



THE PROP WASH

Club Officers

- **President-**
Kirk Jensen
- **Vice President -**
Keith Jarvis
- **Secretary -**
Larry Bonnette
- **Treasurer -**
Sam Barrett
- **Editor/Webmaster-**
Larry Bonnette



Kirk Jensen

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hello,

I think it's time we tighten up a bit with regards to safety and common courtesy at the field. We have rules at the field that as members, we all have agreed to abide by. I would like to point out a few here that seem to get pushed a bit.

- Fly in a general race track pattern turning the same direction as the other pilots in the air. If there is a left hand pattern due to south wind and you are out flying backwards making right hand turns, that is a problem for all involved. And will sooner or later lead to a mid air. Of course we all do aerobatics and different ways of changing direction at the ends of the field but in general make

the maneuvers match the pattern.

- Don't stand in the runway! Or stand in the taxi ways! Your plane or helicopter needs to be controlled from a pilot's station. This includes taxi, takeoff and landing. If you need to recover an aircraft after landing be sure to call out that you are on the field and call when you are clear.
- Speaking of needing to stand in the pilots station... if you are correctly standing behind a PVC pilot catch fence, and someone starts to fly next to you by standing between 2 PVC fences they need to stand back a bit to match the others flying. If not they tend to block the end field view of the pilot standing correctly. With the newer 2.4 radios we can get a bunch of people in the air at the same time now days. So be courteous and try not to block the view of others at the line.
- Fly in your designated area. Small stuff close in at the end stations, large craft on the main field. And don't overfly another area please.
- Call your runway activities. Announce (loudly) that you are about to taxi, takeoff or land. Then check the area to see if everyone is clear.
- No high speed passes over the black runway. Push them out slightly over the mowed grass.
- No '3D' hovering over the black runway. Push it out over the mowed grass.

I have covered just a few that seem to stand out every time I fly. I know there are many more. Of course if you have the benefit of being the only one flying you can make you own direction and pass choices.

See you at the field.

Kirk

Index

Words from the VP (Vice President)	2
Meeting Minutes (Secretary)	3
Treasurers Report (Treasurer)	5

**Meetings are at the
Conroe Friendship Center
on the first Thursday of
the month at 7:30 PM**
**We hope to see you
there.**



Keith Jarvis

Words from the VP

(The Vice President's Input)

Well it looks like spring may have sprung. The grass is starting to get green again which brings on the need for some mowing and up keep. Thanks to Max and company, the mowing has begun. We are working our way to getting the field and grounds ready for the Big Bird.

Speaking of the Big Bird, it is upon us and as Max said at the meeting, we will be needing some volunteers to help out to get ready and to run the event so if you can donate some time, please let Max or myself know. We have put out and continue to put out a lot of flyers as well as emails to everyone and to all the surrounding clubs and the response has been very good. I think with a little luck on good weather, we will have another good turnout for our Big Bird event. The field is looking good and with some TLC we should be able to maintain it and keep it looking this way.

We still need to address the runway issues and get it back to where we are able to maintain it so it stays in good shape. I addressed how simple and quick it is to make a repair to the fabric runway at the meeting and want to go over it once again for anyone that may have not been able to make the meeting.

We have some material that will be located in the impound area that will be in a box labeled "runway repairs". In that box will be a small bucket, some rags, a brush and some precut sections of repair material, and some of the material on a roll.

If you damage the runway, please follow the following steps:

- 1) Grab the box with the repair material
- 2) Take the small bucket and get a little water.
- 3) Go to the spot of the damage and take a rag or the brush if necessary and clean the area to be patched well with the water. Do not saturate the area with water but the area needs to be free of any dust or dirt. Give it a few minutes to thoroughly dry.
- 4) Take a precut piece of the self-stick repair material (if the cut or tear is bigger than the precut pieces, cut a piece from the roll to fit) and simply tear off the paper backing and place it over the cut or tear. Apply a little pressure by standing or stepping on it and the repair is completed.

Be sure to return the repair box to the impound area so the next person that needs it will have access to it.

It is a very simple procedure and if we all will take a minute to repair a cut or tear when it is made, it will help the longevity of our runway and the appearance too. Remember, it is all of our responsibility to fix a mishap if it happens to us. We have many tears and cuts right now that need repairing and please take a minute if you are having to repair a cut, to fix another one nearby. It is almost guaranteed there will be a few. Feel free to grab the box and fix a few if you are out there and want to help get us caught up with the repairs needed now, there are plenty of them.

We have also talked about the ground under the runway starting to get a little rough and we talked about maybe trying to use the roller to smooth it out. The question arose about whether the roller would do more damage than good. We are going to try the roller in a small area at one end of the runway and see if it will work or not but I feel it might be better to wait until after the big bird just in case.....

The weather is starting to look better and we will look at trying to make a repair on a section of the runway seam to see if our repair material will work for the entire runway. If it does, we will look at setting up a work day to get the seams back in order.

Until next time, everybody have fun at the field and be safe.

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

6 March 2014
Members present: 31
Start Time: 7:30

President Kirk Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

February 2014 meeting minutes were accepted unanimously by members

Kirk announced that the BEST sanction from the AMA had been acquired and that the BEST event will occur on October 4 and 5 2014.

Kirk also announced that the sanction for the Stingray event has also been acquired and the date is set for May 30 and 31. The event is listed on the Curtis Youngblood's web site. Kirk told members that there still needs to be discussion on "Lunch" as well as other details that need to ironed out. Kirk is looking for volunteers. If you can help please contact any of the officers.

Gary Baumgartner has the new fans and he is looking for help installing them. If you can help please contact Gary.

Max mentioned that Charlie Barrera's wife passed away.

Someone else mentioned that Jim Hurley also passed away.

Gary reminded club members that the club has a policy on flowers for members and he suggested that we send something to the family members.

Kirk explained to members that we as a club need to tighten our belt when it comes to safety. He said that the number of infractions was growing and that we, as a club need to take safety issues more seriously. He told members that as members we all agree to abide by the rule that were established by both the club and the AMA. He suggest that all members re-read the safety rules and make a conscience effort to comply.

Safety Officer Gary Baumgartner reported that many members are still flying from the center of the runway while others are also flying. He told members that he had observed members flying without regard to an established pattern and without speaking up when taking off and landing. He also noticed that when members who do speak out, the other members on the flight line do not respond. Gary described a midair collision that occurred while one member was taking off and another member was doing a low pass over the field. He implied that this might have been prevented if one or the other member has spoken up and announced their intentions. Kirk and Gary both reminded members that what all members do sets an example to other members. Please make this "example" a safe one.

Gary asked if anyone remembered last month's safety slogan. This month's slogan will continue to be: "Speak up for safety" and "Tell Me"

Vice President Keith Jarvis said the condition of the field is good. The grass is beginning to grow. He said he has placed new runway patching material at the club and that members can use this material to fix tears in the runway. The new material has a "peel off" backing and does not need tar or adhesive to stick to the runway. Just "Peel and Stick then stomp down on it a little" Keith said he will write up some instructions and include them in his monthly "PropWash" article.

Minutes (continued)

There was a discussion on if the runway could be "Rolled" the consensus was that it could not be rolled without ruining the surface. Someone mentioned that it may be time for an asphalt runway.

Kirk told members that the "Wings of Freedom Tour" would be at "Hooks" airport and Ellington field in March.

Kirk told members that Big Bird was coming up in April. Max said he still needs volunteers for the event. He said he would like some members to man the fence line of our neighbor to the east and that he still needs people for "Parking" as well as other duties. Please contact any officer if you can help.

Mike Dollens told members that he will provide airplanes for a raffle at next month's meeting. The proceeds of the raffle will go to the Big Bird event.

Three new members were unanimously voted in by members. The new members are Joe Marquardt, Dean Marcott and Robert Daffin. Welcome !!

Eric DeSardi sent word that he would be interested in hosting a pylon race at the field. He will be at the April meeting with details.

Model of the month was won by Gene Edwards.
Attendance award would have been won by Robert Bartley but he wasn't there.
Name Tag award was won by Larry Bonnette

Meeting adjourned at 8:45



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

Our March meeting was a success from a Treasurer's standpoint; we had three new members to add to our membership rolls. Our club is strong with over 150 members as we head into the start of the flying season, as we prepare for our special events at the field and the field is in good shape coming out of the dormant period. It won't be long before the days are warm and the breezes gentle.

I want to take time before the warm weather hits to remind our members that the irrigation system at the field and the air conditioning in our club house increase our electric operating expenses in the summer. Please make sure all air conditioners in the club house are turned off when locking up the club house, that any unnecessary lights or power supplies are turned off and no toilets or water are left running. Our water is provided by a well and the pump will run excessively and running air conditioners will increase costs without benefit to our membership. Our dues pay the electric bills, so please help in keeping those bills low.

As the flying season cranks up, please remember to display your AMA card on the frequency board; it's your member identification and confirmation that you are covered by AMA insurance. When safety fails, it's one of the small things that will save you and the club from financial misery of liability claims for personal injury and property damage. The AMA safety rules are meant to reduce the probability of an accident and it's always good to read up on those rules and any changes. Some recent changes are related to the new technologies being employed in our hobby. The AMA has offered webinars on First Person View (FPV) flying and if you are new to the topic or want to find out more please check the AMA website or even "YouTube" for some great info on the topic.

To protect our club from unauthorized entry by non-members, please do not share the field gate combination. Remember to spin the lock number dials after unlocking the locks at the field so that the combination is not displayed on an open lock. This will help keep theft or damage down and save us money on our insurance at the field. The field belongs to all of us members; let's protect it like it was our own at all times.



P.O. Box 916
New Waverly, Texas 77358

«First Name» «Last Name»
«Address»
«City», «State»
«Zip»

Web site www.tri-countybarnstormers.com

www.tri-countybarnstormers.com

DON'T FORGET

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

NEXT MEETING WILL BE

April 3rd