

# Buzzard Droppings

Gold Leader Club

Promoting the building and operation of radio controlled models, and the public acceptance and good will towards the sport/hobby. Our main goal is to have fun and enjoy the challenge of safely flying radio control models.

February 2013
Volume 20 Issue 2



AMA Chapter 2953 Monroe, Washington

Next Club Meeting is **Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 6:30 PM** at Alfy's Pizza, Route 2 in Monroe (<u>See page 7 for a map</u>). **Program: None Planned** 



#### President's Message — Bryan Reightley

Buzzards and Friends,

Recently I installed some orange fencing just inside the west fence line. The ends are roughly lined up with the edges of the runway. The idea is to provide a bit of guidance on approach and a better visual on the fence location. I'll be looking for feedback on how well this idea is working at the next club meeting on Feb. 12th. I hope everyone gets a chance to fly before we meet so you can provide input.

We will also be discussing club events we expect to hold this year. These include the builders contest, club charity auction, open house and swap meet, our annual fun fly

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#### January 8th Meeting Minutes — Tim Baird

The January meeting was called to order by President Bryan Reightley at 6:32 pm. Bryan announced the officers:

President - Bryan Reightley
Vice President - Brian Richardson absent

Secretary – Tim Baird Treasurer – Ron Swift Safety Officer – Vince Bell Field Manager - Jay Bell Newsletter Editor – Ron Swift Web Master – Ron Rueter – out of town for the winter

Visitors and New Members – Doug Hoff sat in on our meeting this

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#### **Club Officers and Contacts**

President: Bryan Reightley (206) 940-0638 Vice President: Brian Richardson (425) 501-2965

Secretary: Tim Baird (360) 348-6033 Treasurer: Ron Swift (425) 788-6045

Safety Officer: Vince Bell (425) 788-2456 Newsletter: Ron Swift (425) 788-6045

Field Manager: Jay Bell (425) 788-4831 Website: Ron Rueter (425) 210-3911

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and combat competitions and next January's freeze-in.

The Northwest Model Hobby Expo is being held at the Monroe Fairgrounds Feb. 8th – 10th. This is a great opportunity to check out, and maybe add a new and previously flown plane to your hanger, pick up some accessories, or just hangout with others who enjoy radio control hobbies.

See you on the flight line,

Bryan Reightley BBMAC President



(<u>Continued</u> from page 1) month.

#### **Officer's Reports**

**Secretary** – Tim Baird solicited edits and corrections for the December minutes, none were offered or suggested. A motion was made to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. This was seconded. There was no discussion. The members voted to approve the minutes.

Vice President – Brian Richardson was unable to join us so Bryan R. provided the following: The Christmas party was a success with about 20 in attendance. The highlight was probably the Hanners' highway presentation. The Freeze –In was this past Saturday, Jan. 5th. It was a cold, albeit dry, day with a fair amount of unpredictable wind. Therefore, little flying was done yet Bryan was still able to find a previously undiscovered pond in the 'big' field. Unfortunately it was at the cost of significant damage to his newest airplane.

Bryan also proposed we hold a fun fly and a combat contest this year but no dates have been proposed.

**Treasurer** – Ron Swift called on Rick Hanners, outgoing treasurer, who gave a brief end of year accounting of the health of our finances. He also announced that the expenses for the Freeze in and the Christmas party are closed out. Then he officially handed over the duties to Ron Swift who reported the number of paid members for

the 2013 year so far. Also, that the freeze in expenses came in \$60 under budget.

Safety Officer's Report - Vince Bell informed everybody of a newly discovered pond at the field. He also warned to be careful flying near the power lines. Both have been involved in recent incidents at the field

**Field Manager's Report** - Jay Bell reported that the ground does not seem as saturated as it was last year and this is helping the road to hold up quite nicely.

The electric fence is off right now due to battery issues, but does not seem to be an issue as the horses do not seem to test the fence as the cows did.

There are no current plans to provide fencing to the small pasture to eliminate the gate issue.

The US 2 gate seems to be ready for the addition of finer gravel.

There is a clear need for more topsoil to level out sections of our landing strip.

**Newsletter Editor's Report** - Ron Swift has hardcopies of the newsletter if anybody needs or wants one. Please submit your photos and articles for publication in our newsletter.

#### **Announcements**

The NW Model Hobby Expo is Feb 8-10 @ the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, and will be

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housed in two buildings this year. BBMAC will have a club booth, but not have a table for the swap meet. Volunteers are still needed for set up and teardown as well as to man our club booth.

A new T-shirt is available that displays our having been an AMA Gold level Leader Club for the past 10 years.

#### **Old Business**

A proposal was made to combine all moneys left at the end of the 2012 year into the general fund. This was motioned, seconded and approved without any further discussion.

Continued work on the field will likely depend on revenues based on membership numbers for this year. Some of the priorities laid out at the meeting are:

- 1. Additional top soil on the low spots on the field to help level it out
- 2. Use of river rock on the road way from gate 4 to the pole barn
- Seed or grass clippings from the parking area spread over the infield to help grow grass
- 4. Move the US 2 gate in a ways
- 5. Orange netting just inside the fence to use as a marker
- 6. Smaller gravel for the roads
- 7. Markers at each end of the field
- 8. Wind screen at west end of pole barn
- 9. Get the wind sock up
- 10. Clear rock from the infield

#### **New Business**

Arleen had to leave town for the week to take care of her ill father. A neighbor is tending to the horses. So Arleen locked the gate on



Bryan plans to meet with her once she is back—to discuss our concerns which include but are not limited to:

- Her needs have changed, not ours, and this change is impacting our ability to fully utilize the space we are paying for.
- As her tenant, mutual trust is reasonable to expect and that we want to work with her to find a solution to the problem that has minimal impact on the club
- Find out what is needed in order for BBMAC to once again have access to the field 7 days a week from Fern Bluff Road
- Work with her to achieve this plan
   As one might imagine, this sparked quite the lively discussion among the attendees of the meeting. Some of the points brought out:
- As much of a problem as it seems right now, it will be much worse in the spring when the cows return.
- The field is still not usable by all in the club and in fact, along with the land lord issues, is costing the club members.

Bryan assured all that his stance during the meeting with Arleen will be firm and resolute and that she will be made aware of the position she has put the club in concerning its current members and our efforts to grow the club.

#### **Program**

There was no Program this month.

The meeting officially adjourned at 7:37 PM. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 12th, 2013, at Alfy's in Monroe at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Tim Baird, Secretary.





## Freeze-in























## Safety Corner

It is time to get the airplanes out for their annual detailed inspection. Look them over for potential problems. Make a list of the needed repairs and another list for the parts you don't have on hand so that you won't forget them when you go to the hobby shop or send in an order.

When you are working on your electric powered models use extreme caution. Electrics have a nasty habit of starting when least expected. Internal combustion engines don't usually just up and start when the throttle is advanced. In fact sometimes they don't start at all. Electric motors starting unexpectedly is the one thing that Dave Gee (Model Aviation's Safety guy) gets the most letters and emails about. If you are testing in the house, think about what will happen if the motor starts and runs in reverse or if the airplane suddenly moves forward. Know where the transmitter is so you can get to the throttle stick if you need to without reaching over or through the propeller. The safest way while setting up and electric plane is to simply remove the propeller until you are confident that all is working the way it should.

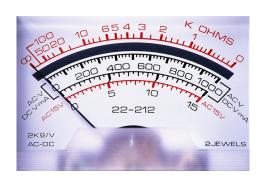
As you have probably read and seen on the news lately the big, big boys also have problems with their lithium batteries. With all the engineering talent and resources they have, they still have issues with lithium batteries. This should tell us something about the dangers involved with lithium batteries and the hodgepodge of chargers and power supplies we use.

For those that make up your own battery packs: Shorting the negative and positive leads on a Nicad or NiMh can cause some anxious moments and maybe burned spots hopefully not on ones person. Dealing with lithium batteries can be much, much worse. They can and will burst into flames big time and burn your house down. Not that Nicad or NiMh batteries won't, they are just a little less likely to burn your house down.

If you insist on making your own battery packs; work with one wire at a time. Insulate the end of the wire you are not going to be working with, solder the other end to the termination (Battery terminal or connector) and insulate it. Remember one connection and insulate, never have any un-insulated wires flopping around that are connected to a battery.

UNTILL NEXT TIME, BE SAFE BE COUR-**TEOUS** 

Vince Bell, Safety Officer









## North West MODEL HOBBY

#### Northwest Model Hobby Expo

Evergreen State Fairgrounds Monroe, Washington AMA Sanction No. 13-0157

Show Times: Friday 2/8 - 2 pm to 8 pm | Saturday 2/9 - 9 am - 8 pm | Sunday 2/10 - 9 am - 3 pm

The 2013 NW Model Hobby Expo is even Bigger than ever! This is our 7th year providing the Pacific Northwest a modeling experience. Set your calendars, watches and cellphones for this major event on

February 8th, 9th, & 10th, 2013 Lots to see and do!

Visit our website for more details. http://www.nwmhe.com



# Open House & Charity Auction

## Saturday, June 8th at our club field, 9AM-3PM

Along RT2 on Fern Bluff Road, ~ 4 miles east of Monroe

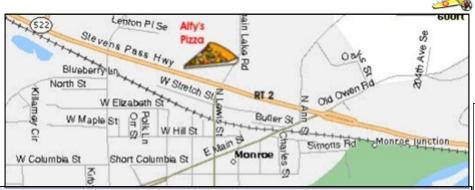
We welcome all AMA members to fly thier models in our first Open House at our new club field.

Also, everyone is invited to participate in our Annual Auction. You can have your stuff auctioned and keep the cash, donate items for our club charity or donate items for the club field improvement fund (3 ways the auction proceeds can be designated). The owner of an auction item has the right of final refusal.

We will have food available, too! Please contact Ron Swift with any questions (425) 788-6045.







On US-2 beginning at the intersection of Main/Old Owen Road drive 3.4 miles east to Fern Bluff Road - turn left (there is a left turn lane) - drive 1.4 miles on Fern Bluff Road to the entrance gate on the right. Visit <a href="http://www.bbmac.net">http://www.bbmac.net</a> for the most current Field info.



# Barnyard Buzzards Pilot Training

Our club is dedicated to the safe pursuit and advancement of model aviation. We offer the newcomer free lessons to learn how to build models and to fly them. If you should have any questions about the club, flight instruction or membership requirements, call any of the club officers. We have a safety checklist available for those new to our flying field.

Use of a computer simulator is advisable. This allows you to practice safely and will end up saving you hundreds of dollars in the long run.

Still, in any case, the best way to learn to fly R/C planes is by finding an instructor to help. Learning on your own can be expensive and somewhat less safe.

We provide instruction for both building model aircraft as well as flying these models. In most cases, a buddy box system is used at the flying field. Experience has shown this to be the safest method to learn.

Those who want to enroll in the pilot training should contact Rick Hanners (phone number is on the list below) or our club secretary, **Tim Baird 360) 348-6033.** Pilots already enrolled in the training program are welcome to contact any of these club instructors to set up lessons.

#### **Current Flight Instructors:**

Dean Appell 360 435-7803 Vince Bell 425 788-2456 Rick Hanners 360 668-1312 Ron Swift 425 788-6045



## Barnyard Buzzard's Club Meeting

Our club meetings are open to the **public.** During the winter months we meet at 6:30 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Alfy's Pizza in the Staples Plaza on RT2, Monroe, WA. During the summer months (weather permitting), the club meets at our flying field. See the schedule below for location... If you would like additional information, come out to a club meeting, or contact one of our club officers. Each meeting starts with an introduction of the club officers followed by a short business meeting. Next we have a **program** about some aspect of the hobby/sport.

Then, a **Show & Tell** and **raffle** conclude the meeting, which ends at around 8:30 P.M.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

### Meetings begin at 6:30 PM 2nd Tuesday

February 12 Alfy's Pizza
March 12 Alfy's Pizza
April 9 Alfy's Pizza
May 14 Club Field
June 11 Club Field
July 9 Club Firld

#### **Our Flying Field**

The field is located in Monroe on RT 2. If the gate is unlocked, feel free to visit! Our website (http://www.bbmac.net), has lots of photos of our field. We've been developing our new field and are flying when the weather is good (even in the cold!)

Program: None planned





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#### **HobbyTown USA**

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> Phone: (425) 355-8086 Fax: (425) 355-8078

### Tim's Hobby Shop

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