



THE PROP WASH

Club Officers

- President - **Steve Sartor**
- Vice President - **Dick Jones**
- Secretary - **Larry Bonnette**
- Treasurer - **Sam Barrett**
- Editor/Webmaster - **Larry Bonnette**



Steve Sartor

PRESIDENTS CORNER

2018 turned out to be a very fine year. It was a pleasure to serve as this year's president. .. and vice president, but I've got a new travel trailer, a wife on the mend and a retirement "bucket list" to go through in 2019.

The biggest thing this year is that we have paid off our debt on the runway. .. early. Thanks to Don Ramsey for the financing. Had Don not stepped forward we would have had to deal with some regulation laden bank. Thanks, Don.

Hopefully, the next administration will look closer at contracting our mowing. Serving as V.P. gave me a great appreciation for the 90:10 rule, where 90% of the work is done by 10% of the membership. What makes it worse with this organization is that, that 10% is in their 70's and 80's and they often work in temperatures over 100 degrees. We have the finest facilities in the local area and the lowest dues. Lets fix this!

I also want to thank Kirk Massey for all he gives to this hobby, to our executive committee for keeping the machinery in working order, to Ray Mathis for stepping forward, and to the 10%.

Fly safe,
Steve Sartor

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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.

Words from the VP



Dick Jones

Hi Sky Hole Punchers; Hope everybody got out to fly this week. Yall take advantage of the drinks in the refrigerator. I gotta buy new with the money we've acquired after those are gone. We still need 3 more guys to mow next year; So far its Jordan, Ed Newsome, Max and myself. We plan on reducing the area that we mow weekly.

Look forward to seeing everybody at the Christmas Party Dec. 6th. Until then:

Dick Jones

Meeting Minutes



Larry Bonnette

November 1, 2018
Members present: 21
Start: 7:31 PM

President, Steve Sartor called the meeting to order.

No new members this month.

The October minutes were unanimously accepted by members.

Safety officer, Gary Baumgartner asked if any members had a safety issue to report. There were none. Gary mentioned that he will be at the rocket event on Saturday.

Treasurer, Sam Barrett reported that the club's membership fell to 143 down 28 members. He said that this is normal. Sam also reported that the Treasury is in good shape.

Vice President Dick Jones said that the field is in great shape except for the ants. Dick told members that he treated for bugs on the north side of the field and hoped that the grass will recover in the affected areas.

The annual vote for club officers took place. Initially there were two members nominated for the president's position. However, it was discovered that one of the members was no longer a member of the AMA so was not eligible to be the president.

A vote was called for, and the following members were unanimously voted into the 2019 officer positions:

Ray Mathis - President
Dick Jones - Vice President
Sam Barrett - Treasurer
Larry Bonnette - Secretary

The treasurer was audited by Steve Tinsley and Don Ramsey. They reported that the books were in order and commended Sam on his meticulous work.

Don Ramsey gave members a breakdown of our finances with different scenarios and combinations of spending. This was done so that members could make the best-informed decision on the runway payoff motion that was voted on at the October meeting.

Minutes (continued)

Steve Sartor asked members to vote a final time on the motion to pay off the runway. Members present voted 15 Yes and 5 No for the motion. The motion passed. The Treasurer is now authorized to pay off the runway.

Kirk Jensen spoke for the club and thanked Don Ramsey for his support in the financing of the runway. All members present agreed.

Steve Tinsley provided the members with a tech session on how to replace gimbal potentiometers in a transmitter. He also explained how to extend the life of a failing switch in a transmitter.

Steve Sartor reminded members that the December meeting is our Christmas party and that the club will furnish the meats and drinks. Members are encouraged to bring specialty dishes to share.

Also, the December meeting is our annual swap meet so if you have something to sell or are looking for something to buy. The December meeting is the place.

Model of the Month was won by Ronnie Watson

Attendance jackpot would have been won by Buddy Barnett but he was not at the meeting.

The "Name Tag" award was won by Larry Bonnette

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 PM

A Note from Max:

The AMA Government Relations team has been hard at work representing AMA in Washington, D.C. Here are some of the newest highlights to share:

Section 349, EXEMPTION FOR LIMITED RECREATIONAL OPERATIONS OF UNMANNED AIR-CRAFT, will eventually replace Section 336.

For the immediate future, AMA members are to fly as they always have under our programming.

It might take months for Section 349 to be fully implemented. In the meantime, AMA and the FAA have created a team to ensure that our operations can be exempted under 349. We're meeting multiple times a week and things are looking promising. The goal is for AMA Headquarters to do the heavy lifting in implementing 349, so our clubs and members won't experience much during the transition.

Section 349 gives AMA a more prominent role in shaping future regulations, allowing us to champion for hobbyists.

The five-mile airport notification rings will be removed.

Congress codified elements of our safety program into law including First Person View ([doc 550](#)).



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

The Treasury is in good shape and we made our 36th runway payment on November 1st. However, at our monthly meeting on November 1st, the membership voted to pay off the runway loan early. So, on November 5th, we paid the remaining principal balance on the loan and accrued interest since our monthly payment on the 1st, to retire the debt. The club is now debt free and has sufficient Treasury balance to meet the expenses of a normal membership year currently in its account.

The club owes Donald Ramsey a big "Thank You" for stepping up with the loan to enable us to complete the runway project. When you go to the field of 40 acres of land and assemble your model for flight in the shade of the covered pavilion and use the smooth runway you are doing

so because past members like Don have supported the club in acquiring property and making those improvements. Many of those older members are still around and many have moved away or passed on. We currently get to enjoy the field because of their efforts and for dues of less than \$0.30 a day! That's an amazing bargain and it's possible because of a bunch of great people who became members of The Montgomery County Radio Control Club, DBA Tri-County Barnstormers.

Speaking of members, we have a new member list posted at the field which contains the list of paid members for membership year 2019. The list will be updated as we get new or lose members but, if someone is using the field that is not on the list and are not accompanied by a sponsor who is a listed member, they are trespassing. Field rules include the requirement for any flying participant to display their AMA card. If you don't recognize a person flying and they are not displaying their AMA, ask them to identify themselves or report details about the unknown person to a club officer for follow up. No member whose AMA has expired is allowed to fly at our field; no exceptions. If you are injured or your property damaged by a person without a current AMA membership, you may not be compensated for your loss and if you cause damage while flying without AMA coverage you could be bankrupted by the damage you cause. Keep your AMA current or do not fly at our field, period.

Our December meeting is traditionally one where we have a short business session to install the slate of officers for the New Year and promptly adjourn for a Pot Luck Supper and SWAP Meet. We invite everyone to bring a side dish or dessert to share and the club provides the main course, refreshments and all the utensils to support a group meal. Members are also encouraged to bring excess hobby items and craft to offer for sale and turn those items into cash for the next project that has their eye. Spouses and significant others are invited to attend and enjoy a social event where members often meet new friends of just enjoy the company of others with common hobby interests. Hope to see you there!

***Rocket* Scouts 2018!!!** By Steve Tinsley

Dateline: November 3, 2018

Location: Ray Brickhouse Field

Purpose: Boy Scouts Rocket Day



On this beautiful fall day, a large crowd of Scouts, Scout leaders and parents gathered at Ray Brickhouse field to fire model rockets while Gary Baumgartner observed.



Later, Gary gave a well appreciated and received flight demonstration.



Scouts from all over came for the trials.

Scouts (continued)



On this cool, clear morning Scouts waited, more or less, patiently for the leaders to get this show on the runway.



And what a show! Most rockets went up, those that did came down! A couple went sideways (but we don't talk about that). Squeals of delight!! (and a few groans of fire ant stings. But we don't talk about that, either.)



Here's one going up.

Scouts (continued)



And another coming down.



Smoke trails as the parachute is ejected.

Everybody, and I mean everybody had a great time at Ray Brickhouse field. The Scouts even had fun cleaning up after the event. The scouts and their leaders were extremely appreciative of the Tri County Barnstormers for the use of the field for the day. Those Barnstormers present were extremely appreciative of the Scouts' attitude and all the entertainment.

Steve Tinsley reporting



P.O. Box 916
New Waverly, Texas 77358

«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

December 6th