

THE FLYER



Middlesex County
R-C Fliers, Inc.

June 2007



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Hanger 9 J-3 cleared for final approach to runway 19. Expect strong crosswind from the east. Advise when clear of the active runway.

(Pilot Scot Stewart, Photo by Jim Orsborn)

President's Message - Construction Derby - June 10th!

✎ I hope you all are planning to take part in our upcoming **Construction Derby** event on **June 10th** (rain date June 24th). It promises to be a lot of fun, and with luck we'll have some new faces getting involved.

You don't have to be an experienced builder (or flier for that matter) to be on a construction team - you just need a **sense of adventure** and **good teamworking skills!**

Participation on a team requires AMA membership, but that's all. AMA members from outside of MCRCF are encouraged

to take part, and if you know of someone who might be interested, **please invite them!** Spectators are also welcome.

There is a modest fee for each team member to help offset the cost of materials, and the **barbeque lunch for participants** is always a welcome break between the building and the flying.

Be on the lookout for a request for help setting up the canopies for shelter - we might try to get that done on Saturday to reduce the early-Sunday workload. As always, we can use judges and other volunteers for this event. We also

need Team Captains - check out the event flyer (it's on the website if you don't have a hardcopy) to see the list of material required for a team.

✎ **Training night** was in full swing last night when I stopped by at the field. There were four students active when I got there, and I know there are others in the pipeline too. It was great to see so many people and cars at the field, and it was a beautiful night for it. Thanks to our dedicated Wednesday-night instructors (Ray C. and Jim O.) for their tireless efforts.

✎ Our **next meeting** is

also coming up soon, on Wednesday **June 13th** at the Lewis building. Our July meeting will be at the field, and include a cookout dinner - that's on July 11th.

✎ The club's website registered its tenthousandth hit on April 3rd of this year! That's a far cry from when most of the hits came from *me*, checking to see if the changes I'd made looked OK...

✎ The porta-potty is in place for the season - enjoy! ;-)

Be safe, and have fun!

Jeff

Editor's Note

Welcome to the June edition of The Flyer. Because the May issue was never printed and distributed to all of our members, I've decided to repeat some of the content (like the Spring Clean-up photos) so that

those of you who might not have seen the on-line edition would not miss them.

I don't have a name for the youngster on the cover of the May issue, but I thought he was a perfect model for the

wonder and excitement that we feel when getting that new plane ready for its maiden flight. Do you have something that you have been working on over the winter? How about bringing it to the next

meeting and sharing it with the rest of us!



Meeting Summaries

✧ The *April 2007* meeting had 19 members and 4 visitors in attendance. Treasurer, John Caci, reported that we have an ending balance around \$5,800.

Final plans for our Spring Clean-up day on Saturday, April 21st were discussed.

Dave Varrell brought a unique .32 size engine test stand for Show and Tell. He saw the small bi-plane and thought it would make a perfect in-flight engine test stand.

Post Meeting Notes:

Approximately 15 Girl Scouts with a half dozen leaders and friends attended a lecture session at the Lewis building on April 26th. We offered a presentation that covered an introduction to Aerodynamics and had several aircraft and helicopters on static



display. All of the girls took home a small glider. Several of them met Ray and Jeff at the field the following day for a hands-on flight demonstration.

✧ The *May 2007* meeting had 16 members in attendance. The treasurer's report showed we're in great shape with a balance of over \$6100, which will begin to go down as we start paying for field mowing, toilet rental, and for event expenses. Membership was at 71, with three new members added since last month.

Jeff Ward brought in his Alpha Models F86, an electric ducted fan version of the venerable swept wing fighter of Korean War fame. It was complete except for cosmetic details

and final balancing.

Post Meeting Notes:

The F86 has since had its maiden flights, and it performed well on the first two flights. On the third flight it developed an

elevator mismatch problem that ended the flight

prematurely (but safely!) Some adjustments need to be made...

(representative photo, courtesy of Hobby-Lobby)



Tyler Sheppard (and family) waiting for his first Flight Training lesson. Watch for his solo photo coming soon!

Cleanup Day at the Field—2007



Middlesex County R/C Fliers

Construction Derby

Sunday, June 10th, 2007

Come test your construction ability and
build a flyable RC airplane.

Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams

Full event flyer details are available on the MCRCF
Website at <http://www.mcrcf.org>

For more information, contact the event coordinators:

Raymond Capobianco
(781) 944-6056

John Parisi
(978) 663-0232



These photos are from the 2003 event. Five teams built five models, and yes they did fly!

Festivities for the day will include a cookout.

Don't miss this year's event which is advertised as
"The most fun you can have in the RC Hobby."



Sunday Flying at the Field

So where was everyone this past Sunday? Yea I heard how windy it was for a Holiday weekend. But a few of us did show up and have a great time.

Our field often has a cross wind that adds a degree of challenge to anyone that takes to the sky.

The cover and the photo to the right show Scot Stewart flying his Piper Cub. What the photos do not show is the moderate crosswind coming in from the southeast (that would be from the tree side and the parking lot end of the runway).

Scot actually had to abort his first takeoff when the plane turned sharply to the left and weather vaned into the wind as soon as the tail came up off the ground.. One might have thought Scot was an inexperienced pilot until they saw how he handled the next trip down the runway and the whole flight.

With an OS-46 in the nose, this plane handles very much like the full scale bird. Scot talked about how it needed coordinated rudder to complete a turn and



I'm pretty sure he had lots of right rudder here to keep the model tracking down the centerline. Thanks Scot for an awesome demonstration.

Speaking of Sunday flying in the wind — yesterday was actually a Monday holiday; but there was an even stronger cross wind and several of us had a great time.

I guess it all started with a challenge, when Carlos showed up at the field and asked the rest of us why we were not flying?

Ray had a couple of students on site, but the wind was too strong for a training lesson. But Ray was not beyond the challenge of showing how the LT-40 can handle wind in the hands of an experienced pilot!

Okay, so we did have some engine troubles, and had to make two dead stick landings. They were not on the runway, but there was no damage .

On this day, the crosswind was coming from the west; basically from the gazebo and almost perpendicular to the runway. And it was a fairly strong wind to boot, stretching the wind sock out almost straight.

Well if Ray could do it, I had to try my hand as well. The day before, I had swapped radios in the plane and set it up on my computer radio with both high and low rates.

Using high rates, I set up for a takeoff to the left, expecting a strong wind from the left as well. I used a fair amount of left aileron (into the wind) to try

and make sure that the crosswind did not get under that wing and try to flip the plane over. Then, using enough right rudder to keep it rolling straight, I advanced the throttle and headed down the runway. Liftoff was pretty quick, and from there I was intent on keeping the wings level and maintaining a ground track in line with the runway. By the way, it really helped to stand on the runway and watch everything going straight away from me.

After a couple of passes just letting the plane fly, I tried making both left and right passes in front of me with a ground track directly over the runway. Man was I surprised when it took a crab angle of at least 30 degrees towards the gazebo to maintain that ground track.

When time for landing came, I chose to do a moderate approach—beyond the end of the runway, but short of the parking lot. Once in line with the runway, I used lots of left aileron for wings level and rudder steering to a touchdown near the centerline. Not perfect, but lots of fun.



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Postage

**Construction Derby -
June 10th!**

First Class Mail

Next Meeting:
June 13th, 2007
7:30 PM
Lewis Building
248 Boston Road (Rt. 3A)
Billerica, MA

Construction Derby - June 10th!

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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