



NEWS AT THE TOP

July, 2016

Editor's Comments:

From an AMA announcement:

In January of this year, the AMA requested that the FAA clarify the 400-foot issue in writing. We are happy to share that in a recent letter to the AMA, the FAA recognized AMA's role as a community-based organization and acknowledged our safety program, including allowing flight above 400 feet under appropriate circumstances.

In this letter, dated July 7, 2016, the FAA states:

"...model aircraft may be flown consistently with Section 336 and agency guidelines at altitudes above 400 feet when following a community-based organization's safety guidelines."

"Community-based organizations, such as the Academy of Model Aeronautics, may establish altitude limitations in their safety guidelines that exceed the FAA's 400 AGL altitude recommendation."

Essentially, this letter confirms that sailplanes, large model aircraft, turbines, and other disciplines can responsibly operate above 400 feet if the AMA member is operating within our safety programming. Equally important, the FAA again acknowledges AMA as a community-based organization.

President's Comments:

I apologize for not being able to make our last meeting, but there was a conflict with vacation plans, but with the officers we have in our club I know that everything that needed to be covered was attended to by Mike, Tony and Craig. I look forward to seeing you in August prior to our fly-in.

If you all have not had the opportunity to do so, please take a look at the latest AMA magazine and Eric Williams' column where he mentions the upcoming fly-in and us. I don't know if you are all aware, but Eric is running for President of the AMA, and I am pleased to see someone with his enthusiasm and perseverance running for this office, I have had the opportunity to work with Eric on behalf of Top O New Jersey and have found him to be cooperative, well informed and, most importantly, he gets back to you. He deserves your support... he will have mine.

Two issues that I would like to bring to your attention: the new field and the

(continued on page 3)

July, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM. Tony and Mike were the only officers present and they ran the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved with one correction as to what officers were present at the June meeting.

Treasurers Report:

No updated treasurers report available. The old balance was \$13,423.68. After debits and credits, the new balance is \$12,444.68. A more detailed report is in the newsletter.

Squatrito Field Report:

Squatrito is in good shape.

Hardyston Field Report:

Hardyston is in good shape also.

Old Business:

The district II Fly In is on August 27 and 28th. If anyone has party tables please notify Mike. The more we bring in the less we have to rent. Tony reminded Mike that Frank Fanelli might still be able to get tables and chairs from the church.

New Business:

There is a giant scale War Bird event in Quakertown on a 7/23-24.

The August meeting will be at Squatrito.

Notice to all Members:

Going forward, whenever there is an event at the Waterloo concert field, Squatrito Field is totally off limits. There is no flying or spectating. Stay away from the field.

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

Two aircraft for sale from TONJ members:

Arcus F3A Biplane- Wingspan 1000 mm, No
RX, ESC: 40A ESC, Weight: 1050g, Contact
Gary Santaniello, \$100

santaniello@hotmail.com



Lunar Aero Cub, 71", OS-45. Only
needs servos and radio. Call Ron
Zielensky (908) 850-9024 \$125



(continued from page 1)

fly-in. I have an additional apology for having the email sent out the about staying away from the new site. Work is ongoing and I did not want to have any comments made by any state workers that would reflect badly on the club. Work is proceeding and the club officers will give you an update at the August meeting. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

The month of the fly-in is upon us. Any signs and flyers that need to be put up please do so. Any announcements that have to be requested, please do so. I am hopeful that we can generate a lot of interest and make this event a memorable success. We are a club and a team, and working together we can make this a great time for all. As CD I have big shoes to fill. Scott ran a very successful event a few years back, the most successful in the clubs history, which is why we were asked to host this year's AMA picnic. Mike finalized the menu with me, and I don't think anyone is going to go home hungry from the Saturday night dinner. If you haven't signed up for a committee please do so at the next meeting.

See you all soon,
Pat

CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

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President: Pat Rizzuto (973) 764-7779

Vice President: Mike Shauger (973) 827-9326

Secretary: Anthony Curcuruto (908) 637-6768 email:
toponewjersey@comcast.net

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 2016

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

***The next club meeting will be
on August 18th at
Squatrito Field***

Treasurer's Report – repeated from June:

May's opening Balance is \$13,423.68. Collections for the month totaled \$305.00, represented by Dues \$210, Applications \$75, and 50/50 \$20. Expenses for the month totaled \$1,284.00 represented by Hardyston Field Maintenance \$264.00 and mowing \$1,020.00. The result is an ending balance of \$12,444.68

A recap by category follows:

Encumbered for Club Business	\$ 4,849.00
General Reserve	\$ 4,166.00
Warbirds	\$ 945.00
Laser/Electric/AMA Picnic	\$ <u>2,484.00</u>
Total	\$12,444.00