



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,

We are all looking forward to the Tri-County Barnstormers Big Bird event, taking place April 25,26. I know Max Taylor is working hard to make this another great event. Please plan on attending and flying or more importantly show up and lend a hand. There is always help needed it seems, from flight line help, fence monitoring and beyond. As Max stated at the March meeting we have one more meeting before this event to plan and get volunteers to help out.

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I have applied for the sanction for this year's B.E.S.T. I have asked for Saturday and Sunday, October 3,4 2015. There should not be a problem getting those dates. We will discuss this at future meetings, but the same holds true for any event that we host. Please help out if you can, and also fly and enjoy the event.

I wanted to give special thanks to Gary for organizing the first aid presentation we had at the March meeting. There was alot of useful information that we all learned.

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! Well It looks like spring may finally be here. With all of the rain that we have received in the area please be sure to park only on the graveled areas, or, the grass lot closest to the runway. I don't want to see anyone getting stuck or rutting up the area.

With the warmer temps the grass/weeds are really beginning to grow. We have some really nice equipment, and, if you are interested in helping out just call me @ 936-581-2788. Once your checked out on the equipment you can take care of anything that needs done at your convenience. We appreciate any and all help.

We thinned out the trees along the safety fence to help keep them healthy. I ended up with 4 people helping out with the trimming and hauling off of debris. A big thanks to those of you that helped! I really appreciate it!

I look forward to seeing y'all out there! Safe flying and happy landings!

Till next month,

Robert Daffin

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

March 5 2015
Present: 26
Start: 7:30 PM

1 visitor

February minutes accepted unanimously

Gary Baumgartner introduced Ashton Herring to the club

Ashton provided members with a very informative presentation on first aid and the use of our portable defibrillator.

The treasurer reported that we have plenty of money. He showed us the wind indicator that was purchased to replace the failing one currently installed. Sam said that he and Max will install it shortly.

The vice president reported that it is still cold and the grass is not yet growing. So, mowing is not an issue. However, Robert said that there are still trees that needed to be trimmed. Members are asked to help. Please contact Robert Daffin for details.

Robert Daffin was asked about the Hay situation discussed at the last meeting. Robert spoke to the current haying people and Robert has not heard back from them. Robert will make another attempt to get a definitive answer on the subject and report back to the club at the next meeting.

Gary Baumgartner told members that there are now 2 fire extinguishers one at each end of the fence.

Gary also mentioned that he observed someone starting a very large airplane on one of our airplane stands. When the person started the engine the stand began to move.

Someone asked about sand at the field for use with hot batteries. Members discussed it and didn't think it was necessary.

Battery fires were discussed and horror stories were told.

A new member (Pascal Hythier) was unanimously voted into the club. Welcome Pascal !

Minutes (continued)

Gary reminded the members that there are first aid kits in the impound area.

Max Taylor spoke about the upcoming "Big Bird" event and asked the members if we ever sent a letter to our neighbor to the east (See June 2013 and July 2013 minutes). He said if we didn't he will. He told members that we will need people to babysit the east side of the property during the event to be sure that we are not overflying their property. Max needs volunteers for that as well as other tasks at the "Big Bird".

Kirk told members that there would be no "model of the month" because we were short on time.

The VP told club members that he priced asphalt and that the club would need to spend \$2.80 per square foot (40 thousand dollars). The club could probably afford it but we would need to finance it. Another member told Robert of another company that could probably do the job for 1/3 of that cost. Robert will look into it. In the meantime maybe there is a generous member that would be willing to lend the club the money needed ? Members will discuss the subject at the next meeting.

Richard Preas won the name tag award.

Donald Beam would have won the attendance jackpot. But he wasn't there

The meeting adjourned at 9:00



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

The treasury is still in good shape after acquiring the new mower, which was approved sometime mid last year. The club has also purchased a new wind speed indicator which should be installed and working in time for Big Bird. Discussions on installation of a hard surface runway are being revived but an expenditure of an amount necessary for that big a project might need either special member assessments or secured financing to complete. However, if the project were to require \$40,000 to complete, we might actually be able to swing a 5 year loan at say 5%, secured by our 40 acres; this would require a monthly loan payment around \$755 or \$9,060 a year for 5 years. At our current member levels we could easily handle the loan payments and our normal operating expenses. If the project costs more than \$50,000 we might have to consider other means or delay the project until our reserves could "buy

down" the amount to be financed. Hopefully we can find a contractor who has excess materials or idle equipment that might reduce the final cost of base preparation and surface paving. It's a nice option to consider and this isn't the first time it has been brought up; keep the faith.

We had another new member join since last month and we voted Pascal Hythier into the membership at the March meeting. We now have over 170 members as we head into the start of the 2015 flying season when we normally see an up-tic in new members as the flying weather peaks.

We have an event, Big Bird coming up in April 25 & 26. Please check on our website under events to see all the details. Max Taylor is the contest Director for Big Bird. If you want to help in preparations for the event please contact Max. We will be really sprucing up the field as we will have visitors and want to be at our best for any such event. Please keep the trash picked up while you are at the field and make it easier for the mowing crew and volunteers in their preparations.

If you missed our March meeting you missed a great presentation on CPR and first aid which included the operation of our defibrillator. Gary Baumgartner, our Safety Officer, arranged for Ashton Herring of the Montgomery County Hospital District to instruct the members present in how to handle injuries that might be probable at our flying field. From fingers in the propeller to cardiac arrest, we got pointers on what to do and what we need to have at the field to enhance our safety response for our members. A copy of the presentation will be posted at the field so please take a look at it and locate the first aid supplies so you'll know where they are when needed in an emergency and thanks to our Safety Officer for his concern that our members have the information to be better prepared if we do have an accident.

Speaking of accidents, all members who fly at our field are required to have current AMA membership. In the event of a covered accident you need to know how to report it to AMA. Information on filing a claim is posted on the bulletin board at the field. Please read it or check the AMA website under the docs & forms to read it and be sure you are prepared for a claim if it becomes necessary. Hopefully that will make sure you are prepared and then, you will never need it.



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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

April 2nd