

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

January 2025



Photo Credit: Adam Smith (who attended but is not pictured)



January Meeting:

Wednesday, January 8th, 7:30pm

In Person at

Goodnow Library, Sudbury

President's Message

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a chance to relax and enjoy the holidays.

We had our first event of 2025 back on January 1st with the Frozen Finger Fun Fly at Davis. This year it was more wet than cold, but we still had a pretty good turnout and got some good flying in once the rain cleared. We are also busy planning for events later in the year including the Flea & Fly, NERDs 2025, ALES and the Soar-In. Help is always welcome, so if you would like to volunteer to help plan any of these events, please let a member of the Board know. Also, if anyone has an idea on other events we might do, please reach out!

Our first general meeting of 2025 will be this Wed, Jan 8th at Goodnow. Please note that this month's and next month's meetings are earlier than usual because of scheduling conflicts. This month, we will have our AMA District 1 AVP Daren Hudson and District 1 Outreach Team member Doug Thomson at the meeting to answer questions and talk about how District 1 is planning for the future.

Thanks,

Joe



Club Meeting - Jan. 8

Our January meeting is scheduled to be ***in-person at Goodnow Library in Sudbury at 7:30pm.*** Please plan to attend. Several AMA Assistant Vice Presidents will be there as speakers.

From AVP Daren Hudson they'll share "a new video (5 min) and then our personal stories (short bios and ties to the hobby and AMA). Then we want to hear from all of you. We'll offer some thought provoking questions at the start to hopefully generate some discussion. We will note and answer as many questions as possible, hopefully clear up any misconceptions and inform you all of [the] value and benefits to membership and chartering that you may not be aware of and exciting initiatives for 2025 focused on clubs and members! Finally, leave you with some resources to add more value to your club and members being part of the "one community" of AMA."

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

We are back to meeting in doors for a few months, so **we need speakers** to present during our meetings in the library. **Please** get in touch with any of the club officers if you know someone who could give an interesting presentation to the club, or if you yourself would like to present.

Club Expenses

You might be aware that our club membership is down from our highs, but field costs continue be our primary expense. We have reserves, but dues alone are not sufficient to cover expenses. The club always accepts donations, which you can send in with your membership dues, bring to a club meeting, or send with PayPal to membership@charlesriverrc.org.

Frozen Finger Fun Fly

January 1st's annual Frozen Finger Fun Fly at Davis Field arrived with misty rain, cold-but-not-frigid temperatures, and plenty of donuts! We had a small turnout of eight members, and 4-6 fixed-wing and 4 multi rotors took to the damp skies. Photos by Dave Walter, Adam Smith, and Joe Sicree.



Airplane Storage Solution

[From David Spielman]

HELP, David! I'll pay you to get my husband's planes out of the bedrooms, the kitchen and office and figure out how to hang them in the garage. Game-on! This is a good challenge. I know that the commercial plane hanging systems are expensive topping \$70 per plane. They also look a little complex to retrieve planes in them. I want something easy to use and budget friendly. The planes aren't that big, weighing in at between 3 and 8 pounds. Ok, I've got some specs to work with.

Off to Google! Pinterest pops up with photos of plane storage systems. Looking good at first sight. All the designs seem to be coming from RCU (RC Universe) Some seem good. PVC seems to be a material of choice. You have your basic rectangles that hang from the ceiling. There were also planes hanging from ropes with pulley systems and cleats to tie off the lines. A very popular system are stands made of PVC pipe with 2-foot protruding supports for wings.



We kind of like this design where planes hang from hinged PVC pipe



Way too complex of a design. It holds a lot, but way too difficult to work with.

Time to whittle down the designs. Out are wall hangers and free-standing contraptions. The garage is small and two cars are in there. Plus, there's no wall space, so a ceiling system is needed. The garage ceiling is 10 feet tall and I want to use a 3-1/2-foot kitchen step ladder so it's safe to retrieve the plane. The plane is going to need to hang about 18" from the ceiling. This way if upright the rudder will clear obstructions and if upside down the plane won't be damaged carrying things past them.

Next step, let's play building blocks like Leggo or Lincoln Logs, take your pick. I have a supply of schedule 40, 3/4" PVC pipe and fittings to work with. Out to the Hot, Hot garage I go to make a

mess and spread out. While working with the design, friction fit is all that's needed for this first step. Glue will stifle creativity because you will literally be "stuck" with the design.

What to hang? 1. An Eflite Viper 90mm EDF, weight 8 pounds. 2. An Eflite 1.2-meter T28, weight 6 pounds. 3. An Eflite Timber X, weight 4 pounds. 4. An Eflite Cherokee at pounds 5 pounds.



The design I choose is a PVC hanger that hooks onto a single bicycle hanging hook. No slipping or shifting here. The hook will be roughly over the center of gravity of the plane. I used a PVC tube cutter, but a saw of your choice will work better. Warning, there are a lot of cuts, so if your body says ouch, go with an electric saw. Repetitive motion disease is serious, so if you don't want surgery like someone I know, listen to your pain.



Success! Here's my friends' garage. Four planes are out of the house. His preferred orientation is to hang the planes canopy down so they stay clean.



I found the location of the ceiling support and drilled a pilot hole for the hook. The hook is installed with the open side of the hook towards the home interior and away from the overhead door. Place the plane on the hanger and hang the hanger on the hook. Does it balance? Does it move around? Does the vibration from the door cause the plane to move? Is it strong enough? It's great! Good balance, no movement, nice vibration isolation and plenty strong. It's a keeper.



Above is a set of parts to make up one plane hangar. We cut the foam ahead of time and fit it on the lower pipe before gluing for a more finished look.

Parts list: Home Depot or your favorite hardware store

Total 5 feet PVC pipe (get extra for mistakes)

(9) 90 degree 3/4" elbows, (8 if you sub in a 45 degree for low-profile)

(2) 12" pieces of 3/4" PVC pipe (bottom wing support)

(2) 11" pieces of PVC pipe (Vertical drop)

(2) 4" pieces of PVC pipe (Horizontal adjust length for C.G.)

(2) 7" pieces of PVC pipe (Top angle)

(1) 45 degree 3/4" elbow (for a low-profile look)

(1) Vinyl Coated Steel Screw-In Bicycle Hook \$1.48

(2) 14" of 1" poly self-sealing pipe insulation comes in 6' length \$4.44

(1) Can of PVC cement

(1) Can of PVC cleaner or acetone to clean off marking (optional)

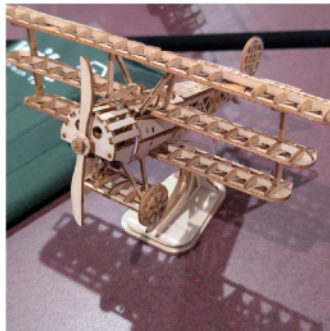
Price per is about \$15 with the bicycle hook



Here are a set of hangers of the same profile. When gluing them up, pay attention to the bottom width so you clear landing gear. I biased outside the gear, but since these are hung upside down, going narrower may be to your preference. A shorter garage ceiling may call for a shorter upright and a 45-degree elbow, so you hug the ceiling closer.

December Meeting

During the December meeting, Jimmy won an ARF, Bert took home a screwdriver set, and Tom scored a battery charger. Tom also show-and-told about a scratch-built plane he built from a photo of plans of a custom plane. It flies on 3S. Bert shared his model tri-plane and Dan showed his Baby Blender Flite Test pipe.



Meeting Minutes [*thank you to Roger Silva, club Secretary*]

18 Dec 2024 / 7:30 PM

12 members present, start 7:42

- Treasurer Report
 - \$5185.00 in regular funds
 - All bills paid for year except
 - \$6851.00 in CD's
- Membership Report
 - High 80's count.
 - Remember to renew before March for discount
- Safety Report
 - No incidents
 - Talked about pilots arrest on Long Island near Logan
- Field Report
 - School St is nice
 - Davis in perfect shape
- Old Business
 - School St schedule final, fee to be paid as soon as Melissa corrects document
- New Business
 - ALES will be 21 & 22 June 2025
 - Soar In will be 23 & 24 August 2025
 - Possible Flea and Fly in May ?
 - Donation to club from anonymous person, Adam has prepared a list. Items will be used for raffle or small auction.
 - Joe asked for ideas to get greater participation from members as well as getting new members.
 - Frozen Finger Fun Fly, Jan 1st @ 9AM.
 - Members request to be notified about Medfield key exchange date/location.

Business ended 8:20 pm

School Street Flying Schedule

Our “official” flying season at School Street is over for 2024. Check back here in the coming months for the 2025 season schedule.

SCHOOL STREET FIELDS 2024

CRRC (ALL DAY - START 11 AM)	ROCKETS
RC (EVENINGS)	BOY SCOUT CAMP
CRICKET (ALL DAY)	ACTON TOWN FAIR
CRICKET (EVENINGS)	

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE														
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S								
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3	4								1	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30						28	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31																												30							

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER													
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7						1	2	3	4	5										1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30											27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31						

FAA Registration

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, or extension.

Check your registration when you mark each new plane/drone, so you don't miss a renewal!

TRUST Test

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.

The test is free and can't be failed! Take it at:

<https://trust.modelaircraft.org/>

CRRC Membership Renewal

Support CRRC by renewing your annual membership! See the last page, or contact Adam Smith (membership@charlesriverrc.org). Ages 75 and over, and under 19, are free for CRRC membership (AMA membership required to fly at fields/events, and discounted for juniors). Sixty-and-over receive a \$10 discount. Donations to the club are always welcome.

Make sure you have a current card to bring to in-person meetings and get a free raffle ticket!

Club Information

Officers - 2025	Instruction	General Info
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>President</i> Joe Sicree president at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Vice President</i> Dan Sullivan vicepresident at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Treasurer</i> Dave Marshall treasurer at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership Secretary</i> Adam Smith membership at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recording Secretary</i> Roger Silva secretary at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Webmaster</i> Shawn Silva webmaster at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Newsletter Editor</i> Mike Whidden newsletter at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Interim Chief Instructor</i> Scott Ritter chiefinstructor at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Safety Coordinator</i> Jimi Two Feathers safety at charlesriverrc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Raffle Chairman</i> John Epling exofficio at charlesriverrc.org</p>	<p>To inquire about instruction please call the Chief Instructor, Dick Williamson.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Types of instruction</u> B = Building G = Glider E = Electric F = Fuel H = Helicopter Q = Quadcopter/ Multirotor</p> <p>John Weigel - B Natick - 508-655-2138</p> <p>Richard Gammon - B,G,E,F West Boylston - 508-835-2049</p> <p>Ken Antonellis - G,E,F Natick - 508-653-8369</p> <p>Lincoln Ross - G,E Waltham - 781-891-0332</p> <p>Dave Walter - G Hudson - 978-562-5400</p> <p>Jon Leehey - F Wayland - 508-358-5721</p> <p>Tony Davids - H Stow - 978-568-9598</p> <p>Scott Ritter - Q Sudbury - 978-443-2373</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Flying Sites</u></p> <p>Go to charlesriverrc.org and select the Flying Sites tab to see the various sites. CRRC reserves time seasonally on Davis Field in Sudbury, and shares Bill Martin Field in Medfield with the MMAC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Keys to Medfield / Bill Martin Field</u></p> <p>To get a key for Bill Martin Field in Medfield please email key-master Ken Antonellis at kxa@verizon.net.</p> <p><i>The key for 2023 will be updated in late April by MMAC. Keys may also be available at the monthly meeting. A \$5 deposit is required the first time you receive a key.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tree Climbers</u></p> <p>Tom Hurney 508-272-7489</p> <p>Scott (Sudbury) 508-203-3845</p> <p>Stephen Canessa The Tree Guy 978-460-1000</p> <p>Hartney Greymont (Medfield) Sean Comer 781-444-1227 thescomer@gmail.com</p>

© 2023 Charles River Radio Controllers.

Text and images used by permission of contributors (as indicated) are subject to contributor's copyright.

Membership Application - 2025

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 Jr membership is discounted! <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:

Adam Smith
Membership Secretary CRRC
460 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720
membership@charlesriverrc.org

You may pay by check or use PayPal. Make **checks** payable to **Charles River RC**, or send **PayPal** to the email above.

Member category	Before March 1, 2025	After March 1, 2025
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		
<i>Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)</i>	<i>Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc</i>	