



B U R L I N G T O N

RC FLYERS

AMA CHARTER 1752 VOLUME 23 NO.1

FEBRUARY 2006

Profile Combat!

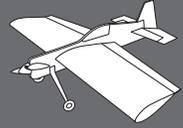
Photo by Juhan Sonin



Next Club Meeting

**Tuesday, February 14
VFW Hall, Lexington**

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!



Secretary's Report

for November 8, 2005 membership meeting

Meeting started at 7:30. There were about 30 in attendance. Meeting Minutes were read by Mel Suarez.

Juhan mentioned that one of our members, Dick Mayer died last week. Bob Brown is organizing the RC estate sale for this Saturday 11/12/2005. Bob is looking for help. Printouts of the estate sale announcement are available.

New Members

Ryan Metivier – started flying in mid-August in Merrimack. He solo'd mid-September of 2005 and says he is just working on his flying. Ryan uses spads because he says they can be repaired easily. Ryan works in Burlington so most of his flying will be during his 2 hour lunches. He's currently working on a foamie kit.

Treasures Report

Gil Levey said the balance as of 8/21/05 was \$1,600. Income: dues \$305, raffle \$95, total income \$403. Disbursed: coffee & donuts \$10, raffle \$79, grass \$400, funfly drinks 17 total disbursement \$506 for a balance of \$1,456.

Field Report

Jack Stanley reported everything is fine but the lower field is a little beat up, needs to be filled in. Was discussed that members will do it at the next field day. Juhan will call Larry again regarding the large weed mowing. Everyone seemed to agree that it's worth it.

There was some discussion about rolling the field in the spring.

Membership Report

John Hatfield stated that we have 95 members – 2 new additions since last time.

Kudos were given to Rob Catalano on an excellent design for the Club newsletter, the cover and the layout. The president's article is somewhat suspect. Thanks to Al for Out and About contributions.

It was discussed that over 2/3 of our members get it electronically. Bill O'Connell said he gets the newsletter on the road electronically.

Victor Samsanov mentioned that he found a plane; a trainer. He was still looking for its owner. Juhan told him that if no one claims it, he can keep it.

Rob Catalano - showed the T-shirt designs that he's working on when he's not tending to his 3 month old baby. He showed about 6 designs. There was plenty of interest. Thinking of 3 colors with something on the pocket area and something on the back. \$10/piece. The thought was to sell them just for enough to cover the cost. Email ideas to r.a.catalano@verizon.net.

Elections

Robert Johnson mentioned that Juhan Sonin and Mel Suarez are stepping down as President and Secretary. If anyone is interested they could be nominated from the floor. The nominees were:

President – Al Prudhomme, Jr.
VP – Jack Stanley
Treasurer – Gil Levey
Secretary – Claudio Tracanna

Next Club Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

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: - GS40 Katana ARF (this is a 40 size glow plane)
- Great planes tools
- Fuel and other goodies

Club Activities

15th Annual Auction - This year's joint auction with the Middlesex RC Club was a great success. Our club came away with approximately a \$600 profit.

Many thanks to all who helped including a big applause to Jeff Ward and the Middlesex club.

Other Activities

The 107th RC Flyers auction will be **Sunday, February 19** at the VFW Post, Saugus. Doors open at 11:30 AM.

Please Renew your membership!

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership by the next 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 jnhntfld2@cs.com. Or visit www.burlington-rc.com/membership.html for the latest dues and membership applications.

The Presidents Letter



Last November it was a honor for me to have your vote of confidence, as you elected me to be President for the coming year. I then accepted the gavel from Juhan

Sonin and I was off and running...

Many thanks to Juhan for all he has done for Burlington RC Flyers during his tenure as President these last few years. We knew the club was in great hands, and it was a pleasure to serve on the board with Juhan as President.

I was sure sorry to hear, in December, of the loss of Gill Levey, What a nice guy Gill was and I have many nice memories, as you do also, of his friendship, upkeeps at the field, and those detailed, always accurate treasury reports...Gill was always there at club events ready to help. I know we all will miss Gill. For me it will hit home at the auction and later at the Feb meeting when we won't have Gill with us.

What a wide ranging club we are, whether it is Mel S. describing in great details, his love for flight, as he learns to fly the real thing, or each trip to the field to enjoy the friendships and the help that is always available in getting a plane in the air. The Burlington Flyers club has so much to offer...pure enjoyment to everone.

At our Board meeting I will be suggesting a few things and looking for committee help to begin plans for a nice new sign at the field to tell people who we are, and a new windsock every several months. Ongoing will be field safty and to be aware of the wonderful resource the field is to each and every one of us.

At the Board meeting, and later at the club meeting, we will have a full report from an action committee from surrounding towns on why they are concerned about loosing the land our club currently enjoys, and how they want to keep the Cummings Trust complete and as it was intended. Jack Stanley and myself attended their last meeting. I was impressed by the good honest reports I heard and how much work they are putting into the effort to keep the field. "The field is for everyone to enjoy", and they are really happy to see us use the field. One committee member even asked me if he could join the club. He was impressed to see how much fun the flyers were having, and wondered if he could learn to fly also.

In ending, I look forward to my first meeting as your president and again, thank you for your support. I know this will be another great year, as those in the past, for the Burlington RC Flyers club...

Sincerely,

ALFRED PRUDHOMME, JR.
President, Burlington RC Flyers

About the cover (online version)

Juhan Sonin snapped this great pic of Stefan Cohen's profile getting "owned" by Dave Palermo's balsa munching menace. Great one. Color verion of the newsletter can be downloaded by going to www.burlington-rc.com.

Treasurer's Report

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Bank Balance 10/21/05 | \$ 1,456.21 |
| <u>Income</u> | |
| Dues | \$ 1,195.00 |
| Fuel | \$ 1,264.00 |
| TOTAL Income | \$ 2,459.00 |

Disbursements

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Coffee/Donuts | \$ 10.47 |
| Fuel (out) | \$ 1,231.12 |
| Newsletter (last month's) | \$ 47.01 |
| Stamps & printing | \$ 35.33 |
| Kits | \$ 306.89 |
| Field/grass | \$ 170.00 |
| VFW rent | \$ 375.00 |
| Raffle | \$ 90.00 |
| Adjustments | \$ 11.78 |
| TOTAL Disbursements | \$ 2,277.60 |

Bank Balance 1/30/05 **\$ 1,637.61**

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 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|
| PRESIDENT: | <i>Al Prudhomme, Jr.</i> | sedate9@aol.com |
| VICE-PRESIDENT: | <i>Mel Suarez</i> | mel@mlsuarez.com |
| TREASURER: | <i>John Hatfield</i> (781) 862-6349 | jnhhtfd2@cs.com |
| SAFETY OFFICER: | <i>Jack Stanley</i> | stanley5@rcn.com |
| SECRETARY: | <i>Claudio Tracanna</i> | cat342@rcn.com |
| MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: | <i>John Hatfield</i> (781) 862-6349 | jnhhtfd2@cs.com |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR: | <i>Rob Catalano</i> (617) 924-3168 | rob@catalanodesign.com |
| 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.

Secretary's Report

Continued from page 1

A statement from Claudio was read before the vote. "I've been presented with the opportunity of secretary. I will accept the post if the members agree." (there was more to his nice note)

Directors will include:

Juhan Sonin
Rob Catalano
Dave Palermo

Bob asked for nominations from the floor. There were no other nominations. There was talk of creating a *Delegate at Large* regarding talks about the land. This person would represent us at meetings and so forth but not make decisions. The slate was then approved unanimously.

Jeff Ward mentioned that the auction flyer is in the newsletter. There should be an ad in the AMA magazine coming out. Flyers are finalized (except radio and raffle).

The auction committee will be getting together in the next few weeks.

Rob Catalano – 1st Sunday of every month a Frozen Fingers Float Fly.

Show 'N Tell

Bill O'Connell brought the Real Flight G3 simulator and Jon Gaines brought the Reflex. Bill said it has all kinds of airplanes including a V22 Osprey. It costs about \$200 plus \$30 for each expansion disk. He said he had to get a new laptop to run it. It takes the edge off when I haven't flown for a while. It's very realistic.

Jon Gaines says the Reflex is quite good. It goes for \$200. Requires a USB plug-in and nice graphics hardware on the computer. If not sure if your CPU will handle it, then download the demo and try it. It was written in Germany so the instructions are not as good as the G2. Also the planes have more of a European flavor. You can do the wind and gusts.

Mel Suarez - carted his almost complete X-Cell Spectra-G to front and mentioned that it just needs minor stuff finished. Last meeting it was in a box. Should be flying it the weekend after this one. Will be using it for RPV

missions such as aerial photography, etc. The gyro and governor are hooked up and ready.

Miguel Machado - showed off his beautiful Top Flite, P-47 all fiberglass, a lot of carving, balsa sheating, has baby pictures. Everything is painted, no decals. Used the decals to make stencils and then sprayed over. It represents an aircraft Lt. Meira. He contacted the pilot and got information from him. Flew 93 missions. Squadron was ground attack, ground runs, bombing missions. Each flight had 16 airplanes. Some of the flights were so aggressive that many died. Don't know what happened to the airplane.

One plane was on a pole and fell off. Was sold

4 P-47 remain in Brazil. One flies, one is being refurbished, and two are mounted on poles.

Used the pictures to paint the airplanes. Plane should be about 98% realistic. Everything is airbrushed. He used house paint then puts.

To get the grooves he put 1/22 or 1/16 tape, then uses a pencil to give the panel line a dirty look. To get the burnt look around the guns and engine, used a No. 2 pencil and then by hand smear it.

The sliding cockpit is going to be scratch built. Planning on powering it with a Saito 120. Will have retracts.

Miguel has been sending him pictures. He had to decide between a polish P-47 and a this Brazilian one.

Raffle

Vic Naimo – picked up Funtana GS-40. Bryan Metivier - snatched the pile off props. Greg Lionelli, Jr. – took away 3 bottles of CA. Jeff Ward – got a Kavan stgarter. Bill O'Connell – got 4 cycle glow plugs. Bob Brown – gave away airplane plans for a Jabber Walk.

Meeting was adjourned at approx 8:45pm.

(It has been a pleasure being your humble and undeserving secretary for a year. Mel)

Burlington RC Events Calendar:

Club meetings are at 7:30 PM at the Lexington VFW hall, 2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street) Lexington, MA.

Fun Flies and Fly Ins are at the field, usually beginning around 9 am. Fly ins are casual - non competitive flying. Fun Flies will have competitions and prizes.

February 14 - Club Meeting

March 5 - Frozen Finger Fly In

April 11 - Club Meeting

June 13 - Club Meeting

September 12 - Club Meeting

November 14 - Club Meeting

Check our web site www.burlington-rc.com for links to these clubs for more info.



The auction on January 29, was a very good (but lonngggg) day! At this time an approximate net for each club is \$600. Many thanks to all who came, helped, bought, sold, ate, and drank!

It was a record setting day. We had over almost 150 paid admissions, sold 145 items, with a total bid value of over \$7,700 and total commissions over \$800. We sold seventeen pizzas, at least 5 dozen donuts, two urns of coffee, 6 or 7 cases of cold drinks, and a boat-load of raffle tickets. Way to go team!

–Jeff Ward

Club mourns the loss of respected members

Juhan Sonin and Bob Johnson

Gil Levey died on Wednesday December 21, 2005. Gil was a Burlington RC club founder and permanent presence over the past 30 years. While the club was officially recognized in 1983 by the AMA, the field had been used for RC flying since the late sixties. Gil was an MIT graduate and served in the armed forces before settling in Lexington, MA over 40 years ago.

Gil was passionate about the club, modeling, and engineering. Over his tenure at the club, he held every position on the board from President, VP, secretary, board member and most recently treasurer. He also created and filled many other vital roles from field officer/police/commander, runway custodian, mower, disciplinarian, auctioneer, fun-fly coordinator, and many more. Gil has been the humble, behind-the-scenes CEO of the BRCF for the past 20 years. Often taking little credit, Gil was the driving force behind most of the clubs activities.

Many of us have known Gil since our first visits to the field spanning the last several decades. Often our first impression of him was his slicked, curled, and beautifully

coiffed mustache and his serious enthusiasm about club rules and activities. Initial apprehension soon melted away once we began talking with him and seeing (and feeling) his passion for the field, airplanes, and club members.

Gil was honest, fiery but gentle, straight-shooting, humble, trustworthy and always looked out for the club's best interest. Gil was also very bright, a caring BRCF board member, a nutty do-it-yourself'er, a trusted friend, and a sweetheart.

We miss him. Edie and the Levey family will be in our thoughts.

And it is with sadness that we report that Charter Member Tony Kucznski has passed away on Jan.29 2006. Tony had been in poor health for some time. He was one of the first members of the Burlington R/C club and served as an officer and a member of the board of directors in the early days after the club was started. Most of the younger members did not know him, but the older members remember him well. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

The Plane and the Hawk

Out and About with Al Prudhomme, jr.

This mild weathered winter we've been having (as of Jan 23) is indeed welcome and several all season flyers have been taking advantage of it. One doesn't even need the model skies on the plane, nevertheless it has all changed as of this date with the snow falling.

Yesterday I was at the field later in the morning watching Victor Sampsanov fly his model superbly. I always tell other's nearby, Vic makes it look so easy.

It's not uncommon to see a hawk fly around, sort of amused, with a flying model. But usually it flies off and it's never a problem. Sometimes a hawk will act as if it was curious with that "thing" flying around in his air space.

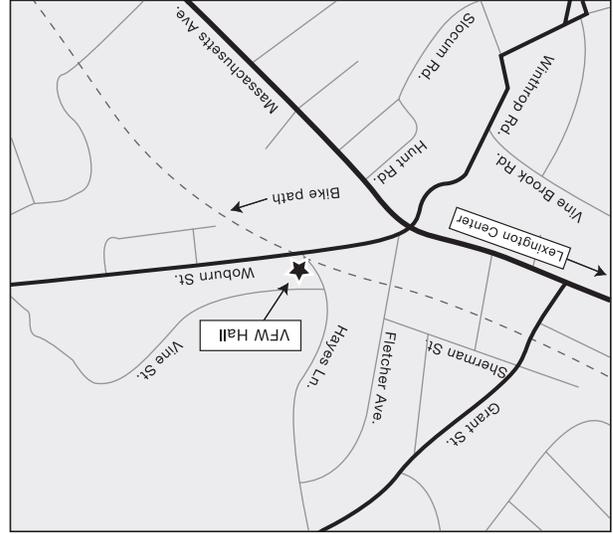
As I left this day, using the upper trail, I noted, close by on the tip of a bush, a big hawk just changing a limb on which to hang out on. I stopped to observed it. The hawk, it seemed, had

only changed a twig to stand on. The bird hardly noticed me as his eyes were focused on Vic's plane. He was enjoying the show. As Vic went up, the hawks heard went up, if down he followed, and when Vic did a upward roll he rolled his head two, clearly enjoying the show.

The wind was quite strong, and the hawk's stand was being tossed around, not to worry, the hawk only compensated for the movement with his tail feathers, using them to keep in steady position, looking at the plane.

After a short time I had to move on and the hawk never noticed, eyes fixed on the model plane flying. Neat stuff I thought, Vic Samsanov was having fun flying, and the hawk was enjoying the show, even when the plane flew low over the birds head.

– Al Prudhomme, Jr.



Lexington, MA
2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn Street)

Lexington VFW Hall

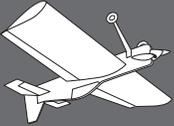
Meeting Location

Tuesday, February 14
Meeting time is 7:30 PM

Next club meeting:



www.burlington-rc.com



NEWSLETTER

The Burlington Radio Controlled Flyers



Burlington RC Flyers Newsletter
C/O Rob Catalano
33 Merrill Road
Watertown, MA 02472

FIRST CLASS MAIL