

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

May, 2021



Jimi Two Feather's new Draco 2M foamy looking dramatic - see inside for more!



Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 19th, 2021

7:45PM

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

President's Message

Dear Members,

As I write this note, I have eight 4-cell LiPos on the charger, and a 2-cell goggle battery and a GoPro charging via USB. I then realized I was also charging my cell phone, my cordless phone, my laptop, and my car! What a magical world we live in, where we can carry the power to fly in a pocket, and power to move ourselves and goods that for all but a sliver of recent history required massive domesticated animals. And we can do it by carefully controlling the movement of preposterous numbers of infinitesimal and ghostly quanta of charge. The snoring of my dog has shaken me now from this pleasant moment of wonderment.



This past weekend I had the joy of participating in a drone race with New England Racing drones. Their home field is a patch of ground beyond a BMX motorcycle track, next door to a dirt R/C car track, and just beside the runout end of the drag strip at New England Dragway. The weather was cloudy, but pleasant. The motorcyclists were out in droves, flying over their jumps but barely audible. A half-dozen R/C car racers were skidding their cars about. The sound of multirotors dopplered up and down as they zipped through the corkscrews, ladders, hurdles, and gates of the MultiGP General Qualifier course. All while the candy-like scent of racing fuel mixed with just a touch of *eau de burning clutch*. I placed dead last, of course, but I loved every moment of it. Unfortunately, my racing quadcopter bore the brunt of my inadequacies as a pilot, and did not survive.



The weekend before, ex-officio Scott Ritter and I got to meet and fly with one of our new members (welcome, Roger S.!) and met a young dad who was interested to join. Please continue to share your enthusiasm for our hobby with the folks to show up and see what we are up to. Besides Roger, I see we have also added new members Allan V., Eric H., Ellery B., Yuval (who I had the pleasure to meet at the field back in April), Ernest G., Atticus M., and Michael H. Welcome all of you!

I recently polled the membership about resuming in-person meetings outdoors, and although not unanimous, the overall sentiment was very positive about meeting outdoors this summer, so expect to see some upcoming meetings at the field.

Be sure to keep an eye on the Groups.io mailing list. A lot of information and interaction has been going on there. And don't forget to join this month's virtual meeting via Zoom on May 19th. Please get in touch with me if you need technical assistance connecting to Zoom.

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, President



Field Notices

Bill Martin / Medfield - Keys

As noted recently on the mailing list, the Bill Martin Field in Medfield will continue to operate with the same key as last year, #15. Ken Antonellis is the key-master if you need access - David Speilman also reportedly has some keys available.

Upcoming Events - Non-CRRC

Red Rooster F5J Contest - RISC

RISC has invited us to the Red Rooster F5J contest in RI on **May 22-23** and they are hoping to have some pilots from CRRC pilots join in.

If you haven't been to the RISC flying field, you are missing out. The field or should I say fields are part of a sod farm and are huge.



Registration for two days is \$40.00.

Register at: <http://www.flyesl.org/Contest.aspx?contestid=348>

More info: <https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?3844313-Red-Rooster-F5J-contest-Rhode-Island-May-22-23>

MMAC Float Plane Fun Fly - June 6th

Our Millis sister club's flyers have been scheming for a fun-fly from water. "We decided to hold this event on the first Sunday in June, which is on D-Day, June 6, 2021. Milford Pond is on Cedar Street (Rte. 85) just south of Plains Park and Rosenfeld Fields. As usual, we would like to assemble around 9 AM and really get things going by 10. This is not a contest, just an opportunity to get your airplanes wet."

See further detail in the MMAC email forwarded to groups.io by David Spielman circa May 10th.

CRRC Summer 2021 Events

While the 2021 Summer calendar is still firming up in some regards, we have several events scheduled and hope to have more flexibility to safely hold these gatherings than we did last year. Thanks to all participants for your collaboration to keep everyone - contestants and others - safe & legal.

July 4th Demonstration Day

A final decision regarding the July 4th Demos will be made at or before the June member's meeting. The Board would like to see further guidance from the State and from Sudbury before committing to this type of public event.

Altitude-Limited Electric Soaring (ALES) - July 17-18

This July 17 and 18 sailplane pilots will take to the air in our annual Altitude Limited Electric Soaring contest. Most pilots will have a CAMs type soaring circuit that shuts the motor off at 200 meter altitude or 30 seconds, whichever come first. If you are new to electric thermal soaring and don't have a CAM circuit in your plane, we have a few loaners or you can fly without one, but with a 20 second launch window.

Radians do well in this contest as well as an electric Gentle Lady. So if you don't have the latest carbon fiber sailplane, just bring what you normally fly. Show your skills and compete for one of three awards a day. There's a \$25 fee per day that covers field rental, lunch and drinks. Register at fliesl.com.

Thanks to David Spielman and Dan Sullivan, CDs

NERDS Drone Race (Hosted by CRRC) - July 31

Following last year's inaugural event, CRRC will again host a drone racing day with New England Racing Drones conducting the competition. It's quite a sight to see (and hear) - more details next month!

CRRC Soar-In - August 21-22

Details to come for this thermal duration soaring event!

Safety Corner

We are seeing some great progress towards controlling the pandemic with vaccines being our miracle drug. We still have a ways to go and there may be another surge so roll up your sleeve and get the vaccine to do your part to end the pandemic.

We continue to rent Davis Field and have full use of the Bill Martin Field in Medfield. **At this time we still have a mask mandate if you can't distance by 2 meters** and that's a hell of a lot better than just a few months ago. Respect other pilots by abiding to the rules and keep an eye open for rule changes.

Tick season is here and with it comes Lyme disease. The recommended attire is light colored clothing including long pants tucked into your white socks topped off with insect repellent. The idea is for you to be able to see ticks before they find your nice juicy skin. If a tick finds a meal of your blood and it's been there a while you may need a dose of Doxycycline to reduce your chances of contracting Lyme. Check with your doctor if you find a tick feeding on you especially if you have a bulls eye rash.

I found a fellow safety guy who is helping pilots fly safely on the School Street field in Acton. Jimi Two-Feathers has been advocating for safe flying long before me and his efforts are great for the AMA and CRRC, and the public at large. Thank you Jimi!

Fly safe,

- David Spielman, Safety Officer

[Thanks also to David for his hard work and advocacy in this role! -Ed.]

Miscellany

Hot (Model) Topic

[Jimi Two Feathers shared the following with me regarding his new Draco, a hot model from E-Flite and a great looking STOL-style foamie. See the "cover page" photo in-flight, and a static shot here. —Ed.]

Here are some pictures of not maiden but early flights and field of my Draco at School St.

Amazing scale model, flies like a Timber but with more control and options. With 1Telemetry sensor add-on it has voltage, air speed, altitude, variometer, and signal strength readouts.



The landing gear are the best I've seen on a foamy, working shocks on all 3 landing gear points. With the paint job and finish you can hardly tell it is foam.

Summer (Quad) Camp Song

["A camp song inspired by a recent Rotor Riot newsletter", submitted by David Spielman. -Ed.]

Are your rates too low?
Do you wobble to and fro?
Can you fly in a knot?
Can you fly in a bow?
Can you fly right over your shoulder like
 LeDrib or Cap' Vanover?
Are your rates too low?

Are your rates too high?
Are you thrown up in the sky?
Do they droop when throttle down?
Do they surge when you push the unknown?
Can you flip over your neighbor with a
 minimum of labour?
Are your rates too high?

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 fields & 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.

Update: May 2021 - As of the time of writing, state guidelines for masking in public have not changed, and we have not received any update or change from Sudbury. Please continue to comply with publicly required masking.

FAA Registration Reminder

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.

Registrations last three years, making it easy to forget.

This Month's Meeting

Our next general meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 19th, 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!

It's also getting warm out - so bring your stories and pictures (or turn on the camera and show up live) from winter building projects, we'll have a good round of show-and-tell!

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. **Ninety** of your fellow members have already done so this year - 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 2021 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, 2021	After March 1, 2021
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 (<i>Voluntary donation appreciated - e.g. \$50</i>)	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	(<i>Voluntary donation appreciated</i>)	(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	