

## Secretary's Report

for September 14, 2004 membership meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 P.M. by president Juhan Sonin. Minutes were read and accepted. The treasurer's report was read and accepted, after brief discussion on membership loss each year. Gil Levey mentioned the club loses about 30 members each year. As of this date, the treasury was at \$965.05.

Membership stood at 105 members. The club lost 35 old members and gained 35 new members over the past year. President Juhan reported the field was still with us and thanked Jack Stanley for a great season of grass cutting and maintenance.

New Members were introduced and welcomed to the club:

**Mike Bugda** and his son **Elliot** inherited a model plane and now would like to learn to fly it.

**Phil Coonley** has a nice Superstar trainer and feels he has lots to learn before he can fly it.

**Alan Kaprelian** is a pilot who enjoys full-scale flying but feels it's getting too expensive, so he would like to learn to fly models planes.

**Patrick Rusk** likes electric planes and has a new trainer he would like to get into the air.

**Stefan Cohen** flies a Magic and likes it. Stefan recently soloed and Mel Suarez was his instructor.

An announcement was made that a **Field Day** would be held on Sunday, September 19, and a **Fun Fly** would be September 26.

A discussion followed regarding the field cutter being asked to cut the

wider part of the field (weeds) and president Juhan said he had spoken to the man who always said he "would be coming in two weeks", but hasn't shown up.

A Float Fly was to be held at Nutting Lake but Juhan suggested anyone interested should check the web site for the date it is to be held.

A Fun Fly committee was elected to run the upcoming event.

Members congratulated **Victor Sampsonov** regarding his son, Arturo, having been a rower in this summer's Olympics in Athens, Greece.

**Bob Johnson** was appointed to head up a nominating committee, and would have people ready to run in the upcoming November election.

**New Business:** president Juhan began a discussion on a membership dues increase. He pointed out the cost involved in mowing the field and mentioned the raffles loose money and that we've had to cut back on Fun Fly prizes. He mentioned that the 1990-1991 season was the last time the club had a dues increase.

Juhan, in response to a question, explained that the lawn mower costs, and the costs for field maintenance. John Hatfield proposed a dues increase from \$25 to \$40 for regular members, and \$15 to \$20 for Seniors. Juhan told members "that's the proposal, now let's have your comments".

A question from the floor was to whether the club needs more savings, or just enough money to cover

## Next Club Meeting

**Tuesday, November 9, 2004**

7:30 pm at the Lexington VFW Hall,  
2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street)  
Lexington, MA

Coffee and donuts will be served!

**Show and tell**—bring a plane for a free raffle ticket.

**Raffle Prizes:**

3DFoamy Edge 540

Supertigre 45 engine

Glow plugs

Glue

## Club Activities

**Combined Auction** -we are currently trying to organize a joint auction with the Middlesex RC Club. Tentative date is set for **January 30, 2005**. Location/details to be determined. If you would like to help with this event, please contact a club officer.

## Other Events

Charles River RC auction, Sunday Nov. 14 at the VFW Hall, Natick. See their website for details: [www.charlesriverrc.org](http://www.charlesriverrc.org).

Central Mass RC Modelers auction, Sunday Nov. 21 at the VFW hall in Oxford, MA. Call Russ Miller (508) 892-8340 for more information.

## Club Officer Elections

November will be the month for yet another important election!

During the upcoming November meeting we will vote in new club officers for the upcoming year.

Please attend the meeting and have your vote count.

## The Presidents Letter



During November's meeting, the club members nominate and elect officers into the following positions:

**President**  
**Vice President**

**Treasurer and, Secretary.**

If you're interested in voting, please attend the November 9th meeting.

We plan on mowing the entire field (including the tall grass, weeds, and saplings that surround the entire open area) in the spring and again in

the fall. A rented heavy-duty mower will be used and we'll need help. It may take several hours to cut the deep brush; we'll remind folks when the time arrives.

Thanks to all who participated in the fall fun fly. The egg race-engine startup-slalom provided lots of giggles. Amazingly, in our 'land in 60 seconds' routine, we had four contestants who landed within 5 seconds of our 60 second time. One pilot had 60 seconds on the nose and two had 62 seconds. Wow. Didn't we inspect the wrists for watches before the event?

*Safe flying,  
Juhan*

## Club News

**Flight Training:** Victor Samsonov has been named "Head Trainer". He and Mel Suarez are working on more standardized flight training guidelines. We will hopefully post these new guide lines on the web soon. If anyone would like to become a trainer, or has questions about training, give Victor a call.

**Frequency Interference:** some club members have been reporting more incidences of "hits" these past few months. It would be great if someone had a scanner and were willing to conduct a test. Please contact a club officer if you would like to do it. I myself have been experiencing unusual glitches (ch32) and have been wondering if there is something going

on with the air waves.

**Motor Bikes:** there have been more appearances of the motorcycle training groups showing up at the field, and in larger numbers. Apparently they have permission to use the field, being given by both Boston and Burlington. We have suggested that they use the field nearest the entrance as a meeting spot, and not to stop on the runways. Let's be polite to each other, as we both share the space. Also, please do not be confrontational to other dirt bikes even if they do damage our field. We need to let the authorities handle it and not take matters into our own hands.

*– Rob Catalano*

## Treasurer's Report

<b>Balance 8/11/04</b>	<b>\$ 734.57</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Dues	\$ 315.00
Raffle	\$ 142.00
Contributions	\$ 100.00
Interest	\$ .11
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>\$ 557.11</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>	
Coffee/Donuts	\$ 14.57
Field/Grass	\$ 350.00
Raffle	\$ 222.57
Newsletter printing	\$ 25.20
Postage	\$ 16.28
Fun Fly prizes, food, supps.	\$ 299.04
<b>TOTAL Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 927.66</b>
<b>Bank Balance 10/16/04</b>	<b>\$ 364.02</b>

## Flight Instruction

Any new member desiring to fly **MUST** demonstrate the ability to fly, or else take flight instruction until such proficiency is demonstrated.

### Beginner Flight Instructors:

Victor Samsanov	(781) 279-0231
Sandy Holmes	(781) 646-2354
Bob Johnson	(781) 272-5442
Juhan Sonin	(617) 504-3390
Dave Palermo	(781) 279-0186
Mel Suarez	(781) 944-2737

### Advanced Flight Instructors:

Victor Samsanov	(781) 279-0231
Dave Palermo	(781) 279-0186
Juhan Sonin	(617) 504-3390

### Helicopter Instructors:

Alex Lob	(617) 325-7870
Richard Szostak	(781) 281-1604



**Don't forget to check yourself for ticks when leaving the field!**



PRESIDENT:	<i>Juhan Sonin</i>	(781) 316-8366	juhan@mit.edu
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	<i>Dave Palermo, Mel Suarez, Jack Stanley</i>		

This newsletter is published by the Burlington RC Flyers, a non-profit club organized for the promotion of radio controlled model aircraft building and flying. The club operates a flying field in Burlington, MA and offers free instruction in safe model flying to any member. "Academy of Model Aeronautics" (AMA) membership is required. Contact any club officer for more information.

## Out & About with Al

I am looking at my copy of Model Aviation Special Issue. Its loaded with a lot of good stuff and articles. The cover makes Mel Suarez happy as it has two people looking over a real neat helo.

My attention focused on the accessories section. After I got past the ties hats and caps, I saw the All Season flyer patch. Interesting and I thought back to that February Sunday last year when I met Dave Palermo building a warm fire and Victor flying his 3rd. Both were having a grand time flying off the snow. Now I have not tried it, I haven't done it, and I do have an intent to do it...

Why does the season have to end at all here in our neck of the woods... I tell myself to adjust to the opportunity. Vic and Dave did, got flying in when I was on my cross country skies using the trails and field for that purpose. Heck maybe I too can extend the flying season to an all season flying experience. By spring I should even have better flying skills.

And a bonus. Come April, I might just ask the board and President if the budget can be used to buy a few of those nice big All Season Flyer patches to be presented to the rough and tuff hearty members who brave the cold of winter....Just maybe, I tell myself, I can make it happen.

MAYBE YOU will join me.

—Al Prudhomme, Jr.

### Briefly Noted:

- Once again the club thanks Dave Palermo for the bench. This time for setting it in concrete! Hopefully it will stay put for a while now.
- Thanks to all who organized and showed up for the last fun-fly.
- Thanks again to Jack for cutting the field and pits. It was fabulous all year long.

## Secretary's Report *(continued from front page)*

expenses. Bob Johnson mentioned we could possibly lose the field in the years ahead, and that it might serve the club well if we started a savings account with escrow growth. The Board of Directors could check around and manage a savings account. This suggestion was taken under advisement.

Another proposal from the floor was to assess everyone a \$3.00 fee, but keep the dues the same, with no increase.

President Juhan asked that the discussion end and the club take a vote. A vote was taken, and the increase proposal passed unanimously.

Newly soloed members included **Pete Sussman**, who was trained by Victor Sampsonov, and **Stephan Cohen** who was trained by Peter Young.

**Dave Palermo** was thanked for the new bench at the field that was now set in concrete. He said it should stay put.

There was a discussion regarding set guidelines for training, or a standard test that students must pass before soloing. Victor Sampsonov suggested the club decide if a formal test was necessary, or should it just be informal. If too formal, he felt, it would make students more nervous.

Bob Johnson suggested it is best kept at three take-offs and landings, as it has been done in the past. Mel Suarez suggested a formal training outline but a minimum level of performance. Mel felt it should stay the way it is now and "work" in a test and a checklist. Mel further suggested we have advanced courses to fit the needs of training as skill levels increase.

**Safety:** President Juhan went over pit safety and all members must work

to fly safely. Juhan mentioned frequency pins and a preflight check list. Juhan asked Mel and Victor to come up with some points on safe flying.

Victor asked who could train, and what were the qualifications on being an instructor. Juhan mentioned his understanding that only a qualified instructor can sign off a new pilot, but any member could help train. Victor pointed out that there was not enough qualified instructors. Victor said he would be pleased to serve as the lead instructor, and that soon a list of instructors would come out.

**Show and Tell:** Bill O'Connell talked about a model jet meet he attended with Alex Lobe in Sanford, Maine. Bill showed us a great computer slide show.

Mel Suarez showed off his Raptor 50 (vol II) helicopter. Mel discussed the technical workings of a model heli.

Stephan Cohen showed off his Magic 3D and said it flies well.

Juhan Sonin showed his electric "foamies" with li-po batteries and brushless motors. "They fly great and are cheap and easy to build" he said. Juhan discussed a foam biplane he built and the controls and electronics needed.

### Raffle:

Al Melanson won a Shock Flyer

Gil Levey won fuel

Alan K won a small electric biplane

Rob Catalano won fuel

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

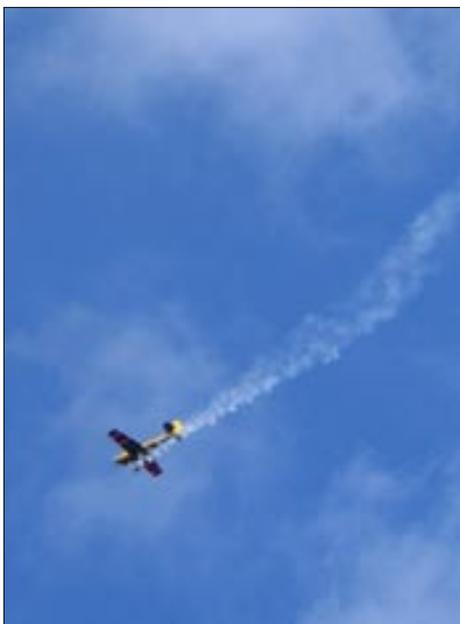
Respectfully,  
Alfred Prudhomme, Jr.,  
Secretary

### A message to those on the newsletter mailing list:

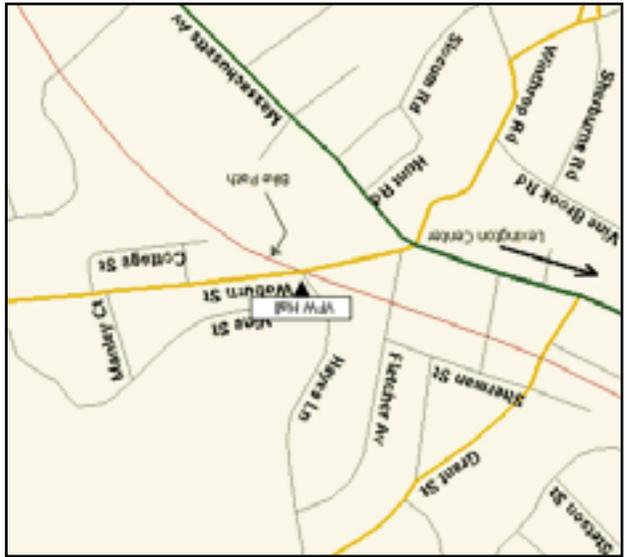
Please notify the newsletter editor (Rob C) by the end of the year if you wish to remain on the newsletter mailing list, otherwise you will not be mailed a newsletter next year. We encourage all to download the newsletter from the web site. It saves the club money on printing and postage.

# Fall 2004 Photos!





Photos by Juhon Sonin



**Next club meeting:**

**Tuesday, November 9**

Meeting time is 7:30 PM

**Meeting Location**

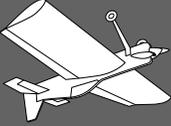
Lexington VFW Hall  
2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street)  
Lexington, MA



*The Burlington Radio Controlled Flyers*

# NEWSLETTER

[www.burlington-rc.com](http://www.burlington-rc.com)



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FIRST CLASS MAIL