

# "THE QFRC FLYER"

The official newsletter of "Quaker Farms R/C Flyers"

AMA Charter #3745  
Official QFRC website  
[www.QFRCF.org](http://www.QFRCF.org)

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Quarterly Newsletter  
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## President's Corner

President's Message Dec. 2008

Dear members and friends,

Our December election meeting is coming up on Tuesday the 9th. I need to advise you that due to other life pressures, I will not be able to be your President again in 2009.

After holding the position for 3 years, I think it is time for some new blood. With the great help of our officers and appointees, and member volunteers, just about everything that I wanted to see accomplished has been done in the past three years. The list of major accomplishments is very satisfying:

1. We now have a great newsletter.
2. We now have a great website.
3. The bylaws have been a focus of attention and an updated set is being finalized.
4. We now have 4 meetings a year instead of one or two, and they have been moved back to the Legion Hall.
5. We now have an annual planning budget.
6. We now have a checklist of key dates for management of the club.
7. We now have a full compliment of officers, appointees, and other dedicated volunteers to run the club, spreading the load.

8. We now have a new flightline and field layout that has transformed the field into an asset that attracts new members.
9. We now have a culture of volunteerism.
10. We now have a beautiful reconditioned shed and new picnic tables.
11. We now have a mowing policy that insures the grass is cut before the weekend.
12. We now have a year-round flying field with plowing of the road in the winter when needed.
13. We now have a culture that attracts new members.
14. We have maintained our member count while some other area club's membership has declined.
15. We have maintained our field, entry road, and equipment in serviceable condition.
16. We have improved the attraction of our meetings to the members.
17. We have successfully integrated heli flying into our flightline procedures. (Emphasizing that we are a model **aircraft** club, not just a model **airplane** club.)
18. We have embraced electric power and integrated it into our culture.
19. We have kept the funfly/picnic going and hosted the Cub Scouts this year.
20. The summer Wednesday evening cookouts have become very popular.

I could go on and on, but the idea is to bring these things to the forefront because it is easy to forget all that has been accomplished in the last three years. Most members aren't aware of all the behind-the-scenes work that needs to get done to maintain a thriving club.

I hope that the rest of the officers and appointees are able to stay on for another year. Whether or not they choose to stay on, or to seek another position, I've asked them to make their intentions known to the membership before the meeting as this is our dues and election meeting. The changeover date is Jan 1, 2009.

If you as a member wish to seek a position, you can notify the membership by using the "send to:" and "copy to:" list in this email by copying and pasting into your email.

Dave Miles has indicated he would be willing to serve as President and I think he would be a good choice. Rick Katrenya expressed a passing interest. I don't know of any other candidates at this time.

Please be prepared to vote and pay your dues at the meeting.

**Thank you for all your support over the last three years.**

**BJ**

## *Vice President's Corner*

Hi All,

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. Another year is winding down and the flying is also slowing down. But the building season is just beginning. I think this year, as our president said "we as a club have matured over the past 3 years". We're on track and getting better all the time. Because of you the members this is happening!! You the members made this club what it is today.

**Lets all keep up the good work!!!**

**JOE**

## *Membership Report* *By, John Demeyer*

**Our current membership as of  
12/01/2008**

63 active members  
We lost 3 members from the end of 2007

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Sean D' Amico -- Waterbury**

We have added 1 new members since the last meeting. Keep spreading the word at local hobby shops and to your friends.

### **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME**

**Renewal letters were sent the week of Dec.1, 2009 Contact me if you did not get your renewal information.**

## *Meeting Minutes 9-09-08* *By Joel Monarca, Secretary*

- 1) We have \$1064.00 Dollars in the club Checking account.
- 2) Please be more careful with the frequency board. Please take down pins after your flight.
- 3) Need frequency board rules posted on shed & frequency board so all can see.
- 4) Discussed making a copy of bylaws for all members.
- 5) Talked about making a new member packet. Changing the application so you have to sign it verifying you understand all the rules or Bylaws.
- 6) Motion to review all Bylaws and safety rules. Was voted on and passed.
- 7) Talked about getting a visual Q of center line. Everyone must fly on the far side of center line.
- 8) Approved \$350.00 for the picnic, food, and prizes.
- 9) October 25 is Scout day.
- 10) Talked about a bulk fuel buy. Fuel that would be purchased would be Wildcat Fuel.

## Winter Field Safety

Here it is - December already, what happened to summer? It is time again to think about cold weather and how it will affect us.

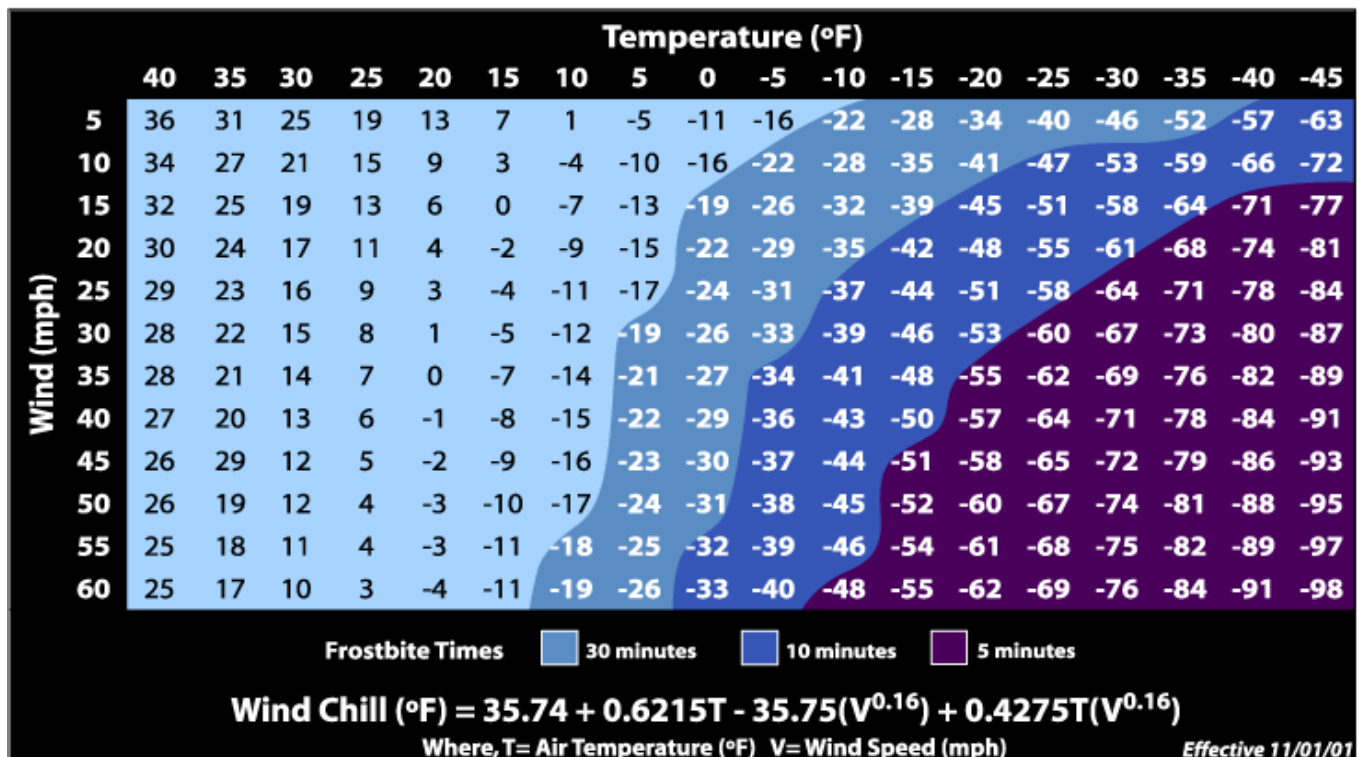
There is a thing called Wind Chill. You say “You don’t fly in winter with the wind blowing because it is too cold” and that maybe true. However, there is a chart called Wind Chill Chart (WCC) The WCC tells us if it 35°F and the wind is blowing 10mph it will feel like 27° F. OK, that’s not too bad, however your fingers will get really cold in a 10 minute flight assuming no protection (gloves).

Let’s say its really cold, but a nice clear day (of course you have to go flying). Let’s say its 10° F with a 10 mph wind. It is going to feel like it is -4° F. When you reach back to adjust the high speed needle valve and wind from the prop is 60 MPH. This is going to be downright uncomfortable, since the WCC indicates the effective temperature is -19° F and you have about 30 minutes before frostbite sets in. When your fingers begin to thaw-out you will wish they were still frozen because they feel like you have put your fingers in a pan of hot oil.

**Remember to dress in layers, wear gloves, and wear a hat! A lot of body heat is lost from your head (about 60%). Also wear shoes that will keep your feet warm and dry. A lot of the time in this area just wearing a wind breaker and light sweater and of course a hat is all it will take to be comfortable. Probably a good idea to wear pants.**



### Wind Chill Chart



## *Winter Flying - How To Get Your RC Helicopter Ready*

If you are a person who hates the cold, winter flying may not be for you. But if you are a die-hard heli enthusiast that will let nothing stand in your way for getting a good flight in, there are a few things you need to do differently to get your RC helicopter ready for flying in the winter.

The steps that you will need to take will in some ways be dependent upon where you live. Those that live in climates that have moderate winters will have very few changes that they will have to make. However, if you live in an area that gets extremely cold during the winter months, or experiences a great deal of snow, there are some things that you will have to take into consideration if you want to keep your heli flying at it's best.

For many pilots, flying in the winter is the ultimate experience. The air is cool, which causes more lift. The blades seem to bite the air better, and the heli runs more smoothly. Batteries run cooler. It all makes for an exhilarating experience. But if the temperature drops too much, and you do not have your heli prepared, winter flying with your RC helicopter can turn into a disaster.

In extremely cold temperatures, battery packs can freeze. This is of course, something you want to avoid at all cost. In fact, even if the battery pack gets too cold, it can reduce the amount of power you receive from it, which can result in a damaging crash. In order to keep your battery packs from freezing, you should never store them outdoors when it is cold. When you are at the heli field and the battery is not in use, store it in a warm area to keep it from freezing. If the temperatures are too cold, you should avoid flying it at all. You'll probably get fewer amps from your pack, so shorten your flying time a little.

If you fly a nitro helicopter, you will have to make a few tuning adjustments in order for your helicopter to fly at it's best. During the winter, you may want to tune your engine so that it runs a few clicks richer because your engine will have a tendency to run lean because of the higher density of cool air.

Another important thing to remember is that your gyro is temperature sensitive. If you take your gyro from a warm temperature to a suddenly cold temperature and attempt to start flying, you can run into difficulties with it not functioning well. If you are going to be doing some winter flying with your heli, let the gyro sit outside for about 10 or 15 minutes to adjust to the temperature before flying. This will help to regulate the gyro's temperature, and will help to ensure that it works the way that it should.

If you live in an area with lots of snow, you may want to consider putting water floats on your heli for taking off and landing. This will help to keep your heli from sinking in the snow which will help to prevent snow from getting into your heli's electronics and melting. Keep in mind too, that if you fly while it is snowing, the snow can also get into your electronics and melt which can cause a short, which could ultimately cause a crash, so flying in a snow storm is a no no.

Floats can be a little unstable and slippery on the snow, so if you don't want to use them, but don't want to sink, bring a piece of carpet or plywood to land on or take along a shovel and clear a landing area.

Besides getting your RC heli ready, you need to get yourself ready as well. Put on some warm clothes; bring a hat and gloves for down time, maybe some hot pads and something warm to drink.

To keep your fingers from freezing when you're flying, you can get a RadioWarm glove like the one below. Your radio fits inside and keeps your fingers out of the cold and toasty warm.

If you don't want to use a radio glove, a pair with the fingers tips cut off can also work well.

If you absolutely must fly and it's freezing cold outside, know your boundaries. Keep in mind that the higher you go, the colder the temperature gets. If the temperature on the ground is close to freezing, the air temperature where your heli is at could be well below the freezing point. This could actually cause your helicopter to ice over when flying if there's any moisture in the air, or get the electronics wet, so be sure to dry things out indoors when you're done flying.

For the most part, flying in the winter is no different from flying in the summer... except for the fact that your helicopter will fly better and you need to make just a few changes to your normal routine. But if you make these changes, there is no reason to put down your heli till spring time and suffer all winter from withdraw.

If you can't bear the cold, you can always get a bunch of people together and rent a gym or indoor soccer field.

### **Special Safety reminder**

Flying remote controlled airplanes is fun - so is driving a car, a motorcycle, an off-road vehicle, and a host of other mechanized modes of transportation. Along with the fun aspect associated with these machines is the more serious side of the potential dangers each can present. Sometimes mentioning safety is redundant and overstated – until someone gets hurt.

Recently we experienced an incident at the field involving a plane going out of control and flying into the pits. While no one was hurt, the proximity of the plane and that of a fellow flyer was way too close. There are some things we can learn and remind ourselves from this incident.

If you bring an airplane out to the field for its maiden flight and you feel like you need help, then let someone know. Also, tell everyone anyway that it is on its maiden flight so they are mentally prepared. Remember to always announce, loudly, that you are coming out onto the field; when ready to take off – that you are taking off. Other pilots can acknowledge by saying, “okay”, or something that indicates they heard.

Again, when landing, announce loudly that you are landing and from which direction. This is especially important when someone experiences a dead stick.

Remember to review the AMA and club safety rules. They really are there for our benefit and safety.

**Have fun! I am sure I have taken up enough time and newsletter real estate on this topic. Just be safe.**

### **ELECTION NIGHT REMINDER**

**Yes, its time once again.  
Election time. Please come vote  
on all the officer positions.**

**If you would like to volunteer  
some time and would like to  
help fill a position as a club  
officer or a club appointee.  
Please contact one of the club  
officers or just attend the  
meeting and let us know what  
position you would like to have.**

**YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT**

# MEETING REMINDER

**(Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 7:30 PM)**

**OXFORD AMERICAN LEGION HALL, Rt. 67 OXFORD**

**Directions to the Oxford American Legion Hall**

**David S. Miles Post 174**

From the North and I-84:

I84 east or west to exit 16, 188 in Southbury/Middlebury. Left (south) on 188, 4 miles to 67, turn left on 67 south and east.

Stay on 67 south for about 6 miles into Oxford.

Look for the Legion Hall (David S. Miles Post 174) on the right just past the Dunkin Donuts and Great Hill Road which is on your right also.

From Rt8:

Exit 22 in Seymour for 67

If northbound 8: Left on 67 south and west

If southbound 8: Right on 67 north and west

The American Legion Hall (David S. Miles Post 174) is about 2 miles on the left after Mountain Road and the Mobil gas station.

**Parking is in the rear and in front of the building.**

**LOOKING FORWARD SEEING YOU THERE**

## Local Hobby Shops

**Hobbytown USA**  
168 Danbury Road  
New Milford, CT 06776

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**860-355-3000**

**JP's Hobby Center & Vinyl Graphics**  
100 South Main Street  
Seymour, CT 06483

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**203-888-6509**

**Build Right/Fly Right Hobbies**  
342 Quinnipiac St.  
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### **Store Hours**

**Monday, Tues 12 - 7PM**

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**Al's Hobbies**

327 Main Ave.

Norwalk, CT 06851

**203-846-9932**

**Branford Hobbies**

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## **HELP WANTED**

Mechanic for R/C engine repair, part time.

Contract basis, \$10/hr.

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[www.bj-model-engines.com](http://www.bj-model-engines.com)

\*a trade name of Flight Star Devices, Inc.

We are the factory authorized service center for:

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***Brisson Engines*** [www.rc-revolution.com](http://www.rc-revolution.com)

***Revolution Engines*** [www.rc-revolution.com](http://www.rc-revolution.com)

***ENYA*** [www.enya-engine.com](http://www.enya-engine.com)

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