



B U R L I N G T O N

RC FLYERS

AMA CHARTER 1752

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NOVEMBER 2007



Next Club Meeting
November 13th, 2007
VFW Hall, Lexington

***Time to renew your
Membership!***



Secretary's Report

for September 11, 2007 membership meeting, by Mel Suarez

Al Prudhomme opened the meeting at 7:30pm at the Lexington VFW.

Al visited Central Masss RC Flyers out of Westboro Mass. "Warm welcome to everyone here."

(Related to field day and BBQ)
"The field day and BBQ was amazing. I could not hope for more help on the cooking. I appreciate it very much."

Carl Dietrich – Mel introduced Carl, CEO of Terrafugia (www.terrafugia.com), a Woburn-based aircraft design company. Carl started by showing an amazing animation of the Transition landing and then being driven to a regular home and right into its garage! The Transition® is a general aviation (GA) airplane designed to be a light sport aircraft. Max gross weight of 1300 lbs, canard in front, elevator in the back, you're sitting in the front of the wing. The really strange thing is you turn off the motor. We are building a proof-of-concept car to fit in the standard garage – 7 ft high door. It has a very unique set of advantages.

When light sport came along, we saw it as a huge opportunity. 100 concepts have come along, some of which were certified by the Civil Aeronautics Administration. There are about 5,000 airports around the country. You can get around bad weather. The 2nd leading cause of accidents is bad weather – when "get-there-it is" sets in. Cost: no hangar fees \$600/mo, can use auto gas (not avgas), no need for secondary means of transportation. Most of the 5,000

airports don't have rental or taxi stands. Door-to-door time is reduced significantly.

New "Light Sport Aircraft Rule" LSA. New rule allowed aircraft to go through certification in under a year, thus a few million dollars.

No restriction on how far you can go, just on the type of airspace you can go into. We have seen over 2,100 new pilot starts in the last couple of years. It's really an emerging market where a startup can make a difference.

Also, you don't need an FAA Medical Certificate, just a driver's license. Because of the vehicle limitations and kinetic energy at their disposal, you can do less damage.

Several folks asked questions.

How would you register and insure it? For full Fed Vehicle Compliance it would take 10(!) vehicles just for crash testing. You can't get a regular mechanic. This is not a car, this is an aircraft that can go on the road.

What are you doing for emissions? We are modifying the engine to make it pass the standards and pass the emissions test. We've hit some milestones including an RC flying prototype. We would like to sell it at \$150,000. We have to have a stall speed of 45 knots or less.

Web site is www.terrafugia.com – "Terrafugia" means flee from land. Delivery for the 1st one is target for

Continued on page 4

Next Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

7:30 pm at the Lexington VFW Hall,
2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street)
Lexington, MA Coffee and donuts
will be served!

Speaker Series—Andy Argento, District I VP, will give a brief overview of AMA activities and local events.

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

Raffle Prizes:

As always there will be a nice ARF along with other prizes that will include a \$25 gift certificate to Bill's Hobby Barn, NiCD glow starter, and fuel.

Club Activities

RC Auctions

We need your help!

Our usual multi-club auction early next year needs your help. We're looking for volunteers to organize! See Jeff Ward for more details.

Please Renew your membership!

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership by the February 13th club meeting. Otherwise you will be considered a new member and will have to pay an additional \$25 initiation fee! If you have any questions, contact John Hatfield at jrhathfield@rcn.com. Or visit www.burlington-rc.com/membership.html for the latest dues and membership applications.

The Presidents Letter



MA's October winds down and all the great days we have had to do model flying,

I sure have enjoyed my share and as everyone knows, who flies a

model- great

enjoyment...How about all the new "new" fill in the low spots, more on that in my Out and About article.

Tuesday November 13th is our next big meeting, lot on the agenda, I am happy to announce that AMA district 1 vice president Andy Argenio will be our guest speaker, besides answering questions you may have Andy will discuss field safty issues, flying fields to keep, and new technology coming up in RC, such as 2ghs radios and spread spectrum.

Besides this half hour discussion with Andy, we will have the raffle, show and tell and, ofcourse the November elections... We will hear from our Nominating committee on those seeking office for next year, early indications are that we will have a competitive elections this year, Think of it!! you will have a choice this year, on

the future of our club for the coming year..This is just the way I like it ,and hope you feel the same way and come out to support the election, and the members running for office.

Also we will discuss the January Auction , and show and tell. The friends of Mary Cummings park will have a meeting on Nov 7th to discuss many issues about the area we fly in ,it will be held at the Burlington Library, beginning at 7 pm....anyone would be welcome to attend.

So wrapping up , you can see a full "plate" for November the 13th. and hope to see everyone there, and if that wasn't enough have a cup of coffee and a donut on us..

Sincerely,

ALFRED PRUDHOMME, JR.
President, Burlington RC Flyers

About the cover:

Dan Quaroni shot this photo of Al Prudhomme, Jr hand launching his trusty trainer. The field has been absolutely lovely (in terms of weather and maintenance). Lot's have people have been showing up to fly over the weekends. Come out and warm your hands by the fire next weekend!

Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance 08/24/07 \$ 1,964.72

Income

Dues	\$ 65.00
Raffle	\$ 60.00
Donation	\$ 40.00
TOTAL Income	\$ 165.00

Disbursements

Grass/Mowing	\$ 400.00
Riveting Tool	\$ 73.96
Brush cutter parts	\$ 34.50
Picnic food and sodas	\$ 143.10
Raffle prizes	\$ 73.96
Coffee & donuts	\$ 17.00
TOTAL Disbursements	\$ 685.65

Bank Balance 10/25/07 \$ 1,444.07

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
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President:	<i>Al Prudhomme, Jr.</i>	sedate9@aol.com
Vice-President:	<i>Jack Stanley</i>	stanley5@rcn.com
Treasurer:	<i>John Hatfield</i>	(781) 862-6349 jrhatfield@rcn.com
Secretary:	<i>Mel Suarez</i>	mel@mlsruarez.com
Membership Secretary:	<i>John Hatfield</i>	(781) 862-6349 jnhhtfld2@cs.com
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Board of Directors:	<i>Dave Palermo, Juhan Sonin, Rob Catalano</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.

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Our Beautiful Field

Out and About with Al Prudhomme, jr.

October. You never know what you will find out in the field. Some of us have been surprised to see the one or two deer grazing on the new cut field.

Saturday was the scheduled field-dirt-fill-in-day, but it was a rained out. Sunday I arrived about mid-morning and what a site: two dump trucks and a bob-cat were going back and forth and a large turnout of members raking and shoveling, the dumped dirt, and Mel got donuts and coffee which was appreciated by everyone. From Dave P., the Victors, Steve, Tony and all the others it was very impressive and a lot was accomplished, major field improvement, for all who use the field. Many thanks.

Wed November 7th the friends of Mary Cummings park

will have a meeting at Burlington Library, about field issues and the Archstone appeal and what will happen next in the court case, I plan to be there and anyone else please come.. In many ways their "issues" affect us in the big picture. Remember the Auction in late January with the Middlesex RC club. Jeff Ward is working on this and will report soon. Its always a great Sunday afternoon in late January, with the Holidays just passed, its time to start looking at good deals once again, with a buck or two, in our pockets.

See you November 13th and a reminder let me know if you would like to join me at Chilies resturant about 5:30 pm with our guest speaker .

Alfred Prudhomme, Jr.

Secretary's Report *continued from page 2*

end of 2009. The wing has been built and was exhibited at Oshkosh with standard aircraft construction techniques. How's the drive train work? We have a many off-the-shelf items. Once the proof-of-concept is built, we will go back and change those items to better lightweight design. We will be attempting to go into low volume production – 10's of units at first. If we got to 1,000 units per year, that would be unbelievable. If we got 200 units per year that would also be unbelievable. During the meeting, people signed up for additional information from Terrafugia. You can do so by going to their web site.

Secretary's Report

Mel read the meeting minutes from the last meeting in June, 2007.

Treasurer's Report

\$1,558. Balance \$1,160. We have commitments and will be lucky to finish with a positive balance.

Membership Report

John Hatfield reporting. Last 4 years - 118, 114, 96, 71. Significant drop in membership. Dues went up in 2004(?). We cannot continue spending this way unless we get more members. \$2,400 per year. 60 members would allow us to break even with basic costs.

Field Report

Jack – with regards to the field – Al, Steve and Dave repaired the sign. Al did some trimming. 8:30am for field day. Lower runway was widened.

Nominating Committee

Juhan is the chairman. We are looking for 2 other members to help. Vic Naimo and Dan Quarino agreed to help.

Post Coffe Break, Jeff Ward spoke about the joint club auction in Jan. We have the option of going back to the Legion but we have

had problems with maintenance and they are not cheap. We may be able to get Billerica location for free or minimal cost. It's near 3A, Treble Cover, about 2 miles from Rt 3. It will be January 27th. We want to get it into AMA. Obviously we will want help,

Show and Tell

Mike Carroll – Said that several people asked that he tell the story of his heli that flew away. He had a Raptor 30 that he bought, unfinished for \$75 at an Airbot gig. He proceeded to put all the electronics in it and got it flying fine. Mel lent him a co-pilot that keeps the helicopter level and works quite well. One day, after some repairs, he was in his backyard, checking it out when it refused to come down. Instead, it went up and up and pretty soon the wind caught and took it away.

About 2 weeks later, it showed up in his front steps. No note. No anything. Luckily he had placed his business card in it and the founder of it simply returned it!

Mel Suarez & Mike Carroll– showcased their "new" Bergen Observer with a Zenoah 23 and built-in camera rig purchased through eBay. It's Airbot's second helicopter, has a 5 ft diameter rotor, and the camera gimbals are extremely smooth and promising.

Mel Suarez brought in a used Shogun electric heli that he got for \$275. He said the problem is the JR analog transmitter did not allow aerobatic "idle-up" flying. So he ripped it out and put in a Futaba receiver (Ch 48) to go with his 8ch computer radio that he uses with his Raptor 50. Now there's a problem with yaw stability and the gyro.

Raffle

Jeff Ward took the boat, Jack Stanley got a beeper, Vic Naimo took the Micro Katana, Al P grabbed a glow battery, Mike Carroll won a gallon of fuel, Paul DiFeo got a glow battery. Vic N and Dan Harmen won Bill's leftover RC stuff. Meeting adjourned at approximately 9pm.

Fall 2007 field photos

*Be sure to come to November's meeting, you wouldn't want to miss out on having some flattering photos taken.
Photos by Dan Quaroni and Juhan Sonin.*



Panorama of the field in early October.



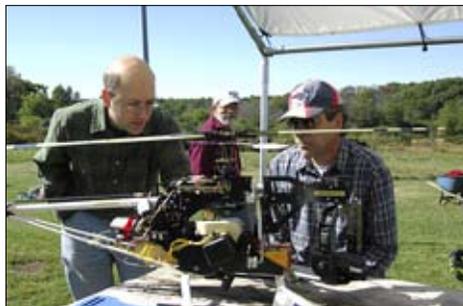
Nice tail Dave.



A rocket blasts over the runway.



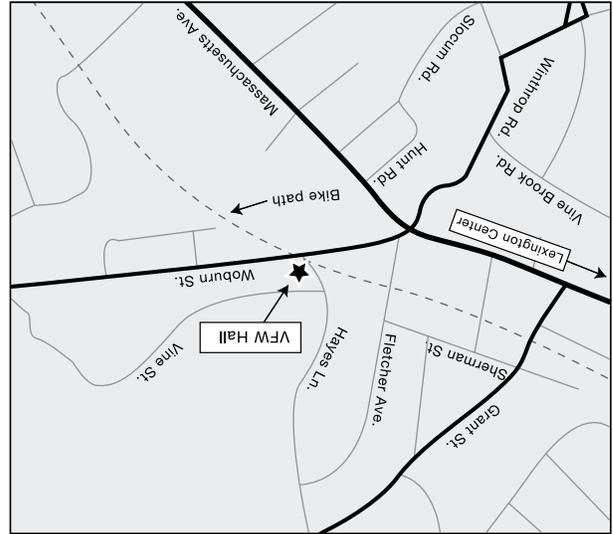
Ayal and son discuss the finer points of landing. At least it's in one piece.



Clockwise from left: A big bird takes off and is about to spew gobs of smoke, Mel educates the masses on technical flying, a Piper Cub on final approach, and Victor tail-touches (nice aileron deflection).



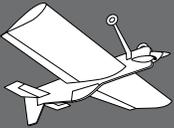
Next club meeting:
Tuesday, November 13th, 2007
 Meeting time is 7:30 PM
Meeting Location
 Lexington VFW Hall
 2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street)
 Lexington, MA



The Burlington Radio Controlled Flyers

NEWSLETTER

www.burlington-rc.com



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FIRST CLASS MAIL