

Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

PROPWASH

News Magazine

News and Info for Members and Friends



**USAF Thunderbirds C130
“Fat Albert” flown by Dan Metz
Photo by Jim Burk**

First and Second Quarters 2020



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Club General Info

This magazine 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

AMA Club Status: Gold Leader Club

Seven-Member Board of Directors

Average Membership: 150 Members

Annual Dues \$150.00

AMA Membership: Required (or Canadian MAAC)

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

Training Pilots Available: Yes (hourly fee)

Airfield: 89452 54th Ave., Thermal CA

Field Available: 7 Days/Week, All Year

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

Float Flying: Lake Hemet, CA (Summertime)

Club Meetings: Last Tuesday, Sep - May

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

The content of Propwash is at the sole discretion of the Coachella Valley Radio Control Club Board of Directors.

There is no commercial connection between CVRC Club and any organization, advertiser, manufacturer, merchant or individual that is mentioned, featured, depicted or described in Propwash.

All photos in Propwash are by the Editor unless otherwise noted.

Coachella Valley Radio Control Club



Photo: Dan Metz

Field Address:

89452 54th Ave., Thermal CA

From West: Hwy 10E, Hwy 86S:

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

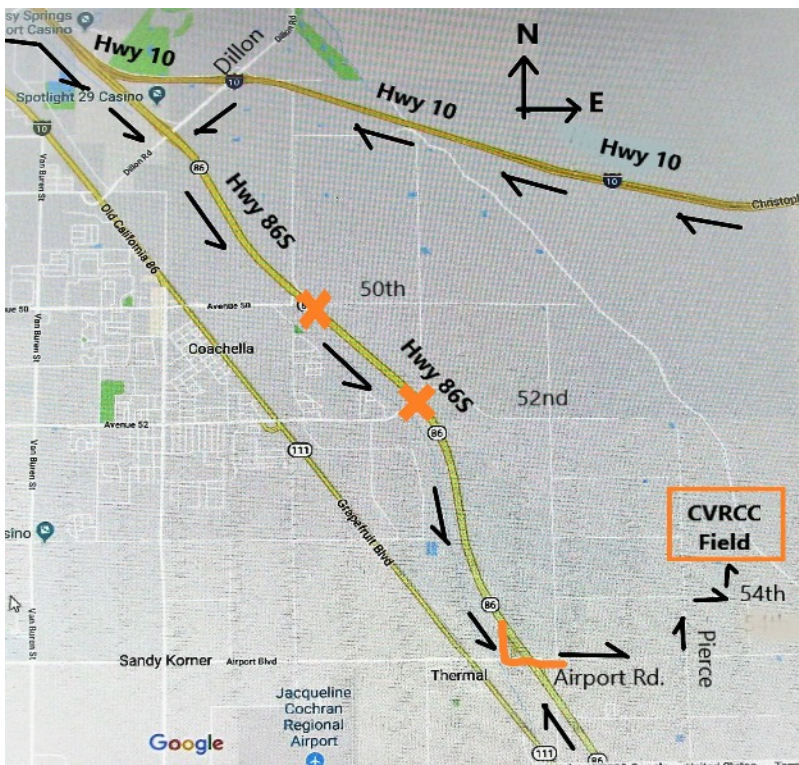
Proceed on Hwy 86S,

Left (east) on Airport Rd,

Left on Pierce,

Right on 54th,

Left at Sign:



CVRC Club Operations

**Operating to the Safety Guidelines of the FAA,
AMA and Best Practices**

**All Flight Limited to Visual Line of Sight
(VLOS)**

Members Only Access to Field

**At Current Location 19 Years,
10,000 Model Aircraft Flight Hours**

No Incidents or Accidents

Model Airpark Location

As seen by pilots and the FAA

- Within Canal Regional Park
- Federal Bureau of Reclamation Land
- On the 045 deg Radial about 4 Statute Miles from TRM
- Within Class E to the Surface Airspace
- Leased and Operated Exclusively by CVRC Club
- Depiction by Eric Whittaker, FAA



Estimating a Model Aircraft's Altitude



Example: If your model aircraft is over Pierce St. (0.25 mi away) and appears to be “two mountaintops high,” it is at 200’ altitude.

Three Methods:

- + Visual re Santa Rosa Peak vs Lateral Position
- + Visual re Runway Length (900’) vs Lateral Position
- + Telemetry (on some airplanes)

Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

Fund Raisers

All Facilities Were Built by CVRC Club
Facilities Investment Exceeds \$300,000
Annual Maintenance Budget is \$10,000

Supported Charities Include:
Wounded Warriors Project
Rebuilding America's Warriors
Astro Camp Youth Retreat
Desert Rec District Youth Programs
Air Museum Family Days
29 Palms Marine's Toy Drives
Free memberships to Police, Fire

Funding Sources:
Membership Dues
Private Donations
Air shows and Events



Major Events Generate Funds

300 Paying Spectators per Day at Larger Events



Sailplanes and Pilots



Jets



Warbirds and Classics



Aerobatics

From the Editor...

By George Krueger, Club Officer,
Treasurer and Magazine Editor



The Year of the Covid-19 is upon us, and effects will continue at least thru the end of the calendar year. Fortunately our flying site offers lots of space and separation, so

our flying activities continue. We respect all manner of personal health protection, so please continue with whatever measures work for you.

Club general meetings have been suspended for now. We hope to resume them in the Fall.

My own time for our hobby has become limited by my caregiver duties at home. So I'll try to be timely but efficient with Newsletter creation. See our website for most photos and videos. Many thanks to club secretary Rich Wilabee for keeping the website up to date.

Many of the fine photos you've seen over the years have been created by members Jim Burk and Murray Ross. They've put countless hours into taking and refining their photos for us. Sadly Murray Ross passed away earlier this year. He and his work will be greatly missed. I am pleased to count Murray among my friends. It was a pleasure to know and work with him.

The Summer heat is upon us. Our flying site is beautiful but it is a remote desert location, and help is not close at hand. Operate accordingly. Problems can multiply quickly.

As your club Treasurer I am pleased to note that our finances are in good order with

Reserves consistent with anticipated needs. The needs include progressive maintenance of our runway, aprons, shade structures, work tables, gate, road and parking-lot/berms. Needs also include insurances, state and county fees, web hosting and other business expenses. Be reminded that we self-insure for property damage from storms, flood or earth movements and we need a supply of ready cash to react to those. Past experience shows us that those events are relatively rare but they occur without warning and require rapid response and mitigation...and that can be expensive.

Our CVRC Club is a CA 501(C)3 Corp and we operate it in a prudent and business-like way.

President's Message By Dan Metz



Without a general meeting in the past few months, there is a need to tell of the 'behind the scenes' work that continues to be done.

1. Covid 19:

So far we have not heard of any Covid-19 infections among any of our membership, I think we are doing a fine job of staying away from each other while enjoying our hobby.

As a reminder, please don't approach someone wearing a mask closer than 6 feet, unless you too are wearing a mask.

Getting outside and flying is one of the best therapies there is. So come on out and take to the skies and enjoy watching your fellow members take off and fly.

2.. Desert Rec Support of the Shade structure and more.

This virus has hit the budgets of all of the local services. However the Desert Rec. District manager told me recently that our shade structure replacement request was still in play. We will continue to repair any new rips or holes on an as needed basis. After all the shades have not blown away with the recent winds. So we will continue to live on borrowed time. We have offered to split the expense with the Rec District but no decision has been shared with us so far.

On another note Burrtec replaced our porta-potty with a new one; this one has a door that closes properly.

Desert Rec District did come out and spray the weeds, so those are desiccated at this time. Also they spent time dragging the parking areas and all the dirt expanses around the runway and helipad edges...much appreciated!



3. FAA Report:

Unfortunately as of this date the long anticipated meeting with CVRC, the AMA and the FAA has been postponed. But the first meeting with the FAA and the Las Vegas club took place. They were successful in getting a 2000' ceiling around their field. I was called by Tyler Dobbs after that Las Vegas meeting who said that we were next. Then came the shut down with the virus and all travel from

Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

Washington and Indiana was stopped. Tyler said that we should get between 1500' and 2000' without any problem.

No timeline as of this date.

4. Street Sweeper:

We recently hired a commercial street sweeper to clean the runway. The build up of mud on the runway was rather deep from the spring storms. One of the problems that generated that mud was off-road RC Cars running around the lower lot. If someone comes out with a buggy please refer them to the upper lot where they can tear up the the top soil at will.

Wayne Copeland brought out his tractor and slicked up our runway edges and removed most of the heavy dirt runoff. He is a terrific tractor operator, Thank you Wayne.

5. Table project is finished:

Last winter we formed a Table Top Committee, Frank Koko and Ron Leader were tasked with submitting ideas to refinish our tables, Eddie Mann came out and welded the table frames that needed stabilization and he did a fine job. It was decided to simply fill and paint the tops as any greater improvements like diamond plate would only lead to more theft from our field,

Darrell Morgan was contracted to sand, fill and paint the existing tops, and he also replaced a few as they had really become sway-backed. Joe Darden really jumped in too.

That project is now complete and we thank everyone who helped get our tables back to a very good condition. Thank you Frank, Ron, Joe and Darrell.

6. Runway coating in October:

The number one asset that this club has is a fine runway. I hear of other clubs borrowing money to slurry their runway, or postponing maintenance because of upcoming loss of their field, or just because they have no money.

One of the best things that Bob Taylor did in the past was start a \$150 annual dues structure. Our dues have not risen since I became a member in 1982. When I hear of other clubs charging 40, 55, or 75 a year, I just shake my head. Guys, you cannot do business with people who have no money. So with our fine runway we can attract great events, because we have a reputation for a wonderful facility. We are going to re-slurry our runway in October. To keep our events coming a pristine field is needed. This is why we work so hard on our events, to raise the money for maintenance.

7. Bylaws, and Liability Insurance for Directors and Officers:

We recently purchased a 1 million dollar policy which protects the Club's treasury from being used to pay for the officers' legal fees. This insurance does not name those officers individually since it covers anyone in those positions.

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A club close to us recently found themselves in litigation. They were sued by a member who had been placed on restriction, including a firearm incident, and they did not have a good set of bylaws provisions to deal with the situation. That club has now spent over \$10K on lawyer fees. AMA insurance does not provide Officers and club Liability coverage. They only cover you if you have hit something or someone with your airplane, and then they only provide secondary insurance. Your home owner's insurance is primary.

So we are performing a complete review of our bylaws, and most importantly have secured a blanket Liability policy that covers our club and its officers against lawsuits. We are placing very strong language revisions in our bylaws and will have them up for a vote at our next general membership meeting...virus willing.

8. Wounded Warriors Donation

We recently sent donations to Wounded Warriors and RAW, Rebuilding Americas Wounded. These checks fulfill our promise for Veterans' support. The groups involved sent us wonderful thank you letters. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered on our events, which helped generate the money for the donations.

9. Murray Ross passing:

In November at our Top Fun event we will have a moment of silence and a dropping of ashes ceremony that day. His family will be here. Murray really loved our field and always vocalized his love for it. See our website article about Murray by clicking [here](#).

10. Upcoming events:

Top Fun event November 7th

Toys for Tots fun fly November 21?

Aero Tow and Toys for Tots December 5th?

War Birds January?

Jet Jam February 11,12,13,14.

See you at the field

Dan

Remembering Murray Ross...

Murray Ross, shown here with Jim Burk earlier this year, passed away last Spring. Murray was well known to all. His photographs grace the pages of our website and our newsletters. We all enjoyed his work. He will be missed.



Both Murray and Jim spend countless hours refining their photographs for us. We appreciate their work.

What full-scale pilots see....



The screenshot below shows the view of our model airpark from the cockpit of a Cessna Conquest flying north above Pierce St. at 1500 ft. This is well outside the normal landing pattern at Jackie Cochran airport. For reference our runway is 865" long. Only rarely would our models be this high.

The photo is courtesy of my friend and instructor-pilot Shawn Moore. _____ Ed



Photo: Shawn Moore

Natural Hazards...A Reminder



Wind and flood damage at our field in past years.

Club member Wane Copeland uses his tractor to make repairs to flood damage.



Our desert and nearby mountain ranges make a beautiful location most of the time. But high winds, mountain storms, flash floods and earth movements can occur quickly and leave significant damage in their wake. We self insure against these hazards. Correcting damage can be difficult and expensive. We've done it before and no doubt we'll have to do it again. All we can do is maintain prudent cash reserves so we can get repair work started quickly. No one is going to come to our aid.

____ Ed

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Warbirds and Classics Event....Jan 18 & 19



Ross

Contest Director Alan Williamson with Event Pilots



Contest Director Alan Williamson and Airbosses John Cunningham and Rich Wilabee



Parking Gate Attendants Jane and Patrick Kierans worked all days at both Warbird and Jet events!

Warbirds and Classics.....

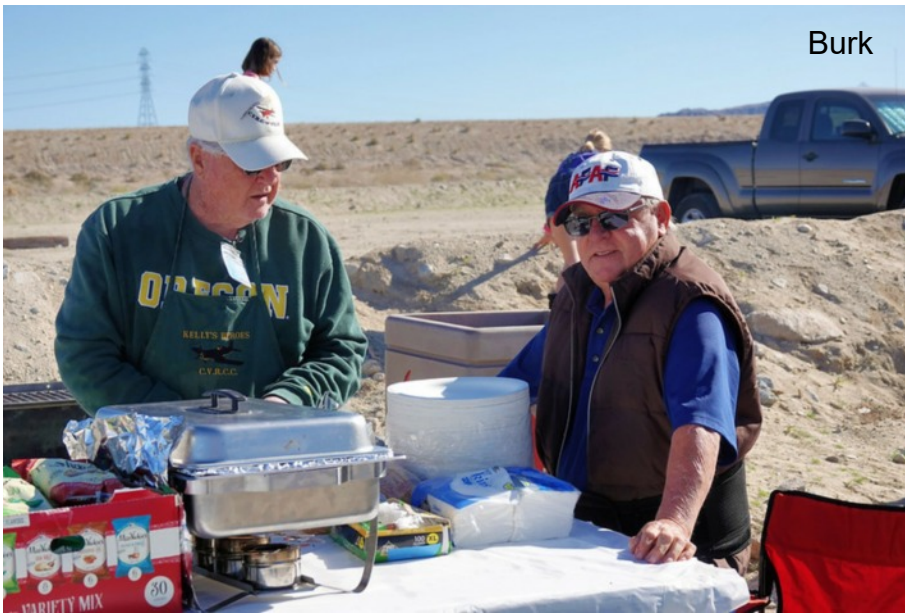


See the collection of Murray Ross event photos [here](#)



See the collection of Jim Burk event photos [here](#)

Warbirds and Classics...



Food Prep and Service by Ron Leader and Frank Koko



Food and Drink sales by Ned Smith and Bob Kelly

Warbirds and Classics....



Orman Gilbert made mid-day fly-by's with his beautiful full-scale Yak-52.



Everyone scanned the airplanes for the People's Choice Award.



Jet Jam 2020.....Feb 13-16



CD Dan Metz provided the operational and safety briefing each day



Awards were made in several categories

Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

Jet Jam 2020....



Some of the 60 pilots and more than 120 jets at our event.

See Murray Ross' collection of photos from the event [here](#)



A professional camera crew from Digital Photography Review (DP Review) used our Jet Jam to put a new Olympus camera thru its paces. They also donated several hundred dollars to our event.



DP Review created a very professional video which now gets worldwide views on their website. See the video [here](#). Thus far the video has had 25,300 views!

Jet Jam 2020....

We appreciate the many excellent models brought to our event....Awesome!
Take a look at this magnificent F-100.



DP Review

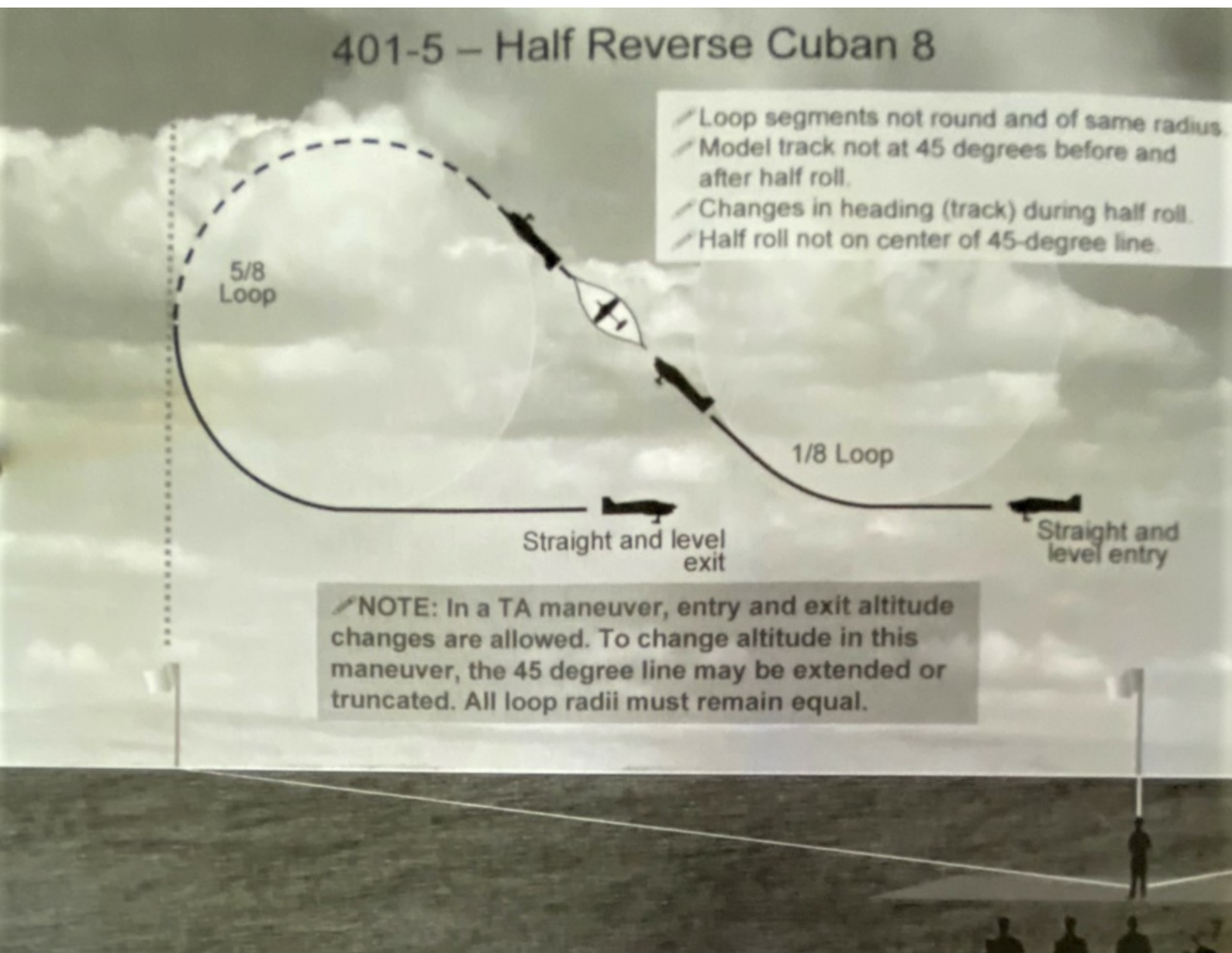


DP Review

Training.....

A hallmark of new RC pilots is to “chase their airplanes all over the sky.” An easy and safe TA (turnaround) maneuver that will reverse your airplane’s course but keep it on the same “line” is the Half Reverse Cuban 8 shown below. Safe because the half roll is done on an up-line going away from the ground (versus on down-lines in the Standard Cuban 8). Try to keep your maneuver in-plane, un-hurried, big and deliberate. You can use TA’s to keep your airplane in a “box” at a chosen spot in the sky, where you can see it clearly and stay aligned with the wind. Then put your ‘display’ maneuvers in between the TA’s, not chased randomly across the sky.

The maneuver description is from the AMA Precision Aerobatics Judge’s Guide with demerit points noted. _____ Ed



Safety Note...

In Model Scale or Full Scale...

“Flying is not inherently dangerous....

But it is terribly unforgiving of mistakes, misjudgement and ineptitude.”Anon



This Mooney landed long and fast, overran the runway and went down an embankment..

All four occupants survived, with injuries. The airplane was scrapped. A simple go-around would have likely saved the day.

A lesson for us all. Start your go-around at the first sign of trouble! _____ Ed

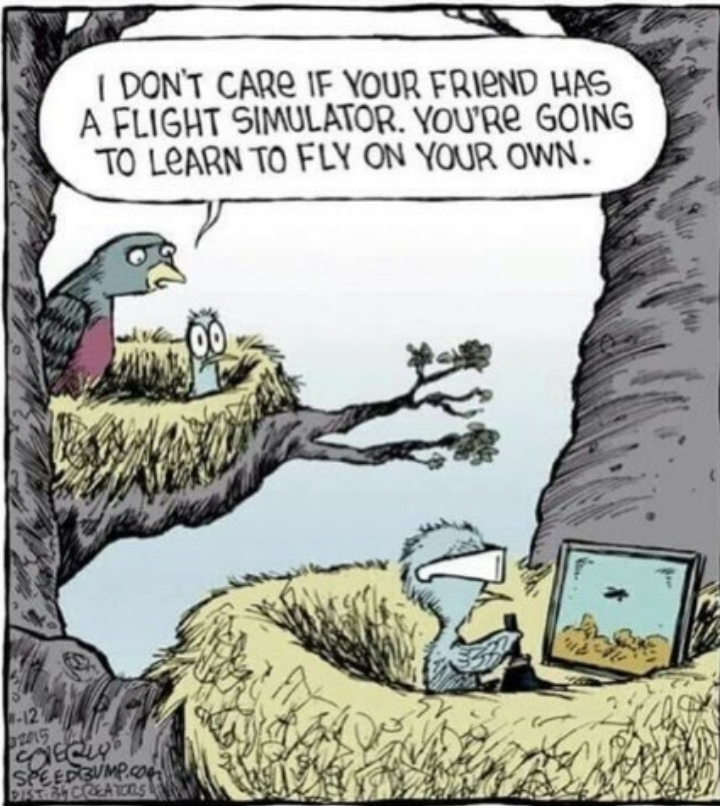
To make you smile.....

For those who don't want Alexa listening in on your conversations, they're making a male version....it doesn't listen to anything.

A WISE MAN ONCE TOLD HIS SON:

MY BOY, WHEN YOU ACCUMULATE THE UNDERSTANDING TO KNOW WHY A PIZZA IS MADE ROUND, TO BE PUT IN A SQUARE BOX & IS EATEN IN TRIANGLES, THEN & ONLY THEN WILL YOU BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WOMEN

Marriage Tip #2
When your wife is mowing the lawn, that's not the best time to ask when dinner will be ready



Coachella Valley Radio Control Club

RiseUp Hobbytown, Our Local Hobby Shop

Erin and Rob Thomas spend much time, effort and money supporting our flying events and activities. Rob has almost single-handedly taken over all training. And he is the constant source of information for us all. They deserve our business in return. They stock many of the parts we need or can get them faster than we can. Without our business the shop won't exist, and we will have lost an important resource. Please make them your first stop for hobby needs!



77583 El Duna Ct. Suite H, Palm Desert, CA

Directions: Hwy 10, N on Washington St., L at stoplight for Las Montanas, follow to end into parking lot for Desert Polymer and RiseUp Hobby.

