



NEWSLETTER



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

P.O. Box 2163

Huntsville, AL 35804

October 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As many of you already know from the desperate emails and social media campaigns, AMA has failed yet again in working with the FAA to secure the continued freedom and flexibility that our hobby has enjoyed. I am doing my best to stay on top of the issues that will affect RCRC and its members. I have been reaching out to local full-scale and UAS experts as well as the FAA directly to work towards establishing a productive working relationship. This will hopefully ensure RCRC's continued existence, operation, and community involvement. My single goal is RCRC and its members.

As it stands, AMA has NOT been recognized by the FAA as a Community Based Organization (CBO). As far as the FAA is concerned, we are all operating as individual recreational UAS pilots and subject to [FAA regulations and policies](#). According to FAA records, RCRC has a fixed flying site agreement with them. However, our site location is incorrect in [their records](#) and on their [UAS map](#). I contacted the AMA back in May when I discovered the error. I have since also contacted the FAA airspace integration group directly to resolve the error. The error, while less than two miles, changes the airspace that the club resides in for the worse.

There will be a presentation on our airspace and how it affects us and our club at Tuesday's club meeting. Discussion on FAA regulations affecting us will also be on the meeting agenda.

Here are a few of the rules that we have been operating under since the new laws were passed last year:

- 400' AGL altitude limit.
- 660' operational radius boundary from pilot position.
- 100mph speed limit.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Please know that you are operating as an individual. The AMA and RCRC offer no protection from FAA or any other government agency guidelines. All matters pertaining to regulations are a private matter between you and the FAA. If anyone at the field is ever contacted by an FAA official in any way, please maintain our professionalism and point them to the RCRC board of directors so we are aware of any events and offer any assistance that we can to the situation.

I will keep the club informed of any updates or changes to the situation. I plan to keep a drone with me when at the field so we can all see what 400' AGL looks like. I encourage anyone else with an aircraft capable of altitude measurement to offer altitude demonstrations that we can all benefit from.

The November club meeting brings our club officer election. All members of the current board of directors are seeking re-election. All positions are currently unopposed. We still need a newsletter editor to help out with director duties, so please let me know if you'd like to help with that or one of the other BoD positions and I'll add you to the ballot.

Saturday 16 November 2019 is our annual Toys-for-Tots fundraiser fun-fly. Even if you don't plan to fly please make a point to come out and pay us a visit and donate a toy or money to a great cause!

Keep your calendar clear for April 16-19, 2020. We're going to need all the help we can get to make the District V fun-fly event a success. Please contact a board member to let us know how you can help.

We can't fix it if we don't know about it. If you see something at the field that needs the board's attention, please let us know! We would like to know about any concerns no matter if they are member/rules compliance issues or something at the needs repair or upgrading with our facilities. You are our eyes and ears and need your help in maintaining awareness of things that we need to address.

Remember to sign-in the pilot's log book and place your card on the frequency board prior to flying.

The next club meeting is Tuesday October 15 at 6pm.

**Fly well, fly safe!!
Bob Templeton
President – RCRC**





Minutes for RCRC monthly club meeting: 17 September 2019 Meeting begin: 17:55-18:09

Attendance:

- 3 board members:
- 8 voting members:
- 1 visitor
- 12 Total in Attendance:

Meeting Opened: 17:55

- Expense report: 17:55 thru 18:00 Voted: Passed
- Safety: 18:00 Thru 18:03: Be aware of the zero line when flying It's there for safety, keep Aircraft East of the Zero line. Old Battery turn in bin was over loaded and mounted to wooden pole. Potential fire hazard. Bin needs removed and relocated. Recommending larger bin and sign for proper procedure how to prepare LiPos for recycling or do we discontinue this service. Will revisit next meeting. safety voted; Passed

Old business: 18:03-18:06

- District V fun fly has been sanctioned and approved for 17 -19 April 2020

New Business: 18:06 -18:10

- Looking for Ideas for the District V fun fly
 1. Sponsors
 2. Raffles
 3. Sales
 4. Food vendors
 5. Volunteers
- Future Board meetings to discuss plan forward for District V
- Toys for Tots
- Gate latch is broken in ground, repair required with concrete (been repaired)

Closing remarks: None

Adjourned: 18:11





Board of Directors meeting 1 October 2019: 18:00-19:10

General business/finances reviewed and updated. The primary topic for discussion was the initial brainstorming and planning for the District V Fun Fly we are hosting in April of 2020. We are going to need a lot of help from the membership to make this a successful event.

Items of discussion included:

- What tasks/personnel positions do we need to fill.
- Swag/flair/bling. (t-shirts, badges, patches, stickers)
- General items that will be needed/expanded. (Port-o-potty, tents, concessions, sound)
- Possible events, 3D-printed trophies for fun/gag prizes (simple, inexpensive)
- Revenue producing ideas.
- Parking and people herding.
- Advertising, getting the word out locally.
- Safety concerns, initial event rule discussion.





Important Links:

RCRC Website:

<https://rocketcityrc.com>

Direct link to the current weather conditions at the field:

<https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KALHUNTS256>

FAA Registration:

<https://faadronezone.faa.gov>

FAA Recreational Flyer Information, Guidelines, and Policies:

https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/

RCRC YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBPcz2UzsCDMR-oAO-PaA4g>

Academy of Model Aeronautics:

<https://modelaircraft.org>

