



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.

**March 2025****Volume 34 Issue 4****Monroe, Washington**

AMA Chapter 2953

Barnyard Buzzards
Model Airplane Club

Our next club meeting will be at Alfy's Pizza on Tuesday, April 8th at 6:30 PM. The public is always welcome to join us!

Program:**Inside this issue:**

President's Message — Steve Higgins

Hello Barnyard Buzzards!

Well, the first quarter of the year is done, Winter is over, and we are headed into spring. Soon enough, it'll be 75 degrees out and we won't have to bundle up to fly out at the field! I don't know about you, but I'm ready for weather with 70+ degrees!

We have a busy April coming up. From April 11th through the 13th, we will have the Northwest Model Hobby Expo. If you can help set up the show, don't hesitate to contact Ron Swift; he will gladly accept any

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February 11th Meeting Minutes — Mark Weeks

Steve Higgins called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Introduction of Officers and Guests:

Members in attendance. 11

President — Steve Higgins

Vice President — Jay Wellan
Secretary — Mark Weeks (Out for Medical)

Treasurer — Dart Sharp
Safety Officer — Michael Conniff

Minutes from Feb Approval: Motion made, seconded and Approved.

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2025 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



help you can provide. We will also need people to volunteer to work the Barnyard Buzzards booth. We want to schedule volunteers to help man the booth in 2.5 to 3-hour time blocks. While manning the booth, you will talk to people interested in the hobby and sign up a few new members. Don't hesitate to contact me or anyone on the board; we will put you down to help out. I've done this during the past couple of years, and during slow times, I usually take my mini helicopter and fly it in the cage. Please remember that you must sign the AMA forms to fly in the cage.

On April 19th, we will have our first scored car racing events at the field. Bring out your 1/10 off-road trucks. Bracket qualifying starts at 11 a.m., and heats begin around noon.

Also, on the 26th of April, we will have our Club Charity Auction at the field. Ron Swift will be our Auctioneer for the day. So if you have anything you wish to donate the proceeds to the club

or sell, please bring it out, and we can help you sell it.

Some of our members have DJI Avata drones, and there has been mention of interest in doing gate racing with these drones. If you are interested, please get in touch with Dart Sharp. If we get enough interested people, we will organize some gate racing.

The gate code will change this month. All current members will receive emails with the new gate code, which will be on their 2025 membership card. Those cards will be handed out over the next few months at the field and mailed to members in late May to June.

Our next club meeting is on April 8th at 6:30 p.m. at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe. I hope to see everyone there!
Happy Flying!

Steve Higgins.



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OFFICER REPORTS:

President:

Thanks for using the sign-in sheet, try to stay in the habit of signing in.

Thanks for picking me up out at the field.

Vice President:

Night Fly went well; we had 12 members out at the field for this event.

We didn't lose any planes on the night flight, although Kevin crashed his sparrow.

Secretary:

As given by Steve for Mark. We have 40 paid members for 2025. We do expect a few more to re-up.

Treasurer:

Bills have been paid. Porta Potties were called to have them emptied. The last time they were emptied was back in September

Safety Officer:

There were no reports of injuries. At the night fly, we did have a few who weren't making loud callouts.

If you hear a callout, please acknowledge the callout.

Field Manager:

Steve reports for Mark...

Fertilizer will be applied in April.

A flammable storage container is in the large container used to store Propane bottles.

It was commented that storing these outside the container may NOT be a good idea, or near the gas can storage.

The bridge over the creek needs building, asking for volunteers.

Looking for project ideas: Car track maintenance team, Crawler track Maintenance team, Tank area Maintenance team, Container Maintenance team, Mowing and weed-eating team.

The idea for teams is to lessen the work for each person.

Gate codes will change in April of this year to give Mark time to heal. Gate codes will be on your membership cards, but we will also send out emails to notify the members.

Thanks for your help

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 they will get them on the website and/or in the newsletter.

Website Manager:

Steve reports for Mark...

We need pictures from events or just about anything else for both the Website and our Newsletter. Please send them to Mark or Ron, and they will share it;

No issues with the website were reported.

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Buzzards - Boats & Floats





(Continued from page 2)

OLD BUSINESS:

As given by Ron Swift: Barnyard Buzzards History Committee: According to the AMA records, August 8, 1990 is when we received our AMA Chapter number: 2953

In 2005, we converted our LLC to a not-for-profit LLC...

NEW BUSINESS:

If anyone has ideas/suggestions on programs during our club meetings, please let the board know. If you are interested or are looking for a specific subject, we will do what we can to accommodate your request.

Ron Swift asked if we would have a Booth at the NW Model Hobby Expo. Ron made a Motion for this; This was discussed, voted on, and approved to have a booth at the event. Ron said he would fill out the paperwork.

There is a question about where the photos and backgrounds are; some thought it was in the container, or maybe Sandy had them.

PROGRAM:

We discussed how to use the updated SPMA3065 dongle for the program and showed you how to update your ground radios and Spektrum receivers.

Here are the links that were used.

Updating your Spektrum Ground Radios

<https://www.spektrumrc.com/>

<https://www.spektrumrc.com/spm-support-downloads.html>

<https://spektrumrc.com/MyAccount/>

If Radio has a SD Card Slot:

<https://spektrumrc.com/MyAccount/RadioUpdates.aspx?rid=1027407>

Remember, files are suitable only for the specific transmitter serial number.

<https://horizonhobby.my.site.com/HorizonHobbySupport/s/recommended-articles?item->



Steve has the HDMI figured out, so if you need help, feel free to ask.

Michael sets the clock to keep us on time!





Safety Corner



By Michael Conniff

Greetings Barnyard Buzzards,
We're in the second quarter of 2025. Temps are warming and events and attendance at the field has been fantastic. So with this, I borrow from Don Bailey's post of April, 2017.

"Get your radar on! If you are at all like me, there are times when you get so absorbed in preparing and flying your model airplanes that you become almost oblivious to your surroundings—until you do something really stupid and find yourself getting reprimanded for your lack of caution. We are all guilty of this kind of inattentiveness at some point in our flying activities, where all of our focus is on what's in front of us, the invisible blinders go on, and the rest of the world fades into the background noise. It's not hard to see how this kind of distraction can cause problems, and can present a real threat to the safety of others as well as to ourselves, and to our precious, fragile models.

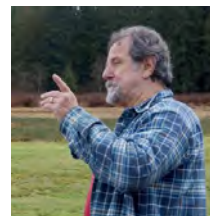
Conscientious modelers know the importance of turning on that built-in radar system in our head when operating model airplanes, so that we are continuously aware of all of the activity around us. It starts when you first arrive at the field. On a crowded day, you want to afford the courtesy of picking a flight station for your planes that does not interfere with others. As you carry your stuff out to the flight line, you want to keep everything in one neat pile and avoid spreading everything all around in a scatter pattern for someone to accidentally step on. When it comes time to start your engine, be aware of the prop blast, and of the safe zone around the plane in case you throw a blade. Letting bystanders know in advance that you are about to start your engine is always a welcome courtesy. Even before you set your plane down on the runway edge to commence taxiing or hand-launch, have a look up and down the flight line and determine how many others are actively flying. By looking at the pilot, you can then follow his gaze to his plane. It is good practice to get a fix on the location and direction of all other airborne traffic before trying to take off. You

don't want to taxi out onto the runway if another pilot is on final approach, or is already down and rolling. Of course, we pilots use call-outs always! If the runway looks safely clear of airplanes, do everyone the favor by announcing your intentions loudly, so that they will be aware you are about to taxi out onto the active runway, just as you would when executing a landing. You want to be sure their radar is on, too! Your vigilance does not stop here.

While flying, you will want to be at least somewhat aware of where other airplanes are in your vicinity, so that midair collisions can be avoided. Low passes and 3D aerobatics over the runway are fine, but you will want to be sure other pilots are aware of what you are doing and do not object to your model occupying the landing zone for a short time. By all means, give the right-of-way to "deadstick" airplanes, until they have safely been landed and retrieved. If there are people beyond the runway looking for a downed aircraft in the brush, keep your plane well clear of them. There are often all sorts of distractions that can happen all around you while flying, such as groups of guys yacking it up behind you, to roaming dogs or kids, or even loud airplanes crashing right near you! If you can be aware of these distractions, while keeping your attention sharply focused on your airplane until it is safely down, you can save yourself from potential disaster. Once all the flying is done, and you are at last sitting in a chair with your buddies and yacking about airplanes and flying, then you can turn down the screen and let your radar display cool for awhile. Until next time, be safe and have fun!"

As a whole, our club has done well to maintain safe flying procedures. We should hold our heads up high and at the same time stay vigilant in our quest for a safe flying experience.

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





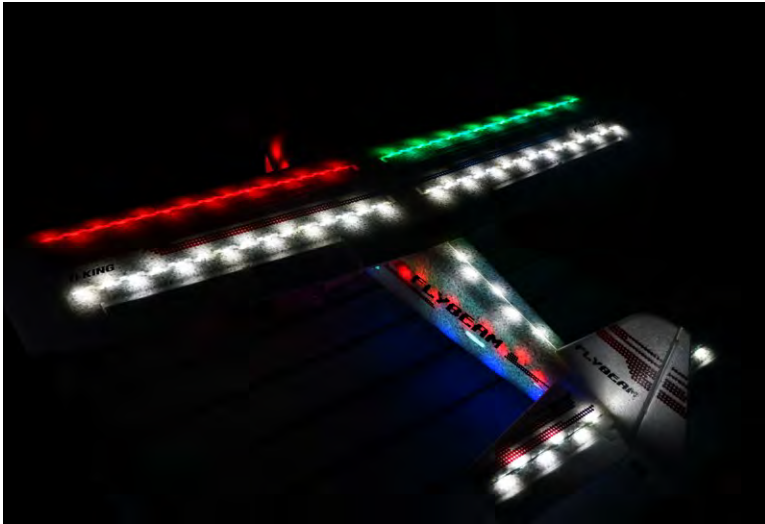
2025 Camp Edwards Cleanup





Photos For Fun

U-Control Lives!





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)

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).

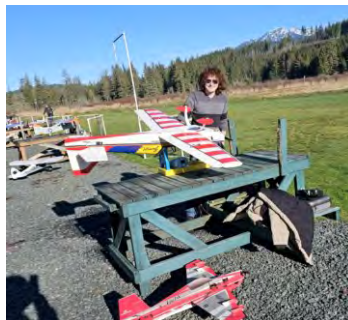
In consideration of my use of the flying club activities, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the land owner from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees in case it shall be necessary to file an action suit arising out of my presence and use of the 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 _____



Freeze-In





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.club> 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



Barnyard Buzzard's Club Meeting



Upcoming Club Meeting

Our next club meeting is Tuesday, **April 8th at 6:30 PM** at the Alfie'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, April 8th at 6:30 PM at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe



BBMAC
PO Box 1591
Duvall, WA 98019

Program: New update to the Spectrum Ground Radios

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 11th 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

*Embroidery ~ Sparkle Transfers ~ Personalized Gifts
Photo Items ~ Full Color Crystals ~ Banners & Signs
Full Color Images on Apparel & Accessories
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