

THE FLYER



Prince George's Radio Control Club, Inc.

AMA Club #334

December 2024



**Merry
Christmas
and Happy
New Year
from your
friends at
PGRC**

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our traditional celebratory holiday membership meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 December at 7:00 PM at the club house. As in the past, we will provide hot dogs, snacks, and sodas at the meeting.

YOUR DUES ARE DUE. Dues for the 2025 season are due no later than the January 2025 membership meeting. We will happily accept them at the December meeting.

NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP.

Board Elections. Dave Robertson was the only candidate not an incumbent, so he was asked to introduce himself to the members. He indicated that he is currently a member of three clubs and that PGRC has the nicest field, is the most inviting and welcoming to new members, and has no cliques. Incumbents Paul Christian, Alan Goodman, and Derrick Schreiner were re-elected. Dave Robertson beat Chuck Russell in the voting. Congrats to Paul, Alan, Derrick and

THE FLYER is published to provide information of interest to the members and friends of PGRC. Any opinions expressed are those of the Editor and not necessarily those of the Board.

C. Gettier, Editor

PGRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Baker (President / Treasurer)	(301) 352-4580
Charlie Gettier (Vice President)	(410) 991-3178
Alan Goodman (Secretary)	(301) 509-8589
Dave Robertson (Safety Officer)	(202) 321-6416
Bob Gensler	(410) 353-1570
Rick Moreland	(301) 261-7366
Mark Kikta	(410) 867-9630
Alwin Alleyne	(301) 324-7177
Derrick Schreiner	(301) 868-1075
Tim LaNore	(410) 799-2661
Paul (Pop) Christian	(301) 272-5453

PGRC DUES SCHEDULE

Initial Assessment (New First-Time Members)	\$125
Annual Dues (General)	\$75
Annual Dues (Junior)	\$10
Annual Dues (Family)	\$85

Annual dues for current members are considered late if paid after the January general membership meeting. A \$25 late fee will be assessed. New members joining after July 31 pay half the annual dues for the remainder of the year.

Dues can be paid via cash or check at a meeting, or mailed to:

Steve Baker
12215 Malin Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

Be sure to include your address, phone number, and AMA number if paid by check. Checks must be made out to **PGRC**. You must be an active AMA member to fly at the field.

DIRECTIONS TO PGRC FIELD

(South of Bowie, MD) Take US Rt. 301 south approx. 3 miles south of Rt. 214. Turn east on Swanson Rd. and follow the signs. Address: 17230 Swanson Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

RUNWAY COORDINATES

38°51'03"N 76°41'59"W

PGRC'S WEB SITE

Visit with PGRC on the Internet:
<http://www.pgrclub.com/>

Dave; and thanks to Chuck for his service on the Board.

2025 Event CDs. Our perennial event CDs for the Open House, Electric Fly-In, Big Bird / War Bird Fly-In need to be relieved after years, and in some instances decades, in this role. If nobody steps forward, these events will not happen in 2025 and we will likely have to raise dues. Folks who have run these events in the past (Rick, Bob, Alan, Charlie, Steve, Harold) would be happy to pass on their knowledge and lessons learned. Please step up.

Pylon Race Prep. Steve reported that the person from whom we purchased the automated scoring equipment will be visiting a week prior to the race next spring to instruct our course workers on its operation.

IMAC Aerobatics Contest. Alan indicated that a regional IMAC coordinator, Steve Bakke, has inquired concerning PGRC possibly hosting an IMAC event in 2025. We will gather additional information from Mr. Bakke.

AMA News. Rick reported that AMA Executive Director Chad Budreau has departed for another job, and that Tyler Dobbs (the Government Affairs Director i.e., prime coordinator with FAA) has been named the Interim Executive Director.

Treasury, etc. Steve reported \$18,960 in the Treasury, and 144 current members.

Raffle and 50-50. Charlie Gettier won a gallon of glow fuel in the raffle. George Marenka won \$87.50 in the 50-50 drawing.

WELCOME MESSAGE. Rick Moreland, with help from Alan Goodman, prepared a welcome message for our new members to introduce them to the Club. A copy of the message will be provided to new members starting in 2025. It is included below for everyone, especially those joining in 2024.

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING RECAP.

Safety Officer. New Board member Dave Robertson agreed to serve as Safety Officer.

Certificate of Deposit. It was suggested that we purchase a small bank CD out of treasury funds each year to generate additional income. Steve will investigate.

Additional IMAC Info. Alan stated that regional IMAC operatives would CD the proposed event and provide judges. PGRC would likely get a cut of the entrance fees and would benefit from Kiosk operations. A mid-July contest date is likely. Stay tuned.

Runway Maintenance. We discussed filling cracks in the runway and then re-surfacing it with asphalt sometime in 2025. During the winter and early spring, we will be identifying contractors and getting cost estimates.

2025 PGRC and Area Club Events Schedule – Tentative		
Date	Event	POC / CD
March 16	Spring Clean-Up Day	Charlie Gettier
March 29	Spring Swap Shop and Breakfast	Alan Goodman
April 19	Opening Day (DCRC)	
May 3, 4	Q-40 Pylon Race	Steve Baker
May 10	Open House Fly-In	To be determined
May 11	Memorial Day Warbirds (Free State)	
May 17	Warbirds Over Boyds (DCRC)	
June 14-15	Jet Fest	To be determined
June 21	Andy Kane Fly-In (DCRC)	
June 28	Planes of the World (Free State)	
August 9	Dog Days Fly-In (DCRC)	
August 30	Electric Fly-In	To be determined
September 5-7	Bealeton Fly-In (DCRC)	
September 20, 21	Big Bird / War Bird Fly-In	To be determined
October 4	Club Picnic	To be determined
November 1	Fall Swap Shop and Breakfast	Alan Goodman
November 8	Fall Clean-Up Day	Charlie Gettier

Welcome to PGRC

by Rick Moreland

A little history and how things work

Prince Georges Radio Control Club all started in 1963 with 15 members. We have been at 4 locations since that time, all of which have been within 4 miles of one another. We moved to our current, and hopefully last, home on Swanson Rd. in 1995. When we arrived, the property was owned by the City of Bowie, and then sold several years later to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). PGRC has a lease agreement with M-NCPPC which covers the flying site and club house. We have averaged between 140 to 160 members each year, over the past several years.

Initial assessment

Why the assessment? Since the club was formed, we have received no money from local or state entities. All site improvements we have made at both past and present locations have been paid for by PGRC members. At our current location we started with nothing. It was a corn field with no access road. To secure a lease for the property, we had to agree to build the road and prepare the entire site on our own. The lease for the house requires us to maintain the property so it is safe for meetings and storage.

So, that road you just drove on, that paved runway you just took off from, that nice smooth grass you taxied out on were all paid for by past PGRC members. When you pay the one-time assessment fee, you are buying into what all our members before you have paid for over the years.

Annual dues

As you can imagine, we have many expenses. Our maintenance equipment: two zero-turn Hustler 60" commercial mowers, trim mower, weed whackers, limb saw, International 504 tractor, and John Deere Gator are required for weekly grass cutting, bushhogging, and other chores. Plus, there's gas, oil, and spare parts to keep them running. This year alone, we spent close to \$5,000 for road maintenance; and let's not forget the monthly electric and field toilet bills. Dues are payable by our January club meeting. After that date there is a \$25 late fee.

Who runs the club (the day-to-day stuff)?

PGRC's day to day operations are run by an 11-member board of directors elected by the general membership. Every year we have elections for 3 or 4 board members. A board member's term is 3 years. Anyone can submit their name for one of these positions. We have a board meeting the first Tuesday of the month and a general membership meeting on the third Tuesday of the month. Any member can attend both meetings.

PGRC Constitution and Bylaws

Our Constitution and Bylaws is available at the PGRC website (www.pgrclub.com). FYI, the only way bylaws can be changed is by a vote of the general membership. The board can institute changes at any time but we need to notify the general membership of the proposed changes 30 days in advance. The proposed changes are voted on at the next general membership meeting. I think we have had maybe one or two requests for changes in the past 10 years.

Getting Started

We require all our members to join the Academy of Model Aeronautics (www.modelaircraft.org). Besides providing information about the hobby and maintaining a relationship with the FAA, the AMA provides required personal liability insurance for our members.

For our new fliers, PGRC offers a great flight training program available for both young and old. Weather permitting, every Tuesday afternoon/evening during the flying season, we have RC instructors on site. You don't need a thing to get started, just show up. We have club trainer planes and radios available to help you learn the basics of RC flying. When you are ready to take the next step, we can provide recommendations regarding what equipment (aircraft, radio, field equipment) to purchase.

We have one of the best clubs in the area. We welcome all to enjoy the experience of model aviation. Just follow some simple rules concerning safety, meet some new friends, and welcome to PGRC.

The Flyer
PGRC, Inc.
c/o Charlie Gettler
190 Old River Rd.
Arnold, MD 21012



NMPRA
District 6

