



# 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

I'd like to pay special thanks to Kirk Jensen for pulling off a very special B.E.S.T. Kirk hand-made all the awards, the Civil Air Patrol handled all the food, we had no bills and we made a nice little sum off the event. Kirk ordered perfect weather for both Saturday and Sunday. Thanks, Kirk.

At our last meeting, Kirk Jensen proposed paying off the runway as soon as possible. His motion passed 24 yeahs and 9 nays. We will have to confirm this vote at our November meeting, and it will be done.

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On a related subject, (distant relative) we discussed the possibility of contracting our field maintenance. No motions were made but the idea seems popular. Having been the V.P. this last year, I personally know how hard it is to get volunteers to mow. It's always the same people that show up and most often involves our most senior members. I feel as though I have a moral responsibility to keep 80+ year olds off the mowing crews in 100+ degree weather. 70-some year olds don't belong out there either. Hopefully, this is something that can be done on our present budget. Again, this has only been the subject of conversation. .. so far.

Fly safe,  
Steve Sartor

**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**

Hello for October; Hope everybody had a good time at BEST. The field and event was outstanding, Except for the ants.

During our last meeting we had 2 proposals for maintenance of the field. One, pay \$7500 for a nine month contract and one for a team of members mowing. Let me talk about member mowing.

I propose to have an A-team of 7 members to mow ONLY. They cannot be expected to mow and weed eat.

Every member if physically able will still be expected to perform 1 day of work . We can make a member list with signoff sheet. A member can opt-out of a workday by paying \$50. The team mowing members dues will be

paid by the club AFTER completing the year of mowing schedule. This can be accomplished without a dues increase.

If we have a company mow, it will require a dues increase to around \$125.

Yall come fly!

Dick Jones

# Meeting Minutes

October 4 2018

Members present: 34

Start: 7:31 PM

President, Steve Sartor called the meeting to order.

Pizza was enjoyed by all preceding the meeting.

Two new members, Edwin Sidel and Oscar Camelo, were unanimously voted into the club. Welcome !!

The September 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 the small mower was missing the safety guard that covers the grass exhaust chute. He asked that members not remove the guard. If it is broken please replace it. Vice President Dick Jones will replace it. Gary also reminded members that he still collects magazines that he then re-distributes to schools and libraries.

Treasurer, Sam Barrett reported that the club finances are in good condition. Sam said that 30 members have not paid and will be dropped from the club roster. Total membership with the 30 unpaid is 172.

Vice President Dick Jones said that the field was in great shape and is ready for B.E.S.T.

Scott McGowan reported that he had attended the FAA meeting in Las Vegas. He said that it was obvious that the rule changes were being driven by big money coming from Amazon, Microsoft and others. These outfits are looking to claim all of the airspace below 1000 feet for their future ventures. The new FAA rule now limits all club altitudes to be below 400 feet. Which effects everyone but especially glider and free flight pilots.

The nominating committee reported that there was only one member (Scott McGowan) interested in becoming president. Don Ramsey nominated Ray Mathis. The other officer positions (Secretary, VP and Treasurer) will be filled by members currently holding these positions, unless someone else is nominated. Nominations for all positions remain open until the vote occurs. The club votes at the November meeting.

Secretary Larry Bonnette told members that on October 23 2018. The Wi-Fi at the flying field will be open for use by all members. The SSID that members will use is "TRICOUNTY\_GUEST". Members are asked to keep video streaming to a minimum because of the limited amount of data allowed each month by our carrier. Larry will monitor the internet use and if the remaining data drops below 3GB he will shut off the service until the following month.



Larry Bonnette

## Minutes (continued)

President Steve Sartor began a discussion with members about contracting out the mowing. He said that the company he contacted would cut the grass for \$7500 per nine-month year. This works out to approximately \$208 per week. A discussion began. Members wondered how we would pay for it. Raise dues? Tri-County currently has low dues when compared with other clubs in the area. Some believe that we can pay the contractors with our current treasury. Sam pointed out that if we did, at some point we would run out of cash because we were still paying approximately \$7000 per year in runway payments. Other members said that we should continue to encourage our members to do the yard work. A few schemes were discussed including a "Dues for work" program. If we allowed 10 members to work instead of paying dues it would only cost the club \$1000 per year (Plus the \$5000 per year maintenance allowance).

Kirk Jensen asked Sam for a clarification of our finances. Sam answered his questions. Kirk then made a motion to use funds from the current treasury to pay off the runway loan. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. 24 members for the motion and 9 members against the motion. The motion passed. The club will now take a final vote on the motion at the November meeting.

Steve Sartor told members that no one is to be allowed to place vehicle wheels on any concrete at the field. Please don't park or drive on anything that is concrete. This includes the pavilion, runway, taxiway, and sidewalks.

Model of the Month was won by Scott McGowan

Attendance jackpot would have been won by Michael Burkhalter but he was not at the meeting.

The "Name Tag" award was won by Keith Lucas

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 PM



Sam Barrett

## The Treasurers Report

Here we are at the end of summer and having made runway loan payment number 35, we only have 25 left to go. Just three years ago, after BEST, Steve Sartor, Robert Minieri and a gang of volunteer members were pulling up the petro-mat runway and prepping the ground for the contractor to bring in a crew and pour that smooth runway we currently enjoy.

Dues collection for the FY2019 membership is still going on as we collect from the last of the current members who wish to renew for 2019. It looks like we will be losing some members but, not much different than prior membership years. So, the Treasury is still in good shape for the coming membership year. Don Ramsey and Steve Tinsley will be auditing

the Treasury for FY2018 this month.

I get the impression that many members do not understand what our "membership year" is, actually. We use the term "fiscal year" which begins with our receipt of member dues. Our membership year begins on August 1<sup>st</sup> each year when dues are due. Then we operate the club and its field for a year, spending our collected dues and our fiscal year end is July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The year we are currently in is FY2019. Your current membership will expire July 31, 2019 and your renewal dues for FY2020 will be due August 1, 2019.

When a member joins during the year we calculate their "prorated dues" by multiplying the number of months remaining in the current membership year by \$9. If someone joins in November, we count November through July or 9 months times the \$9 for dues of \$81, instead of the normal \$100 full annual membership dues. While we try to provide all members who want to renew a liberal "grace period" our By-Laws can require someone who let's their membership lapse more than 90 days to pay another initiation fee and re-join as a new member. So, please pay attention and don't let your dues go unpaid until it costs you more money and resets your cumulative membership months to zero.

Tri-county Barnstormers is an AMA Chartered Club. This means that all flying members are required to have a current AMA membership to fly at our field, NO EXCEPTIONS. We have the field AMA covered under or annual charter renewal and we are shielded for liability if someone is injured at our field. You are responsible to maintain AMA coverage for the same reason, in case you cause property damage of bodily injury while flying at our field. Fly AMA covered or do not fly.

Enjoy the coming fall cooler weather and get to the field while it lasts!



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«First Name» «Last Name»  
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Web site [www.tri-countybarnstormers.com](http://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 1st