



TAILWINDS TAILS

AVTI Newsletter

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 3

MARCH 2010

AVTI SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MAR 2010	
20 (11:00am)	BoD Meeting (AVTI Field)
27-28 (8:00am)	AVTI Pattern Contest (AVTI Field)
APR 2010	
1 (7:30pm)	Monthly Meeting at Fox Airfield Lobby
MAY 2010	
2 (8:00am)	RC Demo, Indoor, Static at R. Rex Parris Building, AV Fairgrounds
6 (7:30pm)	Monthly Meeting at Fox Airfield Lobby
JUN 2010	
3 (7:30pm)	Monthly Meeting at Fox Airfield Lobby

Check out other clubs' events by visiting the following websites:

www.deserthawksrc.com; www.cvrcoaring.com
www.vccomets.com; www.sbrcm.org.

Remember to check the bulletin board at the field for an up-to-date calendar of events.

Member's contributions are welcome.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

A Reminder: Please close and lock the field gate if you are last to leave. And be sure you check that the lock has indeed latched so it will not open accidentally.

MODEL OF THE MONTH



Pete C describes his electric Great Planes Sequence

MODEL OF THE MONTH RUNNER-UP



Don C shows his electric Bruce Tharp Delta Vortex

Antelope Valley Tailwinds Inc.

AMA Charter #114

P.O. Box 302, Lancaster, CA 93584

A.V.T.I. Roster of Current Officers (2008-2009)

- President:** Tony Frackowiak; 256-1147;
frackowiak@sbcglobal.net
- Vice-President:** Douglas Killebrew; 400-5636;
dougskillebrew@att.net
- Treasurer:** Joe Dagata; 943-8881;
joeandpatty1@earthlink.net
- Secretary:** Jean Greear; 944-3881;
mjgreear@aol.com
- Board Members:** Jerry Budd; 943-4970;
jbudd@roadrunner.com
- Preston Knepper; 886-0272;
tecknepp@aol.com
- Sean Hennessy; 406-2183;
seanhennesy1971@hotmail.com
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tecknepp@aol.com
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timmw1@hotmail.com
- WebMaster:** Roger Counts; 945-4639;
roger_counts@roadrunner.com
- Newsletter Editor:** Roger Counts; 945-4639;
roger_counts@roadrunner.com
- Flight Instructors:**
- Peter Carbin; 723-4830
- Daniel Garrabrant; 945-3789

* Membership Meeting *

April 1, 2010

Thursday
7:30 p.m.

Fox Airfield Lobby
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93534
Visitors and guests are welcome.

* Board of Directors Meeting *

March 20, 2010

Saturday
11:00am
At the AVTI Airpark

A.V.T.I. Airpark
47500 Challenger Way (10th Street East)
between Avenues F and G
Lancaster, CA 93535

FIELD STATISTICS

Latitude: N 34° 44' 44"

Longitude W 118° 6' 32"

Elevation: 2326'

Tailwinds Tails is a monthly newsletter of the Antelope Valley Tailwinds Inc., R/C Model Aircraft Club.

Visit our web page at www.avti.org.

Send submissions for the ***Tailwinds Tails*** by the 10th of each month to the Newsletter Editor, c/o A.V.Tailwinds Inc., P.O. Box 302, Lancaster, CA 93584 or by email to

roger_counts@roadrunner.com

President's Message



The asphalt work has been completed. I think it looks great! Thanks for the patience while the contractor finished the work. We should be good for several years now. By the way, Pete's Asphalt Sealing did this, and his phone number is 406-2741. He did get

involved with other projects when he started ours and it took a bit longer than planned, but I think he did a great job.

We had Mike's wind generator and solar panels stolen. Waste management looked in to supplying power for us, but unfortunately they cannot at this time. A week after we were robbed, Waste management was broken in to and about \$10k worth of stuff was stolen. I guess that is just the current state of the Antelope Valley. Without power our alternatives are not good. Mike has installed an external power cord to charge from if your running a generator. There has also been the offer from a member to pay for new solar panels. At our next Board Meeting we will discuss just what we can do.

The Parkzone event got cancelled due to weather. It has not been rescheduled

The pattern meet is March 27th and 28th. Let's all pray for good weather!

We are going to establish a committee for the Indoor Fly-In. Jerry Budd will be the current Chair and anyone wishing to be on the committee, please let the Board and Jerry know.

It was discussed at the Board meeting adding a sign at the entrance that says to the effect, Use of the field is for Members and guests only. Spectators are still welcome. There should also be a No Trespassing sign installed. We are getting more people at the field and some are getting annoyed when they are told they can't fly here.

We are going to schedule an indoor session at Jean's school. Keep looking for an email or notice about the date.

The safety fencing needs to be replaced/repared. We will purchase the supplies and have a workday to put it up on March 20th. It would be nice to get it done before the pattern meet.

We have had a few inquiries about the field being used for some youth activities flying model rockets. We see this as no problem as we can schedule it to be held at the Heli site. It would have no impact on regular flying.

There have been a lot of times when those arriving at the field have found the gate wide open. Either people

are not locking it when they leave, or are not making sure the lock has actually engaged. It can be a bit sticky, so please make sure that the lock has snapped shut before you leave the gate. Let's not make us any more inviting!

The next Board Meeting will be held at the field on March 20th at 11:00. If weather is bad it will be held at another location TBD.

Hope to see you at the field!

Tony Frackowiak

Vice-President's Message



Hello Everyone

Sorry I missed the meeting as I had a conflict in my schedule. To give you an update, I've had a few phone calls from the flyer at Smith Brothers Hobby asking about rockets, so it's a slow start, but it's something. There has also been

quite a few calls to me on helicopters which I think is encouraging.

Douglas Killebrew

Treasurer's Report



Checking Account Balance is \$2,369.82.

AVTI Flying Field Facility Reserve Fund in Savings Account is \$12,059.17.

Financial Assets Total is \$14,428.99.

Current Membership Total 75 (16 new members).

I have verified our current AMA memberships and found 6 members with expired memberships. If you have not yet renewed your AMA membership, please do so as soon as possible.

Current paid membership dues for 2009-2010 are \$5,850.00.

Thanks

Joe Dagata

Secretary's Report

(Minutes for March 4, 2010)



Meeting was called to order at 7:34 by Tony F. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer report was given by Joe D. 23 members present, 2 guests.

Newsletter:

If you have anything you would like to be in the newsletter mail it or e-mail it to Roger Counts by the 10th of each month.

Old Business:

The asphalt resurfacing has been completed and it looks good.

The wind generator and solar panels that Mike G. had put up were stolen. We were hoping WM would come through with electricity but they said it could not be done. So if the weather station is down it's because the batteries could not get charged in timely manner.

The Parkzone event was cancelled and has not been rescheduled.

Our spring pattern contest will be held March 27th & 28. The date was changed in hopes that there will be better weather.

New Business:

The club is organizing a committee, with Jerry B. as chairman, to start work on the Indoor Electric Fly event that will be held at one of the NASA hangers. If you are interested in helping with the planning of this event let Jerry or one of the board members know.

At the last board meeting it was discussed that signs need to be posted to the effect that the use of the field is for members and their guest only.

We will be having an indoor fly at Jean's school, so get you small stuff ready.

The safety fence needs to be replaced (it has been about 3 years) so we will be having a work party on the 20th before the Pattern Contest.

There have been some inquiries as to the field being used for youth model rocket activities. These will be held at the heli area and should not interrupt our flying.

Tim W. and Don R. are organizing a group to set up in the Rex Parris building at the Flea Market the weekend of May 2nd. There will be indoor flying, static displays of all types models, simulator, We will also have the Black Sheep Squadron there doing a build and fly for the kids. If you are interested in helping out with

this event let them or one of the board members know.

Schedule of events:

The next board meeting will be held at the field on March 20th at 11:00 am.

Model of the month:

Pete C. had his Great Planes Sequence powered by a Hobby King motor

Don C. showed off his Bruce Tharp Delta Vortex he build from a kit powered by an Axi 4120/16 motor.

Raffle Drawings:

Attendance – John K.

50/50 (\$17). Don C.

Model of the Month: Pete C.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Jean Greear

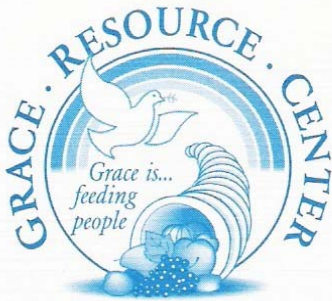
AVTI Airpark Video Surveillance Installed

The photo below shows Mike G's video camera installation (globe below the antenna). Bottom photo is a snapshot from the camera — one is taken every 30 seconds and is viewable on the Club website (www.avti.org).



~~~~ *Special Thanks* ~~~~

Our Thanks to the following businesses that made generous donations to A.V.T.I.  
Please support them when you can.



**STEVE BAKER**  
Executive Director

45134 N. Sierra Hwy.  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
(661) 940-5272  
(661) 940-5274 Fax

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

## Support Your Local Hobby Shops

Smith Brothers Hobbies  
1223 West Avenue I  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
Phone: 661-942-6984

Dr. J's Helicopters and JR Radios  
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Phone: 661-949-3586, ext. 205  
Ask for Doug.  
Distributor for Horizon Hobbies

## *A Very Special Thanks*

**Waste Management Company**  
**600 East Avenue F**  
**Lancaster, CA 93535**



### **REMINDER**

A current AMA membership is a requirement for membership in A.V.T.I. Please make sure your AMA membership is current.



### What's the weather at the field?

Don't forget you can view the weather at the field through the A.V.T.I. web-site ([www.avti.org](http://www.avti.org)) or at [www.wunderground.com/US/CA/Lancaster.html](http://www.wunderground.com/US/CA/Lancaster.html)

## Do You Recognize These Antique Aircraft?



A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.

(See page 6 for answers)

## Picking Thermals

*An article by Peter Brocks, which is stolen here from the November 2001 Ontario-based Sam 86 Speaks, who in turn stole it from the August 2001 Bat Sheet. (From the AMA Insider Newsletter)*

Picking thermals has to do with feeling the subtle changes in the environments, which, to the untrained, are not apparent. Therefore there is no simple recipe.

Tools: Mylar streamers, fast sampling thermistor devices, fluffies, bubble machines, piggybacking (on) birds, and other models.

Early morning: The air is buoyant neutral, small rises in temperature possible (as little as 2° F).

Midday: Strong thermals (boomers) develop that exceed the sink rate of models, rise in temperature can be a few degrees with wind calming, wait until a cooler breeze (fill) is felt and the temperature clearly drops. Do not launch right away, especially with fast, higher climbing models. Wait 10 to 20 seconds, depending on wind velocity.

Late Afternoon: Thermals stay closer to the ground, tend to be larger size. Smaller rises in temperature (1°+ F). Be patient; fly over dark areas.

Strong wind: Wait for a three- or four-second lull of lower wind velocity; launch immediately at an angle to the wind.

No wind: Watch streamers to see center of building hot air column. The rising air circles counterclockwise. Wait for light air movement indicating fill. Be patient as the air rises very slowly.

When launching, place the model in the center of the rising air.

Cold front: Rising air precedes the rain and the breeze. Good air is still present even when rain starts.

Flapping: If wind is moderate and ground surface is warm, then flapping a shirt or running or driving under the model will release rising air.

General Rules: Do not launch if there is a chance that the sun might soon come out of the clouds. Do not fly if other models are launched when a conscientious decision to launch has not been made; rather watch other models behavior. Most of the time flying a little later will give better results. Concentrate and take in your environment.

*Answers to Antique Aircraft: A—Harlow PJC-2; B—Flagg F-13 Bug; C—Percival Prentice; D—Wilga; E—Emigh Trojan A-2; F—Mauboussin Corsaire*



### SCENES FROM THE FIELD

Upper Left:

Ernie's Zero disassembled and ready for packing.

Lower Left:

There's an engine someplace in there

Upper Right:

Looking East down the flightline.

Lower Right:

John S assembling his Cub.

