



THE TRANSMITTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

JERSEY COAST SPORT FLIERS

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JANUARY 2026

A REAL WINTER!!!

Well, happy 2026 everyone! It's hard to believe that January is almost over already—normally this month drags for me, especially after the holidays. But this year it's been a blink.

Now that winter is actually here (and not Fall feeling like winter), I think it's fair to say we're having an old-school winter for a change. The past few years we've gotten lucky with the weather, but this time around it's been consistently cold, and we're actually having snow! Looking out my back window at a landscape of white, and knowing there's the potential for another winter storm this weekend just reinforces that. And that's another great thing about our hobby—we have things to do when it's too nasty to be outside! I hope you're all taking advantage of this indoor time to get some building done, or perhaps working on a new design for the upcoming season. I know a number of you have been working on some very cool stuff that I can't wait to see later this year.



Photo by Jim Baye

This month's cover shot is of the guys who braved the weather for this year's **Brass Monkey**. And I'm not overstating it when I say "braved". I won't spoil the story here—you'll need to read the article later in this newsletter. But our New Years tradition lives on. We also had our traditional **Santa's Training Mission** less than two weeks prior, which was another memorable event and the article for that is also in this newsletter.

As hopefully everyone heard, **this month's club meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday 1/27 starting at 7pm**. With the recent storm, plus the arctic temps coming in, coupled with our not having access to the gym this month for flying—it seemed like a prudent thing to do. We'll be back at St. Mary's School next month barring anything unforeseen. BTW I've attached our 2026 Club Calendar to this newsletter so you can see what's coming up. We'll be posting it as well on our website. I'll talk to you all soon!!!

December 16, 2025 Monthly Meeting Notes

St. Mary's School 7pm

(Notes taken by Joe L.)

Members in Attendance:

- Rob Kallok
- Joe Lupo
- Eric Olsen
- Dave Mauger
- John Tomaino
- Adam Lilley
- Herb Volkert
- Dana Hager
- Lee Stab
- Jerry Franco
- Jason Cline
- Carl Gubkin
- Tom Cerqua
- Mike Boernhoff

4 Board members and 10 regular members.

Old Business

- Santa's Training Mission set for 12/21. Secret Santa as well
- Brass Monkey set for 1/1 @ noon
- Elections will take place at the December Meeting (early 12/16)

New Business

- Elections for 2026. Executive board re-elected with the addition of Mike Boernhoff as Recording Secretary
- Discussion on Indoor/Outdoor meetings for 2026. 8/4 and 9/3 Indoor/Outdoor proposals to be discussed at next board meeting
- Dues renewal has been suggested to wait until January 2026
- Model of the Month:
⇒ Jason Cline **Imp** (epp foam) **Winner**
- Dana Hager showed his 3d printed Louis Gun for Adam Lilley's Newport 11

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm with indoor flying afterwards.



Jason's Imp EPP flat foamy

Santa's Training Mission

While our annual Turkey Shoot is the last points contest for the year, it's not actually our last contest. You see, in December we get together one more time for a club favorite that gives out cookies and milk rather than Sport Flier points. That contest is our **Santa's Training Mission**. Believe it or not, but we've been holding this contest since 2011, which makes this the fifteenth anniversary of this fun close of the contest season.

This year's event was held on Sunday 12/21, and we had fourteen pilots in attendance, although not all opted to fly as it was another cold and windy day in December. But that's fine, as part of the fun of this contest is watching your fellow pilots run through the mission. You see, not only is this a landing contest, but as alluded to before, this also involves eating, drinking, and delivering presents. Each pilot has to deliver presents to three "houses", and enjoy the snacks that the kids left for Santa. As you might imagine, it can be a bit of a challenge eating and flying, so you have to be careful with your choices. Plus you have the option to eat a big snack at one house and skip the other, so there are choices to be made.

While I can't recall who had the shortest time (lost my scoresheets) I do know who had the longest. For those of you who don't know, Tom C. is a methodical eater, and will not be rushed. I keep meaning to bring my hourglass to time Tom's performance, but I end up using my stop watch instead...

In my fifteen years of running this contest I've never actually participated in it. There's quite a bit to do from a CD perspective so I just focus on that. However this year everyone insisted that I fly for a change, and Tom offered his Master Stick to me. What could I say? So I handed off my stop watch and took a turn myself! It was a lot of fun, and choking down cookies and milk as I ran back from delivering presents was definitely a challenge. But I did pretty well, but not good enough to take the top spot.

A few years ago we added a grab bag component to the contest. It's totally optional, but if you're flying you can join in. By the end of the contest we had a starting table full of presents (and a few on the ground since it was so windy). We took turns picking presents based on our finishing times for the event. Everyone had a good laugh, and some very nice presents were gifted.

After the contest we were all thoroughly cold, so we headed over to MJ's for a hot lunch. It was a really fun day and a great way to finish up the contest season.



2026 Brass Monkey

As long as I've been a member there's been the **Brass Monkey**. A New Year's tradition, as long as the field is open, the event is on. There have only been a small number of times that the field was closed—mostly due to snow and no access. But otherwise it's on, despite the weather. That means rain, snow, wind—be there or be square.

While I can recall years past where we had really tough conditions (rain in January is definitely no fun), the past few years have been strangely nice, even sometimes pleasant for the first day of the year. Well, as Adam and I commented to each other as we showed up at the field for this year's event—“this is a REAL Brass Monkey!!!”.

Wind. Let me say that again. STRONG WINDS!!!! I can't recall a time I've been at the field where the winds were stronger. And gusty to boot. It was almost laughable. A direct cross wind on top of everything, but at least it wasn't coming over the trees. Adam had been planning a brand-new contest for this year's Brass Monkey, but he quickly realized that there was no way he could do it with the field conditions. So you'll see the contest later this year (Dodge Ball). So the decision was made to come up with a new contest, and it was super simple—fly for two minutes, twice. Sounds simple on paper, right? But with the gale force winds you needed to stay on top of your plane else who knew where it would end up. And you needed to get it back in one piece so you could fly the second round.

Eight pilots showed up to fly, and the number of participants quickly dropped to four once we discussed the revised contest. I was full of spit and vinegar that day, and was like—bring it on! So Adam broke out his stop watch, and we took turns “flying”. And I say “flying” as it was more like trying to keep your plane in the air in a semi-controlled fashion. We all tried different ways of handling the wind. Once I got airborne I tried pointing my plane into the wind and staying in one place, adding compensation based on the gusts and direction changes. Thankfully everyone who flew kept their planes in one piece.

Since the object of the contest was to survive, Adam decided that the Brass Monkey winner would be done by the luck of the draw, which gave all of us an equal chance. As fate would have it, the most skilled pilot flying—Tom C.—also had luck on his side this day and he took home the Brass Monkey. As I mentioned in a previous edition of The Transmitter, Stan B. gifted the club his collection of old-school Brass Monkey prizes, so Tom got the “real thing”.

To no one's surprise, once the contest wrapped up we all made a quick exit from the field to warm up. It was a great way to kick off the year, and it was fun seeing everyone. I recall getting home to see a Facebook post from Eric Williams asking if any clubs flew on 1/1—a couple responded that it was too windy. I was very proud to reply that our guys flew—wind be damned ;)



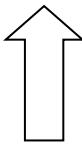
Jersey Coast Sport Flyers

2026 Calendar of Events

Please note that all JCSF Fun-Flys start at 11am unless otherwise noted.

January	1/1 Thurs	Brass Monkey Fun Fly Noon	CD: Adam
	1/6 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Rob K.
	1/25 Sun	Levittown RC Swap Meet Annual Swap Meet – Lufberry Flyers Radio Con-	Hicksville, LI Lufberry Flyers
	1/27 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting & Model of the Month	St. Mary's School 7pm
February	2/3 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: John T.
	2/7 Sat	ATOMS RC Swap Meet	Hillsborough, NJ
	2/24 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting/MOM/Model of the	St. Mary's School 7pm
March	3/3 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Adam L.
	3/14 Sat	Lebanon RC Expo	Central Penn Modelers
	3/21 Sat	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup 10am Dorbrook	Organizer: Dave
	3/24 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting & Model of the Month.	St. Mary's School 7pm
	3/31 Tues	LAST DAY TO PAY CLUB DUES!!!	
April	4/7 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Joe L.
	4/11 Sat	Club Fly Day	Dorbrook all-day
	4/20-4/25	SEFF Week 2025	Americus, GA
	4/28 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting, Project Night & flying	St. Mary's School 7pm
May	5/3 Sun	Streamer Chase	CD: Mike K.
	5/5 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Tom C.
	5/8 – 5/15	Joe Nall Joe Nall Week - Triple Tree Aerodome	Greenville, SC Non-club event
	5/9 Sat	No Guts, No Glory Club Fly (non-competition)	Dorbrook all-day
	5/10 Sun	<i>Mother's Day</i>	
	5/13-5/17	Spring Hole in the Woods Fly-In	Host: Adam L.
	5/25 Mon	<i>Memorial Day</i>	
	5/26 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting, MOM & Night Flying.	Dorbrook 7pm
	5/30 Sat	Club Awards BBQ (open flying afterwards)	Dorbrook 3pm
	5/27 – 5/31	Warbirds and Classics Over Fredericksburg	Thornburg, Va

June	6/2 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Adam L.
	6/5 – 6/7 Fri to Sun	World War II Airshow www.maam.org	Mid-Atlantic Air Museum, Reading, PA
	6/13 Sat	23 nd Annual JCSF Electric Fly-In	CD: Rob K.
	6/21 Sun	<i>Father's Day</i>	
	6/23 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting, MOM & Night Flying. Hot dogs!!!	Dorbrook 7pm
	6/27 Sat	Balls Fun Fly	CD: Tom C.
July	7/7 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Rob K.
	7/9 – 7/12 Thurs to Sun	Warbirds & Classics over Delaware www.delawarerc.org	Delaware RC Club Lums Pond, DE
	7/18 Sat	Dodge Ball	CD: Adam L.
	7/25 Sat	Club Picnic	All Day event
	7/28 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting, MOM & Night Flying. Hot dogs!!!	Dorbrook 7pm
August	8/1 Sat	JCSF Open House	Dorbrook 10am
	8/4 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: John T.
	8/13 – 8/16 Thurs to Sun	Golden Age Fly-In www.tricountyskybarons.com	Bethel, PA
	8/22 Sat	Haverstraw Air Show HVRCC.com - Home	Haverstraw, NY
	8/23 Sun	Club Fly Day	Dorbrook all-day
	8/25 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting, MOM & Night Flying. Hot dogs!!!	Dorbrook 7pm
September	9/1 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Tom C.
	9/11 – 9/13 Fri to Sun	Rhinebeck Jamboree www.mhrcs.com	Mid-Hudson RC Society Rhinebeck, NY
	9/12 – 9/20 Sat to Sun	The Northeast Electric Aircraft Technology Fair (NEAT) www.neatfair.org	Host: SEFLI Shinhopple, NY
	9/22 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting & Project Night. Flying afterwards in the gym!	St. Mary's School 7pm (must be out by 9:45!)
	9/26 Sat	Parts and Pieces Fun Fly	CD: Tom C.
October	10/6 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Mike
	10/10 Sat	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup 10am Dorbrook	Organizer: Dave
	10/11 Sun	Club Fly Day	Dorbrook all-day
	10/24 Sat	JCSF Swap Meet	St. Mary School Middletown, NJ
	10/27 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting & Model of the Month. Flying afterwards in the gym!	St. Mary's School 7pm (must be out by 9:45!)
November	11/3 Tues	Exec Board Meeting	Host: Joe L.
	11/7 Sat	Turkey Shoot Fun Fly	CD: Mike C.
	11/24 Tues	Monthly Club Meeting & Model of the Month. Flying afterwards in the gym!	St. Mary's School 7pm (must be out by 9:45!)
December	12/1 Tues	Exec Board meeting/dinner	Location TBD
	12/15	Monthly Club Meeting & Model of the Month. Holiday party and club elections. Flying afterwards in the gym!	St. Mary's School 7pm (must be out by 9:45!)
	12/20 Sun	Santa's Training Mission (non-points)	CD: Rob K.
January '26	1/1/27 Friday	Brass Monkey Fun Fly @ Noon	CD: Tom C.



First Class Mail



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Rob Kallok

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting – Tuesday 1/27 @ 7pm via ZOOM. Model of the month.

NOTE: if you did not receive the Zoom link contact Rob K.

Sat. February 7 – ATOMS RC Swap Meet (Hillsborough)