

# AV8R



# UPD8

## NEWSLETTER OF THE TRI-VALLEY RC MODELERS

### SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

### CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS OF FLIGHT

### 1965 - 2025

### AMA GOLD LEADER CLUB

### VOLUME 11, ISSUE 8, AUGUST 2025

## **MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING ...**

First, my apologies for getting this month's newsletter out so late; lots of small things got in the way. Steve. The August meeting was held out at the Aero Camino flying site. Beautiful Central Coast summer morning, could not have asked for nicer.

President Mark Carlson opened with a quick approval of the July meeting minutes as published in the July newsletter, then moved on to the Giant Scale Fly-in. Mark said, "I'm so proud of what we did, it was a good show top to bottom. Well organized, everyone just showed up, and got things handled, thanks to you all.

The ladies came out in force and did a fantastic job. I'm proud to be a part of this group!"

Jody McCoy echoed Mark's comments, "Thanks to everyone; Chuck did a great job as the Contest Director and working with the AMA, FAA, Santa Maria Airport getting all the required sanctions, permissions and waivers to make the GS possible. Also thanks to Debbie and Chuck for all their work in getting raffle prizes together, the raffle was a big success! Also thanks to Elks Rec for requesting the fire crews to expedite their exit from the Event Center grounds ahead of our event. We left the place cleaner than we found it, including cleaning up along the frontage road from Gate 3 back to Gate 1. Scott, the Elks Rec VP was happy with the way the event came off and said that the Elks are open to us having use of the facility for more events."

No word if that might lead to regular use of the field like we once had, but it's a start...

Chuck Barnes thanked Jody for being his 'right hand man' with all the things that it takes to pull off an event like the GS. The feedback Chuck is getting from the pilots who came to the GS is all extremely positive, they all found the camaraderie, the food and the weather great, and ask "When can you do it again?"

We want to thank all the sponsors who donated items for the Pilots' Raffle:

Hobby Headquarters      Extreme flight      Jersey Modelers      Balsa USA      APC  
RTL      Bob Smith Industries      Smart Fly      House of Balsa/Zap

Treasurer Bill Korn is still working out the numbers from the GS, but the early look is that we will at least break even, possibly better. At any rate, it was worth doing.

Jody brought up extending the runway at Aero Camino by about 100 feet, at the west end:

Aside from giving more room for larger airplanes, it will move the landing zone a bit farther away from the road and the houses on the other side. Jody has discussed the idea with Mr. Blakey, and he is on board with it.



Jody estimates that it will cost about \$2500 for the decomposed granite and grading and rolling. Other surfacing methods were discussed, but the DG is the most cost effective and will not raise issues like material improvements to the property. It's also what the Blakeys are comfortable with. We'd all like to have a nice paved runway, but that's not in the cards for this location. STOL planes with Tundra tires might be the best solution. A motion was made to go with the DG runway extension and the members approved it. Jody will move on to make it happen.

Greg Stone, the AMA District X Vice President has asked Chuck Barnes to be an associate vice president for District X. Congratulations, Chuck! Not sure what all that entails, but you'll do it well.

Following the meeting, Mark and Jimmy Corcoran served up some great burgers and Ann Marie and Bill McKindley brought dessert. Thanks very much! We do eat well!

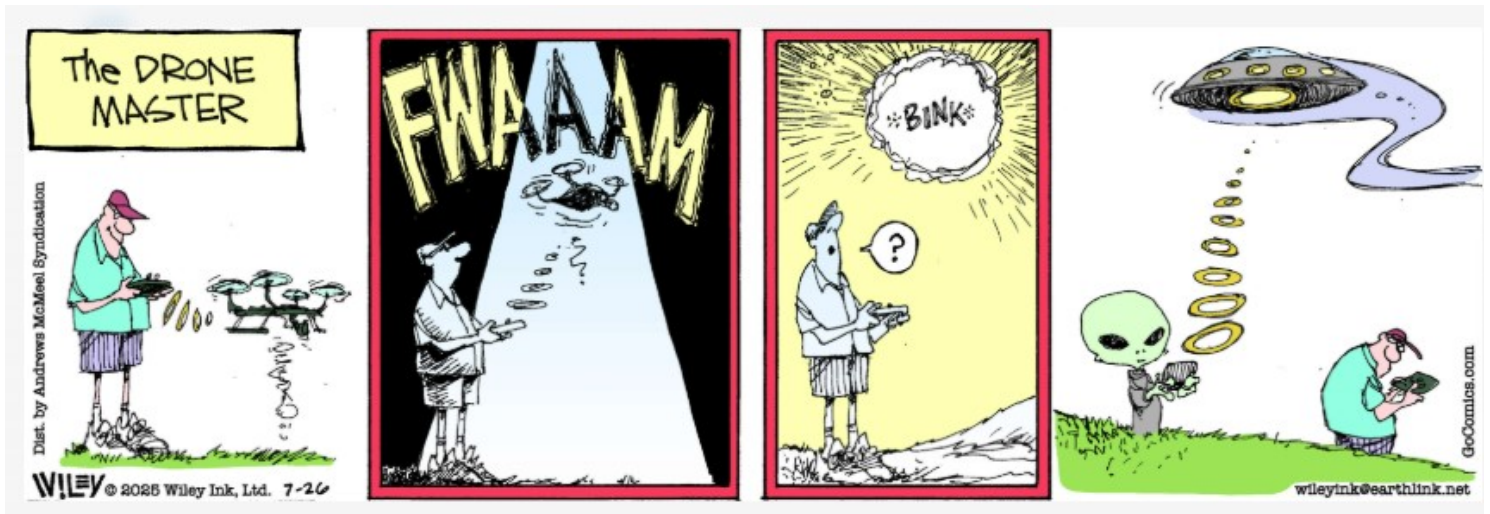
Before the meeting/lunch, there was a lot of flying; both fixed wing and helicopters. The heli guys, Dave, Steve and Craig did some 3D flying that would make you dizzy just to watch. The structural strength of those helis is off the charts.

Jody won the August Raffle Plane, a Skynetic Piaget II 3D 822mm (33.2") Wingspan - ARF BUNDLE



The 50/50, \$37.00 was won by a guest, Dick, whose last name I cannot read in my notes. Sorry, Dick, but thanks for coming.

**NEXT MEETING: 03 SEPTEMBER 2025, BACK AT QUAIL MEADOWS EAST; WE MAY NEED THE GATE CODE TO GET IN: #1225**



# ***TVRC CENTRAL COAST GIANT SCALE FLY-IN: THE LOAD-IN***

**WE MADE IT!!!** It was down to the wire, fire crews working on the Madre Fire were camped at the Elks Event Center (Just like 2024...), about 1,000 of them. We got the word on Thursday, 17 July that they were moving out, the last crews left on Sunday, as we started moving our stuff in.

Jody and Chuck organized all the equipment that needed to be moved from Aero Camino to Elks, and a good gang of TVRC troops pitched in to load, transport and unload it all. Barbeques, grills, tables, canopies, boxes and boxes of food serving stuff, safety gear, t-shirts and lots more. Thanks to you all!



**KRIS, BILL, CHUCK AND MARK GET LOADED**

At the field, canopies got set up, fence posts were driven into the pipes that had been set into the asphalt back when the field was in use, to support the safety barrier. Leftover straw that had been stored under the shade canopy was swept up and all the tarmac was given a last blow-off.



**KRIS, MIKE, BILL, ROD AND JIM GET THINGS SET UP**



**MANY THANKS EVERYONE!**

**I've been seeing this ad online...**

**That is most certainly the "Low Priced" Turbo Timber!**

A screenshot of an Amazon advertisement for an E-flite Turbo Timber model airplane. The ad features a wooden airplane with green and white stripes on the wings and tail, and a red propeller. The text includes the MSN logo, navigation links (Discover, Following, News, Sports, Play, Money, Weather, Watch), the Amazon.com logo, the product name "Low priced E-flite turbo timber - Shop E-flite Turbo Timber", and a "Sponsored" label. A play button icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

## ***TVRC CENTRAL COAST GIANT SCALE FLY-IN: THE WEEK***

***Folks started showing up late Tuesday, we had gotten all the canopies set up and tied down, the Porta Potties in and Jeff and Rhonda got the sound system set up. On Wednesday, flying started even before the morning gray cleared.***

***Peter Nickel and Ken Chaflant started off the flying. Peter could only stay for the day, but he wanted to come up and fly.***

***He had a neat LearFan model (The LearFan was one of Bill Lear's last projects, and one of his few failures. It was a tail pusher, a single prop powered by twin PT6 turbine engines through a gearbox.). Peter got in a nice flight, but on final approach seemed to balloon up then drop in hard on the right main gear. The plane***



***slid off into the dirt; other than a bent landing gear strut and some runway rash, this was about the worst incident of the week. Sorry you had to draw the booby prize, Peter.***

***Ken did some 3D stuff, Jody got a few flights in and folks kept showing up all day Wednesday.***



The rest of the week went pretty much the same, the fog cleared off mid-morning, flying got going and folks kept showing up Jimmy Corcoran and crew put on breakfasts Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Mark Singleton served as headwaiter, gotta get him a Hooters t-shirt and some short shorts. Or maybe not...

Lots of great looking planes filled the pit area and about equal parts real flying and hangar flying seemed to be the order of the day.

## 0900 PILOT'S BRIEFING



## TECH INSPECTION



## HOWARD HIBBLER LAUNCHES HIS JET



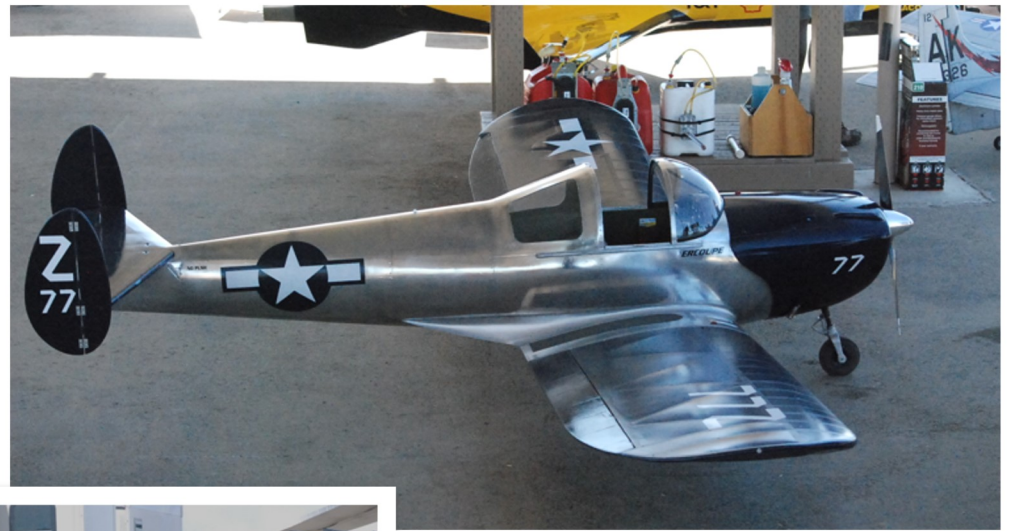


PETER ZAGONI'S BIG BUSHMASTER



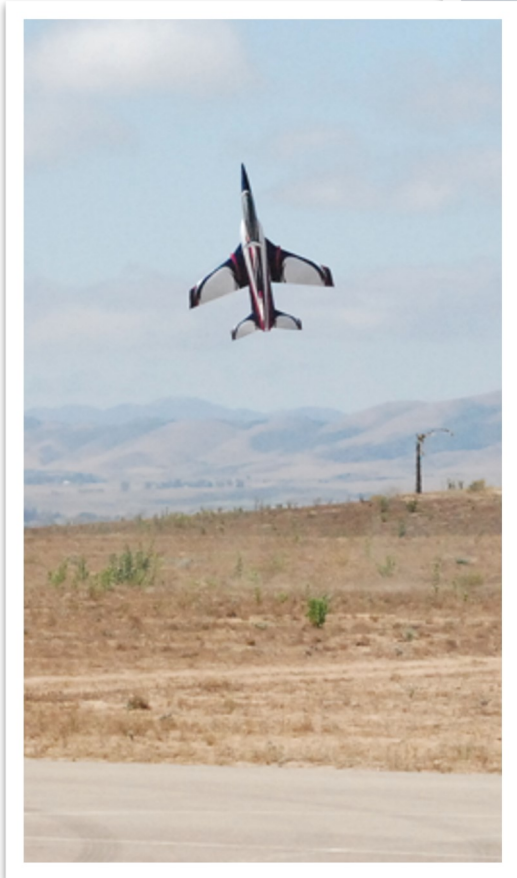
P-47S IN THE PITS

DAVID ZAGONI'S PRETTY ERCOUCPE. THE MILITARY MARKINGS AREN'T JUST A PUT-ON; THE INITIAL TESTS OF ROCKET-ASSISTED TAKE-OFF WERE DONE WITH AN ERCOUCPE!



AND IT FOLLOWS DAVE AROUND LIKE A GOOD PUPPY!





THE AEROBATIC AND 3D  
FLYERS HAD WIDE OPEN  
SKIES





*ELAD FISH FLEW THIS MOTOR SAIL-  
PLANE*



*PAUL STENBERG'S T-28 ON  
FINAL APPROACH*



*ELAD FISH FLIES BY,  
PAUL STENBERG  
TOUCHES DOWN  
WHILE GREG STONE  
WATCHES*





*THIS VTOL DRONE HAS BEEN TESTING OUT OF THE ELKS FACILITY. IT TAKES OFF LIKE A MULTIROTOR, THEN TRANSITIONS TO FORWARD FLIGHT ON A PUSHER PROP. ITS BEING DEVELOPER FOR FIREFIGHTNG AND AGRICULTURAL WORK.*





GREG STONE, AMA DISTRICT XVP  
CAME BY ON SATURDAY, LOVED THE  
SHOW





GENE CHECKS HOWARD'S ABLE DOG AT TECH INSPECTION





CRAIG AND GENE GET HOWARD CHECKED IN AT TECH





THE P-47 CREW DO THEIR THING





FILLING OUT THOSE RAFFLE TICKETS!

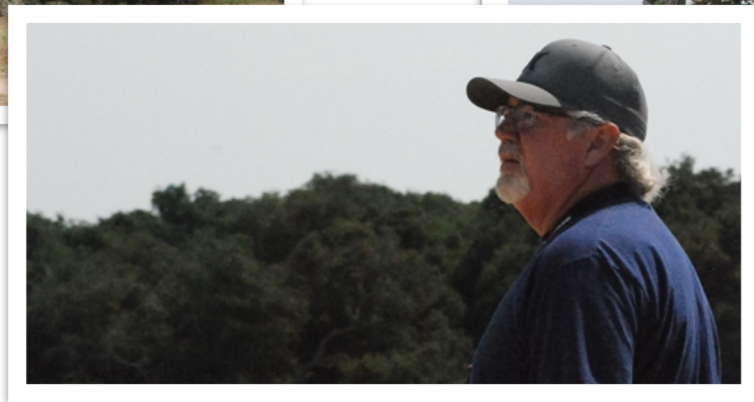






**2025 Pilots Photo**  
**Hope to see you all**  
**next year!**

# AUGUST MEETING PICTURES





# FALL FLOAT FLYS!

**TVRC AND SAM WILL HOLD TWO FLOAT FLYS BY  
EACH CLUB THIS SEPTEMBER,  
OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER!**

**Lake San Antonio is still at 64% as of late July, so it should still be pretty good come fall. So far this year it's been great.**

**The site at Lake San Antonio North Shore is a FRIA, so no Remote ID required!**

## **TVRC**

**Thursday 16 October to Sunday 19 October**

**Thursday 06 November to Sunday 09 November**

### **Contacts:**

**Mark Carlson (805) 714-8169; [cindielou33@yahoo.com](mailto:cindielou33@yahoo.com)**

**Chuck Barnes (805) 886-7921; [Cdbarnes10@comcast.net](mailto:Cdbarnes10@comcast.net)**

## **Salinas Area Modelers**

**Friday 05 September to Sunday 07 September**

**Friday 10 October to Sunday 12 October**

### **Contacts:**

**Bob McGregor, (831) 595-3681, [xpilotwon@gmail.com](mailto:xpilotwon@gmail.com)**

**James Collins, (831) 325-6391 [jamescollins@me.com](mailto:jamescollins@me.com)**

**Monterey County Parks: [parks@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:parks@countyofmonterey.gov), (831) 755-4924**

*The Salinas Area Modelers Presents...*

# The Monterey Bay IMAC Challenge!



**August 23th & 24th**

**COME JOIN THE SALINAS AREA MODELERS  
2025 IMAC COMPETITION!**

**SALINAS, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 23-24**

- Registration Saturday morning, August 23rd
- Airfield opens Friday, August 22nd for camping and practice
- Free Camping (no hookups)
- Free AM Coffee & Donuts
- Lunch for purchase Saturday & Sunday
- The regular 2025 sequences will be flown in all categories, Basic through Unlimited
- Entry Fee: \$55 for IMAC Members, \$75 for Non-IMAC Members
- Night Flying

Contact: Mike Croft [RedBikeMike@hotmail.com](mailto:RedBikeMike@hotmail.com)

[24200 Chualar Dump Road, Chualar, CA](https://www.salinasareamodelers.org)

[www.SalinasAreaModelers.org](http://www.SalinasAreaModelers.org)

[www.mini-lac.org](http://www.mini-lac.org)



# Monterey Bay Giant Scale Fly-In

Hosted By **The Salinas Area Modelers**



**November 7-9, 2025**



## OPEN TO ALL GIANT-SCALE AIRCRAFT:

- 80" MONOPLANE
- 60" BIPLANE
- 140" JETS (LENGTH + WINGSPAN)  
(TURBINES/EDFs)
- AMA & FAA REQUIRED  
(FAA# MUST BE DISPLAYED ON AIRCRAFT)

## WEEKEND FEES:

- PILOT REGISTRATION: \$50
- DRY CAMPING: \$25
- SATURDAY DINNER: \$25
- SATURDAY LUNCH: \$10
- AM COFFEE & DONUTS: FREE

450' X 60' ASPHALT RUNWAY & WIDE OPEN AIRSPACE

30 MINUTES FROM MONTEREY & CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

AIRFIELD OPEN FOR ARRIVALS THURSDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

FLIGHTLINE OPEN TO ALL AIRCRAFT, SIZES, & TYPES AFTER 5PM

NIGHT FLYING

[SALINASAREAMODELERS.ORG](http://SALINASAREAMODELERS.ORG) • [FACEBOOK.COM/SALINASAREAMODELERS](https://FACEBOOK.COM/SALINASAREAMODELERS)

CONTACT: MIKE CROFT • [REDBIKEMIKE@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:REDBIKEMIKE@HOTMAIL.COM) • (831) 601-8340



LOCATION:

24200 CHUALAR DUMP ROAD

CHUALAR, CA 93925



# SUPPORT OUR "TOP GUNS!"



**CROSNO**  
CONSTRUCTION INC.



## 2024 TVRC CLUB OFFICERS

TriValley RC Modelers Website: <https://www.trivalleyrcmodelers.com>

|                    |  |                |  |
|--------------------|--|----------------|--|
| PRESIDENT          | Mark Carlson                                 | (805) 714-8169 | <a href="mailto:cindielou33@yahoo.com">cindielou33@yahoo.com</a>   |
| VICE PRESIDENT     | Jody McCoy                                   | (805) 714-0343 | <a href="mailto:jmccoy1292@aol.com">jmccoy1292@aol.com</a>         |
| SECRETARY          | Steve Bircher                                | (805) 878-6516 | <a href="mailto:sunspotmoto@gmail.com">sunspotmoto@gmail.com</a>   |
| TREASURER          | Bill Korn                                    | (805) 878-1853 | <a href="mailto:billkorn1@me.com">billkorn1@me.com</a>             |
| SAFETY             | Mike Noble                                   | (805) 295-9253 | <a href="mailto:M-noble@sbcglobal.net">M-noble@sbcglobal.net</a>   |
| GIANT SCALE        | Jody McCoy                                   | (805) 714-0343 | <a href="mailto:jmccoy1292@aol.com">jmccoy1292@aol.com</a>         |
| AMA/GIANT SCALE CD | Chuck Barnes                                 | (805) 886-7921 | <a href="mailto:Cdbarnes10@comcast.net">Cdbarnes10@comcast.net</a> |
| FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR  | Vacant—See Jody McCoy if you are interested! |                |  |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR  | Steve Bircher                                | (805) 878-6516 | <a href="mailto:sunspotmoto@gmail.com">sunspotmoto@gmail.com</a>   |

## VERY IMPORTANT PEOPLE

|                      |  |                |  |
|----------------------|--|----------------|--|
| GRIDDLE MASTER       | Jimmy Corcoran   | (805) 710-2606 | <a href="mailto:dacorcoran@charter.net">dacorcoran@charter.net</a>     |
| FIELD NINJA EMERITUS | Mike Gunderson   | (805) 345-6548 | <a href="mailto:m.gunderson2@verizon.net">m.gunderson2@verizon.net</a> |
| NAVAL DETATCHMENT    | LTJG John Tjaden, USN Active Duty, US NAVY (SOMEWHERE) |                |  |