



The AMA History Project Presents: History of the VEGAS ACES

Since 2008



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An AMA First: A Chartered Park Pilot Program Club!

The Academy has enrolled its charter Park Pilot Program club: the Vegas Aces of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Greg Clemenson, John Storick, Mark Rose, Darrell Stubbs, and Ben Storick started the Aces. They and several other pilots in the area had frequently spent time flying their park flyer aircraft at the Robert O. Gibson Middle School.

“There has been Radio Control flying at the school yard for several years,” said Greg. “Once the Park Pilot Program was introduced, it was just a natural thing to start a club.”

Mark Smith, the District IX Vice President, provided the inspiration for the Vegas Aces. He explained that the Park Pilot Program was created to reach out to those who fly electric-powered small airplanes at parks and school years. That concept was perfect for what this group of modelers did.

Greg downloaded the charter kit form the AMA Web site, and the formation of the Vegas Aces began.

At the initial club meeting, the president asked those present to share why they became interested in joining the Aces. The members responded with a long list of reasons, including having people to fly with, getting instruction, obtaining permission to fly at the field, the idea that more activities can be done as a group than individually, and, most importantly, fun.

The club grew quickly when word of it got out. The Vegas Aces’ membership nearly doubled in one weekend! As of May 4, 2008, it had 23 members.

Greg said, “Individuals have been flying at the school yard ever since electrics became popular. A lot of people have come and gone because they crash, get frustrated, and quit. Now with Vegas Aces Park Pilot club, there is an avenue for newcomers to get the help they need.

“The Park Pilot Program was critical in starting the Vegas Aces. The Park Pilot Program provided the guidelines needed. “

Greg and the Vegas Aves have several plans for the club's future.

“The energy is tremendous! Working together makes all the difference. There will be a fun-fly and trainer day. The club is involving the students at the school. We expect the club to grow. Eventually, maybe a fundraiser.”

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