



Palomar R/C Flyers, Inc.

Transmitter

September 2025



President's Column

The highlight of August for Palomar RC Flyers was without question our celebration of National Aviation Day at our new field in Valley Center. We also used this National Aviation Day celebration to hold our first meeting with the membership at the Valley Center field.

Members were able to see the work in progress for a new era for Palomar RC Flyers. Many long-time members were able to compare the beginnings of our current location at Johnson field. Valley Center will also grow and develop in the future because of the incredible value of our membership base.

A special thank you to Doug Abel and Chuck Riley, and many more for their incredible leadership roles in our celebration. We estimated over 75 locals visited our event. The visitors enjoyed beautiful shade structures as a result of the building organization by Chuck Riley, Wayne Bonfietti, and Tim Martin. A work party of 11 dedicated volunteers met and were able to erect the structures. Doug Abel arranged the television and newspaper articles to advertise our arrival to the neighborhood. This event was truly a symbol of our membership and a barometer of the future of our club. Doug Abel was the man of the day. Thank you Doug for putting Palomar RC Flyers on the map at Valley Center.

At our meeting, we honored Wayne Bonfietti and Chuck Riley for their contribution of years of volunteer service to the club and community we are a part of. Our next meeting we will pay a special tribute to Pancho Castillo and Bobby Johannes, two of the premier builders in our club.

September starts our final push for the year. As a group we will be preparing for the annual Swap Meet, Elections, and the Christmas Party. The year 2025 will end with good friends sharing their hobby with each other and our guests.

Don Davis
Interim President, Palomar R/C Flyers

General Board Meeting

08/13/2025

Board members present: Don Davis, Chuck Riley, Doug Abel, Mark Olsen, Eric Armstrong, Vic Lerum, Brandon Liesemeyer

6:30 – Role Call. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes approved.

Don Davis recognized and welcomed Brandon Liesemeyer as a new Board Member.

6:32 – Treasury report by Doug Abel: \$465.00 income and \$6,705.17 in expenses. Balance: \$54,025.79.

6:35 – Fight Training by Mark Olsen. Training season is completed. 106 pilots, including repeats. 60 individuals. Averaged over 10 per week. Five instructors with a bit of help from Chris Avelino and Dave Bracci. 2 people have joined the club, with indications that 4-8 more will be joining. Only lost two airplanes this year, which is an improvement. Would like to see two more instructors who want to help on Mondays.

6:40 – Safety Officer briefing by Mark Olsen: Nothing noted for safety in the last month.

6:41 – Chuck Riley discussed Valley Center shades. Shade structures are up at the VC site. Thanks to the volunteers who showed up to help - structures look great! Tables are next!

6:45 – Don Davis: Jim Christy provided economic data relating to membership loss when we move to VC. If the club had a 50% membership loss, it would still be operational.

7:48 – Eric Armstrong provided a waste management update. We have our green waste waiver approved and documented from the County. The board voted 7-2 to replace the dumpster with a 95-gallon bin. Eric provided his recommendation on how to best deal with the recycling and green waste billing from Fallbrook Waste since 2022 and 2023.

6:55 – Don Davis discussed flight restrictions at both fields. 700 feet AGL at Johnson Field and 1,200 feet AGL at VC. Brandon suggested we have signs made for each field. There was no motion to vote, but the idea will be carried forward.

7:01: Don Davis discussed the concept of creating a visitor's pass that would cost \$15 to \$40, depending on how much time the pilot needs. The pass is intended for AMA-registered pilots visiting our area for a limited time who wish to use our facility on more than one occasion.

Motion to adopt creating a visitor's pass with a review in 6 months: Chuck Riley

Second: Mark Olsen

Vote passed 7-0 in favor

7:18 – Don Davis: Organization chair for Elections will be Jim Christy. Organization chair for the Auction (end of October) is still open. Organization chair for the Christmas party will be Don Davis.

7:23 – Eric asked Don to announce the club's battery policy again during the club meeting on Saturday. The policy is that under no circumstances are batteries allowed to be left at either field.

7:25 – Don and Doug brought our extra porta-potty to the VC site. Switching the servicing of all porta-potties at both sites to every other week will save the club approximately \$50 per month.

7:30 – Board meeting adjourned.

Don Davis

MEMBERSHIP

Dear Members,

After resigning in June this year, it gave me time to reflect on my decision and identify mistakes I made as President. Upon reflection, I would like to extend my sincere apologies to the membership. The main mistake I made was not telling the members about my discussions with the Board of Directors. I **SHOULD** have informed you, the membership, of those discussions; had I done so, I would still be President.

I resigned due to minimal Board support on key matters like by-laws, finances, member safety, property, and the hobby. As President, I answer only to the Membership and **NOT** the Board of Directors. My failure did **NOT** keep you informed. I won't repeat that mistake; I assure you, my commitment to the membership comes first.

I have decided to run for Palomar RC Flyers President for 2026, I am grateful for the support and endorsement of: President *emeritus* George Dawe, community outreach contributor: President *emeritus* Bill Hill, Hall of Fame member and national champion Curtis Kitteringham, editor chairman: President *emeritus* Joe Buko.

Together, we can make a decision.

Charles Lewis

My wife, Suzanne, and I, your editor, took a cruise to Alaska aboard the Zaandam, a Holland-America ship from Aug. 5 to August 13. Since I couldn't photograph at the field, I am publishing a few photos for your enjoyment from my trip. Below is a humpback whale.







The first seven photos were bought. All the rest are mine.



Don't be fooled. This is a bronze sculpture in Juneau, Alaska that makes it look real!



A placid scene from the fan-tail.



Suzanne and Joe Buko



DeHavilland Otter and Beaver in Vancouver Bay, B.C.



August 3, 2025 Trifecta shows president *emeritus* Joe Villarreal with the yellow tutu signifying he scored highest in the first four rounds of mayhem, i.e. cutting streamers.





Brandon Liesemeyer Mark Olsen Chuck Riley Joe Villarreal Steve Gebler

Trifecta winners:

**L/R Brandon
Liesemeyer-2**

Mark Olsen -1

Chuck Riley-3



Aug.19, 2025 Monthly club meeting at Valley Center's Ralston Field and National Aviation Day. Photos below shows our new runway.



Mark Olsen



Brandon Liesemerey and Joe Villarreal prepare for demonstration flying.





Your editor next to a giant Bronco
OV-10 from the 1960's era.





In the middle of the photo, Mark Olarsch (seated) is taking with Jim Gallacher (standing)



Wayne Bonfietti

Larry Hufford lives very near our new flying field. Lucky man!



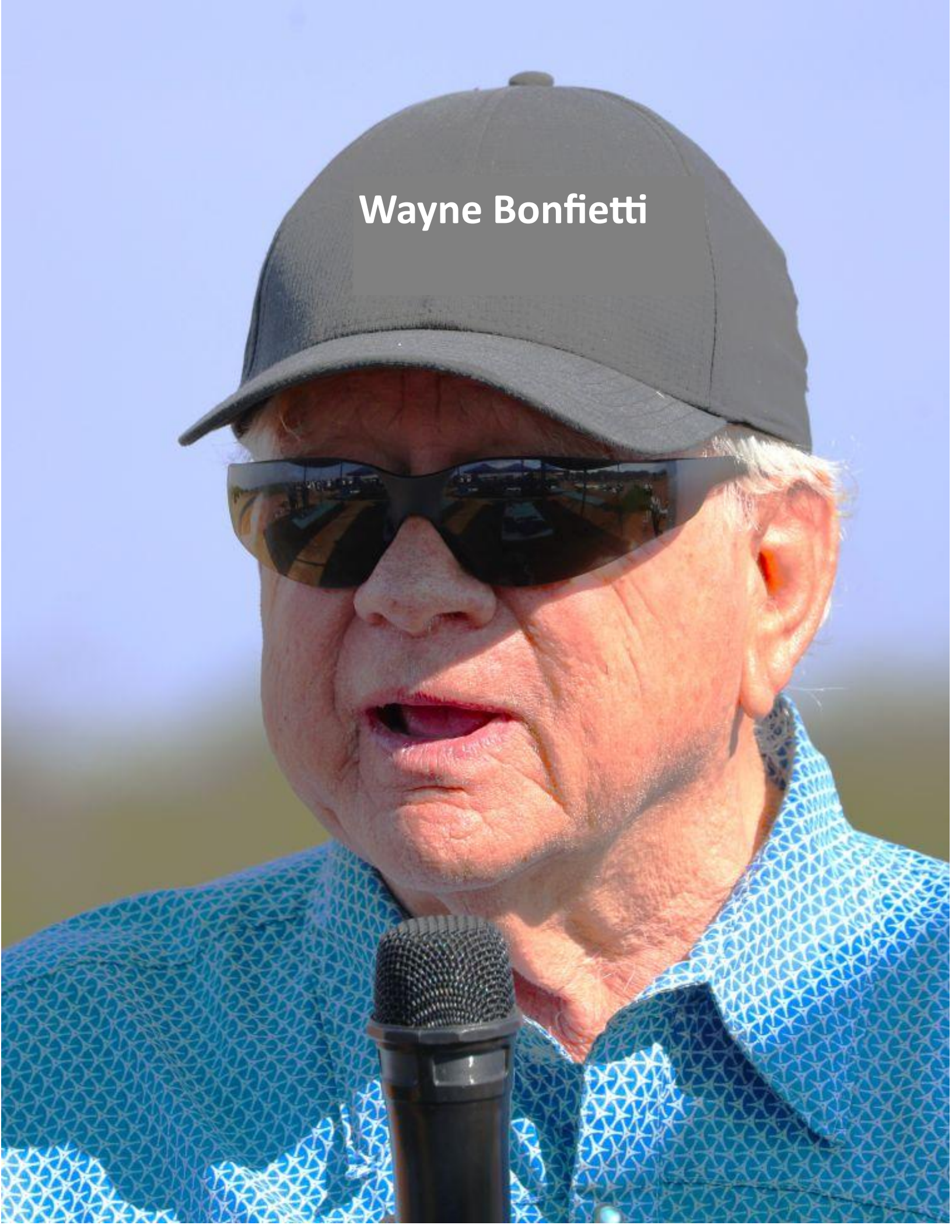


Dennis Teason



President Emeritus Bill Hill

Wayne Bonfietti





President Don Davis

Mark Olsen



Tim Daugherty



I, Doug Abel, was asked to write up a document for the Transmitter for our new awnings at Valley Center, and I wanted to provide thanks for the club members who came out and made it happen!

The following members deserve a HUGE thank you (and I apologize if I'm missing anyone on this list - your help is GREATLY appreciated!):

**Steve Oberecht
Truman Oberecht
Caesar Fernandez
Dru Marquardt
Curtis Kitteringham
Bill Hill
Carlos Parker
Ron Holman
Mike
Smith**

**Wayne Bonfietti
Jim Figger
Don Davis
Chuck Riley
Scott Ralston
Tim Martin**

They put in a LOT of hard work to make this happen, and I wanted to share some pictures of that work! This and the next three photos were supplied by Doug Abel.



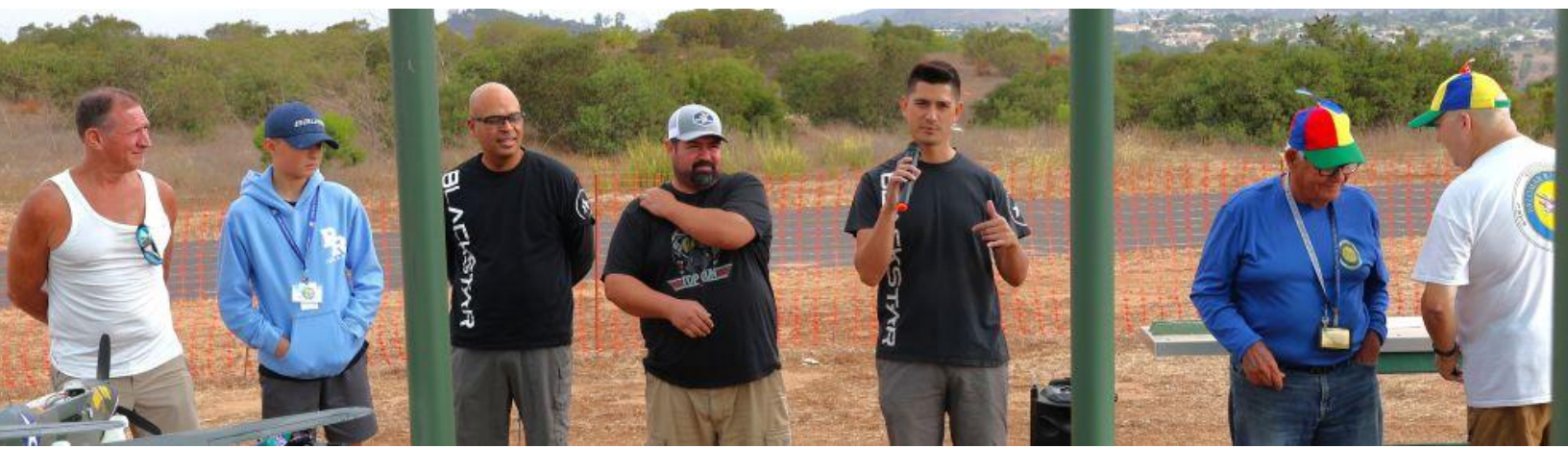




Treasurer Doug Abel who works hard for the Club.



Vice President Chuck Riley has done yeoman work at our new field.



Steve Gebler Mandatory photo of Jim Gallacher

Sean O'Connor



Brandon Liesemeyer





Two years before Jack Dedrick died, he gave me his pride and joy, this Lou Procter kit built over 3,500 hours! It now hangs proudly in my entryway suspended beneath a skylight 14 feet high. Jack flew it twice and the livery is from the JN-4D Jenny his father flew in 1917 at Mather Field in California.



Ron Peterka built this beautiful Stinson you couldn't tell from full-scale!



Mono Lake, CA



One of the giants in California



Original Buzzard Bombshell from the late 1930's at AMA HQTS. Museum in Muncie, Indiana



One of the best flying planes is the T-28 Trojan built by North American. It makes almost any pilot look good!



This beauty belongs to James D'Eliseo.



Your editor's DeHavilland Tiger moth flies well.



Tim Hitchcock sent these pictures from his trip to Evergreen Air and Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon...home of the Hughes H-4 Hercules better known as the Spruce Goose. He sent them to Joe Villarreal who kindly forwarded them for posting in the Transmitter. Thanks Tim and Joe!







- RC CARS
- RC PLANES
- RC BOATS
- GUNDAMS
- MODEL CAR KITS
- AND SO MUCH MORE!



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Club Directory

CLUB OFFICERS

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Vice President	Chuck Riley	760-716-8391
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SECRETARY	Dave Ellis	818-383-6574
SAFETY OFFICER	Mark Olson	858-945-1315
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BD MEMBER	Brandon Liesemeyer	951-217-7902
BD MEMBER	Joe Villarreal	760-390-1470
BD MEMBER	Mark Olson	858-945-1315
BD MEMBER	Eric Armstrong	760-505-2904
BD MEMBER	Vic Lerum	619-921 5830

CLUB OPERATIONS

Newsletter Editor	Joe Buko	760-726-8831
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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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Mark Anderson	619-379-6392
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2025

Club Officers



Jim Christy—Membership Chairman



President Don Davis

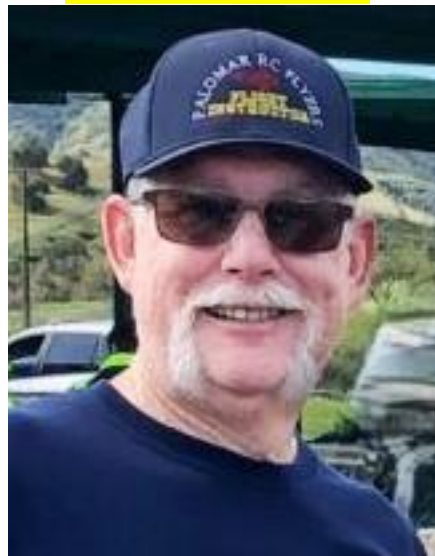


Vice President Chuck Riley



Treasurer Doug Abel

Board Members



Joe Villarreal



Secretary Dave Ellis



Brandon Liesemeyer

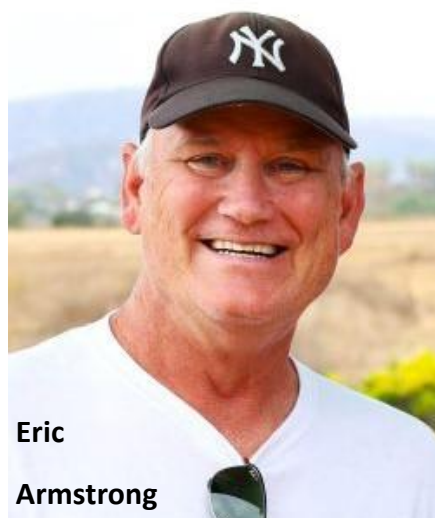


Mark Olsen

Safety Officer and Board Member



**Vic
Lerum**



**Eric
Armstrong**