

THE WINDSOCK - February 2025

GREETINGS EVERYONE!

We had a good turnout for our February Club meeting at the Black Bear Diner, 23626 Valencia Blvd, Valencia. Thank you all for coming.

ACTIVITIES AT THE FIELD:

Not much new at the field other than it is amazing how fast the grass and weeds are starting to grow so soon after the fire. Even though the barriers are still up, indicating that Lake Hughes Road is still closed you can go around them and get up to the flying field. Power has been restored and the road up to the field is clear of debris. Otherwise, everything is pretty much back to normal.

FINANCIALS:

The February Treasurer's Report was presented by our treasurer Jack. See attached. Not much has changed other than a couple of new memberships and fuel sales.

Current membership stands at 95.

RECAP OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING:

- Jack indicated that the Club's 6-month CD was renewed.
- Steve K. gave an update on a possible option for insulating the Club's office building. If we use an insulation material called Rockwool and cover it with ½" drywall would cost around \$500 based on what Thomas at Builders First Source could do for us. Other options in place of using drywall were discussed like wood paneling. Nothing has been finalized yet so further discussion is to take place before we do anything.
- **Float Fly for 2025:** The Park & Rec. Department has put on their event calendar Saturday, June 14th for our next Float Fly. That date also does not conflict with any of the surrounding club events in Southern CA that we are aware of.
 - Steve Killian indicated he will meet again with P & R Dept to discuss how we can accommodate getting planes and equipment from the lower parking lot that we used last time out to the beach area. Currently they have offered to let us have one shuttle vehicle, but it was agreed at the meeting that one vehicle isn't going to be enough.
 - Having food for sale at the event was also discussed and we decided not to provide anything but water like we did last year. So, lunch is on your own.
- **Online Membership Payments:** We discussed further the pros and cons of establishing a method to accept membership payments through our website using PayPal. Jack did some research, and it would basically cost an additional fee of around \$8 for each adult club member, making it \$258 and around \$83 for a junior membership. If paid in cash or check it would stay at \$250 for adults and \$80 for juniors. It was suggested we do a poll to see how many would actually pay online before we do this.

- **Training Beginners:**
 - The question was asked how many other members besides Bill A. and Jim D. would be willing to step in to help train beginners in case for whatever reason Bill and Jim can't. Doug Russell and Lee Buchok both said they would be willing to as needed. Thanks guys!
- **Field Maintenance:**
 - As most of you know our VP, Bill Ardizzone and past President Jim Desautels have been the primary guys that have been keeping the flying field area nicely mowed and equipment maintained. Bill makes sure he does this during the week when flying is not happening. The question was asked in a concern of how long Bill would want to keep this up. He confirmed he planned to do it for as long as he is able. We should never forget the dedication Bill, Jim and any who have helped keep things looking great. I firmly believe we would not have survived the fire if it were not for them! Thanks guys!!
- **Turbine Aircraft Rules for Operation & Certification:** Lee Buchok and Corey Dail reviewed the latest draft of the Turbine Aircraft Rules for Operation and the certification process. After this discussion Lee indicated that he would make a few adjustments and present to us a final draft which Bruce Carnell, (our new Secretary) can form as a proposed amendment to the Club constitution. This proposed amendment will be presented at our March Club meeting for consideration.
- **Flying Field Events:**
 - It was discussed and agreed upon to hold our annual **War Bird Memorial Weekend Fun Fly** on Saturday, May 24th. The current plan is to have our own crew grill burgers and hot dogs and provide sodas and water.
 - **Competition Fun Fly:** We discussed the possibility of having a fun and simple competition event where there would be two levels: a Junior Class and an Experienced Class. The prizes might include gift cards to a So Cal hobby shop or online purchases from Horizon Hobbies. The thought is we could have it in September. More discussion to follow.
- **Show & Tell:** This part of the meeting seems to be really taking off (pun intended). We had two participants that brought in their RC projects. Jim Catlett, (a Charter Club Member), brought a great looking electric ducted fan F5-Tiger II Jet. He hand-painted it with a camouflage theme. Corey Dail brought in a cool looking F 9F-8 turbine powered jet which he has flown a number of times a few years back but is now in a restoration phase and awaiting a new turbine jet engine.

Thank you, Jim and Corey, for sharing these beautiful aircraft. See pictures of these projects attached to this email.

FUEL UPDATE:

If you wish to purchase more fuel, just contact one of the Club officers and we can help you. Currently we have approximately 4 gallons of 15% left and 4 gallons of 10%. A new order has been placed for more fuel. Like everything else our cost will be going up. The current price for members of the last four gallons is \$45 per gallon. That is still less than what Smith Bros. is selling it for, plus you don't have to drive down there to pick it up. We are selling the remaining 4 gallons of 10% for \$35. Please bring the correct change for your fuel as we do not keep change at the field.

Reminder: As most of you know any aircraft that uses Lipo type batteries, electric or gas, has a potential risk of starting a fire if involved in a serious enough crash that would damage the Lipo battery pack. Because we are in a high-risk fire zone and given the vegetation is extremely dry we insist any pilot that is involved in such a crash needs to take action immediately and get to the crash site as soon as possible to prevent or put out any flames. If it appears that you will not be able to extinguish the fire immediately, PLEASE DON'T HESSITATE and call the Fire Department and/or 911.

SHIRTS, AND SWEATSHIRTS:

We have great-looking polo shirts in stock. We also have Tee shirts and sweatshirts and hats available at the field. They are all looking good! The cost is \$35 for Polos, \$20.00 for tee shirts and hats and \$40.00 for sweatshirts. See a club officer for yours.

The Board welcomes your ideas to make the club a better place for all members. We welcome your criticism as long as it's constructive criticism.

MEETING UPDATE:

Our **NEXT** regular Club and Board General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, March 26, 2025** at the **Black Bear Diner, 23626 Valencia Blvd., Santa Clarita.** A number of us will be there at 6:00 PM for dinner and if you would like, please join us. The regular meeting starts at 7:00 PM. There are always a lot of great discussions while we eat.

SPECIAL NOTE: I am always looking for anyone who wants to participate in a simple "show & tell" at our meetings. If you have a new "Flying" project or new piece of RC equipment that you would be willing to show, please let me know and bring it to our meeting. If you have any questions, you can always send me an email at stevek4him@gmail.com or call my cell phone 661-755-9721.

On behalf of the CCW Board, stay safe! We hope to see you soon at the flying field. **Happy landings!**

Steve Killian

President

