



# NEWS AT THE TOP

December, 2015

## Editor's Announcement:

**Repeat Reminder:** This is the last club newsletter that will be printed and snail-mailed.

**Starting with January's issue, the newsletter will only be available online.**

If you do not have a computer or access to the Internet, you could ask a friend to print a copy for you off the internet from his computer. Or, access the newsletter from your local library. 95% of the public libraries offer free access to computers and the Internet. Some libraries even provide formal Internet training classes or workshops on basic computer skills.

Hint: If purchasing a computer is out of the question for you, you might purchase a tablet and then access the Internet from any location that offers free Wi-Fi.

## President's Comments - December 2015

By now you have all received the most wonderful R/C gift imaginable and you are all well on your way to completing that winter project for the 2016 flying season. How Santa got a 40% box through the narrow chimneys is part of the Christmas miracle, so just enjoy and be happy.

The Christmas part was a very nice affair and I would like to apologize to Mike for not thanking him at the party for all the work that he does on behalf of the club. Great Job Mike your commitment and dedication to the club's activities is always appreciated. In discussions with some of the officers, I think that we will be having some frank discussions about next years event if there is to be one and also perhaps on some different terms. We can discuss this at the next meeting.

Certainly one of the biggest concerns that we all have based on the actions of our government and the comments written in the papers is the issue of registration of R/C pilots. The AMA has asked us to hold off on registration and whether you chose to do so is a personal decision we all must make. My personal opinion is that this is a start of another revenue stream for the government and once on file our planes are subject to additional taxes and enforcement procedures.

They have also asked us to write the FAA as soon as possible and to our federal representatives, Senators and congressmen, sample letter is in the AMA magazine. Believe me when I tell you emails are ok but snail mail means more since you have to take the time write, stamp and mail. Why not do both, ask your relatives to write our numbers in this hobby are not that great so why pump up the mail with both forms. Do not be insulting or demeaning, simply point out who you are, length of time in the hobby and the fact that we have flown R/C planes for over 80 years and only until Quad copters, i.e. drones come into being have we had problems. Please state that the group punishment of including true R/C planes with drones is not right and that there needs to be a true definition of terms. We can discuss this at our next meeting but I believe that these letters need to be received prior to January 15, 2016. Guys we need to act it will not get better only worse if do not make our voices heard. Please take my word on this we could loose our flying rights and be relegated to flying trainer size or less.

(Continued on page 3)

## December, 2015:

- p. 1 Editor's Comments
- p. 1 President's Comments
- p. 2 Secretary's Report
- p. 3 Treasurer's Report

## Secretary's Report:

### December, 2015 Meeting Minutes:

The Christmas meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Pat received a motion to dispense with all items of business and begin the Christmas Party.

From Pat Rizzuto:

I received this email this morning from Eric Williams, our District II Vice President. This is great news!

Please pass this message along to all club members, so I do not miss anyone. I cannot express enough thanks to everyone who attended Tuesday evening's hearing of the Albany, NY County Legislature, concerning proposed "Drone" legislation. I know many AMA members traveled great distances to attend the hearing in support of our hobby. Our overwhelming standing room only presence, and the testimony of numerous AMA members sent a message, loud and clear! One prominent Albany legislator told me after the hearing that "he learned a lot" and "this legislation is dead." I cannot promise another UAV/Drone bill will not surface in Albany, but be assured we have set the stage for a much brighter outcome and a platform to be heard from. We will continue to monitor for legislation in Albany County and elsewhere. Please help us in being vigilant by forwarding to AMA news of any proposed UAV/Drone type legislation in your area.

Again my thanks and please enjoy the holidays.  
Eric

Eric Williams  
Vice President, District II  
518-356-2057  
Academy of Model Aeronautics  
Visit [amadistrictii.org](http://amadistrictii.org)

## Treasurer's Report –December, 2015.

The opening Balance is \$11,936.72. Deposits for the months of August and September totaled \$221.00 a return of \$176 Hardyston field maintenance advance and Fuel \$45. Expenses for the 2 months totaled \$1,731.11 represented by: Mowing \$1,020, Porta Johns \$391 BBQ \$193, and the HS cafeteria rental for the Christmas Party \$127 resulting in an ending balance of \$10,426.62

**Note: same as November's Report**

A recap by category follows:

Encumbered for Club Business	\$2,713.00
General Reserve	\$2,375.00
Warbirds	\$945.00
Laser/Electric	\$2,616.00
Fuel	<u>\$1,778.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,427.00</b>

## 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.



(Continued from Page 2)

I have provided some information to use in your letter and an e-mail address.

Specifically we are asking all AMA members to submit comments on the FAA's interim rule on registration. The deadline to submit comments is January 15, 2016. All comments can be submitted at <http://1.usa.gov/1Jeqi0C>.

Below are recommended messages to convey in your comments:

Express your disappointment with the registration rule. As a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), I am disappointed with the new rule for UAS registration. I am a long time model aircraft flyer, who has operated under the guidance of the largest community-based organization (CBO) in the world for many years.

Highlight AMA's history and safety record. Since 1936, AMA has published safety standards and offered training programs for our members - more than 20 years before the FAA was created. Our National Model Aircraft Safety Code has been recognized by Congress as well as by state legislatures as a safe and effective means of managing model aircraft enthusiasts like me .

Note that you already register with AMA. Additionally, AMA's safety program already instructs me to place my AMA number or name and address on or within my model aircraft(s), effectively accomplishing the safety and accountability objectives of the interim rule.

Make it clear this rule is contrary to the intent of Congress. The new rule is contrary to the intent of Congress in Section 336 of the 2012 FAA Modernization and Reform Act. Section 336, also referred to as the "Special Rule for Model Aircraft," clearly prohibits the FAA from promulgating any new rules for recreational users operating within the safety guidelines of a CBO. In addition, the FAA's contention that model aircraft should be considered aircraft is currently the subject of pending litigation.

Affirm that as an AMA member you should be exempt from federal registration. The registration process is an unnecessary burden for me and the more than 185,000 other AMA members. AMA members should not be required to register with the FAA.

Regards,  
Pat

## CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

Web Site: <http://www.toponewjersey.org>

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President: Pat Rizzuto (973) 764-7779

Vice President: Mike Shauger (973) 827-9326

Secretary: Anthony Curcuruto (908) 637-6768 email:  
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Treasurer: Craig Miebach (973) 764-2862

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 21, 2016	Project-of-the-Month
February 18, 2016	Model-of-the-Month
March 17, 2016	ARF- of-the-Month
April 21, 2016	Project-of-the-Month
May 19, 2016	Model-of-the-Month
June 16, 2016	ARF- of-the-Month
July 21, 2016 Hardyston	Project-of-the-Month
August 18, 2016 Squatrito	Model-of-the-Month
September 15, 2016	ARF- of-the-Month
October 20, 2016	Project-of-the-Month
November 17, 2016	Model-of-the-Month
Club Events	Dates
District II Fun Fly	August 2016
Christmas Parth	December 6th

***The next club meeting will be  
on January 21th at  
Andover Senior Center***

Top O New Jersey R/C Club Inc.  
111 Wehrli Road  
Long Valley, NJ 07853

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**





# TOP O' NEW JERSEY R/C CLUB

## 2016 Membership Renewal Form

Please complete this form, and send it along with a check for \$70 and a copy of your AMA card to Craig Miebach at 5 Hickory Road, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422. Please send in a SASE so that we can mail you back a membership card. **The deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Life Members and junior members are exempt from paying. Applicants who signed up late 2015 do not have to pay. Applicants that were due to be voted on in November will have another chance in January and will pay their dues then.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
AMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing, I agree to respect Top O' New Jersey's rules and bylaws and shall conduct myself in a manner that reflects the spirit of the club. I understand that membership is a privilege and that failure to comply may result in non-renewal

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_