

The Humber Valley Flyer

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April/May 2025



Next Humber Valley Winter Meeting – CANCELLED!

The meeting that was scheduled for Thurs April 24th 2025 @ Martingrove Collegiate Institute has been cancelled! Just get ready for some great spring flying!



Field Clean Up Day/BBQ and Season Opener Sat May 10th - 10am



Mark your calendars and come out to help start the season on Saturday May 10th – 10:00am

Field Officer **Paul Mazzotta** has been working on new pilot stations, fencing, airplane stands and plans to make our great field the best it can be this season. We need your help to get the field ready for spring and do some flying! If we start at 10:00am and put in a good couple of hours of work, we should be set for a tasty BBQ and an afternoon of great flying.

Here is a list of some of the work that needs to get done.

1. General Trash clean up; entry-parking lot, field, helipad, runway edges - bring work gloves.
2. Clean up of unsightly waste along the road leading up to the field.
3. Leveling of tire ruts in the pits.
4. Repair any fencing in and around our gate.
5. Pruning and trimming of shrubs and trees around the pit areas.
6. Geotextile Runway; make sure staples are set along edges, repair any tears.



Your 2025 Club Executive

President, Paul McMillan (647) 618-8291
 Vice President, Vacant
 Past President, Zoltan Pittner (416) 823-0796
 Field Officer, Paul Mazzotta (416) 578-4492
 Treasurer & Membership, Bruce Gillespie (416) 741-4385
 Secretary, Gaetano Nicolo (647) 987-0619
 Program Director & Editor, Tom Gottlieb (647) 642-8100
 Chief Flight Instructor, Randall Thomas (647) 545-5494
 Chief Safety Officer, Randall Thomas (647) 545-5494

Why do you love RC? Survey Results

Thanks to everyone who completed the online survey in March. The results are now in, and they prove what I have always believed to be true about our hobby. There is much more to RC than just sport flying.

I got the idea of conducting this survey after reading an article in Time magazine about how people have an inherent need for social interaction with other people to be happy with their life. This was especially true in the post-COVID-19 years when we were forced to limit our contact with others.

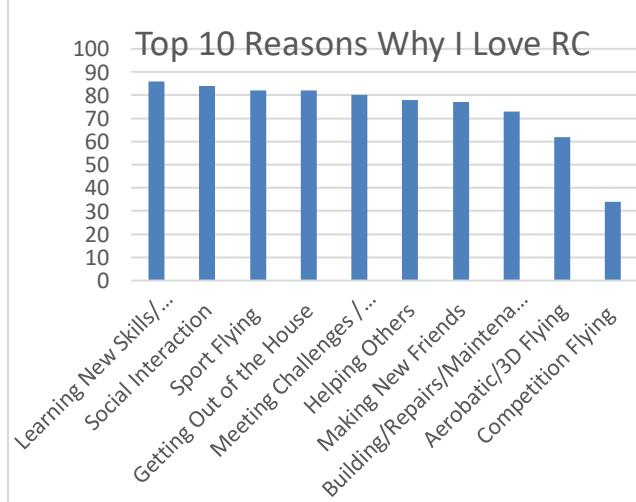
It made me realize how much I enjoy coming to the field – not just for the flying – but for everything else that goes on; the problem solving, catching up with friends and enjoying the great outdoors. It would seem that most of you agree. Here are the results of the survey.

Raw Scores – Top 10 Reasons Why I love RC

Here are the raw scores obtained by adding up the rankings of the 20 respondents:

Why I love RC.	Total
Learning New Skills/ Maneuvers	86
Social Interaction	84
Sport Flying	82
Getting Out of the House	82
Meeting Challenges / Problem Solving	80
Helping Others	78
Making New Friends	77
Building/Repairs/Maintenance	73
Aerobatic/3D Flying	62
Competition Flying	34

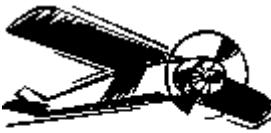
Here are the results in graphical form (see page 3 for a different more detailed view of the results).



What I thought was interesting about these results is that the various softer social benefits of being a member of an RC club like ours, ranked greater than, equal to, or only slightly less important than "Sport Flying" which I thought would have been the runaway winner of the survey - and actually significantly more important than "Aerobatic/3D" flying. The only result that didn't surprise me was that "Competition Flying" came in last since only a few members compete seriously in RC events.

Now you know why you love RC so much! So let's make 2025 the best flying season ever.

... Tom Gottlieb, Program Director and Editor



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March 27th Meeting Program Report

Bruce Gillespie & Mike Gerace Giant Mosquito Build Project

Bruce Gillespie showed off his newly completed project - a beautiful large scale de Havilland DH-98 Mosquito. She weighs in at 14 lbs and has a big span of 72". For Power, Bruce chose twin electric e-flite Power 52 motors producing about 200watts per pound so there should be plenty of power.

Mike Gerace and **Bruce** have been working on this project on and off over the last 6 years. It was built from a highly modified China Model Products kit that was about 20 years old. Bruce picked it up from an RC Canada estate sale. It was a glow kit that they converted to electric. A fair bit of engineering was needed to customize the canopy so that it could serve as a battery hatch. Other customizations included modified retracts and hiding the rudder and elevator pushrods into the fuselage for better scale appearance.

All that effort paid off as you can see in the photo below. We are looking forward to a report on the maiden flight this spring.



Need help with your Advanced RPAS?



Contact **Randall Thomas** for any help you require in passing the Advanced RPAS exam and completing your flight review. We are here to help!

Also, **Tom Gottlieb** has created a checklist and a set of document templates that you can use to prepare for your advanced flight review. Contact Tom to get your copies or any help you need.

RPAS Wilco Site Survey Updated



CARS Part IX requires that you know how to obtain and understand Site Surveys if you want to fly RPAS models in controlled airspace. Fortunately, based on MAAC NOTAM 2023-04 MAAC - Site Survey Relief Options, new surveys are required only every 56 days. We will do our best to keep a current survey posted on our website and will let you know through our WhatsApp group when it is updated. A fresh survey was uploaded on Apr 17th and the next one will be on June 12th. Here is the schedule:

2024	2025	2026	2027
25-Jan-24	20-Feb-25	22-Jan-26	18-Feb-27
21-Mar-24	17-Apr-25	19-Mar-26	15-Apr-27
16-May-24	12-Jun-25	14-May-26	10-Jun-27
11-Jul-24	7-Aug-25	9-Jul-26	5-Aug-27
5-Sep-24	2-Oct-25	3-Sep-26	30-Sep-27
31-Oct-24	27-Nov-25	29-Oct-26	25-Nov-27
26-Dec-24		24-Dec-26	

Student Instruction Starting This Spring

We are pleased to report that student instruction using a buddy box will be able to resume this spring. Based on recent discussions with Transport Canada, we received a written opinion stating that providing:

- The Instructor has his Advanced RPAS Certification
- The Instruction is provided through a buddy box,
- The Instructor can take control at any moment,
- And all other CARS Part IX rules are followed,
- ... then instruction may proceed in controlled airspace.

Note: This means that students must still:

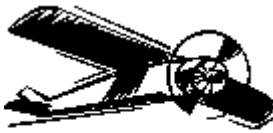
- Obtain an account with Transport Canada and register their airplane as a MAAC Model Airplane.

Note to Students:

Currently **Randall Thomas** is an RPAS Advanced Certified Pilot and so will be conducting instruction for students with Spektrum radios (or with your own buddy box). Make sure you connect with Randall on the Student WhatsApp group to confirm arrangements. Randall can connect you with other instructors as well.

About Buddy Boxes: We can get you cleared much faster if you come to the field with your own buddy box. The club has two DX5 Spektrum radios you can borrow to set up your own buddy box. If you come to the field with your own buddy box already working, you can fly with any instructor and get cleared much faster. Contact Randall if you would like to borrow one of the DX5 Spektrum radios. You would need to provide a battery for it.





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Why I love RC – Detailed Survey Results

The survey asked the question:

How important are the following items to you in your enjoyment of the hobby?

Please rate each item from 1 to 5 as follows:

1) Not Important, 2) Least Important, 3) Somewhat Important, 4) Very Important, 5) Extremely Important

● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5

Sport Flying



Aerobatic/3D Flying



Competition/Combat Flying



Learning New Skills or Maneuvers



Building/Repairs/Maintenance



Meeting Challenges / Problem Solving



Helping Others



Social Interaction



Making New Friends



Getting Out of the House

100%

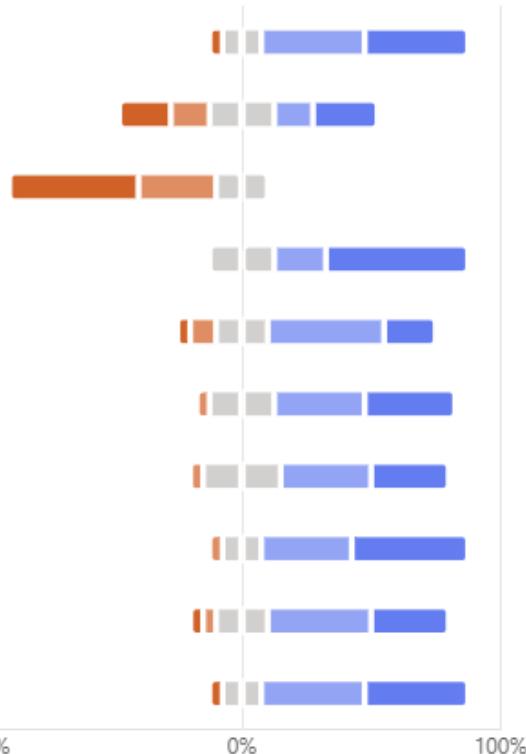
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Here are the free comments that were submitted by some members:

- We have a great flying field and that is a big reason for my joining the club.
- Nitro is the best.
- Enjoying new technology associated with RC, e.g. GPS, 3 axis stabilization, FPV flying.
- I love aeromodelling in general, including Free Flight and Control Line. Most RC today involves buying ready-mades. Not too good in my humble opinion.
- I always liked to build stuff growing up and I still enjoy it today.
- Hate to say but this RPAS has taken a hit on me about model flying. A lot of younger people will not get into it; my personal view.
- I love aviation in general.

Here are the survey results in a different graphical format. You can see from red (1) to blue (5) the relative percentage of responses of each score.



A Passing Note – John Thomson

We are sorry to report the passing of long-time member John Thomson. John was an avid builder and flyer over the years collected an impressive fleet of RC models. He presented many of his masterpieces at past winter meetings. He joined the club in 2004 but had been modelling pretty much his whole life before that. His MAAC number was 7513L which tells you not only that he was a "Leader" member

but gives you a sense of how long he was in the hobby. John was feisty and opinionated, but all that personality came with a big heart. He was a flight instructor before he joined Humber Valley and was very generous in sharing his time and experience with others. He was one of the few remaining real "old-time" modelers. John was 93.

