

Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT

View from the Flight Deck



David Dyer

September has been ideal for model aviation with calm winds and ideal temperatures. These conditions helped make our Fall Float-Fly two days of great flying and comradery. A big thank you to the Kiwanis Club for the use of their beach and facilities once again.

From my own perspective, despite a lost plane, some hard landings on land, in trees and on water...I continue to strive to improve my skills. The fact that I have been able to repair my Turbo Timber each mishap is encouraging. What is more encouraging is the support and guidance we all receive from our fellow Propsnappers when our planes crash. This generosity and caring is a hallmark of our club and of model aviators in general.

This season has been an active one with our club's events, The Sky Streakers weekend of flying back in August was another great opportunity for us to join others in our hobby. We still have a few events coming up.

Elliot and Simon have taken the lead on planning for leveling the clubhouse on Saturday, September 28th (rain date 9/29). We will need volunteers to help. More details are on page 3.

Our Fall Fun-Fly is coming up on Saturday, October 5th (rain date 10/12). There will be a members meeting at the event as well as our usual good times. I hope to see you there.

Spike is busy preparing for our board elections for the 2025 season. You all will receive the slate of people running for office so you can cast your votes. I am very appreciative to the entire 2024 board who have made this season another fine one for the Propsnappers.

Finally, we're planning for the annual Family Banquet and Awards Night on Wednesday, December 4th, which will once again be at the Riverside Golf Club. Details will be coming to your inbox soon.

As always, I look forward to meeting-up with members at the field while enjoying a couple hours of flying and friendship.

David

2024 President
Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

Propsnappers Member Meeting

Please note that our next membership meeting will take place on Saturday, October 5 at the field prior to the start of our Fall Fun-Fly. Plan to be there promptly at 9AM.

Rain Date is Saturday, October 12



Upcoming Events

**Fall Fun-Fly
& Member Meeting**
Saturday, October 5 at 9AM
Raindate October 12

**Family Banquet
and Awards Night**
Wednesday, December 4
The Club at Riverside - Details to Come

[Visit our events page...](#)



Board of Directors Meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Dyer, Ed Ricker, Simon Willcox, Tony Blanchard, Jeff Beuttell, John Thibault and Spike Enck.

CALL TO ORDER: 5:39PM

Board Meeting Minutes: David called for approval of the submitted board meeting minutes for July 10, 2024. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Ed reviewed August 2024 financial statement. He reported 48 paid active members as of the end of August 2024. A correction was made regarding junior members for 2024, currently the club has 2 junior members. It was discussed and confirmed that junior members need to submit a signed application and waiver form each year to be considered an active member. The August 2024 financial statement was approved as submitted.

Secretary's Report: There was no secretary's report.

OLD BUSINESS

Club House Maintenance: Leveling of the structure was discussed. Elliot has put forth a plan that to do so that would require a tractor with loader forks to lift the structure. A tractor is available as is a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton truck to haul but we need to rent a trailer. Trailer rental was discussed and approved. Elliot shall be scheduling a work party and recruiting volunteers. It was suggested other maintenance tasks be discussed as a separate task and workday from the structure leveling effort.

SCMS Software: Simon will put together a slide deck outlining the pros and cons of using the software and present to the board at October 2024 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Club Officers (Spike): A list of nominees shall be presented for approval at the October 2024 meeting. Approved listing of nominees shall be sent to all active members at least 10 days prior to the November 2024 meeting for the purpose of voting

Fall Float Fly: Peter Pappas shall again bring his boat for plane recovery. All members urged to participate and support the event.

2025 Dues: Discussed and decided there will be no change to the club dues for 2025.

Member Promotion: David Dyer raised the topic of attracting new members to the club. John Thibault spoke about the problem, and its effect across all aspects of RC modeling. Reviewed the AMA material he has read and the suggestions they propose. John volunteered to further investigate ideas for collaborating with other RC faction clubs to help each other raise the membership numbers. There was a suggestion to open a dialog with the hobby shop to promote the purchase of hobby products locally and determine how the shop and club can work together to promote the hobby.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:14PM

Simon Willcox
Secretary

2024 Executive Board



David Dyer
President

[CONTACT](#)



Jim McCoy
Vice President

[CONTACT](#)



Ed Ricker
Treasurer

[CONTACT](#)



Simon Willcox
Secretary

[CONTACT](#)

2024 Board of Directors

Jeff Beuttell Elliott Randall
Tony Blanchard John Thibault
Spike Enck (EX OFFICIO)

SAFETY OFFICER
John Thibault

WEBMASTER
Bill Lairsey

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Jim McCoy

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR
Bill Lairsey



Bill Lairsey and an ACE camper share some buddy-box time at the August 1 event.

ACE Camp Day a Success

The Maine ACE Camp is a day camp in which youngsters between 12 and 16 are introduced to many different aspects of aviation. They learn through classroom instruction, hands on activities and field trips. ACE stands for Aviation Career Education. ACE Camps are co-sponsored by the FAA along with many other organizations.

The Propsnappers have volunteered their time and buddy-boxes to the ACE Camp program for many seasons now, most recently on August 1 when Bill Lairsey, Spike Enck and David Dyer welcomed about a dozen campers to our field and provided a taste of what model aviation is all about.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 8:30AM

Volunteers Needed for Clubhouse Project



Over the past couple of seasons, it has come to our attention that our beloved clubhouse is slowly sinking due to its placement atop a capped landfill. We have been monitoring it carefully, and have decided that it's finally time to take some corrective measures.

Spearheaded by Elliott Randall, and with the valuable assistance of Simon Wilcox, there is a work party scheduled for Saturday, September 28 to carefully lift a corner of the structure, reinforce the foundation platform and place multiple patio blocks underneath to bring things back into plumb. Materials have been delivered and we have arranged for the rental of the proper equipment to make things happen. However, we are looking for volunteers to help with the project.

Elliott is hoping that folks can assemble at the field at 8:30AM on that Saturday and be ready to lend a hand. Bring work gloves and any beverages or snacks you might need to keep you going. Many hands will make the project go quickly (and smoothly), so it is anticipated that we will be done in a couple hours.

If Mother Nature does not cooperate, the project will be shifted to the next day...Sunday, September 29.

WHEN ARE YOU FLYING?

A Great Tool to Connect Members

This season, several more Propsnappers adopted the *WhatsApp Messenger* phone application to let others know when they are going to the field. Most users have found the tool to be quite helpful. The app is free to download from the Google Play Store for Android and the App Store for iPhones.

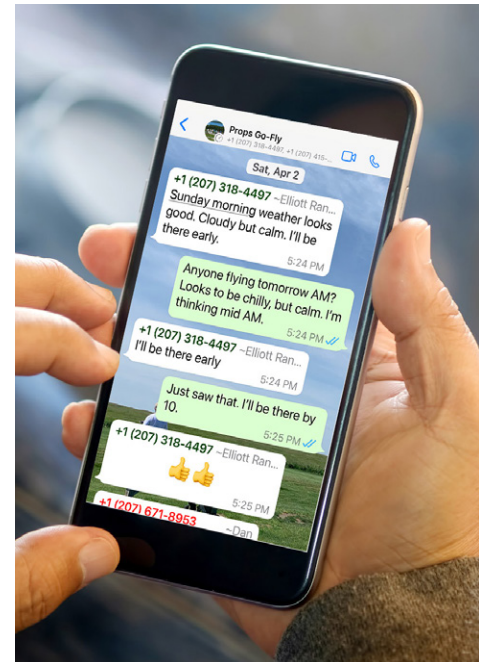


WhatsApp Messenger
Simple. Reliable. Private.

Members are notified when someone else in the group leaves a note. Messages identify the sender and the day/time that the note was posted. Only invited members belonging to the group will see your message or can respond. It's easy to use and a great way to stay informed about who is flying and when.

If you want more info or need help signing-up, feel free to contact Bill Lairsey at wlairsey@gmail.com or click on the contact link provided.

CONTACT



Get Started...

- Using your phone, download Whatsapp Messenger.
- Send Bill Lairsey a text at 207-650-1761 to let him know you would like to join.
- He'll reply with a link to click on that will sign you up to the Props Go-Fly group.

Float-Fly

Fall 2024 / September 14-15

What a spectacular weekend for our Fall Float-Fly on September 14 and 15 at Kiwanis Beach on Watchic Lake in Standish! Both days were near perfect conditions...sunny and warm with a very light breeze. About a dozen members and guests showed-up each day and all enjoyed a lot of flying. Dave Cyr brought his RC boat for *Gi-Gi* another outing, this time arriving in a beautiful MG convertible along with his wife.

Most models used the usual pontoons for flotation, but there were several amphibian aircraft. A couple of glow-powered models took to the air as well.

Thanks go to Peter Pappas and Tony Blanchard for putting the two-day event together. In addition to flying, Peter once-again brought his rowboat as a rescue craft... and it came in handy in a couple of instances (including for his own plane!)



Club President David Dyer was bitten by the float-plane bug this season and invested in a Horizon Hobby Turbo Timber Evolution as his first "off-the-water" model. Like all of us when we venture into something new in this hobby, he's had his share of great experiences...and some not so great. His plane was snared by plane-eating trees on Saturday AND Sunday! He recovered it successfully both times, on Sunday with the help of guest Steve Martin of the Sky Streakers and Steve's three boys who were able to safely climb the tree to pop the model loose from the branches. The plane has been repaired and David is already looking forward to our next float-fly in the spring.

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

Fall Fun Fly



**CLUB
MEMBER
MEETING
9AM**

Saturday, October 5

9AM-1PM

Rain Date October 12

Propsnappers Field

Green Road off Running Hill Road
Scarborough, ME

- Come to Fly...Come to Watch!
- AMA & FAA Required for Pilots
- Solar Hot Dogs & Beverages



VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR DETAILS & DIRECTIONS

About the Propsnappers



The Propsnappers R/C Club of Greater Portland was incorporated in 1963 to promote and encourage the hobby of building and flying radio-controlled model aircraft. We are a non-profit organization that holds monthly meetings, sponsors flying events throughout the summer and maintains a flying field for the use of our members. The Green Road field entrance is located at 61 Running Hill Road in Scarborough, ME.

[Club Website](#)

For more information about our club, including membership and directions to our flying field, please visit our website at propsnappers.org or click the link above.

JUST A REMINDER

Entrance Gate Procedure

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY - We are permitted to keep the gate swung open while we are flying from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Last one out closes and locks the gate.

ON WEEKENDS - The gate must be swung closed but left unlocked by putting the chain over the gate.

In either situation, make sure the padlock itself is locked on the chain so it does not disappear. Thanks!

Northern Connecticut Radio Control Club



Gear up for winter projects or sell for new ones!

R/C SWAP MEET



Buy ★ Sell ★ Trade

LOCATION

SATURDAY
October 5th, 2024
Start: 9:00 AM - Set up at 7:00 AM
Rain Date: 10/06/24

NCRCC Flying Field
190 Green Road
Ellington, CT 06029
For Directions Visit
www.ncrcc.org

Visit the NCRCC website for event updates.

SELLERS \$10.00 PER CAR

CD's Mike Maznicki & Len Marchese,
Contact info mikemaz@att.net (Mike) & lpMarchese@yahoo.com (Len)

2024 Family Banquet and Awards Night

Wednesday, December 4

The Club at Riverside

Riverside Golf Course
1158 Riverside Street • Portland, ME 04103

Watch for details and a reservation form to arrive to your inbox in a few weeks!



This and other club great event photos courtesy of Ann Blanchard.

Bullsheel

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

The Propsnappers Club Bullsheel newsletter is published to keep members up-to-date on club activities. Comments, suggestions and contributions are welcome. Please feel free to **EMAIL THE EDITOR**.



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