



# 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.

**May 2021**  
**Volume 29 Issue 5**

## Barnyard Buzzards

Model Airplane Club

AMA Chapter 2953  
Monroe, Washington

Our May 2021 Club Meeting will be held **Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM** online through Zoom. This is in keeping with the guidance from the medical profession, scientists, and government for gatherings of larger groups. We hope that we get way beyond phase 3 soon and can have our usual club meetings.

**Program: We might share a crash video online—stuff we hope to never experience personally. Still we may learn some new safety steps.**



### President's Message — Mark Weeks

Hey Buzzards,

This month we are having a club first. We were forced to postpone our Spring Night Fly due to heavy rain in the forecast and during our reschedule discussion, the idea was brought up to have the Night Fly on the same day as our

Glider Event. It sounded like a good idea, so we are going to give it a try. On May 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM we will have the Glider Event. Then at 6:30 PM the Night Fly event will commence. Both events

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### April 24th Meeting Minutes—Ron Swift

An upgrade to ZOOM caused an issue with the emailed connection information. An updated link, phone number and access code were sent to the club members and guests minutes prior to the meeting. Ron Swift, Club Secretary, apologized for the confusion. For future ZOOM meetings he will check and verify the connection info no later than 15 minutes before the club meeting is to start.

President Mark Weeks called the meeting to order on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:32 PM and introduced the current club officers for 2021

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Club Officers and Contacts

President: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

Vice President: Bryan Reightley (206) 940-0638

Secretary: Ron Swift (425) 788-6045

Treasurer: Dart Sharp (425) 923-6989

Safety Officer: Chet Blake (360) 863-2953

Webmaster: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

Field: Bryan Reightley (206) 940-0638 / Jay Bell (206) 234-7786      Newsletter Editor: Ron Swift (425) 788-6045



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

have been a huge hit in the past and I would expect the same again this year. There has even been a rumor that a former member might make an appearance at the events!

Jay spread a round of moss killer on the runway a couple of weeks ago and it is doing its job. The other day he enlisted Chet and they applied a round of lawn fertilizer to get things greened up and off to a good start to the growing season. The runway sure is looking good and is making for a great runway.

I want to remind everyone to do a good preflight and to cycle your batteries. I took one of my glow planes out to the field last weekend. During my preflight I found a loose engine mounting bolt. That was an easy fix with my newly stocked flight box. I filled the tank, plugged in the igniter and started up the engine. As I was getting ready to set the plane on the runway, I gave the controls one last wiggle and noticed I had no throttle. I shut everything down and

started checking everything out. What I found was that my flight pack battery was low. I had done a charge the night before but I did not do any cycling since last year. I am hoping that was the problem and running a charge/discharge cycle a couple of times I will feel much more comfortable. This is also a good time to check your fuel lines, too. They can get hard and crack over the winter and swell and get loose, causing air to get into the fuel flow. This is something we all know is not a good idea.

Hope everyone has a great May and hope you get some good quality flying in.

See ya at the field.

Mark Weeks



Vice President – Bryan Reightley  
 Safety Officer – Chet Blake  
 Secretary – Ron Swift  
 Treasurer – Dart Sharp – NOT PRESENT  
 President – Mark Weeks himself

Presidential Comments/Introduction:

7 Club Members were in attendance and two special guests, Don Bailey and Doug Hoff.

Requested a motion to accept minutes as posted – Chet brought up that in the newsletter Safety Column, the word clevises got changed to crevices, but the minutes were fine as published. A Motion was made to approve the minutes as published, seconded, asked for comments, suggestions, corrections, there were none and the motion passed unanimously.

## OFFICER REPORTS:

**Vice President – Bryan Reightley**

Been out of town for the 3 weeks

Night Fly hopefully next week

San-i-cans (porta potties) have been cleaned

**Secretary – Ron Swift**

Our active club membership is currently 48.

**Treasurer – Dart Sharp.**

We're doing good

Paid Honey Bucket for the Port-i-Potty service

Our savings and checking accounts are in the green and up-to-date

**Safety Officer – Chet Blake**

I guess we're doin' OK, no one died, but a close call. Chet asked Ron Swift for the *missing pilot/911 call* story.

Ron called 911 for a missing pilot who was searching for his plane. A second trip to find it resulted in his missing from sight for over 3 hours. Some details:

The pilot had my cell phone but didn't know how to use it

We were using John Rennert's phone to call for status

The pilot's hearing aid batteries failed while he was searching

He did not hear us honking horns or calling his name  
 He didn't hear the cell phone either

He called Sandy (my wife) in an attempt to communicate, but called the home phone – not John's cell phone

The pilot got turned around and likely travelled way too far



(Continued from page 2)

out and in the wrong location/  
direction

Having walked for a L O N G time he  
laid down and rested – out of  
sight

After finally seeing him coming back,  
Ron call 911 to cancel the search  
& rescue team

The pilot made it to the road after a  
half hour more and laid down by  
the side of the road to recover.

Both Ron and the pilot suffered mas-  
sive leg cramps that night from  
the search excursion

A long discussion ensued about things we  
could do to avoid this issue or at least  
minimize the danger:

A motion was made, seconded and  
unanimously passed to purchase  
two walkie talkies with chargers.

Steve will look into power for using  
the chargers for these.

Possibly have a colorful ball on the  
ends of the walking sticks – men-  
tioned was the height of the  
swamp growth towered 10 feet or  
more so a color ball wouldn't be  
as useful.

Putting together a suggested proce-  
dure for model recovery to add to  
the Field Safety Rules

The pilot's wife bought the pilot a cell  
phone and instructions for using  
it. [Next we need to check the  
contact numbers he has .]

Other than that experience, things are going  
pretty well [*from a field safety viewpoint*]

Chet commented that when retrieving our  
models, we should have a watcher or  
watchers.

#### **Field Manager – Bryan Reightley**

Bryan reported on the following projects:

San-i-cans were emptied and re-  
charged

Moss killer and fertilizer were planned  
to be spread on the field

From Chet – message from Jay

Called Friday – had spread the moss  
killer – fertilizer still to be done

Mower signup app and pro-  
cess to be discussed un-  
der new business...

#### **Newsletter Editor – Ron Swift**

According to Ryan at the corner store, the  
newsletter is still being picked up like  
hotcakes – 20 more copies were taken  
to the store.

A weather station and web page were dis-  
cussed with the store owner, Ryan. He  
is willing to put the station up on a  
weekend when ready. Ron volunteered  
to provide the Raspberry Pi, the python  
program and the weather station with  
display. Ryan will have a webpage cre-  
ated from Ron's database and html  
code for displaying the data

Please send photos, opinions about kits, pieces  
parts & models, articles, etc. to [ron-  
swift@cablespeed.com](mailto:ron-swift@cablespeed.com) for the newsletter – Thank  
you!

Sandy is looking for a handicap version of  
an outhouse for the field, hopefully a  
donation... New ones cost over \$2000!  
More later.

#### **Website – Mark Weeks**

Same request as the newsletter for use on  
our website.

If you see an interesting article drop me a  
link and I'll post it.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mark mentioned that once again there was no new  
action of past business items and the attending  
club members already passed the meeting  
minutes as published. So, we'll move on to new  
business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mostly discussion and helpful  
sharing:**

**Gate Code** – As of today [April 24<sup>th</sup>] the gate  
code has been changed. Ron will send the

(Continued on page 5)



# Safety Corner

By Chet Blake

Hey Fellow Buzzards and Friends!

So one of the largest Safety Concerns we've talked about for years is finally gone. The barn was reduced to near match stick sized pieces and hauled away. The only concern left with that area is the sharp fall off where the west wall was. I've heard that the Scouts want to back fill the area, but that might be awhile before it is completed. I'm suggesting we make some saw horses or the like to put along the bank with caution tape strung between them to warn those who might back in that area to turn around especially when parking up on the hill by the track and tank pit. The Scouts can easily move them when needed to do their back fill.

On a different subject, here are a couple pics. In one you see a member taking a probing pole with him to check for deep ravines and ESPECIALLY this.. He didn't go ALONE. Fellow members and friends stood by in case he got into trouble. Always have a friend watching or wait until someone is available to be there with you, if necessary. The cost of that aircraft is nothing compared to your life. Mark and Jay had a special retrieval that I'll ask him to talk about at the meeting.

By the way, there is a pair of hip boots in the

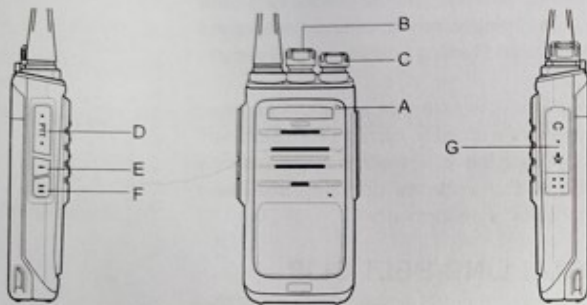
container if you need to go into the deep water. The other pic is how wet our field is just off the runway. 'IF' you need to go out there, take a sturdy probe and don't be complacent with what appears to be shallow water. There are deep holes when it's this wet.

Here's some good stuff... I counted 17 robins on the field this morning. I think we're heading the right way 😊

See ya at the Field,  
Chet



## GETTING AC QUAIETED



- A. Led Indicator**— The LED indicator lights continuously red when transmitting. And lights green when in reception condition.
- B. Channel Switch**—Rotate it to select the channel. No.16 channel is scanning channel.
- C. POWER SWITCH/VOLUME CONTROL**  
Turn clockwise to switch ON the transceiver.  
Turn counterclockwise fully to switch OFF the transceiver. Rotate to adjust the volume.
- D. PTT (PUSH-TO-TALK) BUTTON**  
Press this button, then speak into the microphone to call a station. Release to receive a call.
- E. MONITOR BUTTON**  
Press and hold (Squelch OFF) to hear the background noise; Release to return to normal operation.
- F. FUNCTION KEY**—Just press to activate the torch function.
- G. SPEAKER/MICROPHONE JACKS**

## OPERATION

### SWITCHING POWER ON/OFF

Turn the power switch/volume control clockwise. You will hear a beep and speech, indicating the transceiver is ON.

### ADJUSTING THE VOLUME

Hold Monitor button down to listen to audio level while rotating the Power switch/Volume control. Rotate clockwise to increase and counterclockwise to decrease volume.

### SELECTING THE CHANNEL

Turn the channel switch to select your desired channel. NO.16 is Scanning Channel.

### TRANSMITTING

To transmit, press and hold [ PTT ] and speak into the microphone in your normal tone of voice.

The LED indicator lights continuously red when transmitting.

To maximize sound clarity at the receiving station, hold the transceiver 2 to 3 inches from mouth and talk in normal tone of voice.

Here are the instructions for using the walkie talkies that Chet suggested and the club is buying. A safety net for searching for downed aircraft. On [page 6](#), he has photos for using the volume control, selecting frequency and the PTT (Push-to-talk) button.



new gate code to the members following this meeting. Some discussion about getting the code to the dirt guy and the rangers. Bryan will take care of checking into this.

**Dirt** – the Scouts are bringing in dirt to balance the bank off. Should be really nice on the upper level!

**Work Party May 1<sup>st</sup>** - Cancelled until the weather settles down. We want to do some dragging and leveling to save gravel and use it wisely. So the work party is postponed until later in the year. It was pointed out that the field is in really good shape and we're flying when the weather cooperates. No major things really need to be done now. No pressing changes for now.

**Night Fly Cancelled** – Weather prevented the club meeting and the Night Fly from happening at our field today. May 1<sup>st</sup> looks like 48% rain possibility. We talked about possible changes and settled on combining the glider event and the Night Fly. Looks like that's the plan. Gliders in the AM, lunch and Night Fly later that day May 15<sup>th</sup>!

**Lawn Mowing** – Jay put up the lawn mowing schedule again. Normal mowing for those who signed up via Jay's sign-up list: Mow the field, grassy area around and under the awnings, area from the north end of the runway to the main gate. Weed whack the area around frequency board, and the concrete awning blocks.

Optional Extra mowing: Use the Cub Cadet mower for the Upper area, south of the runway (only when area dries out) and the roadside

Recommended mowing Wednesday through Friday (when weather permits) so the field is ready for the weekend.

**Please sign up for mowing using this link**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E48A5AD2E5-moving> [yes it does say moving, not mowing, but the link works.] It is also available on our website now!

**Port-a-potties** – If these need servicing please say something. We may have some containers of the blue stuff to be added in the units to help keep the odors and expenses down.

**Walkie Talkies** – Chet recommended using walkie talkies for keeping track of those searching for downed planes. Chet for-

warded info for the walkie talkies and the inverter/converter to Mark for review. Steve mentioned he needed to complete the wiring cleanup of the existing system, but since the power to charge walkie talkies is really low, it should work fine. A motion was made to purchase the walkie talkie system. The motion was seconded with no further discussion and was unanimously passed. Also mentioned – Jay added lights to the storage unit and Steve volunteered to wire them in.

**Marymoor** – Their Club president sent an email mentioning taking care to check their planes to prevent fly aways and other issues. Mark mentioned we should pay more attention to our models considering the upcoming opening of the camp. This includes range checks, having other pilots check over new models before flying them. We don't want any bad press either. A little time checking things over and positive helpful advice go a long way. 'Nuff said!

**Extending ESC Wiring** - Ron Swift mentioned finding info that extending BATTERY leads causes ESC Electrolytic Capacitors to fail prematurely. We will have a presentation at our future club meetings to discuss this. Ron purchased an app that does calculations for the values of added electrolytic capacitors at the ESC – something about 220 mfd per 4-inches added. The changed lengths of the battery leads apparently caused many of Ron's (and others he worked on) ESC's to fail – some during flight!

**Failsafe Settings** – Don shared some info about failsafe settings for our field. That would be throttle all the way off, rudder all the way over (either left or right) and flaps fully deployed if available. That would cause the model to come down where it experienced an issue. Other locations could set up for a gentle glide with throttle off... A topic for another program for sure!

**Donated Awning** – Chet and team put the donated (thanks Rick!) awning in the storage container.

**Windsock** – A suggestion was received to add a windsock out to the east midway from the runway. Also, maybe adding a



windsock to the north like the one to the south. Doug mentioned he thinks he has a windsock that belongs to the Buzzards. Also like the Red Apple flyers, at the flight line, a small streamer on a post has worked for them and other fields as well...

**Serving table** – A quick discussion about a semi-permanent serving bar near the frequency board. Maybe a folding plastic table stored behind the frequency board would work OK??? More discussion will ensue for sure.

**Receipts** – A comment about giving Dart receipts even for donated items so we can keep track of what it takes to build and support our field.

**Glider Event CD** – Don respectfully asked not to be the CD for the glider event and recommended that Bryan be the CD. Bryan said he thought he would do it if he is in town, since he won the past events anyway . Don also commented that it is difficult to participate in the event when being the CD and would love to participate this time. And so it will be.

## Announcements/Discussions/Info Sharing.

None

### PROGRAM:

Was to be our Night Fly Event – no time to drum up a replacement program – the meeting was fun enough as it turned out

### ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made for adjourning the meeting. It was quickly seconded and after the unanimous vote, meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Swift  
BBMAC Secretary



Turn it on



Turn it up



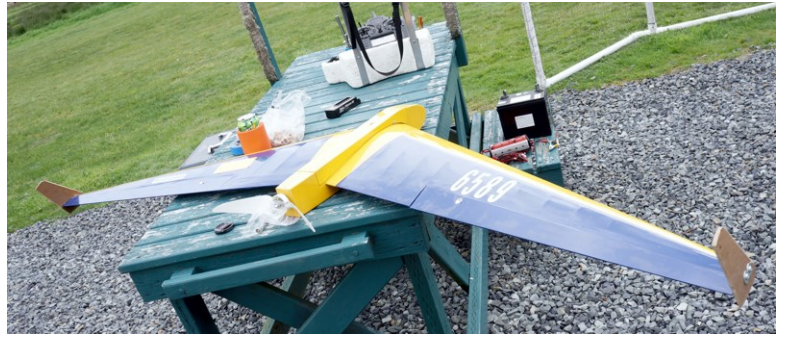
Push to talk - Release to Listen!

Our New Walkie-Talkies!



Fun at our club field.  
Come on out and enjoy the beautiful park like setting.





StratoLaunch Airplane takes a second flight this month.







# Upcoming Events



Our events are open to the public. Active AMA Members can participate, too!

All of our events are open to the public. Those who have an active AMA membership are invited to participate in our events. AMA membership can be obtained online for immediate participation. Face masks, social distancing and all state, county, AMA, and club regulations will be in effect. We love to share safe, fun and challenging experiences. Ask any member if you have questions... Events start at 10:00 AM unless otherwise indicated. Meals usually are available at lunchtime and we have a donation can to help with the event costs.

Event	Dates	Event Information
Gliders (Chasing Terrmals)	May 15, 2021	Bryan Reightley will be the Contest Director! This event features a coaching/training session starting at 10:00 AM and with competition events following. Unbelievable prizes for first, second and third places.
Night Fly #1	May 15, 2021	Rescheduled from April 24th. Again it is time to test your Night vision. Drones, helis, fixed wings, rc cars, tanks, what have you. Lights galore. We will have food and beverages available and this event starts at 6:30 PM. The event will take us into the twilight for sure!
Boats & Floats #1	June 5, 2021	On or Above the Water - Great time at Lake Hughes! Rumor has it that there will be at least one submarine with the usual speed boats, sail boats, barges, float planes, quads on floats and more! Come on out. A rescue canoe and/or row boat will be at the dock location.
Builders Contest	June 9, 2021	Share what you built over the year during our June 9th club meeting. A presentation of your model's specs, building advice, the challenges, pluses and minuses all factor into choosing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. A plus if the model has been run, flown, etc.
Heli Day	June 29, 2021	Join Paul Dibble and Dart Sharp in training, competitive flying events and air shows. Auto rotation, inverted flight, tick-tock and loads of other stuff to show off the rotary wing model's prowess.
Fun Fly	July 17, 2021	Traditionally, any pilot can win this event. Luck, skill and great food are featured. Last year we had a nilot's raffle with kits awarded to 1st 2nd



# 2021 Barnyard Buzzards Model Airplane Club (BBMAC) Membership Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA # \_\_\_\_\_ FAA ID \_\_\_\_\_

RC Frequencies  2.4 GHz  72 MHz  50 MHz  27 MHz  5.8 GHz

Modeling Experience (including other current and previous club memberships)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Interest / Skills:**

- Building  Flying  Electronics  Covering  Painting
- Teaching  Contest Director  Contest Judge
- Design/Experimental  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Flying/Modeling Types:**

- Sport Flying  Pattern  Helicopters  Events and Competition
- Crawlers  Tanks  RC Vehicles  Boats and Water Flying
- Drones/Quads/FPV  Gliders  Scale

Annual Full Membership is \$90.00  
\$45.00 for Family member  
\$25.00 for Student (under 18)

Please mail your check and a copy of your current AMA membership to: Ron Swift (Club Secretary)  
16325 315<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Duvall, WA 98019

[Ronswift@cablespeed.com](mailto:Ronswift@cablespeed.com)

Thank you for your interest!

By accepting membership, I hereby agree to abide by the rules, By-Laws, and regulations governing club flying and related activities and will maintain current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) for as long as I actively participate in said activities with this club.

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 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

## Barnyard Buzzard's Club Meeting

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 Roesinger Road. Turn right at Monroe Camp Road, (Lake Roesinger Store will be on the left). In about a mile, the road will fork again, stay straight. After a short distance you will see the Red Barn and our gate. Our parking is past the gate on the East side of the barn. It seems complicated, but once you come out, you'll see it is an easy drive...

Due to the virus conditions and common sense, the meeting for the near future will be held at our club field. Please check our website <http://www.bbmac.net>, email from our club secretary, and our club newsletter.

As it stands today, Alf's Pizza is closed for meetings. This could change in May. Stay tuned!

We are looking forward to the future where normal club meetings and flying will occur!

### Upcoming Meetings

Meetings begin at 6:30 PM

May 12th at 6:30. - ZOOM Meeting You can use your PC/Laptop, tablet, cell or telephone

Alf's Pizza may open on Tuesdays and we hope to meet there again!



# 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:

- Chet Blake (360) 863-2953
- Paul Dibble (425) 359-1808
- Ron Swift (425) 788-6045





**Next meeting: May 12 6:30 PM Meeting on ZOOM!**  
**Program: We might share a crash video online.**



**BBMAC**  
16325 315th Ave. NE  
Duvall, WA 98019

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



Ron & Sandy

**NW Model Hobby Expo—NWMHE.COM—**  
**October 30 & 31, 2021. Yep, Halloween weekend!**  
**We're making this happen. Visit our website for**  
**more information and highlights! [https://](https://www.nwmhe.com)**  
**[www.nwmhe.com](https://www.nwmhe.com) Level 3 here we come.**

## **HobbyTown USA**

1130 SE Everett Mall Way, Suite F  
Everett, WA 98208

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



Sandy DuVall, Owner

425-765-1546 - c  
sandyd@cablespeed.com  
[www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com](http://www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com)

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## **HobbyTown USA**

16421 Cleveland St, Redmond, WA  
98052

Phone:  
(425) 558-0312

