



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.

June 2011
Volume 18 Issue 6

Barnyard Buzzards Model Airplane Club

AMA Chapter 2953
Monroe, Washington



See Page 4

Next Club Meeting is **Tuesday, June 14, 2010, 6:30 PM** at our club field in Monroe (See page 9 for a map).

Program: Annual Charity Auction and Fund Raiser

President's Message — Bryan Reightley

Buzzards and Friends,

The annual BBMAC charity auction and fund raiser will once again follow our June monthly business meeting. I promise to keep the meeting short so everyone will have plenty of time to bid on their favorite items. Please keep in mind a short meeting also gives others time to run the bidding up,

but that's OK because it is all for a good cause. And, don't forget there are four methods of participation in this event. They include choosing to donate items (how to make room in your hanger), bidding on items (how to fill up your hanger), both donate and bid on items

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May 10th Meeting Minutes — Vaughan Houger

This was the first meeting of the year out at the flying field. The builders' contest was also a part of this session.

President Bryan Reightley called the meeting to order at 6:37 P.M. He went through the list of officers:

- President – Bryan Reightley
- Vice President – Jim Reynolds

- Treasurer – Rick Hanners
 - Secretary – Vaughan Houger
 - Field Safety Officer – Vince Bell
 - Newsletter Editor & Webmaster – Ron Swift
 - Field Manager – Jay Bell
- We did have a couple of visitors, Alan and his wife Sharon. Al was

(Continued on page 2)



Club Officers and Contacts

President: Bryan Reightley (360) 668-6075

Vice President: Jim Reynolds (360) 435-9662

Secretary: Vaughan Houger (425) 788-8616

Treasurer: Rick Hanners (360) 668-1312

Safety Officer: Vince Bell (425) 788-2456

Newsletter & Website: Ron Swift (425) 788-6045

Field Manager: Jay Bell (425) 788-4831



(President's Message continued from page 1)

(how to restock your hanger) and finally just donate some cash (many members have done this in the past!).

If your busy schedule doesn't always allow you to make our meetings then start planning to attend now, because this is not one to miss. Ron Swift does a great job as auctioneer/entertainer. He's even been known to share a bit of his staggering wealth of RC aviation knowledge. If you need a good excuse to participate, make a note on your calendar as this will be an educational event. How is that you ask? The reason is simple. By the end of the evening I guarantee you will learn from Ron some useful tidbit regarding an item up for bid you didn't even know existed before that night. Trust me!

Getting back on track, as new business in June I plan to propose several items. The first is the inclusion of "Show and Tell" as a regular part of our monthly meetings. The second, and third, are two ideas I've been kicking around as new BBMAC annual competitions. I

won't reveal them just yet, but I will give some hints. Consider what competitions with the names "Grateful Dead" and "That will never fly" may be all about. If you're not sure...wing it. *(Sorry...no pun intended)*. I will share my thoughts at the June meeting.

See you at the field,

Bryan



(Continued from page 1)

expected to join the club.

A motion was made to accept the April meeting minutes. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.

Officers' Reports

Secretary –Vaughan Houger reported 57 members are in the club.

Vice President – Jim Reynolds reported the events coming up for the year. (You can see these on-line at our Barnyard-Buzzards.com web site.) In June is our charity auction (Tuesday, June 14, 6:30 to 8:30 PM).

Treasurer – Rick Hanners reported that financially we're in good shape.

Newsletter editor / Web master– Ron Swift requested photos, articles, or events from other clubs that members are aware of to be added to the monthly newsletter. One example was the recent NW Electric Fliers event. President Bry-

an commented on his visit to this event. There were no rules posted and/or enforced. Bryan contrasted how much more pleasant the Buzzards club is by being organized; possessing and enforcing rules.

Old Business

Bryan then called for old business:

Visitors: Continue to be mindful of visitors.

Weather Station: Jack Peel (not here to lead a conversation).

No-fly zone: Be mindful of the house at the East end of the run way; where the arrow and pole are located; take appropriate action to line up landing approaches with these land marks in mind.

New Business – None

Evening Program – builders' contest

The winners are as follows:

People's choice: Luke Shegrud with his L-4

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

ARF category:

1st place Rick Hanners with his T-33

2nd place Luke Shegrud with his L-4

3rd place Kim Volz with his Bobcat

Kit category:

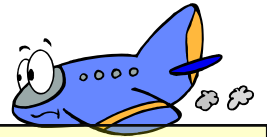
1st place Rick Hanners with his Autogyro.

Congratulations to all 6 members who entered!

The meeting adjourned at around 8:30 P.M. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 14, 2011, at our flying field in Monroe at 6:30 P.M.

The club newsletter is available on-line. If you still want to receive a "hard" copy, please, contact Ron Swift (425-788-6045).

Safety Corner



Again time has caught up with me and Ron has had to remind me that it is time for the monthly newsletter. I don't know how Ron does it month after month. **Thanks Ron.**

I hope that everyone is taking care of their equipment making sure the batteries are up to snuff and everything is tight that should be and things that should move do. We'll make this very short this month. I think it nearly says it all...

SAFETY AIN'T AN ACCIDENT

TILL NEXT TIME, BE SAFE BE COURTEOUS

Vince Bell, SO

Castle Creations ESC Arming Tip - Rick Hanners

One of the things that has always annoyed me about a Castle ESC is the auto calibration routine for the throttle. Don't get me wrong, I want to use the full range of the throttle stick, but the "standard" Castle routine to set it up is annoying and not something I always want to do. Basically, what they have you do is put your throttle stick at low stick, plug in the battery, you hear the cell count and arming sound. At this point the low throttle stick position is memorized. Now to memorize the high throttle stick position you are supposed to run the motor up to full throttle for 2 – 3 seconds and then go back to the off position. You have now calibrated the ESC throttle travel for both the low and high positions.

What I don't like is having to run the motor up to full bore while I have to restrain the model. Now of course, you could just fly the model and have the "calibration" done while in the air, but I'm not a big fan of that either (personal preference).

Recently I ran across a better technique for setting the end points. I hadn't realized this could be done till I tried it and it does work. Basically, this is what you do. Put your throttle stick at **HALF THROTTLE**. Now plug in the battery and you should hear the cell count tones. Then move your throttle stick to **FULL THROTTLE**. You will hear a series of tones. At this point the ESC has memorized the High throttle stick position AND the motor is not running. Now move the throttle stick to Low Throttle, you will hear a series of tones followed by the arming sequence tones. The ESC has now memorized the Low Throttle stick position. All this has been done WITHOUT once having the motor spin. At this point, go fly.

I've tried this technique on all the Castle ESC's that I've got installed in aircraft and it has worked on all of them, even the one ESC that I have programmed for Fixed Endpoints, rather than being auto calibrated. I now use this startup routine for all the electric aircraft that Castle ESC's are installed in. Try it, you might like it.



Buzzard's Charity Auction



Charity Auction

June 14th 6:30 PM—dark

At our club flying field located in Monroe, south of the Lewis Street Bridge - just off Route 203 on 168th St. SE, 1/2 mile east of Rt 203 on the north side of the street.

The Buzzards have donated to various charitable organizations, as an active service club in our community. We have donated over \$7000.00 so far.

Our official charity program started in 2006 with a suggestion from Dave Bell, to auction a plane he built and give the proceeds to the Children's Hospital. The club voted on and passed a motion to support this event and to have an annual event.

Since then, we have donated to the Children's Hospital, The Veterans Association - Special Olympics Program and the local Hopelink. In the past four years, we have donated over \$7000. You can read more about our contributions here: <http://www.barnyard-buzzards.com/Charity/index.htm>. Instead of patting ourselves on the back for the progress we have made, we are discussing ways to make this area of our community involvement even more successful, so we can contribute even more in 2011!

Many members donate directly to the charity of their choice. For those who want to support the club project, we will graciously accept donations anytime during the year for our charity auction (cash or items). **The donations are tax deductible.**

Your donations of new and used RC planes, kits, tools and stuff we barely remember what it was used for will bring the cash and fun to our auction. All of the donations over the years are much appreciated. **We can use anything you think to bring for us to auction.** Please check your shop for items that you no longer use or need a new home and consider donating these. **No item will be refused.** Even baked goods (new this year) will be auctioned! But, if the item doesn't sell, we ask that you take it home with you!

You can invite your friends and neighbors to our meeting and auction, too. The more folks we have bidding on these items, the more we can give to our club Charities. In these tough times, these donations go a long way to help many in our community.

Sandy will be cooking at the grill for our meeting and there will be hotdogs and hamburgs, chips, and cold beverages available. The proceeds will go to the charity fund as well.

On Tuesday, June 14th, the auction will begin once our short business meeting ends (around 7:00 PM)





Builder's Competition



ARF category:

- 1st place Rick Hanners with his T-33
- 2nd place Luke Shegrud with his L-4
- 3rd place Kim Volz with his Bobcat

Kit category:

1st place Rick Hanners with his Autogyro.
 Congratulations to all 6 members who entered!



Photos for Fun





Barnyard Buzzards Events

2011 Events

Our events are **open to the public** and you are welcome to come out to watch the events and talk with our pilots. All current AMA members are welcome to participate in the competitive events and our Open House.

We have food available at each of our events for a nominal charge. Lunch normally starts by 11:30 AM.

Also, we host a swap meet at each of the events that is open to anyone. Spaces for the swap meet are available on a first come, first served basis. Please bring your own tables (or use your vehicle).

EVENT	DATE & TIME		CONTACT	LOCATION
Club Charity Auction	Tuesday, June 14	6:30 - 8:30 PM	Ron Swift (425) 788-6045	Club Field
Fun Fly	Saturday, July 23 rain date: July 24	10:00am - 3:00pm	Ron Swift (425) 788-6045	Club Field
Open House & Super Swap Meet	Sunday, August 14	10:00am - 3:00pm	Bryan Reightley (360) 863-2953	Club Field
Combat	Sunday, September 11, 2011	10:00am - 3:00pm	Scott Curtis (425) 337-2657	Club Field
Annual Freeze-in	Saturday, January 7, 2012	11am - 2pm	Ron Swift (425) 788-6045	Club Field
Builder Competition	<p>Begins at the end of our May meeting each year and continues until our next May meeting. Bring the model name (photo would be nice!) and entry fee of \$10.00 to enter!!! You can enter as many planes as you want until the May meeting. It adds points if you fly the model prior to the judging. Judging and award presentation will be during our May 10, 2011 meeting at the club field.</p>			

North West MODEL HOBBY EXPO!

See us at the Arlington Fly-In
July 6 - 10 for details visit:
<http://www.nwmhe.com>

The good folks at the Arlington Washington EAA Fly-In have asked that we bring our NW Model Hobby Expo Experience to their event, which is July 6 thru July 10th, 2011.

We accepted their offer to participate.

This is what we have planned so far:

Vendor area which will accommodate 14 spaces in various sizes with fully enclosed tents.

A 100 x 60 foot building with 49 floor tables and 11 wall tables for the swap meet. Each of the ta-

bles will come with a show pass. (Just like the NW Model Hobby Expo we hold in February at the Evergreen Fairgrounds in Monroe)

Swap Meet overflow area outside to handle the large number of swap folks!

Flight line for the duration of the event just outside of the swap meet.

AMA Sanctioned Fun Fly all weekend long-----You will just have to stay under 100 feet which is really quite easy to do... We will have a lot of swapping and flying.



Radio Controlled Airplane Fun Fly July 23

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All current AMA members are
welcome to participate!!!

\$5.00 entry fee, prizes for 1st - 3rd place
Public Invited to watch the fun, FREE!
Food and beverages available, too!

At our club field , 168th St SE in Monroe –
see page 9 in our newsletter.



<http://www.barnyard-buzzards.com>

Contact Ron Swift for details
(425) 788-6045
ronswift@cablespeed.com



Barnyard Buzzard's Club Meeting

Our club meetings are open to the public. Starting in March 2010, 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. We will 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.

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, Vaughn Houger at **425 788-8616**.

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
- Brian Taylor 425 225-5247



Upcoming Meetings

Meetings begin at 6:30 PM
2nd Tuesday

- July 12 Club Field
- August 9 Club Field
- September 13 Club Field
- October 11 Alfy's Pizza
- November 8 Alfy's Pizza
- December 13 Alfy's Pizza
- January 10 Alfy's Pizza

Our Flying Field

The field is located in Monroe on 168th St SE, just north of Ben Howard Rd along Route 203. If the gate is unlocked, feel free to visit! Our web site (<http://www.barnyard-buzzards.com>) has lots of photos of our field.



Next meeting, **Tuesday, June 14, 6:30 PM** at our club field in Monroe (see page 9).

Program: **Annual Club Charity Auction & Fund Raiser**



16325 315th Ave. NE
Duvall, WA 98019

Visit Our Web Page
<http://www.barnyard-buzzards.com>



Store Hours:
10 - 7:30 M-F
10 - 6 Sat
11 - 5 Sun

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