

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

January, 2023



A detail from John Weigel's beautiful Olympic-II inspired scratch build for Dick Williamson in 2022.
What's on your building bench this winter?



January Meeting:

Wednesday, January 18th, 7:30PM

In Person at

Goodnow Library, Sudbury

President's Message

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! I wish you plenty of calm air, blue skies, and stick time in 2023.

This month, your BoD is going to begin working with the AMA and our District 1 leadership to provide the necessary information to establish our three flying sites (Davis Field, School Street Field, and Bill Martin Field) as FAA Recognized Identification Areas (FRIAs) so that we'll be able to continue flying there without Remote ID once those rules come into effect. The deadline for FRIA applications will be no sooner than September 2023, but AMA is getting a good lead on the necessary paperwork.

We've also been involved in several meetings with the town of Acton's Recreation Committee regarding our attempts to secure time at School Street Field during the cricket season. Although we have been approved for a good number of days, the cricket league was asking to reserve every weekend day of the flying season.. Two of our Acton residents, Adam Smith and John Epling, and Jimi Two Feathers, our Safety Coordinator, have been staunchly advocating for a sane allocation of the School Street Field resource among all members of the community – not only CRRC, but also the rocket club, the Scouts, the Lion's Club, and even dog walkers. I feel hopeful since the Acton Board of Recreation seems to generally agree with our opinion that no single group should be able to completely monopolize the use of this resource to the detriment of others. *[Editor's note - the reservation has finalized since this was written, see the article herein by Jimi Two Feathers.]*

This month's club meeting includes a speaker, for the first time in a very long time. We are happy to hear from Jack Buckley, a local AMA member and part of the leadership of the Crow Island Radio Control. He's a multi-award winning expert scale modeler. **Please be sure to attend our January club** meeting at Goodnow Library on Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30pm.

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, CRRC President



December Meeting Notes

21 Dec 2022 / 7:30 PM

ATTENDEES

In person meeting at Goodnow Library (Zoom also), quorum not met.

AGENDA

Business commenced 7:45 pm

Last Meeting Follow-up

- None.

Business / Discussion

- Treasurer Report
 - No report
- Membership Report
 - No report
 - Remember membership discount now through March 1st
- Safety Report
 - No report
- Field Report:
 - Davis, muddy
 - School St, cricket season over
 - Medfield, no report
- Old Business:
 - Adam summarized status of negotiation with cricket folks and town officials
 - More to come after Jan meeting with Rec Commission
- New Business:
 - Frozen Finger Fun Fly on January 1st!
- Business closed at 8:05 pm

- Roger Silva, Recording Secretary

Meeting Raffles

December

The December meeting was a bit lightly attended, so chances of taking home a prize were high!

- Sam Sparks landed a UMX Habu EDF Bind-and-Fly kit
- Mike Kolk snapped up the mini HD camera
- Roger Silva secured some Loctite



Remember that newsletter contributors get a free ticket to a future raffle. Everyone at the monthly meeting with their CRRC membership card also gets a free ticket - and another if you bring a show-and-tell!

January

January prizes look exciting, including an Eflite BNF kit for the fun **UMX Habu ducted-fan micro**, a small **indoor heli model** with IR controller by Syrna, and an LED **Servo Tester** by GT Power.

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January Meeting - Wednesday 1/18

Our next general meeting is scheduled to be ***in-person at Goodnow Library, Sudbury on Wednesday, January 18th, at 7:30PM***. A show-and-tell and/or your current membership card each earn a free raffle ticket.

After what seems like years - it has been? - we'll have a guest speaker! Award-winning scale RC modeler **Jack Buckley** has been US National FAI Scale champion multiple times and competed at World Scale Championships. We're glad to welcome Jack back to speak about his broad RC experience!

Club meetings are open to the public, we welcome visitors and guests to learn about model aviation and CRRC!

Field Notes - School Street / Acton

The end of December we had a lot of flying in after Christmas. We had good weather for several days as long as the sun was up. Frequent flyers were Jimi T, John E, John W, and a new pilot also named Jim from Waltham who is joining the club.

I always come out after XMas especially if the weather is good. There are always new people out with their new stuff and mostly beginners. Both Johns on different days got to buddy box new pilots - one who was only 7, with his mom. They came out with a small cheap plane, a very little P51 with motors on each wing! Yaw was controlled by differential thrust - no rudder no ailerons, pitch was throttle! and I could not fly it either! They came back the next day with a UMX Sport Cub! Then John gave him a lesson on his buddy box flying his Sensei, you should have seen the look on the kid's face!

I must have given out 6 or 7 cards to new potential members.

- Jimi Two Feathers

Frozen Finger Fun Fly - 1/1/2023

The annual event to kick off the New Year in flight was greeted with pleasant enough conditions for socializing, though it rapidly got a bit gusty for some forms of flying. Here are some notes I shared on the new Discord server..

*Re: FFFF on the 1st, I was at Davis from ~9:30 until past noon. I would guess a dozen or more CRRC'ers over that time - maybe 15. Not a huge amount of flying, given windy/gusty condition, but it was a pretty and comfortable day to be out. Jake flew a couple of planes (or anyway **launched** a couple and **flew** at least one ;)), Dan had at least one wing up for a few flights, Dave W had a new-Radian up for a try or two, Malik flew a Timber and something else. Scott R put a couple packs through an FPV quad. I'm probably forgetting someone, and several others came to chat but didn't fly or I missed them.*

I maiden'd my new quad - straight into a bush on the first FPV flight :) - and flew a micro-Radian in one of the less gusty periods for the sake of saying I'd had a fixed-wing up.

There were lots of dogs in waves, including one who made off with a donut before we could establish a defensive perimeter. Also at least one family with a new mini-drone (didn't chat), and a nice non-member with a Draco who spent a lot of time setting up but then had some issue and didn't fly. And a guy with a DJI Mavic who talked to the quad crew for a bit about a video stutter issue he was having.

The quad which I mentioned has since been repaired - no damage from the bush incident, but on a subsequent flight one of the motors detached as I hadn't thread-locked the slightly-too-short motor screws before "just a test flight". A timely reminder **not to forget your post-build and pre-flight checklists!**

- Adam Smith



Photo by John Eppling - early attendees at FFFF 2023

Reserving School Street Fields 2023

We have secured/rented the School Street field in Acton for the 2023 Flying season! We got 54 days starting April 1st though October 25th. They are all Wednesdays and Saturdays - but there are exceptions listed below. We hope to republish the dates each month in the newsletter.

We want to thank the pilots, both club members and non members, who helped put up the funds to make this possible.

They are: Alex Silva, Alexander and Victor Kabaev, Dave Sheppard, Jimi Two Feathers, John Eppling, John Warner, Mark Waiting, Sai Revel, Thomas DeWeese, and Will Bartlett.

I am talking with the Boy Scouts to setup a Virtual Flight setup in the field on their weekend April 12 through 15th. We paid for a few more days than we are getting but Melissa and I agreed to move those funds to 2024.

Dates we have for 2023:

Apr 1 5 8 **12 15** 19 22 26 29

May: 3 6 10 13 17 20 24 **27 31**

June: 3 7 **10** 14 17 **21 24** 28

Jul: 1 5 8 12 **15** 19 22 26 29

Aug: 2 5 9 12 16 19 23 26 30

Sep: 2 6 9 13 16 20 23 27 30

Oct: 4 7 11 14 18 21 25

BLACK Confirmed

BLUE Shared days with CMASS rocket club - flying after 3.30pm*

RED Unconfirmed or not available at this time (see notes, some dates may be altered)

NOTES / EXCEPTIONS

April.....**Wed the 12th to Sat the 15th** the Boy Scouts have the field, no general flying.

May Sat the 27th CMASS rocket club but we can fly after they leave about 3.30pm

June..... Sat the 10th CMASS rocket club, but we can fly after they leave about 3.30pm

June..... **Wed the 21st and Sat the 24th** Lions / Town Fair Dates to be confirmed, but no flying

July.....Sat the 15th CMASS rocket club, but we can fly after they leave about 3.30pm

Aug, Sept, and Oct no conflicts we have all Wednesdays and Saturdays for flying!

- Jimi Two Feathers

FAA Registration

Please remember to visit <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/> to check and renew your FAA registration ID. Also, beware some commercial entities who are claiming to process registrations - often for increased prices. The FAA charges \$5 for a three-year registration, or extension.

Check your registration when you mark each new plane/drone, so you don't forget!

TRUST Test

The FAA has authorized several organizations including the AMA to administer the knowledge and safety test required by congressional action.

You are now required to show proof of passing the test (along with your FAA ID number) to law enforcement or FAA representatives upon request.

The test is free and can't be failed! Take it at:

<https://trust.modelaircraft.org/>

CRRC Membership Renewal

Support CRRC by renewing your annual membership! See the last page, or contact John Eppling (membership@charlesriverrc.org).

You'll get a **\$5 discount off paid memberships before March 1st**. Ages 75 and over, and under 19, are free for CRRC membership (AMA membership required to fly at fields/events, and free for juniors). Sixty-and-over receive a \$10 discount. Donations to the club are always welcome.

Be ready for 2023 by renewing early! Make sure you have a current card to bring to in-person meetings (and raffles)!

Club Information

Officers - 2023

President

Mike Whidden
[president at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:president@charlesriverrc.org)

Vice President

Dan Sullivan
[vicepresident at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:vicepresident@charlesriverrc.org)

Treasurer

Dave Marshall
[treasurer at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:treasurer@charlesriverrc.org)

Membership Secretary

John Epling
[membership at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:membership@charlesriverrc.org)

Recording Secretary

Roger Silva
[secretary at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:secretary@charlesriverrc.org)

Webmaster

Shawn Silva
[webmaster at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:webmaster@charlesriverrc.org)

Newsletter Editor

Adam Smith
[newsletter at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:newsletter@charlesriverrc.org)

Chief Instructor

Dick Williamson
[chiefinstructor at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:chiefinstructor@charlesriverrc.org)

Safety Coordinator

Jimi Two Feathers
[safety at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:safety@charlesriverrc.org)

Raffle Chairman

Scott Ritter
[exofficio at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:exofficio@charlesriverrc.org)

Instruction

To inquire about instruction please call the Chief Instructor, Dick Williamson.

Types of instruction

B = Building
 G = Glider
 E = Electric
 F = Fuel
 H = Helicopter
 Q = Quadcopter/
 Multirotor

Dick Williamson - B,G,E
 Sudbury - 978-618-5475

David Spielman - B,E
 dspielma (at) gmail.com

John Weigel - B
 Natick - 508-655-2138

Richard Gammon - B,G,E,F
 West Boylston -
 508-835-2049

Ken Antonellis - G,E,F
 Natick - 508-653-8369

Lincoln Ross - G,E
 Waltham - 781-891-0332

Dave Walter - G
 Hudson - 978-562-5400

Jon Leehey - F
 Wayland - 508-358-5721

Tony Davids - H
 Stow - 978-568-9598

Scott Ritter - Q
 Sudbury - 978-443-2373

General Info

Flying Sites

Go to charlesriverrc.org and select the Flying Sites tab to see the various sites. CRRC reserves time seasonally on Davis Field in Sudbury, and shares Bill Martin Field in Medfield with the MMAC.

Keys to the

Bill Martin Field

To get a key for Bill Martin Field in Medfield please email Ken Antonellis at kxa@verizon.net. Ken is the key-master. The key for the 2021 season is key #15. Ken may have keys at the meeting. A \$5 deposit is required the first time you receive a key.

Tree Climbers

Tom Hurney
 508-272-7489

Scott (Sudbury)
 508-203-3845

Stephen Canessa
 The Tree Guy
 978-460-1000

Hartney Greymont (Medfield)
 Sean Comer
 781-444-1227
thescomer@gmail.com

Membership Application - 2023

Name					
Street					
Town		State		Zip	
Telephone			Email		
AMA No.			Birth Date		
I agree: []	Club membership and activities are bound by the CRRC handbook, available at: http://charlesriverrc.org/newsite/Documents/CRRC%20Handbook%202020.pdf				

IMPORTANT: You must be an Academy of Model Aeronautics member to join CRRC.
AMA Junior membership is free! <http://www.modelaircraft.org/membership/youth.aspx>
 By submitting this membership application you agree to comply with the AMA safety code,
 including documents 550 and 560 found at: www.modelaircraft.org/documents.aspx

To receive a membership card, bring this application to a club meeting or
 mail to the membership secretary:

John Epling
Membership Secretary CRRC
43 Nylander, Acton, MA 01720
membership@charlesriverrc.org

You may pay by check or use PayPal.

Make **checks** to **Charles River RC**, or send **PayPal** to the email above.

Member category	Before March 1, 2023	After March 1, 2023
OPEN Member	\$60	\$65
SENIOR member If age 60 before July 1st	\$50	\$55
SENIOR member If age 75 before July 1st	Free if AMA member (Voluntary donation appreciated - e.g. \$50)	Free if AMA member (Voluntary donation appreciated - e.g. \$50)
JUNIOR Member Under 19 before July 1st	(Voluntary donation appreciated)	(Voluntary donation appreciated)
NON-FLYING member If age 75 before July 1st		
Full time STUDENT	\$40	\$45
Family member additional to OPEN membership		
Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)	Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc	