



# THE PROP WASH

## Club Officers

- **President -**  
Ray Mathis
- **Vice President -**  
Dick Jones
- **Secretary -**  
Larry Bonnette
- **Treasurer -**  
Sam Barrett
- **Editor/Webmaster -**  
Larry Bonnette



Ray Mathis

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

Nothing beats a spring day at the field with your fellow club members, taking your turn when it comes.

Joining in to contribute and make flying, whatever it is, more enjoyable. So join in at the field and when the work is done and the mowers are back in the shop it's time to enjoy the results.

So come out and contribute to the club and don't forget to bring some thing to fly, since that is why we are there.

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**Meetings are at the  
Conroe Friendship Center  
(Meals on Wheels building)  
on the first Thursday of  
the month at 7:30 PM**

**We hope to see you  
there.**

## Words from the VP



Dick Jones

Hello Again Flyers

Mowing season is in full swing now. Thanks for all the help, especially Max Taylor for mower maintenance!! Don't forget to put your FAA# on the bottom of your planes. Looking forward to mosquito control with our new birdhouses thanks to Don. Be sure to make our voice heard to the FAA.

Until next Time

Dick Jones

# Meeting Minutes



Larry Bonnette

April 4 2019  
Present: 27  
Start: 7:35

President Ray Mathis called the meeting to order.

The March 2019 minutes were approved unanimously.

Three new members, Joe Stoltz, Dan Ginty, and Dylan Ginty were unanimously voted into the club. Welcome !

Treasurer Sam Barrett, reported that the treasury is in good shape. Paid out \$931 for new doors.

The club Safety Officer, Gary Baumgartner, asked if any member had safety issues. None were reported. Gary told members that the doors will be in next week.

The club Secretary, Larry Bonnette told members that the internet at the field was down (again) for a few days due to a problem with T-Mobile. It seems to be OK now.

Larry also asked members to comment on the new the new rule. Rule #14:

Vehicles over the weight of 100lbs may not park on any concrete surface. This includes, but not limited to; Sidewalks, Runways, Taxiways, and inside of the Pavilion.

After a little discussion the wording will be changed to:

Vehicles over the weight of 100lbs may not park or drive on any concrete surface. This includes, but is not limited to; Sidewalks, Runways, Taxiways, and inside of the Pavilion. Club owned maintenance vehicles are exempt from this rule.

The club Vice President, Dick Jones, told members that we still need volunteers to help with the mowing.

Model of the Month was won by Anthony Brickner

The attendance jackpot would have been won by Ron Silver but, he was not at the meeting.

The name tag award was won by Gene Dobesh

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

## A note of interest

The web site has been very active since we installed the cameras. Prior to adding the cameras, the hit rate for the web site was about 8,000 hits per month. In March 2019 the websites hit rate was 402,500 hits. That is 50 times more traffic, and March was not even our highest month (which was September at 494,000 hits). I would say that the installation of cameras at the airfield is a success. The increased traffic means more interest in our club and hopefully more new members,

I would like to answer a few questions I get from members.

Why is it we don't have live video ?

We just don't have the data available to do that.

Wait, what does that mean ?

When we buy access to the internet using the cell phone system (this is how we do it at the field). We are given a set amount of data that we are allowed to use in a month. This is called a data cap. In our case, with T-Mobile. We have a 14GB cap. The cameras sending still pictures every 5 minutes consume about 1.5GB per month. Live video on the other hand consumes quite a bit more. I have done testing and have found that live video from one camera uses about 2GB per 24 hour day.

Why do we use the cell network for our internet connection ?

Because there is nothing else available.

I have looked at cable, telephone (DSL), satellite, and fixed wireless (microwave).

They all are unsuitable for these reasons.

Cable... no cable available at the field.

DSL... our phone line is too far from the central office.

Satellite... too expensive for what you get. not enough data on the up link and there is a cap

Fixed wireless... too expensive. Requires a 60 foot tower at the field and has a cap.

Why T-Mobile ?

T-Mobile has a cap of 14GB for \$55/mo with no disconnect after exceeding the cap. We used to use AT&T which was \$25/mo. for 2GB and a disconnect after exceeding the cap. Sprint cannot get their act together enough to sell us a data only service. Verizon is \$45/mo and a disconnect after exceeding the cap. Verizon's 15GB for \$45 was tempting. I would have gone to them but I already went with T-Mobile. After my experience with Sprint. I just didn't want to start over again and T-Mobile has no disconnect after exceeding the cap which is very important.

Technologies change and I will continue to try and find better ways to achieve an internet connection. In the mean time if you hear of a better deal or technology. Please let me know.

Larry Bonnette

Your Club technologist, Secretary, News Letter Editor and Webmaster.



Sam Barrett

## The Treasurers Report

It's April and the club treasury is still doing fine. However we are entering the mowing season and the use of air conditioning at the field so we will have our most expensive time of the year in terms of club expenses. Please make sure you turn off all air conditioners and lights when departing the field to keep our energy bills low.

Also, when using our field equipment, please take care to ensure the equipment is properly lubricated and given the right kind of fuel to avoid damage and be sure to clean the equipment before putting away so it's ready for the next mowing crew and not rusting or caked with mud or cuttings. If you aren't familiar with the equipment or think there's a problem, report it to the mowing coordinator or the Vice President so we can check you out on the equipment or repair any malfunctioning gear.

We have a lot invested in our equipment and need to get maximum service from it. Broken equipment eventually means broken treasury, especially if it is a big ticket item.

I have to mention every month that AMA memberships expire for a good number of our members, each month. We use to have AMA expiring only at December 31st but now the month you joined AMA will determine when the membership expires. Check your AMA card often and maybe even calendar the date so you don't get a surprise if you have an accident but your AMA was not paid up! It could be the difference between a minor difficulty and financial ruin. Those plaintiffs can be terrible people but, AMA is on your side; if your membership is current.

We had two new members join at our April meeting. Those members are Joe Stolz and Dan Ginty and his son, Dylan Ginty; Welcome to the Barnstormers!



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«First Name» «Last Name»  
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# DON'T FORGET

TRI-COUNTY BARNSTORMER  
CLUB MEETINGS ON THE FIRST  
THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE

May 2nd