



Middlesex County R-C Fliers Club Newsletter – January 2019

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2 FROM THE EDITOR

This newsletter is my first entry as editor for the Club, so feedback is appreciated. What would you like to see (or not see) in the newsletter? Send comments to MelSuarez at Verizon.Net. Jim Orsborn was looking for a reprieve from this job...so here it goes.

My hope is to shoot to get one of these out a month at best -- and once a quarter at worst.

I want to thank all who contributed, especially Neil Cumbie, Jeff Ward, and Stephen Faust and whoever else I borrowed stuff from.

3 DECEMBER MEETING NOTES

The meeting was held on Wednesday, 1/2/2019. New officers were elected through both mailed-in and handed-out ballots during the meeting. Three mailed-in ballots without return addresses were not counted. Results are below (*=newly elected):

- President Neil Cumbie*
- Vice President Paul Sullivan
- Sec./Registrar Saket Sankhla*
- Treasurer Jeffrey Ward
- Director Randy Grossman*
- Director Dan Costa
- Director Dan Micalizzi

Many and heartfelt thanks to Jerry Crowley for his years as president, to Ray Capobianco as Secretary/Registrar and to Adam Harte as Director. Good job, Guys!

4 WhatsApp?!? Doc!

“Who’s flying today?” “Did you guys see this?” Many members are leveraging the WhatsApp app to stay in touch. It allows for messaging, photos, videos via WIFI (read: no cost!). A lot has to do with “Who’s flying today?” led by John Parisi for sure and Saket a close second. But there are discussions about new airplanes, batteries, you name it, as well as some fun bantering. Flyers also post about trips to other flying fields.

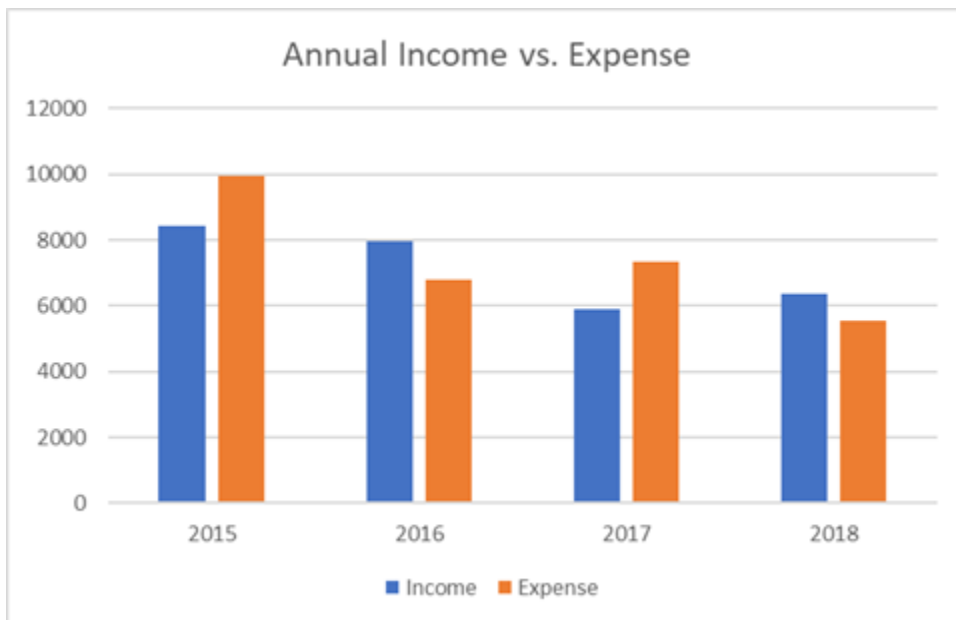
To get on it, download WhatsApp to your smart phone. Then request entry to the admins of the WhatsApp MCRCF group.

5 TREASURER'S REPORT – BY JEFF WARD

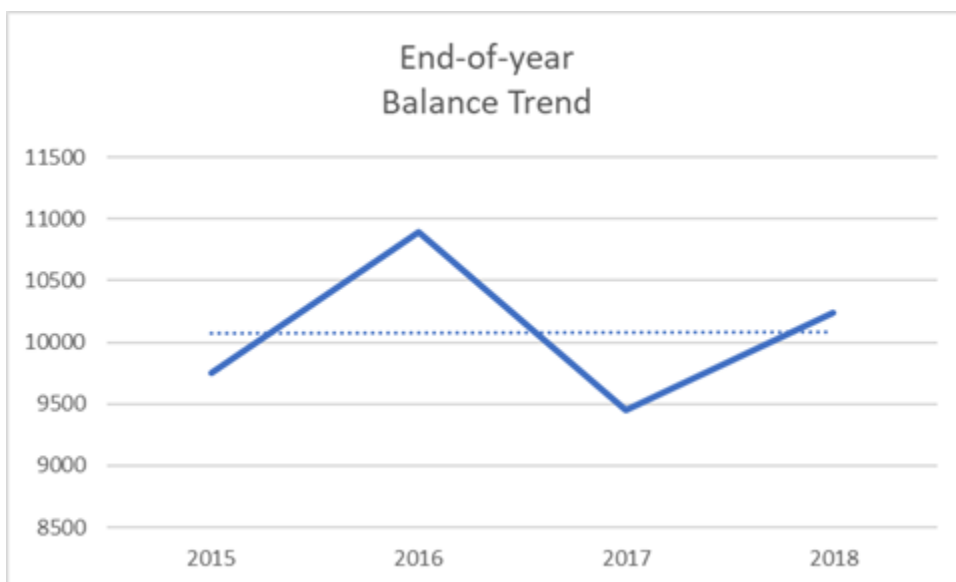
At January's annual meeting, I presented some information from the last few years, summarizing by major category where the club spends its money. Here's the summary for 2018. Keep in mind that while the annual summaries are based on the calendar year, some expenses for a particular event (the auction for example) would have been incurred and paid for in the previous year.

Reporting Period	1/1/2018 - 12/31/18	
Starting Balance		9447.73
Income		
	auction	2984.00
	raffles	280.00
	donations and misc	135.00
	events	0.00
	clothing	40.00
	dues	2915.00
	Sub-total	6354.00
Expenses		
	auction	1737.80
	food	398.58
	event (non-food)	
	raffles	150.00
	training	0.00
	field (misc.)	157.21
	field (grass cuts)	2000.00
	donations, gifts & memorials	0.00
	office, postage, & web	439.46
	holiday party	558.22
	corporate & AMA	120.00
	misc supplies & property	0.00
	Sub-total	(5561.27)
Ending Balance		10240.46

At a very high level, one can see a comparison of income versus expenses over the last four years. While income has been going down (mostly due to reduced membership and the corresponding dues income) expenses have also been reduced.



And if we look at the end-of-year balance for that same period, the trend is relatively stable.



If we can stabilize or increase membership while we continue to exercise good judgement in our spending, we should be in pretty good shape, maintaining our modest financial cushion.

6 HobbyFever is Back!

You may not know that HobbyFever closed and then quickly reopened under a new owner - Felix Leichter. He has filled the shop with RC cars and trucks – hardly any plane/drone stock, unfortunately. He's willing to share information about our club. Jeff Ward has promised to drop off some business cards for the case where people come in to ask for help with planes/drones/helis. "We're here to help." Felix said. Phone: 978-667-1600. Stop in and say hello. Web site is: hobbyfever.com

7 Stephen Faust Goes Nuts on FPV Drone

I, Mel Suarez, have crawled my way slowly into flying FPV racing drones, carefully starting with larger, cheaper Amazon specials at \$75 a pop and cheapo FatShark goggles and camera at \$100, OK? Slapped the camera system on the belly of the drone and off I went, crashing and getting used to the not-so-virtual-reality of flying by using goggles and seeing what I would see if I were a passenger on the drone.

Stephen, an expert RC heli and airplane pilot picks up a 250 Vortex racing drone, slaps a big battery on it, does a bunch of simulation work with a downloadable application.

I meet him at the field and put on his goggles while he flies. He's whipping this poor little drone into submission. However, at one point he says "Mel, I've lost orientation. What do you see in the goggles?" I tell him I see the field...so he proceeds towards us w/o incident.

He lands, I hand him the goggles. I encourage him by saying "You'll be fine. Just punch it to get it in the air clear of everything." Doesn't he go absolutely, freakin' nuts on the thing – loops, rolls, highspeed low passes, dramatic climbs, descents. Dang!

It really was a pleasure to see him having SO much fun with this new aspect of the hobby.

From Stephen: Not much to say other than Liftoff is the most popular one, and it's a download from Steam for about \$15. The Golf Course is a good starting level because it has open space, paths to follow, and buildings that you can try to go through, and it's pretty responsive even on older machines.

In the link below, some of the levels, where everything is blue, uses very little resources and is pretty responsive with plenty of obstacles to get used to flying around. They are available to download through the app. I'll try to get the names of some of them in the video so you can download them.

<https://youtu.be/GVddO7kwTuk>

For more info, search for Liftoff in YouTube for instructional videos, reviews, etc.

From Stephen Faust himself:

Vortex Mojo maidenized just a while ago in the yard. 2 packs burned. Tons of power on the 3S packs, can't wait to try the 4S packs, should be insane. Simulator paid off as basic 3D stuff was uneventful (power loops, flips, dives, etc.). Charging up packs then going to head to MCRCF to burn a few more packs. Very different challenge, looking forward to it.

Stephen Faust: Mel, this is the simulator I was talking about yesterday. Shows various landscapes (although I use the blue one a lot since I have an old spec Windows machine), and some of my practice sessions. You can judge how useful it could be for practice, etc. The graphics are low res, again due to my older computer. Flies on my MacBook though!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVddO7kwTuk>

Stephen Faust: There is another one, Velicodrone. May be better, not sure. I'm going to try that one too.

Stephen Faust: Oh, and there are race tracks too. I've been focusing on the freestyle, but I'll record some race sessions for you too.

It really does, especially when doing freestyle acrobatics. Just flying FPV straight and level is kind of fun, but freestyle make for a very immersive experience. I'll never get this good, but if I get 1/4 of the way there it would

be awesome. And finding locations like these would be key. Just not the same at a wide- open field, but the local soccer/baseball fields work for the time being.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4oQx6FAxjg>

I'm a big believer in Sims. Taught myself to fly helis on a sim and my first one was a 600-size nitro, forward flight in 7 flights, but only after an entire winter on the sim. They really work well for me.

8 WHERE IS THE HOBBY GOING? NITRO, ELECTRIC, OR GAS?

Interesting to see the evolution of the RC hobby. It certainly appears that nitro-powered planes are becoming a thing of the past, kinda like what happened to the old 72 MHZ radios. There's no question that electric motors with their batteries are more dependable, cleaner, and quieter.

Still there are people that prefer the sound of a good, well-tuned nitro engine – and maybe even the smell. Saket is messing around quite a bit with a pattern airplane he picked up from Jim Orsborn. "I'm happy with what he's done with it." Jim exclaimed the other day.

John Parisi flies his gas-powered planes.

Oh yeah, and there's the turbine-powered planes as flown by Stephen Faust.

9 Neil & the Edge 540 3D from Extreme Flight

I was at the field one day when Neil Cumbie was flying a really sweet plane. He likes it because "it's quite rugged and really holds the line". He was literally painting the sky with it – rolling circles, etc. See link below for more details. Photo courtesy of Neil.

https://extremeflightrc.com/75-Edge-540-RedWhiteBlue_p_5215.html

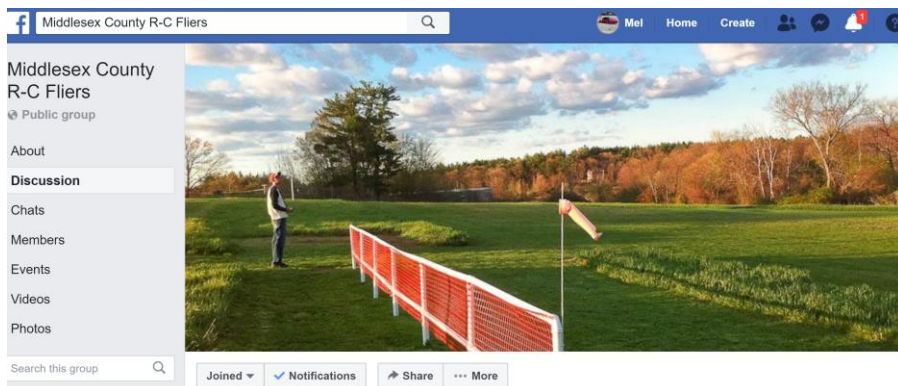


10 DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE?

Yes, we exist on Facebook...who doesn't. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MCRCF/>

It's a handy place to post content, check for our events, and get the beat of what's going on.

Here is what the page looks like:



If you're on FB, don't forget to "like" the page and, of course, post to it. The more you post or like, the more traffic we'll get which may help other flyers and our membership. Other Facebook pages include the Boston Warehouse FPV Racing Series.

11 EVENTS IN THE AREA FROM THE AMA

Below are the results for a search on the Event Finder at <https://www.modelaircraft.org/>

To get the list click on Events and enter your criteria. I only entered two, District and Dates...

Event Results for: District 1, 2/1/19 - 5/1/19

FEBRUARY24

10TH R/C FLYERS AUCTION

CLASS E - NON-FLYING

Contact: THOMAS DENTREMONT

Location: 162 Winn ST Burlington MA 01803-3116

FEBRUARY24

FEBRUARY INDOOR CONTEST

CLASS AA

Contact: RICHARD ZAPF

Location: 68 Elm Street Georgetown MA 01833

[Visit Website](#)

MARCH24

MARCH INDOOR CONTEST

CLASS AA

Contact: RICHARD ZAPF

Location: 68 Elm Street Georgetown MA 01833

[Visit Website](#)

MARCH31

5TH ANNUAL R/C SWAP MEET

CLASS E - NON-FLYING

Contact: DENNIS KEEGAN

Location: 1074 S Colony RD Wallingford CT 06492-5261

[Visit Website](#)

APRIL28

APRIL INDOOR CONTEST

CLASS AA

Contact: RICHARD ZAPF

Location: 68 Elm Street Georgetown MA 01833

[Visit Website](#)

12 CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY PARTYING

The Holiday/Christmas Party went off well on Saturday, January 12, at the Great Wall Restaurant in Bedford. There were 27 attendees. Many thanks to the organizers and especially to Lauren Cumbie who was the master of ceremonies at the event. Below are photos of the ladies and gents:





Raffle Winners were Jerry Crowley, Roy Kring, Mrs. Kring, Theresa Micolloni, Bill, Cindy Sullivan, Mel Suarez, and Dan Costa each receiving \$25. (I lost my ticket in my wallet then found it...a miracle)

13 FROZEN FINGERS FUN FLY A SUCCESS

Nice time at the SNH Flying eagles fun fly. Plenty of planes as seen in the photo below, events, food, and fire barrels for heat. Wish I could have stayed longer but had wife waiting in the car. There were at least 5 of us there from MCRCF - Paul, Neil, Danny P, Mel, and Randy. I invited my friend Mike Carroll who flew in the competition and came with his wife Angela who also flies.

The photo below is of an amazing new plane by Cody Wojcik who put on an amazing demo flight. I was impressed with the runway and can see now why folks have mentioned it. The events looked like fun.



Southern New Hampshire Flying Eagles R/C Club

Annual Frozen Fingers FUN Fly
January 27, 2019 Starting at 9am



- Registration starts at 8:00am
- Competition for all levels
- Lots of open fun flying time
- Landing fee is \$10, includes a raffle ticket
- All pilots with AMA membership are welcome
- Burgers, dogs, drinks will be available for purchase
- Demonstrations: Top local pilots fly R/C airplanes and helicopters
- Sponsored by ABC RC & Hobbies
- CD John Yassemedis- YAZ - (cell 603-321-8442)

Raffle Prize: New Top of the Line Spektrum iX12



- Spektrum iX12
- 12 Channels
- Black (Transmitter Only)
- Touch Screen
- Tickets Cost
 - One for \$5.00
 - Five for \$20.00
- Tickets available:
 - Club Officers
 - At the event



Drobysch-Patterson Airfield, Merrimack, NH

Directions at <http://www.snhflyingeagles.org> -> Our Field
Email Questions to John Yassemedis Email: jyassemedis@comcast.net

ABC RC & HOBBIES



14 THUMB SCREWS BEATS ELASTICS

John has purchased a trainer - an LT40. I believe his plan is to use it to help train MCRCF members. Here's a slight modification regarding wing attachment for those who have are not just starting out with trainers (as rubber bands can be a life saver):

From John Parisi: "So, 1st modification is with the wing attachment, good bye elastics, hello thumb screws!"



15 IN MEMORY OF RICH WILLIAMS - BY NEIL CUMBIE

We lost a member and friend this month. Rich Williams passed after a battle against cancer. He was an enthusiastic member of the club with a long history in both model airplanes and full-scale flight. I still remember the meeting where he talked extensively about his time in the Air Force in the 1970's flying the F-4 Phantom II. Many weekends, Rich invited members to come fly with him in a Cessna 172 and gave flying lessons. Even when he knew he had very little time left, I was awe struck by his positivity considering the circumstances. He refused to waste time dwelling on his situation and was constantly talking about model airplanes, our club, his friends and family. The club has donated \$100 to Patient Airlift Services, a non-profit that flies patients to hospitals and doctor appointments for no charge that Rich has flown for. Dr Kring and his wife won \$50 of the raffle prizes at our Holiday party but requested we donate it to charity, so that has been donated to PALS as well.

Please take the time to read Rich's inspiring obituary linked below.

<https://burnsfuneralhomes.com/tribute/details/1007/Richard-Williams/obituary.html>



16 FROM THE ARCHIVES – MCRCF FUN FLYS - 1994

Check it out on YouTube! MCRCF Classic Fun Flys - spring and fall of 1994 – Thanks to Yaz.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lq5ln4uvj8k&feature=youtu.be>

