



THE JEFKO FLYER

AMA #176

2020 Board of Directors

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President | Bud Glass | 303-829-5351 |
| Vice President | Josh Waltz | 303-720-4340 |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Lora Knowlton | 303-973-1209 |
| AMA Safety Officer | Craig Farthing | 303-919-6850 |
| Board Member | Hank Diepenbroek | 303-875-9328 |
| Board Member | Larry Fagan | 303-697-4569 |

2020 Volunteers

| | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Club Historian | Lee Taylor | 303-237-8772 |
| Park Liaison | Tom Elliot | 303-902-6747 |
| Drawings | Johnny Wolf | 303-929-1807 |
| | Tom Higgins | 303-514-1197 |
| A/V Coordinator | Larry Fagan | 303-697-4569 |
| Flt. Inst. Coordinator/ Student Training | Bud Glass | 303-829-5351 |
| Storage Shed | Bud Glass | 303-829-5351 |
| Chief Flight Instructor | Bud Glass | 303-829-5351 |
| Fun Fly Coordinator | Jeff Gittelman | 630-899-9778 |
| Membership Coordinator | Lora Knowlton | 303-973-1209 |
| Equipment Repair | Larry Bickel | 303-794-2167 |

| | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| Field Information Coordinator | Ron Ratcliffe | 303-660-3842 |
| Field/Runway Maintenance Chair | Bud Glass | 303-829-5351 |
| Field Maintenance and Improvements Chair | Tom Boyce | 303-503-8073 |
| Program Director | Larry Fagan | 303-697-4569 |
| Newsletter Editor | Larry Fagan | 303-697-4569 |
| Webmaster / Weather Station | Terry Hock | N/A |
| Fire Marshal & First Aid | Ron Ratcliffe | 303-660-3842 |
| Club Photographer | Rick Gonzales | 303-956-0755 |
| Jefco Home page: | www.jeffcoeromodlers.com | |
| AMA Website: | www.modelaircraft.org | |
| Dist IX website: | www.amadistrict-ix.org | |
| Newsletter Submissions e-mail | larrynotcurlyormho@centurylink.net | |
| Monthly Newsletter archived at: | www.jeffcoeromodlers.com | |
| Chatfield Aerodrome Weather: | www.jeffcoeromodlers.com/weather/ | |

Jefco Aeromod'lers Mailing Address:
Jefco Aeromod'lers RC Club
P.O. Box 621156
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Volume L

November 2020

Number 11

Do not allow your aircraft to fly over the campgrounds or the guard shack.

Above: Bud Glass' Apprentice towing a stars and stripes banner after the October Fun-Fly photo by Dave Gonzales

November's Program: The November 4 meeting has been CANCELED due to the COVID-19 virus!

President's Message - November, 2020



November already! As 2020 starts to wind down, I am glad to see it go and I'll bet you are as well. Let's hope for better things in 2021.

Field News

The runway construction and field improvements punch list items have finally been completed. Crack-fill repairs to the old runways was completed and seal coating applied to all asphalt surfaces at the airfield on September 28 & 29 in preparation for winter as scheduled.

September 29, park officials inspected the now-completed runway construction project and issued Jefco Aeromod'lers RC Club an official letter of approval and acceptance.

Now that the field layout has changed, it is important that pilots know and understand the importance of changing old habits and avoid flying due south in the direction of the new Shea Homes construction project. This means following the rules and posted signage, stating that the old N/S runway is now a TAXIWAY ONLY. Taking off or landing on this taxiway is a safety violation and is prohibited. The field graphics on the kiosk have been modified to show the new runway and the proper flight patterns.

Yellow concrete parking stops labeled "Taxi Only" have been placed on the taxiway as a deterrent due to some pilots continuing to use the old N/S as a runway. The placement of these stops is experimental and they may be moved to accommodate better taxing traffic flow. We are open to your suggestions.

Your Board of Directors is in the process of updating and correcting the Field Safety Rule manual and redesigning the field graphics panel on the kiosk to reflect the changes that have resulted from the new runway

construction. The new graphics panel is planned to be completed and installed next spring.

Snow Skiing

Since the area between the east end of the pits and the old N/S runway, where we previously flew our snow and ski planes can no longer be used, we are experimenting with a new designated area. This area will be approximately 40 yards wide and run parallel to the north side of the E/W runway. Use of this area for skiing will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis and when in use, it will be considered the active runway. Pilots will be expected to coordinate and share usage of all runways. A graphic of this snow ski area is included on page 12 in this newsletter.

Covid-19 Issues

Sadly, with the fall spike in Covid 19, the medical professionals are recommending that we maintain social distancing procedures and continue wearing those annoying face masks. It is entirely possible that we may not have a club meeting until sometime into next year. Your Board of Directors are currently discussing what to do about our 2021 Auction. We are running out of time and we still do not know if the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds will be open for events in January, or if we could legally gather our normal number of people anyway. (Not to mention having **Rooster's BBQ** serving lunch). We will be making a decision soon and we will keep everyone posted.

Also, a reminder: Social distancing is still required at the airfield. Please stay separated by 6 feet and wear a mask for your own good and everyone else's.

Many Estate Items Still Available

While a couple members have come by to shop the remaining estate items, I still have a lot of model-building supplies, tools, RC parts, transmitters & receivers, and other miscellaneous items on display in my garage from Bob Harcarik's family that I would like to get sold. If interested in anything specific or if you just want to browse the inventory, please contact me for an appointment. Don't forget, half of the proceeds from the sales go to the club!

Field Camera Upgrade

Some members have noticed something different going on with the field view when surfing the weather page. **Terry Hock** has been experimenting with upgrading the quality of the field camera. This is a work-in-progress and you may see a number of different views or outages while this being worked on, but the final product will be a huge improvement. Thank you, Terry!

Continued Page 3, right column

President's Message - November, 2020 (Cont)

Fun Fly's

Jeff Gittelman has been struggling to get support and participation at the last couple fun fly's. These are a hoot and anyone can just show up and participate. Granted, we did have a weather delay a week ago, but only 3 members actually showed up to fly. We will plan to continue these through the winter on a short notice basis, weather-permitting of course, and would appreciate members showing up to support club activities like this. Notices are sent out to all who have previously participated or have asked to be added to the notification list. If you are not on the list and would like to be added, let Jeff know at jgittelman2@gmail.com. Thanks for all your work on these Jeff!

History Books

I still have 18 Club History Books that have not been picked up. If you ordered a book and have not made arrangements to get it, please do so soon. If you have not paid for your book order yet, you can bring a check payable to Jefco Aeromod'lers RC Club when you pick it up, or contact **Lora Knowlton** to make arrangements to pay with a credit card. cocoug@aol.com

You can contact me directly and make an appointment to come by my shop for a "social distanced" pick up, or we can make some other convenient arrangement. Call me at 303-829-5351 or email iteacu2fly@comcast.net.

We Need Snow Removal Volunteers

We need volunteers to sign up to help out with snow removal when available. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer, and I'll put your name on my contact list. (Phone No. and email in paragraph above) We have 3 walk-behind snow blowers and lots of shovels! Thank You in advance!

Volunteer's Special Recognition

There is one particularly nasty, dusty and hot job that needs to be done when we do maintenance mowing. That job is mowing the grass bank on each side of the road coming into the field, stretching from the parking lot, all the way out to the main road on both sides. This has to be done using a hand mower, because it can not be done with the tractor. One member routinely volunteers to do this job and deserves special recognition. In addition to everything else he does for the club, completing this necessary task is greatly appreciated. Thank you, **Larry Fagan**. You da man!

Finally, with the holidays rapidly approaching, I would like to extend best wishes from my family to you and yours for a safe and plentiful Thanksgiving!

Safety Spotlight

Safety tidbit,

As we are moving out of summer into winter (where did Fall go?), I want to remind all of you to please fly from the pilots boxes. This is not only for your safety but for the safety of all the pilots who are flying. Also, as snow approaches and you plan on flying with skis, remember that the flight patterns do not change. Please fly North of the East/West runway and West of the "NEW" North/South runway. Thanks to all who have been keeping me apprised of the field / pilot status.

Your Safety Officer

Craig Farthing

COLORADO SKIES ACADEMY

There have been no updates to the possible partnership between the Colorado Skies Academy and the Jefco Aeromod'lers RC Club due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit the Colorado Skies Academy at:

ColoradoSKIESAcademy.org.

October 14 Fun Fly

"How to Successfully Defeat King Kong at the Top of the Empire State Building"

OCTOBER FUN FLY

The day started off cold – I was the first one at the field at 0830 and it was 34 degrees, sunny, but no wind.

King Kong was a no show – likely too cold for him too as only three flying pilots showed for the event so the balloon burst has been postponed.

We did hold the washer drop starting at 10:00 and the winners were:

- **Bud Glass** – 1st Place at 8 feet 5 inches
- **Tom Sarber** – 2nd Place at 10 feet 5 inches
- **Tom Elliot** – 3rd Place at 23 feet 4 inches

While watching the pilots initial flights I had an epiphany!

We always place the cone at the north side of the E-W runway across from the pilot station. Everyone today and historically has dropped the washer north of the runway. Sometimes on a few feet sometimes dozens of feet. Often the release point is in line pilot to cone to drop point, so many pilots know when to release but depth perception is a problem.

Since I was asked not to share this solution please don't tell anyone you heard this from me – but the solution is that you should line up your plane as if you were landing on the runway then as you approach the cone a slight bank to the left (or right if flying E to W) and you're on top of it! [This really works best if you're using a mechanical release]

How'd did this work in real life you ask? Bud's second drop was half the distance of his first. Tom Sarber's second drop was 22 feet closer. I rest my case [?]

Fly safe!

Jeff Gittelman

Jgittelman2@gmail.com

First Aid Box is now locked!

The First Aid Box had been left unlocked for easy access, but a thief stole the entire contents. The combination is the Club's AMA number, 0-1-7-6. Please re-lock the box after you open it for any reason.

General Club Information



Social distancing, approx. 1 Radian WS, is encouraged at the Aerodrome. Everyone please stay safe!

Newsletter Advertisements

Stay tuned. – Details for how to advertise in the club newsletter and/or on the website coming soon!

Upcoming General meeting Programs

- **November 4 – Meeting Canceled**, no program.
- **December 2 – Meeting Canceled**, no program.
- **January 6 – Meeting TBD**, program. TBD.

No October BOD Meeting

Due to scheduling conflicts, the October Board of Directors meeting has been postponed to a time all BOD members can participate in a Zoom meeting.

Officers and Board of Directors Nominations/Elections Postponed

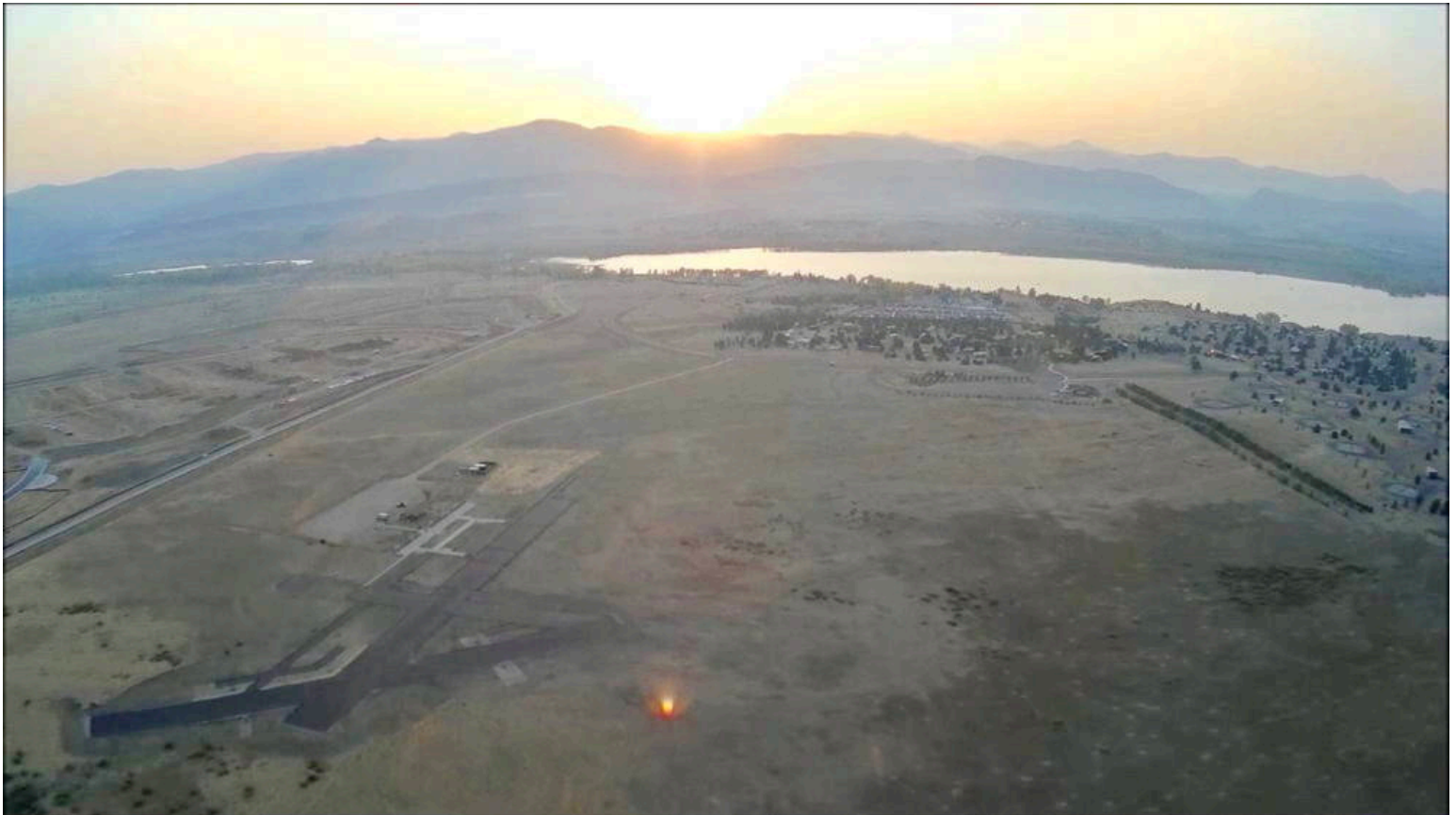
Due to current pandemic public safety restrictions, executive orders that prevent holding in-person club meetings and the inability to follow the procedures required by club bylaws as they pertain to nominations/elections, the officers and board of directors election has been postponed.

All Officers and Board of Directors have volunteered to remain serving in their current positions until such time that live, in-person club meetings can safely resume, and a conforming election can be held.

Screen shots from Bud's October 7, 2020 aerial reconnaissance video



Looking northwest down the new runway. Smoke and haze visible from the forest fires.



Looking west toward the setting sun. Smoke and haze looking like a dense fog winding through the foothills.



Chatfield Reservoir north of the aerodrome. Amazing view from only a couple to three hundred feet up



Looking west toward the setting sun. Smoke and haze looking like a dense fog winding through the foothills.

More screen shots from Bud's October 7, 2020 aerial reconnaissance video



The view to the northeast reveals smoke and haze to the east. New runway is quite evident lower right.



Another angle looking southwest. Part of the new construction on the Shea Homes project is visible top left.

Weather Station and WebCam information submitted by Terry Hock

Jefco AeroMod'lers

04:00 PM Oct 28, 2020



This is a website camera screenshot taken at 4:00 P.M. October 28, 2020 using the original camera activated in 2016.



This is a website camera screenshot also taken at 4:00 P.M. October 28, 2020. This shot was taken using the new upgraded camera installed on October 24. Read Terry's article on the next page.

More Weather Station and WebCam information submitted by Terry Hock

Weather Station & WebCam

The weather station and web camera has been in operations since the Winter of 2016. Over the years, there have been ongoing software updates and maintenance along with replacement of failed sensors, however, there has been no major change to the system. On October 24th, a new camera was installed with significantly improved performance over the original camera. It uses a new Sony 12.3 megapixel CMOS image sensor with a quality 6mm wide angle lens. The new camera has a sharper focus, better color accuracy, and improved exposure compared to the original camera due to the significantly improved sensor and lens. The challenge in upgrading the camera was finding a camera that could be powered and fully computer controlled remotely through a cable. Many point and shoot cameras and GoPro type cameras have been tested, but most suffer from not being able to turn them on once they go to sleep which takes a physical button push. To support the new camera new software scripts were written and

there are now two embedded Linux computer systems in the shed for controlling each camera and uploading the images to the club's weather pages. The two computers are on a small network with the cellular data modem which also performs as a router for both computers. The new camera is still under test, so both the old and new camera images will be updated on the weather page for the near future.

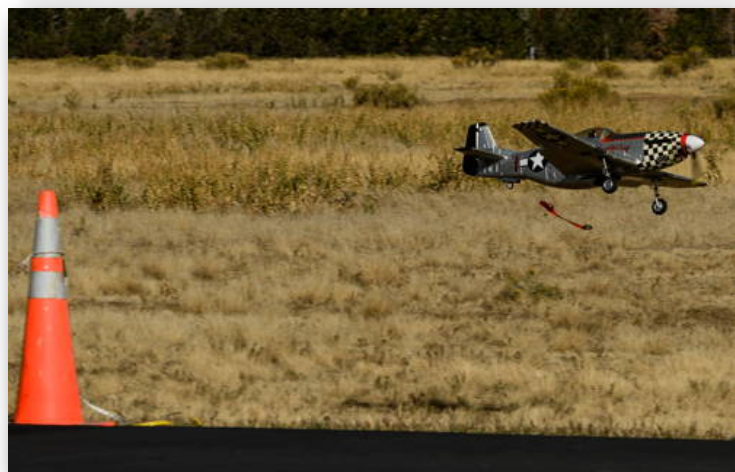
Tip: Want to view only the image on your web browser, right click on the image and select "Open image in new tab" or something similar to view the image enlarged in a new browser window.

Also, the weather station on Sunday October 11th measured a wind gust at 59 MPH at 3:33 pm! Unfortunately, the day's high winds appeared to have damaged the anemometer, which has lost sensitivity below ~ 4 MPH due to bad ball bearings. By the time this newsletter is published it should be repaired.

Enjoy the new camera!

Terry Hock

October 14 Fun Fly *photos by Rick Gonzales*



Tom Elliot took 3rd place in the washer drop.



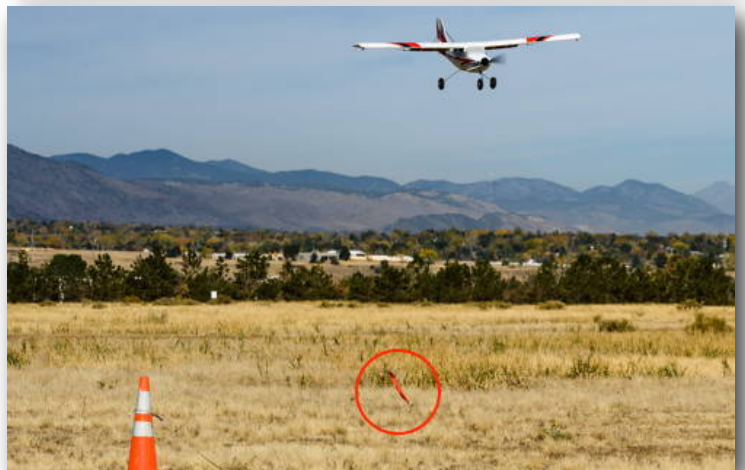
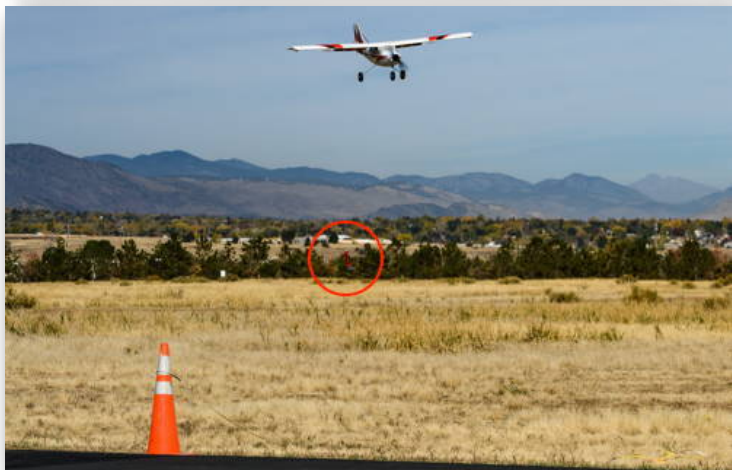
Unfortunately he damaged his landing gear on landing.

More October 14 Fun Fly photos by Rick Gonzales



Tom Sarber took 2nd place in the washer drop.

He needed a second washer for his drop mechanism.



Bud Glass took 1st place in the washer drop.

He nearly halved his distance on the second attempt.



Kaden scored his first "Grand Slam" (a driver winning a Race from pole position, leading every lap of the race, and setting the fastest lap of the race) on Saturday. Sunday proved much more challenging on a cold track in a completely different high speed configuration at Bandimere's karting circuit. After qualifying P3 he finished the pre-final in P3 but was handed a 2 position grid penalty for a minor incident on the opening lap that was out of his control. That bumped him back to P5 to start the main. He kept his head down and fought his way up to P2 by lap 5. His championship dreams were slipping away as the white flag dropped when all of a sudden his championship rival crashed out with lap traffic! Kaden sailed on to win this race and secure the 2020 Colorado Karting Tour Championship!

Many club members have seen Kaden at the flying field this year where flying RC planes has helped to hone his hand-eye coordination and has directly led to improving his race craft.

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Todd Dosmann



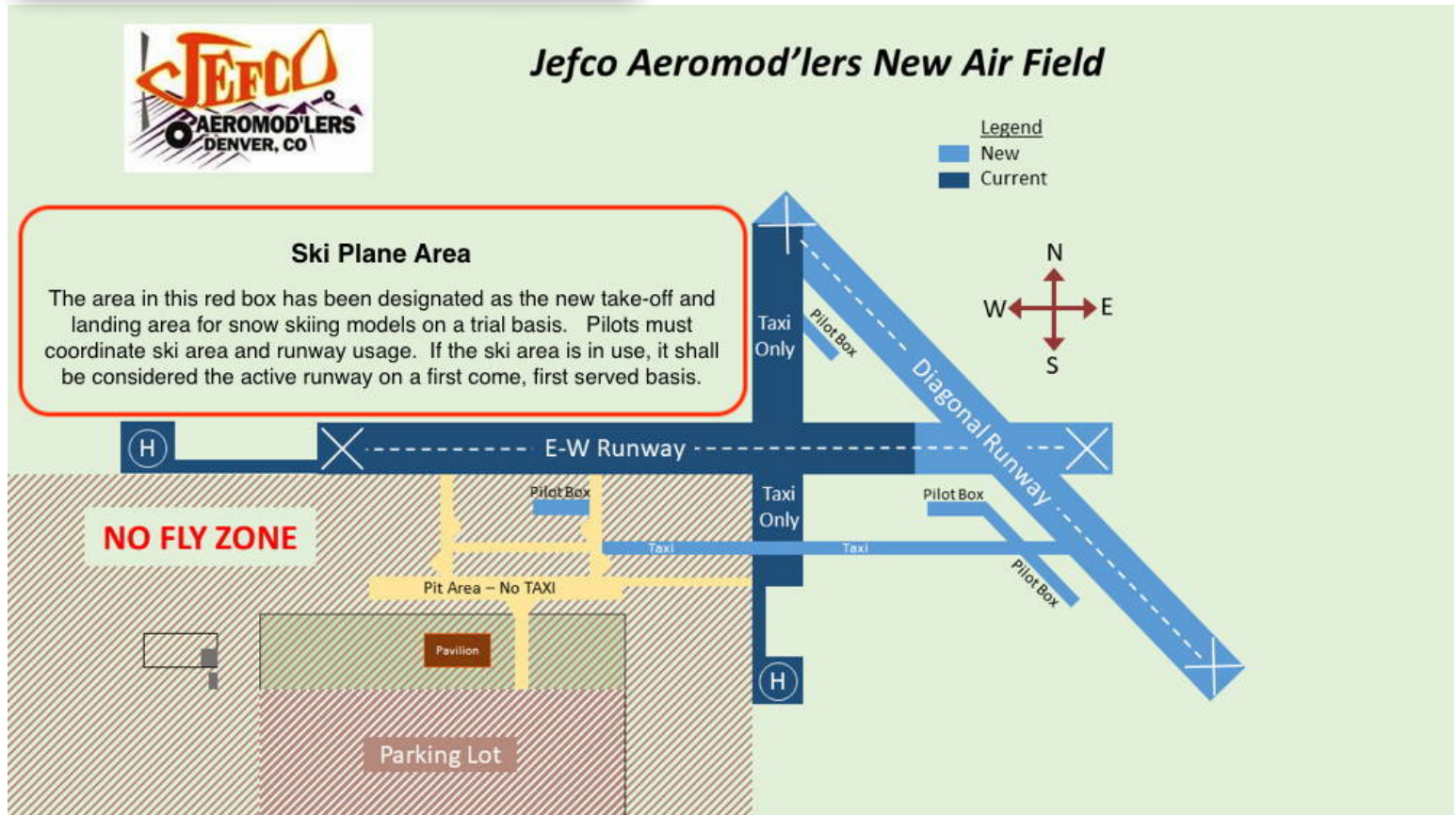
The Jefco Aeromod'lers Learn to Fly banner hanging in the Littleton HobbyTown hobby shop, 7981 S Broadway.

Bud's aerial reconnaissance video landing screenshot and field information.



Left, Bud's plane coming in for a landing. His video is shot with a Mobius Action Cam mounted on the big Opterra Delta Wing, all flown line of sight. Even at this low angle the smoke and haze from the forest fires is mind-boggling.

Bud has spent a considerable amount of time getting ready for the coming winter. He has fueled and winterized the snow-blowers and mowed the field in anticipation of flying planes with snow skis. The ski plane area is designated on the field map below. It's located to accommodate the new field layout.



Jefco Aeromod'lers General Information

| November 2020 | | December 2020 | | January 2021 | |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 4 | Meeting Cancelled | 2 | Meeting Cancelled | 1 | I.C. Carb Day |
| 18 | Board Meeting | 16 | Board Meeting | 6 | Meeting TBD |
| | | | | 20 | Board Meeting |

Business meetings: First Wed. night of each month. Meetings are called to order at 07:00 P.M, programs to follow, at the Alice Terry Elementary School at 4485 S. Irving Street, Englewood, CO 80110 in Sheridan, Colorado (located approximately 1/4 mile away from the previous middle school location). **NOTE: Due to COVID-19 public health concerns, the monthly meetings will be cancelled on a month-to-month basis. Please check our website for the most current meeting info.** Board meetings are held the third Wed. night of each month, 6:00 P.M. If you wish to attend, contact President Bud Glass in advance.

*The BOD is currently updating the **Field Safety & Operations Manual** to reflect recent changes in the field.*

The current document can be reviewed on the club's website www.jefcoaeromodlers.com.

Views and or opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor, staff, and writers of articles submitted.

They may or may not be those of the Jefco membership, club officers, or board members.