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NVRC is one of the largest radio control clubs in Virginia with over 200 members. Our primary flying field is located at Poplar Ford Park and we expect to have a new Lorton site in 2016. The club includes pilots in all areas of radio-controlled flight: Sport, Giant Scale, Electric, Sailplane, Aerobatics, Combat, and MultiRotor. 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! Just ask for help!

In existence for over 50 years, NVRC is proud to be a club where everyone is welcome!

### Officers and Contacts

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# Announcement!



## Auction



## Auction in Main Gym

Use door #13 for entrance

Setup And Viewing 8-10 AM

## Auction Starts at 10 AM

R/C Airplanes, Helicopters, Cars, Boats, Supplies  
Buy and/or Sell Auction Tags Provided Fixed-Price  
Tables Available

**Admission and Door Prize Entry- \$5**  
\$20 Auction Minimum; Fixed Price Table, No  
Minimum 10% of All Sale Proceeds to Club;  
Computerized Accounting Credit Cards Accepted  
**NO PRIVATE SALES**  
Food and Drink Available



The Northern Virginia Radio Control Club  
&  
West Potomac High School STEM Program



## Auction

Sunday, April 10, 2016  
at



West Potomac High School  
9500 Quantico Road, Alexandria, Virginia, 22307  
(Auction in Main Gym - Use Door #13 for entrance)  
Setup and Viewing 8-10 a.m. - Auction Starts at 10 a.m.

R/C Airplanes, Helicopters, Cars, Boats, Supplies  
Buy and/or Sell  
Auction Tags Provided  
Fixed-Price Tables Available

**Admission and Door Prize Entry- \$5**  
\$20 Auction Minimum; Fixed Price Table, No Minimum  
10% of All Sale Proceeds to Club; Computerized Accounting  
Credit Cards Accepted  
**NO PRIVATE SALES**  
Food and Drink Available



For more info on this auction, contact a club member or visit our website at [www.1nvrc.com](http://www.1nvrc.com)



# VP's REPORT: Duct Tape Field Repairs and Other Park Improvements

By John Roach

**Duct Tape, The Universal Repair Tool** -The field remained wet throughout March, necessitating use of waterproof boots by anyone attempting to enjoy the good flying weather we had. Both windsocks were in need of repair or replacement. Bob Burnett suggested that we should try a wind streamer instead of a heavy wind sock, so you may credit him for the Mylar streamer placed on the west side of the landing strip. It was made from "Over the Hill" party decorations fastened into a ring with duct tape and zip tied to the old windsock pivot mount. It indicates wind direction very well compared to what it replaced.



*New Mylar Streamer*

The P-51 wind vane and nylon windsock by the shed also got the duct tape treatment. A few turns of tape tightened their pole in the mast and more tape held the mast up until I could return to the field and secure it to a wooden post with a deck screw.

**Taking Back the Meadows from Autumn Olive** -The park naturalist undertook an aggressive campaign in March to turn back the autumn olive invasion of the meadows surrounding our airfield. It is an experiment in which he is evaluating a new way to favor the return of native plants to the meadows that are being displaced by autumn olive. A new weapon in this battle is a Bob Cat attachment that can pulverize groves of autumn olive.



# VP's REPORT: Duct Tape Field Repairs and Other Park Improvements (Continued)

By John Roach



*New weapon in the fight against the Autumn Olive*

**Multi-Rotor Flight Area** - The newly-cleared acreage is a potential multi-rotor flight area that is not in conflict with fixed wing aircraft. However, the Board has chosen to discuss this in depth with the Multi-Rotor Committee because several factors are at play in setting up a MR flight area at Poplar Ford. For example, consider our neighbors. There is a riding stable east of our field and Manassas Battlefield to our south. We are on good terms with them because we take considerable care not to disturb horseback riders and we do not fly past Bull Run. These circumstances must not change. Another consideration is safety. Setting up a MR departure and landing zone near the spectator area is complicated by seasonal flooding. Placing that zone elsewhere would separate MR and fixed wing pilots. This would interfere with communications between the 2 groups. What protocols must be in place to safely retrieve a downed model from a MR flight area? If someone is injured, which group has the first aid kit? Who calls for help? These thoughts need to be addressed now rather than later.

## Attention P-51 pilots!

Looking for a new scheme for your P-51? John Roach is looking to get some P-51s painted up and flown together in the colors of the 339th Fighter Group. The 339th has a reunion this fall and John would like to take some video of the flights to share with them. Please reach out to John if you're interested. He can share the newsletter from the 339th with you. It is definitely worth a read (but unfortunately too long to include here).



*"Worry Bird", a P-51 from the 339th*





# Locking Up: How to lock the gate at Poplar Ford

As discussed at the last meeting, there was an incident around February 6th where someone forced their way into Poplar Ford by forcing open an “S” link on the chain.



The busted “S” Hook

Some modifications have been made by the park staff and we should now be able to securely lock the gate. They have bored a hole thru the post for the chain. Passing the chain thru the post and around the gate defeats entry by prying open the “S” hook, but if the chain is not secured to the post, someone could steal the chain when the gate is unlocked. So, the park people decided to attach the chain to the post with an “S” hook and then thread the chain thru the post before wrapping it around the gate to lock up the park. Please use this method to lock the gate from now on.



Properly locked gate.



## News and Events:

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### Snow Fly a Success!

The annual Snow Fly was held back on March 5th. Although the pits were muddy it was a success and many members came out to celebrate the reopening of the field.



*More mud than snow, but still a good turnout for the annual Snow Fly!*

### New Facebook Page!

As There is a new Facebook page for RC clubs in this region. You can find the page for the **National Capital Model Aviation Alliance** at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1550547821939604>. The National Capital Model Aviation Alliance is a group of model aviation clubs and enthusiasts throughout the metropolitan area. Their goal is to promote model aviation safety, education and information in our region.

### SFRA Mentioned in AMA News!

In the March edition of AMA Air there was a mention of our area and the easing of the SFRA restrictions. If you're interested you can find the video at <https://youtu.be/XhUzszHHgvU>.



# Meeting Minutes:

By John Roach

## Minutes of the 17 March 2016 NVRC Meeting

- Carl Brieske, Club President, convened the meeting at 7:35 p.m., and immediately thanked Harold for organizing a great Snow Fly amidst all the mud that was our field this spring.
- **Guests and new members** – Carl Enloe stepped forward as a new member. He has been flying RC for 10 years and is a former instructor at the Air Force Academy. Matt Sunkin introduced himself as a novice RC flyer with an avid interest in flying. His prior flying experience includes multi-rotors.
- Carl then summarized the talk that Carol Might gave at our February meeting. He reminded us that even though the field is again open, the FAA is still out there. We need to think “B4UFly.” Bob Burnett appreciated that Carol said that her group was trying to raise our flight ceiling.

## Field Reports :

### Lorton

- Mark Franke reported that a member flew at Lorton even though the field is not open for RC flying. Signage and a gate are being installed to prevent a reoccurrence of this event.

### Poplar Ford

- Mark Franke reported that he had met with the County regarding approval of a spectator shelter at Poplar Ford.
- John Roach reported that someone forced their way into the park on 6 February and drove across the field. Park staff repaired the gate and filled in the deepest ruts in the field. They also bored a hole thru the gate post so that the chain could be passed thru the post to prevent the gate from being forcibly opened by simply prying open the chain’s “S” hook attachment to the post. Members are cautioned to please thread the chain thru the post when locking the gate when they exit the park. Mark Franke suggested that we write Mr. Crawford a letter of thanks for securing the park gate and mitigating the damage caused by the intruder.
- The “Big Red” mower outside the shed is temporarily offline due to an electrical problem that was not solved by the removal of 2 dead mice and their nests from the sheet metal around its engine and starter. The new mower in the shed is working fine and was used to cut the field 8 March. Big Red should be ready for duty before the new mower moves to Lorton. The grey Craftsman mower will also return to Poplar Ford at that time.



# Meeting Minutes (Continued):

By John Roach

## Field Reports (Cont):

### Poplar Ford (Cont)

- A discussion forum post bragged that a Taylorcraft with a 22 cc engine was maidenized at Poplar Ford with no reference to sound testing before its flight. Members were reminded that a sound meter is in the shed and is to be used to check the noise level of a new model before it is flown at Poplar Ford. The meter is held 15 inches off the ground, 10 feet off the right wing of the model when measuring its engine's noise output as per our flight rules. Test results should be recorded in the back of the flight log. These results should include the recorded noise level in decibels (dB), the date, and the name of a witness who was present at the test so that there will be no issue with the test report. An aircraft producing more than 94 dB at max rpm may not be flown at Poplar Ford. There are no noise restrictions on our aircraft at Lorton. Mark opined that this was just another reminder that we need to play by the rules in order to retain our flight privileges. He also reminded new members that we share Poplar Ford with horse people - If you see a horse while driving, stop your car and allow the horse to go past your car.

### Safety and Training

- Tony Claridge reported that he was ready to begin Saturday training. If you are not a qualified pilot, our instructors will work with you as a guest, but if you join NVRC, you must qualify to fly.

### Building Contest

- This will replace the May meeting.

### Udvar Hazy

- Carl reported that the club had gotten the OK to display at an event at Udvar Hazy in collaboration with the other 14 AMA clubs in the DC SFRA as well as DC DUG. The AMA is offering to bring a trailer equipped with flight simulators to the event. Mark felt it was great to involve the other clubs. He suggested that we put together a new brochure with the FAA rules in it.

### Auction

- April 10 – Joe Franco described the West Potomac venue and concessions. Students can serve as auction runners. Students will also prepare signs for the auction. Al Norcott suggested that our advertising should emphasize that it is a new location. Carl suggested that we post an auction flyer on RC Universe. He has already placed a sign at Hobby Hanger. Joe has submitted a map for the table layout. We would normally have to import tables from another school for the auction, but we are able to use the testing tables at West Potomac for the auction because no testing is scheduled for that weekend. Participants were reminded that they would not be able to enter the building before 7 am. The gym has a PA system and a wired mic system. Joe and others are working on the details of using the PA system. Mark thanked Joe for booking the place for the auction.





# Meeting Minutes (Continued):

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By John Roach

## Show and Tell

- Bob Burnett explained how he was building an Ultimate Fun Fly because he likes to build. The model was designed for gas, but Bob has modified the design to accommodate electric power. He calculated that the electric version will weigh 4.8 pounds, which is lighter than the 5.5 pound flying weight of his gas version.
- Harold Chadzi showed off his new Hobbico battery checker. Many new chargers can check the internal resistance of a battery, but he has found that this Hobbico checker can do that and costs about \$20.
- Carl Brieske showed a P-39 kit he had purchased from Hobby People and his signed book of the history of the 361 Fighter Group.
- Bob Burnett got the Show and Tell gift card for his presentation. He then proceeded to also win the 50/50 drawing. He clearly had a good night.

## Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- **April 10: Annual Auction**
- **April 21: Club Meeting**
- **April 24: Indoor Fun Fly**
- **April 30: Poplar Ford Field Maintenance Day**
- **May 19 : ANNUAL BUILD CONTEST!**
- **May 28: Spring Fun Fly**
- **June 16: Club Meeting**
- **July 21: Club Meeting**

*Please be aware dates are subject to change. Please watch for email updates and check [1nvrc.com](http://1nvrc.com) for possible changes to these dates.*



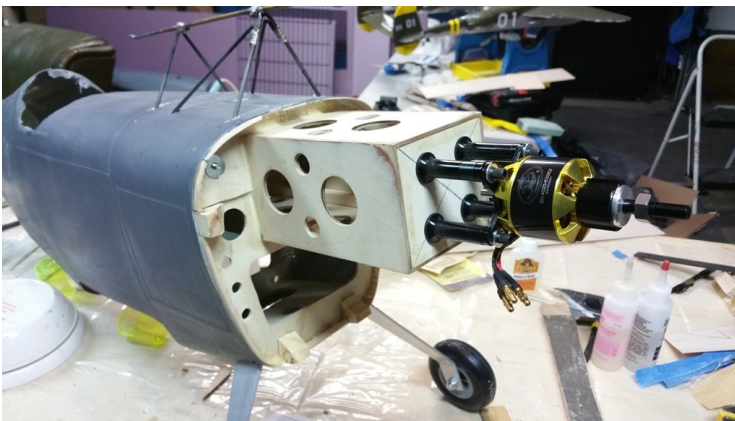
## Editors Corner:

By Carl Lydick

March has been a busy month in RC around here. While attempting to get the website calendar working properly I managed to completely break our access to update the site. After some time on the phone with the friendly support staff I'm happy to report that we're back up and running! I've started getting the events for this season added to the calendar and if you have something you'd like advertised on there please send it my way and we'll get it added.

I've been lucky enough to get some actual flying in this month and finally got my dollar tree foam board P-38 Lightning maiden. Some of you saw this back at a club meeting in November. A friend of mine designed this to be an inexpensive foam board model and is making the plans available for free on his website [www.nerdnic.com](http://www.nerdnic.com).

I'm happy to report that, after a hairy maiden and some adjustments, she flies fantastic. She flies on 4s and is powered by a pair of 1200kv motors with counter-rotating 10x7's. Flight times are short but exciting! You can see video of her in the air at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cmtf9CFUOM>



The rest of my RC Hobby time has been spent mostly working on my scratch built 1/4 scale Pitts Challenger III. I hope to have this project wrapped up and flying before the annual build contest on May 19th. This build has been an opportunity to try my hand at a molded fiberglass fuselage and hotwiring wings. I'm happy with the results so far and look forward to getting her out to the field. Like all of my stuff she will be electric!

I'm looking forward to getting out to the field more this season and hope to see and get to know a lot of you. If you see me out there say hello! So I'll finish up with what will probably be my monthly plea to the club members. If you're at the field (or doing anything RC related) and see something exciting, grab a few pictures and send them my way! I want this newsletter, and the website, to be a place we can share all the excitement going on at NVRC!