

Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT

View from the Flight Deck



David Dyer

This has been a very intense Winter/early Spring as nature unleashed her fury with devastating results, including the power outages seemingly everywhere. I'm sure you all have dealt with some of the consequences of our unusual weather.

On April 8th, I received a call from Spike, our president ex-officio, who had the great misfortune of falling while negotiating a last batch of slush and ice. While he is on the mend, his injury will curtail his normal participation in Propsnappers events including his meticulous mowing of the field. I think I speak for all of us in wishing Spike a successful healing and a return to his regular activities as soon as possible.

Our April board and members meetings were held via Zoom because of the looming nor-easter, so we missed our usual show-and-tell. However, our May members meeting will be held at the field on May 4th at our Spring Fun-Fly. I hope some of you will bring your latest project to share and perhaps we will have some maiden flights of recent work that has been completed.

There are two events coming up that I encourage you to attend. On April 20th, the workday at the field starts at 9AM. Elliot has flagged all the vole holes to fill and the parking area needs grooming. The annual Swap Meet that David Cry has orchestrated takes place on Sunday, April 27th at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland. We hope the Propsnappers will be well represented and getting some great deals.

The initiative to introduce younger people into the world of RC aviation is moving along two fronts. Simon Wilcox is in touch with a representative from the Big Brothers organization. They have a couple of clients who are interested in aviation and would like to learn how to fly RC planes. Both Simon and Bill Larisey have put together a "protocol" for them that can be used as a template for other groups. FAA, AMA and Propsnappers membership will be provided. If they achieve their solo certificate, the club will give them the Aero Scout plane they learned on. All of this will be funded by donations. The board has already pledged enough to cover the cost for two students.

Richard Evans has been in touch with a friend in the local Civil Air Patrol chapter who is interested in having their cadets fly RC planes to learn about the principles

of aviation. This is another opportunity for our club to have more involvement in our community. I am very appreciative of Simon's and Richard's efforts.

Once the April "showers" have been rung out I am looking forward to flying and hanging out at the field with you. One last thought, if you have not renewed your membership yet, please do that.

Sincerely,

David



Upcoming Events

Field Clean-Up Saturday, April 20
Raindate April 27

Swap Meet Sunday, April 28

Field Opening Fun-Fly & Member Meeting Saturday, May 4
Raindate May 11

Spring Float-Fly May 18 & 19
Saturday & Sunday

Summer Fun-Fly & Open House Saturday, June 22
Raindate June 29

[Visit our events page...](#)



Board of Directors Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Dyer, Ed Ricker, Simon Willcox, Elliott Randall, John Thibault, Tony Blanchard, Jeff Beuttell, Spike Enck

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30PM

Board Meeting Minutes: David called for approval of the submitted board meeting minutes for March 6th, 2024. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Ed reviewed March 2024 financial statement. He reported 38 active members for 2024 as of the end of March. The March 2024 financial statement was approved as submitted.

Secretary's Report: Simon identified and apologized for an error in sending 2024 member cards to approximately 15 non-paid (2024) members. Likely most if not all will pay 2024 dues however Spike suggested a second follow-up email to those affected with attached club membership application. Simon will process.

President's Report: David discussed the quantity of email scams specifically with topic of "Veteran Housing." The annual "Estoppel" certificate was signed relating to the Green Road field sublease validating compliance to lease terms..

OLD BUSINESS

Charter Club Certificate renewal has been received which covers the Green Road and Kiwanis flying sites thru March 31, 2025. David thanked Spike for his assistance.

May 2024 Board Meeting will focus on the Club Management Software received from Joe Horvath.

May board meeting is typically held at the Green Road flying field in conjunction with the Spring Fun-Fly event. However, based on topic of discussion, it will now be a ZOOM meeting tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 at 5:30PM.

NEW BUSINESS

April 20th Spring Field Cleanup

- Minimal Vole damage. Elliot will flag areas that need attention prior to the event.
- Bruce Morris has graciously agreed to bring his tractor to the field, Spike will roll the field after all damage is repaired. Many thanks Bruce
- Elliot suggested only a couple wheelbarrows and 5 gallon buckets would be needed as damage is quite minimal.
- Chainsaws are not needed as no tree damage as of April 2. Upcoming April 4th storm may affect this.

Porta-potty shall be serviced and open for use starting April 17th. Service cost has risen to \$60 per visit with one service per month for active months.

Spike stated the tractor service is scheduled for end of April. Tractor "Pilots" are Spike (primary) and Bill Liarsey (secondary). Additional pilots can be arranged as/ if required.

Spike stated all documents required to be at the field are contained within the blue 3 ring binder stored in the club house.

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2024 Executive Board



David Dyer
President

[CONTACT](#)



Jim McCoy
Vice President

[CONTACT](#)



Ed Ricker
Treasurer

[CONTACT](#)



Simon Willcox
Secretary

[CONTACT](#)

2024 Board of Directors

Jeff Beuttell Elliott Randall
Tony Blanchard John Thibault
Spike Enck (EX OFFICIO)

SAFETY OFFICER
John Thibault

WEBMASTER
Bill Lairsey

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Jim McCoy

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR
Bill Lairsey

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

2023 SPRING FUN-FLY & MAY CLUB MEETING



SATURDAY, MAY 4 9AM-1PM

Raindate May 11

Propsnappers Field / Green Road in Scarborough, ME

Join us for our first warm weather flying event of the season!



- Club Meeting at 9AM
- AMA/FAA Required for Pilots
- Enjoy Our World-Famous Solar Hotdogs and Beverages

VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR DETAILS & DIRECTIONS

Board Meeting

Continued from previous page

Greene Road First Aid Kit

John Thibault has volunteered to investigate the purchase of a new first aid kit. Elliot stated the prior kit was purchased from Hamilton Marine. It's approximately 10 years old and at that time cost \$50ish

David mentioned the update of the Solo Certificates.

The Propsnappers shall again host ACE Maine for a field event in August 2024. Details will follow when established.

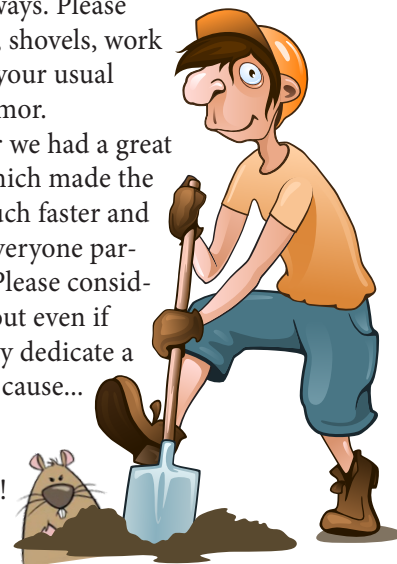
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:58PM

Simon Willcox
Secretary

April 20 is Field Maintenance Day

Our yearly field clean-up is planned for April 20 (with an April 27 raindate). 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 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!



Member's Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 VIA ZOOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Dyer, Ed Ricker, Simon Willcox, Elliott Randall, John Thibault, Tony Blanchard, Jeff Beuttell, Spike Enck, Peter Robbins, Peter Flannigan, Dan Rieger and Frank Maguire

CALL TO ORDER: 6:35PM

March Meeting Minutes: David called for approval of the member meeting minutes for March 6th, 2024. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Ricker reviewed March 2024 financial statement. He reported 38 active members for 2024 as of the end of March. The March 2024 financial statement was approved as submitted.

Secretary's Report: Simon stated that there were no items to report.

President's Report: Annual "Estoppel" certificate was signed relating to the Greene Road field sublease validating compliance to lease terms.

OLD BUSINESS

Charter Club Certificate renewal has been received which covers the Green Road and Kiwanis flying sites thru March 31st, 2025.

David discussed difficulty in flying the AMA "Sky Battle" rubber powered planes. He showed the two planes he purchased and the manufacturers recommended flight adjustments. Several suggestions were made as to potential solutions. David will update the membership with his progress.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Field Cleanup: April 20th is set for this task and hopefully get some flying after the job is done. Summarized report from board meeting:

- Minimal Vole damage
- Bruce Morris to bring his tractor to site as has done in past years...thank you Bruce!
- Question as to topsoil availability... there is enough leftover from 2023.

Propsnapper RC Club shall again host ACE Maine for a field event in August 2024. David will present finalized information.

May 2024 Member meeting shall be held at the Green Road flying field on May 4th in conjunction with the Spring Fun-Fly event.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:05PM

Simon Willcox
Secretary

SPRING
2024

Float-Fly

May 18 & 19 • 9AM-2PM

Kiwanis Beach on Watchic Lake
Route 25 in Standish, ME

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND



BOTH
SATURDAY &
SUNDAY!

- \$10 one day
- \$15 both days
- AMA/FAA Required for Pilots
- Other Clubs Welcome

VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR DETAILS



PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

SWAP MEET

Clear out those "under used" models, engines, supplies and other gear and make room for something new!

**BUY!
SELL!
TRADE!**

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

9AM-1PM RAIN OR SHINE

Italian Heritage Center Parking Lot

40 Westland Avenue • Portland, ME

Located behind the Shaws at the Westgate Shopping Plaza on Congress



VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR EVENT DETAILS

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.

JUST A REMINDER

Entrance Gate Procedure

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!

The Time to Renew is NOW!

With warm weather in the works, now is the perfect time to renew your club membership. We've made it super easy with the 2024 membership application as well as links for the AMA and FAA easily available on our website homepage at propsnappers.org. You can also click the link below to go directly to the 2024 application. Simply download both pages, **2024 Club Application** complete the info, then sign and return to Ed Ricker along with your check. Simon will email your spiffy new 2024 member card right to your inbox. Then all you need to do is charge your batteries and get flying!



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

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 are welcome. Please feel free to **EMAIL THE EDITOR.**



AMA Gold Leader Club • Chapter 871