

# MARKSMEN

July  
2018  
Volume 24  
Issue 7

Mid Atlantic Radio Kontrol Society, Inc.  
AMA Club Number 333  
[www.marksrc.com](http://www.marksrc.com)

## MEMBER MEETING MINUTES ~

The meeting was called to order by President Harry Semenka at 2:00 PM on June, 24th with 11 members and 1 guest in attendance.

The minutes of the prior meeting were read by Secretary Jason Taylor and were approved as read.

There was no Treasurer's report.

### Old Business

Ray Carlson reported that there was \$53.00 raised from the auction of Dale Martin's hobby supplies.

### New Business

Jim Waybright gave his field status report:

With all this rain we have had a difficult time keeping the field mowed.

We had to replace the blades on the White mower.

I bought a carburetor kit and float for the Gravely. Harry and "Caje" removed the carburetor but the parts didn't fit. It seems someone had replaced the original carburetor with another model. We cleaned the seat and tried another needle but it still leaked. We have a fuel cutoff valve at the tank and it must be turned off after using the mower or all the fuel leaks into the cylinders and crankcase, and it could do major damage if started.

Jon Fisher sprayed *Round Up* along all the fence lines.  
Thanks Jon.

"Caje" and I completed the engine test stand and removed the old one.

One of the fans in the shelter quit working. Rick donated a replacement fan. "Caje" and I installed it but it doesn't run. It doesn't have any switches on it, and I think we need a remote to make it work. Rick is out of town until Monday. When he returns I will get in touch with him and see if he knows how to make it work.

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### President's Thoughts

Hello Marksmen ~

We can't use 'Marksmen' any more as we now have a very pleasant young lady as a Club member. Her name is Elena Prince and she is learning to fly Drones under the supervision of Jason Taylor; she wants to learn to also fly fixed-wing. When you see her be sure to introduce yourself and welcome her to the Club.

A lot has changed since back in the day, as good as that time was. It seems like back then, RC clubs were comprised of not old, but older, wiser folks who helped advance the hobby for the better. But let me ask you - How many of you miss the satisfaction of building from a kit, or scratch building from plans? What about when that plane you built leaves the ground and flies? Now that's a rush! I'm not saying ARF's aren't the way to go, but that rush isn't the same. Our Club has members who still build from kits and scratch build, something I would consider mentioning to new members after they have learned to fly. There are so many disciplines involved in building a plane, so a lot can be learned. With new members, an ARF or Foamy is the quickest and most inexpensive way to get them into flying. They don't need to be pushed into all kinds of fancy equipment.

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### Board Members

Ray Carlson  
"Caje" Chandler  
Dana Morgan  
Harry Semenko  
Jason Taylor  
Jim Waybright  
Fred White

### Official Club Trainers

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Mid-Atlantic Radio Kontrol Society is  
AMA Charter Club #333

## MEMBER MEETING MINUTES ~ (continued from page 1)

FYI, we spent \$68.00 this month on gas for the mowers.

I have MARKS summer hats in stock for \$15.00.

New member Elena was approved and she introduced herself.

Jason led a discussion on the new FPV rules and the poor support some membership have shown for this new trend. A letter was presented to the membership from Rick Witherow with his view on FPV. Drones and FPV racing are the future and MARKS should embrace the new and upcoming sport. AMA rules must be followed; however, we can still have a great venue. The new AMA rules will be posted at the field and on the website.

Jason advised that the Drone class from Wor-Wic will have their field day at Waybright Field on Thursday from 9 to 1. This will be conducted under AMA guidelines.

A discussion was held on continuing the 50/50 raffles. It was decided to continue the practice at all events.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Taylor, Secretary  
AMA #333

### President's Thoughts (Continued)

To promote the hobby, we need to get new-comers into the air as quickly as possible. As their skills grow, I'm sure they will have plenty of questions about radios or airplanes. This new generation of flyers is younger, probably smarter and quicker than some of us older folks, but the bottom line is this – "Us older folks aren't 'gonna' be around forever." We're here now and can help anyone who needs help to learn and repair airplanes. Yes, we all have mishaps. We really can't let those discourage us. I urge everyone to respect and help one another, all the while, promoting the Club. And remember - we have to abide by the rules established for our hobby by the FAA and AMA. They are intended for our safety!

Happy Flying ...Be Safe and God Bless!

Harry

## All Season Flyers

Congratulations to the following MARKS members who are earning All Season Flyer status for 2018 by flying and registering their flights through June ~



Tom Bell  
Ray Bertrand  
John Burnett  
Ray Carlson  
John Carroll

“Caje” Chandler  
Wally Makuchal  
Harry Semenko  
Jason Taylor  
Jon Watson

Jim Waybright  
Fred White  
Rick Witherow

**Upcoming Events at  
Waybright Field  
Next Membership  
Meeting  
July 29<sup>th</sup>**



Please **Do Not Exceed** the **10 MPH** speed limit when driving in or out of our flying field!

## Serious Accident Reported

From the Safety Officer of the  
Palm Beach Radio Control Association  
Delray Beach, Florida

“On Sunday, June 4th, there was a serious accident at the field. A club member was starting his large gas powered plane and had it staked in wet ground. When he went to start the plane by rotating the prop, the plane suddenly started at full throttle. Needless to say, the plane pulled the stake out of the ground and upon attempting to stop it, the club member severely injured his hand. He was unable to stop the plane and it hit the fence near the press box. If there had been more people around, it could have been catastrophic. In light of this accident, it is my recommendation that when starting a large plane, you always have someone assist you in holding the plane in place or in the very least, have someone stand nearby just in case you need help.

Important: It took the ambulance approximately eighteen minutes to arrive on scene. Whenever you call 911 to respond to the field it is imperative that someone go to the Atlantic Ave park entrance and escort the ambulance to the field. Also, don't hesitate to ask for a spotter when you are flying. Or, if you see someone out there flying alone, take a stroll out to the pilot's box to offer your help if it looks like someone needs assistance. Even the most experienced fliers use spotters.”

While this event occurred at another field, it does give us something to think about.

## Letter from Rick Witherow

2/19/2018

Dear Board of Directors and Marks members,

Since I cannot attend our June 24th meeting, I ask that my letter be shared aloud in my absence.

First, I wish to express my gratitude for feeling a part of this great organization! I am learning so much from members and am thoroughly enjoying the camaraderie!

At the same time, I want to voice my concerns over recent decisions made in regard to FPV activities at our club.

This up-and-coming flying category has sparked new interest in our hobby. People who might not have been exposed to RC flight are joining our ranks to participate in FPV and drone flying. And the mom & pop hobby shops all across this country that were on the brink of closing their doors have had a life preserver tossed to them because of FPV and drones sales. This support has allowed them to survive.

In my research, I found many AMA clubs welcome and support this type of flying. They recognized the opportunities for growth in membership. The positive financial impact has also generated revenues from contest and racing activities with FPV and drones.

The AMA has embraced this forum of flight. Their work has been steadfast in fighting the government's over-regulation of our hobby, particularly with FPV and drone flight. The rules seem to be in a constant state of flux. As government officials and the public become more educated, the AMA will continue to fight for reasonable and responsible rules which hold the promise of continued growth for our hobby.

In the short term, we will likely witness many changes in the use of drone flying within commercial-sectors. The expansion of this industry will require skilled pilots. AMA and clubs like MARKS will function as grass-roots efforts in providing education and skills required to fill these needs.

In my opinion, our club should not view FPV and drones as negative. We should not close the door to existing members and potential new members. However, we should discuss the subject openly with MARKS membership. Decisions regarding this type of flying should be put to a vote by the entire membership, through proxy. I strongly support this comprehensive and inclusive approach. I am confident that if this issue is handled properly, with all voices heard, the sustainability of this club will be ensured for the long term, supported by a broader breed of flyers. And I firmly believe that FPV and drone flying are key to bringing in new youth-membership, as well as growing our club.

In closing, I think we also need a succession plan in place to relieve our aging membership. Long-time leadership, those who have worked so hard, deserve to know that the club's success will continue after their service.

Let us put our heads together and work through these issues to find solutions. Let's not close our minds to forward thinking. Let's enhance the viability of our club's future.

Sincerely,



Rick Witherow