



FLYER

Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club

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MEETING MINUTES

FROZEN FINGER FF

FROZEN FINGER FUN FLY

The third annual NCRCC Frozen Finger Fun Fly was held on New Years Day. CD Ola Nordell welcomed 15 registered pilots to the event. Considering the temperature and wind, this was a spectacular turn out.

Ralph Baker took the honor of being the first to fly at NCRCC in 2026. There was a good mix of floats and skis which made for lots exciting takeoffs and landings in the strong gusts that started about 8:30.

The wind and powdery snow helped fill in any footprints quickly keeping the runway in good shape. Ralph provided some entertainment with his PlaneCart ?? - take a look at the photo on page 6 and decide what it should be called.

Thanks to Ola for organizing and promoting the event. Winter is a long season for modelers and its great to get out for a day even if its a bit cold. ☹️

NEXT MEETING
Feb 12th, 6:30pm
Somers Public
Library

Please send any
newsletter contributions to
waynegustafson@gmail.com



NCRCC members bundled up for the Frozen Finger Fun Fly
(see pages 6 and 7 more more photos)

OFFICER REPORTS



Mike Maznicki
President

President

Mike Maznicki began by welcoming those in attendance to the first meeting of 2026, thanking Celeste Garrett and family for providing refreshments and snacks during our meeting break. Mike thanked Wayne

Gustafson our volunteer newsletter editor. Mike asked members if any corrections were needed to the November meeting minutes, no corrections were needed. ◀



Buddy Beaudoin
Vice President

Vice President

Buddy Beaudoin announced three visitors submitting applications to join our club, Jeramy and Ben Webb introduced themselves applying for a family membership and Chris Sonsini submitted

his application sharing he enjoys flying EDFs. These applicants visited our field during Ola's Frozen Finger Fun Fly event.

Todd Leahey, Sean Kelly, Michael Riley, and Jay Wheeler attended their second meeting and were voted in as new members, welcome. ◀



Bill Cranford
Secretary

Secretary

27 members and 8 guests were in attendance.

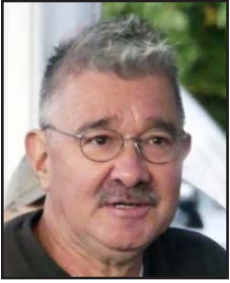
The AMA flying site improvement grant application review was received with recommendations of clarifying dollar amounts.

Corrections were made as recommended; the grant application will be automatically submitted February 1st requesting the maximum amount of \$3000. If approved in the springtime we could receive \$100 to \$3000 for our new zero turn mower.

Officer positions for 2026, Tom Munsell of the nominating committee brought no nominations forward and no nominations were made during our November meeting. All current officers have agreed to remain in their positions. A motion was made to approve the election of the following non-contested club officers, President - Mike Maznicki, VP - Buddy Beaudoin, Treasurer - Len Marchese, Secretary - Bill Cranford, Activities director - Peter Tani, Field Supervisor - Bob Viering, Liaison - Ray Murphy. The motion was seconded with majority in favor, none opposed. One vote was cast by myself to confirm the 2026 executive committee officers.

Our next meeting is Thursday February 12th at 6:30pm at the Somers Public Library, 2 Vision Blvd Somers CT. ◀

OFFICER REPORTS



Peter Tani
Activity Director

Activities Director

Our NCRCC first of 2026 events; our frozen finger fun fly was a very enjoyable and given all equally successful for our "day of" weather conditions. Thank you contest director Ola Nordell for your great effort and coordination and for bringing this tradition to NCRCC.

Very special thanks to our supporting, club leadership for building a wind break and making the weather a little less challenging. Many thanks to all that supported Ola's event by attending. We even had a few new NCRCC members that joined our 2026 fun for their very first time. Thanks all for enduring the elements, including those that used good judgment and themselves, and solely for personal safety sake, remained in their vehicles, while saying a quick hello and wishing a happy new year in support of our event. Special thanks to Wayne G for taking our group photo.

The outdoor and ambient temperature was only 18F and while I did not directly measure our field wind-speed it was a cross-wind over our field and then straight into the pits and by my measure was greater than 30mph especially for gusts. The great benefit of this strong wind was that all tracks created by skis and footsteps were quickly covered up which made take-offs and landings easier. The down side: That it felt like just below zero for experienced temperature.

In stark contrast, and two weeks after our event it was 50F out and calm winds. Learned

from several indoor "Dome Fliers" that our NCRCC field was found pleasant and quite flyable. This is part of the charm for this event as you can't plan the weather and speaks to the perseverance and determination of our group. And even possibly to modeling in general.

Now our ncrcc first day of January event is in its third year, with momentum growing, we applied for and were granted an AMA event club event sanction. We saw several fliers from other local clubs in attendance. Thank you all.

Our 2026 NCRCC Warbirds Over Ellington will take place on Saturday, September 12, 2026 with a rain date of the following day, namely, Sunday September 13, 2026. Please all mark your calendars. Our 2026 Dawn Patrol Over Green Road Sector is scheduled for the weekend following our nation's fourth of July weekend, namely Saturday, July 11, 2026. We will preserve our most recent tradition by conducting our second, two-day event for those traveling. Our Spring Swap Meet is scheduled for the month of May. Please all take note.

Looking ahead into our 2026 flying season it would appear, only by early observation, that we may not currently have a scheduled event in the months of both June and August. Not the worst thing. However. The first weekend in August has traditionally been NEPRO's flagship event namely NCRCC's two-day pylon race. And in 2025 our very successful NCRCC hosted / NEPRO re-union.

There might be some benefit in retaining this timing. With others, a few have approached me with their ideas. Always moving forward. I have hope for even greater fun.

That's for now. ---Peter ◀

EVENTS AROUND THE AREA

DATE	EVENT	CD	EMAIL / PHONE
7/11 - 7/12	NCRCC Dawn Patrol over Green Road	RONALD VERNIER	RVernier3@gmail.com
9/12 RD 9/13	NCRCC Warbirds Over Ellington	JOHN BLOSSICK	jblossick@aol.com

OFFICER REPORTS



Len Marchese
Treasurer

Treasurer

Well, well, well... here we are already in the month of February. As I'm writing my contribution to the club's February newsletter, a snowstorm is forecasted for the coming weekend (1/24/2026). Currently I'm

in Florida and as of now the temperature is around 72 degrees and cloudy.

The 2026 NCRCC membership renewal campaign is officially over as of Friday, January 8, 2026, with a renewal percentage rate of 89%. Keep in mind our 2026 "Operations Budget" is based on membership renewals. We have already started to pay bills in January 2026, such as AMA charter, Zoom license, prepaid lawn service, and State of Connecticut annual report for NCRCC.

As of 2025 any former member who would like to renew for 2026 will be assessed the \$50 initiation fee, along with the 2026 membership renewal. This is in accordance with **Article IV Dues, Section 3: There shall be no membership status for persons in arrears after the January monthly meeting. Reinstatement requires payment of the full initiation fee with the membership application.**

Len Marchese, NCRCC Treasurer ◀



Ray Murphy
Liaison Officer

Liaison Officer

Ray Murphy presented the raffle prize, a P-51 Mustang new in box never assembled, Mike Jaworski held the winning ticket, excited to see his son's reaction to their new plane. Ray mentioned NCRCC stickers can be

purchased from him. Club merchandise is available through our website under the "club apparel merchandise" page. ◀



Bob Viering
Field Supervisor

Field Supervisor

Bob Viering spoke of equipment servicing, the zero turn will get an oil change and Glen Schlude is to service our tractor. Plans for spring clean up include, cleaning and painting our containers, staining plane stations, and

basic property clean up. Chris Garrett offered to assist in attaching our club owned brush hog to our tractor.

John Palica asked what had happened to the 3-year plan of field improvements? Bob responded the projects have not been forgotten, some have been presented and voted down. Big projects I'm questioned about are tree cutting and runway improvements, also ideas of repositioning the runway if enlarged to effectively take the south trees out of the approach line. Tree cutting would need wetlands approval which could include hiring scientists to test our land. These are expensive projects to fund and we did have a large expense last year with the purchase of our new zero turn mower. Safety rules were read aloud, stay safe at the field, please fly with a friend. ◀



NCRCC swag available on the website

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

1/8/26 Membership Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 6:42 pm.

The November meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

(Officer reports on previous pages)

Treasurers Report

Len Marchese announced 2026 membership renewals are currently 85% with an income of \$13,855 plus Gale Farms \$1000. Dues are due by Friday January 9th post marked after the 9th is considered late and subject to an initiation fee per our By Laws. Len gave the November and December financial report 98% of our yearly budget was spent. Len presented the 2026 operations budget totaling \$14,800 with changes to porta potty and dumpster services now scheduled for May to September. A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2026 budget, majority in favor with none opposed. The 2026 operations budget passed. Len asked if there were any questions, John Palica asked for a copy of the budget, a copy was provided to John during the meeting. Ron Vernier asked if we are still planning to have our October outdoor meeting with the reduced services, Mike Maznicki answered yes, Bob Viering added toilet paper will be replenished as needed while services are suspended. Mike thanked members for renewing early allowing Len to have money in hand to produce a budget.

Activity Director Report

Peter Tani reported on our Christmas party thanking all who volunteered to help bring the event together, 78 people attended. Our first sanctioned event of 2026 happened on New Year's Day, Ola's Frozen Finger Fun Fly produced 15 registered pilots. It was a clear sunny day with a temperature of 18 degrees and gusty winds of 25mph, but seemed a bit higher when I was at the field. Ola reported that

Ralph Baker was the first to fly in 2026 before the 9am event start time. An idea of a Le Mans style start was discussed where at 9am pilots would need to start engines or install batteries before taking flight. Ola thanked Ron Vernier and Ray Murphy for advertising the event. Ola shared photos and a short write up to AMA, we may see our event published. Irv Thurrott mentioned the winds and light snow blowing around the field quickly erased footprints and ski / float tracks.

The East Windsor indoor flight season continues Fridays 1-3pm organized by Bob Spooner and Irv Thurrott. Ron and Buddy have begun planning the spring swap meet scheduled for the first weekend in May. Warbirds over Ellington is sanctioned for September 12th.

New/Old Business

Peter Tani shared that he, Kevin Cyr, Lloyd Burnham, Ron Vernier, and Ralph Rinaldi have committed to working with Western New England University again now in the 4th year of Fundamentals of Flight.

Meeting adjourned 7:52 pm

Bill Cranford, Secretary

GATE LOCK INSTRUCTIONS



Properly locked

- 1) Gate Closed
- 2) U-cover on Tang
- 3) Lock is locked, Combination scrambled



Unlocking and Locking

- 1) Pull lock outside U-cover
- 2) Set (or scramble) the Combination
- 3) Push Lock up at angle
- 4) Pull down on lock
- 5) Twist lock to remove or insert



While Flying

- 1) Swinging Gate is open
- 2) Gate components are as pictured

2026 FROZEN FINGER FUN FLY

photos by Ola Nordell and Wayne Gustafson



Ralph and his "PlaneCart"



Ola provided the much needed warming station



Ola's fun fly plane did great in the high winds



Ola looking a bit to serious for this outfit

2026 FROZEN FINGER FUN FLY

photos by Ola Nordell and Wayne Gustafson



Bill's approach looked great until a big gust at touchdown. The fluffy snow kept damage to a minimum and made for a great action shot.



Kevin even had a coat for his radio.



Kevin's float plane handled the wind with ease

