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AMA Gold Leader Club

Academy of Model Aeronautics  
Charter Club #252



# Flypaper

**APRIL 2017**

## Fox Valley Aero Club



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dale Gathman

[president@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:president@foxvalleyaero.com)



**Good weather is just around the corner,** and, with that hope, we need prepare our field for another fantastic flying season. Please plan on lending a hand on Saturday, April

15, starting at 9:00 am or earlier, as we get together at the field for our annual Field Work Day. Mark Knoppkie has projects planned for us, and will give us the details at the meeting on Thursday night.

Whatever your skills and talents are, there are always jobs for everyone, and the volunteers receive the satisfaction of knowing that they had a part in making our great field look as good as it does.

**The barn is almost down.** The demolition crew is making progress on tearing down the barn. If you haven't checked out our field cameras lately, take a look.

**Spring Jitters.** I was able to get out to the field on Saturday, April 1, during one of our recent great weather days. I got a couple of flights in on the trainer, and all went well. I decided to fly the trainer, as I felt kind of 'out of tune' with the sticks when I flew in February. In past years I had flown every month all year long, but this year, I didn't fly at all during the months of December and January, and then only once in February. I can tell you that at least for me, constant practice really helps with my confidence. I am happy to report that the confidence is returning, and I will get back to the Cub and Warbirds next time out. I did learn though that I need to start out in the spring with a slow plane, and then progress to the faster stuff.

**Dad's Plane.** My 87 year old father Jim, who taught me to build rubber powered model planes when I was probably 10 years old, decided that he wanted to build an RC airplane. After discussing his options, he decided on a Sig Kadet kit. I have been able to instruct him now on RC building techniques, and we are in the final stretch. The fuselage is covered, and the wing is next. Look for him this summer out at the field, as I am hoping he enlists Dan Compton to train him to fly it. He does pretty well on the simulator, and has flown buddy box with me once using my LT40. He is really excited about getting it completed, and can't wait to see it fly. This hobby is certainly for all ages.

**New Lawn Mower.** During this last month, Tom Flint has spent some time researching mowers, and brought the recommendation to the board to purchase a new Hustler Raptor SD zero-turn 60" lawn mower. The board voted to purchase the mower, and we will now have two mowers for our SGMOP (Short Grass Mowing Program) crew to use. The plan is to expand the short grass landing area to be the same length as the paved runway. We hope to have teams of two SGMOP members mow this year, so that they can get more area mowed in a shorter time. They also plan to mow the area between the barn and the highway so that we don't have to pay to get that done four times during the season. Please consider volunteering for the SGMOP team, as they always welcome new members. See Tom Flint (SGMOP coordinator) if you are interested.

Hope to see you all at the field soon.  
Dale

# FROM THE TREASURER

Paul Jacobs

[treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com)



We are doing well on getting the dues paid this year but there are still over a dozen members not paid. Our membership chairman Tony Bahowick will continue to send inquiries so if you do not intend to renew please let him know.

On our AMA roster there are 10 members that have not paid their AMA dues. DO NOT FLY at our field unless you are a current AMA member as your insurance is not valid. The checkbook balance had been growing nicely this year but all good things must come to an end. Two major payouts this month are the field rent to the City of St. Charles and we purchased a second lawnmower for the field. There will also be some minor expenses coming up for our workday on April 15th and our regular weekly mowing will begin as well. The next major payout will be for the new roof on the shed probably in May.

One good thing about retirement is the ability to work on airplanes. The plane I



mentioned last month has been completed and ready for maiden. The new Klotz Stik has an OS GT33 bolted to a polished diamond plate aluminum firewall.

Until next month, Paul

# FROM THE SECRETARY

Debbie Howe

[Secretary@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:Secretary@foxvalleyaero.com)

Fox Valley Aero Club - Member Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2017 @ St. Charles Township Hall



President **Dale Gathman** called the meeting to order at 7:40pm. Dale welcomed all to the meeting. Dale turned the floor over to Secretary,

**Debbie Howe**; she asked for the approval of the February meeting minutes. The minutes were moved to be accepted first by **Bill Suhr** and seconded by **Alan Galle**.

Moving on to **Paul Jacobs** for the Treasurers report, Paul stated that the bank account is doing fine and is reminding everyone to send in your

dues for 2017. Paul also let everyone know to say Happy Birthday to Bob Boen, there was a nice round of applause for Bob.

**Jeff Peca** was not there but Dale Gathman let everyone know that Jeff had secured the Gold Leader Club certificate for 2017.

**Mark Knoppkie** was up next with the Field Chairman report. Mark said Thank You to **Rich Gabrys**. Rich has spoken to the company that fixed the roads in Rich's sub division and he has worked out a deal to fix our runway and will oversee the project. Rich said he would send an email of what day the work would be done, and Paul Jacobs will send the information out to the club. Mark said we are looking for a new bid for our lawn service from the Sanchez Brothers, a company that we previously used. Mark thanked **Alvin Cole**, for making those calls and getting the job quoted. Mark went on to say that we are going to keep only two of the blast shields out for jets this year and we are looking for ideas for other flush to the ground plane holders that will not interfere with the grass being cut in that area. The idea was brought up of a similar hold down as they have at the Champaign County R/C Club of PVC tubes in the ground flush and then just a smaller Outer dimension tub that would go inside of it; this holds the wings instead of the tail of the plane. Mark will look into this in the next two weeks. Mark reminded everyone of the upcoming FIELD WORK DAY IS APRIL 15TH.

**Susan Galle** did not have anything to report but all said "Good Job on the Fly Paper".

**Tom Flint** said that he did talk to the city of St Charles to see if we could get our event information on the city banners that are put on Main Street. The city just got back to him and said they will save some of the banner spots for our event. Great news.

Moving on to the Swap Meet, **Joe Pedone** and **John Turner** said that the swap was a great success and we had a huge group of volunteers, the set up went very fast and the date for next year had already been booked. The club made a profit of over \$2,000.00.

Joe and JT thanked **Katie Howe** and **Debbie**

**Howe** for doing the 50/50 raffle and said it was another record breaking year for the raffle. Many thanks and a round of applause for Joe and John for running the swap again and for all their hard work.

**Jeremy** from Hobby Town USA has suggested teaming up with the car guys and their swap and JT and Joe will look into that option as well for next year.

Moving on to planes, **Armin Weber** brought in his PT19, that was over 13 years old. He has re-covered it with Solortex and did some chalk brushed out with steel wool to give it a nice weathered effect. The cowl was done with color matched sample size Bear latex paint from home depot. He sprayed the blue and let that set and cure for about a week and then came back and sprayed the black. The pilots are from Best Pilots and Armin has gone all out so that the rear pilot's head moves, Armin said that the painting of just the pilots took him about 18 hours to complete. All around great job and great detail. Thanks Armin.

**Dale Gathman** showed everyone fuel tubing he found that is very flexible and soft that handles gas, glow, diesel or smoke fluid, the tubing is by Sullivan Products and can be bought in a 2' or 12' lengths.

**John Turner** showed his E-Flite Texan with a 25 Brushless motor, he set it up with stationary gear instead of the retracts but he does have the retracts and will put them in after he gets a couple of flights on the plane. He has the extra wind shield to make it the double cockpit as well if he wants to. JT hopes to maiden it in the next month once it gets a little nicer out.

**Dale Gathman** then showed his FMS A10 with twin ducted 70mm fans. Dale said the project took him less than an hour and it was ready to fly. It comes with all the bombs, Dale was able to give us a gear demonstration to show the gear folding forward and how the 12 blade props sound in the ducted fan.



Next **Doug Swanson** came up with an old EZ Sport with an OS 25FP, Doug was reminding and explaining Retro Day. Doug graced us with his proof of retro

wearing his baseball hat and high tube socks with bright bands around the top. Very Retro Doug! Doug was showing us this as his plane for Retro Day July 13th, Doug said it's just a day to bring out some of your oldies, reminisce and talk about the good old days.

**Alan Galle** was up next with his Giant Ugly Stik with an RCV 120 for power. Alan said he had this on another plane that crashed and then on a P-51 and he did not have proper venting and the engine seized on him. He sent it back to the company and they fixed it and sent it back but at the time he just put the engine on the side. He really wanted to use the engine and decided that the open front of the Ugly stick might be a perfect fit for it. Without a cowl the engine should stay cool and fly well.

**Dale Gathman** went on to tell us that the Land Use Exploration Committee met and we have been told that the work on the barn "should" start on next week. Our contact at the university will no longer be employed there as of Wednesday. Tom Flint asked if there are any comments that need to be made to the guys doing the tear down please go through him or Dale so that we don't have any chance of slowing the project down at all. As for the shed, the pole barn walls are now out of the plans and we will be getting tarps that will cover the first four openings and we will be putting a chain link fence up with a dual gate that way we can lock-up our lawn mower and equipment. As soon as we have the contract in hand we will be doing the roof on the shed and hopefully we can get that done before the field work day on April 15th.

**John Fischer** was up next to talk about the Windy City Warbirds and Classics event. We are

registered pilots. John said that he will be sending out an email next week for tent space we will be renting. We will be getting 20x40 tents and renting out 10x20 plots out for \$100. You must be registered to be on the email list about tent space. John Fischer said that the Warbird and Classic Alliance will have their own booth at the Toledo Show and a big thanks to **Hillary and Tom Bean** for manning that booth for us. If you are there make sure you stop by and say hello and thank them for their time and hard work.

**Tom Flint** is once again working on the design for the hats and shirts for this year and has been inspired by **Orvil Fluharty** and his Spirit of St Louis.

**John Fischer** said thanks to **Armin Weber** for his help on the food vendor and tents, **Joe Pedone** for his work with sign-up on RC Flight Deck, and **Dave Brustle** will be setting up the pilot's dinner. Again, we will be using the same people as last year, BBQ on Wheels as they did a great job! **Debbie Howe** asked that we set up a cleanup committee for after the pilots dinner. John said that all the volunteers are welcome to come back for the pilots dinner, just please let him know if you are coming back so we can get a head count.

**John Fischer** and the Howe Family will run the Festival of Flight as a joint project. **Debbie Howe** will be taking over the running of the Christmas Party and will be looking into getting that started before the next meeting.

The meeting was called to adjourn with a motion from Tom Flint and seconded by Orvil Fluharty at 8:46pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Howe - Secretary



## FROM OUR SAFETY CHAIRMAN

Jeff Peca

[safety@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:safety@foxvalleyaero.com)



You can never be too cautious about your eyes. My brother was recently diagnosed and had surgery for an eye condition called pterygium. Pterygium is a condition where a wedged-shaped bump on the eyeball that starts on the white of the eye can invade the cornea. Although ultraviolet radiation from the sun appears to be

the primary cause, dust and wind are sometimes implicated too. My brother works outside year round, hunts, fishes, participates in sports but I rarely see him wearing sunglasses until now. Whether it is in the shop or at the field, from things we can see like dust, debris and chemicals, or things we can't see like UV from the sun, it is important to protect our eyes.

## FROM JOHN FISCHER (Fiberglassing)

Along with my friends, here is what I have come up with regarding fiberglassing and it works great.

Materials:

- ZPoxy part a and b
- 1 ounce cloth
- denatured alcohol

Habutae:

<https://www.onlinefabricstore.net/whitehabutae-fabric.htm?gclid=CPOeuPyKuNICFVq4wAodsGUL8A>

Procedure:

1. Mix up equal parts of part a and b Zpoxy to this add an equal amount of denatured alcohol, mix.
2. Lay cloth on sanded balsa piece.
3. Using chip brush, brush on the Zpoxy diluted material and allow to cure overnight.
4. Sand up any imperfections.
5. Mix up equal parts of part a and b Zpoxy to this add 20% denatured alcohol, mix e.g. 50ml part a, 50ml part b, 20ml denatured alcohol.

6. Apply diluted Zpoxy material to the hardened fiberglass piece. (*This is slightly thicker than the other material but I find it still spreads relatively easily with a chip brush.*)

7. Dry brush the edges of your piece so as not to apply too much material.

8. Take the Habutae fabric and, with another's help stretch it above the piece and lay it down on the piece trying to avoid wrinkles as much as possible.

9. Using an old credit card, playing card or squeegee force the diluted Zpoxy material through the Habutae taking care to wipe off the card as you gather the Zpoxy off the piece.

10. As you approach the edges of the piece, you may notice that the Habutae appears dry. Simply add more Zpoxy material now to the top of the Habutae and squeegee off. Work your way around the piece until there is no more Zpoxy sitting on top of the Habutae.

11. Allow to sit over night and cure.

12. Simply pull the Habutae off the piece. You will notice that what is left is filled weave without any excess that needs to be sanded back to the weave.

13. Lightly sand the piece and the edges, occasionally there are drips that need to be sanded back.

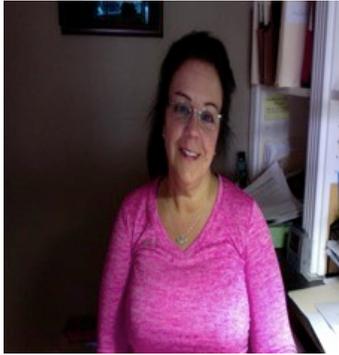
14. Prime and paint as usual.



# FROM THE EDITOR

Susan Galle

[newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com)



Bring on the warmth and more often!! The last two weekends I have been out at Joliet (racing) and it's been a blast! My times are improving and I'm making some new friends as well. Best thing about this sport is I get to hang out with other crazy car people in a huge parking lot (and I know what you're thinking

too) but I'm addicted and I'm having fun (best part since I don't get to do that enough).

Now that we are officially one quarter into this paper, I hope everyone is enjoying it as I am still trying to find new and improved things to add to our paper. And, in a sense (to me at least), I feel like it is therapy from the craziness in my life as it allows me to focus on fun and interesting things that I think all of you might find of interest too - not to mention the laughs - gotta have laughs - life is just too serious - (trust me, I know).

My other thought is that I am thinking of getting pics from some of you regarding your storage space and see who can guess who the storage space belongs to (still tweaking this one as I want to make it interesting and fun and there might be a prize (they will vary)) but only me and the mysterious pilot will know who he or she is.

An edition to this month's paper is "Suz Corner" which will be a topic of my choice with just a short blurb on whatever that topic is (guess I already included that blurb in the first paragraph above though) - so easy to do when you don't even try and there again, I am amazing myself and amusing you as well!

Regarding spotting, I think I've covered just about everything I could cover on that topic. I will say the more you do it, the more proficient you become and more comfortable and then it's just so automatic, you just know what to do - so for those of you who have never spotted before and would like to, then perhaps you could shadow one of the spotters who does it more frequently and then you will see that my notes on paper really will make sense once you actually spot. No harm in asking, just remember that you are shadowing - any questions (if not long that is), should

be asked after the pilot has landed for everyone's safety and enjoyment.

That's all for now— Susan

## Purpose of a Propeller?

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



Kid: "What's the purpose of the propeller?"

Father: "To keep the pilot cool."

Kid: "I don't think so."

Father: "If you don't think so, just stop it and watch him sweat!"

*I took my first flying lesson in 1967, when I was 16. By October 1968, I had 70 hours in the air and got my pilot's license.*

— Chesley Sullenberger

*"Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return."*

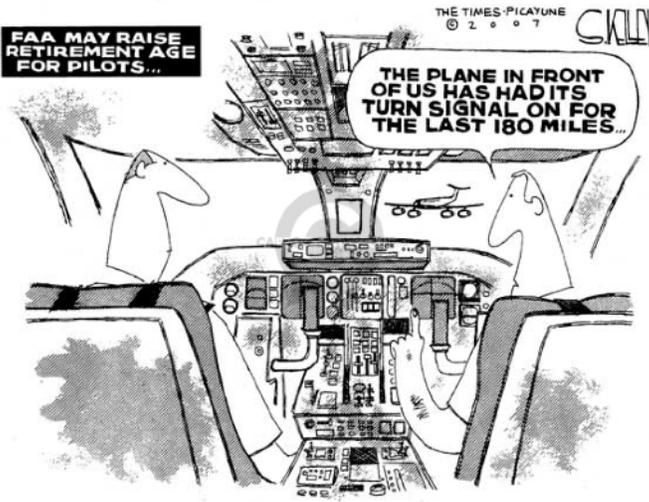
— Leonardo da Vinci

Space is not a good place to mix foods because as soon as you take something out of the package, it becomes a flying object.

— Chris Hadfield

*You love a lot of things if you live around them but there isn't any woman and there isn't any horse, not any before nor any after, that is as lovely as a great airplane. And men who love them are faithful to them even though they leave them for others. Man has one virginity to lose in fighters, and if its a lovely airplane he loses it to, there is where his heart will forever be.*

— Ernest Hemingway



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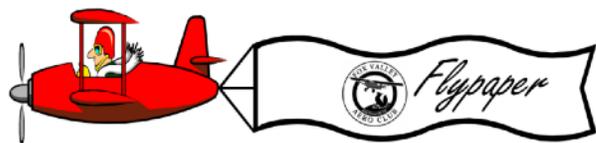
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## 2017 Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

January 1	<b>Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers</b>	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 12	FVAC Member Mtg	7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 9	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 18	<b>FVAC Annual Swap Meet</b>	9:00-1:00 Kane County Fair Grounds
March 9	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 13	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 15	<b>Field Work Day</b>	9:00 am FVAC Field
April 22	<b>Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day</b>	9:00 am – 1:00 pm - FVAC Field
May 11	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 20	<b>Fun-Fly –#1 TBA</b>	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 29	<b>St. Charles Memorial Day Parade</b>	Time TBD
June 3	<b>Rocket Fest &amp; Kids Fly</b>	FVAC Field
June 4	<b>Pig Roast &amp; Fun-Fly</b>	FVAC Field
June 8	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 9	<b>2017 Media Day</b>	9:00 am – 3:00 pm - FVAC Field
June 22-24	2017 <b>Windy City Warbirds &amp; Classics</b>	FVAC Field
June 25	<b>Open Fly – All Scale</b>	FVAC Field
July 13	<b>Retro Fly</b> FVAC Member Mtg	2:00 pm at FVAC Field
July 13	FVAC Member Mtg.	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
July 22	<b>Fun-Fly – #2 TBA</b>	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 10	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 12	<b>Cub Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open</b>	9:00 am – 8:00 pm - FVAC Field
August 12	<b>Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open</b>	8:00 pm – Midnight - FVAC Field
<b>September 9?</b>	<b>Festival of Flight</b>	FVAC Field
September 14	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
September 16	<b>Night Fly</b>	9:00 pm FVAC Field
October 12	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 15	<b>Turkey Fry &amp; Fun-Fly - Limbo</b>	FVAC Field
November 9	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
<b>December 1?</b>	<b>Annual Christmas Party</b>	6:00 TBA
<b>December 7?</b>	<b>Rookies Christmas Party</b>	6:30 Rookies Sports Bar & Grill-St. Charles

Revision 04-10-2017

*Bold dates with ? not confirmed*