

THE FLYER



Middlesex County
R-C Fliers, Inc.

December 2011



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RCT28. This 100% RTF "Super Scale" model, complete with retracts is available from nitroplanes. Read the series "Choosing an Electric Power System" starting this month and learn how to select the parts for your own design. Photo: Clipart from the Web.

President's Message, by Jerry Crowley

Greetings to all our Club members. It's December and traces of cold air is already nipping at our hands. Well at least the bugs have subsided and the air is fresh. Hopefully we will be able to get in some nice flying days between now

and the winter season that is quickly closing in on us (Snow in October?).

We didn't have very good weather for our Fly-In day in October after postponing our original date. The wind was just too much for enjoyable flying. Thanks

go out to all those that helped in getting ice, tables, beverages and all. Since the number of attendees was down Pizza did not get ordered as planned.

November and December are months where we plan for next year activities and establish nom-

inations for a new slate of Officers and Directors for the year 2012. For those expressing an interest in supporting the Club by running for Office next year, please contact either Dan Costa or Paul Sullivan who make up our 2012 Nomination Committee.

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Choosing an Electric Power System *by Bob Prescott*

Editorial Note: *Bob Prescott is also a member of the 495th RC Squadron in Tewksbury. He originally published this article in their newsletter, but has agreed to work with us on a two part series for our Newsletter. Enjoy this first article and please feel free to offer comments and/or suggestions.*

Trying to figure out what components to use in an electric aircraft can be quite a confusing and/or daunting quest. A lot of flyers will begin by looking at their available equipment (be it batteries or motors) and start with a plan to reuse this equipment. You may get something that will work from this routine, but it will not be an optimum power system and will most likely have a component failure shortly after you start to fly it. Even worse, you may end up with a power system that will not be adequate for what you are hoping to fly it with and will result in a crash!

If you stick with us through this article and a second installment next month, we'll explain how to select each of the components that you will need to install in that next model.

Recently the ATTF (All Things That Fly) podcast did a great job of going over the steps in which you should choose your components and how to actually pick each one. If you want to check it out go to:

<http://allthingsthatfly.com> and look for

ATTF #207-The Perfect Electric Setup

What I would like to do is to provide everyone with a breakdown of the information stated in this podcast by Lucian Miller (owner of Innov8tive Designs and avid flyer) that you can use as a reference after you understand everything that is covered. This is not meant as a replacement for the invaluable information provided by the ATTF team, but rather as a supplement to help you in the future.

Editorial Note: *Plans for the second article are still evolving, but we hope to provide a web based calculator that you can use to work through all of the math calculations.*

How Much Power Do I Need

Multiply the all up weight (from manufacturer) times the watts per pound of the type of aircraft you are outfitting to get the wattage required to fly it:

- Airplanes -

Watts (per pound)	Type
50	Motor powered glider
75	Trainer
100	Sport plane
150	Warbird, pattern ships
200	3D

- Helicopters -

Watts (per pound)	Type
150-200	Hovering and figure 8
250-350	Sport and inverted
400-500	Aggressive 3D

Sample:

For a warbird weighing 5 lbs. we'll need to install a system capable of delivering 750 watts for the duration of our flight. (Cont.)



President's Message (Cont from pg 1)
Don't forget about WARBIRD WEDNESDAY. Bring your favorite Warbird to the field and join the fun of flying a number of different WWI/WWII or later planes together. Parkzone offers a number of inexpensive warbirds that are easy to fly and look very realistic. I have my eyes set on a Spitfire which I will purchase soon.

Thanks goes out to all those who have been contributing to our Newsletter. Peter Lu contributed a number of articles and has created a number of You-Tube videos. I understand that Peter may have a reconstruction article coming up for his Cherokee!

Thanks to Bob Forgione on the great article converting old transmitter joysticks to replace erratic simulator control box joysticks. Good photo shots really helps picture what had to be done.

As reported and extracted from our last Newsletter the next scheduled events are as follows:

Holiday Party: As reported earlier, the date has been set for **Jan. 14th**. Consensus is to use the same location and the January date.

Club Auction: Yes it is scheduled for **Jan. 29th**. We still need volunteers and will be holding a planning meeting soon. Jeff, Don and Jerry are leading the charge, so see one of them if you would like to volunteer.

In closing I hope to see you at the Field. Good safe flying.

Thanks,
Jerry Crowley,
President MCRCF

Choosing an Electric Power System

Editorial Note: So this month we've only scratched the surface. Please take a few minutes to check out the audio podcast on the Web at All Things That Fly.

Next month we will explain how to select the proper battery configuration that will be able to deliver the wattage we need.

Then we need to look at the motor and propeller selection, and finally we need a speed controller.

All of this could get pretty complicated, but we'll explain it with some charts and hope to have a working calculator that will handle all the math.

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The FLYER is the official publication of the Middlesex County R-C Fliers, Inc., a non-profit organization chartered for the promotion of radio controlled model aircraft building and flying. The club operates a flying field located on Treble Cove Road, Billerica, MA. The club offers free flight instruction to any member provided they have a current membership with the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Contact any club member for details. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month between September and June in the Billerica Recreation Dept building at 248 Boston Road in Billerica, starting at 7:30 PM.

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