

At the March meeting NVRC member Jason Starmer gave a fantastic talk about the process and methods he used while planning and building his Travel Air Mystery Ship R613K.

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Send your newsletter contributions to <a href="mailto:carllydick@hotmail.com">carllydick@hotmail.com</a>.

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 2017. 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**

President, Mark Franke, mfranke@cox.net

Vice President, John Roach, jagroach@verizon.com

Secretary, Terry Terrenoire, amad2terry@juno.com

Treasurer, Bob Freas, freasman@gmail.com

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Chief Flight Instructor, Tony Claridge, tclaridge1@aol.com

Newsletter Editor, Carl Lydick, carllydick@hotmail.com

# **President's Report:**



#### By Mark Franke

Folks,

It's an exciting season for NVRC.

The Lorton field is progressing towards operational status. Over the past several weeks we have had over a dozen volunteers help move the field towards completion. We have accomplished the following. Installing the new shed. Using a machine seeder to seed and improve the turf. The field



Lorton Grass is growing

has been fertilized and the safety fence and windsock installed. Relatively few items are left. We are letting the new grass germinate for 2 to 3 weeks before mowing again. I expect the field to be operational in 3 to 4 weeks.

I'm announcing that we are going start collecting the supplemental dues for the Lorton field at the meeting on Thursday. The fee will be \$100 for 2017.



Lorton Shed and Parking area

Also remember that the club auction is this Saturday, April 22 at the West Potomac high school. Please see the attached flyer. This is a great fundraising event for the club and a great time to pick up gear cheap.

Prior to the club meeting on Thursday beginning approximately 5 PM Tony Claridge will be continuing his building session on the giant scale ARF trainer. This is a hands-on demonstration that was very successful first time around in January.

We will also be having a quad-copter presentation during the meeting by members of our multi GP group.

# **President's Report:**



#### By Mark Franke

Finally this club runs all of the volunteers. **John Roach** has done an amazing job making the field look like Ireland at Poplar Ford.





A perfect day at Poplar Ford

The board is in search of a field boss for Lorton. The position would involve coordinating mowing now that most of the significant work is done. There looks to be plenty of mowing volunteers based on our survey in December. So I don't believe the job would be overwhelming. Please contact me if you're interested in becoming the field boss for Lorton.



Enjoying the new shelter!

Look forward to seeing you at the field or at the meeting.

Mark Franke MD 703-963-0773 mfranke@cox.net

# **VP's Report:** Creation of a Multirotor Practice Course



#### By John Roach

Our handicapped parking is as close as possible to the flight line. Park staff added crushed stone to this area to improve access. Please do not park in these spots if your vehicle does not have a handicapped tag.

Recent rains have turned the pits, spectator area and part of the field into a muddy quagmire. This condition is typical for spring at the field. It helps the grass survive the dry months of summer. Most of the field dried out enough this week to mow it. The pits and spectator area will be mowed when they also dry up. In the meantime, please wear suitable waterproof shoes and use tick repellent. Ticks love this weather.

NVRC submitted a proposed layout for a Multi-GP practice course in the grassy area on the north side of the flying field. We got a reply on Good Friday. It is shown below:

#### Subject: FW: Propose quad copter area

Mark,

We have reviewed NVRCC's request to include the Quad Chopper area at Poplar Ford Park, and have approved this activity with some limitations. First, the requested area to fly the quad choppers is acceptable as it is within the previously approved overfly area, but please note that the designated area is over a meadow restoration area. Additional mowing in this area by the group is denied, and all existing mowing occurring through the meadow area must cease immediately. During our review of your request, we discussed the meadow areas with our resource management team. As a result of those discussions, it was determined that mowing of the meadows was not agreed to in the agreement with NVRCC, and in order to enhance and encourage habitat activity in all meadow areas, regular mowing of pathways through them needs to cease. We understand this may cause concern about insects, but have been informed that the negative effects of mowing through these areas regularly, outweighs the minimal if not negligible benefits gained from mowing with the intent to reduce ticks and chiqgers. Staff will continue a combination of annual meadow mowing and/or controlled burns in these areas, which is does have some positive affect with insect activity. We will perform these maintenance duties annually, most likely during the winter when it is the least detrimental to the wildlife.

### **VP's Report:** Creation of a Multirotor Practice Course



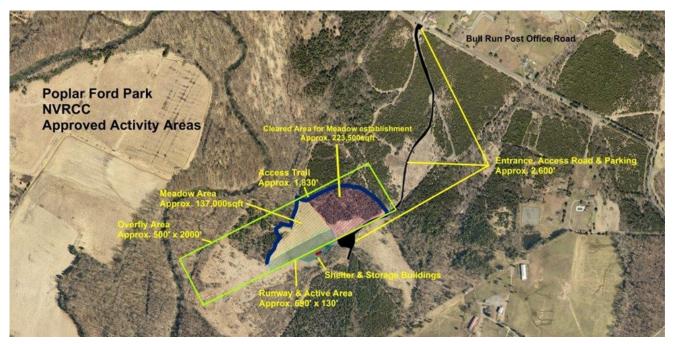
#### By John Roach

#### Subject: FW: Propose quad copter area (Continued)

We are approving the installation of several posts for the quad choppers to navigate in the meadow area, but again, no mowing or any other maintenance activities may be performed in the meadows. Pedestrian activity in the meadow areas in order to install the posts and retrieve downed planes or drones is allowed. While all trail mowing through the meadows must cease immediately, NVRCC may mow and maintain the access trail that borders the meadows as shown in blue on the attached map.

Please note that any desire to change the details of the original agreement with NVRCC will require a formal request to the Director of the Park Authority, and if approved, will likely require an amendment to the current agreement. Also, the current agreement up for renewal in two years, and any desired changes can possibly be discussed then as well.

The map attached to the reply is shown below. Half of the trail marked in blue does not exist. That part runs thru debris left behind by mulching operations (pink color) east of the field. It could be that the County intends to create a new horse trail thru the pink area following the blue line on their map. We shall see. Of more interest is the grass in the proposed practice area. Grass in the Multi-GP area will grow to a height of more than 5 feet within a year. A practice course layout will have to anticipate grass that tall.



# **VP's Report:** Creation of a Multirotor Practice Course



By John Roach

One way to create a course above potentially tall grass would be to place support poles for the gates that would stand above any grass. Gate pylon boxes could then be placed atop these poles to create an elevated set of gates for practice.

There are two advantages to not mowing access trails in the restored areas. First, there will be less wear and tear on the mowers. Mowing those trails was always an adventure that was best left to a brush hog. Secondly and more importantly, disuse of the access trails may discourage encroachment by trespassers riding ATVs. Their unwanted visits have been a nuisance to us as well as park staff.

Periodically burning the meadows reduces the tick and chigger populations in the areas that are burned, but it does not reduce them elsewhere in the park. Please remember to use a good insect repellent containing DEET whenever you visit Poplar Ford. You can easily encounter a tick while charging batteries, sitting in the spectator area, or leaning on an aircraft stand. Ticks consider our furniture to be a part of their hunting grounds. In the event that you crash and attempt to recover your aircraft, consider wearing clothing that has been treated with Permethrin for your hike. It kills insects on contact and does not harm you. Permethrin treated clothing can be machine washed several times because the insecticide is minimally soluble in water. You can purchase expensive pre-treated clothing, but you can also treat your own clothing by following the instructions on the product label — Liberally spray the clothing with the insecticide and allow it to air dry completely before wearing the treated clothing.

#### **VP's Report:** Field Updates

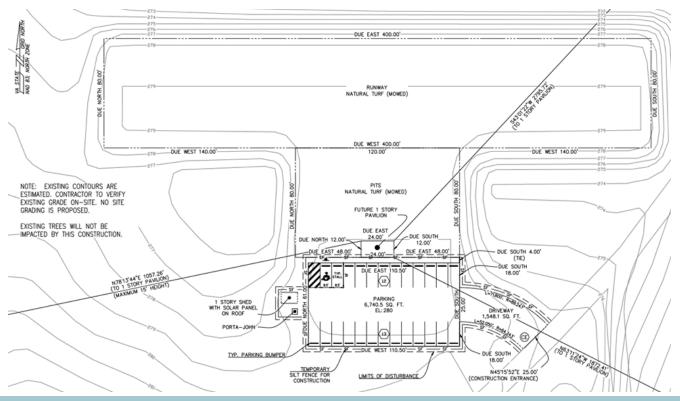


#### By John Roach

**Poplar Ford** - Mulching operations to restore meadow areas adjacent to Poplar Ford field removed dense underbrush this winter. The new steel shelter successfully withstood strong winter winds and should provide welcome shade this summer. The landing strip could benefit from rolling this spring before the soil dries out and hardens.

Lorton Field – Both fields were mowed for the first time this year on 9 March. Harold Chadsey graciously volunteered use of his own trailer to transport both mowers between fields. Use of two mowers significantly reduced the time required to mow Lorton. It was a dry and windy day. We ended up looking like a couple of coal miners after mowing Lorton. We need to keep in mind that the Lorton flying field is sited in a dump. Please wear a good quality N95-rated dust mask when mowing. And, whenever you visit Lorton field, please sign in and out at the ADMIN building and wear a yellow safety vest for the entire time that you are on site.

Bob Burnett designed the Lorton runway so that pilots would not have to face into the sun while flying. The center of the runway is crowned so that it will drain well. Its grass is thin and clumpy at this time. This makes for a bumpy runway that will improve as the grass spreads and fills in between clumps. Unlike Poplar Ford, NVRC is allowed to use fertilizer and



# **NVRC Sprint Auction!**



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



# Auction

Saturday, April 22, 2017 at



West Potomac High School 6500 Quander 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, Drones, Helicopters, Cars, Boats, Parts

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 information, contact Bob Freas (703) 395-9503 More details available on our webpage www.1nvrc.com

# **Upcoming Events:**



#### See the Events Calendar at <a href="https://www.1NVRC.com">www.1NVRC.com</a> for more details!

April 20th	Monthly Meeting
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April 22nd NVRC Spring Auction (Click HERE for details)

April 23rd Indoor Flying at Westfields High School (Click HERE for details)

April 26th Indoor Multi Racing at Monster Mini Golf (Click HERE!)

April 29th MultiGO Practice

Burke Civil Air Patrol Visit (Click HERE for details)

May 10th Indoor Multi Racing at Monster Mini Golf (Click HERE!)

May 13th Spring Fun Fly

MultiGP Race Day

May 18th Annual Build Contest (Click HERE for details)

May 27th MultiGP Practice

June 3rd T-28 Racing (Click HERE for details)

June 7th Indoor Multi Racing at Monster Mini Golf (Click HERE!)

June 11th MultiGP Race Day

June 15th Monthly Meeting

June 17th Become a Pilot Day (Udvar Hazy Center)

June 21st Indoor Multi Racing at Monster Mini Golf (Click HERE!)

June 24th MultiGP Practice

July 9th MultiGP Race Day

July 15th T-28 Racing (Click HERE for details)

# **MultiGP Racing News:**



To register for MultiGP events visit the NVRC MultiGP Chapter website

Congratulations to the winners of the final round of the 2016-17 Bull Run Series! Andres Espinozo (1st), Billy Schutte(2nd), and Farnham Farsh-

neshani(3rd) finished at the top of the pack. In the novice class races the winners were Philip Foss(1st), Scott Fisher(2nd), and RJ Garma (3rd). Prizers were provided by FPVHQ

(www.fpvheadquarters.com).



Andres Espinoso, Billy Shutte, and Farnham Farshneshani



Phillip Foss, Scott Fisher, and Runner-Up Jon Pruett. Not pictured RJ Garma



# **MultiGP Racing News:**



To register for MultiGP events visit the NVRC MultiGP Chapter website

Beginning in April Monster Mini Golf in Chantilly will be hosting indoor "Tiny Whoop" racing! Any micro-drone is welcome to compete. Races run every-other Wednesday starting April 12th through the end of June. Event runs from 9:00PM—11:00PM. \$10 Pilot Fee, Pizza and Soda for \$5.



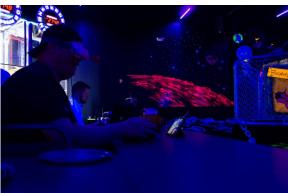
Spectators are welcome and all games and attractions will be available!

Come out and race with us!









#### **Editor's Corner:**



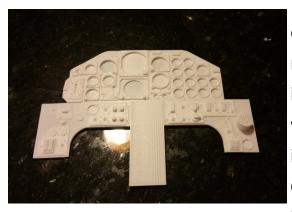
#### By Carl Lydick

Many apologies for the delay in another newsletter. The last month has been VERY busy with work, family events, a 5 year anniversary, and an untimely laptop failure! We're back to normal now and I hope to be able to keep up with the LOADS of great stuff we've got coming up.

I'm in a final push to wrap up my winter build. I've got the power system installed and just need to get the control surfaces installed and she should be ready for a maiden flight. My hope is to have her flown within 2 weeks and then



spend the following two weeks knocking out the finishing details so she'll be pretty for the annual build contest next month.



To help with that finishing detail I've started experimenting with 3D printed cockpit interiors. This 1/4 scale T-38 instrument panel is about 80% complete. Once I'm happy with the finished product I'll be able to print it at any scale needed. It won't win any Top Gun Contests, but for a first attempt I'm happy with how it has turned out so far and

I'm now completely convinced that 3D printing will change the future of scale modeling.