



NEWS AT THE TOP

August 2020

From the Editor

We lost another club member this year. That's three so far this year. Nick Andrews lost his battle with cancer a few weeks ago. Remember him in your prayer. Nick's lake community hosted a pancake breakfast in his memory. It was just what Nick would have wanted. No obituary and no further services are planned.

The election season is upon us. Nominations for club officers can be submitted during the September and October meetings. If there are any challengers to any of the positions, we will vote on them in November. Also, in November, we will be voting in our membership applicants. Notes will be going out to them next month.

Fields

Both fields are in great flying shape. Mike has been doing a nice job mowing. As I mentioned before, Joe Florio has been doing some extra work at Reynolds Field. At Hardyston, the farmer has been in the field to the far left. Wear protective gear when retrieving planes on his property as the hunting season approaches.

Bears have been spotted at both fields, so be careful and keep a watchful out for them. They can get a little ornery this time of year. At Reynolds field, a bear trap was spotted near the front of the old barn. There was police activity and rangers investigating the area. The park environmental division put it there for part of a study. We have no business there so stay away from that area and don't interfere with the park officials. Park rangers have been at the area often.

A few times this past month, the gate at Reynolds field has been left unlocked. Checking the log book as to who there last did not uncover who was leaving it unlocked. The individuals were questioned and they swore that they locked the lock. The combination was scrambled. So, that was not the issue with the lock being open. If you are the last to leave, please make sure the lock is engaged by pulling on it after you push it closed.

Items have been left at Reynolds Field. Recently, sunglasses and a battery have been left behind. We found the owner for the battery. Send an email to toponewjersey@comcast.net if you are the owner of the sunglasses.

President Comments

As we move into the final weeks of our summer flying season and move towards fall, it looks like with the Presidents aggressive travel schedule taking him away from Bedminster we make have more weekend opportunities to fly.

The fall season also brings with it our regular meeting schedule being held at the Senior Center in Andover. Our business part of the meeting tends to move quickly unless there is something that needs to be discussed which takes some time. But to ask you to come out for this short period of time for a meeting of a hobby club but with no discussion of the hobby sounds like we are missing a great chance to gain more knowledge of our hobby. I would like to ask Mike and Tony to see if they can come up with a program of talks and demos on various parts of R/C that would be helpful to flyers old and new. Last season Tony set up demos on radio programing with one of our members which was quite interesting. Perhaps we can go a bit further, with talks about the major brands, Futaba, JR, Spectrum that club members are using. Frequently we find ourselves spending more time than we want to in programing some changes simply because we do not do it frequently. Perhaps some talks on how to make the more common adjustments would be beneficial and time saving.

The indoor meeting schedule also gives flyers a chance to bring in their latest "hangar queens" and use that opportunity to describe their use of certain, building techniques, use of adhesives, what kind and where, Painting or covering tips. Many members have questions but feel uncomfortable in asking them especially the newer members. Talks on battery and engine maintenance can help avoid problems while flying. Members can help by giving this some thought and jotting down a few lines on what they would like to see discussed during the activity portion of the meeting. I hope that all of you are taking care of yourselves, the media and the experts continue to tell us that seniors are most at risk of serious illness if they contract the Covid-19 virus. Whether they are right or not please be careful with yourselves and with those you come in contact. As I said in my last article, we all have too many more planes to build and flights to make.

August 2020 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM at Hardyston Field. All the club officers were present. There were 10 members and one guest present hamburgers hotdogs chips and soda with her prior to the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved without correction

Treasures report. The opening balance was \$11,879.83. The closing balance was \$11,880. A more detailed report was in the last newsletter.

Field reports. Reynolds Field is in great shape. Joe Florio did an excellent job clearing the paths around the field. A brush hog was rented and Joe cut a path to the top of the ridge from the Winsock to the top. He also cut another path from the right side of the ridge to the top. The tent was severely damaged and removed.

Hardyston is in good shape also. Mike reported that he removed the remains of the shed. He also talked about the farmer doing some clearing on the field to the left of the runway.

Membership. There were no guests at the meeting and no applicants.

Old business. Tony went over the aspects of the COVID-19 operational plan at Reynolds Field. Everyone seems to be following the rules.

New business.

Pat talk to Earl Williams about having the District II fly in next year. Earl agreed that we should have it. If Trinka ownership has not changed hands we could use that airport. An alternate venue would be Warwick airport.

We will have our next meeting at the Andover senior center. Social distancing will follow. Masks must be worn.

In September will be opening up the floor for nominations for club officers.

Mike asked permission to get rid of an old grill that was donated by Bill Reynolds that no longer works. Tony presented AMA pins to the club officers. A short discussion followed on the effect of the COVID-19 virus on a hobby.

A motion was made to end the meeting and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Be Smart and Stay Safe

Mask Up!

CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

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Event Schedule for 2020

Monthly Meeting	
January 17, 2020	
February 20, 2020	
March 19, 2020	Canceled
April 16, 2020	Canceled
May 21, 2020	Canceled
June 18, 2020	Canceled
July 16, 2020	Reynolds Field
August 20, 2020 Hardyston	Hardyston Field
September 17, 2020	
October 22, 2020	
November 19, 2020	
December 17, 2020	

The Next Meeting is at the Andover Senior Center at 7:30 PM. Social Distancing will be followed. Masks must be worn.

Treasurer's Report August, 2020

This report covers June and July activity.

June beginning balance is \$11,879.83

Collections for June and July are \$165.00 represented by Dues \$140 and Applications \$25.

The two months Spending totals \$1,762.33 represented by Mowing \$1,530, Meeting BBQ \$100, Hardyston field maintenance \$100 and Reynolds field maintenance \$32 resulting in an ending bank balance of \$10,282.50.

Current reserves are as follows:

Encumbered for Operations	\$ 3,141
General Reserve	2,141
Event Reserve	2,000
Reynolds Field Reserve	<u>3,000</u>
Total	\$10,282

We lost another Club Member this past week—Nick Andrews. Nick was an active Club Member flying regularly at our fields for over 30 years. He got a lot of joy from flying smaller park flyers. He lost a battle to cancer. We will certainly miss him.

When I find out more information, I will send out another note.



Be Smart -Stay Safe