

# ***S.P.A.R.K.S FLIGHTLINE***

The newsletter of the South Park Area Radio Kontrol Society

AMA Charter #1633

March 2016

IMAA Chapter #510

President: Louis Mattes III 412-884-5740

Vice President: Rob Low 412-388-0965

Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Sean O'Connor 412-466-5718

Treasurer: Bob Ashton 412-561-4531

Safety Officer: Ed Andrews 412-561-5019

Safety Coordinator: Ed Andrews 412-561-5019

Website Manager: Rob Low 412-388-0965

Web Page URL: [www.sprclub.org](http://www.sprclub.org)

The next meeting of SPARKS is to be held at **Whitehall Borough Bldg** Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at **7:00**. Note this is the **second** Wednesday of the month.

but they had no help on runway turfing problems.

There were numerous winners in the prize drawings.

## **December Minutes**

## **Club Notices**

The December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting was called to order by President Lou Mattes at 7:03 pm. 13 members were present. The minutes from the November meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

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

## **Old Business**

We discussed the Chili Fun Fly held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We changed the combination on the gate lock. The new one is on your card.

The Christmas party followed the December meeting. There was the usual assortment of food and prizes and everyone had a good time.

We paid member dues for the year.

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**

Rob Low and Bob Ashton were nominated to be officers of the club.

Ed Andrews mentioned that the next scheduled date for the Neville Island Dome was December 26<sup>th</sup>. No other dates are currently available.

We discussed the possibility of a New Year's Day fly.

Lou Mattes discussed his meeting with The Friends of South Park and cutting down trees

If you have not paid your 2013 dues you can do so at the meeting or mail a check for \$25.00 made out to South Park Aero Radio Kontrol Society. Cash works too.

Send to Sparks at 5654 Library Rd. Bethel Park, Pa. 15102

## **New Years Day Fly**

Bill Bissell flies as Ed Andrews looks on.



### **FAA Registration Update**

As you all know we have had to register as UAS or unmanned aircraft system pilots with the FAA due to ongoing problems with drones. The FAA's language on their website seems to refer to quadcopters, especially those with computer controlled flight paths and camera. The term drone is ambiguous but generally refers to these. The FAA however doesn't define unmanned aircraft systems so all models between .55 lb and 55 lbs are subject to registration. The AMA has been fighting this on the grounds that clubs already enforce rules and traditional planes have been unfairly lumped in with quads, which often aren't linked to clubs. You will only have to register as a pilot unless you have a business involving aircraft or aircraft over 55 lbs. so individual planes don't matter as much as pilot registration. You should have done this by February 19th to avoid fines. The registration covers 3 years, similar to full size craft. The AMA is continuing to argue with Congress over strengthening the Special Rule for Model Aircraft of 2012. This should define clubs as community based organizations that can self police to a large extent.

### **Upcoming Events**

3/20/2016 -- Hermitage, PA (E) SKYLARKS

22ND ANNUAL SWAP MEET. Site: 5550 E State St. Jon Falkner CD PH:  
Visit: [skylarksofsharon.org](http://skylarksofsharon.org). Location; Hickory VFW Post 6166. Doors open at 8:00 am for set-up, 9:00 am for public. Admission \$4, tables \$10. For info call Gordon @ 724-301-9903 or visit website. Sponsor: SKYLARKS OF SHARON PA

April 1<sup>st</sup> through the 3<sup>rd</sup> Toledo Weak Signals Show

Swap meet, scale competition, vendors, demonstrations and more.

The SeaGate Centre

401 Jefferson Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43604

Rick Lederman

President Soaring Software Solutions Inc.

128 N Main St Suite 6

Swanton, Ohio 43558

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