

THE FLYER



Middlesex County
RC Fliers

March 2015



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Hidden Away in the Snow

Hard to believe that it is time to set the clocks for daylight savings.
Seen at the Field. *Photo by Jim Orsborn*

President's Message, by Jerry Crowley

Well, here we are headed for the beginning of spring! And the thought of temperatures finally getting into the 40's is promising. I for one have had enough. It has been a long winter for us all and I know I am looking forward to a great flying season, if only the snow would stop.

We look forward to our annual field cleanup day as the start of another flying season. Due to the amount of snow we have had this year, the scheduled date has been slipped into May. A number of things do need to be done at the field to get things in shape, so watch next month's Newsletter for the final date and a list of activities.

Speaking of the Newsletter, it has been a while since we published the Newsletter on a regular basis, but Jim is hoping to change this with the distribution of a monthly or at least bi-monthly publication. In order to do this, we need your help contributing articles of interest to fellow modelers. We are in- Cont. Pg. 4

Notes from the Feb. Meeting

During last month's meeting, Jeff offered a pretty good preliminary overview of the 2015 Auction accounting. The following is a portion of that review. (\$ amounts are rounded.)

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Attendance	135	138
Sale Items	125	90
Total Bid Value	\$7,945	\$6,165
<i>NET from activity:</i>		
Door	\$ 406	\$ 431
Auction	\$ 871	\$ 998
Small Items	\$ 191	\$ 211
50/50 Raffle	\$ 83	\$ 85
Radio Raffle	\$ 132	\$ 54
Food	\$ 194	\$ 102
School Charges	(\$ 539)	(\$ 715)
Misc Expenses	(\$ 0)	(\$ 16)
Net Proceeds	\$1,338	\$1,150

As can be seen, there are several areas that were up while others were down over the past year. But overall, the event looks to have been another major success for our club.

Paid membership was reported to be 51 current members.

The Holiday party at the Great Wall was well attended. Dan Costa won the DX8 Tx, Jeff Ward won the Pitts plane and Paul Sullivan won the Quad Copter.

Construction Derby

We're still pulling the details together, but plans are to propose an Electric Plane as the theme for this year's Construction Derby. I wish more had responded, but there does seem to be enough interest for us to make plans for a Construction Derby that will be held on June 7, 2015.

We hope to select between 4 and 6 Team Captains ahead of time. We need to do this so they can begin the task of collecting the materials that they will need to bring to the event that day.

The usual challenge has been to mount a glow engine to some foam board, get the plane to balance and then go fly. This year we are going to require that captains bring electric motors and a LiPo battery setup.

Team work and some knowledge of basic model design principles will play a role in being able to complete the challenge. Future issues of **The FLYER** will discuss some of the points that may be worth considering as you try to build the best flying machine of the day.

As usual, we plan to include summer-time food and refreshments for everyone; and prizes for the winners. As the event flyer says; If you miss this event, you will be missing the most fun you can have in this hobby. So watch **The FLYER** for more details, and plan on being at this year's MCRCF Construction Derby.



Flight Training

The MCRCF Flight Training Program will be getting back into full swing in a couple weeks. Look for our instructors to set a Training Day soon — probably by next month.

Flight training is a free service of the MCRCF club, that is provided to all new members and anyone wishing to get some instructor time before they take up a new plane for the first time.

Most of our Flight Instruction will continue to be done on Glow powered Trainer aircraft such as the Sig Kadet LT-40 EG. This training is a required part for anyone that wants to fly a regular size model airplane at our field. [IMPORTANT] We all need to make it a practice to post a frequency / membership pin on the frequency pole each time we are at the field. Pilots with a red, club stamp on their pin are the only pilots who have solo'd and are allowed to fly a regular plane at the field.

Over the past year, and again this year, we are seeing more pilots who want to fly only small “park flyer” electric planes. These pilots are going thru an abbreviated Flight Training program, and once they have solo'd, they have the words “Electric Only” printed on their Membership Pin. These pilots can fly small, electric planes but should not fly a larger plane, even if it is electric powered.

Interested in Advanced Flight Training? Watch future newsletters for a new pilot training program for advanced pilots.

2015 Event Calendar:

Proposed MCRCF Events

The Board is still looking to finalize an Event Calendar for 2015. The following events and proposed dates are expected to be discussed with the membership at this coming membership meeting. Please plan on attending if possible and don't hesitate to let someone know if you think there is something that should be added or changed.

Field Clean-up Day	Sat. May 2nd
Construction Derby	Sun. Jun 7th
Family Day	Sun. Jun 28th
Club Mtg at Field	Wed. Jul 8th
Open Fun Fly *	Aug (date is tbd)
Yankee Doodle Day	Sat. Sep 12th
Xmas Party	Sat. Jan 9th 2016
25th MCRCF Auction	Sun. Jan 31st 2016

- In commemoration of National Model Aviation Day sponsored by the AMA

Items that are still under consideration:

New Student Training Night

New Pilot Ground School

Possible Float Fly

Orientation Night with the Park & Rec Dept

President's Message (Cont.)

terested in articles that cover a variety of topics ranging from construction, repairs, engine tuning, servo articles or even articles relating to electric airplanes such as motor selection, what size of battery to use, charging techniques for various types of batteries, etc. If the topic interests you, then it will probably interest others as well. Contact Jim Orsborn if you have any suggestions.

I would like to bring to your attention to an area that seems to lack the attention it deserves and that is "SAFETY". Our Club has published a set of rules that are intended to help insure the safety of our fellow modelers as well as the general public that may be visiting us or using the nearby facilities within Veteran's Park. We continue to see fellow pilots violating these rules, and feel their actions are jeopardizing not only our safety but potentially the future existence of our Club. We ask each and every one of you to help police the area. When you notice activities at the Soccer Field or see that the Equestrian Arena facilities are in use, please let others know that they should not fly over the parking lot or the horse arena.

CLUB RULE: If both facilities are being used, then flying is limited to Park Flyer type planes or helicopters, which must be confined to the area over the airstrip and should not be flown above tree top height.

I want to point out that these are Club rules that each member has agreed to follow by signing their Membership Application, and they are not alterable or waved by anyone either in the club or outside.

In addition to the above, it is recommended that you always fly with another person present and able to provide assistance in the event of an accident.

So in closing I wish everyone a great SAFE flying season and see you at the field.

Jerry Crowley
President MCRCF



Construction Derby (Cont.)

Team Captains; here is the list of things that we will be asking you to bring this year:

Transmitter with Rx and 4 Servos,
Elect. Motor, ESC, prop & 3S LiPo,
Xacto knives and blades,
Regular pliers with wire cutter,
Needle nose pliers,
1/8" Flat Screwdriver,
#0 Philips Screwdriver,
Portable electric drill.

News From the Field

by *Jim Orsborn*

So the cover photo shows potential for a nice day of flying, but for the fact that there are only two parking spaces and you can't get to the gazebo and the flight stands are buried.

Seen the video of two members who flew in the recent blizzard?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_uOIYwVTLY

Search: "RC Heli blizzard 2015"

Thanks to Jerry, the Husky "Work Box" (right) is headed to the field this spring.

Flight Training (Cont.)

NEW STUDENT CORNER:

We have at least four new members who have indicated interest in the MCRCF Training Program. Combined with 2 or 3 students left over from last year, we anticipate that this will be a busy year for our instructors.

Each of our new Members/Students received a brief note with their Frequency card. Normally we have people at the field thru the winter months and we can answer some of those beginner questions. This year we are having to wait for the weather to cooperate so we can get together.

Please watch for a call or an e-mail in the next week or two as we finalize plans to hold a short "Ground School" class for new members / students. The objective for this meeting will be to help you better understand what we will offer this year. And if you have not already purchased your trainer, we'd like to help you to make those final decisions.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or want some advice, don't hesitate to call either Ray Capobianco (617)697-4514 or Jim Orsborn (617) 893-9668.



Official Publication of the Middlesex County R-C Fliers, Inc.

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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March 11th, 2015
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