

Hot Air



Message from the President

January 2026

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone had the opportunity to be with family and friends over the holidays and that you are doing well.

Our PSF club secretary, Don, will be at the meeting this week to support those who would like to complete their 2026 PSF membership renewal in person. Club and field fees are unchanged for 2026. Make sure to bring proof of current A.M.A. membership. The sooner everyone renews, the easier our 2026 Club chartering process with the A.M.A. will be for Don. So, please consider renewing your membership as soon as possible. The meeting will be at the usual time and place; La Romeria Park, Wednesday the 7th at 7:30 PM.

With all of the rain and fog over the last month, I have not had many opportunities to get a plane in the air. With our field at Entradero Park closed for another couple of weeks and winter storms bringing winds out of the wrong direction for most glider flying, I don't see many opportunities in the near term to fly. I'll discuss the field statuses in more detail below.

The federal government has banned the sale of DJI drones in the U.S.. I don't see the need for this from a technical standpoint. From what I have read, the real reason for the ban is for U.S. civilian drone operators to have an opportunity to compete in this market. In my opinion, there aren't any American made drones that perform as well as the DJI platforms I have flown. Build a comparable product at a competitive price and folks will buy it. Banning DJI won't make folks buy a substandard platform.

Planes of Fame flew their Lockheed P-38 Lighting

last month. I can't get enough of that airplane. Gorgeous and menacing in appearance. I have included a couple of photographs of the Lighting and the Stearman that Santa arrived in. I really need to build the P-38 kit I have in the attic.

As I mentioned last month, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes has started charging for parking at Del Cerro. [Reservations](#) need to be made in advance. The restart of parking fees is coincident with many of the hiking trails being re-opened. I guess the City is trying to minimize parking in the area. With the trails opening up and more folks using the area, the parking spaces in the parking lot might not be as available as before. I prefer parking in the lot, as it minimizes how far I need to carry my planes.

Although the long range weather forecasts show clear skies and temperatures in the high sixties this coming Saturday, the 10th, the winds are predicted to be out of the North. If this forecast holds, the hill will be un-flyable.

The field manager for the field we fly from at Entradero Park has requested that we stay off the field while leveling and reseeding take place. This happens every year about this time. They really put a lot of effort into maintaining the field in great playing condition. Of course, this means we also have a great surface to fly from. The work on the field has been challenging this year due to the heavy rains. At one point, the pumps at the park stopped working and the sump and field flooded. I've included a photo.

Our access to the field has been delayed but we should be able to fly the third week of this month. I will let everyone know when the field is open.

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, January 7th
La Romeria Park, 7:30pm**

Upcoming Fun-Flys

**Del Cerro January 10th
Entradero None**



Additionally, the field combination lock code will change and we will make that available to those who fly from the field.

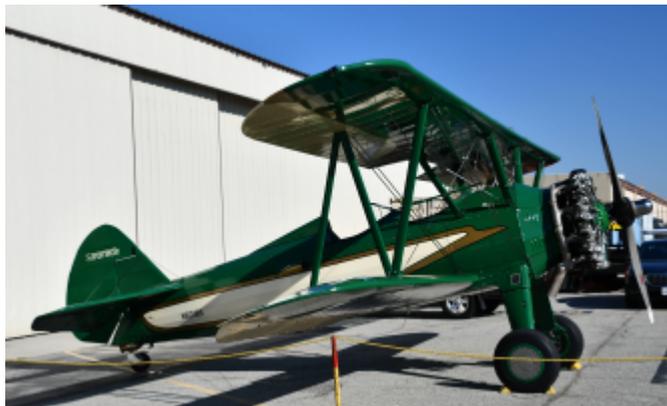
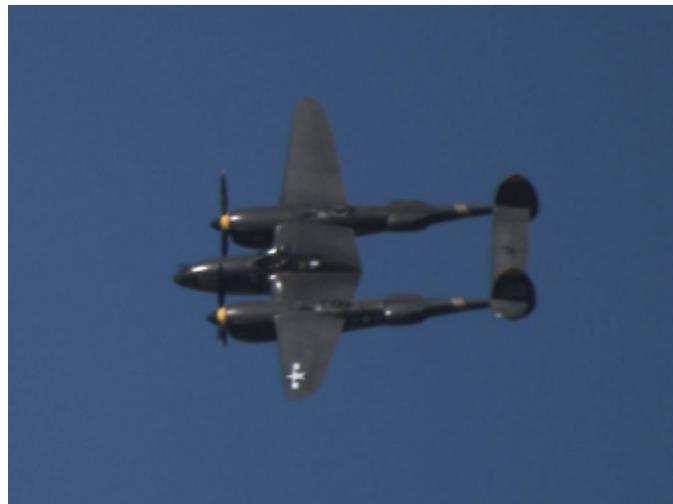
Only two A.M.A. sanctioned events are listed on the website for the month of [January](#). One event is a free-flight contest. The other is a Scale Fun-Fly, with the benefits supporting wounded veterans. If you attend either of these scheduled events or fly locally, please consider sharing some photos and write up your impressions for the newsletter.

Once again, please get your renewal paperwork for club membership in to Don either by mail or in person Wednesday. Feel free to pass the [package](#) along if you know anyone who would like to join the club.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting this week or at one of our fields!

All the best,
Jeff

A Soggy Entradero Park & Planes of Fame's P-38 Lightning & Stearman



If you know someone who wants to join our club, please send them to our [website](#).