

Charles River Radio Controllers

Flight Log

July/August 2026



Photo by Dave Walter



August Meeting

Saturday, August 18th, 9:45 am

In Person at

Davis Field, Sudbury

President's Message

Happy summer everyone! I hope you all had a great July 4th.

Thanks to everyone who came out and helped make this year's Demo Day such a success! It was a hot one this year, but it's always one of the best events of the year and a great chance to show the community what the club is all about, and it wouldn't happen without everyone who pitched in.

We've got a busy stretch coming up. Our next meeting will be this Saturday, July 18th at Davis Field. That same day, the club will also be out at the Patton Homestead event in Hamilton, MA. For the Patton Homestead event, the organizers in particular were looking for any model warbirds that we might be able to bring. If you can help out, please contact Mike Whidden. And finally, the following Saturday, July 25th, we'll be hosting the NERDs Drone Race 2026, also at Davis Field — always a fun one, whether you're racing or just coming out to watch.

As always, help with any of these events is appreciated, so if you'd like to get involved, please reach out to a member of the Board.

See you at the field!

Thanks,

Joe

Club Meeting - Saturday August 18

Our June club meeting is at 9:45am on Saturday August 18th at Davis Field. Please note that this overlaps the club's participation in the Patton Homestead event on the same day.

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

ALES Report





SATURDAY'S 1ST PLACE, MIKE LACHOWSKI



AND SUNDAY'S 1ST PLACE



SATURDAY'S 2ND PLACE, DAVID IMMANUEL



SUNDAY'S 2ND PLACE, DAVE WALTER



SATURDAY'S 3RD PLACE, CHRIS BADESSA



SUNDAY'S 3RD PLACE, TOM DAVID

The ALES contest ran June 13 and 14th under blue skies. Dan Sullivan was the Contest Director and Tom David assisted with scoring. Ten pilots participated.

Thanks to Tom David and Dave Walter for the photos.

Be Aware of Scams

There are plenty of scams out there, including “phishing” scams where criminals may attempt to impersonate someone or an organization you trust. Please be attentive, and skeptical of any requests for money. Charles River RC will never send an individual club member a request for money other than for membership dues or donations, and all electronic donations should be made only via PayPal to **membership@charlesriverrc.org**, or in person to one of the club officers . Stay cyber-safe!

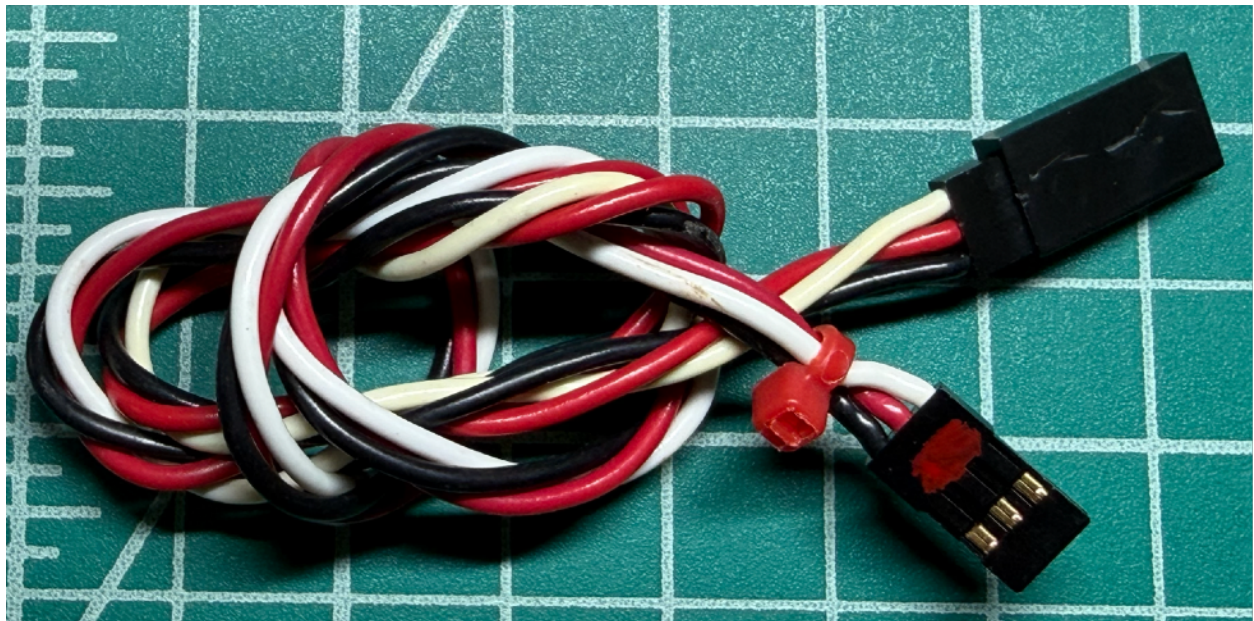
Club Expenses

You might be aware that our club membership is down from our highs, but field costs continue to 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.

Servo Extensions and Servo Lead Tester

By David Spielman

For two months I saw advertisements in Model Aviation Magazine and one review on a new servo extension lead tester. I thought, "maybe I should make sure the servo extensions I use are ok before I put them in my plane". I sometimes buy cables at swap meets or pull them from crashes I've had. Could those cables be putting some of my models at risk? They look good and I don't see corrosion. Maybe more testing is needed.



Cable from Pylon crash looks good, but is it?

I've worked in the electronic sensor manufacturing industry for over 40 years and have not seen cable testers in use often. Function testers are much more common. Cable testing tends to be expensive and dedicated to specific cable harnesses. Most testing we did was continuity tests looking for 1 to 2 ohms or less to ensure contact was made. So, for less than \$70, having a cable tester that can read milliohms was very cool.

In less than a week my new tester arrived. I installed a 9-volt battery and printed labels with resistance values from the instructions which listed milliohms for popular extension gauge sizes. First step is to connect the input, and output leads together and turn the meter on so the meter zeros to within 1 milliohm. That's easy.

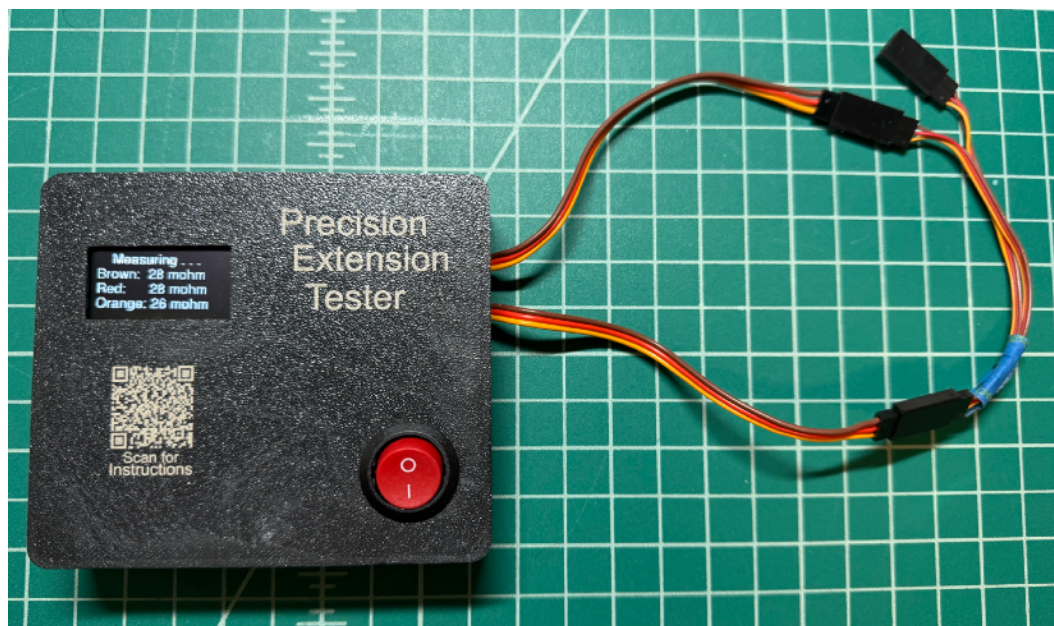


The new tester finished self-calibration



My own labels make it easier for me

I grabbed a Y-cable that came out of an eFlite plane. That tested good at less than 30 milliohms per conductor. This cable can be put that in the good pile.



eFlite Y-cable looks good with low lead resistance

I then tried two very nice extensions that came out of a pylon racer that was rescued from the pond. Visually the cables looked great, but the meter told another story. A resistance of about 550 to 1300 milliohms per lead said this cable was going in the trash. My fluke meter goes down to .5 ohms and tests one lead at a time and would not have picked up this problem cable. The

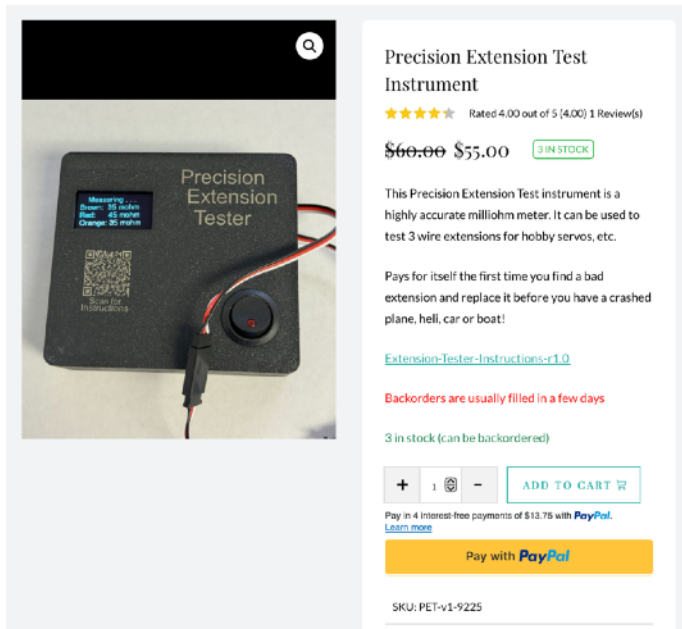


Very high resistance shows a bad cable

Was the cable tester worth the money. Yes, for me it's great. I like to know I have good parts to work with, and I like to trouble shoot crashes. It is dead simple to use and fast. I don't think the meter is expensive because I know how much industry pays for this type of instrument. In the future I may make adapters for testing other hobby cables.

How to get your Precision Extension Tester

<https://pe2buy.com/product/precision-extension-switch-tester/>



July 4th Demo Day

We had an amazing turnout at this year's July 4th Demo Day at Davis Field. Not only did we have a good number of visitors show up to learn more about R/C flying (that's the whole point, isn't it?), we *also* had one of the largest gatherings of CRRC club members in one place that I've seen in a very long time. So **thank you** to everyone who showed up to help.



We had members engaging with the public, helping kids toss foam gliders, operate a simulator station, demonstrate electrics, gliders, FPV quads, and of course buddy-boxing was probably the biggest hit (thank you John!).





[Photos by Dave Walter]

Upcoming Events

- **July 18 - Military Service Day @ General Patton Homestead:** A great day for scale models and history. We need volunteers to man a table of static displays. Warbirds preferred.
- **July 25 - NERDS and CRRC Drone Race @ Davis**
- **August 29-30 - Fritz Bien Memorial Soar-In @ Davis:** A special annual tradition since 1973!

Volunteers Needed 2026

Our event season is well underway, and it's never too soon to start thinking about how you can support this club in one of the most important ways: volunteering. Without volunteers, we don't have a club. If you see someone helping out, say thank you, and if you see a way to help, please do! We STILL have a number of opportunities coming up, including the August Soar-In and of course club officer positions for 2026.

2026 School Street Calendar

Standard (M/W/F 5PM-7PM)
Weekend / Custom Hours
Unavailable (Lion's Fair)

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5PM-7PM	2
3	4 5PM-7PM	5	6 5PM-7PM	7	8 5PM-7PM	9
10	11 5PM-7PM	12	13 5PM-7PM	14	15 5PM-7PM	16
17 2PM-8PM	18 5PM-7PM	19	20 5PM-7PM	21	22 5PM-7PM	23
24 8AM-8PM	25 8AM-8PM	26	27 5PM-7PM	28	29 5PM-7PM	30
31						

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5PM-7PM	2	3 5PM-7PM	4	5 5PM-7PM	6 2PM-8PM
7	8 5PM-7PM	9	10 5PM-7PM	11	12 5PM-7PM	13
14	15 Lion's Fair	16	17 Lion's Fair	18	19 Lion's Fair	20
21	22 5PM-7PM	23	24 5PM-7PM	25	26 5PM-7PM	27 ~4PM-8PM (rockets)
28	29 5PM-7PM	30				

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5PM-7PM	2	3 5PM-7PM	4 8AM-8PM
5 8AM-8PM	6 5PM-7PM	7	8 5PM-7PM	9	10 5PM-7PM	11
12	13 5PM-7PM	14	15 5PM-7PM	16	17 5PM-7PM	18
19 2PM-8PM	20 5PM-7PM	21	22 5PM-7PM	23	24 5PM-7PM	25
26	27 5PM-7PM	28	29 5PM-7PM	30	31 5PM-7PM	

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 2PM-8PM
2	3 5PM-7PM	4	5 5PM-7PM	6	7 5PM-7PM	8
9	10 5PM-7PM	11	12 5PM-7PM	13	14 5PM-7PM	15 2PM-8PM
16	17 5PM-7PM	18	19 5PM-7PM	20	21 5PM-7PM	22
23	24 5PM-7PM	25	26 5PM-7PM	27	28 5PM-7PM	29 2PM-8PM
30	31 5PM-7PM					

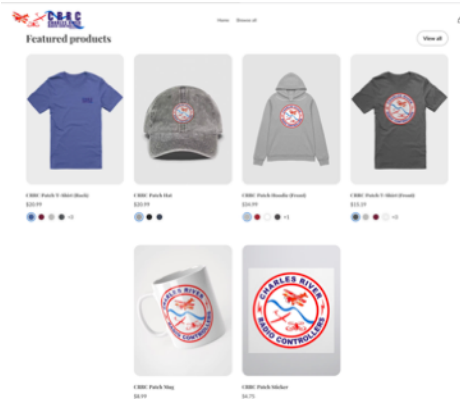
September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 5PM-7PM	3	4 5PM-7PM	5 2PM-8PM
6	7 5PM-7PM	8	9 5PM-7PM	10	11 5PM-7PM	12 2PM-8PM
13	14 5PM-7PM	15	16 5PM-7PM	17	18 5PM-7PM	19 2PM-8PM
20	21 5PM-7PM	22	23 5PM-7PM	24	25 5PM-7PM	26 2PM-8PM
27	28 5PM-7PM	29	30 5PM-7PM			

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 2PM-8PM
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 2PM-8PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Noon-8PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Noon-8PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Online Store!



Did you know that our webmaster has been quietly hard at work maintaining our website *and* bringing online the new Charles River RC online storefront? If you've seen Shawn and Roger at the field wearing CRRC "swag" and felt a twinge of envy, you can visit <https://shop.charlesriverrc.org/> or click the link on our website.

Proceeds benefit the club, so stock up!

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 - 2026

President

Joe Sicree

[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

Adam Smith

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

Recording Secretary

Roger Silva

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

Webmaster

Shawn Silva

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

Newsletter Editor

Mike Whidden

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

Interim Chief Instructor

Scott Ritter

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

Safety Coordinator

Jimi Two Feathers

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

Raffle Chairman

Scott Ritter

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

Instruction

To inquire about instruction please contact Interim Chief Instructor, Scott Ritter.

Types of instruction

B = Building

G = Glider

E = Electric

F = Fuel

H = Helicopter

Q = Quadcopter/

Multirotor

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 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.

Keys to Medfield /

Bill Martin Field

To get a key for Bill Martin Field in Medfield please email key-master Ken Antonellis at kxa@verizon.net.

The key for 2026 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.

Tree Climbers

Tom Hurney
508-272-7489

Sean Comer
781-444-1227
thescomer@gmail.com

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Membership Application - 2026

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 it 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, 2026	After March 1, 2026
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		
Family member additional to OPEN membership	\$40	\$45
Additional / optional donation (supports field rental)	Voluntary \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / etc	