



A Monthly Report on the Activities of the Dallas Radio Control Club AMA Charter # 609

JANUARY 2015

(OUR 58TH YEAR)

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 6, 7:30pm

Kleberg/Riley Recreation Center

1515 Edd Road (Off Hwy 175)

Mapsco Grid 69 A-M

Officers

President

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dallasrcclub.org

December 2014 Meeting Minutes

The December meeting was called
To order at 7:30pm.

Old Business
NONE

New Business

Following discussion, it was
agreed that we will have a
Fun-Fly-Swap-Meet on Saturday,
March 28, 2015. Details will follow.

DRCC Officer Elections:

President, Jimmy Davidson asked
the members present if there were
any additional nominations for
club officer positions. Since there
were none, Jimmy called for a
motion.

A motion was made and was
carried by a unanimous vote to
carry the current officers over as
the officers for the 2015 Year.

DUES ARE DUE

**Club dues are due effective
January 1, 2015**

Several members have already
come forward and paid the
\$45.00 by cash or check.

If you have moved, changed
phone numbers or email
addresses, please print yourself a
copy of the short form on the next
page, fill it out and include the
form with your payment.

This will help us keep our
membership records as current as
possible.

**Please read the
Commentary
On the Next Page.**

COMMENTARY

Some of you are aware that about two years ago, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was directed to review all flight and navigation equipment and procedures and to propose legislation that would modernize a system that has been operating using rules and systems originated in the 1920s and 1930s.

The result of this process was a bill called "The FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012"

The bill is a rather long document of about 180 pages. The only reason we modelers are interested in this bill is that while reviewing use of the National Airspace by anything that flies, the FAA included a category of aircraft called Unmanned Air Systems (UAS). This includes everything from Military Drones to model aircraft.

Our radio controlled model aircraft fall into a category called Small Unmanned Air Systems (sUAS). The majority of the Act pertains solely to Man-Carrying Aircraft. The only part that we modelers need to be aware of is called "Section 336 SPECIAL RULES FOR MODEL AIRCRAFT". The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) has invested many hours in recent years working with the FAA in an effort to make sure that the FAA understands that we operate our models as a hobby only.

It is of the utmost importance that all of us, whether in a club or acting as an individual, must observe the safety rules and operating rules set forth by our AMA and by the FAA.

The rules set forth in Section 336 read very much like the AMA Safety Code. A current version of this safety code is printed each month in the AMA Magazine called "MODEL AVIATION" .

There are some details that we modelers need to be aware of:

The modeler must operate his aircraft in a manner that does NOT interfere with any man-carrying aircraft.

The pilot of a model MUST give way to a manned aircraft even if it involves crashing the model to avoid the manned aircraft.

The pilot of a manned aircraft is NOT obligated to be on the lookout for a model. It is the obligation of the pilot of the model to see and avoid a manned aircraft.

Even a near-miss event is not acceptable and is not permitted.

Our flying site is surrounded on three sides by government facilities. In general, we should not overfly any of these properties.

If, for any reason, your model lands or crashes in any of these properties, you will have to contact the landowner to recover your model. We already have a notice from the Environmental Center to or East that we must call and ask permission to recover a model.

These situations are covered documents found on the AMA Web Site:

www.modelaircraft.org .

Click on the topic called "Members & Clubs"

Click on the topic called "AMA Documents"

On this page, you will find document number 105, "THE AMA NATIONAL SAFETY CODE". This is the same as the one in Model Aviation.

Down the List, you will find Document 540-K "SEE & AVOID GUIDANCE". READ THIS AND PRINT A COPY FOR REFERENCE.

You will also find document 500-K "MODEL FLIERS & THEIR NEIGHBORS". READ THIS AND PRINT A COPY FOR REFERENCE.

As a result of our inclusion in the 2012 Reform Act, we now operate in a whole new environment. There are models of all kinds, especially "Drones" or multi-rotor craft that are very popular now. Hobby dealers are advertising multi-rotor machines with cameras that are being bought by people who are not club or AMA affiliated. Their activities come under the new FAA rules even if they don't know it.

It is up to Model Aircraft Pilots to follow the rules and not draw negative attention to ourselves. We are now operating as "Defensive Fliers".

AMA will be looking at all of their published documents during the New Year. The FAA has other activity in the works. There will soon be another "Notice of Proposed Rule Making" that AMA will have to look at.

For the time being, know the safety rules and become familiar with SEE & AVOID" and the "NEIGHBORS" document about trespass.

We hope you have had great Holiday Season. We will look forward to seeing you at the January meeting.

**DALLAS RADIO CONTROL CLUB
AMA CHARTER #609
MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATE FORM TO BE SUBMITTED
WITH PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES**

DATE _____

AMOUNT PAID \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

AMA NUMBER _____ **HOME PHONE** _____

WORK PHONE _____ **CELL PHONE** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

**Meeting Notices, Newsletters & Information Notices
will be sent to this Email Address**

**DALLAS RADIO CONTROL CLUB
AMA CHARTER #609
MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATE FORM TO BE SUBMITTED
WITH PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES**

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