

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING...

Tuesday, May 4th, 1:00 pm

Outdoors at "The Field"

(Weather Permitting)

Our Changing Calendar

MEETING VENUE – Meet us once again at the flying field, for this month's meeting! It'll be afternoon again at 1:00pm, so looking for warm temps and some survivable level of wind. And the reminder: No meeting if there's a hurricane, a blizzard, or even just freezing temperatures... or if you don't feel up to it (It's still flu season after all!)

Coming Events

I'm happy to announce that there are things happening again as many states are dropping back to supportable levels of disease avoidance! Here's what's on the near horizon at this point...

May 1 – Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome Museum Opens for 2021, Red Hook, NY

May 4 – JRC Club meeting at the Field

May 8 – HAFS Summer Swap Meet... HAFS field, Harrisburg, PA

May 29-30 – Westmeland Cty Airshow... Arnold Palmer Fld, Latrobe, PA

May 29-30 – Invitation to fly at Indiana, PA RC club

Jun 1 – JRC Club meeting at the Field

Jun 12-13 – Warbirds Over Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA

In Aviation History...

May has long been an active month for skyward looking people. By some accounts it was 50 years ago this month, in May of 1961, that we advanced from "the Jet Age" into "the Space Age." Between 9 and 10am one May morning, lucky young elementary school pupils listened to radio broadcasts as Commander Alan B. Shepard became the second man and first American to explore space. His Mercury "Freedom 7" capsule soared 116 miles above the Earth, reaching speeds of over 5,000 miles per hour on that BIG step toward the moon.

The Shepard flight came 65 years almost to the day after the first known powered flight of a heavier than air ship. That vehicle, called Aerodrome #5 by its inventor, Samuel P. Langley was a steam powered model airplane. The 14 foot span fixed wing UAV, launched from the roof of an anchored house boat, covered 5/8 of a mile on its inaugural flight and remained aloft for nearly a minute.

Thirty years later, now 95 years ago, in May of 1926, the intervening advances in aviation led to the first airplane flight over the North Pole, an expedition by Lt. Cdr. Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett covering 1600 miles from Spitzbergen, Norway. And maybe even more remarkably, two days later the pole was traversed by its first airship overflight by Roald Amundsen, the 1911 "discoverer" of the south pole along with Lincoln Ellsworth of the United States, and their crew.

Some memorable months of May led up this one – let's make this May a legendary one for RC flight here in Johnstown!

What'd I miss?...

As April weather can give us just about anything, we received some pretty good treatment for our meeting on the 6th. Our first try at meeting outdoors was a success as fear of the virus continues to limit the availability and practicality of indoor venues.

Convening at 1:00 pm at the flying field, the April meeting was kicked off by President Sam Kaplitz with about ten members present and started with reading and approval of prior meeting minutes and club finances, reported by Secretary Paul Yuhas and Treasurer Ken Shilling.

The Club charter and insurance have been paid for 2021 and a copy of the insurance has been submitted to the land owners by the AMA. As Don Hoffman was still in rehab following treatment of injuries received earlier this year we haven't yet been billed or paid for 2020 grass cutting and treatments. The membership supported remitting the amount his services cost in 2019 and making any needed adjustments at a later date. We're reminded: AMA and Club dues are due. Please double check and assure that you've got those covered! We also heard from the Indiana club, which extended an invitation to join them for flying on the 29th and 30th of this month.

Work on our flying site was an order of the day. The wind sock and field signs were reinstalled for the season and the portajohn is ready for use. The runway has been mowed by Ken Shilling using a mower and trailer he recently purchased and Scott Holsopple has placed a very nice self-propelled push mower at the field. Thanks to both gentlemen and to Sam for going over Scott's mower and assuring it's ready and good to go. Arrangements for field maintenance

through this season are not as yet set in concrete. And last but certainly not least, the tent fabric was installed at the meeting, a feat requiring a real effort by all hands present.

Safe operations were strongly stressed -- all appropriate care is encouraged, especially as new FAA requirements are implemented... and that's a great thought to close with. See y'all next time!

The Word From on High

As we prepare for the flying season to spin up, things are pretty quiet on the regulatory front. Washington has completed their planning for the time being and implementation of the "TRUST" UAS operator certification is apparently in the works. You'll recall, the TRUST program will require us to each complete a short test which, barring unexpected changes, will be structured as a self-reinforcing programmed text type exercise that guides you through the correct information for any questions you may not have the desired answer for at first. The AMA is looking to be the ones testing us members, and that will not happen before June (if even that soon).

Is your FAA registration current? AMA requires that we operate within the law and the law now requires us to have that registration. Most of our registrations ran out in

December. Remember, checking or renewing is online at

<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/login>



And a parting shot...

It came up in the meeting and It's a perennial AMA topic – meetings and newsletters and events are the glue that keeps a club together. We want to stay connected, but we're bombarded with conflicting guidance and contradictory purported science concerning COVID on a daily basis.

It can be seriously frightening. So while you're deciding whether or not to don a mask, gather in numbers, meet indoors, or whatever, please consider the other guys' safety AND their mental state. Keeping connected is important, and so is the other guys' ability to feel safe.

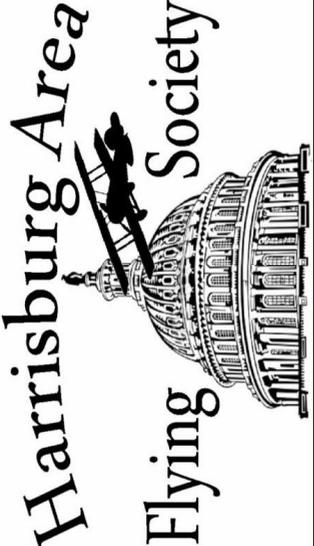
Application for Membership in the Johnstown RC Club

Date Paid: _____ Check #: _____
 Name: _____
 No & Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone No: _____
 Email: _____
 AMA #: _____
 Spouse's first name: _____

Make checks payable to "Johnstown RC Club"
 Send Application and Check To: Ken Shilling
 109 Hoyt Street, Johnstown, PA 15904

Note: All club members must have a current AMA card to fly.
 What Channel's do you use: _____
 Do you use 2.4 Mhz: Y N
 Date of Birth: _____
 OK to receive your Newsletter
 via Email: Y _____ N _____
 Membership Categories:
 Full-Open Member: \$55 _____
 Non-Flying Member \$20 _____
 Jr. Membership \$10 _____ (Under age 19)
 Dues are for the calendar year

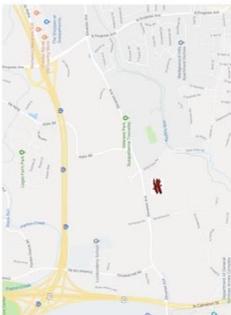
And... let's support the guys in Harrisburg this coming week – you know you need some things and we can all use a change of scenery, right?...



**Harrisburg Area
Flying Society**

SUMMER SWAP MEET
OPEN FLYING, SNACK BAR AND 50/50!

Saturday, 05/08/21, 8:00 AM until ?



Swap Meet Spot: \$20
 HAFS Members, Swap Meet Spot: \$10
 Reservations: Steve Markowitz
 717-350-9754, clockman9@aol.com
 Hurry with your reservation!
 Limited spots available!
 Pilots: No Landing Fee,
 AMA Card required for all pilots
SPECTATORS WELCOME !

PLEASE RESPECT SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES.

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