



# NEWS AT THE TOP

October 2023

## From the Editor by Anthony Curcuruto

I was not at the last meeting. I was on a three-week vacation. As mentioned in the minutes, there was discussion on clearing the hill adjacent to the field as it is nearly impossible to retrieve a downed plane.

The area we lease from the Department of Environmental Protection, consists of the runway and parking area. We have permission to clear the area around the field during certain times of the year. We also have permission to maintain the road and clear some of the brush on either side of the road. We do not have permission to clear the hill.

On the onset of constructing the field, I had to do a Land Management Review. I supplied input for the review which detailed every aspect of the land modification which included clearing some of the forefront of the hill and removal of the large trees there. A project was created and submitted to the Land Management Reviewers.

Meetings were set up with the reviewers and went over in detail the changes we want to make to the terrain. At the end of all of the meetings, work was completed.

I am willing to go over the input for the review and the document created by the reviews prior to any scheduled meeting if request by any of the members. Keep in mind, it was very costly. Far more than we can afford these days.

Aside from voting in the current officers into their respective positions, we will be voting in a few club applicants.

The applicants are: Tony Carvino, Jason Carvino, Christopher Orton, Mike Powers and a junior Kevin Powers.

On page 5 we have the budget for the club for the upcoming year. We will vote on it at the November meeting along with the other items of business.

On the page 4, Joe Florio has a number of items for sale that many will be interested in. The winter season is rapidly approaching and you may want to purchase some items to build over the winter or an item to complete a project you are working on.

Lastly, attendance at the last two meetings was really low. How low was it you may ask. Well, John Morgan was the only officer at the last meeting, I was on vacation. The other attendees were the four members of the Smith family.

## From the Treasurer

I will be mailing out membership renewal forms after Christmas. I hope all of you will be renewing your membership even if you were not very active this past year.

There are a few changes on the form. First, I want to know where you fly mostly. The *both option* has been removed. So, indicate where you fly the most if you fly at both fields. Also, I am asking life and junior members to donate dues if they are financially able. With the loss of members, it helps keeping the club from dipping into the reserves or raising dues.

# October 2023 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by John Morgan at 7:45 PM. Pat and Anthony were absent. The only members in attendance were all 5 of the Smith family.

The only discussion dealt with the brush and overgrowth on the hill at Reynolds Field that makes it nearly impossible to retrieve a downed plane. It was suggested that a plan be formulated to address clearing as much of the overgrowth as possible utilizing funding set aside for this field and possibly the event reserve since it doesn't appear that we have the facility or the enthusiasm to hold another fly-in.

Matt Smith brought in some pieces of a 1/6 scale Piper Cub that's been under construction for a long time that he hopes to finish one day.

Respectfully submitted by John Morgan.



Figure 1 Matt Smith's Piper Cub Progress

## Membership Breakdown

Full Member	71
Applicants	4
Junior Member	3
Life Member	11
Club Officers	3
Misc	1
Total	93

## CONTACT THE TOP O' NEW JERSEY

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Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Anthony Curcuruto (908) 256-2342

Reynolds Safety Officer: Scott Geller (973) 464-5995

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## Meeting Schedule for 2023

<b>January 19th</b>	Andover Borough Senior Center
<b>February</b>	No Meeting
<b>March</b>	No Meeting
<b>April 20<sup>th</sup> Swap Meet</b>	Andover Borough Senior Center
<b>May 18th</b>	Hardyston
<b>June 15th</b>	Reynolds
<b>July 22th 6 PM Start</b>	Hardyston
<b>August 19<sup>th</sup> 6 PM Start</b>	Reynolds
<b>September 21st</b>	Andover Borough Senior Center
<b>October 19th</b>	Andover Borough Senior Center
<b>November 16th</b>	Andover Borough Senior Center
<b>December</b>	No Meeting

**The November meeting will be on November 16th at 7:30 at the Andover Senior Center.**

## Treasurer's Report

October 2023

The September beginning balance was \$11,246.81. Expenses for the month totaled \$375 represented by Mowing at Reynolds Field \$375. Note that Frank Fanelli has not submitted any bills for mowing at Hardyston this year. The result is an ending balance of \$10,871.81

Reserves are as follows:

Encumbered for 2023 Operations	\$ <b>\$2,957</b>
General Reserve	2,915
Reynolds Field Reserve	3,000
Event Reserve	<u>2,000</u>
Total	\$10,872

### **FRIA And Remote ID Information**

Check out these two YouTube videos that give good information on Remote ID and FRIA's.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOWzoal8Pqc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eWA5Zgg-DY>

# Items For Sale

Joe Florio has a lot of items for sale. These include engines, kits, and planes that are ready to fly, ready to cover or planes that are partially built. Below are just some of the items.



All of them items listed are complete with all of the parts necessary except covering and engines. Engines can be purchased separately if Joe has one for that plane. The items along with motors and other items are priced to sell. Joe can be reached at (973) 586-3128.

## B-25J Mitchell



Joe Florio is also selling this beautiful 71" wingspan B-25J Mitchell complete with 2 15CC Gasoline Engines, Electric retracts, movable turrets, servos, operatable bomb drop with bombs - \$750

# Proposed Top O' New Jersey 2024 Budget

	Budget
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Dues	5,600.00
Membership Application	125.00
50/50	25.00
Misc Income	0.00
Donation to Club	0.00
Ways & Means	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$5,750.00
<b>Expenses</b>	
Mowing Hardyston	2,100.00
Mowing Reynolds Field	2,100.00
Weed Control - Hardyston	0
Picnic / Fun Fly's	200.00
US Treasury	0.00
Donations	
Postage	0.00
Roll Field	0.00
Web Site	75.00
Bank Charges	0.00
AMA	280.00
Use Permit	0.00
Christmas Food	0.00
Field Maintenance - Hardyston	500.00
Field Maintenance - Reynolds	500.00
Office Supplies	50.00
State of NJ	180.00
Porta Jons	0.00
Event Reserve	0.00
Meeting Room	100.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$6,085.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>-\$335.00</b>

Based on 80 dues paying members. We currently have 75. There are 4 potential new members for 2024. I am hopeful that we will not lose members this year!

Based on 28 mows. For 2023 we under estimated the number of mowing weeks. The number was based on 2022.

While this budget shows a net deficit of \$335, it can be more if the number of dues paying members is less than 80. However, field Maintenance might not come in at the projected amount.

This is the proposed budget for the Club for 2024. Indicated in red is the changes over last year's budget. For 2023, we under estimated the number of mowing weeks based on the previous year. We budgeted for 23 mows and we had 28. I am hopeful we can increase our membership to 80 dues paying members; we have 75. I have 2 potential members interested in the club with 2 more interested. In the membership renewal form, I asked Life Members to contribute by paying dues with the phrase *that life and junior members are exempt from pay dues, however a donation of dues is appreciated.*