



Volume 2021-09-Q4

Middlesex County R-C Fliers Club Newsletter – Fall 2021



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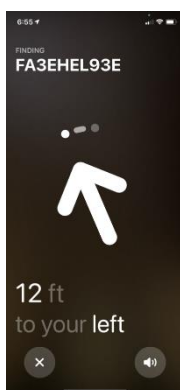
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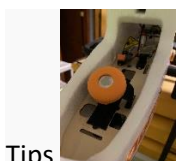
Next MCRCF Monthly Meeting – 12/1/2021



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2 MEETING NOTES OF 11/3/2021 – BY PAUL SULLIVAN

Jerry Crowley was finally awarded his **Lifetime Member Certificate**. Congratulations Jerry, and thank you for your outstanding long-term service to MCRCF!



We formally voted in favor of the newly amended **club bylaws**. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with this document. It will be posted on the website soon.

A **nomination committee** was established for next year's election of club officers. The committee consists of Dan Micalizzi, and Jerry Crowley. If you wish to become a club officer, or remain as one, contact Dan or Jerry.

We discussed the **possibility of a Holiday Party**, and Roy Kring volunteered to look into the availability of The Great Wall restaurant in Bedford.

There was discussion of holding an **auction or flea market** next year.

Thanks,

Paul Sullivan

President

2.1 MISCELLANEOUS NOTES – BY MEL SUAREZ

The **brand, new, laptop** donated by Raheel Retiwalla, has now been set up with Jeff's extra copy of RealFlight 9.5 and Jeff's extra controller. Jeff mentioned that he has a way of updating/maintaining the laptop remotely using TeamViewer.

On-Line RC Auction - Jeff spoke of the Black Rock Galleries in Waltham. They do an online auction. See BlackRockGalleries.com – click on Auctions > Past Auctions (now). The owner of the RC collection is 93. Jeff knows him.

Training – Jerry spoke about Mark Knight who has done ½ dozen TO's and landings and making good progress. A tip of the hat to Tony for all the hard work. Mark did get RealFlight 9.5 going on his laptop.

3 FROM THE HANGAR



3.1 ...

Jerry saying hello to Charlton Heston's dog... just kidding.

This guy came by the field today and was showing off his chariot. He has hip issues where they no longer hold him up.

So, he's been outfitted with this rig that he seems to agree with although he did get stuck once with the pole to Jerry's right.

Neat to see that kind of help for poor dogs and thus get a 2nd go at life.

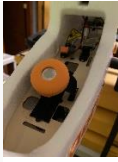


3.2 YOUR PLANE'S PICTURE HERE →

...

Guys/gals, send me pictures of your flying vehicles to share with the club.

4 TIPS



(Readers, please think of sharing things that you've learned as you get deeper into this hobby. Thanks!)

4.1 AIRTAG LOCATION TRACKER — BY MARK KNIGHT

I recently bought an Apple AirTag despite not being able to think of a useful application for it at the time. My purchase was driven more by a desire to play with a gadget than anything else. I will probably jinx myself now, but I don't misplace things that would be good to use an AirTag to find, so finding a good application was a real challenge. It is nice to want new technology to play with and justify buying it by tying it to an often dubious but plausible use case.

Failing to find one for the AirTag, I went and bought one anyway. And then came MCRCF. 😊 I have ordered an AirTag holder designed for a dog collar that I plan to attach to the Velcro battery strap, but until then, there is a temporary patch to stick it to the underside of the canopy. The AirTag weighs 0.39 oz.



My original plausible use was to put it in my checked luggage, so I could know when it is coming onto the luggage retrieval system or which airport it is at, or where to find it in lost luggage in the event we get separated, as has happened before. But I haven't traveled for my job in over 18 months.

My interest was finally pushed over the edge by reading an article by somebody in the Netherlands who bought an AirTag and then mailed it to himself. Yep, that's right. Now, the AirTags only work if you have an iPhone but if you do, they offer some incredible detail into location of the AirTag which the article illustrated really well. The person who wrote the article was able to track the AirTag location from the mailbox where they dropped it, over a round journey of 120 miles as it traveled to a local post office, to a regional center, and then back to the post office and finally out for delivery.

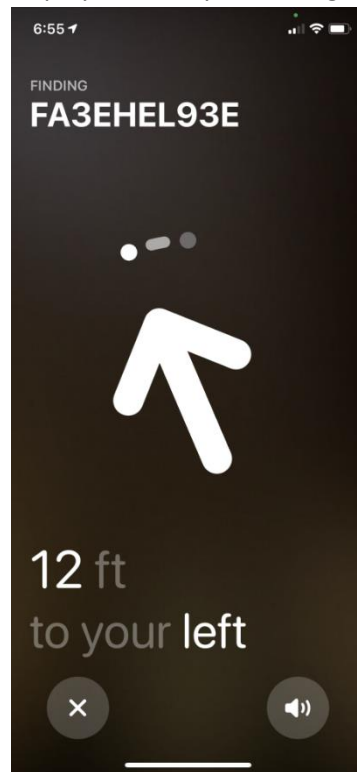
This remarkable ability to track location is the result of the way that AirTags work and how it is different to other gadgets like Tile. Note that I also have my FAA registration as my AirTag name

AirTags use ultra-wideband technology and take advantage of Apple's existing network of devices, which work as crowdsourced beacons to ping each other in order to determine your missing item's location. AirTags do not include a GPS chip like your iPhone. Instead, Apple has used its proprietary U1 chip with ultra-wideband technology to create a peer-to-peer network that taps into the 1.65 billion Apple devices out in the wild to nail down the location of an AirTag.

Now, you can also search for AirTags directly from your phone if they're close enough. The figure here shows where my Aero Scout is.

<https://www.thetileapp.com/en-us/store/tiles/sticker>

If you can't locate the tracker, there is an option in the “Find My” app on the iPhone to place the AirTag in Lost Mode and create a custom message to be displayed when your AirTag is found by another user. When they hold the AirTag



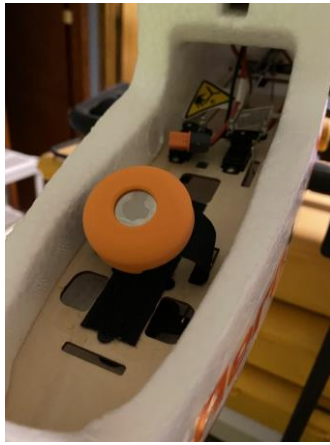
near their phone, your message—like contact details—will appear on their device, and the Good Samaritan will hopefully get in touch. This will work on any device that has NFC enabled, meaning Android owners can help return lost AirTags, too but they cannot use them for tracking which exposes a more nefarious use for AirTags.

As soon as the YouTuber dropped the package in the mailbox, he put the AirTag into the ‘Lost’ mode. What this basically did was to invoke AirTag to send a notification (with its location) every time it encountered an Apple device. Moreover, he ran a custom script on his Mac’s Automator to check the AirTag’s location and take a screenshot every 2 minutes — to trace its journey. You can watch the 4-minute video here <https://youtu.be/8zpK-GB0z9A>

This ability to find its location, if it comes into nearby proximity to any Apple device, makes it a potentially good way to find fly-aways while the local communication can give you the chance to find a plane that is nearby but in brush or long grass. It should work great but I hope I never find out.

Check out <https://www.apple.com/AirTag/> for details.

[Additional notes from Mark] I also now have a silicon AirTag holder for a dog collar that perfectly slides over the battery [with] Velcro. Nice, nice installation and movable between planes :)



4.2 THE TILE STICKER — BY MICAH HAWTHORNE

Micah: These updated 2022 stickers have a farther range than the 2021 version they just retired. Range improvement went from 150 to 250 feet.

Mel: Thanks Micah. 😊 have you used them?

Micah: Yes, I have some that I use when I'm flying in areas with a lot of trees.

It doesn't have to be you that walks by and locates it. If you can't find it and somebody walks by later with the app on their phone. Tile will ping you with the updated location.

Was considering updating to the 250ft Tiles for when I fly in Merrimack or Burlington. Where MCRF has a pond, they have trees.

This from the company:

<https://www.thetileapp.com/en-us/store/tiles/sticker>

Sticker has a bigger range, louder ring, and longer lasting battery to go with a new shine. Stick Sticker to remotes and other electronic devices, and use our free app to find them. Keep track of more for less with our multi-packs or give them to your friends and family as a gift.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 250 ft / 76 m range• Up to 3-year non-replaceable battery• Water-resistant• Adhesive back• Works with Android™ and Apple® devices.• Voice-assisted finding with Alexa, Google and Siri• Attach and go
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5 EDITOR ON THE LOOSE! — BY MEL SUAREZ

5.1 DRONE TESTING

Bumped into the guys from Triton doing drone testing. They had set up a ladder in the drone/heli area and as an “obstacle” and were checking out collision avoidance. Reminds me of my aerospace days decades ago. There are now about 3 members in the club from Triton.

5.2 WRITERS BLOCK?

Where did my writing energy disappear to? In any event, as you faithful readers may have noticed, there has been a dearth of newsletters published since the last one in August – 2021-08. Writing took a summer vacation, I guess.

I will be striving to put one newsletter out every quarter. So, this is the “Fall” edition.



5.3 AN ACQUAINTANCE IS CTO AT GOOGLE!

Google Wing has developed a system of package delivery that is now in operation several cities in Virginia, Helsinki, and Australia. It’s always amazing to see someone you know on “TV” as was the case watching and extensive interview on YouTube with Adam Woodworth.

Adam used to design, build and test flight vehicles for Aurora Flight Sciences (now part of Boeing), in Cambridge, and also flew for work and fun at the Burlington RC flying field. I met him through a mutual friend, Dr. Jim Paduano.

Here is an that impressive video showing, not just some of the operation, but also, what went into a robust, scalable design. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdzU4Bws_4k

“Wing has been trialling its drone delivery service since 2019 in the town of Christiansburg, Va., where demand increased during the early days of the pandemic, as well as in locations in Helsinki and two Australian cities.” According to Forbes.



Apparently, there have been complaints about the noise and Wing is looking into noise abatement.


6 AMA EVENTS – THINGS ARE QUIET IN OUR AREA

From the Event Finder at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/> for **District 1, 12/1/2021 – 3/31/2022**

This is how you would typically do a search for stuff around here. However, not much going on in Districts 1 (our district) and 2. Note in tiny letters where it says: **There were no Events that matched your criteria.**

If you leave out District, there are indeed things going on in warmer climes around the country (not shown here).

FLIGHT SCHOOL | AMA FOUNDATION | AMA SAFETY INFO | 1-800-IFLYAMA | JOIN/RENEW | Shop | Donate | Logi

 Home About AMA Membership Programs Media & Resources Events Mus


AMA Event Calendar


Type of Event: | v

State: | v

District 1 | v

Category: | v

12/01/2021 | 

03/31/2022 | 

SUBMIT

RESET

There were no Events that matched your criteria.

7 RANDOM STUFF



(TBD)

7.1 WHATSAPP??? -- A CHANCE TO TRASH TALK WITH FELLOW MEMBERS



How to get onto WhatsApp?

- Install WhatsApp on your phone
- Send your phone number to someone you know is on the MCRCF WhatsApp group (almost everyone is an admin) – e.g. any officer
- That admin adds your name/phone to their contacts on their phone
- Via WhatsApp, that admin sends you a link to the MCRCF WhatsApp group
- You click on the link and you will be in. You won't see old threads, just new ones after joining.
- Be sure to introduce yourself when you join.

Alfredo, Bob, Carl, Dan, Dan de, Dany, Don, Gerald, James, Jeff, John, Long, Mack, Neil, Paul, Randy, Ray, Rohan, Saket, Sharad, Stephen, Tony, Yaz, +1 (413) 687-8619, +1 (617) 828-3967, +1 (617) 877-7683, +91 98192 01230, You

7.2 LOANER REALFLIGHT SIMULATOR & LAPTOP AVAILABLE

If you're a new pilot or an instructor and would like to take advantage of our loaner laptop/simulator, contact Jeff Ward (see Page 1). Picture below.



It now runs RealFlight 9.5.

7.3 RC INSTRUCTORS

List of available instructors. Please note: this list is a work in progress. Some instructors may be listed below, however their schedules may preclude instruction at a given time. Contact Info will be added in the future but can be found in the Current Membership List.

Instructor	Contact Info
Ray Capobianco	617.697.4514
Jerry Crowley	978.857.1408
Tony DiPersio	978.430.2800
Jeff Ward	978.987.1142
John (Yaz) Yassemedis	603.321.8442
Stephen Faust – incl helis & FPV drones	978.925.9810
Neil Cumbie – 3D and XA (new)	678.358.7006
Jose Mendes - drones	978.227.7124
Jim Orsborn (Horizon Hobby Coach)	https://www.horizonhobby.com/flight-school-find-a-coach.html

7.4 MCRCF.ORG MEMBERS ONLY PAGE

Contains our Membership List, RealFlight files that mimic our field, and other info. Go to mcrf.org and click on the "Members Only" link. You will need ID & password from a club member to get in.



Members Only

[Annual Financial Summary Reports](#) in Acrobat PDF format

[Current Membership List and contact information](#) in Acrobat PDF format

[MCRCF RealFlight Files](#) for download and use with RealFlight simulator.

[MCRCF YouTube Channel info and login](#) in Acrobat PDF format

7.5 NEWSLETTER GLOBAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

You want to buy a charger, say. And you know there was an amazing piece on it in one of the newsletters. But you which one??? We have a global table of contents listing some of the major articles. (Work in progress)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZAbMnamPiclwd50E3XxQ2JhXYEQAZfkB3R0qvxZOiuo/edit?usp=sharing>

7.6 LIST OF MANEUVERS

Tired of flying the same patterns all the time? Check out 100 maneuvers and some links on how to do (some of) them:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O0eF2NAFN7SgUS0sOMc5hXOCTJBdJeM0/view?usp=sharing>

7.7 SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY STORE & GET DISCOUNT

This is one great hobby store and the owner, Bill Horton, has agreed to provide our Club with a discount. Show a current MCRCF membership card and receive a 5% discount for any purchase over \$25.



<http://abcrchobbies.com/> 11 Rockingham Rd, Windham, NH 03087; (603) 458-6481

7.8 PLANE RETRIEVAL

Call Paul Sullivan – his friend, Mike, charges ~\$50 to retrieve a plane...depending on the complexity of the rescue!

Also, several members have camera drones and can help with a search & rescue efforts. Carl ("Mack") McKenzie is one - 978 208-7969

7.9 CLUB SAFE LOANER TRAINER IS AVAILABLE

The AeroScout is ready for use in exposing people to flight. Contact Jeff Ward to reserve it. It comes with 1 22mah battery and transmitter.



The aircraft is kept in Jeff's workshop with a combo key enclosure. (photo courtesy of Jeff Ward)

7.10 TRAINING REPORT

Member	Training/Checkout Status	Type
Steve Marone	Checked out for drones. Needs fixed wing training	Jerry
Eli Wiel	Checked out for drones. Needs fixed wing training	Jerry
George Butch Balduf	Training In progress	Tony
Gerald Sunderman	Training In progress. Waiting for Covid relief.	Jerry
Hugh McNeil	In Training.	Jerry
William Lunt	Need to refresh need for training	Jerry
Charlie Petricone	In training.	Nitro & Electric
Taylor Alexandra	In training for drones/plans fixed wing training in future	Jerry
Bob Forgione	Refresh training for fixed wing	Jerry
Eamonn Quinn	In training	Jeff
Elizabeth Jean	In training	Tony
Abigail McAdams	Needs checkout for drones(?) - Triton Systems	
Raheel Retiwalla	In training	Tony/Ray
Moaiz Retiwalla	In training	Tony/Ray
Tariq Retiwalla	In training	Tony/Ray

SOLOED RECENTLY

Muhammad Sami	Soloed on 7/1/2021	Ray/Tony
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