

"THE QFRC FLYER"

The official newsletter of "Quaker Farms R/C Flyers"
Official QFRC website www.Quakerfarmsrcflyers.org
AMA Charter #3745



QFRC Club Officers

President

David Miles

DwmMiles@Yahoo.com

203-888-1426 Home

203-816-7104 Cell

Vice President

Tony Trombetta

atrombet@comcast.net

203-987-9252

Secretary

Joel Monarca

JoelMonarca@Hotmail.com

203-560-1403

Treasurer

Andy Green

AGreen@WebsterBank.com

203-723-2741

Safety Officer - Airplanes

John Gadacy

John_R_Gadacy@SBCGlobal.net

203-729-3317

Safety Officer - Helicopters

Jim Ciasulli

Jim.Ciasulli@Comcast.net

203-888-3242

QFRC Club Appointees

Membership Chairman

John Demeyer

BJohnd2@Yahoo.com

203-264-1312

Field Maintenance Manager

Bob Creter

RMCreter@MSN.com

203-748-5319

Newsletter Editor

Bob Piscatelli

bpiscatelli@gmail.com

203-410-6905

Website Coordinator

Tony Trombetta

atrombet@comcast.net

203-987-9252

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2011 Edition -Volume 23

President's Message

December 2011

One of the more difficult parts of being President can be delivering bad news. While this has been a good year for the club it has also been a year that was not without its challenges and disappointments.

The good news is our club continues to be in good health. We are fortunate to have one of the friendliest clubs in the hobby, our field is in great shape, and thanks to some recent efforts, the road to the field may be in the best shape ever. But, our financial picture is slightly less rosy. While we are not in trouble now, if we don't plan ahead, we could be.

Membership numbers are down, in fact 15 fewer members joined our club last year than did the year before. This lower membership means less income and fewer reserves for a rainy day. In fact, last year we operated at a deficit, spending about \$300.00 more than we took in. Fortunately we didn't have any costly repairs to the tractor or an emergency assessment may have been required.

The simple answer is that this year we will need to generate some extra income. In the current economy we are reluctant to raise membership dues, which may solve our current challenge but may lead to other long-term challenges.

The better solution than charging more for membership is for us all to work together to grow our membership. It is a challenge that I hope each of you will embrace. Think about friends that may be interested in joining and to encourage them to do so. More members will generate more income creating a small reserve to cover the unexpected and the ability to make further improvements to our field.

To help, the executive committee has decided to forgo the dues reduction that is offered to elected officers and appointees in our bylaws. We all agreed that the financial health of the club was more important than paying less in dues and decided we should all pay our full dues. Unfortunately, this austerity measure will have little effect on the bottom line, but then again, every little bit helps.

To create an immediate solution to our financial woes, we are going to try something new. But its success will depend on each of your participation. This year we will be holding a fundraising raffle. Our goal is to raise much needed funding for the club and also provide a few lucky members the opportunity to win a great prize. At the December meeting, we will offer a total of 100 raffle tickets priced at \$10.00 ea. If each of our 50 members will buy two raffle tickets when they pay their dues at the meeting, we will meet that goal in one night.

[Cont..](#)

President's Message – cont..

The drawing will be held and prizes awarded at the March meeting. The prizes will be as follows and will be awarded based on winner's choice; first winner chooses their prize, then the next etc. However if the winner is not present at the meeting they will be awarded the prize with the highest monetary value. The total value of the prizes is nearly \$500.00!

Prizes will be as follows:

1st Prize - [Parkzone F-27Q Stryker PNP](#) Retail Value \$184.99

2nd Prize - [UMX Extra 300 3D BNF Basic](#) Retail Value 119.99

3rd Prize - [Ultra Micro Sukhoi SU-26xp BNF](#) Retail Value 99.99

4th Prize - [AR7010 7-Channel DSMX Receiver](#) Retail Value 89.99

I hope you will all come to the meeting and support your flying club.

Dave

P.S. – The December meeting is also our club elections so please come to the meeting and take part by casting your vote and if your interested in serving your club by running for office! Hope to see you there.

Meeting Minutes By Joel Monarca – 10/2011

- Thanked Tony for web site (clapping was heard)
- Bob Creter and crew wanted to work on road at first gate, voted to spend 200 on road if we have it.
- Bob to check and give us a price on redoing the flight line.
- Safety Officer feels he's being MOCKED!!!! (Please show the Safety officer some respect!)
- 15 members showed.
- Elections coming up again.
- Voted on a trail period of one year for a no engine size limit.

Membership Report By John Demeyer – 12/2011

As of the end of November, we have 52 paid active members on our roster. A reminder that the new member dues for the remainder of the year are reduced by half for new members who join the club in the fall. This gives them full membership through the end of the year. Please let any one you know who may be interested in joining the club about this offer.

Just after I heard the sad news of the loss of Joe Monarca, I found out that a long time member of the QFRC, Neil Cochran, passed away on September 17, 2011.

Neil had not been around the field for the last few years due to declining health but he had maintained his membership status. He was one of the first people I met when I joined the club years ago and like most people involved in this hobby, he was always encouraging and ready to help a "rookie". Our club lost 2 great members this fall

Please watch your e-mail accounts for your 2012 membership renewal information. I will be sending it out in early December and dues for the coming year can be paid through the mail or will be collected at the December club meeting.

Safety Officer/Helicopters

By Jim Ciasulli

I don't know where the time went but I certainly haven't been out as much as I'd like. My 1 and 4 year old have kept me plenty busy and they've been my priority. However, the times I have been out have made for some interesting stories. Speaking of such a story, as you all know, John and I take our responsibilities as safety officers very seriously. So seriously in fact, that we feel it our duty to demonstrate what not to do. For this season John and I focused on ensuring that every member understands the reality of mid-air collisions. To prove this point, John and I took to the skies, he with his plane and I with my Trex 500. The casual observer would watch this show as just another flight by two professional RC pilots. But it would take a keen eye to know the moral of the story is coming.

As John and I continued to have our fun, we gave the signal and carefully choreographed our aircraft into a high speed and deliberate course to the middle of the field towards the other. At the last second John went up and so did I. This maneuver ended in foam confetti and servo parts finding their way gently to the earth, and the helicopter gave off sounds of unbalance that would make even the most experienced pilot's knuckles turn white. As John stood admiring our successful demo, I had more work to do. At a height of about 50 feet, I had no choice but to shut down and auto. This is where practice finally paid off and I landed without a further scratch.

Damage report? Well John's foam plane was a wreck and it just so happened my blade went through both of his rear servos. This was evident by the dangling wires which hung from their previous location. For me, I was left with a carbon blade which split on the leading edge and feathering shaft damage. At that high RMP, not shutting it down could have resulted in a blade split all the way through and subsequently a heli that ripped itself to pieces. Given the relative costs of the parts, I'd say we each walked away with the same financial loss (as was our plan) but the glory of proving a point was all we were after.

To all our pilots, have a spotter when possible, be aware of your surroundings but also be focused on your model. And practice your emergency maneuvers. Dead sticks, autos, etc. We hope this demo helped. Now of course John may have a different tale to tell, but this is how I remember it ;-)

Remember: Fly safe, land safe, have fun!

Jim Ciasulli-

MEETING REMINDER

When – Tuesday – December 13th – 7:30 PM

Where – American Legion Hall - Oxford

Local Hobby Shops

Hobbytown USA

14 Candlewood Lake Road
Brookfield, CT 06804
Phone: 203-740-1500
FAX: 203-740-1501
Web: www.hobbytown.com/ctbro
www.hobbytown.com

HobbyTown USA of Stamford

High Ridge Center
1131 High Ridge Road
Stamford, CT 06905
Phone: 203-588-9843
FAX: 203-588-9845
Email: hobbytownct@gmail.com
Web: www.hobbytown.com/sta
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Joe Acosta, Owner
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Thurs, Fri 12 - 4 & 6 - 9PM
Sat 9PM - 3PM
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Danbury Hobby Center

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203-743-9052
Web: www.danburyhobbycenter.com

Club Instructor Pilots

Chief Airplane Instructor

Andy Green
AGreen@WebsterBank.com
203-723-2741

Chief Helicopter Instructor

Dave Miles
DwmMiles@yahoo.com
203-888-1426

Hobbytown USA of Fairfield

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203-888-4819
Email: wbilljensen@cs.com
Web: www.bj-model-engines.com

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Mechanic for R/C engine repair, part time.
Contract basis, \$10/hr.
Ideal for retired R/C'er with engine repair
experience. Call Bill Jensen, 203-888-4819.

If you want to learn to fly please call