

# Sparks Newsletter



## **Its been a while...**

The last newsletter was last December but we will try to get back on schedule and put them out on a more regular basis. If you have something you want to have considered for the newsletter please let Bill Cessna know ([wcessna@gmail.com](mailto:wcessna@gmail.com))

## **August 21st Swap meet and fun fly report**

On Saturday, August 21st, SPARKS held a Swap Meet \ Fun Fly \ e-Combat event. It was decided to allow flying during the swap which brought a larger than expected crowd with a solid turnout of 80+ and the food was very well received. The club broke even on the cost with purchases covered by sales so there was no dipping into reserves for reimbursement.

Planes were flying throughout the event and we had a number of planes participating in the combat. Many streamers were cut but there were no mid-air collisions. Unfortunately I don't have the winner which in this case was the last to land. We also may have a couple of new members from talking with those visiting and seeing the activity from the road, or as guests of others.

I want to extend a big thank you to Tom Simpson for going above and beyond in helping out in 'all' areas from food purchase to prep of his pig, ham, and beans, to day-of serving. Also thanks to Kyle Curda for providing the second grill which allowed the pork and burgers to be served simultaneously. I believe Tom Simpson's beans are now famous... and again his efforts were greatly appreciated.

The SPARKS board is looking into hosting our annual member-only Oktoberfest event in you guessed it, October. More information will be out on this soon.

Mike Valletti  
VP SPARKS

### **ADA compliant Porta-Potty**

There has been a real effort to replace the current Porta-Potty with an ADA compliant one. We have a number of members who can't use the current one and an ADA compliant Porta-Potty would be a great benefit to those members. Chris Zak has been leading that effort. Like a lot of other things, with COVID issues, there is a shortage of them. We are on the list to get one but there are none available at this time and Chris continues to follow up with them. As soon as one comes available it will be delivered to SPARKS.

### **The weather**

This first 8 months of the year have been quite unusual. Seems like there was an awful lot of wind through to summer and way too often a cross wind. August and September are hot. There is just no other way to describe it. Point being please make sure you don't get overheated and stay hydrated. Water is free, use it. And the storms do come by with a fair amount of lightning. Be cautious and if it gets close make the right choice and be safe. No one wants to be a lightning rod while piloting a plane. Its not good for the pilot or the plane. :-)

### **Reminders**

- **The club requires all members to display their badge when at the field.** Don't be surprised if you are not wearing it and a member asks you to put it on. It helps to let us all know each other (it has your name on it) and it also lets us know if you are a member in good standing (paid up).
- Please make sure you lock the gate when you leave if you are the last person. Everyone has been real good about this. Thanks so much!
- If you crash out of bounds you get to sit for a week for that "unexpected landing". The best use of that week is to fix your plane and reflect on why it happened. Most crashes are a result of the piloting/owner setup. A few pilots are in denial about that but it is almost always the case. Fortunately, you are responsible for the functioning of your aircraft and where it goes.

### **Flight Instruction**

We have number of students in various stages of learning to fly, spread across a number of instructors ( at least 5 instructors). Jerry Thornton and Paul Jones continue to be the contact for those efforts. If there is someone you know who is looking for flight instruction please introduce or put them in contact with Jerry or Paul so we can get them out there learning to fly!

## SPARKS field upkeep

It's easy to take our very nice facility with a paved runway and well trimmed grass for granted but it doesn't happen by accident. I am not sure Bob Shadrouri can be thanked enough. He mows it, trims it and keeps up the equipment. And we all know how fast the grass grows and how hot it is to do that work. Plus you have to dodge the rain storms to boot. Thanks much Bob!

## Briefs

- If you have something you want to sell please send specifics to [sparksrc1@gmail.com](mailto:sparksrc1@gmail.com) and we will share with club members.
- Any member with questions, please send them in an email to [sparksrc1@gmail.com](mailto:sparksrc1@gmail.com) and we will reply in the next SPARKS Newsletter

## Your Board and Officers as of January 1st, 2021

- President: Barry Bowyer
- Vice President: Mike Valletti
- Secretary: Vacant
- Treasurer: Bob Shadouri
- Safety Officer: Jimmie Jeswald

The board members are:

- Ken Elder
- Luis Espinoza
- Jerry Thornton
- Chris Zak

Elections will be held soon and there is a need to fill the Secretary [position. Please contact Barry if you think you might want to fill the position and be a part of being on the board that is leading SPARKS. If there are no nominations for the various positions typically the current people will remain in their positions.

## Plane Pictures

Used to be planes were made from balsa and a covering. Then foam came along and has become very popular and inexpensive, This plane was printed. Is this the next new wave of plane building? Who knows but it does have some advantages. Break a part ? Print another one. Don't have a 3d printer? They are getting cheaper. More than a few members have been taking advantage of this technology. Already you can buy printed details and accessories for foam planes.

A printed Corsair and a MiG 15 along with the following pictured AVRO Vulcan have flown at SPARKS. More printed planes that we are not aware have probably flown. They are easy to paint and can have incredible detail.

