



# THE PROP WASH

## Club Officers

- **President -**  
Joe Marquardt
- **Vice President -**  
Jay Wright
- **Secretary -**  
Vacant
- **Treasurer -**  
Stacey Langlois
- **Editor -**  
Max Taylor
- **Webmaster -**  
Larry Bonnette

## PRESIDENTS CORNER



Hello fliers,

We held our July meeting at the field and had very good attendance. The monthly club meetings will now be conducted at the field on the first Saturday of the month at 9am so please join us August 3rd.

If you visit the field or the website you will notice some improvements that have been made.

The VP had a quote of over \$2k and we were able to get the doors and install using member labor for \$800.

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One door needed to be reframed due to rotten wood and will need some additional track modifications to help stabilize the door operation.

In addition to the door work, 3 more cameras were added to the field and website (thank you Larry). You can now see live shots of the runway and wind direction indicators.

Renewal invoices were delayed due to the recent hurricane and will be mailed soon. Per the bylaw changes approved last year the invoices will be \$100 for annual renewal and have a \$100 assessment added for those that did not complete 2 club work activities during the annual period. New this year after you pay, a receipt will be sent with the new gate code and a new club badge. Field rules credentials and proof of membership are required stating "In the form of a badge displayed prominently on your person. Attached to a piece of your equipment, as long as the card can be easily viewed by a casual observer". The annual badge will have your AMA number with the TBS club renewal year printed on it so will meet the requirements stated in the rules.

Come out and enjoy some flying at the field.

Joe

**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.**



Jay Wright

## Words from the VP

Well, we went thru a hurricane and although many club members may have suffered with downed trees and no power, the club suffered no damage, other than power outage for a few days. Fortunately, we did not have any thing in the frig that was ruined but some condiments. Don't use any in the frig now, as we will have to replace them.

Last Friday and Saturday we replaced both garage doors in the equipment shed and some threshold wood on one side. The new doors look good and will make life easier getting equipment in and out of the shed.

The rain from the hurricane and storms since then have enhanced the quality of the grass strip, but at the same time means we cannot ignore the need for regular weekly mowing, so please come out and help when the captains set a mowing date.

A couple of weeks ago, someone driving the big tractor must have hit a drain with one of the rear wheel on the mowing deck and bent the wheel fork. We were able to get it mostly straight, but it is still a little off, and mowing is doable, but may not give a level mow, so for now limit the large tractor mowing to the parking areas, and the high grass on both sides of the flight stations. With the grass growing like it is, please do not set the deck level lower than '2'. Any lower scalps the grass which is not healthy for the grass in this heat and lets the weeds break through.

At the request of a couple of pilots, we have extended the 'run off' length of the concrete runway at each end by approximately 25'. This is intentional and will probably become a standard feature. This area will be mowed at a high level, the same as the area on both sides of the pilot boxes.

# Minutes

## July 2024 Tri-County Barnstormer Meeting minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:15 am July 6, 2024 at field with 16 members and 4 visitors present.

**Secretary report:** June minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Treasury report:** Bank balance is healthy with all major bills covered till after our next member renewal cycle. Current roster is 131 members however the contact for many club members has become inaccurate. Please reach out to the treasurer at [treasurer@tri-countbarnstormers.com](mailto:treasurer@tri-countbarnstormers.com) to update or fill out a form located in the clubhouse to update your information. Renewal invoices will be sent this month for the annual club membership. As reminder our club membership calendar year is August 1 to July 31. Invoices will include the \$100 assessment fee for those that did not complete their volunteer activities during the prior period.

**Vice President report:** The mowing is active at the field. Please volunteer to assist the captains with the weekly efforts at keeping the field in top shape. Use the signup sheet and email the VP with your volunteer work activities.

The sprinkler system is not functioning at this time and will require some excavation to locate a leak. Be mindful of any holes/depressions made from the excavations when at the field.

Expect the hay to be harvested soon. Hay guy was scheduled but with the hurricane expect that to be postponed for a week or two. If the hay is being harvested do not fly over the areas being worked.

### **Old business:**

2 of the remaining events this year are:

War Bird June 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> sanctioned with AMA CD Chris Thomas. Postponed to November.

BEST October 4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> to be sanctioned with AMA CD Kirk Jennsen

A second vote was held and passed unanimously to replace the two garage doors on the barn at a cost not to exceed \$2k. The VP received two quotes for install of new doors at a cost ranging from \$2100 to \$2300. Two members volunteered to install doors which can be picked up for less than \$1k. Appreciated the members that help the club maintain the facility at lower costs.

Previous meeting approved the removal of the wood deck which can be done by the members at any time using volunteers.

The VP solicited bids to remove the deck and install a concrete slab plus adding handicap ramps to the foundation and bathroom entrance. Three quotes were received that ranged from \$10200 to \$15350. All 3 quotes were for 3k psi concrete with pier and beams at standard intervals to create a level deck. Two of the quotes broke down details of each piece including teardown of the existing deck at a cost of \$1250 to \$2450. The third was a lump sum w/o breakdown.

A motion was made to approve a budget not to exceed \$13k for the full scope deck removal, slab installation and handicap ramps. The motion passed with a unanimous response from those present. A second vote will be held during the August meeting.

### **New Business:**

2 New members were voted into the club Tommy and Johnathan.

It was recommended that the club have a night fly event before the end of the year or actually on December 31<sup>st</sup> to ring in the new year. Max has flown a New Year flight at the field for the last 2 years.

The well water is expected to be tested this month to verify it is "potable".

Attendance jackpot winner was Jack Reese who was not present so the prize rolls over to the next month.



Charlie B. presented a Beaver that he refurbished using Testors spray paint to change it to a Vietnam color scheme. First step was to seal the foam using a urethane spray and then light coat the colors.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am

Lots of flying and fun commenced after the meeting.





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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  
Saturday OF EACH MONTH.

NEXT MEETING IS

August 3rd at 9 a.m.