



# 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

**January 2025**

**Volume 34 Issue 1**

AMA Chapter 2953

**Barnyard Buzzards**  
Model Airplane Club

Monroe, Washington

**Our next club meeting will be at Alfy's Pizza on Tuesday, January 14<sup>h</sup> at 6:30 PM. The public is always welcome to join us!**

**Program: Putting Our Christmas Gifts to Work**

## President's Message – Steve Higgins

*Happy January, Barnyard Buzzards! I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year!*

*I anticipate a good turnout of members in the coming weeks to help Camp Edwards clean up after the last few of the storms. I appreciate every-*

*one's understanding of why we pushed the "Freeze-In" to January 18th.*

*I also want to thank the 2024/2025 board for their dedication to ensuring the smooth running of the club's*

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## December 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes – Mark Weeks

President Steve Higgins called the meeting to order @ 6:30 pm  
Introduction of Officers and Guests:  
Members 14 and 4 guests  
Jenny (Rich Cooks Wife),  
Sandy DuVall, (Ron Swift's wife)  
Sharon Beba, (Ron Beba's wife)  
and Ronna Weeks, (Mark's wife)

President – Steve Higgins  
Vice President – Jay Wellan  
Secretary – Mark Weeks  
Treasurer – Dart Sharp - Absent  
Safety Officer – Michael Conniff  
Minutes from November Approval:  
Motion made and seconded. Minutes were approved.

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## 2024 Club Officers and Contacts

President: Steve Higgins (206) 790-5840

Secretary: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

Safety Officer: Michael Conniff (206) 914-9270

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

Vice President: Jay Wellan (206)930-7933

Treasurer: Dart Sharp (425) 923-6989

Webmaster: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

Newsletter Editor: Ron Swift (425) 765-6745

Club contact:	DART SHARP
Contact Information:	Phone: 425 923 6989 Email: dartsharp@comcast.net #
Club Website:	www.bbmac.net #
Club Information:	No Drugs/Alcohol
Club Benefits:	Club cookouts/picnics, Club Newsletter, Informative Programs, Regular Club Meetings, Events Open to Other AMA Clubs/Members, Other Planned Club Activities, Community Events, Community Involvement, AMA Logo/History on Display, Supports Charitable Causes
Club Details:	Pilot instruction training, Youth programs, Open membership, Guest pilots welcome, AMA membership required
Club Interests:	Radio Control
District:	District II
Club Number:	2953
Members:	48

### AMA Info About BBMAC

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events and meetings.

Last month, during our December meeting, we had our 2024 Christmas Party. It went well, and I am already looking forward to next year!

The board will present our proposed 2025 schedule of events at this month's meeting, which will be held on January 14th at 6:30 pm at Alfys Pizza. As I write this, the board is still working on this, and we hope to have it hammered out shortly before the club meeting on the 14th.

I'm looking forward to a fun and safe 2025 season of flying! I hope to see everyone at meetings and/or out at the field.

Happy New Year

Steve Higgins

Barnyard Buzzards Club President.



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### OFFICER REPORTS:

**President:** Steve asked if anyone in the room had not yet voted, only one member in attendance had not and was given a ballot. Votes have been tallied and winners will be announced under Old Business.

**Reminder:** Please be sure to log in. Looks like some are signing the log, thanks, and keep it up!

Make sure that you pick up your trash  
Steve reminded everyone that dues are due in January, Ron commented that they are not due until March.

Just to clarify, our bylaws state the following:  
"Section 3

The membership year shall be from January 1 to December 31 with annual membership fees (dues), due at the regular January meeting. All dues must be paid by the regular March meeting, or the unpaid member(s) shall be deemed inactive and placed at the bottom of the waiting list."

**Vice President:** Not much going on for the last couple of months. January 4th we will be having our Annual Freeze-In. [The event has been re-scheduled for January 18 at 10:00 am] Mark will share more with reminders as the date gets closer.

**Secretary:** We have 47 paid members, with 8 members paid for 2025. Steve reminded every-

one that dues are officially due on January 1, we have a grace policy that stated they must be paid by the end of the March business meeting.

**Treasurer:** Brian Reightly reported for Dart that all bills are paid, and we have money in the bank.

**Safety Officer:** Michael reported that we had a safe year and to keep it up. He also wanted to remind everyone that as winter sets in that we need to watch for cold weather symptoms. So keep warm.

**Field Manager:** The club house is in the process of being insulated. The ceiling is completed, and we have started on the back wall. The project is on hold until all the wiring is installed, (should be completed in January).

We lost two awnings due to the windstorm; they will need to be replaced when they go on sale and not installed until spring. Looking for some dry scrap wood for the burn barrel to have at the freeze-in. Ron Beba offered to bring some.

**Newsletter Editor:** If you have any pictures that you may have taken in the field, please send them to Ron Swift and/or Mark Weeks, and we will get them on the website and/or in the newsletter.

**Website:** We need pictures from events or just about anything else on both the website and the newsletter. Please send it to Mark and Ron, and they will share it.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

2025 Board Election Results:

- President: Steve Higgins
- Vice President: Jay Wellan
- Treasurer: Dart Sharp
- Secretary: Mark Weeks
- Safety Officer: Michael Conniff
- Special Service Award: Michael Conniff

Thanks to everyone who voted and to the board members for their service.

Barnyard Buzzards History Committee:

Ron reported that they will be working on at least the front page so he will have something to share at the January Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mark reported that Ranger Dave reached out and

asked if someone could come out with a quad and get some video from the areas that they have not been able to get to because of the "BOMB CYCLONE". Mark met him in the Camp Edwards Parking lot and they were able to find the areas of concern. They also said that until the end of December NO ONE is allowed on the campgrounds. This does not include the flying field. We CAN still Fly!!

**PROGRAM:**

Christmas Party!!! Yea!! See pictures on page #5.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. It passed and it's on to the Christmas party, and the gift exchange.



# Freeze-in

Our 17th annual Freeze-In is now scheduled for Saturday, January 18, 2025 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. We will have heaters at the event. Yep, you still have time to customize a model and test it before the event!

What does the creative modeler do to get ready for the event one might ask! Check out some possibilities below . . .



**Model Madness:**

- More than one LIPO battery and charger
- Batteries do not last as long in cold weather, so judge your e-flights accordingly
- Yep, we probably will not have snow, but who knows?
- You might want to bring some lighter fluid to start the nitro engines. Naptha has a lower vapor pressure and squirting some into the carb or into the fuel line will help start these engines. This works with the big gasser engines, too!
- Sometimes the cooling fins on the engine cylinder need to be covered to keep the heat in the engine. Old baby socks, etc. have been used for this.

**Apparel:** Caution! Be extra careful with loose clothing around spinning propellers and ducted fan inlets!

- Gloves
- Hat
- Scarf
- Sunglasses (snow blindness isn't fun!)
- Boots—it is wet out there
- Change of dry clothes

**Comfy things:**

- Thermos of a warm beverage
- Cups to share the above beverage
- A chair
- Camera to prove you did it!
- Hand warmers
- Blanket
- Cell phone
- More than one model



# Safety Corner



By Michael Conniff

Greetings Barnyard Buzzards,  
Happy New Year!

It's a new year and I hope everyone made it through the end of 2024 healthy and happy.

We may be in the beginning of a new year, however, all of the same rules apply for a safe and enjoyable experience at the field and on the flight line.

I was looking through Facebook and came across an interesting post. This pilot was standing in front of his plane as it was tethered at the tail. He spun up the motor and the prop let loose and launched at him. He was embedded with prop blade shrapnel.

Attached is a picture that he supplied with his Facebook post. It's not too gruesome but certainly opens my eyes as to how something we often take for granted, as in a seemingly functioning propeller, can become a serious injury. He stated in his post that they tested the plane before going to the field and that the propeller

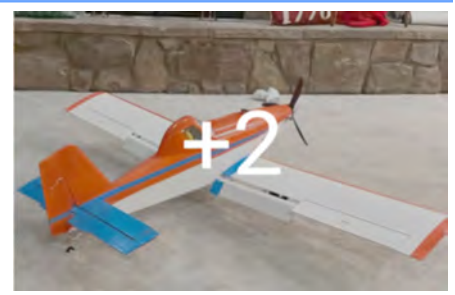
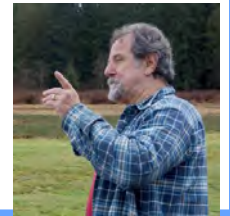
hadn't contacted anything.

In other words, it just disintegrated without any obvious reason. Maybe it was the collar coming loose and the propeller exploded when it hit the ground. Who knows?

The point I'm trying to make here is that the propeller moves forward if it suffers a break or mechanical failure and we must be mindful of our safety when we start our motors or engines. Of course, engines require our being in the front if we're hand starting or using an electric starter to start the engine. Some things can't be avoided.

As of this writing, no accidents or injuries have been reported to me.

As always,  
Have fun, fly safe  
Michael Conniff  
Safety Officer



## 2025 Buzzards Event Schedule

January 18 Freeze-In

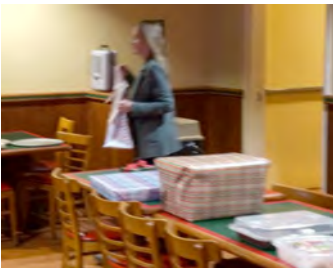
Delayed from January 4 due to cleanup  
Come on out at 10:00 am and have  
Some cold weather fun!

Most events will be starting at 10:00 am at our club field (see page 9) for a map. More details will be sent before each event thru email and our club website <https://bbmac.net> The events and dates will be decided during this coming meeting. Come on out to help with the choices and time.

Our club meetings and events 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. We have members with experience with U control, rc aircraft, drone, rc boats, r/c cars and more. Come on out and join us.



# Christmas Party Photos!!!





# Photos For Fun





# More Fun Photos



From Freeze-In 2009 - the Group Photo





# More Fun Photos



Lake Hughes







# 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



**Upcoming Club Meeting**  
Our next club meeting is Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 PM at the Alfy's Pizza in Monroe, WA

## 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





**Next meeting: Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm  
at Alfys Pizza in Monroe**



**BBMAC  
PO Box 1591  
Duvall, WA 98019  
Program: Putting Our Christmas  
Gifts to Work**

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

**BROADWAY HOBBIES**

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2531 Broadway STE F Everett, WA 425 252-6130

## 2025 NW Model Hobby Expo

Our 2025 event begins on April 11<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Friday, April 11 12:00 - 6:00 pm

Saturday, April 12 9:00am - 6:00 pm

Sunday, April 13 9:00 am - 4:00 pm



**Sandy DuVall, Owner**  
425-788-9824 - b  
425-765-1546 - c  
sandyd@cablespeed.com  
[www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com](http://www.DuVallsDazzlingDesigns.com)

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