Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers
AMA #1654 **farmclubrc.com**
AMA Gold Leader Club

Culpeper Model Barnstormers
AMA #4894 **cmbclubrc.com**
AMA Gold Leader Club

Lake of the Woods Community RC
AMA #5595 **lowcrc.com**

October 2026 Radio Controlled Air - Land - Sea Models

Newsletter

Editor's Note: We will be rotating the lead club specific content lead sections each month (FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC, FARM, CMB, LOWCRC) throughout the year. However, the "Tips and Projects" and "Anything From the Field" sections will be separate from the Club sections and combine the inputs from all the members of the three clubs.

Notice - REMINDER - for All:
- Our "Tri-Club Fourth Tuesday of the Month" RC Modeling Zoom meetings have resumed. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 24 November 2026 at 7:00 PM.

FARM Club Report:

- The 2026 FARM Club Board of Directors Election Results:

President	Ernie Padgette	703-244-7465
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Ken Bassett	703-425-1392
Field Marshal	Ralph Graul	540-729-1586
Member At Large	Bill Flathers	540-272-7236
Member At Large	Charlie Koustenis	703-850-3314
Member At Large	Bill Towne	540-428-1053

- FARM President's Corner: Ernie Padgette

Precious Days

As the old song says: "Oh, the days dwindle down to a precious few. September, November And these few precious days. I'll spend with you." Tomorrow it will be November. And how many more times will we meet together to enjoy our shared hobby this year? Possibly three? Maybe two? Only one? Or, just maybe, none? And who knows what the

new year will hold for us all?

I really enjoy this sport, hobby, passion, obsession, whatever, we share. And through that whatever you choose to call it, I have met some of the nicest people I have ever met. I've been a lot of places, done a lot of things, and met a lot of people. But I have to honestly state the people I've met through this whatever are, as a whole, the nicest, most courteous, most helpful and most interesting group of friends I have ever had. We will probably have a few more chances to get together and enjoy this hobby before the year is called on account of weather. I'd like to share at least some of them with all of you. So keep your eye on the weather report and the "At the Field" section of the FARM website.

I may be just a touch maudlin as I write this. I just returned from a week spent in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. My daughter Wendy, and her husband Dave, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows ceremony. They both love Hatteras Island, so decided to spend a week there and renew their vows. Well, the Nor'easter put paid to that when a section of road, the famous only road on and off Hatteras Island, wound up under several feet of water and quite possibly missing to boot. They managed to switch their reservation to a beachfront house in Kitty Hawk, so the show went on as planned. They invited along all three of their children, and their significant others, as well as Jill and me. We had a wonderful time and really enjoyed every part of the planned activities.

Yet, as much as I enjoyed all the familial togetherness and activities, I kept wondering "Will we ever all be together like this again?" Their children are beginning to spread their wings and one will be living in Texas in a few weeks. Another already lives with his wife in Maryland, which isn't exactly Tibet, I know; but it isn't next door, either. And, of course, I'm less than a dozen weeks away from my 80th celebration of my birth and my lovely bride, Jill, is now on the wrong side of 60, so who knows what the future holds and how much of it there will be? I mean, I certainly hope she will be around for at least a few more years, but I can't exactly be really certain of it, can I? So this may be the last time we're all together. If so, it was a great way to spend the time.

Keep flying safe!

Ernie

- FARM Secretary/Treasurer's Corner: Nic Burhans

Mowing Crew Thank You Lunch

12:01 PM Wednesday, 4 November, at O'Briens Irish Pub in Warrenton.

This event is for the eleven Club members who kept the club's field in shape for the 2026 flying season.

Thank You to Carmen, Johnny, Ken, Nic, Jack, Ralph, Lloyd, Charlie, Paul, Ernie, Dave.

The 2026 Mowing Team prize will be drawn at the lunch.

"@ the field" ***Reminder***

At the top of the Club's Website is an "**@ the field**" button in the banner. It is there so you can let us all know when you expect to be flying at the Club field. This aspect of our Club Website is particularly critical information to our new members who need all our help in making them welcome and helping them get all checked out for SOLO flying. **Please start to use it on a regular basis**, so we know when club members will be at the field.

Board Meeting Notes:

- FARM Board meeting held on Sunday, 27 September 2026.
- - Items approved by the Board:
- - - Thank You to Ralph Graul for getting the large mower fixed.
- - - There will be a Thank-You luncheon for the volunteer mowing crew at O'Brians' on Warrenton on Wednesday, 4 November.
- - - There will be a mower crew drawing at the luncheon for a "thank you" plane prize.
- - - The Joint FARM - CMB Christmas Party and FARM Club meeting will be held on Saturday, 5 December 2026, from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM at the Northside 29 Restaurant north of Warrenton on US-29.

FARM Club 2027 Board of Directors Election Report:

- Nominations process for the 2027 FARM Club Board of Directors is now underway.
- The nominations process will remain open until the end of the Tuesday, 24 November 2026 Zoom meeting.
- The Election for the 2027 FARM Club Board of Directors will commence on Wednesday, 25 November 2026

and continue until the start of the 5 December 2026 Joint Christmas party.
- After the election of the 2027 FARM Club Board members is completed, then, per the bylaws, the elected 2027 Board members will meet and select the 2027 FARM Club Officers.

FARM Club Membership Report:

- As of 28 October, the FARM Club had 68 members (25 Regular, 32 Senior, 1 Junior, 4 Comm., 2 Associate, and 4 Life members).
- The updated 2026 FARM Club Roster has been sent out to the membership.

FARM Club Calendar of upcoming events:

- Note: See remaining 2026 FARM calendar on the Club website.

FARM Treasurer's Report

- The FARM September 2026 Treasurer's Report has been emailed to the club's membership.

CMB Club Report:

The 2026 CMB Club Board of Directors:

President	Gordon Collyer	540-547-4117
Vice President	Jim Restel	540-718-6617
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Bill Crone	540-825-8065
Field Marshal	Bobby Hurst	501-766-7349
Member At Large	Al Hampton	757-715-0528
Member At Large	Ernie Padgette	703-244-7465

"@ the field" ***Reminder***

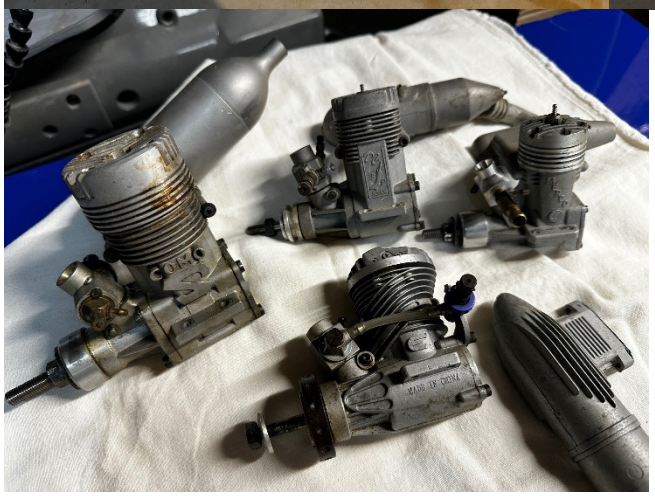
At the top of the Club's Website is an "**@ the field**" button in the banner. It is there so you can let us all know when you expect to be flying at the Club field. This aspect of our Club Website is particularly critical information to our new members who need all our help in making them welcome and helping them get all checked out for SOLO flying. **Please start to use it on a regular basis**, so we know when club members will be at the field.

- CMB President's Corner: Gordon Collyer

Club Donated Items.

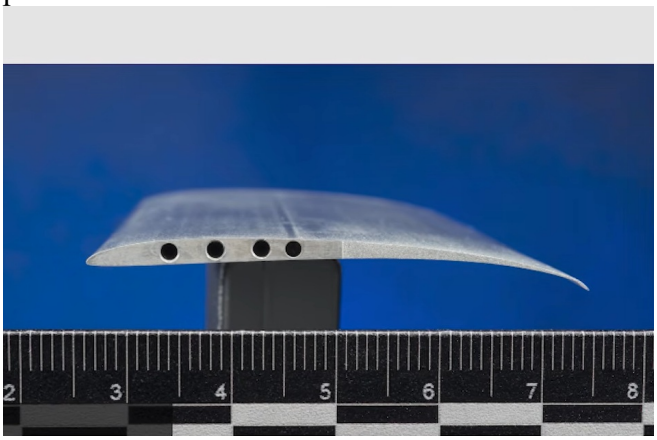
There are several items that were donated to the club which are available for acquisition. First, we have a Telemaster Kit, about 50% finished, second an Ace RC "All Star" biplane (.10 engine size) in need of recovering and wing reconstruction using new wing blanks. Also on hand are several glow engines: OS-S .90, MERCO .25, Evolution Alfa .40, and DC SP Series .46. Finally, there is a Depron field box with engine starter and glow driver. All these are offered for whatever cash donation to the club is thought "fair".



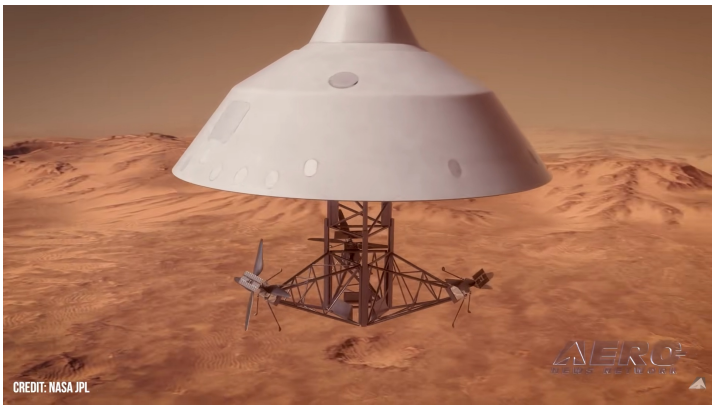


Skyfall.

When we are out and about for STEM demos, we show pictures of the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) Mars helicopter developed through the efforts of several JPL engineers who are also R/C modelers. The first vehicle to fly on another planet is not the end of the story. JPL will employ upgraded versions of the Mars helicopter for the Skyfall project which will deploy three helicopters from a descending spacecraft to serve as scout vehicles. Part of the upgrades will include rotor blades with an airfoil section developed specifically for the Mars atmosphere. The JPL images below, taken from the 10/26/26 "Aero News Network YouTube Podcast, show the SkyFall airfoil and three copters being deployed just after the entry aeroshell has been opened during parachute descent.



Mars Skyfall Airfoil (Credit JPL/Aero NewsNetwork)



Skyfall Helicopters During Descent (Credit JPL/Aero News Network)

Gordon

- CMB Secretary/Treasurer's Corner: Nic Burhans

The CMB Club's AMA Gold Leader Club Status has been established for 2026. We have received Gold Leader Club Pins. All members at the April Club meeting received their pins. See Nic at the field to receive your's.

Board Meeting Notes:
- CMB Board meeting was not held on Sunday, 4 October 2026.

CMB Club 2027 Board of Directors Election Report:
- Nominations process for the 2027 CMB Club Board of Directors is now underway.
- The nominations process will remain open until the end of the Monday, 30 November 2026.
- The Election for the 2027 CMB Club Board of Directors will commence on Tuesday, 1 December 2026 and continue until the start of the Sunday, 13 December 2026 annual CMB Club Membership Meeting.
- After the election of the 2027 CMB Club Board members is completed, then, per the bylaws, the elected 2027 Board members will meet and select the 2027 CMB Club Officers.

Membership Meeting Reminder:
- On Sunday, 13 December 2026, CMB will hold its annual Membership Meeting at Lenn Park Pavilion. Airpark.

CMB Club Membership Report:
- As of 28 October, the CMB Club had 49 members (18 Regular, 27 Senior, 3 Junior, 1 Associate, and 0 Life Members)
- The updated 2026 CMB Club Roster has been sent out to the membership.

CMB Club Calendar of upcoming events:
- Note: See remaining 2026 CMB calendar on the Club website.

- CMB Treasurer's Report
- The CMB September 2026 Treasurer's Report has been emailed to the club's membership.

LOWCRC Club Report:

- The 2026 LOWCRC Club Board of Directors Election Results:

President	Al Hampton	757-715-0528
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Gordon Collyer	540-547-4117
Treasurer	Jay Zompanti	978-804-8660
Safety Officer	Al Hampton	757-715-0528

- LOWCRC President's Corner: Al Hampton

Update: Building on Our Progress

As we begin winding down another year, I'm happy to say that 2026 has been a productive and encouraging year for the Lake of the Woods Community RC Club (LOWCRC). While our membership continues to grow slowly, the opportunities to introduce our hobby to the community and work alongside our fellow RC clubs continue to expand.

Between STEM activities, AirFest, local club events, and the continued support of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), we've had some wonderful opportunities to share our hobby with others. AMA has also been generous in providing promotional materials and gliders to help with our outreach efforts. Additionally, our relationship with the Lake of the Woods Community Coordinator continues to develop, opening doors for new activities and opportunities to serve residents of all ages.

One thing I've learned throughout this journey is that progress doesn't always show up in membership numbers. Sometimes it comes through new relationships, community partnerships, or simply having someone recognize the value our hobby can bring to their family. Those small victories continue to encourage me as we look toward the future.

Looking Ahead to 2027

As we approach our end-of-year board meeting, nominations, and elections, we'll also be discussing and voting on activities and opportunities we'd like to pursue in 2027. Our goal remains the same: to provide enjoyable, educational, and family-friendly activities while continuing to introduce more people to the wonderful world of radio control.

One exciting development is that **we've already received approval to host a STEM & Technology Fair on Saturday, April 10, 2027, at Lake of the Woods!**

We're still in the early planning stages, working through event layouts, available space, tables, demonstrations, and potential exhibitors. However, I want to extend an invitation to members of all three of our joint clubs.

Many of you have incredible backgrounds in aviation, engineering, electronics, communications, computers, manufacturing, and other technical fields. Some of you have spent entire careers developing skills and knowledge that could be incredibly valuable and inspiring to others.

If you'd like to set up a display, demonstrate a project, share some of your professional experience, or simply spend time talking with residents about your interests, **we would love to have you participate!**

We're also welcoming participation from the clubs themselves, whether through informational displays, RC demonstrations, or other activities that help introduce our community to the hobby. We're exploring the possibility of flight demonstrations as well, although those details are still being worked out.

If you're interested, please let me know so I can begin accounting for the space and resources we'll need as planning continues.

Continuing to Build Connections

Beyond our own community, I'm also looking forward to finding additional ways for our three Clubs to work together. Whether through activities in Orange County, events at the airport, opportunities involving Culpeper-area schools, or other community programs, I believe there is tremendous value in combining our experience, resources, and enthusiasm.

We each bring something different to the table, and I believe those differences are part of what makes our

partnership so valuable.

As LOWCRC prepares for its upcoming board elections, I also want to reassure everyone that my commitment to the projects and events I've already taken responsibility for will continue, regardless of whether I serve another term as President. With the support and approval of the incoming board, I fully intend to continue coordinating efforts such as our April STEM & Technology Fair and helping move these opportunities forward.

My hope is that, over time, we continue developing activities that not only attract new members but also provide meaningful opportunities for our existing members to share their knowledge, enjoy the hobby, and build lasting friendships.

Finally, I want to sincerely thank everyone across our three clubs for your continued encouragement, advice, participation, and support. Building something worthwhile takes time, and I'm grateful to have so many experienced and enthusiastic people willing to help along the way.

As always, if you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to participate in any of our upcoming activities, please feel free to reach out to me directly or email the club at **LOWCRC@gmail.com**.

I hope to see many of you out at the field soon!

Be safe, fly safe, and thank you again!

— **Al Hampton**

President, Lake of the Woods Community RC Club

- LOWCRC Secretary's Corner: Gordon Collyer

Board Meeting Notes:

- A Board meeting was not held this month.

LOWCRC Club 2027 Board of Directors Election Report:

- Nominations process for the 2027 LOWCRC Club Board of Directors is now underway.
- The nominations process will remain open until 11:59 PM Sunday, 15 November 2026.
- The Election for the 2027 LOWCRC Club Board of Directors will commence on Monday, 16 November 2026 and continue until the start of the Wednesday, 2 December 2026 LOWCRC Club Membership Meeting at the LOW recreation Center.
- After the election of the 2027 LOWCRC Club Board members is completed, then, per the bylaws, the elected 2027 Board members will meet and select the 2027 LOWCRC Club Officers.

LOWCRC 2026 Event Calendar

Recurring Weekly Events:

- - Outdoor RC @ Sweetbriar Soccer Fields – Thursdays & Fridays – 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Through November 6, 2026)

Club Calendar

November 2026 through April 2027

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Discover RC Aviation

5:00 PM–7:00 PM

Saturday, November 14, 2026

RC Trail Walk

9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

LOWCRC Board / Members Meeting

5:00–7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 9, 2026
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Saturday, December 19, 2026
RC Trail Walk
9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Wednesday, December 23, 2026
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 30, 2026
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Wednesday, January 6, 2027
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Wednesday, January 13, 2027
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Wednesday, January 27, 2027
LOWCRC Gym Meetup
5:00–7:30 PM

Saturday, April 10, 2027
Lake of the Woods STEM & Technology Fair
10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Special Events:

LOWCRC Youth Drone Soccer Schedule:
Notes:
- - Additional Drone Soccer activities info available upon request.
- - All events subject to weather and community guidelines.
- - Volunteer support needed and welcome!

Tips & Projects:

- No submissions this month.

Anything from the Field:

- Starting to Fly at 70 - And Loving Every Minute of It

I'm 69 years old. I'll be 70 on my next birthday, and I'm just learning how to fly.

Not a real airplane. RC airplanes.

I've wanted to do it my whole life.

It started when I was a kid building models with my Dad in my bedroom. Glue everywhere, balsa dust everywhere, Dad trying to show me how to get the wing straight. I started off building easy Comet models, and then I started building Carl Goldberg control line models. My dad made several free flight Carl Goldberg models. We used to go to a hobby store in Parkington, Virginia - it was just loaded with Carl Goldberg models. When you walked in you could smell the balsa wood. That smell - I'll never forget it.

That's what hooked me!

Over the years I drifted away from it. Life, work, family - you know how it goes. I always liked airplanes, but I never really got into flying them.

Then about a year and a half ago, something clicked. I decided I was going to learn how to fly. For real this time.

If you've seen me on Facebook, you know I went crazy. I mean crazy. I was buying everything I could find. I took over the area downstairs - I've got four workbenches down there now. Parts listed and labeled everywhere. Throttle levers, universal nipples, rotor stoppers, motors, servos, props. My wife looks down there and just shakes her head. I'm in heaven.

I never realized everything that went into building either a foam kit or a balsa wood model and converting it into an RC airplane. Thankfully equipment has really improved over the years so it's a little easier, but still I have many challenges ahead. But I know with the help of the guys in the Barnstormers I will get it done.

I bought a few planes off a gentleman named Paul, and he told me, "You need to come out to Culpeper. There's a group of guys out there."

So I drove out to Culpeper with Paul. Just to watch. I watched a couple of times. Guys flying , laughing, helping each other, crashing and then helping fix it.

And I thought - I can do this. So I gave it a shot.

Now I fly with my man Gordon. He's working with me on getting my solo down. Gordon has been great. Patient. He's got that buddy box and he just talks you through it. "A little rudder. Easy on the throttle. You got it." Everybody I've met out there so far has been great. That's the thing I didn't expect - how welcoming everybody is.

If you're reading this and you're 65, 70, 75 and you're thinking "I'm too old to start" - you're not.

There are four “Things I Learned”:

- - - You don't have to know everything to start.

- - - Go find your field. Don't try to learn alone in a park. Go to a club. The club in Culpeper made all the difference for me.

- - - Let people help you. That buddy box saves you a lot of money in crashed planes.

- - - Building is half the fun. Those four workbenches downstairs? That's my shop time in the winter. I built Comet and Carl Goldberg models with my Dad as a kid. Now I'm flying them 60 years later. It took me 60 years to come full circle, and I'm glad I decided to do this now.

I'm really excited about finishing my first model and flying it. It will be a great accomplishment for me. A dream come true.

If you're on the fence, come out to Culpeper on a Saturday morning. You'll see me out there - the old new guy with the big grin, trying to get that solo.

Thanks Paul for taking me out there, and thanks Gordon for getting me in the air.

Evan Swank - Manassas, VA.

The Air - Land - Sea Newsletter is published monthly by the FARM, CMB, and LOWCRC Clubs. It is forwarded to the Club members. Articles related to all types of RC models are welcome. Opinions expressed in the newsletter articles are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc., CMB Inc., or LOWCRC Inc.

Publishing input deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please forward all inputs in Microsoft .doc or .docx format with associated Pictures separate in jpg format to:

Nic Burhans
6061 Captains Walk
Broad Run, VA 20137-1959
540-219-9646 E-Mail: npb6218@earthlink.net

Club Web sites: http://www.farmclubre.com
http://www.cmbclubrc.com
http://www.lowcrc.com