

Meeting Highlights November 11, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Jim Trimbell, President, at 6:54 P.M.

34 members attended

Guests – Harvey Mickelsen, who joined after the meeting

New member introductions – Two new members were not present.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Knudson read the Treasurer's report for October. Operating income totaled \$890 and expenses totaled \$287. The month-end operating balance was \$4,439.

Secretary's Report – Jerry Case read the October 14, 2013 meeting minutes.

Old business

- **Flying fields** –

Twin Buttes: Jim Trimbell reported that:

Tall vegetation at the southwest end of the runway needs to be removed.

We are trying to encourage flying on Wednesdays and Saturdays to relieve crowding at FICO.

A safety fence needs to be erected at the south end of the runway to catch "run-away" planes. The materials are at the field, but we need to borrow the fence pole driver from Gary.

Two more folding tables are needed for the electric planes.

FICO: Gary Johnson reported:

FICO graded the entry road to repair monsoon damage.

The new gate lock was stolen. Members were reminded that after unlocking the lock, they must relock it on the end of the chain and spin the combination. Dick Dehahn asked if we should change the combination as a precaution, but Gary suggested that we wait until we get a new lock and try to get it welded or wired to the chain.

Jim Trimbell talked to a FICO employee who is in charge of the organic grove next to the entry road. That guy is worried about dust which we have been raising with our vehicles. He said that the dust is settling in the irrigation channel and that it must be cleared out during the year.

- **Safety issues** – Pilots were advised to keep their planes out of the cacti at Twin Buttes.

Meeting Highlights November 11, 2013

At the FICO field, pilots were observed standing outside the safety fence while launching their planes. Also, gas engine pilots have been running up their engines and bothering pilots at the fence. Etiquette must be observed on the flying field. Art Siri is concerned about pilots running their engines on the safety stands excessively long while tuning them.

Ted Dore asked about hand launching gliders across the runway. The response was that all launches should be down the runway into the wind.

- **Web site report** – New November photos and the Treasurer's report and Meeting Minutes for October.
- **AMA News** – The AMA President issued a video about his thoughts on first-person view and multi-rotor semi-autonomous flight. The video is on the AMA web site.

Donations to the AMA of more than \$10 will be recognized on the 2014 membership card.

- **Membership report** – Number of potential members for 2014 are 91. Number of members who paid AMA but not the club for 2014 is 61; who paid the club but not the AMA is 27; and who paid both AMA and club is 24.
- **Annual dues** – Attendees were reminded about the AMA and club delinquency dates for dues. They were told that new ID cards are being issued to those who renew both memberships.
- **Area flying events** – Jim Trimbell announced the flying events that are scheduled through the next meeting.
- **Pot Luck Dinner** – Attendees were reminded that a short meeting would be held prior to the annual Pot Luck Dinner. Members can still sign up for the dinner through Gary and Sandi Johnson.
- **Ad-hoc committee to recommend procedures for managing the use of the FICO flight line on busy days** – Jim Heuer, chairperson of the committee, reported that he learned that we are the only AZ club without distinct pilot stations on the flight line. He proposed that 6 stations be created at the FICO field, and 4 at Twin Buttes. Also, when the gliders are active, that the 6th station (north) at FICO be closed. Revised club rules for both fields were presented at the meeting. The board agreed to approve the committee's recommendation and implement it. The rules will be distributed by mail to all club members at the start of the New Year. Keith Kidder suggested that members should sign a statement that they read the rules and agree to follow them. No action was taken on this suggestion.

New Business:

- **Nominating committee** – A nominating committee was appointed for soliciting candidates for the January 2014 election of club officers. The committee members are Gerry Verity, Ted Dore, and Keith Kidder.

Meeting Highlights November 11, 2013

- **Safe charging of LIPO batteries:** Jim Trimbell described how a LIPO battery pack burst into flame while he was charging it in his garage. It set off the smoke alarms in his house. He unplugged the charger and tried to blow out the flames. Jim was able to move the burning pack out of the garage. The pack was not fully charged when it erupted in flame. Ralph Salgado said that he places a portable smoke alarm where he charges his batteries. One member mentioned that Walmart has metal ammo cans that can be used for charging the batteries. Someone suggested that a Class D extinguisher can be used for a combustible metal fire like this.

Show & Tell:

- **Gary Johnson** – Presented his U-Can-Do with floats. He mentioned that the interior of the plane is very tight. He's powering it with a 20cc gas engine. The hollow fiberglass floats, made by Maxford USA, are 60-sized.
- **Keith Kidder** – Presented his electric flying locomotive which he made from blue foam board, Styrofoam, and plywood. The wing and the interior of the fuselage are made from a Slow Stick. He's flying it with a 2200 mAh 3-cell LIPO.

Adjournment: 8:00 PM