

# The Broken Prop



## MARCH 2005 EDITION

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

### Officers for 2005:

#### **President**

Gary Smedes  
586-727-4507

#### **Vice-President:**

Doug McLaren  
810-395-2098  
mclarenintl@direcway.com

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

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

#### **Treasurer:**

Ed Olszewski  
proptreas@comcast.net

#### **Safety Officer:**

Mike Grant

#### **Field Marshall:**

Ray Dart

### Instructors:

Todd Litke	810-966-4546
Glen Kolar	810-385-3588
Greg Feyers	810-367-3924

### 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.

www.**SCCPROPBUSTERS**.com

### President's Perspective

*By Gary Smedes*

At the last meeting there were three new sections introduced for submission to the club bylaws. The first section falls under Article III and was written to define a Guest pilot and the rules associated with a Guest flying at the club field. The last line of this section is designed for perhaps someone visiting from out-of-town for a week and therefore may be able to fly more than three times. This section was designed to encourage non-members to join the Propbusters rather than have them take advantage of the unwritten Guest rule.

The next two sections fall under Article II and were written to clarify issues with training and certifying new pilots. Again, the Bylaws fall short in this area.

We can also look at all three of these new sections as yet another step forward in operating our field in a safe manner. I think that a lot of us get caught up in the fun and enjoyment of this hobby that we forget that, in the hands of an untrained or inexperienced pilot, these model aircraft can be quite dangerous and cause a lot of damage. Therefore, it is up to all of us, as a club, to create the safest environment in which to fly in, whether it is through club rules, bylaws or just common sense.

So the decision to add these new sections to the Bylaws will be left up to the members at the next meeting, either 'as is' or with changes. If you have any ideas for improvement, come to the March meeting and voice your opinion. Just in writing this article, I've already come up with some changes that I will propose at the meeting.

Hope to see you there.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Great Lakes Nautical Society Model Boat Building. Seaway Terminal in Port Huron - 11 am to 3 pm. [www.greatlakesmodeling.com](http://www.greatlakesmodeling.com)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Indoor Electric Flying at **Birchwood Sports Dome**. 9 pm to Midnight. Every other Fri Night. [www.bwsportsdome.com](http://www.bwsportsdome.com)
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Indoor R/C Cars at **Birchwood Sports Dome**. 9pm to Midnight every Sunday night. For more information call Steve at the Birchwood Sports Dome (810) 385-3663

### APRIL

- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> – The Weak Signals - Toledo Swap - 9 am to 5 pm - [www.toledoshow.com](http://www.toledoshow.com)

### MAY

- 21<sup>st</sup> – SMAC Swap in Crosswell, MI

### JUNE

- 18<sup>th</sup> - **Propbusters** Fun Fly - 9 am to 2 pm

### JULY

- 18<sup>th</sup> - River District Eagles - Gathering of the Eagles - Location TBA (Rain-day July 19<sup>th</sup>)

### AUGUST

- 6<sup>th</sup> – **Propbusters** Club Picnic/4H Flying Demonstration - 9 am to 2 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> – SMAC Fly-In For Toys - Crosswell

### September

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Propbusters** Salvation Army Can Food Charity Fun Fly - 9 am to 2 pm

## February Meeting

Meeting started at 6:04 pm with 12 members present. Gary brought up an error in last month's newsletter. The Eagles COULD hold the Gathering of the Eagles at the Propbusters field, not that they WILL. Our field is the backup. The location is to be left open until the Eagles make a final decision. Gary/Doug made a motion to accept the amended secretary's report. Doug/Al voted to accept the treasurer's report and pay bills.

The Cold Duck is still missing the carburetor. Doug is trying to get the time to get down to pickup the part. We have purchased the Woods manual from Kirk and Todd's dad has the manual. A motion was made and passed to allow the board to make the financial decision for purchase of Wood's parts before the next meeting.

We haven't heard anything from the Park about our lease yet.

The shed has to be moved in the spring and the field drain is still not completed across the field. The trench needs to be made another 15 feet to the ditch.

Swap Results. The extra food was bought back by Doug. There was discussion on this resulting in Doug making a donation to the club for the food.

Snow Plowing. Stan plowed our driveway to the field and the park plowed to our gate.

We still need a list of instructors with phone numbers to be put at the field. We also need directions to the nearest phone in case of emergency. This list will be posted inside the frequency board so it's not available to the general public.

Guests flying at the field. We discussed some proposed Bylaw changes to stop non-members from flying at the field for an extended period of time without joining the club. Proposed Bylaws amendments will be put in the next newsletter.

Gary Wilkerson is also an AMA Intro Pilot. A host member can only fly 1 time on host member's equipment. Guests than have to join AMA and Propbusters to continue flying at our field.

New Members. Guy Bratt and his grandson Billy Griffith were voted into the club.

New Business. Josh O. has volunteered to be a pilot trainer. He would also like to be one of our AMA Intro pilots as Jack is already one, so being it for more than one club is not cost effective.

Bulk Fuel order will go in April 1st. 3 different brands. The order form will go out in next month's newsletter.

Motion passed to end the meeting 7:47 pm.

## Financial Report

Beginning Balance **\$1,989.71**

### Income

Dues	\$ 55.00
Donation (Doug)	\$ 37.70
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 92.70</u></b>

### Expenses

Keith – postage	\$ 14.80
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 14.80</u></b>

### Ending Balance

Checking	\$ 2,067.61
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>\$2,067.61</u></b>

### 2005 Membership    **New Members**

Junior	6	Guy Bratt
Senior	16	Billy Griffiths
Lifetime	2	Amy Davis
Regular	30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	

## Proposed Propbusters Bylaws

### Article II

**Section IV:** Any pilot flying solo at Propbusters field must be certified "Pilot" status by the club President or his designee.

### Article II

**Section V:** Club membership must be applied for, and proof of valid AMA membership is required before a student can begin training. Training of Non-members at Propbusters field is not permitted. The instructor is responsible for verification of students AMA document and club status. Student pilots may fly only on "buddy box" until granted pilot status by the club president or his designee.

### Article III

**Section IX:** AMA member guest pilots are welcome up to three times per year per guest (excluding contest or special events). Guest must be accompanied by a host Propbusters member, and agree to follow all club rules and By-laws. Host members are responsible for the actions of their guest. Guests using the field more than three visits are expected to join the club. Host members allowing a guest to use the field more than three times may themselves be held responsible for guest dues and fees. This may be waived in advance by a ¾ vote of the executive board on a case-by-case basis.

## Club Caps

Embroidered St. Clair County R/C Propbusters club caps will be available for order at the next club meeting. The caps are kaki top with a hunter green bill. The price will be \$13.00. See Ed Olszewski for more details. [proptreas@comcast.net](mailto:proptreas@comcast.net)

## 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

**Contact: Mike at (810) 329-6406**

## Treasurer's 2004 Report

*By Ed Olszewski*

I will spare the details of the month-by-month financial summary; those details are available in the monthly newsletters. Last year we took in \$2,920.05, 44% was from membership dues, 56% from monetary donations and fundraisers. We spent 119% of that income to run and improve our field and club (a 19% deficit): 36% of our expenditures were spent on field improvements, 19% for repair and maintenance parts for the tractors, 10% was spent on gas for mowing the field, 9% on supplies and mailing the newsletter, 11% for prizes, hall, supplies food etc., 9% for club hats for resale, 3% for AMA, 3% for septic. These numbers do not include the numerous member donations of supplies, equipment use, and materials used for field improvements, and of course the hundreds of man-hours of time donated by our members.

This coming year we are also faced with having to pay rent to the park for our field. Major expenditures also will include repair to both tractors and field equipment.

The Propbusters club has always strived to keep membership dues as low as possible, while maintaining one of the best fields in the area. Our club, like any other Non-profit organizations must rely heavily on the support of our members. Our dues structure only provides a portion of the capital needed to operate our club. To survive, we need the continued support of volunteers to work our fundraisers and events to generate operating capital. To help keep cost at a minimum we also need the continued support of members to freely donate their time and resources for the maintenance of the field and field equipment. The support needed from members includes mileage and gas for personal vehicles, personal labor, use of personal tools and equipment. The club has always, and will continue to pay out of pocket expenses such as: Gas for club or professional equipment used at the field for maintenance or improvement, supplies, service parts and repair parts for club equipment. We run an above board operation, we must require an itemized receipt from place of purchase for all reimbursable expenditures, and this is just a good commonsense business practice. Any expenditure also requires approval by the body at a regular meeting or board approval as appropriate.

Not every member is able to donate their time, due to many personal or professional reasons. Every person experiences different times in their lives when they have more or less time they are able to donate. Our club does not require service from our members, we just ask everyone to pitch in when they can. The next time you are at the field, look around and give a thought to all the hard work by all the members to get it where it is today, and maintain it for the future.

## Big Schnitt Model Trains and Planes

[www.bigschnittonline.com](http://www.bigschnittonline.com)

My name is Curtis Hustace. I own a new RC Store, Big Schnitt Model Trains & Planes ( [www.bigschnittonline.com](http://www.bigschnittonline.com) ) in Evansville, IN. I am a big fan of the RC community and would like to help your club. I would like to offer your club members a 12% discount off of my prices\*. I have many products on the web, but I can't possibly put all of them there in a reasonable time, there are just too many. I will extend that discount to items that are not listed on the web as well, and to any special order items, or out of stock items/backordered items. I would also help your club recruit members. I will sell any new member their first order with me for just 5% above my costs\*\*, I would be happy to provide gift certificates to be handed out to your new members for this use. Members who Re-new their membership will be giving a \$25 discount coupon on purchases over \$500 (and don't forget the 12% Discount on top of that for being a club member!) ALSO, if you have any Junior members below the age of 15, I will extend to them their first airplane purchase at **\*MY COST\*** to help their parents get them into the hobby\*\*. I carry brands such as Hangar 9, Evolution, Saito, Seagull, JR Radios, UltraCote, this list goes on!

I can also set up a program where your club will earn an income from sales generated by your members. I can give you 2% of gross net sales\*\*\* back to your club AND any sales generated by referrals of your members. This may not be much at first, but every little bit helps! ;)

\* Discount is not applied to sales tax and shipping charges.  
\*\* This is a one time discount. "First Plane" for junior member discounts apply to trainers only. Exceptions can be made, but are solely at the discretion of Big Schnitt Model Trains and Planes. Discount is not applied to sales tax and shipping charges.  
\*\*\* 2% of gross sales, not including tax and shipping charges

1405 N. Main Street  
Evansville, IN 47711  
812-423-6948

**REDLINE**  
*Racing*

## SC4 Free College Day

Redline Racing participated in the recent "Free College Day" at the SC4 campus. Professors of R/C racing, Ian Caldwell, Ron Pennell, Glenn Lee, and Nathan Wilcox conducted an in-depth course on R/C racing. They dazzled the dozen students with their seemingly limitless knowledge of R/C racing, car maintenance, and over all needs of the hobby. Hopefully we spurred some new interest with the participants in both the hobby and the track, and we will see some of them out racing with us this summer. Opportunities like these are great for our clubs and we need to take full advantage of them. The more people who know we are out here the better.

### Redline Schedule

Races are held every other Sunday, but it looks like that would hit Easter. As such, they will be racing two weeks in a row and skipping that Sunday. Races will be held April 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. No racing on Easter.

### FOR SALE



This RC10-GT is for sale for \$150. If your interested give Tony a call at (810)327-6530.

## Propbusters Lease

Mike Grant was at the parks commission meeting and he said they approved our lease. We will hear more information at the Propbusters' meeting.

## Todd's New Plane



Todd let me know he's getting a new electric plane. It's a U-Can-Do-3D EP.



The durable, flexible FlightFlex airframe is lightweight, and enables the plane to keep flying, even after many crashes!

Maybe we'll see it at the Dome this Friday.

[www.electrify.com/parkflyers/gpma1275.html](http://www.electrify.com/parkflyers/gpma1275.html)

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY PROPBUSTERS**  
**2005 BULK FUEL PURCHASE ORDER FORM**

**SOLD BY FULL CASE ONLY, PRICES INCLUDE 6% MI SALES TAX.** Pre paid orders only, due no later than the **April 1st. This form must be used for your order.** You will be notified when order comes in. All orders to be picked up at Pastime Hobbies within one week of notification.

Make checks payable to <b>St. Clair County Propbusters</b> , Send check along with order form to:  <b>Ed Olszewski</b> 7147 Main Smiths Creek MI 48074	NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____ _____ PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____
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**Note: Prices may be subject to change, due to changes in freight charges.**

<b><u>COOL POWER</u></b>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Effective Gallon Price</u>	<u>Price Per Case</u>	<u>No. of Cases ordered</u>	<u>Total</u>
Morgan's	10%	(11.89)	<b>47.56</b>	X	_____ = _____
Total synthetic fuel	15%	(12.38)	<b>49.50</b>	X	_____ = _____
for use in engines	4CYL.	(12.82)	<b>51.25</b>	X	_____ = _____
with rings.	30%HELI	(19.94)	<b>79.75</b>	X	_____ = _____
<b><u>OMEGA</u></b>					
Morgan's	15%	(12.34)	<b>49.35</b>	X	_____ = _____
Castor / Synthetic	4CYL.	(12.95)	<b>51.80</b>	X	_____ = _____
blend for all engines					
<b><u>BYRON</u></b>					
	15%	(13.63)	<b>54.50</b>	X	_____ = _____
	4CYL.	(13.63)	<b>54.50</b>	X	_____ = _____

For more information on fuels visit the web:  
<http://www.morganfuel.com/modelfuel.htm>  
<http://www.byronfuels.com/>

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b> \$ _____
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