



# The San Diego Flyer



## Prez Sez . . .

Glenn Frehafer



The last membership meeting for this year is now behind us. Larry Faast gave us a thorough briefing on his meeting with Skydive's leadership. I thought it was a pretty positive meeting. They profess to be appreciative of our presence on the field, and our co-operation with them in keeping things safe and helping their business to run smoothly. The only wild card seems to be what the city's requirements will be in any new lease they work out with Skydive concerning us.

We know from our last experience with the city that there really isn't any reason for them to exclude us from operations at Nichols Field, and that actually, it is in the city's favor to keep us here and not mixed into traffic at the various other city and county airports. Our environmental impact is minimal compared to the Skydive operation, and we contribute a valuable service of education and an opportunity to the public for learning about and participating in various aviation activities

During the meeting I was privileged to hand out awards of recognition from the E.A.A. to various members for their service in 2016. Those recognized were as follows: President-Myself, Vice President-Pete Sigrist, Treasurer-Mark Novak, Secretary- Kevin Warren, Membership and newsletter-Dayton Smith, Field Manager-Larry Faast, MVP-Larry Faast, Web Editor-Andy Boyer, Search Committee Members- Mike Sandlin and Craig Telleson, Fly In Coordinator-Kevin Casson, Fly-In Chef Extraordinaire-Oscar Gonzaloz, Clothing manager-Dick Snow, and the Hootie R.I.P. Peace Award- Gene Kendall. If you recognize your name and you weren't present to receive your award rest assured I will get it to you at our next meeting.

The Christmas party after the meeting was just plain fun with good eats provided by the caterer and Christmas presents traded and stolen during the gift exchange. As I heard from one attendee: Flying is a bonus for being a club member, but the real treat was the fellowship among friends.

May God bless you all this Christmas season with the peace that comes from knowing his Son Jesus, and prosperity in the coming New Year!

Glenn

## SDUA Meeting Minutes December 2017

### Guests:

Ed, who is interested in ultra-lights. Antonio, from Mexico, who flies paramotors for the last nine years, and his daughter Nicole. Jim. Haley who is here to support her dad.

Thank you to Gene for the Xmas party decorations.

### Field report from Larry:

Only light sport experimental aircraft and skydiving aircraft allowed at Nichols. Normal category aircraft not allowed except for the yearly fly-in.

EAA awards: See list of recipients from Glenn.

Meeting adjourned

Taco cart with carne asada, adobada, and pollo asada for lunch provided for the holiday party.

White elephant gift exchange. Highlights include A Yamaha acoustic guitar, a wooden P-38 Lightning model, 5 scratchers lottery tickets, a box of washing machine detergent, and a tool bag.

## Letter from the Field Manager

I met with Bram, Greg Lund, and Brian (Bram's partner) on 11/17/17. The topic was the potential new lease with the City. The meeting lasted about 1.5 hr.

Bram talked about the current negotiations with the City which started about a year ago. Initially the City refused to entertain Skydive's request for an extension on the lease and wanted all business activities (including the ultralights) to cease and desist at the end of the 5-year extension (Sept. 2020). By having letters written to Faulkner from former high ranking military officers, and hiring a lobbyist to assist them, the City changed its mind and is now ready to negotiate and has asked Bram for a list of items (enhancements) to be put into a new 20-year lease. Requests such as lengthening and widening the runway, extending the existing buildings from current single story into 2-story structures for more classrooms, and leaving all of the existing ultralight hangars and clubhouse stay "as is", are items on the list. That list of requests is now being reviewed by the City.

*Field Manager Letter continued.....*

I specifically asked Bram if he had any intentions of using some or all the ultralight area for future business requirements and he said "no", there is plenty of property for their planned activities without needing any of the ultralight area. He did say, however, that it will be up to the City as to whether the ultralights stay or go! Bram and Brian plan to have that decision by the end of 2018. This will give everyone time to work the issue prior to the end of the current lease.

TAC Air is seeking a second airfield where they can begin to train the Air Force. If another drop zone is acquired, Bram is willing to help the ultralights relocate to the new field if it becomes necessary for us to move. He suggested Warner Springs Glider Port could be a possible training site for his operation and we could move to that location. I said we would have to discuss that question among the members of SDUA.

Our relationship with Bram and all his employees continues to be very good. He appreciates our cooperative spirit and our efforts to maintain a safe coexistence between ultralights and skydiving. He and his partners have our interest at heart and are working to keep us in the new lease.

Larry Faast

## Pictures from Christmas Party

**Classified**

*This space is available for anyone who would like to list things for sale, things they'd like to give away, or things that they'd want others to sell or give them. Just submit to the Newsletter Editor!*

**The Eyes of a Pilot**

*We'd love the opportunity to publish your flying stories, interesting events and happenings here for all to enjoy. Just write something up, submit to the Newsletter Editor, and then sit back and enjoy the attention!*

**Reminders**

- *Membership dues for 2018 are payable now. Please submit to Mike Sandlin ASAP.*
- *Next meeting is January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM at the Nichols Field clubhouse.*