

Hot Air



Message from the President

May 2021

Even though the Los Angeles County Covid-19 numbers are the best we have seen since the early days of the pandemic, the City of Torrance is not revealing their plan for opening the community rooms at the city parks. Unfortunately for us, that means we will once again not be holding a monthly meeting in May.

The Los Angeles County COVID-19 guidelines are constantly changing. Please follow the latest recommendations while flying at either of our flying sites.

If you have been flying or building and would like to share what you have been up to, please consider sending a few pictures and some notes for inclusion in the newsletter. It would be great to see and hear about what others are doing.

I have included a photo of Bob Okita's recently completed Microbirds Feather2 DLG. Bob covered the model in the lightweight version of Ultrakote. The model weighs 49 grams which is 2 grams over the advertised weight of 43-47 grams. No flight report yet. I'm constantly amazed at the miniaturization of the electronics available to our hobby.

If this seems like a bit of déjà-vu, it is. I decided to head out to Perris CA for the final day of another F5J contest, held this time on Sunday, April 25th.

The contest site is adjacent to the local RC club's power field and is challenging to find, with dirt roads the order of the day. Regardless, the site is fairly unlimited in range and altitude. However, the occasional Air Force C-17 overflew the area on its way to March Field. Hot air balloons

and skydivers were also seen throughout the morning.

The competition was billed as a "California versus Arizona" affair and a fair number of pilots drove in from Arizona. I heard that 37 pilots were registered in all. The competition was pretty stiff, with a number of pilots bunched up at the top after the qualifying rounds. The team contest was won by the guys from Arizona. However, the individual winner was Ali Khani of Torrance.

Next Meeting

No meeting in May

I am intrigued by the contest format of F5J and would probably take the plunge if there was a convenient way to practice. As I mentioned in the more extensive article I wrote last month, a lot of points can be gained by launching low and by nailing your landing. Becoming proficient with these two tasks on such a large plan requires a fair amount of time on the sticks. I don't believe I would be able to put the time in to become competitive, due to the amount of time that would be required to drive to a practice site.

Check out the contest photos later in the newsletter. Additionally, Ali Khani of Flightcomp put together this great video of the [Perris meet](#). He also has a video explaining the [rules and strategies](#) associated with F5J.

Upcoming Fun-Flys

Del Cerro May 8th
Entradero None

Baseball is being played on all of the fields at Entradero Park. Games and practices are usually in the late afternoons and on the weekends. Please remember that we do not fly if there are organized baseball activities underway on any of the fields at the park. Contact a club officer if you need the gate combinations.



If you are new to flying at Entradero Park, you will need to fill out the City of Torrance Release of Liability form for COVID-19. If you have previously submitted the form, you do not need to fill out the form a second time.

Please contact a club officer if there are any issues with gate or field access. Remember that only club officers can distribute the combinations to club members.

This coming Saturday, May 8th, is our scheduled Del Cerro Fun Fly. The long range forecast is for sunny skies and South-Southwest winds of 13 miles per hour. This forecast is perfect for Del Cerro. Charge up a plane or two and head up to the hill. Guys usually show up between 11:00 and noon.

Parking at Del Cerro continues to be a challenge. This is especially true with the nice spring weather we are experiencing. The City of Rancho Palos

Verdes continues to study the problem but no easy solution is in sight.

Once again, please get your membership package submitted for 2021. As always, you can find the latest package on our [website](#).

I've included the A.M.A. event schedule for [May](#). There are some interesting events this month. If you attend an event, please consider providing a write-up and some pics for the newsletter.

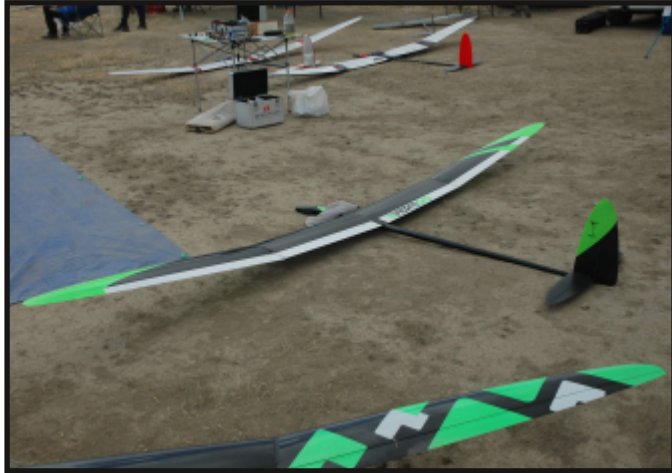
I'm looking forward to hearing about your latest project or flying activity. Submit some info for the next newsletter to one of your club officers.

Hope to see you bending the sticks at one of our fields.

All the best,
Jeff

F5J Soaring Contest in Perris, CA





*All the contest photos
can be found on our
[website](#).*

Bob Okita's Microbirds Feather2 DLG

