

JULY 2011

BRCF SUMMER EDITION



Schedule of Burlington RC Flyers Events

- July 24, 2011 - 10:00am Summer Fun Fly @ BRCF Flying Field
- August 20, 2011 - 10:00am BRCF Family Day @ BRCF Flying Field
- September 13, 2011 - 7:30pm Club Meeting @ VFW Hall
- September 18, 2011 - 10:00am Fall Fun Fly @ BRCF Flying Field
- October 16, 2011 - 10:00am Fall Field Day @ BRCF Flying Field
- November 8, 2011 - 7:30pm Club Meeting @ VFW Hall



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - PAUL DIFE0

Hello Club Members,

So before I get to all the fun stuff there are a few reminders that I need to mention -

As we enter the flying season I want to remind everyone about the frequency tags, and the requirements. To fly at the field at anytime you need to have a tag pouch displaying your frequency on one side along with your name, and on the other side your Club Membership card needs to be displayed. If you don't have a pin, and it isn't displayed on the board you are not allowed to fly. All of us also need to help manage the tags, on too many occasions there are Members spending their time managing the board having to ask fellow flyers whether they are "up or down". It's the responsibility of all of us to put our pin up when we are about to fly, place it in the "testing" section if we are working on the plane and to take it down once we have completed the flight. There are way too many instances of this happening so lets try to keep that in mind.

All planes must be facing away from the pits and tent area when being started. On a number of occasions people have had their plane pointing towards the entrance of the pit area or into the pit area itself while starting the engine. Please make sure your plane faces out to an open area when starting, running in or testing. The thought of a prop and spinner coming off and moving at speed into the "public" area is scary and this could injure someone. If you see anyone doing this please ask them to move and follow the proper procedure, and if you have done this in the past please don't do it anymore.

Be aware and alert when starting your equipment, moving through the open pit area and also if you are watching the action. We have unfortunately had a few reminders lately of what a prop can do to a hand and fingers, and we also need to remember when moving our plane/heli through the pit area that there are other people around who may not be aware of you going in their direction and it is possible they could move into your path. Safety at the field is the responsibility of everyone, so if you see something that you feel is not safe mention it to the Club

Member or spectator nicely. If you are unsuccessful or uncomfortable with this approach then please mention it to one of the B.O.D. members so it can be looked at and addressed.

Lastly, I have mentioned this before - at no time should there be any more than 2 people at a flight station. Two people is the maximum, and allows for an instructor plus a student. On too many occasions there are up to 5 or 6 people around one flight station with only an instructor and student or a Club Member flying. It's distracting for the instructor and student, not to mention other flyers. Plus, it's dangerous for that many people to be close to the runway with either a student or a soloed pilot/s trying to land and takeoff. Again, if you should see this please speak nicely to the people involved and mention the dangers.

So, now to the fun stuff! -

There are a number of events planned for the Summer and Fall flying season. You can get more details on these by looking at the Club websites opening page. In June we have our first scale model fly on the 19th, and then in July we have our Summer Fun Fly on the 24th. A new addition this year on the event calendar is the BRCF Family Day at the field to be held in August on the 20th. This event is being organized by the Wives and Partners of BRCF Members and will include some fun Family competitions and games along with a "pot luck" lunch and open flying. For more details on this event please contact Debbie Druce (debmass2@hotmail.com). This will be the first time we have held a day like this, so I would encourage everyone to bring along their Families, Grandchildren, Cousins, Aunts, Uncles and Friends to share the day....it will be no doubt very different from any other event we have had in the past and is aimed at getting our Family and Friends more involved in the hobby we love so much!

I need to say a BIG - THANK YOU!... to a few of the Members who through the Winter made it possible for us to be able to fly at the field. So, to Al, Jack and Warren we appreciate all the time and care you put into making the runways available to fly on and parking spaces on the road available, especially when we have 5ft of snow arrive on a Thursday as seemed to happen every week this Winter! Without your hard work none of us would be able to enjoy a part of our

weekend turning circles in the sky...we appreciate all that each of you do more than we could ever express.

To our latest Solo pilots, congratulations and welcome to the elite of the Club. To our latest trainees, welcome to our Club and welcome to the BRCF Family. Have a fun and safe Summer everyone. I look forward to seeing you All at the field.

Happy Flying!



Meeting Minutes for *The Burlington Radio Control Flyers Club (BRCF)* on Tuesday, 6/14/2011

Location: Lexington VFW Hall, 2 Hayes Lane, Lexington, MA

Meeting started: 7:30 PM

Meeting ended: 9:07 PM

23 members in attendance.

Secretaries Report

- o Jay Cullen (Secretary) reported the minutes from the last Club meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- o Marco DelVecchio read the club financials (see Marco for details).
- o 30 new club members this year.

Old Business

- o Paul Difeo (President) called for old business.
- o There has been confusion with how frequency pins are posted at the field.
 - Pins aren't being removed after flight is completed.
 - It's unclear who has been waiting to fly
 - George Hludzik presented a method for subdividing the frequency pin board that a majority agreed has a good chance of working. See sidebar.



FREQUENCY BOARD

- Currently flying (max 3 airplanes/helis and 1 glider)
 - **When the pilot is done flying he/she must immediate remove their own pin (and not have someone do it for them). This will get everybody in the habit of removing their pins.**
- Transmitter may be on. Testing aircraft.
- Ready and waiting to fly. Pin closest to left vertical poles is up first. Maximum of 4 pins.
- Intend to fly this day but not ready to queue up.

RC HELICOPTER SAFETY - CARBON FIBER CONTRIBUTED BY - EDSON COSTA

Every material has its dangers, including woods, plastics and aluminum. Our batteries pose hazards on several different levels, the solid materials all have their hazards, the glues and adhesives have dangers, the greases and oils and so forth.

We can really get carried away here if we want, so let's look at this from a modeler's standpoint. First of all, you don't want any of this stuff in your body whether inhaled, ingested, or otherwise. The good news is we can avoid that with a little bit of prep and common sense. Second, take a look at the exposure levels that we, as modelers, are facing in our shops and work areas. Realistically, our risks are quite small. If we worked with this stuff 40 hours a week, then things would be different.

So, from a common sense approach to working with material, do the following:

Plan your work; then work your plan. Know what you are going to do and what you will need before starting. Know the risks associated with the material you are working with. Heed the warnings on the product's labels. It is a best practice to have MSDS sheets on all of the materials that you are working with, or have in storage. Wear eye protection anytime you are working. In my shop, safety glasses are mandatory for anyone crossing the threshold of the door.

When using adhesives, glues, greases, oils or other chemicals, wear gloves to avoid contact with the substance. Do not inhale fumes from chemicals adhesives or glues.

Ventilate the area before use of these products. Do not inhale airborne particles from any material you are working with. Use an appropriate and proper fitting dust mask.

When leaving the work area, always wash your hands before doing any other activity, including using the restroom. Leave food and beverages out of the work area(s). Particles can find their ways into your body from these sources. Always clean your tools after use.

Keep your work area clean as you progress. If you have dust and debris laying about, then take a moment to clean the area before proceeding.

Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter to clean up harmful dusts.

Wash your work clothes separate from other laundry.

When finished with a project thoroughly clean the work area.

Use common sense! It is your best defense.

So back to the OT on carbon fiber. If you are using carbon fiber on your heli, then take a few precautions when handling and working with the material. If you are cutting, sanding or otherwise altering a cured carbon fiber part, then wear safety glasses, gloves and have a plan for clean up once you are finished. If using a power



Safety 1st!!!

tool on the material, then wear a proper fitting dust mask to avoid inhalation of the material. Avoid sharp edges and splinters. If you have a sharp edge, then break the edge with a file or (fine) sandpaper.

In my opinion the most dangerous situation of handling carbon fiber (as a modeler) is post crash when you have a part that has been cracked or is broken. There will be splinters and sharp edges to avoid in this situation. Again, it is all common sense, so take care when handling the heli and its broken pieces, and everything will be fine.

In the end, if you don't feel like a material is safe, then avoid using it. For myself, carbon fiber is a welcome material in my heli's and in my shop!

Ah Screw it! - Product Review by Doug Druce



That might seem like a strong title for an article, but if you've ever found yourself searching in vain for that elusive servo screw, blind nut or hex bolt then read on!

Now like most of you no doubt, I have learnt to save and hoard every last piece of hardware that doesn't get used in an ARF, or that comes off an old wreck. If your anything like me, on a pilgrimage to the hobby store you'll walk in with all good intentions with your written list of what's needed, and then wander home only to remember that you forgot to add something to the list, and 9 times out of 10 it tends to be the spare screws, bolts etc.....

During November last year I found myself late in the evening on a Friday with a few bits and pieces to mount and adjust on a new plane I had been building. The weather forecast for the following day was mild with low winds, a rarity in New England at that time of year as we all know, and all I needed was few bits of hardware to complete the job and be ready to fly the very next morning. I had tried to solo the previous weekend, and destroyed a plane in the process.....if only I can find these bits, then maybe, just

maybe....tomorrow could be the day that me and the latest of my "Dilligaf" planes could solo?!!!

I searched and searched for the hardware, I went through every box, jar and container I had in the "Dreamwerks" treasure trove in the basement....do you think I could find what I needed? That'll be a big "NO!".....everything else I had been looking for over the last year I could find but not what was needed!!!!..... "My kingdom, my kingdom for these bits" is all that's coming from my mouth (disclaimer here - There were a number of other phrases being shouted/screamed but lets keep this PG rated!). It dawns on me, "I'm stuck, and I can't fly this t/mrrw because of a few lousy screws, bolts and washers".....

Realizing the enormity and ultimate global importance of the situation, plus the absolute desperate need to complete this most important of all tasks, I jump in the truck and head to my closest DIY store along with samples of the bits I need clutched in my hand tightly (obviously if I lose the samples I am definitely not going to find what I need, and I really will be "screwed" literally!). It's 9.45pm as I roll up to the store...I dash across the parking lot at great speed and into their hardware section. I think I somewhat ambushed and surprised the tied and disinterested fellow there with my enthusiastic demands for various quantities of the bits and pieces I needed, and as hard as both of us tried....alas, we didn't find what I needed!... wanted!... HAD TO HAVE!!!!

After a short drive home I arrive through the front door dejected, tired and lost....a broken man! My dreams have been crushed..... and that would be until.....the

Wife says and mentions a fellow Members name (who shall remain nameless otherwise I will never hear the end of it!!!), and suggests giving him a call - "I'm sure he has what you need, and can bring it to the field?!" she says - A stroke of genius on the "better half's" part, and a lifeline that could yet save my weekend!!!.....

Ten minutes later, and with the assurances of the "nameless one" I am a complete man once more, my dreams intact and project chaos - oopsss!...that would be me trying to solo again....is back on track - EXCELLENT!!! With mankind and my legacy saved I partake in a cold beverage and make my (merry way) off to bed to get a good nights sleep in preparation for what may indeed be the greatest achievement of mankind ever? (well, me becoming a soloed pilot, but you get my point...we've all been there, right??!!).

The next morning i arrive at the field ready to go, and the "nameless one" arrives with what can only be described as the "mother of all hardware assortments" or "MOAHA"!.....Within a few short minutes the bits and pieces have been located, and the plane is good to go! Project chaos is underway.....

So, by this point many of you are no doubt wondering exactly what is the point of this article, and why has it taken this long to get to the heart of the matter? The answer is simple my friends.....all of us at one point or another have had to stop a project, beg, borrow and steal hardware or spend time on the computer locating the bits and then even longer waiting for what we need to be delivered to our door for what is a pretty basic two minute job on a plane or heli! It adds to the frustration, it slows down a project....and worst of all

can mean a weekend without a flight or two!!!!....And in the words of the immortal Leon Phelps - AKA - The Ladies Man - "that is simply not cool man!!!!"

The "nameless one" had purchased a hardware kit specifically designed with the RC plane enthusiast in mind, every nut, bolt, washer, hex bolt, spring washer.....EVERYTHING you could ever want or need!! For a few bucks aladdin's cave of hardware can be yours, and you never find yourself searching in desperation for that elusive screw or bolt ever again.....

RTL Fasteners is the name of the company that can supply you to your hearts content where hardware is concerned, and whats even better is they cater to the RC community because they themselves are flyers. The kits and individual products they sell are all the very same hard to find bits and pieces we all need to complete our projects, and the very same bits that are hard to come by in the non "100 weirdos in a field" world!!!!!!

I purchased the "Master builders assortment #5000", and I also splurged out on the "giant scale supplement #1032" to support my efforts in building planes that I can actually see in the great blue yonder! A

quick phone call, an exchange of details and a mere 15 hours later the hardware kits arrived at my door, all 12lbs of them!!!! Pretty much everything that a modeler needs from a hardware standpoint is included in the packages, along with some neat storage boxes which offer you the option of keeping your treasure trove at home or transporting it to the field. Every pack is clearly labeled with what it is, dimensions and also a stock# should you run out of one particular part and need to reorder a fresh supply.

When I added up what I had got, and what I had actually paid for the assortment my savings in money amounted to somewhere in the region of \$300.00! The savings in frustration, heartbreak, and the urge to commit "Hari Kari" on a bi-weekly basis because I didn't have the right hardware to complete a project or repair...the enormity of that value can't be calculated!!!! In addition they had included a very neat telescopic and magnetic "grabbing" device for want of a better description - no longer would I have to hold models upside down shaking them to recover a part rattling around in the fuselage!!!!!!

Here are the website and contact details for RTL Fasteners, and if you can't find something specific that you need listed on

their site give them a call and they can get it for you - www.rtlfasteners.com - I had a particular metric bolt that I needed and couldn't find....I spoke with them, dropped a sample in the mail to them, and then 48 hours later I had 10 of what I needed and hadn't been able to find anywhere! It's great that a company focuses and specializes in our hobby, especially when it comes to "one off" type articles like screws and bolts. I have received fantastic service from the folks at RTL, and I will continue to use them through the years....I would recommend you try them for yourselves!

So.....to finish the story I started at the top of the article - I did actually solo in the day on question, and it was in large part thanks to the availability of the hardware I needed. I would be amiss if I didn't also mention the numerous Club Members and Instructors who also helped me achieve my goal.....

As for the "nameless one" who held the keys to the mother of all hardware assortments?.....All I can say is this - He is a wise old Jedi Master, who seems to speak in riddles, and when he is at the field it is almost like he floats, his feet never quite touching the ground!!!!



Boeshield T9 - Product Review by Rob Semmler



I get the opportunity to see many houses and the way people live due to my work. (HVAC) Sometimes I see interesting things, sometimes it's a scene from the show hoarders! Anyway, a while back I was tearing out an old heating system for a gentleman who worked for Boeing Industries. He was a highly accredited engineer and accomplished pilot.

His name was Paul and he was an older gentleman. His basement was a gallery of interesting parts in various states of decay and repair. Even though he is retired, he still toils with the challenge of making each aircraft part that much better. His colleagues still feed him parts and projects that he tinkers with. It was hard to get anything done at this job, he was an interesting person with some good stories.

The days prior to this job were wet and rainy. I worked outside for most of them and that takes a serious toll on hand tools. My tools get quite a workout anyway, along with various substances that build up on them, they now had a healthy coat of rust. Rusty tools are the bane of my existence. Summertime heat and humidity is frustrating enough, (especially in a hot attic) but add tools that argue or just won't

work and it could drive a man to kill someone! About this time every year I break out the wire wheel and drill. I spend at least two hours getting all the crud and rust off, it's a cumbersome process as well as dirty.

Paul noticed my tools and asked how I could work like that. Although he is an engineer, he spent more of his time holding wrenches than at a computer. I explained my plight and he literally ran off! He said "WAIT, I've got just the solution!"

He returned with a white can resembling hairspray and a bag of rags. He said "This will make your day son, hell it might make your whole damn summer!" He passed the can over, the front read Boeshield T-9. As I lifted my head to look at him I raised an eyebrow, he said "whatcha gonna lose?"

I went outside, turned a 5 gallon bucket over, and grabbed a rag and a pair of channel locks. After I finished with the channel locks, I grabbed every damn tool I had and sat on that bucket until I was done! This stuff works, and I have since ordered 4 more cans!

This stuff ain't your WD-40, this stuff means business. It's aircraft grade... 'nuff said.' Boeing (as usual) went to great lengths to develop and test this stuff out. It's a combination of solvents and waxes designed to get into the metal's pores, eat up rust and oxidation, then leave a protectant wax behind. It's a symphony of wonderfulness!

It cleaned up everything well, and the residue left behind is barely noticeable. It does not rub off and if water does get on my tools it beads up and rolls right off! The stuff is non-conductive, displaces water, and safe to use on electronics, batteries, and wiring. It has hundreds of possible uses; marine, auto, bicycle, guns,

blades, and RC! Boeshield T-9 has been reviewed in several magazines and received the highest ratings. Woodworkers and Auto repair guys swear by the stuff....and this HVAC guy does too!

Here is some technical mumbo-jumbo...'

Corrosion Inhibition Meets BSS7220 and FED-STD-791, Method 4001 (Max. 3 dots 1mm per 10 square inches after 100 hours salt spray). Meets ASTM G-34 (Exfoliation Test).

Water Displacement Meets MIL-C-16173D. Paragraph 46.11. No evidence of pitting, mottling, or staining.

Penetrability Capillary height of rise 1.2" minimum in bore $\phi=0.015"$ at room temperature.

Wet ability 30 dynes/cm.

Flow Viscosity is 6 centistokes at $75\pm 1^\circ\text{F}$.

Adhesion at Low Temperatures Flaking less than 1/32" at $-40\pm 5\text{K}$ (MIL-O-16173D) Removability Aliphatic Naptha, Cleaning Solvent

Solids 38%

Flash Point Approximately 156°F . (TCC.)

Coverage 500 to 1000 sq. ft. per gallon.

I ordered four cans, it is somewhat difficult to find in stores. However, the first application is still as good as the day I put it on. That was about three months ago! I like this stuff a lot, and chances are you will too!





Bugs, Balsa & Busted Planes - A message from the Vice President, Rob Semmler

It's summer and flying is full steam ahead!

It doesn't look as though the economy has slowed us down, I've seen some pretty cool machines punching holes in the skies! Planes and heli's of all sizes have been spotted and pictured on the Flickr account (thanks paparazzi!). Also, I think as a club we've all been pretty good as far as the safety aspect is concerned.

But.....there is always room for improvement.

Safety is paramount at the field. It always has been, and always will be. Always remember the basics, because it's the basics that mostly bite you in the end! Balancing props, checking control surfaces, range checks, linkages and tightening those nuts and bolts. It might save a model, or possibly a finger! Lately it seems that we as a club have these nailed down!

What about courtesy, and what does that have to do with safety?

A lot! Courtesy breeds a calm and friendly environment. Planes and heli's buzzing around overhead can be a distraction to other pilots. Distraction and disorientation are a great recipe for crashes. We as a club need to remember that not everyone likes a plane or heli hovering up and down the runway, nor is it permissible by club rules. Noise from aircraft hovering around makes communication between pilots almost impossible as well. A great Saturday at the field can go to hell in the blink of an eye without proper communication!

Many people not involved in the hobby come down to watch and learn. Some may want to join and some come just for the show. If aircraft are buzzing over the pilots stations/pits these spectators may become nervous and leave. That's not what we are about.

It's a great thing that everyone is taking the appropriate safety measures, lets all do our best to the utmost in courtesy towards others at the field as well! Thanks everyone!

A note from the Editors - Doug & Debbie Druce

It's was a long Winter/Spring, and it seems like a very long time ago since we put the finishing touches to the last Club newsletter, in November last year! Over the cold and dark months that followed, we "retooled" and invested in some wonderful technology that has enabled us to bring the BRCF publication into the 21st century.....we hope you all like the new format, and we hope it once again sets our Club apart from others.

There wasn't too much to report over the Winter and Spring! We had a number of indoor flying events at Hanscom in the tennis bubble, the first few were well attended, but interest dropped off gradually leaving El Presidente, sitting there all on his lonesome.....There were the frigid temperatures and almost record breaking snowfall that allowed Al Melanson to indulge his creative side and recreate the Eastern Front during 1944 complete with 4ft ice trenches, and Colonel George "two trick" at his HQ chowing down on some of "The Chief" Al P's home made chili at the frozen finger fly (delicious it was too especially at -15!!).....lets not forget the weekly sight over the cold Winter months of a poor soul or two wading out into the great white tundra to recover a plane after landing (something about the

memory of watching Jim "Inspector" Rosa spending almost 30 mins chest deep in snow to recover a plane that was no more than 60ft away still makes me chuckle!!) and then of course we had the long and slow thaw that once again saw the field torn up by bikers and snowmobiles!!!!

It was a long, cold, snowy and dark Winter, and as Spring arrived the weather turned ever sooo slowly! Hopefully as I write this article, July will allow us to be able to start to have a summers worth of weekends to enjoy ourselves at the field and indulge our hobby to the amusement of all present??!!

Welcome back Summer we missed you!



This newsletter is published by the Burlington RC Flyers, a non-profit club organized for the promotion of radio controlled model aircraft building and flying. The club operates a flying field in Burlington, MA and offers free instruction in safe model flying to any member. "Academy of Model Aeronautics" (AMA) membership is required. Contact any club officer for more information.

Beginner Flight Instructors:

Victor Samsanov	781-272-0231
Mel Suarez	617-335-9970
Paul DiFeo	617-569-1555
Rob Semmler	978-319-5773
Adam Woodworth (Electric)	617-548-6636
Doug Murray (Heli)	978-767-1403

Meeting Location:

Lexington VFW Hall
2 Hayes Lane (off Woburn St)
Lexington, MA

Advanced Flight Instructors:

Victor Samsanov	781-272-0231
-----------------	--------------

IPP Instructors:

Paul DiFeo	617-569-1555
Victor Samsanov	781-272-0231
Rob Semmler	978-319-5773

President:

Paul DiFeo (Pauldif82@comcast.net)

Vice President:

Rob Semmler (ndtas111@yahoo.com)

Treasurer:

Marco DelVecchio - 781-843-2265 (MDelVecchio@erland.com)

Secretary:

Jay Cullen (secretary@burlington-rc.com)

Membership Secretary:

Marco DelVecchio - 781-843-2265 (MDelVecchio@erland.com)

Newsletter Editors:

Doug & Debbie Druce (doug.druce@hotmail.com)

Board of Directors:

Kalin Georgiev (kalin283@yahoo.com); Jack Stanley (stanley5@rcn.com); Alderice Melanson (alrita@comcast.net)