

**Coachella Valley Radio Control Club**

# **Propwash**

**News and Info for Members and Friends**



Jim Burk Photo

**Jet Jam Event  
Coverage**

Neal Smiley,  
1/6 Scale FA-18  
"Top Gun" Award

**March 2018**

# **Table of Contents, March 2018**

Club General Info..	3
Board of Directors.....	4
Airfield and Facility.....	5
President's Jet Jam Summary.....	6
Pilot Spotlight: Neal Smiley.....	7
Jet Jam Participant's Photo.....	8
Jet Jam Administration.....	9
Jet Jam Pilots and Planes.....	10
Jet Jam Raffles.....	22
Jet Jam Vendors.....	23
IMAC Aerobatics Event Flyer.....	24
Editor's Notes.....	25

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# **Club General Info**

This newsletter is intended for both members and non-members. For those new to the area or new to the club, here are a few notes about our operation. We welcome visitors. We are proud of our family-friendly and gracious environment. Membership is open to all. Our facilities are described on the following pages. Contact any club officer for more information (See Board of Directors page).

Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) Chartered Club

Website: [www.CVRCClub.com](http://www.CVRCClub.com)

AMA Club Status: Gold Leader Club

Seven-Member Board of Directors

Average Membership: 120 Members

Annual Dues \$150.00

AMA Membership: Required (or Canadian MAC)

Guest Flyers (AMA/MAC Members): Yes, 3 times

Training Pilots Available: Yes (hourly fee)

Airfield: 89452 54<sup>th</sup> Ave., Thermal CA

Field Available: 7 Days/Week, All Year

Allowed Motor Types: All (Gas Turbines w/Waiver)

Float Flying: Lake Hemet, CA (Summertime)

Pets On-Leash OK at Airfield

No Alcohol at Airfield (Desert Parks Rule)

Club Meetings: Last Tuesday of every month

Meeting Location: Sloan's Restaurant, 81539 CA-111, Indio

# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

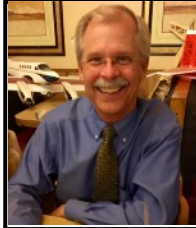
## Board of Directors 2018



Dan Metz, President

760-831-6045

jetmandan43@yahoo.com



Alan Williamson, Vice President

760-220-8239

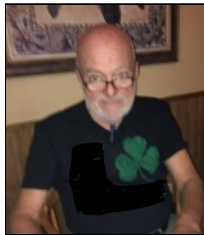
awilliamson@emc.org



Rich Wilabee, Secretary, Webmaster

562-484-8282

richwilabee@gmail.com



Bob Kelly, Treasurer

760-861-0394

kellyvons@yahoo.com



Rob Thomas, Director at Large

760-406-1565

rob@RiseUpHobbytown.com



Joe Scuro, Director at Large

760-345-9168

jscuro2000@yahoo.com



George Krueger, Director, News Editor

928-284-8007

george.kru@gmail.com

# Airfield and Facility



Runway 865' x 70', Fine-Textured Asphalt

Concrete Apron Areas

Ten Shade Covers

16 Work Stations



Land Owner: US Government  
Lease: Desert Recreation District  
Sublease/Steward: CVRC Club  
Improvements: all by CVRC Club



Field Address:

89452 54<sup>th</sup> Ave., Thermal CA

**From West:** Hwy 10E, Hwy 86S:

**From East:** Hwy 10W, Left on Dillon Rd, Left on 86S, **then:**

Left (east) on Airport Rd,

Left on Pierce,

Right on 54<sup>th</sup>,

Left at Gate.

# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club Jet Jam 2018 - Summary and Thank You

By Dan Metz, President and Event Chairman



To Everyone who came,,,,, Thank you!

We had a very very successful Jet Event. Over 40 pilots from 4 states came and they logged over 200 flights. We had a great crowd of spectators too. The tours thru the pits were really appreciated by the general public. It made for some great public awareness. The planes just get bigger and more detailed every year. Beautiful aircraft!

The Top Gun Award went to Neal Smiley for flying his incredible 1/6 scale SkyMaster F-18. What a treat and a thrill. Way to go Neal!

We extend thank-you's to many people. Among them:

Paul and Pat Stenberg from Zap Glue.

Futaba Team Pilot Neal Smiley who paid for the pilots' lunches, and bought lots auction items too, some he just gave away. What a nice man and a world class-modeler.

Barry Hou for auction items from King Tech.

Dirk Flejter for two \$500-off certificates for the new Sparrow Jet from Pacific RC Jets. Plus more auction items as well.

Jet Pilots Org who provided the Top Gun Trophy. Jim McEwen facilitated that.

Rob Thomas for the Cortex Gyro with programming cord, he is the owner of our new local Rise Up Hobbytown hobby shop. He showcased his building skills and got a lot of build orders from the Leonardo that is close to being finished. Planes done right: call Rob 760-406-1565. He booked over 20 builds over the next year from the pilots.

Details for Scale was here, Marvin and Grace brought Wounded Warrior hats and shirts too. They showcased the new F-16 Nozzle that features operational thrust feathers. Call Neal at 310-413-1297 Or Marvin at 602-635-0653.

E-Power and the always wonderful Pam and her great electrical supplies.

Prestige Auto/Model repair and Painting service was here, he had a beautiful new Viper to show off his handiwork. 760-564-8000. He got 3 jobs over the weekend.

Kinectic Composites were there, with some really great carbon fiber sheets and parts.

Cone Zone came thru with super Burgers, Brats, Chicken and Hot Dogs. Great caterer. Beth and Bob at 760-777-2018.

Then a huge Thank You to our super club members who worked so hard to put on this event! Also a note of appreciation to all our CVRC Club members who gave up the use of their field for several days so we could host the Jet Jam. In return we received enough money from parking, registrations, donations and sales from our two recent events to equal the dues from 50 new members! This builds our reserves toward needed facility repairs and our annual donations to wounded veterans. **We sincerely thank you all!**

— Dan Metz

# **Pilot Spotlight: Neal Smiley**

*From my personal interview – George Krueger, Editor*



Neal was one of the many accomplished pilots at our Jet Jam event and gave help to numerous others. I had the pleasure of talking with

him on Sunday. Neal's comments, arranged by topic:

**The Jet Jam Event:** This has been a fine event. Much credit to Dan Metz for wonderful organization. The facility is really good, with the big runway, the run-up areas at each end, the shade covers, the many worktables. We're anxious to come back! And the hospitality is wonderful.

**Airplanes to Fly:** We brought a 1/5 scale F-16 fighter by Flightmaster with all-Futaba S-Buss servos and a King Tech 210 turbine engine; an F-104 by Skymaster with all-Futaba servos and with a King Tech 180; a giant-scale F-18 with lots of Detail-For-Scale parts on it and a pair of King Tech 160 engines; and a Barry Hou custom-designed sport jet called a Sparrow, a very good flier. So far we've burned 30 gallons of jet fuel and we've had a wonderful time!

**Events Attended:** We probably average 30 events each year, including all the majors. We travel with 6 - 9 airplanes and lots of support equipment so we always have something operational.

**Team Futaba:** I became a member in a rather surprising way. I was flying in an event up north and someone recorded my flights and sent them to Futaba for their review. Unexpectedly, I got a call from Futaba Japan, asking me to fly for them and demonstrate their radio equipment, which I liked anyway. And it has been a good relationship with lots of freedom to do what I think is right. No matter what equipment they're running, we help people set up their airplanes, make first-flights for them, trim-out their airplanes and help solve any other problems. Very rewarding.

**Background in RC:** I've been flying models for more than 50 years. As a kid I built and flew control-line models, then jumped into RC in its early days. I flew Formula 1, Quickie 500's and Pattern. I've had all the equipment that people remember: the multi-channel reed equipment, the Kraft Brick, the single-stick Kraft and Futaba rigs. When jets came out I jumped into them, including the early Dyna Jets and other pulse jets. When the turbine jets came out I really moved on them, and they still thrill me. Everything I learned from my early experiences I bring to bear now on the gas turbine jet models I fly.

**Control Setup:** If people want multiple rates and expo's I help them set those up. They can soften the airplane and make handling easier. But personally I use neither. I simply use very small and precise control stick motions, like we had to do with those early radio rigs that had no features like dual rates and variable servo-movement curves. I like to put my thumb on top of the stick, keep two fingers on the front of the transmitter and two fingers on the back. That way I can reach any switch I need. I don't use "conditions" and I don't run gyros in my planes. Everything is straightforward with minimal danger of confusion.

**Instructing:** I've taught hundreds of people in the various phases of RC flying. Be it an Apprentice or a Boomerang turbine jet model, I move the new pilot away from gyro-assist as soon as possible. To be capable and safe, we need to be skillful with direct control of our aircraft

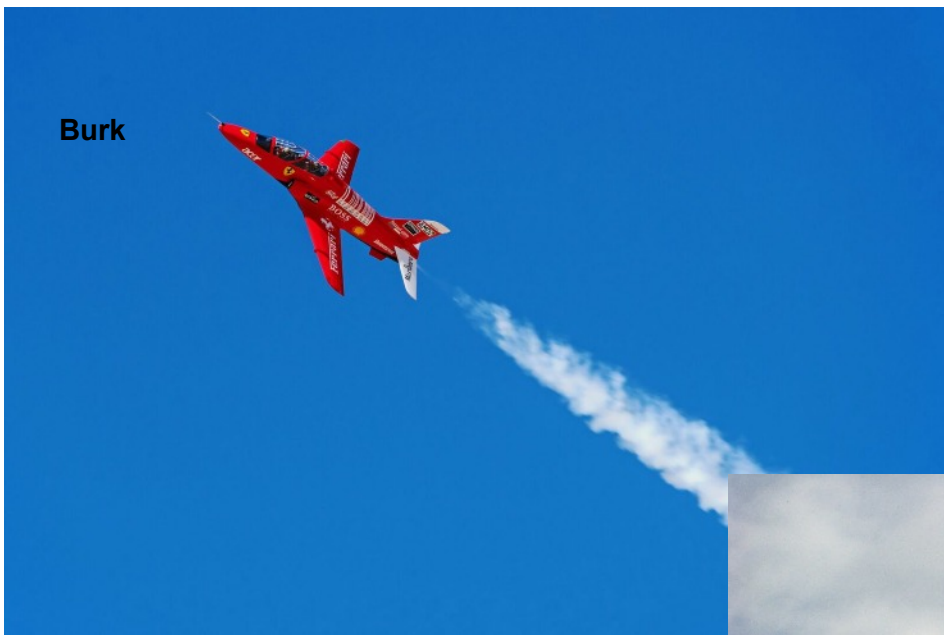
**Working Career:** I saw early in my working days that the typical home presented problems for special-needs and handicapped people. I developed devices and equipment to help them and installed those in homes. Eventually I built disability-tailored homes myself, and turned it into a successful construction business. I would do my whole working career over again if I had the chance!

Neal lives in Long Beach, CA. He was born in Detroit but was brought to CA as a child. So he regards himself as a Californian. Neal has two grown children: a son and a daughter.

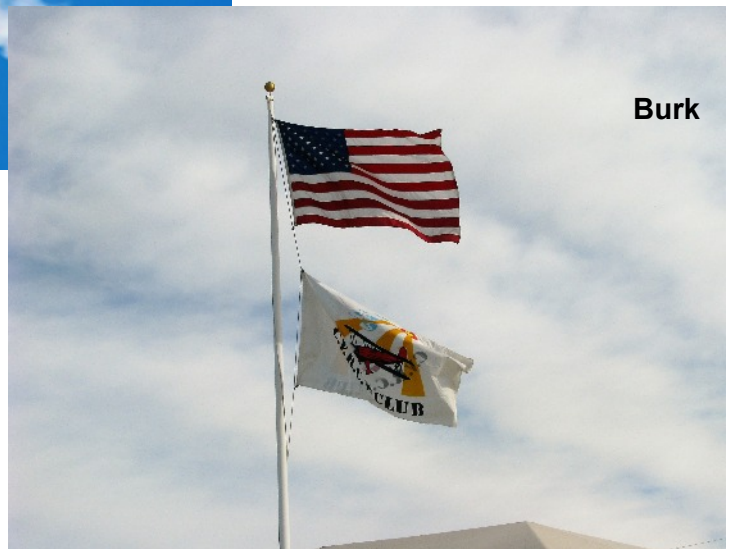
**Coachella Valley Radio Control Club**  
**Jet Jam 2018, Feb 16 - 18**



Participants with Event Chairman Dan Metz (center, front),



CVRCC pilot Rob Thomas flew his BAE Hawk to the National Anthem during opening ceremonies





# **Jet Jam 2018 - Administration**



Registration: George Smith and Bill Plumley.



AirBosses Rich Wilabee and John Cunningham directed all air traffic. More than 200 flights were made.

Guided Tours: Tim Dobrowolski.



Admission Fees and Parking: Bob Kelly, Ron Leader, Jim Fritz, Tom Lucas.

# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes



**Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes**

**Kru**



**Kru**



**Ross**



**Ross**



**Kru**



# Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes



Burk



Kru



Kru



Kru

# Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes

Burk



Kru

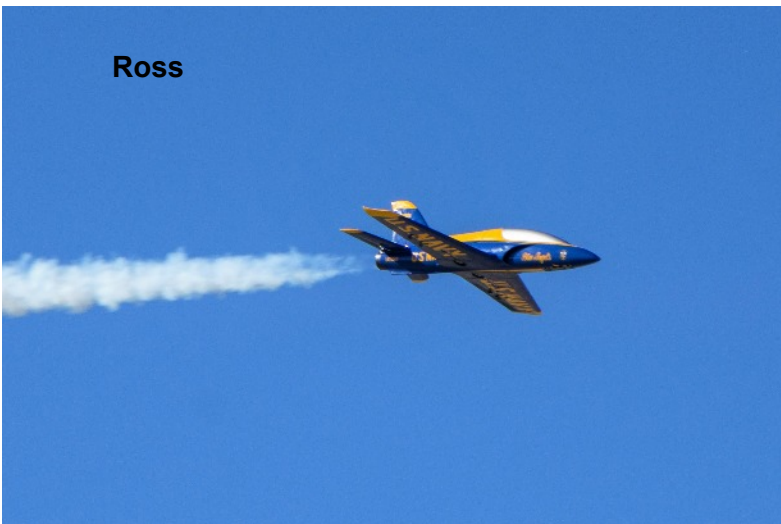


Burk

Burk



Ross



Ross



# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes

Kru



Kru

Burk



Kru

Ross



Ross

# Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes



# *Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes*

Ross



Burk



Burk



Burk

Burk



Burk



# **Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes**

**Ross**



**Ross**



**Ross**



**Ross**



**Ross**



# Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes



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# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

## Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes

Burk



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**Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes**



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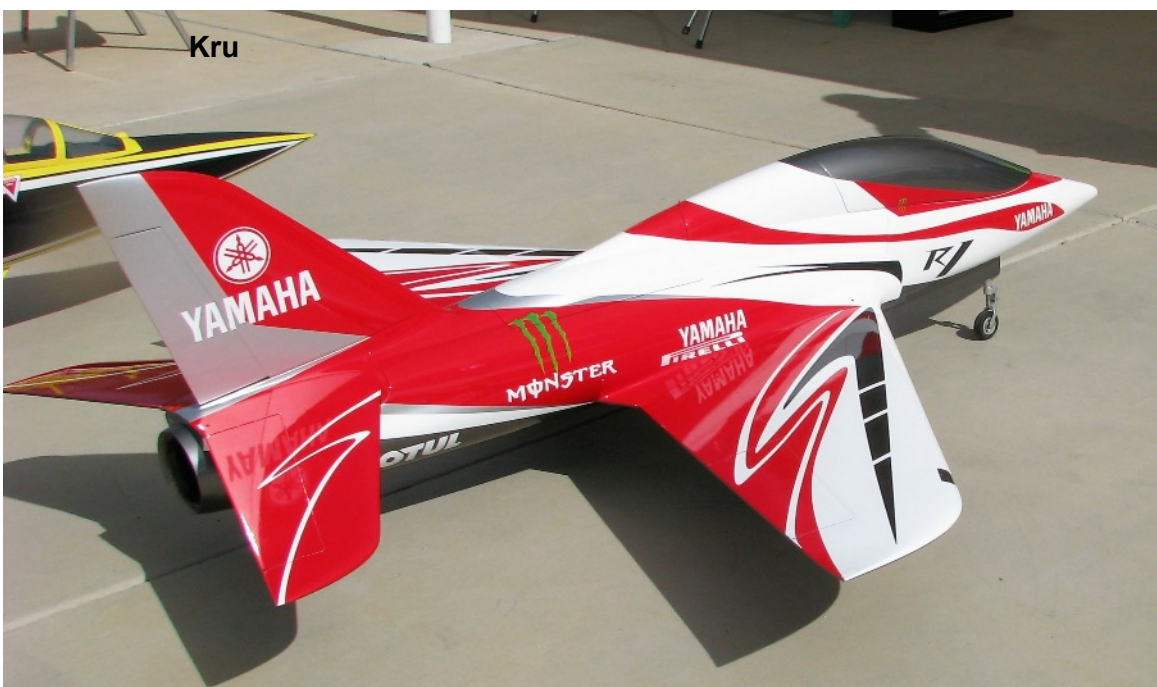
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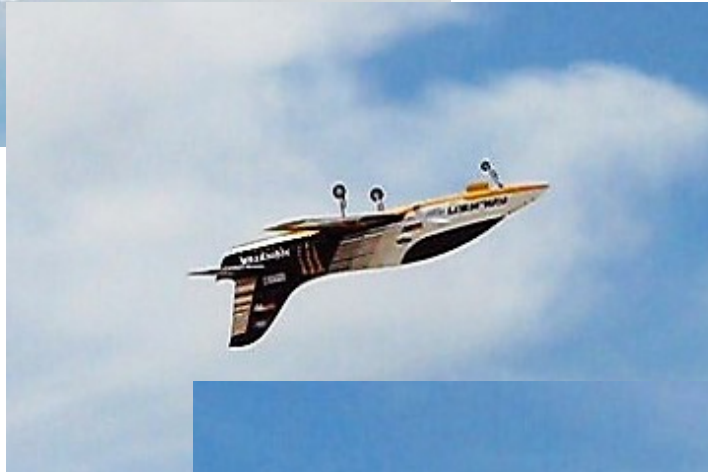
# **Jet Jam 2018 - Pilots and Planes**



“Inverted Gear Pass” (landing gear extension check), flown by Neal Smiley.

Great flying, Neal!

(These are frames from my video clip reproduced as photos so quality is diminished.) — Ed.



**Coachella Valley Radio Control Club**

**Jet Jam 2018 - Raffles**



Kru



Kru



Kru



Kru



Kru

# Coachella Valley Radio Control Club Jet Jam 2018 - Among Our Vendors:



Food and Drinks: Cone Zone



Adhesives: ZAP Products



Variable Nozzles, Clothing:  
Detail for Scale



Paint and Finish: Prestige  
Auto Body and Paint

**Coachella Valley Radio Control Club**

# **International Miniature Aerobatic Club Competition Event March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Coachella Valley-Palm Springs**

<http://www.mini-iac.org/Event-Details/PID/471>

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2018  
Registration Friday afternoon  
& Saturday morning**

**Coachella Valley Radio Club  
(CVRCClub)**

**Basic, Sportsman, Intermediate, Advanced and Unlimited Classes  
Pilots Meeting Saturday 6:30am – Wheels up at 7:00am  
IMAC registered pilots \$50 – Non Registered pilots \$60**

**Overnight Camping and RV Welcome – No Hookups**

**Saturday lunch – Hotdog Combo \$5**

**DIRECTIONS (<http://www.cvrclub.com/Directions.html>)**

**Coordinates Latitude 33 39.579 N Longitude 116 06.450 W**

**Eastbound on I-10**

**Turn off 86 SExpressway**

**Turn left on 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave., turn right**

**On Fillmore St., turn left on 54<sup>th</sup> Ave.,**

**Go past Pierce St. to field entrance**

**Westbound on I-10**

**Exit I-10 at Dillon Rd. left. Proceed to**

**86 S expressway South. Turn left at**

**52nd Ave., turn right on Fillmore St.,**

**turn left on 54th Ave., go past Pierce  
St. to field entrance.**



**Contact Darrell Morgan: 760-880-4939 or Jacques (JT) Telles: 602-319-8161**



## **Editor's Notes**

By George Krueger



The Jet Jam event saw a lot of photography by Jim Burk, Murray Ross, George Muir, myself and numerous others. I'm grateful for the fine photographs made available. I have applied photo credits to all the photos, correctly I hope! My own photos are simply labeled Kru.

This newsletter can only contain a small sampling of the many photos available. Rich Wilabee has loaded many photos and videos on our club website so please take a moment to view them [here](#).

The President's Summary contains significant observations about the event. I'll add my personal note that the whole 3-day affair was upbeat and positive, both from a pilot and spectator perspective. We already see many complimentary comments being posted on RC Universe and similar websites. The genuine interest showed by our record-number of spectators also speaks to their satisfaction.

These large affairs don't manage themselves of course. Success is a testament to good management and execution by a dedicated team.

Possibly not known by our members is that several of the very-accomplished jet-model pilots are members of CVRCC. To name two: Dan Avilla of Prescott, AZ is a member and Neal Smiley from Long Beach, CA is now a member. We don't see these gentlemen often because of their travels or work but we're pleased to have them as members.

Also not well known is that Neal Smiley made the maiden flight with his new Flightmaster giant-scale F-16 fighter. Always a touchy moment and with a very complex and heavy (probably 50 lbs.) airplane. I watched that flight; very professionally done!

There is always a need for articles for the newsletter. A single page of 12-point type along with a passport-style picture of yourself is about right. Submit your draft to me at [george.kru@gmail.com](mailto:george.kru@gmail.com) and we'll talk about it. If the topic is of interest to you, it will be interesting to our club members.