

THE **RCRC** NEWSLETTER



... an AMA Award of Excellence Club!

Proudly serving the Huntsville community at the Captain Trey Wilbourn Model Airplane Field.

P.O. Box 2163

Huntsville, AL 35804

June 2015

President's Message

Officers		
President		
John Pieczynski		256-651-6487
Vice-President		
TBD		
Secretary		
Susan Seaford		256-479-4363
Treasurer		
Jan Pieczynski		256-603-9331
Newsletter Editor		
Tom Wimsatt		401-222-0658
Committee Chairmen		
Field		
John Williams		256-656-9499
Programs		
John Pieczynski		256-651-6487
Publicity		
Dale Wasserman		256-533-3316
Safety		
John Pieczynski		256-651-6487
Web Editor		
Bob Sorrells		256-651-6865
Flight Instructors		
Pete Wick	By Appt	256-883-7571
John Pieczynski	By Appt	256-651-6487
Bic Green	By Appt	256-476-0290
Bill Mitchell	By Appt	256-975-5687
John Tubb	By Appt	401-450-9669

Welcome:

The weather is turning warmer, but it is still raining and windy at times. Soon it will be hot and muggy. Somewhere in between will be the ideal days that we are looking for. Thoroughly check your equipment to make sure that it is ready to go so that you can have fun.

We are still looking for a Vice-President. This is someone's chance to learn more about the club, get involved, and also give them a front seat to the President's position for next year. If you think that you can make a difference then let the board know.

Remember: the next meeting is June 16th, at 6:00 PM. Come and voice your opinion.

See you at the field.

John Pieczynski
President

Minutes of May 19, 2015 Meeting of Rocket City Radio Control Club

The meeting was called to order by the president. All officers were present. Seventeen members, one new member and one guest were present. This was not a quorum. The treasurers' report showed \$2567.78 in the checking account, \$7679.31 in money market, and \$891.57 in the Wingo Fund. The safety report had no accidents or injuries. The field report showed 3 or 4 projects going on. The scholarship committee reported that they already have a flyer prepared to distribute. More specifics and a sign up for next years' group should be available in November according to the AMA.

David Arterburn from UAH presented information on a proposal for UAH students and staff to learn to fly mainly drones and do research at the RCRC. It was approved that with more information it should be brought to the board for more detailed study. The president made a request for a volunteer for the position of vice-president. The remaining discussion involved door prizes and pizza. Several versions were voted on but a final vote will need to be done with a quorum present. It was voted to not sell door prizes, to keep the door prizes at a \$60 value and if given a choice to do away completely with door prizes. The meeting was adjourned.

A program of media coverage of drone incidents was presented by Don Peck.

Minutes to the Board of Directors Meeting held on June 2, 2015

Board members present were the President, John Pieczynski, Treasurer Jan Pieczynski, Newsletter Editor Tom Wimsatt. Absent was the Secretary Susan Seaford.

Business discussed:

1. A meeting was held with the Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Eric Enchelmayer, to notify him that the contact for RCRC was changed to John Pieczynski, upon the resignation of Dan Baldwin as President. Present at that meeting was John Pieczynski, Jan, Pieczynski, Susan Seaford, and John Williams. John Williams, Field Chairman, was introduced to Eric. John Williams was given a contact name in the event any issues or questions arise concerning the Parks Department and/or the field. He will notify them directly if needed.
2. John Pieczynski and Publicity Chairman Dale Wasserman met with Robert Reeves of WHNT, Channel 19, to give a brief interview on information for Camp AMA, in the hopes of getting young people involved in RC, and possibly receiving a scholarship to Camp AMA. The deadline for confirming a winner is August 15, 2015.
3. John Williams will spend \$80 to repair the weed sprayer.
4. David Arterburn of UAH, who presented a proposal at the May membership meeting followed up with the written documents requested by the Secretary and several members (proposal is attached to this newsletter). The proposal was to allow UAH students to become members and fly drones, and to allow researchers from UAH to also fly.
5. Several motions made and seconded at the May meeting will need to be voted on as a quorum was not present. They are to discontinue the pizza, and either do away with the raffle completely, or do door prizes with every member receiving one ticket. If the door prizes continue, the monthly amount allotted will remain at \$60.00.
6. When signing someone as a member, it is important to actually look at the AMA card to ensure the individual has a current membership, and that it is an open membership. A Park flying AMA membership is not allowed at the field due to insurance regulations by the City of Huntsville and SWDA.

Safety Report – The safety officer reported no injuries. He stressed that the most danger of personal injury is from a spinning propeller.

Ensure that spectators are behind the airplane when the motor is running.

Commentary by John Pieczynski.

Learning How to Fly RC Planes

I am asked from time to time what is the best plane to learn how to fly RC with? Ten years ago that question was easy to answer, today it isn't. Our technology has advanced so rapidly that most people in the hobby can't keep up. Most of the old timers fly the planes that they have been flying for years. It used to take months and even years to become a proficient flyer, taking many different planes along the way. Today it is getting to the point that one plane could do the job that three or four used to take. The new electronics with stabilization systems can make a war bird fly like a trainer, and with a flip of the switch the same plane can become a true war bird.

The point of this article is that people have dreams of what they want to do in the hobby, and all people are different. Some learn fast, others learn slow, some have quick reflexes, others not so quick, Some people do well with speed, others are better with slower flying planes. At first, everyone has to learn the mechanics of flying. After that, it is up to them to practice, practice, and so on. Becoming a good flyer takes a lot of practice, and a lot of pushing themselves to the edge. Some learn maneuvers on flight simulators, others learn at the field. It is best to fly a plane that you are comfortable with, pushing it to the limit. Then go on to a more aggressive plane, pushing it to its limits. You have to push yourself or you will not learn new maneuvers. The trick is not to push yourself too far too fast. How do you know when you are pushing yourself too much? When you become nervous, you start to make the wrong moves. Your brain becomes overloaded you make mistakes, and then you crash. Crashing will happen sooner or later, you just don't want to push it.

Is it better to fly electric, glow, or gasoline? That is a personal preference. It is easier to fly electric. Why? With glow and gasoline engines you have to learn how to adjust the carburetor. You need to recognize the signs of trouble and how to correct them. With electric there is less to learn. The learning is in a different direction. The cost of one versus the other is about the same.

In the end, the learning and abilities of a pilot is in the pilot.

Attachment:

Proposal for the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) to utilize the RocketCity RC Field

This proposal consists of two fundamentally different operations with completely different rules and operating conditions. One involving UAH researchers using state owned vehicles operated by state employees or students operating under a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the FAA. The second involving the UAH Pathfinder Student Chapter utilizing the vehicles owned by the students or the student chapter vehicles and operating under the recreational exception for remotely controlled (RC) vehicles.

UAH Research Operations under a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the FAA

Under this proposed operation at the RocketCity RC Field, UAH proposes the following rules for operation subject to approval by the RocketCity RC Board and the RocketCity RC Membership

1. UAH shall submit for a COA from the FAA using the boundaries of the RocketCity RC Field. The COA requires the designation of the vehicle and payloads for each COA. The FAA has conducted a preliminary review of the RocketCity RC location shown in Figure 1 and has not shown any concerns. Boundaries for flight operations shall be consistent with the RocketCity RC operating rules.

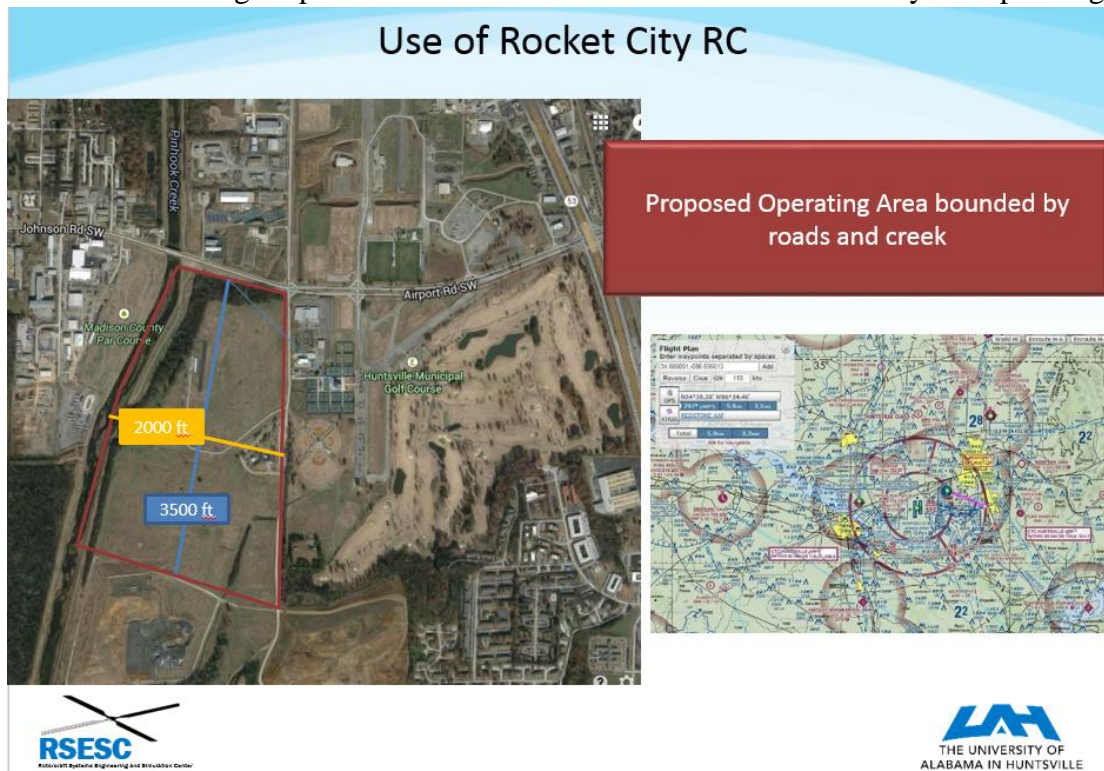


Figure 1: Proposed Operating Boundaries

2. UAH shall conduct all operations in accordance with the approved COA as a public aircraft in accordance with, 49 USC §40102(a)(41) and §40125. UAH’s vehicles will not be used for commercial purposes as defined under 49 USC §40125(a)(1) (2012).
3. UAH flight operations under this proposal will be covered for liability using the University of Alabama Systems insurance coverage. RocketCity RC may designate the minimum coverage for each operation, but these operations cannot be covered using AMA insurance means since these operations are being conducted as a public aircraft and not for recreational purposes

4. Pilots involved in the operation shall become members of the AMA and RocketCity RC Club prior to conducting operations at the RocketCity RC Field.
5. UAH pilots shall conduct operations in accordance with the operating rules of the RocketCity RC Club/Field.
6. All flight vehicles operated by UAH at RocketCity RC shall be in the small UAS class and operate at maximum gross weights of less than 55 lbs and will operate below the maximum speeds designated by RocketCity RC. UAH currently operates vertical lift RC platforms and has some fixed wing platforms. Typical vehicles for operation at the RocketCity RC Field at Phantom 2, Flamewheel 450/550, EVO S1000/900, SIG RASCAL 110 PLUS, Rotomotion R20.

UAH Pathfinder Student Chapter

1. Operations by students, staff or faculty supporting the UAH Pathfinder Student Chapter (PSC) shall be conducted under the FAA recreational exemption and shall utilize vehicles owned by the individual students, staff or faculty or by the PSC.
2. The UAH PSC is not considered a state organization. PSC flight operations are not public operations as designated by 49 USC §40102(a)(41) and §40125.
3. PSC Students, staff or faculty involved in the operation shall become members of the AMA and RocketCity RC Club prior to conducting operations at the RocketCity RC Field.
4. UAH pilots shall conduct operations in accordance with the operating rules of the RocketCity RC Club/Field.
5. All flight vehicles operated by UAH at RocketCity RC shall be in the small UAS class and operate at maximum gross weights of less than 55 lbs and will operate below the maximum speeds designated by RocketCity RC.
6. Students, faculty and staff will obtain insurance coverage and comply with rules designated by the AMA and the RocketCity RC Club.
7. Students, faculty and staff that desire instruction will coordinate such instruction through the RocketCity RC Club and members as necessary to meet their personal needs and to be in compliance with the AMA's and RocketCity RC Club's safety requirements.

End Attachment



RCRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR
P.O. Box 2163
Huntsville, AL 35804

TO:

2015 RCRC EVENTS

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	June 13 th	All Day	Big Bird	To be determined	
	July 11 th	All Day	War Bird	CD: John Pieczynski	256-651-6487
	August 8 th	All Day	BPA Pattern	To be determined	
	September 19 th and 20 th	All Day	AMA Pattern	To be determined	
	November 14 th	All Day	Toys for Tots	To be determined	

The field will be closed to members on Friday at noon before all field events, except Club Day and Toys for Tots. The field will be released back to the club by CD when the event is finished.