



FAA RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA

Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND



2026 Events

Numb Thumbs ... Saturday, February 7
Weather Date / February 14

Field Clean-UpSaturday, April 11
Rain Date / April 18

Spring Fly-In & Club MeetingSaturday, May 2
Rain Date / May 9

Spring Float-Fly* May 16 & 17
Saturday & Sunday

Summer Fly-In & Open HouseSaturday, June 20
Rain Date / June 27

Warbird & Fun-Scale Event.....Saturday, July 18
Rain Date / July 25

Fall Float-Fly*September 12 & 13
Saturday & Sunday

Fall Fly-In..... Saturday, October 3
Rain Date / October 10

NOTE: The two Float-Fly event dates are pending approval by our host. Our Swap Meet will be added to the schedule shortly.

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

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

From the Flight Deck

Here we are in 2026...more than midway through January...and my supply of firewood and antacids is running low. I can put on another layer of warm clothes when our wood is gone, but I am unsure what I can do about the pain in my gut as the democracy I have known is literally being dismantled and vilified by our current administration in Washington. I don't think Stephen King can match the horror we are witnessing almost every day.

As you probably are aware the government has banned DJI drones and foreign (Chinese) made components as a security risk to the "Homeland." What you may not know is that federal agencies are exempt from this ban and can still purchase DJI drones and the components that the public is excluded from acquiring. This is detailed in the January 7, 2026 FCC fact sheet *FCC Updates Covered List to Exempt Certain Drones From Restrictions, Releases Additional FAQs*. I am concerned that our already limited freedom to fly model airplanes will be further undermined by this administration's policies.

I could go on, but this is not really the forum for political discourse.

The first event of the flying season is our Numb Thumbs event on February 7

(weather date of 2/14)! I look forward to flexing my thumbs and getting some stick time. I hope we have a good turnout with Mother Nature cooperating. The big question is what the conditions will be at our field? Pray for snow!

Thanks to all of you who have updated your membership to the Propsnappers for 2026. If you have been putting off your renewal, now is a really good time to get it done. I've made the process easy by including a clickable link to the application directly below. To borrow a phrase, "Just Do It."

Thanks to all of you!

David

David Dyer
2026 President
Propsnappers
RC Club of
Greater Portland

[Club Application](#)



David Dyer



Board of Directors Meeting

January 7, 2026 at Ray & Robin's Hobby Center

CALL TO ORDER AT 5:30PM

Previous Meeting Minutes: No new board meeting minutes to approve.

Treasurer's Report: Peter presented his financial report for December and it was accepted. We had 24 paid senior members as of December 31.

AMA Flying Site Improvement Grant: There was discussion regarding the application process for the AMA Flying Site Improvement Grant as a means of partially funding our grub treatment. The application requires a federal W-9 taxpayer form which we may (or may not) have on file. David offered to look further into our documents to determine if we have this paperwork. Further action was tabled pending the results of David's research.

Grub Issue: Elliott reviewed the grub treatment proposal that he received last fall from David Domingos (The Grass Geek). The board determined that it would be best to have any work done by

a professional and asked Elliott to get an updated proposal from David Domingos that began treatment in the upcoming spring. Elliott will have that new information for the February meeting.

Several board members offered to donate money towards the grub project and \$700 was pledged with \$50 received during the meeting. The board agreed to extend the fund-raising effort to the full membership immediately. *See the goal chart below.*

2026 Budget: Peter presented his suggested budget for the upcoming season based on last year's information and our anticipated expenses. After some discussion and clarification, his budget outline was approved.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:30PM

Tony Blanchard

2026 Secretary
Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

2026 Executive Board



David Dyer
President

CONTACT



Jim McCoy
Vice President

CONTACT



Peter Robbins
Treasurer

CONTACT



Tony Blanchard
Secretary

CONTACT

Grub Treatment Fundraiser

The estimated cost for dealing with those pesky grubs stands at about \$2000. Board members have so far pledged \$700 to the cause with \$50 of that already collected.

We're hoping the rest of the membership will consider helping with additional donations.

Please consider making a contribution to the Grub Fund by cash or check at a club meeting or mailing a check (payable to Propsnappers, Inc.) to Treasurer Peter Robbins at the address below.

Thank You!

Peter Robbins
38 Newtown Road
Biddeford, ME 04005

\$2000 GOAL!

\$1500

\$1000

\$500

\$100



\$700 Pledged!

\$50 Received!

2026 Board of Directors

Elliott Randall
Dan Rieger
Peter Sarvas
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

2026 NUMB THUMBS FLY-IN



Skis, floats or wheels...everyone is welcome to shake off the winter blues with great friends and flying!

Saturday, February 7

9AM-1PM • Propsnappers Field

Green Road off Running Hill Road
in Scarborough, ME

RAIN/SNOW DATE
FEBRUARY 14

- **Donuts & Hot Solar Coffee**
- **AMA / FAA Required**
- **Other Clubs Welcome!**



VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR EVENT DETAILS

Membership Meeting

January 7, 2026 at Ray & Robin's Hobby Center

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:30PM

Previous Meeting Minutes:

The November 5th remote membership meeting minutes were accepted as presented in the November newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Peter presented his financial report for December and it was accepted. We had 24 paid senior members as of December 31.

Grub Issue: Elliott reviewed the grub treatment proposal he received last fall from David Domingos (The Grass Geek). The board explained their decision to have the work done by a professional and asked Elliott to get an updated proposal from David Domingos that began treatment in the spring. Elliott will have that new information for the February meeting.

The board also explained their intention to stage a fund-raiser to pay for the grub project. It was announced that \$700 was already pledged with \$50 received during the meeting. Jim McCoy indicated that he would work-up a blurb in the next newsletter promoting the effort. *See the goal chart on page 2.*

General Field Maintenance:

Elliott reported on the condition of the field, clubhouse and his effort to maintain the solar storage batteries. All appears to be ship-shape at the moment.

There was general discussion regarding the need to cut back the encroaching overgrowth around the edge of the runway turf. We will explore this further as we get closer to spring.

We revisited James Ingalls' offer to mow the field in the 2026 season with a few members in reserve as back-up. Peter Robbins indicated that he has a resource to de-thatch the grass as part of our clean-up effort in the spring.

Field Signage: Jim McCoy revisited a proposed sign at the field to remind folks to secure the charging station, lock the clubhouse and porta-potty and lock the entrance gate as they leave. Elliott suggested this signage after responding to several instances of these items

being neglected last season. Jim offered to provide a proof of the sign to be reviewed at the February meeting.

New Member Info Sheet: Jim indicated that he is still planning to work up a new member welcome kit that explains basic club rules and procedures. He and Tony Blanchard brought this need up at the November meeting. More to come on this in the next few weeks.

FAA Import Restrictions: There was a short discussion regarding the recent FCC ruling restricting the importing of drone (and model aircraft) components and how this may affect our activities. The feeling was that there was still much to understand about the new ruling and the hope that we wouldn't see any impact in the short term. David said he would do more research on the matter.

2026 Event Schedule: Jim presented his suggestions for the club event calendar for the coming season. With some discussion, it was accepted (*see the dates on page one of this newsletter*).

David indicated he would contact the folks at the Kiwanis to confirm our

two Float-Fly weekends, so those are yet to be finalized. We also discussed best dates to schedule our annual Swap Meet at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland. A few options were proposed and Dave Cyr will contact them to see which dates works best for their organization.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:15PM

Tony Blanchard

2026 Secretary

Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland



Dave Cyr surprised us all with his show-and-tell project...a recently completed cigar-box guitar. He played a short tune to prove that it really worked!

Propsnappers Member Meeting

Wednesday, February 4 • 6:30PM **(NOTE THE TIME!)**

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 of the Maine Turnpike. Enter the building through the main doors and then proceed to the right and down the steps.

[Map & Directions...](#)



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.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Entrance Gate Procedure

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY - We are permitted to keep the gate swung open while we are flying. 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. Last one out locks the gate.

In either case, make sure the padlock itself is locked on the chain at all times so it does not disappear. Thanks!

Membership Renewal Time!

A brand new flying season is right around the corner! So NOW is the perfect time to renew your membership.

Our updated application is now easier to complete!

The sooner we have a bead on membership levels, the better we will be able plan club activities. Take a moment today to renew your Propsnappers club membership. It really does make a difference!

A membership application as well as links for the AMA and FAA are all easily available on our website homepage at propsnappers.org. You can also click the red link below to go directly to the application.

We've updated the application to make it easier to complete. Simply download the document using the link, complete the info directly on your computer, print it out and then sign

[Club Application](#)

and send it along with your check to our new treasurer Peter Robbins. Or... you can just print it out and complete it by hand...just like before. *Thanks, and let's start thinking Spring!*



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

Bullsheel

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

The Propsnappers Club Bullsheel newsletter is published 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