

President:  
Mike Casey

Vice President:  
Vinny Caratozzolo

Treasurer:  
Envall Morgan

Corresponding Secretary:  
Dr. Sam Masyr

Recording Secretary:  
Ron Perine

Field Safety Officer:  
Carmen Ciccone

Asst. Field Safety Officer:  
Villi Ferreira

Asst. Field Safety Officer:  
Joe Scimeca

Sgt. @ Arms:  
Carl Cultraro

Sgt. @ Arms:  
Raymond Gallo

Field Maintenance Chief:  
Howard Jackson

Webmaster:  
Scott Schultz

Club Website:  
[www.flyparcs.com](http://www.flyparcs.com)

Field Telephone:  
718-951-8327

News Letter Editor:  
Ton Franken

# Antenna

December 2009 Edition 12



Pennsylvania Avenue Radio Control Society

## Letter from the President

Members:

Happy Holidays to all and your families and may this holiday season bring you happiness and joy.

I hope to see you at the Holiday party as this will also be also our December general meeting. However, in order to stay within the Holiday Spirit no club business will be discussed so we can enjoy each others company while sharing a nice Holiday meal.

Please try to attend the January general meeting as your 2010 budget will be discussed and voted on.

For up to date information on PARCS please visit the website [www.flyparcs.com](http://www.flyparcs.com) or call the field phone 1-718-951-8327.

I am looking forward to see some new airplanes next flying season so I hope all of you are busy beavers building away this winter season, I know Mel is.

As always please watch those hands and props. Happy Holidays.

*Mike Casey*

## Holiday Party

PARCS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 12 at 6 P.M.

**Although fully booked, now more seats are available**

See Vinnie, Envall or Benny for more information.

\$20 per person includes Food and Drink (Beer, Wine and Soda)

Location: Prima Pasta - 161-50B Cross Bav Blvd. Howard Beach. NY.

## 2010 Club donation

	Received before January 31, 2010	Received after April 30, 2010
General Members	\$ 70	\$ 90
Senior Members (Age 62 or older)	\$ 40	\$ 40
Junior Members (under 18 years of age)	\$ 25	\$ 25
New Members (incl. initiation contribution)	\$ 145	\$ 145

Send your check, a copy of your 2010 AMA Card and a self addressed envelope to:  
PARCS c/o Envall Morgan, 1098 East 73rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234, Phone: (718) 968-9731

To help us update the club roster please also include your phone number and e-mail address

# Club Meeting

There will be NO general meeting for the month of December. The next general meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00PM in the Bowling Center at Ft. Hamilton Army Station in Bay Ridge Brooklyn.

**At this meeting the Budget for the 2010 calendar year will be voted on.**

Additional information of meeting place: The main entrance of the Army Station is at the corner of Ft. Hamilton Parkway and 101st Street. After going through the main entrance, make a left at the 2nd stop sign onto Wainwright Drive. Then make the 1st left into the parking lot (Address of Bowling Center: 124 Wainwright Drive). You will NOT be allowed onto the base unless you are a CURRENT PARCS member. Base security has a copy of the current roster. Please have your driver's license available for security. They might also ask for your membership card and/or your car registration and insurance.

## **MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** November 10, 2009

Treasurers Report - Opening balance in October 2009 was \$13,978.17; expenses were \$807.73, including money for club picnic, message board equipment at field, cement payment, portapotties, etc.; income was \$ 645 from dues and sale of a t-shirt; leaves a closing balance of \$13, 804.58. This does not include \$1000 allocated for this year's party. Receipts are available to review for anyone interested. This year there are 209 paid members (compared to 223 last year), one member is an honorary (non-paying) member, while roughly another 24 are non-paying members; so total membership is 234 in all. Voted, seconded and accepted; see monthly report for further details.

Field Safety Officer Report - Radios to be kept in the compound 72 or in cases for 2.4 GHz communication. Attempt to find a remedy for extreme ends of fields as when jets come in, there is a communication problem with spotters. Maybe fix this by using five center (numbered 1-5) fields so people can hear what spotter is saying as now people can't hear what's going on. Make sure 40-60 size planes have a spotter who is aware of who is going up and who is coming down and that this information is relayed as clearly as possible to others. Voted, seconded and accepted.

Field Maintenance Report - A special thank you was made to Ralph D' Ambro, Merrit Carlucci, Ray Gallow, Larry Johnson, who spend time and effort to keep field clean. Replacement of wind sox to be ordered, Howard to climb up and get diameter of wind sox and order for two to be placed; cost about \$50-\$60 each, but they last a full season out in the elements. Motion accepted.

Newsletter Editors Report - Special acknowledgement of Ton doing a great job on newsletter; newsletter will have information about what's going on with the club, good way to stay current; Ton will also post photos and for sale items; letter is on the web, sent by e-mail and sent by snail mail, so if it's not received, send your address to Ton for checking and updating the distribution list. Include minutes of meeting in newsletter in future?

Web Master Report - Web is to contain information useful for members, by members (photos, events, for-sale items, etc.); information to be sent to the web master for approval and upload. Club membership itself, newsletter, website, field co and club secretary are sources of club information for those without a computer; for things like meeting

times/changes/cancellations, events, etc., the phone will have a tape with updates; possibility of setting up a members page which members can access using a password and upload information, photos, for sale, etc., anything inappropriate will be deleted; this members page is expected to be up and running this winter; photos are needed -- please take pix and send along for site use.

Holiday Party Committee - Benny overseeing; will be on December 12, \$20.00 per person (including guests) for a sit-down dinner held at Prima Pasta on Cross Bay Blvd.; at least 35 people are needed to attend. Contact Benny, Sam or Envall for details. Club is putting \$1000+ toward the cost of the party; currently 15 people are planning on attending.

Old Business - Carried over from October meeting. Nominations for office for 2010 were made with no opposition to proposed nominees. Sam submitted bylaw changes which need to be voted on. Discussion about absentee ballots, proxy notices, and the timing of sending them out to the membership prior to the general meeting under the by-laws was read out. Voting on these nominations at this meeting would be in breach of the bylaws as many members were disenfranchised from voting or attending this meeting due to the late send outs about this meeting. Voting changed to in-house voting vs. ballots, but never updated in the bylaws? Bylaw amendment never enacted? 9.1.1. Bylaw procedure correct? Absentee ballot not mailed for Nov. 2009 meeting - discussion followed, #8.1.4, voting by secret ballot, also discussed. Voting on proposed bylaw changes was put to meeting attendees, agreed to proceed at this meeting, 36 members agreed that voting at this AGM could continue.

Proposal #1 - Section 4.2 Donations 4.2.3 - remove the provisions for early payment discounts; this will not apply to seniors and juniors, their schedules will remain unchanged; motion passed with 26 yes votes, (a 2/3 majority) bylaw is passed; general/open members pay \$70, senior members (65+) pay \$40, junior members pay \$25; Proposal #2 - Section 4.5 New member fees 4.5.1 - remove provision for \$ 20 discount for new members joining prior to Oct. 31; new members pay \$145; motion passed with 23+ votes;

Proposal #3 - All new members must attend a meeting to join our club; motion passed with 23+ votes;

Proposal #4 - New members are admitted to the club based on a one year probation period (increased from current six

month probationary period and adding a service element) during which you are required to offer your services for at least two club functions (picnic, end of year party, field cleanup, etc.); motion passed with 23+ votes.

General discussion:

Clarify situation regarding conflicting bylaws, to be done as soon as possible; review and changes to be incorporated by February 2010 meeting; suggestion made to lower senior age to 62 instead of 65;

Benny regarding Christmas party - door prizes to be offered at party?; 2 prizes of \$300 each cash; discussion about can club afford to do this based on budget? \$1680 extra in budget could be allocated for this (plus using \$1000+ toward Christmas party); If these expenses are used, it leaves a balance of \$86 extra money; motion denied by count of 12 yes, 35 no votes. Regarding budget for year, expenses spent to date, expenses still to be paid by end of year, etc.

No fly zone over the flying field: Red circle is now to be a 30 mile radius to avoid being closed down; 9 am start time

not 7 am due to environmental reasons, among others; problems, call Gateway first to correct situation, not Park Police.

Paving the field - bad surfaces to be fixed by DOT; South end of runway to be graded with blacktop; by impound, blacktop to be used to remove water buildup;

Mural to be done next year using regular house paint as cost-saving measure;

Conclusion:

\$ 86 was collected at tonight's meeting, 50/50 was \$53; last 3 numbers of 605 was called out as winning number;

No December meeting; Happy Holidays to all! Next meeting in January 2010 with hopes for a better year.

All business was concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

By Kevin Harvey (Recording Secretary)



## AIR SHOWITIS – A potentially Dangerous Affliction

Definition: You feel that you must out perform the pilot and plane that preceded you so that you receive more applause and adulation from the spectators. Therefore, you push the model past previously tested speeds and "G" forces in unpracticed maneuvers.

Discussion: Some famous pilots are often as guilty as those who want to become famous. The spectators that you are trying to impress have no idea that they are being exposed to a possible disaster. They are ignorant of the absolute limits of the machine and what could happen if a structural or electrical failure occurs. They brought their kids to be entertained, not unknowingly threatened.



Disaster happens occasionally in full scale air shows even though pilot proficiency and airframe integrity are closely regulated. During the past several years, I have seen multiple near disasters involving Model Airplanes that suffered at the hands of pilots afflicted with "Air Showitis". So far, we have been fortunate. Common sense and responsibility should dictate that a show pilot practice his routine in the absence of spectators. Equipping the model with Telemetry devices will give the pilot real information about the model and its limitations. With this knowledge, he can perform responsibly within the known limits and not pose a risk to innocent bystanders. After all, spectators can't recognize a 10-20 mph increase or an extra 2 G's, yet just those extras could be the infamous "straw".

We have been lucky so far, but it would be folly to keep depending on just luck. If professionalism is practiced, it will be recognized and appreciated.

Provided by Vice President  
*Vinny Caratozzolo*

# Safety Corner

## Pilot Spotter's Responsibility

by Bob Ackerman (From Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association)

While at the field recently I was asked, "What does a pilot spotter do?" I quickly told him, "spot for the pilot." I thought about my response for a few minutes and I realized that was not a good answer. Do you know what the responsibility of the pilot spotter is? I asked a few pilots and I got the same answer from most, "spot for the pilot." So, what does that mean?

The pilot spotter, or just spotter, is a safety person for the pilot. The pilot and spotter should be a team working together for the safety of the pilot, the spotter, the aircraft, and all parties at or near the field.

Whereas the pilot has the responsibility of flying his/her aircraft in a safe manner, the spotter has many other responsibilities, which include:

- Relay messages from the flight line and safety personnel to the pilot about landing aircraft, aircraft emergencies, or dead-stick landings by other aircraft on the field, and other information important to the pilot flying the aircraft. The pilot may be concentrating on the aircraft in flight and may not hear or pay attention to background messages on the field.
- Relay messages from the pilot to the flight line and/or safety personnel about the pilot's landing, emergency, or dead-stick landings, and other information that needs to be passed from the pilot to others.
- Be the eyes of the pilot away from the aircraft. Watch the flight line and inform your pilot of aircraft taxiing in front of the pilot, people on the runway line, obstacles on the ground if the pilot walks around while flying, or other safety issues that your pilot should be aware of.
- Watch the other aircraft in flight and inform your pilot of aircraft that may cross the flight path of his or her aircraft. Changes in pattern direction or aircraft in different flight types (aerobatic vs. pattern flight) crossing your pilot's flight path should be reported.
- Keep the pilot advised of the type of aircraft that are being started for flight. Some pilots may be flying the pattern and if a 3-D aerobatic aircraft is getting ready to fly, the pilot may decide to fly at a different altitude or land the aircraft.
- Minimize the distractions to the pilot in flight. The spotter is the eyes and ears for the pilot. Anything that could distract the attention of the pilot should be explained so that the pilot can keep his/her eyes on the aircraft and not look at the distraction.
- A pilot spotter may also assist the pilot at contests, such as a pattern contest, by providing information to the pilot about the next maneuver at key points of the flight.



This is not a complete list of responsibilities that the spotter has. Some pilots will have specific instructions for their spotters as to what to do, what to watch for, and what to explain. Each pilot and spotter should discuss these responsibilities before each flight.

Every field has different rules for the use of a pilot spotter during flight operations. Most fields do not require a spotter when no organized event is scheduled, or the number of pilots flying is low. Other fields require a spotter on all flight activities. Most fields require the use of a pilot spotter during all scheduled events. Do check with your club or field rules about the use of a spotter.

The ultimate purpose of a pilot spotter is to increase safety for all. So be a good spotter and help keep our field, and our pilots, safe. →