

Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT

View from the Flight Deck



David Dyer

April Showers...
April Showers...
April Showers!!

That about wraps-up my View from the Flight Deck. This past Tuesday I walked the field counting vole holes (about 100) and found the field to be very spongy in spots; too wet to work on. Dan DeSena has procured a supply of vole deterrent, and I will be ordering two yards of topsoil for Clean-Up Day on the 19th to fill the holes and low spots. We also have some turf damage where crows have been digging grubs. Seems like we will need to spread some Grub-X at some point. Thanks to Jim McCoy for his announcements concerning the change of date for the clean up.

We held the last member meeting at Ray and Robbin's Hobby Center until the fall on April 2nd. Thanks to Ray and Roy who have made themselves available to open the shop for our meetings. Please remember that if you want to order from Horizon Hobby you can do that (with no extra cost)

via The Hobby Center's website (click the linked graphic ad at the bottom of this page). This helps support them.

We will have another member's meeting on May 3rd at the Spring Fly-In at Propsnappers Field. The board will probably have a Zoom meeting prior to that, however no date has been set.

I recently attended a Zoom meeting with the AMA District 1 leadership and other club leaders from our district. The meeting was hosted by Andy Argenio, District 1 vice president and Daren Hudson, senior assistant vice president of District 1. The emphasis of the meeting was to highlight the District 1 outreach team and how they can help local clubs promote and facilitate public events to attract new members to model aviation. There was also discussion on their ongoing review of club descriptions for accurate information for the "Find a Club" feature on the district website. There were two of these meetings held in March and both can be viewed on the [District 1 website](#). The website has a lot of helpful content and links to



2025 Events

Swap MeetSunday, April 27

Spring Fly-In & Member MeetingSaturday, May 3

Raindate May 10

Spring Float-FlyMay 17 & 18

Saturday & Sunday

Summer Fly-In & Open HouseSaturday, June 21

Raindate June 28

Warbird & Fun-Scale EventSaturday, July 19

Raindate July 26

Maine Ace AcademyThursday, August 7

Details to come

Fall Float-Fly September 13 & 14

Saturday & Sunday

Fall Fly-InSaturday, October 11

Raindate October 18

Visit our events page...

Continued Page Four...



Propsnappers Member Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 AT RAY & ROBIN'S HOBBY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00PM

Members Minutes: David called for approval of the member meeting minutes for March 5, 2025. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Ed reviewed the March 2025 financial statement and it was approved as submitted. Current member roster stands at 35 senior members.

Secretary's Report: There was no secretary's report.

President's Comments: David opened the meeting with hopes for better weather soon so we can all get back to flying. He mentioned his desire for a more successful season for himself and that remaining positive in the hobby was very important, especially when in the learning stages.

He also commented that the field conditions made him doubtful about our planned clean-up day on April 12. We'll make a determination prior to the planned date and let members know if we will move to the back-up date of April 19. Bruce Morse offered the use of his tractor as he has done for several seasons.

David acknowledged the arrival of two guests for the evening who were invited by Dave Cyr.

OLD BUSINESS

Club Promotion Jim McCoy distributed final printed pieces for our community bulletin board promo card. These 4x6 cards are available for all members to place on bulletin boards at supermarkets, drug stores, libraries or town offices...wherever community information is available for the public to see. Each card has our website, Facebook address and a QR code linked to our website. Various aircraft types are shown on the front and a brief description of our club is on the back. Packs of five cards each were passed out to members at the meeting. Thanks went to Dan DeSena for making the suggestion.

An inventory of the approved

magazine stickers were also distributed. These are to affix to the front of AMA magazines to then be placed at local businesses where magazines are in waiting rooms.

If any members would like some of the cards or magazine stickers, they will be available at club meeting as well as at the field. Please contact Jim McCoy if you'd like more information.

Jim also reviewed his efforts in connecting with other local area RC clubs in an attempt to share information about events. He discussed the content of a test email sent to ten such club contacts and the positive feedback he has received. His initial contact included our Swap Meet flyer.

NEW BUSINESS

Maine ACE Academy Camp: David reviewed our involvement with the Maine ACE Academy and their annual ACE Camp event at Propsnappers Field. The ACE Academy promotes involvement in aviation to high school age kids throughout Maine. As one of their many aviation experiences over their two-week camp, Bill Lairsey has provided information about RC flying and buddy-box time for this interested group of campers for many seasons. We have scheduled Thursday, August 7 as our ACE Academy date and would love some help on that day. Please contact Bill Lairsey for information.

AMA District 1 Outreach: David reported on his experience sitting-in on a recent Zoom meeting arranged by AMA District 1. This was the second of two meetings to discuss how the AMA can best assist the individual clubs in our particular district in terms of expanding membership and coordination with neighboring clubs. He mentioned the existence of "Leader Members" in each club whose role it is to act as a liaison between the club and the district board. Turns out that Bill Lairsey is our Leader Member. However,

Continued on Next Page...

2025 Executive Board



David Dyer
President

[CONTACT](#)



Jim McCoy
Vice President

[CONTACT](#)



Ed Ricker
Treasurer

[CONTACT](#)



Simon Willcox
Secretary

[CONTACT](#)

2025 Board of Directors

Tony Blanchard Dan Rieger
Elliott Randall John Thibault
Spike Enck (EX OFFICIO)

Propsnappers Member Meeting

Please note that our next membership meeting will take place on Saturday, May 3 at the field prior to the start of our Spring Fly-In. Plan to be there promptly at 9AM.

Rain Date is Saturday, May 10

April Club Meeting

Continued from previous page...

he has not been given any direction from our district board.

David mentioned that there a recording of the March 13 meeting is available on the [District 1 website](#) that explains the AMA program which includes potential grant funds.

It appears to David that this outreach effort is becoming more of a priority of AMA and District 1 in particular. He encouraged our members to check out the meeting video mentioned above and promised to pass along additional information as it becomes available.

General Club Outreach: As a continuation of the AMA Outreach topic, there was a long discussion about how we might coordinate event promotion with the other clubs in our neighborhood. Listings in our newsletter (see the information to the right) as well as on our website will help the matter. Also, passing event info to the District 1 website was mentioned.

Member Involvement: John Thibault raised the question about if we were doing enough to encourage our own member participation in meetings and events. The idea of adding Zoom coverage of member meetings was floated. The subject was tabled for future discussion.

Orphan Model Rescue: David solicited ideas for creating a formal district-wide program to "rescue" models that were in need of a new home. These are the planes and kits owned by modelers who have passed away or are no longer in the hobby. There was discussion of the dollar-value of these planes versus the nostalgic value. Bill Lairsey suggested directing people towards Ebay or RC Groups and RC Universe to see if their planes could be sold in those venues. Dave Cyr mentioned the many swap meets in the district including our own.

Club Documents: David confirmed that our AMA club charter and Leader Club certificates have been received. Also, received was our insurance certificates for Propsnappers Field (Green Road) and the Kiwanis Beach (Float-Fly events). Both have been distributed to the folks that need them for their files.

Field Maintenance: Dan Desena wanted input about the effectiveness of the vole treatment he has been administering for the past couple of years. He floated the idea of taking a year off to save the money and to see if it made a difference. We decided to continue the treatments out of concern that we may end up with a bigger problem. The needed amount of topsoil for filling the vole holes was also discussed. Dan indicated that he would send the loam ordering and delivery details to David for him to decide next steps prior to the Clean-Up Day.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:03PM

Jim McCoy

2025 Vice President (filling in for Secretary Simon Wilcox)
Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

Around the Patch

HIGH WING FLY-IN

Saturday, June 14, 2025

9am to 3pm

Skystreaker's R/C Club Field

[website: skystreakers.org](http://website.skystreakers.org)

Intended for planes such as Cubs, Taylorcraft,
DH Beaver, Cessna 170 and the like

Free and Open to All with AMA
sign-up at the field required
(in association with the swap meet)

Gas Grill will be out, bring your food to cook
Charging station for your batteries

contacts: Peter Flanagan spits@maine.rr.com or
Eric Guilmet gbuilders207@gmail.com

Skystreakers / New Gloucester, ME

skystreakers.org

6/14 - High-Wing Fly-In & Swap Meet (see flyer above)
7/18 - 20 - Tom Chabot IMAC Competition (three days)
9/7 - Old-Style Fun-Fly (date is tentative)

RC Bushpilots / Waterboro, ME

[Facebook](#) or [EMAIL](#)

8/10 - Club Picnic
Open House - date pending

Kennebec Valley Model Aviators / Sydney, ME

modelaviators.org

6/8 - Fun Fly at Club Field
7/13 - Glider Fly-In
8/10 - Picnic & Glider Fly-In
9/14 - Swap Meet at Lafluer Airport

New Hampshire Flying Tigers / Derry, NH

nhflyingtigers.com

5/10 - RC Flea Market

I will update this listing as information becomes available. Please check-out the individual club website links for full details on their events.

View from the Flight Deck

Continued from page one...

resources. The plan is for the clubs in our district to have more communication and cooperation, with support from the district's outreach team and leadership.

This is a short edition of my view. I guess one good thing about April showers is that we have more time in our workshops putting the finishing touches on new builds and repairs!!!


Thanks to all of you.

David

2025 President

Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

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**BROKOFSKY
WOODWORKS**

Jake Brokofsky
207.415.7999
jacob@brokofsky.com
www.brokofskywoodworks.com

The Propsnappers would like to acknowledge **Jake Brokofsky of Brokofsky Woodworks** for the very generous donation of the King StarBoard used to replace the worn top on our field table (see the Clean-Up Day article to the right). The 3/4" thick HDPE product is made for marine use and should be a permanent solution for us. Just handling it for installation you could tell that it is an extremely durable material. He supplied it cut-to-size (30" x48") so it was all set for us to mount it on the existing base.

A full sheet of this material is super expensive even at *wholesale* pricing, so we certainly could never afford such a top-of-the-line product without Jake's thoughtful consideration.

Be sure to check out [Jake's website](#) if you're interested in custom cabinetry, built-ins, custom furniture or even a custom kitchen.

Our Field is Ready for a Great Season!

Thanks to a good turn-out of worker-bees and some cooperation from Mother Nature, this spring's Propsnappers Field Clean-Up Day was a success. Rescheduled to April 19 due to predicted rain the previous Saturday, we had warm temps and no rain. Mr. Sun even peeked through the overcast several times throughout the morning to make things more pleasant.

The numerous vole holes and other divots were filled with fresh topsoil and grass seed. Clubhouse tables, benches and pilots stands were all put in their place. The annual "raising of the windsock" was a signature moment as we welcomed the beginning of the 2025 flying season.

Kudos go to Simon Wilcox and David Dyer for coordinating the delivery of the topsoil. Simon also delivered our mower back to the clubhouse on Friday after maintaining and storing it for us over the winter...thanks Simon! A high-five also goes to Elliott Randall for sourcing some super durable synthetic board to replace the VERY worn top of one of our field tables.

Unfortunately, member Bruce Morse was unable to attend this year due to health issues. Bruce often brings his tractor to transport the topsoil and tow the heavy roller to smooth the turf. Bruce was missed, and we all wish him a speedy recovery.



PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

SPRING FLY-IN & CLUB MEETING



SATURDAY, MAY 3 9AM-1PM

Rain Date
Saturday
May 10

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
Hot dogs and Beverages



VISIT PROPSNAPPERS.ORG FOR EVENT DETAILS & DIRECTIONS



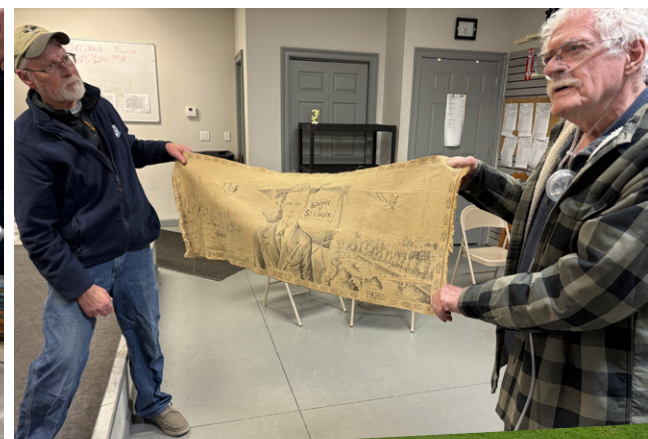
April Meeting Show & Tell

ABOVE LEFT: Dan DeSena brought back his "Mystery Man" by BMJR models to show his progress since the February meeting. It is a re-work of a 1938 gas-powered free flight gull-wing design. The .049 cylinder head is just for show, but it had me fooled!

ABOVE RIGHT: The Art Scholl Super Chipmunk was just recently finished by our Chief Instructor, Bill Lairsey. This beautiful aerobatic Seagull Models ARF is filled with scale detail and will be exciting to see fly in Bill's capable hands.

RIGHT: Our members have lots of interests, and we're always excited to see what folks are up to. The "Lightning" sailboat is a work-in-progress from our President, David Dyer. It's a kit that he started many years ago and decided to finally take it to completion. It is a replica of the type of sailboat he piloted as a teenager.

BELOW: Dave Cyr presented his finished Gillow's "Spirit of St. Louis" which displayed lots of scale detail including a very delicate brushed metal cowl. As a bonus for everyone present, Dave invited his new friends who had gifted him an authentic antique tapestry from Paris commemorating Lindbergh's historic 1927 flight from New York to Paris. It was certainly a treat for Dave to receive such a gift, and a unique opportunity for us to see this artifact in person.



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!

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB
OF GREATER PORTLAND

SWAP MEET



**THIS
COMING
WEEKEND!**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 27
9AM-NOON**

**Italian Heritage Center
Parking Lot**

**40 Westland Avenue
in Portland**

Behind Shaws at the Westgate
Shopping Plaza on Congress

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

BUY! SELL! TRADE!

Visit [OUR WEBSITE](#) for details.



*This and 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