

# The Broken Prop



## AUGUST 2006 EDITION

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY PROPBUSTERS  
A CHARTERED CLUB OF A.M.A. #1762

### Officers for 2006:

**President**

Gary Smedes  
586-727-4507

**Vice-President:**

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

**Secretary &  
Newsletter Editor:**

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

**Treasurer:**

Ed Olszewski  
proptreas@comcast.net

**Safety Officer:**

Pat Donoghue

**Field Marshall:**

Tom Nichols

### Instructors:

Todd Litke 810-824-0385  
Ed London 810-922-0464  
Greg Feyers 810-367-3924

### Meeting Schedule:

Second Wednesday each  
month at the Community  
Center Building, Goodells Park,  
6:00 pm.

Please try to attend the  
meetings if you can. It's a  
great way to stay in touch with  
what is going on in your club.

www.SCCPROPBUSTERS.com

### Children at Flying Sites

*by Carl Maroney, Special Services Director*

While each club can regulate how it will operate and what, if any, rules concern children while at the field, we would like to offer some food for thought.

You have heard the saying "kids will be kids," but is it reasonable to let them run wild at the field? Of course not. Children should always be under adult supervision; the amount will depend on their age, maturity level, and the child's cooperation with authority. So let the kids come, but they should not be unruly.

Clubs that have a large number of families might find it valuable to have a designated playground area. It will be the club's responsibility to check periodically to see that play equipment is working properly. Look for any damage, sharp edges on surfaces and if there are any bolts, that they are secure. Replacing worn components is important. Yes, having a playground does require some extra work but it is well worth it for all attendees to have a good time at the club site. And yes, the AMA Liability Insurance will cover any club negligence.

The National Recreation and Park Association offers these additional playground safety tips:

- Inspect the playground before play.
- Supervise children while they play.
- Be sure children use playground equipment appropriate for their age.
- Be sure children use the playground equipment for its intended purpose only. Check that all elevated surfaces have chest-high guardrails. Watch for potential trip hazards such as rocks, tree stumps, and concrete footings.
- Be sure that all openings are less than three-and-one-half inches wide or greater than nine inches wide to prevent head entrapment.
- Check that each piece of equipment is surrounded by a minimum six-foot fall zone covered with an appropriate amount of resilient surfacing such as sand, pea gravel, or hardwood fiber/mulch.
- Make sure playgrounds are well maintained.
- Report any problems.

Playgrounds provide an important social and physical environment for the development of children and burn up some of their energy. Since youth are the future of aeromodeling, does your club have an activity program for flight instruction for them? AMA has just made a major change to the Introductory Pilot Program available to AMA-chartered clubs. Why not take a look and implement a new effort toward interesting youngsters.

(From May 2006 issue of The AMA Insider)

*Hope to see you at the field*

*Youth Is Our Future*

## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

### **August**

- 5<sup>th</sup> – **Propbusters Club Picnic & 4H Fair Flight Demo** – starts at 10 am at Goodells County Park.  
9<sup>th</sup> – **Propbusters Meeting** – 6 pm Community Center Building (or at field if weather is nice)  
20<sup>th</sup> – Sandusky Airshow  
26<sup>th</sup> – **SMAC Fly-In for Toys** – Arnold Field in Crosswell – starts at 10 am – Admission free. One Toy for Pilots – Bob Samuelson (810)679-3962 or Dave Krueger (989)479-6177 [www.krugair.com](http://www.krugair.com)

### **September**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Propbusters Breakfast gathering at 9 am?  
Check the website for details and updates.  
9<sup>th</sup> – **Propbusters Earth Keepers Charity Event** – 10 am to 2 pm  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> – **Midwest Regional Float Fly** – Island Lake State Park in Brighton. Starts at 9:30 am both days.  
16<sup>th</sup> – **East Wings Fly-In** – Flying starts at 10 am.  
17<sup>th</sup> – **Whirlybirds** gathering at the Propbusters' field in Goodells County Park.

### **Jan 2007**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Propbusters New Year's Day Fun Fly**  
28<sup>th</sup> – **Propbusters Swap Meet & Breakfast**

## **St. Clair County Propbusters Pot Luck Picnic and 4H Fair Flight Demo**

**Saturday – August 5, 2006**

**Propbusters' Field at  
Goodells County Park**

**Starts at 9 am**

**Bring A Dish to Pass and  
Your Own Beverage (No Alcohol)  
Hot Dogs Provided by  
the Propbusters**

Bring a Chair, a Plane, and an Umbrella and support the hobby.

Let the gate people know you're going to the R/C flying field for the event. You must pay only if you're staying for the rest of the fair.

Pilots - remember to bring your AMA card and please don't fly over the fence (or even near it) and watch the flight line. Fly safe and have fun.

## **July Meeting**

The meeting on July 7th held at the community center building started at 6:04 pm. Doug\Al made a motion to accept the secretary's report as read by Keith. Ed L pointed out the payment to Ed L was for tractor gas, not parts. Tom Nichols' payment was for shed parts. Keith\Ed L made a motion to accept the amended treasurer's report as read by Doug in Ed O's absence. Both motions passed.

**Old Business** - we discussed the success of the concessions at our fun fly. Gary said the group who provided the concessions trailer would be willing to do it again (provided they again get 100% of concessions). If we give them more notice, they will have a better assortment. We discussed the raffle and the lack of the 50/50. It was determined starting at 10 am was better than last year. It made the time fly fast trying to squeeze in everything. It was felt advertisement was lacking and that we need to have more posting of flyers by the membership.

**New Business** - Bi-Plane Rally is coming up on July 22nd.

**4H Fair and Club Picnic.** The Club will buy hotdogs, buns and condiments. Everyone needs to bring a dish to pass and their own drinks. We need to locate a grill.

**Frequency Meter.** The one we purchased kept sticking on channel 34, so Sheila sent it back for replacement.

Doug\Keith made a motion to move an additional \$500 out of the General Fund into the Equipment Fund. Motion passed. Gary will contact Ed.

The Times Herald article of our Fun Fly was reviewed.

We discussed the letter received from Mark Brochu of the parks to the Propbusters about the Propbusters events not being provided to the parks.

Keith provided details about the new website. The price we were paying gave us 25 Megs of web space. The new host, 1and1.com, gives us 50 Gigs of space for roughly the same cost.

John D and Gary will contact authorities at the park to make sure the parking situation will be handled for the 4H Fair this year. We've had troubles every year getting access to our field. Gary will talk to the parking guys to make sure people are not parking on Propbusters' land next to the fence. We have to remind pilots that whole week to stay away from the fence line. We discussed passed flight line violations during the park events.

Gary\Doug made a motion to close the meeting at 6:40 pm. Motion passed.

## Financial Report

Beginning Balance **\$2,959.63**

### Income

Dues \$ 165.00  
**Total Income** **\$ 165.00**

### Expenses

Keith – postage \$ 11.70  
 Ed L. – gas \$ 31.35  
**Total Expenses** **\$ 43.05**

### Ending Balance

Checking \$ 1,581.58  
 Equipment Fund \$ 1,500.00  
**Grand Total** **\$3,081.58**

### 2006 Membership

Junior 7  
 Senior 18  
 Lifetime 2  
 Regular 42  
**Total 69**

### New Members

Bryan Lawry  
 Mike Leusby

**Aspire** Hanger 9, 2 Meter electric sail plane. Excellent condition – ready to fly. Hitec Focus 3 radio (3 channel), batter, charger. \$180.00  
 Call Ed (810) 367-6367

**Avistar trainer** – some dings and patches but still looks and flies great. \$75  
**Thunder Tiger Piper Cub** ARF 81" wing. Flown 3 times. A hard landing took out the landing gear but has been repaired. Just add your equipment and you're ready to fly. \$140  
**Viper U2 combat planes** 2 complete Planes. Each \$30  
 Tim Sonnenfeld (810) 765-3608

**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, way to much to list!

Bob Samuelson 810-679-3962

**Wanted:** .19 and/or .23 Torpedo (Green Head) and .29 McCoy (Red Head) for "old Timers" events.

Don Pearson (810) 364-9258

**Cap 232** Yellow aircraft 60/90 NIB ARF \$150  
**Edge 540 – Hangar 9** ARF ¼ scale new \$200  
**Edge 540 – Phase 3**  
 w/Brushless motor NIB \$45  
**JR Quatro** 4 channel NIB \$125  
**Various transmitters** Call  
**120 Stinger airframe** \$75  
**Sky Vista** low wing trainer airframe \$35  
**Futaba, HiTec, JR** wall chargers – each \$5  
**Tower 40** 2 stroke engine \$40  
**Enya 46** 4 stroke engine \$65  
**1/8 scale Mirage buggie** Thunder Tiger  
 With Radio – New Call  
**TD3D Electric Mini** – built-up ARF –  
 w/ Electronics and Brushless Motor Call  
**Pylon Props** D1 and D2 APC  
 Various wood props, various wheels CALL  
 Ray Dart (810) 326-0929

For your Pre-Mix 2-Cycle Oils and all **AMSOIL** Products, Contact Archie Kammer, your **Independent AMSOIL Dealer.**  
 810-329-3276 Cell 810-300-2214

E-mail [kammercfva@earthlink.net](mailto:kammercfva@earthlink.net)

## Grant's custom Aircraft

### **PBY 5-1 Catalina**

106" Wing, 1/12 scale, 1270 Sq In, 23 lbs  
 64"length .60 2-Cycle 3 surfaces & Motor  
 Servo, Motor.90 4-Cycle, Landing Gear Valve  
 Servo, Float Valve Servo.

### **Grumman G-44 Widgeon**

80" Wing, 1/5 scale, 15 Sq Ft, 24 lbs,  
 60" length .60 2-Cycle 3 Control Surfaces & Motor  
 Servo, Motor .90 4-Cycle Servo, Landing  
 Gear Valve Servo, Float Valve Servo.

### **Republic Seabee**

70" Wing, 630 Sq In, 8 lbs, 48"length, .40 2-Cycle 4  
 Control Surfaces

**Contact: Mike Grant at (810) 329-6406**

## Wanted

1967 – 70 **Volkswagen motor** Type I Beetle – Running or not I am mostly interested in the upper half (alternator, carb, shroud)

**Used chain link fence posts** or misc piping you need to get rid of.

Call **Gary Smedes** @ 586-727-4507

## Lockheed Martin to Design Wireless Nano Air Vehicle

(from Telematics Journal) July 21, 2006 | 11:35 AM

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) awarded Lockheed Martin a \$1.7-million, 10-month contract to design a revolutionary remote-controlled nano air vehicle (NAV) that will collect military intelligence indoors and outdoors on the urban battlefield.



Lockheed Martin Advanced Technology Laboratories (ATL) leads a team that will design a remote-controlled NAV, similar in size and shape to a maple tree seed. A chemical rocket enclosed in its one-bladed wing will power a sensor payload module more than 1,100 yards. Delivered from a hover and weighing up to 0.07 ounces, the module will be interchangeable based on mission requirements. Besides controlling lift and pitch, the wing will also house telemetry, communications, navigation, imaging sensors, and battery power. The NAV will be about 1.5 inches long and have a maximum takeoff weight of about 0.35 ounces.

In typical operation, a warfighter will launch the NAV and fly it toward the target by viewing its flight path through a camera embedded in the wing. Like a maple tree seed, the one-bladed device will rotate in flight, but its camera will provide a stable forward view and transmit images back to a small, hand-held display. As the system matures, a simple autopilot aboard the NAV will provide limited autonomous operations. Once the NAV delivers its payload, it will return to the warfighter for collection and refurbishment.

According to James Marsh, ATL director, designing and building such a small device will require revolutionary manufacturing technologies to integrate near-microscopic components into the airframe. But even the airframe will require a challenging combination of new and emerging technologies.

"The challenges are both exciting and daunting, because some of the technologies vital to our success have yet to be discovered," Marsh said. "We know going in that we need some of the best minds in manufacturing technology and in the development and integration of highly sophisticated, software-driven control technologies and mission systems." The contract will fund conceptual design and risk reduction using prototypes of the engine, airframe, flight control system, and communications system as well as computer models of the guidance system and sensors. Following a successful preliminary design review planned for summer 2007 and a sequence of go/no-go tests, DARPA may fund an additional 18-month period during which Lockheed Martin will design and test a flying prototype.

Lockheed Martin ATL leads a team that includes Lockheed Martin Advanced Development Programs (Skunk Works), Lockheed Martin Advanced Technology Center, the Lockheed Martin-managed Sandia National Laboratories, AeroCraft, ATK Thiokol and the University of Pennsylvania.

Lockheed Martin's NAV program is part of a DARPA effort from its Defense Sciences Office to improve the quality, quantity, and reliability of information gathered and transmitted by unattended ground sensors. The effectiveness of these sensors may be dependent on their precise location. Achieving optimal monitoring and communication often requires precise deployment of sensors.

## Propbusters Bi-Plane Rally

By Sheila O.



The Propbusters 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bi-Plane Rally was held on Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup>. We had pilots with bi-planes & tri-planes; others with their everyday planes. All came to have a good time.



The morning was partly cloudy and cool with some wind - but soon the wind was picking up. After a little adjusting of the motor, Ed London and Maynard LaParl took up Maynard's biplane, which flew great and was very fast. Jack D took up his bi-plane that he bought off an Eagle's member recently and he seemed to be having a nice time. Ed L flew his tri-plane early on to get in a flight before the wind picked up. He also was flying his ultimate biplane that seemed like it would fly in just about any weather.

The unlucky flyer of the day would be Gary S. As he was taking his trainer biplane up something went "a-muck". When it came down he took off the landing gear and put a couple of holes in the wings. It's back to the workshop for this one. Luckily, he brought a spare plane to fly.



We had a nice turnout with Ed O, Sheila, Josh, Jack D, Maynard, Ruth Ann, Ed L, John H, Grant P, Gary W, and new member Mike Leusby. Hopefully I didn't miss anyone and will see you at the next event.