

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

February, 2021



Hopefully many members are enjoying winter-season building. David Spielman recently finished major work on his new 3.5M Yellow Jacket electric glider, and shared notes & pics via groups.io.



Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 17th, 2021

7:45PM

—>> Online via Web Conference! <<—
(invitation will be sent via email list)

President's Message

Dear Members,

I find myself at a bit of a loss to find anything of enormous interest to report. It's a time of year when finding good flying days gets a little bit tricky. In the past, I've found that giving my hands 5 minutes with some hand warmers in a pair of mittens will allow me about 3 minutes of flying before the fingers go completely numb, but I've not been willing to put that to the test these past couple of weeks.



If you are reading this newsletter and have not joined us for one of our monthly Zoom meetings, please consider doing so. The meetings are fun, social, and a way for us to keep in touch, and we'd love to see you in cyberspace until we can see you again in person. The meeting details go out on our groups.io mailing, so please join that list if you haven't already by visiting <https://crrc.groups.io>.

Speaking of our mailing list, please use the list to share anything of interest that you come across, or any builds or flying (or non-flying) outings you've enjoyed. I was happy to get a number of informative and friendly responses to my recent request for recommendations on a balsa biplane kit. If I take the plunge and get into my second balsa build, I'll be sure to share my progress with you all.

This month we welcome new members Matthew and young Ethan. We are happy to have you!

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, President

Instruction and Safety Notes

Club Training

Last fall Jon Leehey donated a Spektrum DX6e (DSMX/DSM2) radio for use as a club trainer, officially club owned. A big shout out and thank you to Jon! I haven't had any students yet, but when I do or another instructor does, this radio will be the one the student gets a chance to hold. It's lightly used and looks in new shape, so students will have a great feeling radio to try flying with. Most likely, it will be the type of radio a student pilot will buy. If the student is gadget oriented, this radio will give them a good feel. This radio will bind with any instructor's Spektrum compatible, true wireless training.

A few winters ago, pre-Covid 19, Al Marshall donated a Radian which I spruced up to to use as a club trainer or contest loaner. After last year's break in training, this Radian will be available.

If you know a pilot who is looking for training, have them contact Dick Williamson who will find a local instructor. Instructors have been very generous with their equipment and have had students use their own planes.

[Editor's note - in addition to that Radian at least one high-wing Sport Cub trainer is in my possession and available as a club trainer.]

Safety Minute

Our permit request for Sudbury Davis Field spring use is in and keys for the Bill Martin Field in Medfield are about to be changed. Before you know it, we will be flocking to the fields for the first spring flying. Now is the time to prepare your planes, make structural repairs and tune them up. Don't wait till the day you go flying to do your pre-season safety checks. Break out your favorite aircraft, clean out the dirt and dust and check your linkages, servos and general structure. You would be surprised how many times the airplane fairies sneak in and do damage when you're not looking. If you've got NiMh and NiCd batteries, make sure you do a forming charge and cycle batteries a

few times. A peak charge won't wake up these batteries correctly. You need a wall wart 1/10 C charge for 14 to 16 hours followed by a proper discharge on your normal peak charger. Check the capacity and if it's not right, form charge again.

Field Rentals

We are privileged to have a shared long term lease of the Bill Martin Field in Medfield. This is Massachusetts state property and is rented at very reasonable rate of less than \$200 per year. Since this is a shared lease with MMAC, all members of CRRC and MMAC need to follow the MA state guidelines. Look for a summary of field requirements in the club handbook coming out later this year.

We've requested a spring permit for use of Davis field for Saturday and Sunday mornings 8:00 am to 11:30 am from April through June. The Sudbury park and recreation director reviews all the field requests with priority to Sudbury and youth based clubs. Our time slot is right before the youth soccer begins. Plan your flying days so you don't miss out on the fun. We have also submitted our plans for summer and fall weekends and summer contests.

Field Safety

Please follow Governor Baker's phased roll out of business opening and PPE requirements. Both fields are state or town owned and have all the restrictions associated with that. Masks and 6-foot distance are mandatory no matter what anyone else is doing. Do not cause us to lose our field rights by getting caught breaking those rules. None of us will thank you for doing that no matter what our political affiliation is. Just suck it up and wear a mask and keep your distance. The one exception is for safety, so lowering your mask while actively flying is permitted if you keep your 6 foot minimum distance and put your mask on immediately after landing. Dennis Manone, the Sudbury Park and Rec Director, has been known to show up at the fields to make sure user groups are permitted and using the Sudbury fields properly.

- David Spielman, Safety Coordinator

Final Remote ID Rule - Summary

If you missed the summary in the last Newsletter, please consider taking a look as these new rules will affect our practice of the hobby over the next few years. The January Newsletter (and a history of previous editions) is available on the web site.

Groups.io Member Directory

To set your CRRC-specific profile, log in to groups.io with your registered account, and then go to <https://crrc.groups.io/g/crrc/editprofile> (or click Directory at the left, then click on your name, then on Edit Group Profile). You can upload a profile picture, fill in other info to share in the "bio" space, etc. Make sure you set the "Profile Privacy" drop-down to your desired level: "Other members of your group" means that registered CRRC see it.

Newsletter Content

Do you have a recent build that you haven't been able to share since you're stuck at home? A flying (or let's face it, *crashing*) story that everyone needs to hear? Pictures from that perfect day at the field? Send them to newsletter (at) charlesriverrc.org to be included in the Newsletter next month! We can always use more and different content.

- Adam Smith, Newsletter Editor

No Raffle :(

We'll be holding off the raffle for now, in hope of being able to do it at an in-person meeting soon!

COVID Protocols & Davis Field Waiver

COVID-19 has imposed mask-wearing and minimum 6-foot distancing rules when sharing public spaces. CRRC requests all members to follow state guidelines at all field or meetings, and maintain safe and healthy practices for our own and other members' sakes, as well as for the sake of other users of our shared fields.

Sudbury Parks and Recreation has asked for all participants in Davis Field activities (our rental of the field counts) to sign and return a waiver of liability in return for access to the field. Please see the club email list for a copy of the form and further details, if you come to Davis Field. The form can be signed, scanned, and sent to David Speilman at exofficio (at) charlesriverrc (dot) org.

FAA Registration Renewal

As noted recently on the club mailing list, if you registered with the FAA as a Recreational Flyer in 2016 when they launched the program, **your registration has probably expired in December**. Please remember to visit <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/> to check and renew your registration. You should be able to Log In, then click the "Dashboard" for Recreational Flyers and see your FAA registration number and expiration date. Click the "Renew" button under your number/date/address details to renew.

Also, beware some commercial entities who are claiming to process registrations - often for increased prices. Go directly to the [FAA.gov](https://www.faa.gov) site - the fee is \$5 for a three-year registration / or extension from your existing expiry.

This is also a good time to make sure that your FAA number is on all of your (flyable) planes and copters!

This Month's Meeting

Our next general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 17th, 7:45PM**. Once again ***we will hold the meeting virtually using Zoom conferencing***.

Instructions to join the session will be sent to the Groups.io mailing list a day or two before the meeting. We all hope to be able to resume in-person meetings soon, but meanwhile let's enjoy a different form of connection!

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

For access instructions regarding online meetings, please contact a member or email webmaster@charlesriverrc.org

CRRC Membership - Renew for 2021

Please remember to renew your membership for 2021. Sixty-one of your fellow members have already done so this year! While being unable to meet physically in the current situation reduces some costs to the club, membership dues are the club's main source of funds and are used for our field rentals, AMA club registration and insurance (which we've recently submitted for the new year), etc. Thanks for your support!

Full details are on the last page of the newsletter - if you're a renewing member you don't need to send the whole form, just use your previously shared email to send PayPal to membership@charlesriverrc.org.

Club Information

Officers - 2021

President

Mike Whidden
[president at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:president@charlesriverrc.org)

Vice President

Dan Sullivan
[vicepresident at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:vicepresident@charlesriverrc.org)

Treasurer

Dave Marshall
[treasurer at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:treasurer@charlesriverrc.org)

Membership Secretary

John Eppling
[membership at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:membership@charlesriverrc.org)

Recording Secretary (vacant)

[secretary at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:secretary@charlesriverrc.org)

Webmaster

Joel Foner
[webmaster at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:webmaster@charlesriverrc.org)

Newsletter Editor

Adam Smith
[newsletter at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:newsletter@charlesriverrc.org)

Chief Instructor

Dick Williamson
[chiefinstructor at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:chiefinstructor@charlesriverrc.org)

Safety Coordinator

David Spielman
[safety at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:safety@charlesriverrc.org)

Raffle Chairman

David Spielman
[exofficio at charlesriverrc.org](mailto:exofficio@charlesriverrc.org)

Instruction

To inquire about instruction please call the Chief Instructor, Dick Williamson.

Types of instruction

B = Building
 G = Glider
 E = Electric
 F = Fuel
 H = Helicopter
 Q = Quadcopter/
 Multirotor

Dick Williamson - B,G,E
 Sudbury - 978-618-5475

David Spielman - B,E
[dspielma \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:dspielma@gmail.com)

John Weigel - B
 Natick - 508-655-2138
 Richard Gammon - B,G,E,F
 West Boylston -
 508-835-2049

Ken Antonellis - G,E,F
 Natick - 508-653-8369
 Lincoln Ross - G,E
 Waltham - 781-891-0332

Dave Walter - G
 Hudson - 978-562-5400

Jon Leehey - F
 Wayland - 508-358-5721

Tony Davids - H
 Stow - 978-568-9598

Scott Ritter - Q
 Sudbury - 978-443-2373

General Info

Flying Sites

Go to the [CRRC Website](http://www.charlesriverrc.org) and select the Flying Sites tab to see the various sites. The site page will give current weather and site information.

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 2020 season is key #15. Ken may have keys at the meeting. A \$5 deposit is required the first time you receive a key.

Tree Climbers

Lloyd Keyes(Wayland)
 508-358-9197 or
 508-341-0110

Scott (Sudbury)
 508-203-3845

Stephen Canessa
 The Tree Guy
 978-460-1000

Hartney Greymont (Medfield)
 Sean Comer
 781-444-1227
thescomer@gmail.com

Membership Application - 2021

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: http://charlesriverrc.org/newsite/Documents/CRRC%20Handbook%202020.pdf				

IMPORTANT: You must be an Academy of Model Aeronautics member to join CRRC.
AMA Junior membership is free! <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

To receive a membership card, bring this application to a club meeting or
 mail to the membership secretary:

John Eppling
Membership Secretary CRRC
43 Nylander, Acton, MA 01720
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, 2020	After March 1, 2020
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 (Voluntary donation appreciated - e.g. \$50)	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	(Voluntary donation appreciated)	(Voluntary donation appreciated)
Full time STUDENT	\$40	\$45
Family member additional to OPEN membership		
Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)	Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc	