

THE PROP WASH



Club Officers

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



Robert Minieri

THE PRESIDENT

Everyone has a different path they've taken in their RC flying journey, and many of the stories are interesting and inspiring. I always like hearing how someone came to be where they are in many areas of life, and in RC flying as well. So, this month, I decided to give you a little reading material about my personal experience, because I have recently realized how exciting the hobby has become lately. I began flying in 1983 when I was 9 years old. My father would take off, I'd do the flying, then he'd land. I flew various planes, mainly around 60-size. When I was 10 years old I built my first built-up plane, a "PussyCat" 2-meter glider. I competed with that for a couple years, and in 1986 I built a 60-size J-3 Cub (which I still have).

I flew off-and-on for many years, taking about a 10-year break from the 1990's to 2000's. I started flying again around 2002, building complete experiments seemingly just for shock value. Electric planes (before Li-Po and brushless technology), high-speed scratch-built gliders, and even a couple rocket planes. Then my father, who I was very involved in flying with, passed away in 2006 and as I was going through all of his RC stuff, the bug bit hard and hasn't let go since.

Shortly afterwards, electric technology took off. Or at least, this is when I realized the potential. As someone who has always been fascinated with electric ANYTHING, I knew this was for me. It wasn't long before I had converted EVERY single glow and gas plane I had (about 30) to electric, including all of my father's planes, some of which are as old as I am. I feel that we are at a very interesting age in RC technology. When I think back to when I began and when I was flying with my father,

I NEVER imagined that one day we'd have power systems that run on electricity, have the same or greater power than gas and glow, fly for just as long or longer, and weigh the same. I had never imagined we'd have video cameras so small you can stick them on planes weighing less than 16 ounces. I never imagined we'd have planes that weighed less than 16 ounces. I never imagined we'd be able to fly 50 airplanes with 1 transmitter. I never imagined I could buy a servo that weighed 4 grams, or one that had enough torque to sever a finger. I never imagined we'd have LED lights that are so small, so efficient, so light-weight, and so bright that you could stick as many as you want on any plane without affecting flyability. I never imagined there'd be an affordable computer simulator that mimicked exactly the flying characteristics of an RC plane. These are the exciting times we live in now, and more than ever, there are a greater variety of people and equipment that have something new to share with the world. I can't even imagine what tomorrow will bring, but it's sure to be equally as exciting.

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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.

The Vice President

Wanted: Vice President; must be mature, strong and stable, self-confident, humorous and know how to cook; must have a positive and cheerful attitude towards life; must be willing to work as a full-time VP for the long term.

The Barnstormers are looking for an experienced full time VP to help care for our members Monday through Sunday. Ideal candidate would be energetic, nurturing, warm and sincere. Our members development, education, well being, safety, and engaging them in thoughtful activities are essential.

In conjunction with our members schedule and the regular VP tasks, light grounds keeping will be required. Experience: Candidates should have 5+ years of experience in caring for RC club members and excellent references. Background screen and good mower is a plus. Must be a non-smoker.

Location: New Waverly, Texas

About us: We are an easy-going, busy and energetic club that is looking for someone to grow with us.

Please don't respond if you do not have applicable work experience. Thank you!

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

June 7, 2012

The meeting started off with Gary Baumgartner thanking the club for the installation of the new smooth surface runway. It was decided that the B.E.S.T. event will be happening this year, but it will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting because Kirk Jensen was not in attendance.

The May 2012 meeting minutes were approved.

Sam Barrett discussed the field conditions, saying that the field is in excellent condition, the grass is growing and weeds appear to be under control. There was a mention of some weeds growing up through the seams on the new runway, but it will be a simple solution to remedy the situation. There were no further complaints about the field or the runway.

There had been no safety issues to discuss this past month. No dog incidences as well.

Dick Pursley has resigned as Treasurer, and Sam Barrett has moved into the Treasurer position. This means we need to fill the Vice President position.

Sam discussed what he had been working on this past month getting all of the club's financials in order and it was the opinion of President Robert Minieri that Sam Barrett is definitely the best man for the Treasurer position.

Robert asked the attending members to keep in mind that we need a Vice President, and asked "if anyone is willing to step up and take over that position, please do so". So far the position remains vacant.

Sam Barrett discussed the club's financials stating that we are in good standing. The bank account is good, even after the runway expenses, and membership renewals are coming in. Sam was busy for most of the meeting, taking membership renewals, entering them into the system, and accepting new member payments as well.

Minutes (continued)

We had 7 new members join. Please welcome Craig Whitacre, Tom Butler, David Light, Roger Bourland, Dan Wiggins, Lynn Preas and Wes Fox.

The Helping Hand Award Scholarship was voted on and given to Andrew Leigh.

There were 5 entries for Model of the Month, which was won by Kirk Massey, showing off his modified Multiplex Fun Cub.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

This months meeting minutes were recorded by Robert Minieri. I thank him very much for doing this while I was away on business.

Larry



Sam Barrett

The Treasurer

Well, I don't know whether to make my Propwash comments as the Vice President or as acting Treasurer. Dick Pursley recently resigned as Treasurer as more of his time was needed to attend to personal matters. We will miss Dick in his official capacity and appreciate his contributions and his service to the club. However, Dick will still be with us as a regular member and maybe have more time to get to the field when his personal business permits. I will be doing both jobs until we can find a replacement for me as Vice President. If you have someone who you think would be a fine candidate, please recommend that person to the Executive Committee.

The field has been in pretty good shape since Big Bird but we are in the process of reconfiguring the sprinkler system to better utilize the existing sprinkler heads which were impacted by the installation of the new smooth surface. The re-programming of the sprinkler controller should be decided soon and the sprinkler heads replaced or adjusted as needed. If the sprinkler system comes on during flying times and you turn it off to fly, please turn it back on before you leave the field. Call me if you have to do this as I can't watch the system all week to determine if we still have unwanted watering cycles.

One of the reasons we really need the sprinkler system on is to keep newly sown grass seed growing in the summer heat. We are trying to have the field in first class shape for the BEST event in October and green grass is always a pretty sight on a freshly mowed grass runway. Of course our regular members should enjoy the same level of maintenance on a well kept field. If you've been to the field lately, you've also seen the lovely wild flowers which came back after the haying was done and I wish I could take credit for the beautiful sight.

We had seven new members join at the June meeting and we welcome those members. No doubt the field and its condition is a strong draw for those of us who love to fly model aircraft. We strive to keep the field in great condition and appreciate the efforts of our members to report any facility or field conditions that need attention. Call me at 281-352-8294 or email me at sambarrett@sbglobal.net to report any problems with Ray Brickhouse Field. Of course we always want to be safe but, if we have an accident, please report it to Gene Edwards, our Safety Officer and fill out an incident report. Be safe, and happy flying until we meet again.



P.O. Box 916

New Waverly, Texas 77358

«First Name» «Last Name»

«Address»

«City», «State»

«Zip»

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

July 5th