

Newsletter of the Charles River Radio Controllers, Inc.



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Upcoming CRRC Events

Davis Field Cleanup

April 14 or 15

Medfield Cleanup

April ??

Spring Float Fly

May 19-20

Dates tentative at this point in time.

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday

03/20/12

@

7:30 PM

The Club Meeting for this month will be held at the **Olin College in Needham**. Please note that the meeting this month is on a Tuesday rather than our usual Wednesday. Professor Andrew Bennett will be presenting the state of UAV work being done by his students, and there will be a show and tell of their vehicles. We will also take a tour of his lab. Bring a friend or just come alone. See directions on the last page.

RAFFLE

First Prize
Choice of

Ultra Micro Sukhoi SU-26xp BNF by ParkZone



Phase 3 P-40 Warhawk Rx Ready w/Retracts
(brushless) 40" wingspan



Snap & Fly 3-in-1 Micro RTF by Guillow



Walkera CH-47 RTF



Guest Speaker Andrew Bennett

*Director, Senior Capstone Program in Engineering
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering*

Andrew Bennett has more than 20 years of R&D experience developing novel robot systems for land, water and air use. In 1985-86 he worked at the Stanford Department of Mechanical Engineering on a novel robotic all-terrain vehicle. From 1991 to 1997 Andrew worked on a variety of autonomous underwater vehicles at the MIT AUV lab, including the Sea Squirt, Odyssey I, Odyssey II and the WHOI Autonomous Benthic Explorer. From 1997 to 1998 he worked on control systems for underwater vehicles and SSTO rocket systems at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory. From 1998 to 2000 he worked for Walt Disney Imagineering Research & Development where he helped create a full-sized walking quadruped robot technology demonstrator and several ride effects currently installed in Disney's Animal Kingdom. From 2000 to 2008 he was Director of Research and the Division Technology Officer (DTO) for iRobot's Government and Industrial Robotics division where he oversaw all research and technology development and related activities. At iRobot he was the Program Manager in charge of developing the PackBot mobile robot system under the DARPA Tactical Mobile Robotics (TMR) Program. From 2008 to 2010 he was the VP for Research & Development at Scientific Systems Company, Inc. of Waltham MA where he oversaw technical direction for a variety of cutting edge control and sensor development programs.

Dr. Bennett served on numerous advisory boards, including the medical advisory board to the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). Two samples of Dr. Bennett's work, the PackBot and the MIT Daedalus 88, are displayed at the Smithsonian Museum. He is a member of numerous professional societies including IEEE Robotics and Automation, Vehicular Technology, and Ocean Engineering Societies.

President's Letter



After a harsh winter last year, we have had a wonderful off-season. This is good for us, but probably bad for our aircraft. Without a clear definition of the winter, we have all been tempted to take to the skies far more often than usual. While this is great for keeping thumbs proficient, it's not so great for the tired aircraft that counts on its annual down time to freshen up. Carburetors get gooey, covering peels, and control horns loosen.

I for one give my fleet a thorough refitting when the snow covers the ground. This winter, life and great flying weather have delayed my usual tasks of repairs and upgrades. Simple things like tightening down motor mount screws, or replacing the fuel tube keepers on control arms get neglected and left for too long. Unfortunately, these little things can cause big problems if overlooked. A stiff clunk line or dry rot on the elevator safety can turn a \$4 repair into a lost aircraft in a hurry. If that happens we hope to be lucky that no one gets hurt. Just this week at Medfield I saw a prop nut spin off on someone and nearly cause a mess. Luckily neither aircraft nor people were hurt in the panic.

Take a minute to check for cracks, load test batteries and go through your airplane to make sure its ready for the season. Also, remember the AMA safety code? Crack open the next issue of Model Aviation and review it. You may be surprised that it's not exactly how you remember it (even though it probably is...). In addition, look out for my email containing a proposed update to the Bill Martin Field rules. I would like to vote on the proposed rule change at the April meeting so you will have plenty of time to review the rules for yourself. Finally, if you haven't been keeping those thumbs working this winter, take it easy on them too. I found out the hard way this weekend that the ground is a bit closer than it was back in the fall. Fortunately, the encounter was nothing a bit of epoxy couldn't handle, but I'll be slowing it down a bit. For a while...

Little Plane, Big Sky

Treasurer's Report

Febuary Activity Report Date 02/29/12

Starting Balance 02/01/12	
Checking	\$6,835.58
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$297.49
CD Accounts	\$6,882.25
Total Starting	\$14,040.32
Income - CDs	
Interest February	\$0.49
Total Interest	\$0.49
Income - Checking	
Membership	\$250.00
Raffle	\$57.00
Total Income	\$307.00
PayPal Activity	
Membership	\$85.00
less PayPal fee	-\$1.46
Total activity	\$83.54
Expenses - Checking	
Float Fly Expenses - #1902	\$100.00
Charter Renewal - #1903	\$150.00
Office Expenses - #1905	\$15.00
Town of Sudbury - Annual	\$600.00
AMA Contest Sanctions	\$60.00
AMA Contest Sanctions - #1904	\$40.00
Total Expenses	\$965.00
Ending Balances	
Checking	\$6,177.58
Cash Box	\$25.00
PayPal Acct	\$381.03
CD Accounts	\$6,882.74
Grand Total Ending 02/29/12	\$13,466.35

David Marshall
CRRC Treasurer

February Meeting

Business Meeting

President Sky Andrew opened the business meeting at 7:30 PM at Goodnow Library, Sudbury, MA.



The treasurer and secretary's reports were approved as written in the February newsletter.



Field Reports

A few brave souls have been flying at both Davis and Bill Martin Fields. Dick Roy reports that there continues to be a good crowd for the weekly indoor flying at Auburn Sportsplex.

Membership Report

Membership secretary Ray Harlan didn't have an exact membership count at his fingertips but says it's in the fifties.

Board of Director's Meeting

The BOD meeting will be an online Skype session next Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Ken Antonellis volunteered to join as member at large.

Old Business

Sky reports that the new rules discussion for Bill Martin Field is ongoing, and the vote will be postponed until spring. Contact Sky if you want to be included in the decision making. Dick Williamson expressed concern that he does not have gas or glow experience, and that as chief instructor he does not feel qualified to certify pilots for this new requirement.

New Business

Dick Williamson has secured permits for Davis Field for 2012. The fee is \$600 per season (spring, summer, and fall). The Sudbury Park and Rec fee is based on a set fee of \$60 per non-resident user for the season.



Dick negotiated with Park and Rec that our average attendance is 10, therefore our per season fee is \$600. CRRC has reserved Davis for both Saturdays and Sundays in the spring with the following exceptions: 1) Saturdays until about 11 AM at which time Youth Soccer starts, until their season concludes mid June. 2) Sunday May 20, and Sunday June 10 have been reserved by the Central Mass Rocketeers.

Ken Antonellis reports that the gate key to Bill Martin Field will be changed at the end of the month. Ken will have news keys at the March meeting. Ken has also heard from Bill Martin, son of Medfield flying field namesake Bill Martin. Bill is repairing the damaged field sign.



Ken has the club library at home, but reports that it is an aging collection of books and VHS, and has been replaced by the Internet. He suggests that the materials be distributed to any that want them. Ken noted one tape is an hour long documentary of the construction of Bill Martin Field that has been copied to a DVD. It would make an interesting presentation for a future club meeting.

It was reported that Ashland Hobbytown is now closed. Owner Bob Rice has been a loyal supporter of CRRC over the past few years and we wish him well.

The CRRC General meeting for March will be held at Olin College in Needham (Rte 135 at the Needham / Wellesley line), with host Andrew Bennett. Andrew will be giving us a tour of his labs as part of the evening program. Note that the meeting date is Tuesday, March 20.

We are still looking for someone to assume the position of Vice President. Also we are soliciting suggestions for a guest speaker for the May general meeting.

Ruane Crummett had handouts for the Spring Float Fly to be held at Wayland Town Beach on May 19 and 20.

Dick Williamson suggested that the club make new copies of the CRRC handout "It's All About Flying," for distribution to local hobby shops. It's been a while since these have been made available. Check with Fritz Bien for the original document.

The Lazy Loopers will be hosting their annual auction this weekend, February 19 in Wrentham.

Dick Williamson proposes that we host two Altitude Limited Soaring contests this summer, with dates to be determined. Dick still has some of the ALS circuits available for purchase.

New Wings

Chris Aall has been practicing his flying skills at Davis Field with an AXN Floater Jet with John Eppling's assistance. Chris is from Natick



New Members

No new members.

Guests

No guests.

Raffle



Ruane Crummett took home tonight's first prize combo of a Carbon Butterfly Living Room Flyer and a micro flier.



Dick Roy was the second prize winner of an 18Amp ESC.



Show and Tell

Dan Sullivan has been enjoying learning to fly his Falcon 40 helicopter. The Falcon 40 is a fixed pitched heli and comes ready to fly from Exceed RC for about \$100. Dan likes to fly his heli outside, but when the winds are calm.



Ben Eppling, son of John, showed us his stamp collection featuring airplane stamps. His collection includes stamps of airplanes, hot air balloons and gliders. He is particularly proud of his two Wright Flier stamps.



Dick Roy is flying a new 3D foamy Edge Flier at the Auburn Sportsplex indoor flying events. The Edge is made of 3mm Depron foam and weighs 6 ounces.



Neil Kaufman showed us his new creation, a Cleveland Cloudster. The Cleveland Cloudster is a 1939 free flight design that Neil modernized for RC and a glow engine. He is looking forward to thermaling this plane once the glow engine shuts down.



Bert Cohen demonstrated his Lipo battery load tester. Bert mounted a dual filament automotive lamp and some switches from “You Do It” to a wooden plank.



The switches allow him to vary the load by selecting either of the two filaments, while monitoring the voltage with his Radio Shack digital voltmeter. Bert observed that he could have bought a ready to use load tester but it was more fun to build it himself.

Doug Gifford inherited a crashed woody glider. The wing was in good shape but the nose of the fuselage required repair.

Guest Speaker

Without a VP, there was no guest speaker for this evening. However, Sky led a discussion on the pending rules change for Medfield's Bill Martin Field spearheaded by the Millis Model Aircraft Club. A draft proposal is expected to be ready for a vote at our February meeting. Sky has been circulating the updates on the CRRC Yahoo Groups email list. Two issues were explored at tonight's meeting. The pending rules restrict flying to Park Flyers before 9 AM. Although the intent is to limit noise in the early morning hours, some felt that the language is too restrictive. Sailplanes and many larger electric models don't create a noise issue, but don't meet the Park Flyer criteria. Secondly, the issue of locking the gate or not locking the gate is a perpetual one. The consensus is to close the gate, but not lock it while people are on the field. This approach dissuades casual visitors by making the gate appear locked while allowing easy access to members and invited guests. It was also suggested that a sign be posted at the gate warning visitors without a key about the possibility of getting locked in.

The meeting concluded at 8:50 PM.

***Recording Secretary
Larry Wetmore***

***Photos courtesy of
Dick Roy***

Davis Field Update

The first day of spring soccer at Davis Field will be Saturday, April 21. Given this, it looks like Saturday, April 14 would be a good day for the Davis Field clean up. We could use Sunday, April 15 as a rain date.

The under-6 soccer is scheduled for games at 12:00 noon and at 1:30 pm. That means that Davis Field will be open for flying until the kids show up a little before noon on Saturdays.

I don't yet know when soccer will end in June. An ALES contest is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 16. I will check with the soccer folks as to whether we can count on that day for the contest.

***Safety Officer
Dick Williamson***

CRRC BUILDING AND FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS

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

Richard (Dick) Williamson
978-618-5475

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

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 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	978 460-0305		Yes	Yes		
Lincoln Ross	Maynard	978 800-0608		Yes	Yes		
John Nilsson	Clinton	978 368-7136		Yes			
Dave Walter	Hudson	978 562-5400		Yes			
Jon Leehey	Wayland	508 358-5721				Yes	
Tony Davids	Stow	978 568-9598					Yes

TREE CLIMBERS, KEYS, MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING

TREE CLIMBERS

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

Michael Lynch [Wayland/Sudbury]
Lynch Landscape & Tree Service Inc.
508-665-0798
lynchlandscape@yahoo.com

Paul Harrington [Medfield]
508-376-2573

Monkey Man [Marlboro]
508-215-4290

Scott: 508-203-3845 [Sudbury]

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

Stephen Canessa
The tree guy
978-460-1000

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@verizon.net. Ken is the key-master. The key for the 2012 season is key #27. Ken may have keys at the meeting. A \$5 deposit is required the first time you receive a key.

MEMBERSHIP

Here are the updated CRRC membership figures. The table summarizes the membership status from 2005 through 2012.

Year	Renewals	New Members	Peak Totals
2005	144	20	164
2006	124	26	150
2007	132	32	164
2008	100	23	123
2009	90	28	118
2010	74	22	96
2011			108

-Ray Harlan
Membership Secretary

DIRECTOR'S MEETING

The next directors meeting will be, Tuesday March 27 at 7:30 PM. It will be a Skype telephone meeting.



THE CHARLES RIVER RADIO CONTROLLERS, INC

2012 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@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@charlesriverrc.org

	MEMBERSHIP CATAGORY	On or before Mar 1, 2012	After Mar 1, 2012
☐	OPEN Member	\$40.00	\$45.00
☐	JUNIOR member, (Under 19 before Jul. 1)	\$10.00	\$10.00
☐	SENIOR member, (If age 60 before Jul. 1)	\$30.00	\$35.00
☐	SENIOR member, (If age 75 before Jul. 1)	Free if AMA member	Free if AMA member
☐	Full time STUDENT	\$20.00	\$25.00
☐	Family member additional to OPEN membership	\$20.00	\$25.00

Please choose from the options below:

- ☐ DO NOT include my personal contact information in the club phone book

**Help reduce operating costs by
downloading the newsletter
from the CRRC website.**

**SAVE \$5 - EARLY BIRD DUES RATES ARE
LISTED**

NOTICE: THIS MONTH CRRC CLUB MEETING

Guests are welcome!

When: **Tuesday March 20th, 2012 (3rd Tuesday)**

Note: Check for the meeting announcement in our monthly Newsletter.

Time: **7:30 p.m.**

Where: **Olin College
Academic Center
Room 326, 3rd floor
Needham, MA**

Directions: **Rt. 135 Needham MA. Elevators are in the hallway as you walk down the hall.**

From the East

Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Exit 15 (Interstate 95/Route 128). After the tolls, follow the signs for Route 95/128 South. Exit Route 95/128 South at exit 19B (Highland Avenue, Needham). Follow Highland Avenue for 1.5 miles to a three-way intersection with Chapel and May Streets; bear slight right onto Chapel Street (to the right of the gas station). Take a right at the first light onto Great Plain Avenue/Rte 135. Then follow "From Great Plain Avenue" directions below.

From the West

Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Exit 14 (Interstate 95/Route 128). After the tolls, follow the signs for Route 95/128 South. Exit Route 95/128 South at exit 19B (Highland Avenue, Needham). Follow Highland Avenue for 1.5 miles to a three-way intersection with Chapel and May Streets; bear slight right onto Chapel Street (to the right of the gas station). Take a right at the first light onto Great Plain Avenue/Rte 135. Then follow "From Great Plain Avenue" directions below.

From the North or South

Take Route 95/128 to exit 19B (Highland Avenue, Needham). Follow Highland Avenue for 1.5 miles to a three-way intersection with Chapel and May Streets; bear slight right onto Chapel Street (to the right of the gas station). Take a right at the first light onto Great Plain Avenue/Rte 135. Then follow "From Great Plain Avenue" directions below.

From Great Plain Avenue

Proceed on Great Plain Avenue for 1.5 miles and the Olin College campus will be on the right. Enter the campus at "Olin Way" and follow the road around to the left to parking lot A, which provides access to all campus buildings. Handicap parking is available.