

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

July, 2021



(ALES Day 1 - photo by Mike Whidden)



July/August Meetings:

Wednesday, July 21st - 7:00PM

IN PERSON at Davis Field, Sudbury

August Date & Time TBD

IN PERSON at Bill Martin Field, Medfield

President's Message

Dear Members - Welcome to the warm beating heart of summer, and my apologies for not providing a proper address in last month's newsletter.

June saw the beginning of the AMA Nats, named this year for Mike Karnes, former president of IMAC who passed away in January. Various Nats events continue in July and August.

We also saw the implementation of TRUST, (The Recreational UAS Safety Test). All recreational pilots of unmanned aircraft systems weighing over .55 must possess a certification of passing this test in order to fly legally in the U.S. The test is very simple, impossible to fail, and can be administered by any number of organizations conveniently online. The AMA can provide the test to you at <https://trust.modelaircraft.org>. You will pass the test, and then you simply print out the certificate and throw it in your wallet or flight bag.

This month we have the Altitude-Limited Electric Soaring (ALES) event at Davis field on July 17th and 18th, so please come out to participate, assist (volunteers are very appreciated!) or spectate. We also have our 2nd annual NERDs Drone Race on July 31st , which is also very exciting to see.

This month's meeting will be our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. We'll have our meeting outdoors at Davis on July 14th at 7pm. Note that this is a little earlier than our usual 7:45pm meeting. We'll keep the business short so we can also get some flying in! Watch the mailing list and upcoming newsletters, for the timing and location of the August meeting.

Be sure to keep an eye on the groups.io mailing list. A lot of information and interaction has been going on there.

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, CRRC President



A Note from the Field

Saturday July 10th: where was everyone? Such a beautiful day to fly. Me and Dave Walter were the only pilots present for quite a while. Skys were cloudy, but the rain held off and the thermals were keeping us in the air for over 10 minutes a flight. I even had time to practice sticking my landings.

The weather reports often scare off pilots who would otherwise be enjoying a morning of soaring. When in doubt, show up and fly.

Watch out ALES competitors, here I come!

- David Spielman

[Editor's note - it seems I arrived at Davis just a few minutes after David S. and David W. packed it in. I can confirm that it was a fun day to practice with the Radian before the ALES. Unfortunately for me, I may have used my karma up - I had a flight on this day that probably rivaled the SUM of my off-motor times at the actual ALES . . . Sorry I missed you, Dave & David!]

Rescue Mission

An anonymous tipster shared this picture of John Eppling's Draco fuselage, after a suspected elevator servo failure caused an unanticipated interaction with terra firma. Rumor has it that "foam doctor" David S. is going to take a shot at repairs . . . cross your fingers for a Fall show-and-tell.

- Ed.



Altitude-Limited Electric Soaring

(ALES) Contest - July 17-18

Dramatic clouds formed the backdrop for flying in Saturday, July 17th's ALES contest / Day 1 (see cover photo). As a brief report (at writing the Day 2 event ended just hours ago), some chancy weather did not manage to put off either day of the CRRC ALES contest. Saturday saw fifteen pilots and five rounds of flying, with George Hill leading the Expert pack followed by David Walter and David Immanuel on the podium. Sunday seven pilots dodged showers through at least a late lunch (I didn't see final results before "press" time). More details in next month's newsletter.



Photo by Mike Whidden

CRRC Upcoming Events

We hope to have more flexibility to safely hold these gatherings than we did last year - though all events are subject to the ongoing public health situation and national/state/local guidance. Thanks to all participants for your collaboration to keep everyone - contestants and others - safe & legal.

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)! We had only a couple of CRRC flyers last year - but they all said it was a blast, so if you're on the fence come try it!

CRRC Soar-In - August 21-22

Details to come for this thermal duration soaring event!

Safety Corner

A safety reminder: Program a new or newly repaired plane with the prop removed and only put the prop on in preparation to fly. If the channels are mixed, you may not be able to stop the motor without pulling out the battery. That is a lot easier to do when the prop is off. Futaba, Airtronics and Spektrum all have different default channel assignments. You could be surprised if after a repair the throttle is attached to rudder, and when activated with a left turn the throttle stays at 1/2 throttle. Wrap your head around that!

- David Spielman, Safety Coordinator

COVID Protocols

CRRC requests all members to follow state guidelines and any location or facility based requirements at all fields & meetings. Please 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 and meeting rooms.

Update: June 2021 - As of the time of writing, the original Massachusetts "emergency" declaration and most public restrictions have been lifted by the Governor and the State. CRRC has not received specific new guidance from the Town of Sudbury. Please continue to be aware both of state & local guidance and requirements, as well as considerate of the health and preferences of those around us, as the situation evolves.

FAA Registration and TRUST Test

Please remember to visit <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/> to check and renew your FAA registration ID. Also, beware some commercial entities who are claiming to process registrations - often for increased prices. The fee is \$5 for a three-year registration / extension from your existing expiry. Check your registration when you mark each new plane/drone, so you don't forget!

Also in recent news, the FAA has authorized several organizations including the AMA to administer the knowledge and safety test required by congressional action. ***You are now required to show proof of passing the test (along with your FAA ID number) to law enforcement or FAA representatives upon request.***

According to reports from members, the test takes about 15 minutes to complete (largely due to unimpressive performance loading each successive page). You can't proceed without providing the correct answers, and at the end you'll receive a confirmation number as well as link to a printable certificate/card. The test is free! Take it at: <https://trust.modelaircraft.org/>

July & August Meetings

Our next general meeting is scheduled to be ***in-person at Davis Field***, Sudbury, on **Wednesday July 21st, at 7:00PM** (note earlier time for the sake of daylight / mosquitos).

We are finalizing plans to have the August meeting at Bill Martin Field, Medfield. Likely is a Saturday morning. Watch for the details on the mailing list, website, and next Newsletter. And come check it out, especially if you haven't been to Medfield!

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. **Over 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 (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	