



# THE PROP WASH

## Club Officers

- *President* - Kirk Jensen
- *Vice President* - Robert Daffin
- *Secretary* - Larry Bonnette
- *Treasurer* - Sam Barrett
- *Editor/Webmaster* - Larry Bonnette



Kirk Jensen

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hello Barnstormers members.

We had a very productive meeting in February. Be sure to look over the minutes and see what transpired. Better yet, be sure to make it to the next meeting and join in!

A couple things that stood out for me was getting the hay taken care of by the new VP Robert Daffin. This was voted on by the club members and approved. Robert says it will take a while to get the hay back with some fertilizer and care, but in a year or so we will have a nice looking field again. He plans to cut it every month or so and haul off the bails so that they are not stacked up like they are now.

I raised the point at the meeting that one of my goals for 2015 is to get rid of the 2.4ghz frequency pin board. This will take a plan which all must agree on to make happen, specifically how to display your AMA card and member verification. I hope it is something we can make happen.

The subject of putting down asphalt on our runway also came up. Not very serious at this point, we are going to snoop around and see if there is any way to get a county road crew to do it and call it practice. If you have a contact with such a person in the local government please let the club know. Long shot I know, but it would be nice.

See you at the meeting.

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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.**



Robert Daffin

## Words from the VP

(The Vice President's Input)

Howdy fellow Barnstormers! It's shaping up to be a great year! The new mower is set to be delivered Sat Feb 14<sup>th</sup>. The field looks good for winter time, but the warmer temps are starting to bring out the green. I would be happy to have any volunteers who would like to help with maintaining our flying site. You can contact me at 936-581-2788, or, [rdaffin3@yahoo.com](mailto:rdaffin3@yahoo.com). I check the email quite often so there should not be any problems.

I know the flying over the neighbor's house issue has been addressed but I will re-iterate that it is important to stay on our side of the fence. If any problems arise where you feel as though you or anyone else is in any kind of danger, please contact the WCSO at 936-435-2400. There is a phone at the field.

We also have our Big Bird event coming up at the end of April. It is always a good time and everyone is welcome. You don't have to fly! There are lots of planes on display and most people are happy to stop and visit with you and answer questions. We need as many volunteers as possible for the event. The more we have the less everyone has to work, kind of spreading the load.

I look forward to serving as your Vice President this year and plan on keeping everything running smooth. I have a few projects in mind and as I get some plans laid out I will get them put in play.

Everyone have a good time this year and fly safe! Injuries have a tendency to ruin a perfectly good day!

Till next month,  
Robert Daffin

# Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

February 5 2015

Present: 31

Start: 7:33

Meeting called to order by President Kirk Jensen.

December Minutes accepted unanimously

Visitors, Bob Cooke and his son Sam

Eight new members were voted in by the club. Paul Rogers, Robert DeCesari, Terry Dillard, Synjin Dillard, Travis Dillard, Justin Gerasimowski, Eric Wilkinson, and Tim Bryan. Welcome !!

The Treasurer Sam Barrett reports that the club finances are in good shape.

The Safety officer Gary Baumgartner reported that the fire extinguishers have been serviced and that he would like to place one fire extinguisher at the end of each side of the spectator fence. He also told members that he has replaced the pads and battery on the defibrillator. He is also planning to find someone to speak to the club about its use.

Gary reported that there was an incident at the field that caused an aircraft to go uncontrolled when two people turned on their 72 MHz radios at the same time.

The Safety saying of the month is "Whatever you fly, whenever you fly, fly safely"

The Vice President Robert Daffin says the field looks good. But there are wet spots. Please be careful when walking. They trimmed the oak tree at the entrance and will prune more in the future. VP is looking for volunteers to help.

A member mentioned that there seems to be erosion occurring from under the fabric runway. Club needs to devise a way to fix and prevent. Kirk mentioned that it may be time to replace the fabric runway with asphalt. The club discussed this and we will discuss further. Kirk will look into it and talk to Bud Brinkley.

Big Bird is April 25 and 26 Max needs volunteers.

Please don't fly noisy planes near neighbor's property. Be respectful.

## Minutes (continued)

Robert Daffin would like to approach the people who currently "hay" our property and ask them to provide services that he describes in a contract he has written. He told us that he would be willing to provide the haying service and sign a contract with the club that would include a share in the profits with the club.

A motion was made to allow Robert to speak to the current contractor on the clubs behalf and negotiate terms set out in the contract. The vote was 20 for and 1 against. Robert will let us know the outcome.

Kirk told the club that he would like to see the use of frequency pins for 2.4 MHz radios abolished. There was discussion about the pros and cons.

Robert proposed that we hire a trash pickup company and place two trash cans at the field. One can in the impound area and the other outside of the gate (entrance). Robert will build a cage to keep critters away from the can outside of the gate. Members are expected to move any of the day's trash from the field trash can to the can at the entrance.

A motion was made to implement the trash plan and hire the trash pickup crew for no more than \$300 per year. The motion was accepted and member voted unanimously to implement it.

Three more new members were voted in. Bob Cooke, Sam Cooke, and Ronald Barnett were approved. Welcome !!

Model of the month was won by Steve Sartor.

Name tag drawing was won by Don Varwig

The attendance award would have been won by George Terry (But he wasn't there)

Night fly tonight

Adjourn 8:56



Sam Barrett

## The Treasurers Report

We had a great meeting in February! We voted in a great new group of members joining since the December meeting as our club continues to attract experienced and new aero modelers from all the surrounding counties. Welcome to the Tri-County Barnstormers, new members!

The treasury remains strong and should easily meet the club's needs for the coming mowing and flying season. In addition, our volunteers continue to save the club money for needed services by chipping in and getting it done for minimal outlay. The latest project was to trim the heavy branches on an oak tree that were hanging over the road near our entrance gate. The weight was also causing the tree to look as if it may topple into the road and be a safety hazard. At our officer meeting in January we resolved to correct the problem. Robert Daffin, our new

Vice President, Max Taylor and I teamed up with our chainsaws, ladders and safety equipment to lighten up the tree. Our neighbor to the west took away as much of the oak firewood as we could saw up into reasonable lengths. It should help the tree but we may still lose it eventually, as it looked pretty dry. At least it will be less likely to fall on someone and we got it done for almost nothing but our time and a little wear and tear on our old bodies.

The mowing season is coming up and I we will probably need to have more members participate in the mowing. Robert Daffin will be in charge of the field maintenance and soon we will be getting the field in shape for Big Bird coming up in April. I am sure Robert can find something for almost any volunteer to do.

I checked our AMA roster and I see we have about a dozen members that have not yet renewed their AMA. Do not fly at Ray Brickhouse Field unless you have a current AMA card to put in the frequency board slots and make sure it has 12/31/2015 or later on the expiration date. You will be personally liable to anyone for their injuries or property damage caused by you and you may be sued by the club, if necessary to pay claims resulting from your uninsured accidents at the field. This can be a dangerous activity and always remember to follow field flying rules and keep your AMA coverage in force.

Also, remember to keep well away from our neighbor's house to the east as the planes can stray over our property line. As opposed to the notice on your vehicle's passenger side view mirror, planes are often further away than they seem and we get some complaints of fly-overs. Your attention is appreciated. Keep noise makers and loud or poorly muffled engines to a minimum, especially on weekend mornings.

Gary Baumgartner, our Safety Officer has arranged for all our fire extinguishers to be serviced and placed at the field for the coming season. Next time you are at the field, notice the location of such safety equipment so you'll know where it is in time of emergency. Gary has also arranged for training on the use of our emergency defibrillator at the next monthly meeting. Please make arrangements to attend if you have never used one or know the procedures for use as it might save a life.

The weather is getting better and it's time to get out before the March winds arrive if you fly smaller planes. It looks to be another great year for Tri-County Barnstormers so get out to the field and be a part of it!



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

Web site [www.tri-countybarnstormers.com](http://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

March 5th