



Skyhawk Report

February 2016

Next meeting is February 15th at **Epic Corean Restaurant**, 1455 Woodruff Road
Dinner at 6:30 Meeting Begins at 7:30

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Quotes of the Month

“A thief broke into my house last night ... he started searching for money. So, I woke up and searched with him.”

- Anonymous

“Age is something that doesn't matter unless you are a cheese.”

- Luis Bunuel

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.”

- Mark Twain

“When nothing goes right ... go left!”

- Anonymous

New Members

The club signed up two new members in January: Ralph Goodman, Jr. – Pilot, and Roberto Mejia – Novice. That brings our membership roster to 92 which is pretty good for this time of year. Welcome to WCRC gentlemen!

Communications

- **From Tim Pritchett:**

The Pattern Committee has met twice. We have discussed our proposals for 2016, and would like the event list distributed to the club before the next meeting in order to let everyone have input into the decisions if they so choose. Let me know if you have any questions. The list of recommendations/requests is as follows:

- We would like to conduct Pattern Events once again in 2016.
- We suggest targeting 7 events, 1 per month.
- The events will be non- AMA sanctioned.
- All three classes flown in 2015 (Novice, Sportsman, Intermediate) will be offered in each event.
- Three rounds will be flown in each event; 2 scored, one dropped (unless cut short by weather, or other).
- Only WCRC members are invited to participate, however a participant may invite another club's active member.
- The field will remain open to other pilots during all events.
- Cook outs will be handled as they were last year (bring it, cook it, eat it...!).
- Make-up events, if one is fully cancelled, will be held 1 week following the rained out event.
- Awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each class (9 total: a budget of \$200 is requested for plaques).
- Championship points will be accumulated from each pilot's best 10 rounds flown through the season; 10,000 total points are available.
- Schedule: April 30th @ 1PM, May 21st at 1PM, June 16th @ 6PM, July 21st @ 6PM, August 18th @ 6PM, September 17th @ 1PM, and October 15th @1PM.

A motion was made, seconded and approved by the members present.

- **The Roper Mountain Science Center Space Day Fly-In will be on March 12, 2016 from 9.00 AM – 3.00 PM. This is our third go at this event. Last year we had flight simulators and static displays out as well as Roy Cespedes and the Engassers were flying at the meadow. It is a small flying site bordered by I-385 and several business parks. Motion to participate was made, seconded and approved by the members present.**

- **Field Search:**

Bob Jackson has heard from Lori Wyatt, who informed him it was time for us to begin looking for another field.

John Dillewyn, Roger McGlone and Bob Jackson met on January 5th to discuss field options and develop a plan of attack. The officers also met with Eric Meyers

on January 14th to solicit his input about possible plans of action.

John Dillewyn has identified several EPA Super Fund sites, one of which may be suitably located away from residential development. He will obtain site specific details from the EPA.

Merging with Blue Ridge was discussed as at least a temporary remedy if we cannot find a suitable location before we have to leave.

John Dillewyn also retrieved the information that Bill Oakes had accumulated back in 2007 (?) when we last attempted to find a new site.

Tim Pritchett has talked to the owner of the property at Lightwood Knot Rd. and Fowler in Spartanburg County. He referred him to the farmer who is leasing it. Tim spoke with the farmer and he is not interested in subleasing it or any part of the parcel he is leasing.

Eric suggested that we contact the respective counties' Parks and Recreation organizations and investigate potential sites that way as well.

The Anderson Ridge dump site still needs to be evaluated.

Bob Jackson plans to contact Roger Harmon to see if he can assist as he has good contacts on the various county committees.

The following members agreed to form the Field Search Committee:

Bill Oakes
Tom Holmes
John Horvath
Peter Haven

Bill Oakes requested that the Leadership Team provide the committee with guidelines as to how to approach this. John Dillewyn suggested to set up a meeting to brainstorm this in the near future. He will also sit on the committee.

- **AMA Advocacy Updates with UAS Registration:**

As you know, we have been working with our legal counsel and the FAA to find a solution for our members on the registration rule. To date, FAA has agreed in principle to several proposed initiatives that will help ease this process for our members. Specifically, they are:

1. **AMA and the FAA are working to streamline the registration process for AMA members whereby those who register with the FAA will be able to use their AMA number as the primary identification on their model aircraft, as opposed to adding a new federal registration number.**
2. **In addition, AMA members' federal registration will automatically renew provided membership remains active and current. We are working with**

FAA in negotiating the renewal fee, but in any case it is envisioned the renewal process will be provided as a member benefit.

- 3. In the future, federal registration will automatically be accomplished upon joining the AMA, eliminating the need to register with both AMA and the FAA.**

These initiatives are a step in the right direction . However, we want to emphasize that this is not the end of our efforts to protect AMA members from this overreaching regulation. We are continuing to explore all legal and political options available, but these conversations may take time and a definitive solution is unlikely before the February 19 registration deadline.

Currently, registration is free of charge until January 19. If you would like to take advantage of this free period, you may want to register before that day. But please note that you have until February 19th to register in order to avoid violating the federal rule. You can register at www.faa.gov/uas/registration/ or by calling (844) 244-3565.

Thank you for your patience as we work to find the best path forward on registration. We are committed to doing everything possible to protect our hobby and ensure that future generations have the opportunity to fly.

Editor's note: My advice would be to go ahead and register with the FAA. I have done that and the process is quite easy and quick. And after paying an initial fee of \$5.00 that will be refunded within a week or so. This way nobody will risk being unregistered after February 19th and face potentially very stiff fines if they are found to be flying without an FAA registration number.

Upcoming Events

It's February so ... naught, nothing, nada, zilch, zip, zero, squat, shutout (I know, I know, I wrote the same thing last month)!

This Month's Special

This *has* to be one of those planes our airlines are sending to Costa Rica for maintenance!



I think I'm glad I don't like to fly (inside the real thing) anymore.

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