August 2020

NCRCC Flyer

NEXT (August) **MEETING:**

Is by Live-in-Person at the Field 6:30 pm

- Continued Safety
- judgment
- · Bring a chair.
- Bring your own food if desired
- Pilot Projects
- Good Times

Individual Highlights:

Prez Sez

July General Membership

Meeting Minutes

More Membership Meeting

Field Supervisors Report



Bob Laflamme NCRCC President

WWW.NCRCC.ORG

Prez Sez

As we move into August, the 'Summer of COVID' is in full swing. I hope all our members. families and friends are in good health.

It's really amazing how the situation changes from day to day. The virus is really running rampant all over the country.

We are lucky that the infection rate is low in our area: scientists attribute that to two simple things; 1) Wash your hands often to prevent infecting yourself, and 2) wear a mask to prevent spreading infection to others or prevent

August 13, 2020 NCRCC **Monthly Meeting** Is at the <u>field</u>! <u>6:30PM</u> <u>Please bring a chair.</u>

(And again your own food if desired)

inhalation of virus particle exhaled by someone without a mask. Two simple things make us all safe along with social distancing keep us all safe.

On a lighter note, some exciting things have been happening. We held our first in-person meeting last month and it was a success. We intend to continue holding meetings at the field thru October. We'll adjust if we have to such as holding the October meeting on a Saturday morning instead of Thursday evening.

This week we launched the new and improved NCRCC website. Many thanks to Leo and Ola Nordell and Stan Kulesa. It is a vast improvement over the old one which was well past it's prime. I encourage you to check it out.

A digital welcome kit has been assembled for new members. This consists of the By-Laws, Field Rules, Student Pilot Manual and Gate Directions. This will be emailed to all new members as well as be available in hard-copy for those who prefer.

As mentioned last month, we are now in possession of a donated Microsoft Surface Pro computer and Fargo card printer. This allows us to print the badges without relying on the auspices of someone doing this at their work. We will have it at every meeting and will be able to create badges on demand.

We have also been taking a look at the current bylaws and see they need some work. Several areas have been identified

change/clarification/impro vement as well as areas where grammar is just wrong. We plan on handling in a manner

Continued on page 2 of 8

Prez Sez ... continued

similar to how many towns do charter revisions. A project will be initiated to solicit input from the membership on suggested areas for improvement; these will be collected and examined by a revision committee made up of representatives from the membership and executive committee. The exact makeup has not been defined as yet, we hope to get input from the members on it. This committee will be charged with reviewing the suggestions, making adjustments where needed and finally

presenting them to the membership for voting. The goal is to get this accomplished and hold the vote this year. We feel this is something that should be done on a regular basis. Most towns do this every 10 years, we may consider a shorter time frame.

There were new signs at the field (other than the COVID ones) stating No Trespassing and Video Surveillance in Use. What happened after we put them up? Some were promptly stolen or taken down. You just can't win...

On a solemn note, we lost two members this past month. Paul Savastano and Bob Mielnik. They are sorely missed, Paul as a mentor to me when I first joined and he kindled my interest in giant scale WW I. We've made memorial donations in both their names' and have ordered stones for the field.

I've been long-winded, stay safe and will see you Thursday at the field. 6:30 start time.

bob

Bob LaFlamme, President, NCRCC

NCRCC General Membership Meeting Minutes - 7/9/2020



Stan Kulesa NCRCC Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by President Bob LaFlamme. The meeting was held at the NCRCC flying field in Ellington and attended by 27 members and 6 guests.

President's Report:

Bob LaFlamme welcomed the meeting attendees.

Bob announced that long-term

member Paul Savastano passed away on Monday. Paul was remembered for being very active in his community, in the hobby, and at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome. Bob noted that Paul was the original Contest Director of the Dawn Patrol event and served as a prior Field Marshall/Safety Officer. Other members offered kind memories of Paul.

Bob asked for a motion to approve the June general membership meeting minutes which appeared in the newsletter. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Vice President's Report:

No report.

Secretary's Report:

Stan Kulesa reported that NCRCC currently has 189 members.
Guests tonight included George Sweatt, Richard Niezabitowski, Mike Yezak, Devon Conner, Carl Alleman, and Alene Lang.

Stan provided an update on the new club website. He reviewed with the meeting attendees the project's goals. The Web Team (composed of Leo N-, Ola N-, and Stan) had given a tour of the new website to the Executive Committee during a special meeting on 6/25/2020. Stan reported that shortly after Leo's and Ola's return from competing in the Nat's later this month, the new website will be ready to be deployed.

Treasurer's Report:

Len Marchese provided the meeting attendees with a financial report. He detailed recent expenses and income and reported that club accounts balance.

Len thanked those members who assisted with the build of the concrete platform next to the containers (which will enable maintenance work to be done on the tractor and other equipment).

Len reported that a printer, accompanying equipment, and supplies in support of enabling

 supplies in support of enabling membership badge production

More Membership Meeting Minutes – 7/9/2020

has been purchased. Temporary membership badges previously issued to new members will be replaced.

Len told the attendees that Art Usher would not be able to attend tonight's meeting but that he would deliver the Field Marshall/Safety Officer Report on Art's behalf. Art wanted to thank the helpers with the concrete platform project. Art noted that chairs have been brought from the pavilion area to the flight line but have not been returned so he requested that people moving chairs return them after using them. Finally, Art requested that people visiting the flying field clean up after themselves.

Liaison Officer Report:

No report.

Activities Director Report:

Irv Thurrott shared a photo with the meeting attendees of NCRCC member Paul Savastano from the 2012 Dawn Patrol event.

Irv mentioned that a member experienced a house fire and lost his hobby workshop, supplies, and models. This member is looking to replenish his collection of blueprints. Contact Irv if you would like to be connected to the member.

Irv noted that the AMA will be sponsoring a virtual general membership meeting open to all AMA members in the not-too-distant future and recommended that our members listen to it.

Irv asked if any member was seeking

to host an event this flying season. Buddy B- expressed his interest in hosting the AMA District 1 Fun Fly in September with some restrictions/ conditions. Following some discussion, no commitment to hosting the event was finalized due to the coronavirus complications. Buddy was invited to prepare a formal plan to the Executive Committee for their review.

Irv acknowledged that the new website would be operationalized soon. He reminded the meeting attendees that he will soon be stepping down as Activities Director and is soliciting interest from the membership for his replacement. (Please see Irv or any other member of the Executive Committee if you are willing to volunteer for the role.) Irv also was looking for one or more volunteers to take photos at club meetings and events.

Irv invited those willing to serve as instructors to contact him.

<u>Field Marshall/Safety Officer</u> <u>Report</u>:

See the Treasurer's Report.

Newsletter Editor Report:

No report.

New Business:

Bob L- asked those guests seeking membership to introduce themselves to the meeting attendees. George Sweatt, Richard Niezabitowski, Mike Yezak, Devon Conner, and Carl Alleman spoke.

Dennis T- noted that some benches are being stored that can be deployed for use by members and guests. Dennis was asked to speak with Art U-.

John P- asked whether club rules were being provided to new members. He noted that this was important information for all members to have and to follow.

Peter T- reported that three NCRCC members (Leo N-, Ola N-, and Lloyd B-) had gone to the Nat's in Muncie, IN to compete in pylon racing.

A question was posed about the AMA's willingness to host the outdoor Nats versus NCRCC's reluctance to host events.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Stan Kulesa, Secretary.

New NCRCC Website Is Here!

Over the past few months, work has been underway by the Web Team (Leo Nordell, Ola Nordell, and Stan Kulesa) to refresh the NCRCC website:

(www.ncrcc.org)

and we are pleased to deploy it! Please set aside some time to tour the new website at your leisure.

When you access the new website, you'll see how many of the fine attributes of the current website were leveraged into the refreshed version. Some attributes have been added or updated including:

- Multiple links have been added throughout the website to both internal and external sites.
- Under the 'Members Only' tab, you will be able to access the club officers' contact information after you enter a password (the four-digit gate lock combination).
- Photo galleries have been added in multiple locations.
- The club history has been updated.
- In order to better serve our members, sections have been added or embellished regarding 'Improving Skills', 'External Buy / Sell Web Links', 'Important Notices', 'FAA Web Link', etc.
- In order to warmly invite new pilots, sections have been added or embellished regarding 'Welcome Message', 'Student Pilot Training Program', 'General Info', etc.
- In order to be able to better tell the NCRCC story to our community, sections have been added or embellished regarding 'Community Involvement', 'Safety / Rules', 'AMA Info Web Link', 'Basics of Aerodynamics', etc.
- To improve overall internal and external communication, a 'Contact Us' tab has been added.
- Existing members will be able to renew their membership electronically when they use PayPal to pay their dues. Check out the 'Membership Info' section.

On behalf of the Web Team, we truly hope you like the website refresh and find it as a useful tool.

The website is (and will always continue to be) a work-in-progress. If you have any feedback, please contact Stan Kulesa at:

Stanley kulesa@yahoo.com.

NCRCC Flyer



Irv Thurrott
Activities Director

Activities Director's Report – August, 2020

The next meeting will be outdoors at the field on Thursday, August 13th at 6:30 PM. Please bring a chair and mask, as we'll be practicing Social Distancing.

There has been quite a bit of flying at the field, especially on weekends. Some of our new members fly big 3D planes which are very impressive.

Activities Director's Report – August, 2020

The club, in the past, has always followed an "unwritten rule" that when there are only a few members at the field we generally fly one-at-a-time. This gives members a chance to fly maneuvers, practice takeoffs and landings, or make for a flight where you don't have to worry about collisions. People learning to fly also feel more comfortable.

When racers are at the field to practice, we let them go down as a group and fly "courses", and then they wait a pretty long time period before going down on the field again. The flight times for each racer is typically less than 5 minutes, so everyone still has a chance to get in flights. Hopefully this approach can be continued by all our new members.

Also, it's important to return to the pits fairly soon after landing, so

the next flyer can go up.

Finally, an important NCRCC safety rule is to only fly on the far side of the berm (the slightly taller grass strip that runs parallel to the runway). This keeps planes away from the pits and spectators, as well as pilots on the flight line. This rule holds true at all times.

There are still no NCRCC Events scheduled, but we'll always be willing to discuss possibilities.

Hope all of you are doing well and staying healthy!

Looking forward to seeing/ hearing you during the meeting.

Activities Director, Irv

August 2020 Field Supervisors Report:



Art Usher

NCRCC Field Supervisor

Well here we are half way through the flying season.

The field is in great shape although the grass is getting a little crunchy in spots. We could really use some rain.

One of our mowing crew has decided to go back to work. I would like to take

this opportunity to give Wayne MacCluskey a heartfelt "thank you".

When we voted him into the club he volunteered that night to join the mowing crew, and has done a great job over the last two or three years, thanks Wayne. In Wayne's absence another member has stepped up to fill the seat on the zero turn. His name is Neal Caplin. He also volunteered to be on the

August 2020 Field Supervisors Report : Continued

crew the night he was voted in. I told him we were all set at that time but I would keep him in mind should we need him. Low and behold we needed him and he stepped up and is now Bob Martin's new mowing partner. Thank you both.

Over the last couple of weeks we have had some uninvited nighttime intruders on our property. The first time they came and they moved all the picnic tables out from under the pavilion, set up some motion activated led lights and drank a bunch of beer, no damage done that night. I removed the lights and

a day or two later in the middle of the day when no one was at the field. Then, I very strongly suspect, they returned to blow up one of our two "old pavilion" bird houses with some kind of high explosive. Only very small pieces survived. I understand that currently a new one is presently under construction. Thankful.

I called the state police and they have not returned my call as yet. We have posted no trespassing signs inside the field and I'm working on a frame to hold a larger version of those signs to go directly below the NCRCC sign that is at our gate. We had an issue recently were the gate was not closed properly.

If you are a member and don't know the combination or how the gate mechanism works please see myself or any other club officers for instructions.

See you at the next meeting.

At the field.

Art

For Sale:



Please contact Lloyd B- <u>ciblwb@gmail.com</u> "Selling for a friend -best offer."



From the Treasurer:



Len Marchese
NCRCC Treasurer

Not much to say, other that we are now in the month of August. August started out with a huge bang by the name of Tropical Storm Isaias.

Multiple property damage, fallen trees, down power lines and poles, along with thousands (600,000) electrical customers out of power. All I can say is that our electrical supplier (no name mentioned) was well prepared for this storm. LOL

With just two days after the storm I only noticed one, yes one company truck. Every time I check my outage status on their website (if you can get through), the status was "evaluating". And I checked multiple times. Then, suddenly, I had....LIGHTS!

July was our heavy month

financially. From this point going forward expenses will start to decline as the flying season comes to a slow move, but not ending. Remember I said "slow". As always, the field is open 365 days of the year. Sorry we do not plow Green Road.

One reminder. I have (we have all) mentioned this multiple times. The club dumpster is used primarily for club sponsored events and trash from the barrels inside the pavilion. Any new plane or equipment you bring to the club from a shipping box, or plane that you damaged beyond recognition, must be brought back to your home Not disposed into the club dumpster.

As always be safe, wear your mask and keep your social distance. We need to be aware of all individuals at the club along with their and your concern of COVID19. Please wear your mask.

See you at the field,

Len Marchese Treasurer



NCRCC NEWS

This Newsletter was edited by Peter Tani P.O. Box 1544 Vernon, CT 06066

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Copying and Distribution of the Newsletter is done by

Joel Lang

Thank You Joel!

We're on the Web! See us at:

www.ncrcc.org



Leo is now considerably taller than Lloyd.

..PLACE¶ ..LABEL¶ ..HERE¶

NCRCC NEWS
P.O. Box 1544
Vernon CT 06066