

Fresno Radio Modelers
Minutes of the General Meeting
of
October 9, 2003

The Prexy got festivities underway at about 7:34:30PM. The Minutes of the September meeting were accepted without comment, probably because nobody read them. Attendance was down a bit, only 28 members and guests showed up, most likely because the agenda included nomination of officers for the coming year and many decided a low profile might be prudent.

GUESTS: Jim Smith dropped by to say "Hello". Glad to meet you, Jim. Come back anytime.

NEW MEMBERS: Julio Ruiz joined the raucous assembly. Welcome aboard, Julio.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Craig being away on business, George Santikian delivered the Treasurer's report. The Jet Rally was, again, a smashing success. Bank balances are in good shape. Remember all the talk about raising dues early in the year?

OLD BUSINESS: Dave Fusinato, CD of the Jet Rally, thanked all who helped make to event a success, both for the 38 pilots who participated and for the club.

Field security again! Pres. Lamer reported that a propane tank for the BBQ has been stolen. We must all be aware that some folks will never make it to Heaven and will stoop pretty low to save a couple of bucks. Keep things locked up.

NEW BUSINESS: We are all aware of the drainage ditch east of the runway. Some strange things can happen to planes making an approach from the east. Some think there is a source of radio interference associated with the ditch; others suspect weird air currents under certain wind conditions. Whatever the problem, many of us have seen planes come to grief in the area, for no obvious reason. Dave Fusinato reported a new problem apparent to the jet pilots, who have various names for the ditch, including, "Alligator Pit". Jets land pretty hot and landing long or experiencing brake failure can have disastrous results when a plane runs off into the six-foot deep channel. Dave suggested that we build a culvert in the channel across the runway threshold, thus creating a longer and safer overrun area. Will the idea eliminate the problems experienced by non-jet flyers? Who knows. After discussion, Dave was given the task of looking into the cost of the improvement.

Jack Weems reminded one and all that there will be a float fly at Millerton Lake on the 19th. This is the last one planned for ought three.

VP Dan Sozinho reported that Leroy Sabatini has invited club members to tour his warehouse full of antiques. The outing is scheduled for the 4th Thursday in January.

George Santikian reminded all that the club's annual BBO/Fun-Fly is scheduled for the 26th. Howsomever, several members seemed to have a conflict with that date so the thing was rescheduled for November 2nd. Remark your calendars.

Also, per George, the annual holiday Dinner is again planned for Club One. Date to be announced

Roland reported that the Madera club has been having a serious problem with pilots, especially jets, violating the flight pattern rules imposed on them by the FAA and airport management. There is apparently a chance that the club could loose it's flying site if these violations continue. If you plan to fly at Madera, be sure you understand the pattern restrictions before taking off.

NOMINATION of OFFICERS:

Secretary: None. Chuck Kissell was suggested but he was among those dodging the meeting.

Treasurer: None

Vice President: Dan Sozinho

President: Roland Lamer

Nominations remain open through the November meeting. Voting will be in December.

AWARDS:

Ace: Dave Fusinato for putting on a great Jet Rally.

Goof: It seems that Doug Eaton was flying a knife-edge circle at low altitude. When he rolled out, he dum-thumbed it into a blue bag.

Crying Towel: Night flying does have it's own set of hazards. Craig Roberts was making a low, inverted pass with his X-Wing Night Fighter and forgot that up is down and down is up. I understand that the display of randomly flying light-sticks was quite entertaining.

Also, George Smith clobbered his Stinger 60, (He'll get the bill for repairing the gouge in the runway later) and, of course, Doug Eaton for demolishing his Extra 300.

SHOW and TELL: Jack Weems displayed his latest creation. He stuck floats on a wing built by Ron Weber. The plane still lacks a few odds and ends, like a fuselage, engine, rudder, elevator and that sort of thing. Ron may sue to force Jack to remove his logo from the wing.

John Lockwood showed a beautiful scale wire sculpture of a Fokker Tri-Plane, which he built some 30 years ago. He donated it to the raffle. It now decorates yours truly's family room.

Outta space—gotta quit.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Breen, Secretary
October 9, 2003

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!