

The Aerogramme

Official Publication of the NorthEastern Drone Society

March 5, 2018

AMA Club #187



Officers:

President:

Rich Pierce

Vice President:

Greg Watson

Secretary:

Bill Tripp

Treasurer:

Tina Pierce

Instructors:

Aero/Glider

Bill G 860.429.1046

Ron V 860.205.3277

Aero/Heli/Multirotor

Greg W 860.508.2394

Rich P 860.614.3915

Aero

Matt D 860.228.2059

Introductory

Pilots:

Rich P

Ron V

Field Marshals:

Don M

Ray B

March Minutes

3/01/2018 7pm Mansfield Library

Old Business

- The "Name Change" vote was carried out immediately upon commencement. The question vote on was specifically "I agree that the club must change its name". All that were in attendance of the meeting were eligible voters. The vote was unanimously in favor. 9 absentee votes were also received, all in favor. Of the 30 total votes received, 30 were in favor of changing the club name, so the vote has passed.
- In order to speed up a potential name change a resolution was passed at the January meeting that the Board will select the new name. In the February newsletter it was announced that the board had selected "Tolland County Model Aircraft Club" as the new name. This was selected to state as near as possible who the club is without binding the club to a specific technology, fad, or controversy. As the club has voted to change the name, "Tolland County Model Aircraft Club" is officially the new name!
- The DEEP has finally granted permits for our Coventry flying field. There is however a huge change. We are no longer able to fly at all from May 1 to August 15. DEEP has explained that its Wildlife Division is pushing to limit all public activity to the site. This is bad news, to say the least. This is the period of time that we would normally have 2 weekdays and 1 weekend day, so we're losing about 40 potential flying days. Rich P is trying to get permission from DEEP to at least mow the runway during this 3 1/2 month period so that it is usable when we resume flying on August 16.
- The DEEP has also denied both the permits for our Mansfield flying site (the Special Use permit and the Float Fly Event permit). The reason cited was that the Army Core of Engineers is prohibiting all UAS (unmanned aircraft systems) in the area we fly in. The DEEP does not have the authority to issue licenses on the property without the permission of the ACoE. Rich P has reached out to the ACoE and tried to at least retain the Float Fly permits but they are steadfast. DEEP has mentioned that it may be possible to relocate to another part of the property away from the dam, but it could not be relocated to the boat launch. So where it could be relocated is unknown at this time.
- Rich P. has been in communication with Tolland High School Science department in regards to offering a small "scholarship" whereby the club presents flying lessons and a trainer plane to a promising STEM student. After an initial warm welcome he stated he has reached out several times and received no response.

New Business

- Rich has contacted the AMA and discussed the loss of our flying sites with them. They apparently has had dealings with other clubs flying on Army Core of Engineers property. They has agreed to contact ACoE on our behalf.
- Amid all the bad news Rich P has found a potential flying site in Mansfield on land owned by the Mt Hope Dairy. He has contacted the manager and has received a positive reply. We're hoping this works out for us because as we all know, open land is very scarce in this area. We could potentially have a site away from neighbors and governmental permits.
- Hog Heaven is holding its March Madness sale March 24th. Be sure to tell them that you're a member of NEDs (I mean TCMAC).
- The Polar Bear Fly will be held at Coventry on March 18th at 10am. Weather and field conditions permitting.
- The annual Build Contest will be held at the May meeting.
- The Porta-John service will be removed from Coventry since it can't be service for most of the summer.
- Whitey is back at Vernon Manor nursing home, call, drop by or send him a card.

wdt-003

Bill Tripp
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Place
Stamp
Here

www.FLYNEDSRC.org