

EDITOR'S NOTES

We will be meeting at our new meeting place: The airport restaurant at Deer Valley Airport.

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PRESIDENTS COLUMN

March is here and with it the 10th annual Phoenix fun fly. We have 40 plus pilots pre registered at this time. Some prizes are a Venture 50 kit, Caliber 50 kit and a MX400 kit. I am hoping that our dry spell doesn't pick that weekend to end. We should have a good turn out as always. I will be out at the Sun Valley Fliers on Thursday getting things set up. During the event, I hope everyone can chip in and help.

Everyone helping out helps distribute the work and makes it a more enjoyable experience. For those camera/internet show boats, Mark Ryder will be here taping away.

This year we will be offering to club members who pre order, polo shirts with the event logo on the back. These are made to order, so I will need a firm count by the meeting. The shirts will cost approximately \$20 (unless you purchase a XXL which is \$22). These are the same shirts as several members got last year.

On to a non fun fly item. As you are all aware, where we fly has a limited time left. Pulte appears to have hit a temporary snag (based on the length of time that dirt has been moved back and forth), but I'm sure will re-bound. This is our primary flying field, although some fly at other locations. The hot real estate market has caused most land to be developed or demand high prices, case in point land near Desert Ridge recently sold for \$1 million per acre. After last years fun fly, Sun Valley indicated that there was a possibility of the club flying there. At the time the locations that were suggested were not usable due to sun location. We have been approached again, only this time one of our members has been able to explain what we need. A possible location to the South West would allow a North facing flight line without interfering with fixed wing operations. Ideas are still being floated back and forth, but the end result would be an area that was exclusive helicopter use. We would have to invest in some infrastructure in the helicopter area as well as deal with frequencies. This type of

arrangement has been done in other parts of the country with success.

The ARMS would still exist as a club and have a permanent flying site.

As I mentioned ideas are being floated back and forth concerning membership in SVF (at this time it would appear that the initiation fee would be waived), number of frequencies available and so on. I know that some of the membership probably will not be amicable to this, but we need to act soon.

This topic will be discussed at the meeting.

That's enough for now. I hope everyone can make the meeting, we have some stuff to discuss. Also next newsletter there will be a list published of the members who haven't paid their dues.

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