

# Tri-County Barnstormer R/C Club

# PropWash

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## Officers For 2006

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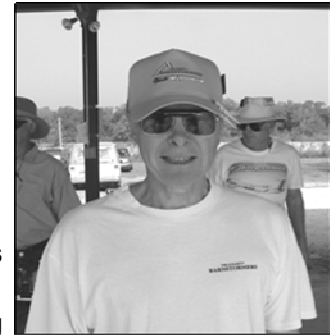
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## Are Barnstormers Slow to Change?

In the February Model Aviation Magazine AMA President Dave Brown was quoted as saying that in the year 2005 the most dominant method of propulsion of models sold in the United States was electric.

Isn't that surprising? When we look at the model plane mix at our field, gas and glo systems dominate. Of course, a number of smaller electrics are showing up and turning in impressive flights. Moreover, Barnstormers have responded to the electric trend by adding an effective charging station in the pavilion and designating new flight stations for the unconventional flight patterns of some electric planes. And each October we host perhaps the largest electric fly-in to be held in Texas.



Ken Bauske, President 2006

But still, our BEST fly-in doesn't have a large percentage of our own members participating in it. At this point it sure doesn't look like our club is turning to electric flight in any dominant way. (The only clear trend we seem to have is toward ARF's. We certainly have adopted the Almost Ready to Fly planes. But that trend is over 20 years old.) Could it be that the Barnstormers are slow to change? If so, why might that be?

Maybe it is because we are overly mature: Half of the Tri-County Barnstormers are over 60 years old. 20% are over 70. A couple of us are over 80 years old. No wonder we are not a trendy group.

Considering the inevitable drop off between ages 60, 70, and 80, it is clear that there will be substantial turn-over in Barnstormer membership on the high age end in the next few years. Probably the nation-wide trend to electrics will not be greatly affected by this. But the management of this club certainly will be.

If we look at who has provided the leadership (and most of the work) for this club over the past few years, this has come largely from the senior half. One reason of course is that retirement affords many of us the time to pursue a special interest. Our concern is that we may not be able to provide the leadership replacement from the younger people who have entered our club in recent years, whether they are retired or not. Avoiding responsibility is easy in a club the size of ours.

We need to identify potential volunteers and see that they get into the club management mix. This usually starts with participation in support of club events or work projects. Help us spot these people and get them into the flow. Be a volunteer yourself. Please don't be hesitant to jump in.

You may provide some busy older person with more time to try electric flight

### GOINGS ON:

All the appointments for the new administration have been completed. Paul Langner has accepted the job of New Membership Chairman. Bill Langner has been added to the Grievance Committee. Our web site

## Goings On– Continued from page 1

lists the people who have accepted the 33 or so Barnstormer responsibilities.

We have had two Executive Committee meetings, which have kept our Secretary Gary Baumgartner extra-busy with meeting minutes. Warning letters have been sent to the 11 Barnstormers who had not renewed their AMA memberships as of February 11.

The first new members to try out the New Member Plan were accepted in the February meeting. Their photos are on the bulletin board and we have found a way to get them name tags. The plan itself is being added to the web site so anyone can review it.

The Grievance Committee handled its first case and action was taken as a result of their recommendation. No further announcement is warranted at this time.

The club house lower siding has been removed and replaced with cement board and the trim re-installed or replaced. The illness of Mike Wood has had a major impact on our plans for similar further improvements. The shed addition has been approved and bids are being obtained. The cost of cement has risen substantially and it is clear that some additional money will be needed to finish this project.

Greg Gathright again provided officer name signs for the entrance to our field. Greg does this gratis. His business is Right Signs, of Porter.

A frequency monitor has been obtained from the District 8 AMA on a two week loan. No panic here, just checking the air waves.

Jim Porter and Max Taylor unearthed the Barnstormer equivalent of the Dead Sea Scrolls while looking inside the club house cabinet on a cold and windy day. We are reviewing these records and will certainly move some of them to a safe deposit box. We also may need professional legal advice regarding some of these.

## Help Needed with Field Projects

As noted by Ken, one foot of rotten and weathered siding has been removed from the Clubhouse and replaced with hardi-plank. Some preparation before painting has been done and more is needed. The rain has prevented completion of this project and we are still looking for some help with the exterior painting.

When time is available, **Steve Tinsley** has agreed to help with the painting of the Clubhouse interior. He will need additional help so who is willing to help?

**Jon Bartoshek** has agreed to be the leader on a team to remodel both restrooms and **Howard (Howe) Paugh** will help. The showers and some fixtures will be replaced along with a new paint job. Jon is preparing an estimate that could be ready for the Club's review and approval during the March meeting.

With spring just around the corner, we have been doing some maintenance on our tractors. **Max Taylor** and **Harold Johnston** replaced the drive belt on one tractor and we have changed oil, oil and air filter on both mowers.

The slab for the storage shed was to be completed on February 23 if the weather allows. The cost of concrete for the slab was much more than estimated so during the March Club meeting we will request additional funds for this project. .

Please contact me if **you want to help** or have additional task you wish the Club consider. It would be great to get some of these needed repairs and improvements completed before the real flying season starts.



**Jim Porter, Vice-President**

## Minutes for the February 2nd Meeting

**Gary Baumgartner, Secretary**

\* Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. Opening remarks-recognized winners at nationals. Introduction of guests-there were 4 guests.

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**February Minutes** (Continued from page 2)**\* Officer reports-**

\*\* President-reviewed new member procedures. A letter is going out to remind our members that have not renewed AMA that you must be an AMA member to be a Barnstormer.

\*\* Vice President-repairs to clubhouse are progressing. Siding is being repaired prior to painting. Need two more members for the mowing crew.

\*\* Treasurer-funds are in good shape.

\*\* Secretary-In the future 100% of the attendance prize will be given to the winner. The 'model of the month' prize will be determined by drawing from all models present at the meeting. For models that are either kit or scratch built they may be brought to the meeting twice. First as 'bones' and later as a finished model. ARFs can only be brought to one meeting.

\*\* Editor-please submit pictures for inclusion on the web site. Ads on the web site will be removed after three months.

**\* Safety-Adam discussed safety issues.**

-The last two months have been good safety wise. Recently three planes went into the pilot stations but no injuries.

- Please remember to remove LiPo batteries from planes when charging.

- When filling out the guest flyer form be sure to include the 'last' name of the sponsor not just the first name.

\* AMA-Max is arranging to have the AMA magazine provided to the New Waverly library. He is also soliciting books on our hobby for donation to the library.

**\* Events**

\*\* Fun Fly-volunteers are needed to organize.

\*\* Glider-AI Dalnoki is the CD. May try to combine an event with the Houston Hawks.

\*\* BEST-Kirk Jensen is the CD. He is applying for AMA sanction.

\*\* Big Bird-Bob Upton will be CD with assistance from Adam.

**Old Business**

\* New member plan/ purchase of name tags-new member will provided with name tags at a cost not to exceed \$10.00.

\* Paul Langner is the New Member Chairman.

**New Business**

\* Two new members were approved - Ray Chaffee - Darrin Denn

\* Proposal for new shed—Max Taylor presented plan to build a shed on the west side of the equipment barn. Members present approved \$2500.00 for the project.

Model of Month - Three planes were presented. Adam Kaminskas won the vote with a plane first flown in 1958 (before some of our members were born). In addition Steve Tinsley and Gary Baumgartner presented planes. Steve Tinsley won the drawing. Starting next month the prize for models presented will be by drawing.

Meeting adjourned about 9:00 pm.



**Tri-County Barnstormer R/C  
Club  
P.O. Box 916**

**40 acres of TEXAS sized fun!**

**We're on the web!**

**[www.tri-countybarnstormers.com](http://www.tri-countybarnstormers.com)**

### **Field Work Schedule for Month**

<b>WEEK OF</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>
<b>FEB 26</b>	Robert Bissell	Bud Brinkley	Hugh Brown
<b>MAR 5</b>	Steve Bryan	E. Clinton Caroon	Gregory Casper
<b>MAR 12</b>	Mike Catalanotto	Douglas Cockerham	William Cockerham
<b>MAR 19</b>	Hal Clippinger	Jim Coleman	J.B. Collins
<b>MAR 26</b>	William Cotter	Larry Cox	Donald Culak

## **From the Treasurer**

Harper Taylor, Treasurer

In February we gained two new members bringing our paid membership to 148. Current project of adding on to the equipment storage building has started and should be completed soon after our March meeting.

We currently have a good cash balance which should allow for additional facility improvements such as upgrading our club house restrooms.