



Palomar R/C Flyers, Inc.

Transmitter October 2025



President's Message:

There are many highlights this month involving members volunteering and stepping-up to make us the best club we can be.

As a club, it has always been our objective to provide a safe and relaxed environment for our members and guests. Mark Olsen spent countless hours with the AMA evaluating our existing safety procedures and how these rules can be implemented in our safety program and existing by-laws. Mark spoke at our board meeting this month for 40 minutes on AMA compliance and how best to integrate our club to be in full compliance. Mark also gave some incredible insight to the board on modifying safety issues for our club. Thank you, Mark, for working so hard as our safety officer.

A big THANK YOU to Eric Armstrong, our club Secretary, for negotiating a \$2,700 refund from EDCO, our trash collection company. When Eric started the negotiations, EDCO offered us an unacceptable \$230. He worked tirelessly until we were given the acceptable refund that is noted above. Thank you, again, Eric!

I was extremely impressed with the level of leadership of all of the board members the past four months. Sadly, we will be losing three members of the board this year. So, now is the time to be a part of a tremendous leadership team. You were recently sent an email asking if you to run for a board position. Please take the time to send in your request to be on our ballot next month. I can assure you will be glad you joined the team!

**Don Davis
Interim President, Palomar RC Flyers**

IMAC Nationals 2025, Chris Avellino and Dave Ellis Participants By: Don Davis I had the pleasure of speaking with Dave Ellis and Chris Avellino after their seven days of participation at the IMAC Nationals in Indiana. Chris and Dave met in Muncie, Indiana. Chris flew out and Dave drove. Dave practiced at the beautiful 1,100-acre AMA facility, which was pretty much all grass, and several different flying locations. And, Chris practiced at a flying field, which is the birthplace of where Wilbur Wright was born. It was a beautiful grass runway, with the soy fields in the distance, and the Wright home behind standing beautifully restored behind them. There were 51 competitors, mainly from the United States, and the competition took place Tuesday through Friday with 10 known rounds, 3 unknown rounds, and 2 freestyle rounds - all single sequence. Dave Ellis participated in the sportsman category and placed an impressive 4th in his category. Dave was in 1st place at the end of the first round and knew he belonged as the best in his category. In 2022, Chris placed 1st at the Tuscon Aerobatic Shootout in the sportsman class and in 2024 placed 4th in the intermediate class. For this year's Nationals, he moved up a class to advanced and placed an incredible 3rd place. What makes this so impressive is that the first and second place winners are both rated as some of the top pilots worldwide. In my conversation with Dave and Chris, I asked them to share their most memorable challenge. Both quickly had stories about the wind. The last day the wind exceeded 50 MPH as noted in the photo of the American flag blowing straight out. While Dave was doing a precision maneuver called a hammerhead, he accelerated his plane in a straight up position and began to throttle back when he noticed the wind blowing the aircraft approximately 60 ft. to the side prior to him executing the down portion of the maneuver. Dave indicated that the adjustments were very challenging. Chris Avellino was also very impressed with the challenges presented by the wind. Anyone who knows Chris, knows that he loves flying with wind. But, the winds in Indiana posed a unique challenge. There were times when, at 200 feet up, the plane was actually flying backward and the winds were exceeding 70 mph. Imagine doing a loop and the plane almost coming to a complete standstill when cresting over the top of the loop. What made it so challenging was trying to fly freestyle in those winds and trying to execute a planned set of maneuvers to a 4-minute music mix. As Mike Tyson famously stated, "Everyone has a plan until they get punched in the mouth," and this was no different. Flying freestyle was the biggest challenge and it brought the most apprehension as the planes are lighter and so they can do weird things with that much wind. Nevertheless, Chris took off and gave it his best and finished 6th in the freestyle class. Dave and Chris obviously are extremely proud of their accomplishments. Without being asked, both pilots indicated that they could not have accomplished the level of success without the assistance of the other. The many hours of practice together, improving skills, creates a natural respect for each other and from the overall IMAC community. Everyone is willing to help one another out, whether talking maneuvers, spotting for other planes, or calling for each other. Dave and Chris will sometimes call for one another in these competitions.

The caller is sort of like a caddie in golf and must be aware of the competitor's traffic and be able to callout the next maneuver for the pilot. The pilot concentrates on the precision of the maneuvers and depends on the caller to keep that person in a safe position to concentrate only on flying. This relationship validates why both pilots could not have performed to the best of their ability without the other. I thought to myself this is just another byproduct of our club. Great members enjoy each other and share a great hobby; and this is a great way to add value to the group. Thank you, Dave and Chris, for sharing your experiences with our club.



Dave Ellis and Chris Avellino





Chris Avellino



Dave Ellis



President emeritus Steve
Gebler on Sept. 20, 2025

General Board Meeting

09/17/2025

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

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

6:31 – Treasury report by Doug Abel: \$1,645.00 income - \$2,542.17 expenses - \$897.17 net loss - \$52,780.88 balance. Chuck Riley inquired about the \$1965 for auto insurance – Doug stated that the Valley Center landowners required we have additional insurance for autos beyond what AMA covers. The expense is annual.

6:34 – Fight Training by Mark Olsen. Going well! Completed five training sessions in the last month – one was with a 15-year-old. Ten people are in the pipeline, with six being active.

6:37 – Mark Olsen stated that Jim Christy can no longer get gate cards, so we will be giving the code to the gate to new members. Reason gate cards are no longer available is the company that manufactured them for us no longer exists. Joe Villarreal was tasked to call Jim Christy about potential other options.

6:38 – Safety Officer briefing by Mark Olsen: three weeks ago, a member wandered into the jungle to get his plane alone – the member lost his phone, and orientation and eventually found his way through the eastern side of the trees. The police were called, as the member was very dehydrated. The police brought the member back to Johnson Field, and he is recovering, thankfully. The member did come in contact with poison oak.

To all members and guests: Should you lose an aircraft in “the jungle”, please do not attempt to retrieve it without a buddy. If you must go in alone, which is not recommended, please make sure to notify another member at the field, and make sure that person has your cell phone number. If you have any sensitivities or allergies to poison oak, do not go into the jungle at all.

Concerns about safety at Johnson Field and Valley Center were brought to Mark Olsen’s attention by one of our members. The member was specifically concerned with “flight safety lines” to the east and west of our runway, and where “non-flying spectators” should be located. Mark reviewed all available documentation from the AMA, and spoke directly with the AMA regarding both Johnson Field and the Valley Center site. Mark confirmed with the AMA that we comply with all safety matters at both club sites and relayed that message back to the concerned member.

The Board is preparing a “Flight Operations” overview that will include a visual map outlining our runway, flight operations safety line, run-up area, pilot stations, pits, and covered tables area for all members to review.

As a reminder, all spectators must remain behind the flight stations or established safety lines at all times.

7:01 – Eric Armstrong provided a waste management update: Eric reached out to Fallbrook Waste Management about paying \$15 a month to have their trucks come onto our property to pick up the trash bins. For now, we need to bring the trash bins outside of the gate for pickup on Mondays. Don Davis said he will take care of that while we wait for a response.

7:09 – Joe Villerreal on Johnson Field owners: Joe has called and texted his contact several times and has not heard back from him yet. He will continue reaching out and let the Board know as soon as he hears back from them.

7:14 – Discussion on Board Member Elections for 2026: Dave Ellis will be moving to Tennessee, so we are losing a valuable member and board member. Vic Lerum and Doug Abel will both be stepping down from the board. Don Davis and Chuck Riley plan to run for President and Vice President, respectively. Brandon, Joe, and Eric will be running for Board positions in 2026.

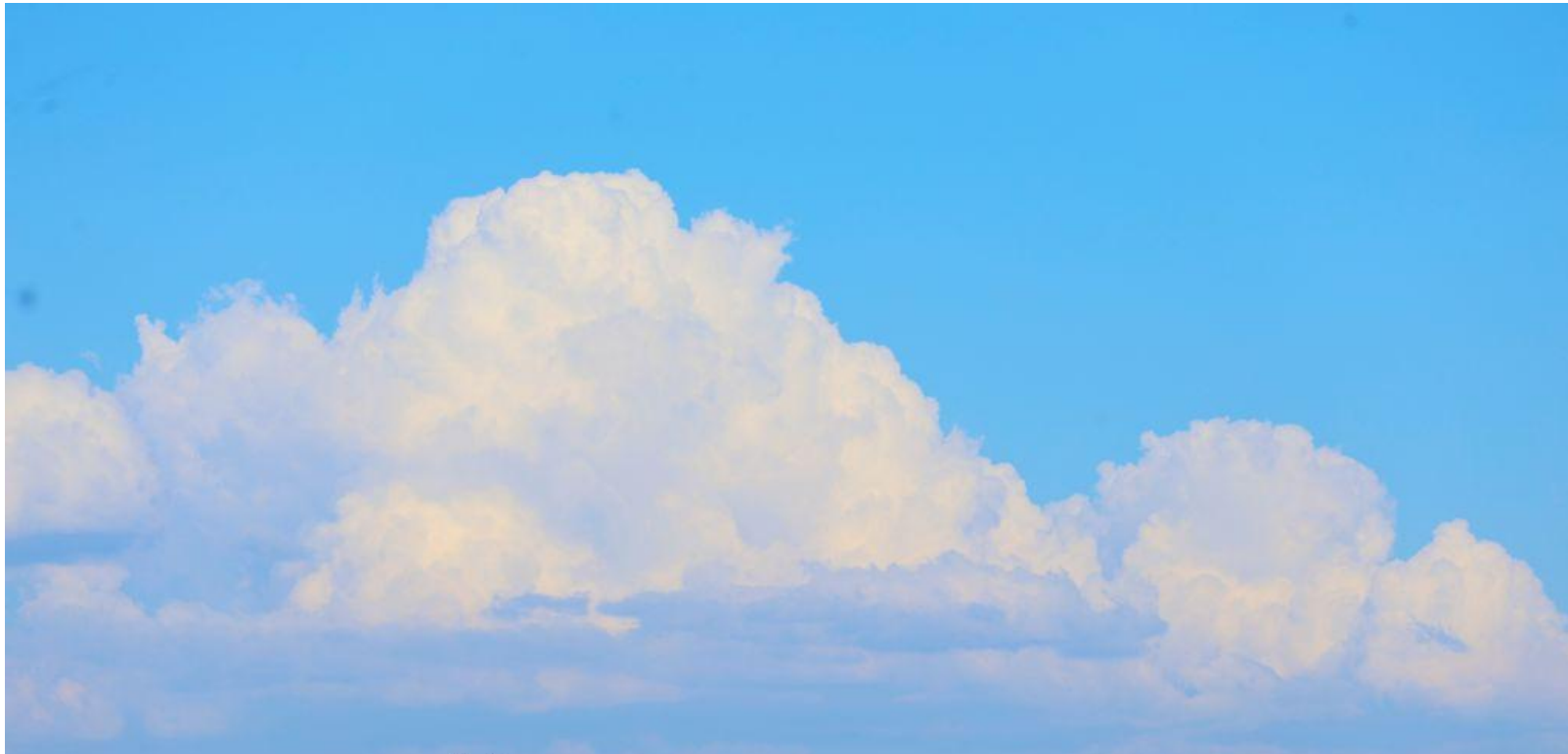
7:19 – Eric Armstrong will take over the role of Board Secretary from Dave Ellis. Chuck Riley stated Eric’s style of writing was “poetic, rhythmic, and deeply evocative” – his words.

7:20 – Discussion on alternating meetings at Valley Center: For now, we will keep the monthly club meetings at Johnson Field. Should we hold a monthly meeting at Valley Center, the membership will be given the appropriate notice.

7:24 – Joe Villerreal went to the VC High School this week. There is an applied science course that could potentially be a good fit for starting a model aviation youth participation club / partnership with Palomar Flyers Club. More to follow!

7:29 – Chuck Riley needs approximately \$500 for hardware to build eight tables at Valley Center. Eric made a motion to approve the expense, and Vic seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Curtis Kitteringham and John Forestieri



Lazy summer cumulus



Cesar Fernandez 9/16/2025



Members ask why there is a mandatory photo of Jim Gallacher in the Transmitter. Here's the explanation.

A long time ago, Jim remarked that the first thing he did after getting the new Transmitter was to see if his photo was inside. Turns out it wasn't that month and he was so distraught that he could hardly walk or speak! (I'm exaggerating a wee bit.) So, to avoid making Jim heart broken, I determined that from then on, a photo of Jim would be mandatory because I did not want him to be depressed, sad, or otherwise feeling negative. No siree! I want Jim to be his awesome self!



Patrick Pranica on Sept. 16, 2025



Night-Radian gifted to your editor by Patrick Pranica. It flies well and can be thought of as a “Hobie Hawk wannabe!”



Rick Heymann with his F-22



Visitor Ian Furse



L/R Curtis Kitteringham, President emeritus George Dawe, Membership chairman Jim Christy, President emeritus Charles Lewis



Choppers regularly overfly our field at a safe altitude. With a 400mm lens, it looks close!



President emeritus Bill Hill and his Duck which flies well. Foam-board plane.



Tom Pollinger and his SR-71 Blackbird which flies well. Tom is an airline pilot.



Club member Carlos Parker



Jim Christy and Mark Olsen



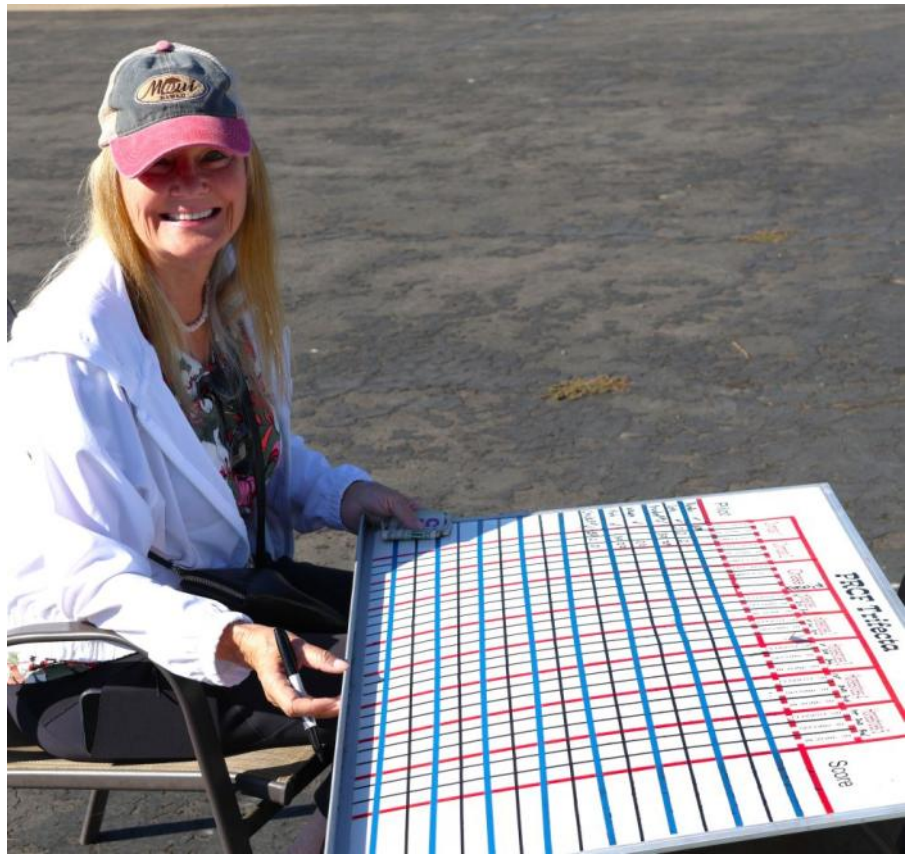
Big Sky Pilot– Pancho Castillo



Ryan Plod flies this awesome jet so well!



President emeritus Steve Gebler telling Deborah Arnold how to score the Trifecta with Ernie Gebler looking on. Ernie is Steve's dad.



Scorekeeper Deborah—and no, she did not award Steve extra points!



But wait! Look at who is sitting in the scorekeeper's chair. Deborah has been replaced by Steve Gebler. You could poke fun at the score because Steve was judge and jury, but you'd be 100% wrong. He's as honest as can be. At least that's what he told me!



William Taft







The unusual suspects: L/R Vice President Chuck Riley, Safety Officer Mark Olsen, Board member Brandon Liesemeyer, Randy Brunette, William Taft USN





Trifecta winners: Mark Olsen-3; Brandon Liesemeyer-1; Randy Brunette-2

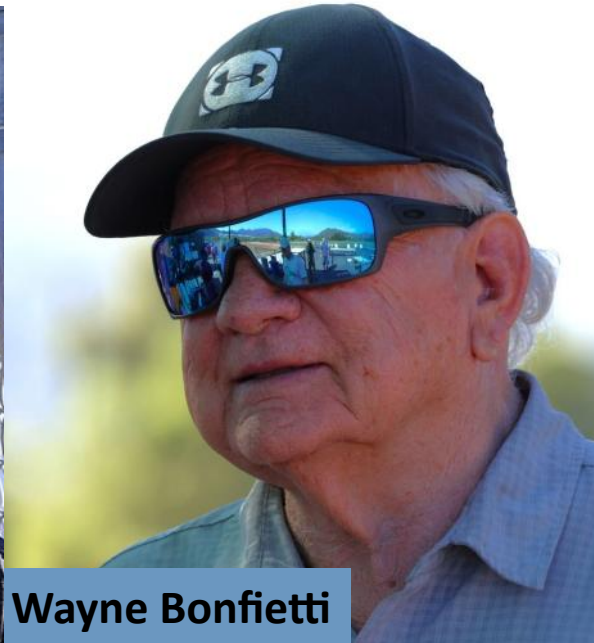
September 20, 2025 Club Meeting

Below are President emeritus Steve Gebler and our new secretary, Eric Armstrong, also a board member.



Dave Bracci

Chris Avellino



Wayne Bonfietti



President Don Davis led the meeting. He announced that he will run for club president for 2026.



Treasurer Doug Abel gave his monthly financial report. Thanks for your unseen work! You work so diligently for our club and we appreciate you muchly!



Membership Director Jim Christy spoke about how guest pilots can register and fly temporarily at our field provided they are FCC and AMA compliant. There is a fee which can be applied to membership.



Mark Olarsch received this Peck Polymer stick and tissue plane in kit-form from Dave Ellis and built it.

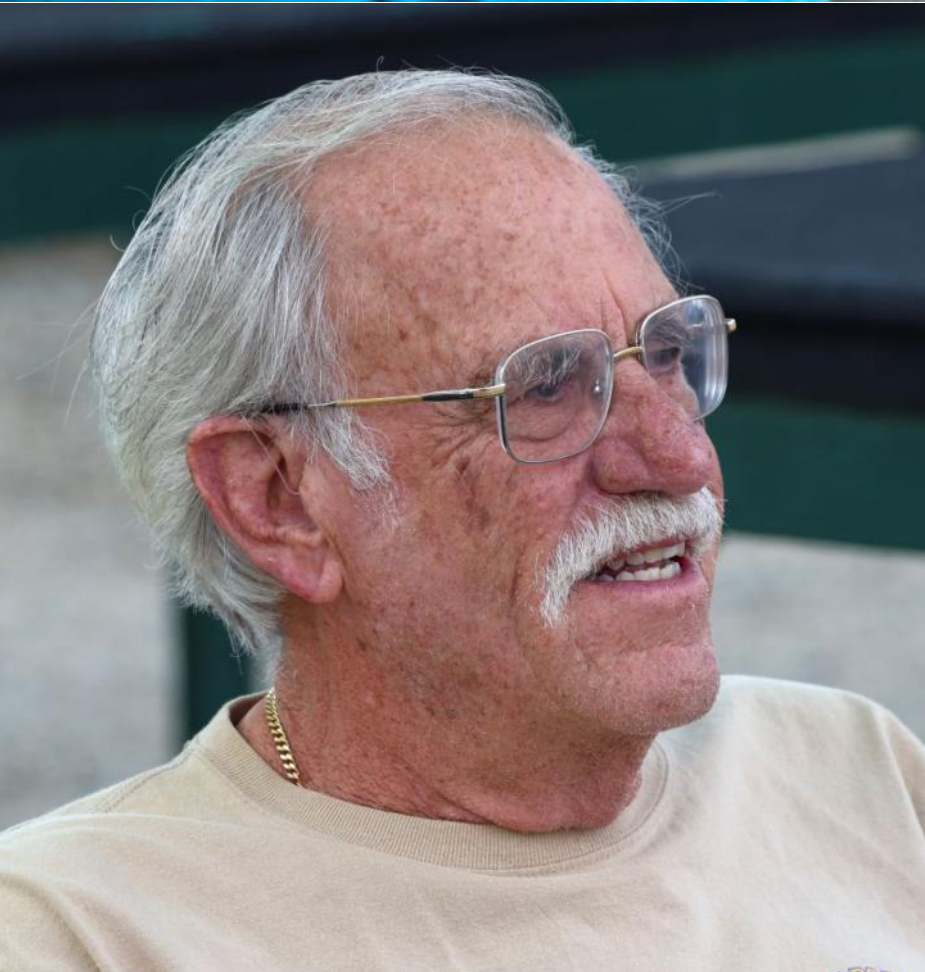
Vic Lerum won Model-of-the-Month for his foam jet.



President *emeritus* Varley Longson



Robin Solomon and Dennis Teason



Richard Bell

Mark Anderson



1/5 scale Dehavilland Tiger Moth is up for grabs! See next photo for more info.



Dave Truax gave me this as an ARF. It flies beautifully, is docile and lands like a feather. It is powered by a Saito 120 but you can convert it to electric. It is in perfect shape and has never been dented. It is free to a good hangar. I ask that you donate something for it to the club. You determine the amount! Wingspan is 80". Such a deal!!!!!!

At the same time, I have 10% glo fuel for sale. It is half the price of what you pay at the store. I have a number of gallons if you are interested.





Alaska









The End!

- 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
TREASURER	Doug Abel	619-599-6924
SECRETARY	Dave Ellis	818-383-6574
SAFETY OFFICER	Mark Olson	858-945-1315
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	James Christy	951-232-7997

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

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Mark Anderson	619-379-6392

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Cesar Fernandez	760-576-5664
Dave Ellis	818-383-6574
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Vic Lerum	619-921-5830
Chuck Riley	760-716-8391

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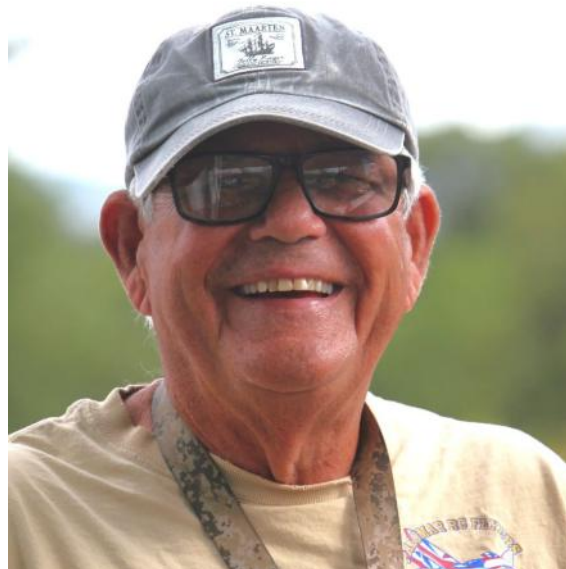
Fax : 909-679-7465

2025

Club Officers



Jim Christy—Membership Chairman



President Don Davis



Vice President Chuck Riley

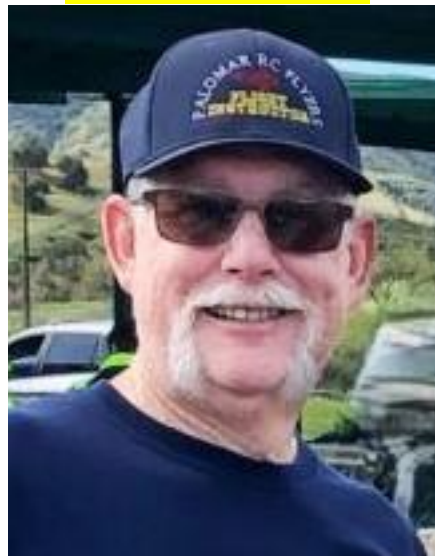


Treasurer Doug Abel

Board Members



Brandon Liesemeyer



Joe Villarreal



Secretary Dave Ellis



**Vic
Lerum**



**Eric
Armstrong**



Mark Olsen
Safety Officer and Board Member