



## Club Officers

President – Robert Minieri  
VP & Editor – Robert Cook  
Treasurer – Sam Barrett  
Secretary & Webmaster – Larry Bonnette

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**NOTICE!**  
The July meeting will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> to avoid conflicting with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The Tri-county Barnstormers hold monthly meetings at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of each month at the Conroe Friendship Center.

Members and guests thinking about joining us are welcome!

# The PropWash

Newsletter of the Tri-County Barnstormers R/C Club

## Words from the President

*Robert Minieri*



This year our July meeting would fall on July 4<sup>th</sup>. To avoid conflict with this holiday, the meeting has been moved forward to July 11<sup>th</sup>. Please put this on your calendar and we hope to see you.



## Words from the Vice President

*Robert Cook*



The future of PropWash is up in the air (no pun intended). Given that many of the recent PropWash newsletters have not included much content (and with Larry's recent resignation as editor), I was prompted to send out the following note to the membership via email on May 28<sup>th</sup> (in blue font below):

*With the recent posting of the Propwash and minutes from the last meeting, Larry Bonnette has given notice that he is resigning as the editor of the Propwash. It is felt that nobody really reads it and it takes lots of work to produce these each month. There is never any feedback and I have wondered why the onus needs to be on a select few to provide*

*content when we have 150+/- members!*

*I have to believe that the TCB membership has tons of interesting ideas, experience, etc., that may provide fodder for future Propwash editions. That will be up to you though. What I suggest is that if you would like to provide content for future Propwash editions, let me know and I will be happy to serve as the editor, and then forward to Larry for posting to our site.*

*Content is up to you but clearly should be related to the hobby. Be as creative as you want. Or, simply provide a tutorial or some advice. There isn't any length minimum or maximum. If you have an idea, want to share a story, etc., start writing. Submit it to me in draft, I will edit it into form, and submit to the group.*

*What do you think?*

As the saying goes, do not ask the question if you are not ready

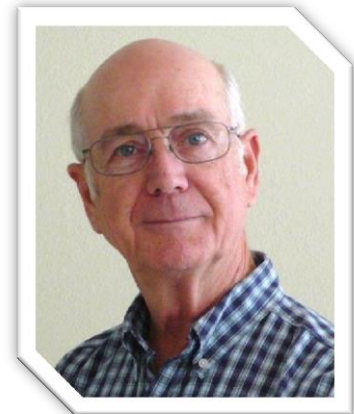
Current club bylaws (see excerpt in Figure below) indicate that the publishing of a newsletter will be conducted monthly. I am happy to fill in as the Editor; however, the bylaws do not require the club officers to provide all content for the newsletter! Of course, the newsletter offers a solid foundation to communicate club news, events, and to highlight the minutes from previous meetings. That said, this is after all a club and membership in a club generally means that members will actively participate.

So I am reaching out to you all once again and simply asking that if you have an idea or would like to contribute to the PropWash in some way, please feel free to do so.

I still have a few ideas for content and plan to continue as best I can. Nobody should feel obligated to contribute though, because that just takes the fun out

## Words from the Treasurer

*Sam Barrett*



The Barnstormers finally have some good news on the tax exempt status of our club. On Friday, June 7th we received our letter ruling from the IRS approving our 501, (c) 7 status as a tax exempt organization.

While our dues are not deductible by our members for federal tax purposes, the club is not subject to tax on its revenues or “net income” as long as we continue to operate as we have in the past. With this new status also comes another annual requirement to file a Form 990 with the IRS, which is more an informational return, to maintain our tax exempt classification. This is in addition to the Texas Franchise tax return which we have annually filed as a Texas non-profit corporation. Being a club and flying airplanes has more sticky aspects than a new bottle of CA when it comes to

**6. Editor:** The Editor shall publish a monthly newsletter. The Club newsletter shall be issued each month following a regular Club meeting and shall be distributed to all dues paying members and Associate Members not later than five (5) days prior to the next scheduled month Club meeting. The Club newsletter shall be known as “THE PROP WASH – NEWSLETTER OF THE TRI-COUNTY BARNSTORMERS R/C CLUB”. The editor shall perform additional duties as directed by the Executive Committee.

to hear the answer! While the response was light – only a few members took the time to respond – the consensus was that the PropWash should live on! I agree with that position if only because it is a good way to get meeting minutes and key club news out t members.

of it. It may come to a vote whether the Propwash should even continue so I would urge you to come to the July meeting (remember now on July 11 since the first Thursday in July falls on July 4<sup>th</sup>!).

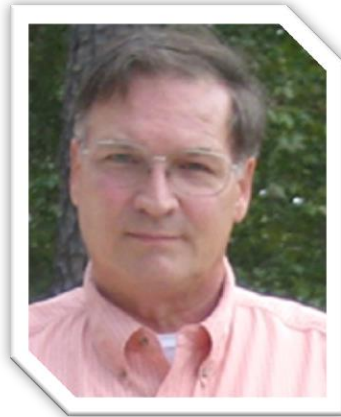
complying with tax and organizational requirements of the state and federal government but, as of now, we appear to have those sticky parts well tacked down.

If you've been to the field lately you'll notice that the entrance road has gotten a new coat of crushed concrete material to help cover those standing water spots we all had to drive around. Thanks to our president for getting that done, including the parking area in front of the covered pit area. The new material will take a little time to settle in but will maintain the drivability of our entrance road in wet weather, especially good when we get trailers or motor coaches as we do during our special events.

We have come through this past fiscal year in good shape financially. We have added some new members and lost a few old members so we continue to have a fairly stable membership total. We will soon have property tax, insurance, increased utility bills and field maintenance costs to cover as the flying season progresses and our field use and special events pick up. However, those costs should be offset by the membership dues and event fees which we expect to receive soon. Our fiscal year ends July 31st and dues notices will be going out at the end of June which will be due August 1st.

## Secretary and Editor Input

Larry Bonnette



### June 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes

Start time: 7:31 PM

Members present 26

The June 6, 2013 meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Robert Minieri.

The May meeting minutes were approved

Sam reported the field conditions are good and that they just applied ant treatment.

There will be night flying tonight.

Robert will arrange for another indoor flying session and let us know when and where.

No Safety issues.  
No tips.

The club voted in one new member Bill Scarborough. Welcome Bill!

There was one visitor.

Gary Baumgartner showed the club a banner and he has a plane to tow it.

Sam will write a letter to our new neighbor to welcome them.

Larry is no longer the PropWash editor. Max or Robert will find someone. Larry will E-mail the documents to Max and Robert.

Model of the month was won by Kirk Massey

The attendance award would have been won by William Postula (but he wasn't at the meeting)

The name tag award was won by Larry Bonnette

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

