

# WOODLAND/DAVIS AEROMODELERS



## February Newsletter

# 2017



### Prez Sez:

To all WDA members:

As you are all aware, our Burgdorf-Henson field has been severely affected by the storms of January 2017. We were first impacted with flooding that caused us to close the field. This event didn't cause any major damage, but the total rainfall received this month leading up to the storm of January 18 and January 20 or so (which brought winds that in the 50 plus mile per hour range ) have conspired to soften the ground around our runway to the point where our stakes were no longer able to restrain the runway against the violent winds that were able to get under the fabric.

While the site has dried out significantly, and there is virtually no standing water left on the site, we have major damage to the runway. As we see it, there are two choices and I will lay out the costs/benefits/ramifications associated with each in this mail. At the end, I'm urging you to please give your vote on an action so that we can move forward.

1. Repair the runway. The first option would be to simply straighten out the fabric, pull it as tight as we can and re-stake it back down. We can do this without having to buy any more fabric, however we will need a large quantity of 14" soil screws with washers. This is estimated at approximately 2000 screws to repair and stabilize the runway against future weather. We would need to wait a few more weeks for the area along the edge of the runway to dry so that we can pin the fabric back down. We would have the ability to do a small amount of hand-work on the runway ground surface to correct some holes etc that have been observed. The runway surface would still have a lot of cuts/holes/etc from the past 6 years of use. We have a source for this quantity of screws at a below market price from a company that has an overstock. We have a working budget of about \$1500 for repairs. The downside is that there will be wrinkles remaining when we repair it this way. There is no way around that and past

experiences of other clubs bears this out. The only way to prevent this from happening again is to reduce the runway size by a foot or so all the way around and trench the perimeter and turn down the edge of the runway to prevent uplift from wind. I am advocating to do that with the full replacement option so this would be the same either way.

2. Replace the runway. The second option is to pull up the runway surface, salvage the good portions for other uses (such as a park flyer runway at the south flight area). This would allow us to correct soil erosion issues with the grading on the runway ground surface. We would then replace the runway material in the same approximate size. We would plan to lay in a trench (after rebuilding the runway) all the way around so that the edges of the runway fabric can be turned down into the earth to create a windproof seal. The major motivation for this plan is that we will be doing about the same amount of work to replace the runway as repair it. Since the runway already has a myriad of cuts/holes/damages to it from models, it is already at roughly 70% of the projected lifespan of 10 years that we estimated for it when we built it. The fabric is holding up well to the sun, but it is well damaged from models. Additionally, and likely the single most significant reason for advocating for full replacement is that the runway will be wrinkly. As many of you are aware when this runway was built it took about three months for the wrinkling to shrink out. Much like a monokote wing. Once shrunk the runway material pulled tight and stayed that way until now. Our challenge in repairing the runway is that it can only be stretched as much as we the workers are able. No matter what, there will be wrinkles that will be a nuisance and possibly a deal breaker for many of our models. Doing the complete replacement is expected to cost about \$10,000 in materials. I expect that the replacement will take about 2-3 months from now to perform. Longer if the weath-

er does not cooperate.

So there you have it. It's not pretty and it's a decision that has ramifications each way. My initial thoughts were that we would just straighten the fabric out and get back to flying, but I have come to the conclusion after researching that the runway fabric doesn't have enough "shrink" left in it to provide us with a runway like we had before. I don't think there is any type of model that will tolerate the large wrinkles that we are likely to have remaining and I also can't really tolerate the thought of repairing the runway and then replacement it because the repair wasn't good enough. All of our time is valuable so I think this is an extremely important decision. I would encourage all of you to think about this and reply back to me with your choice yes or no. A decision should be made by our next club meeting.

We are working on securing funding from the AMA for flying site assistance which is not that much, but we are also working to get assistance now that Yolo county was named a disaster area by the state of California. This possibly allows us to tap into relief funds as a non-profit entity in the county. We will advise. If others who are interested in helping financially would like to make a contribution toward the runway replacement please let me know. We have the treasury in place to deal with this issue, but we have been slowly adding to it in order to hopefully purchase property one day and permanently develop it. If we can avoid tapping that nest-egg now because of the generosity of our members that would be significant.

Jeff Lovitt  
WDA President  
[jlovitt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlovitt@sbcglobal.net)  
650-504-6063

## This month:

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • Prez Sez          | Jeff Lovitt              |
| • January Minutes   | Mike Frint               |
| • Modeler's Corner  | R. Geertson              |
| • Board Mtg Minutes | Mike Frint               |
| • Events 2017       | F. Barton                |
| • Next meeting....  | <b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b> |
| • For Sale          | R. Geertson              |





## Woodland Davis Aeromodelers General Meeting January 9, 2017

Members present: X Jeff Lovitt, X Rich Geertson, X John Eaton, X Mike Frint, X Monty Welch, X Kerry Roberson, X Forrest Barton, \_\_ Chris Dellinger, \_\_ Mike O'Kane, X Doug Vice

Meeting called to order by Jeff Lovitt at 1915 hours.  
Last month's minutes reviewed, motion for approval, 2nd and passed.

Recognition of guests and new members. No guests and no new members present tonight.

Meeting agenda as posted on the club forum with any following additions.

### Officer reports:

**Vice President:** Old and new business is posted on the club website. A work party will be needed because of the weather issues this week. John Lett has stepped down as Safety Officer. We need another Safety Officer. We have planned fewer events this year and this helps keep the field open for sport flying.

**Treasurer:** John Eaton reported the club's treasury status. Most income this month is from dues.

**Secretary:** In addition to the FAA website about UAS that Mike O'Kane mentioned last month, AMA has their own version too. A photo of Bob English taken by John Eaton at the field appeared in the December Model Aviation.

**President:** Acknowledged incoming and departing board members. As of Jan 9th, **the flying field is closed** due to flooding. Another lock has been added to keep people out. Jeff mentioned that we will need help putting on a presentation for the Vacaville Library in November.

### Chair reports:

**Membership:** John Eaton reports that we have only 36 paid up members for 2017. Last month we had 107. Ed Morgan mentioned that AMA is now renewing people for one year from the month they signed up.

**Safety:** John Lett has stepped down. We need a new safety officer. No safety issues came up this month.

**Field Chair:** We still need a person to be field chair. There is some damage to the shade structure again. A work party will be needed after the flooding subsides.

**Newsletter:** Rich has nothing new. If you have anything to add to the newsletter, let him know. Particularly if you have event flyers to post.

**Points:** Linda Welch reports that all is up to date.

**Website:** Kerry reports the website is current. He will be adding the new changes that have come this month.

### Old Business:

Nominations and elections are complete.

### New Business:

Events discussed.

Swap meet: September 16 was chosen as the date. We need a volunteer to run it.

Events Calendar: See board meeting minutes.

Wayne Dickey proposed having an IMAC event at the field this year. No decision has been made.

### Event reports:

**Chilly and Chili January 1st:** Reports are that it was indeed, chilly. Plenty of food, 5 motorhomes, numerous pilots, four control line fliers, P-51 melees, and Ugly Stik formations. A Hots model and even a Sig Doubler. Haven't seen those in years. Several members we don't see lately even showed up.

**AMA Show in Ontario:** Reports are that less vendors were there. The ones that were there seem to have a smaller presence. Obtaining Depron for indoor foamies is becoming more difficult and expensive so several of those vendors weren't there. Robert Holik from APC has made some propellers (with input from Mo) for the electric indoor guys and Forrest passed them out. Apparently the props are working very well. They had electric control line models for kids. The models on display only seemed to be half as many. Rich Hanson, the new AMA President has been to the WDA field before.

**WDA Indoor Flying:** Set for January 14th

**Other:** Monty Welch reported that Crow's Landing airport has been sold and this will probably be the last year of the event held there.

**Show and Tell:** Jeff Lovitt displayed his beautiful new Sky-master Grumman Cougar jet in Blue Angels colors. Powered by a JetCat P160, the model features a functioning sliding canopy, sequenced landing gear doors, working lights, a detailed interior and even Jeff's name under the canopy. Jeff also talked about his new Jeti transmitter that has Hall Effect magnetic sticks instead of potentiometers. Apparently, programming the transmitter takes some time but it can do some amazing things even relaying engine and battery status back to the TX via telemetry.

Meeting adjourned at 20:45.

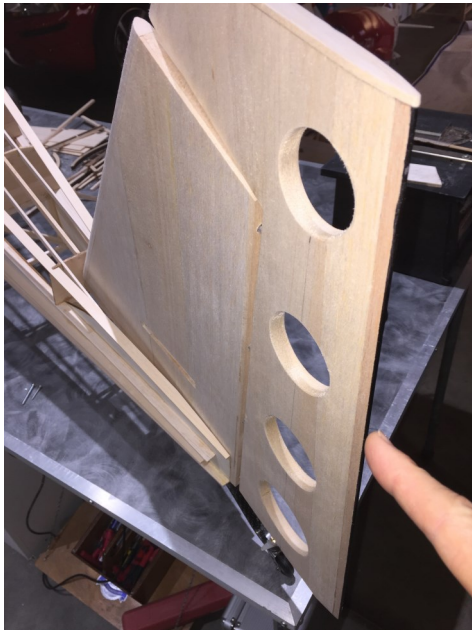






# Modeler's Corner

Having a blast building my Hostetler 33% "Xtreme" Decathlon... but as always seems to be the case, the responsibilities of LIFE get in the way of gluing and sanding balsa, so not as much progress over the past month as I had hoped. Setting the proper (minimal Xtreme Decathlon) dihedral as well as wingtip to stab tip relationship, was very time consuming. But that is what being a "modeler" is all about. I also felt it necessary to beef up the fuselage/



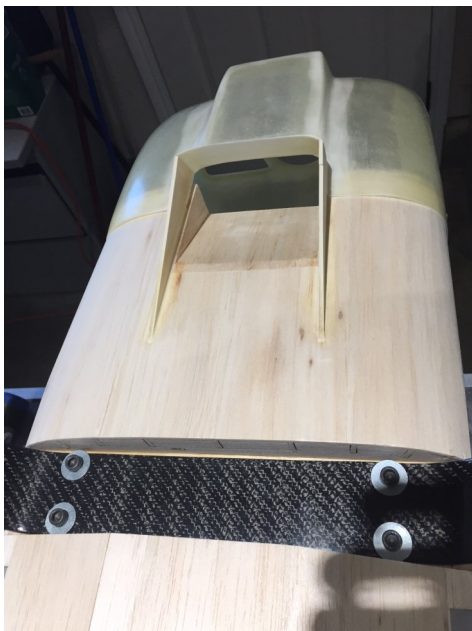
I embedded a carbon fiber rod in the balsa rudder trailing edge primarily to protect it from hangar rash, secondarily to stiffen the rudder.



Hitec high voltage, high power digital servos used throughout

cabin uprights which bear all the wing loads... we don't want a violent snap-roll to snap off the fuselage uprights, now do we?!! And while the simplest thing to do with the elevator servos would have been to mount them near the tail, exposed, I couldn't stomach the appearance and so, opted to install them inside which necessitated long and very stiff control rods. I used solid 4-40 rod encased in carbon fiber tubes. These pushrods will be anchored about every 6-8 inches to prevent flex over their length. The rudder was set up as a conventional pull/pull cable set up. Large heavy duty Sullivan control horns are utilized along with their 4-40 "golden clevises," which I like very much. The clevises and control horns are matched to each other for a slop-free fit and the clevises have pin retention clips. I have NEVER seen one fail. More next month...

**Rich Geertson**



Scale cool air exit vent on the underside of the cowl/fuselage



Aluminum angle stock glued and screwed to the hardwood cabin uprights—which support the wing... then through-bolted to the ply wing center sections.



**Woodland Davis Aeromodelers  
Board Meeting  
January 9, 2017**

Members present: X Jeff Lovitt, X Rich Geertson, X John Eaton, X Mike Frint, X Monty Welch, X Kerry Roberson, X Forrest Barton, \_\_\_ Chris Dellinger, \_\_\_ Mike O'Kane, X Doug Vice

Meeting called to order by Rich Geertson at 1809 hours.

Meeting agenda as posted on the club forum with any following additions.

Old Business:

Swap meet: September 16 was chosen as the date. Nobody running it yet. John volunteered to help. We need set up help, to take inventory and probably need more inventory.

Events Calendar: There may be a ProBro event in Feb. 49er Qualifier in May. Wings of Victory set for June 24-25. No contest director yet. No jet event this year. Military jets welcome at Wings of Victory. Lawrence Tougas may have a pattern event in July. Helicopter event and Goyet C/L meet in August. September for C/L Meet and Meet.

New Business:

The requirement for pilots to comply with the FAA registry will be put in the club rules.

Changes in regard to awarding Lifetime Memberships to persons making substantial donations to the club will be put in the By-Laws.

Field Safety Rules will be modified to include the FAA pilot registry, spotter rules and rules about flying with FPV (First Person View). References to the old field will be removed.

John Lett is unable to be Safety Officer. We need a volunteer. Doug Barton received a letter from Yolo County that the ditch road crossing is not a dead issue. It is still being delayed. The club had offered in years past to donate money towards this improvement.

Doug Barton proposed that we put a barrel for canned food donations out during big events. Glen Barton is active with the food bank.

Bill Freidrich had some maintenance suggestions for the upcoming year: Pylon racing launch pad needs work. Need more gravel. The new shade structure is bent. Bill suggested another 20 foot connex. (John Eaton suggested that house-keeping and getting rid of stuff would be a better idea.) The old wood around the connex boxes needs to be tossed. The idea of a burn permit to get rid of this, along with burning out the ditch weeds was discussed.

Doug suggested that we also get more dirt too.

Via a straw vote, the board authorized purchasing a 50 dollar, 15 foot long aluminum bench that Forrest found on Craig's List. The item is now at the field and the club needs to reimburse Forrest Barton for 50 dollars.

Forrest mentioned that money is available from the AMA for field improvements. Time is running out as the paperwork deadline is March 1. The club would like to use this money to purchase a lift pump to pump water from the ditch.

Jeff Lovitt received mail from the Vacaville Library. They are asking us to put on a presentation for Aviation Month in November at the library. John suggested that we should do the same for the City of Woodland. John and Doug mentioned that we need to work on publicity more and bank some good-will with the community.

Meeting adjourned at 19:02.

# 2017 Events Calendar

Feb 9-11	Norcal Pro Bro
Apr 22-23	Fred Burgdorf Memorial Race
Apr 28-30	Float Fly #1 Lake Minden
May 13-14	49er Scale Master Qualifier
June 24-25	Wings of Victory
June 24-25	WDA Stunt Fest (Controline)
July 29-30	<u><b>Possible</b></u> Pattern Contest
July 29-30	Chumley Memorial ARF Off (U Control)
Aug 24-26	Helicopter Scale Masters
Aug 26-27	Goyet Stunt Fest (Controline)
Sept 16	Swap Meet
Sept 16-17	Meet n' Meat XIX (Controline)
Sept 30	Golden Age
Oct 6-8	Float Fly #2 Lake Minden
Oct 14	Old School R/C Jamboree
Jan 1	Chilly n' Chili 2018

## Non WDA Sanctioned Contest

Apr 28-30	2nd Annual Rotor Rally - Turlock
May 17-21	Camp Far West Float Fly
June 10-11	IMAC West Coast Challenge - Lodi
June 10	Warbirds over Roseville - AMOS
Sept 8-10	SAM 27 Crash & Bash - Schmidt Ranch
Sept 22-24	26th Annual Lake McSwain Float Fly
Sept 30	Thunder over Roseville - AMOS
Oct 23-27	2017 Sam Champs- El Dorado Dry Lake



⇒ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** WDA Swap Meet, set for September 17, 2017 - same day as the “Meet and Meat” U Control event - We need someone to run the SWAP MEET. You will receive 2 points towards your annual field assessment AND you will be helping the club.

⇒ **FIELD CHAIR ALSO NEEDED**

**WDA Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of every month at the  
Woodland Public Library in the 'Leake' room  
250 1st St, Woodland, CA 95695**

- Board Meetings go from 6pm to 7pm (members are welcome to attend)
- General Club meeting 7pm to 8:30pm

**WDA General Club meetings are open to the public. Members and those interested in joining WDA are encouraged to attend!**

**Bring your latest project for Show N Tell and let us see what you are up to!**

### **AIR FRAME FOR SALE**

**Extreme Flight Extra 300 EXP 91”**

**Comes with two cowls - one cut for DA70, other for 60cc sized single  
B&E Graphics package**

**Miracle Switch/fueler: \$30 (and DuBro tank). I will include 4” CF spinner.  
\$1,100 invested. Includes factory wing and stab bags, side force generators, instructions.**

**\$500, local pick up only. Richard Geertson (707) 693-9537**



# WDA Officers and Board

**President:** Jeff Lovitt (916) 889-3300  
[jlovitt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlovitt@sbcglobal.net)

**VP:** Rich Geertson (707) 693-9537  
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**Secretary:** Mike Frint (916) 895-8056  
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**Treasurer:** John Eaton (530) 681-5316  
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## Board members:

Forrest Barton (530) 662-6324  
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Doug Vice  
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Mike O'Kane  
Kerry Roberson (707) 447-2701  
[kroberson@jccomp.com](mailto:kroberson@jccomp.com)

**WDA website**  
[www.wdarc.org](http://www.wdarc.org)

**Woodland Davis Aeromodelers**  
42875 County Rd. 29  
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# WDA Cabinet

## Membership

Monty Pate (530) 308-8050 [montypate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:montypate@sbcglobal.net)

## Safety Officer

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## Field Maintenance

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## Club Advocacy

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## SNACK SHACK

Ben Ponzo (916) 947-7468 [bennet\\_508@hotmail.com](mailto:bennet_508@hotmail.com)



# Flight Instruction

## Flight instructors:

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⇒ Carlos Reyes (650) 243-8894  
[carsii@hotmail.com](mailto:carsii@hotmail.com)

## Jet Turbine Instructors

⇒ OPEN

## Helicopter Instructor (Only):

⇒ OPEN



# Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 13th 7:00PM

Woodland Public Library "Leake" Rm., 250 1st St, Woodland, CA



WOODLAND/DAVIS AEROMODELERS  
C/O RICHARD GEERTSON  
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DIXON, CA 95620