

July  
2020

# NCRCC Flyer

[WWW.NCRCC.ORG](http://WWW.NCRCC.ORG)

## NEXT (July)

### MEETING:

Is by Live-in-Person  
at the Field 6:30 pm

- Continued Safety
- Use good judgment
- **Bring a chair.**
- Bring your own food if desired
- Pilot Projects
- Good Times

### Individual Highlights:

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## Prez Sez

I can't believe it's July which also means it's been over 4 months since I have been working from home.

It is certainly a bizarre time, I've asked my mother if she could remember the Spanish Flu, but she was only six when this happened. I "Googled" around a bit and was able to discern a couple of things.

Both of these viruses (or virii if you are a purist) are deadly. The main difference



**Bob Laflamme**  
NCRCC President

**July 9, 2020 NCRCC  
Monthly Meeting  
Is at the field ! 6:30PM  
Please bring a chair.  
(And your own food if desired)**

is in travel technology. During the 20's and 30's, travel was more difficult. The highway system did not exist and air travel was a futuristic thing, not for the masses. This considerably slowed the progress of the disease back then. Today, we can fly around the globe in less than a day.

It's been tough on all of us, I personally know three people who were infected, all were quite sick and one died. It's real folks.

The executive committee is trying to strike the best balance between keeping people safe while restricting as little as practical. More than half of our members fall into the high risk category (myself included).

Len speaks of some of the things we've done to make the field a little safer. However, it's still up to us.

We need to be careful, wash our hands, wear masks and keep away from other people. Cancelling the events back in March was the right thing to do.

States have been 'opening up' by various degrees with widely varying success. New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut have been holding steady and even declining, while others like Florida, Texas, Arizona and California have been closing back down due to the explosion of new cases. Maine now



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## Prez Sez . . . continued

requires proof of a negative COVID test in order to enter the state. New England states are introducing mandatory quarantines for visitors.

It's nowhere near over and there is no end in sight.

All the doom and gloom

over with, I am looking forward to our next meeting and at the field on July 9th.

This will be different, everyone needs to bring their own chair, the picnic tables will only accommodate four people each when adhering to social distancing rules (yes we all still need to do that). Also, we

will not be serving food as it's too risky at this point.

I look forward to seeing you on the 9th.

Meanwhile, stay safe. Wash your hands, and if you have to ask, wear a mask.

bob

## NCRCC General Membership Meeting Minutes – 6/11/2020



**Stan Kulesa**  
NCRCC Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:27 PM by President Bob LaFlamme. The meeting was held via Zoom technology (due to social distancing/gathering restrictions imposed by COVID-19) and attended by 22 members and 1 guest.

Former member Rudy R- joined the meeting as a guest to say hello and to offer his thanks for his continued receipt of the NCRCC newsletter.

### President's Report:

Bob LaFlamme welcomed the

meeting attendees and commented that he was glad to have this turnout for our first Zoom meeting. He thanked Jess H- for setting up and hosting the Zoom meeting.

Bob lamented the many cancellations due to COVID-19. He noted, however, that club business has continued to be administered through Executive Committee meetings that have been held since the general membership meetings were cancelled. Bob noted that over time the government is expected to continue to relax requirements on the number of people that can gather for outdoor events. The Executive Committee will continue to monitor this development as a major driver will be keeping members and guests safe.

### Vice President's Report:

Mike Maznicki started by welcoming Rudy R- and stating that he was glad that we all are healthy. He pointed to the preventative steps the club proactively took as main contributors to this outcome. Mike noted that he is glad to be in a hobby which, despite COVID-19,

has stayed "open" and has given the members someplace to go outside their homes.

Mike said it's upsetting to hear that other area clubs are closing but appreciated that NCRCC was able to accommodate 29 new members from those ordeals.

### Secretary's Report:

Stan Kulesa reported that NCRCC currently has 189 members. Recent new members include Rick Bell, Grant Lewis, Corky Laduke, John Bona, Jason Small, Connor Small, and Mason Small.

Stan provided an update on the new club website. He reminded the attendees that this project has several goals:

- Increase the membership's use of the website
- Emphasize the safety and security aspects of the hobby
- Enhance the public's perception of our club and our hobby

## More Membership Meeting Minutes – 6/11/2020

- Increase our membership

The Web Team working on the new website is composed of Leo N-, Ola N-, and Stan. The team is making very good progress and is working through a relatively small but complex group of remaining issues. The Web Team will be providing the Executive Committee with a tour of the new website during a special meeting on 6/25/20 and, if all goes well, will be releasing the new website soon thereafter. Stan thanked the Web Team for its awesome work in building a best-in-class website and satisfying the project's goals.

Stan informed the membership that the Binghamton, NY Aeros R/C Club has cancelled their Warbirds event that had been scheduled for 6/26/20 – 6/28/20. We had previously shared the event announcement with the NCRCC membership via our newsletter and website but want to give our members the update of the event cancellation.

### Treasurer's Report:

Len Marchese told the attendees that Art Usher would not be able to attend tonight's meeting but that he would deliver Art's report on his behalf.

Len provided the attendees with a financial report delineating activity over the past three month period ending through May. He noted that expenses have been relatively normal although some purchases were needed to repair vandalism. Income has been impacted by event cancellations but partially offset by new membership fees.

Len told the attendees about the upgrade to maintaining the portable toilet. Specifically, in addition to the weekly maintenance done each Wednesday, the club has made additional arrangements to have sanitizing service done each Monday

and Friday. In the absence of having this added sanitizing service, the club was at risk of needing to remove the portable toilet in order to comply with governmental COVID-19 regulations. A question was posed about the need for a new lock on the toilet door. Len has been following up with the vendor on this topic. Finally, another question was raised regarding the pump canister with sanitizing fluid inside the toilet. (It's constantly empty.) Len is working with the vendor on this topic, as well. All members were reminded to follow posted COVID-19 club rules.

Len told the attendees of a plan that has been approved by the Executive Committee to build a 12' X 12' concrete platform next to the containers to enable maintenance work to be done on the tractor and other equipment.

Len described a delay in distributing the 2020 membership badges (partially attributable to a broken printer). He reported that he looked into options for badge production and compared them accordingly and found that the most practical long-term option was for the club to purchase a printer and the accompanying equipment/supplies. Ray P- talked about various techniques he's used in the past at Wintonbury Flying Club. Len asked for a volunteer from club membership to take on the task of preparing and distributing membership badges. Later in the meeting, Warren C- said he may be interested in volunteering!

### Liaison Officer Report:

Mark Paradise reported that since the last in-person general membership meeting, he has continued to hold several raffle prizes (because he didn't have enough ticket sales to cover its cost so couldn't complete that raffle drawing). Along with the jet kit, he has an aviation-themed book, and a MonoKote covering techniques video.

Mark announced that he is preparing to take orders for polo shirts embroidered with the NCRCC logo. He reviewed the associated costs based on sizes and whether or not the member's name is also to be embroidered on the shirt. Mark noted that additional information on this topic will be included on the new website. In addition to the polo shirts, he reminded all that there are three colors of hats embroidered with the NCRCC logo. There was some discussion around the possibility of having club tee-shirts offered for sale in addition to the polo shirts. Mark is willing to investigate this. Len M- said that we would need to get orders up front if interested members want tee-shirts. Event-related tee-shirts would continue to be offered and purchase arrangements for them would be up to the designated Contest Director.

### Activities Director Report:

Irv Thurrott reported that there have not been activities this flying season due to COVID-19 restrictions. For the benefit of the members new to NCRCC, Irv reviewed the list of events that the club would typically sponsor throughout the flying

## Even More Membership Meeting Minutes – 6/11/2020

season had they not been cancelled.

Irv complimented the membership for doing a good job of maintaining social distancing at the flying field. He noted that doing a good job with maintaining the portable toilet is also up to the members and guests. Irv asked all to continue to pay attention to COVID-19 rules detailed on the website and at the flying field.

After 48 years of dedicated service to NCRCC, Irv announced that he will be stepping down from his role as Activities Director next year and solicited a replacement. Anyone interested should speak with Irv or any other member of the Executive Committee.

As for the club's flight instructor program, Irv invited those willing to serve as instructors to contact him. He noted that the demand for instructors has not been high.

Irv sought input around the possibility of having some limited events. He noted that the AMA will be hosting outdoor Nats events. Irv indicated that although we are not ready for public events (with spectators and the range of accompanying services) he probed the viability of having certain very limited private events (for NCRCC members only). One concern, for example, would be addressing the need to sanitize the portable toilet each hour if we were to have such an event. If approved, these activities would probably be held at the end of the season. Consensus among the attendees was favorable to the idea. More to come on this topic.

Although no such events are planned for the 2020 flying season, there was some discussion around how to designate Dave A's float fly events as

covered as an extension of the Ellington flying field in accordance with the new FAA regulations. No decision was finalized.

### Field Marshall/Safety Officer Report:

See the Treasurer's Report.

### Newsletter Editor Report:

Peter Tani thanked Joel L- for printing and mailing the paper newsletters to those without computers.

Peter noted that the AMA recently decided to host the outdoor Nats and more details would be forthcoming.

Finally, Peter thanked Buddy B- for providing a Great Planes Perfect Trainer 40 and engine to two new Junior members.

### New Business:

Bob L- kicked off a discussion around the possibility of having the July general membership meeting at the field if the government continues to relax the COVID-19 group size limitations (potentially to 50-100). Attendees were receptive to the idea. If the meeting is held, there would be no food, members would need to bring their own chairs (while maintaining social distancing requirements), and other stipulated preventative steps. While no decision has been finalized, this topic will be discussed at the Executive Committee special meeting on 6/25/20.

Mark N- noted that he has two trainer-style aircraft that he is willing to donate and asked for those interested to contact him. He said he would also be willing to donate

them to the club for storage in one of the containers and subsequent use as needed or they could be donated for a club raffle.

Buddy B- suggested that the club host a meet-and-greet for the new members as this would enable the membership to get acquainted with the new additions. Mike M- said that this topic was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and that, while no decision has been finalized, the club may consider this as part of the previously-held breakfast at the field.

Bob L- took an informal poll of the attendees regarding the effectiveness of tonight's Zoom meeting. There is support among the members to be able to have future Zoom meetings since, for example, it's possible that we may not have access to the library for our cold-weather general membership meetings. We are all trying to figure out how to deal with our new norm under COVID-19 restrictions. Jess H- suggested that in support of explaining Zoom meeting technology to the members that there might be some additional explanatory videos on how to use Zoom to help our members.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Stan Kulesa, Secretary.

### Activities Director's Report – July, 2020



**Irv Thurrott**  
**Activities Director**

We'll be doing our first outdoor meeting of 2020 on July 9th at the field.

It's understandable that we have many different viewpoints in regard to the Coronavirus epidemic, and the associated rules for congregation. But please, let's all do whatever we can to prevent infection of any of our club members while at the meeting. We don't know that we have the virus until

symptoms show up, but could still spread it before finding out we do. Bring your own chair, wear a face mask when you're not speaking, and stay at least 6' apart.

As usual, the mower team continues to keep the field well maintained – sincere thanks!

I happened to be there when Art, Len and his grandson, and the cement truck, showed up to pour the new "slab" (as a base for mower maintenance). They did a really nice job with the pour, and subsequent smoothing. To avoid physically working on this I took some pictures, which I'll bring to the meeting so all in attendance can see the effort.

Possibly re-instating some of the NCRCC Events will be discussed at the meeting. The AMA has stated that any submitted

Sanction Fees cannot be returned, but the events can be rescheduled later in the year without requiring another fee.

We'll have to consider all the safety precautions that would be appropriate. Hopefully some open-minded and thoughtful reasoning will be brought up by all the members involved in running, or helping with, an event.

Hope all of you are doing well and staying healthy!

Looking forward to seeing/hearing you during the meeting,

Activities Director, Irv

### July 2020 Field Supervisors Report:



**Art Usher**  
**NCRCC Field Supervisor**

Well as a longtime member of the Teamsters union I was asked to help in the relocation of Mr. James Hoffa Sr. I cannot divulge his previous location but I can tell you where I think his remains are now. Did I mention we have a new concrete pad to work on the tractor and the zero turn

mower. Our field looks fantastic, thanks to the efforts of our dedicated mowing crew. Also great job to all involved in the layout and construction of the new pad, it will come in handy for changing the blades on the equipment.

Come on out and fly.

Art



## July 2020 Field Supervisors Report . . . Continued:

Art continues:

Hey guys it has been brought to my attention that people are leaving trash, and water bottles at the field. By that I mean not in the proper receptacles of which we have many. Also if you use a chair when you are at the field PLEASE put it back under the pavilion even if you did not find it there. This helps out our VOLUNTEER mowing crew cut down on the amount of time it takes to mow our beautiful field. They are getting tired of picking up trash and chairs before they begin mowing. Guys these are VOLUNTEERS and one of them is thinking about quitting the team because he is tired of picking up after grown men. I don't think it is too much to ask that you do at the field what you do at home, pick up after yourself.

Thanks Art

### From the Treasurer:



**Len Marchese**

**NCRCC Treasurer**

As I write my article for the upcoming newsletter, it just hit me that within the next few days it will be July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There is not much of a July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration in Connecticut or this great country of ours, however, this too shall pass.

A reminder there will be a club meeting at the flying field Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. This is the first meeting since March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please remember to bring a chair as attendees will be seated in the pit area. This

will allow for social distancing. Also, this is a reminder to bring and wear a face mask to conform with social distancing.

I have been at the field many times during the month of June, both on weekdays and weekends. There are many flyers at the field at any given time of the day. It has been a long time that everyday someone is flying. I was delighted to see that everyone was keeping their social distance along with a few members wearing face masks.

As for the financial piece of my report, the club is currently on budget for 2020. The largest expense for the season will be the property taxes to the Town of Ellington, which will be paid within the next few weeks. Also, we upgraded our service to properly maintain and sanitize the single porta-potty. Along with the weekly cleaning, we opted to have the unit sanitized on Mondays and Fridays. The additional service conforms with CORVID19, along with an increase of the monthly service fee.

We had two projects completed during the month of June. First of all, we

ordered and received a badge printer along with accessories for the upcoming 2021 renewal season. This purchase will allow the club to generate new yearly member badges, along with new incoming NCRCC badges. Finally, Art and crew built a well-deserved work platform just to the left of the two storage trailers. This concrete pad will make maintenance on all field equipment much easier and much more comfortable than the cold damp ground.

Thank you, Art and everyone that lent a helping hand during the formation digging and eventually the pouring of concrete. Again thank you Art and ground crew, for your dedication to NCRCC and maintaining a first-class field.

Looking forward to the July outdoor meeting and welcoming current and new NCRCC members.

See you at the field!

Stay Safe and Healthy,

**Len Marchese, NCRCC Treasurer**

### Public Liaison Officers Report July 2020



**Mark Paradise**

**NCRCC Public Liaison Officer**

Hello to all NCRCC members.

I want to let everyone know that I cannot attend our upcoming meeting at our field.

Had a bout with flu in January and

then some ensuing asthma symptoms with some short-term and mild shortness of breath and for the first time in 25 years.

Most recently had rotator cuff surgery and just last week. I am currently safe and just not looking to take any additional chances during these uncertain times.

Thankfully my surgery recovery is coming along well, but with it I have decided to self-quarantine, because I can. Also writing with one finger is no fun.

I will see all of you very soon.

Orders for shirts are temporarily on hold. Len is

heading up efforts for our new bumper stickers, which will be sold as I come up to speed.

We will hold off on the raffle until at least our next meeting after I have had more time to recover. The sale of hats and shirts will be postponed as well.

I am still in receipt of our March "jet" and other items for the raffle along with the sold tickets. Hopefully, I will be back on track for our next club meeting at the field. Please Peter convey my apologies to our remaining NCRCC group.

Sincerely,

Mark Paradise

Liaison Officer NCRCC



On Sun, Jun 28, 2020 at 10:20 AM, <Mark Paradise> wrote:

Hello All,

Great job! It's amazing the talent & skills that the members of this club are gifted with! This is just one more example of the 'can do' attitude we collectively have that will benefit the future generations of NCRCC for years to come! Kudos to all!

Mark

**NCRCC NEWS**

This Newsletter was edited by  
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Lt to Rt: Wilma C-, Betty C-, and Al T-.

PLACE  
LABEL  
HERE

**NCRCC NEWS**  
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