

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHARLES RIVER RADIO CONTROLLERS, INC



AMA CHARTER 339

JANUARY 2003

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GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday
January 16th 7:30
PM

Guest Speaker:

Vlad Gavrilets

*Miniature helicopter aerobatics
under computer control.*



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January Raffle

1st Prize *

Zagi 400X- Flying
Wing kit with S400
Motor, ESC, Prop and
1700mAh
battery.

2nd Prize*

MicroSizer -
Complete miniature
R/C car system

3rd Prize

Gallon of Fuel or
Choice of a "Cool Tool"
(Including, but not limited
to): 11" Easy Sander Bar,
Razor Plane, Balsa
Stripper, Hemostat, Butane
Solder iron, 100 #11 Knife
Blades, 8pc Ball-driver Set,
or a Peck Polymers ROG
FF-Kit

One prize awarded from each
category.

Show and Tell prize will be
selection from Cool Tools.

*Thanks to RC Buyers Warehouse,
Nashua, NH for their discount to the
club. Please consider them for your
next hobby purchase. They are only
30 minutes away from the junction
of 3 and 128.*

*Tom Bauer
Raffle Chairman*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report Date 12/31/02

Starting Balance 11/30/02	
Checking (after #1285)	3,066.81
Savings	4,575.22
Cash	25.00
Total Starting	7,667.03
Income	
Dues	425.00
Indoor Flying	125.00
Interest on Savings (December)	3.97
Total Income	553.97
Expenses	
Fritz Bien – Newsletter #1286	183.63
Richard Williamson – Postage #1287	37.00
Bank Fees (December)	9.00
Total Expenses	229.63
Ending Balances	
Checking (after #1287)	3,387.18
Savings	4,579.19
Cash	25.00
Total Ending 11/30/02	7,991.37

Signature: Miner
Crary

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A Flying Dream!

When I was 14 years old, I dreamed about flying. Near my home there was a Remote Control Flying Field. Every Saturday guys flew their R/C airplanes, and I would spend hours watching. My family was very poor, however, so the hobby was way too expensive

for me.

At age 16, I had the chance to go up in a full size airplane. Finally I had a great opportunity to fly and feel free! To my surprise, the adventure turned into a nightmare. The ride was so bumpy, and the airplane bounced so much, that I got sick! My dream of flying was temporarily cast aside. Life went on. I went off school, became an architect, and a new hobby was born in my soul. My dad gave me a 35mm camera and I spent hours upon hours taking artistic photos.

After a year working at The Office of Michael Rosenfeld, *Architects* in West Acton, I had a little extra money and thought, "Now I can afford one of those little airplanes that I used to see when I was a kid".

I went on the Internet and found some virtual hobby shops. To my surprise, they sold little electric remote control airplanes. This was a hit. The electric motors were so nice, quiet, and clean. My dream of flying was reborn. With rechargeable batteries in hand, I felt like the man of the future!

I built my first airplane, a Dragonfly slow-flier s400 from DMA, without any knowledge and began the long process of "learning to fly". I crashed my plane several times before flying it even for 10 seconds. After some major repairs and some help from my dad, I got my plane flying for the first time. I can't describe how happy I was.

But as an architect and a photographer, my story doesn't end here. I thought that if I could just get a camera on my plane and take aerial pictures of architectural projects, I could combine all three of my passions. This is how I developed a "Flying Camera".

After refining my flying skills, I studied several different airplanes. I chose a parkflyer called Wingo from Hobby Lobby. After modifying it to



take the extra weight of the camera,



I used a disposable camera and took my first aerial pictures. Not bad, but I had loftier goals.

After extensive research into electronics and aerodynamics, lots of experimenting, and help from some CRRC members, I got a nice little electric plane that was able to carry a camera over hundreds of feet high. I installed a brand new camera, with automatic forward to avoid having to land after each shot. Now I was really in business. I took some shots of a project in construction (Acton Elementary School.) When my colleagues saw the pictures they got so excited! They asked me to take more pictures of several different projects, I did... the pictures came out great!

After almost 3 years of taking



aerial pictures, I have more than three thousand photos. My dream is now reality. I'm flying little electric planes and my passion for photography and architecture has melted together into one hobby. It is now a very exiting part of my job.

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Jon Leehey opened the meeting at 7:37 PM.

- Secretary's Report approved as written in newsletter.
- Treasurer's Report approved as written in newsletter. 1- opposition.

The attendance book was passed around the meeting. We ask that newcomers say something more than his/her name.

Field coordinator's report:

- Davis: There are still lights on the field. The town seems to have no plans to move them. Perhaps we can get a group of people to shift them off of the field. Some folks have been out there at lunch.
- Medfield: Chris Schuch plowed the road.
- Several members have been flying at various sites around the state: Tomer is flying in Hopkington near his work. Ruane has been flying in Medfield near Tufts Medical on 135. Fritz has been flying at a field in Winchester; he says the power lines in front make it a challenge.
- Teamworks: No slow plane/fast plane conflicts.

Old Business:

- Membership:
 - 194 members for 2002.
 - 40+ have signed up for 2003 already.

New Business:

- Frozen Finger Fun Fly: January 1 at 9:00 AM. At Medfield unless the road is impassable in which case it will be held at Davis.

Upcoming BOD Meetings:

- Tom Bauer has volunteered to be the BOD member at large for the next two months.
- Next Meeting January 21st at the library in Sudbury.
- Southern NH club is holding a weight challenge contest in July. Start thinking about planning for this event.
- March 5th – 495th Scale Show at the Tewksbury Congregational Church.

New members or guests:

- Paul Howard – Electric planes; He's coming back into the hobby after 20 years.
- John Hayes – Gliders, power.
- Art Faria – Gliders.

Passing of the Gavel:

Jon Leehey passed the gavel to our new president Derick Veliz and Derick closed the meeting at 8:03 PM

Raffle:

- Pico Stick w/ battery – Pete Lofgren
- Balsa Stripper - Mark Drela
- 1903 Rubber Band Wright Flyer – Paul Howard
- Gallon of Fuel – John Cartisser

Show and Tell:

- Pete Young – NiMH batteries 9000 mAHs. Can deliver 20A for 30 minutes. Victory C Sailplane with a beeper inside the fuselage so he can find it when it lands out of sight. ~69 oz.
- John Hayes – Mantis with a composite Bubble Dancer Wing split in two rather than in three so he can attach it to the fuselage. ~48 oz with a carbon wing rod.
- Ron Weissman – ARF Miss Chief Biplane. Re-covered

the fuselage, replaced the landing gear and added large ailerons. He says it will land itself: "Keep your hand OFF the stick!"

- Rick Walba – Bought a vacuum pump 6 years ago. Bought the electronics 3 years ago. Finally got around to forming a mold and bagging a fuselage pod. ~10g.
- Dick Hayes – Frog foam flyer - Blue Core made by DOW. ~8.5 oz. GWS motor system with HS 55 servos. Lithium battery. Flying time of 40 minutes. Playing with different wings formed with either a jig or over a PVC pipe. Flies right off the ground of the water.

Show and Tell prize:

Rick Walba took a sanding bar.

Meeting Speaker:

Bob McComiskie, a full-scale glider instructor at Sugarbush airport in Vermont, gave an interesting talk about his experiences soaring and finding the different types of lift. Bob also talked about different launch methods, and records established by sailplanes. Bob has a nice slide presentation of what full sized sailplaner's look for when looking for lift.

JANUARY DIRECTOR'S MEETING

The next directors meeting will be, Tuesday, January 21st

CRRC BUILDING AND FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS

This is our list of qualified and willing instructors. Power planes are flown only at the Bill Martin Flying Field in Medfield. Sailplanes and Electrics can be flown at the Davis Farm Field on Rte. 117 in Sudbury. See <http://www.charlesriverrc.org> for directions to the flying fields. If you have any questions about the construction of your airplane, or want to have an experienced pilot pre-flight check your airplane before heading to the flying field, then call any of the building instructors.

INSTRUCTOR	TOWN	TELEPHONE
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POWER

Chief Instructor: Ruane Crummett

	Wayland	508-655-2234
Bob Scott	Norwell	781-982-0268
Pete Young	Watertown	617 923-4184
Larry Copeland	E. Walpole	508-668-0448
Ken Antonellis	Natick	508-653-4513
Jon Leehey	Wayland	508 358 5721
Dave Walter	Hudson	508-562-5400
Fritz Bien	Concord	978-369-1720
Neil Kaufman	Sudbury	508-443-9647

SOARING

Dick Williamson	Sudbury	978 443-8549
Dave Walter	Hudson	978-562-5400
Bruce Schneider	Hudson	978-562-9900
Fritz Bien	Concord	978-369-1720
John Nilsson	Clinton	508-368-7136
Pete Young	Watertown	617 923-4184
Lincoln Ross	Waltham	781-891-0332

ELECTRICS

Bruce Schneider	Hudson	978-562-9900
Fritz Bien	Concord	978-369-1720
Dave Walter	Hudson	978-562-5400
Derrick Veliz	Acton	978-266-1739
Pete Young	Watertown	617 923-4184
Lincoln Ross	Waltham	781-891-0332

HELICOPTERS

Joel Foner	Natick	508-653-3560
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BUILDING

Ruane Crummett	Wayland	508-655-2234
Fritz Bien	Concord	978-369-1720
Joel Foner	Natick	508-653-3560
John Weigel	Natick	508-653-3560
Pete Young	Watertown	617 923-4184
Derrick Veliz	Acton	978-266-1739

CRRC LIBRARY

The club keeps a library of videos and books. They are made available at club meetings. If you cannot come to the meeting, and would like to borrow a video or book, call Ken Antonellis at **(508) 653-4513**.

Videos:

1996 World Masters Aerobatic Championships
 AMA – The Pioneers (25 min)
 Byron – New Generation of Modeling Products (17 min)
 Byron – R/C Wars

Combat Models – Fighter town Demo (8 min)
 Coming of Jets & History of the DC3
 Dynamic Soaring
 Elmira '97
 Endless Lift
 Hot Stuff Video (60 min)
 Local Flying (Medfield)
 Military Aircraft
 Monokote 1 & 2
 Old Buzzard Goes Flying
 R/C Helicopters
 R/C Info and Tips
 R/C Ornithopter Research
 Project R/C Soaring from the Ground Up

R/C Video Magazine, Vol. 1-13
 Scale Aircraft Documentation
 The Light Stuff (Daedalus Project)
 Wring It Out, Vol. 2

Books:

1993 Don Edberg Complete Source Book
 AMA – Sound and Model Aeronautics
 Aviation Heritage Magazine – B2 Flying Wing
 Completely Cars – Harry Higley
 Trainers (R/C Magazine)

2003 ANNUAL CRRC Frozen Finger Fun Fly

CRRC's annual Frozen Finger Fun Fly this year was 50-50. There weren't any frozen fingers, as the weather was unseasonably mild with no winds; terrific flying weather and the fun fly part was a terrific success!

The turnout was extremely good with the parking lot entirely full by 9:30 with cars parked along the access road. In fact, the turnout was better on this day than for most Medfield "warm weather" flying sessions.

Approximately 25 fliers turned out with a wide variety of aircraft. Electric speedsters and soarers, high-started gliders, discus-launched HLGs, Zags, gas trainers, sport aerobatics, gas 3D machines, electric park fliers, and sport scale aircraft.

With temperatures in the mid 40s and no wind chill issues, gas engines seemed to start and run quite readily. Several ski-equipped airplanes flew quite successfully.

After Chris Schuch cleared a short runway with his snowplow-equipped Jeep, airplanes were able to take off... if they could stay on the "straight and narrow" cleared runway.

Some of the CRRC fliers out there included: CD Fritz Bien (who made up some very nice commemorative certificates), Dave Walters, Mike Cormier, Ken Antonellis, J.P. Riu, Chris Larsen, Jed Dorsheimer,

Chris Schuch, Jesse Hefter, Jon Leehey, Rick Walba, Pete Young, Eric Laub, Tom Bauer, Ron Chichowski, Dick Williamson, Ru Crummett, Jack Hall, Tomer Jackman, Derick Veliz, and Bruce Schneider.

Special thanks to Chris Schuch who cleared the parking area and pits the previous day, and as noted above, cleared a field runway; to Jon Leehey who brought coffee and donuts, much appreciated by those who got there early; and to Fritz Bien for organizing the event.

-- *Pete Young*

TREE CLIMBERS

Tony Morais
A1 Tree Services-
Framingham, MA
508-626-0088
800-657-7788

Brian Pikarski
Burlington, MA
617-797-2136

Kenny Greeno
Office Phone: 617-661-8591
Cell Phone: 617-839-1814

Paul Harrington
(508) 376-2573 [Medfield Area]

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS.

For 2003, the 65 renewals so far include 12 free memberships for the BOD, Jesse Hefter (meeting room) and Fritz Bien (long-term service). 16 are new members who signed up late in 2002. 37 regular CRRC members have renewed. We are waiting for 131 CRRC members to renew

for 2003.

The table summarizes the membership status, and compares recent years.

Year	Renewals	New Members	Total
1999			135(peak)
2000	112	62	174(peak)
2001	124	50	174(peak)
2002	138	58	196(peak)
2003	65	65	

--*Dick Williamson*

SNEAK PREVIEWS

Vlad Gavrilets

Ph.D. student, MIT Aero&Astro
"MIT Autonomous Helicopter Project"

"Miniature helicopter aerobatics under computer control."

Researchers from MIT Aero-Astro Department produced the first-ever autonomous helicopter capable of pre-programmed extreme "3D" maneuvers. The talk will feature video, and the helicopter itself.

INDOOR FLYING

Happy New Year and welcome to indoor flying!

Well, we have ourselves a real

New England winter. A few hearty souls brave the elements and make it out flying every week, but if you want to fly in comfort (snack bar, no snow, or wind, and indoor plumbing), come to our indoor flying Sat. night Jan. 11 from 9 to midnight at Teamworks in Northboro.

Any questions as to how to get there please check the CRRC web site for a link. We are going to have a flight line this time so there will be some semblance of communication between flyers. I hope this will cut down post - flying repairs. It seemed our last flying session was more orderly, and I am sure this event will be event better.

For those who have not seen this event, you are in for a flying treat. The reason this has become so popular is it's unique nature. The equipment has become so Small and affordable, most

people are building planes strictly for indoor flying.

Hope to see you there...!

--Bruce Schneider

It's a Small World!

I happened to be travelling to Reno after New Years weekend to attend a professional conference, and while on the Denver to Reno leg, was reading the latest copy of Model Aviation magazine.

Shortly before we landed, the lady seated next to me asked me if I was involved in model aviation. Of course, being a card-carrying CRRC member, I responded affirmatively. We got to talking and the lady turned out to know quite a few modelers that I had met over the years, and

all involved in Control Line Precision Aerobatics. Her two sons had been Nationals-class competitors and had competed for the Walker Cup at several Nationals, the premier competition for Precision Aerobatics enthusiasts. She knew Bob Whitely, Bob Gieseke, Ted Fancher, Keith Trostle, Dave Fitzgerald, and others who you may recognize as first-rate modelers and competitors in the PA field.

The lady's two sons, Dave and Dan McClellan, took on careers as commercial airline pilots and credit their earlier involvement in competitive model aviation with their career choices. So one lesson is clear: get young people involved in model aviation and you may be able to guide them into productive careers in the aerospace industry.

-- Pete Young

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The calendar of events for the year was determined in the **January Board of Director's meeting**. If you have a favorite event you want included on the 2002 Calendar, please come to the Board Meeting and bring it up. For an up-to-date list of area events check:

http://www.charlesriverrc.org/calendar_events.htm.

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	CONTACT	EMAIL
Jan.11 2003	CRRC Indoors Flying			bruceden@attbi.com
Feb. 8 2003	CRRC Indoors Flying			bruceden@attbi.com
March 8 2003	CRRC Indoors Flying			bruceden@attbi.com
August 9,10 2003	CRRC Soar-In	Davis Field	Anker Berg-Sonne	anker@rcn.com

Upcoming R/C Auction (February 16th)
Knickerbocker Club in Lowell.

Registration/preview 11:30 am - 12:30 PM, auction 12:30 PM - 4:00 PM. See the flyer with details and directions under "Upcoming Club Events" at:
<http://mcrcf.home.attbi.com/home.htm>



THE CHARLES RIVER RADIO CONTROLLERS, INC

AMA Charter 339

2003 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THIS FORM EXPIRES ON MARCH 1ST 2003!

Name _____ AMA No. _____

Street _____ Birth Date (AMA req'd) _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. () _____ - _____

E-mail _____

I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY NEWSLETTER

☐ **ELECTRONICALLY**

☐ **Via the US Mail**

☐ I DO NOT want my address to appear in the club phone book

To receive membership card and field pass, bring this application to a club meeting, or mail with a copy of your Year 2003 AMA LICENSE, appropriate dues, and a **SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE** to:

Dick Williamson /Secretary CRRC
P.O. Box 398
Lincoln, MA 01773
Telephone 978 443-8549
E-mail: williamson@ll.mit.edu

REMEMBER THE MARCH 1ST DEADLINE!	Renewal before March 1st
OPEN Member	\$30.00
JUNIOR member, (under 19 before 7-1)	\$15.00
SENIOR member, (if age 60 before 7-1)	\$20.00
full time STUDENT	\$15.00
Family member additional to OPEN membership	\$15.00
There will be a \$5.00 penalty for joining AFTER March 1st	

I'M INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

- ☐ TRAINERS/SPORT PLANES
☐ GLIDERS
☐ INDOOR/PARK FLYERS

- ☐ ELECTRICS
☐ HELICOPTERS
☐ SCALE

- ☐ PATTERN
☐ RACING
☐ GIANT SCALE

☐ OTHER (specify) _____

FREQUENCY DATABASE

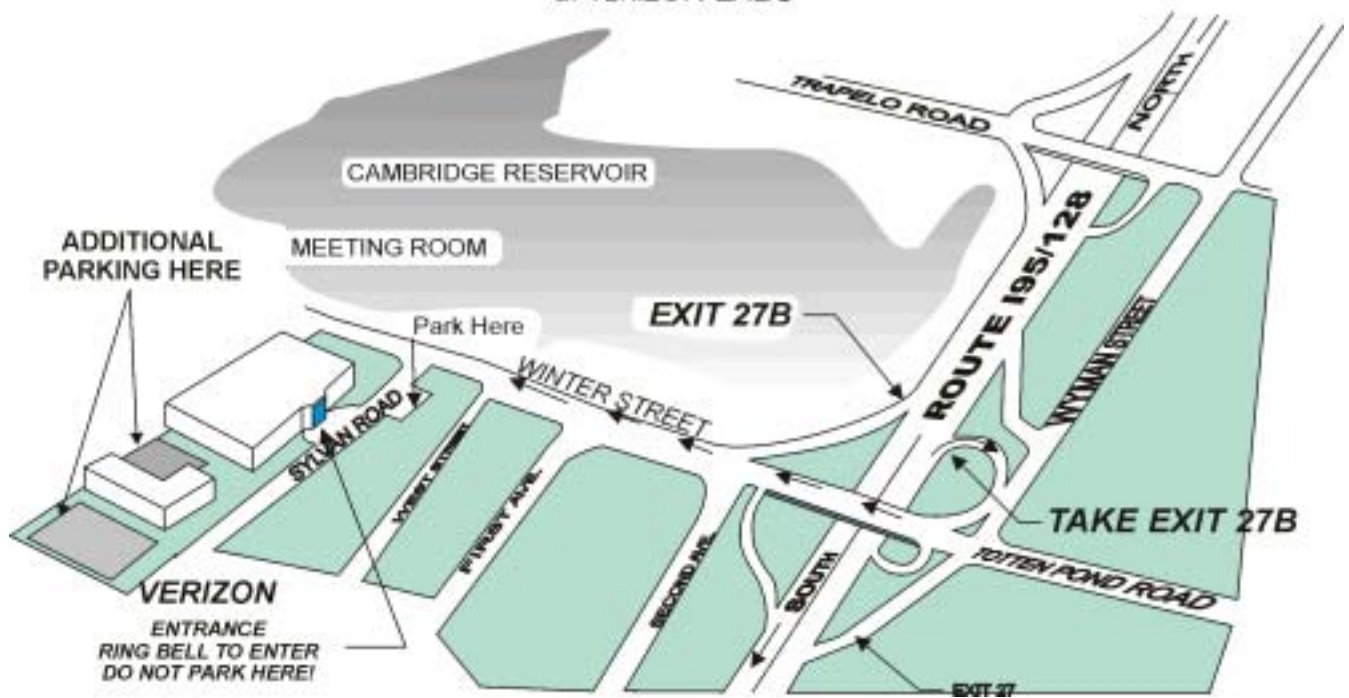
This database is made to help you select future radios that have the fewest conflicts with ones used by others at the flying field. Put the number of transmitters that you own for each frequency. **Add D if it is your primary frequency at Davis and M if it is your primary at Medfield.**

11> _____ 16> _____ 21> _____ 26> _____ 31> _____ 36> _____ 41> _____ 46> _____ 51> _____ 56> _____
12> _____ 17> _____ 22> _____ 27> _____ 32> _____ 37> _____ 42> _____ 47> _____ 52> _____ 57> _____
13> _____ 18> _____ 23> _____ 28> _____ 33> _____ 38> _____ 43> _____ 48> _____ 53> _____ 58> _____
14> _____ 19> _____ 24> _____ 29> _____ 34> _____ 39> _____ 44> _____ 49> _____ 54> _____ 59> _____
15> _____ 20> _____ 25> _____ 30> _____ 35> _____ 40> _____ 45> _____ 50> _____ 55> _____ 60> _____

HAM LICENSE CHANNELS: license may be checked at the field!

01> _____ 02> _____ 03> _____ 04> _____ 05> _____ 06> _____ 07> _____ 08> _____ 09> _____
53.1> _____ 53.2> _____ 53.3> _____ 53.4> _____ 53.5> _____ 53.6> _____ 53.7> _____ 53.8> _____

LOCATION OF MONTHLY MEETING
FOR THE CHARLES RIVER RADIO CONTROLLERS
at VERIZON LABS



Michael Cormier / Editor
48 Bacon Street. # 8
Waltham, MA 02451-4349