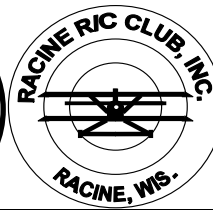




THE FLIGHTLINE



AMA CLUB 668 SINCE 1968
RACINE RADIO CONTROL CLUB INC SINCE 1968

RRCC January Issue
January 21, 2024 Newsletter

WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.racinerclub.com

Club Officers

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Secretary/Treasurer

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Racine R/C Club Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: R/C Flying Field

Open Meeting - Jim opened the meeting at 1:00PM. 21 members in attendance.

Welcome - New Members & Guests – There were no guests or new members.

Minutes - Last Meeting – There were no changes to the published minutes.

Reports

President- Jim Litwin reminded everyone about the Milwaukee RC Association hosting the 45th annual auction and swap meet again at the Washington County fairgrounds, Sunday January 28th, 2024. Copies of the flyer will be in the club newsletters.

Workers are needed. Two-hour shifts with free entry to the event. Shifts are as follows - 6:30AM-8:30AM, 8:30AM-10:30AM, and 10:30AM-12:30PM. Darrell Hossalla has volunteered to coordinate members from our club that want to volunteer. Please check with Darrell so one list can be sent to the MRCA. The event opens at 8:30AM

Vice President- Roger Nickolaus had nothing new to report.

Secretary/Treasurer-Bob Johnson reported our checkbook balance remains strong and we are well positioned for any planned or unplanned club requirements.

Current membership as of this newsletter.

Senior Members	41
Open Members	15
Junior Members	2
Total	<hr/> 58

2024 dues received at the December meeting, and members that have sent their dues in the mail, total 21 members so far for 2024. The cutoff for emailing the RRCC newsletter will be several months for members that have not renewed their membership dues.

I will be investigating the pros/cons of moving from printed membership cards to virtual (or electronic) cards. Members will receive an email with a file attached that when opened would be a graphic representation of the current membership card.

You would then save this file on your smart phone should you ever need to reference it. If it turns out to be an acceptable process it will be presented to the board and voted on. More on this at the January meeting.

Newsletter Editor-Dennis Vollrath had nothing new to report.

Field Chairman- Trygve thanked everyone that helped mow and maintain the field.

Tractor Chairman- Eric Armantrout had nothing new to report.

Web Master-Ron Hayes had nothing new to report. Visit the website to see member flights filmed by Ron. If you haven't seen this yet it's worth viewing!

Safety Officer-Darrell Hossalla had nothing new to report.

Compost Director- Chuck Roberts had nothing new to report. He stated 2023 was a very good compost year.

Old Business- Nothing to discuss.

New Business – Vote for 2024 Club

Dues. A vote took place, and a motion was made to keep the amount of our dues the same for 2024 as they were in 2023.

Senior Member-\$40.00

Open Regular Member-\$70.00

Junior Member-\$1.00

Family Membership-\$80.00

Non-Flyer-\$30.00

Discussion on New Years Day festivities. ("First in the Air" Electric, Glow, Gas, Jet, and Glider). Brats, hot dogs and soft drinks will be supplied. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass and make sure to take home what was not eaten.

Discussion on a proposal to move from printed membership cards to electronic cards for 2025 took place. Bob Johnson will investigate and provide a sample to the board.

New Pilots – None

Show & Tell – There was no show and tell this month. Dennis Vollrath has A123 batteries available if anyone is interested.

Raffle Drawing –Pete Redel won the raffle and donated all \$23.00 to the club. Thanks Pete!!

Close Meeting – Jim closed the meeting with a reminder the next club meeting will be Sunday January 21st at 1PM at the club house. And the next gathering will be the New Years Party on January 1st, 2024.

JIM'S CORNER

Snow & ice on the ground, so I can assume its winter. Planes are now flying with skis, and the pilots are all rushing into the shelter putting their hands near the hot wood stove!

I wasn't able to make it, but I have been

told that the New Year day event was another success. Lots of food, and fellowship. Thanks to Roger & Hoss for their work in making this event a success.

There were members getting planes into the air on New Year's day:

1st Ron Hayes – Electric fan jet (8:45 AM)

1st Gas Powered – Darrell Hossalla (9:00 AM)

1st Electric Prop – Eric Armantrout

1st Glider – Helmut Schmidtke

Congratulations to those who flew braving the weather.

Back in November, the membership voted in the club's Field Rule changes. The new Field Rules have been printed and posted at the field on the north wall under the roof area.

They also can be found in the club handbook, which is located on the club website. If you have not reviewed them in the past, take a few minutes and do so. It just helps insure that the field is operated in a safe and cordial manner.

At our upcoming January 21st meeting we will be advising everyone about the upcoming club awards. At the February meeting we will be nominating and voting for club awards, so our discussions at the January meeting will be about what the awards are and to get you thinking.

On a personal note, as I write this article, I am at the 6th week in the "Boot" to sta-

bilize my fractured leg. Doctor had said that "old people" like me need about 10 weeks for the bones to heal, and then maybe into a walking boot, more therapy, and then back to whatever normal is. No pain, just limitations on mobility.

We mention it every year, but I'm going to say it again; take some time and actually go thru your planes and do some actual maintenance. Check servo arms, wire connections, equipment securely mounted, fuel lines in good order, all bolts and fasteners tight.

Every year we see somebody's plane come to the field with something wrong that could have been fixed with a home inspection. When the snow is blowing outside, it's something that you can take your time with.

Again, our next meeting is on Sunday, January 21st at 1 PM. The Compost Site Duty 2024 sign up roster will be available, and membership dues will be collected.

Fly Safe & Have Fun

Jim Litwin
President

Dennys Stuff

Your newsletter editor has been at it again with several electronic projects.

Five years ago, I designed the "BattIR" project that was covered in the AMA magazine. I built up some 60 of them for RC minded people in our RRCC club as well as all over the USA, and a few foreign countries.

These meters have worked quite well over the past five years. I've still got two of them in my workshop.

But, time goes on, and your editor was itching for another project for the winter season. Time to update this BattIR meter with some newer technology.

Work was started on this project in mid-November last year, with finishing it late December.

The latest project, BattIRVrIII is more accurate, with readings to within 0.5% on voltage, IR values of the battery cells, and the batteries "C" rating.

Plus, it has the capability to output all of your test results to your PC via the PC and BattIRvIII's USB ports.

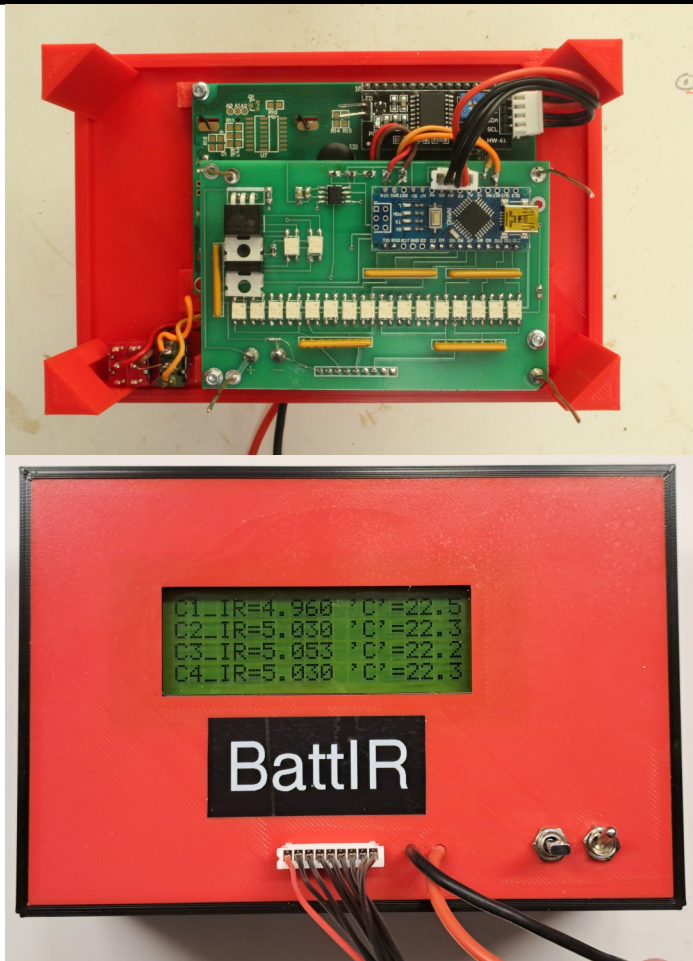
The software for the computer chip on this project runs for 19 pages! It has several modes of operation, including just a simple readout of the battery cell internal resistance and the "C" rating of that cell. With the option of a five LCD screen display of all of the voltages and test currents on each and every cell.

The voltage measurement on these BattIR meters is accurate to 0.2%, verified by my Fluke 87V meter accurate to 0.05%.

Four of these meters have been built. One for my self, the other three have been sold to people in Florida, and the Carolinas. These four meters read voltage to within 0.1% of each other.

The voltage is measured with a \$3.50 computer chip. Amazing. I go back to the 1960's where a Volt meter 10 times less accurate cost half as much as a new car 60 years ago.

Note the 3D printed faceplate and case that were printed for this project. These



3D printers sure make a much better project than making a case with pieces of Oak lumber and Plexiglas sheeting that was used to case some of my early electronic projects.

BattIRvIII Test results sent to the PC via the USB Ports

Voltage No Load (BattIR #1)

C1=3.736 C2=3.740 C3=3.732 C4=3.744 C5=3.748 C6=3.737 C7=0.000 C8=0.000 BatTotal 22.435

Voltage/Cell (Low Current 3.718 Amps)

C1=3.714 C2=3.718 C3=3.710 C4=3.723 C5=3.726 C6=3.715 C7=0.000 C8=0.000 BatTotal 22.306

Voltage/Cell (High Current 11.04 Amps)

C1=3.676 C2=3.680 C3=3.671 C4=3.684 C5=3.687 C6=3.675 C7=0.000 C8=0.000 BatTotal 22.073

Delta Amps/Pack 7.319 Amps - - Delta Volts/Pack 0.233 Volts

Cell IR (Low Test Current 3.72 Amps) - - (High Test Current 11.04 Amps)

C1=5.190 C2=5.284 C3=5.331 C4=5.260 C5=5.354 C6=5.425 C7=0.000 C8=0.000 BatTotal 0.233

Cell C Value

C1=21.95 C2=21.75 C3=21.66 C4=21.80 C5=21.61 C6=21.47 C7=inf C8=inf BatTotal 0.00

End of Test

Dennys Stuff Continued

Over the past couple of weeks, your editor purchased 16 more 2500 Mah A123 cells for general use.

Four of these cells were immediately used to build up two receiver battery packs for one of our club members who had ordered them.

I used commercially built servo extensions for the servo type lead wires that connect to the models receiver switch.

As usual, your editor fully charged these two battery packs, and then ran a cycle test on them before turning them over to the club member ordered them.

Nominal capacity of these A123 cells is 2500 MilliAmpere Hours, within a few percent of each other.

And, dang. One pack came in at 1975 Mah! Charged it up, ran it again, it came in at 2005 Mah, again at 1990 Mah. ????. The other pack came in at 2240 Mah.

I have been testing these receiver battery packs with a cycle tester I designed and built four or five years ago.

To simulate servo loads, this tester applies a 6 Amp load to the receiver pack for exactly one second. Then pauses for one Second, applies 6 Amps Load for exactly one second and so on.

It repeats this process until the battery voltage drops down to below 5.3 Volts DC.

I then checked another five year old A123 pack on the same cycle tester, it came in at 2450 Mah. What the heck?

OK, time for trouble shooting. The Battery cycler was reprogrammed to end at 4.8 Volts DC. I got 2507 Mah???

Didn't take long to find out what was going on. It was those danged commercial servo extensions.

My SwitchIR meter can't measure those single ended servo extensions. But I do have a similar Micro Ohmmeter I designed based on the same SwitchIR electronic circuitry.

The two commercially built servo extensions measured 215 MilliOhms! They should have been down around 35 MilliOhms.

Those servo connectors caused a 1.2 Volt DC drop on the output voltage of the two cell A123 battery pack. That is a 20% voltage loss on those servo connectors. It kicked out the tester before the battery was fully discharged.

So, all four servo connectors were cut off, and replaced with hand crimped new servo connectors. And, now, both battery packs checked in at 2530 Mah each.

Photo below is DennyV's Receiver battery tester: (A new unit is in progress!)







45th ANNUAL

SUNDAY
JANUARY 28th, 2024
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

AUCTION & SWAP SHOP



Sponsored by
MILWAUKEE R/C ASSOCIATION



Chapter #7

ADMISSION: \$5.00 ADULTS
(UNDER 16 FREE)

SWAP SHOP: 8:30-2:00

NO SELLING before 8:30 A.M. no exceptions

AUCTION

Throughout the day

TABLE FEES

All tables are \$20.00 each
Admission \$5.00 per person.

Contact event Coordinator Laurie for table
reservations and questions at 414-461-6013
or email register.mrca@gmail.com

FOOD – BEVERAGES – AMPLE PARKING

RAFFLE 50/25/25

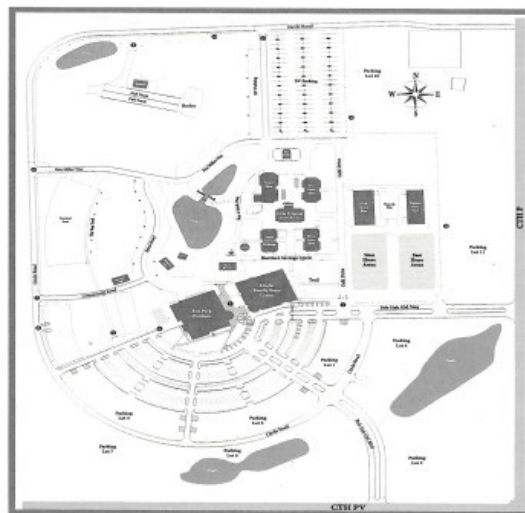
immediately after auction

Visit us on FACEBOOK@ Milwaukee R/C Association

MEMBER CLUBS:

ABC R/C; Astro Wings of Wis; Lakeland R/C; Milwaukee Area Radio Kontrol Society (MARKS) Club; Fond Du Lac Aero Modelers Assn.; Flying Electrons, Inc; Pebble Creek Flyers, Inc; Racine R/C Club, Inc; Rainbow Aero Modelers Society (RAMS) Club; Rubicon Area Flyers (RAF) Club; SE Wis. Area Rotory Modelers (SWARM); Sky Ranch Flyers; Watertown Aeromodelers R/C Club.

AFFILIATE CLUBS; Bong Eagles; Circlemasters Flying Club; Model Engine Collectors Association (MECA); IPMS, Richard I Bong Chapter.



Washington County Fairgrounds
Pavilion Building
3000 Pleasant Valley Rd
West Bend, WI 53095

***“Bring your Airplanes, Cars,
Trucks, Boats, Parts etc. We
have buyers for all!”***

Tentative 2024 Schedule for the RRCC clubs in the Milwaukee Area

	Date	Club	Event
1	Sat Apr 6	Model Engine Collector's Association (MECA)	Collecto and Hobby Swap Meet
2	Sat Jun 1	Circle Masters Flying Club at Sussex Village Park	Control Line Open Fun Fly
3	Sat Jun 8	Fond Du Lac Aeromodelers Association	Open Fun-Fly
4	Sat Jun 22 (rain date Sun Jun 23)	Sky Ranch Flyers	Fun Fly
	Sat Jun 29 to Sun Jun 30	No events scheduled	
5	Sat Jul 6	Bong Eagles	Old Timer Contest
6	Sat Jul 6	Pebble Creek Flyers, Inc.	TBD
7	Sun Jul 7	Flying Electrons	Scale Event
8	Sun Jul 7	Racine RC Club	Club-Only Picnic
9	Sat Jul 13 (rain date Sun Jul 14)	Astrowings of Wisconsin	Charity Fun Fly
10	Sat Jul 20 (rain date Sun Jul 21)	Rainbow Aero Modelers Society (RAMS)	SWARM Helicopter Friend Fly
11	Sun Jul 21	Flying Electrons	Electric Fly In
12	* Mon Jul 22 to Sun Jul 28	Circle Masters Flying Club	EAA KidVenture – Oshkosh
	Sat Jul 27 to Sun Jul 28	No events scheduled except EAA	
13	Sat Aug 3 (rain date Sun Aug 4)	Milwaukee Area Radio Kontrol Society (MARKS)	Float Fly DNR Bong
14	Sat Aug 3	Bong Eagles	All Free Flight Contest
15	Sat Aug 3	Rubicon Area Flyers	Fun Fly
16	Sun Aug 4	Circle Masters Flying Club	Annual Control Line Contest
17	Sat Aug 10 (rain date Sun Aug 11)	Flying Electrons	Airfest, Fly-In Benefit Troop #110
18	Thu Aug 15 - Sat Aug 17	Fond Du Lac Aeromodelers Association	Warbirds and Classics Over Midwest
19	Sun Aug 18	Fond Du Lac Aeromodelers Association	Open Fun Fly
20	Sat Aug 24 Sun Aug 25	Circle Masters Flying Club	Demo Flying, Sussex Antique Farm Implement Show
21	Sun Aug 25	Racine RC Club	Open House
	Sat Aug 31 to Sun Sep 1	No events scheduled (Labor Day weekend)	
22	Sat Sep 7 (rain date Sun Sep 8)	Flying Electrons	Fly-In and Swap Meet
23	Sun Sep 8	Watertown Aeromodelers RC Club at Watertown Municipal Airport	Open house and pancake breakfast with flying demos
24	Sat Sep 14 to Sun Sep 15	Flying Electrons	Pattern Contest
25	Sat Sep 14 (rain date Sun Sep 15)	Rainbow Aero Modelers Society (RAMS)	Club-Only Picnic
	Sat Sep 21 to Sun Sep 22	No events scheduled	
26	Sat Oct 5	Model Engine Collector's Association (MECA)	Collecto and Hobby Swap Meet
27	Sat Oct 19 to Sun Oct 20	all clubs invited to participate and promote	Maker Faire