



THE PROP WASH

Club Officers

- *President-*
Robert Minieri
- *Vice President -*
Sam Barrett
- *Secretary -*
Larry Bonnette
- *Treasurer -*
Sam Barrett
- *Editor/Webmaster -*
Larry Bonnette



Robert Minieri

PRESIDENTS CORNER

It was another great night of flying after this month's meeting. There was an excellent turnout of night-planes as well as spectators. Now I am more confident that this trend is catching on, I have built another night flyer and am looking forward to flying it after next month's meeting.

To keep my PropWash article on the lighter side, I decided to write out what I have come up with today while having a conversation at New Creations RC – "Robert's Rules of Painting". As some of you may have begun to figure out, I have a very hard time leaving things alone. Usually before a new airplane that I acquire ever makes it to the flying field, it receives some kind of visual make-over to ensure that no one else has the same plane. Since my preferred style of RC airplane is scale/realistic, here are a few key points that I feel should be adhered to:

- 1) If you are trying to duplicate a popular paint scheme, it is important to get as many of the little details in place as possible. Of course, a foam park flyer will not have the details of a 100" quarter scale plane. But if you choose, for example, the "Old Crow" P-51, the letters on the fuselage should be B6 S, it should have a red rudder, invasion stripes, red and yellow checkered nose, etc.
 - 2) One of my favorite things to do is find a paint scheme that very few people are familiar with. I have an F-86 that I really wanted to make different from the very popular schemes we see over and over. So I found a paint scheme that the Air Force used as a test for a new camouflage scheme, but the idea never materialized and only 1 was painted like this. I duplicated this to the best of my ability and have gotten a lot of positive responses, partially due to the fact that no one has ever seen it. It's different. And cool.
 - 3) Over 12,500 F4-U Corsairs were manufactured in 16 different model variations. We are all very familiar with 1 or 2 dozen popular paint schemes. So what did the other 12,000 Corsairs look like? We can assume from squadron photos the general paint schemes for different war theaters, but isn't possible that there are thousands of designs that hardly anyone has ever seen? One of my favorite things to do is to get a few ideas from various paint schemes, take parts of each one that I like, make my own and use my own designation numbers. I don't think anyone could ever argue that design never existed! This is what I chose to do with the F4-F Wildcat I bring out to the field every week. Dark blue with invasion stripes was popular, then I found one with a bright green rudder, and another one with a flat black elevator. I combined all of those ideas and put the number "6" on the cowl, and it gets a lot of compliments. Did it ever really exist? It looks like it could have, so who knows?
 - 4) Take pride in your work and do a good job. No matter what you come up with, if it is obvious that time and care was taken in painting it, it will look good. When the manufacturing plants built WWII fighter planes, they knew they were probably going to get shot down one day, probably soon. They still spent a great deal of time and PRIDE in making them look beautiful, so don't use the old "well I might crash it one day so I'll just throw it together" attitude. We didn't choose this hobby because it is cheap and easy.
- That being said, I'm having trouble trying to figure out what direction to go with a 60-size P-51 I have that is covered in yellow Ultra coat with black and white invasion stripes. My initial thought was to go with a Reno Racer scheme since it's yellow, but the invasion stripes are making it difficult. I see it as a challenge that will hopefully one day be pretty cool! Opinions and ideas welcome.

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**Meetings are at the
Conroe Friendship Center
on the first Thursday of
the month at 7:30 PM**

**We hope to see you
there.**



Sam Barrett

Words from the VP

(The Vice President's Input)

The Tri-County Barnstormers still need a motivated member to take on the responsibilities of being club Vice-President. While our charter and by-laws provide for a member temporarily holding more than one office in the case of a vacancy, it is much easier to have only one title at a time. The Vice President is responsible for managing and maintaining our field and its facilities. The VP has help from other club members in carrying out these duties. If you have time to devote to this vital office or want to recommend another member for consideration, please attend the August club meeting or send an email to one of the club officers making your recommendation known.

I have had reports of restrooms being left unlocked. If you are the last one to leave the field, please give all locks and doors a yank to be sure they are locked and check to make sure no water faucets or toilets are running. If you are at the field at night please turn off any lights that are not on timers or motion detector outlets, when leaving.

If you would like to help with the mowing please let me know and we will have you added to the mower crew and get you checked out on the equipment. All members are responsible for keeping their trash and debris cleared away when leaving the field as we do not have trash removal service at the field.

The field has really been in great shape since the warm weather hit due to the repairs on our irrigation system and the faithful, yet limited mowing crew. While a number of our members participate in field maintenance, I would like to recognize Max Taylor and John Luedke, especially for their consistent labors in keeping the field in great shape.

We had an event on August 14th that involved safety concerns for our member pilots looking for a downed plane off our club property. We had a new member whose car was parked at the field but who had not been seen for over an hour. It was decided that the plane he was flying had gone astray and he had gone looking for it but nobody was aware which direction he went or if he was OK. Out of concern for his safety we decided to contact the Sheriff's department to report him missing. Over a period of several hours we had a team of four from the Walker County office of Emergency Management, eight officers from Walker County Sheriff's Office, led by Sheriff Clint McRae and Chief Deputy Butch Davis; two officers from Department of Public Safety; five members of the Community Emergency Response Team; two members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service; two members of the New Waverly Volunteer Fire Department and two personnel from Emergency Medical Services looking for the Barnstormer in the Texas heat and we were worried. While we were returning to the field after a break for lunch, the missing member was spotted on Tafelski Road, laying in the shade beside a ditch and pretty much exhausted. He was checked out by the EMS personnel and cooled down with wet towels. Luckily, this ended well for our missing man. We heartily thank the personnel of the Walker County Sheriff's Office and their coordinating agencies mentioned above and Sherri Pagoda of the Walker County Judge's office in Huntsville.

We wasted valuable time looking in the wrong direction because we assumed the wind direction would have carried the plane northward. Please do not leave the field to look for a downed plane without having a cell phone with you and only after telling someone where you are going or leaving a "flight plan" at the club house. Although we have good relations with most of our neighboring land owners, we are encroaching or trespassing on private land when we cross our fences. It can be tough going in the overgrown scrub pasture land or briar filled wooded areas, especially in our Texas summers. We were lucky today and it reminds us that we need to help our fellow members or emergency services personnel find us if we become lost in the woods, snake bitten, experience heat exhaustion or other medical emergencies while looking for that errant plane. Thanks again to all the officers and volunteers in Walker County that came to our aid in this emergency.

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

2-August-2012

Members present: 39

Start: 7:34 PM

Meeting called to order at 7:34PM by President Robert Minieri

July minutes were approved

Vice President and Treasurer Sam Barrett reported that the field is in good shape. The new runway looks very good and needs a little more attention than the old runway in that it needs to be trimmed using a weed trimmer. Sam says that he still needs "qualified" people to help out with the mowing. He said that if you would like to be "qualified" on the mowing equipment to see him. A member remarked that there may be mice in the rest rooms. He saw evidence of it. Sam reminded the members that we still need a VP. Anyone who would like to help out and take on this responsibility should see any one of the officers and let them know.

Gary Baumgartner reminded the members that it is almost time to get nominations for next year's officers.

Gary also asked if he could use some of the left over runway material on the rose garden. Robert said that he needs it for a taxiway. Gary stated that he would go and find another material. There were no reported safety issues in the last month.

A member stated that he found a charger and a battery at the field. He unplugged it and placed it in the transmitter impound cage.

Sam again asked for a volunteer to step up and take on the responsibilities of VP. There were no takers.

The club voted in one new member Jack Chapman. Welcome Jack !

Jack was immediately nominated for the VP job. But, he declined.

Minutes (continued)

A member mentioned that we needed new flight preparation tables. Robert asked the member if he was willing to build them. If so the club would reimburse him for materials.

The BEST is approaching fast. There are only two more meetings before the event in October

A member asked if we could get a new sign made to replace the worn one at the entrance of the field. Robert knows someone and will get prices.

A member asked if the club could make a nice flat heli-pad at the south side of the field. A suggestion was made to use some left over material and make it 15 X 15 feet (because the material is 15 FT wide). Robert will get the fill needed and install the material.

A member asked if we could get new "event" signs (the signs placed on the side of the road). The old ones are getting very ragged. Jack Chapman said he had a relative that may have some old "For Sale" frames that we may be able to have. Robert will price the new signs and Jack will let Robert know if he can get the frames.

A member asked if anyone knew what the County was doing to fix the road leading to the field.

The club will have a "night fly" right after the meeting.

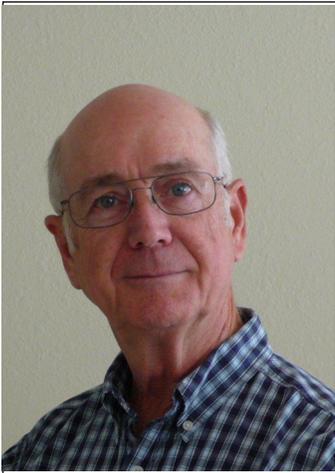
Model of the month was won by Kirk Massey

Attendance jackpot would have been won by Bob Houghton. But he wasn't there so the jackpot rolls over to next month.

The Name Tag prize was won by Melvin Lindsay

Let's Go Flying !!

Meeting adjourned 8:33PM



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

It's that time of year and we still have about 30 current members that have not yet remitted dues for the new year. If you are one of those, please get your dues in the mail as the lock combination will change August 17th. If you think you have paid dues and haven't received a copy of your invoice marked paid, please email me at sambarrett@sbcglobal.net with your member info for me to verify.

I record whether members pay by cash or check and check numbers are recorded. I balance cash deposits to dues paid, so I don't miss applying a cash payment. I sent out notices and paid invoices last week and Bart Massey tried to pay his dues twice! Thanks Bart but, no extra credit for the effort. ;-)

I also received an application along with new member initiation fee and dues from another new member, Rafael D'Alta, to be voted in during our September meeting. So far the new members are offsetting those who have dropped off and our membership remains fairly stable. That keeps us financially healthy and provides the resources to keep up the field and our equipment. Property taxes and insurance on the field are due soon and the new members help greatly for us to continue to enjoy the great hobby at a field we can be proud of.

It's not too early to mention AMA dues since we had about six members last year who let their coverage lapse. We are an AMA chartered club and AMA membership is required to fly as a member of Tri-County Barnstormers. Proudly display your AMA card on the pin board at the field.

Let's hope the weather is right for another night flying session after the September meeting. If you haven't gotten out to the field for one of the two after meeting night flying, then you haven't been bitten by the desire to light up your life and your plane. The night flying is worth the trip, even if you don't fly yourself; you have to see it to appreciate it!



P.O. Box 916

New Waverly, Texas 77358

«First Name» «Last Name»

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Web site www.tri-countybarnstormers.com

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DON'T FORGET

TRI-COUNTY BARNSTORMER
CLUB MEETINGS ON THE FIRST
THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE

September 6th