



AMA CHARTER 339

NOVEMBER 2009

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[chiefinstructor\(at\)charlesriverrc.org](mailto:chiefinstructor(at)charlesriverrc.org)

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday

Nov 18th

7:30 PM

The Club Meeting will be held at the **Goodnow Library in Sudbury**. Bring a friend or just come alone. See directions on the last page.

GUEST SPEAKER: Adam Woodworth

Adam is an aerospace engineer at Aurora Flight Sciences' Research and Development center who specializes in the design of unmanned aircraft. He will be talking about a variety of interesting aircraft projects he has been involved with.

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RAFFLE

First Prize

SIG Rascal C Kit



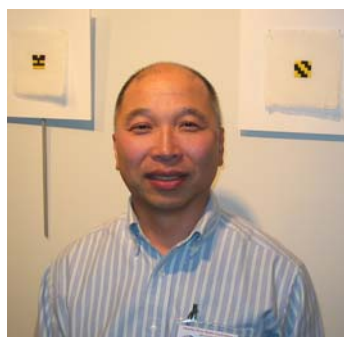
Second Prize

Multiplex Fun-Jet



WON
a
COOL TOOL
for
Show-n-Tell

President's Letter



Annual Meeting

November is our annual meeting for electing officers of the club. Please come out and vote. Better yet, come out and run for an office. We are still looking for people to run for the office of

Chief Instructor and Safety Officer.

Davis Field

Please take extra care flying at Davis Field during hours when we do not have the field reserved, especially when there are walkers and dog owners. First of all, if there is a lot of activity, even if it is not an organized activity like soccer, it may be best not to fly at all or at least not to fly anything where you are not able to maintain safe distance. Sometimes you take off when things are clear, and by the time you need to land, people and their dogs may have wandered into the area where you planned on landing or flying over. Unfortunately, some people may take things the wrong way when you try to warn them about any potential hazards of where they are.

If you need to warn people, please do so as politely, and if at all possible, try to walk close enough to them so that they can hear you without you shouting. Shouting, no matter how polite the words are, may seem more like an order to them (don't ask me how I found this out). Once someone misinterprets what you are saying to them, it may be very hard to convince them otherwise.

I am not suggesting that any of the CRRC members or our activities is creating a problem. My main goal is to make everyone aware that there are some people who, for whatever reason, may react in a provocative manner to our modeling activities at Davis Field; therefore, we need to be extra careful.

As always, fly safely, and I'll see you at the field!

- John Eppling
CRRC President

Treasurer's Reports

Report Date 11/10/09

Starting Balance 10/01/09

Checking	\$7,191.81
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$0.00
CD Accounts	\$6,763.02
Total Starting	\$13,979.83

Income

Interest - CDs	\$7.62
Raffle Income	\$53.00
Dues	\$105.00
Sale of Donated Items	\$30.00
Total Income	\$195.62

Expenses

ESL sanction fees, Check #1808	\$138.00
Raffle Expense, Check #1811	\$62.09
Float Fly Event Expense, Check #1810	\$29.77
Total Expenses	\$229.86

Ending Balances

Checking	\$7,149.95
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$0.00
CD Accounts	\$6,770.64

Grand Total Ending 10/31/09 **\$13,945.59**

- Istvan Sleder
Treasurer

CRRC 2010 Officers Election

As John mentioned we will be electing the club's 2010 Officers. At this time many of the current officers are willing to serve another term. However, if you are interested in taking on any of the positions, or if you would like to nominate someone, then please make sure to be at the club meeting on Wednesday Nov 18. We are still looking for a nominee for the Chief Instructor and Safety Officer roles. As a thank you for becoming a CRRC officer, the club will wave your membership fee for that year. I am up for that, are you?

- Tom Stammberger



OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



General Meeting Minutes for October 9, 2009.

Business Meeting.

President John Eppling called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM, at Goodnow Library, Sudbury, MA.



The treasurer's report and secretary's meeting minutes were approved as written in the October newsletter.

Field Reports.

Davis Field is in fine shape and the grass has been cut. Bill Martin Field is likewise in fine shape.



Membership Report.

Membership chair Ray Harlan reports our membership roster stands at 118.

Board of Directors Volunteer.

Wayne MacKeil volunteered to attend the October BOD meeting as member at large.

Old Business.

No old business to report.



New Business.

Our next general meeting will be November 18, the third Wednesday of the month. The Goodnow Library is not available during March 2010 due to a book sale. The month of April is also unavailable. Alternative meeting locations will need to be found. We discussed returning monthly meetings to the third Wednesday of the month for next year; with board meetings to be held the following Tuesday. The switch to the second Wednesday was made in 2009 due to schedule conflicts at Goodnow Library, but this conflict no longer exists, with the exception of March and April. A show of hands was all in favor of the return to the third Wednesday meeting dates.

CRRC annual elections will be held at the November meeting. Brian Rickman will be stepping down from his post as Safety Officer / Chief Instructor. Istvan Sleder will be stepping down from his post as Treasurer. President John

and VP Richard will be staying on in their positions. Positions for Membership, Recording Secretary, and Webmaster, (held by Ray, Larry, and Tom) are up for renewal, but all have agreed to stay pending election. Tom was unsure whether or not to continue as newsletter editor. *(Editor's note: I am willing to stay on for another term)*

November 15, Sunday, is the CRRC club auction.

Jesse Hefter passed along a donation of kit planes and supplies from a modeler who no longer had use for them. Tom Stammberger collected the items from Jesse, and brought them to the meeting where members were able to make a donation to the club treasury and take them home. Tom offered to bring any remaining items to the club auction.



Tom Stammberger made a presentation to the membership about a potential new flying site in Woburn that would be attractive to present and prospective members north of Boston.

The site is a capped landfill that covers 39 acres and is easily accessible from routes I95 & I93. The field is a large area resembling a mesa.

Power lines off to one side of the mesa should not be a problem as they are overshadowed by the mesa's height. The area is surrounded by a combination of industrial and some residential.



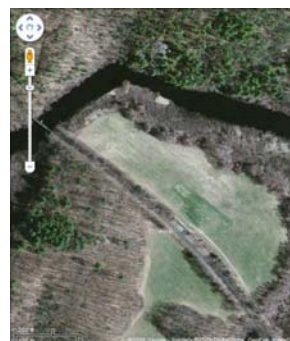
Tom will be contacting Woburn officials to discuss his plan. AMA insurance would be required at a cost of \$60 per year to CRRC.



Davis Field



Potential new site



Bill Martin Field



Potential new site

New Wings.

Dan Harty soloed with an Easy Glider Pro at Davis Field about 4 months ago with assistance from Dick Roy.

Guests.

CRRC alumnus Paul Lelievre, a member from 25 years ago, came to visit.



Bob Carter was a guest of Istvan Sleder.



The business meeting closed at 8:12 PM.

Raffle Winners.

With thanks to Rafflemeister Tony Davids,



this month's raffle winners were Tom Edwards, taking away first prize, an SE 5a Slow Flyer from Horizon Hobby, and Tom Stammberger took home second prize, a Sig Pro-Balancer donated by Tony's brother.

Show And Tell.

Ray Harlan had his newly completed Skybench Oly IIs on display. Ray has performed some hand tosses on his new model, but is still waiting for the perfect day to launch it into the sky. Ray estimates he put in 30 hours building the Oly IIs.



Dick Roy brought his Kerswap to display. Dick had his Kerswap on display at last month's show and tell, but it was unfinished. Since then, Dick has had two successful flights. The Kerswap is an electrified version of an old time free flight model.



John Eppling showed his Wilga-2000 on pontoons. The Wilga-2000 is a 46-inch wingspan, high wing foamie. John flew this aircraft at the recent float fly, and reports that it

flies slowly and would make a good trainer. John found this 4 Channel Receiver Ready ARF a good deal for \$99.



Evening Program.

VP Richard Gammon narrated his own video taken at the Experimental Aircraft Association's AirVenture 2009, at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Richard spent a full week taking in all aspects of the show, including flying demonstrations by the Airbus A380, and Virgin Galactic's Spaceship Two. Every aspect of aviation is represented at this, the world's largest airplane event, says Richard.

Ten to twelve thousand airplanes come and go during the show. The show is staffed entirely by volunteers, including even the air traffic controllers manning the tower. Richard had extensive video of the activities, including aerial flybys, ground displays, airplanes on display in the hangars, and even some radio control aircraft.

The evening meeting concluded at 10:00 PM.

- *Larry Wetmore*
Recording Secretary

Our Guest Speaker: Adam Woodworth

Adam Woodworth is an aerospace engineer at Aurora Flight Sciences' Research and Development center, located in Kendall Square, who specializes in the design of unmanned aircraft. A former student of Prof. Mark Drela at MIT, Adam has been involved in model aviation

since childhood, and has taken this lifelong fascination with small flying things and applied it to his career.



Adam will be talking to the club about the variety of interesting aircraft projects he has been involved with during his time at MIT and Aurora.



These often unusual flying machines range from bird sized UAV's capable of autonomously navigating urban environments, to large solar powered sailplanes.





There will also be plenty of pictures and videos showing the highs and lows of these flight testing adventures.

- **Richard Gammon**
Vice-President

In memory of: Alex Loeb



As many of us know we lost a great RC hobbyist last month. Alex Loeb passed away on October 19, 2009. Alex was a diabetic and it seems like he slipped away in a diabetic coma.

He had a great hobby shop in Belmont, MA for over 16 years. He always had a great passion for RC helis and got a lot of us started in the hobby.

In regards to his store, Tim Sheehan will be working at the store and running it with one of Alex's sisters. The new store hours are Tuesday AND Friday from 4 to 8 and Saturday from 2 to 6. These are effective as of October 31.

Alex Memorial Service will be held on Saturday Nov. 21, 2009 at 3pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Eliot Church of Newton
474 Center St.
Newton, MA 02458

Here are thoughts from fellow CRRC'ers:

"I myself as a former CRRC member visited his shop on numerous occasions. I always enjoyed his keen eye for naustalga class gliders and model sailboats which i have boxes of. I was always greeted by a smile and i myself wouldn't think of entering his shop with something purchased somewhere else. He leaves a huge pair of shoes to fill. !Il miss him and his knowledge."

Duncan Gillespie

"I always went to or called Alex's first before ordering. And recommended his shop to everyone. Just a month ago I called him to ask about receiver glitching on my TRex600e and he advised me to go to 2.4 GHz. While he did not have the necessary Spektrum-Futaba 9C module in stock, he was still supportive in his advice. I considered him more than just a RC acquaintance but rather as a friend. I will miss him."

Jon Leehey

"Very sad news indeed. Alex's was the first "real" hobby shop I went to when I got back into RC after school.. I bought my trainer there and was a frequent shopper when I was getting started."

Jeremy Harkin

Our deepest condolences thoughts and prayers go to his family and friends.

- **Tom Stammerger**
Newsletter Editor

UPCOMING CRRC EVENTS

November 15, 2009

CRRC – 2009 RC AUCTION

Noon – 3:30p Natick VFW is on RTE 135, MA

November 18, 2009 (NOTE: Third Wednesday)

CRRC – GENEAL CLUB MEETING

7:30p Goodnow Librarry, Sudbury, MA

November 24, 2009

CRRC – BOD MEETING

7:30p Goodnow Librarry, Sudbury, MA

Thermals and Slopes in Caracas, Venezuela

At the end of October I had the opportunity to travel to Caracas Venezuela for a family gathering. Aside from spending quality time with relatives, I also always enjoy the calming and breathtaking view of the mountain chain that separates Caracas, from the Caribbean ocean.



Caracas is the capital and largest city of Venezuela with approximately 5 million people. It is located in the north of the country, following the contours of the narrow Caracas Valley on the Venezuelan coastal mountain range (Cordillera de la Costa).

The valley's temperatures are spring-like year around between the mid 70's and 80's. The main populated areas of the city can be found around 2,500 and 3,000 ft above sea level. The valley is 30 minutes away from the Caribbean Ocean, separated from the coast by a steep + 8000ft high mountain range; to the south more hills and mountains.



Southern suburbs of the city viewing North

For those of us that like to engage in thermal gliding, we tend to look out for Hawks or other soaring birds to help us find thermals. While there are different birds of prey species in Venezuela, the one that prevails in populated areas is the Turkey Vulture (*Coragyps Atratus*). With a wingspan of about 5 ft they tend to climb in thermal columns to about 7000 ft. At these altitudes they can become a hazard for general aviation. As a matter of fact as we were on final approach you could see vultures flying next to

the plane. I also recall hearing several stories of small planes having close encounters with these great high altitude soaring birds.



During my stay, I noted that the early in the morning vultures would groom themselves on tree tops and roof edges. It was impressive when they spread their wings to dry their feathers. There were also times when they decide to rest in the flower boxes in front of my window – I tell you they stink.





Once thermals became strong enough, they all dove off the edges down the slopes and into the thermal. In no time they banked to a 30 degree angle and started to circle without flapping. Does that sound familiar?



In comparison to Hawks, where you may spot one, two, or three at the most, with these vultures we are talking about flocks of 10 or more. Therefore spotting thermal columns becomes very easy.



As I observed these birds, I could envision Fritz, Dave, Bruce and all the other CRRC glider pilots at Davis trying to find that one thermal that would allow them to gain some altitude. When I looked at my watch, it must have been less than 3 minutes and the flock of vultures had already climbed over 2500 ft. I wished I had my WingDragon with my cameras. That would have been a blast.



Ok enough about vultures; so what about RC gliders. Well, if you live in Caracas there is one place where you go to learn how to fly RC gliders. South of the city, about 15 minutes from where I was staying and next to the Simón Bolívar University there is the field and slopes used by the “Las Aguilas” RC club. The club is one of the oldest glider clubs in the country.



At about the size of a professional soccer field, the field provides enough space for safe landings approaching from the east and west; very short landings from the south are doable but not recommended; to the north, a large line of trees.



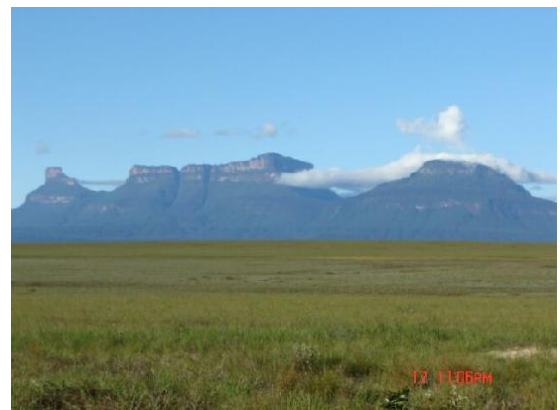
Form a slope soaring perspective it is a great site. The direction of the wind is very consistent, and you can pretty much fly every day, unless there is an afternoon thunderstorm or a brush fire.



There is however one warning when having to retrieve a plane from the slope: watch out for the snakes and scorpions. Make sure you bring a good pair of boots and a long stick.



From what I have read, there is a large RC community in Venezuela. There are many different clubs supporting all different RC aircraft categories. Competitions are also quite common, specially slope soaring. Then I found a great flying site: “La Gran Sabana” 😊. The problem here is that it is too far away from the city and in the Amazon region – Nevertheless plenty of space and no trees.



- *Thomas Stammberger*

CRRC BUILDING AND FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS

To start your flight instruction; please call our chief instructor:

Brian Rickman
774-249-2494

Brian will match you with one club instructors. Our instructors are qualified and willing AMA pilots and fellow club members.

See <http://www.charlesrivercrrc.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 Brian or any of the building instructors.

Name	Town	Phone	Building	Glider	Electric	Fuel	Helicopter
Dick Williamson	Sudbury	978 618-5475	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Fritz Bien	Concord	978 369-1720	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Tom Bauer	Wellesley	781 235-7344	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Brian Rickman	Marlborough	774 249-2494	Yes		Yes		
Derick Veliz	Acton	978 337-7867	Yes		Yes		
John Weigel	Natick	508 655-2138	Yes				
Richard Gammon	West Boylston	508 835-2049	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Ken Antonellis	Natick	508 653-8369		Yes	Yes	Yes	
Bruce Schneider	Hudson	978 562-9900		Yes	Yes		
Lincoln Ross	Littleton	978 800-0608		Yes	Yes		
John Nilsson	Clinton	978 368-7136		Yes			
Dave Walter	Hudson	978 562-5400		Yes			
Tom Stammberger	Winchester	617 501-7403			Yes		
Jon Leehey	Wayland	508 358-5721				Yes	
Tony Davids	Stow	978 568-9598					Yes

TREE CLIMBERS, KEYS, MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING

TREE CLIMBERS

Paul Harrington [Medfield]
508-376-2573

Monkey Man [Marlboro]
508-215-4290

Scott: 508-203-3845 [Sudbury]

Loyd Keyes: [Wayland]
508-358-9197 or 508-341-0110

Tony Morais
A1 Tree Services [Framingham]
508-626-0088 or 800-657-7788

Editors Note: If you know of any tree climbers or tree services, please send contact information to the Newsletter Editor

Keys to the Bill Martin Field

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

is the key-master. He will send out instructions as soon as he hears from you. A \$5 deposit is required the first time you receive a key.

Alex of Alex's RC in Belmont also has keys. Show him a club badge to get the key.

MEMBERSHIP

Here are the updated CRRC membership figures. The table summarizes the membership status from 2000 through current month, 2009.

Year	Renewals	New Members	Peak Totals
2000	112	62	174
2001	124	50	174
2002	138	58	196
2003	156	40	196
2004	153	42	195
2005	144	20	164
2006	124	26	150
2007	132	32	164
2008	100	23	123
2009	89	29	118

-Ray Harlan

THIS MONTH'S DIRECTOR'S MEETING

The next directors meeting will be, Tuesday, November 24th at 7:30 PM, at the Sudbury Goodnow Library. All club members are invited to attend. Please volunteer to attend at the next club meeting.





THE CHARLES RIVER RADIO CONTROLLERS, INC

2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

AMA Charter 339

Name _____ AMA No. _____

Street _____ Birth Date (AMA req'd) _____

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

E-mail _____

IMPORTANT: You must be an AMA member in order to receive your CRRC membership card.

To receive membership card and field pass, bring this application to a club meeting, or mail to the membership secretary (address below). You can pay by check or use PayPal.

(PayPal to [membership\(at\)charlesriverrc.org](mailto:membership(at)charlesriverrc.org))

Please make check payable to:

Charles River RC

Ray Harlan
Membership Secretary CRRC
15 Happy Hollow Road
Wayland, MA 01778
508-358-4013

E-mail: [membership\(at\)charlesriverrc.org](mailto:membership(at)charlesriverrc.org)

	MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY		After Mar 1, 2009
☐	OPEN Member		\$45.00
☐	JUNIOR member, (Under 19 before Jul. 1)		\$10.00
☐	SENIOR member, (If age 60 before Jul. 1)		\$35.00
☐	SENIOR member, (If age 75 before Jul. 1)		Free if AMA member
☐	Full time STUDENT		\$25.00
☐	Family member additional to OPEN membership		\$25.00

Please chose from the options below:

- ☐ DO NOT include my personal contact information in the club phone book
- ☐ Send Newsletter via US Mail.

Help reduce operating costs by downloading the newsletter on line. CRRC pays roughly \$20 per year for each mailed newsletter subscription

NOTICE: THIS MONTH CRRC CLUB MEETING

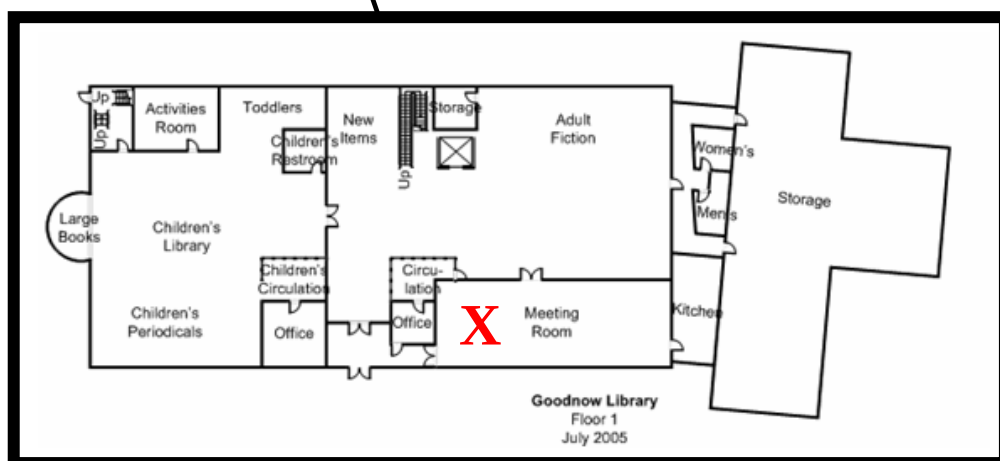
Guests are welcome!

When: *Wednesday November 18th, 2009*
Note: Check for the meeting announcement in our monthly Newsletter.

Time: *7:30 p.m.*

Where: *Goodnow Library in Sudbury, MA
21 Concord Road
Sudbury, MA 01776*

Directions: *0.1 miles on Concord Rd off RT 20 in Sudbury.*



Thomas Stammberger
Newsletter Editor
Newsletter(at)charlesriverrc.org
(617) 501-7403

Charles River Radio Controllers, Inc.

2009 R/C HOBBY AUCTION

**Sunday November 15, 2009
VFW on RTE 135, Natick, MA
12:00 noon**

**Set up and viewing noon to 1:00PM.
Auction 1:00PM to 3:30PM.**

**The Natick VFW is on RTE 135,
400 yards East of Speen Street intersection**

\$2.00 Entrance Fee

(Includes 1 raffle ticket. Additional raffle tickets are \$1.00 or 3/\$2.00)

All modeling items auctioned. Come buy and sell: engines, radios, models, kits & tools. Tables will be available for small items which can be sold without an auctioneer.

Hot dogs, chips, and drinks for sale!

CRRC receives 10% of proceeds from all sales.
Cash only PLEASE! No private sales.

Please see our website for further details: <http://www.charlesriverrc.org>