



December 2025

TAILWINDS

www.RCACES.ORG



The RC Aces are affiliated with the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics), Charter #1377. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month, September through May at the North Hampton Public Library (6:00 PM) unless otherwise notified. All members, spouses, potential members and guests are invited to attend.

Club Contacts for 2025-2026:

PRESIDENT:

Mark Thom, bonzai1959@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Frank O'Neil, f2datank@outlook.com

SECRETARY & NEWSLETTER:

Ken Kennedy, usma82@verizon.net

TREASURER:

Don Chase, dhchasenh@comcast.net

SAFETY COORDINATOR:

Don Dodier, donalddodier@gmail.com

CLUB CONTACT:

Don Chase, dhchasenh@comcast.net

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Jim Tilton, John Backhaus, Mike Larson

WEBMASTER:

Mark Berard, grampyb@comcast.net

James Lewis, designercom@hotmail.com

2025 Club Survey Results

Below is a summary of some of your suggestions:

- ◆ Knowing field conditions in real time (wind & precipitation conditions).
- ◆ Plan to fly notification dialog on Website to arrange for mid-week flying.
- ◆ Publish meeting agenda items before the meetings.
- ◆ A meeting structure to conduct business discussions quickly.
- ◆ Summer meetings at field: June - July - August
- ◆ Reduce/ eliminate initiation fee.
- ◆ Open Q&A on topics of interest listed in agenda including show and tell.
- ◆ Events, building methods and techniques, flying clinic, radio programing, motor and plane component selection, etc.
- ◆ Promote Drone flyers.
- ◆ New member outreach, Schools, Boy Scout meetings, Airport Cafes
- ◆ Permit electric flying from 0800 until dusk.
- ◆ Change mowing to the afternoon.
- ◆ Spring and Fall runway maintenance.
- ◆ More structured and available instruction times, promote come the field and fly days.
- ◆ Monthly breakfast at the field.
- ◆ Spring Swap meet.
- ◆ Combined activities with other clubs. Fun Fly, Air combat events, balloon bust, limbo, spot landing, egg drop to target, Old timers day, etc.
- ◆ Invite Vendor to set up store at events.
- ◆ Post invites on public bulletin boards in stores, local town offices and other locations.

These are all being considered by the Club Officers. More info soon!

THE NEXT RC ACES MEETING IS ON

***** January 8, 2026 *****



Meeting Notes

December 4, 2025

Meeting called to order: 6:02 PM

Attendees: 13, including 1 on Zoom

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the November meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: We have 40 members. Checking and savings balances were reviewed.

Field Safety Coordinator's Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business:

- Discussed meeting length and the 40-minute deadline for “free” Zoom meetings. Frank reported it would cost \$16.99 per month if we opted for the “Pro Level” which would give us more time. The membership agreed we should try this for the next several months on a trial basis (through May 2026) to see if it is worth the additional cost.

New Business:

- Discussed Dean Allred's passing, and plans to help sell/distribute the RC items he left behind. Don C is coordinating with his wife Nancy. We will do an initial visit/assessment (February?) and make plans from there.
- Reviewed an offer to allow a drone racing event at our airfield. Northeast Racing Grounds would provide all labor and equipment—we just provide the location. All members indicated they would support this.
- Reviewed the survey results (see page 1 summary). The officers will review all for consideration, but several can probably be instituted right away. More information to come.
- Discussed creating a “sandwich board sign” that could be placed outside the gate when the airfield is active to invite people on the rail trail to come in and “check us out.”
- A “Plan-to-Fly” calendar function already exists on our website. This is so the members can post when they plan to be at the airfield. James will demonstrate the use of this tool next month.
- Don will make the by-law change discussed previously (requirement to program the throttle cut if a pilot's transmitter is capable of this action). The 30-day notice was completed.
- The membership agreed to make a \$200 donation to the North Hampton Public Library. Our use of their meeting room each month is greatly appreciated.
- Don will make all legal and AMA filings in the next few weeks. There was a discussion on which category we should file under with the state (501 (c)7 or other). Don to investigate and confirm.
- There was a discussion regarding posting a memorial page for Dean on our website. All were in favor, and Don check with Dean's wife to make sure she has no objection (update: she is OK with the idea).
- Discussed adding Dean's name to the memorial plaque at the field. We may need to add a new panel if the current one is full.

Comments / Questions from the Membership: None

Meeting closed at 6:44 PM

James “Dean” Allred

October 4, 1946—November 16, 2025

Years from now, some new member of the club will ask, “Who was that Dean guy? I keep hearing so much about him.”

I met Dean about ten years ago outside the hall in Wrentham, Massachusetts where the Lazy Loopers were about to hold their annual RC auction. The doors hadn’t opened yet, so Dean and I struck up a conversation, comparing notes. When the doors were finally opened, Dean left me with an invite to visit his club in Hampton, NH.



A short time later, I found myself staying at my sister-in-law’s house in Hampton over Christmas week. I contacted Dean and he invited me to come to the field and fly as his guest. I had only been flying for about



a year, but I felt pretty confident about my abilities. I remember being warned, “watch out for the full-scale airplanes—if you hear one coming, drop down low.” Well, of course, I was in the air for about two minutes when a full-scale was headed for the airfield. I immediately dropped in altitude—and smacked into the top of a tree. Dean didn’t laugh or tease; he just said something like, “well, it happens to everyone eventually.”

That plane ended up being beyond repair, but I had a number of other “near-successful landings” that required the skill of a craftsman. Dean often helped me

(and many others) with the repairs. I could replace ARF components, but Dean could fix things.

Dean was great builder— but he was also the master of the deal. He attended as many RC auctions as he could, and made heavy use of the seller’s section on the RC Groups forum. He was such a well-known member of the local flying community that people sought him out just to “get rid of” planes that nobody else wanted. He served as president of RC ACES for several years, helped others to fly as an instructor, and often provided a great deal of entertainment for onlookers at the field.

I feel sorry that Dean has passed. I know he had many struggles in those last few months, but his battle is over. I feel fortunate to have known him, and happy to have a few stories to tell. Rest in peace, my friend.

KK



RC ACES 2026 MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL FORM

First _____ Last _____ AMA #(required) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Regular Membership \$75.00 (ages 18 to 64)

Junior Membership \$20.00 (ages 17 and under)

Senior Membership \$60.00 (ages 65 and over)

New members please include an additional \$35.00 one time initiation fee

(Fees are subject to change)

Total Due \$ _____

As a member of the RC ACES Radio Control Club I agree to the following:

I have read and agree to abide by the Official Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) National Model Aircraft Safety Code, the club by-laws and all rules and regulations of the RC ACES.

I agree to release club members or club officers from liability if an aircraft I am operating is involved in an accident or otherwise causes harm to another person or property or if I am injured as a result of any activity related to club activities or operation of model aircraft.

(The intent of the above statement is to keep others not directly involved with an incident out of any proceedings related to the incident)

I agree to assume all liability for any model that I am operating in case of harm to other persons or property.

Signature _____ Date _____
(parent if a Junior member)

Membership renewals may be brought to the regular meeting held at the North Hampton Public Library at 6:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month, starting in September or mailed to the address below:

NOTE: Please make checks payable to RC ACES

Or send via Venmo (@Donald-Chase-10)

**RC ACES
26 Holmgren Road
Stratham, NH 03885**

RC Aces membership period is from April 15, 2026 to April 14, 2027