

# Hot Air



## Message from the President

September 2017

Sorry for needing to cancel the meeting this month. Life got in the way.

Larry Wasan brought his arsenal of quads to the meeting for "show-and-tell" last month. What an impressive display of technology! Larry flies a number of high end DJI quads, including the Phantom 4, Mavic and Spark. He also brought his Go-Pro Karma. With a full selection of very capable quads, Larry's go-to platforms are the Phantom 4 (higher resolution and more stable) and the Mavic (smaller and easier to transport).

If you are looking for an indoor quad that is durable but will let you practice without laying down a ton of cash, Larry brought and flew his Holy Stone HS-170 Predator, a stabilized quad with radio for \$40.00. You can get it [here](#). Everyone was jotting down the info. I purchased one and have been having a lot of fun terrorizing the dogs with it. If you missed the meeting or are interested in any of these quads, contact Larry. He is very knowledgeable and will give you the straight scoop before you buy.

The members in attendance voted to reduce the fee for flying at Entradero Park to \$50.00 for the remainder of 2017. Get the word out and enjoy the field. It is a great flying venue. There has been a lot of vandalism to the facilities at Entradero this past month. If you see any active vandalism taking place, including graffiti, please contact the Torrance police immediately. If you see any new vandalism, please contact a club officer and report it.

The Torrance schools will be back in session starting September 7th. This means that flying during the week will be open with no schedule conflicts. I will let everyone know if something appears on the calendars. 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.

### Next Meeting

**September cancelled.  
See you in October!**

There will not be a Fun-Fly at Entradero Park in the month of September. This month's Fun Fly at Del Cerro will be held Saturday, August 9th. Guys usually start arriving between 12:00 and 1:00. The long range forecast is for clear skies and west-southwest winds to 13 mph. There should be some good flying, so, charge up your batteries and head to the hill this coming Saturday.

### Upcoming Fun-Flys

<b>Del Cerro</b>	<b>September 9th</b>
<b>Entradero</b>	<b>None</b>

There are a number of air shows in California this month. The big one is the [Miramar Air Show](#) at the Naval Air Station September 23rd and 24th. Can you say "Blue Angels"?

Needless to say, it has been crazy hot and humid. The opportunities for comfortable flying have been few and far between. If you venture out, take plenty of fluids along, pace yourself and be careful. Be especially cautious if you are trying to recover a plane up at Del Cerro.

All the best,  
Jeff



## Post-It Notes From The Edge (Part III) - Steve Krantz

*The final part of Steve's excellent notes describing his recent F3F adventures.*

*-Editor*

### **Sudden Impact**

(Grass Mountain, July 2016)

Grass Mountain is an intimidating venue for an F3F contest and driving the perilous fire road from the main highway to the summit slopes puts one in an appropriate frame of mind. You really need to concentrate since it's steep, only wide enough for one vehicle and clings to the side of a jagged ridgeline all the way to the top. Good luck if you meet a vehicle coming the other way. Fortunately, in the 2 years I've been flying here I've never met opposing traffic. Oddly, Grass has the easiest access of any SoCal inland slope site. For example, Vincent requires leaving the fire road altogether and 4 wheeling along a knife edge ridge to get to the slope and the Heaven site in Corona is even worse with a 16.5 mile, 4-wheel-drive rock crawling marathon that takes over an hour to traverse.

Coupled with the erratic mountain winds and unforgiving terrain, Grass requires complete focus and a risk tolerance level that most "fun flyers" will never achieve. Personally, I can only rationalize a trip to this site because it's on the race schedule. But the fact that it's intimidating is the very reason that F3F contests are scheduled at this site. This slope favors a bold, wide open racing style that is the exact opposite of the usual coastal slopes with their focus on tight precision flying.

Strong thermals blow through the course regularly and when they hit during a run they can cut race times in half. It's referred to as the Thermal Lottery and it works for or against you completely at random. One racer can post a sub-40-second, thermally-assisted round and the next guy will struggle to keep his plane flying as the thermal exists the area.

My record at GM is slightly checkered with some round wins and plenty of damaged planes, but this year I approached the competitions here with a new attitude (i.e. lower expectations) and a focus on having fun.

My first round was uneventful until I lined up the landing, only to find that I was behind the hill a bit and needed to stretch my glide to reach the LZ. Normally this isn't much of a problem except for navigating through the thicket of pine trees on top the ridge. As I was deliberating the merits of zigging versus zagging to avoid the trees, my plane nailed a medium sized pine dead center and crashed to the ground. I strolled over to retrieve the remains with the realization that perhaps my new attitude was a bit too optimistic and I probably needed to lower my expectations even more. Henceforth, I resolved to focus on merely making it through the day.

An assessment revealed that my plane was only lightly damaged and after some crude field repairs involving CA and packing tape, I was ready to race again.

The next rounds flashed by in a blur of activity until late afternoon when I was setting up to land my plane in typical turbulent Grass Mountain conditions. My round had concluded just as another big thermal started rolling through. As I turned downwind, inbound to the LZ, a powerful thermal-induced tailwind caught up with my heavily ballasted (124 oz.) glider, reducing the effective airspeed to about 10 mph. There was nothing to do but watch helplessly as a wingtip dipped and the big 3 meter plane spun into the ground from about 50 feet. The sound of the impact was as if my plane had crashed at my feet instead of 100 yds away. I find it interesting that sound travels so well at these remote inland sites. Go figure.

I turned off my transmitter and began the recovery effort but not before stopping by my vehicle to



retrieve an ice cold beer to dull the pain a little. Delightful! I was done flying for the day and could now relax and enjoy an absolutely beautiful day in the mountains. Plenty of sun, a cool breeze and F3F racing action! After dumping the broken plane parts

in my car, I popped another chilled beer and took over the contest director's chair for the rest of the day to let the boys focus on racing.

You know some days it's not really about the flying.



*Dan Fields waiting to start his round on the wide open summit slopes of Grass Mountain.*



From the August Club Meeting...

Larry Wasan's amazing DJI quads!



New member, Charlie Barry, brought his Weasel slope glider and Taraxis X7 radio, of which he spoke very highly.

***Remember - no meeting in  
September.***

***See you in October!***



## September Modeling Meets in California

9/8/2017 - 9/10/2017 -- Elk Grove, CA (C) SAM 27 CRASH & BASH. Site: Schmidt Ranch. Edward Hamler CD PH: 707/255-3547 Email: ehamler@me.com. Sanction #17/398. SAM RC Rulebook events. Sponsor: SAM 27

9/9/2017 - 9/10/2017 -- Arvin, CA (AA) ARVIN TOO!. Site: Bear Mtn Flyers Field. Steven Lampert CD PH: 310.463.4497 Email: steve@client-tel.net. Visit: bearmountainflyers.com. Sanction #17/1638. Events; 401-404, 406 (JSO) plus CPA. AMA & Classic pattern action returns to Arvin this September. Polish your skills for the D-7 Championships at the premier pattern flying venue in Southern California! See evtnt flyer and pre-register at nsrca.us Sponsor: BEAR MOUNTAIN FLYERS INC

9/9/2017 - 9/10/2017 -- El Monte, CA (AA) VIC GARNER MEMORIAL. Site: Whittier Narrows. Charles Johnson CD PH: 760-757-1706 Email: hislordship924@yahoo.com. Sanction #17/1589. Events; 301-310, 334-335 (JSO). Sponsor: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AIR RACERS

9/9/2017 -- Hesperia, CA (C) RC PRO WARBIRD RACING. Site: 17101 Danbury Ave. Rick Pearson CD PH: 951.240.9704 Email: rick.pearson@verizon.net. Visit: vvrcef.org. Sanction #17/1930. Rules at rcprowarbirdracing.com. Registration at 7:30am, racing starts at 9am. Trophies for top three finishers in each class. Open to all AMA pilots. Entry free \$30, additional class \$15. Family discount available. Sponsor: VICTOR VALLEY R/C FLYERS

9/9/2017 - 9/10/2017 -- Sacramento, CA (AA) SGMA COMBO. Site: Waegell Field. Michael Davis CD PH: 916.714.3633 Email: original9fan@frontiernet.net. Sanction #17/1890. Events; 101-110, 120, 124, 140, 142, 153-154, 159, 165 CAT III (J)(S)(O). Sponsor: STOCKTON GAS MODEL ASSN, INC.

9/9/2017 - 9/10/2017 -- Salinas, CA (AA) SALINAS IMAC II. Site: Salinas Area Modelers. Joseph Macgregor CD PH: 805/441-3633 Email: joemac@tcsn.net. Visit: salinasareamodelers.org. Sanction #17/1703. Events; 411 (O), 412-415 (SO). Sponsor: SALINAS AREA MODELERS

9/15/2017 - 9/17/2017 -- Chula Vista, CA (C) HELIS BUZZIN THE BORDER #7. Site: Chula Vista Model And Radio. Don Petsche CD PH: 619.271.7858 Email: petsch3471@aol.com. Visit: cvmrcc.com. Sanction #17/1596. Sponsor: CHULA VISTA MODEL & RC CLUB

9/16/2017 - 9/17/2017 -- Davis, CA (AA) MEET 'N MEAT 19. Site: Wda Field. Jim Aron CD PH: 510.527.5377 Email: uncljimby@aol.com. Visit: concentricbehavior.com. Sanction #17/1885. Events; 323-326 (O). 19th Annual Fall stunt classic & BBQ. Featuring the World Famous Fox 15 Hurl. PAMPA classes, classic, and Old Time stunt. Sponsor: WOODLAND/DAVIS AEROMODELERS

9/16/2017 -- Lake Balboa, CA (C) VALLEY FLYER ANNUAL FUN FLY/BBQ. Site: Appollo Xi Field. Gregory Fullington CD PH: 818-631-8347 Email: jetdriver9@gmail.com. Visit: valleyflyers.club.com. Sanction #17/1629. Enjoy the Valley Flyers BBQ. Open and free to memebtrs only. Tri tip and chicken is on us!No event entry fee for memebtrs. Sponsor: SAN FERNANDO VALLEY RC FLYERS, INC

9/16/2017 - 9/18/2017 -- Santa Margartia, CA (FAI Team Selection) F3J TEAM SELECTION 2017. Site: Santa Margarita Ranch. Philip Renaud CD PH: 520.888.9497 Email: philrenaud@comcast.net. Sanction #17/1888. Events; 456.

9/16/2017 - 9/17/2017 -- South El Monte, CA (C) WARBIRDS OVER WHITTIER. Site: Whittier Narrows Flying Field. Gilbert Lucero CD PH: 626.579.0317 Email: gilbertlucero1@yahoo.com. Sanction #17/1685. Sponsor: SAN GABRIEL VALLEY RC LEAGUE INC

9/17/2017 -- Azusa, CA (A) SC2 SOARING CONTEST TOSS AT THE SWSA FIELD. Site: Fish Canyon Field. Lex Mierop CD PH: Email: dlgdude@gmail.com. Sanction #17/1966. Events; 444, 460. Sponsor: THOUSAND OAKS SOARING SOCIETY T.O.S.S



## September Modeling Meets in California (cont.)

9/17/2017 -- Covina, CA (A) SC2 THERMAL DURATION. Site: Swsa Club Field. Michael Reagan CD PH: 805/990-1602 Email: mdreagan1@gmail.com. Sanction #17/1967. Events; 442-444, 460, 463 (JSO). Sponsor: THOUSAND OAKS SOARING SOCIETY T.O.S.S

9/17/2017 -- Perris, CA (AMA record Trial) SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS AMA RECORD TRIALS. Site: Scamps Field. Mark Chomyn CD PH: 760-753-7164 Email: chomyn@adelphia.net. Visit: sandiegorbiteers.com. Sanction #17/1947. Events; 101-105, 140, 142, 153, 165 CAT III (O). Sponsor: SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS

9/22/2017 - 9/24/2017 -- Lost Hills, CA (AAA) US FREE FLIGHT CHAMPIONSHIPS. Site: Lost Hills Model Airfield. William Booth CD PH: 760-889-3201 Email: ffltarch@gmail.com. Sanction #17/1961. Events; 101-105, 108-109, 120-122, 124, 128, 140, 142, 150-154, 158-160, 165-166 CAT II (JSO). Over 40 events. National American Cup. All junior events. FAI, modern, nostalgia, old timer. Sponsor: LOST HILLS FF MODEL AIRFIELD ASSOCIATION

9/22/2017 - 9/24/2017 -- San Simeon, CA (A) F3F IN SAN SIMEON. Site: Wicked Sister. Sheldon Smith CD PH: 585.329.0907 Email: shldnsmth@gmail.com. Visit: rcgroups.com. Sanction #17/1920. Events; 455 (JSO). Come fly F3F at Wicked Sister, a great slope racing site on the beautiful California coastline. You'll be able to fly with some of the best, who are always willing to help someone out or answer questions. No awards, but a great time is guaranteed. Sponsor: SOUTHERN CA. SLOPE RACERS

9/22/2017 - 9/24/2017 -- Snelling, CA (C) 26TH ANNUAL LAKE MCSWAIN FLOAT FLY. Site: 9090 Lake McClure Rd. David Bettencourt CD PH: 209.620-7512 Email: yakyak55@charter.net. Visit: lakemcclure.com. Sanction #17/258. \$25 Pilots registration. Saturday night dinner tickets available at the fly in. Price TBA. This event will be well traveled from Canada, Arizona, Southern Cali and the Bay area. Pilots meetings are at 8:30am both Friday and Saturday, flying at 9am. Sponsor: TURLOCK RC CLUB

9/23/2017 - 9/24/2017 -- City Of Hesperia, CA (AA) HIGH DESERT IMAC 2017. Site: Victory Valley Rc Flyers. Charles Lewis CD PH: 760-500-5850 Email: aliylew@att.net. Visit: victorvalleyrcflyers.com. Sanction #17/1968. Events; 411-415 (JSO).

9/23/2017 -- Lancaster, CA (C) AVTI FALL CLASSIC PATTERN GET TOGETHER. Site: Antelope Valley Tailwinds. Michael Greear CD PH: 661-944-3881 Email: mike@slotracingtechnology.com. Sanction #17/1837. Fun fly for classic pattern enthusiast. Sponsor: ANTELOPE VALLEY TAILWINDS INC

9/30/2017 -- Fallbrook, CA (C) 3RD ANNUAL FALL AEROTOW EVENT. Site: Johnson Field. James Gallacher CD PH: 760.747.7381 Email: jgallacher@cox.net. Visit: palomarrcflyers.net. Sanction #17/1786. Towing operations begin at 10:30-11am and go until you are tired. BBQ lunch offered by donation. Sponsor: PALOMAR RC FLYERS

9/30/2017 - 10/1/2017 -- Redding, CA (D) BENTON AIR FAIRE. Site: Benton Air Park. Larry Duncan CD PH: 530.310.2849 Email: larry.duncan48@yahoo.com. Visit: ashcreekrcpark.com. Sanction #17/1862. Sponsor: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RADIO CONTROL UNLIMITED FLYERS

9/30/2017 -- Tulare, CA (C) WINGS OVER THE VALLEY. Site: International Ag Center. Richard Peden CD PH: 559.733.0201 Email: rmpbc@aol.com. Sanction #17/1644. Location; 4500 S Laspina St. North parking lot, from Fwy 99 Exit Paige Ave, right to Laspina, Right to AG Center. RV parking available, no hook ups, no overnight. RV parks close by. Event to benefit Toys For Tots. \$5 toy donation appreciated. Sponsor: CONDORS RC CLUB