



# NEWS AT THE TOP

March, 2015

**Note: there will be a swap meet at our next (April 16<sup>th</sup>) meeting. Members should bring anything they want to swap or sell with them!**

## Editor's Message:

If you have not commented on the FAA's sUAS NPRM, the AMA hopes you will take action during the next few days to send your comments to the FAA.

Overall, the AMA views the proposed sUAS regulations as a positive step. With one exception that may impact model aircraft manufacturers, it essentially takes the language in the 2012 Special Rule for Model Aircraft (the AMA amendment) and places it in the federal aviation regulations.

## March, 2015:

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## President's Comments:

The 2015 flying season has arrived and I am sure all of you just can't wait to get out to the fields to get back on the sticks and start boring holes in the sky. I am right there along with you, but before we do, please do two things: first, please make sure the field is accessible, and that the pits or the roads to the fields are passable. Second, please check over the plane and look for possible signs of winter layover problems. Most of us live in the country, and little critters such as mice are not foreign to our homes or garages. Yes, we all get them from time to time, and they have been known to get into fuselages and wings and begin to sample wire insulation, I know - it has happened to me.

With the new flying season now under way, please make sure that careful attention is paid to field-checking your planes and radios, and that you spend some time with your favorite "go-to" plane getting the thumbs back into shape. For our newer pilots, if you need some help or a steadying voice, please don't hesitate to ask any available club member to give you a hand or to be a spotter for you. It's safe, it is what we expect and no one will think the less of your flying abilities for doing so.

At the last meeting it was brought up that perhaps instead of an under-attended Christmas party this year, that we devote that money to having an event for all club members at Squatrito Field during the late summer or early fall. What was proposed was a catered Pig Roast, with chicken,

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## **Secretary's Report:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM and all of the club officers were present. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

## **Treasurers Report:**

Opening balance was \$13,793; the closing balance was \$14,596.82. A more detail report is in the newsletter.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Fields:**

Squatrito is snow covered with some standing water. Joe Florio flew his plane with skies. Hardyston is closed due to snow and mud.

Safety: No issues. Next month we will go over common safety precautions.

## **Old Business:**

Tony talked about the use of the field surrounding Squatrito field by a motorcycle club on June 6th. They have agreed to cut all of the high grass saving the club \$500. A motion was made to have a picnic at Hardyston that day and the motion failed to carry.

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## **Treasurer's Report**

March, 2015.

February's opening Balance is \$13,793.35. Collections for the month totaled \$1,518.00 as follows: Dues \$1,400, Fifty/Fifty \$18 and Donations of \$100. Expenses for the month totaled \$741.53 represented by Sussex Tech \$637.50, Postage \$96.00 and Warbird Flyers \$8.03 resulting in an ending balance of \$14,596.82

A recap by category follows:

Encumbered for Club Business	\$6,517.00
General Reserve	2,375.00
Warbirds	1,431.00
Laser/Electric	2,616.00
Fuel	<u>1,658.00</u>
Total	\$14,597.00

## Training Officers

### Hardyston Field Monday late afternoons

**Training Officer:** Craig Miebach (973) 764-2862

**Training Officer:** Mike Shauger (973) 271-1170

**Training Officer:** Charles Lis (973) 827-2440

### Squatrito Field Wednesday late afternoons

**Training Officer:** Scott Geller (973) 464-5995

**Training Officer:** Bill Reynolds (908) 876-5357

**Training Officer:** Len Davis (917) 656-0086



## Key Return

Squatrito Field access keys can be returned to Craig Miebach at 5 Hickory Road, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422. Please send in a SASE so that we can mail you back your three dollars.

It is a good idea to place the key between two pieces of cardboard. I have used padded envelopes without a problem.

You can also return your key to any club officer.

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**hamburgers, and side dishes. This would be free to all club members as part of their dues, just as at the Christmas party. The only difference would be that spouses would be required to pay their way.**

**The attendance at the Christmas party has been steadily declining. It was felt that this was a good way to save some money and try something a little different, this time centered around the fields and flying.**

**No final decision has been made as yet, but we did want to give members something (and time) to think about before we put it to a vote.**

**War Birds is just two months away, please give it some thought as well, we need your help to make it a success.**

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**Pat talked about Drones and a recent Homeland Security document and its impact on our hobby. Basically there are a lot of restricted areas where you cannot fly.**

**Meeting location change: Pat went over Bob Bodner's meeting location change. While it was free, the location was not viable. Rick Andrese went over a scatter diagram map of zip codes, and found that the ideal location would be Andover NJ. Pat talked about our current location and feels that changing the site would not increase membership attendance.**

## New Business:

**Mike Shauger arranged a membership drive at the Chatterbox Drive Inn on May 8th. The club will have a static display from 5pm to 8pm. Setup is at 4PM. Applicants new to the hobby or junior members will be accepted.**

**A proposal was made to have the junior members pay half price membership dues to show some commitment to the hobby. Tony commented that all but one junior member is active in the club. The discussion was tabled.**

**Our last Christmas party and raffle was poorly attended. A change was proposed to have a Pig Roast in the summer instead of the Christmas Party. The cost would be almost the same - \$1,200 for about 80 people. The menu would consist of pig, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, and salad. Guests would have to pay - cost to be determined. Outside of mowing of the fields, the Christmas Party is most costly.**

**Joe Florio showed interest in having a water Fun Fly. There was some discussion. There were no definite plans set.**

## CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

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Hardyston Field Chairman: Mike Shauger (973) 827-9326

Squatrito Field Chairman: Bill Reynolds (908) 876-5357

Fuel Chairman: Bill Reynolds (908) 876-5357

Ways & Means: Frank Costello (973) 361-4451

Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Ron Zielensky (908) 850-9024

Squatrito Safety Officer: Bill Reynolds (908) 876-5357,

Scott Geller (973) 464-5995, and Len Davis (973) 448-1284

Membership: Anthony Curcuruto (908) 637-6768

## Event Schedule for 2015

Monthly Meeting	Contest
January 15, 2015	Project-of-the-Month
February 19, 2015	Model-of-the-Month
March 19, 2015	ARF- of-the-Month
April 16, 2015	Project-of-the-Month
May 21, 2015	Model-of-the-Month
June 18, 2015	ARF- of-the-Month
July 16, 2015 Hardyston	Project-of-the-Month
August 20, 2015 Squatrito	Model-of-the-Month
September 17, 2015	ARF- of-the-Month
October 15, 2015	Project-of-the-Month
November 19, 2015	Model-of-the-Month
Club Events	Dates
Warbirds Fun Fly	June 13 2015
Fun-Fly	TBD
Christmas Party and Raffle 7PM Sharp	Not Scheduled
Monthly Meeting	Contest

***The next club meeting will be on  
April 16th at Sussex County  
Vo-Tech.***

Top O New Jersey R/C Club Inc.  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

