

# The FLYER

*Devoted to the Building and Flying of Radio Controlled Aircraft*

VOL. 2017, Issue 7

The Monthly Newsletter of the Livermore Flying Electrons RC Club

July 2017

**Everyone is Welcome to LFE Meetings!**

**Next Meeting at New Location at the Livermore Airport: Five Rivers Aviation 700 Terminal Circle, Livermore, CA 94551**

### 2017 LFE Board of Directors

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### 2017 LFE Club Officers & Flight Instructors

|   |  |
|---|--|
| President   | Jim Thompson   |
| Vice President  | Julius Bertolucci  |
| Treasurer   | Tom Bilotti  |
| Secretary   | Jerry Crans  |
| Field Maintenance Chairman                              | Chris Keith  |
| Membership Chairman                                     | Johnnie Johnson  |
| Safety Officers   | Chris Keith<br>Bill Long   |
| Fuel Sales Chairman                                     | Mark Isozaki   |
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| Flight Instructors (Fixed Wing)                         | Chris Keith<br>Mike O'Con<br>Chris Orsini<br>Gary Oehrle<br>Mark Isozaki |
| Flight Instructor (Fixed Wing/multi-rotors)             | Daniel Sellers   |
| Flight Instructor (Fixed Wing/Helicopters/Multi-rotors) | Jim Thompson   |

**Newsletter Editor and Web Master: Edward Becker**

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**Newsletter Deadline:** Any information to be included in The Flyer should be submitted to the email listed above no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. All submissions should be in plain text or Microsoft Word format in 12 point Ariel. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce any part of "The Flyer" provided source credit is given.

### **Club Information:**

Real-time weather and field cameras – [www.lferc.com](http://www.lferc.com) and select "Weather & Cameras"

Board of Directors: [directors@lferc.com](mailto:directors@lferc.com)

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Livermore Flying Electrons RC Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2182  
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From The Editor

By Ed Becker  
LFE Newsletter Editor



Greetings and welcome to summer. Hot weather has arrived, so be sure to take appropriate precautions to protect yourself from the sun and dehydration.

At the last meeting club President Jim Thompson announced that we will be holding our monthly meetings at a new location. We are going back to the Livermore Airport, but instead of the terminal building, will be meeting at Five Rivers Aviation who has graciously allowed us to hold our club meetings at their facility at no charge. Their address is 700 Terminal Circle, Livermore, CA 94551. The main page of the club's Website has a link to video directions.

Some of you may not know that Chris Keith is the club's Field Maintenance Chairman and he spends a significant amount of time maintaining our flying site. This includes cutting the grass, trimming around the runway and pits area, as well as many other tasks. Chris does a great job maintaining our field and on behalf of the club, thank you Chris. The field has never looked better!

At the last club meeting, Chris requested that club members not leave any foreign objects in the grass that might be hit by the mower. This includes not filling any squirrel holes with rock, and picking up paper items that may be shredded by the mower. Let's all do our part to

help Chris, by picking up any foreign objects that we see in the grass, and also keeping the pits area and tables clean.

See you at the next meeting and at the field.

-Ed Becker

**TIPS FOR CLUBS--Certification for Solo Flight**

from the Rockland Radio Control Club, Nanuet, New York

Are some of your club members students waiting to receive the okay for unsupervised solo flight? The Rockland County Radio Control Club has created its own "checklist" to certify its members for solo flight.

Your club can use this checklist to assure your students possess the knowledge, ability, and safety for independent flying at your club site.

To be qualified for unsupervised solo flight, the student must have knowledge of and demonstrate the ability to do the following:

1. Field Safety Rules
2. Impound Area and Frequency Control
3. Assemble and Test Aircraft
4. Start Engine and Tune
5. Perform Flight Maneuvers:
  - A. Start and Taxi
  - B. Take Off - (from flight station) Right to Left and Left to Right (Demonstrate ability to take off in either direction according to wind direction)
  - C. Trim Aircraft for Straight & Level Flight
  - D. Fly Rectangle Pattern (holding altitude and heading. Fly in both directions)
  - E. Fly Figure Eight Pattern (Fly in both directions making right hand turns from right side and left side)
  - F. Slow Flight and Stall Recovery
  - G. Landing (from left making left turns and from right making right turns)
  - H. Demonstrate Aborted Landing and Go-Round

I. Taxi Back and Shutdown

J. Secure Equipment (Receiver and transmitter off, antenna down, transmitter in impound, pin removed from frequency board)

Observe student for SAFE operation. Was student aware of wind direction and did he/she compensate for it? Was student aware of position of sun and did he/she avoid flying into glare? Was student aware of other aircraft in the air and other pilots on the flight line? Was the student confident and in control of his/her aircraft at all times?

This checklist can be modified to meet the needs of your club and your students. To receive a printable version of this checklist for use at your club, please visit: [www.rcrcc.com](http://www.rcrcc.com) and select "Student Solo Checklist" under the General Interest link.

### Learning the Art of Model Building

From the Westlake RC Club, Inc., North  
Olmstead, Ohio

Building model airplanes, like any other artistic medium such as sculpture, landscape, painting, or flower arranging, is an art form in its own right. And like any other art form, it's a learned skill that takes time and dedication to master.

I try to bring a new model to the meetings every chance I get, and I always hear many who look at them say, "I could never do that," or "it would take me 10 years to build that." For the less experienced modelers among us, I can certainly understand how that could come to mind. However, those models are a culmination of more than 45 years at the drawing board and work bench, with the last 12 years having been "full time." It's safe to say that I have been fortunate enough to have packed a dozen average modelers' lifetime achievements into my last five years of modeling!

With that being said, we all must understand that mastering the art of modeling will span a lifetime, and we can't expect to start out where those who have been doing it for many years

have aspired to. The good news is that modeling skills are not difficult to learn, it just takes practice. The main thing is that someone new to modeling must begin with a project simple enough to complete successfully—after all, there's no better motivator than success!

So where does one begin? Most of us in the club are RC fliers that fly Almost-Ready-to-Fly (ARFs) models; so naturally, the first thought would be to build an RC model. There are those among us who could accomplish this task just fine. However, that depends on many factors, such as wood-working skills, plans reading ability and so forth. For most, all of those skills will have to be learned right from the start, which might seem like a monumental undertaking! So here's how I'd suggest going about it.

**First:** Keep the main objective in mind—learning to build models!

**Second:** Start simple!! The fact that your primary interest is flying RC models doesn't mean your limited to building only RC models. Remember, the goal is learning to build. If you're flying ARF's now, you can still hone your flying skills while you're learning to build. Then when you do build your first RC model, your flying skills will be in good shape too.

**Third:** Don't get in a hurry, and don't get discouraged. There are no time limits on any project that are not self induced! And remember, this is a hobby and hobbies are about filling our time with enjoyable activities.

Here's a suggestion for, shall we say, testing the water! Start out with a simple stick-and-tissue type Free Flight kit. The investment is minimal—\$15.00 will go a long way in that realm, and the skills required to complete the model are really pretty minimal, but will go a long way toward building your skills. Then when you get it done, take it out and fly it. Learning to trim these models will also go a very long way in understanding RC models and what makes them tick. Then with each step, move up to something a bit more complex, and through just a few small steps, you will have learned the

basic building and plans reading skills required to build an RC model.

Now, don't expect the first try to produce a world-class model. Keep in mind that this is a series of small steps toward the larger goal of mastering the art of modeling, and with each step, work toward improving something, not everything, on your next model. Give special attention to the areas that were the most difficult on the first one, and before you know it, your basic skills will be forming nicely.

And finally, if you find yourself in a little over your head, ask questions of those of us who do build. Modelers by nature are a pretty good bunch of folks, and I haven't met many who are not willing to help someone who is truly interested in learning the art of modeling.

## Tips & Tricks

### **Recycling Masking Tape**

*I use the clear backing on the MonoKote film to recycle my masking tape if it is still in fairly good condition. It keeps the adhesive from going bad. When I need the tape, I just peel it off.*

### **Protecting Hinges**

*Petroleum jelly often has been used on pinned hinges to prevent epoxy glue from sticking to the hinge joint; however, it is difficult to get just the right amount on the hinge and to make sure the hinge is completely coated. A very cool way is to melt the petroleum jelly in a small dish such as a dessert dish (an oven safe type, of course). Use only enough to melt to a depth of about 1/6 of an inch. Fold the hinge and dip the pinned end into the melted jelly. Remove and touch the hinge and dip the pinned end into the melted jelly. Remove and touch the hinge to a paper towel to remove excess. In a couple seconds, the petroleum jelly cools and has penetrated the hinge. You now have a completely coated hinge joint that epoxy will not stick to.*

—both from Schoolcraft Skyhawks R/C Airplane Club, Schoolcraft, Michigan.

### **Stir Sticks (Popsicle sticks)**

*Next time you are in the craft shop, pick up some Popsicle sticks. They come in boxes of 100, 500, or 1,000 and they are cheap. You will be able to use these for all kinds of things like servo rails, reinforcing splices, skids, fuel tank stops, mixing epoxy—any place where you are going to put in screws. You will find all kinds of uses for them.*

—From the Niagara County Radio Controlled Model Flying Club, Lockport, New York.

### **Waterfall**

*Continuous tail-over-nose descending flip. It's not a loop, but the aircraft actually flops around its canopy. Start relatively high. At low throttle, gradually pull the nose up until its near vertical. Just before it stalls, add full down and full power at the same time. You have to continuously "fly" the rudder and ailerons to keep the airplane*

*flipping over in a straight line. To do consecutive Waterfalls, continue to hold full down and “fly” rudder and ailerons, and chop the throttle as the nose comes back up to vertical, then add full power as it flips straight down .*

—Mike McConville, the Suffolk Aero Modelers,  
Bay Shore, New York.



**The Secretary's Report**

*By Jerry Crans*  
LFE Secretary

Sound Measurement of aircraft: Jeff to mark location by Friday.

**New Business** : New meeting location at Livermore Airport: Five Rivers Aviation 700 Terminal Circle, Livermore Ca 94551  
Livermore Airport open house

**Minutes of June 14th 2017 LFE Meeting**

**Board members present:** Jerry Crans, Jim Thompson, Jeff Stern, Tom Bilotti, Mark Isozaki, Ed Becker and Chris Orsini

**Meeting called to order at:** 7:00 PM by Jim Thompson

**Guests / New Members 1**

**Minutes:** May 10th 2017 Minutes approved

**Membership Report:** 194 members

**Treasurer report:** Bilotti gave report

**Events Chair Report:** Float Fly June 23  
Rotofest June 24th

**Quartermaster Report:** Cash or Ck only for fuel

**Instructor Report:** 29 students signed up  
Safety Office Report: Pick up metal stakes so they are not blown by gas blower

**Field Maintenance Report:** Fill holes around field with dirt not gravel

**Technology Group Report:** Need one new camera

Unfinished Business:

**Show and Tell:** Electric motor mount -Jeff Stearn

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40 by Thompson

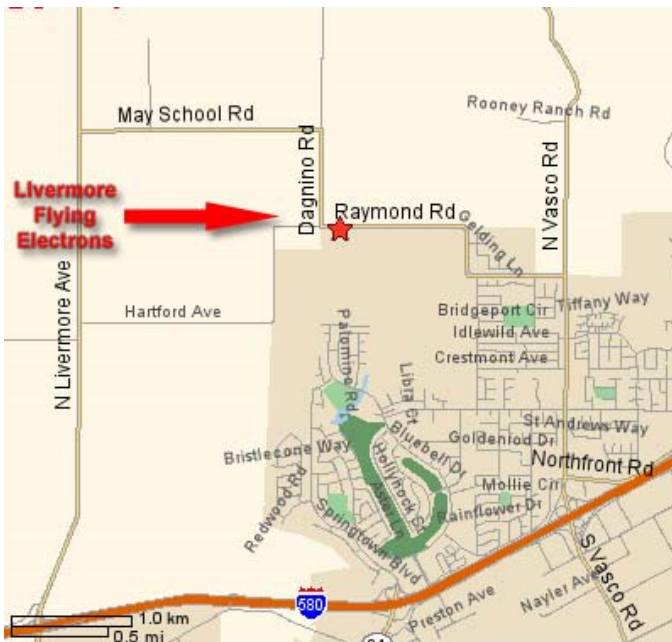
LFE Secretary's Report by Jerry Crans



## Directions and Map



Located conveniently between the N. Livermore Ave and S. Vasco Rd. Exits off of Highway 580



### LFE Flying Site

4455 Raymond Rd.  
Livermore, Ca.

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P.O. Box 2182  
Livermore, CA 94551

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