



# Buzzard Droppings



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 2023**  
Volume 32 Issue 2

AMA Chapter 2953 **Barnyard Buzzards** Model Airplane Club Monroe, Washington

Our Club Meeting will be held **Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at Alfy's Pizza!** We also will host the meeting online through Zoom.

Members will receive emailed info for the **Live ZOOM** access. Thank you Alfy's Pizza for the room! The public is invited as always!

**Program: Wiring LEDs—the Voltages, wiring Customization for our models especially our Night Flight events!**



## President's Message — Mark Weeks

So far, we've had a few good weekends for flying this January. On January 7<sup>th</sup> we held our annual Freeze-In and while it was not freezing this year, we had a great turnout with 20 plus attending. I think I can speak for everyone when I say that it was nice to get out and get some flying in without having to

hide from rain showers.

At the January meeting the event schedule was presented and voted on. We have a full plate of events planned and I hope that we continue to have the same type of turnout that we had at the Freeze-in.

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## January 10th Meeting Minutes — Steve Higgins

President Mark Weeks called meeting to order January 10th @ 6:30 pm

### Introduction of Officers and Guests:

17 Members, 4 Members were on the Zoom Feed, and two guests. Richard, who has attended a few of our

events and is planning on joining our club, and Wendell Doubleday was at his first club meeting. Wendell has a full-size super cub that he hopes to land at the club field some day.

President – Mark Weeks  
Vice President – Ron Swift

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Club Officers and Contacts

**President:** Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

**Secretary:** Steve Higgins (206) 790-5840

**Safety Officer:** Vince Bell (425) 788-4831

**Field Management:** Mark Weeks & volunteers (425) 328-5705

**Vice President:** Ron Swift (425) 765-6745

**Treasurer:** Dart Sharp (425) 923-6989

**Webmaster:** Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

**Newsletter Editor:** Ron Swift (425) 765-6745



*(President's Message continued from page 1)*

Our next event is scheduled for March and it will be the Night Fly. If you haven't been to a Night Fly, you are missing out! It always has been a fun gathering, nothing formal, just getting together as darkness approaches and then it's time to light up the sky!

During our January monthly business meeting there was a proposal to reinstate our summer club meetings at the field. It was also brought up to have them on Saturdays. Therefore, I will be sending out a survey early February to get input from you, the membership, to see if, during the summer months of June through September, the meetings:

- 1) Should we be moved to the field.
- 2) Should be held on Tuesday evenings or moved to Saturdays.

Please participate in this survey when it comes so your voice is heard.

Hope to see you all at the field,  
Mark



*(Continued from page 1)*

Secretary – Steve Higgins

Treasurer – Dart Sharp

Safety Officer – Vince Bell

### Minutes from November Meeting approval:

The motion was made, to accept minutes as posted, was 2nd and passed.

### OFFICER REPORTS:

*President:* Will be covered in new business.

*Vice President:* We had 21 people at the event including Sandy. Ron wanted to thank Ron B for cooking. We had quite a spread of food and items some even brought items like doughnuts as well. The event was excellent, and we even had a member from another club, and we did have another guest visitor who is planning on joining BBMAC, when they finalize their move back to the Pacific Northwest.

*Secretary:* We currently have 55 Members in Good Standing; 30 Members have renewed for 2023. Reminder: Dues are Due. If you haven't paid your dues yet, remember that dues are due by the end of the March meeting to avoid a \$25.00 late fee.

*Treasurer:* In the Black. Money is good. Last year we spent a bit on rock and the Sani-Cans. This year we should finish still in the black even with the higher amounts for flushing the Sani-cans, and other expenses. It was asked to set a date for an audit, but date hasn't been set at this time.

*Safety Officer:* No real issues at the event. If you do wander off the field, it is wet and can grab you. The field was wet today with the rain we have had in

the past few days. If you must go retrieve a plane, bring a buddy and dress appropriately. We are waiting for Amazon to put the walkie-talkie radios on sale before we purchase them. There are also hip boots in the container.

*Field Manager:* Michael has installed the door on the Clubhouse. Looks good... Still a little trim and transom work to install. Thanks, Michael, for the work! The clubhouse temperature with the heater inside was above 70 degrees! In the end, it wasn't used at the freeze-in due to how good the weather was that Saturday! With heavy rains, there is the possibility of the field flooding. Please be careful when you venture off the main field.

*Newsletter Editor:* Ron handed out copies of the January Newsletter. Please send Ron/Mark pictures so we can publish them on the web.

### OLD BUSINESS:

None

### NEW BUSINESS:

Event Schedule: [\(See Page 3\)](#)

Ron presented and spoke about the event schedule. He ran through the scheduled dates in order. We also spoke about the Micro Quad Racing and Car Racing Dates. As usual, we do have a busy event schedule. If you want to come out and fly, the events are usually finished by 1 pm.

*(Continued on page 3)*



# Upcoming Events

# NIGHT FLY

Event	Date	Time
Freeze-in	January 7	10:00 AM
Night Fly #1	March 11th	6:00PM
Cars / Crawlers / Excavators	March 25th	10:00 AM
		See nwmhe.com website
NW Model Hobby Expo	April 14-16	
Annual Club Charity Auction	May 6th	10:00 AM
	May 20th	
Glider Competition		10:00 AM
Tanks	June 10th	10:00 AM
Boats & Floats #1	June 24th	10:00 AM
Fun Fly	July 15th	10:00 AM
Family Picnic/Open House	July 29	10:00 AM
Combat Event	August 12th	10:00 AM
Heli	August 26	10:00 AM
Rebuilder's Competition	September 12	6:30 PM
Builder's Competition	September 12	6:30 PM
Boats & Floats #2	Sept 9th	10:00 AM
Night Fly #2	Sept 23rd	6:00PM
Warbird Fly Off	October 7th	10:00 AM
Annual Christmas Party	December 12	6:30PM
Freeze-In 2024	January 6 2024	10:00 AM
Work Party #1	TDB	
Event	Date	Time
Micro Quad Racing	April 8th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	May 13th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	June 10th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	July 8th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	August 12th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	September 9th	2:30 PM
Micro Quad Racing	Oct 14th	2:30 PM
Event	Date	Time
Car Racing	March 25th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	May 20th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	June 17th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	July 15th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	August 19th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	Sept 16th	2:30 PM
Car Racing	Oct 21st	2:30 PM

March 12<sup>th</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> \*Night Fly\* of 2023 and for those who did not attend these events you have to make it a point of doing so this year. Food and refreshments will be available starting at 5:00 pm as well as the burn barrel to ward off the night-air chill. It is pretty easy to attach a few LED lights to your plane and participate.

Yep, the NIGHT FLY!! Woooo Hoooo! It will be a blast! Even if you don't feel you don't have anything to light up or don't want to fly, c'mon out and support, commiserate and kibitz with your friends and fellow members.

Many members and guests come out early on that Saturday to fly before the sun goes down just to get some flying in.

Our events are open to members of other clubs, too. As long as you have current AMA membership, you can come out and fly.

No doubt, the RC Car track will be ready for racing, too. Bring your car or truck and get your gimbles loosened up for a great 2023 summer season.



*(Continued from page 2)*  
 ~ The 2023 dates are pretty much the same as 2022, and the events are scheduled for Saturdays.  
 ~ It was proposed that we have rain dates, but it was decided by the board to do them rain or

shine and not have rain dates or secondary dates.  
 ~ Brian talked to Ranger Dave and confirmed the lake's Boats and Floats dates are open for us to use the lake.

*(Continued on page 4)*





~ Ron mentioned that the charity auction or beneficiary might/could change. We will discuss this later in the year.

~ Ron would like to get some ideas for the Family Picnic Day. Maybe we could arrange something with the Scouts.

~ The owner of the Lake store purchased a plane, and at some point, he'd like to learn to fly.

~ Confirmed with Paul that the Heli Event on August 26th, Paul later confirmed via email that indeed, August 26th for the Heli event was a "Go".

~ Thinking about having the December Christmas party at Alf's in 2023. Again the board will discuss this as the year progresses.

~ Ron is also considering another swap meet like 2022 in the Sept/Oct timeframe.

~ We didn't talk about the work party, this year, we may have a couple of smaller work parties. The board is also currently working on a plan for this.

~ In the past, we have charged a \$5.00 fee, Ron mentioned it would be good idea to continue to waive this fee. It was motioned and voted on to continue to waive the fee.

Meeting Date Change for Summer months. June, July, August, and September. Mark Weeks said many members would like to have the meetings out at the field in the summer months. By June, we shouldn't have an issue with daylight.

— Mark will be sending surveys to see where we stand. Please take some time with these. The board does value your opinion.

~ A few surveys will be coming out, please take the time to answer them, they will help the board determine what events the membership would in.

~ Flight Test has been awarded CBO classification. We are just getting started on our paperwork with the AMA. There was a question about if the lake needed an FRIA zone as well. The lake is listed as a secondary site, but AMA does not have the lake information. We need to work with AMA to add the lake as a secondary site. Mark is working with Phil at the AMA.

~ Proposed summer event at field foam board build? A few clubs are doing a foam board builds challenge. You would be given two sheets of foam. You would then bring them to the following meeting. The board will discuss this and see what kind of plan we can come up with.

## Work-Party projects

- o Shelving and org container (organized, clean up and label things).
- o Seal the Roof on container.
- o Crawler track
- o Move the existing crawler area to the old barn area?
- o Mount Rain Cover to driver stand
- o Over seed runway
- o Stairs from lower to upper areas
- o Seed picnic area
- o Touchup flight tables, clubhouse,
- o Water/Power - This should be finished this spring/summer. They have a T set-up already. It was asked where the water came from before, but there are problems with it and too much to fix. We also talked to him about adding a security light pole. Permitting issues. Dave is working with his father to get a permit. They are fixing some damage that occurred from a fallen tree and damaged some of the power electronics in the houses above the field.

Brian did say he gave the Rangers their Christmas gifts. They were very thankful. Brian beat Mark in paying the rent for the field this year.

Michael mentioned that we should have a fire extinguisher at the field and easy access A motion was made 2nded and passed to buy two fire extinguishers.

SHOW AND TELL:  
None

## PROGRAM:

Ron Swift Talked about setting up exponential.

For Futaba, and others, you use a negative expo, while for radios like Spectrum and JR, you use a positive value.

Exponential "softens" the center of the control stick. Generally, you do this to make your flying smoother and helps the pilot from overcorrecting the controls. Keep in mind that each radio system is different.

There is a club member that set his at 100%. This made the plane hard to control and caused him to crash.

Ron was telling a story about a guy at the model hobby expo who didn't like the amount of expo that had been set. Some people like it, and some don't.



On Spectrum, they have a gauge that shows you how much you need and to check if the values are correct at positive/neg.

Typically, the more "squirrely" the aircraft, the better idea it is to use expo.

For Heli's, you typically do not use expo. You let the flight controller take care of this. For AS3X, you need to be careful as AS3X or Safe can override exponential. When using AS3X or Safe Mode, consult the documentation and ask a club member. Some use Flight Modes. Again, these are meant to make flying easier.

With 3D and Heli's people will use Flight Modes to setup different responses. So, you can change your mixes in flight for different performances.

You can use the internet info to help you set radios. If you need help, be sure to reach out to a club member, we are certain that somebody will be willing to help you set this stuff up or send you links where you can find tutorials.

Ron told a story about someone at the field in Snohomish, whose rotor speeds were out of control and downright scary. Parts flew from the model!

Ken said he has a detailed PDF on spectrum radios for mixes and expos for setting up your radio. The document is about 600 pages, it's mostly set up for the DX9 or NX series radios.

Just be consistent with your radio setup. Try to set up your radio the same for all

planes this way, you don't get it confused. Everyone should be programming a kill switch to kill the motor, as it can be dangerous if someone not familiar with the aircraft/model picks it up off the ground.

A question was asked about using 72mhz. People today use 72mhz for boats, so there is a risk of a crossed signal. Make sure you use the Frequency board if you use a 72mhz radio.

Make sure you ask around. We have a diverse group, and most everyone will help you with your radio setup.

Ron then spoke about ensuring that your receivers and servos will operate at the correct voltage, as some older receivers and servos don't work at higher voltages we use today.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was called at 7:29 pm.



Our club meetings are open to everyone. Please join us if you're interested in radio control flying and learning, and/or teaching is of interest to you. Lots of new technology has changed our hobby in many ways and can be intimidating. Also, guests are welcome at the club field if the gate is open. We welcome questions and have met many folks who are starting out, have a family member who have been or is a model hobby U control, rc aircraft , or drone hobbyist. Come share with us!







# Safety Corner



By Vince Bell

Some of the Safety Corner for this month I plagiarized from the Battery Charging Guide lines that Rick Hanners wrote to be handed out at the February 2016 general meeting (for your information). Rick was one of the very active members and very knowledgeable in the electronics field who wrote this.

Take a moment to think about all the devices that use some kind of battery as a power source that you use on a daily basis, like your beloved cell phone, iPod, laptop computer and on and on. We charge these devices sitting on wood tables and all sorts of flammable surfaces and in flammable areas of our homes and offices without a thought of the consequences. When you come out to the field and need to charge your LiPo battery pack you are looked upon as the village idiot if you throw your little airplane in the car and connect the XYZ super charger to the LiPo battery while the airplane is on the front seat. Even better when you walk away to BS with friends. So why is it that we can plug our cell phone or laptop into the power outlet and nobody thinks anything of it. The answer is simple.

Each one of these devices has the battery pack as a proprietary unit custom designed to work with the device. The charger connectors are proprietary to the device as is the charger that you plug into the wall outlet or the power outlet in your car. The charger itself is matched to the battery chemistry designed into the device. The charger has been designed for the device with designed in failsafe features and there is nothing that the user can adjust or screw up, within reason. With that I'll turn it over to Rick for more details.

One of these concerns we have today involves the proper charging of Lithium batteries. As more members of the club step into the world of electric powered flight, the proper safe charging of Lithium Flight Batteries at the field has become more of a concern.

So, the club is issuing some common sense guidelines to increase the club members' awareness of how they can make field charging a safer practice for themselves, while minimizing the possibility of personal injury and/or property damage:.

1. Never charge the battery unattended. When charging the batteries you should constantly monitor the charging process so you can react to potential problems that might occur.
2. If the charger you are using is capable of

charging batteries of different chemistries (Li-Po, Li-Fe, Nickel, lead acid and etc.), make sure the charger is set for the proper chemistry BEFORE connecting and starting to charge a battery. **Note:** there is newer chemistry coming out all the time! Pay attention to the chemistry of the battery to be sure the charger on hand supports it!

3 If possible, use a standalone battery or power supply as the power source for the charger.

4. If you have to use the battery in your vehicle as the power source for the charger, locate the charger and the battery being charged, OUTSIDE your vehicle. Do not locate the charger/battery inside your vehicle or under the hood of your vehicle

5. Place the battery being charged within a fire resistant container, such as a LipoSack, Battery Bunker or similar container. If you don't have a container set the battery on a non-flammable surface with a lot of nonflammable space around it. An example would be outside on the concrete sidewalk.

6. Remove the battery from your R/C model in order to charge it.

7. When the battery charge is started VERIFY that the charger is set for the proper number of cells and charge rate. Failure to do so is one of the main causes of battery fires.

8. Cool the battery to ambient temperature before charging.

9. Never exceed the battery manufacturers recommended maximum charge rate.

10. If your battery is involved in a crash, isolate the battery and observe it for at least 20 minutes. Damaged batteries can short internally and not necessarily immediately.

11. Have a fire extinguisher available for immediate use in case of a fire. There is a fire extinguisher near the frequency board.

12. If a battery is damaged either physically or as the result of overcharging, DO NOT USE THE BATTERY. Dispose of damaged batteries per the manufacturer's instructions.

UNTIL NEXT TIME, BE SAFE, USE COMON SENSE.....

VINCE BELL Safety Officer





# Freeze-In 2023



Loads of flights, good food, great guys, curious visitors, no lost planes!, NO snow, warm at FUN, What else could you ask for?









# Photos For Fun







# 2023 Barnyard Buzzards Model Airplane Club Membership Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAA ID: \_\_\_\_\_ FCC License: \_\_\_\_\_

RC Frequencies:  2.4 GHz  72 MHz  50 MHz  5.8 GHz  27 MHz Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Modeling Experience (including other current and previous club memberships)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Interest / Skills: (please check all that apply. Thank you!)

Building  Flying  Electronics  Covering  Painting  Experimental  
 Teaching  Event/Contest Director  Contest Judge  Want to learn  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Flying/Modeling Types:

Sport Flying  Pattern  3D  Quads  Helicopters  Competing in Events  
 Gliders  Crawlers  Excavators  Tanks  Boats  Sea Planes  
 Submarines  Scale  Glider Tug/Hi Start  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Full Membership is \$90.00 a year. Additional Family Member is \$45.00. Student Membership is \$25.00. Dues are due by the end of the March club meeting. Send your check, application form, and copy of your AMA membership to:  
 Steve Higgins (club secretary)  
 20330 10<sup>th</sup> Ave W.  
 Lynwood, WA 98036  
[Steve@surette.com](mailto:Steve@surette.com)  
 Thank you for your interest in RC!

By accepting membership, I hereby agree to abide by the AMA and club safety rules, By-Laws, and regulations governing club flying and regulated activities. I will maintain current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) for as long as I actively participate in said activities in the Barnyard Buzzard Model Airplane Club (BBMAC).

In consideration of my use of the flying club activities, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the land owner from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees in case it shall be necessary to file an action suit arising out of my presence and use of the flying/modeling site, which is for bodily injury, illness or death, or for property damage. Caused in whole or in part by my negligent act or omission.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA Card Verified By \_\_\_\_\_





# 25600 Monroe Camp Road, Snohomish, WA



Camp Edward and the Hanner's Memorial Field are located north of Monroe, Washington in Snohomish County. The most common route is from Highway 2 in Monroe near Albertson's. Turn north onto Woods Creek Road. As you travel north on Woods Creek Road, it will come to a Y intersection, stay to the right (Yeager Rd).

**If you go the left as shown by MapQuest**, make sure you take the **next right** to stay on Woods Creek Road. Then stay to the **left** at the intersection where Yeager rejoins Woods Creek Road, **be careful as oncoming traffic does not stop.**

Yeager will rejoin Woods Creek Road at a 4-way intersection. Stay straight-ish, not a hard right, **be careful as oncoming traffic does not stop.** In a few miles you will pass the entrance to Camp Pigott. Keep going. Turn right at the "T" intersection at Lake Roesiger Road. At the next "Y" intersection, stay right, staying on South Lake Roesiger Road. Turn right at Monroe Camp Road, (Lake Roesiger Store will be on the left). In about a mile, the road will fork again, stay straight. After a short distance you will see our club sign and our gate. Our parking is past the gate on the right. It seems complicated, but once you come out, you'll see it is an easy drive....



### Upcoming Meetings

**Meetings begin at 6:30 PM**

Our next club meeting is Tuesday, February 14 at 6:30 pm. at Alfy's Pizza on Route 2 in Monroe. Also we'll have a ZOOM Meeting so you can use your PC/Laptop, tablet, cell or telephone to attend! Please contact Steve Higgins (206) 790-5840 / [steve@surette.com](mailto:steve@surette.com) for info to use the ZOOM access. A new way to attend our fun and creative meetings. Make sure to stay for the program!



## Barnyard Buzzards Pilot Training



Our club is dedicated to the safe pursuit and advancement of model aviation. We offer all members 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 or the instructors. We have a safety checklist available.

### Current Flight Instructors:

- Dart Sharp (425) 923-6989
- Paul Dibble (425) 359-1808
- Ron Swift (425) 788-6045







**Next meeting:** Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM at  
Alfy's Pizza in Monroe on RT 2

Program: Wiring LEDs—the Voltages, wiring Customization



BBMAC  
PO Box 1591  
Duvall, WA 98019

Visit Our Website  
<http://www.bbmac.net>



Ron & Sandy

*NW Model Hobby Expo—NWMHE.COM—April 14, 15 & 16, 2023. We have the swap shop table reservation available now! Please visit our website for more information and highlights!*  
<https://www.nwmhe.com>

## HobbyTown USA

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