



# MARKSMen

Mid Atlantic Radio Kontrol Society (MARKS)

AMA Club Number 333

[www.marksrc.com](http://www.marksrc.com)



## November 2023

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## Mid-Atlantic Radio Kontrol Society MARKSMen

The MARKSMEN is published monthly by the Mid Atlantic Radio Kontrol Society and posted on the MARKS Web Site. Newsletter submissions should be sent via email to David Hess ([news@marksrc.com](mailto:news@marksrc.com))

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Open

### Field Marshall

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### Executive Committee Members

Ray Carlson  
Gary Gandy  
David Hess  
Wally Makuchal  
Scott Richards  
Jason Taylor  
Jon Watson  
Jim Waybright  
Rick Witherow

### Flight Instructor Coordinator

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### Flight Instructors

Ray Bertrand  
John Burnett  
John Haffner  
Wally Makuchal  
Shye Sarig  
Harry Semenko  
Jason Taylor  
Jon Watson  
Rick Witherow

### Web Site

[www.marksrc.com](http://www.marksrc.com)

### Web Master

David Hess [news@marksrc.com](mailto:news@marksrc.com)

MARKS is AMA Charter Club #333.  
MARKS maintains a flying field located at:  
Waybright Field  
1918 Saint Lukes Road  
Salisbury, MD 21804

On the cover: Rob Krafft flying his Beast at Waybright Field.

## Upcoming Events

### January 2024

January 1, 2024

#### New Year's Day Fun Fly

MARKS Waybright Field

1918 St. Lukes Road

Salisbury, MD

This is an informal event, with no scheduled start or stop time. Bring some food to share if you wish.

January 30, 2024 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

#### January Membership Meeting

The SBY UAS Center of Excellence

31856 Crosswind Drive

Salisbury, MD

For more information visit <https://marksrc.com/events>

## Please Help

There are many people behind the scenes that make our club function. Please consider donating some of your time to help keep the club running smoothly. There are currently two positions that are vacant:

- Membership Committee Chairman
- Field Safety Officer

If you are interested, please contact Jason Taylor at

[marksrc.pres@gmail.com](mailto:marksrc.pres@gmail.com).

Please note that dues are coming due on April 1, 2024. The individual membership dues rate has been changed to \$125.

## All Season Flyer for 2023

Do not forget to mark the list at Waybright field if you want your flights to count. The list is currently in the shed. As of 10/28/2023, the following MARKS members have flown at least once a month:

Ray Bertrand  
John Burnett  
David Hess  
Jeffrey Powers  
Scott Richards

Shye Sarig  
Harry Semenko  
Jon Watson  
Jim Waybright  
Rick Witherow

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes October 14, 2023

- MARKS Executive Committee meeting
- Waybright Field
- 6 members and 1 guest present.
- The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by President Jason Taylor.

### Potential Dues Increase

- Jon Watson handed out a sheet listing the MARKS 5-year Expenses including: “Beginning Balances”, “Income”, “Expenses”, “Net Increase or Decrease” and “Ending Balances”. Jon wanted to point out the trend in the “Ending Balances” over the last five years.
- Dave Hess indicated that the last dues increase was in 2016, where we went from \$60 to \$100 for an “Individual Membership”. Since that last increase in 2016, Dave said the Consumer Price Index has increased by 28.2% because of inflation.
- Jason Taylor said he has seen dues for local clubs vary from \$60 to \$200. He said the dues amount is primarily tied to the number of club members and what they pay for the flying site.
- Someone asked whether the rent for our field is fixed or can it be increased? Jim Waybright said it is fixed for at least 5 years and possibly 10 years. He said there should be a letter with the agreement with Bill Young on file.
- Rick Witherow thought that an increase in dues of \$25 to \$30 would be reasonable.
- Dave Hess thought that we should do it in steps, with a small increase now and revisit the dues issue in a couple of years.
- Jon Watson said that dues of \$120 should be sufficient and something that most members can live with.
- Someone asked how most members are paying their dues. Jon said it is 80% through PayPal and 20% by check or cash. Someone else asked whether we should have two payment schedules, one for paying by check or cash and an increased amount when paying through PayPal to cover their fees. Dave Hess said you can’t do that, if you use PayPal you have to have the same fee for cash, check or PayPal.
- Jim Waybright made a motion to increase the dues for an “Individual Member” to \$125. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Jason Taylor proposed changing the other membership dues, primarily changing the “Youth Membership” to \$40. After some discussion, it was decided to keep the other membership rates or dues the same for now.

### Fiscal Year Change

- Rick Witherow suggested changing the fiscal year from April 1 to March 31, to October 1 to September 30. His reason for the change is to facilitate better budgeting and cash flow. This way the money from the dues would be available at the beginning of the calendar year for expenses for the year and the Executive Committee would know what they have to work with for the year. He also thought that it was an advantage paying in October before the holidays rather than in January or February after the holidays and their associated costs.
- Dave Hess was concerned about the transition from the fiscal year change and not limiting our cash flow or having members pay excess funds. If we only collect half the dues payment from April to October in the transition period, then we would have only half the funds available during the peak flying months when most of our expenses occur.
- Dave Hess said that we really don’t plan (budget), we mainly react to expenses mostly for field maintenance.
- After much discussion, it was decided to keep the fiscal year the same for now.

### By-Law Discussion

- Rick Witherow said for new membership, we haven’t been following the by-laws (Section B.a.). The Executive Committee should be approving the new members, not the general membership. He thought we should either follow the procedure or change the by-laws. Jason Taylor indicated that the Executive Committee currently receives the new member applications by email and we could allow a 5-day window to vote on new members. Jason also said that there is a problem with the Executive Committee replying to emails, no one responds. Jim Waybright said he hasn’t been getting the emails. He only gets them when someone forwards a message to him.

- Dave Hess said when the old by-laws were changed, he and Fred White, they moved more responsibilities to the Executive Committee.
- Jason Taylor said that some clubs have switched to quarterly meetings and we could even do them by phone. Dave Hess said if we hold a meeting by phone, you don't meet the Roberts Rules of Order.
- Rick Witherow has a problem with the "two thirds majority of the membership" to vote a member out. It would be impossible to get that many members at a meeting and doesn't think electronic voting would be appropriate. Dave Hess said they tried to get away from "majority of the membership" when they revised the by-laws. He suggested taking out "two thirds majority vote of the membership" and change to "majority vote of the Executive Committee". This could be included in our 2024 by-law review.
- Rick Witherow said we are not tracking the Executive Committee terms. We need to set up a spreadsheet to track the terms and the succession plan
- Dave said he would make the proposed changes to the By-Laws and send them out for review and comments.

### **New Business**

- Jim Waybright said that the mower deck for the John Deere mower needs welding to close up some holes. We tried another deck on the mower, it works, but keeps throwing belts at \$50 a pop. So, we either fix the deck or buy a new one. Dave Hess said a new deck costs between \$500 and \$800. Jim had a welder in Delmar fix his mower deck and he did a good job. Jim wants to take the deck to the welder in Delmar and get an estimate. If the estimated cost is \$100 or less, he wants approval to go ahead and get it fixed. A motion was made to approve up to \$100 to fix the mower deck. The motion was seconded and approved. Jim said he would take the mower deck in this week to get it looked at. Jim also suggested keeping the mower deck that was throwing belts for spare parts.
- Rick Witherow again brought up the idea of purchasing an AED, especially with the makeup of our membership. He said they have gone down in price and the AMA may have funds available to help in the purchase.
- Rick Witherow said we need to get more people out to the field to support the club and events. He said the Bloody Baron combat competitions have been great, but we need more of those type of events to get more people out to the field.
- Jim Waybright said that the best way to get people out to the field or to volunteer for an activity is to call and ask them. Just emailing them doesn't work.
- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 3:41 pm.

## **Membership Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2023**

- MARKS October 2023 membership meeting
- Waybright Field
- 11 members present.
- The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Vice President Ray Carlson.
- A motion was made to forgo the reading of the September minutes. The motion was seconded and approved. There were no changes or corrections to the minutes.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Jon handed out the MARKS financial report.
- The major expenses this month were for the porta-potty, electricity, and gas and maintenance parts for the mowers. Jon said he plans to get the porta-potty cleaned next month.
- Jon said he received an expense request from Dave Hess for additional field expenses. Dave said we should be done purchasing gas until next year's mowing season.
- A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and approved.

### **Field Report**

- A control line circle has been created in the south west corner of the field.
- Mowing, rolling, and trimming has been performed by John Burnett, Jim Waybright, and Scott Richards.
- Wally Makuchal donated a gas grill to the club and hauled away the old one.
- Jim Waybright hauled all the leftovers from the Vintage Fly-in to Halo for donation.
- Jim Waybright hauled the old John Deere L120 deck to the welder for repairs, and someone painted the patches.
- Harry Semenko installed the tag on the memorial board for Kenneth Thom, Elmer McKay, Dick Schleicher, and Cliff Morris.
- An expense report was submitted for reimbursement of the following items:
  - John Deere L120 OEM blades
  - John Deere L120 OEM belt
  - John Deere L120 blade bolts
  - Gas

### Membership Report

- Since we currently do not have a Membership Chairman, Jason will be the club contact for membership issues

### Old Business

- John Haffner said they had a good Fall Vintage Fly-In despite the rainy weather. He thanked everyone that helped set up and run the event. He thanked Ray Carlson for his great cooking and Scott Richards for helping judge the pattern contest. John noted that half of the pattern contestants were MARKS members. In fact, Shye Sarig placed second in the pattern contest and John Burnett third. There was a profit to the club from the event which John gave to Jon Watson for the treasury.
- John Hafner asked whether the club wants to hold the event next year. It was decided to look at holding the event next year, when we meet again in 2024.
- Jim Waybright said that Harry Semenko installed the tags for the recently deceased members on the Memorial Board and it should be up to date. He said there is not a birth year for Clifford Morris on his tag, because after much research they couldn't find one. Jim said Harry has submitted expense requests for some of the tags, but still needs to submit requests for the remainder of the tags.
- Dave Hess said the Executive Committee voted and approved dues increase of \$25 for next year. The 2024 dues will be \$125.
- Jim Waybright said that Ken Thom's widow sold off some of Ken's airplanes, transmitters and accessories and donated the rest to the club. After some discussion, a motion was made to hold an auction after the meeting for the donated items and those that don't sell, will be thrown out. The motion was seconded and approved. Note – the auction was held after the meeting and \$44 was received for the club.
- Ray Carlson asked whether any of the club members were interested in holding a Holiday Celebration in December like we have done in the past? Ray noted that if we hold a Holiday Celebration, someone will have to coordinate it and set up a venue. After some discussion, John Haffner made a motion to hold a Holiday Celebration in December. Unfortunately, the motion was not seconded, so it went no further.

### New Business

- Jim Waybright said the mower deck for the 44" John Deere mower needs repair. He went to the Executive Committee and received approval for up to \$100 to repair the deck. Unfortunately, when he went to the welder to get an estimate, it was for \$150, which Jim negotiated down to \$125. Jim had the mower deck fixed and is donating the \$25 difference in cost. Thank you, Jim!
- Jim Waybright said the new control line area is great. He tried it out the other day. Someone asked what the size was and Jim indicated he thought it was a 200 ft. diameter circle.
- Ray Carlson indicated we need a new Field Safety Officer and wanted to know if anyone had volunteered. Scott Richards said no one contacted him and didn't know if anyone had contacted Jason Taylor. No one else at the meeting knew anything about a volunteer. A motion was made to put a request in the Newsletter for a new Field Safety Officer. The motion was seconded and approved.

- Ray Carlson asked whether we want to hold a New Year's Day Fun Fly? Everyone thought that it was a great idea and a motion was made to hold a New Year's Day Fun Fly. The motion was seconded and approved. Everyone attending should bring a covered dish to share. Ray Bertrand will be the event coordinator.
- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.
- Next meeting Tuesday, January 30, 2024 starting at 7:00 pm at site to be determined (probably the SRS Facility by the Salisbury Airport).

## Vintage Fun-fly

Below are some photos from the Vintage Radio Control Society (VRCS) Fun-fly at Waybright Field on 10/11/23. More photos are available at: <https://marksr.com/vintage-fly-in>





# October at Waybright Field

More photos are available at: <https://marksrc.com/october-2023-photos>

