

September 2003

# THE FLYER



On the Web at...  
<http://www.mcrcf.org>

Join our email list - contact Ernie Hollis at:  
[ernieh30@hotmail.com](mailto:ernieh30@hotmail.com)

## ***2nd Annual Nutting Lake Float-Fly, Saturday September 6th***

Once again this year, we'll be holding a Fun Float-Fly on Micozzi Beach at Nutting Lake (on Middlesex Turnpike) in Billerica. This event is held jointly with the 495th RC Squadron, and this year we've also invited the Burlington R/C Flyers to participate. On Saturday, September 6th, arrive and setup after 9 a.m., flying starts at 10 a.m., and runs into the afternoon (probably 4pm or so). Bring your buoyant airplane or helicopter and do it in the water! We suggest bringing a small tarp or blanket to put down, to keep the beach sand out of your carburetor.

As was the case last year, we'll have to shut down the field on Treble Cove Road due to insufficient site separation distance. However, all MCRCF members who wish to fly elsewhere will enjoy reciprocal privileges at the 495th's Pinnacle Field (airplanes only) or Burlington's Blanchard Road field (planes and helis). Rain date is the next day, Sunday 9/7.

For more information contact: Dave Varrel (978-667-7012) [david.c.varrell@verizon.net](mailto:david.c.varrell@verizon.net)  
Jeff Ward (978-663-4493) [wardjeff@comcast.net](mailto:wardjeff@comcast.net)

## ***Yankee Doodle Weekend, September 13th, 14th***

MCRCF will again participate in Billerica's *Yankee Doodle Homecoming* weekend, happening this year on Saturday and Sunday, the 13th and 14th of September. Our plan for 2003 is to dispense with the information booth and concentrate on providing public exposure to R/C flying. In the spirit of this year's theme "*Volunteerism*" we'll be providing free hands-on R/C Trainer flight experiences, mixed in with demonstration flying - all from the high school soccer field. Flying will take place between 12 noon and 4 p.m. (if they open the gate this year...)

"How can I help?" you ask? Well, you might be able to fly a trainer for buddy box time with the public, or bring a plane or helicopter down and do demonstration flying (it doesn't have to be anything fancy - just safe!) If you'll be flying on those days, you must let me know at least a couple of days in advance. Your channel will be unavailable for use at the Treble Cove Road field during the event due to the close proximity.

If you won't be flying, you can still come and help with setup, breakdown, safety spotting, and "crowd control".

We're also in need of a couple of "sandwich board" sign stands to direct folks to our presence at the soccer field. If someone can whip up something like that, please let me know asap. Thanks!

Contact: Jeff Ward (978-663-4493) [wardjeff@comcast.net](mailto:wardjeff@comcast.net)

### ***September Meeting***

- ◆ Final Plans for Float Fly and Yankee Doodle
- ◆ Bring something for show and tell!
- ◆ Raffle

### ***From the Club Database***

Current Membership	116
Bank Balance	\$6458

## MCRCF Community Outreach

### Billerica Family Fun Day

The town of Billerica held a "Family Fun Day" event in Vietnam Veterans Park on Saturday, August 9th. I saw the notice in the paper, and contacted the organizers to get more information, since it appeared that the event would prevent any flying activity. Two of the prime movers for the event were Dee Dee Dorrington (executive director of the Billerica Chamber of Commerce) and Selectman Ellen Rawlings. I asked that they avoid using the runway for the event, and volunteered the use of our large canopy for the food preparation area. I also said that we would look into sponsoring a flying-related event for the kids. In the end, we held a "Balsa Glider Target Practice" event, letting the kids fly small gliders into a bulls-eye target on the field. We awarded many gliders as prizes, and got the chance to help a bunch of kids improve their hand-launching skills. Plus, it gave us adults an excuse to spend the day playing with toy gliders!

Many thanks to *Dave Comeau*, *Gerry Carignan*, and *Dave Varrell* for spending the time helping with setup, breakdown, and running the contest. Thanks to *Ray Capobianco* for providing the small gliders, and to *Hobby-TownUSA of Lexington* for the discount on the Guillows gliders we gave as prizes. Special thanks to *Dave C.* for bringing the weed-whacker and making sure our area looked good! Selectman Rawlings thanked us for being a key contributor to the success of the event. Funds raised at the event are earmarked for the town's 350th Birthday celebration in 2005.



Dave and Gerry wait for the festivities to begin!

### Tyngsborough Library Program

Tyngsborough Public Library Children's Program director Connie Spickler stopped by at our field one evening to watch the flying, and though that R/C airplanes would make a great event for her summer reading program, especially with this year's theme: "Take Flight - Read!" in celebration of the 100th anniversary of powered flight. She got word of her interest to me, I talked with John Parisi, and we made a plan.

On August 18th, John, Gary Christiansen and I provided an information session that included the AMA's "All Because of Model Aircraft" video, a display and presentation of various types of R/C aircraft and equipment, a question and answer period, and two flight demonstrations in the parking lot. Fifty people signed up, but we probably had about 75 spectators by the time we got to the flying part. John's fleet of airplanes and helicopters gave a great idea of the variety of model types, and the crowd enjoyed the flight demonstration of electric planes. I flew my SkyScooter, but everyone was thrilled by Gary's aerobatic antics with his "IFO". The feedback was extremely positive from kids and adults alike.



If you'd like to be involved in events of these kind, please let me know so that we can contact you if and when an opportunity arises.

*Jeff W.*



## *President's Message*

What happened to the summer? It was 55 degrees Fahrenheit when I woke up this morning - what's up with that? Sigh... Well, with any luck, it won't start snowing in October this year like it did last year. I'm just not ready to put the skis back on the Kadet!

As you'll see from the articles in this newsletter, the club has been involved in various events this summer, starting with another fabulous Construction Derby in June, running through next weekend's Float-Fly and the following weekend's Yankee Doodle Homecoming. Hopefully you'll take part in these events if time allows. I hope you all have had time to do more flying than I have!

This is a great year for aviation activities, it being the 100th anniversary year of the Wright brothers first powered flight. Rhonda Michaud got her private license to fly those "bigger" airplanes this year. Rick Buccieri was lucky enough to spend a few hours at AirVenture 2003 in Oshkosh this year while he was working in the region. This past Sunday, I fulfilled a childhood dream by taking a ride in a B-17 bomber - a fabulous ride, but sobering to think of all those who flew in them and never returned.

Coming up, on September 20-21, there is an Aviation Heritage Festival at Nashua Airport (Boire Field), Nashua, NH. In December, the new Udvar-Hazy Center (of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum) will open at Dulles Airport.

If there are aviation related activities in the area that you think our members might be interested in, please let me know.

"See you in September" - Be safe and have fun!

*Jeff*

## *Upcoming Flight Restrictions*

9/6, Saturday: *Nutting Lake Float Fly* (field closed 10am - 5pm)

9/10, Wednesday: *Cross Country Track Meet* (no flying 3:00 p.m. 'til end of event)

9/13, Saturday: *Yankee Doodle Homecoming* (some channels not available at the field, 11am - 5pm)

9/14, Sunday: *Yankee Doodle Homecoming* (some channels not available at the field, 11am - 5pm)

9/21, Sunday: *Horse Show* (restricted flying, 8:30am 'til end of event)

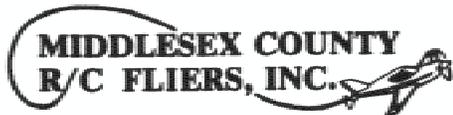
10/1, Wednesday: *Cross Country Track Meet* (no flying 3:00 p.m. 'til end of event)

10/8, Wednesday: *Cross Country Track Meet* (no flying 3:00 p.m. 'til end of event)

Fall soccer will be starting up, so keep an eye out for that too - sigh.....

## *Upcoming R/C Events*

- ◆ *Middlesex County R-C Fliers, 2nd Annual Nutting Lake Float Fly*, Saturday September 6th (rain date 9/7) See page 1 for details.
- ◆ *Sturbridge Lawn Darts, Gremlin Combat*, Sunday Sept 14th, 10:00 a.m.; Sturbridge, MA  
For details check the calendar at RACores Web Site at [www.racores.com](http://www.racores.com)
- ◆ *Central Mass RC Modelers, Scale Fly In*, 09/14/03 -Westboro, MA (A) CMRCM Scale Fly In. Site: Club Field. James Sbrogna CD, 11 Benedict Rd Worcester MA 01604 PH:508-328-5973 e-mail [jasbrogna@yahoo.com](mailto:jasbrogna@yahoo.com) . Event open to all AMA members.



First Class Mail

28 Griffen Drive  
Wakefield, MA 01880

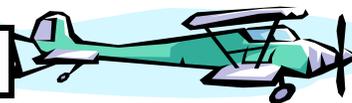
**Next Meeting!**

**Wed 9/3/2003 @ 7:30 pm**

Lighthouse School  
Wellman Avenue, off Rt. 3A/4  
North Chelmsford, MA

The Flyer

September 2003



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

THE FLYER is the official newsletter published by 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 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 first Wednesday of every month between September and June at the Lighthouse School in North Chelmsford at 7:30 p.m.

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