



NEWS AT THE TOP

October, 2016

FOR SALE

I am selling my Full House 98" wingspan Diamond 2500 glider.. It has been upgraded and is now equipped with a 14 x 9.5 Cam Tech folding prop, a Castle Phoenix Ice Light 50 amp speed controller, a six channel AR600 Spektrum receiver and an Eagle Tree Altimeter Micro Sensor V4.. The Aircraft flies on (2200 mah) 3 or 4 cell batteries.. Other than some minor hanger rash it is in like new condition..

I'm asking \$150 (Club price before I put in on RC Groups).. If interested but not necessary I will supply a Turnigy 4 cell battery for an additional \$12 Please let me know if anyone is interested or if you know someone who is.

BILL VIDA

Barbbill@prodigy.net

973-835-2360 Home

973-617-6646 Cell

President's Comments:

At our last meeting, the primary topic of discussion was the new field, its status, how much we should commit from our treasury, and when we would have to vacate Squatrito field. Please let me address each of these questions separately, providing the necessary background.

At present we have received great help from an outside source, in removing a great number of trees that were an impediment to flying. More trees need to be cut down, and he has promised to so. These trees are only a small part of the field improvement that this source has committed itself to helping us. It was pointed out that although the field was very suitable, it had a slope that would create a problem for the larger planes. Correcting the slope to make it totally flat was not possible due to the amount of fill that would be required. However, a bulldozer will be brought in by this outside source to try and correct the problem as much as possible. This is a sizeable commitment of funds, one that saves the club a significant amount of money. With this grading comes additional expenses and work such as fine grading, raking to remove stones, seeding and covering with mulch hay, and, finally, praying for rain. Also, the entrance way needs to be graded down to allow for cars to pass and a culvert repaired allowing passage over a wet spot. The grading of the field should begin in mid-October and we would expect to follow up with additional finishing work following that time or in early spring.

The cost of the additional work is going to be substantial, an essential expense, but one that needs to be staged within the availability of funds that are also required to run the club and address the needs of our other field. Please remember that we cannot expect to start off in a new field being developed, in comparison to Squatrito, a field we have had for over 30 years.

Craig has put together a budget, which I think addresses our needs for the field's development. The estimated total cost of the field for the initial stage could be as high as \$8,500, which includes equipment rentals, seed, fuel, fencing, and stone for

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September, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 at the Andover Borough Senior Center. All of the Club Officers were present. The meeting minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurers Report:

August's opening Balance was \$9,868.75. The ending balance was \$12,295.71. The AMA Picnic Revenue and Expenses represent balances deposited and expended during the month. There are additional deposits, receipts and expenses in transit for the month of September.

Field Reports:

Both fields are in good flying shape. The division of Forestry conducted ATV training at Squatrito from 9/12 to 9/14. Hunting season started near the Hardyston field. Notify the farmer if your plane goes down on his property and wear the oranges vest while on his property.

Old Business:

Pat recognized all who volunteered at the District II Fly In. Eric Williams commented that it was the best run and attended event the District ever had. The club should be proud. There was a great level of participation. There were 99 pilots signed up. We grossed about \$6400. For improvements, there could have even more advertising in the other newspapers and also perhaps bring in a radio station. The cost of registration was too low. The BBQ diner was not up to par. While the band was good, it was not Blue Grass music they were playing.

New Business:

Pat discussed the new field and a meeting we had on 9/14 with the Superintendent of Parks. More trees will be cut during the week of 9/19. Tony and Bill mapped out the field and pit area and Mike did a nice job cutting the grass. There is a significant grade that has to be addressed.

An outside source may do the bulk of the work and supply equipment. It is being looked into. If not, we will have to pay for it. The AMA will provide some funds - about 10% of the cost. Some members wanted monies allocated in the event the this outside source comes back soon with a negative answer. Discussions followed. The end result was that if a negative answer comes back soon, we would have an

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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

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emergency meeting and vote on funds to be allocated. Otherwise we will vote on funds at the next meeting. We will be asking for money this year and next year.

Nominations for club officers start in September. Tony nominated the current slate of officers for 2017. That is Pat Rizzuto for President, Mike Shauger for Vice President, Anthony Curcuruto for Secretary and Craig Miebach for Treasurer. Nominations will be opened again next month and we will vote at the November meeting.

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.

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parking area. We will not have a more definite amount until we see what the State does in the grading of the field for us.

The more work they do the less we will have to spend out of our treasury.

Craig has laid out a funding plan, which allows us to draw about \$4,600 dollars from available reserves. The balance would have to come from a field assessment, which may be necessary, but not in the immediate future. This is a fluid project; the largest the club has ever undertaken and it should not be allowed to place the club in a tenuous financial situation. We all want what is best for the development of the new field, but it must be kept in perspective. Craig's budgeting and conservative approach has placed us in a position to be able to fund this project without exhausting our reserves. The club has followed his recommendations in the past to our benefit, which I have endorsed.

I would ask that you consider this proposal carefully and resist the urge to commit our total reserves, which would leave us in a bad position should another major problem eventuate.

Remember, a year and a half ago we did not have to leave Squatrito, now we do, and we can do so on good terms because we are financially strong enough to so.

Please come to our next meeting for a more detailed explanation and to express your opinion on this very important project. We can achieve its completion and still maintain a strong financial position to meet our normal club operating expenses. It may take a little longer and require a small bit more, but I would ask that you support my recommendation, and that of your officers, that we follow Craig's plan. Field development must be separated from normal club expenses and the normal revenue stream needed to fund those expenses.

See you at the next meeting..... Pat

Coffee and donuts will be available, so come on out.

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 October 20th at
Andover Senior Center***

Treasurer's Report:

August's opening Balance is \$9,868.75. Collections for the month totaled \$4,003.00, represented by Dues \$70, Membership Application \$25, and AMA Picnic Revenue \$3,908.00. Expenses for the month totaled \$1,576.04, represented by Mowing \$510.00, Porta-Jons \$311.16, Squatrito Picnic \$91.00, Office Supplies \$22.95, and AMA Picnic \$640.93. The result is an ending balance of \$12,295.71

A recap by category follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Encumbered for Club Business | \$ 1,833.00 |
| General Reserve | \$ 4,166.00 |
| Warbirds | \$ 945.00 |
| Laser/Electric/AMA Picnic | \$ <u>5,257.00</u> |
| Total | \$12,296.00 |

The encumbered amount of \$1,833.00 is very tight for meeting the clubs remaining operating expenses.

It is very possible we will need to use some reserves before the end of the year.

The AMA Picnic Revenue and Expenses represent balances deposited and expended during the month. There are additional receipts and expenses in transit for the month of September.