

Prop Wash

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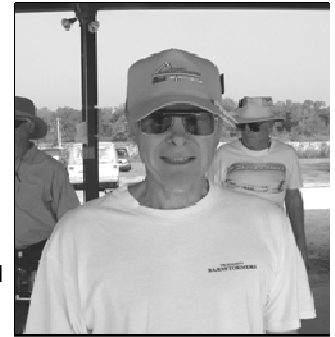
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Of Fleas and Fliers

Those many of you who didn't attend the April meeting missed an excellent report by Mike Wickizer about the experiences had while attending the nationals with Brett last summer. You also missed a good Model of the Month, with 6 excellent planes displayed, including our first "framed up" model by Bob Upton.



Ken Bauske, President 2006

The AMA has informed us that we are once again a Gold Leader Club, one of only about 100 in the nation. There is a complete list of such clubs in the May Model Aviation Magazine. But it is for 2005.

If you have been to the field lately you have doubtless seen our great new shed. What a fine job Jim Porter and his volunteer crew of the sick, the lame, and the willing healthy have done with this project.

J.B. Collins has donated to us a brand new completed Sportster 40 that someone else built for him. This rig includes an Airtronics radio system and servos. We anticipate that this will be offered as a raffle prize. We appreciate and encourage such donations.

Abraham Lincoln once observed that getting something done in Washington was like "trying to herd fleas across a barnyard." In my past life I have been both a flea and a herder. Right now I have the shepherd job and it is troubling.

As many of you know from my broadcast Barnstormer e-mail alert, on Sunday, April 9 we had an incident with our neighbor to the west of the field. Someone over-flew his house. He fired a shotgun to announce his displeasure, and someone else offered him hand signals and angry words in return.

I received several member observations and suggestions in reply to my e-mail. These varied in tone but all were supportive of the objective that we not fly over the neighbor's property or yell at him. Generally, they confirmed that something bad had happened and that more than one person was involved.

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However, some quite credible members indicated that they were there at the field at the time and observed no over-flight at all. Others said that all day the neighbor was shooting his shotgun at their planes and even endangering their family back under the pavilion.

Club officers have been monitoring on site on Sundays since the incident and have found nothing to suggest that we have anything but angels flying at our field. We will continue to spot-monitor until we identify any rogue flier, or fliers, and modify their behavior. It is in every member's interest to help us.

I'm troubled by what obviously needs to be done beyond the policing job. In a military or corporate hierarchy a strong suggestion means something. However, herding a volunteer organization requires an additional skill set. I'm working at it. I do believe that things left unchanged are likely to remain the same.

Vice President Reports from the Field

The equipment storage shed was completed and our field equipment now has a storage place off the wet ground and under cover. Mike Wood let the Club use his welder and Mike and Bill Langner did the welding. Bob Schlotter spent a lot of time on the roof driving the screws to secure the roof. Thanks to all of you who helped with this project!

The updating of the rest rooms has been approved and the remodeling will start soon. New shower enclosures have been purchased and are on sight.

Reflective tape has been applied to both sides of the entrance gate.

The field is looking much better after the rain. Thanks to all of you who are doing a great job of mowing and weed control. If you take chairs onto the field; please return them to the covered area. Chairs that are left on the field get wet from the sprinklers, dew or rain and the seats and legs rust.

Remember to check if you are responsible for weekly maintenance. There were two weeks during April that no one showed up for general maintenance. If you can not make your scheduled time, it is your responsibility to get a replacement. If you are not sure of what to do, check the bulletin board or web sight.

Please let me know if you have any special request or would like to help with our current projects.

Jim Porter (936) 856-1068 japorter@wt.net



Jim Porter, Vice President

Minutes for the April 6th Meeting

Gary Baumgartner, Secretary

* Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

* Guests introduced were Gary and Bobbi Hendrickson.

* President - noted that there have been no applications for the scholarship. He also noted that if we are checking AMA cards for club membership that we must be aware that all family members will not have a Barnstormers sticker on their card.

* Secretary - read the minutes of the previous meeting. They were approved as read.

* Vice President - reported that the frame is up for the new shed. The painting of the club house is complete. Plans are to put reflective tape on the field entry gate. Still looking for a reel mower.

Responsibilities for the cleaning crews was discussed. Included are: restrooms, kitchen, and pickup of trash. Note: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SECURE A REPLACEMENT IF YOU CANNOT MAKE YOUR SCHEDULED TIME. IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO NOT SHOW UP.

* Treasurer report - We have 149 members. Application has been submitted for Gold Leader status. We gave \$500.00 to New Waverly library. Have submitted request to AMA for four magazine subscriptions to be sent to local libraries. We received a letter of thanks from Civil Air Patrol and from the New Waverly library.

* Editor - Please look at the new changes to the website.

* Safety - Adam reported that there have been no accidents. He recommended that small electric planes and helicopters should fly downwind of the pilot stations. Remember that flying must be at least 25 feet from people.

Please note that AMA requires owner identification in our planes. This info is to include name, address, phone number and AMA number.

* Events-

Sailplane - Al Dalnoki has not been able to contact Houston Hawks.

BEST - No report.

BIG BIRD - Bob Upton and Adam Kaminskis are the contest directors.

Old business - Approved spending of \$1000.00 on the restroom remodel.

New business -

New member - Gary Hendrickson

Model of Month - six airplanes

Meeting Adjourned



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Field Work Schedule for Month

WEEK OF	LEADER	MEMBER	MEMBER
APR 30	Kevin Fotorny	James Furby	Greg Garthright
MAY 7	Arthur L. Geist	Robert Giles	Paul Green
MAY 14	George Grock	Bill Hager	Ross Havlick
MAY 21	William Hayden	Harold Hebert	Bob Houghton
MAY 28	Josh Houser	Kirk Jensen	Bob Johnson

From the Treasurer

Harper Taylor, Treasurer

In March our membership increased to 150. The current approved project is to redo our two rest-rooms which recently began by the purchase of the new shower kits.

Also, we have been notified by the AMA that our application for being a Gold Leader Club has been approved.