

## **MCRCF Newsletter, The Flyer, June 2013**

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**Priority:** Normal  
**Date:** 06-06-2013 12:54 PM

### **THE FLYER**

Middlesex County R-C Fliers, Inc  
June 6, 2013

#### **Greetings everyone!**

Hope everyone has been having a wonderful spring and a great start to the flying season. Wonderful weather has finally worked its way in and it looks like it's here to stay. We have some important and fun events coming up this month. This Sunday we have our annual (Construction Derby), I hope that everyone can attend. Those who do attend will have fun building and flying some "professional" built airplanes. Also we have our monthly Club meeting this coming Wednesday at the usual place. Just a reminder, our July and August meetings are usually held at our field; same time as usual (7:30).

This is my first issue as the newsletter editor. Hope that you enjoy the format. I've received lots of inputs for this issue and hope to continue the same into the future. Please let me know what you would like to see.

Adam Harte  
MCRCF Newsletter Editor

#### **Coming Events**

Construction Derby, this Sunday, June 9th, MCRCF Field

Monthly Meeting, this Wednesday, June 12th, 7:30 PM

#### **President's Message**

Greetings to all our Club members. It's June and we are still enjoying some windy weather but the temperatures are getting better.

Well June is a busy month for the Club where our Construction Derby is scheduled for this Sunday, June 9th. The more people we have participating in this event, the more fun we have. So I hope you all will plan on joining us for this fun event. The day will start with team signups about 9 AM. Activities will include a noon-time cookout featuring our standard fare of hamburgers and sausage. Flying the construction planes will be after lunch.

As most or all of you know we lost a great member and friend Dave Varrell who passed away suddenly on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our sympathy goes out to Dave's family and of course we have offered our Club's services if they need our assistance in this time of need. A memorial service was held for Dave and his family and friends on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the First Congregational Church on Andover Road in Billerica. It was a wonderful ceremony with many speakers remembering Dave's life. We had many Club members attend the ceremony and three of us; Paul Sullivan, Bob Forgione, and myself gave tribute speeches remembering Dave and all he has done for the Club. I have included copies of the presentations (see the Addendum at the bottom of this e-mail) for your reading in the event you were unable to attend the

ceremony.

Jerry Crowley

President, MCRCF

### **Notes about the Construction Derby**

This year we will be scratch building an electric park flyer plane. The club will be supplying all of the construction materials including the motor, propeller, battery, ESC, servos, and pushrods. Pilots will need to bring a radio and receiver and some construction tools. This is a new design this year, so everyone will be on a new page.bm;

### **Happenings at the Club Field**

Soccer is in full swing, so watch for cars in the parking lot as an indication of an event over that way. We also had one Saturday when the horse team posted a notice on the Frequency Pole that they were holding an event. Rumors are that the Dog Lady has moved on to another location. As Jerry mentioned, several members still get together for War Bird Wednesday to talk about their latest trophy. Tuesday is Club training night. We currently have three new members who are taking lessons. The weather has not been very cooperative and the high winds have delayed progress. Clean-up day was a success. The gazebo and all of the benches were painted and as most of you know the gate has been opened.

### **Membership Status**

70 paid Club Members, including 4 Juniors,

### **NEXT MEETING**

June 12, 2013

7:30 PM

Lewis Building

248 Boston Road

Billerica, MA

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### **Addendum**

Jerry Crowley's words from Dave Varrell's Memorial Service:

Good morning.

I was asked to say a few words on behalf of the MCRCF club that Dave belonged to for many years. Dave had a great passion for R/C models especially airplanes. He loved to fly and when he had the time he made maximum use of the club field.

You would see him sometimes in the morning, or early afternoon poking holes in the sky.

Dave enjoyed just being with other flyers enjoying their company and exchanging technical information or assisting others having problems getting their planes up and running.

He was always willing to help others who were in need. When Ernie Hollis ditched his plane in the Beaver Pond and was unable to reach it because it was too far out. Dave assisted Ernie by going home and getting his canoe and returning to rescue Ernie's plane. He then came back to the pits and gave Ernie a hand at flushing the water out of the engine and running a tank of fresh fuel through the engine so it wouldn't rust and ruin the engine. Ernie asked if there was something he could do for him in appreciation for his efforts but Dave as usual said "no nothing it was my pleasure to help you, It's what I do". Ernie kept on him and finally Dave said okay buy me coke.

Ernie being persistent, returned with the coke cleverly wrapped with a gift certificate to a local Hobby

Shop.

Dave would participate in many of the functions the club would offer to the membership. Always offering to help in assisting setting up for the events or acting as a team captain. He served on the Board of Directors for a number of years, Acting liaison to the Billerica Parks and Recreation Department coordinating efforts to maintaining the field, helping during our field day clean-up bringing his own tractor cultivating the soil seeding and fertilizing the grass. He also coordinated use of the Department of Corrections personnel to have our runway smoothed and surrounding areas mowed.

He would coordinate the use of the Middle School where we would hold our annual Auction and assist in setting things up for the Auction. Every year he volunteered to work the food concession and of course help clean-up at the end of the Auction.

Dave volunteered to be a team leader at our construction derby leading a team of five people using a bag of raw materials and design, construct, and fly a plane that would perform aerobatic maneuvers in one and a half hours.

As Hugh McNeil wrote I was Dave's partner in at least two construction derbies. It was a great pleasure to work with Dave at these events. Due to his talent and ingenuity we even won a prize once. He taught me a lot and I will miss him dearly.

Dave on a number of occasions put together a FLOAT-FLY event held at Nuttings Lake in Billerica for members of our Club and also members of the Tewksbury 495<sup>th</sup> Club. Dave was a member at both clubs. He had a great time organizing these events and loved to fly off the water.

On meeting nights Dave would often bring in a new plane he was fascinated with for Show & Tell. He would do research on the history of the plane and convey this to the membership.

He enjoyed doing specialty projects like Ariel Photography. Dave constructed a foam plane that housed a video camera and flew all over the place taking pictures from a bird's eye view.

Aside from all the things that Dave did for the Club his favorite activity was just flying. When Dave was in the sky he basically owned it. One would just not know where he would be next. He always had a smile on his face while doing loops, dives, and many other aerobatic maneuvers. This is what he loved most.

We as a Club will miss Dave but will always have fond memories and stories to tell. We miss you Dave, God Bless you.

From: Bob Forgione

After reading his obituary 3 times, I had to realize it was true. Dave was many things to many people. I knew him best as a fellow RC pilot with a passion for the hobby.

I was lucky enough to be able to fly with Dave as I am retired and sometimes I was able to see him during the day.

When I first started flying alone he was there to show encouragement when I made my mistakes.

I wasn't the best of pilots then and had the misfortune of dumping the plane in the pond.

He didn't hesitate and the canoe came to rescue with Dave at the helm. That's the type of guy he was.

He even went to the point of drying out and checking the radio for me.

I bought the P51 of his at the auction a few years back and I restored it to flying condition with his help.

We talked frequently about how it should fly but I never got a chance to show him.

I hope he will be there in spirit when it finally flies.

Many times we discussed engines and types and his experience and helpfulness will be surely missed along with his smile and personality.

Thanks Dave.

**President's Message (Cont.)**

The final item I would like to make everyone aware of is that I received an anonymous letter the other day which follows. The letter concerned me and I hope everyone else. The letter makes reference to "certain people" who while at the field appear to have choose to make fun of other flyers. While it may be poking fun at people and may not be meant in a hurtful way, the people on the receiving end may be hurt by these inappropriate actions. We are here to have fun, not make fun of other people. So I ask each and every one of you to stop with these remarks. I thank the contributor of this letter for bringing this matter to our attention.

The referenced letter read as follows:

Hi Jerry

This letter is a concern about a few problems at the field. There are a few members who do nothing but make fun of the same people all the time and say very mean things about them.

This did not happen to me but there is a member who tells people to "get off their Riddlen", that is not to be tolerated, it is offensive and mean to say. I have heard it on numerous occasions while said to a few people. I think this matter should be taken up at the next meeting and these people should be asked to stop before it gets out of hand.

Thank You

To conclude my President's Message, I hope everyone will enjoy a great flying season and hope to see you at the June Meeting on the 12th of June.

Don't forget that Wednesday's are "WAR-BIRD Wednesday". Bring your War Bird to the field and enjoy some buddy flying, maybe even some simulated combat.

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

Thanks,

Jerry Crowley,

President MCRCF