

The Broken Prop



St. Clair County R/C Propbusters

Model Aviation Club Goodells, Michigan

www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com

A.M.A. Charter Club #1762

January 7, 2007

Club Meetings

Second Wednesday of each month at the Community Center Building, Goodells County Park 6 pm

Club Breakfast

First Saturday of each month, 9:00 at Cavis Pioneer Restaurant on Lapeer rd. West of Wadhams rd.

Come and join us!

Club Meetings and Breakfast are open to everyone.

President

Gary Smedes 586-727-4507

Vice-President

Doug McLaren 586-201-8048
mclarenintl@hughes.net

Secretary & Webmaster

Keith Graham 810-966-1494
keith@sccpropbusters.com

Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

Ed Olszewski 810-367-6367
proptreas@comcast.net

Safety Officer

Mike Grant

Field Marshall

Tom Nichols

Instructors

Ed London 810-824-0385
Ed Olszewski 810-367-6367
Greg Feyers 810-367-3924

Directors

Sheila Olszewski
Brian McLaren
Todd Litke

The Propbuster R/C flying Club is located at the Goodells County Park, 8345 County Park Drive, Goodells MI 48027. The flying field is just West of Castor rd. -off the parks East parking lot. The general location of the park is South of Lapeer rd. about 10 miles West of Port Huron.

42° 59' 02" N - 82° 39' 02" W

President's Perspective

By Gary Smedes

Happy New Year everyone! 06 is gone and 007 is just firing up. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Unfortunately there has been no snow to spice it up. Don't worry; I'm sure it's on its way.

I was able to get out to the New Years Day fun fly again. Wow! What a difference from last year. It was very windy which made it feel even colder than it was. Only two of us were brave enough to put a plane in the skies (besides the electrics) although I think it was more of a 'not wanting to clean the plane' issue than the wind. The way the weather has been, the field has been very wet and leaves quite a muddy layer on everything and takes much longer to clean than normal.

Not having seen the newsletter yet, you may notice a small (or big) change. Although Keith Graham has decided to stay on as the club Secretary, he will no longer be the newsletter Editor. Ed O. will be taking over the ever demanding job for Keith so he can spend more quality time with his kids. Of course, Ed is no stranger to newsletter editing. He jumps in with a few years experience editing the Eagles' newsletter and should have no problems. I would like to personally thank Keith for the excellent job of editing that he has provided for the last few years. He has made it a pleasurable newsletter to read. Nice job!

Up and coming is the Swap Meet on January 28th. Don't forget to hang up a flier where ever you can. There's no use in having it if people don't know about it. And the only way there going to know about it is to advertise it. The club needs your help in this department. Come to the meeting and pick up some fliers or print them off of the website and hang them around town. The more the better.

And to wrap it up, at the last meeting it was decided that the three Directors from last year will also remain for this year; Mike Grant will replace Pat Donoghue as the Safety Officer and Tom Nichols will remain as the Field Marshall. Thanks for stepping up fellas.

Hope to see you at the meeting!



December Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Keith Graham

The meeting held on December 13 started at 6:07 pm with 14 members present. Doug/Mike G made a motion to accept the secretary's report as read by Keith. Doug/John D made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read by Ed and pay bills.

Gary gave out a final dues renewal reminder. After December 31st, any members renewing will incur a \$10 late fee.

After the end of last month's meeting Mike Grant volunteered to provide door prizes for the swap and to be the Safety Officer for next year. Sheila provided that the Port-a-john has been cleaned and winterized.

Doug/Sheila made a motion to spend \$150 for a raffle prize. Sheila volunteered to take care of purchasing the airplane. Ed L and Doug M will handle the breakfast at the swap. It was provided that Maynard will again be bringing extra tables. So far we've had 14 tables reserved. RCCD is having a swap on the same day as ours which might affect table reservations.

It was pointed out that there has not yet been a flyer posted at Pastime Hobbies. Flyers are able on the website to download and post and Keith will bring more to the next meeting. Gary W mentioned the need for some club information sheets to be posted at Pastime Hobbies. Mike Grant volunteered to bring back in some of the extra info sheets he had from one of our prior events.

The Boy Scout project was discussed but no decisions were made.

Newsletter Printing. Ed and Sheila will take over printing of the Propbusters' newsletter, The Broken Prop starting in January. Currently there are 24 printed newsletters being mailed. Of these, 4 are sent to leaders of other clubs. Last month's newsletters were only sent to other club leaders and Propbusters' members whose membership is current. Anyone who hadn't paid for 2006 or 2007 dues didn't receive a printed copy of the newsletter, but it's always available on the website for any to download. If you currently receive a printed copy and have internet access, please provide an email address to the

secretary, keith@sccpropbusters.com and you will be helping to save the club money that can be better spent on the field.

Mark L called and reported the cancellation of flying at the Memphis pond. We also had no response to our poll of member interest in the joint Taylor Road Pond issue.

After some discussion, Doug/Ed O made a motion to split 3 ways the cost for the Taylor road Pond with the Eagles and East Wings at a cost of around \$53 to the Propbusters. Access to the pond is located off Flinchbaugh Road. The Eagles have a schedule for a float fly once a month; however the owner claimed that the pond wasn't used enough last year. Gary W has a boat there for plane retrieval, but there might not be any oars. The pond is closed sometimes during hunting session for safety reasons.

New Business. Gary will contact Tom Nichols about his club sponsored dues renewal.

Sheila, Todd, Brian have accepted the position as Directors again.

St. Clair County Propbusters	
<u>Financial Report Summary</u>	
January 10, 2007	
Beginning Balance	\$2878.12
Income	
Dues	\$ 435.00
Total	\$ 435.00
Expenses	
Keith / postage	\$ 9.36
Gift Card	\$ 25.00
Eagles for pond	\$ 53.33
Total	\$ 87.69
Ending Balance	
Checking	\$1725.43
Equipment fund	\$1500.00
Grand Total	\$3225.43

Please Help Out!
 Please put a swap flyer up at local stores, shops, your workplace, and any other place you can think of to get the word out about our Swap. Our swap is one of the major sources of income for the club, and that helps keep our dues the lowest in the area!

The new Editor

By Ed Olszewski

My name is Ed Olszewski, and I am an R/C modeler. I have taken over the responsibilities of Newsletter Editor for the Propbusters at Keith's request, to give him little breathing room. The Secretary is probably the most demanding of the officer positions. Keith has been doing that in combination with the newsletter, and webmaster for the last several years, and deserves a big thanks. He will retain the webmaster and secretary positions. For that, we owe him even a bigger thanks!

Some of you know me, some may not. I joined the Propbusters in 2001. I assumed the position as treasurer in 2003. I am a pretty regular fixture at the flying field, mostly on the weekends and evenings during the week. I enjoy flying glow fuel planes, and smaller size electric planes. I have added my name to the list of instructors this year to give a hand there. My wife Sheila is also an active member of the Propbusters and is normally at the field-camera in hand. Many of the photographs in the newsletter are taken by her. She also will play a roll in keeping up the classifieds, printing and distribution of the hardcopy newsletters.

You may have noticed some slight changes in the look of the newsletter. Keith sent me the newsletter in its native format to use as a template, and it promptly locked up my computer. I decided, rather than fighting to get the file working, to just start from scratch and be done with it. Of course, there was a little tweaking along the way. Once a kit basher, always a kit basher.

Any publication is only interesting as its content. I hope more members will send articles for the newsletter. If you have a tip, an article, or a review, pass it along and we will get it in. Your experiences are of interest to other club members. After all, that is what a club is all about- sharing of information with people who have the same interest as your own. You may belong to another club, please send reports on what other area clubs are doing, and their events. E-Mail is best, but regular mail will do just fine. Don't worry about the format, I will take care of getting it inserted, and just send any pictures along as attachments. I will e-mail the page before I publish it.

I hope to keep the members informed, and amused with the club newsletter. If you have any comments, or suggestions please drop me a line.



WC4 Li-ion / Li-Polymer Battery Charger

By Gary Wilkerson

I hope you don't have to be convinced on how great Li Ion batteries are-they are awesome. All the top pilots are using them. You do need a special charger and 1 amp load tester as well as voltage regulators, but once you make the switch you'll be very glad you did. Sell all your Nicads and Nimhs and move on without looking back. These batteries will be around forever and they are just what we need. These batteries are about 1/4 the weight of NiCads. You can save over a pound in a giant scale airplane. The technology keeps improving and now the cost is down to a very reasonable level.

The starting voltage for a Li Ion two-cell pack is 8.4v, so it does need a 6v regulator. Most servos and receivers don't like voltages much above 6v. These new batteries are much better than the discontinued Li-Metal packs marketed under the Duralite name. The Li-Metal cells were poor technologically, which is why no company makes a Li-Metal cell any more. While Li-Metal cells were the premier batteries of their day, they have been superseded by Li Ion and Li Polymer which are used in cell phones and laptop computers and more. These cells are here to stay and just keep getting better and better all the time.

Li-Ion batteries are different than NiCad or NiMH. If the wrong charger is used on a Li-Ion battery, the cell is destroyed and in extreme cases may start on fire. So, a change in equipment is necessary, but once you make the investment you will be very happy you did. At the end of the day, I plug in the charger. It is automatic and takes 3 hours at the most to charge the cells. There is no memory problem like the NiCads have so there's no need to discharge. Also, Li-Ion batteries don't discharge all by themselves like NiCads do. You can charge up your plane in the fall, and in the spring the battery is still fully charged. The advantages of Li Ion cells far outweigh the disadvantages. Connect the battery to the switch, the switch to the regulator and the regulator into the Rx or ignition.

There are a lot of more expensive systems out there, but this one has worked out very well and less expensive than most of the others. I found this information at www.amondotech.com/index.asp. They also sell 2,3, and 4 cell 10C battery packs at a very reasonable price in the 1,500mah and 2,000 mah pack size and y connectors for building packs of 3,000mah and 4,000mah. It features: Independently controlled charging for each battery pack cell, Non-interference between battery pack cells during charging. Safety from burnt or exploding batteries caused by defective cells or problematic battery packs. Charge 4 each 1 cell pack (optional by using 2 each switch charging cable for ports of 7.4 V). Charge 2 each 2 cells pack. Charge 1 each 3 cells pack. Charge 1 each 4 cells pack.



New Years Fly-In

By Ed Olszewski

On New years eve, things were not looking good to have a New-years day fly. I got up early New years day, to check out the weather. Things were still not looking good in the forecast, but there was just a hint of sunshine occasionally breaking through the clouds. Alas, the wind forecast was 10 to 15 mph. I had pretty much resided myself to working in my shop all day, assuming that no one-at least no one sane, would venture out flying that day. Until I got a call from Gary Smedes, saying "Let's Go".

The sky was overcast gray by then, the field was scattered with puddles from the rain over the previous several days. The wind sock was serving its purpose, and standing straight out. In fact, it was not a terribly good day at all. But standing at the flight line was one solitary pilot, landing his plane. There was also several other members, doing the only really sane thing; Watch Dave Novelty fly from the warmth of the front seats of their vehicles.



I got my small foamie out to perform for the audience on hand. A small spectator's favorite maneuver of mine was the "the big go around thing"-I was in loop heaven. Gary got out his stick, and after take off, quickly wondered how he was going to get it back down, the wind was brutal. He executed a perfect "keep the gear intact" landing. What more could you ask for? The wind was no match for Carl Jones' electric helicopter. He says the wind does not bother



helicopters near as much as fixed wing. Carl put on a great aerial display, despite the wind.

It was a great day for ducks and geese. Cold, damp and windy, we certainly have had better weather on New Years Day. But, as they say, a bad day flying is better than a good day working. Some of the spectators moved on to the East Wings field, for their Chili-Fly In. Others went off to find a restaurant for some hot coffee, dang that was good.

I am looking forward to a great year of flying, we have an improved parking area, and the field is in great shape. The Propbusters have opted to join in with the Eagles and the East Wings in the use of Hilliard's pond. I put some pontoons on my trainer plane, and plan on trying some over the water flying. A new years day fly was a great way to start the year.



Classifieds

R/C Estate Sale

Kits, ARFs, Ready to fly, Partial builds, Re-builds, Engines-gas and glo, Mounts, Wheels, Gear, Props, Electronics, Transmitters, Receivers, Servos. I will be at the Propbuster swap, there is too much to transport, give me a call if you have something you would like to see at the swap.

Bob Samuelson 810-679-3962

Omega 2 Meter Glider, 78" w/s, ailerons, "V" tail, Avox Brushless motor and gearbox, Castle creations ESC, servos. Just add receiver to fly.
Mike Roberge



Wanted: .19 and/or .23 Torpedo (Green Head) and .29 McCoy (Red Head) for "old Timers" events
Don Pearson 364-9258

Stinger 40 by Lanier from kit w/s48" Magnum 46xl
Built By: Tom Nichols Ray Dart, Eng. Inst.& Rig. By Ray Dart, NEVER FLOWN. LOOKING FOR GAS BOAT
Bill Welser 810-794-9776

Miniature Aircraft X-Cell 60 R/C Helicopter.
Never flown, needs rotor and electronics \$600.00
Don Copper 810-765-8504

Edge 540-Hangar 9 ARF 1/4 scale new \$200.00
JR Quatro 4 channel NIB \$125.00
Various transmitters Call
120 Stinger airframe \$ 75.00
Futaba, HiTec, JR Wall chargers each \$ 5.00
EM2 with spare airframe, Futaba 6AX radio, Ready to fly \$160.00
TD3D Electric mini-built up ARF- With Electronics and Brushless motor Call
Pylon Props D1 and D2 APC Call
Various wood props, various wheels
YS super charged fz53 like new \$160.00
TME simple smoke system w/regulator \$ 50.00
Genesis limited edt. Monster truck 46 motor, 3 spd trans, like new FM radio runaway safety switch ran 3 times \$400.00
Ray Dart 326-0929

Classified ads are free

Spring is coming, clean out the attic, and pass the old trainer on to a new member, and buy something else! Don't use your simulator? Sell it to someone who will. Please e-mail to proptreas@comcast.net Or send them by U.S. mail to the editor Or call 810-367-6367

Grant's custom Aircraft

PBY 5-1 Catalina

106" Wing, 1/12scale, 1270 Sq In, 23 lbs 64"length .60 2-Cycle 3 surfaces & Motor Servo, Motor.90 4-Cycle, Landing Gear Valve Servo, Float Valve Servo.

Grumman G-44 Widgeon

80" Wing, 1/5 scale, 15 Sq Ft, 24 lbs, 60"length .60 2-Cycle 3 Control Surfaces & Motor Servo, Motor .90 4-Cycle Servo, Landing Gear Valve Servo, Float Valve Servo.

Republic Seabee

70"Wing, 630 Sq In, 8 lbs, 48"length, .40 2-Cycle 4 Control Surfaces

Small glow engines, odds and ends, electronics

For more information, contact:

Mike at (810) 329-6406

For your Pre-Mix 2-Cycle Oils and all **AMSOIL** Products, Contact:



Archie Kammer, your Independent **AMSOIL** Dealer.
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e-mail kammercfva@earthlink.net

Compaq Presario 2100 for sale for \$375. Located in Port Huron. AMD 2200 (Runs at 1.8 MHz). 15 inch monitor. 30 Gig Hard Drive. 512 Mb Ram. Build-in Modem, and 10/100 network card. Has 2 x USB 1.0 slots, 1 Firewire, 2 PCMCIA, and Wireless Networking (WiFi) inside. Windows XP Pro installed & Certificate of Authenticity on the bottom. Battery good for 1 3/4 hours.
Contact Keith G (810) 966-1494 or Keith@sccpropbusters.com.

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2700 Pine Grove #16 Grove mall Port Huron MI

Propbusters Club Attire

Club Caps are available for purchase from the club at \$13.00 each. Each is custom embroidered for our club, and have a green brim. Contact Sheila 367-6367



Club Embroidery is available for coats and other attire By Heather Jones, Contact Carl Jones for more information.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

January

10th -Club Meeting 6:00 PM
28th-Propbuster Swap 8:30 AM

February

3d-Club Breakfast 9:00 AM
4th-Mid MI R/C swap (Owasso) 9:00AM
14th-Club meeting 6:00 PM
18th-Flying Aces (Flint) Swap 9:00 AM
28th-Skymasters Swap 6:00PM

Please Help Out!

Please put a swap flyer up at local stores, shops, your workplace, and any other place you can think of to get the word out about our Swap. Our swap is one of the major sources of income for the club, and that helps keep our dues the lowest in the area! The swap flyer is available on our web-site:

www.SCCPROPBOOSTERS.com

Propbusters' 8th annual Swap

Jan 28th 2007, 8:30 am to 12 noon in the Community Center building, at Goodells County Park, on County Park dr. Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be served. Admission \$3.00 per person. Tables are free-while they last (or as they open up) Call to reserve a table @ 810-367-6367 or proptreas@comcast.net, one table reserved per vendor- more at day of swap if available.

MID-MICHIGAN R/C MODEL SWAP MEET

Sunday Feb 4th from 9AM-3PM at Baker College Gute St. Owosso, Michigan - Marshal 810-638-5052 Chesaning Area Model Flying Club http://www.geocities.com/foundryratjim/chesaning_area_rc_club.html

16 annual Flying Aces (Flint) Swap

February 18th, 9:00 AM til 2:00 pm at Lake Fenton High school 4070 Lahring rd Linden MI. GPS 42*51'32" N 83*45'5"W. Adults \$5.00 -Kids \$1.00 <http://www.rcflyingaces.com> ph(810)635-9392

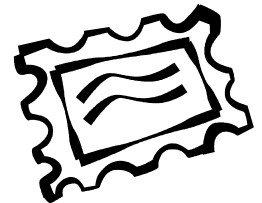
Skymasters Swap

Wednesday, 28 February, @ 6:00pm. Larson Middle School- 2222 E Long Lake rd. (18 mile rd) east of John R, Troy Mich. [Http://www.skymasters.org](http://www.skymasters.org) Joe (248)877-0086

RCCD 11th annual Swap

Jan 28th 2007, Location # 2733 K.of.C. Hall 25003 Little Mack, St.Clair Shores MI admission \$3.00 ,under 12 \$1.00. Reserved tables \$15.00, \$18.00 at the door. Keith at (586)786-1474 kaydeejay@yahoo.com or www.rccd.org

Editor- Ed Olszewski
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Smiths Creek MI 48074



Visit us on the web at www.SCCPROPBOOSTERS.com