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IDENTIFICATION AREA

# Bullsheet

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROPSNAPPERS R/C CLUB OF GREATER PORTLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT

## View from the Flight Deck



David Dyer

I am sitting at my kitchen table looking out my window at a winter scene of fresh white snow. There are straw-colored bull rushes and other salt-marsh grasses that extend to the Winnegance Creek. During the flying season, if the creek has a mirror-like

surface, I know that the calm conditions could bode well for flying. I would guess that Propsnappers Field has the same color palate. At our dinner the other night, David Wend confirmed that one of my planes is still stuck on top of a tree behind the flight line. Too bad we can't string some Christmas lights on it to add some holiday cheer to the oversized ornament!

For many of us, the holiday season provides time to spend with loved ones – decorating, enjoying meals together and sharing gifts. It is also a time for reflection over the past year and anticipation of the coming new year.

All in all, I believe 2024 was a good year for the Propsnappers. Our events were well attended, and our *Esprit de Corps* continues

to be a strength of our club. Maybe this is something that most RC aircraft clubs enjoy, but I am very grateful that The Propsnappers share this quality.

Last winter, Spike unfortunately injured himself after taking a fall on ice. This precluded him from being able to continue with his lawn mowing duties as he had done for many years. After some discussion our treasurer, Ed Ricker, offered to take over the contract. Thank you Spike for all your dedication and hard work at mowing and seeing that the lawn tractor was properly serviced over the years. In the last year of Spike's presidency, he spent a great deal of time arranging for a new tractor because the old one was well spent. I'm glad he had one season with the new tractor, before he was forced to hang up his spurs. After a while Spike decided he was happy to give up the mowing and Ed settled in with the routine. Simon became interested in the tractor and assumed responsibility for providing the maintenance. Thanks to both Ed and Simon for taking this on and to Spike for all his excellent work on maintaining the grounds and runways.

I know one disappointment has been the dearth of student pilots for Bill Lairsey this year. This is a concern because we

need new members or students to keep the Propsnappers viable. This is a perennial issue that the board faces.

We had a membership change in the board of directors as Jeff Beuttell decided to step down after his service on the board. Dan Reiger raised his hand and was elected to fill Jeff's position. Thanks to both of you

These are just a few of my reflections, thank you all for being part of this wonderful little club.

Finally, in anticipation for the coming year. I think 2025 will reflect this past year in terms of our events. Personally I would like to see us get back to including

*Continued Next Page...*



## Upcoming Events

### 2025 Numb Thumbs Winter Fun-Fly

Saturday, February 8 (tentative)

Watch this space in the next issue for the full 2025 events calendar!

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

RAY &  
ROBIN'S



HOBBY CENTER

# Propsnappers Member Meeting

**Wednesday, January 8 • 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 of the Maine Turnpike. Enter the building through the main doors and then proceed to the right and down the steps.

[Map & Directions...](#)



**FROM THE PRESIDENT...**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

some fun games or challenges for these gatherings. Another issue is increasing club membership. This time last year I was thinking that getting children or teens interested in the hobby was the way to go. I believe that we should continue to look for opportunities to involve them, however my thinking about this has changed over the course of the year. Perhaps we should consider who has the time and money to participate in RC flying? Maybe we should be talking to local civic groups or some of the retirement communities that have sprung up around the Greater Portland area? I'm sure we can come up with a plan that is feasible and obtainable.

So as this year winds down, I look forward to another season of flying and the goodwill we all share.

Thank you.

*David*

**2025 President**  
Propsnappers RC Club of Greater Portland

## Membership Renewal Time!

With most folks preparing for the holidays, Propsnappers Field gets pretty quiet this time of year. However, believe it or not, a brand new flying season is right around the corner! So, NOW is the perfect time to renew your membership. The sooner we have a bead on membership levels, the better we will be able plan club activities.

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.

A membership application as well as links for the AMA and FAA are all easily available on our website homepage at [propsnappers.org](http://propsnappers.org). You can also click the link below to go directly to the application. Simply download both pages, complete the info, then [Club Application](#) sign and return to Ed Ricker along with your check. *Thanks, and let's start thinking Spring!*

## 2025 Executive Board



**David Dyer**  
President

[CONTACT](#)



**Jim McCoy**  
Vice President

[CONTACT](#)



**Ed Ricker**  
Treasurer

[CONTACT](#)



**Simon Willcox**  
Secretary

[CONTACT](#)

## 2025 Board of Directors

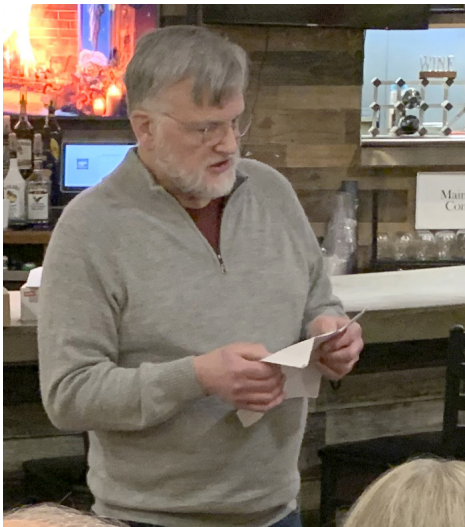
Tony Blanchard    Dan Rieger  
Elliott Randall    John Thibault  
Spike Enck (EX OFFICIO)

**SAFETY OFFICER**  
John Thibault

**WEBMASTER**  
Bill Lairsey

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
Jim McCoy

**CHIEF INSTRUCTOR**  
Bill Lairsey



# 2024 Family Banquet and Awards Night

Nearly 40 members and guests attended the annual *Propsnappers Family Banquet and Awards Night* at The Club at Riverside Golf Course in Portland on Tuesday, December 3rd. The festivities started at 5:30PM with a cocktail hour followed by a delicious buffet dinner and dessert as well as announcements and presentations. Ed Ricker honchoed the raffle while wearing the evening's most holiday-themed attire. Raffle prizes included several hobby shop gift cards as well as two grand prizes of a Horizon Hobby Decathlon provided by Ray Labonte from Ray & Robin's Hobby Center and a Great Planes Edge donated by an anonymous club member. Tony Blanchard, the lucky winner of the Decathlon, passed the model along to David Dyer (*thanks Tony!*). Mike Fasulo pulled the winning ticket for the Edge.

President David Dyer reviewed the year's accomplishments and thanked the 2024 board and volunteers for helping to create a very successful season. David also presented several "President's Citations" to members that he felt stood out for contributing to the well-being of our club over the past season.

Special thanks go to Jessica Meyer and her staff at The Club at Riverside for providing the wonderful meal and beautiful venue once again this year. David Dyer arranged for the holiday rose gifts for all the ladies in attendance. Plus, a grateful "tip of the wings" to David Dyer, Mike Fasulo and Spike Enck for coordinating the event so flawlessly.



Winners of the 2024 President's Citation were Simon Willcox (photo above left), Bill Lairsey, Peter Sarvas, Tony Blanchard and Jim McCoy (group photo above). Not pictured is Elliott Randall, who could not be with us this evening.

Raffle winner Mile Fasulo claims his Great Planes Electrify Edge 540T which was anonymously donated to the club for this event. The other raffle prize was a Horizon Hobby Decathlon provided by Ray Labonte from Ray & Robin's Hobby Center.



# 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](http://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!*

# 2025 NUMB THUMBS FUN-FLY



It doesn't matter if you have skis, floats or wheels... everyone is welcome to shake off the winter blues with great friends and flying!

~ TENTATIVE DATE ~

**Saturday  
February 8  
9AM-1PM  
Propsnappers Field**

Watch your inbox for confirmed event details right after the New Year!



*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