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Events:

Heli-Harvest – 11/11/23 (Mike
Lewandowski)

Holiday Party – 12/14/23 (Irv
Thurrott)



Ed Case, Newsletter Editor

NCRCC General Membership Meeting Minutes – 10/12/2023

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 September
meeting minutes as they
appeared in the newsletter
sent 10/1/23. There were no
corrections offered and a
motion was made, seconded,
and a vote approved the
September 2023 meeting
minutes. Mike took a quick
informal poll and asked the
members to raise their hand
if they read the meeting
minutes. The overwhelming
majority present raised their
hands.

President's Report:

Mike Maznicki gave a shout-
out to Rob Hebert and his
team of volunteers for
running tonight's barbeque.
Mike noted that Rob and his
team completed their first
full season of managing
barbeques at club meeting.
They also barbequed at

several club events
throughout the year. The
members offered a round of
applause in appreciation.
Mike also thanked Ed Case
for publishing another great
issue of the newsletter.

Mike reported on a recent
severe accident impacting
Peter Tani. While it is too
early to know the full scope
of his ongoing needs, Peter
will likely need assistance
with assorted tasks once he
returns home. An appeal
was made to the
membership to be willing to
step up and take turns
helping Peter.

Vice President's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report:
Stan Kulesa reported that
NCRCC currently has a total
of 196 members. There
were 33 members and 5
guests attending tonight's
meeting. Guests included
Philip Prior, Vinnie Otsuki,
Renee Weeks, Stacy
Niezabitowski, and Santiago
Bustos.

Stan gave a report regarding
the club website. In
September, there were 1,185
views (and 330 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 November meeting will be held at the Somers Public Library in Somers on 11/9/23 and that it will begin at 7:00 PM. Bob Spooner has graciously agreed to have coffee and donuts available for the break.

Stan reported that the April 2024 meeting will not be on the typical second Thursday of the month because the Somers Public Library conference room will not be available. Instead, our meeting will be held on 4/4/24.

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 reported that we had a small glitch in the October issue of the newsletter. We accidentally re-printed Len Marchese's September

article along with his October article.

Stan asked if we have a member that speaks Italian. We have a prospective new member who made the request. Please contact Stan if a member with this bilingual skill comes to mind.

Treasurer's Report:

Len Marchese thanked all who attended and volunteered to make the Tailgate Swap Meet a success.

Len reviewed club expenses, income, and balances for the month of September 2023 with the members. He noted that we had used ~81.7% of the 2023 operating budget to date.

Len asked the members if they had any potential projects needing budgetary funding. None were offered. He requested that any member who has such a project funding need to send him an email as soon as possible. He commented that we will likely need shelving for the trailer, replacement event announcement/location signage, and even suggested a flagpole. 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 or about 11/1/23 with the mailing and emailing of the materials to our current members. He reminded the members that, due to marked increases in our expenses such as the grub control application, 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.

Activities Director Report:

Mike Lewandowski reported on the upcoming Heli Harvest on 10/21/23. He projected that 40 – 50 pilots from throughout New England and New York may be in attendance. Mike expects it to be a fun event.

Mike Maznicki reminded the membership that the club



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

Mike reported that Bob Martin is proposing 5/18/24 as the date of our next Try-N-Fly event.

Mike explained that NCRCC experienced at least two events this past flying season where other geographically close clubs had conflicting events and this phenomenon likely contributed to decreased pilot participation. Our plan is to have Peter Tani proactively reach out to neighboring clubs to attempt to coordinate.

Ola Nordell suggested that we host an event on 1/1/24 called the Frozen Fingers event. Ola shared his vision for the event and agreed to serve as Contest Director. More to come on this.

Liaison Officer Report:

John Blossick announced the items he’s offering as tonight’s raffle prizes. He had a small electric model, a

PT-40 kit, and a 40-sized sport plane as prizes.

Field Marshall/Safety Officer Report:

Bob Viering thanked Buddy Beaudoin and John Palica for their extraordinary effort to aerate, seed, fertilize, and roll the flying field. Bob Viering also played a major role in this project. Bob also thanked the volunteer mowing crew for an awesome job maintaining the field.

Bob pointed to the new information board and to the new signage segregating the pit area from the spectator area. The members offered applause of appreciation for the quality product designed and created by Bob and Tyler Clokey.

Bob announced that the two new signs identifying NCRCC for our field’s entrance and the beginning of Green Rd. will be mounted in the early spring. The ‘No Trespassing’ sign for the main gate will be mounted soon.

Bob talked about a potential plan to brush hog along the stream and to use his excavator to eliminate the sumac on the right. He also mentioned that he’s in talks

to cut a few trees to the right of the landing approach.

Bob reported that he is working with Tom Munsell to diagnose a problem with the zero-turn mower. It’s smoking a lot when started. The mowing crew also reported the need to add oil. Bob explained that it’s possible that a major overhaul is needed and that, if he and Tom are unable to make the repair, the club may have to incur the expense for a mechanic.

Bob asked Buddy Beaudoin to report on the proposed field maintenance program. This would involve multiple applications of fertilizer spread over several months in 2024, grub control in mid-summer, and a lime application in the fall. Buddy arranged for NCRCC to receive a substantial discount.

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 present and able to react to emergency situations. Bob



repeated the slogan, "Fly with a friend". Wayne Galbraith shared a recent story during which he was injured shortly after other pilots left and he was alone.

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:

Vinnie Otsuki presented himself as a prospective member.

Philip Prior was presented for Open Membership. His applications for membership was voted on and approved. Philip announced that he will be presenting his grandson for membership at a subsequent meeting.

Old Business:

Tom Munsell gave the report of the Nominating Committee. He announced that nominations for club

officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Field Manager/Safety Officer, Activities Director, and Liaison Officer) can now be made by either making the nomination at a meeting or by emailing Tom or Stan Kulesa. Nominations must be made no later than the November club meeting. Tom highlighted the nomination process, the voting process, and the vote-tallying process. Tom noted that the members of the Board of Directors are not up for re-election this year. He asked if anyone present wanted to make a nomination. None were made. Tom asked that questions/comments concerning the nominations process be directed to him or Stan Kulesa.

John Watkins gave an update regarding FAA-related information. John noted the delay instituted by the FAA before the remote identification device (RID) requirement becomes effective. He spoke about the need to maintain a current FAA registration, RID information/technology, and the continued pending status of our secondary FRIA zone over Crystal Lake.

Mike Maznicki reported that progress is being made concerning NCRCC's application to be recognized as an AMA Leader Club with a gold status. Bob Spooner received applause for offering to cover the cost of an annual subscription to *Model Aviation* magazine for the Somers Public Library.

New Business:

Mike 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:

Bob Spooner announced that indoor flying season will begin at the East Windsor Dome on Fridays beginning 11/3/23. Flying occurs between 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. The fee remains the same as last year.

Dennis Thibodeau advised that the gateway on the far

left side of the parking area must remain free of any obstruction to enable emergency vehicle access. Mike Maznicki noted that we will need to remind our CDs of this arrangement.

Dennis spoke about a 20' flagpole he uses to display his American flag and how that might be the best solution for the flying field in Ellington.

Mike Doran announced an R/C tag sale that will be taking place in Springfield on 11/4/23. He asked members to watch for details on our club website and newsletter.

Show & Tell:

No show & tells were presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Stan Kulesa, Secretary.



From the Treasurer

The flying season may be coming to a slight halt, with the cold weather and the anticipation of snow, no sorry rain. But November is the start of our 2024 membership renewal campaign. You should receive a renewal package on or about November 1st. Along with the renewals we as a board will start to determine our 2024 budget. But please keep in mind that the 2024 budget is determined with the income of **your** renewals. Every renewal counts whether it is a single, family, or junior member. These renewal funds are what NCRCC will use to determine the 2024 budget. All income for our club operations is determined by your renewal.

I just heard some great news from our club Secretary Stan Kulesa. We have been awarded from the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) the **Gold Leader Club**. This award is a very prestigious award, which identifies NCRCC as an elite club within

the entire United States. Congratulations to all our members for their dedication to the club, and to our Board of Directors and our Executive Committee. We are all members of this great organization. Without the dedication of teamwork, this gold status would not have happened.

That's it for now. Just remember to renew your 2024 NCRCC membership.

See you at the next meeting,
Len Marchese, NCRCC
Treasurer



From the Vice President

Congratulations to NCRCC for becoming a gold leader club. Special thanks to Stan Kulesa for handling all the paperwork, Bob Viering for all his work at the field and all the NCRCC members for all their help and conducting themselves and our activities in a manner worthy of this great honor.

Regards
Dave Arzt, Vice President



From the Field Marshall

Hello everyone,
Well, the flying season is coming to an end and so is a well-deserved break for the mowing crew. I can't thank you guys enough for all the

hard work you did for all of us this past year.
Thank you.

I would like to add on to the Vice President's report, concerning our gold club status. These weren't just a few things we did this year; it has been years in the making. I'm sorry I don't know all the names of everyone that have helped over the years at all the events to name a few would be the high school STEM program, the partnering university students' program, the Try-N-Fly event for everyone who volunteered at these events. Thank you so very much for your time. Without your help these events couldn't happen. A thank you to Bob Spooner for donating a year's subscription of Model Aviation to the Somers Library. A small part that I took care of was the new info board. I would like to thank the executive committee and the general membership that voted in approval for me to go ahead with my vision. I would like to thank Stan Kulesa for taking that vision out of my head and putting it on paper and working with one of our newest members, Tyler Clokey from RC Madness,

who did all the printing work. Oh, I almost forgot one for all that helped with our FRIA zone. These - and I'm sure I'm forgetting a few - are all the things that contributed to our getting this gold club status. Thank you all so very much.

Bob Viering, Field Marshall



From the Liaison Officer

Greetings Everyone!

Special thanks to Mike Maznicki and Len Marchese regarding the recent NCRCC 2023 Tailgate Swap meet. Moving it to a different day for the weather was the perfect call because Sunday turned out to be excellent weather! I had a fun day as I hope everyone else in

attendance did as well. I sold a few items and ended up buying more than I sold! One of the items I purchased was a set of tri gear mechanical retracts for a winter build project. It will be a Super Kaos penned from plans by the great Joe Bridi himself.

Speaking of winter projects, it's now officially the pumpkin spice season and time to consider what to put on the building board for next year. If you're not a builder, give it a go! Start with something simple. If you're a builder, try something different. Perhaps a type of airplane you've never flown before.

I'm looking forward to the Heli Harvest next month November 11th. I hope to see you there! Also, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Have a wonderful holiday with friends and family.

Until next,

John Blossick, Liaison Officer



From the Activities Director

Hello all.

Quick action and proper planning insured yet another successful NCRCC event, namely our 2023 Tailgate Swap Meet. The weather forecast for our originally planned October 7, 2023 was poor. Event coordinators Mike Maznicki and Len Marchese elected to postpone our event to the following day, Sunday, October 8, 2023.

The attendance was good and especially given the date change. Thank you all that kept up to date by looking at our website for the latest at the time.

For me the event was fun, as great deals were available and were also in great supply.

In addition, several in attendance pre-dated both my early involvement in r/c flight and later pylon racing. Past NEPRO secretary Lewis Schwab and current NCRCC liaison officer John Blossick compared notes with their collective knowledge of early pattern competition, some even from the 1970's and in the desert of Nevada. Several others shared fun memories and folklore surrounding our hobby. I recall at one moment in time the fantastic and collective experience and wisdom that the handful-and-a-half of folks all in the same ten square feet held. By my measure this is part of the draw for the event.

Believe outside of great deals and the opportunity to sell underused RC goodies, was the opportunity for trade. Saw a few aircraft change hands, straight trade. Everyone is happy.

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Also had a chance to see folks that I have fond memories for sharing our NCRCC field with. Thanks, Ken Drapeau, for the great set of floats and fond memories.

Our next 2023 NCRCC event will be our Ellington Heli-Harvest scheduled for Saturday, November 11, 2023, with a rain date of Saturday November 18, 2023. Start time is 9am. Contest Director is Robert McClellan, CD Contact Info is:

jbhobbies4u@yahoo.com

Our NCRCC event contact is Mike Lewandowski.

Here is a link to the AMA events calendar:

<https://www.modelaircraft.org/events/ellington-heli-harvest>

Pilots and guests are welcome.

That's all for now.

Peter Tani, Activities Director



FAA UAS Registration, FRIA Update by John Watkins

FAA UAS registration is good for three years and renewal is due for some NCRCC members. Initial registration or renewal can be confusing with the recent changes to implement Remote ID. The registration/renewal process now requires you to have at least one DEVICE (model aircraft or drone) in your INVENTORY before you can continue with registration/renewal. If the device is equipped with Remote ID, the type of Remote ID and serial number is entered for the device. This should not be an issue for NCRCC members unless they are flying a DJI or similar drone with built-in Standard Remote ID or need to register a Remote ID

Broadcast Module when they become available.

The following guidance is suitable for models not equipped with Remote ID, which is the case for most NCRCC members:

- Go to the following link in your browser:
<https://faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/>
- [Log In with Email and password.](#)
- [Click on I AGREE, blue rectangle in center of screen to get past the System Use Notice.](#)
- [Click on LAUNCH DRONE OWNERS AND PILOTS DASHBOARD, white rectangle with blue border in the lower left side of the screen.](#)
- [Click on MANAGE DEVICE INVENTORY, dark blue rectangle in the center left side of the screen.](#)
- [Click on ADD DEVICE, blue rectangle in upper right side of screen.](#)
- [Click NO if your model aircraft or drone does not have Remote ID \(recommended for first device\).](#)
- [DEVICE TYPE*, select Homebuilt UAS \(recommended for first device\).](#)
- [UAS MANUFACTURER*, Type in Self](#)



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(recommended for first device).

- NICKNAME, leave blank (recommended for first device).
- UAS MODEL*, type in name of model. This can be anything, the field just requires an entry.

Once you have successfully added a DEVICE, there will be at least one device in your INVENTORY and the system will allow you to proceed to registration renewal.

The following link can be copied and pasted into your browser. The AMA website gives more detailed information and complete guidance for submitting your renewal:

<https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2022/08/09/update-to-the-faa-dronezone-and-registration-renewal-process/>

You might also want to watch the YouTube video in the link below. The guide to renewal begins at about the 8-minute point.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEfW3zKxIGU&t=1s>

Editor's Note

Page 10 has a copy of the letter from the Academy of Model Aeronautics regarding Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club's new Gold Leader Status, sent to club secretary Stan Kulesa.

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
to
OUR MEMBERS,
THEIR
FAMILIES, and
FRIENDS**



Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club

NCRCC Flyer - November 2023

Academy of Model Aeronautics

5161 East Memorial Drive

Muncie, Indiana 47302

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(765) 289-4248 – Fax

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<http://www.modelaircraft.org>



October 25, 2023

Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club #188
Stan Kulesa
PO Box 443
Ellington, CT. 06029

Dear Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on qualifying as a 2023 Gold Leader Club.

Again, congratulations on your new "Leader Club" status and thank you for your positive contributions to the sport of aeromodelling.

Sincerely,

Lois Mock
Club Charter/ Leader Club Coordinator
1(800)435-9262 ext 291
loism@modelaircraft.org

cc: Andy Argenio, District I, Vice President