



February 2022 News Letter

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Comments, ideas or contributions are always welcome. Corrections...maybe.

2022 Dues

Please remember to pay your 2022 dues!

Our AMA club roster now stands at 78 members.

Wounded Warriors

A proud moment for our club.

Here, Club President Dave Starr presents a check for \$425 to the Wounded Warriors Foundation.

The money was collected at our November 13, 2021, Military Fly-in.

Thanks to Contest Director Doug Allen, and everyone who donated.



S.A.G.E. Field Closing

The Southern Arizona Gliders and Electrics club is losing its field. It is a 31-member electric/glider-only club located in Avra Valley, about 10 miles northwest of the CRCM field. Their current field is dirt, and off the grid. Google Maps won't even provide directions to it!

Three SAGE members joined us for the January Member's Meeting. They were very nice guys. We heartily welcome any SAGE members who wish to join CRCM!

Jim Davis's New Plane



Jim Davis acquired this Escapade from Ron Lee (Sophie's dad). It is powered by an O.S. 46. The plane had hardly been flown before.

On his first flight, with Jack Shafer on trims, things looked good for about a minute. Then, a sudden change in engine sound, which got progressively worse. Jim landed early, and safely.

The photo shows Jim after the landing. He displays a combination of relief at dodging a bullet, and smug self-satisfaction at saving the plane.

One of the two muffler bolts had sheared off. Jim shook his head, wishing he had checked the bolt, but it seems unlikely that an inspection

or tightening would have prevented the incident.

Removing the sheared-off tip of the bolt from the muffler presents an interesting problem. Jack Shafer suggested using a Dremel to carefully cut a channel in the exposed end of the bolt, enabling the use of a small bladed screwdriver to back out the broken piece.

The Bag of Shame



The author always has a couple of these oversized trash bags in his truck for aviation disasters.

These bags are can liners for 55-gallon barrels, big enough for even the largest recovery operations.

Jim Davis didn't need this one, but one of us will...someday.

Who will it be?

Just a Scratch

Okay, it wasn't me. The author skated by on a technicality.

I lost radio contact with my Extra 300 (featured in the January 2022 newsletter), and crashed it in the wash about a half mile to the west of the field.

I found it after three hours of searching. The wing was broken in two, the landing gear bent. Somehow, the propeller was unbroken.

I carried it home without resorting to the bag. I have repaired it.

Thanks to Bill Disney for conducting an aerial search with his drone. We located enough old aircraft wreckage to build an entirely new plane.



Boat for Sale. Make Offer.

The first vessel in the CRCM Yacht Club fleet is securely anchored in the wash to the west of the field.

If anyone is interested in a nice little fiberglass runabout, please contact the Club Commodore, Jack Sparrow.

Sold as-is, where-is.

New Planes



Howard Brown bought this bi-plane at the TRCC swap meet. Our newly-minted Treasurer suddenly has lots of spending cash.



Keith's bird is an E19, with a v-tail.



Casey Harris has a new hot pink Goblin 700-size helicopter. That means the main rotor blades are about 700mm long. This is an electric.



Mike Hinkle bought this Christen Eagle at the TRCC swap meet, complete with a DLE 20-size gas engine that works sometimes.

Under Construction

This is what a plane looks like before it's covered.

This is the author's SIG Four-Star 120. It's a glow-to-electric conversion. Like all SIG kits, it is an easy build.

I have deleted some structure from the nose area because it's electric. Those weight savings have been partially spent reinforcing the landing gear block to suit my unique style of flying.



Completed!



Here she is, fully clothed.

I flew her for the first time on January 16, with Jack Shafer assisting with trims. The plane flew well, requiring minimal trim.

This is not a hot rod, but just a really good daily flier, like all the SIG 4-Star series planes.

Jack Shafer's New Plane



Jack Shafer maidenied his new Seagull Models Extra 330LX on January 18, with Brian Brown on trims. It's powered by a Desert Aircraft 50cc engine.

CRCM Safety Corner

My three-hour search for my missing plane taught me a lesson. I had neglected to put my contact information with the plane.

If it had landed in a residential area, or if someone had picked it up somewhere, they would have no way of contacting me. I printed up a page of contact information for sticking to all my planes:

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The next meeting will be on Saturday, Feb. 12th, at 9:00 am.