

## District I

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

**We haven't featured** a helicopter event column for some time so I decided to appoint an associate vice president (AVP) who has an outstanding background in RC helicopters.

Joel Rosenzweig started flying helicopters in 1985 at age 12. He proceeded to become a software engineer who, in 2003, formed Helitronix, a company that designs and manufactures custom helicopter electronics. Joel submitted the following report:

The New England Heli Crew (NEHC), located in Mansfield, Massachusetts, is home to the Joe Howard Memorial Scale Heli Fun Fly. A niche within a niche, this is the largest scale helicopter event in the Northeast and draws loyal helicopter fanatics from District I, and states including Florida, North Carolina, and New York!

A scale fun-fly runs at a leisurely pace. There is as much, or more, time spent walking the flightline to obsess about all the amazing scale details and technical innovations as we spend flying. At the peak of flying activity, we line up our helicopters to claim a spot in the flight order. While waiting for our turns, we watch the aerial ballet unfold. The event attracts pilots of all skill levels and abilities.

The aircraft range from small electric 450 models all the way up to large 2-meter rotor span, turbine-powered aircraft. You will find helicopters that are prebuilt and painted from the factory, kits requiring full assembly and painting, and fully scratch-built models with



Sandy Jaffe and his turbine-powered Vario Bell 429.



Butch Wellmaker displays his electric-powered Len Mount Comanche.



AVP Joel Rosenzweig with his turbine-powered Starwood Lama.



Mark Smith poses with his electric-powered CH-46 Sea Knight.




George Mack with his electric-powered Roban Huey.

custom-made fiberglass fuselages and custom-machined mechanics.

The level of skill and craftsmanship is staggering, all are willing to help another achieve the next step. This year, we had 12 registered pilots (four with rotary-wing turbine waivers!) who kept the sky busy all weekend long while we enjoyed the company of old friends and new. This year was the first time the event was officially sanctioned. The District I Facebook and website helped draw additional pilots and spectators.

The three-day gathering is generally held on the first full weekend in June. If you want to enjoy flying with us, or simply to see some beautifully crafted and expertly flown helicopters, don't miss next year's event.

Thanks, Joel, and all of the members of the NEHC club as well as event attendees for this excellent scale helicopter event report. 



### Andy Argenio

*Vice President*

brandshobby@gmail.com  
3 Sheila Ln., Smithfield, RI 02917  
(401) 231-6901

[www.amadistrict-i.org](http://www.amadistrict-i.org)

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENTS

**Steve Brehm**, Jamestown RI; (401) 423-1085; stbrehm@yahoo.com

**Andrew Figlar**, Shelton CT; (203) 513-8546; safiglar320@gmail.com

**Steve Goler**, Salem MA; (617) 373-0884; nipmuck2@comcast.net

**Daren Hudson**, Greenland NH; (603) 674-5809; dth7@comcast.net

**Ray LaBonte**, Standish ME; (207) 892-7994; rplabonte@aol.com

**Tom Lavoie**, N. Smithfield RI; (401) 824-6134; d2tw4all@yahoo.com

**Joan Liska**, Middletown CT; (860) 347-0257; jliska9000@sbcglobal.net

**Mark Montella**, Falmouth, MA; (508) 457-4984; montellamj@comcast.net

**Thomas J. Puma Jr.**, North Clarendon VT; (802) 558-4439; usakingcat1@aol.com

**Tom Rocheleau**, Wethersfield CT; (860) 280-1701; trocheleau@cox.net

**Joel Rosenzweig**, Marlborough MA; (508) 667-3720; joel@helitronix.com

**Tom Siwek**, Shrewsbury MA; (617) 893-5249; trsiwek@gmail.com

**William Unghire**, Newinton CT; (860) 978-5353; n1cnv@icloud.com

**Ted Wojcik**, Fremont NH; (603) 479-3799; tedwojcik@comcast.net

### TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY OFFICER

**John Yassemadis**, 5 Quarry Rd., Nashua NH 03062; (603) 321-8442; jyassemadis@comcast.net

### EVENT SANCTION COORDINATOR

**David Surwell**, 24 Norwich Rd., Nashua NH 03062; (603) 888-2020; david-surwell@comcast.net