



# THE PROP WASH

## Club Officers

- **President - Ray Mathis**
- **Vice President - Dick Jones**
- **Secretary - Larry Bonnette**
- **Treasurer - Sam Barrett**
- **Editor/Webmaster - Larry Bonnette**



**Ray Mathis**

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

Things are starting to heat up now that summer is upon us , be sure to protect yourself while at the field.

Once again due to the restrictions in place we had to cancel the June meeting, we're hoping for a July meeting.

For those interested, the club has a Helping Hands Award that is offered to family of members. More details on the web page.

We now have around 155 members and seem to add one each month , so if you meet a new member, help them when you can and welcome them .

The club has a visitor policy that allows members to bring a guest up to three times, the member must be at the field with the guest, it does not allow non members to show up and fly unless invited.

We have a mowing list with team leaders each week, and very few members are showing up to help. The problem is with a club this size only a very small number are the ones doing all the work. If you can't make it on the day chosen then let someone know. With more working it doesn't take long to take care of the field . Get involved with the club and help with the work. It is part of being a club member as in the by-laws. We can't keep relying on the few to take care of everything.

It is almost time for renewal notices to go out and at this time we need a Safety officer along with some members to act as instructors when needed. In a few months it will be time for nominations for officers, so here is a chance to step up for the club.

Remember to be a good neighbor and stay in our area and comply with field rules. If you have trash at the field be sure to take it with you as you leave making sure to lock up if you are the last to leave.

See you at the field

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**Meetings are at the Conroe Friendship Center (Meals on Wheels building) on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM**  
**We hope to see you there.**

# Words from the VP



Dick Jones

# Meeting Minutes



Larry Bonnette

It feels strange to me having to write an article for the PropWash. Typically, I just copy the months meeting minutes and paste them into the PropWash. Now I know how it feels to sit down and try to think of something (meaningful) to say to my fellow members.

I guess you have noticed that the weather has been absent from our website. This is because I bragged in last months PropWash that it was working so well. Before the ink was even dry on my May article. The weather stopped streaming from the board that resides inside of the box mounted on the pole at the flying field.

After confirming that the board was bad (which takes a few days). I ordered a new and improved board and waited (another few days). The board arrived, I installed it, and it worked... except for the wind speed. After confirming that the new board was bad (which took a few days). I had to convince the board vendor that the board was indeed bad and they needed to send us a new one (which took more than a few days). They are sending us a new one (I'm sure it will take a few days). I'll let you know what happened in the July Prop-Wash.

I mentioned that the new weather board is "improved". This is true and I am excited to see how it performs. The old board uses an ESP8266 processor, which includes Wi-Fi circuitry. This little processor works pretty good but because it only has one core (CPU). It has to take care of any weather-related processing as well as keeping up with the Wi-Fi traffic. What normally happens with an ESP8266 is that the CPU sometimes gets so busy with the weather-related processing that the Wi-Fi gets ignored then it gets lost and the board crashes. This is why I installed a "watch Dog timer" last year that simply reset the board when it crashed.

The new "improved" board uses an ESP32 processor. This processor also includes Wi-Fi circuitry. The difference is the ESP32 has two cores (CPUs). This means that one core is used exclusively for the Wi-Fi and the other core is used for processing weather-related stuff. The chances of the ESP32's Wi-Fi getting lost are greatly reduced which makes the weather board more reliable.

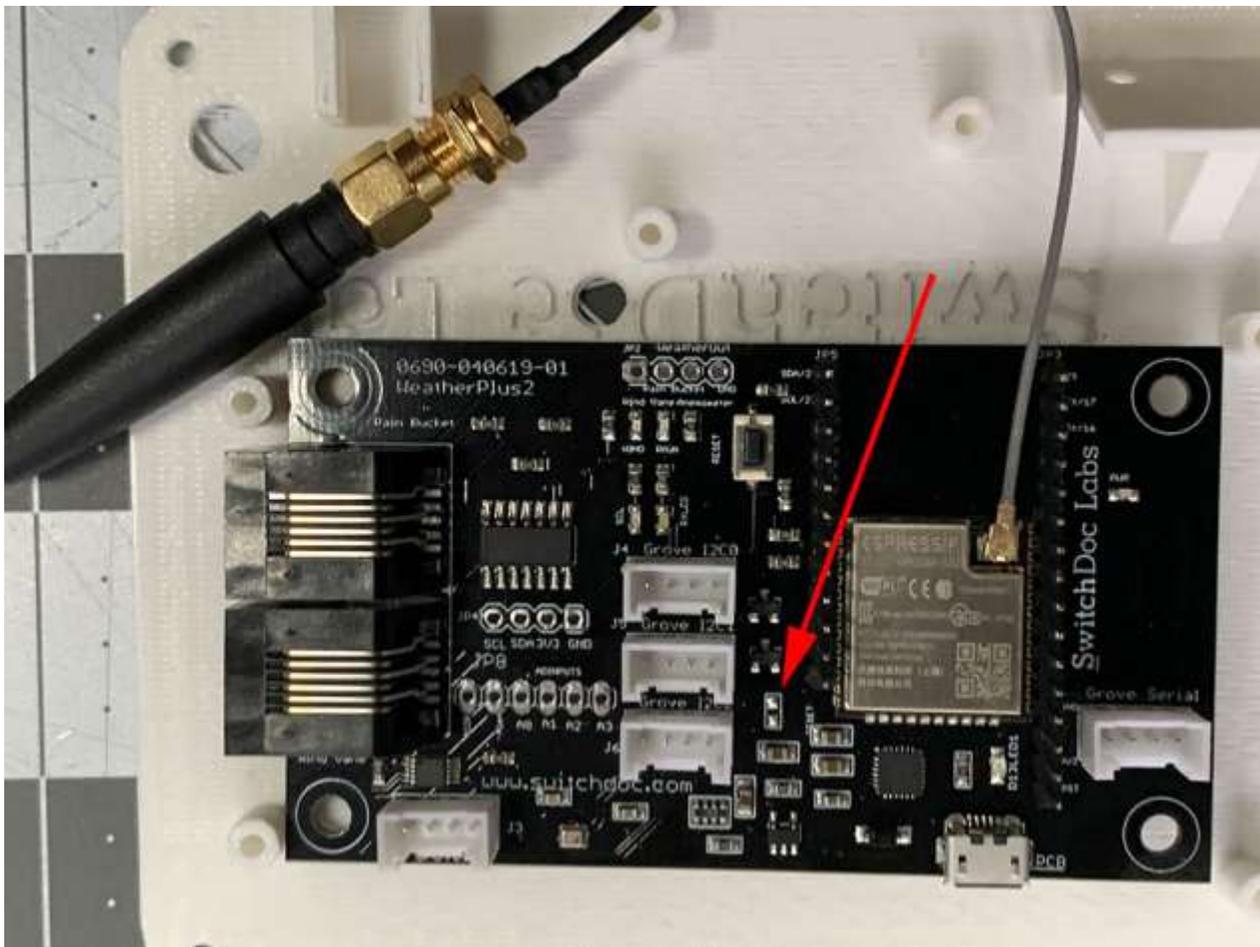
Well, look at that. I found something to talk about. And, it was meaningful (to me anyway). The grass is still growing please help with the mowing.

## Meeting Minutes (Continued)

The problem with the new weather board was that it was not reporting wind speed. Every thing else worked. I tried to figure out what was wrong with the board. I figured if it was something simple I could fix it and avoid the long process of sending it back and then waiting for a replacement.

What I found was a missing component.

They agreed it was defective and are sending us a new one.





Sam Barrett

## The Treasurers Report

It's June and another meeting cancelled due to the Coronavirus. However, our Treasury is in good condition as we head into the better flying weather of 2020. We have all our major expenses, like property taxes and insurance behind us and adequate reserves to handle the up-coming mowing season.

We currently have 155 members and a number of them joined over the break since our last meeting. I am anxious to have a meeting where we can officially "vote" them into the club. It's really just a formality and required by our By-Laws but missing all these meetings causes us to get behind in our duties under our club rules. The June roster of paid members and their AMA status was posted on the field board if you want to see who all paid

club members are and whether their AMA coverage is in effect. If you see someone at the field you don't recognize and they aren't displaying their AMA, don't be shy about asking who they are. Only paid members and guests of paid members are allowed to use the field. If you discover a non-member without a sponsor member, get their info if you can and report it to one of the club officers for follow-up.

To ensure only members use our field who are AMA covered is to financially protect each and every member who flies at our field. Always display your AMA while you are flying and check to be sure your membership hasn't expired. It would ruin your day to be completing an incident report and discover you are financially responsible because your AMA has expired. Don't be that guy!

Also, remember that the Barnstormer membership year is from August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>, the following year. Dues invoices will be emailed to all members in mid to late July and are due August 1<sup>st</sup>. Regular memberships are still \$100, annually. Gate codes will be changed when the new member year begins this year. We had delayed the change in years when BEST was being held but it makes sense to change the access combination when the member year changes.

Being the Treasurer, I always think about how to pay for all we do at the field. Members can help by making sure all lights, fans and air conditioners are turned off when leaving the field and to lock up to keep our field secure. The mowing crews will be out this time of the year and members are asked to keep trash picked up so the mowers don't have to pick it up or discover it when it gets turned into confetti by the mowers. A clean field makes for a nicer day for all. Flying weather is here, let's be ready for it!



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# DON'T FORGET

TRI-COUNTY BARNSTORMER  
CLUB MEETINGS ON THE FIRST  
THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE

July 2nd