



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 Barnstormer members,

I did not attend the last meeting due to work related travel, but I understand it went great. I hear that the subject of a frequency board for the FPV video frequencies was brought up. I think this is a great idea. This will keep things straight as the interest grows with doing FPV activities at the field.

Remember to come on out and support the Barnstormers Big Bird at the end of the month. Keith Jarvis and Max Taylor are putting this together and it will be a nice event for sure.

I have given final approval for the new sign at the club entry. It is basically identical to the old sign with the exception of replacing the IMAA # with our street address, now that the IMAA does not exist any longer.

Barnstormers scholarship update time (and from a proud dad!). Most all of you know my daughter Meagan. She has worked the BEST event for years, running the raffle, or working in the kitchen at other times. She was awarded the scholarship 2 times during her 4.5 years at Lone Star and Sam Houston in Huntsville. She now has received her teaching degree. She student taught at Tomball Elementary in 4th grade, and now has become a full time 4th grade teacher there, after a teacher left at spring break due to a family transfer. She will finish out this year, and has a contract and job for next year!

Thanks Barnstormers for the support!

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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!

Well another month has come to pass, and growing season is upon us! With this we also get better flying weather, longer days, and yes, grass to mow. As always I would like to ask any and every one to step up and help out with the maintenance at the field. We all like the way it looks when it is mowed, so let's all help to keep it looking good.

We also have Big Bird coming at the end of the month. Everyone needs to get out their big planes (mono 80+ and biplane 60+) dust them off and come out to fly, hangout, and have fun! Big Bird is a great way to meet fellow flyers and maybe even learn a thing or two.

I hope that everyone has a safe and prosperous month! May you all have safe flights and happy landings!

Till next month!

Robert Daffin

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

April 7, 2016
Present: 37
Start: 7:33 PM

Meeting called to order by Secretary Larry Bonnette

March meeting minutes were approved unanimously

2 visitors

The Treasurer reported that the treasury is in good shape.

Safety officer Gary Baumgartner started his report by informing the club that he participated in an event called "Challenge Air". Challenge Air was created to change the perception of children with special needs through the gift flight. Gary was so moved by the event that he signed the club up to participate in next year's event.

Gary reported that there were no safety issues but he wanted to mention that there is a protocol that is supposed to be followed at the flight line and is not always followed. This protocol is that when a member has to go out onto the active runway that they are supposed to let all of the other flyers know. And the other flyers are supposed to acknowledge the fact. Example: "I'm going onto the runway" (letting people know). "OK" or "WAIT" (the response that should be given). Gary's point is that members are not following this procedure and therefore it makes flying less safe. Gary also told members that they are supposed to stand in a pilot's station while they are flying.

The above discussion started another discussion about the fact that new members are not being properly trained on our rules and safety procedures. The main reason for this is that we no longer have a "New Member chairman". A lengthy discussion occurred that finally ended up with a volunteer. Kirk Massey volunteered to assume the duties of the "New member chairman". Larry will see if he can dig up all of the materials that he can find and deliver (or make them available) to Kirk. Members should thank Kirk for volunteering for this very important position.

The Vice President Robert Daffin provided a field report. He said that the field looks good. We still need volunteers to mow. Someone asked if the mounds of dirt on the North side of the runway could be moved. Robert said that the mound will slowly diminish as it is used to fix eroded sections of the field.

Minutes (continued)

Keith Jarvis told members that the "Big Bird" is approaching. He need volunteers for the event. Keith provided a signup sheet at the meeting. Even if you didn't sign up for something Keith still needs help during the event. Ken Bauske said he will handle the sign up during the "Big Bird" and he asked that someone please clean up the impound area beforehand. Ken also said that he will need someone to assist him during the event. Max said that there will be \$5.00 meal tickets.

Larry told members that Kirk Jensen said that the field entrance sign is almost complete. Max suggested that someone paint our entrance gate the same blue color as the sign so that it makes it easier for people approaching the property to find us.

Robert Daffin informed members that he will begin to allow the grass between the pilot stations and the runway to grow taller. This is to discourage people from landing on that section of the runway.

4 New members were unanimously voted into the club. Richard Keyser, Justin Keyser, Anders Lindstrom, and Brian Buster. Welcome !

There will be night flying tonight.

Model of the month was won by Gene Dobesh.

Rick Hail would have won the attendance jackpot but he wasn't there. So, the pot rolls.

Helcio Trinidad won the name tag award.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM

Note: During our meets we draw numbers for the "Name Tag" award. One of the members would have won except that he had his name tag in his pocket. I noticed some eyebrows rise when I said that you can't win if your name tag is in your pocket.

I would like to just remind everyone the reason we implemented this award. In 2009 the officers of the club thought that it would be nice if members got to know one and other. On way to do that was to encourage members to wear their name tags during the meeting so that others would know their names and therefor promote conversations. Out of this was born the "Name tag award". And, so each week we award a gift certificate to one member who is **wearing** their name tag.



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

It is April and we have made 5 payments on our new runway and only 55 more to go! The Treasury remains strong and our new member count will help support all the activity coming up during the mowing season. We had four new "regular" members join Barnstormers at the April meeting.

We often receive questions about our "initiation" fee and what it is for. I guess someone joining the club wonders why we need more than their annual dues. The Tri-County Barnstormers owns the 40 acres on which we fly and all the improvements like the club house, our covered pavilion, the mowing equipment shed and all the grounds equipment. All of that "capital improvements" and machinery cost long time members a pretty penny and new members get the "buy-in" for a mere \$150 one-time payment. We just spent around \$50,000 for the new runway alone; I'd say

the current initiation fee is a bargain and we owe those old timers who founded the club, a debt of thanks.

Speaking of all those improvements that recently replaced a grass runway, we got a notice from Walker County Appraisal District that our exemption enjoyed because of our haying and agricultural use of most of the club property will be reduced on about 3.7 of the 20 acres of the parcel where the runway sits. This means we can expect taxes to increase accordingly. I will pass on the dollar number when the appraisal notices are received later this year.

Big Bird is coming up at the end of the month and this event usually brings in some revenue for the club and some really fine flying for spectators to enjoy. If you have a craft that qualifies as a "big bird" check out the Barnstormer web site for info on how to join the fun. In any case, come out and support the event and help host the visitors that will be coming from other Texas clubs.

As usual, we have some members who have not renewed their AMA for 2016. The AMA is a calendar year membership but our club is a "fiscal year" membership. Annual club membership for Fiscal Year 2016 began back on August 1st of 2015 and will end July 31st, 2016. This August 1st will begin our FY2017 membership year. This overlap of club and AMA memberships may cause folks to forget to renew the AMA every December but if you forget, you can't fly on our field, period, without AMA membership. If you are one of those members who has not renewed your AMA for calendar year 2016, **DO NOT FLY AT OUR FIELD UNTIL YOU DO**. We need to be clear about this because you may encounter financial ruin if you have an accident and injure someone at our field without the coverage provided to you and to our field by the AMA for all their chartered clubs.

Fly safe and fly covered.



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«First Name» «Last Name»

«Address»

«City», «State»

«Zip»

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

May 5th