



AMA CHARTER 339

DECEMBER 2004

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508-839-7758
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Joel Foner
508-653-3560
jfoner@fonerassoc.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeff Newcum
508-655-6417
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General Meeting

Wednesday,
December 17th
7:30 pm
Verizon Labs
Sylvan Road, Waltham
Exit 27b off I95/128

Entertainment



Table of Contents

President's Message	2
BOD Meeting Notes	2
Membership Statistics	2
Instructor/Builder program	3
TeamWorks Indoor Schedule	3
Treasurer's report	4
Secretary's report	4
Electric Fun Fly	6
2004 CRRC Membership form	7
Handy-2 Review	8

December Raffle Prize



and

WON
a
COOL TOOL
for
Show-n-Tell



President's Message



We have made it through another year! We are coming off a very successful auction. Successful because of the volunteer work of many who made this a very enjoyable day. With the New Year comes a new board of directors. They will be asking for help in the upcoming year.

If time constraints will not allow you to be a board member, why not volunteer to do just one thing this year. Whether it is to help in a contest or auction or even come to one or two board meetings simply to throw in your two cents. We have a great reputation as a club because of our volunteers. Let's help them out.

On a lighter note, winter sometimes can almost be too cold to fly but there will be some good days so keep em charged!! The WRAM show will be here before you know it so it is time to start a list! See you at the next meeting!

- Ken Antonellis

DECEMBER 2004 BOD Meeting



The BOD discussed the auction and all agreed that the event is growing too large for the Natick VFW. Stacking tables two high might give us some more floor space, but we may have to find a larger venue.

Joel reported that he has updated the online renewal application. We are also accepting payment via PayPal

The 2005 meeting schedule was reviewed. As usual, all club meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month. The BOD will be held on the Tuesday after the third Wednesday with one exception: the December 2005 BOD will be moved to Tuesday the 20th (before the club meeting) to avoid vacation conflicts.

Entertainment for December is Ray Harlan, ultralight freeflight modeler extraordinaire.

Raffle for December is a Himax Brushless Outrunner motor with speed control.

Recorded by Dave Walter

TREE CLIMBERS

Tony Morais

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

Kenny Greeno

Office Phone: **617-661-8591**
Cell Phone: **617-201-5300**

Brian Pikarski

Burlington, MA
617-797-2136

Paul Harrington

(508) 376-2573
[Medfield Area]

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

The table summarizes CRRC's membership status and compares recent years.

Year	Renewals	New Members	Peak Totals
1999			135
2000	112	62	174
2001	124	50	174
2002	138	58	196
2003	156	40	196
2004	154	37	191

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. For directions to the fields go to <http://www.charlesriverrc.org>. If you have any questions about the construction of your airplane, or want to have an experienced pilot preflight check your airplane before heading to the flying field, then call any of the building instructors.

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

ELECTRICS

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

HELICOPTERS:

- None Available at present-

POWER

Chief Instructor
Ruane Crummett
Wayland 508-655-2234
Bob Scott
Norwell 781-982-0268
Pete Young
Watertown 617 923-4184
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



We've booked indoor flying at TeamWorks for 2004/05 season. It's the 2nd Saturday night of each month and the time is the same, 9PM til midnight. We are still at Teamworks in Northboro.

In order to be sure that the flyers and the aircraft are worthy of indoor flying, I am going to institute a qualifier that everyone must complete before being allowed to fly on the flight line. Very simply you must fly three counterclockwise flights around the field and three figure eights on the same flight. This not only tests the flyer, but the plane as well. If you can do this, in control, with one plane and not the other, then only fly the one plane that you can control. Once you qualify then you are on your honor the rest of the season and will not be tested again. If you bring a new plane, then qualify it to fly. This is not really a hard task with the right plane and flyer, but think light, slow, and IN CONTROL.

January 8th, Saturday 9-12am

February 12th, Saturday 9-12am

March 12th, Saturday 9-12am

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report Date 11/30/04

Starting Balance 10/29/04	
Checking	\$9,616.37
Savings	\$970.96
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$5.22
Total Starting	\$10,617.55
Income	
Indoor flying receipts, Nov.	\$169.00
Auction '04 receipts	\$1,560.00
Raffle income, Nov.	\$83.00
Dues, Nov.	\$405.00
Interest: Savings	\$0.51
Total Income	\$2,217.51
Expenses	
Commonwealth of Mass., annual report fee, #1402	\$15.00
Withdrawal from checking, cashbox change for auction	\$400.00
Ken Antonellis, various auction expenses, #1403	\$287.91
Derick Veliz, Oct. raffle prize, #1404	\$102.49
MMAC, 2004 share of mowing BMFF, #1405	\$675.00
Monthly Bank Fees, savings	\$5.00
Account Activity Fees, checking	\$2.20
Total Expenses	\$1,487.60
Ending Balances	
Checking	\$10,350.77
Savings	\$966.47
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$38.90
Grand Total Ending 11/30/04	\$11,381.14

- Scott Anderson



Secretary's Report: October 2004 General Meeting

Club President Ken Antonellis presided over the meeting. Since the November newsletter had not yet been published, the Treasurer's Report was read at the meeting and was approved.

Field Reports

Davis Field, Sudbury

Football is finished for the season, but the lights are still on the field. Someone managed to tip over the porta potty. The Town of Sudbury may replace the wetter portions of the field with artificial turf.

Bill Martin Field, Medfield

Not much activity in Medfield.

Old Business

Ken reported that the club auction at the Natick VFW was very successful. Net income was over \$700. We all thanked Ken and his wife for providing the food service. Pete Young volunteered to inspect the PA system at the VFW, which was intermittent during the auction.

New Business

John Weigel volunteered to attend the next two BOD meetings.

The members discussed a proposal to raise the dues \$5 in order to accumulate a reserve fund in case of loss of a flying field. This proposal was approved.

Yearly elections were held, sort of. Thanks to Ken's preparation, a candidate had been identified for most BOD positions and a few candidates were recruited at the meeting. The position of Newsletter Editor was split into two, editor and circulation, to reduce the work load. The officers for 2005 are:



- President – Andrew Johnson
- Vice President – John Riu
- Treasurer – Scott Anderson
- Membership Secretary – John Nilsson
- Recording Secretary – Jim Otis
- Newsletter Editor – Dave Spielman
- Newsletter Circulation – Tracy Clark

Raffle

- 1st Prize – Tomer Jackman – Fokker DR-1 electric ARF

Show-N-Tell

- Pete Young – Fliton Flubber ARF electric. Nice build quality. Also a PC-controlled battery discharger for measuring battery health. And a Firebat F15-like styrofoam electric.
- Tomer Jackman – Bowman's Hobbies Scooter (or, a copy thereof). Small foamie slope soarer.
- Fritz Bien – Fly RC Micro Flyer, complete with cheapo radio. Very tiny. Also, an NSP Kestrel that was donated to his son by Sal many years ago. The Kestrel was designed by former CRRC member Tom Peghiny.
- David Spielman – Mountain Models Upslope Spinner foamie DLG. Covered with Ultracoat, 15 oz.
- Dave Walter – NSP Sparrow, repaired after Tom Bauer savagely folded the wings at Deer Island. It is now Tom-proof.
- John Smith – Jet Cat turbine. 17 lbs of thrust, 150,000 rpm, built in electric starter.



Entertainment

John Smith presented his time tested techniques for covering balsa models. John can apply Monokote and make it look like the surface was painted. The key is careful surface preparation, sanding the wood and treating it with nitro-cellulose dope. Depressions can be filled with Red Devil light weight spackle or even Bondo. John demonstrated how he joins two pieces of Monokote to allow a seam to pass over an opening.

When done correctly, the covering job stays tight and looks good for years.



Recorded by Dave Walter

Electric Fun-Fly

by Tom Bauer

Saturday October 16 turned out to be a nice but windy day. Winds were SW at about 15mph. This did not inspire a lot of flyers to turn out for the Annual Electric Fun-Fly at Medfield. CD Tom Bauer showed up at the field about 8:30 and tired out the bomb drop with his electric Cessna. The bomb was a small bag of rice held on the wind with rubber bands and a Dixie cup glued to a 1/16 thick strip of balsa. The bomb released and even hit the field. The wind was really gusty even at 9AM. Shortly there after the first contestants showed up Fritz Bien, Ian Langley, and Scott Anderson were on hand. Later on in the morning Larry Wetmore showed up to watch the fun.

Fritz had his Tri-Motor Electric Lazy Bee, The Viking, and his speed 400 Zagi. In Fritz's words, "The Lazy Bee was fun. Loops were not very round with the huge shear-layer at tree-top height, and I only attempted one roll, but lost a lot of altitude during it, so I became more conservative after that. Finally, the rubber-band shock absorber gave out after one of its landings, so I packed it back to fly the Viking. The Viking was just the Viking, flew up, glided around and landed, not finding much lift in the strong breeze. Since the Viking is mainly a climb and glide type of a fun-fly plane, I switched to the Zagi. I couldn't get enough power from the Zagi, so I never tried to put the

bomb-drop onto it, besides, the hotdogs were ready. I flew the Zagi again on a full stomach and a charged pack, landed, and switched to flying Scott's UltraStik (glow)."

Tom Bauer flew his Astro-05 Cessna 180, brushless Astro-010 Super Cub, speed 400 Ministreak, Mega 15/15/4 Mustang, and brushless CD-ROM Bearcat. The flights were all challenging with the surprising easiest to fly being the 8oz Bearcat. The Mustang, Super Cub and Ministreak all needed repairs at the end of the day. After Tom's Super Cub angled sharply into the ground Fritz commented, "You were quick, but the gusts were quicker."

At about noon Tom put on the hot dogs and we had a nice lunch of dogs, chips, soda, and cookies for dessert. Below is a picture of Scott, Fritz, and Ian relaxing after lunch.





The Charles River Radio Controllers, Inc.

ama charter 339

2004 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

AMA No. _____

Street _____ Birth Date (AMA req'd) _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. _____

E-mail _____

Channel Number(s) _____

I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY NEWSLETTER

☐  **ELECTRONICALLY**

☐  **Via the US Mail**

To receive membership card and field pass, bring this application to a club meeting, or mail **with a copy of your Year 2004 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

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

OPEN Member	\$35.00
JUNIOR member, (under 19 before 7-1)	\$20.00
SENIOR member, (if age 60 before 7-1)	\$25.00
full time STUDENT	\$20.00
Family member additional to OPEN membership	\$20.00

I'M INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ TRAINERS/SPORT PLANES | ☐ ELECTRICS | ☐ PATTERN |
| ☐ GLIDERS | ☐ HELICOPTERS | ☐ RACING |
| ☐ INDOOR/PARK FLYERS | ☐ SCALE | ☐ GIANT SCALE |
| ☐ OTHER (specify) _____ | | |

handy-2

lipo • li-ion • ncd • nimh charger • cycler

by Tomer Jackman

My personal experience and product review

Manufacturer: Bantam, Korea

Display: 2 lines by 16 char LCD

Input voltage: 11V to 15V

Charge rate: 4A / 60W max

Discharge rate: 1A / 7W max

Safety:

- Adjustable 12 hour timer with 1 min steps and on/off
- Adjustable input battery low voltage cut-off
- Reverse polarity in and out
- Short circuit protection

Cell capacity:

Li-Ion / Li-Polymer – **1 to 5** cells in series, auto or manual detect

NiCd / NiMh – 1 to 12 cells

Special features:

- Programmable number of charge to discharge or discharge to charge cycles
- Programmable 3.6V or 3.7V Lithium cell voltage



*** Safety first – charge later ***



Finally, I got around to swap my cigarette lighter LiPo charger for a computerized one. The charger that came from Korea in the recent order that Andrew made was the perfect holiday gift, and along with a couple of two cell 1250 mAh packs, I unwrapped it and went to work. The box includes the charger, already installed with input voltage wires and alligator clips, a pair of banana plugs for a charging cable, and a one page instruction manual.

After a quick charging cable prep, I was ready to charge my cells for the first time. The instructions look a bit confusing at first, but fully explain all there is to know about the charger. Four buttons clearly marked 'Battery

type / stop', 'DEC', 'INC' and 'Start / Enter' allow you to breeze thru the very simple menu.

First, you select the battery type, and LiPo / LiIon is the first choice. Once you have done that, you are presented with the charge current and charge mode. I set the charger for 1A and 7.4V ('2S1P' in professional terms), and pressed 'start' (for two seconds, another safety mechanism).

That's it!! It's charging!!

The charger then displays the battery type, CHG for charging, how many mAh were delivered, what's the voltage, current and how many minutes the charge has been on for (see photo). No fans or loud beeps, and the screen updates every second with the charge progress. As the cells charge, the voltage stops rising at a certain point, and the current drops until it's charged. 'Beep-beep' softly confirms that the charging is complete (took my battery about 50 minutes to charge at 80% C), and it 'did not loose its cool' ☺.



The thing I like about this charger is that it is simple and easy to operate, that it is versatile enough to charge LiPo's from 1 to 5 cells, from 100mAh to 4000 mAh (or more if you want to charge for over an hour...), and charge all the other types (and even cycle them).

I have yet to test the other features, like the safety mechanisms (that's like testing matches, isn't it?), the 'AUTO' mode for LiPo's, and charging 'old' chemistry batteries (most of the ones I have could very well use some cycling...)

Pros: Easy to use, Quick set-up and go, Programmable charge / discharge cycles, Charges all types of batteries (that I know of), Defaults to safe (0.1A, 1 cell LiPo) and safe to use, Comprehensive instructions in English

Cons: No memories, Does not cycle LiPo's (Is that even necessary?)

For the features and ease of use, I think this charger is a good purchase, and with LiPo's being potentially hazardous, it takes much of the confusion out by not having memories and elaborate menus that require taking the manual with you to the field...

Next time, I will try to cover more features.



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