



THE PROP WASH

Club Officers

- *President* - Keith Jarvis
- *Vice President* - Buddy Barnett
- *Secretary* - Larry Bonnette
- *Treasurer* - Sam Barrett
- *Editor/Webmaster* - Larry Bonnette



Keith Jarvis

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hello Fellow Barnstormers,

Well we're already into March and the year is moving right along. I have gotten the second meeting behind me and getting a bit more comfortable at each. Got some more of the new agenda out on the table and we are working steady on some of the objectives we have set out to accomplish, and we are making some great strides. We still have a lot of work ahead to get all of our agenda completed but we are moving in the right direction and getting a lot accomplished. This is thanks to a lot of help and hard work from some of our membership. I want to again extend a big Thanks

to all of those who have, and continue to devote their time and efforts in the maintenance and upgrading our facility, and once again, a big Thanks to Buddy Barnett for his efforts and organizing the mowing teams. We have had very good turnouts every week, but once again, it is the same guys that continually participate, and we are all grateful for those who do, but we are still looking for some new faces to sign up and get on board to help some of the those who regularly attend and could use a break. So pick some time that you could come out and lend a hand. Get with Buddy or one of the team leaders and get on board. It only takes just a few people every week, there is very little effort required from each person when there is a good turnout and the mowing is completed fairly quick. The work load can be distributed among many of us rather than a few of us and it makes it even easier on all of us. It will definitely be appreciated and keep in mind, it is all of our responsibility to contribute as members.

I want to remind everyone that it is critical we get some members in place to fill all of the open appointed positions in the club, with emphasis on Safety Officers and New Member coordinators. These are very important and critical positions that need to be filled immediately. Larry will be posting an updated list on the website so take a look when you have a minute and see where you would fit in and get on board.

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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.

President (continued)

We have our Big Bird coming up at the end of next month on the 29th & 30th of April. We still need volunteers to help out. We have the concessions covered but we still need one or two volunteers to help Steve Tinsley in registration, we will need help on the flight line, raffles, the property line as well as help with general set up. So if you are available, please let me know.

We are looking for a date for our Fun Fly / Swap Meet so if anyone has any suggestions or ideas, don't hold back. We will also have our 1st Annual Warbird Event coming up on June 24th so keep that in mind. We want to schedule a Fall Big Bird this year as well. Looking for any suggestions that anyone may have.

Just a reminder that we will vote on the funds to go forward with the new stationary tables in the pavilion in our next meeting so come out and let your vote be counted. We have asked for an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00. Thank you Steve Sartor for your efforts in putting this proposal together for us, and it is a great idea.

I would like to thank Kirk Massey for his presentation in our monthly "Tech Session" and thanks to Steve Sartor for organizing this for us. Next month topic, "set up geometry of control surfaces with multi servos" that presentation will be by yours truly. We still have some openings available in future meetings so get with Steve and grab you a month and pick a topic for your presentation. We can all benefit from these.

One thing I didn't get to address at the meeting and wanted to share with all of our members, and something that I personally feel very strongly about, is let's not forget to support our local hobby shops, and keep them in mind when it is time to buy your next project or pick up some hardware or just grabbing a tube of glue. I don't want to get into their personal business, but it doesn't take much to see the state of the market of our hobby. We have lost 5 different hobby shops in our area in the past several months, and this should be a good indicator of what our local hobby shops have to face. They are competing with the very manufacturers and distributors they buy from and I feel we need to try and help them out by trying to avoid buying direct from distributors and manufacturers, and try to avoid the Hobby Kings when possible. They are not here to support us. All of the shops in our area, (which are NEW CREATION R/C, RANDY'S HOBBIES, REMOTE CONTROL HOBBIES and SAMANO'S HOBBIES, (I use these guys as they are our biggest supporters) will compete with just about anyone on the internet and will usually be very close on price, and a lot of the time, match someone's price. Most of us are blessed with the ability to be able to pay a few dollars more when necessary to help these guys out and help keep them in business. Most of these guys also have discount structures for clubs and members also, to help us out. Pick up the phone and give them a call and give them an opportunity, I think we would be surprised at what these guys will try to do for us.

President (continued)

I can assure you that when it comes time to support our events, the club and the members, the internet sites aren't the ones supporting us. It's the local hobby shops. They are your main supporters giving us product to give out as door prizes, raffles and awards. They are the ones that donate that awning or canopy to the club... We as a community of hobbyist (a brotherhood so to speak) who share the same passion, need to think about these things that sometimes seem small, but when you are tasked with trying to solicit sponsors for our events, these guys are the only ones that year after year are there for us. They are the only ones we can always count on. they are part of our communities and they are always there to give. Let's return the favor, keep them in mind and be there for them so they are able to continue to be there for us. And last, I would like to say to remember these guys when you win or are given a door prize, if we get a gift, a door prize or win a raffle, it might not be a bad idea to let the person or company that provided it, know that we appreciate them for the donation or contribution. Just a quick phone call or email to thank them or let them know we appreciate them really can mean a lot to these guys and make it easier for them to make the decision to help us again in the future knowing that their support is appreciated. Again it may seem like a small thing, but it is getting harder and harder to get support and these are just a few of the things that have been brought up when you ask the manufacturers for their support. So I just thought it might be a good idea to throw it out there and be a reminder for all of us, keep these guys in mind, especially the local guys...we need them as much and maybe more than they need us, just ask the guys whose local shops aren't there anymore !!

Ill close by saying, all in all, our facilities are looking great, we have some events scheduled and with just a little luck of some good flying weather, we can enjoy each other's fellowship, our great facilities and have some fun flying this year. After all....that's what it's all about.

Till next month, be safe and hope we all have some fun flying. Have a blessed month.



Buddy Barnett

Words from the VP

(The Vice President's Input)

I believe spring has come to us a little early this year. With all the warm temps and rain we have been having the grass is really growing. Along with a nice green field comes the task of keeping all the grass tame. We have had really good success thus far with our mowing team leaders and getting volunteers every week to help keep it mowed. Thanks to all that have come out to help with the field so far. Sometime in the near future I will be getting some sand delivered to the field to spread on the grass runway and fill any low areas we have. Once the sand is out I will fertilize the grass and hopefully it will kill all the weeds currently growing.

If you were unable to attend the March meeting, you missed out on a good "how to" with different types of glues. Thanks Kirk Massey for trying to teach us something. Also it was discussed to have the metal siding for the club house installed by professionals. I am currently working on getting a couple quotes on this to compare cost. Another item that came up was addressing the current table situation in the pits. Steve Sartor has come up with a good plan to permanently attach tables in the pits. This would stop all the moving of the tables and keep them all level with our uneven surface they sit on. There was a discussion on this with a final plan voted on. We will be having another vote at the April meeting to approve the funds to build them. With any luck at all we can get these tables in before our fast approaching big bird.

Bringing up the big bird coming quickly, I would like to have another work day the Saturday after the April meeting. This would be on April 8th. I say we start at 7:00am and try to get everything done by noon again. We will need to clean the club house, impound area, and do some pressure washing of the facilities. If the tables get approved they could be built at the same time with enough volunteers. Everyone go ahead and mark your calendars for this date please. The more help we get for work days the easier it is on everyone.

Again thanks to everyone turning out to help with the maintenance it makes my job a lot easier. Our field is one of the best in area if not the best let's all work together and keep it that way.

Meeting Minutes

(The Secretary's Report)



Larry Bonnette

March 2, 2017
Start: 7:33 PM
Members present: 34

President Keith Jarvis called the meeting to order.

The February minutes were accepted unanimously.

Members were reminded that the "Club Class" pattern event will be held this Saturday (Mar 3) at 10 AM. The event will have relaxed rules. The judging will use a point system. The event will start with an explanation of how the judging will work followed by practice judging. There will be a demo flight followed by competition.

Keith Jarvis will lead a mowing team on Friday March 3. Anyone who can help is asked to report to the field by 8:00 AM. Or, at the Waverly house at 7:00 AM for breakfast. Please note that all members are expected to help with the yard work. If you can't make it this week then please help out on another day.

Buddy Barnett reports that the field looks good and the grass is growing and needs mowing. He thanked members who took part in the "Work Day" last month and members who have helped with mowing and yard work last week.

Larry will post the mowing team leaders on the website. Keith will provide an updated list of appointed positions (which include mowing team leaders) to Larry.

Treasurer Sam Barrett reported that the finances are in good shape.

Secretary Larry Bonnette told members that the weather station was now fully installed and operational. Access to the weather station is through the barnstormer web site. Click the "Weather" button at the top of the page. The weather page can be accessed from anyplace using your cell phone.

There was one visitor at the meeting.

Two new members were voted into the club unanimously. The Club welcomes: Brandy Daugherty and Joseph Gerbino.

Minutes (continued)

Keith asked members to please volunteer for the appointed positions such as Safety Officer, Grievance Committee Chairman and board members etc. The list is on the website. Click "Club Information --> Appointed Positions" to see a list.

Keith reminded members that the club will host the following events in 2017:

Big Bird (in April), War Bird (in June), Fun Fly and Swap meet, and maybe a fall Big Bird.

Gary Baumgartner asked if we (the club) were still an AMA Leader club. If not, then we should remove the plaque on the club house.

Buddy reminded members that the club will need to do something about the exterior of the club house. The suggestion is to side it with metal siding. Buddy had some prices. Discussions ensued and there were many suggestions and comments. Buddy will get an estimate on having the building sided professionally and we will discuss at the next meeting.

Someone said that we should replace the Air Conditioners in the club house.

Someone asked about the size of the electrical feed from the main distribution point to the club house. Someone said the wire was a #8 someone else said the electrical service is 150 Amp.

A motion was made by Steve Tinsley to reimburse Larry Bonnette the \$400 he spent on the field camera and the weather station. The motion was seconded and members voted 33 to approve and one against. Larry thanked members.

Steve Sartor presented members with a plan to build and install tables in the pavilion. These tables will be bolted to the floor and the cost would be about \$1500. There was a lot of discussion. Keith called for a break so people could discuss.

Kirk Massey provided members with an interesting presentation on "Glue"

Keith made a motion to allocate \$1500 to build and install tables in the pavilion. The motion was seconded and the funds for the tables were approved 31 to 3. The club will vote a final time at the April meeting.

Model of the month was won by Lowell Babb

Name Tag award was won by Larry Bonnette

The attendance jackpot would have been won by CJ LeBlanc. But he was not at the meeting

Meeting adjourned 9:01 PM



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

We have made our 16th payment on the runway; only 44 more to go. The treasury is in good shape as we approach the warmer weather, and the field maintenance picks up, to cover all our normal maintenance expenses. We also have several maintenance or capital projects proposed or approved which will require thousands in funding; I do not see any problem at this point in supporting those recently proposed.

Last month I mentioned how important it is to lock up the field when nobody is there. However, we have a utility company that needs access to our meter and has a lock on the gate as well. Never lock the gate in such a manner as to not be able to open our gate by opening either our lock or the Entergy lock. You would be very upset if the utility folks locked us out. Also remember to spin the dials after opening any of our locks. It is foolish to have the combination appear on the open lock for a non-member to see. As Treasurer I am always vigilant to see that our assets and facilities are safeguarded and accessible by members only; please help me in that duty.

Despite sending emails early this month to those who appear on our AMA club roster as membership expired, we still have about 12 to 14 members who appear on that list. Check your AMA status and make sure you don't fly until you get a current AMA membership. Flying without AMA is like driving without liability and can get you and anyone you may injure in a flying accident in dire financial trouble. Many members now have expiration dates other than year end, so it's easy to forget. Check that card if you are not sure and always place it on the pin board while flying. Flying weather is getting very good, so don't be grounded for not having valid AMA. Fly safe and fly AMA covered.



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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 6th