

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

September, 2021



Sailplanes at the 2021 Fritz Bien Soar-In - photo by Richard Phipps



September Meeting:

Wednesday, September 15th

7:45PM

Online by ZOOM

Guest: AMA District 1 VP Andy Argenio

President's Message

Dear Members,

On August 21st we held the Fourth Annual Fritz Bien Memorial Soar-In (or was it our Third Second Annual Fritz Bien Memorial Soar-In, as I believe Chris Schuch announced it?) Sadly, the second day of the Soar-In was cancelled due to the remains of Hurricane Henri coming through. I had obligations that kept me from flying, but I stopped by in the morning just after a very low ceiling had cleared, and as a few manned power paragliders left the air over Davis, clearing the way for seven rounds of gliding competition. I'll second what Chris said in his summary to the mailing list: thank you to all the volunteers!



Speaking of volunteers, please remember that this club can only exist and thrive and continue to be a community when you (yes you, dear reader) are involved. That means getting out to our fields and flying. But it also means volunteering to score contests (or even CD them), instruct trainees, or hang signs. That means writing up a little article about what happened at the field, or what you built or flew recently, to be included in this newsletter. And, since election season approaches, that means stepping up and getting involved in the leadership and management of the club by holding an office. That's right, Uncle CRRC Wants You!

I recently published a poll to the groups.io list about having our October meeting in-person at Goodnow Library. Out of nearly 200 recipients, I got 16 responses – 13 would be willing to meet at the library, 3 would not. Please visit the poll (if you haven't yet) and let me know your thoughts at <https://crrc.groups.io/g/crrc/vote?pollid=24093>. If you'd rather, you can email your answer at president@charlesriverrc.org.

See the following section of the newsletter for important information about the upcoming auctions of items from the generous donation the club

received from David Fish. There is great electronics, planes, and tools, and most are brand new.

If you haven't yet, please do be sure to complete the TRUST test discussed in the last newsletter. It is required by law, and quite simple to pass.

If you are reading this before September 15th, remember that our September club meeting is on that date at 7:45pm. Meeting details will be sent to the groups.io mailing list in advance. Please get in touch with me if you need technical assistance connecting to Zoom.

Fly well,

- Mike Whidden, CRRC President

Club Donation Auction (#1)

As mentioned in an earlier email (and newsletter), we received a large donation of items, and the first auction of those items begins next week. The auction opens for bidding on September 13, but you can preview the auction site and view the items here:

<https://www.32auctions.com/CRRC2021Auction1>

FEATURED	FEATURED	FEATURED
		
Hitec Aurora 9x Transmitter \$100.00	HobbyZone Conscendo S \$50.00	ParkZone Radian \$60.00

Again:

- Each auction will be open for **two weeks**.
- Each will be a **silent auction**, not a blind auction. You will be able to see the highest current bid, and may choose to increase your bid up until the end of the auction.
- A valid email address will be required to join the auction. Using your real name is optional on the website, but you will need a **working email address** to register, and to coordinate payment.
- Payment will be directly to the club by **cash, check or PayPal**.
- Items **will not be** shipped. Auction winners will be contacted at the email they used to join the auction to coordinate picking up their items.
- It is not practical to photograph every item before the auction. Please use the manufacturer and model name to do your own research before bidding.
- I believe most or all items are new and unused, but it is not guaranteed.

- Mike Whidden, CRRC President

FEATURED



**Proxxon Bench Drill Press
TBM 115**

\$60.00

FEATURED



Spektrum Dx6 Transmitter

Unopened package.

\$150.00



Flyzone Tidewater

\$40.00

MMAC Water Fun Fly - 9/26

Our sister club in Millis is holding a water fun fly on September 26, and extended the invite to CRRC'ers as well. Per their missive:

The event is again being held at Milford Pond at the Rosenfield Park Boat Ramp parking lot which is on Cedar Street (Rte. 85). For those that use either Google maps or Waze for navigation, the links are below.

[Google Maps Link](#) - [Waze Link](#)

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. In case anyone zigs when they should have zagged, I will again bring my kayak so that we can retrieve any airplanes that refused to return to shore.

There are some safety rules that we must adhere to, which John will relate to all participants. There are portable toilets within walking distance from the boat ramp. This is a "Bring Your Own Food" event. There are restaurants nearby as well.

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CRRC September Meeting

Our next general meeting is scheduled to be **online via Zoom** on **Wednesday, September 15th, at 7:45PM.**

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

Safety Corner

How do you work things out with dog owners at a public flying field? We recently had an incident at one of our fields where a dog owner was confrontational. The owner wanted to be right on the flight line and said he has the right to do anything he wants on the field because he pays a lot of taxes. The truth is Taxes do not buy a person the right to interfere with field rental controlled by Sudbury Parks and Recreation. Parks and Rec has the responsibility to control the rental and have removed groups from the field who are not renting. We pay a use rate that reflects that we are an adult organization, mostly non-Sudbury. Of the eight priorities categorized we rank number seven, pretty low, and we pay about \$4k in fees a year. We've paid up to \$5k or \$6k when we had more people. We now average 10 people per weekend. We peaked several years ago at 16. We would gladly pay if we could get 16 members flying on the weekend.

It is pretty obvious when a team of soccer or frisbee players are using the field, where the play area is. Not so with us. Where you take off and land is unclear because we don't put down lines or fences or signs. Dog owners like to stand in the middle of the field so they can catch the action and socialize. If they knew what was about to happen they might think better of it.

About the winch line: It is really powerful and if you grab the line while it's moving, it results in painful rope burn. If dogs are near the line, we stop and wait. It's annoying and we do stop anyways. The winch operators know that. Chris and Dave and the other experts wait for one such owner, a woman who walks her two dogs around the winch line. She walks daily on the same route at about 10:00 am. We accommodate.

My point, be nice to the dog walkers and work things out. CRRC should work as a team. Don't rely on signs, talking is best. Have all pilots talk and be friendly. Put up with the jerks including the guy who who tells you the dog pees on everything including your plane, infuriating as that may be.

If you want a liaison at the field, ask a retiree who you don't see at the field much to join you. They may be looking for a car pool and you can ask them to wear a mask for the drive. The more experienced Davis Field pilots are great at talking to the dog walkers and do that in a subtle way. Engage and be awesome.

Fly safely,

- David Spielman, Safety Coordinator

Remember When?

Please enjoy this article from Tom Nagel, in the CRRC Newsletter of March, 1996

I recognized an idea that will be of lasting value to the sport — a system of personal achievement, individual development and recognition of the mastery of the various errors, omissions, lapses of judgment and outright idiocy that make up silent flight. There should be created a league of rc flyers dedicated to ever increasing levels of incompetence, as we smash more and more expensive toys into tiny pieces, aided only by the forces of wind, gravity and (dare I say it) stupidity.

Thus was created "The League of Stupid Flight". I debated with myself momentarily whether the League of Stupid Flight should be a five step program or a twelve step program, but decided not to go overboard. No use encouraging claims that rc sailplane is addictive or antisocial. So with that, Here are the five levels of the League of Stupid Flight:

Level I. Buy your first sailplane kit, model and style unimportant; carefully construct the model over a period of several months, agonizing over construction, mounting of components, trim and balance. Never mind joining a club or getting any help from an experienced flyer. Then heave the model off a hill and smash it to bits.

Level II. Join a club and buy a second kit, preferably with a fragile T-tail. Build it with advice and help from your new buddies. On the way out to the field for its maiden flight, slam the car door on the wing, or break off the stab by making a sudden stop in traffic. Do quick field repairs, have one of your buddies launch the plane for you, then take over the sticks. Fly the model into the nearest tree, pole, fence or parked car. To qualify at LSF II you must repeat this task at least twice.

Level III. Your multiply repaired sailplane is now strong enough to withstand most beginner errors, and heavy enough to require a winch launch. Talk one of the guys into showing you how the winch works; and on your first try, roll the plane over and dork it into the field under full winch power. Extra points given at Level III if there are no pieces larger than 3", or if you can't find the nicads. To qualify for LSF III you must place in a major contest under the category of "most spectacular crash".

Level IV. Perform a 12 minute flight off winch or high start without having turned on the receiver at launch. A witness is required or the eight hour search task. Extra landing points if the model is found more than 1 mile from the field. Also required at LSF IV is a cross country flight of 500 miles or more with your model in carry-on luggage, and your transmitter left at home on the workbench.

Level V. Hand launch your new transmitter on a short but spectacular flight by stepping in a groundhog hole. Extra credit is given if the transmitter lands on its antenna, or if the transmitter is hand launched while you have a model in the air; double extra credit for both at once. In order to qualify for Level V the above must be performed in the presence of a large group of experienced fliers or a class of elementary school children.

The final LSF V task is a slope launch. While climbing back to a ridge top with model in one hand and transmitter in the other, create a boulder avalanche and launch the entire slope into a slide to the base of the hill. Where your car is parked.

[Thanks once again to Mike Whidden for the treasure hunt / dumpster dive!
-Ed.]

Club Officer Elections - November!

A quick reminder that in November (not really that far off, shockingly) we'll elect new club officers for next year. Who are these mysterious servants of the greater good? Why, they're just like you! The majority of the current board have served for five years or more - fresh ideas and energy would be welcome!

Please consider what CRRC does for you, and whether you could help keep the club "flying" by volunteering a little time and light effort. You'll find it's fun too!

In particular we are looking to fill at least Webmaster and Safety Coordinator roles for the coming year. Probably other officers would be willing to shift around, or make some room, if you have a particular interest.



Tower Hobby Corsair

\$40.00



ParkZone Mosquito

\$50.00

[Above - a couple more "Auction #1" items with their starting bids. Good luck bidding! -Ed.]

COVID Updates

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 FAA charges \$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. 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/>

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

Tom Hurney
 508-272-7489

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	