



# 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.

**November 2021**  
**Volume 29 Issue 11**

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

Our Club Meeting will be held **Tuesday November 9<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 ZOOM stuff. Thank you Alfy's! The public is invited as always!

**November's Program: NW Model Hobby Expo Discussion—What did you take home and stories of the ones that got away! The club booth and the swap area.**



Our Annual Club Auction raised \$721.00 this year! We will take the check to the Sky Valley Food Bank.

## President's Message — Mark Weeks

Hello Buzzards,  
It has been a very strange year to say the least. We have had some challenges getting our events to cooperate with the weather or the other way around. Some got canceled and a couple of others were rearranged due to inclement weather. Let's hope that we get a few

breaks so we can get out and fly. I only have November and December left in the year and I will have flown at least once a month for the past three years. Not too bad for a state where they say it's always raining, though hopefully this next year will

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## September 14th Meeting Minutes — Ron Swift

The ZOOM session was started 15 minutes before the club meeting. Ron Swift monitored the ZOOM interface and recorded the meeting for later publishing and sharing.

At 6:30 PM President Mark Weeks called the meeting to order on October 12<sup>th</sup> at **Alfy's Pizza** and introduced the current club officers for 2021:

Safety Officer – Steve Higgins

Treasurer – Dart Sharp  
Vice President – Bryan Reightley (Not present – moving stuff to Anacortes)

Secretary – Ron Swift - on ZOOM  
President – Mark Weeks

### Presidential Comments/ Introduction:

9 Club Members were in attendance and (two through ZOOM). We

## 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: Steve Higgins (206) 790-5840

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)*

be a little more stable for our events.

The NW Model Hobby Expo is coming up this weekend (October 30 & 31). I know it's different than before, but thankfully Ron and Sandy have been persistent in working with the fairgrounds, vendors and swap meet folks to get it scheduled. I am looking forward to spending some time in our booth meeting with prospective members and maybe, just maybe I might pick up a new toy.

At our October meeting nominations opened up for club officers. You are encouraged to throw your name in the hat for any office - training is provided, if needed, and you're always welcome. I have said it in the past and will continue to now, being an officer is a rewarding experience especially with the club

members that we have. If you are apprehensive about nominating yourself, just let someone know and they will gladly do it for you.

As you know, our field is open all year round, so call a couple of your flying buddies and have some fun flying. Maybe take some pictures of your planes and surroundings. I hear some members have flown off water and even snow?? Lots of fun!

See ya at the field,  
Mark Weeks



had one guest, too.

Mark requested a motion to accept minutes as published – A Motion was made to approve the September minutes as published & seconded. He then asked for comments, suggestions, corrections, there were none and the motion passed unanimously.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Vice President – Bryan Reightley - Not here**

Talked to Bryan briefly just before the meeting...

Asked Mark to report on the **Floats & Boats Event**. It was kind of a good event – We had 12 people. Jason brought two submarines. Others brought boats, planes and lots of other interesting models. The weather was spectacular. Ron Beba on the grill with hotdogs, too.

Our club auction – we had many non-members attend this year. Ron placed ads on Craigslist.org, which may have helped this. We'll talk about the financials during new business...

The Night Fly was scheduled to be that night after the auction, but the rain moved in at around 2:30 PM and continued through the night. The event was not cancelled, but we didn't receive info from anyone about attending or flying. No fun for anyone for sure.

**Secretary – Ron Swift**

Our club membership is currently 54. Mike Weisner joined and is now a member.

**Treasurer – Dart Sharp**

We're in the green in all accounts. No bills were received.

**Safety Officer – Steve Higgins**

Over the past weeks, someone crashed and put a hole in one of our shelters. No one owned up to having done this, but it would be our advice to own up to any damage caused by you. We don't want to attack the person, but need to know details and put together a plan to repair or replace our property. Just glad that apparently no one got hurt.

Saturday, a plane got out of control and on a landing attempt, the plane cruised through the pits. Had the pilot not shouted out early and the other pilots paying attention, someone would have gotten hurt. Our planes weight 2 to 40 pounds and can certainly do damage (like our shelter!). The plane came down and hit the burn barrel! There is some risk in what we do.

Someone also clipped the flag pole at the end of our runway, taking down the flags. We need to restore these ASAP. Ron mentioned that he brought some replacement flags and left them in the storage container. [Mark and George repaired the flags and post. We're back in business]

**Field Manager – Bryan Reightley – comments from Bryan to Mark**

Field manager was not at the meeting, but Mark talked to him about getting some fertilizer. We need to get it and put together a plan to put it down on the field. Couldn't remember whether we got 2 or 4 bags last



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year. Chet held up 3 fingers to help us remember. So 3 bags it is...

Chet asked if the mower belt was replaced on "ol' Yeller". Yep, yep. A new belt is on the John Deere now. Both tractors are good to go.

Somebody brought out a bunch of oil for the tractors. Don't know who did this. Ron mentioned he brought out the oil. [Also filled up both gas cans with the ethanol free gasoline.] Brought string for the weed whacker, too. So, there is stuff out there for maintaining the field.

Steve printed out the instructions for using the lights in the container and how to know that the walkie-talkies are charged or not. He plans to move the switch to the front of the container.

Not getting many volunteers to sign up to mow the lawn.

**Newsletter Editor – Ron Swift & Website – Mark Weeks**

If you have some pictures or have something of interest, please jot down something and send it to both Ron and me. You know, see a bear walking by, write it up and send pictures – we need to share this stuff!

The corner store has copies of our newsletter and many read it. It is nice to share what is going on with our neighbors.

Ryan and others came out to the auction and had a good time. You can see an airplane hanging from the ceiling at the store. Stop by and say hi if you have the chance.

Note: Our program tonight is Life Flight info sharing and the Rebuilder's Competition – Mark mentioned sending pictures to Ron for putting in the newsletter. Also we have our annual Rebuilder's Competition.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mark mentioned that the information is already in the meeting minutes that were ratified earlier in our meeting. Everyone read the minutes and agreed with the contents. No additional info or activity has been submitted for these happenings. So, we'll move on to new business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

First thing: Ward has donated the engine from his Miles M20 that crashed when he and Don were flying it. It went down and Chet found it amazingly saw a scrap of yellow using his drone. It was not in that bad of condition. Ward said it needed some work on the ailerons and stuff. Wing loading was too high. Attempted to land at

too low of speed and went down. Anyway, we will post the donated engine and info to sell it for the club.

Auction – we had guests as well as members. Somewhat not as many came out, but we collected \$715.00 for our charity and \$250.00 for Jim Reynold's estate. With the donations from the Boats and Floats event and the Club Auction donations, we got \$47.00, too. A really good event, our auction, with really good planes and parts. We will make a plan and take the money to the food bank [Sky Valley Food Bank in Monroe].

Port-a-Pottie committee report: Any progress on info or purchase of the unit. Nothing new from Dart, Grant and Mark. We'll move ahead once info is available

NW Model Hobby Expo: - Ron gave an update on the club booth, swap table and more. Setup is Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Nothing from AMA yet. [Masks will be required]. No fun fly this time, but open indoor flying. We need members to man the booth. Website has been updated with the latest info and floor layout. Mark asked Ron to send out a request and sign-up to help with our club activities.

Proposed budget for 2022 was structured from our expenses this year and the increase of the cost of most items. The result was to recommend keeping the dues at \$90.00. This will include an increased cleaning of the port-a-potties, helping to restore power and water at our field, more dollars for our events, doing the gravel expansion and more. It was mentioned that our suggested dues are half of what other clubs charge. Motion was made to adopt the budget as it has been proposed. The motion was seconded. The motion was unanimously passed. Mark will send Ron the budget so it can be sent to all of the members.

Nominations for 2022 club officers  
Vice President (VP) – Paul Dibble  
President – Mark Weeks  
Secretary – Ron Swift  
Treasurer – Dart Sharp  
Safety Officer – Steve Higgins and Jason Milson

Special Service Award - Jim Stewart and Mark Weeks  
Program:

Life Flight - Last Saturday the field was closed for training for those who use the helicopter to transport victim to the hospital. They originally

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planned to land on the field to the East of our field. Oops! They actually landed on our field. We moved the Safety Barriers (fish net), tables, chairs away from the field and they used our field. Used the GPS coordinates posted on our frequency board and landed using them on exact center of our field!

Training continued – strapping the person (victim) on a gurney. A different way of taking off – a cool thing to watch. Mark volunteered for the Fire Dept. for 26 years. No more for Mark – seems like an age limit. A great experience. Both Steve and Mark were there and relayed their prospective stories. They mentioned to keep white lights off at night – the pilot uses night flight goggles and it blinds him. Mark is sending a story to our District 11 VP for AMA.

Rebuilder’s Competition – One entry a plane in progress by Jim

**Announcements/Discussions/Info Sharing.**

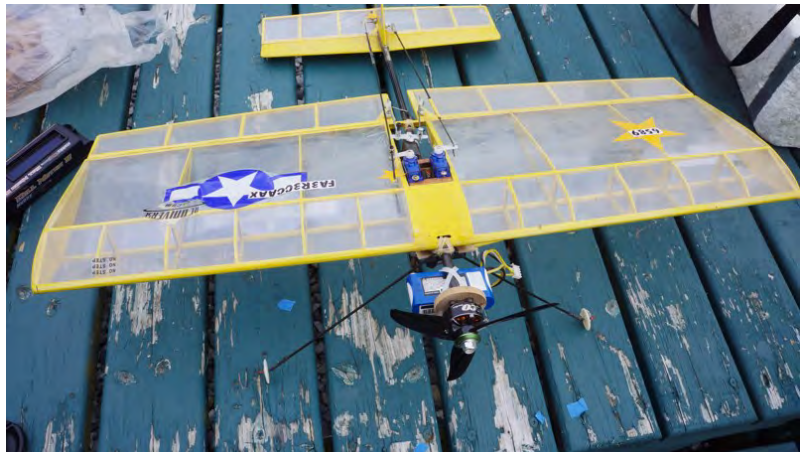
NW Model Hobby Expo is October 30 & 31 still on. More details will be added as the event gets closer at [www.nwmhe.com](http://www.nwmhe.com). The club booth has two tables, a swap table and there will be some donation tables in the swap area for sure.

Mark received his FCC Ham license today – the Technician’s license and now working on his General

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made for adjourning the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Swift, BBMAC Secretary





# Life Flight



We had the Life Flight do their testing and simulation of an need to rescue a person at our field. Steve and Mark were at the field and helped clear the field so the helicopter could land. And so it did! Simulated wounds, gurney, patient and all. We were invited to attend. Mark and Steve even got some RC action in!





# 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: \_\_\_\_\_



# Safety Corner



By Steve Higgins (*thanks Steve!!!*)

Buzzards,  
It's November! Wow, time does fly!

Just a reminder, for those of you who were not at the meeting in October. Recently somebody crashed into the tent canopy punching a basketball size hole into the canopy. Hopefully nobody got hurt.

In these cases It doesn't matter who or what caused the damage, it does matter that everyone is okay and there were no injuries. These incidents should be reported to a board member, as soon as possible. We need to do this so we can get the damage repaired. But we also need to look at what we are doing and maybe make changes in how we operate to prevent further incidents. There is some inherent risk with this hobby. We, as a group, need to do what we can to mitigate that risk and prevent injury or worse...

Now is when many of us take a break from flying and we transition to building and repairing damage from the summer season. Now is a good time to go through all your models and do a more thorough inspection.

One of the things that often are missed are batteries. Lithium batteries like to be between a charge state of 20% to 80%, they do not like to be below 20% SOC or above 80% SOC for very long. This can cause long term damage to your batteries This is why the "Smart Batteries" will self discharge to "Storage Mode" when not in use.

I had 5-6 batteries that started to puff up and were starting to have cell balancing issues. Please do not just throw these defective battery packs away. Doing so is the number one cause of garbage truck fires in the country.

When Lithium batteries start to puff this means the battery internally is breaking down. This process is called electrolyte decomposition. During this process the electrolyte is chemically breaking down, generating gasses including oxygen, and forms lithium oxide on anode and cathode of the battery (depending on charge cycle). The oxygen forming in the battery does not adhere to the anode or cathode so this is what causes the battery to "puff". Eventually the battery pack will rupture and when this occurs you usually see flame.

So what do you do with them? First thing is you want to safely discharge them. I use one of these: <https://www.racedayquads.com/collections/battery-chargers-accessories/products/hglrc-thor-2-6s-lipo-battery-discharger-xt60><https://>

[www.racedayquads.com/collections/battery-chargers-accessories/products/hglrc-thor-2-6s-lipo-battery-discharger-xt60](https://www.racedayquads.com/collections/battery-chargers-accessories/products/hglrc-thor-2-6s-lipo-battery-discharger-xt60)

You can build a fixture with a light bulb to discharge them, or some people use a salt water bath to discharge these. For less than 10 bucks this does the same job with a lot less mess.

I plugged this battery discharger into my 3S 2200, placed the battery in a LIPO bag, and put it in a safe location where if it did catch fire it wouldn't be a problem. After about 3-4 days the battery was dead, and there was less than .3v left in the battery. I had already used my charger to discharge the battery down to 3.2 Vdc, If the battery is in a higher state of charge, it can take longer. I tried a second battery that started at 3.8 volts per cell and it took almost two full weeks to fully discharge. I then salvaged the connectors on the battery just in case I needed them in the future. After cutting the wires (one at a time) I also taped the ends of the wires with some electrical tape to ensure that the two wires couldn't touch each other, causing a short.

Now to dispose of the battery. I simply took these dead batteries to the Snohomish County disposal site in Mountlake Terrace Washington where they have a collection bin for Lithium batteries. I'm certain that other transfer stations have the same disposal locations elsewhere.

Steve





# Boats & Floats Event



Yep, the Boats and Floats event had quite different models this year with military beach landing craft, submarines, folk recovery tools, speedboats and floatplanes. Not to mention three sailboats over a yard in height! It was the best day for these models with no wind early and a soft breeze later in the afternoon! [More on page 7.](#)





Photos by Rick Weber and Ron Swift. Please send your photos for future newsletters.





# Upcoming Events

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

XMAS Party

Standby For Details—looking at Alfys Pizza or other places in December.

Annual Freeze-In

January 8, 2022

Club Flying Field—Fun in the cold and snow. Planes and Rotary powered models. Come on out and have some fun!





# 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 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 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, November 9th 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 Ron Swift using email to [ron-swift@cablespeed.com](mailto:ron-swift@cablespeed.com) (425) 765-6745 for info to use the ZOOM access. A new way to attend our fun and creative meetings!



## 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, November 9th 6:30 PM at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe on RT 2

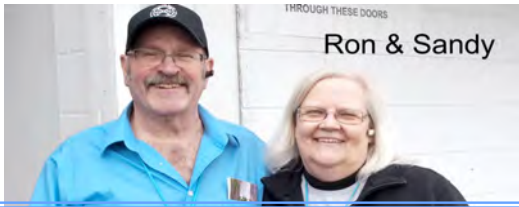
Program: NW Model Hobby Expo discussion. What



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16325 315th Ave. NE  
Duvall, WA 98019

did you find  
and took  
home?

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://www.nwmhe.com>*

## 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  
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[www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com](http://www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com)

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16421 Cleveland St, Redmond, WA  
98052

Phone:  
(425) 558-0312

