

VCUAS

News Photos Events

The Ventura County Ultralight Aircraft Society Inc. based at the Camarillo Airport, Ca. publishes the VCUAS Newsletter monthly

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Our next meeting will be

Saturday, April 2nd

(I'm betting someone's cooking)

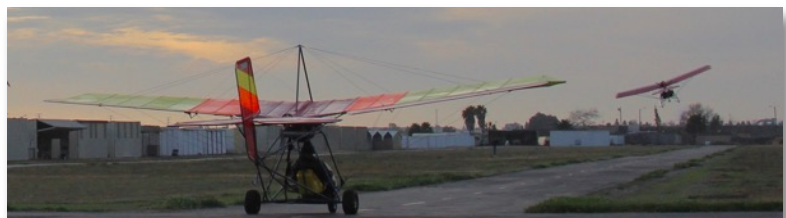


A Pilot is Born

The latest student to earn his Sport Pilot is Drew Cobb, on the left next to Designated Pilot Examiner Bob Comperini.

Drew is the owner of DRONEWRX, a commercial drone photography and video business. Drew is an experienced drone pilot but to operate commercially, an aircraft pilot license is mandatory. For more information, check out his website at dronewrx.com

This was Bob's first visit to VCUAS and it is hoped, he will be returning for more check rides in the future. Bob works out of Brian Ranch Airport near Palmdale. That's quite a drive for a check ride and we all appreciated his visit. Thanks again, Bob.



15 Things

by Bill Watson

This is a good time of year to think about getting your airplane ready for the upcoming flying season. It is also a good time to get yourself ready to fly.

The FAA lists 15 things in 61.87 as requirements prior to solo. For the FAA to list these explicitly shows how important they are.

With this in mind, now would be a great time to practice the following tasks during your next flight. If you find or predict that any of these tasks will give you trouble, grab an instructor. Just because you could do these when you were cramming during training doesn't mean the skill has stayed with you.



- 1. Preflight your plane thoroughly.**
- 2. Taxiing, including a pre-takeoff check with a runup.**
- 3. Takeoffs and landings, including normal and crosswind.**
- 4. Straight and level (both at the same time) and turns to the left and right.**
- 5. Straight and turning climbs.**
- 6. VCUAS traffic patterns, as well as those of KCMA and SPZ.**
- 7. Collision and turbulence avoidance**
- 8. Straight and turning descents.**
- 9. Hold altitude and transition from as fast to as slow as you can go and back.**
- 10. Power on and off (departure and arrival) stalls.**
- 11. Emergency procedures and equipment malfunctions.**
- 12. Find a farm and circle it, preferably using a round circle.**
- 13. Simulated engine outs at the worst possible times.**
- 14. Slips (forward and side), first up high, then when landing.**
- 15. Go arounds.**



Jeffrey and another student fight the birds for possession of the skies

Field Maintenance and Repair

Work continues on our field. Construction equipment drove in last week and worked on discing and leveling the infield between the taxiway and runway. Birds loved the first phase as the discs turned up a cornucopia of crawling delights. By the end of the day, they had gleaned the field and moved on. Some gophers, sadly, were still around but the fight continues. We will prevail!

The grader graded, the roller rolled and by the end of the week we had a nice dirt field as a alternate runway for use when the runway repairs are underway. We'll keep you all informed on the progress.





Under Construction

For those who think our aircraft are simple and easy to construct, you should talk to Charles DeBoer.

Charles started construction about five years ago with nothing more than a set of plans for an aircraft called a Legal Eagle. The plans for the fuselage called for welded 4130 steel tubing. That's simple enough but Charles wasn't a welder. Next step....take a welding course. Two welding courses later, he felt he could get started. He now has a beautifully constructed fuselage.

The wing was next. Carpentry skills were required for this one but no classes were necessary. Once the wing structure was complete, it now had to be covered. Ceconite 1.7 oz fabric was stretched and bonded to the frame using the Stewart System Ekobond. The result is a very nice looking wing.

The engine was the only major unit purchased complete. It is a full case VW with two cylinders removed. Scott Casler at Hummel is the builder of this 45 hp engine. The VW engine is used on aircraft all over the world and has a good reputation for reliability.

Still to come, the wiring and instruments.....and the tweaking. The inevitable and sometimes interminable tweaking. Charles is estimating another year to get her in the air. Other airplanes are under construction or being rebuilt at the field and we'll be visiting them later.

The East End

Most of the action at our field is at the East End. There, Mike Chicco operates the Sky Riders Flight School. Mike is a CFI (certified flight instructor) there, along with CFI Jeffrey Steele. Bill Watson is also a CFI and helps out as needed. Incidentally, Mike recently received a Best Small Business award from the Camarillo BBB. Congratulations, Mike.

Also at the East End is the Sky Knights Flight Club. The core members of the club, started in 2012 were all Sky Rider graduates. The club has three aircraft flying now, with three more in various stages of construction or repair. All are Quicksilvers.

Photos from the East End

Random photos of members and Discovery Fliers



From the Editors Desk

This is issue No 3 guys, and this IS a work in progress. I made some mistakes on the last one and folks were more than happy to point them out to me. One biggie was misspelling the former editor's name, Bob Gaz. Sorry, Bob.

We've also added a couple of things but always looking for more. If someone would like to write a monthly column or has *any* ideas to make this thing better, I'm all ears (and no wise cracks about my ears!) As you all know, I lean toward the visual so when I run out of stuff to say, I just put in photos. Th Th Th Th That's all folks!



Editor

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Supervisory Personnel

Twenty-second Annual "World's
AIRSHOW
 Saturday & Sunday May 28 & 29, 2016
 8 AM until 2 PM

Flights \$40



Ultralight Competition
 Aerial Demonstrations
 Sky Divers
 R C Airplanes
 Rocket Demo

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Admission & Parking are Free!

