



## **TIGER TALES**

# **THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NH FLYING TIGERS RC CLUB**

## **APRIL 2026**

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### **FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:**

I sent a previous email regarding the Fremont NH RC Flyers, and the sad news that they will lose their flying site at year end. I wanted to document this in our newsletter, as a reminder of how fragile our hobby is, how important it is to maintain good relationships with our “landlords/neighbors”, and what we would do as a club if we lost our flying site. While the property owner gave no explanation of why he made the decision, it appears the decision might be based on personal goals moving forward, and not anything the club has done wrong. After all, the club has been occupying this site in good standing since at least the 1990’s. AMA District 1 officials immediately reached out to see what they can do to help. Perhaps the property owner will change his mind. We will not speculate. If not, I will propose a onetime 50% dues reduction to any Fremont member who wishes to join our club for the 2027 flying season. We did the same for SNHRCC; we’ll see what transpires moving forward.

Our club documentation, including a revised handbook, is still in progress and looking good. Stay tuned. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, April 29, 7PM at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, Derry NH. Besides normal business, we will hold project night, followed by another attempt to show our 2025 club video. I hope to see many of you during this meeting.

Finally, I still see club application renewals and dues coming in. Some renewals are late (By end February!). Please get your renewals and payments done ASAP, so we have a better idea of club financials for 2026. We can’t plan for events or otherwise without knowing how much we have to spend.

### **APRIL PROJECT NIGHT**

Bring your projects! \$25.00 ABC Hobby gift cards will be awarded to:

- Best Kit, Best ARF, Best in Progress, Best Other, Members Choice

### **EVENTS**

Our first event is the Intro to RC flying, scheduled for Saturday May 16th 10-3PM at the field. We need people with training aircraft/Gear and instructors comfortable with taking up the general public for simple introductory flights. Contact myself or John Lavery to sign up.

*Paul Pazolt*

## FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT:

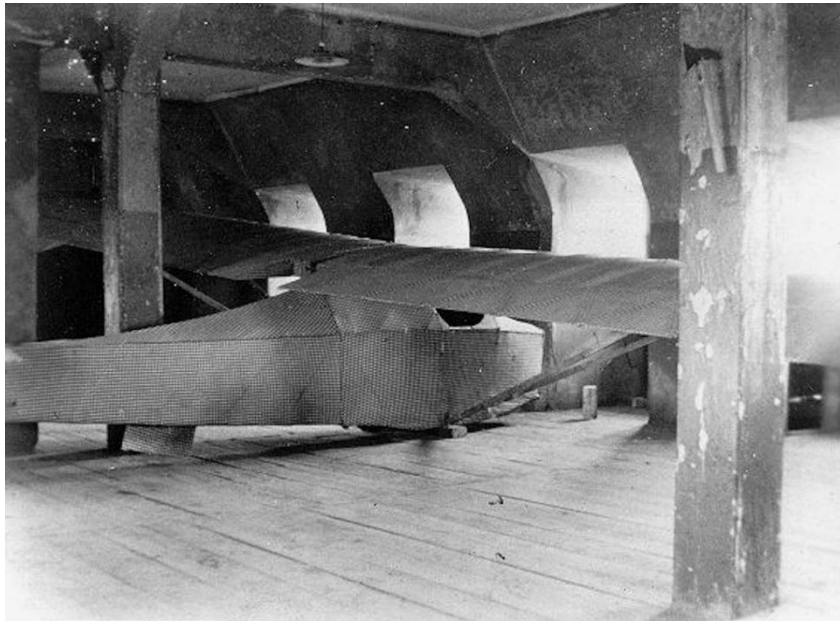
This month we have our project night where we get a chance to see all of the great work and interesting projects that the members have built over the winter. This got me thinking about another project build that occurred many years ago. In 1046, Henry the III gave the burghers of Colditz permission to build on site in Saxony Germany in the eastern portion of the country.



Advance forward a few hundred years to the 1940s. Germany was looking for a place to house "incorrigible" prisoners who had repeatedly attempted to escape from other prisoner camps. The Germans viewed the castle as the ultimate high security prison. Situated on a rocky outcrop above a river and having only two exits the Germans viewed it in the same light as Alcatraz. In truth, it had one of the greatest records of successful escape attempts. In fact, after the reunification of Germany, repairmen found a radio room established by the French POWs including two radios along with many hiding places and tunnels. Maybe "Hogan's Hero's" and Luft Stalag 13 weren't that far off.

One of the most audacious escape plans took place during the winter of 1944 when a group of twelve prisoners, known as "The Apostles", led by RAF pilots Bill Goldfinch and Jack Best hatched a plan to create a glider that was to be launched from the roof of the castle next to the chapel using a catapult launch system with a concrete-filled bathtub to provide the energy. The plan came to life when Lieutenant Tony Rolt noticed the chapel roof was completely obscured from view of the German guards. The team built the glider in the attic of the castle in total secrecy using bed slats, floorboards, cotton bedsheets, and electrical wiring. The fabric was

sealed with porridge. Colditz Cock glider had a 32-foot wingspan and weighed around 240 pounds. The only known picture of the original glider appears below in the castle attic.



The camp was liberated in April of 1945 before the glider could take flight and as the castle resided in the Soviet controlled portion of the country, the fate of the original glider is unknown.

In 1993, a 1/3 scale model of the glider was constructed, based upon plans drawn by Bill Goldfinch, of the original glider. A recreation of the bathtub launching system was also constructed and the glider was launched from the same roof that the original was intended to use. The flight was an overwhelming success.



Then, a NOVA documentary sponsored the construction of a full-scale exact replica of the Colditz Cock. In 2000, pilot John Lee successfully flew the replica out of RAF Odiham in the UK which established the design as viable.



Below is a picture taken during the 2000 flight with Jack Best and Bill Goldfinch with the replica of the Colditz Cock.



I would imagine that the Colditz Cock would be considered one of the most impressive winter projects at any project night.

Thanks,

*John*

## **FIELD MARSHALL REPORT**

Thanks to 20 members who attended the April work party! Two more flight stations were added north of the existing flight stations and separated per specifications. We will fix the cement pads in place when the field dries out.

The drainage ditch was above capacity, until members were able to unblock the culvert. Several hours later, the ditch water subsided to just a few inches and still flowing. This is great news with expectations that the field will dry out soon. Please use caution when entering the field and try to avoid making ruts with your vehicles. If necessary, park your vehicles along the containers and carry your equipment to flight stations. The runway north is still wet making it a challenge for landings. Use discretion with planes requiring longer runway landings for now.

The fence south of the runway is completely cleared of brush, small trees, etc., giving us a better view of the parking lot. A no-fly zone sign will be posted on the fence, along with orange cone markers to help pilots line up with the runway during final approach and landings over the fence. When the field dries, we'll consider rolling the runway. Special thanks to John Cook and Joe Musto who began the process earlier this April, ensuring our field equipment was ready to go!

*Paul Pazolt*

## **NH Flying Tigers RC Club – Monthly Meeting Minutes – March, 2026**

Agenda: The meeting was called to order @7:01 with 3 officers and 8 members attending.

### 1. Secretary's Report

In lieu of a Secretary's Report, the minutes of the February 2026 meeting as published in the newsletter were accepted unanimously.

## 2. Treasurer's Report -

Pat Clark gave the treasurer's report. There has not been much in the way of expenses last month and our funds are growing as new members join. Currently, we have 42 Adult members and one Junior member.

The Post Office Box was closed as agreed upon and we will receive a \$190 refund.

A complete report is available to all club members from any officer.

## 3. President's Comments, Training Coordinator & Field Marshal's Reports

The Compliance Committee's purpose is to provide a sounding board, outside of the officers, to look at member issues and if necessary, bring a vote before the club. We currently have 3 members who have volunteered for the compliance committee:

Jerry (G) Catt

John Clark

Mike Miller

And one open position. Anyone can volunteer

The Field Marshall position is open, Paul Pazolt has agreed to assume the responsibilities until a new volunteer is available. John Cook and many other members make this position easy to assume. Try it for a season.

## 4. New Members

· No new members

## 5. Old Business

Paul Pazolt is still working on digitizing and updating the club handbook. It is coming along nicely. Our binder with the key documents is done. Thank you Paul. Still a tote of hardcopies to sort through but the end is in sight.

## 6. New Business & Proposals

The treatment for grubs was discussed. Timing is critical for the successful application. John Cook will keep it on schedule.

The annual Spring Work Party is scheduled for Saturday 4/18 at 9:00. Tasks include:

Beaver Dam Destruction

Clearing brush from Total Air fence.

Installing new plane stations

Bring out the Plane Stands

Whatever tasks our dear leader comes up with.

Field Entrance update: Dillon is the new owner of the property that is being developed. If there is equipment in the road just ask them to move it and there will be no issue. There should not be any equipment in the road when they are not working. They are hoping to finish the site prep next week. They are leaving the street gate for now but it will be removed when they put in their new driveway.

John Lavery volunteered to build some safety fences to use around the flight stands.  
Thanks John!!

The Intro to flying will be held in May this year with the Flea Market scheduled for June.

Jerry (G) had a question and it was answered.

Tamposi is working on a big culvert at the end of A street.

Adjourn at: 7:47

<p>Newsletter submissions deadline May 19<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Next Meeting April 29<sup>th</sup> at Marrion Garrish Community Center at 7:00pm</p> <p>See the Calendar at our website for up-to-date activity information: <a href="http://www.nhflyingtigers.com">www.nhflyingtigers.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Club Officers</b></p> <p><b>President:</b> Paul Pazolt <b>Vice President:</b> John Stevens <b>Secretary:</b> Rich Kieley. <b>Treasurer:</b> Pat Clark <b>Field Marshal, B. St.:</b> OPEN <b>Safety Officer:</b> Paul Pazolt <b>Training Coordinator:</b> Paul Lockwood <b>Event Coordinator:</b> John Lavery <b>Webmaster:</b> John Lavery <b>Compliance Committee:</b> John Clark, Mike Miller. Jerry Catt <b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Will Widgren</p> <p>Send all correspondence to: <b>Pat Clark, NHFT Treasurer</b> <b>7 Hillcrest Road</b> <b>Goffstown, NH 03045</b></p>
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