

S.P.A.R.K.S FLIGHTLINE

The newsletter of the South Park Area Radio Kontrol Society

AMA Charter #1633

April 2016

IMAA Chapter #510

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The next meeting of SPARKS is to be held at **Whitehall Borough Bldg** Wednesday, April 13th at **7:00**. Note this is the **second** Wednesday of the month.

template for printing an FAA number and other identifying information for planes.

The gate should now be open.

March Minutes

The March 9th, 2015 meeting was called to order by President Lou Mattes at 7:03 pm. 9 members were present. The minutes from the December meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Ed Andrews won the 50/50.

Club Notices

Here are tentative meeting times and places. There will be an email if there are any changes.

Old Business

We decided to delay changing the lock on the gate but plan to vote on it at April's meeting.

We discussed paying dues and an email was sent out about it.

Ed Andrews mentioned that the final indoor Neville Island Dome fly would be April 16th.

Jan. & Feb. ----- No meetings

Mar. & Apr. ----- 7:00 pm at Whitehall Borough Bldg.

May to Sept. ----- 7:00 pm at the Sparks field

Oct to Dec ----- 7:00 pm at Whitehall Borough Bldg.

The meeting date will be the Second Wednesday of the month.

New Business

We received word that club member Joe Jacobson has died from his nephew Chet Siuta. He will be missed. Chet also mention that he had a large collection of planes for sale and he can be contacted at siuta1@verizon.net.

Show and Tell

Louie showed his Stevens Aero Pietenpol Sky Scout which he built with some help from his Dad. It weighs in at 3 oz. per square foot and is covered in Japanese tissue.

We discussed the need to update the club constitution for new technology, FAA rules and other things.

Getting Ready for Flying Season

With spring here we have to prepare our planes for flight. This year we have the added issue of FAA regulations. You should have registered by February 19th if you are a long

Ed Andrews mentioned that he had a

time pilot to avoid penalties. Newbies will register as they join. The other issues are mostly old hat; such as verifying how your ARF or kit is built, radio set up and other general maintenance. Also be sure that the equipment matches the plane. If you wrecked your plane previously be sure it is air worthy again.

If you built a plane from scratch you should have carefully followed the directions to ensure that it is strong and sturdy and flies straight. Of course some of this applies to ARFs as well. Be sure that control surfaces aren't loose and move freely. Balance it according to the directions and take into account any changes you might have made. Be sure that the plane isn't too warped or twisted to fly well. Check for any damage you may have not noticed before. Also check the balance according to the manufacturers' recommendations. The power system you use should be a good match as well. You don't want marginal power on takeoffs and you don't want an excessively big engine that will vibrate the plane apart or create too much stress at high speeds. Check the fuel tank and hoses and any engine issues to be sure will run well. If you are using an electric system you will similarly have to check wiring and speed control. Since most people are using Spread Spectrum radios these days interference shouldn't be much of an issue but you may still want to check into it. At any rate you will have to range check the radio system to be sure it will be under control. Make sure that the control surfaces are going the right way and that your throws are the right amount. If you follow these and any manufacturer's recommendations you should be ready to fly.

over 120cc please call first. Free tailgate/flea market, no landing fee. Primitive RV camping, no hook-ups. Early Friday arrivals accepted with advance notice. Sponsor: HARRISBURG AREA FLYING SOCIETY

Upcoming Events

5/21/2016 - 5/22/2016 -- Harrisburg, PA (C)
FUN FLY & SWAP MEET. Site: Elmerton & State Farm Rd. Steve Markowitz CD PH: 717-350-9754 Email: clockman9@aol.com. Sanction #16/470. Location; Intersection of Elmerton Ave & State Farm Rd. (19 acre cleared flying park with 650ft of rolled grass runways). Food available on site Saturday. Open flying, planes