



Volume 2021-04

Middlesex County R-C Fliers Club Newsletter – April 2021



Email: info@mcr cf.org
 Web page: www.mcr cf.org
 Newsletters: www.mcr cf.org/misc.htm
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MCR CF/>
 YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MiddlesexRC Fliers>

<p><i>MCRCF Regular Meeting - Wednesday, April 14</i></p> <p><i>Next Workshop: TBD</i></p> <p><i>Topic: TBD</i></p>	<p>7:30 PM via ZOOM online meeting.</p> <p>Members - watch for an email with information on joining the meeting.</p> <p>Non-members are welcome - contact the club via email for an invitation.</p>
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All Scheduled In-Person Events are considered CANCELLED* until further notice

**Due to you know what... WEAR YOUR MASK at the field when you can't separate!*



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2 TRASH DAY! – BY PAUL SULLIVAN, JEFF WARD, AND OTHERS

2.1 BUSH EATER – FROM PAUL SULLIVAN

Paul Sullivan writes “Thank you Gary for a job well done! We’re looking good at MCRCF!!!” (Pictures courtesy of Paul Sullivan). Paul hired Gary to bring his bush-eating machine by and get rid of the sumac surrounding the field.



2.2 TRASH DAY – BY JEFF WARD

We picked up a bunch of trash from the upper park yesterday morning. Many thanks to all who helped! Dan, Ray, Jerry, and Paul (pictured here), Jeff (taking the picture), Roy, and at least one other who came and left before this [picture] was taken. Who did I miss? (picture courtesy of Jeff Ward)



We really lucked out with the weather. It was perfect for rooting around in the briars!

Paul Sullivan: Because of having all the sumac cut, we were able to venture deep, and clear out places that were impossible to reach before. Still, we all collected our fair share of thorns. 😬

Jeff Ward: Speaking of 🦋, I just found a tick burrowed into my abdomen. Going to urgent care to see if they can get the rest of it out, and maybe do pre-emptive antibiotics. Give yourselves a thorough check!

3 BATTERIES, BATTERIES, BATTERIES! - BASED ON NEIL CUMBIE'S WORKSHOP

Nominal voltage for Lithium Polymer batteries – known as LiPo – is 3.7 to 4.2. Less than 3.9 is good for long term storage (but not below 3.7)

Every battery can charge at 1C. Most can charge at 2C. Neil (and Stephen Faust) always charges at 2C.

1C means that if the battery has a 1200 mah (milli-ampere hour) capacity, you charge at at 1.2 amps for 1C, or 2.4 amps for 2C. the actual capacity of the battery is truly measured in watt-hours. So a 1200 mah 6s holds 1.2 amps x 4v x 6 s = 28.8 watt-hours IF it could be fully discharged. (Editor's note: the reason they call them 1200 mah is so the user can easily figure out the charge rate in amps for 1C or 2C.)

Neil flies his planes with 2 6s batteries – where “s” stands for a cell. He uses parallel charging cables from Progressive RC that allows him to charge 2 6s batteries at a time from one charge port. However, the batteries should be similar and have almost identical voltage per cell. The cable has a fuse on both negative and positive leads.

He places white Velcro on one set of batteries, and black Velcro on the other set that he flies in his rather large aerobatic planes.

With his setup, he can charge 4 6s batteries in 40 minutes.

He recommends going with a charge port tower that allows charging.

In the winter months, when not flying, he takes his batteries down to storage levels, i.e. 3.7V.

Because his batteries are rather large, he bought a fairly powerful power supply that delivers 24 volts at 47 amps, or 1128 watts.

4 FROM THE HANGAR



4.1 SKYZONE GOGGLES - RANDY

Randy Grossman They are Skyzone 02C FPV goggles. Decent mid-range goggle. I think I paid around \$300 but they are not OLED. OLED version is around \$500. I bought them because they are way better and more comfortable than the big box goggles that come in the beginner fpv packages. They work well. However, they may be discontinued now as I'm not finding many listings for them.



4.2 YOUR PICTURE HERE →

...

Guys/gals, send me pictures of your flying vehicles to share with the club.

5 TIPS

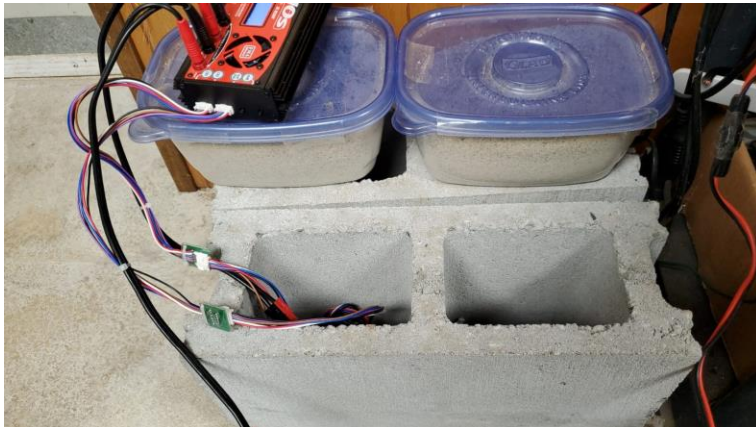
5.1 GOOD OLE GLOW PLUGS – FROM GERRY CROWLEY

Was with Gerry Crowley yesterday at the field. He was firing up a new LT40. The engine was cutting out the minute he would take the battery off the glow plug. “Must be the glow plug,” he mused. Sure enough. New glow plug and voila! Perfect.

5.2 A PATCH ANTENNA CHANGED MY LIFE – MEL SUAREZ

Was getting terrible reception on my FPV goggles with two omni directional, lollipop antennae. Finally ordered and installed a patch antenna. Wow! Night and day. Reception is solid. Great peace of mind when buzzing the field or going high or further away than before with my Vortex 150 mini racing drone.

5.3 DIY SAFE LIPO CHARGE STATION – BY TIM TAIT



“I put the cells inside cinderblock on top of a paving stone. I put a plastic bin full of sand on top, the idea being that fire would cause the sand to dump into the cinderblock. The cinderblock also keeps groups of packs separate to limit chain reactions.”

5.4 HOW TO KILL A LIPO – FROM JOHN PARISI



For \$5 and then some adapters, everyone should buy this lipo killer. Any bad pack, discharge it, then cut leads, and

throw away.



<https://www.getfpv.com/lipo-killer-0v-battery-discharger.html>

Here's a link that Tim Tait provided regarding the salt water approach:

<https://forum.flitetest.com/index.php?threads/salt-water-lipo-disposal-bad-idea-or-really-bad-idea.12467/>



6 FROM THE EDITOR – BY MEL SUAREZ

6.1 NEW CLUB MEMBERS IN 2021

Please welcome our new Club members:

- Stephen Marone – drone testing team
- Eli Wiel – drone testing team
- Monika Coutu – via Stephen Faust
- Muhammad Sami – has been in training with Tony & Ray.
- Dorothy “Dotty” Schuster (actually Dotty was a member in 2020, just had not been added to the Google Contacts. Sorry about that Dorothy.)

Welcome all!

7 AMA EVENTS – ARE YOU GOING? NOT FOR A WHILE, EH?

From the Event Finder at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/> for **District 1, 4/1/2021 – 6/30/2021**

Not a lot going on. Nothing in District 1, that is why I also pulled up District 2.

APRIL 17
<u>STEALTH SQUADRON 2021 EARLY SPRING CONTEST</u>
<i>CLASS A</i>
Contact: STEPHEN EVANS
Location: 222 Lions Mouth Rd Amesbury MA 01913
Visit Website
MAY 15 - 16
<u>SPRING CHAMPIONSHIPS</u>
<i>CLASS A</i>
Contact: NEIL SIMPSON
Location: 260 Pembroke St Kingston MA 02364
MAY 22 - 23
<u>RISC RED ROOSTER F5J</u>
<i>CLASS A</i>

Contact: MAARTEN BROESS

Location: 631 Usquepaugh Road South Kingstown RI 02892

[Visit Website](#)

JUNE5 - 6

GRANITE STATE 2021 IMAC

CLASS AA

Contact: JAMES CYR

Location: 58 Locke Rd Concord NH 03301

[Visit Website](#)

JUNE12 - 13

2021 WARBIRDS OVER ELLINGTON

CLASS A

Contact: DENNIS THIBODEAU

Location: 190 Green Rd Ellington CT 06029

[Visit Website](#)

JUNE12 - 13

MEMORIAL FUN FLY

CLASS C

Contact: MICHAEL DEFRANZO

Location: 479 Norwich Rd Salem CT 06420

[Visit Website](#)

JUNE16 - 20

2021 PLUM ISLAND JET RALLY

CLASS C - RESTRICTED

Contact: ROBERT RADFORD

Location: 19 Plum Island Turnpike Newbury MA 01951

8 RANDOM STUFF



8.1 WHATSAPP??? -- A CHANCE TO TRASH TALK WITH FELLOW MEMBERS



How to get onto WhatsApp?

- Install WhatsApp on your phone
- Send your phone number to someone you know is on the MCRCF WhatsApp group (almost everyone is an admin) – e.g. any officer
- That admin adds your name/phone to their contacts on their phone
- Via WhatsApp, that admin sends you a link to the MCRCF WhatsApp group
- You click on the link and you will be in. You won't see old threads, just new ones after joining.
- Be sure to introduce yourself when you join.

Alfredo, Bob, Carl, Dan, Dan de, Dany, Don, Gerald, James, Jeff, John, Long, Mack, Neil, Paul, Randy, Ray, Rohan, Saket, Sharad, Stephen, Tony, Yaz, +1 (413) 687-8619, +1 (617) 828-3967, +1 (617) 877-7683, +91 98192 01230, You

8.2 LOANER REALFLIGHT SIMULATOR & LAPTOP AVAILABLE

If you're a new pilot or an instructor and would like to take advantage of our loaner laptop/simulator, contact Jeff Ward (see Page 1). Picture below.



It now runs RealFlight 9.5.

8.3 RC INSTRUCTORS

List of available instructors. Please note: this list is a work in progress. Some instructors may be listed below, however their schedules may preclude instruction at a given time. Contact info will be added in the future but can be found in the Current Membership List.

Instructor	Contact Info
Ray Capobianco	617.697.4514
Gerry Crowley	978.857.1408
Tony DiPersio	978.430.2800
Jeff Ward	978.987.1142
John (Yaz) Yassemedis	603.321.8442
Stephen Faust – incl. FPV racing drones	978.925.9810
Neil Cumbie – 3D and XA (new)	678.358.7006
Jim Orsborn (Horizon Hobby Coach)	https://www.horizonhobby.com/flight-school-find-a-coach.html

8.4 MCRCF.ORG MEMBERS ONLY PAGE

Contains our Membership List, RealFlight files that mimic our field, and other info. Go to mcrf.org and click on the "Members Only" link. You will need ID & password from a club member to get in.



[Annual Financial Summary Reports](#) in Acrobat PDF format

[Current Membership List and contact information](#) in Acrobat PDF format

[MCRCF RealFlight Files](#) for download and use with RealFlight simulator.

[MCRCF YouTube Channel info and login](#) in Acrobat PDF format

8.5 NEWSLETTER GLOBAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

You want to buy a charger, say. And you know there was an amazing piece on it in one of the newsletters. But you which one??? We have a global table of contents listing some of the major articles. (Work in progress)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZAbMnamPiclwd50E3XxQ2JhXYEQAZfkB3R0qvXZOiuo/edit?usp=sharing>

8.6 LIST OF MANEUVERS

Tired of flying the same patterns all the time? Check out 100 maneuvers and some links on how to do (some of) them:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O0eF2NAFN7SgUS0sOMc5hXOCTJdBdJeM0/view?usp=sharing>

8.7 SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY STORE & GET DISCOUNT

This is one great hobby store and the owner, Bill Horton, has agreed to provide our Club with a discount. Show a current MCRCF membership card and receive a 5% discount for any purchase over \$25.



<http://abcchobbies.com/> 11 Rockingham Rd, Windham, NH 03087; (603) 458-6481

8.8 PLANE RETRIEVAL

Call Paul Sullivan – his friend, Mike, charges ~\$50 to retrieve a plane...depending on the complexity of the rescue!

Also, several members have camera drones and can help with a search & rescue efforts. Carl ("Mack") McKenzie - 978 208-7969

8.9 CLUB SAFE LOANER IS AVAILABLE

The AeroScout is ready for use in exposing people to flight. Contact Jeff Ward to reserve it. It comes with 1 22mah battery and transmitter.



The aircraft is kept in Jeff's workshop with a combo key enclosure.

8.10 TRAINING REPORT

Member	Training/Checkout Status	Type
Steve Marone	Needs training/checkout (New in 2021). Flight testing drones w/ Triton.	Test Drone
Eli Wiel	Needs Training/checkout (new in 2021). Flight testing drones w/ Triton.	Test Drone
George Butch Balduf	Training In progress	Nitro plane
William Schwahn	N/A – part of FLIR company. Jerry left message.	
Gerald Sunderman	Training In progress*	
Jon King	Needs official checkout. Jerry left message.	
Hugh McNeil	Limited progress. Would like to proceed with loaner laptop/sim.	
William Lunt	Needs Training/checkout (new in 2020)	
Charlie Petricone	Training In progress - but has not renewed in 2021. Mel helped him get RealFlight 9.5 going.	Nitro & Electric

* Wants to take it easy during the pandemic.

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