

# **BARRETT BLURB October 2014**

Gorge Area Flyers,

Here are some updates...

+ Last evening *Columbia Gorge Aeromodelers* (CGA) voted to pay all of the bill for having the AC electric outlets installed on the back of the barn for charging batteries. Related to this please know that there is a "table top" between the outlets, with both a fire extinguisher and sand there for putting out fires.

+ Also at the meeting the relationship between CGA and Parks & Rec was discussed. Everyone agreed that CGA needs to be involved with "operations" of Barrett Park RC Field. Based on personal experiences and club/park website studies, it is common practice for the local RC aircraft club to manage/administer/operate the field, even though the land and facilities are owned by a government entity. In all cases we know of, the public flying site is the official field of AMA chartered clubs, with oversight by the club, even though non-club members are also allowed to fly there. P&R has already agreed to this also being the situation at Barrett. A "Memorandum of Use" authored by David Hmiel a few months ago needs to be ratified by CGA, and implemented. Here's the rub. In order for all this to happen, CGA needs fresh leadership. At the November 12th CGA meeting, officers for 2015 will be elected. However, nobody at last night's meeting would volunteer to be an officer. The club officer positions are: President, Vice President, either a Secretary/Treasure or a Secretary/NL Editor and a Treasurer, a Field and Safety officer, and two members-at-large (one from The Dalles area and one from the Hood River/White Salmon area). With effective leadership the following are possible: monthly events; educational presentations at club meetings; a training program for new flyers; public relations events (shows); intra-club support of each other; and oversight of Barrett Park RC Field. Over the last 15 years CGA's traditional pool of officers have diminished for a variety of reasons. What is now needed is a complete "reboot" of leaders. What with both Barrett and Dallesport flying fields available (plus float-fly venues) the opportunities for organized RC aircraft learning and flying have never been better in our area. Please do some soul searching regarding contributing your leadership skills towards the growth and enjoyment of our wonderful hobby/sport. Being new to the area and/or hobby and/or not being a club type person needn't be a concern. With a good shared-leadership team, the above list of "could be's" is possible. THANKS!

+ At the meeting it was also felt that there needs to be written permission from the Hood River Airport FBO for us to fly at Barrett. The FBO has verbally given permission, and in fact is actually a member of CGA with a background of RC flying. But with the new FAA activity regarding RC aircraft, some feel CGA needs to have something in writing in their records. I volunteered to contact the FBO about this.

+ Apparently last Saturday somebody showed up and launched rockets at Barrett Park RC Field. According to Oregon State law this is not allowed at Barrett. The sign says RC ground vehicles are not allowed, but we neglected to include

rockets. Please know, and inform others, that **ONLY** Radio Controlled Aircraft are allowed at Barrett.

+ This morning as Roy Cederstam and myself were enjoying another day of no-wind flying and sunshine, a person parked their car by the barn, and walked with their dog to the hiking trail that starts/ends at Barrett. Know that this is OK. There is no other parking for trail users, so as long as they're not taking up our back-in parking places, it's OK to share the parking area. If they park in the pit area you can ask them to please move south of the barn.

+ CGA is having their bi-annual float-fly on October 18th at 9:30am. Traditionally it is at Mayer State Park near Rowena. However fishermen have pretty well taken over that park at this time. Zed Ruhlen is going to research this, and if necessary the float-fly will be relocated to the Hood River Marina beach. Zed will send out an email.

+ Attached is a hand-out now available at *Hood River Hobbies* for new people to the hobby and/or area. If you have yet to read the Barrett Park RC Field rules and etiquette, they are on page-2 (backside of the handout).

+ Saturday mornings are proving to be a popular time for folks to show up and fly. See you there!

*NOTE regarding emailing's: With the "Barrett Blurb" mailing list now over 100, some emails are bouncing due to mail servers assuming it's spam (no comments). So I am having to resend the email to smaller groups. If you accidently get this twice, please let me know.*

**--Roy--**