind conditions, without any accidents. We signed up 18 student pilots with the AMA registration form.

A BIG thanks to our trainers, Greg Nowland, Alastair Brennan, Dave Fishman and Ken Dundridge. They had their hands full and eventually ran out of battery power. We ended the event around 1:30 due to windy conditions.

Also, a BIG thanks to Steve and Mike Steinmetz for cooking delicious BBQ burgers and dogs. They also cut down the weeds around the taxiway and runway last week to get rid of the "plane grabbers".

Here are a few pictures from the day:



Thanks to all who helped make this event a success.  
-Prez Jeff

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### **Tip – Control Surface Alignment**

While installing and adjusting push rods, it is easier if you lock the control surfaces in their neutral position. Use a pair of Popsicle or wood coffee mixing sticks and a couple of clothes pins to keep the surfaces from moving.



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### **Upcoming Events**

July 26: Glider Day – Contests, BBQ and raffle  
August 16-17: Wings over Camarillo (A full scale airshow)  
October 10-12: Comets Fall Float Fly

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

