

Middle Point R/C Flyers



November 2018 Newsletter

Upcoming Events:

- December 6 – Membership Meeting
- January 3, 2019 – Membership Meeting
- February 7 – Membership Meeting
- March 7 – Membership Meeting
- March 16 – MPRCF Swap Meet
- April 4 – Membership Meeting
- May 2 – Membership Meeting
- June 6 – Membership Meeting
- July 11 – Membership Meeting
- August 1 – Membership Meeting
- September 5 – Membership Meeting
- October 3 – Membership Meeting
- November 7 – Membership Meeting
- December 5 – Membership Meeting

Prez Sez:

I don't think that there has been a lot of activity at the field this past month. It's that time of year where the weather really starts to impact our flying. Winds, temperature and early nightfall all conspire to keep us grounded. I'm sure that there are quite a number of good flying days left in the year, it's just a matter of having them fall onto the days that we want to fly.

On November 3, the Association held its Giant Regional Swap Meet at the Antioch United Methodist Church. Reports indicate that the Swap Meet was a success. The Association made a good return which will be shared with the member clubs. I want to thank everyone who volunteered to help run the event. Without members' contributions these events simply cannot be held. For the previous four years I ran the Association's Swap Meet. Starting this year, the Association decided to rotate the responsibility for running the event among each member club, with each club running it for two years; the first year with assistance from the prior responsible club. With the clubs that we have in the Association now, it won't be until 2026 that MPRCF will again be responsible for running the Association's Swap Meet. Yay!!

Starting in November our good friends at Family Hobbies in Smyrna are hosting indoor flying every Tuesday night throughout the winter. They fly in the gym at the

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mprcf/>

www.mprcf.com

November Meeting Minutes:

The meeting, held at O'Charley's, was called to order by VP. Dick T., @ 6:03pm. There were 15 members present. There were three guests.

The October meeting minutes were accepted as published in the newsletter.

The October Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

There was one new member added since the last meeting.

Old Business:

Upcoming local events:

- Association Fall Swap Meet – Antioch – November 3

Field Development/Maintenance:

Completed since last meeting:

- Additional seeding and lime were put down
- Rocks and other debris in the east runway perimeter were removed

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Prez Sez (cont.):

Highland Heights Church of Christ in Smyrna from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.. Check out the flyer later in the Newsletter for more information.

Officer nominations were closed at the November meeting. All current officers volunteered to remain in their positions for 2019 except for the President. The President's position will be filled by Tim DeWitt who volunteered to serve. Thanks Tim for stepping up!! Since all positions are running unopposed, I suspect that all will be duly elected.

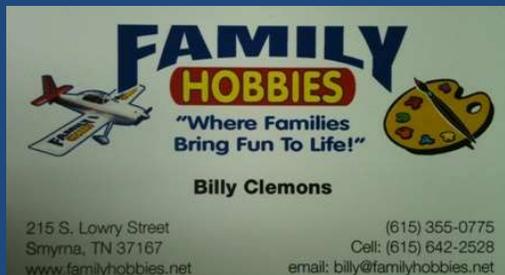
I want to thank Dick T. for running the last two month's meetings in my absence. Too much vacationing on my part...not.

Our next meeting will be at the O'Charley's Restaurant, located on Memorial Blvd., on Thursday, December 6, starting at 6:00 p.m.. Come out earlier if you want to socialize or grab a bite to eat. Guests are always welcome to attend. For those who like to eat at the meetings I want to remind you that once a month O'Charley's has a coupon insert included with other sale flyers and inserts that arrive in the mail; generally later in the month. At least in Murfreesboro that is. They always have 20% off coupons which is a pretty good discount. A penny saved...

I hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving and if I don't see you before the holidays, have a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Well...that's it for this month.

Dan



November Meeting Minutes (cont.):

Remaining:

- Add "X" to runway ends – on hold for now
- Install safety sign with field's address and emergency responder phone numbers. Dick T. has design approved; waiting to be made.
- Add rock to entrance
- Paint container – on hold for now

The field was closed to allow the grass to grow without damage. It was reopened on October 13.

MTRCCA Swap Meet:

The Association's Swap Meet will be held this Saturday, November 3, in Antioch. Members are reminded that our club benefits from this event and that we need to do our share and volunteer to help run the event and/or attend in support.

Airplane Setup for Gerry:

Remains open.

TN Veteran's Home Presentation/Field Visit:

This event will be re-scheduled for the spring. Dick T. will handle the arrangements.

Carport and Container Lighting:

Tim D. volunteered to evaluate the use of LED strip lighting for both applications.

Revised Safety and Flight Rules:

Members were reminded to ensure compliance with the Safety and Flight Rules including the boundary areas.

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November Meeting Minutes (cont.):

2019 Officer Nominations:

2019 Officer and Board nominations were closed. All positions are running unopposed. The nominees are:

President – Tim DeWitt

Vice-President – Dick Tonan

Treasurer – John Hagel

Safety Coordinator – Jim Powers

Contest/Event Coordinator – Richard Ricca

Field Maintenance Director – John Dudinetz

The election will be held at the December Membership Meeting.

New Business:

December Meeting Location:

The December meeting will be held at O'Charley's Restaurant.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Photos from the field November '18



Club Meeting !

December 6th 6:00 PM @ O'Charley's

Family Flyers Indoor Flying

Need a place to fly this Winter indoors??

Come Join "Family Flyers"

Tuesday nights

6:30pm – 9:00pm

Highland Heights Church

785 S. Lowry St., Smyrna, TN 37167

(located in the Gym behind the church)

Cost one time fee of \$20 to fly November 6th thru Feb 26th

You must have an AMA Membership

Max 36" wing span on planes and micro Heli's/Quad's

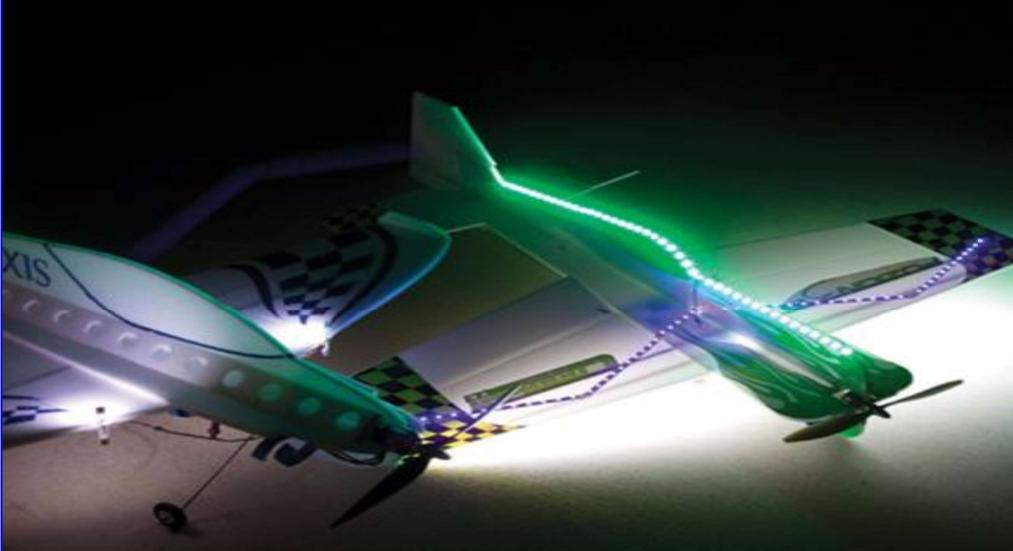
See one of our staff for options in the store under \$100

with battery and transmitter! Great Christmas Gift!

Article

RC Airplane Lights

Model Airplane News



Why not customize your aircraft so that night flying will be as simple to do as flying during the day? (That is, for those of you who find it easy to fly during the day!) I decided to give night flying a try and I have outlined here how I went about installing lights on my planes.



Photo by Erica Mesker

Scale lights

Up until a few years ago, the only lights we would add were scale detail lights that match the full-size counterparts. Many of these lights are available from RAm Electronic Devices (www.ramrcandramtrack.com). They include flashing navigation lights, strobes, rotation beacons, and landing lights. Scale lights make it possible to fly at night but they mainly make our scale aircraft look good at early dawn and after sunset, or during the day at a scale contest. Scale lights are more of a scale detail that adds to your aircraft, rather than something that allows you to see your aircraft better at night.

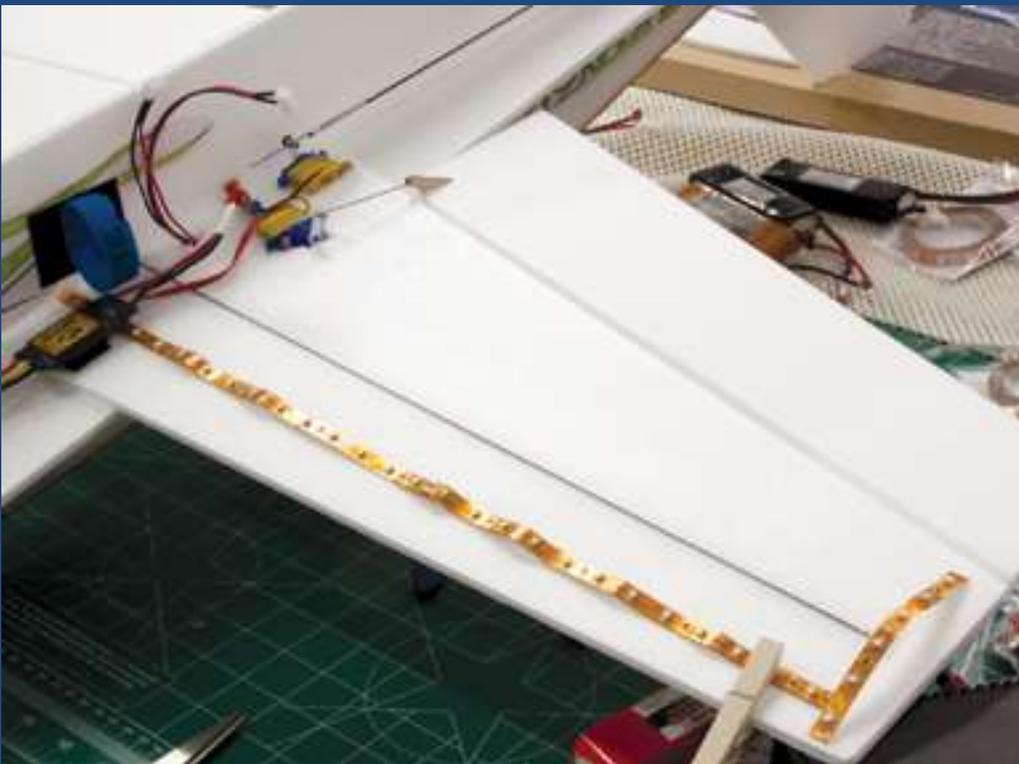
LED lights

When LED lights were first introduced, they were not bright enough to use as a light source for our night-flying planes. But the new breeds of LED lights are plenty bright enough to make flying at night a breeze and they consume a low amount of power. This allows the lights to be powered by the same battery as the motor. Basically, LED lights are the choice for anyone wanting to get into nighttime flying. I am using LED lights from Common Sense RC (www.commonssenserc.com) and DW Foamies (www.dwfoamies.com).

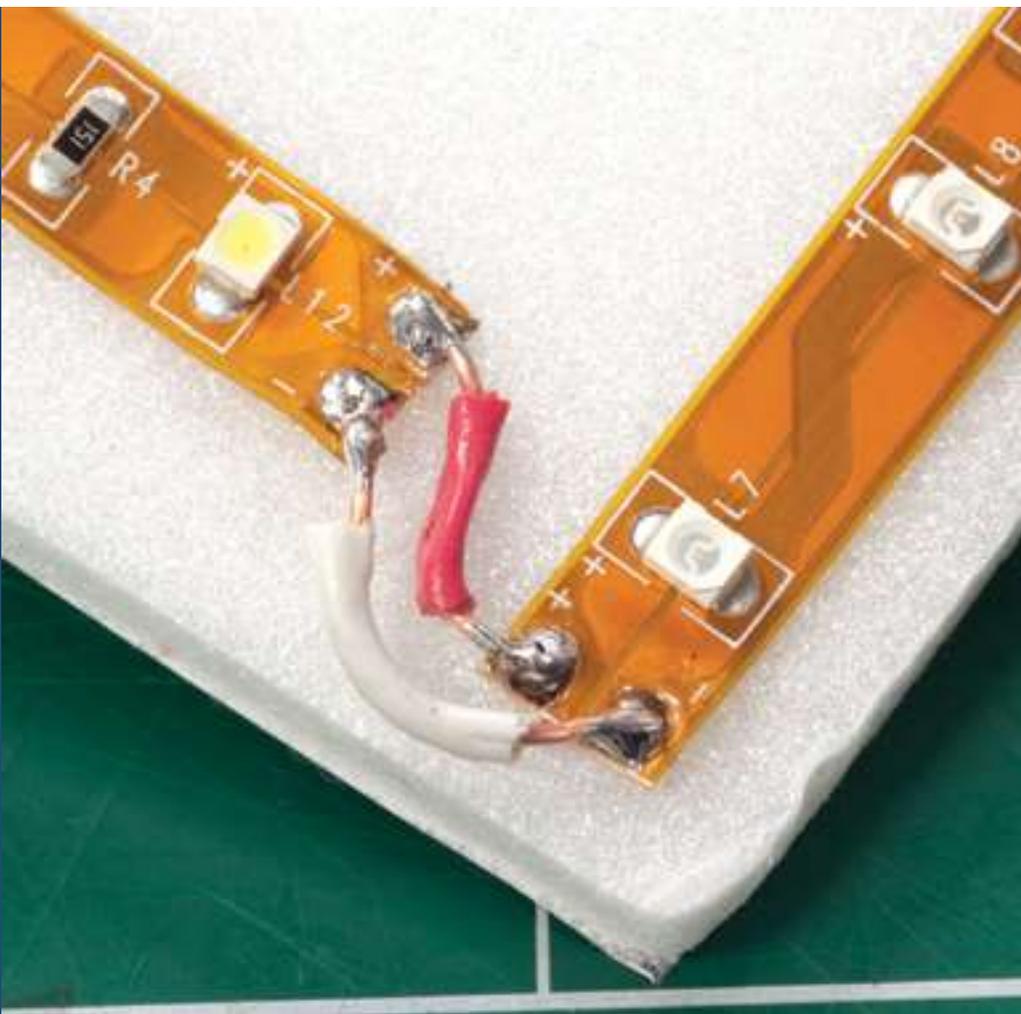
One of the biggest issues for flying at night is plane orientation and these bright lights come in many different colors, which make plane orientating at night possible and easy to do. Installation could not be easier because of the availability of adhesive backed LED lights strips in different lengths, which can be cut for a custom fit.

Installing lights

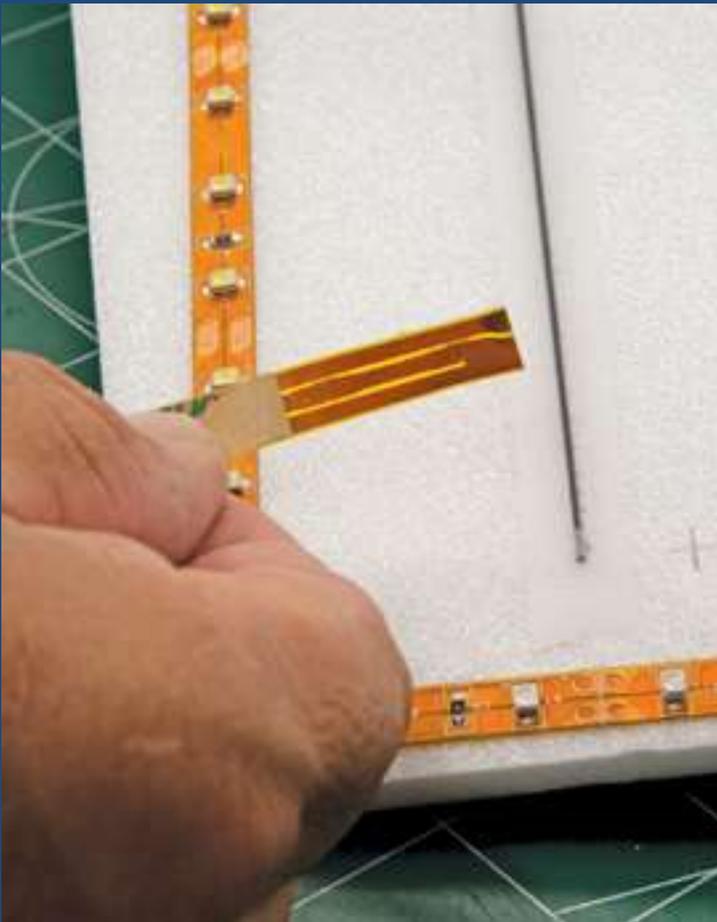
To install the lights, the first step I took was to plan out where they would plug in; from there, I just laid out the lights so they would radiate out from that point. This center spot was where the battery connects to the speed control, which was from where I started webbing out the lights. I laid out a pattern from the tip of the wing to my starting point, cut the light strips to length and then soldered on the connectors.



1 First, I have to measure out the strips of lights and lay them over a design or pattern on the plane. I then plan out my route back to the connection point at the battery. I am going to use different color lights for the top and bottom of the wings and different ones running down the top of the fuselage. Three different colors will be used. The top and bottom wing will have a different light layout to aid on the orientation of the plane at night.



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- 2 The light strip starts at the battery plug and works out along the wing creating my top design. Any point that requires me to make a sharp angle with the light strip will require jumper wires to be soldered onto the ends of the light strips.

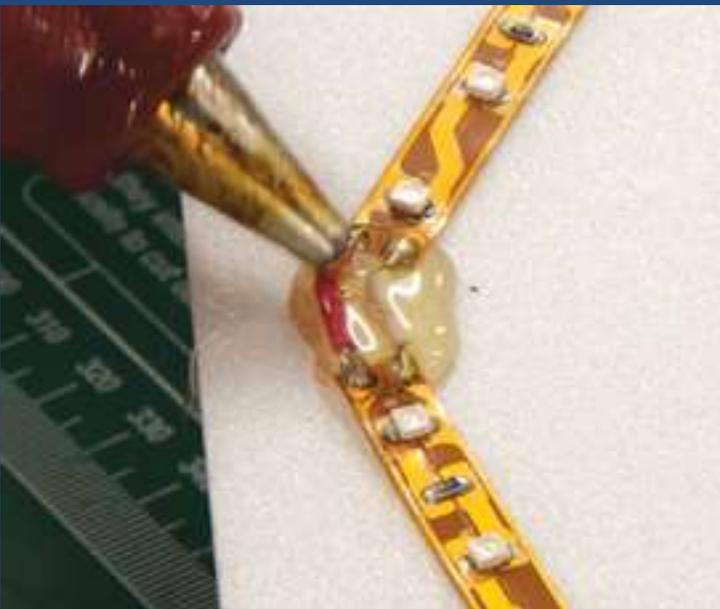


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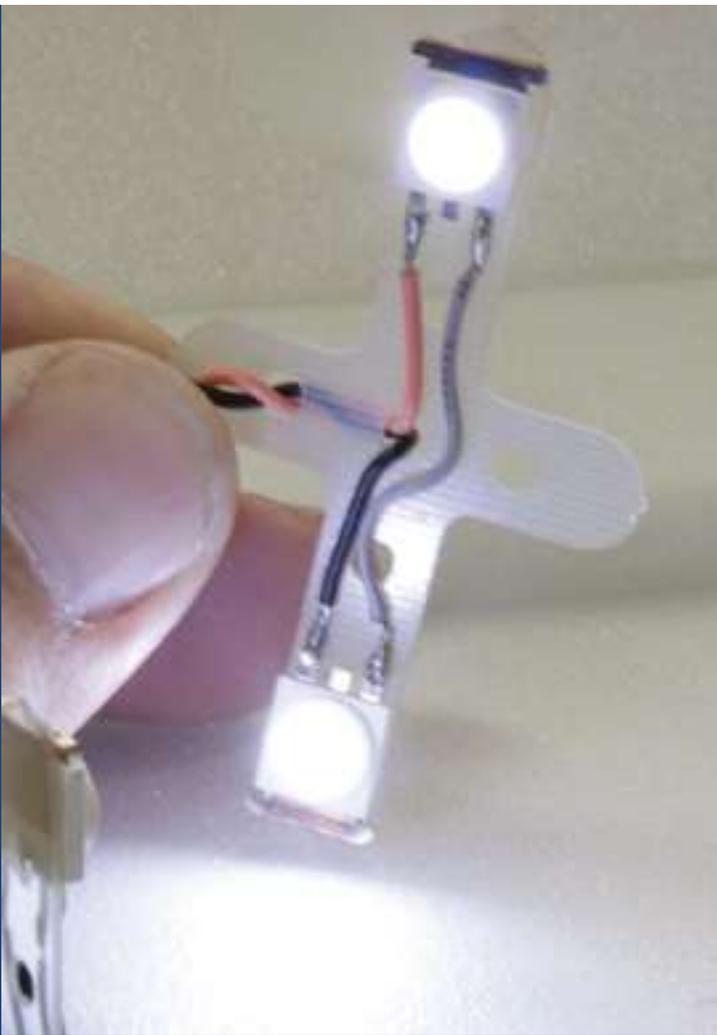
- **3** On the bottom of the wings, I have a different color light strip with less of a design incorporated. This will make it easy to distinguish the top and bottom of the plane. The LED strips have a peel-and-stick surface on the bottom so installation is easy. If there is any area that is not sealing down, I just use some tape or a quick drop of hot glue to hold it in place.



- **4** This strip running along the top edge of the fuselage will light up the canopy outline and give me a good reference point to keep the plane orientated in the air. This strip of lights could be ran completely around the plane but I kept them off the bottom just in case I cannot pull the plane out of the air during a hover and it has to land on its belly.



- **5** To prevent any possibility of the lights shorting out (don't forget they are attached to a LiPo battery), I use a good sized drop of hot glue at all solder joints. This will insulate the connectors and prevent any possibility of the wires touching each other or the joints from pulling loose.



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- **6** These high-intensity LED lights are used to light up the side of the plane. They are mounted above and below the wing so that the light will shine on the side of the fuselage. This creates a spotlight effect on the plane regardless of its attitude. I was pleasantly surprised at how easy it was to fly a plane at night with this type of lighting on it.



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- **7** Here are the two planes after the lights are all installed, hooked up, and ready for some night flying. As you can see, these planes are very easy to see in the dark and the lights are simple to install and use.

- **Last thoughts**

- Customizing my plane for night flying was a simple and straightforward project that makes it easy for anyone to add lights to their plane. I would recommend trying nighttime flying for the first time just after the sun goes down because this will give you a little more light with which to begin your journey. Another thing you can do is to fly during a full moon; you will be surprised at how much the moon can light up the flying field!
- It's also a good idea to fly in an area where the ground is very flat and there are few obstacles on the ground to run into. Even though the lights do brighten up the ground when the plane gets close, things will sneak up on you in the dark before you have time to react. Trust me on this — enjoy!