

Hot Air



Message from the President

April 2024

Another wet month has limited our ability to do much flying. Hopefully, things will dry out and we will get flyable conditions as we move into April.

We will be having a meeting this coming Wednesday, April 3rd. As usual the meeting will be held at 7:30 at La Romeria Park. If you haven't submitted your 2024 application, please do so. You can give it to one of the club officers if you want to save on postage.

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, April 3rd
La Romeria Park
7:30 pm**

A big thanks to Don, our PSF club secretary, for getting the A.M.A. 2024 Charter processed and approved. Now that we have the Charter and the Insurance Certificates, John will be working with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes to get our Del Cerro badges processed. Once again, thanks to Don and John for supporting the club.

I headed out to the RC Super-Show at the Pomona Fairgrounds this past month. Prior to the Covid pandemic, the A.M.A. Convention had been in decline and the A.M.A. had made the decision to not hold the convention in the future. The A.M.A. did try and team up with other organizations to hold a convention-like event with varying success. So, this year's event was an attempt to rekindle interest in the hobby and the convention format. All that being said, I was disappointed in the number of vendors and the heavy emphasis on RC cars. The event was billed as having 50+ RC aircraft vendors. That was a very generous count, with all of the big manufacturers and distributors of RC aircraft electronics and models pretty much absent. Hopefully, the A.M.A. will build on this start and the event will grow in the future.

As many of you know, I am a fan of aircraft

museums. This past month, the YANKS Museum at Chino held a wreck chasers forum at the museum. The event was attended by both amateur and professional aircraft salvagers and historians. There were 7 plus hours of presentations documenting the various activities of this group. I won't try and summarize all of the field work and research that was presented.

On a personal note, I was fortunate to meet one researcher who coordinated the creation of a searchable data base containing all of the World War 2 aircraft accident reports. He was able to do a search using the information I had on my uncle who was killed in a B-25. Numerous rumors had circulated in my family over the years regarding what happened and pulling my uncle's military records out of the National Archives had hit a dead-end.

Although the details surrounding the plane crash are missing (there were no radio transmissions, survivors or witnesses), the accident occurred during gunnery training at the Myrtle Beach Bombing Range about 5 miles offshore. Some wreckage (I now have photos) and two bodies were recovered (not my uncle). Little of the information in the accident report matches the family knowledge. Although all of my uncle's siblings have passed, we now know what happened. Needless to say, I am really glad I headed out to the museum a couple of weeks ago.

The [A.M.A event calendar](#) has a variety of swap meets, powered, float-plane, scale and glider events listed for California in the month of April. Use the link below to see what is scheduled this month. If you attend any of the events, please consider snapping some photos and write up your thoughts



for next month's newsletter.

The West Torrance Little League 2024 season is underway with practices and games ongoing when the weather and field conditions permit. Things are quite muddy on some of the fields and it usually takes a couple of days for the ground to dry out. Keep this in mind when flying off our field and minimize damage to the clay infield and playing areas. Let one of your club officers know if you have any access issues at the field so we can work with the field manager to ensure club access.

The long range weather forecast for Del Cerro is showing a frontal system moving through the area Friday and Saturday. Winds on Saturday are

predicted to be out of the west at 20 mph. If the forecast holds, Del Cerro will not be flyable. Keep an eye on the weather. If the wind shifts to the southwest, the hill could be a lot of fun with your heavier gliders.

Once again, please mail your 2024 PSF application to Don or bring it to this month's meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Don or another one of our club officers. The PSF membership package can be found on our [website](#).

Hope all is well and I'll see you at the fields when they dry out.

-Jeff

If you know someone who wants to join our club, please send them to our [website](#).