



NVRC



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NVRC is one of the largest radio control clubs in Virginia with over 160 members. Our flying field is located at Poplar Ford Park. The club includes pilots in all areas of radio-controlled flight: sport, giant scale, electric, sailplane, aerobatics, combat, and rotor. NVRC has members with decades of expertise to share in many types of flying and building. Whether you're a beginner or someone looking for advanced techniques, there are volunteer instructors to provide assistance--don't be timid, ask for help. In existence for over 50 years now, NVRC is proud to be a club where everyone is welcome.

Officers and Contacts

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Gary Quinn

Welcome to another exciting year with NVRC! If you made it to our first meeting, you heard about the Lorton updates and how we are getting closer to having a second flying field. Bob Freas and his team have done a great job in getting us closer every month. Keep up the momentum and great work!

During the meeting I presented some pictures that I had taken from our tour of the Udvar-Hazy museum. Kwang Ko, Hobby Hangar owner, has a customer that is a Docent for the museum and gave us a special tour. It was very interesting and we learned a lot of fascinating bits of history that you normally would not hear. Within seconds of a picture of a plane coming on the screen, a member would shout out the identity of the plane. It was amazing!

Since the meeting we had the Winter Fun Fly with CD Harold leading the way and a number of pilots competing. It wasn't that cold, almost no wind and was actually a really nice day to fly. The most exciting part of the event is that I finished in the top 20! Thanks Harold for another fun event!

I did speak with Rich Hanson from the AMA about any new updates on regulations and he said that as of now, nothing has changed. He asked that we continue to abide by the rules and notams and continue to fly safe. He said as soon as he hears any updates he will let everyone know.

We had our first board meeting of the year and put together the budget, the calendar of events and sponsorship activities. We will review and publish all of this information and share it at the next meeting. Make sure you put it on your calendar to attend, Feb 19th! As usual I will try to have pizza, snacks and some free raffles. Our last meeting we had birthday cake too! Show up and participate, it's your club!

Due to the popularity of "electric" flying and the ease with which one can get into the hobby, we are only going to offer flight training with our electric trainers. Tony Claridge has become our Chief Flight Instructor and has a Corsair and an Apprentice to assist new members. If you want to work with Tony on training new members, please reach out to him and find out how you can help. Tony has organized an entire flight-training program and checklist. For those that complete the program, we award them a solo certificate and a \$25 hobby hangar gift card.

This years bands for your membership are Green and Orange. If you have not RENEWED your membership, please do so ASAP. In order to fly at the field you need to have a 2015 band on your radio. Green identifies you as a member who can fly solo and Orange identifies you as in training. Having a band on your radio identifies you as a current NVRC member. If you see someone with a different color band on a radio, PLEASE let him or her know they need the correct color band displayed. It is everyone's responsibility to make sure we are in compliance with our county agreement and that everyone flying at the field is a 2015 NVRC member. A new sign will be posted at the entrance to the field as a reminder to all.

We have a lot of exciting things planned for this year and all of these activities count on the support of our members like you! If you have not helped out at an event or participated in an event, please sign up to help or participate. At the events that I have helped out at, we always have a terrific time. The events I fly in where I have to test my flying skills, well, you can ask others, I'm not out to come in first, second or third. Tenth would be nice! But no matter where I place, I am always there for the fun.

I want to make your experience as an NVRC member a lot of fun, participatory and the best experience ever. So if you have a question, have a concern, have an idea, or just what to chat, please feel free to reach out to me.

See you at the field, a meeting or an event.

MEETING MINUTES By Terry Terrenoire

- Called to order at 7:38 PM by President Gary Quinn
- New Member, George Dowell was introduced.
- There were 34 members present.
- It is Gary's Birthday and his wife brought a cake for all to share!
- Gary reminded all of the upcoming winter fun fly this Sat the 17th.
- There will be indoor flying this Sunday from 8:00 AM to 11:00.
- Board meeting is set for Saturday at 1:00 following the fun-fly

VP report:

- John Roach spent \$35 for a 20 foot fiberglass pole that will be stored in the shed to be used for retrieval of planes from trees.
- Stabilizer has been added to mowers, one had a dead battery.
- mowing volunteers are needed for 2015 seasonal mowing.

Treasurer's report:

- Make sure you fill in log book any time you work at field for documentation of our agreement with the County
- To date we have 93 paid renewals and 10 to 15 just rcvd to be processed.
- Due to PWC donation and some event savings we have finished the year in the black.
- The Lorton project is on schedule and looks good for becoming active this year.

Gary officially announced Bob Freis as "member of the year". This was due primarily to due to the extraordinary efforts on the part of the club in dealing with the various county requirements.

Our speaker next month will be NTSB employee, Mike Bower.

Gary presented a slide show from a recent trip to Udvar Huzy museum.

Show & Share:

- Terry showed "photographer's gloves that can be used comfortably for cold weather flying.
- Pat showed new rechargeable hand warmer to use for winter flying.
- Tony showed a new indoor FPV quadcopter.

\$24 50/50 won by Luis.

VP's REPORT By John Roach

Kudos to all NVRC members who pitched in last year to fill horse divots, spread and roll dirt, and cut and weed whack the field into great shape before winter arrived. The 2 mowers and their gas can were dosed with Stabil last month. Stabil was also added to the 2-stroke gas can. Both mowers need repairs before they can be used this spring. The grey Craftsman mower in the shed is not holding a battery charge. It is either failing to charge its battery or has an electrical problem that discharges the battery between uses. Its battery was removed for the winter. The grey tractor's electrical problem will be resolved before spring. The red MTD Yard Machines tractor continues to throw its deck belt because of excess play in its deck belt path. It should not be used until this problem has been corrected. It will be taken off site to analyze and fix its deck belt problem when the field is dry enough to permit me to load and remove it. Repairs were made to a pavilion that lost some of its 4 mm nuts. Spare 4 mm nuts were left near the repaired pavilion. The large, black pavilion frame in the left rear of the shed has been repaired many times and is broken. It will be discarded before spring. Wall hangers for 3 weed whackers and a fire extinguisher were added to the right interior wall of the shed. Please return weed whackers to those hangers after use. A 20 foot telescoping aluminum pole was placed in the shed to help retrieve aircraft from trees. Please place it inside the shed after use. Members reported 3 fence posts in the pit fence were in need of replacement. Posts are easiest to replace in the spring, so new posts will be on site when the weather improves. Feel free to volunteer your time to help replace a post while your batteries are charging. Just be sure to record the time you spend as a volunteer in our log book. The County requires NVRC to provide 400 volunteer hours a year maintaining our flying field in exchange for our use of their land. The membership has done a great job keeping the field cut and well kept, but your efforts on behalf of the club will be for naught unless you document them in the log book. The Tractor Team Online Signup may be a better way to log our volunteer hours than the log book at the field. Entries could be made before or after the work was done, just as they are now for grass mowing. Minor changes to the software would allow information placed in a comments field to be compiled as volunteer hours. A notice will go out to the membership if this change in the way we record our volunteer hours is made. In the meantime, thanks again to all of you who help maintain our field.

COLIN'S HANGAR By Colin Quinn

What an exciting January it has been so far. I participated in the winter fun fly and came in 2nd place. It was a great day to fly and it wasn't even cold! I have done some indoor flying at Westfield and have watched Joseph Sczuar practice for his upcoming international competition. Very cool! Good luck Joseph!

I have not purchased any planes and my dad has not sold any lately. I know we have talked about going to some swap meets but usually something comes up and we don't go. I have been flying some of my small quad copters in the house and that's been fun. On one of the visits to the Hobby shop I did get to try out the Shark FPV glasses and they were really interesting. I'm thinking about getting a pair and using the camera on some of my planes. I don't know what's in store for me this year as I am turning 16 in February and still have a lot of band activities. If I could just get my dad to buy a larger house with a giant backyard then I could just fly out back, but I don't think that's going to happen so I will just work on him to get me a truck. A nice Ford F-150 or Sport Trac would be nice. The raptor is my dream but it's a little pricey.

Well, I hope to get some flying in as it gets warmer. I'm sure we will be buying some more planes soon.

SPECIAL REPORT: F3P WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS By Don and Joseph Szczur

Update- January 20th 2015. Joseph has been working on a new F3P design which he calls "Lightning II". It is in fact very "light", as he is targeting 65 grams or less, ready to fly. We have been using Eflite 150 batteries and Thunder Power 250 batteries which come in about 11 and 13 grams respectively but found some Eflight 120 and German 120's that weigh in under 6 grams each. Building is a very careful event. Joseph has worked very hard over the holiday break to assemble an all-carbon fuselage. The plane is covered in 2 mil mylar and is very fragile. Right now I'm helping him solder the electronics. I use tweezers and a very steady hand. It reminds me of sewing a bit. Wires are 20 gauge magnet wires. Total weight for all the wiring came out to .75 grams (servos mounted in the tail for the rudder and elevator). Servo cases are drilled to lighten by a tenth of a gram. He builds a sheet foam box to transport it back and forth from the car because any wind, even just a 5 mile per hour wind will destroy the plane. Why not give indoor pattern a try? A simple setup is the UMX Extra with AX3S. With the stable setup, it flies most of the precision maneuvers like a pattern plane, but indoors. A great way to keep the thumbs from getting rusty over the winter months.

The F3P team is pleased to announce a team raffle with some really great prizes. Spektrum DX-9 Radio, Thunder Power Chargers, Fancy Foam and BNF UMX Airplanes, and more items added every week. You can purchase raffle tickets at the F3P website located below. We'll try to provide status updates as we can. Thanks for your support and see you at the field!

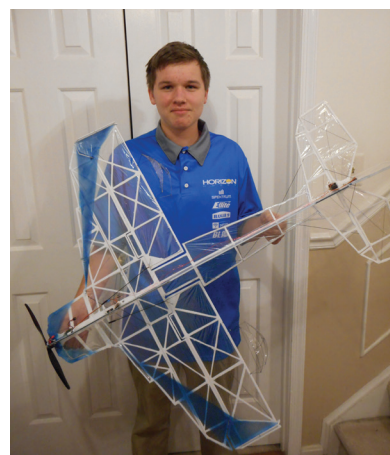
FB page <https://www.facebook.com/f3pteamusa>

GSN Forum <http://giantscalenews.com/threads/gsn-lets-help-out-the-2015-f3p-us-team-get-to-the-world-championships.1210/page-2#post-33873>

FG Forum <http://www.flyinggiants.com/forums/showthread.php?t=93799>

Team Website www.teamusaf3p.com

IMAGE GALLERY



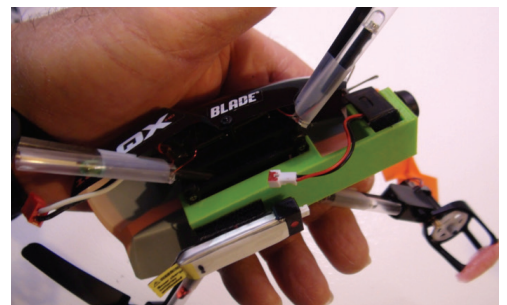
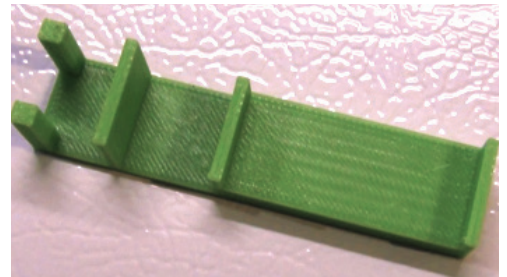
Phoenix Flight Gear 200 QX Carrying Case

The heavy-duty polyethylene travel case is fitted with an O-ring water tight seal and a pressure vent valve which keep its contents dry and buoyant, but also air travel worthy. Pockets in its interior padding fit a radio, a 200 QX, some accessories and some spare parts. The padding is the same material used to make shipping containers for expensive, but heavy freight. It is tough, but will break down with prolonged exposure to sunlight. The lid is padded with waffle-patterned polyurethane foam. It is a softer padding that becomes sticky and non-elastic with age. The case can be locked. I wanted a carrying case for a radio, my 200 QX and FPV gear, so I bought one. It is a durable travel case, but that makes it heavy. Its interior pockets are a little too generic to fit all the things I need to fly FPV. Its exterior has a big metal logo and so many ridges on it that it is hard to find a spot free of ridges on which I can place an NVRC sticker. If you want to explore Denali by kayak with your 200 QX and VS 1100, this is your case. If you just want a place to stow your radio, 200 QX and Fat Shark goggles between flights, there are lighter and cheaper alternatives available.



Review - 3D-printed FPV camera holder for 180 QX

Some of you may have seen Tony Claridge flying a 180 QX by FPV at the close of the January meeting. He used Velcro to mount a VA 1100 camera/transmitter to the canopy top of his quad and guided it between the rows of tables and behind the serving bar while wearing the Fat Shark VR 1100 goggles that come with a Horizon Hobby VS 1100 FPV system. The VA 1100 only weighs 4.5 grams, so even a Nano QX can (briefly) haul it into the air. I watched with envy because I had the same FPV system and was struggling to transition from chasing squirrels out of my garden with a Hubsan 107D to a system that used goggle video display. I mounted my VA1100 camera to the top of my 200 QX only to find it tough to adapt to flying that little speed devil by FPV even with the assurances of a spotter. I needed something less zippy, so I tried a Nano QX. The combination flew OK, but ate a shared battery in just a couple of minutes. Tony's success convinced me that putting the camera on my 180 QX would solve my dilemma. As luck would have it, a participant in the RC Universe Blade 180 QX HD discussion forum had just set up shop marketing 3D printed camera adapters for the 180. He was selling them for \$7 each at: <http://www.sideburn.com/sideshop/product/blade-180-qx-fpv-camera-mount/>



The holder was a push fit onto the belly of the 180. It positioned the camera at the nose. It was supposed to be slipped over the 180's extended landing gear and held in place with Velcro. I wanted to save weight, so I clipped off the extended gear legs, glued the holder to what was left of them, and screwed that assembly to the belly of the 180. This permitted me to remove the holder assembly when I did not want to fly FPV. It also provided a flat surface on which I could Velcro a small battery for the camera. These changes and the camera battery added less than 15 grams to the weight of the 180. I scribed the canopy of the 180 with the aid of a small jar lid and cut away that part of the nose to make room for the camera and its antenna. FPV is now my new indoor winter sport.

EDITOR'S DESK By Adrian Apodaca

Well, I have spent wayyy more time driving my surface vehicles than flying. The little I have flown in the last several months has been with my Dromida Ominus. Great quad at a great price. I did get some new FPV stuff to mess with, but I haven't had much opportunity to explore that. I guess my contribution to RC has been putting more time into my user submitted review website, www.realrcreviews.com. It has gotten popular to the point that a few manufacturers have sent me some items to test out. Check it out if you have a moment. Take care, fly safe and hope to start flying outdoors again soon!

NVRC Newsletter

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