



## President's Message

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Dear Members,

I was happy to see a pretty good turnout for our February club meeting. Our guest speaker Zach of Tail Heavy Productions gave a wonderful presentation on novel ways to encourage people in our model aviation hobby, and even had a few ideas for us to improve our meeting attendance!



We learned that the town of Acton has decided to force our club to share our Saturday field reservations at the School Street field with the cricket club.

They will hold the field until 1pm, and we can (and should!) fly beginning at 2pm on Saturdays.

Please be sure to attend our March club meeting at Goodnow Library on Tuesday, March 14 at 7:30pm.

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, CRRC President



*Thanks to Zach from Tail Heavy Productions for presenting at the February 2023 members' meeting!*

## Meeting Raffles

### February

Several great prizes went home with February winners:

- \* John Horcher - Horizon Hobby UMX J-3 Cub (Bind-and-Fly Basic kit)
- \* John Epling - metal carry-case (branded for a Blade helicopter, but modifiable for other uses)
- \* Burt Cohen - Dubro hinge tape



### March

Meeting attendees in March will have a chance at an ever-popular UMX Radian BNF kit. Additional prizes are still be settled, but rumors include some always-useful building supplies. Don't miss out!



As always, your member's badge and/or show-and-tell each earn a free raffle ticket - so does a submission of content for this Newsletter. *Thanks to Ned Watts for sharing an interesting article this month!*

### February Show-and-Tells

At the February meeting Dan Ross showed a pretty "Daddy-O" model built from plans and covered in AeroLITE - see also the "cover" image this month. Jimi Two Feathers showed his UMX Timber X, a miniature STOL beast with surprising 3S power!





## March Meeting - TUESDAY 3/14

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Our next general meeting is scheduled to be ***in-person at Goodnow Library, Sudbury*** on **TUESDAY, March 14th, at 7:30PM**. After club business, we'll have member show-and-tells as well as a raffle.

We don't have an outside speaker lined up this month, so think about bringing a show-and-tell or story to share...

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

## How Much Do You Know About ESCs?

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Ned Watts found and shared the following recommendation for all of us interested in how our equipment really works - in this case ESCs.

*Here is a link to a good article on electronic speed controls. There are two tips towards the end of the article that might save someone a crash. New ESCs that come with pre-tinned ends are likely coated with a totally tin solder. Just getting it up to tin/lead temperature when you solder on connectors may not get the job done. Also, if you use an undersize ESC because you "almost never use full throttle", your ESC may experience an early demise, for reasons fully set out in the article. Finally, if you have to lengthen leads, always lengthen the leads between motor and ESC, as this is alternating current, which travels distances better than DC.*

Check out the full article, downloadable from Lucien Miller / Innov8tive Designs as a PDF:

<https://innov8tivedesigns.com/downloads/Brushless-Speed-Controllers.pdf>

## Update on School Street Field - 2023

As Mike mentioned in his President's report, the Acton Department of Recreation rather surprised us by updating the approved schedule to rent the field. While I won't re-hash the full discussion, the end result is that we'll be splitting Saturdays with the cricket teams (in addition to having Wednesdays fully reserved). So, our Saturday reservations will begin at 2PM, while cricket while have use of the fields Saturday mornings until 1PM (giving some buffer time between).

As a reminder, the reservation for 2023 was pursued by a group of interested flyers putting up their own money and time. Many thanks to those members! The reserved time has been effectively "donated" to CRRC for the use of all members, and the club has tried to help in discussions with the Town & Recreation Department, as well listing the flying site to benefit from our AMA insurance (as, in fact, we've done for several years without an official reservation) and potential FRIA reservation (affecting future years).

There is an ongoing discussion which may result in trading some half-days between April and October, with the idea that we might give up some (potentially windy) April afternoons in exchange for getting full days in October (after cricket finishes their main season). Stay tuned, updates will be provided on the [crrc.groups.io](http://crrc.groups.io) web/ mailing list, on the website, and in future newsletters.

### School Street Dates 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. *All April dates subject to confirmation - see above*  
 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 Saturday afternoons for flying!

## FAA Registration

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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 miss a renewal!**

## TRUST Test

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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

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Support CRRC by renewing your annual membership! See the last page, or contact John Eppling ([membership@charlesriverrc.org](mailto: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](http://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 Medfield /

Bill Martin Field

To get a key for Bill Martin Field in Medfield please email key-master Ken Antonellis at [kxa@verizon.net](mailto:kxa@verizon.net).

*The key for 2023 will be updated in late April by MMAC. Keys may also be available at the monthly 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](mailto: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: <a href="http://charlesriverrc.org/newsite/Documents/CRRC%20Handbook%202020.pdf">http://charlesriverrc.org/newsite/Documents/CRRC%20Handbook%202020.pdf</a>				

**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](http://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](mailto: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		
NON-FLYING member If age 75 before July 1st	(Voluntary donation appreciated)	(Voluntary donation appreciated)
Full time STUDENT	\$40	\$45
Family member additional to OPEN membership		
Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)	Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc	