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Events:

- Tailgate Swap Meet – 10/7/23

(Len Marchese / Mike Maznicki)

- Heli Harvest – 10/21/23 (Mike Lewandowski)

NCRCC General Membership Meeting Minutes – 9/14/2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Mike Maznicki. The meeting was held at the NCRCC flying field in Ellington, CT.

Mike welcomed the membership.

Mike asked for any corrections to the August meeting minutes as they appeared in the newsletter sent 9/1/23. There were no corrections offered and a motion was made, seconded, and a vote approved the August 2023 meeting minutes.

President's Report:

Mike Maznicki gave a shout-out to Rob Hebert and his team of volunteers for running tonight's barbeque. The members offered a round of applause in appreciation. Mike also thanked Ed Case for publishing another great issue of the newsletter.

Mike reported that progress is being made concerning NCRCC's application to be recognized as an AMA Leader

Club with a gold status. He explained what AMA Leader Club status means to NCRCC. Mike then spoke about some of the specific steps that must be taken to finalize our application. Bob Spooner graciously offered to cover the cost of an annual subscription to *Model Aviation* magazine to the Ellington Public Library.

Vice President's Report:

Dave Arzt gave an update concerning FAA-related news. He noted that the requirement for models to be equipped with a remote identification device (RID) was recently extended to 3/16/24. Part of the reason for this extension was driven by the availability of RIDs. He mentioned that RIDs meeting FAA requirements are becoming more available and being sold by several manufacturers. Dave reiterated that a RID will not be needed for those pilots flying within NCRCC's FRIA-approved area around our flying field in Ellington.

Secretary's Report:

Stan Kulesa reported that NCRCC currently has a total of 190 members. There were 40 members and 10 guests attending tonight's meeting. Guests included



Philip Prior, Robert Cocker, Brian Peters, Alene Lang, Stacy Niezabitowski, Ray Guidone, Asher Guidone, Pheonix Guidone, Evolet Guidone, and Lirit Guidone.

Stan gave a report regarding the club website. In August, there were 1,271 views (and 351 visitors). He encouraged members to periodically check the website's main page for important club news. Stan reminded the members that the password to access the 'Members Only' section is the same as the gate combination.

Stan announced that the October meeting will be held at the NCRCC flying field in Ellington on 10/12/23 and that it will begin at 6:00 PM. The barbeque will begin at 5:00 PM. Sunset on that date is at 6:21 PM so we will have lights.

Stan reported that NCRCC's application to restore its tax-exempt status with the IRS remains pending. When we submitted our application in March 2023, the estimated processing time was targeted to be 4 – 6 months.

Stan thanked Don Weight for his extremely generous donation of R/C models and

equipment to NCRCC. The proceeds from the sale of Don's donated items will benefit NCRCC. Don had been a member of NCRCC years earlier.

Treasurer's Report:

Len reviewed club expenses, income, and balances for the month of August 2023 with the members. He noted that we had used ~57.5% of the 2023 operating budget to date.

Len announced that he is beginning work on the 2024 budget and asked the members if they had any potential projects needing budgetary funding. None were offered. Len requested that any member who has such a project funding need to send him an email as soon as possible. Len reminded the members that the finalized 2024 operating budget is contingent upon the actual dollar amount raised from 2024 membership renewal dues.

Len announced that the 2024 membership renewal campaign will be launched on 11/1/23 with the mailing and emailing of the materials to our current members. He reminded all that, due to marked increases in our

expenses such as the grub control application, the proposed re-seeding, potential maintenance fertilizing applications, fuel costs, etc., NCRCC membership dues will be changing to \$85.00/year for an Open Membership or Social Membership and that the dues for a Family Membership will be \$128.00/year. Dues for a Junior Membership will remain at \$12.00/year.

Len reported that he had received a request from the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department for a donation. There was consensus among the members to make a donation and some additional discussion regarding the dollar amount. With the authorization from the membership, Len said he would make a donation on behalf of NCRCC.

Activities Director Report:

Peter Tani reported on upcoming events.

- Warbirds over Ellington (AMA sanctioned) – 9/16/23 with a 9/17/23 rain date
- Tailgate Swap Meet – 10/7/23



- Heli Harvest (to be AMA sanctioned) – 10/21/23

Peter noted that, due to the close passing of Hurricane Lee, the Warbirds over Ellington event will be held on Sunday (9/17/23), not Saturday. He asked John Blossick (Contest Director) to speak about the event and John complied with an overview of what's planned.

Peter announced that the club will be initiating a "speakers series" for our meetings held at the Somers Public Library. Various members will give be invited to give presentations on a range of topics such as scale building, seaplane flying, competing at Top Gun, etc.

Liaison Officer Report:

John Blossick announced the items he's offering as tonight's raffle prizes. He had a small electric model and a 40-sized Citabria as prizes.

Field Marshall/Safety Officer Report:

Bob Viering thanked the volunteer mowing crew for an awesome job maintaining the field.

Bob reported that he is working on the new information board, the new signage segregating the pit area from the spectator area, the two new signs identifying NCRCC for our field's entrance and the beginning of Green Rd., and the 'No Trespassing' sign for the main gate when it's in a closed position.

Bob asked if anyone has an outdoor patio dining set that they would be willing to donate to contact him. He might be able to arrange for a pick-up.

Bob thanked Buddy Beaudoin, Joel Lang, and Ralph Rinaldi for their work in creating a formal proposal for re-seeding the flying field between the parking area wooden fence and the windsock area. He invited Buddy to give the presentation on the proposed project. Buddy noted that the area for re-seeding is approximately 70,000 sq. ft. and that to save money, we would purchase an aerator and seed spreader so that, as needed, re-seeding could be repeated over subsequent flying seasons. He described the volume of grass seed and starter fertilizer that would

be needed. Buddy noted that the grass seed is specially formulated for hot and dry conditions. A group of NCRCC volunteers would arrange to spread the seed and fertilizer. Buddy spoke about the pricing associated with the project and answered multiple questions. Buddy made a motion to authorize the funding of an expense of up to \$2,000.00 for this project. The motion was seconded and approved by the membership. The work associated with this project will begin immediately after the Warbirds over Ellington event.

Bob reviewed the AMA Safety Code with the members. He noted that the new information board will have the AMA Safety Code posted on it along with NCRCC club rules. Bob asked all members to read and to adhere to these safety-driven documents.

Bob pleaded with members not to fly alone. He strongly recommended always having at least two adults present while flying. Because of the remoteness of the flying field, the safety risk is mitigated when there is more than one person



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present and able to react to emergency situations. Bob repeated the slogan, "Fly with a friend".

Bob spoke about practicing safety at our flying field. He asked all members and guests to follow all club and AMA rules with a focus on all flying from the pilot stations, loudly calling landings/take-offs/low fly-bys/flight direction, following the established traffic pattern, doing all flying in front of the berm by the pilot stations, and loudly announcing when walking onto the runway area.

New Members:

Philip Prior presented himself as a prospective member.

Robert Cocker and Brian Peters were presented for Open Membership. Asher Guidone, Pheonix Guidone, Evolet Guidone, and Lirit Guidone were presented for Junior Membership. Each of their applications for membership were voted on and approved.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Mike Maznicki announced that he is appointing Stan Kulesa as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The nomination process for club officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Field Manager/Safety Officer, Activities Director, and Liaison Officer) will begin shortly. Members of the Board of Directors are not up for re-election this year.

Mike spoke about the AMA Introductory Pilot Program. NCRCC has been a participant in this program for several years. Most recently, we had four youngsters who had attended our Try-N-Fly event in August engage the hobby through this program. Mike noted that while the program provides key administrative protections, a temporary AMA number is assigned. As a requisite for club membership, NCRCC requires AMA membership for those applicants seeking flying privileges. The membership agreed that we would enable an applicant under the AMA Introductory Pilot Program to join NCRCC while their temporary AMA number is in effect.

Mark Nowak raised a concern about the NCRCC membership application process. He felt that the two meeting requirement for prospective new members was burdensome. There was some discussion and a clarification regarding an applicant's ability to fly was articulated. No change to our process will be made.

Mike Maznicki announced that the Ellington Public Library is willing to host a static display of R/C aircraft again. A few years ago, NCRCC made such a display during the winter months and we received positive feedback. The library also offered to allow NCRCC to use their conference room to give presentations on aeromodelling. Mike asked for a volunteer to step up and coordinate this with the library on behalf of NCRCC.

Announcements:

No announcements.

Show & Tell:

No show & tells were presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

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These minutes are respectfully submitted by Stan Kulesa, Secretary.



From the Vice President:

Hope everyone has had a great summer. I can't believe that another summer has come and gone.

Hats off to John Blossick and his great crew for another great Warbirds Over Ellington event. I think we have all learned a lesson regarding scheduling a one-day event for Saturday and Sunday with AMA. The weather on Saturday was terrible for an RC event. John took the bull by the horns and moved the event to Sunday, which had fantastic weather. Great job John.

The last Thompson float fly

has come and gone as did the fourth and last 2023 Crystal Lake Float Fly. Contained in this newsletter is another great photo collage by Irv of the pilots, attendees and planes of the Crystal Lake Float Fly.

We are all grateful that NCRCC received a FRIA for the club field at Green Road. We are still waiting to hear about a FRIA for Crystal Lake. The good news is that FAA has granted a 6-month extension of the Remote ID broadcasting. One way or another we are hoping to continue float fly's at Crystal Lake.

Until next month: calm winds and smooth landings.

Dave Arzt, Vice President



From the Treasurer:

WOW! The flying season is close to the end for 2023. I know many of our members will continue flying until the first snowfall. Sorry....did I say SNOW! It has been a great year for flying and club events, and we are looking forward to the 2024 season.

I want to thank John Blossick for his outstanding September event "Warbirds over Ellington". John had to deal with the threat of inclement weather on Saturday and he and his team decided to postpone the event to Sunday. Well.... the weather was just outstanding on Sunday and the event was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that flew their warbird R/C aircrafts and to the volunteers from head cook to everyone involved with the event. THANK YOU!!!

Our next event will be the NCRCC Swap Meet on October 7, 2023, set up at 7:00am, selling or buying start at 9:00am. If you are

interested in selling or buying, come on down.

October also means the suspension of business with two vendors. The first will be the portable toilet. Pippin and Son will do a full cleaning along with antifreeze added to the unit. The unit will stay on property until mid-April or early May. USA Hauling will empty the dumpster the last week of October. The dumpster will also remain on property but there will be no service to the dumpster. So, if you have any garbage or remnants of a crash.... **TAKE IT HOME!** Service will commence sometime in April of 2024.

Also, one last comment. Starting November 1st, 2023, we will be mailing the 2024 NCRCC renewal applications. It is utmost important to get your 2024 renewals in as soon as possible, so we can determine the 2024 budget. Remember, NCRCC member dues have increased for 2024. Open membership - \$85.00 and Family membership - \$128.00. No

change to Junior membership (16 years of age and under).

I would like to thank everyone that assisted with the Fly-N-Try event. There were many enthusiastic families and kids wanting to fly. Hopefully, this will open the door for new members and flyers. A big thank you to Bob Martin for taking full responsibility and moving forward with the Fly-N-Try event. **Bob.... job well done!**

Next event is the Warbirds over Ellington, Saturday September 16th, 2023. Last year it was a great event and should be bigger and better than last year. If any members can help with the event please contact John Blossics, contest director.

Financially, we are in great shape. The month of August for expenses was normal for this time of year. Just a reminder that the 2024 renewal campaign will be starting in early November. So, when you get your renewal, return it as soon as possible. Keep in mind that membership rates for 2024

are as follows: **Open Membership \$85.00 and Family Membership \$128.00.**

Len Marchese, Treasurer



From The Field Marshall:

To start off I would like to congratulate John Blossick and all the volunteers for a successful "Warbirds over Ellington" event and, as always, I would like to thank the mowing crew. You guys are doing a great job. For those of you that have been to the field lately as of Sunday September 24th, Buddy Beaudoin, John Palica and I started the aerating and reseeding project. We managed to finish from the berm out to the windsock

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before the heavy rain came in.

We will be trying to complete the project with in the next few weeks. Not much else I can think of for now other then as always fly with a friend. Always fly from pilot stations, fly forward of the berm, follow the traffic pattern, loudly call landing, take-offs and low fly-bys, and announce when you step out onto runway and when you are clear. Thank you, fly safe.

Robert Viering, Field Marshal



From the Activities Director:

Hello all!

With some proper planning, quick thinking, and a little luck our 2023 Warbirds event was able to avoid the poor weather of Saturday, September 16 by using our Sunday, September 17 rain-date. Hooray!

We at NCRCC are blessed with both great facilities and a long history of equally enjoyable and successful events. Thank you NCRCC public liaison officer and NCRCC contest director John Blossick for your great effort and by my measure even greater poise. Never a feather out of place and while making some, by my measure, very difficult decisions that would no doubt bear on the outcome for our most recent Warbirds event.

Great fun, food, flying, company, spectacle, raffles, and even in the end also great weather.

Congratulations to recent NCRCC member Cliff Williams for winning the perfect raffle. A possible great "second" aircraft and recall may have even seen a

large smile, and on our event day. Thanks, John Blossick, for providing the raffle opportunity. Was glad to see a member new to NCRCC benefit.

Special thanks to our cooking team, field set-up and break-down team, our raffle sales individual, our tee-shirt sales individual, our announcer, all our pilots and both from far and from near. Thanks too to those I may have forgotten here. Was a great overall show indeed.

Please let us also all welcome our four recent NCRCC members from the Guidone family. I have had the great pleasure to, with Ron Vernier, Jessica Haxhi, and Bill Glode, to have worked with our new junior NCRCC members. Special thanks to field supervisor Bob Vering for donating a brand-new Carbon Cub to our cause. Special thanks to past NCRCC V.P. Bob Spooner for donating a very well completed Sig Kadet Mk II to our collective cause.

No doubt our new members are a result of our august

national model aviation day and try-n-fly event.

Past NCRCC president's Kevin Cyr, Jessica (Thurrott) Haxhi, public liaison officer John Blossick and I have been working with our new young pilots. Lots of fun and equal work.

Thank you now present NCRCC contest director Ron Vernier. It is never too early to plan an event.

Case in point: Please all mark your calendars and for 2024! Our 2024 and 29th annual "Dawn Patrol over Green Road Sector" will be conducted the weekend after our national Fourth of July holiday weekend.

However, unlike in years past the date has been moved from our traditional Sunday to Saturday. Namely: Saturday, July 13 in 2024 with a rain date of Sunday, July 14, 2024. Here is a link:

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/events/dawn-patrol-over-green-road-sector>

Wait, that's not all. NCRCC will have a newly minted and

also 2024 event: Our 1st annual "Biplane Bash" where any biplane or triplane is welcome. In 2024 this new event will pre-date our 2024 Dawn Patrol and will be conducted on Saturday, June 8, 2024. Again, the following Sunday, namely Sunday, June 9, 2024, will be our rain date. Here is a link:

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/events/biplane-bash-0>

Our very next NCRCC event is our Saturday, October 7, 2023 NCRCC "Tailgate Swap Meet". Please all mark your calendars this time for 2023 and this event will occur just next month. Here is a link:

<https://ncrcc.org/ncrcc-event-calender/>

Lastly and first by my measure since 2019 Mike Lewandowski will contest direct an NCRCC Saturday, October 21, 2023, Heli-Fest. We have little time to prepare. Please contact Mike Lewandowski to learn how to help. Same link as above and tenth bullet.

That's it for now.

Peter Tani, Activities Director



From the Liaison Officer:

Greetings! Sometimes one can never get a break of good fortune. But once and awhile, good fortune can sometimes visit with a radiant, smiling face. Such was the case with NCRCC's recent event--Warbirds Over Ellington. With a hurricane poised to bring inclement weather to New England on Saturday, the event was moved to Sunday's alternate rain date.

The weather on Sunday was perfect! Attendance was well beyond expectations, the food served hit the spot, there was great flying, and

everyone in attendance had a very enjoyable day!

While the weather for R/C events can sometimes be uncertain, the planning, execution, and preparation for an exceptional event isn't. As the event CD, I would like to offer my deepest, heartfelt gratitude and thanks to everyone who helped make the Warbirds event a success. Everyone did an incredible job and no matter what the task, all of it was instrumental to the events success.

I would also like to mention and say thank you to all who attended the Warbirds event. It's your participation, positive attitude, and desire to have fun with our great hobby that makes hosting and organizing events a sheer delight.

The date and sanction for next years Warbirds has been sent to the AMA and is pending approval. Hopefully, no hurricanes next year!

Thanks again to everyone!

John Blossick, Liaison Officer



FRIA and Remote ID Update

by John Watkins

The FAA has delayed enforcement of the Remote ID requirement by six months to 16 March 2024 due to unavailability of Remote ID Broadcast Modules and many pending FAA FRIA applications. The FAA Policy on Remote ID Enforcement states:

Drone pilots are expected to comply with the September 16, 2023, compliance date for Remote ID. However, the FAA understands that some drone pilots may not be able to comply because of limited availability of broadcast modules and lack of approved FAA-Recognized Identification Areas. In those instances, the FAA will consider all factors in determining whether to take

enforcement action through March 16, 2024.

The following links provide further information:

<https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/faa-extends-remote-id-enforcement-date-six-months>

https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting-started/remote_id

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/09/15/2023-20074/enforcement-policy-regarding-operator-compliance-deadline-for-remote-identification-of-unmanned>

Keep in mind that even though we will not need to equip our models with Remote ID when flying at the NCRCC field, individual pilots are still required to have their Small UAS Certificate of Registration and TRUST Completion Certificate with them, and models weighing more than .55 pounds (250 grams) must display the pilot's UAS CERTIFICATE NUMBER.

There is no news on our Secondary FRIA at Crystal Lake. It's likely the AMA has their hands full with primary FRIA approvals for many

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AMA clubs. Our Crystal Lake FRIA will not be needed until we begin flying on the lake next year.

Nominations for the Executive Committee:

Nominations for the NCRCC Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Liaison Officer, Field Marshall/Safety Officer, Activities Director) are open. The members of the NCRCC Board of Directors are not up for re-election this year.

You can initiate a nomination by contacting a member of the Nominating Committee:

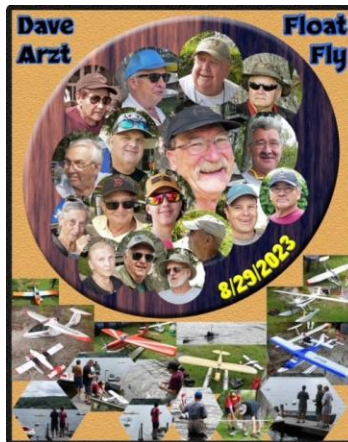
- Stan Kulesa
- Tom Munsell

You can also initiate a nomination by speaking at a meeting or by sending an email or letter to the NCRCC Secretary with your name and indicating the desired position. The email address is: sec@ncrcc.org. The mailing address is: NCRCC Secretary, P. O. Box 443, Ellington, CT 06029.

You can learn about the duties for each of the club officer roles by reading Article V of the NCRCC By-

Laws. The NCRCC By-Laws can be found on our website under the "Members Only" pull-down menu. You can also speak with members of the Nominating Committee to obtain additional information.

Nominations can be made no later than during the November general membership club meeting.



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Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club

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