

# The Broken Prop



**JUNE 2003 EDITION**

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY PROP BUSTERS  
A CHARTERED CLUB OF A.M.A. #1762

## Officers for 2003:

### **President**

Rob Crawford  
810-385-4803

### **Vice-President:**

Doug McLaren  
810-395-2098  
mclarenintl@klondyke.net

### **Secretary & Newsletter Editor:**

Keith Graham  
810-966-1494  
keith@globalDSL.net

### **Treasurer:**

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

## Instructors:

Pat Donoghue: 810-329-2056  
Todd Litke 810-996-4546  
Glen Kolar 810-385-3588

## Meeting Schedule:

Second Wednesday each  
month at the Community  
Center Building, Goodells Park,  
6:00 pm.

Please try to attend the  
meetings if you can. It's a  
great way to stay in touch with  
what is going on in your club.

## President's Perspective

Redline Race Club and The Propbusters have signed a joint operating agreement. The agreement allows for the Redline Club to build a racetrack at the entrance end of the field between the gate and the airfield.

Both clubs are to operate independently. Redline members are required to join ROAR and Propbusters are required to join AMA for liability coverage. Both clubs are required to provide liability insurance coverage to St. Clair County Parks. Also if you plan to fly and race you must be a member of both clubs.

The agreement states racers are to use only radio frequencies approved for surface operation and Propbusters are to use only frequencies approved for air operation.

Field improvement costs will be shared by both clubs only when the improvement is a benefit to both clubs. The cost also needs to be approved by both clubs in advance of the expenditure. Each club is responsible for their area and the park is to be neat, well maintained and litter free.

The agreement can be terminated with membership approval of both clubs. The termination shall have a one-year notice and the property must be vacated in the condition directed by the St. Clair County Parks.

We are short on prizes for the Air Show. We have some fuel and a couple gift certificates and that's about it. Contact your favorite place of business for a donation to the Air Show. We only have a couple weeks till the Show. Final plans will be discussed at our next meeting and we need everyone's help to put on a great show. It's ok if you are not comfortable flying in front of a group. Please come and volunteer to help with the concession stand or be a spotter for a flyer. Most importantly is please come and enjoy the fun.

Remember the goal for this year is to fly and have fun!

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### JUNE

21<sup>st</sup> - **Propbusters** Annual Fun Fly

### JULY

12<sup>th</sup> - Gathering Of The Eagles - River District R/C

13<sup>th</sup> - Dollar Days - River District R/C

### July 28<sup>th</sup> through AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup>

4H County Fair - Goodells County Park

### AUGUST

22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> - Old Fashioned Harvest Days - Goodells County Park

23<sup>rd</sup> - EOC Classic Car Show - Goodells Park

### SEPTEMBER

6<sup>th</sup> - Charity Fun Fly - to be announced.

20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> - 2003 Civil War Heritage Days - Goodells County Park

All events are open to other clubs to participate and are more than welcome to come out and support the hobby of R/C flying.

(Something missing? Let me know and I'll add it.)

## May Meeting

Our meeting was held at the field because of the perfect flying weather. There were 6 Redline Members and 13 Propbusters members present. Some of the Propbusters even had time to get some flying (and crashing) in before the meeting.

We discussed the club providing the concessions for the Fun fly. We have two prospective flyers that might be willing to do a Candy Drop.

We discussed getting the equipment necessary for the announcement system lined up.

The County requires a written agreement between Redline Racing and the Propbusters to finish their approval. A rough draft was discussed with Rob being nominated to finalize this letter.

Chairperson of the parks commission wants us to provide a demonstration during the 4H fair. We discussed our Lease renewal. Rob will look into getting an entrance made to the field.

The club will donate an AMA Publication or R/C book to the local (County) library to fulfill our requirement for Gold Leader Club.

A motion was made and passed to purchase gravel for the tractor pen and drive entry up to \$300.

## Gathering of Eagles

On Saturday, **July 12** at 9:00am until 2:00 pm, The River District R/C Eagles are hosting their annual "**Gathering of Eagles**" flying event.

R/C pilots from around the area put on a great show including Scale models, Giant scale models, Warbirds, Helicopters, Combat demonstrations, and a Candy drop for the kids.

There is also a raffle and food concession and some tailgate swapping. This is one of the bigger shows in the area, and is a great time.

Come on out and bring a plane, or come out to just to enjoy the event. There is a 1-dollar parking donation.

On Sunday **July 13**, the Eagles host "**Dollar Day**", and invite non-flyers to fly on the "buddy box", with an instructor, for a dollar donation.

This event gives children and adults a chance to experience a "hands on" feel of R/C aviation. This event usually gives about 100 to 150 prospective R/C pilots their first chance on the "sticks".

The Eagles field is located on Davis rd, 1/4 mile west of Range rd, just South of Marysville.

**Financial Report Summary  
June 2, 2003**

<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$1,376.31</b>
Income	Dues	\$ 25.00
	Total Income	\$ 25.00
Expenses	Postage	\$ 21.46
	Gas	\$ 15.00
	Wind sock	\$ 56.50
	Total Expenses	\$ 92.96
Ending Balance		
	Checking	\$ 1,258.35
	Cash on Hand	\$ 50.00
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$1,308.35</b>

**Membership**

Sr. Members	5
Reg. Members	21
Jr. Members	7
Life Members	4

**Total Members 37**

**Welcome Back members:** Dave Nickel



**PICTURES FROM MAY MEETING**

If you missed the last meeting, you missed out on a great chance to fly. You couldn't have asked for better weather. We had a demonstration of what an electric airplane could do.



We also had Todd demonstrating his flying prowess on his Sig Somethin' Extra with a old OS 46FX engine on it (3 years old). The plane was an Christmas present from his wife and it flies well.



## TODD'S TIDBITS

Hangar 9 Sukhoi SU-31 by Todd Litke

After doing some research on the Internet and asking some question on Rcuniverse about the best match for my ZDZ 80Rv, I found that the Hangar 9 Sukhoi SU-31 and the Cap 232 came up a lot in my search.

Both of these planes are made to fit the Zenoha GT80 that is an excellent running smooth twin cylinder. But the GT80 is a heavy engine with only 5.8 horsepower and weighing 7.5 pounds with mufflers! My ZDZ 80 is light by comparison, weighing in at 5 pounds and more power at 8.5 horsepower. The Cap 232 and the Sukhoi have a flying weight of 25 pounds and that is with the GT80. I have always been told the lighter airplane flies better. This is a true statement if you want to fly aerobatics, and lighter yet if you want to fly 3D.



The decision was made. I went with the Sukhoi. It took about a week for the plane to make it to me. When I got the kit on the bench I learned quickly that this plane was well put together and the covering job was well done. I did not care too much for all the Hangar 9 stickers that were on every part of the plane so it did not take too long before they all came off. The assembly manual was well written and easy to understand with full pictures.

I knew that with the lighter motor I would need to keep all my weight forward of CG (Center of Gravity) to get this thing to balance out correctly.



Batteries and switches would all have to be installed as far forward as I could get them. I did not want to add any "dead weight" to the front of the plane to get the plane to balance out. I even went as far as cutting about 6oz out of the canopy/hatch area to loose some of the aft CG weight. The fuel tanks were moved from the front of the plane to over the wing tube to minimize in-flight changing CG.



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## Todd's Tidbits

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The elevator and rudder servos were originally mounted at the rear of the plane. I moved the rudder servos forward and used a pull-pull setup for the rudder to save some tail weight.



So as you can tell I did a little ARF bashing to this plane. I am pleased to report that the plane has a final flying weight of 23 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds with a Slimline smoke system on board.

The plane has not flown yet, but this weekend is looking nice. I will give a flight performance report in the next newsletter.



Happy landings guys!!!

## Field Conditions

Here are pictures taken of our field to show the progress of the Redline Racing track. I will include pictures as the work progresses.



A new windsock has been purchased and will be put up at the field shortly.



The club is also looking for volunteers for cutting the grass. You can see from this picture taken Friday evening, June 6<sup>th</sup> that the grass was recently mowed. Thank you for making it possible for members with smaller wheels to fly.