



Rotor Wash

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Message from the President

Monthly update

Eric Stevens (e_stevens@cox.net)
ARMS President

The 12th annual Phoenix fun fly is now one for the books. When bills were done, we cleared approximately \$1000. I want to thank everyone who helped out. Bob Bayless did a great job getting prizes donated. Paul Clifton helped out a great deal in the registration area and I appreciate it. Our pilot count was 49 pilots on site, I will explain a little further on. Everyone who attended said they had a good time and would consider coming back, this included Curtis Youngblood who was able to make it this year. And a first, SVF complemented us on how clean the field was after the event, we must be doing something right. Look for photos later in the newsletter.

Our pilot count was definitely down this year from previous. I decided to not use an impound this year as 95% + of attending pilots were on spread spectrum and I didn't quite have the man power to staff an impound area for all three days. Because we were not impounding radios, there is a possibility that there may have been a couple of pilots attending that did not register. I personally don't believe this happened, but it is possible. Next year I will try to implement some sort of flight station pin to try to keep track of pilots.

The biggest impact on our pilot count was the rescheduling of the Las Vegas fun fly to two weeks after ours. Normally, event organizers do not set dates that will impact other events in the same region, unfortunately the Las Vegas organizers did not consider this when setting their dates (Las Vegas is/was normally in mid February). I was told by several pilots that many at their fields could not take off for two events in one month and had to choose between Phoenix and Las Vegas. Looking thru the pilot registrations, I noted no registrants from the Las Vegas area and a substantial decline in the pilots from California. The year prior, we had over half a dozen pilots from the Las Vegas area. It appears the Las Vegas event organizers are planning to run their event in March again. Birmingham takes place the weekend after our event; they moved their event up one week this year so as not to fall on Easter. Next year Birmingham will drop back one week, as will we (March 13th - 15th).

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Next Meeting

April 4, 2008 @ 7:00pm

Deer Valley Airport

The possibility exists that Las Vegas may run their event a week after ours and on the same weekend as Birmingham. Due to Mother Nature we really can't move our event much earlier and moving it later would be too hot. If Las Vegas continues in March, we will begin to see a decline in pilot registrations and shortly after that vendor support will begin to drop. Our raffle is our primary income for the event; registration takes care of the field, shirts and misc expenses. I am explaining this because next years fun fly may be a make or break unless Las Vegas (which incidentally is only about 5 years' old vs. our 12) shifts their dates. This event has never been under 60 pilots, even when it rained and when the camping went away, so there has been an effect. Enough about this.

We have started to pick up some new members and this is great. People want to fly with us because they feel they are learning more and pushing their flight skills. Additionally, the days of flying in parks are slowly coming to a close. Phoenix plans on enacting an ordinance which would require AMA membership and have size limitations as to what could be flown within city parks. Currently, any helicopter with a rotor span under 1M and 3 pounds.

We still have some event shirts left, sizes XL and XXL. They are \$15. I need a count of interested people to buy polo shirts with the event logo on the back. Price will be approximately \$20. I need a solid count by Thursday or a decision to scrub the polo shirt printing.

That's it for this month.

Eric

Technical Tips/For Sale

Video of the Month

Phoenix Fun Fly Noon demos:

<http://www.arconline.com/Videos.html>

Stuff for Sale

Barry Beagle (602 317-1948, notarheli@hotmail.com) has the following for sale:

Triton charger

Fromeco AZ regulator with pin/flag switch

Fromeco 2600mah Relion li-ion battery with dual connectors (Deans and JR style)

JR 649pcm receiver

Carbon Xtreme Raptor 90 frame set-NIB (includes side frames, base plate, rear TR servo mount, both fins)

Raptor 90 carbon collective tray-NIB (PV0432 aluminum color)

Raptor 60/90 spindle PV0126-NIB

Raptor 60/90 main rotor grips PV0120-NIB

Raptor 60/90 tail drive gear set PV0140-NIB

Raptor 60 servo frame PV0159-NIB

Misc other new and used Raptor 60/90 parts

Photos from the field...

I took a boat load of pictures during the Fun Fly. Here are some of my Favorites; the rest can be seen at the following link:

http://picasaweb.google.com/pcliftonjr/PhoenixFunFly2008?authkey=fy_B6shalys











Notes from the Editor

Nothing to add.

Paul Clifton Jr. (pcliftonjr@cox.net)
ARMS Secretary

See you at the field!

Paul

Upcoming Events

For more details check out the "Events"
section on Run Ryder.

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