

Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT

View from the Flight Deck...



Spike Enck

I would like to welcome Simon Willcox from Gorham as the newest member of the Propsnappers. Like a lot of us he flew many years ago, but job and raising a family took priority. Now that time has passed, he is finding the opportunity to return to flying. He will be working with an

instructor to relearn his flying skills and wants to return to a nitro plane. When you see him at the field or membership meeting, please say hello.

I have heard several members discussing a kit still sitting in an unopened box as they contemplate their next move. Maybe it is a first attempt and they need some encouragement or help in starting the project or they have moved up to a more complex build. Well misery loves company, and that is just where our Bullsheet editor finds himself and needs the motivation to start a project he has been procrastinating to start. At the April 5th membership meeting at Ray & Robin's, Jim will layout the start of his project with a set of plans, discuss his next steps and seek input from those builders at

the meeting. From that point on he will report his progress as we follow his step-by-step process to a finished plane ready for its maiden flight. The members who have considerable building experience are Peter Flanagan, Elliott Randall, Tony Blanchard, Bill Reeve, Bill Lairsey, Dan DeSena, and I have been known to build a few. Fellow members are always happy to share their experiences.

I want to point out a few changes in club event dates. The May Float-Fly at the Kiwanis Beach will now take place on May 6th & 7th as the original proposed dates conflicted with the Kiwanis Club schedule. The Fall Float-Fly dates of September 16th & 17th still stand. Our membership meeting and fun-fly originally scheduled for May 6th has been moved to May 13th. And the Swap Meet has been scheduled for Sunday, May 14th at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland.

Help is needed for our first open house in three years on June 24th at the field. We need a volunteer to oversee the event which is a great opportunity to get involved. I will be happy to help but want someone else to get the credit.

With April around the corner, we will be needing a work party to lend a hand in preparing the field for a summer of activities. Between now and then, a

punch list will be prepared and if this year is like the last few years, filling vole holes will be a priority. So far, the clubhouse has stood up well against the wind, rain, and snow of this winter. Wind did take down the sign leading up to the field and the tell tail pole which are easy fixes. The solar panels have weathered nicely.

Wheels up,

Spike

See the
entrance gate
update on
page 4.

2023 Club Events



Spring Float-Fly	May 6 & 7
Field Opening Fun-Fly	May 13
Swap Meet	May 14
Summer Fun-Fly & Public Open House	June 24
Warbird Event	July 22
Fall Float-Fly	September 16 & 17
Fall Fun-Fly	October 7

Visit our events page...

RAY &
ROBIN'S

HOBBY CENTER



Board of Directors Meeting

3/1/23 AT 5:30PM VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Spike Enck, David Dyer, David Wend, Ed Ricker, Elliott Randell, Jim McCoy, Tony Blanchard, Jeff Beuttell, Dan DeSena and Bill Lairsey as a guest.

CALL TO ORDER: 17:30

Board Meeting Minutes - Vote to accept February board minutes. All members present voted to accept as written.

Treasurer's Report - Spike said the only outgoing expenses were \$23 which he spent on Numb Thumps coffee and extras, of which he has leftovers for the next event. Ed reported that as of this meeting, membership was now up to 39 paying adults.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Numb Thumbs: Spike reported that there was a turnout of about fourteen members and though rather windy, Dan DeSena managed to get his plane down safely.

Port-a-Potty: Elliott mentioned that he was approached by a member with concerns about the locked Port-a-Potty. After some discussion it was determined that it will continue to be locked until the official Field Opening and has been properly serviced by Royal Flush, which should occur by mid-April. It was also decided that it will return to the locked state after its fall winterization.

New Members: Spike acknowledged Simon Willcox and Peter Sarvas as new members who both have returned to the hobby after their busy lives had led them astray.

Up Coming Events: Spike reported a slight adjustment to the scheduling of the Spring Float Fly due to an abutter's complaint about noise on Mother's Day. The new dates will be May 6th & 7th. The Spring Field Opening Fun Fly and Members Meeting is now scheduled for Saturday May 13th. All of which are listed on propsnappers.org under Events. The Board is still looking for members to help coordinate the Open House Fun Fly to be held on June 24th. Volunteers, please contact Spike or any board member.

General Discussion: Elliott asked about the servicing of the mower. Spike said that it was scheduled for the latter part of March. Spike said he would investigate the purchase of a second set of blades so that they could be easily swapped out mid-season. Elliott volunteered to sharpen them as he has done in the past.

MEETING ADJOURNED 18:08

David Wend, Secretary

2023 Executive Board



Spike Enck
President

[CONTACT](#)



David Dyer
Vice President

[CONTACT](#)



Ed Ricker
Treasurer

[CONTACT](#)



David Wend
Secretary

[CONTACT](#)

2023 Board of Directors

Jeff Beuttell	Elliott Randall
Tony Blanchard	Jim McCoy
Dan DeSena (EX OFFICIO)	

FIELD MARSHALL
John Thibault

WEBMASTER
Bill Lairsey

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Jim McCoy

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR
Bill Lairsey

Propsnappers Member Meeting



Wednesday, April 5 • 6:30 PM
Downstairs at Ray & Robin's Hobby Center

West Falmouth Crossing Plaza
65 Gray Road
Falmouth, ME 04105

Located at the rear entrance of the West Falmouth Crossing Plaza off exit 53 (formerly exit 10) of the Maine Turnpike. Enter the building through the main doors and then proceed to the right and down the steps.

[Map & Directions...](#)

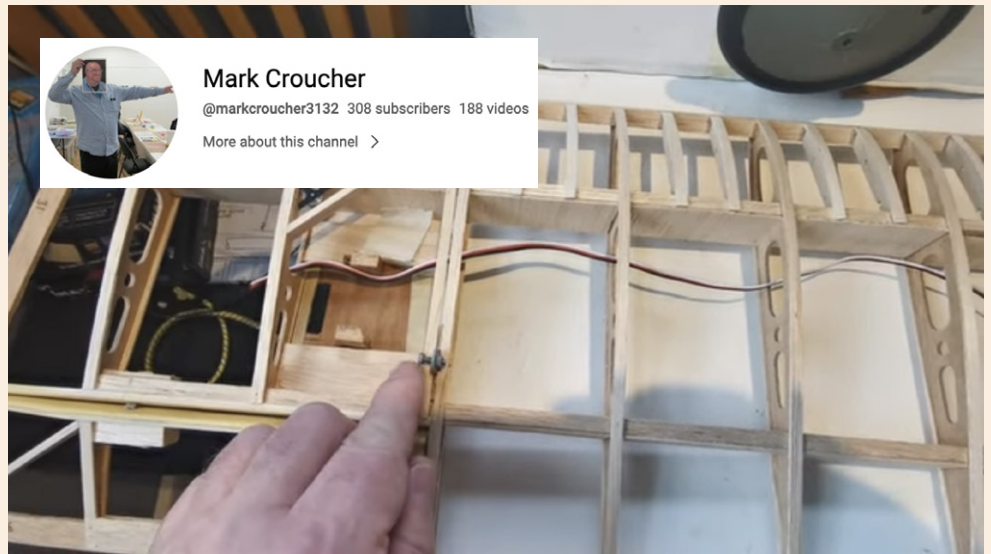
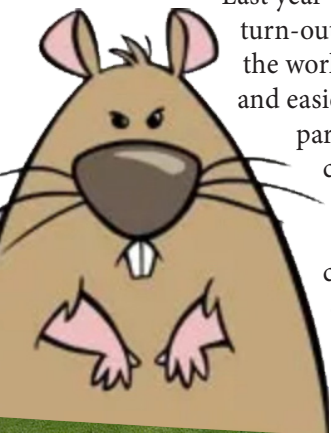
There is no secretary's report for a March 1 member's meeting at Ray & Robin's as it was canceled due to inclement weather

WATCH YOUR INBOX

Upcoming Field Maintenance

Propsnapper members should keep their eyes peeled for an email announcing the date for our yearly field clean-up. As in the past, we'll need to tidy-up what Mother Nature did over the winter months as well as re-position the pilot stations and field benches for the coming season. Another task that has been on our to-do list for a few seasons will be to fill the numerous vole holes on the runways. Please bring straight and spring rakes, shovels, work gloves and your usual sense of humor.

Last year we had a great turn-out which made the work go much faster and easier for everyone participating. Please consider helping out. Even if you can only dedicate a hour to the cause, it would be very much appreciated!



Around the Patch

Jim McCoy Bullsheet Editor

I'd like to introduce you all to **Mark Croucher**. This guy quite literally came on my screen as a random interest

[Mark's YouTube Channel...](#)

group suggestion on Facebook. It turns out that he has a fairly robust YouTube channel featuring his RC modeling exploits. I was first directed to his videos documenting the construction of a Flair SE5a British World War I biplane kit. The build itself was just plain interesting...but I was also enchanted by his heavy English accent (or maybe it's Irish...I honestly can't tell) and laid-back delivery. I always find myself chuckling when he refers to the "fiddly-bits" of the construction...a term he often uses to describe some small detail or piece of

accessory hardware that he's struggling to assemble. It's clear that he's a scale builder, but I think even the non-builders among us would find some value in this build-along series of videos.

Mark also has some walk-around installments and flying videos that are pretty interesting as well. All presented with a good-natured and friendly style. Check it out using the link above!

If anyone has their own favorite aircraft-related website or social page, feel free to bring it to my attention and I will try to feature it in a future Bullsheet.

[Email Editor](#)

About the Propsnappers



The Propsnappers R/C Club of Greater Portland was incorporated in 1963 to promote and encourage the hobby of building and flying radio-controlled model aircraft. We are a non-profit organization that holds monthly meetings, sponsors flying events throughout the summer and maintains a flying field for the use of our members. The Green Road field entrance is located at 61 Running Hill Road in Scarborough, ME.

[Club Website](#)

For more information about our club, including membership and directions to our flying field, please visit our website at propsnappers.org or click the link above.

2023 Entrance Gate Procedure

The gate code has been updated for 2023...so it's important for folks to renew their membership soon to be able to enjoy the spring flying that's right around the corner!

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY - We are permitted to keep the gate swung open while we are flying from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Last one out closes and locks the gate.

ON WEEKENDS - The gate must be swung closed but left unlocked by putting the chain over the gate.

In either situation make sure the padlock itself is locked on the chain so it does not disappear. Thanks!

Membership Renewal Time!

So, what are you doing to prepare for the 2023 flying season? Other than our hardier members who strap skis or floats to their models and fly off the snow, Propsnappers Field is pretty quiet this time of year. For the club, what is really important for you to do RIGHT NOW is renew your membership. The sooner we have a bead on membership levels, the better we will be able plan club activities for the spring and early summer.

So, whatever you do to prepare for another flying season...build, repair or read back issues of *Model Aviation*... take a moment today to renew your Propsnappers Club membership. It really does make a difference.

Yearly dues are \$70 with youth memberships being free. A one time initiation fee of \$10 is assessed for new members. Flight instruction for all members is free...can't beat that!

Members must also join the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and receive a registration number from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Downloadable Propsnapper club membership applications as well as links for the AMA and FAA are all easily available on our website homepage at propsnappers.org or click this link.

[Club Website](#)



Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

The Propsnappers Club Bullsheet newsletter is published approximately six times a year to keep members up-to-date on club activities. Comments, suggestions and contributions of content are welcome. Please feel free to [EMAIL THE EDITOR](#).

This and other club great event photos courtesy of Ann Blanchard.

