

## Meeting Highlights October 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Jim Trimbell, President, at 7:00 P.M.

28 members attended

**Guests** – None

**New member introductions** –

Glen Aldridge

David Brown - did not make the meeting

**Treasurer's Report** – Jim Knudson read the Treasurer's report for September. Operating income totaled \$1227 and expenses totaled \$243. Month-end operating and capital balances totaled \$3,836

**Secretary's Report** – Jerry Case read the September 9, 2013 meeting minutes.

**Old business**

- **Flying fields** –

**Twin Buttes:** Jim Trimbell reported that:

The field has narrow approaches for landing and cacti are growing along the far edge of the runway. We need a work party to remove rocks and smooth a bad spot on the runway.

Pilots should use larger wheels on their planes because the runway has exposed rocks.

Three folding table setup tables are kept in the shed.

A shade cover is available for hot sunny days.

While the field is being used, the chain only needs to be looped around both gates but not locked. The lock should be re-locked when the last person leaves.

**FICO:** Gary Johnson reported:

The board met with Rich Walden, FICO Farm Manager, at the field. Topics discussed were:

We thanked Rich for responding quickly to our request have the weeds mowed. He said that all we have to do is call him when we need the field mowed.

The roads in the pecan groves are being repaired now that the monsoons are over.

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A new combination gate lock was connected to the old broken lock. Rich advised that upon opening the gate, we should leave our lock hanging from the end of the chain, but close it all the way and change the combination. The gate should remain open when leaving, except during the harvest.

The fly problem at the field was not due to FICO's nearby piles. The piles are not manure, but are ground up green waste.

Rich was not concerned about the use of a weed burner to control weeds near the pit area.

Rich was not aware that there was a 25 car or 50 person limit at the FICO field. His only concern was the amount of dust that our vehicles could raise ALL YEAR. We told him that we are working on slowing down our club members as they drive in the grove. Remember, if you can see dust in your rear view mirror, SLOW DOWN!

Gary reported the following about the field: He suggested that we should use the weed burner in the area west of the runway to prevent regrowth. A new lock was added to the front gate. The second windsock was replaced. We have 6 more that were made by Jeff Little's wife. All new safety stands were painted and installed. The old stands were broken up and the debris behind the shed will be taken to the dump.

- **Safety issues –**

Pilots at the FICO field must not get lax about flying in the no-fly zone to the north. Also, pilots must not take off right angles to the runway.

Photos of heat damage to Steve Otroso's plane were shown to the members. The speed controller overheated, burned off the attached wires, and melted a hole in the foam fuselage.

- **Web site report** –Meeting minutes and treasurer's reports were updated for September. The roster was updated, and photos were added through early October.

- **AMA News –**

Seven modelers were inducted into the AMA Model Aviation Hall of Fame.

The Model Aviation Museum now has the oldest model airplane, a 1914 Bing Autoplan, on display.

Donations to the Wounded Warrior Project during the National Model Aviation Day exceeded \$70,000.

The AMA Expo 2014 event is scheduled for Jan 10-12 in Ontario, CA.

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- **Membership report** – The board decided to re-open membership to the club until the count of 100 was reached. The 5 applicants on the waiting list were notified about the opening. Two joined the club, the other three haven't responded. Currently, the membership is at 93.
- **Area flying events** – Jim Trimbell announced the flying events that are scheduled through the next meeting.
- **Ad-hoc committee to recommend procedures for managing the use of the FICO flight line on busy days** -- No report as of the meeting.

### New Business:

- **Pot Luck Dinner** – The dinner is scheduled for December 9, a regular meeting night, but will start at 4 PM. A signup sheet will be prepared and brought to the flying fields. Members may also sign up via email.
- **Hobby Barn:** David Shaffer was hired away from Hobby Town to be the new store manager of The Hobby Barn. The store was remodeled and is nearly fully stocked.
- **Fairfield Homes:** Frank Hite reported that the company's representative, who was going to arrange a flying demonstration by our club, left the company. We assume that the show is cancelled.
- **By-Law Changes:** The board proposed two changes to the By-Laws. One was a new requirement that new members must be residents of Sahuarita and Green Valley. The other set a maximum count of 100 club members. A lot of pro and con discussion ensued. A motion was made by Ken Fleshman and seconded by Bob Orr to delay the vote on the changes until the January meeting. The committee, which is charged with recommending procedures to manage the FICO flight line, needs more time to prepare their report. The motion passed by 2/3 of the members present.

### Show & Tell

- Jim Heuer brought his Boeing F4B-4 biplane. He hand drew plans from photos, scaled it to 22%, and scratch built it. Jim took 80 hours to finish it including 20 hours of drawing. It was modeled after the "High Hat" squadron that flew off the Lexington. The top wing spans 80" and the bottom wing spans 65". It weighs 17.5 lbs. and will be powered by a First Place 40cc gas engine. Covering is Century 21 and Solartex. The plane flies well and is maneuverable.
- Ted Dore brought his heavily modified Sopwith Camel. It evolved over 6 years from a biplane to a parasol wing. The original top wing was twisted, so he rebuilt it. He removed the bottom wing. The power plant is a .61 4-stroke.
- Ken Fleshman gave away his AZ aviation charts.
- Steve Otrosa brought a plane balancer to give away.

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- The video, “The Magic of Flight”, was shown to the attendees.

**Adjournment:** 8:10 PM