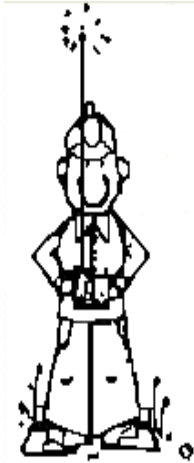




Newsletter of the R/C Barnstormers Model Airplane Club  
AMA Charter Club #1725 Website: [www.rcbarnstormers.info](http://www.rcbarnstormers.info)



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS  
**FAA-RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA**  
A FRIA IS A DEFINED GEOGRAPHIC AREA WHERE DRONES CAN BE FLOWN WITHOUT REMOTE ID EQUIPMENT.



### MEETINGS

PLACE: St Francis  
Episcopal Church, 179<sup>th</sup> and  
Metcalf

DAY: First  
Thursday of Each  
Month  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.

*Visitors are*  
***WELCOME!***

Here is the address for our Facebook  
Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/RCBarnstormersOlathe>

Next Meeting

**April 4, 2024 at the Church**

### Presidents Message

I hope to see you all there.

Kevin

**Kevin Schmidt, *President***

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### **Members who have paid their 2023 Dues!**

Larry Mowrey, Pat McGhee, Jon Felver, Chris Bush, Nick DeGennaro, Keith Baker, HL Eilenstine, Kevin Schmidt, Clark Jacobson, Vince Bortone, Art Kittler, Jerry Davidson, Gary Harshman, Richard Haskell, Duke Haskell, Carl Melin, Chris Liermann, Gary Gasser, Larry Klusman, Cecil Davis, Rick Phillips, Steve Milam, Don Kuehn, Steven Hucksoll, Chris Routh, Jon Routh, Mike Bare, Mark Bare, Doug Scherrer, Wade Axmann, Brian Gillcrist, Gordon McWilliams, Tim Gastinger, Jay Ellis, Jim Frickey, Dave Van Unen, Michael Pratt, Mathew Pratt, Troy Hamm, Charles Swain, Brian Berlin, Bill Payne, Pat Rayne.

### **RC BARNSTORMER MARCH MEETING MINUTES**

**March 7, 2024**

Presiding: Kevin Schmidt

Members Present: 9

Visitor: Kyle Burk

Secretary's Minutes – **Larry J Mowrey**  
Motion to accept: **Steve Milam**.  
Second: **Gary Gasser**. Approved

Treasurer's Report – **Pat McGhee**  
Motion to accept: **Gary Gasser**.  
Second: **Art Kittler**. Approved

Old Business:

2024 Barnstormer Pattern Contest –  
**Vince Bortone**. February 20, 2024, email from Vince: "I found out that Jonathan Mowrey, the 2023 Master National Champion, is unable to attend a contest if it takes place on the first weekend in June. I am willing to resolve that situation. We could change the Pattern Primer from May 4-5 to June 1-2 and then have the Barnstormer Pattern Contest on June 29-30. In this way, at least one event gets the benefit of using the free parking weekend. Motion to accept: **Gary Gasser**. Seconded: **Pat McGhee**. Approved.

Float Fly – **Pat McGhee**. Received an exemption to the Remote ID. Need to call the AMA a week before the Float Fly to get his waiver. Everything is a go. Still needs to be an AMA sanctioned event.

Flyers for Hobby Haven – **Kevin Schmidt**. Kevin has no time. Larry will do it.

Field Service Day – **Art Kittler**.  
March 23, start at 9 am. Wade will bring a tractor. Bring your own chainsaws. Mowers will be serviced too.

FRIA Approved Sign – **Larry J Mowrey**. Larry is still looking for the templates for Gary.

New Business:

Trail Life – **Art Kittler**. Building rockets. Visit our field on April 27 in the morning for demonstrations. Meet at the field at 8:30, 50 kids plus dads. Ages: 6-14. This will satisfy one of the requirements for the AMA Leader Club award. Motion: **Gary Gasser**. Seconded: **Larry Klusman**. Motion to buy fuel for this event: Steve Milam. Seconded: **Pat McGhee**. Art will find the best deal for fuel.

Fertilizing – Gary Gasser.  
Springtime for spreading. Need 12 bags

(40 pounds each). Motion: To spend: \$450, **Steve Milam**. Seconded: **Art Kittler**. Passed.

Burn List – **Kevin Schmidt**. They will contact us when they are ready.

AMA Safety Committee on Crossed Runways – Larry J Mowrey. "If there is activity on both runways at the same time, then the small electrics should not cross the east/west safety lines as to not interfere with the flight activities in the General/Sport section (East/West runway). If nobody is using the General/Sport area, then the small electrics certainly can pass the east/west safety lines, since it's not an active safety line at that time." Lucus Rodden, AMA Club Services Representative

Web Site – Steve Benard is a web developer. Would like to assist Joshua in its development. Let's get them together.

Club Facebook Page – **Kevin Schmidt**. Send him pictures so that he can post them to our Facebook page.

Program – **Art Kittler**. AMA Leader Club Award (annual)

Presented this to the club; 5 requirements with electives.

- 1) AMA club for 5 years
- 2) Flying field has separate area for flyers and spectators.
- 3) Posting safety guidelines at the field.
- 4) Safety and operational rules with the AMA.
- 5) AMA Safety Code posted.
- 6) Plus electives.

Flight Suggestion: be careful with glow or gas and flying alone.

AMA Safety Rules: reviewed at the March meeting.

Windsock – **Kevin Schmidt**. Installed with a new pole. Thank you, Kevin.

**Ralph Brown**: They are trying to raise money for his cremation. Motion: **Steve Milam** (\$75). Seconded: **Gary Gasser**. Approved.

**Steve Helsper Memorial**: Motion: Steve Milam (\$75). Seconded: Gary Gasser. Approved.

## Models of the Month:



Auto-G:  
**Steve  
Milam.**

Piranha:  
Larry J  
Mowrey



Respectfully submitted,  
**Larry J Mowrey**, *Secretary*

## Vice Presidents Thoughts!

Greetings Barnstormers!

Hope this issue finds you well and hopefully getting out to the field more often to fly. I'm glad it's been warming up little by little, but the winds also have been up a little more lately. I guess it is all for the best to get the practices in regardless of wind direction...but I do have personal wind speed limits for flying; basically 15mph and below. What are yours?

On another subject, I had a jet out the other day and noted that it seemed sluggish to take off. After sorting out trims, it flew well, but I could tell the battery seemed to be sagging in power based on the motor sound. Following a less than successful landing, I picked up the pieces (not much damage this time) and went home. Of the many issues I needed to sort out, I chose to focus on verifying battery health first.

Prior to flying, the battery was charged. Following the flight the battery was down more than expected considering the length of the flight. Once I got home, I checked the battery using the "cell checker" meter which can show the voltage April 27 of each cell in the pack in addition to the total voltage. The cell voltage levels appeared reasonable and still above the "storage" battery voltage. Then I had an idea: I chose to hook up this battery to the airplane while on the bench and also hook up the cell checker to the balance connector. When operating the throttle to

about 25%, i.e., putting the battery under a load, I cycled through the cells on the battery checker and found that 2 cells WHILE UNDER LOAD were between .5 and almost 1 volt different when compared to the other cells. Long story short, I think I found out why my flight seemed short: 2 of the cells in this 6 cell pack were whimpering out faster than the other cells. When I reduced the throttle to zero, the "whimpy" cells started recovering, but never quite made it to the levels of the "healthy" cells. Long story short: I discharged this battery and prepped it for recycling.

The lesson for me out of all this is: while the battery cell checker provides a good way to check voltage levels, the levels pretty much represent minimal load on the battery and may not necessarily mean the battery as a whole is healthy. I'm curious how other "high wattage" fliers assess the health of their batteries.

On yet a different subject: Remember we've got the "Trail Life" boy's group coming out April 27th (Saturday morning) to check out our hobby. Please bring airplanes to fly. I intend to bring my buddy box trainer set up (electric), and the club has a buddy box set up (glow). Steve Milam will be out of town this weekend, so I'll need somebody willing to operate the buddy box glow trainer.

Hopefully see you at the meeting.  
All for now. Stay healthy!

**Art Kittler, Vice President**

## EVENT SCHEDULE

R/C BARNSTORMER EVENTS HILITED!

**Mar 23 - Field Workday!**

**April 27 – Trail Life Boys Group!**

**June 1&2 - At the field; Pattern  
Aerobatic Fun Fly**

**June 29-30 – At the Field - Pattern  
Contest**

## Safety Column

This month let's think about safety related issues that aren't always hobby related.

If you accidentally cut yourself while sharpening your lawnmower blade do you immediately clean the wound and protect it or do you wipe off the blood with the closest rag available and finish what you are doing and just wipe any more blood on your pants. It's real easy to think that you will wash the wound later or at a more convenient time but in the meantime more and more germs are getting a chance to enter the wound and possibly causing an infection.

Germs can enter your body thru any skin abrasion and cause an infection or worse.

What about fertilizing your yard and getting fertilizer on your hands or clothes. Read some of the safety labels and it would seem that your putting yourself in danger unless you are in a hazmat suit. We probably don't need to get that carried away BUT please think about any abrasions to your skin. If you have fertilizer on your hands think about anything you touch. Did you cover your mouth when you sneezed, pick up a tissue and blow your nose, wipe the sweat from your brow? These are all ways to spread the contamination. Most of us don't have children tugging at our pant legs but how about when the grandchildren are over. Do you track the fertilizer into the house or car.

The fertilizer bags always warn you to keep children and pets off the fertilized yard until the fertilizer has been watered in. How often have you seen your dogs or cats licking their paws or rear ends? Trips to the vet are expensive and we never want to see a pet suffer.

Now is also a good time of year to think about sun protection. I was out last week fertilizing and sunburned to tops of my ears. I never gave sunburn a thought since it was only about 50 degrees out and partly cloudy but still there was enough sun to get a sun burn. With the research showing the relationship between the sun and cancer it is a good idea to protect our skin.

These are just a few things we should give a little more thought to and I am sure

there are many more. Please think about safety in your everyday lives.

Steve

**Steve Milam, Safety Officer**

**Carl Melin**

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