



The FLYER

Devoted to the Building and Flying of Radio Controlled Aircraft

Vol. 2026, Issue 10

The Monthly Newsletter of the Livermore Flying Electrons RC Club

October 2026

Everyone is Welcome to LFE Meetings!

LFE club meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month at the LFE field.

2026 LFE Board of Directors

Group A (2025/2026 term):

Jay Raimondi (510)459-5185
Julius Bertolucci (925)373-1687
Doug Clarke (925)789-7542
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Group B (2026/2027 term):

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Email: Newsletter@lferc.com

Newsletter Deadline: Any information to be included in The Flyer should be submitted to the email listed above no later than the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. All submissions should be in plain text or Microsoft Word format in 12-point Arial. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce any part of "The Flyer" provided source credit is given.

2026 LFE Club Officers & Flight Instructors

President	Jay Raimondi
Vice President	Julius Bertolucci
Treasurer	Tom Bilotti
Assistant Treasurer	Ken Butler
Secretary	
Membership Chairman	Terry O'Rourke
Events Coordinator	Billy Truelove
Safety Officer	Jeff Stern
Field Maintenance Chairman	Tom Bennett
Quartermaster	Doug Clarke
Chief Flight Instructor	Tom Bennett
Flight Instructors	Jeff Hollfelder
	Lou Rodriguez
	Mark Freseman

Club Information:

Real-time weather and field cameras – www.lferc.com and select "Weather & Cameras"

Board of Directors: directors@lferc.com

Mailing Address:
Livermore Flying Electrons RC Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 2182
Livermore, Ca. 94551

From The Editor
By Ed Becker
LFE Newsletter Editor



Greetings LFE club members! I hope that you and your families had a great summer, welcome to Fall!

It will soon be time to renew your LFE membership for 2027. When submitting your renewal application be sure to include: 1) a signed LFE renewal application, 2) the renewal fee, and 3) proof of AMA membership through 2027. LFE membership is based on the full calendar year so proof of AMA membership through 12/31/2027 is required. If your AMA membership expires midyear, then you'll need to extend your AMA membership into 2028. Terry O'Rourke, the club's Membership Chairman, does a great job of managing the membership process but it's a lot of work, so let's all do our part to help the renewal process go smoothly. On behalf of the club, thank you Terry!

-Ed Becker

President's Column

By Jay Raimondi
LFE President



LIVERMORE FLYING ELECTRONS · PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

October 2026 · Club Update

Growing Our Ranks and Strengthening Our Links

From the President's Desk



FrSky Steve (center) with Phil, KenBro, Paul, and Jay

With membership now at 210 flyers, including 30 junior members, there has never been a better time to lend a hand,

whether that is as an instructor, a volunteer, or a future club leader.

Hi LFE Flyers! As we approach the end of the flying season, I want to thank all of the volunteers who have supported the club through our many activities this year. Your time and effort are what make LFE work.

With our membership growing so quickly, it has never been more important to build up our instructor ranks. If you have any interest at all, however small your time commitment, we would love to pair you with a new student to get started. Please reach out to **Lou Rodriguez** or **Tom Bennett**.

On the leadership side, fresh thinking and commitment are always welcome. If you are willing to help carry the banner, please don't hesitate to put your name in the hat. In my experience, it takes about 20% of our members actively engaged in some role to keep the club running well.

FrSky Radios Are Growing in Popularity at LFE

As many of you know, **FrSky** radio systems are growing in popularity at LFE, for three reasons. First and most important, Spektrum 2.4 GHz systems have run into periodic interference problems at certain times and field locations. Second, receiver cost can make a difference. Third, FrSky offers many different receiver types and sensors.

If your aircraft has a backup satellite receiver or a two-part antenna mounted correctly, you are likely in good shape. If your system supports it, please at least set up telemetry and learn how it

works, so you always know the health of your radio link.

Just today, **Steve from FrSky** drove up from Los Angeles to visit the club and help with support. We have also worked with **Jose** from FrSky support on several occasions. It's great to know our club is on their radar. To expand that support, we will be hosting **Zoom “Ask the Expert”** sessions for anyone who has questions or is interested in making the switch.

In closing, thank you all for making LFE a fun, drama-free place to enjoy our sport and each other.

My best,

— *Jay Raimondi*

LFE President

INTERESTED IN INSTRUCTING? CONTACT

Lou Rodriguez · Tom Bennett

THANK YOU TO FRISKY SUPPORT

Steve (FrSky) · Jose (FrSky)

Hot Stuff!

From the Southern California Ignition Flyers, Glendale, California

In the late spring, summer, and early fall our contests and flying sessions are held in some darn hot weather.

Although this year has reached and even exceeded record highs, we get a little complacent about living in these high temperatures when our homes, offices, cars, and shopping malls are all air-conditioned. This hot weather can be dangerous if you aren't prepared.

The following suggestions are easy and can make your fun in the sun safer:

1. Drink lots of water. Start before you get thirsty. Beer and soda will actually dehydrate you. One old trick is to fill plastic water jugs $\frac{3}{4}$ full and freeze them. This will provide you with cold water as it melts.
2. Shade. Anytime you are working on or adjusting your model, try to do it in some shade. When the air is hot and dry, you can perspire a lot without noticing it and that will dehydrate you fast. A hat is a must.
3. Sun screen with a high SPF rating should be part of your routine.
4. The "buddy system." Never go flying by yourself. And always let someone know when you wander off to recover a model. Don't depend on the timer unless you have asked him/her to keep an eye out for you.
5. A mirror. Yes, always take a mirror with you. If your chase bike breaks down or you get stuck, a small mirror device makes a great signaling device. One of your wife's old compact mirrors will do, or sporting goods stores have a small signaling mirror.
6. Drink lots of water.

Tips and Tricks

Recycling Masking Tape-I use the clear backing on the MonoKote film to recycle my masking tape if it is still in fairly good condition. It keeps the adhesive from going bad. When I need the tape, I just peel it off.

Protecting Hinges-Petroleum jelly often has been used on pinned hinges to prevent epoxy glue from sticking to the hinge joint; however, it is difficult to get just the right amount on the hinge and to make sure the hinge is completely coated. A very cool way is to melt the petroleum jelly in a small dish such as a dessert dish (an oven safe type, of course). Use only enough to melt to a depth of about $\frac{1}{6}$ of an inch. Fold the hinge and dip the pinned end into the melted jelly. Remove and touch the hinge and dip the pinned end into the melted jelly. Remove and touch the hinge to a paper towel to remove excess. In a couple seconds, the petroleum jelly cools and has penetrated the hinge. You now have a completely coated hinge joint that epoxy will not stick to.

—both from Schoolcraft Skyhawks R/C Airplane Club, Schoolcraft, Michigan.

Stir Sticks (Popsicle sticks)-Next time you are in the craft shop, pick up some Popsicle sticks. They come in boxes of 100, 500, or 1,000 and they are cheap. You will be able to use these for all kinds of things like servo rails, reinforcing splices, skids, fuel tank stops, mixing epoxy—any place where you are going to put in screws. You will find all kinds of uses for them.

—From the Niagara County Radio Controlled Model Flying Club, Lockport, New York.

Waterfall-Continuous tail-over-nose descending flip. It's not a loop, but the aircraft actually flops around its canopy. Start relatively high. At low throttle, gradually pull the nose up until its near vertical. Just before it stalls, add full down and full power at the same time. You have to continuously "fly" the rudder and ailerons to keep the airplane flipping over in a straight line.

To do consecutive Waterfalls, continue to hold full down and "fly" rudder and ailerons, and chop the throttle as the nose comes back up to

vertical, then add full power as it flips straight down .

—Mike McConville, the Suffolk Aero Modelers, Bay Shore, New York.

Tips & Tricks

From Jim's RC.com

Removing Covering from Balsa Sheeting

Removing covering from balsa sheeting can be tricky. If you cut too deeply, you can compromise the wood's integrity. By placing the blade in the knife handle as shown in the photo, you can easily adjust and control the depth of the cut. To set the blade's depth, use it on a scrap piece of sheeting and make test cuts before you make the actual cuts on the model.



Rubber Band Storage

Here is a good way to store your rubber bands. Just put them in a Ziploc bag and cover them with Talcum Powder or Corn Starch. This will soak up the exhaust oils and condition the rubber and help them last longer!

Cheaper Small-Parts Storage

Here is a suggestion for easy storage of small screws and bits. All you need is an ice cube tray. The advantage of this idea is that ice cube trays can be bought at low prices unlike professional parts organizers.

Efficient, Glow-plug Igniter Cleaner

Oil residue can prevent glow igniters from working properly. If you carry yours in your pocket, even the lint in there can cause your igniter to malfunction. A good way to clean igniters is with alcohol and an old electric toothbrush. A clean tip on the igniter will allow more current to reach the glow-plug element for more reliable starting.

Clear Canopy Polish

Here is a good canopy polish tip, use toothpaste on the canopy. Smear a liberal amount of toothpaste on the canopy and use toilet tissue to buff the canopy to a glossy finish that will not

scratch at all. Then use alcohol cleaner to remove any residue left by the toothpaste. It works very well!

**The Secretary's
Report**

By TBD
LFE Secretary

LFE is looking for a club Secretary. No September meeting minutes were available at time of publication.