

May 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Chet Blake at approximately 6:31 with 11 members in attendance & Guest Steve Anderson who joined the club. Club Officers were introduced by the club President, Chet Blake:

- President - Chet Blake
- Vice President - Tim Shegrud
- Secretary - Mark Weeks
- Treasurer - Ron Swift
- Safety Officer - Vince Bell
- Field Manager - Jay Bell
- Webmaster - Ron Rueter (Currently in AZ)
- Newsletter Editor - Ron Swift

Chet called for additions or corrections to the minutes as published on the web/newsletter. No one provided any corrections and a motion was made to accept the minutes. The minutes were approved.

Reports

VP - Night Fly event was a smash and there is already talk on how to fit another one in this fall. Saturday May 14th will be the Boats and Float event at Lake Hughes T-Dock starting at 10:00am

Secretary - The membership level at the present time is 31 (counting new member Steve Anderson) paid members plus 1 student member.

Treasurer - The club treasury stands at a healthy level.

Safety Officer - Be aware of others that may be around the lake facility as you use it, we have not failed to draw a crowd while having the event at the lake. Please be careful. Also remember that the water temperature is cold, if you

have to go out on the water make sure you have a floatation device. The night fly went well, no mishaps or lost planes.

Newsletter Editor - Printed copies of the newsletter are available for anyone who wishes a hard copy. Ron asks that if people take pictures to please send copies to him and Ron Rueter, for possible newsletter/website usage.

Field Manager - Chet and Bryan helped Ranger Dave move the T-dock back into place and Jay has worked to attach a few loose boards. June 4th will be a work party at the field and Jay is working on a list of projects that can be handled by a couple people at a time, this means we can get the best use of our time and labor. Thanks to all that help.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark is laying out pallets and tying them together with firing strips to make a safer way to walk over the boggy area and eventually over the creek to aid in retrieval of downed aircraft. Currently he has made it to the creek and will be working on a way over to the other side. Pallets are still needed. Please look for heavy duty ones as we want them to last as long as possible. If you have to use the "Lost Plane Lane" Please be careful it is a work in progress.

The runway is narrower than it has been it now stands at 45 feet wide, this will allow for a more defined pits and a driving area behind the pits.

Mark added a holder and a write in the rain tablet for signing in at the field. We decided a long time ago that we'd like to have a written log of members and guests using the field. Its finally in place. Please sign in when using the field.

Along the same lines, with the advent and mass sales of 2.4, we have all seemed to gone away from posting your AMA card. We are all guilty. Please get back into the practice of putting your AMA card in the appropriate slot. It's a Club and AMA rule.

Both Mark and Bryan have come up with ideas (reminders) as how not to leave the field with you AMA card in the frequency board. Mark has added some key hooks so you can place your car keys next to your card. Bryan takes a business card and places it on his steering wheel as a reminder. Try one or both.

Mark's wife Ronna has completed the GPS Coordinates and elevation of the field and it has been installed on the frequency board. It looks nice and has an official feel to the board.

Jay also has made an addition to the board; there is now a photo of the area north of the road. IF you do put down you now have an overview as how best to retrieve you plane.

Night Fly event: Fire pit is available, light snacks and beverages. Starting time is around 7:30 pm, get used to the darkening skies and kind of slip into the darkness. This could be 2 to 3 hours or less depending on the weather and skies. This event was a HUGE success, fire kept us warm and snacks hit the spot. Thanks to Sandy for gathering and delivering the snacks.

With the night fly we are looking for ideas as to best light up the runway. Solar lights, chem sticks from the dollar store. Chem sticks were used and worked well after it got darker, we also used a couple of Dollar Store driveway lights to make the end of the runway.

Driving south of the frequency board is still not advised, the ground is still not hard enough and will just cause more ruts and damage to the areas. Please refrain.

The idea of a designated handicap spot was brought up. We are looking for the correct place to put one, for now those who can please leave a save close to the field center for our members who need a closer walk. Mark will look into getting a sign and post.

NEW BUSINESS

New member report- We need to find a way to get new member info out to other members. Possibly use membership cards in the frequency board. Also there was discussion about in the members only section of the Web adding members photos. Either can be used and acceptable AMA card or Club membership card.

The AMA had/has another send a comment to your local legislator, some members received a letter from one of them regarding the FAA. In her form letter not much about "Clubs" was addresses.

Floats and Boats event is Saturday May 14th. Last Saturday Chet Bryan, Ranger Dave moved the dock back into position. As usual it was the Scouts to the rescue donating rope and Ranger Dave's help. We cannot thank out landlords more. The Dock still is in need of some work but it will work just great for this event, we want to drive some pipes into the bottom to shore up the location and help keep it in place as the winds of winter blow.

After the dock work Chet and Bryan stopped and met the Scout and Cub Scout Camp Directors and once again expressed our gratitude for everything the Scouts do to help us and we stated our constant praise for them and how humbling it is for us to be in this position with the field and all the amenities. With that said, we offered our services to help with a merit badge program and/or Cub days. They said they would be in touch.

Friday May 6th Len and Brian Douma along with Jay and Mark cut back some of the hill side to make the parking and driving area wider. They made a new permanent home for the frequency board and filled in some

of the low spots. What was found out about the hillside is that is made up mainly of rocks, lots of rocks. It was very slow going but what was done looks great. Thanks.

There was a AMA article about openness of the club and affecting those who visit. Bryan mentioned that we do a pretty good job of explaining the Club, being inviting and welcoming, trying to get someone in the air as fast as possible without discouraging them. Chet brought his nephew Patrick Cullen, visiting from Apalachicola, Florida to the field Saturday. Chet flew his SE5 biplane and explained the controls to him, wanting him to fly his e-flight Cub. After Chet did his preflight and a short flight to check things out it was decided that it was too windy. Before Chet knew what was going on Bryan had him on the sticks and for the first time he was flying Bryan's Radian for about 15 minutes on his own. He even landed it. This is what makes us a club that stands out from the others. Have you ever been invited to any other local club (with the exception of the Arlington Eagles)? We need to keep up this type of behavior, it will ensure our sport into the future. Thanks Bryan and a good job to everyone that welcomes visitors and explains what we do!!

Mark has enlisted his wife to paint us another sign, this time for the front gate saying "Visitors welcome when the field is open"

Discussions were had as to the width of the field and how it feels like it is too narrow for the larger planes. After much discussion the pavers will be moved temporarily while the field-pit area is worked on and leveled and a permanent location is agreed to. With Drier weather wet feet should not be an issue.

Program: Floats and Boats - Vince shared his Flyzone DHC-2 Beaver and rudder system. He says it fly's great and is perfect for our lake events. There was a lot of talk as to floats and if rudders were needed and how to set up a plane. Thanks Vince
With this we should have another great lake event.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

.....Mark Weeks, Club Secretary