



# 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.

**February 2025**

**Volume 34 Issue 2**

AMA Chapter 2953

**Barnyard Buzzards**  
Model Airplane Club

Monroe, Washington

**Our next club meeting will be at Alfy's Pizza on Tuesday, February 11<sup>h</sup> at 6:30 PM. The public is always welcome to join us!**

**Program:**

## President's Message — Steve Higgins

Hello Barnyard Buzzards! I hope everyone is having a great 2025, so far. One month down and eleven months to go! I want to thank everyone who helped out the Scouts on January 4th and 11th. They were very appreciative of our help. On the 18th of January, we held our

annual Freeze-In. While it was cold, we stayed warm thanks to a burn barrel and a few propane heaters out at the field. Over the day, we had over 18 members at the field for the Freeze-In. I would call it a successful event, and I'd like to thank

*(Continued on page 2)*

## January 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes — Mark Weeks

Steve Higgins called meeting to order 6:30 pm

### Introduction of Officers and Guests:

19 Members were present and 2 guests, Lori Butler and Tim Hoke

President — Steve Higgins  
Vice President — Jay Wellan  
Secretary — Mark Weeks  
Treasurer—Dart Sharp  
Safety Officer—Michael Conniff

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes

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## 2025 Club Officers and Contacts

President: Steve Higgins (206) 790-5840

Vice President: Jay Wellan (206) 930-7933

Secretary: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

Treasurer: Dart Sharp (425) 923-6989

Safety Officer: Michael Conniff (206) 914-9270

Webmaster: Mark Weeks (425) 328-5705

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

Newsletter Editor: Ron Swift (425) 765-6745



Mark Weeks' wife for cooking the chili and Ron Beba for bringing the dry wood and cooking the dogs and hamburgers for everyone!

One issue at the Freeze-In was that a few members were not following field rules. Callouts were not being made, or at least loud enough for everyone to hear. Please make your callouts; if you are flying, please acknowledge those callouts. Communication is key to keeping everyone safe out there.

Some were not flying from fight stations. When you need to get a plane still on the runway, please call out "on the field" and clear the field as soon as possible. On a few occasions, people were waiting to land while a member was tinkering with his plane on the flight line.

Please take some time to review the club safety rules; we are all reasonable in ensuring the safe operation of all flights at the field.

<https://bbmac.club/safety-rules/>

Even last weekend was busy. With this cold, clear weather we have been seeing of late, there have been many great days to be out on the field.

We have a new member, Tim Hoke, who is learning to fly for the first time. He's been flying

on RealFlight and has a UMX Radian and AeroScout. I'm very impressed with the AeroScout and how stable a plane is when someone is learning to fly. Tim has had a couple of close calls, but he is generally doing very well and flying by himself. Thanks, Roger, Mark, and Dart, for helping with working with Tim. As a club, we need to do better at this, as training new people to fly is the only way that we are going to grow the club and interest in the hobby.

We (the Board) need to improve our meeting night programming in 2025. If you have a topic or want to present one, please let me, or any board member, know and we can schedule a program for the monthly meeting.

Well, that is enough rambling from me! I hope to see you all in the field or at next month's business meeting!

Steve Higgins



(Continued from page 1)

**Minutes from December: Approval:**

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**President:**

Reminder: Please be sure to log in. The log should be moved to its new club house location during the Freeze-in. Also remember to pick up your trash. We need to be good stewards of our area.

**Vice President:**

Our Freeze-In was originally scheduled January 4<sup>th</sup> date was moved to the 18<sup>th</sup> to allow for the Scout Grounds Cleanup. We can hope for freezing weather and maybe a little snow to fly off, but no matter what, it will be a good time. It looks like we will get the cold but not the snow.

Food will be provided at the event, burgers, dogs, Mark's wife has agreed to provide chili.

**Secretary:**

We currently have 46 members, 24 members have paid for 2025, and no one is in AMA default.

**Treasurer:**

Dart reported that all bills submitted have been

paid, and we still have money in the bank.

**Safety Officer:** Michael reported that we had no accidents in 2024.

He also reminded us that with winter we need to watch out for cold weather issues. Keep your hands, ears and other exposed areas covered and warm. There will be heaters in the clubhouse and a burn barrel at the Freeze-In.

**Field Manager:**

Not much to report other than the Scout Cleanup that we assisted with. On the 4<sup>th</sup> we had 18 Buzzards helping and on the 11<sup>th</sup> we had 13. Thanks to all those who helped out.

**Newsletter Editor:**

If you have any pictures that you may have taken in the field, please send them to Ron Swift and 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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(Continued from page 2)

### OLD BUSINESS:

#### Election Results-

Officers for 2025 are:

President: Steve Higgins

Vice President: Jay Wellen

Treasurer: Dart Sharp

Secretary: Mark Weeks

Safety Officer: Michael Conniff

Michael Conniff was awarded the Special Service award for 2024

### NEW BUSINESS:

Mark handed out a copy of the 2025 event schedule and it was approved; The Heli event date may need to be changed and we will update as needed.

Paul Dibble made a motion that the event rules be published and sent to membership by the April meeting.

### PROGRAM:

Steve asked for Ideas for the programs. If you would like to see something or would like to present a program please contact him.

**Show and Tell:** Rich Cook has now joined the ranks of 3D printers he brought in a couple of bombs and rockets he printed for his new plane.

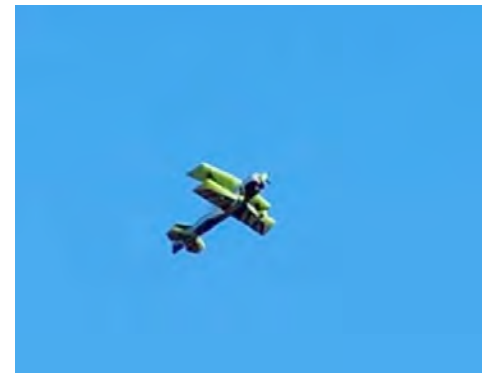
Jason brought in *his Microaces Sopwith Triplane* to share. He said that while it is a micro and foam, it flies really well.

### Adjournment:

7:20 pm



## More Fun Photos







# Safety Corner



By Michael Conniff

Greetings Barnyard Buzzards,

I hope you've been able to stay warm this winter. We've certainly had some stretch of freezing temps since the last Newsletter.

I've been quite busy and forgetful of my other responsibilities (newsletter) so I went through the archives and found this jewel by Vince Bell (safety officer extraordinaire) from 2014. We have some new members and I felt that this might be useful information.

Thank you Vince!

□-----

## Why do we CRASH??

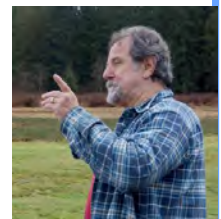
Flying beyond our ability. For new pilots this is one of the main reasons for crashing a new airplane. Thinking goes something like this:

OK; I have soloed—I should be able to fly the Belch Fire 99 that I have been building and waiting to fly for ten years. Not thinking that the Belch Fire 99 is about 20 times faster than the trainer that I learned on. Also, the fact that while learning, the instructor was making sure the airplane was trimmed to fly correctly before it was handed over. Yes, in the later parts of your training the instructor would put the airplane out of trim and let you trim it in flight. Same with putting it into an unusual attitude and letting you correct it. The thing is the Belch Fire 99 is doing all of the above as soon as it leaves the ground and the tendency is to over control. The ten years of work building the beautiful Belch Fire 99 is now a pile of not so beautiful sticks. The best thing to do is have an experienced pilot look over the Belch Fire 99 for problems and give it its maiden flight, getting it trimmed for a moderate speed and find out if there are any

bad characteristics that need attention. On take-off the hardest thing for a new pilot to do is push the nose down when there is too much up trim and let the airplane gain some speed. If that is not done, the plane will stall and again make the beautiful pile of sticks. Usually the airplane is going to the left and will not turn right until the nose is pointed down and the airspeed is above the stall speed. Another thing that new airplanes like to do is go dead stick (engine quits). Here again the tendency for the new pilots to keep pulling back on the stick to get back to the field. There is only so much it will take and then to plane stalls— usually resulting in the pile of sticks. There is an air speed that will give the longest glide ratio that this above stall speed of the airplane. You must learn what it is and how the airplane handles at that speed. Trying to do a new maneuver too close to the ground is another trap. When you are working on a new maneuver try it 3 or 4 mistakes high. Think about all the things that may go wrong. An example, if it is a stalled of spin maneuver— planning ahead for how to get out of a spin. Some airplanes require a little more than just neutralizing the controls to recover from a spin. Is the airplane balanced where it is suppose to be, are all balancing weights secure (including the battery)? Shifting the balance point in flight is not good and can well cause what we are talking about: CRASHING.

We'll dredge up other reasons for crashing, but for now remember to dress for the weather and keep body parts out of the spinny thing.

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

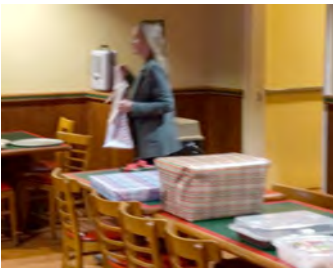
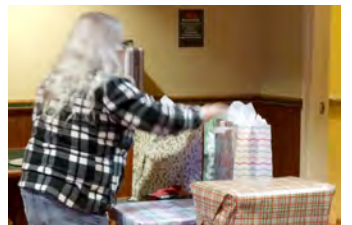


Some say that a crash is just part of the R/C experience. Maybe too much a part for some!





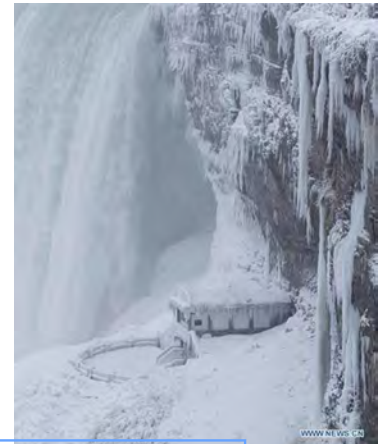
# Christmas Party Photos!!!







# Photos For Fun



Imagine being at Niagara Falls, New York. What a view! At night they turn on the lights from the Canadian side. I have been there dozen of times. ~ Ron Swift







# More Fun Photos







# 2025 Camp Edwards Cleanup







# 2025 Camp Edwards Cleanup Continued







# 2025 Camp Edwards Cleanup Continued



Both Camp Edwards and Piggott were hit pretty hard from the “Bomb Cyclone”. The Scouts asked for our help in cleaning up the camps. January 4th and the 11th were changed to work party days. We originally had scheduled January 4th as our Freeze-In event . On the 4<sup>th</sup> we had 16 volunteers. Our area to clean was the BB gun range. The existing building was destroyed by a couple of large trees. A special tanks to those who helped out.

Saturday January 11th we got the opportunity to help out at Camp Piggott, the weather was cool but at least it was not as wet as the week before. The area that we were assigned was called Look-out Point. Once again a couple of large trees took out parts of structures, if not the whole things. Michael and a small team worked their magic and reattach the front area with the main structure the rest of our group, hauled branches and small trees to the woodchipper, hauled tree rounds to a spot for fire-wood collection, and prepared some of the tent structures for later repair.

A super commitment and a job well done!





# 2025 Barnyard Buzzards Model Airplane Club Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAA ID: \_\_\_\_\_ FCC License: \_\_\_\_\_  
 RC Frequencies:  2.4 GHz  72 MHz  50 MHz  5.8 GHz  27 MHz Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Modeling Experience (including other current and previous club memberships)

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Primary Interest / Skills: (please check all that apply. Thank you!)

Building  Flying  Electronics  Covering  Painting  Experimental  
 Teaching  Event/Contest Director  Contest Judge  Want to learn  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Flying/Modeling Types:

Sport Flying  Pattern  3D  Quads  Helicopters  Competing in Events  
 Gliders  Crawlers  Excavators  Tanks  Boats  Sea Planes  
 Submarines  Scale  Glider Tug/Hi Start  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Full Membership is \$100.00 a year. Additional Family Member is \$50.00. Student Membership is \$30.00. Dues are due by the end of the March club meeting. Send your check, application form, and copy of your AMA membership to:

Mark Weeks (Club secretary)  
 3302 Lake Drive  
 Lake Stevens, WA 98258  
 Mark@weeksnetwork.org  
 Thank you for your interest in RC!

By accepting membership, I hereby agree to abide by the AMA and club safety rules, By-Laws, and regulations governing club flying and regulated activities. I will maintain current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) for as long as I actively participate in said activities in the Barnyard Buzzard Model Airplane Club (BBMAC).

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/modeling 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 \_\_\_\_\_





# 2025 Buzzards Event Schedule

Date of Event	Event Name
Saturday, January 18, 2025	Freeze-in
Saturday, March 8, 2025	Night Fly 1
Saturday, March 15, 2025	Car Racing 1
April 11, 12, & 13, 2025	Expo
Saturday, April 19, 2025	Car Racing 2
Saturday, April 26, 2025	Annual Charity Auction
Saturday, May 10, 2025	Car Racing 3
Saturday, May 17, 2025	Spring Gliders
Saturday, June 7, 2025	Tanks
Saturday, June 14, 2025	Boats and Floats 1
Saturday, June 28, 2025	Car Racing 4
Saturday, July 12, 2025	Crawlers
Saturday, July 19, 2025	Car Racing 5
Saturday, July 26, 2025	Fun Fly
Saturday, August 16, 2025	Car Racing 6
Saturday, August 23, 2025	Night Fly 2
August 28 thru September 1	Camp Week
Friday, September 6, 2024	Boats and Floats 2
Saturday, September 20, 2025	Heil
Saturday, September 27, 2025	Car Racing 7
Saturday, October 11, 2025	Fall Gliders
Saturday, October 18, 2025	Car Racing 8
Saturday, October 25, 2025	Pattern Flying
Saturday, November 1, 2025	Car Racing 9
Tuesday, December 9, 2025	Christmas Party
Saturday, January 3, 2026	Freeze In 2026

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.





## 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, **February 11<sup>h</sup>** 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, February 11<sup>h</sup> at 6:30 PM at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe



BBMAC  
PO Box 1591  
Duvall, WA 98019

**Program:**

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

**BROADWAY HOBBIES**

speedboats indoor rock crawling

RC PLANES TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES PARTS AND REPAIRS

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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## HobbyTown USA

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