



THE PROP WASH

Club Officers

- **President - Kirk Jensen**
- **Vice President - Gabriel Virene**
- **Secretary - Joe Marquardt**
- **Treasurer - Sam Barrett**
- **Editor - Max Taylor**
- **Webmaster - Larry Bonnette**



Kirk Jensen

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hello Barnstormers!
 I want to thank all of the members for allowing me to be club president for the last 2 years. I have enjoyed it and really enjoyed working with the folks on the executive committee. Joe, this years Secretary has been elected to the position of president and I couldn't be happier. Joe has the organizational skills and process management that will suit the club very well.

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At the last meeting the members voted to name the pavilion "Bohdi Pavilion" in honor of the little guy that passed away. We were told that he loved watching our flying from the neighbors property next door. We participated in a memorial fly-over for the family at their request. After the fly-over we met with the family, They said that Bodhi loved to watch the planes fly. I will be making the sign and hanging it in the pavilion within a couple weeks.

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.

Meeting Minutes



Joe Marquardt

November 3rd 2022 Tri-County Barnstormers meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm with 13 members and 0 visitors in attendance at the Friendship Center in Conroe.

Prior Minutes: Approved by voice vote.

Field report: Field and club house are clean. Weekly mowing teams have been stood down for the winter season. Tractor was prepped for antifreeze change.

Treasury Report: Annual audit underway. One of the clubs' major expenses received was the property tax bill which is approximately \$4300 has been received and is due at the end of the year. Current club roster has 129 paid members.

Old business: On Saturday October 29th 8 of the club pilots participated in a flyover for the neighbor to the East. The neighbors are planting a grove of trees for their grandson who recently passed away and our flyover was to celebrate the joy little Bodhi received watching the planes fly. The members present voted to have a memorial plaque placed in the pavilion honoring Bodhi.



New business:

New members were presented and voted into the club. Pablo Aizpiri, Cody Lovins, Caleb Lovins, Bob Merrill, Mike Purcell, Rick Rees, and Clarence Williams. Welcome to the club!

Members Burger and Night Fun Fly will be held at the field on Saturday November 19th. Burgers at 5pm and dark flying after sunset at 5:30pm. Come join the fun and RSVP to

secretary@tri-countybarnstormers.com so we can have an accurate headcount on the burgers.

New board members were nominated and passed a unanimous vote at the meeting. The next board is

President	Joe Marquardt
Vice President	Jay Wright
Treasurer	Sam Barrett
Secretary	"Patrick" Mapston
Editor	Open (Max Taylor will continue till replaced)

Your 2023 board members will be installed at the December meeting. We are also having our annual Christmas Pot Luck. The club will supply the main dish (McKenzies BBQ) please bring sides and desserts to share.

Prizes and Models:

Chips, cookies, and drinks were available to the meeting attendees.

Attendance drawing winner was Dee Rice (not present).

No prizes were awarded (New Creations gift certificates were delayed).

Next meeting December 1st at 7:30 PM will be conducted in person (at the Conroe Community Senior Center@ 1202 Candy Cane Lane (formerly The Friendship Center)).

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Happy flying in 2022 and look forward to seeing you at the field!



Gabriel Virene

Words from the VP

Hi fellow barnstormers!

Looks like it's going to get cold out there but that won't slow us down. Lol.

The field looks good. I hope to have the tables at the field patched and looking good before this comes out.

I have been talking about a big bird somewhere around the first few months of 2023. If you can help-out let us know. I'm hopeful for this as we haven't had one with covid going around.

I have several winter projects in the works. A 1/4 scale grasshopper and a 50cc p51 mustang! I hope to see you at the field! Let's see those builds! Till next time fellow barnstormers!



Sam Barrett

The Treasurers Report

It's November and the Treasury remains in good shape. However, we received our Walker County Property Tax bill and it is getting to be a concern and one we need to be appraised of before consideration of additional improvement projects at the field.

In 2020 our total taxes were \$2,021.61 for the combined 40 acres and improvements. In 2021 our taxes jumped by 68.9% to \$3,414.35! In 2022 our tax bill increased by roughly 25% over 2021 to \$4,269.70. The parcel of land with our clubhouse and runway are on were taxed \$4,232.58 while the 20 acres being shel-

tered by agricultural exemptions were taxed at a total of \$37.12.

We have an annual field maintenance budget of \$5,000 to support our field and the maintenance and operation of our mowing equipment. If we spent the entire budget, it means that the annual dues of 50 members are required to fund it. Given the property tax growth we have experienced, it will take the dues of 43 members this year to pay those taxes. If we get another tax increase of 25%, it will take over 50 members to cover the property taxes of our field, even if we make no additional improvements. Planning additional improvements need to consider the tax impact of those improvements and the burden of those taxes in the number of members required to fund those taxes. We currently have 129 members. That means our current coverage of utilities, insurance and other expenses outside the field maintenance budget will have to be funded by 29 members.

We currently have a decent surplus in our bank account to cover expected annual expenses but, we were lucky as we only spent a little over half of the field maintenance budget in FY 2022. With our field maintenance equipment getting a little older, replacement of those assets may require further belt tightening on the budget. Our financial forecast needs to be estimate the amount and timing of those replacements before we consider any other projects. It will be February 2023 before we can address these concerns when the new slate of officers are in place.

On a happier note, the rain and cold of November have kept me from crashing any model that I might have considered flying. But, if I did fly and my plane damaged any property or resulted in bodily injury to innocent bystanders, my AMA coverage would save me from possible financial ruin. Check your AMA before flying and make sure it is current. No flying at our field without current AMA membership; no exception! Fly safe and fly AMA covered. Before flying and make sure it is current. No flying at our field without current AMA membership; no exception! Fly safe and fly AMA covered.

Rudolph Klimke's Fokker Dr1 Triplane

The life expectancy for new pilots in World War I was about 92 flight hours. It would increase to about 295 hours with experience. Lieutenant Klimke's mother told him to paint anchors, symbolizing "Good Hope" on his airplane for good luck. It worked. He lived through the war, even though wounded at least once, passing in 1986 at the age of 96.

It was discovered during the war most accidents were during landings. The pilots often flew at about 15,000 feet without heat or oxygen. The anoxia and cold induced numbness affected their ability to control their "crate". The solution was to circle the base at least twice before landing.

Credited with 17 kills Lt. Klimke was an ACE. He started in artillery. Transferred to bombers where his aggressive nature got him a transfer to fighters. Near the end of the war he was wounded. Made it back to his base and was taken to the hospital which was bombed that night. He was not healed when the war ended.

About the model. Built by Tri-Couty Barnstomer member Robert S. "Steve" Tinsley as a way of taking his mind off of chemotherapy the one-fifth scale Triplane was completed in about a year. Flown about 5 times it was found to be difficult to take off but flew beautifully. Steve donated the model to the Pioneer Flight Museum, 190 Pershing Ln, Kingsbury, TX 78638, in October of 2022.





P.O. Box 916
New Waverly, Texas 77358

«First Name» «Last Name»

«Address»

«City», «State»

«Zip»

Web site www.tri-countybarnstormers.com

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DON'T FORGET

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

NEXT MEETING IS

December 1st