



# 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.

April 2013  
Volume 20 Issue 4

## Barnyard Buzzards Model Airplane Club

AMA Chapter 2953  
Monroe, Washington



Next Club Meeting is **Tuesday, April 9th, 2013, 6:30 PM** at Alf's Pizza, Route 2 in Monroe ([See page 7 for a map](#)).

**Program: Repairing a fiberglass cowl**

### President's Message — Bryan Reightley

Buzzards and Friends,

The majority of our last business meeting was spent reviewing and discussing a club questionnaire. In general, we affirmed some basic issues related to our current flying field. These include access to the area we rent, safety hazards, and our landlord tenant relationship. It

was decided to reinstate a flying field location committee. As club president I am automatically on this committee. Tim Baird has also volunteered. As in the past we know finding a new location requires a club wide effort to be successful. Please keep your eyes and

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### March 12th Meeting Minutes — Tim Baird

The March meeting was called to order by President Bryan Reightley at 6:30 pm.

Bryan introduced the officers:

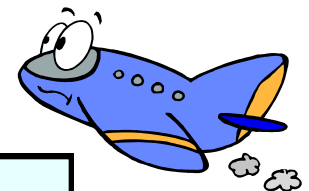
- **President** - Bryan Reightley
- **Vice President** – Brian Richardson
- **Secretary** – Tim Baird
- **Treasurer** – Ron Swift
- **Safety Officer** – Vince Bell
- **Field Manager** - Jay Bell – not pre-

sent

- **Newsletter Editor** – Ron Swift
- **Webmaster** – Ron Rueter – out of town for the winter

**Visitors and New Members** – Richard Glenn came to our meeting for the first time and joined on the spot. Welcome Richard.

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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



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

doors open for opportunities we can pursue.

As our first year of flying at our present field comes to a close we have some decisions to make before our rent is due in May. Feelings and opinions run deep regarding our situation. What direction we take will likely be decided during the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please plan to join us.

See you on the flight line,

Bryan Reightley



*(Continued from page 1)*

## Officers' Reports

**Secretary** – Tim Baird announced that we had 29 members as of the start of the meeting. He then solicited comment on last month's minutes. None were offered. A motion was entered to accept them as they were published. This was seconded and unanimously accepted.

**Vice President**– Brian Richardson handed out a flyer listing this coming year's events then reviewed it with the members present. The first will be the Builders Competition at the May meeting at our field. The next one will be the Open House and Charity Auction on June 8<sup>th</sup>. More events will be posted in the newsletter and on the web.

**Treasurer** – Ron Swift reported that we have enough funds in hand to last the year. The treasury is in good shape.

**Safety Officer** - Vince Bell reported that we had an airplane come down on Highway 2 recently. The plane had hit a tree and came to earth in the highway. We all need to watch and avoid flying behind the pits.

**Field Manager** - Jay Bell was unavailable this evening, so Bryan presented the field report in his absence. The field is in good shape. Even access to the field is fine with the obvious exception of the gates.

**Newsletter Editor** - Ron Swift has hard copies of the newsletter if anybody needs or wants one. Please submit your photos to be published in the newsletter.

**Webmaster** – Ron Rueter is still out of town for a couple more months. A couple of members mentioned they were having issues opening the newsletter from the website.

## Announcements

The Leader Club summary form has been submitted. Bryan has copies of the form if anybody is interested in reviewing it.

## Old Business

The AMA Site Grant Application has been submitted to Mike Mosbrooker, the District 11 VP. The club's expenditures for developing the field currently total \$7078. We have requested The Max grant of 10% or \$707. Mike has approved our application and forwarded it off to AMA headquarters. Now we just wait and see what happens.

Thank you, Chet, for suggesting the survey. The board got together and refined the survey to focus more on our club and its challenges. This was posted by Ron Rueter on our website and we had a rather good response to the request to fill it out. Not only did our clubs' members, both past and present, fill out the survey, but many also provided comments that helped as well.

## New Business

It is clear from the results of the survey that all who have used the field find it to be quite usable but not all members have tried flying at the field and some have chosen to leave the club due to the issues with the field, both real and perceived, and our landlord.

'The thing to remember', says Bryan, 'is that as long as we rent, we will have issues with our landlord.'

We have 4 areas we wish to speak to now that we

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have gotten from the results of the survey:

#### **On the positive Side:**

There seems to be abundant interest in the club and its future direction as out of a current member list of 50 we had 28 people who successfully submitted responses to the survey. Even more said they thought they had submitted their responses but did not see their comments in the results handed out to the attendees. Several found out through conversation at the meeting that their responses were not submitted. This seems to be a high percentage of members who participated.

The board was also encouraged to find no real surprises in the survey results. We seem to be focusing our attention on the same issues that the results suggest need attention.

#### **We have some opportunities for improvement:**

We can and need to improve ingress and egress access for the field. Not everybody has the physical ability to get out of the car and open and close so many gates. The infield itself is too uneven and challenging for some of our members.

We can provide more service to the club by attending and participating in the organized work parties, and to each other. Don't be afraid to offer a helping hand or positive advice.

The landscaping can be improved. The current trees have been problems and the barren, unevenness of the infield is an eyesore and causes problems for some of our members.

We can work on improving the relationship with our landlord.

In general we need to improve our field, or find a new one.

#### **Recommendations for actions:**

See if we can strike a deal with our landlord to keep using the field for the next year, rent-free, with the agreement that we will be out by May of next year.

Form a committee to find a new field, preferably one that will not need as much improvement to be usable for flying.

Move to 2.4GHz radio equipment as our standard so that we have more viable locations to investigate. AMA standard is 3 miles separation from any other club using 72MHz frequencies or organize with the other club to use even vs. odd channels.

Tweak the survey to tighten the focus, based on results of this first survey, and post another one.

#### **Board plans going forward:**

We are forming a Committee to find a new field. By default, based on the club by-laws, our club president is in any committee formed. The committee should be populated by members local to a central area for all members. Tim Baird has also volun-

teered to be on the committee. As no one else volunteered at the meeting, Bryan is expecting to tap certain members to serve on the committee.

We are going to investigate the possibility of using the Cascade Family Flyers' field, in Snohomish, at least as an interim field while trying to find another one. The owner of the field for the Cascade Family Flyers really wants to have an AMA sanctioned club using his field and has seemed motivated to get the Barnyard Buzzards to be that club.

To that end we are going to work towards an organized, single day outing for the club, to go fly at that field, to check it out, and to gauge the club's interest in the field.

#### **Discussion from membership:**

What does it mean to "Get along better with the landlord"? Our circumstances have not changed, hers have.

If her plans for "H3" falls through, then a lot of our problems will "go away". But if they work out as she hopes, we will have no choice but to cease all operations at this field and find a new one.

"H3" is her hope and focus and she currently sees us as 'in her way'.

It was, once again, suggested that we prepare a list of improvements we have made that brought value to her and her property then approach her with this list in hand to discuss our future.

We have to find a way for her to see how the current situation is unacceptable and clarify our intentions for the future use of the field.

If we do approach her with the suggestion to use the field for the next year rent-free and be gone by the end of that year, will this affect our use of the field for that year or will our situation get worse?

Bryan informed us that she was going to be out of town for the latter portion of March which prompted the question of whether she was going to lock us out, once again, while she is gone.

In the end we all seemed to agree that we really must find a new field sooner rather than later. The search for a new field will require a commitment of effort for the whole club, not just those on the committee.

#### **Program:**

There was no program this month.

The meeting officially adjourned at 7:58 PM.

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 9th, 2013, at Alf's Pizza in Monroe at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Tim Baird, Secretary.



# Photos for Fun



Tim and his daughter Julia in the pits.



Jim, Tim and guest who stopped by as we were flying!





# Safety Corner



When there are several fliers **PLEASE** everyone, use the same traffic pattern except in an emergency. Most pilots seem to prefer the right to left pattern, wind permitting of course. So on a nice calm day, take-off and land from the right. Of course when there are only two or three fliers, get a consensus as to the pattern on a calm day. It is a good idea to keep up your landing proficiency from either direction. The last few Saturdays I have been at the field the wind was constantly shifting directions so you might take off one way and need to land the opposite way. It is good to know that you can do this without getting stressed out and flub the landing.

Another thing, before you **carry** your airplane to the runway for take-off, look around and get the feel for the traffic situation. **Landing traffic always has the right-of-way.** If you are near a running engine, it is impossible to hear another pilot calling out his landing, so look around for landing traffic. Also, use the pilot station. We have four of them for a reason. Maximum of 4 planes in the air at a time (Club rule).

I have said this a million times 'always use common sense when around a running engine'.

Never pick up a running plane from the front.... One of our members did just that and was lucky to get away with a small cut on his arm from the prop. I asked Chet to demo this, but he wouldn't do it with the engine running!



The picture on the top is how **not** to pick your airplane up off the table, the picture below is a much safer method.



UNTIL NEXT TIME, BE SAFE BE COURTEOUS  
Vince Bell, Safety Officer



Jim Reynolds demonstrating correct use of the pilot station (we have 4 at our new field).



## Builders Competition

The new Builders Competition is now underway for 2013! We hope more of you guys will participate for the judging on May 14, 2013. Even previously entered models that have never been judged can be entered! Some additional questions were asked and here are the responses!

### Who:

All members of the Barnyard Buzzards Club in good standing (dues paid).

### When:

Starts immediately after the judging of the current contest. Judging will be done during our club meeting in May by the appointed judges. The May meeting will be at the Club Flying Field.

### Why:

To help encourage building of models, build camaraderie, and recognize our skilled builders. (Also, some of us need to restock the hangar).

### WIIFM (What's in it for me?)

Unbelievable prestige and worldwide recognition for modeling prowess. R/C Corporate sponsorship and contracts are again possible. Recruiters will be at the May meeting to observe the judging and awards presentation. And unbelievable prizes will be awarded.

### Does It Have to Fly (Before Judging):

No, but extra bonus points are awarded to the models that are flown!

### Categories and Judging:

Two are suggested:

☺ ARF

☺ Scratch/Kit

A special award will be presented by the Board of Directors for the most technically innovative model (special electronics, CO2, rubber power, diesel, jet, canard, ornothopter, rotary wing, etc). If you bring it, we'll judge it!

### Entry Fee and Qualification Details:

So, you ask what's this going to cost? Well, entry fee is \$10.00 per model. Model-

ers can submit more than one model. Each entry (model) not must be started prior to submitting the entry fee (no need to bring the plan, kit, etc. to the club meeting ). Call Rick Hanners if you cannot attend a meeting and arrangements will be made. Entries are accepted by the club secretary anytime.

### Other Questions:

Answers to questions covering any details not expressly covered by this document can be asked during any club meeting or through Vince Bell and the other judges who will confer with each other and respond.

## Open House & Charity Auction

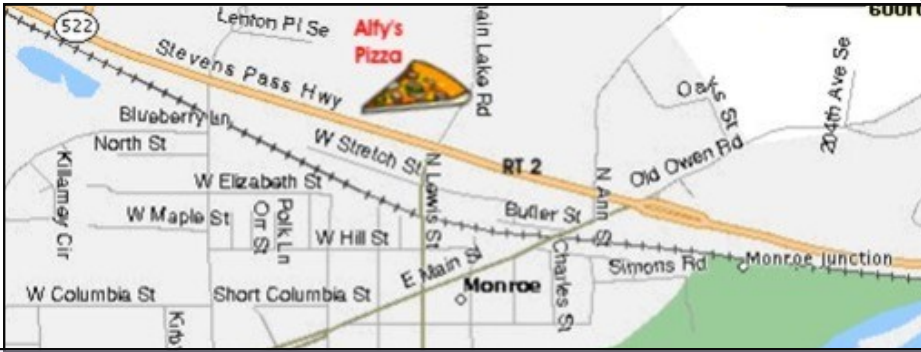
**Saturday, June 8th**  
**at our club field, 9AM-3PM**  
 Along RT2 on Fern Bluff Road, ~ 4 miles east of Monroe

We welcome all AMA members to fly their 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!

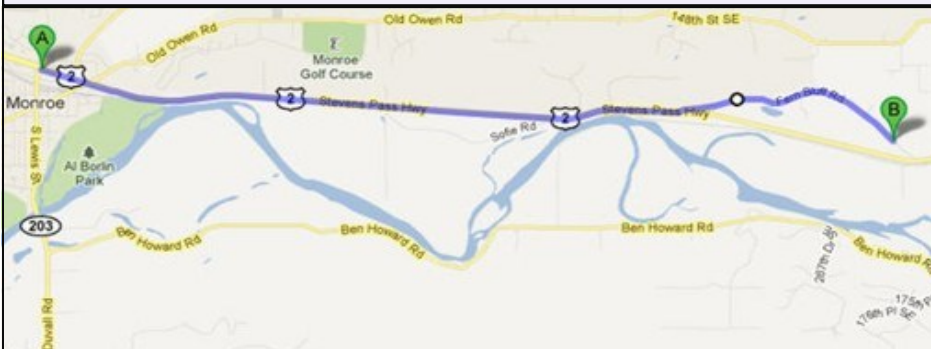
Please contact Ron Swift with any questions (425) 788-6045.



# 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 Alfys 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.

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 <http://www.bbmac.net> 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:

- Vince Bell 425 788-2456
- Ron Swift 425 788-6045



### Upcoming Meetings

<b>Meetings begin at 6:30 PM</b>	
<b>2nd Tuesday</b>	
April 9	Alfy's Pizza
May 14	Club Field
June 11	Club Field
July 9	Club Field
August 13	Club Field
September 10	Club Field

### 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!)



Next meeting, **Tuesday April 9, 6:30 PM** at Alf's Pizza along Route 2 in Monroe (see page 7).

Program: **Repairing a fiberglass cowl**



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



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**Your photos and articles can be added here when you send them to Ron.**