



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

Hi Barnstormers.

The B.E.S.T. event went off very well. I think the weather was the best it has ever been. We ended up with 56 registered pilots and this year we did an airplane count, which ended up with over 400 planes at the meet!

We had great weather, a great raffle, great folks both at the event and club members working the event, and great food from the usual gang in the kitchen. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand at the event.

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We are going to tear up the existing runway on Sunday afternoon 10/18/15 and the dirt work will start on the next day. The concrete should be placed later on that week. This is one area where the club needs your help. Grab a shovel and keep in touch... we will need help after the forms are stripped to backfill the slab. Hope to see you there, working on YOUR runway.

See you at the field.

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 October will be an exciting month. We have the new concrete runway starting about Oct. 19th. The field will be out of commission for a bit while the construction is going on. It should not be over a week though, barring any unforeseen problems.

As always we still need help with field maintenance. Everybody enjoys flying on a well manicured field. It does not do itself! I am getting bids to have the field taken care of by a professional service as well as looking into some ideas that other members have come up with. I will have the bids and a proposal or two at our next meeting.

As always have a safe flight and happy landings!

Until next month!

Robert Daffin

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

Meeting was called at 7:31 pm.

Kirk Jensen and Larry Bonnette are absent tonight. Vice President Robert Daffin ran the meeting.

On voting in the minutes of the previous month, Max Taylor noted a misspelling in a name. Motion to amend the previous month's minutes was passed.

We had 2 new members voted in - Avery Williams and (unknown name - I think Sam has the name)

We had 1 visitor - Brent Powell from Beaumont

Field Report - Steve Sartor, Jimmy Moore and Max Taylor put in a lot of time at the field getting it ready for BEST. The field is in good condition and looks nice for BEST. Robert Daffin is in the process of getting bids together for professional care at the field. Some of the field equipment is in need of maintenance. Robert Daffin asked if anyone who may have some mechanical skills can help.

Treasury Report - Bank account looks good. Sam Barrett mentioned that one of the reasons the bank account looks so good right now is because of the excellent volunteers we've had providing field maintenance, as hiring an outside company to take care of this will be costly.

Sam Barrett spoke with the bank about getting an unsecured loan to build the runway. The purpose of this meeting was to get an idea of what the interest rate would be for such a loan. It was agreed that the club member providing the loan for the remaining balance of the runway costs would get market value on their rate of return, so this meeting with the bank provided such information. It appears that the current market rate for such a loan would be 6.00% - 6.50%. The club member is still willing to provide the funding. The club is still going to pay cash for the first \$20,000 for the runway.

The concrete runway is still on track to begin construction on October 19, 2015. Steve Lee of Lee's Concrete will be performing the work. Club member Robert Minieri will be providing land preparations.

As of today, we have 183 members of which about 20-25 still owe dues.

Safety Report - Gary Baumgartner told about a 30 inch long copperhead that was killed at the field near the pavilion about 2 weeks ago. So be careful of the snakes out there, especially in the tall grass, but this one was found in short grass. Gary also stressed that FPV flying requires to have a spotter in clear view of the aircraft, and mentioned this needed to be announced at the BEST event. Robert Daffin explained that he recommends a spotter for any aircraft if the pilot's station is full, with exception of the Warbird event or Zagi Combat.

Minutes (continued)

Robert Daffin got a bid for trash pick-up for just \$25/month. But then the company lost that route and is no longer able to provide that service. So he called Waste Management and they were not interested in picking up the route, so we are still having trouble picking up a trash pick-up service. Robert Daffin built an animal-proof cage to hold trash bags for the BEST event, and also placed a few large trash cans around the field for BEST.

Robert Daffin mentioned that we will be setting up another charging table for BEST. We currently have the necessary equipment.

Steve Sartor mentioned that at noon on October 18, we will be shutting down the field to begin removing the geotextile matting runway. Anyone willing to help is appreciated, and if anyone wants a piece of the runway, they need to bring a box cutter and cut out the piece they want.

The meeting took a break at 7:58 pm.

There were 6 aircraft for Model of the Month. Steve Sartor won with his beautifully detailed 90mm ducted fan unit Freewing T-45.

Meeting officially ended at 8:44 pm.

Meeting Minutes recorded by Robert Minieri

Thank you Robert for stepping in and recording the minutes while I was away on business.

- Larry

**Sam Barrett**

The Treasurers Report

BEST 2015 was another great event for the Tri-County Barnstormers and besides the fun, we added to our treasury with 56 registered pilots and lots of raffle ticket sales. Thanks to all those who helped prepare for the event and especially to our president, Kirk Jensen who managed the process as the Contest Director for BEST.

Now that BEST is behind us, the new runway project is the next big thing for the club. Steve Sartor is managing that project and October 19 is the date we expect work to commence. We will send out notices to the membership when the field will be closed for the work on the runway. The club's old-timers have dreamed of such an improvement at our field and it is hard to believe we will finally have a small wheel and re-

tract gear friendly surface to operate from.

Our club ended the 2016 dues collection drive with 156 paid members. The grace period for paying dues has expired and only new member applications will be accepted for 2016 memberships. Our dues are the resources we need for the club to keep up our field and make it possible for the members to enjoy a great place to safely operate their radio controlled models. The 2016 members will enjoy an even better field and flying experience when the new runway is completed. It is really a great value when you can have 40 acres of open field and club house facilities to enjoy our hobby for less than \$8.50 a month!

As the year end draws closer, we will have another year of AMA membership come to an end. Please remember to renew your AMA if it expires this December 31st. If you want to be flying on January 1st, you have to have a current AMA card and renewing for two or more years makes it easier to be covered and ready to fly.



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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

November 5th