



San Diego Sports Flyer



November 2022

www.sdua.org

Prez Sez

Glenn Frehafer, S.D.U.A. President

Time is marching on with our effort to relocate to an airport where we can all enjoy flying again. At our last meeting it was suggested that the Wohlford Lake private airport might work for us and the membership at that meeting asked that the Board of Directors to consider it.

The Board of directors met and decided that Lake Wohlford would not work for the club for several reasons: (1) they don't want to lease to us as a club, only to individuals on a month-to-month basis; (2) the airport is too small to develop for our needs as a club; (3) the owner is 84 so the likelihood of losing our place there if we did have a presence there was very high because in all probability the heirs to the owners estate would probably sell the property; (4) the runway is narrow (20 feet) and close to the hangars at each side; (5) the terrain in the area is very rugged and not safe to fly over in an ultralight; (6) there is only one hangar ready to be used one needs a door and the other 4 spaces available will require a ground up new building to be erected; (7) since the airport owner would be collecting the hangar rent the club would have no opportunity to have a stream of income from hangar rents; (8) we would not be able to have our annual fly in there; (9) there are a lot of houses there hidden in the landscape and trees.

The Board of Directors also reconsidered the Barona drag strip and decided not to pursue that location any further for several reasons: (1) the drag strip lease holder (himself a tribe member) is not willing to set aside an area on the drag strip property for hangars to be built; (2) there would not be any written contract or lease extended from the tribal council, only a verbal hand shake agreement; (3) noise complaints were a big concern with the tribal council; (4) the costs to make the lighting improvements so that the drag strip could be safe to land on is prohibitive (\$30,000.00 to \$45,000.00); (5) we would not be able to have our annual fly in there.

The Board of directors also reconsidered the county airport at Jacumba. It was decided that that location would be the best option for us to pursue as a club for several reasons: (1) the county WANTS us to be there; (2) the area around the airport is not developed with any housing; (3) the terrain around the airport is flat; (4) the runway is paved and long; (5) there is water there; (6) the area designated as being available for us is big and would accommodate whatever we wanted to build there for hangars; (7) we could have our annual fly in there; (8) the cost for the permits and studies for environmental impact which would be required would be minimal, (probably \$15,000.00 or less) because we are a nonprofit recreational club and not a business that would put a heavy wear and tear on the airport since all our use would be confined to taxiways and the runway; (9) travel time to Jacumba is only about 10 to 15 minutes longer for most members than what it takes to drive to Nichols; (10) there are two gas stations within a mile or two of the airport; (11) the golden acorn casino is on the way to the airport or on the way home and they have a \$7.00 prime rib dinner if you join their club.

Gene Kendall will be organizing field trips to the Jacumba county airport for all members that would like to see it for themselves. I can say that from all of the locations we have investigated as a club over the years since we knew that the city of San Diego wanted to kick out Sky Dive and us from Nichols Field, that Jacumba has always been our best option for the participation of any of the activities that we as a club like to do, whether it be a fly in, or recreational flying of ultralights, or light sport aircraft, or building and testing experimental aircraft. We can easily have our monthly meetings in a rented room in town somewhere like we used to and do our flying at Jacumba at will with no interference from sky divers or a control tower. The weather is the only variable, but that is true no matter where you fly from.

It is important that we work together as a team to relocate the club and stop only considering our own selfish needs. The S.D.U.A. is the only EAA ultralight club in San Diego County that is in the position to share our knowledge and wisdom with people wanting to pursue their ambition to become a pilot. We could easily grow our membership by giving people the opportunities they are looking for in training and by participating in the EAA young eagles program. The future of the club and its influence on the younger generation is up to you all. Are we going to step up to the challenge or are we going to continue spinning our wheels and going nowhere?

San Diego Ultralight Association Meeting Minutes
October 1st, 2022, By Gene Kendall

Treasurer **Mark Novak** brought the meeting to order precisely on time at 10:00 a.m. The president and vice president were not present. Mark led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest visitors: no guest visitors this meeting.

Mike Sandlin: said we have 41 members as of this month.

Mark Novak gave his treasurers report. We have money in the club account.

Jody Morgan won a free parachute jump last year from Skydive. He finally jumped on September 30 of this year. He said his jump was scary at first and then fun and quiet.

Steve Leary's Rans S4 is going back together with the help of **Kevin Casson**.

Airfield Relocation Update.

Kirt Pfaff gave an update on the relocation committee's progress at the Barona Indian reservation site. He spoke with **Rick Reynolds** and **Darrell** who run the drag strip. He stated they spend about \$600 a night for electricity for the lights when they race. Our proposal would likely include the installation of LED lighting for the dragstrip. This would allow the removal of the telephone sized lighting poles which cause a flight hazard at the proposed runway. We do not yet have an estimated price for this lighting work. A 4-acre site north of the dragstrip has been identified as a possible location for hangers and which would require excavation work. We do not yet have an estimated price for this excavation work. The track is 1,875 feet long in total.

There several problems associated with relocating to the Barona Indian reservation. We do not know if hangers will be allowed at the airfield, we do not know how much using the property will cost, we will have to expend a significant amount of money on improvements before we can use the property and significantly, the Indian Council will not sign any contractual papers regarding the lease, conditions or terms, everything is done with a handshake.

Larry Faast gave a slide presentation covering 40 years of history at the airfield. It was originally called Borderland and subsequently changed to John Nichols field. Larry started selling ultralights and giving flight lessons in 1983 with his business Blue Yonder. The slideshow was very well received by the club.

We will be voting for new club officers at the November meeting. Please attend the meeting and put your name into nomination if you are so interested. We have the following nominations as of October 17, 2022.

President:	Stephen Oberrecht, Kirt Pfaff, Glenn Frehafer
Vice-president:	Jody Morgan, Kevin Casson
Treasurer:	Mark Novak
Secretary:	Gene Kendall

18 people attended the meeting.

Gene Kendall won \$34 in the raffle with \$33 going into the club treasury. The meeting ended at 11:50 a.m.

San Diego Ultralight Association Meeting Minutes
November 5th, 2022, By Gene Kendall

The President **Glenn Frehafer** brought the meeting to order precisely on time at 10:08 a.m. Glenn led the club in a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest visitors: no guest visitors at this meeting.

Mike Sandlin: said we have 41 members as of this month.

Mark Novak gave his treasurers report. We have money in the club account.

Oscar Gonzales gave his field report. Some weeds need to be mowed around hangers.

Vote: the club unanimously voted in new club officers for 2023 as follows:

President	Steve Oberrecht
Vice-President	Kevin Casson
Treasurer	Mark Novak
Secretary	Gene Kendall

Airfield Relocation Update.

Bill Barlow discussed the possible relocation to the Barona Indian Reservation. He met with Joe Walsh. Bill said he was getting cold feelings from the Barona personnel. They did not want to lease the property to us. They were also concerned about noise and possible complaints from the local residents. Bill said that they wanted us to fly in some planes so they could assess the noise pollution. Bill Barlow obtained an estimate of \$47,000 for lighting at the Barona drag/airstrip. Kirt Pfaff has not yet come up with an estimate for grading. Bill said he did not think it would be possible to relocate the club to the Barona drag strip.

Bill Barlow did mention that the airstrip at Lake Wohlford is a possible relocation site. Lake Wohlford is a private airport with the designation 8CL1. He went there and spoke with the manager Sandra. There are six pads available for building hangers at \$254 per month. A \$1 million liability is required to fly at the airport.

Gene Kendall presented a slideshow with photos showing the area around the Lake Wohlford air strip. An open discussion was held on a possible relocation to Lake Wohlford. The club voted to continue investigating Lake Woolford as a possible relocation site. Seven people said they were interested in relocating to the Lake Woolford airstrip.

The annual **Christmas Party** is December 3, 2022 at 10 a.m. **Boston Market** is on the menu! Bring desserts if you like to share. There will be the annual white elephant gift exchange/stealing event. \$20 maximum gift limit. 20 people attended the meeting.

Geza Hambalko won \$37 in the raffle with \$40 going into the club treasury. The meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.