APRIL 2026

AMA FRIA
FAA RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA

# Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

## 2026 Events

**Spring Fly-In & Club Meeting** ..... **Saturday, May 2**
Rain Date / May 9

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

**Swap Meet** ..... **Sunday, May 24**

**Summer Fly-In & Open House** ..... **Saturday, 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

**Family Banquet & Awards Night** ..... **Wed, December 2**
The Club at Riverside Golf Course

*Visit our events page...*

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## From the Flight Deck

*Jim McCoy*

In the last issue of the *Bullsheet,* I explained how the Propsnappers were in search of members to fill the vice president's position, one empty seat on the board of directors AND the safety officer's role.

I'm very pleased to say that shortly after the March newsletter was distributed, Peter Flanagan stepped forward and offered his services for both the board seat and safety officer position! Peter is a long-time member of the club, and has served previously on the board of directors as well as the executive board. He's an accomplished flier and can be found at the field very often...especially at events. I think Peter was a perfect choice for these roles and he was unanimously appointed for both positions by our board via an email vote. I would like to thank Peter for seeing our club's need and stepping up to help.

With Peter on board, my thoughts quickly turned to filling the vice president's slot. I consulted with several folks and decided to approach Dan Rieger, who has been a member for several seasons and served on our board of directors for the past year. Dan was quick to accept the challenge and his appointment was also unanimously approved with an email vote by the board. I really appreciate Dan's willingness to take on this leadership position and I very much look forward to working with him for the rest of the 2026 season.

Dan's move to vice president now leaves us with his former board seat to fill. This would be an excellent opportunity for a member to help guide our club for the rest of this season, and potentially beyond. The only qualifications are a love for our hobby and a desire to see the Propsnappers succeed. I encourage anyone interested in serving on the board for the rest of 2026 to pop me an email. Our club exists solely to provide a safe and friendly place to fly our model aircraft. We've been able to do this for many decades...season after season...because members have been willing to pitch-in to help things run smoothly. Maybe now it's your turn to give us a hand!

Keep up your airspeed!

*Jim McCoy*

**2026 President**
Propsnappers RC Club
of Greater Portland

# Membership Meeting

## Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at Ray & Robin's Hobby Center

**ALL TO ORDER AT 6:35PM**

*We welcomed new member Frank Conner.*

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** As there were no meetings in March, the February 4 membership meeting minutes were accepted as presented in the February newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** Peter Robbins presented his financial report for February and March. Peter's reports were accepted for both months.

**Board Update:** Jim reviewed the process that created his appointment as 2026 president. He also discussed the vacant board seat, the vice president's spot as well as the need to appoint a new safety officer due to John Thibault's resignation. Jim then announced Peter Flanagan's offer to serve as board member and safety officer. Without a board quorum this evening, Jim suggested that Peter's appointment would be ratified via an email vote by the board.

Jim also mentioned his intent to trim back his newsletter duties due to his increased workload as club president.

**Clean-Up Day:** We reviewed the needs for the upcoming Clean-Up Day scheduled for April 11 (rain date, April 18). Elliott discussed the existing conditions and confirmed that we had topsoil on-site for filling the vole burrows. Pete Sarvas and Frank Conner volunteered to flag the holes and divots in advance of the work party. Jim confirmed that he would send out announcements regarding the event and that he would let folks know by Thursday afternoon if we needed to opt for the rain date due to foul weather.

**Grub Treatment:** Elliot Randall confirmed that all was proceeding as planned for the grub treatment. We also discussed the de-thatching that Peter Robbins volunteered to do for us sometime in late April.

Elliott suggested that we consider having someone (a member) brush hog the field perimeter to keep the overgrowth from encroaching on the runway turf and to further keep the critters at bay. Jim and Tony agreed to follow-up with members we know had the equipment to facilitate this effort.

The fund raising effort for the grub treatment now stands at $1750 of the $2090 needed for the work.

**Student Update:** Bill Lairsey announced there are five students presently looking for instruction between himself and Peter Sarvas.

**May 2 Fly-In:** The Spring Fly-In will be considered "members only" due to the club meeting scheduled that morning. In practice, this means that we will not reach out to neighboring clubs to invite them as we will do for other, more public events like the open house, warbird event and float-fly dates.

**Swap Meet:** Dave Cyr has confirmed our Swap Meet is scheduled for Sunday May 24 at the Italian Heritage Center parking lot in Portland. It was noted that this was Memorial Day weekend. The usual flyer and email notices will be distributed as we get closer

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:25PM**

*Tony Blanchard*

**2026 Secretary**
Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

## Propsnappers Member Meeting

Please note that our next membership meeting will take place on Saturday, May 2 at the field prior to the start of our Spring Fly-In. Plan to be there promptly at 9AM.

**Rain Date is Saturday, May 9**

## 2026 Executive Board

**Jim McCoy**
President
CONTACT

**Dan Rieger**
Vice President
CONTACT

**Peter Robbins**
Treasurer
CONTACT

**Tony Blanchard**
Secretary
CONTACT

## 2026 Board of Directors

Peter Flanagan
Elliott Randall
Peter Sarvas
Spike Enck (EX OFFICIO)
David Dyer (EX OFFICIO)

**WEBMASTER**
Bill Lairsey

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**
Jim McCoy

**CHIEF INSTRUCTOR**
Bill Lairsey

**SAFETY OFFICER**
Peter Flanagan

GRUB FUNDRAISER

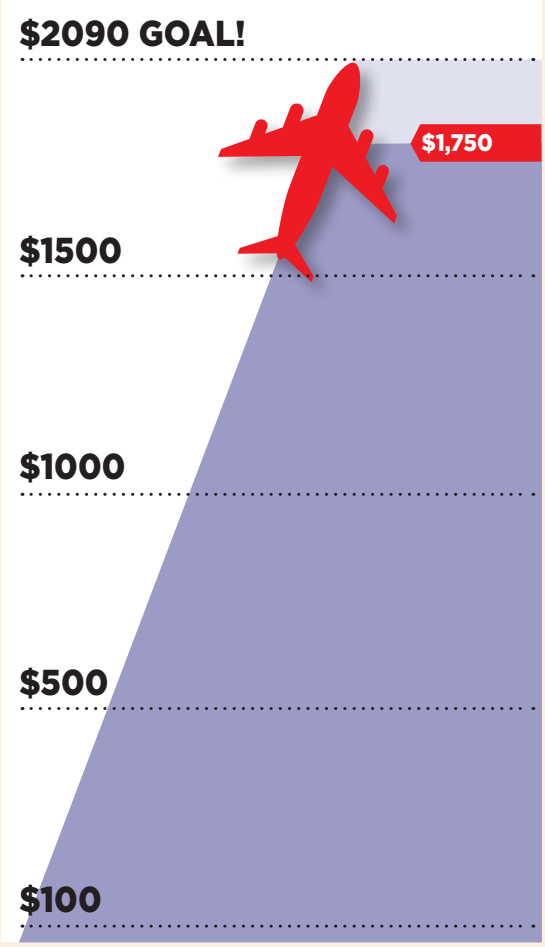
# Getting Close!

**Wow...since last month we've received additional contributions to push our total to $1750! This leaves us just $340 to achieve our goal!**

**LET'S LAND THIS THING! Please consider making a contribution to the Grub Fund by cash or check at a club meeting or by 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**



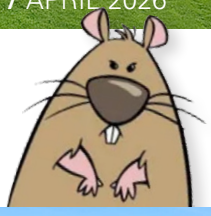

# New Member!

*Jim Gerry*

We are pleased to welcome Jim Gerry who recently joined us this spring. Jim was a Propsnapper years ago, but left due to work and family obligations...a familiar story for a lot of us. He recently retired from many years as a pilot for commercial and executive flying services. Jim's most recent position was flying a King Air 200 for LifeFlight of Maine in Bangor.

"I've enjoyed RC flying for almost 40 years," Jim explained. "I love the building as much as the flying. I got started with the help of Nelson Castle for those who may remember him. Now I have more time to enjoy our hobby and to meet some new (and maybe some old) acquaintances."

Please be sure to introduce yourself to Jim at the field, meetings or special events. We're glad to welcome him back as a Propsnapper!



FIELD CLEAN-UP DAY • APRIL 11

# Many Hands Made the Work Go Quickly!

The old saying about "many hands" was on full display at our Propsnappers Field Clean-Up Day this past Saturday, April 11. The weather was a bit cool and windy, but blue skies and sunshine made for a pleasant time for everyone.

Pete Sarvas and new member Frank Conner served as our advance party, coming out the day before to mark as many vole holes and turf divots as they had flags to use. Then, roughly 18 members arrived around 9AM on Saturday to systematically fill the marked spots while Elliott Randall and Tony Blanchard worked to get freshly sharpened blades on our mower, mount the windsock, assemble the tables and generally prepare the clubhouse and our charging station for the season.

Jim McCoy demonstrated his branded "VoleMaster 3000" tamping tool while filling the vole holes. Anyone interested in getting one of their own, can contact Jim...operators standing by!

Big thanks to everyone that took time out of their weekend to come give us a hand...so, time to get flying!

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

# SPRING FLY-IN
## & CLUB MEETING

# SATURDAY, MAY 2
# 9AM-1PM

Rain Date
Saturday
May 9

**Propsnappers Field**
**Green Road in Scarborough, ME**

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

PROPSNAPPERS CLUB
GREATER PORTLAND

VISIT **PROPSNAPPERS.ORG** FOR EVENT DETAILS & DIRECTIONS

PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

SPRING 2026

# Float-Fly

## MAY 16 & 17
## 9AM-2PM

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY!

Kiwanis Beach on Watchic Lake
Route 25 in Standish, ME

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

PROPSNAPPERS CLUB GREATER PORTLAND

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.

# 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 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.

THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND
2026 Membership Application
NEW MEMBERSHIP OR EXISTING MEMBER RENEWAL
NAME
STREET
TOWN
PHONE
EMAIL
STATE
ZIP
BIRTHDATE
$80 Adult Membership
$10 Field Assessment
FREE Youth Membership
Signed
Date
Peter Robbins
38 Newtown Road
Biddeford, ME 04005

**Club Application**

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!***

*This and many 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 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