



ARCS News



Alamo Radio Control Society

www.alamorcs.org

San Antonio, Texas

AMA Charter 603

Jan 2017

CLUB FLYING SITE Is located just west of Macdona at 10025 Shepard Road

Fun - Fly

ARCS OFFICERS

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Hats and Nametags

Eric Amundsen

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Jim Witthauer

Club Meetings

Held the 3rd Tuesday of

each month (except Dec)

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at

Chaparrita's Mexican Rest.

7350 Tezel Rd.

San Antonio, TX 78250

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ARCS FIELD 31 JANUARY 2017

The first Fun Fly of 2017 took off to a great start with blue skies, a brilliant sun and chilly temperatures. However, the winds of the day gave significant challenge to the skills and courage of those who flew. Likewise, the ARCS will face challenges in the coming year. Just as those who attended the Fun Fly made it a success, the club will depend upon the skill, knowledge and wisdom of club leaders as well as member support to address these challenges. There is no doubt 2017 will be a great year. Here are some highlights from the day's activities.

27 members flew a variety of aircraft which included airplanes, helicopters, SPAD(s) and drones before an enthusiastic group of observers.

Juan Galvez brought two drones which included a *Vusion 250 Extreme FPV* racer.

Harold Saults, and Bill Ponseigo challenged Stephan Christensen's younger reflexes and speed in combat flying. This, in preparation for February's Combat Contest. With assistance from Richard Saunders, JD Smith, and Doug Christensen the competitors chased each other in the blue sky, occasionally severing a streamer which could be seen gently floating away like a gossamer wing. Doug Christensen treated everyone to a crock pot of warm cheese dip and chips.

Aircraft of note include Jim Agnew's Piper J-3 Cub with US Army detailing and Brent Vannes Chargon Cub 55.

The wind initiated two crashes. It carried Dan Hanaway's P-51 *Dallas Doll* into the trees behind the pavilion. Later it contributed to the crash of Bill Ponseigo's *General Hobbies Extra 300*.

As the ARCS addresses issues of runway maintenance, pavilion repair, and boosting membership, the membership can be assured it will be well served by the wisdom, knowledge and extensive experience of club leaders. With great active member support 2017 should be another banner year.
Jim Witthauer

Thanks Jim for the excellent recap of the fly-in. Now to Jim's pics below.







Minutes of the Club Meeting

January 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order January 17th at 7:00 p.m. The November 2016 minutes were read. A motion was made to accept the Minutes. Approved. Treasurer's Report was read. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. Approved.

Tony noted that funds were withdrawn from savings in order to pay yearly lease expenses that came due on the first of January 2017. The withdrawals will be replaced as additional funds as they are received.

Tony also noted that funds earned from last year's swap meet were critical to meeting club financial goals.

GUESTS: Krystal Cutkomp

NEW MEMBERS: Chris Cutkomp

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The **Fun Fly** is **January 22nd** from 10 am to 2 pm. Bring snacks (donuts etc.) for the pilots and food for the Food Bank.

Phil Everman will be running a Combat Competition at the February Fun Fly. Get your Combat Planes ready! Use those political signs and build a combat plane for the February Club Combat Event. You can fly anything you want, just remember, it may go home in a black bag. See you there.

OLD BUSINESS:

If you want a club shirt, check with Eric Amundsen, he will take your order. Shirts are \$22. Extended sizes are \$2 higher. There is no minimum order. If you want a shirt, call Eric. Blue hats are \$15. New members, hats are free. A new name tag board will be attached to the pavilion. New members check the board for your name tag.

The Club has donated 1376 pound of food in 2016. We beat the 2015 donations by 140 lbs. Let's try to make 2017 even greater. Thanks to all who donated. **Keep up the good work, folks!**

Twenty seven (27) members have not paid their membership fees and /or renewed their AMA membership as of the 17th of January. Unpaid dues and declining membership are having a negative effect on club. As previously noted in the Treasurer's Report, funds had to be withdrawn from savings to meet the Club's financial obligations in December 2016. Everyone is encouraged to pay your Club Membership Fees early, preferably in September, October, November and December of each year. The AMA will remind you of your

membership by mail. Please pay them if you want to FLY! Our lease requires AMA Membership and insurance. A NO FLY list will be posted and enforced. Please help enforce it!

The "grass runway" has been cut short and the grass is starting to fill in the bare spots. We need more rain to promote further growth. Everything is looking good. Some of the seeded areas are starting to grow thanks to the rain. The Club will continue this year. Grass use fees have been sent to Joe.

The edges of the runway are cracking with all of the additional moisture this year. We will need to schedule a "Work Day" to clean the cracks (sweep and then fill the cracks with flexible adhesive. We will need some young flexible bodies to do the bending over and crawling around on their knees to apply the sealant. The "knee replacement generation" can't handle that.

Some of the siding on the pavilion will need to be replaced this year. The Club will work on this at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Because of the record number of members who have not paid their annual membership fee and/or AMA renewal fee (27 as of 1/17/17) and steadily declining membership, the Club Officers recommend:

1. A \$25 Field Maintenance fee be assessed to any member who pays their Membership fee and AMA Membership fees after February 1, 2017 in addition to the Annual Membership fee of \$60.
2. New members who join after February 1, 2017 will pay \$25 Field Maintenance fee in addition, Annual Membership fee of \$60 and Initiation fee of \$50. (\$135 total) This action is designed cover the cost for increased operating expenses anticipated for 2017. These include: pavilion repairs, runway maintenance, and care for the grass runway.
3. 2018 fees will be \$85, which includes \$60 Annual Membership fees plus a \$25 Field Maintenance fee.
4. All Exempt Annual Membership Fee Members (except Age Exempt) will pay the \$25 Field Maintenance fee.

Note: The Field Fee (\$25) can be **reinstated** by a majority vote of the membership present at the next meeting. Recommend changing name to Field Maintenance Fee.

Discussion:

1. It was suggested the Bi-Laws be changed to allow late fees (after January 1st) be charged for Club Membership renewal.
2. Have annual "Fund Raisers" to cover Club operating expenses.
3. Bi-annual dues collection.

Please note the following has been added by the Club Secretary, James Keck:

All three of the above have been used in one form or another since about 1990. Late fees did not work and were hard to collect. Fund Raisers and Bi-annual dues collection were also used to raise funds for specific tasks (New Fields and Road Repair at old field) and were not depended upon to finance the Club. In addition, records indicate that dues have remained at \$60 since before 1990 and have not increased with inflation.

It was also requested that a simple budget be prepared and presented to the membership to provide and understanding of club operating expenses.

Bill Ponseigo estimated annual Club expenses for 2017 are as follows:

Field Rental	\$3800	(by contract)
Runway Maintenance	\$1000	
Pavilion Maintenance	\$600	
Port-a-Potty Fee	\$800	
Lawn Mower Repairs	\$300	
Raffle Fees	\$500	
Club Charter Fees	\$120	(note: added by Club Secretary)
Total \$ 7120		

It should be noted: It takes 85 adult members paying \$85 to cover the above expenses.

(Note: added by Club Secretary)

Although these suggestions were discussed at length, it was noted that many have been tried before and had little effect in encouraging members to pay their fees on time. It does represent a significant administrative burden for the Club. Paying Annual Membership fees late, requires 1 hour to handle, and 3 computer actions to add the individual back into the Club Roster. Lack of participation, particularly at Club meetings, Raffles and the Christmas Party, puts a severe financial burden on the Club. The Raffles and Christmas Party should break even.

No consensus was achieved. The proposal was tabled until the February Meeting. :

Membership:

Buck Murray asked members to help recruit new members and reverse the declining membership. A new flier, advertising the Club has been prepared and is ready for distribution.

Tom Richards suggested including the AMA website on the flier and volunteered to print more. The fliers will be available at HobbyTown. If you have additional locations to leave fliers addition information, let the Club Officer know.

Facebook:

ARCS has a Facebook site. The POC is Brent Vannes. Bill Ponseigo and Buck Murray will provide administrative approval of membership. The site has 11 members but needs updating. Members were encouraged to use the ARCS Facebook site as a tool to improve club communication.

CRASH OF THE MONTH: This was postponed due to the lengthy discussion of previous issues.

SHOW AND TELL:

Bill Ponseigo showed the Club his SPAD Gremlin which is 28 y/o. Should be great for next month's combat.

Tom Richards presented his Great Planes Ryan STA. *(From the Christmas Raffle)*

Chris Cutkomp brought in his 500 size Goblin Helicopter to show the Club. Neat!

RAFFLE

The monthly raffles are designed to break even. Any excess monies are used for the Christmas Party Raffle. Our wives and guests receive a free raffle ticket for attending the meeting. Special thanks go out to Hobby Town for providing the raffle prizes to the Club at a reduced price.

Raul Colunga - Airplane stand

Tom Richards - Li-Po battery

Buck Murray - Treaded wheel

Bill Ponseigo - Fuel Pump

Mel Hagen - Great Planes Big Stick 60 Airplane

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to Jim Witthauer for taking such great notes in my absence.
Do you want a job?

James Keck
ARCS Secretary

Club Meeting Pics

