



THE TRANSMITTER



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

JERSEY COAST SPORT FLIERS

AMA CLUB #1265, EST. 1973

WWW.JCSPORTFLIERS.ORG

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WELCOME FRIENDS!!!

I've heard this said many times, and as I look back I realize it's true. The older you get the faster time goes. And looking in the rear view mirror of what was 2022 I am amazed at how fast the year flew by (pun intended). On a bright note I also believe time flies when you're having fun, and that was definitely the case for last year. I think it's fair to say that 2022 was the most "normal" year we've had since 2019, and I'm looking forward to more of the same in '23.

As hopefully everyone saw, we've published our club calendar for the new year. I think everyone will find something that they can enjoy. We've decided to keep our outdoor awards ceremony this year, and we've opted to shift our club picnic to the fall in an attempt to find cooler weather. We'll see if that works— it seems wherever we put it the warm temps follow us ;)



As many of you may have heard, last month Horace Hagen passed away very suddenly. For some of us we had the chance to get to know Horace when he joined the club last year and became a regular at the field and our monthly meetings. Horace was very approachable and enjoyed talking about various aspects of our hobby. He was one of the guys actively working with the administration at Lakehurst in an attempt to reopen the blimp hangars to the indoor guys. What many might not have known is that Horace was a pioneer in the area of RC helicopters. I knew of this but was still amazed at what I found when I read his bio on AMA's website. I suggest checking it out— I can't imagine how hard it was to break into this part of the hobby prior to all of the electronics we take for granted today. <https://www.modelaircraft.org/.../files/HagenHoraceG.pdf>

With the start of the year we will have our monthly meeting at the Eatontown Public Library on Wednesday January 25th starting at 8pm. I'm hopeful that guys will make a change this year and start coming out to these meetings. Especially during the winter when we can't get to the field it's our best way to get together and catch up. As I mentioned in the last issue we're looking for ideas on how to get more folks to show up—feedback is appreciated. In the meantime I hope to see you at the meeting. Don't forget your Model of the Month entries!!!

December 2022 Club Meeting

The Jersey Coast Sport Fliers held their last monthly meeting for the year on Wednesday 12/14 at the Eatontown Public Library. We had seven members in attendance, which included three Executive Board members.

In keeping with tradition we had a party to celebrate the holidays and the end of the year. The Exec Board brought a bunch of tasty snacks and drinks that were greatly appreciated by all in attendance!

Key Notes:

- The membership voted to retain the current Executive Board membership for the 2023 year. All board members agreed to stay on in their positions.
 - NOTE: we were extremely happy to indicate that John Tomaino has offered to take on the role of Treasurer, which has been so capably handled by Stu Katz for many years. The plan for '23 is to have Stu and John tag-team in this role so that John can work his way into the position. We look forward to John's addition to the Exec Board, and Stu is not done with us yet ;)
- We spent a fair amount of time recalling all of the fun we had this past year and swapped many stories that everyone enjoyed.
- For the last Model of the Month contest we had two entries. It was a very close vote, and the entries and results went as follows:
 - **Second Place:** Larry Larson with his Tucano ARF. This plane was extremely light and should be a blast at the field. It uses a 5s 5000mah LiPo pack and an 80A speed controller handles the current chores. Larry told the story of how he had forgotten that he had the kit in his basement and recently found the box, much to his delight.
 - **First Place:** Rob Kallok with his "restored" Dynam Hawker Tempest. The Tempest was gifted to me and needed a lot of attention. The plane was painted with latex paint and finished with Callie Graphics decals. The plane has a AXi 4120 outrunner with a 60A speed controller and 4s 3000mah LiPo battery pack. The plane also sports Robart electric retracts.



2022 Santa's Training Mission

I opened this newsletter with the comment about how time flies. Well, how about this little tidbit— last year's Santa's Training Mission was our twelfth time running this fan favorite event. Holy moly! How did that happen???

The event took place on Sunday December 18th with clear but fairly breezy weather. We had six hungry pilots show up for the contest, as well as a fair number of spectators. However, due to a number of technical difficulties the pilot count quickly dropped to three, which left Tom, Adam and Stan to slug it out to see who'd make the cut for Santa's big night.

For those who don't recall, this is essentially a landing and eating contest. You need to fly your plane around the north and south poles, taxi to a house and deliver presents. While delivering presents you also need to eat the snacks that the kiddies left out for you, as well as your beverage of choice (milk or water). The shortest time to finish your rounds would get you the recognition of your peers (there are no SF points for this contest).

Tom kicked off the contest, and as Tom was taught long ago—he doesn't rush his eating. So Tom had a fairly leisurely round where we could have likely used an hourglass versus a digital timer. Tom wrapped up his round with a mild mannered time of 9:12, setting the pace for the rest of the crowd.

Adam came up next to bat. Adam is not scared of any cookies or cakes and made short shrift of the snacks left for him. He even took the Snowball challenge and beat it (if you ate a Snowball you could skip the next house's snacks). Once he pulled back into the shop he snapped a time of 4:48.

Stan made a serious sacrifice this day by skipping his long-standing ban on snacks and cookies, and dove into the completion with enthusiasm. Stan made short work of the eating portion of the contest, but the wind gave him problems as he tried to park his plane on the various houses. So despite his excellent eating skills he clocked a time of 6:22, which gave the crown to Adam!

A nice part of this event is the grab bag that follows the contest. Everyone who wants to participate brings a small wrapped gift, and the pilots pick based on their finish place. All of the gifts were very cool, and a lot of laughs were heard. Afterwards a number of us stayed behind to get in some additional flights as this would likely be it for the year, then grabbed some lunch at MJs down the street. Once again I believe everyone had a fantastic time and I look forward to CD'ing this event again this year!



Prepped for deliveries.



Hat buddies.



Tom enjoying his snacks.



Snowball Challenge!!!



Adam's Franken-plane.



Recycling...

Brass Monkey 2023

Talk about tradition—the Brass Monkey goes as far back as I can recall, and I'm very confident it's been part of JCSF lore long before I joined the club over 25 years ago. It's how we greet the new year, and it's a contest that happens regardless of the conditions. I recall flying in pouring rain, and off of fresh snow. The only time I can remember it not happening was when we had so much snow that we could not make the trip from Route 537 to the field. However this year was not quite like that. We had fair skies, light winds and temps in the low 50s. It almost felt like we were cheating a bit...

This year's CD was Mike Cripps, and unlike CD's of the past he opted to be kind to us and have a low stress contest. In a nutshell it was a climb and glide, with extra points for getting within 20' of a target spot (I think you got an extra 5 seconds for each foot, which was figured out by Mike). Each pilot got a 23 second run time to altitude (get it—23 seconds :)), at which point you had to shut down and glide. If you blipped the throttle at any point you were DQ'ed.

For some odd reason I picked the short straw and got to fly first. I really didn't have the best plane for the contest—an E-Flite Trojan. Yet it was overpowered so I got to a hefty altitude before having to shut down, and managed a fairly flat decent before getting close enough to the spot landing to secure some extra points. And with that I was in first place, but for how long?

Adam and Tom took their shots—Adam actually did quite well despite not having a lot of power to gain altitude. Tom as usual was doing great, but then his reflexes kicked in when he was going for the spot landing and accidentally throttled up, disqualifying him for the contest (ugh). Dave was doing well but had a low speed stall and did some damage to his Super Stunts. Then it was Stan's turn...

Have I mentioned to everyone that Stan has a favorite activity at the field—he'll nail the throttle of his electric stick, rocket to altitude, cut the throttle then yell "dead stick"! A few minutes later he'll yell "dead stick" again, then a minute or so later he'll touch down. And remember how I mentioned using an hourglass for Tom earlier? Well, the same applies here. Unbeknownst to Mike, Stan had been practicing for this event all year. So suffice to say that he buried the competition and even got extra points for a landing near the marker. Mike C. finished off the round but his foamy Extra couldn't compete with Stan's weapon of choice.

So with Mike finishing up the competition the revered Brass Monkey trophy (printed by Stu) was awarded to Stan. Afterwards we stayed a bit while Adam and Tom practiced touch-and-goes off of each other planes, which is always fun to watch. It was a great way to kick off 2023 :)



Spot landing measurement.



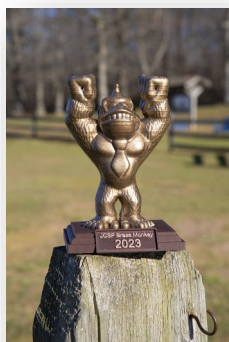
What a great turnout!



Mike getting ready for his shot.



Dave's Super Stunts.



THE TROPHY!!!

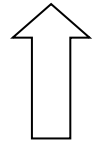


Tom hand launching the Hellcat.

Remembering Horace...

Dick Sarpolis was nice enough to send us some vintage photos of Horace with a number of his early helicopters. As I mentioned earlier— this was all before gyros and modern electronics. Horace must have had amazing reflexes to be able to fly these with the skills he exhibited. He'll be sorely missed...





First Class Mail



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting – Wednesday January 25th, 8:00 PM at the Eatontown Public Library. Model of the month and raffle.

Sat. February 11 – Atoms RC Flea Market and Auction (Hillsborough)