

The PropWash

Newsletter of the Tri-County Barnstormers R/C Club



Club Officers

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

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**Officers Installed
and Swap Meet in
December Meeting**

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

Words from the Treasurer

[Sam Barrett](#)



We are heading towards our last meeting of the year next month and we can look back on another successful year of the Tri-County Barnstormers. We had two great events at the field this year and our field has been in super shape for each. Thanks to all the members who have volunteered their time to help keep the field clear of debris and fix what needs fixing.

This year we put new rock on the drive-in road, replaced a water pressure tank on the well, replaced a water cooler, replaced all the wiring and boxes on our electric service drop, had new tables constructed for the pit area, put in helipads, replaced the faucets in the showers, and repaired numerous prop strikes to

keep our landing surface smooth. There are probably lot of other things that could be added to the list but, you get the idea. Our club is doing well financially and we just paid our insurance and property tax for the year and have our biggest expense of the heavy mowing and maintenance season behind us.

This month we file our first Form 990 with the IRS as a 501 (C), 7 non-profit. We had some carry over from the prior year as our dues and event revenues exceeded our expenses. As an approved non-profit we will not owe any taxes on that surplus and we can accumulate our surpluses to fund things like the smooth surface we installed last year or more improvements to the field and its facilities and of course, have some reserves for times of less profitable operating results.

We had a number of new members join the club this year and the new products in the hobby market keep making it easier and more affordable to join the R/C flying hobby. Our success depends on operating the club in such a manner that it attracts our share of those new hobby entrants by enhancing their enjoyment and giving them a place to safely operate almost anything that will fly. So far, I'd say we are doing a good job of

supporting our exempt purpose and our non-profit status should continue for as long as the IRS regulations recognize social and hobby clubs like ours as non-profit.

Don't forget, at the December meeting we will install the new slate of officers and have our annual swap meet. Bring any of those hobby items you'd like to sell or bring a big wad of cash to stock up on some real bargains. The December meeting will be the last meeting until February.

If you haven't paid 2014 dues, you need to have them in before December 31st or be dropped from the member listing and have to pay an initiation fee to re-join the club. This is covered in the by-laws and no exceptions granted. You can pay in person or send your check to the address on our web site. Also, get those AMA memberships renewed if you plan to be one of the first to fly Ray Brickhouse Field on New Year's Day. No AMA means no flying, no exceptions, except those allowed by AMA rules and none of the exceptions apply to current members.

Keep safe and happy landings!

Words from the Secretary

Larry Bonnette



November 7, 2013
Start time: 7:30 PM
Members present: 38

The November 7, 2013 meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Robert Minieri. The October meeting minutes were approved unanimously

Kirk Jensen has been managing the BEST event for the last eleven years. The club wanted to show him that it really appreciates his efforts. So, Robert presented Kirk with a plaque that expressed the clubs gratitude for his contribution. Thanks Kirk!

Sam Barrett reported that the new power supply has not been installed because they are trying to figure out some of the details necessary for a proper installation. Sam said that if there is a club member who is an

electrician and is willing to help to please contact him.

Sam told members that he replaced the gate lock with a new one and that he hoped that it would eliminate the problems that we were having with the current lock. Max mentioned that members have been hauling their trash away instead of leaving it for someone else to clean up and he thanked us for our co-operation.

Someone drove on the field while it was still wet and created large ruts (see picture on page 5). Club members are reminded to keep their vehicles off of the field during the rainy season. Club members are also reminded that it is their responsibility to report and or repair any damage that they cause to the field.

Sam reported that the treasury looked better this month after a very successful BEST. He told members that BEST brings in approximately \$1700 each year.

Robert asked if there were any safety issues. Gary Baumgartner told members that he wanted to compliment members on their adherence to safety rules. He said that on a recent visit to the field he observed members using verbal reports of their intentions while flying.

Kirk Massey used a model to demonstrate what can happen if you improperly bind a transmitter to a receiver. He shut his

transmitter off before shutting off the receiver. The aircraft motor immediately turned on at its highest speed. Kirk explained that the receiver detected a loss of signal and it went into “fail safe” mode. He said that “fail safe” mode is established during the “bind” process and that if you have your throttle stick at full during “bind” then that is what the receiver does during “loss of signal”. He reminded members to remember to shut off their receivers before their transmitter and to remove the motor batteries ASAP. He also said that you should make sure that the throttle stick is at its lowest position during the “bind” process.

Gary Baumgartner reported that he, Ken Bauske and Jim Porter conducted the annual treasurer’s audit and were happy to report everything was in order. The audit team had a recommendation regarding mowing incentives but he said that the new officers should discuss it during their annual officers meeting.

Gary reminded members that it was time to renew the “Friendship Hall” in Conroe for our meetings. Sam made a motion and it was seconded and passed to renew for the 2014 year. Gary said he would inform the authorities and make the payment.

Robert asked members if there were any more nominations for officer positions. There were none.

The members present were informed that the following people were nominated: Kirk Jensen for President, Keith Jarvis for Vice President, Sam Barrett for Treasurer, and Larry Bonnette for Secretary. The members were asked if they agreed with this selection of 2014 officers. Members agreed and voted unanimously to elect Kirk Jensen for President, Keith Jarvis for Vice President, Sam Barrett for Treasurer, and Larry Bonnette for Secretary.

No night flying this evening (Nov 7)

Kirk Jensen reported that the BEST was very successful. He thanked everyone for their help.

Two new members: Wayne Martin, and Trevin Massey were voted in unanimously.

Model of the month was won by Gene Dobesh.

The attendance award would have been won by Ralph Schuette but he wasn’t at the meeting.

The name tag award was won by Kraig Hubbard.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53



NEW OFFICERS FOR 2014

Newly elected President and Vice Presents for 2014 are;



President – Kirk Jensen

Email: imacav8r@sbcglobal.net



Vice President – Keith Jarvis

Email:

The Builder's Corner



Special Submission
by [Bud Brinkley](#)

Bud is skipping this month to focus on personal matters. He plans to continue his series soon!

Field Damage

The picture below from Ray Brickhouse Field shows one of two rutted areas discovered on Tuesday morning which are believed to have been made between late afternoon Sunday, October 20th and Tuesday, October 22nd. If you caused the damage to the infield surface and in front of the deck at north end of the pavilion please return and make the necessary fill and repairs to restore the field to its flat and undamaged condition. If you know who caused the damage, please let us know who and when the damage was done. If the club has to repair the damage, we will bill the member or guest for the cost of those repairs.

