

# The Broken Prop



## St. Clair County R/C Propbusters

Model Aviation Club Goodells, Michigan

[www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com](http://www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com)

A.M.A. Charter Club #1762

September 11, 2007

### Club Meetings

Second Wednesday of each month, 6:00pm at the Community Center Building, Goodells County Park. Summer- weather permitting meetings are held at the field.

### Club Breakfast

First Saturday of each month, 9:00 at Cavis Pioneer Restaurant on Lapeer rd. West of Wadhams rd. Flying afterwards

### Come and join us!

Club Meetings and Breakfast are open to everyone, if you are an experienced pilot, or just thinking about getting into R/C, Come check us out.

### The Propbuster R/C flying Club is located at the Goodells County Park, 8345 County Park Drive, Goodells MI 48027. The flying field is just West of Castor rd. -off the parks East parking lot .

*The general location of the park is South of Lapeer rd. -about 10 miles West of Port Huron.*

**42° 59' 02" N - 82° 39' 02" W**

### President

Gary Smedes 586-727-4507

### Vice-President

Doug McLaren 586-201-8048  
mclarenintl@hughes.net

### Secretary & Webmaster

Keith Graham 810-966-1494  
keith@sccpropbusters.com

### Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

Ed Olszewski 810-367-6367  
proptreas@comcast.net

### Safety Officer Field Marshall

Mike Grant Tom Nichols

### Instructors

Ed London 810-325-1362  
Ed Olszewski 810-367-6367  
Greg Feyers 810-367-3924

### Directors: Sheila Olszewski,

Todd Litke, Brian McLaren

**78 Members strong**

**For the Latest-Greatest Information, Schedule, Photos, Announcements.**

Go to :

**[WWW.SCCPROPBUSTERS.COM](http://WWW.SCCPROPBUSTERS.COM)**

## President's Perspective

*By Gary Smedes*

After the Propbuster's breakfast on Saturday, a bunch of us headed over to the field to gain a little more flight time, and I was amazed at how many pilots/people had showed up. It looked like an unscheduled fun fly.

Any way while I was there, Ed London was test flying someone's trainer and there were a few of us standing behind him. Not only were we watching his fine flying techniques but we were jokingly egging him on to fly around the new radio tower. Of course, we didn't push him too hard and he had enough sense not to, but that got me thinking. If we were doing it there's sure to be others doing it.

So here's my point. Although it may be very tempting to 'test your skills' by trying to fly completely around the new tower – please don't do it. If your plane gets tangled in the guy wires or worse yet, crashes into one of the dishes/antennas it will most definitely create problems for the club. Not to mention the fact that if you do attempt this stunt, you will be flying over Castor Road to get there and that may wake the sleeping bear that we had to deal with a couple of years ago. I would just as soon not go there again. Thank you in advance.

It's that time of year again to start thinking about Elections and Club Officers for next year. If you feel that you are up for the task and the duties involved, or you think there is someone else that can keep the club moving in the right direction, then step forward or nominate that person when the time comes. Elections will be here before you know it.

And if it is that time of year, then it must be 'dues renewal' time of year. Don't forget to re-up for next year's membership. I've been the secretary before and I can tell you from experience that the longer you wait the more difficult the paperwork gets. Please give Keith a break and avoid the late fees by getting your '08 membership early. The new cards are already made up and waiting for you. Also, if none of your information has changed you don't have to fill out a new application – bonus!

*Hope to see you at the meeting!*



## Meeting Minutes

by Keith Graham- Secretary

The meeting on August 8th started at 6:03 pm with 15 members present and was once again held at the field. Doug/Al made a motion to accept the secretary's report as read by Keith. Doug McC./Doug Sr. made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read by Ed O. and pay bills. Sheila provided that 5 of the new hats have already been sold.



Old Business. Ed L. was waiting until after the Fair to work on the drains and he hasn't heard anything on the mower sale. He believes the buyer is no longer interested due to the rust hole in the mower deck.

September Fun Fly. Gary reminded us that this is the last meeting before the September Fun Fly. Gary volunteered to contact the business that did concessions from our last Fun Fly. Ed L will handle bringing in the PA system. Sheila volunteered to line-up someone for the candy drop. Gary asked members to take some of the provided flyers to post and he will contact someone from the Pine River Nature Center to see if they want to set up an information table. Keith will bring in some applications and club information letters to set out during the event.

Members present went through over a dozen possible membership cards for 2008. The card of the president kicking his plane, the helicopter, and the electric airplane cards were quickly removed from the list. After narrowing to two cards, both with Bi-planes, a final vote was made. The new cards will be available to members renewing or new members joining on or after September 1st.

The BMX bike track is having their state event this weekend. Gary reminded members to be extra careful flying during the weekend. There could be campers parked on Propbusters' land along the side of our driveway to our flight section.

Gary reported that no Over-Fly violations were received as of yet from the 4H Fair. There was only a problem with someone parking across our gate blocking access to our field until they were asked to move.

Doug/Sheila made a motion to close the meeting

at 6:29 pm. All motions made during the meeting passed.

After the meeting ended, Gary Smedes gave a demo of what he could do with his electric plane.



### Dues - R - Due

Propbuster Club dues may be paid anytime between Sept. 1st and December 31st. And we are at that time of year already! You do not have to fill out a membership form if nothing has changed (phone number, address, e-mail address-etc). If anything has changed- you can get a form on line or by calling any club officer. All Junior (free) members must fill out a membership form, otherwise it would be impossible to keep track of you.

**15.00** -Senior members (born on or before 6/1/46)

**25.00** - Regular members (born on or before 6/1/89)

**No fee** - Junior members (born after 6/1/89)

**Late Fee-** Add 10.00 (to dues paid after Dec. 31)

Avoid paying the late fee after December 31 and take a few minutes and make check payable to:

**SCC Propbusters**  
**1806 Chestnut St.**  
**Port Huron, MI 48060**

St. Clair County Propbusters

### Financial Report Summary

Sept. 7, 2007

**Beginning Balance** **\$3238.40**

**Income:**

Dues **\$ 180.00**

**Total:** **\$ 180.00**

**Expenditures:**

Stamps \$ 9.02

Tractor parts/gas \$ 29.57

Gate lock **\$ 20.25**

**Total:** **\$ 58.84**

**Ending balance:** \$1359.56

**Equipment Fund:** **\$2000.00**

**Grand Total:** **\$3359.56**



# Propbuster Field Activities

By Ed Olszewski

## BMX State Qualifiers

On the weekend of August 12th, about 350 BMX participants, along with their families and support groups descended on Goodells County Park— more specifically at our neighbor the Can\_Am BMX track. The two day event was the State qualifiers for BMX. This was a huge event to be sure, most of the gravel parking lot was full, and the track was jam packed with participants and spectators from across the state. As usual, the Propbusters/Redline Racing extended our neighbor the use of part of our area to be used by the officials, to help get them near the track.

Ed L., Ed O., Dave N, Gary W., Al F., along with two members from the new Yale club were at the field that beautiful weekend. Both days turned into impromptu air shows, with the BMX announcer sometimes pointing out the planes in the sky. The pit area often looked like a “lost and found” for junior BMX’ers. The kids could not seem to stay away from the field, trying to get a better look at the airplanes. A few dads also found themselves staying a while to check out the flying while stopping by to find their wayward kids. There was probably more spectators that weekend due to the BMX’ers than at most air shows. We were not sure why there was not more pilots enjoying the fantastic flying weather, with sunny skies and almost no wind.



## Propbusters Charity Fly In

This year the proceeds from our Saturday September 8th Charity fly in was dedicated to the Pine River Nature Center- our neighbors directly to the south on Castor rd. , yes the other side of the tracks. The Nature Center is part if the St.Clair County RESA. The Center provides hands-on science education programming for schools correlated with the Michigan Curriculum Framework. It also offers outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities for area residents.



Early weather forecast had threatened all week of poor weather for the weekend. Everyone hoped we would not see a repeat of last years inclement weather. Not to be foiled, the benefit for the Pine river nature center saw perfect flying weather, mostly sunny, with just a few light wisps of clouds.



On hand to help were several members from SMAC, East Wings, Eagles, Chesaning RC Model Flyers, Michigan Whirlybirds and of course lots of Propbusters. From the time the show started the skies were full of R/C activity, most often with three to four aircraft. Ed London invited the spectators to give R/C flying a try, both increasing involvement in the hobby, and at a buck donation, also raising money for the Center. Our announcer (Jack DeLisle) thanked the audience and pilots, ending the show at about 1:30. With the great flying weather, many pilots continued flying until the evening, and a few of the spectators hung around to enjoy the flying.



All together \$250.00 was raised for the Nature center. It is earmarked to help build a handicapped accessible tree house, and handicapped accessible nature trails. It is great to see the money is put to good use within our own community.

## Whirlybirds Helicopter Rally

On Sunday, September 9th the Michigan whirly-birds took to the Propbusters’ field for their annual Helicopter flying event. Pilots and Helicopters from all over Southeastern Michigan demonstrated that R/C helicopters aren’t just for hovering anymore. Events range from “Knock over the bottle”, to “Drag Racing”- Yes drag racing, and it is something you must see to believe. The field was packed with about 150 pilots and spectators, and from what I could see, all having a good time.

It has been a good month for flying, and there still will be some great days left before the seasons change – Get out and enjoy it while it is here!



# Assembling the 120 Ultimate Bi-plane

By Jack DeLisle



As you can see, I now have a Seagull Models Ultimate Bipe ARF and it was purchased from Horizon Hobby in Champaign, Il.

The plane has a 54.3 in wingspan with an area of 992 sq. in. and the fuselage is 59.4 in. and it weighs from 9.2 to 10.6 lbs.. The recommended power is a 91 to 1.25 cu. in. 2 or 4 stroke engine.

I'm taking their word on the measurements and the weight. I don't weigh the planes I build or assemble because whatever they come out at is what they weigh!

Mine is powered by a Magnum 120 four stroke with a 15 / 8 prop and has plenty of get up and go.

This is the first Seagull built model I have assembled and when I was done there wasn't even a little metric nut or bolt left over. And there wasn't a place on the plane lacking for a part either.

The instructions are so complete that they list even the parts required to fly ( engine, ra-

dio, glow plug, propeller, protective foam rubber for the radio and some fuel tubing). The tools needed are also listed and that includes the glues. Paper towels and a 2mm ball driver along with the usual tools.

So you can see it is very complete. The first suggestion is to lay a towel or other material on the work bench to prevent scratching the plane and to get some small jars / bowls for the small parts.

I heeded their advice and laid a foam sheet on the bench and put all the supplied small parts in small containers and I was off to the races.

I did read the instructions from cover to cover and checked out their sequence of assembly and followed them through the installation of all the control surfaces by gluing the supplied hinges into their precut slots with CA. I also sealed the hinge openings with clear mylar® although that wasn't in the instructions.

The engine mount was already installed so I moved ahead to putting the fuel tank together and that was my second move away from the instructions because I bent the fuel suction tubing just enough so that the suction line just reached the bottom of the tank with the supplied weight and tubing and the pressure line just enough to put on a length of fuel tubing that hits the top of the tank and runs along it for a half inch or so and that the beveled end don't get blocked. I used to fool around with the tubing trying a few times and bending a few times until it got close to the top of the tank. Using a piece of fuel tubing to reach the top of the tank is surer, quicker and easier.

Next on the instructions were the landing gear and that is in a right and a left side setup so I put the wheels and pants on each half and set them aside to install later.

Since the engine mount was already installed I mounted the 120 Magnum and used

*(Continued on page 5)*



(Continued from page 4)

the old " long length of stiff paper strips to locate the holes in the pre-painted fiberglass cowl for the engine head and the high and low needle valve adjusters.

In case you aren't aware of this method: On a strip of stiff paper wide enough to draw a close enough opening for the engine head and adjusters and long enough to clear the cowl. Cut out your openings / holes at one end of the strip and try it for fit on the part, trim the opening for a nice fit and then tape the strip on the fuse far enough back so it doesn't interfere with the cowl while it is still on the head. Now you can remove the engine, install the cowl, let the paper strip come back on the cowl and mark same for cutting out the openings. I use a fine line marker and keep it maybe one eighth inch distance inside the "template" so I have something to work on. You can always make the hole bigger but making it smaller is a whole nother story. Now you can re-install the engine and do your fine cutting and get a nice looking opening in the cowl for those things that stick out.

Some other things I did out of order were to install the servos in the wing and hook up the ailerons, install the two elevator servos and the rudder and throttle servos in the fuse because it's easier then when the wings and tail feathers are on. I also attached the decals

that came separately for the same reason.

Having gone as far as I could in assembling the plane I bolted on the bottom wing and tried on the tail feathers for size and they lined up right on the money so I removed the covering where the tail feathers were supposed to have glue and glued them to the fuselage. Every instruction I have seen tells you to be very careful when removing the covering not to cut into the wood because it would weaken it !!!! I ain't never found a good way to do that so I am careful as can be but still saturate the area with thin CA glue. Stronger then wood, heh! Haven't lost a tail yet.



Now that I have the tail feathers and the wing with the servos on the plane I install the radio, battery and etc and hooked up the mechanicals to the flying surfaces and adjust the linkages so that the ailerons, rudder and elevator are lined up about right The Throttle servo is installed but the link to the carb waits for the engine to be re-installed and that came next. That was the one place where Seagull could have left the hole out cuz it was on the wrong side for the Magnum four stroke. Believe it or not, all the other holes, blind / T nuts and whatever were right where they belonged. I didn't have to "go fishing" for anything!.

The next thing I did was to install the landing gear and the tail wheel assembly, the top wing and the linkage to the top wing ailerons and check the Center of Gravity. I did move the battery to behind the fuel tank instead of at the rear of the servo area where they suggested to put it for the first flights. Chicken that I am.

My original plan was to do the maiden flight at our Propbusters field but decided to do it at Eagle Mountain. It was windy up there but with the help of Gene Lane we got up and got trimmed out. The second trim flight was easier then the first but still touchy because I had to much throws on the elevator and ailerons and Ed London warned me about that too. As I write this there are no more flights on the Ultimate but I'm sure it'll be my favorite aero plane.

Would I recommend a Seagull Models plane? You Betcha. About as complete an ARF



I have run across and the parts are put together using a jig I bet because everything fit and everything is straight. No twists, no "banana" in the fuse. Really well built. I have chased a few wrinkles and bubbles and will probably do more of that when it gets exposed to the sun more but, heh !

Jack DeLisle

## SMAC Toys For Tots

By Dave Krueger (excerpts from SMAC Happ'nins)

This year's SMAC Toys for Tots event was an on again off again situation. We had a little slow start due to the weather and then about half way through the event there was a heavy rain delay. Even with this in mind I think that the day was a success. We did have 15 pilots registered from 5 clubs in our area. Without the participation from other clubs, our event would certainly be minimized. So, Thank you to the River District Eagles, St. Clair County Prop Busters, Thumbs Up RC and The East Wings.

Ron Amon was the first to fly and earn a Pilot only raffle ticket for his flight. That was one incentive to fly this year. Each pilot would earn a raffle ticket for each flight. Also, each pilot that flew could also purchase additional raffle tickets for the pilot only raffle. Oh, and did I mention? The raffle prize was a 2.4Ghz Spectrum Radio. That's quite an incentive to fly! And guess what, Ron won the radio and the envy of all the pilots this year.

Mike Quaine did a great job as he described everything that was going on over the clubs new PA system. It looks like the system was a good purchase by the club. Jack DeLisle also filled in nicely as he took the microphone for a while.

Carl Jones flew his helicopter and amazed the crowd. I'm not sure what all of the maneuvers are called that he did but I can assure you, he did them all on purpose.

Bob Samuelson and Mike had fun handing out the raffle prizes. The regular raffle was a big success. The top prize in the regular raffle was a Piper J3 Cub that was finished by SMAC member Chuck Ames. Chuck does a real good job at that. Handing out prizes like that can make someone very popular. As the event came to a close I talked to Ed and Sheila O. who reminded me about the Charity Fun Fly the Prop Busters have coming up on Sept. 8th. You know, there is always a good time in Goodells.

So if you didn't make it to this year's Toys for Tots event you missed a real good show.



## Watts- Up (electric aviation talk)

By Ed Olszewski



A new low priced charger for LiPo batteries is on the market. The **Skyartec Charger** carried by Budget R/C is designed specifically for charging two or three cell 800 MAH LiPo batteries. What is so special about this charger is it is a balance charger— charging each cell individually for a much safer charge that is easier on your batteries. Budget R/C also carries Batteries, Motors, and Speed controllers, all sized to fit in the planes they build right here in Michigan.

To see more go to [www.budgetrc.com](http://www.budgetrc.com)



**Hobbico Electrizar**, electric trainer with outrunner brushless motor. A complete RTF package sells for under 400 bucks from Tower Hobbies .

This is a "40" size trainer for you glow fuel guys and is built up balsa and ply. But the plane is built from the front to the back to be electric, and the package makes the introduction to electric easy. There is no guessing which plane goes with which motor and batteries, just plug and go. The plane has been test flown by a Propbusters pilot who wishes to remain nameless ( but won't-Ed London). He was all smiles as he landed the plane, and said it flew well.

# Classifieds

**R/C Garage Sale-Sept, 22-9:00 am to 1:00pm.** Selling everything due to health reasons. Planes, covering, engines, Etc. to numerous to list. 2809 10th st. Port Huron.

**GREATPLANES TRAINER**, Super Tiger 40 motor, HiTec 4 channel radio, Hobbico 12V Starter . Used very little  
ALL FOR 175.00

TOM NICHOLS

987-2546

**Hangar 9 Easy Fly 40 trainer** plane ready to fly with OS LA 40, Hitec radio system and servos. \$175.00 OBO  
Josh O 810-367-6367

**Kadet Senior**-3channel w/os 4 stroke ran once

**Piper Cub**-4channel w/os .32

**Futaba 6x** super pcm 1024 new in box

**Field Box**-Great Planes Complete

**Trim Iron, Heat Gun, Extra 12v Starter**

Mark Stein 810-357-1636

**ALTEC PLAITUS PORTER PC 6** - ASP 60 2 cycle engine, receiver on channel 34 and all servos. Asking \$190.00

**BALSA USA NORTHSTAR** - Land and Sea Plane -Never Flown- It has an ASP 46 2 cycle engine, all servos and a new HiTec Flash 5 transmitter and receiver (channel 13). Asking \$350.00

**GREAT PLANES FIREBAT ELECTRIC** Extra motor, Channel 34 Receiver, Servos and speed control Asking \$100.00

**Engines** - ASP 108 (new), Royal 28

**Other Items** Retract Air Pump, Balancer, Robart Incidence Meter, Black Barron Iron, Futaba R127 Receiver on channel 34, Small Retracts, RAM Recycler, 1200 ma flight packs, Air Brush, Chargers, TME Auto trickle Adapter, willing to negotiate on all prices.

LEONARD KUHN Tel 810-765-8801

**Dave Patrick Ultimate 40** ready to fly with an O.S.50 SX, Tower ts 35 servos, receiver, 1100ma. 6v. battery, MPI volt meter. The plane is in good condition but has not flown in 2 years. asking \$350.00 o.b.o

**Great planes extra 300 40** with Super Tiger G51 ringed engine, Futaba s3003 throttle, futaba s3004 elevator, MPI on off charge switch with voltage indicator built in. This plane has many flights and a couple hard landings but still looks and flies good. asking \$100.00 o.b.o.

Matt (586)771-7729 (home) or (586)596-8837 (cell) or e-mail at panicman98@hotmail

**R/C Estate Sale** Kits, ARFs, Ready to fly, Partial builds, Re-builds, Engines-gas and glo, Mounts, Wheels, Gear, Props, Electronics, Transmitters, Receivers, Servos. I am willing to deal!  
Bob Samuelson 810-679-3962

### Classified ads are free

Please e-mail to proptreas@comcast.net  
Or send them by U.S. mail to the editor  
Or call 810-367-6367

**Omega 2 Meter Glider.** 78" w/s, ailerons, "V" tail, Avox Brushless motor and gearbox, Castle creations ESC, servos. Just add receiver to fly. Mike Roberge



**12 V starter** Hangar 9 \$10.00

**OS FS 61** 4 stroke engine

Never mounted or started

\$140.00 OBO

**Sea King Kit** seaplane -new in box (unbuilt).

Fiberglass Fuselage, Balsa covered foam wings \$160.00

**Aspire** Hangar 9, 2 Meter electric sail plane. Excellent condition. Includes Hitec Focus 3 radio (3channel) system, flight battery, charger. Ready to fly \$170.00

Ed Olszewski 810-367-6367

**Edge 540-Hangar 9** ARF 1/4 scale new \$200.00

**Various transmitters**

Call

**120 Stinger** airframe

\$ 75.00

**Futaba, HiTec, JR** Wall chargers

each \$ 5.00

**TD3D Electric mini**-built up ARF-

With Electronics and Brushless motor

Call

**Pylon Props** D1 and D2 APC

Various wood props, various wheels

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**TME simple smoke system** w/regulator

\$ 50.00

Hobbystar 60 mk2-complete RTF or airframe

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Ray Dart

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2700 Pine Grove #16 Grove mall Port Huron MI

### Propbusters Club Attire

**Club Caps** are available for purchase from the club at \$13.00 each. Each is custom embroidered for our club, and have a green brim.

Contact Sheila 367-6367

**Club Embroidery** is available for coats and other attire By Heather Jones, Contact Carl Jones for more information.





## Announcements & Upcoming Events

### September

12th-Club meeting 6:00 PM  
15th-East Wings Fly In 10:00 AM

### October

6th-Club Breakfast 9:00 AM  
10th-Club meeting 6:00 PM  
21st-PMAC (Waterford) 9:00AM

### November

3rd-Club Breakfast 9:00 AM  
14th-Club meeting 6:00 PM

### December

1st-Club Breakfast 9:00 AM  
9th- Propbuster Swap 9:00AM  
12th-Club meeting 6:00 PM

### January

1st-First fly at field Noon

### 2007 Propbusters Special Events

December 9 Propbuster Swap

### Propbusters purposed 2008 Events

June 14 Inter-Club Fly In  
July 5 Bi-Plane Rally  
July 26 4-H Fair R/C Demo  
September 6 R/C For Charity Fly In

**East Wings Fly-In** Fun, Food and R/C Flying on M-19 north of Memphis on Sept 15th. A great day to fly, and meet fellow R/C enthusiast from other clubs. Bring a plane and have a great time!

**Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club swap**, October 21st Waterford Oaks County Park - Activity Center, 2800 Watkins Lk. Rd., Waterford MI.48328. \$4.00 admission, Vendor Setup 8:00a.m. Tables: \$10advance \$15 at the door For info contact: Al Johnson PH:248-459-0803

**Club Breakfast** is the first Saturday of each month at 9:00am. Attendance has been anywhere from a half dozen to a couple dozen members and guests. Come out and join us at Cavis Pioneer Restaurant- on Lapeer, just West of Wadhams rd.



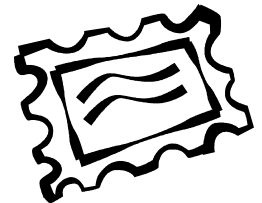
**Grill at the field**-ANYTIME!

**Propbusters Swap** has moved to December 9th. It will still be in the County Park Community center. Hopefully the new date will bring us better weather. It's early, but time to put some stuff aside to sell, or money to buy something new. Please post some flyers available on the website.

Get the latest updates on club and local R/C events and activities on our website **WWW.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com**

Editor- Ed Olszewski  
7147 Main  
Smiths Creek MI 48074  
proptreas@comcast.net

*-The Broken Prop-*  
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*St. Clair County R/C*



*Prop Busters  
Goodells, Mi*

*Remote Control Model Aviation Club*

Visit us on the web at [www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com](http://www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com)