



Newsletter of The River Valley Flyers

Club #948

August 2020

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**From the President:** The summer of 2020 has moved past the mid-way point now, and it shows no sign of slowing down. The weeks just keep rolling along and soon there may even be a hint of fall in the weather. I hope that your summer has been a pleasant one so far.

With the ongoing health situation, I trust that everyone is trying to stay safe but keep things as normal as they can. I'm just happy that it is summer time and we can still spend our time outdoors. I had thought that this summer I would spend a fair amount of time flying at the club field

myself, but I have not been out a lot. I was hoping to get photos and video this summer of some of the different aircraft at the field with my camera drone, but so far have just taken photos of the local scenery out there, which are pretty spectacular too. I have included some photos that I took in this month's newsletter, and hope to get more flying photos and video before the season ends. In club news, we started using the new club mower for the weekly mowing at the field, and although we are just starting to use it, the mower seems to be working great. So far, we have a team of members willing to share a turn mowing with this machine, and the regular team of guys with their own mowers scheduled on weeks that will help do the parking area and side strips as needed. This should make the weekly mowing just a little bit easier going forward.

Thanks to all who have helped with this with this project so far. With the hot summer weather, we have raised the field cutting height a little higher than normal to avoid damaging the grass. Some of the aircraft with smaller wheels may have some difficulty on takeoff and landing due to the added drag on them.

We also seem to have a problem with some turf die out on the east side of the field. We had a turf specialist look at it, and we probably need to do something about it before it dies back and makes the runways rough like we had on the west runway a few years ago. This is something we can talk about at the August meeting.

The airplane stands along the flight line were repaired and painted last month, and they now look nice. Thank You to the guys who helped with the repairing and painting on that project.

Just a little reminder, with the covid-19 health issue ongoing, please help keep yourself and your fellow flyers safe by remembering to maintain your social distance while out using the flying field. I would like to try having a short August monthly meeting at the field on Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. if the weather is good. If it is raining, we will not have a meeting for this month. Bring an airplane along, as we can have some flying beforehand, socially distanced of course.

Don

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### **A Bit from Our Safety Officer**

Hello flyers,

Something a bit different from your friendly, neighborhood Safety Officer this month! I'm sure you guys get tired of the usual safety stuff and I happened to run across this to change the scenery a bit.

Some of you might not be aware of the FAA system of naming intersections across the USA (world actually) which pilots use to navigate from point to point as they fly and now are tied into GPS navigation systems for remarkable accuracy. These intersections have to have 5 letters and be able to be pronounced phonetically. Keep that in mind as you read thru the rest of this Safety Letter.

### **A Tale of Two Airports:**

There seems to be a rivalry between San Diego International Airport (KSAN) and Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (KDTW) on who is the legitimate owner of Top Gun. TOPGN TWO ARRIVAL at KSAN has dogfights (DOGFTs) among TMCATs. But only two call signs of the protagonists. Goose (GUUSE) and Iceman (ISEMN).

But the winner is KDTW. TPGUN ONE ARRIVAL has many call signs of the protagonists starting, of course, with the "star" Maverick (MAVVV); followed by Viper (VYPRE), Wolfman (WLFMN), and Hollywood (HLIWD). And maybe in the upcoming Top Gun 2 movie, we'll see the GOHST of Goose (GGUSE) who died in Top Gun 1. Seems that "Charlie" didn't make the cut.

There are a few others scattered across the country so maybe somewhere along the way I'll look those up for your continued amusement! Y'all fly safe now but when you crash, try to miss the vehicles in the parking lot. Thanks, see you at the meeting on 5 August!

Larry Chamberlin  
RVFRC  
Safety Officer

## More Pictures from The Field



A Saturday Morning Group at The Field in Late June



A View of the Flying Site in The Distance as Seen from The Southwest



A View of Our Flying Field as Seen from The West with a Small Lake Nearby



Gene, Rich and Don in Late July



The Local Cows Coming to their Watering Pond on a Hot Day in Mid-July



The Local Cows Cooling Off at the their Watering Pond in Late July

**RVF August Club Meeting.... August 5<sup>th</sup> 2020 6:30 P.M at the Club Field....Flying Before Hand...No Alternate Meeting Site... Meeting will be Cancelled if The Weather is Stormy that Night.... Please Practice Your Social Distancing Whenever Out Flying...**