



COCKPIT CORNER – by Brian Sherman, did4ways@aol.com

EARLY EDITION – Late Breaking FAA/AMA News!

Despite the significant outpouring of requests to the FAA, our Congressmen and Senators that the FAA exempt AMA members and their aircraft from the FAA registration regulation in accordance with section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Section 336 prohibits the FAA from promulgating “any rule or regulation regarding a model aircraft, or an aircraft being developed as a model aircraft” if the statutory requirements listed by the bullet points below are met. The FAA has steadfastly refused to comply with 366. Instead choosing to ignore Congress and take the battle to the streets and through the courts.

- the aircraft is flown strictly for hobby or recreational use.
- the aircraft is operated in accordance with a community-based set of safety guidelines and within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization.
- the aircraft is limited to not more than 55 pounds unless otherwise certified through a design, construction, inspection, flight test, and operational safety program administered by a community-based organization.
- the aircraft is operated in a manner that does not interfere with and gives way to any manned aircraft; and
- when flown within 5 miles of an airport, the operator of the aircraft provides the airport operator and the airport air traffic control tower ... with prior notice of the operation....

Although the AMA continues to aggressively advocate on behalf of us all, it has become clear that any resolution will be delayed until after the Feb 19th registration deadline. Accordingly the AMA has advised its members to proceed to register. The reasons to register are at least twofold:

- 1) It protects you against possible civil and federal prosecution.
- 2) AMA clubs are bound by their charters to be in compliance with all rules and regulations. Until and unless the FAA reverses its requirement or the courts invalidate the FAA's requirement it is the law. And in case of the BFMS our park use agreement also requires compliance.

Therefore, as distasteful as it is for me personally and as your club president to do so, it is my responsibility and that of the other club officers to inform all BFMS members and prospective members that they must be registered with the FAA in order to remain or become a member of the BFMS.

After 2/19/2016 no member, prospective member or guest will be allowed to fly at the BFMS field unless he or she possesses a valid FAA ID card. And as a reminder all aircraft are required under AMA rules to have your AMA number affixed to or in the plane per section (f) from the safety code below. If you choose to use your name and address without the AMA number, my understanding is your FAA number must be included.

To ensure that the BFMS is in compliance with this FAA registration members are asked to email their FAA ID number to John Carrigan by 2/19/16. Any member that does not submit his or her FAA ID number will be asked to show a valid FAA ID card before being allowed to fly at the BFMS field. The current application form will be updated to include a field for the FAA ID number.

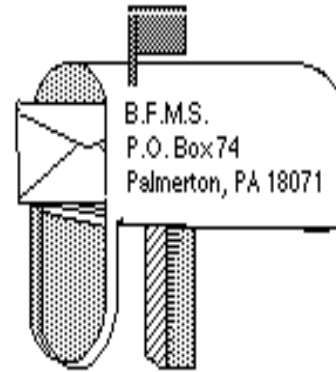
Until next time keep the cockpit up and be safe.

Dues

Time is running out, if you wish to retain your membership in the Beltzville Flying Machine Society, send a check for \$35.00 to Scott Voth at P.O. Box 74, Palmerton, PA 18071. You can also pay in cash by coming to the meeting Saturday, February 13, 2016 at **P.J. Wheelman's Pub at Platz's, 101 Harrity Road, Lehighton, PA 19235. It is located at the Mahoning Valley exit of the PA Turnpike, just across the Pohopoco Creek from Route 209.**

Enclosed with this mailing of the newsletter is a membership renewal form that we kindly ask you to fill out and return with your Dues Payment. It is helpful in keeping our records up to date, and the membership list that we distribute in February, correct. It also has a space for your new FAA Registration Number.

Remember, in order to retain your current membership in the BFMS, dues must be paid prior to January 31, 2016 or at the latest, the next meeting on Saturday, February 13, 2016.



Indoor Winter Flying by Bill Murtoff

I am happy to report that I met with Dustin McAndrews who is the Athletic Director at Jim Thorpe High School (and also who is in charge of Gymnasium use), and he said that he would have no problem with the BFMS using the gym for some indoor winter flying!! The thing that will take a little time to work out is that the gym is used quite heavily and as such we may not be able to get as much time as we want, The way we left it was that I was going to get him a list of dates when we'd like to fly and he'd check his schedule for time availability on those dates.

When we did it in Massachusetts, we had 3 school gyms that we used (not all at once - HA HA), but it "evolved" into us flying every Wed. night from 7-9 P.M. Depending on member preference (and availability) Saturday mornings (or afternoon) might be better, but the first step is to get a "reading" (at next meeting??) of what people would prefer and then I'll give Dustin a list of dates and we'll take it from there.

Dustin also asked about insurance and I told him we are insured by the AMA. I'm not conversant with the details of AMA's policy towards flying at an "alternate site", but I'm sure that we can work out the details on that. On a form that I have to fill out for Gym use, they him ask "can a certificate or insurance be provided?"so it may take some work with the AMA or talking with the AMA to get the details on that.

By the way I really like the You Tube video of the field!!

Any inputs on this would be greatly appreciated.

Editor's Note: Bill sent this e-mail to me, and I thought it too important not to be printed in the Newsletter. It will be on the agenda at the next meeting, right, Brian!

Hats For Sale

Scott Voth is the person to see if you are interested in a new club hat. The cost is \$10.00, the price the club paid to have them produced by Valley Athletic Supply Co. of Lansford.

The two styles were decided upon by the members present at an earlier meeting this Summer.

Get your new hat at the next meeting. If you are like me, it is time for a new one because the old hat is sweat stained, and the “oil needs changing.” Scott now has a few to sell since he picked up the new order.



FAA Registration

PS: Below are links to more information and comments from the AMA and RC Groups forums.

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/files/105.PDF> (AMA Safety Code)

(f) Ensure the aircraft is identified with the name and address **or AMA number** of the owner on the inside or affixed to the outside of the model aircraft.

<http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/> (AMA Government Relations Blog)

<https://t.e2ma.net/click/bwlhh/35buti/7o1d2c> (RC Groups Forum)

Remember to bring a copy of your FAA Registration Number to the next meeting, Please! It will facilitate our record keeping, and help update our membership list, soon to be published.

Comments and suggestions should be directed to
John Carrigan
at
carrj1238@yahoo.com

Next Meeting,
Saturday, February 13, 2016
about
12:00 PM (noon)
at
P.J. Whelihan's Pub
at Platz's
101 Harrity Road
Lehighton, PA 18235

Beltzville Flying Machine Society

2016 Renewal Form

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

AMA Membership Number: _____ Telephone: _____

FAA Registration Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Radio Frequencies Used: _____

Number of years in Modeling: _____ Years in Radio Control: _____

My Favorite Modeling Areas are: (use 1 for first choice, 2 for second choice, etc.)

Radio Control Aircraft _____ Helicopter _____ Cars _____ Boats _____

Control-line Aircraft _____ Freeflight _____ Hand-Launch Gliders _____

If you are a Junior Applicant, Please have your sponsor sign here:

_____ AMA Number _____

If you are applying for Family Membership, Please list the names of those to be included.

1. _____ AMA Number _____

2. _____ AMA Number _____

3. _____ AMA Number _____

Please Sign Here _____ Date _____

Please complete this form and submit with your dues.