



# Chino Valley Flyers

Chino Valley, Arizona



September 30, 2025

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER (volume 28 Issue 9) [www.chinovalleyflyers.org](http://www.chinovalleyflyers.org)

*"To create an interest in, further the image of, and promote the hobby/sport of model aviation"*

## Inside This Issue

President's Column	2
Name the Plane	2
Safety Column	3
Field Flying Activity	4 & 5
Member Jay Riddle	6
Steve Crowe Fun Fly	7
More Steve Crowe Fun Fly	8
Name the Plane Answer	9
The "Wow Signal"	10
August Club Meeting	11

## Quote for the Day

*"Knowing what's right doesn't mean much unless you do what's right."*

Theodore Roosevelt

## RC Battery Discount



Members:  
Get a 10% Discount at RC Battery. September discount code:

**RCB!SEPCVF25**

## Steve Zingali's (Zman) Flying Wing at Steve Crowe Fun Fly



## Shel Liebach's 120 Millimeter EDF L39 Czech Trainer



Shel's Black EDF: HSD L39 Czech Jet trainer was flown at our Steve Crowe Memorial Fun Fly. His plane is powered by a 12 cell Lipo battery.



# President's Column

By Brian Sutton



Well, Summer is over, and Fall is here. As I'm writing this, a Fall Monsoon thunderstorm is 'raging outside. I'm happy to say the Steve Crowe Fun Fly and Airshow was an outstanding 'success. Thanks to Mark and Jane Lipp's extraordinary efforts, I think we can safely say it was one of the most successful events ever.

Speaking of important members of this club, I should honor Jay Riddle. I'm told that Jay was a vital member of our club, without his generosity and leadership, we would not have the finest facility in Arizona. Jay served as president, and advised other presidents of the club.

Jay was a private pilot himself, and enjoyed traveling to the EAA Oshkosh event, and had a true love of aviation. He was also a skilled builder; I was told he built many interesting aircraft. (See page six of this issue.)

Jay was the driving force behind the hangar, new cabana, charge stations, tables, and many other improvements to the field. Most of these improvements were paid out of Jay's pocket. He was the inaugural recipient of the Flyer of the

Year award, which is now called the Jay Riddle Flyer of the Year.

Finally, a reminder to vote in the AMA elections. You should have received the ballot in the mail in the last few days. I strongly advise you to read the candidates statements, which you can find in the latest Model Aviation Magazine, and vote for the candidate you believe will best serve our hobby.

Brian



## Flight Instructors

- Randy Meathrell:**  
Control Line Flying
- Bill Gilbert:**  
Helicopters
- Jeff Moser:**  
Gliders, Multi Rotors
- General Flight Instructors
- Al Marelo**
- Steve Shephard**
- John Ward**
- Shel Liebach**
- Mark Nelissen**
- Adam Sandler**

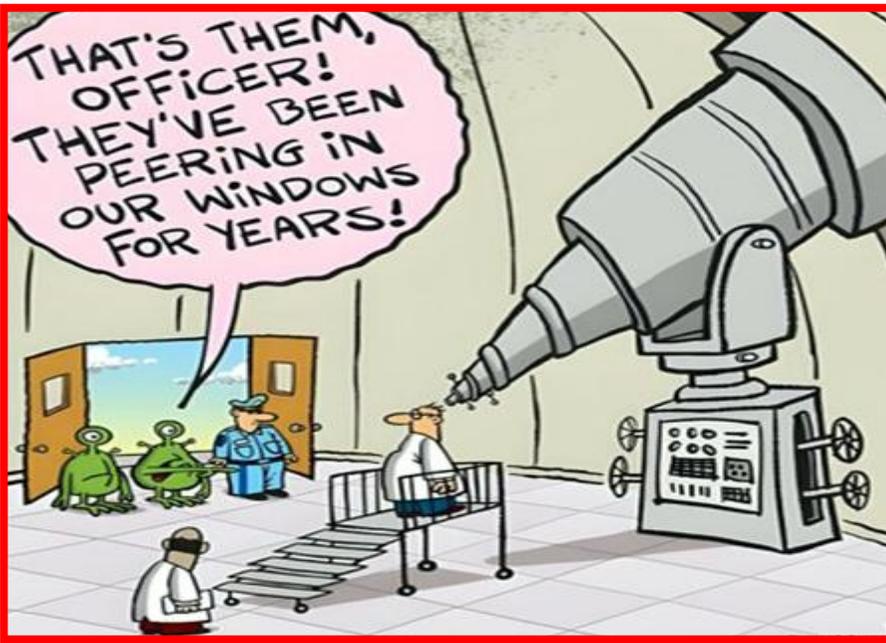
## Club's Board of Officers

- President — Brian Sutton 
- Vice President - Al Marelo 
- Treasurer — Don Crowe 
- Secretary — Bob Steffensen 
- Safety Officer — Rick Nichols 
- At Large Member — Mark Lipp 
- At Large Member— Vacant
- At Large Member— Lee Boekhout 
- At Large Member— Jeff Moser 
- Newsletter Editor — Bob Shanks 

## WHAT AIRCRAFT COCKPIT IS THIS?



See Page Nine



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Chino Valley Flyers Events for 2025



- ⇒ IMAC **EVENT CANCELLED**
- ⇒ September 20...Steve Crow Annual Event
- ⇒ October 4...Ringmaster Control Line
- ⇒ October 18...Build and Fly Contest
- ⇒ November 15...Pancake Breakfast/Swap Meet

**Fly Safe Members**

## ***SAFETY SHOULD ALWAYS COME FIRST***

*By Rick Nichols Chino Valley Flyers Safety Officer*

I am writing this as my final column as Safety Officer for the Chino Valley Flyers. Over the last 6 years of having this duty I have been presented with a few situations that were not entirely easy or pleasant to handle but as any job goes everything is not always easy.

I will speak about something that is essential for this club as it is with any other club. It doesn't matter the size or type of the club or organization. For a club to exist it is important to have a good eager and willing group of both volunteers and officers. These are not paid positions but are men and women that will take the time and effort to pitch in and do the work that is required to make a club function.

I will use a few examples with our club beginning with a trivial example. A few months ago, no one volunteered to bring snacks for the next meeting. Around 40 members attended, and a volunteer was requested for next meeting's snacks. Guess what, no hands went up. An officer that had already fulfilled his monthly obligations of snack duty did the job.

It is the same story for finding officers to run the club. Our present officers

have served from 2 years to 6 years or more in their positions. When election times come around it is next to impossible to find candidates to fulfill their duties.

Of our 150 members we do have some who work full time, are physically not able to take on a task or have some legitimate reason for not being able to help. If you reason that 25 % are in that category that leaves 75 % that should be able to step up in some way.

My personal belief is that if you join an organization that you should make yourself available to take on some sort of responsibility.

The AMA requires that we staff a certain number of Officers to maintain our club charter. The town of Chino Valley also requires that we maintain these standards to fulfill our lease agreement with the Town. Without Officers, No Club, No Flying field.

Fortunately, this year we have a candidate to run for Secretary and possibly one to run for Safety Officer. There are other offices open for the right person.

To speak for the person who may be replacing me as the Safety Officer, You must remember that the Safety Officer is

doing his or her best to follow the rules of the AMA and of our Chino Valley Flyers organization.

The Safety Officer is not there to get mad at you or berate you but to remind you of the rules we must live by to have a safe environment for all. When it comes down to it, most of the rules and etiquette we live by at the field are just Common Sense.

This has been a very safe year for all. I am proud of the cooperation that I have received from all of our members over my last 6 years as your Safety Officer.

Please show your next Safety Officer the understanding and respect that you have shown me.

*Rick*





# Club Member's Flying Activity



*Al Wiegart's Experiment Sea Wind.*



*Mike Benner gets ready to fly.*



*Mike Benner's E-Flight Turbo Timber Turbo coming in for a landing with landing lights on!*



*Mike Benner and Dale Tomlinson T-28s in formation at left.*



*Harold Eliss' "Easy Gin" T-28.*



*Robert Fish's glow powered Phoenix 7*

*Al Weigart's Sea Wind fly by.*



*Hunter Lee launches his Mig.*



# More Member Flying



Hunter Lee launches his EDF Mig.



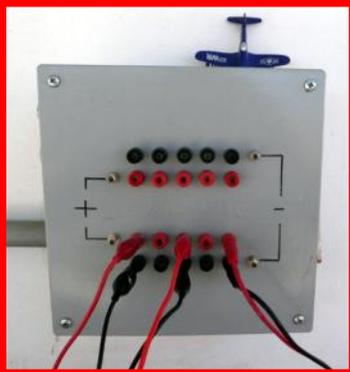
Randy Meathrell and his nice Stick.



Steve Zingali's UFO

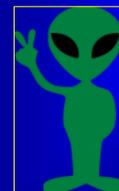


Dave Bates glider.



Randy Meathrell took this photo above left of our club's original charging station in 2007, Randy was President of the club then. What a comparison to what we have now as shown in photo at right with three rows of charging outlets for members.

Did You Lose Something at the field? Check the Hanger it may be in the Lost and Found Box.



## Former Club Member Jay Riddle Lived the American Dream - Honored by the EAA



### Editors Note:

For our new members, Jay Riddle was a very active member of our club and contributed much to how our club looks and functions today. Sadly we lost him a few years ago. However, his wife Barbara forwarded this message from the [Experimental Aircraft Association \(EAA\) of Oshkosh, Wisconsin](#). Barbara still lives and works here in Prescott. Many of you may see the engraved sign on our charging table commemorating Jay's support of our club. The traveling trophy we give out each year to a deserving member is also named after Jay. Here's the message about Jay from the EAA:

"Born in Ft. Worth Texas in 1953, Jay Riddle's early childhood fascination with the principles of light led him to an interest in building remote controlled airplanes, something that would ignite in him a passion for working with his hands, a desire to understand engineering principles, and also nurtured his creativity in building things from scratch. As a young man, Jay started a family after marrying his childhood sweetheart Barbara, she would not only be the love of his life, but would support him through as well as be a key part of, the success of his many ventures in life."

"Jay's working career was always involved around manufacturing. His aptitude for skilled machining, high quality and precision workmanship yielded various opportunities for him as his career grew. It was also during this time that Jay further pursued his love of flying by getting his pilots license and eventually owning his own private plane."

"He eventually went into injection molding trade becoming a skilled mold maker. It was in this trade that he would form a key relationship with employer Dee Howard. Many may know Dee from his legendary accomplishments in the area of aerospace innovations. This relationship was a key point in Jay making the decision to pursue his own business in business."

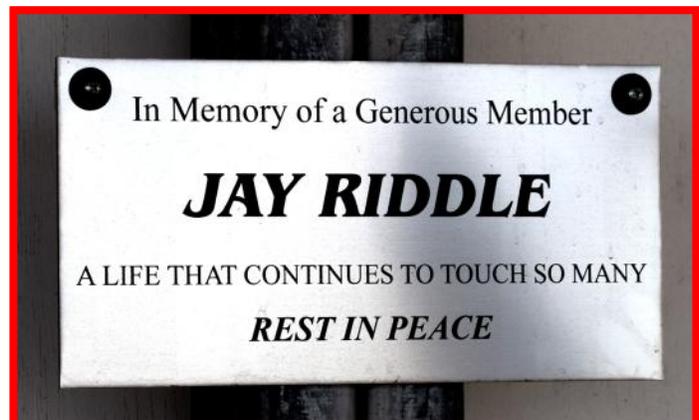
"Jay left the stability of a regular paycheck and opted to pursue his dream of owning his injection mold manufacturing company. Dee was extremely supportive of some of his early work that formed the basis of his company's success was from molds Jay built for plastic components for Dee's company. With the rise of the tech boom in the 1980s Jay saw more opportunity in California moved the family and business endeavors out West. There he found great success with a rapid mold building concept he developed that was unique to the industry at that time. Always one to think outside the box, he also invented numerous types of products in various industries during this time."

"In later years he sold the business and returned to his early love of model building, enjoying flying his remote-controlled planes at his local RC club airfield, at one point acting as President of the club with many other retired pilots and his friends. He would light up like a little kid when attending the EAS Air Adventure in Oshkosh, Wisconsin."

"Jay truly lived the American dream from humble beginnings, Jay's natural giftedness in the areas of mechanical ability and fascination with engineering and aviation not only led him to success in the business world, but in the end positively affected the world with his unique inventions. As a father, friend, business owner and family members, he wore many hats but will be most remembered for his thoughtfulness, great sense of humor, kind giving heart, Southern charm, and loving ways. He had a brilliant mind that could design and build anything from scratch. Jay loved his wife and family immensely and was always proud of them. He will be greatly missed."



*Jay Riddle Perpetual Trophy at left and the aluminum charging table remembrance of a unique past member who contributed so much to our club.*



# STEVE CROWE 2025 MEMORIAL FUN FLY



We had 32 pilots register and with all the flying activity, your editor did not take down all the pilots names and planes so on some of these two Fun Fly pages there may not be the pilot's name listed under all their airplanes. It was great flying weather for a pleasant change. We had control line demonstration put on by our president Brian Sutton and we also had the AMA District 10 representative **Greg Stone** visiting from California.

Our CD was **Mark Lipp**, a big thank you to his wife **Jane Lipp** and his son **Jonathan Lipp** from Tucson and **Paul and Lesa Gendarme** for handing out free popcorn for everyone. The Lipp gang cooked burgers and dogs. We also had quite a successful raffle set of prizes, many donated by member **Al Marello**. The safety "Air Boss" for the event was **Steve Shephard**.



Greg Stone



## Steve Crowe



Steve Crowe flew Hurricanes and Spitfires in WWII for the British. He was an active club member. Steve died in August of 2009. This is a photo of Steve at our field holding **Randy Meathrell's** Spitfire with Steve's MD E markings.



Left to Right: **Jonathan, Mark and Jane Lipp**



At right is **Jeb Wang's** twin boom design doing a water spray on the runway.



Steve Zingali flew his cloud surfer and his UFO



Steve Zingali's colorful UFO

# MORE STEVE CROWE 2025 MEMORIAL FUN FLY



Jack Bugaren's 1.3 scale 1938 Laird-Turner Meteor



Dave Domzalski's UFO



Jeb Wang dropped this with his twin boom designed aircraft.



Safety Officer Rick Nichols gave the safety briefing



Jack Bugaren's 1938 Meteor racer.





# Chino Valley Flyers September General Membership Meeting

Meeting opened at 9.59 AM on Saturday August 23, 2025 by President **Brian Sutton** with the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the August General Meeting were unanimously approved by members. Treasurers report presented by **Don Crowe** was unanimously approved by members.

## President's Agenda

Secretary **Bob Steffensen** urged members to sign in and 40 members did. The Annual Christmas Party is scheduled Saturday December 6. This year the venue is the CV Senior Center. The Cater will provide turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy. The remaining food will be "bring a dish to pass". We will send out an information sheet for reservations. Cost for reservation will be about \$23. We hope that you will all join us for this annual get together.

Safety officer **Rick Nichols** requested that all members wear their badges at the field so everyone knows who you are. Rick also thanked flyer for there attention to safety during the Steve Crowe Memorial Fly In.

Chief Flight Instructor **Steve Shephard** said there is a 9-year-old who will receive flight instruction.

Maintenance Chief **Jeff Moser** thanked **John Meyers** for cleaning out the drainage ditch and mowing with his tractor; **Mark Lipp** for donating a weed eater; and

**Harold Ellis** for providing a full gas can for the field equipment.

## Events

Event Coordinator **Mark Lipp** thanked the 30 volunteers for the Steve Crowe Fun Fly on September 20th. Mark also said the event provide substantial income to the club. The Ringmaster Fly-a-thon is October 4 and 5. Get your new builds ready for the Build & Fly on October 19...come out and maiden your build. The Prescott Airport Open House is October 4 if you are interested in presenting a static display of your models...contact President Brian for more info.

The proposed changes to the Club By-Laws we voted on by members today. Summary of changes approved: Add the Chief Flight Instructor to the Executive Board; change dues for Members to \$120, Juniors to \$12 and Family to \$180; remove the initiation fee; and add the Members at Large to the Board of Directors.

The changes will be effective January 1, 2026. The initiation fee will be waived for new members joining the club between now and January 1, 2026.

Nominees for the October election are President - **Brian Sutton**; Vice President - **Al Morello**; Treasurer - **Don Crowe**; Secretary - **Jean Greear**; Chief Flight Instructor - **Steve Shephard**; and Safety Officer - **Adam Sanders**. **Bob Shanks** will be doing the newsletter. Additional nominations can be

made prior to the election in October.

Please do vote for the AMA President when you receive your ballot...Our District X VP **Greg Stone** is a candidate this year.

## New Members and Guests

There were no new Members or guests today.

We broke about 10:18 for goodies provided by **Mike Benner**...thanks Mike! and resumed about 10:23 for pilot projects.

## Member Planes and Projects

**Randy Meathrell** and **Rick Nichols** showed their Old School Model Barracuda pylon racers. **Brian Sutton** brought in his recently completed NEXA Motion RC L4 Grasshopper.

## Door Prize and Raffle

The door prize was won by **Phil Cernac** and consisting of the usual glue, and a craft knife. **Mark Puchalski** had the winning ticket for the Hanger 9 Valiant.

After looking at the black rain cloud approaching...a motion to adjourn the meeting at about 10:38 am and was quickly approved unanimously by members.

Respectfully,  
**Bob Steffensen**, Club Secretary



Hanger 9 Raffle Prize

## Door Prize & Raffle Winners

### Door Prize Winner



Phil Cernac

### Raffle Prize



Mark Puchalski

## Pilot Projects



**Greg Stone** our AMA District X representative was visiting

