



THE TRANSMITTER



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JERSEY COAST SPORT FLIERS

50TH ANNIVERSARY 1975-2025

AMA CLUB #1265, EST. 1975

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SEPTEMBER 2025

SO LONG SUMMER???

So is it just me or was this a very strange summer? We started with a very wet and chilly late spring, immediately followed by a brutally hot and humid period from late June through July. Now, normally when I think of August I envision the hottest part of the summer, then instead we essentially got a preview of fall. Cool, dry weather, but definitely not summer. Now, don't get me wrong. After July's heat and humidity, August felt GREAT, but it wasn't summer. So now as the calendar is winding down on the summer of '25, I'm hoping we have more of this late summer weather for the next few weeks. But who knows, right?

So this month there were two fantastic events that our members attend on a regular basis— Rhinebeck and the NEAT Fair. From all reports that I heard, Rhinebeck was a huge success again this year. As for NEAT, I'll give a detailed breakdown later in this issue. Suffice to say, our club had a major impact on the show, and the 'Jersey Boys' (and gals) had a great time.

As I mentioned in my opening comments, we're in the midst of some spectacular weather, but I have no clue how long it will last. So my recommendation is to get out to the field and enjoy it while you can. I need to take my own advice, for when I retired in late spring I promised myself a lot more flying this year. I have flown more than ever, but not nearly as much as I had planned. So you might want to do what I'm planning—making some adjustments to our collective schedules to come out and enjoy ourselves at our flying field. I know that before we know it it'll be late fall, and the weather will not be nearly as cooperative, so let's have some fun!

So this month we move back indoors, to our new meeting location at the **Saint Mary School in Middletown**. We have our regular meeting this **Tuesday night 9/23 starting at 7pm**, and once again we'll have the gym for flying afterwards!!! This month is Project Night, so I suggest you bring in something you're working on, or even something that you're planning to work on during the upcoming winter. I love to see what everyone is up to, and this is a great chance to show off what's still cooking in your shop. We'll have classes for scale and sport, so bring something to show and I'll see all of you on Tuesday!



August 26,2025 Monthly Meeting Notes

Dorbrook Field 7pm

Members in Attendance:

- Rob Kallok
- Joe Lupo
- Mike Boernhoft
- Dave Mauger
- John Tomaino
- Adam Lilley
- Larry Larsen
- John McGrath
- Jim Bey
- Tom Cerqua
- Ray Merry
- Jeanne Merry
- Carl Gubkin
- Greg Fodor* New member
- Mike Cripps
- Russell Herbert* new member
- Jerry Franco
- Steve Wuesthoff

5 Board members and 13 regular members.

Old Business

- Upcoming events 8/9 Haverstraw, 8/14-8/16 Bethel PA
- Awards BBQ on 8/26 @ noon
- Next meeting will be indoors @ St. Marys School on 9/23 Indoor flying

New Business

- Rhinebeck, NEAT Fair approaching after Labor Day
- Limbo Contest 9/27 @ 11am
- Swap Meet 10/25 @ St. Marys School. 8Am Vendors 9am Buyers
- Swap meet advertising ideas. Social Media and other ideas to be discussed at next board meeting

Model of the Month for August: Dave Mauger's QuasarXL from West Michigan Park Flyers. Nice LED lighting work.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm with night flying afterwards.



NEAT Fair 2025

This year, the **NEAT Fair** officially became a weeklong event. Normally, NEAT runs Thursday through Sunday, with the weekend days falling a week after Labor Day. But with pilots arriving earlier and earlier each year, the host club SEFLI decided to have the sanction start on Monday and run through Sunday. But as faithful reader likely know— the JCSF contingent arrived before NEAT Week officially kicked off—as it should be.

I've been writing articles about NEAT for many years, trying to describe how amazing a show this is. This year's version held to that, but it added something that we never want to take for granted— amazing weather. In years' past, NEAT was oftentimes a very wet event, which was a large reason why we first rolled out our portable garages to live in, which were then replaced with our "circus tent". You can tell things were good when we were getting picky about whether last year's weather was as good as this year's event. IMHO—this year was tops because the weather was cooler and less humid. Yes, we did have some rain, but it was on Saturday #1 and it only rained for a few hours. The rest of the time we had mostly blue skies, and when we did have wind it was largely straight down the valley. You really couldn't ask for a nicer week.

NEAT prep began the Wednesday before our group arrived when my wife Marion and I dropped off our tent's supply trailer at the campground. When we arrived there were two or three pilots already set up with their campers. On Friday I returned with my personal camper to ensure our group's tent was properly installed. I was proud of myself—I was there before noon on Friday. And yet between Wednesday and Friday the campground had filled in between our normal location in Aisle 6 and the flightline. I was amazed—there were more people there early than I had ever seen before. By the time Sunday #1 rolled around I believe most of the campground was already full.

Between Saturday #1 and Sunday #1 most of our club members arrived. At NEAT we are not the JCSF, but rather the Killer Rabbits, which is a collection of folks from clubs across many states. Despite that, our group is often referred to as the Jersey Boys, and we are proud of that title. The Killer Rabbits are part of a larger group of pilots who have their own identities, including the Pigs that Fly, the Bastards, the NEAT Dozen and the Northern Alliance. All of these groups host events during the course of NEAT Week, both during the day and at night. As I've mentioned before, NEAT is not a traditional fly-in but also a huge social event. For a lot of us it's a family reunion.

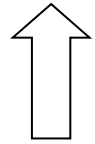
Over the past few years we've adopted themes that are used to drive a lot of the events during the week. This year's theme was "Back to the 80s", and our own group picked M*A*S*H as our tent's theme for the week. As part of this we have a big celebration on Wednesday night where each of the groups host gatherings at their tents. Our tent is traditionally the start of the event, and we work our way north up the flightline. Our group did a great job of dressing as various characters from the TV show, and we had decorations and libations to go along with this theme.

On top of the social events are the various flying events that the host club and the various tents sponsor. One of the highlights of the week is the Mass Warbird Launch on Friday and Saturday afternoons, where we'll have 60+ pilots flying their warbirds together. Yes, some carnage happens, but it's a huge adrenalin rush to participate in. Then there are contests like Lobsta Combat, where the goal is to cut a streamer from a towplane and win a lobster roll. A number of us in our tent won our share of lobster rolls that week. And naturally our team hosted a number of events as well, which included Mini Stingray combat, the Vapor Games, and an updated version of Balloon Pop that we put together on Friday night. There's so much to do that I actually publish an event calendar so that everyone know what's happening when.

I could keep going on, but I think you get the idea. One key thing to realize is that kind of event does not work if everyone isn't working together, and thankfully our little group knows that and we have a well-oiled machine in place. If you're interested in checking this out next year, feel free to reach out to me for details. It's about a 3 1/2 hour drive up to the Catskills, and I recommend staying over at least one night. But it'll definitely be worth it ;)

Photos from the 2025 NEAT Fair...





First Class Mail



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting – Tuesday October 28th, 7:00 PM at the St. Mary's School in Middletown. Model of the month and indoor flying.

Sat. October 11 – Adopt-A-Road cleanup 10am (Dorbrook)

Sun. October 12 - Club Fly Day 11am (Dorbrook)

Sat. October 25— JCSF Swap Meet (Saint Mary School, Middletown)