

Radio Waves

Newsletter of the Santa Fe Dam Radio Control Modelers

Sept

2021

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On Line Club Meeting Sept 15 7:30 PM
Link in Email or contact SFDRCM@hotmail.com

Beloved Shade Pepper Tree Lost to Vandals

Due to the continuing intrusion of homeless and other unauthorized trespassers at our field, the large pepper tree was burned, vandalized and ultimately removed from the field. This was planted at least 40 years ago by former presidents Bob and Katie Martin.

We ask that your contact county supervisor [Kathryn Barger](#) and County Parks Deputy Director Mercedes Santoro 626-369-8694 to DEMAND the removal of the encampments in the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. The Sheriffs Department can not act without action from the County.

President's Points

I'm sure everyone has realized by now, thanks to spike in cases of the Delta Covid variant, things haven't panned out the way we expected last May when we hoped to return to the airport for our club meetings. It appears the new variant is playing havoc on those who have not received an immunization, like my hair stylist, Rodrigo. He passed away last week due to the Delta. For months he'd promised me to get the vaccine, and I'm sure he would have eventually, but he claimed he never gets sick and now it's too late for him. He was probably the nicest

President's Points (continued)

guy I'd ever known and that's saying a lot considering I know a lot of nice guys. May he rest in peace.

The airport hasn't opened for group get-togethers yet so we'll continue with the on line meetings until we hear otherwise. The next meeting will be this coming Wednesday the 15th at 7:30. Earle will email the link for the meeting. [Instead of Zoom we will use RingCentral Video. It is easier to connect to and has no time limit. Editor]

The homeless situation at the field hasn't improved over the past few months. We've been working with the Parks and Recreation and Sheriff's Department to alleviate the problem, but they must follow time consuming protocols. With recent events, such as someone setting fire to the large pepper tree in the center of our pit area, maybe things will start moving quicker. Time will tell. Mr. Mercado, the Santa Fe Dam Parks and Recreation superintendent, will send an arborist to determine if the tree needs to be removed. Hopefully, it doesn't pose a danger and we can keep it. Please call the Parks and Recreation at (626) 334-1065 for problems experienced at the field, or 911 for the sheriff's department if it's an emergency or (626) 285-7171 to report incidents of a non-emergency nature. Sheriff Deputy Barreras is the contact person.

Over the past few months we've completed all the new forms that were required by the Park so we may have our float fly in September. So far we haven't heard back from them and will be contacting the Park soon to see if the float fly can be held on the 18th. Earle will send out a notification if the float fly is a go.

Leroy, who accepted the appointment of treasurer after Ed passed away, has received multiple estimates for the crack filling, resurfacing and repainting the pit area and runway. We hope to have it done sometime in the next month and will notify all the members when the airfield will be closed. It shouldn't be for more than a few days. Leroy is also the club officer who did most the work in preparing the new forms for the Park so we can continue with our float flies. Excellent job, Leroy.

We are open to receive nominations for the November election. The Web Master, Earle, and acting Treasurer/Safety Monitor, Leroy, have already accepted the nominations. Please notify any board member with additional names. We'll add them to the ballot after verifying they accept.

Thanks, and I hope everyone has a safe and healthy month.

Cliff

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Gate Useage

We are trying to maintain the first-in-unlock, last-out-lock policy on both the Duarte Road gate and upper dam road gates. There have been problems with missing locks, shortened chains, etc. Please do the best you can, and report problems to us so we can address them.

Renew Your Membership Now!

We are into September already. Halloween merchandise is in stores soon to be followed by Christmas. And that means the SFDRCM renewal time is open. Still \$60 for a year at one of the few RC flying sites in the L.A. area and arguably the friendliest, and least crowded. We prefer you use the online renewal form. [CLICK HERE](#) . Can also be used for new membership.



FAA registration: Some recreational fliers might have FAA registrations that expire soon. The earliest expiration date is December 12, 2020. You are now eligible to renew your registration within 180 days of your expiration date. To renew your registration, visit [FAADroneZone.faa.gov](https://faadronezone.faa.gov) . Your registration is good for three years and costs \$5. You only need one number for all your recreational aircraft. Please be aware of non-FAA scam sites charging more than \$5. Only use the **.gov** site.

Covid Vaccination Update; Blood Donations Needed

No appointment Covid and flu vaccinations are available at a number of locations including CVS and Von's pharmacies. Vaccinations are available to everyone over 12. There is no reason not to be vaccinated. Vaccination is the only way to prevent worst effects of the disease. The vaccination does not mean you absolutely can't become infected, but it gives you 99+% chance of not being hospitalized or dying. Third Moderna shots are available and other vaccines will be offering booster shots soon.

It is also vital to get the current flu shot. Current vaccine is available now and is free with any kind of insurance. This flu season has the possibility of being especially bad. 36,000 people die from flu in a typical year. Many of us have underlying condition, so don't take the chance.



Related to all this, there is an ongoing need for blood donations. This fast and painless process gives the gift of life to at least 3 people for each unit donated. Please contact [Red Cross](#) or [City of Hope](#). You will be proud that you did.

