

# Charles River Radio Controllers

# Flight Log



Frozen Finger Fun Fly.  
Image by Dave Walter



January Meeting:

Thursday, January 18th, 7:30PM

In Person at

McAuliffe Branch Library, Framingham

# President's Message

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Dear Members,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

My name is Joe Sicree, and I am the new CRRC President. I'd like to thank the former President Mike Whidden and the other club officers who have worked tirelessly on behalf of the members. After the November elections, we have had some swapping of positions and a few officers who have decided to take a well-earned break.

I joined the club about 2 years ago after running into Scott R. at Davis Field one Sunday morning. I initially flew a micro-drone (lost it in the grass), then tried a UMX trainer (smashed it, fixed it, then lost it). I currently fly a UMX Radian and a Turbo Timber Evolution. I have really enjoyed learning to fly and this year I hope to learn to buddy-box so that I can have my kids fly with me.

One thing I have really enjoyed about the CRRC are the various events throughout the year. CRRC events like the recent Frozen Flinger Fun Fly, the July 4th Demo Days, ALES and NERDS, plus participating in local events like Sudbury Fest give us a chance to get people together and also give the public a chance to see what we are about. This year, in addition to our annual events, we already have plans to attend the Patton Homestead event this summer. I'd also like to see if we can hold some events at School St. in addition to Davis Field. If anyone has an idea for an event, please let myself or one of the other officers know.

On a scheduling note, this month's CRRC General Meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan 18 at the McAuliffe Branch of the Framingham Public Library (746 Water St, Framingham). The speaker this month will be Phil Rossoni, a commercial glider pilot who has given a TedX talk about paper airplanes and is the author of a book about walkalong gliders. Mike sent out an email January 5th with all the details.

I am looking forward to a great year of flying with the club and please feel free to reach out and contact me with ideas for club activities, questions, comments, pointers, etc. My email is jsicree (at) gmail (dot) com.

Thanks!

Joe Sicree

## January Meeting – Thursday 1/18

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Our next general meeting is scheduled to be ***in-person at the McAuliffe Branch Library in Framingham*** on **Thursday, January 18th, at 7:30PM.**

As Joe mentioned above, we have a fascinating speaker, Phil Rossoni, who will discuss and demonstrate walkalong gliders, so please attend! (Also a raffle!)

McAuliffe Branch Library  
746 Water St,  
Framingham, MA 01701

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

## Meeting Minutes


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At our December meeting, we discussed the flying season's scheduled events:

- The ALES will be earlier than usual this year, taking place on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Demo Day will be (drum roll....) July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The NERDS drone race date is tentatively July 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The Fritz Bien Memorial Soar-In is August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.
- We are confirmed to be exhibiting at the Military Day event at the Patton Homestead on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Joe Sicree was investigating some options for indoor winter flying venues.



In our December raffle John Archer won a ParkZone Horcher (Strike that! Reverse it! ). Bert Cohen won an aviation-themed wallet, and John Epling nabbed an AMA hat.



Dan Sullivan talked about techniques for repairing the cracked plastic corner of his radio, Jimi Two Feathers showed us his fast battery discharger, and Richard Phipps showed plans for a large sailplane he's working on.



Our guest speakers were the Concord Carlisle High School FIRST Robotics Competition team. They demonstrated their new robot's drive base, which had on-board software to execute movement commands, pre-defined routes, and remote control, as well as computer vision to identify and recognize objects in the environment with cameras mounted on the chassis.



If you are interested in helping out their software, electrical, or mechanical, or donating or sponsoring to help them pay for parts visit <https://team-3205.github.io> for contact information.



*CCHS Student Colin discusses the robot*



*CCHS Students Gabrielle, Isabel, Sophia, Will, and Colin presented*



*Images by Adam Smith*



## Frozen Finger Fun fly

CRRC held its annual Frozen Finger Fun Fly on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The field was reasonably dry, the temperatures tolerable, and we had a pretty good turnout, and there weren't many conflicts for use of the field. There were at least two crashes, if I recall correctly, but for the most part, everyone had successful and enjoyable flights, and some pilots even found a bit of lift.

Thanks to Joe Sicree and Adam Smith for coffee and munchkins!



*Photos by Dave Walter*

## THROTTLE CUT... Set your direction too!

You've listened to people talk about throttle cut and you programmed it on your transmitter. Great!!!! Did you program the switch in the correct direction? Ok, what am I talking about. You want your switch to cut the throttle when you trip and squeeze your radio. Pulling the switch towards you should shut off the motor. When set the OTHER way, an accidental squeeze of the transmitter during a trip can start the motor, YIKES. I know someone who that happened to. The doctor in the emergency room was impressed with the damage. Huge and clean. Don't let that happen to you.

On my Spektrum radio, throttle cut switch is H and position 1 cuts the throttle. This is the most common throttle cut switch on Spektrum radios. If you select another switch, pulling towards you should cut the motor.



On my Futaba radio, it's switch SF and works just like the Spektrum. Pull towards you and the motor stops.



For my DJI quad copter radio, the switch is just above the throttle. Pull down and the motors all cut.



Fly safely,

David Spielman

*(Article and all related photos provided by David Spielman)*



## 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 Adam Smith ([membership@charlesriverrc.org](mailto:membership@charlesriverrc.org)). Ages 75 and over, and under 19, are free for CRRC membership (AMA membership required to fly at fields/events, and discounted for juniors). Sixty-and-over receive a \$10 discount. Donations to the club are always welcome.

**Membership dues paid before March 1st receive a \$5 discount, renew now!**

Make sure you have a current card to bring to in-person meetings and get a free raffle ticket!

# Club Information

Officers - 2024	Instruction	General Info
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>President</i>                      Joe Sicree  <a href="mailto:president@charlesriverrc.org">president at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Vice President</i>                      Dan Sullivan  <a href="mailto:vicepresident@charlesriverrc.org">vicepresident at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Treasurer</i>                      Dave Marshall  <a href="mailto:treasurer@charlesriverrc.org">treasurer at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership Secretary</i>                      Adam Smith  <a href="mailto:membership@charlesriverrc.org">membership at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recording Secretary</i>                      Roger Silva  <a href="mailto:secretary@charlesriverrc.org">secretary at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Webmaster</i>                      Shawn Silva  <a href="mailto:webmaster@charlesriverrc.org">webmaster at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Newsletter Editor</i>                      Mike Whidden  <a href="mailto:newsletter@charlesriverrc.org">newsletter at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chief Instructor</i>                      Dick Williamson  <a href="mailto:chiefinstructor@charlesriverrc.org">chiefinstructor at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Safety Coordinator</i>                      Jimi Two Feathers  <a href="mailto:safety@charlesriverrc.org">safety at charlesriverrc.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Raffle Chairman</i>                      John Eppling  <a href="mailto:exofficio@charlesriverrc.org">exofficio at charlesriverrc.org</a></p>	<p>To inquire about instruction please call the Chief Instructor, Dick Williamson.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Types of instruction</u>                      B = Building                      G = Glider                      E = Electric                      F = Fuel                      H = Helicopter                      Q = Quadcopter/Multitrotor</p> <p>Dick Williamson - B,G,E                      Sudbury - 978-618-5475</p> <p>David Spielman - B,E                      dspielma (at) gmail.com</p> <p>John Weigel - B                      Natick - 508-655-2138</p> <p>Richard Gammon - B,G,E,F                      West Boylston -                      508-835-2049</p> <p>Ken Antonellis - G,E,F                      Natick - 508-653-8369</p> <p>Lincoln Ross - G,E                      Waltham - 781-891-0332</p> <p>Dave Walter - G                      Hudson - 978-562-5400</p> <p>Jon Leehey - F                      Wayland - 508-358-5721</p> <p>Tony Davids - H                      Stow - 978-568-9598</p> <p>Scott Ritter - Q                      Sudbury - 978-443-2373</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Flying Sites</u></p> <p>Go to <a href="http://charlesriverrc.org">charlesriverrc.org</a> 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Keys to Medfield / Bill Martin Field</u></p> <p>To get a key for Bill Martin Field in Medfield please email key-master Ken Antonellis at <a href="mailto:kxa@verizon.net">kxa@verizon.net</a>.</p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tree Climbers</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tom Hurney                      508-272-7489</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scott (Sudbury)                      508-203-3845</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stephen Canessa                      The Tree Guy                      978-460-1000</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hartney Greymont (Medfield)                      Sean Comer                      781-444-1227</p>



# Membership Application - 2024

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 Jr membership is discounted!** <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:

**Adam Smith**  
**Membership Secretary CRRC**  
**460 Main Street, 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, 2024	After March 1, 2024
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 <i>(Voluntary donation appreciated - e.g. \$50)</i>	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	<i>(Voluntary donation appreciated)</i>	(Voluntary donation appreciated)
Full time STUDENT	\$40	\$45
Family member additional to OPEN membership		
<i>Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)</i>	<i>Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc</i>	