

Official Publication of the Southern NH Flying Eagles.
Chartered AMA Club #2417

April 2024

The Eagles' Nest



President's Report

By: Tim Sowder

The weather is improving and we are back to group flies on Tuesdays again. We also have new members joining up and entering this fun and educational hobby. This means summer is coming and the club is in a good way.

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Operating our FAA
Approved FRIA Site
In Merrimack, NH

Effective 9/16/2023
Through 8/24/2027

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President's Report Continued... (From Page 2)

Our field is looking great for early spring. The flooding hasn't hurt us. Ted Ede, Bob Fregault and I took a stroll around the air field. We looked at the impromptu pond we have as result of the heavy rains. We also looked at the areas around our field. The trees we had cut down two years ago gave us a lot more room to fly. But there is more work to do. The trees and bushes along the brook are starting to infringe on our airspace and making recovery of errant aircraft more challenging. We also have felled trees in the brook which need to be removed to meet the expectations of the Merrimack Town Counsel.

All of this work will take some time. In the past, we have attempted to accomplish the upkeep of the field and all of our other possessions with two field maintenance days. After walking the field and talking to the other officers, it is apparent two annual sessions won't make everything happen that we need to complete. To manage all of this, the officers decided we need to set up multiple field maintenance days. Our plan is to hold one field maintenance day each month.

(..continued on page 3)

Don't let the
water on the
field stop
you!



President's Report Continued... (From Page 2)

The next field maintenance day is Saturday, April 6th. I am asking everyone to volunteer to come to the field and help with tree and brush cutting. We will also need people to drag the debris into piles.

If you have the time and energy, please plan to bring your chainsaw, clippers, string trimmers...etc. We will meet at 8:30AM or later to get things started. I hope to be finished around 11:00. The club can use your help.

This month's Club Meeting is a two-part meeting. The first part will be to go over the annual budget. Our new Treasurer, Bob Fregault, has been working very hard on the budget. We have some field improvements to present. The second part will be the much-anticipated Show-and-Tell event. Members are encouraged to bring their winter builds and show them off. I ask you to bring your model and give a little description of the build. Your model doesn't have to be complete. Seeing the bones of an aircraft's structure is just as impressive as a fully complete project.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, April 3rd at 1930 (7:30 PM). The meeting will be held at the Saint James United Methodist Church in the main banquet room.

Yours Truly,
Tim Sowder
President
SNH Flying Eagles





Federal Aviation
Administration
FAADroneZone

Adding FAA Number to your Profile

The FAA requires that all RC clubs maintain a list of FAA Registration Numbers for each club member.

Please follow the instructions below to obtain an FAA UAS registration number:

1) Go to https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone

2) Once at the FAA page, click the "Register your drone at FAADroneZone" link

* Once you register your drone, you will receive an FAA registration certificate. You must have your registration certificate (either a paper copy or digital copy) in your possession when you fly.

* The FAA requires that you label all drones with your registration number before you fly them.

Add your FAA registration number to our club website:

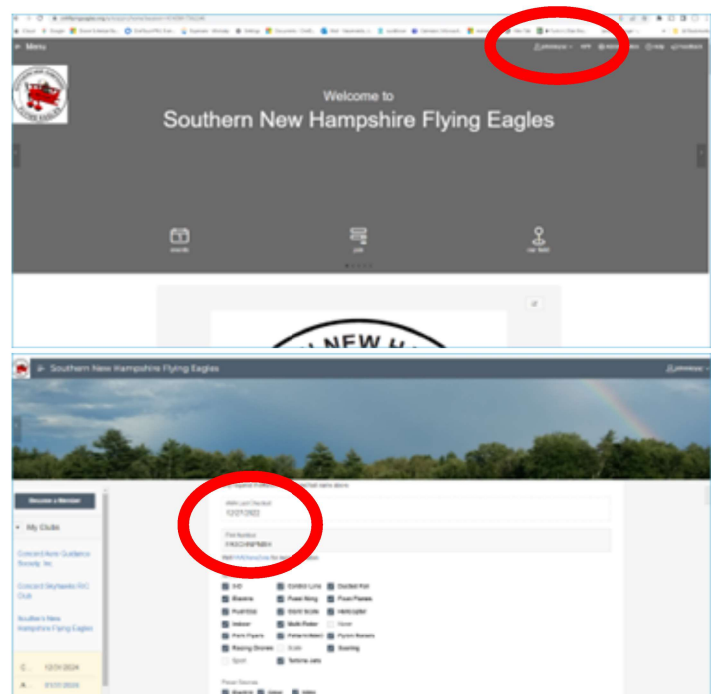
3) Sign into the club webpage with your user id and password.

<https://www.snhflyingeagles.org/>

4) Click on to the down arrow next to your name and select "Update Profile"

5) Enter your FAA Certificate number obtained from FAA DroneZone UAS registration, then click **save** at bottom.

* Please see an officer if you need help.



The Secretary's Report

By: Steve Lewis

Minutes to Club Meeting
3/06/2024

Attending Officers:

Tim Sowder, President
Johnny Yaz, Vice-President
Ken Donahue, Field Marshall
Carl Andersen, Safety Officer
Bob Fregault, Treasurer



Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

A - President's Comments:

- **April Meeting:** "Show & Tell" month and discussion of this year's budget.
- **Newsletter:** Newsletter was unanimously approved and accepted by show of hands.
- **By-Law Amendment:**
 - Tim Sowder read the proposed By-Law amendment submitted by Bob LaCroix to the 16 club members in attendance. The proposed amendment called for the removal of the 4-year term limit on officers' positions. The proposal would make the term of office an annual election but the incumbent officer could run for any number of terms.
 - After much discussion, the amendment passed by hand vote with 12 members in favor of the proposal, 3 members opposed, and 1 member abstaining.

The Secretary's Report (...continued)

Training Program:

- Zach provided a syllabus to standardize new pilot training, including pre-flight check list, pre-flight inspection, and takeoff check list.
- SNHFE lacks a structured approach to training new flyers; each instructor has their preferred way of training new pilots.
- With modern PNP and BNF aircraft there is less attention to how to prep an aircraft as opposed to nitro or gas aircraft.
- A formal structured training syllabus would allow students to progress each week regardless of which instructor is helping the student that week. Tracking the student's progress is the important thing.
- Instructors need to get together to develop the standardized training syllabus.
- Tim also mentioned the need for more instructors.

Winter Carnival was a big success thanks to Bob LaCroix, Joe Marone, and Russell Richards. We received interest from 5 new individuals who came to our field the following Sunday.

Field Improvements – Things we need to do:

- Additional trees to be cut
- Tree debris in the brook needs to be removed
- Flight stands need maintenance.
- Tim proposed having monthly field improvement days instead of twice-a-year cleanup days.

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The Secretary's Report (...continued)

Control line Flying:

- Need to install a permanent pilot circle for control line flying. Tim to coordinate a design with the control line pilots team.
- Control line flying would have a window of time to fly so as to not interfere with RC flying.
- Best control line flying seems to be early morning (7 – 7:30) while the air is still and cool. Would have to be electric planes since nitro would violate club rules about flying nitro before 10 AM.

Annual Operating Budget – Things to consider:

- Could use 3 new flight stands
- Need to enclose the charging station to protect against weather
- Foam insulation on flight stands needs to be replaced
- Need a new cabinet or racking system to protect training aircraft while in the container.
- Container doors on mower container are difficult to open and need adjustment/repair
- Power to cameras needs to be looked at
- Should consider adding 2 additional solar panels and 2 additional batteries to the charging station.
- Need to fill in the puddle in the parking area. A system of GTex and stone was suggested as a possible solution. John Spitz proposed an “egg carton” type base that can support car traffic. John to investigate.

(Continued on next page...)

The Secretary's Report (...continued)

B - Vice-President: Yaz had nothing new to report.

C - Safety Officer: Carl had nothing to report.

D - Field Marshall: Kenny had nothing to report other than general field maintenance'

F - Treasurer: Bob Fregault gave a quick update on the Club's cash position and reported that the transition of Treasurer's duties from Ted Ede to Bob was still in process but a budget will be prepared for April's meeting.

With no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 8:40 PM. Minutes recorded by Bob Fregault

Club Calendar

April 3 - Members Meeting @ St. James @7:30 PM
(Budget Vote & Show n Tell)

April 15 – Monthly Officers Meeting @ 7:00PM
(Budget Review)

May 1 - Members Meeting @ Field @11:00 AM

May 12 – Mother's Day



May 20 – Monthly Officers Meeting @ 7:00PM

Designated Club Instruction Times: Sunday AM, Tuesday evening (during Daylight Savings Time)



Club Safety Rules



The Southern New Hampshire Flying Eagles RC Club is an AMA-sponsored club and operates according to AMA Safety Rules. In addition, the following safety rules and practices are to be followed when flying at our flying site. The intention of these club safety rules is

- a) to maintain the highest level of personal safety for all members, guests, and spectators, and
- b) to keep our aircraft in good flying condition and to prevent unnecessary damage to them.

Please read and familiarize yourself with the AMA Safety Program that is online on the AMA web site.

General

1. All aircraft must be marked with your AMA member ID and FAA ID on an exterior surface and must be easily readable. Aircraft weighing less than .55 lbs. do not need the FAA ID.
2. No take-offs or landings from the pit area.
3. No more than 4 (four) aircraft in the air at any one time. (Helicopter hover area doesn't apply)
4. Only SNH Flying Eagles designated instructors shall give or supervise flight instruction at the SNH Flying Eagle's field.
5. All pilots are required to fly from designated areas on the flight line or hover area.
6. These Safety Rules may be amended by majority vote of the Officers.

Personal Safety

1. All flying must take place in front of the safety fence and the indefinite extensions of this fence in both directions. This means no flying over or behind the pit area, spectator area, or parking area.
2. Never taxi your aircraft in the pit area.
3. Never walk from the pit area to the flight line carrying an aircraft running at full throttle. (Exception: engines with no throttle)
4. If possible, program an easily accessible switch to kill your throttle until you are read to taxi or take off.
5. Announce your intention to take off and the direction you intend to take off in.
6. When going onto the field to retrieve an aircraft, announce your intentions loudly to all pilots on the flight line.
7. All club members will adhere to the safety guidelines as outlined in the AMA safety manual.

AMA Safety Rules



Academy of Model Aeronautics National Model Aircraft Safety Code

Effective January 1, 2018

A model aircraft is a non-human-carrying device capable of sustained flight within visual line of sight of the pilot or spotter(s). It may not exceed limitations of this code and is intended exclusively for sport, recreation, education and/or competition. All model flights must be conducted in accordance with this safety code and related AMA guidelines, any additional rules specific to the flying site, as well as all applicable laws and regulations.

As an AMA member I agree:

- I will not fly a model aircraft in a careless or reckless manner.
- I will not interfere with and will yield the right of way to all human-carrying aircraft using AMA's See and Avoid Guidance and a spotter when appropriate.
- I will not operate any model aircraft while I am under the influence of alcohol or any drug that could adversely affect my ability to safely control the model.
- I will avoid flying directly over unprotected people, moving vehicles, and occupied structures.
- I will fly Free Flight (FF) and Control Line (CL) models in compliance with AMA's safety programming.
- I will maintain visual contact of an RC model aircraft without enhancement other than corrective lenses prescribed to me. When using an advanced flight system, such as an autopilot, or flying First-Person View (FPV), I will comply with AMA's Advanced Flight System programming.
- I will only fly models weighing more than 55 pounds, including fuel, if certified through AMA's Large Model Airplane Program.
- I will only fly a turbine-powered model aircraft in compliance with AMA's Gas Turbine Program.
- I will not fly a powered model outdoors closer than 25 feet to any individual, except for myself or my helper(s) located at the flight line, unless I am taking off and landing, or as otherwise provided in AMA's Competition Regulation.
- I will use an established safety line to separate all model aircraft operations from spectators and bystanders.

For a complete copy of AMA's Safety Handbook please visit: modelaircraft.org

Your 2024 So. NH Flying Eagles Officers

President: Tim Sowder

Vice President: John Yassemedis

Secretary: Steve Lewis

Treasurer: Bob Fregault

Field Marshall: Kenny Donahue

Safety Officer: Carl Anderson

Webmaster (appointed): Chris Whalley

Head Instructor(appointed): Kenny Donahue

Newsletter Editor: Dave Majchrzak

* Submit your photos / articles to Dave at dm70nh@gmail.com



Flight Instructors

Kenny Donahue (Head Instructor) Kenny.Donahue@gmail.com 603-557-7096

Tom Gaudette tgwings@comcast.net.

Tim Sowder timnh2002@yahoo.com 603-320-3698

John "Yaz" Yassemedis johnnieyaz@gmail.com 603-321-8442

Steve Lewis slewis_245@comcast.net 603-801-1971

Todd Neumann trneumann@icloud.com 603-440-3567

Dave Majchrzak dm70nh@gmail.com 603-892-1295

Disclaimer:

Your dues do not entitle you to flight instruction. Flight instruction is offered free to members from certified club pilots who donate their time to help others. Flight instruction is dependent upon instructor availability and no guarantee is implied.

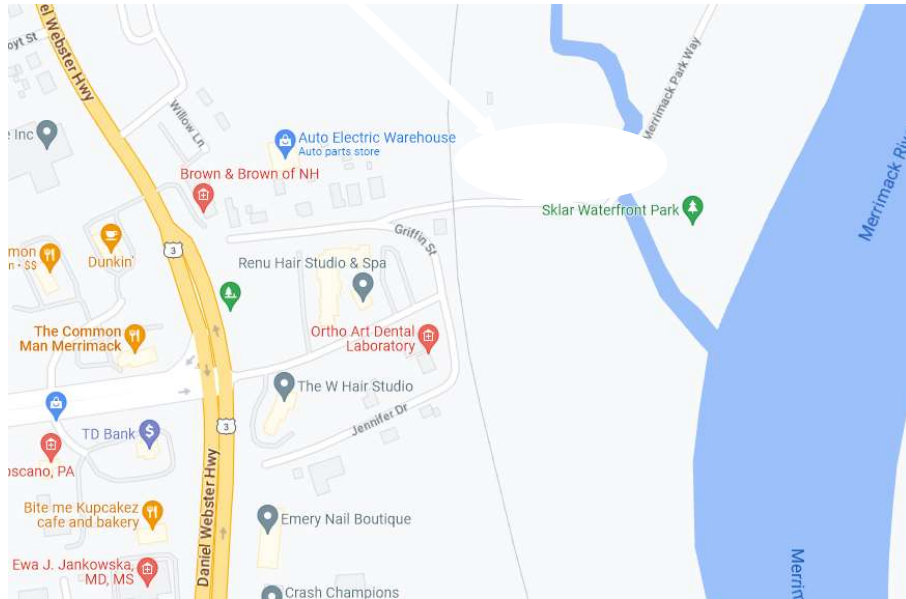
New Solo Pilots



None This month.

Drobysh-Patterson RC Field

2-18 Griffin St.
Merrimack, NH
03054



The Merrimack field is less than one mile from exit 11 off the Everett Turnpike. After leaving the highway, head east and go straight through all the lights and down the little hill. Spectators are encouraged to park in one of the parking lots and walk to the field. Pilots should turn left at the foot of the hill, and then make a hairpin right turn on the dirt road that goes under the railroad bridge. The field entrance is on the left as soon as you pass under the railroad tracks.



About the Southern New Hampshire Flying Eagles

- Founded 1984
- Chartered in 1985
- Approximately 100 Members
- Merrimack Flying Site Established in 1988
- Incorporated in NH as a Non-Profit Organization
- Annual Dues: \$65 Full Membership; \$35 Elders, & \$35 Juniors, Family Membership \$75
- Fabric Runway Laid in 2014
- Free Flight Instruction for Members
- AMA Chartered Club #2417
- Monthly Club Flying Competitions
- Frozen Fingers Fun Fly (January)
- Banquet (March)
- Show & Tell (April)
- Family Picnic (August)
- Float Fly (September)



Websites

So. NH Flying Eagles

<https://www.snhflyingeagles.org>

AMA District I

<https://www.amadistrict-i.org/>

Mailing Address

Southern NH Flying Eagles

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