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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

Flypaper

August 2015

Fox Valley Aero Club

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Ashley E. Fischer Photo

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alvin Cole
president@foxvalleyaero.com



Things are moving forward at FVAC. We have had a great flying season filled with fun and excitement. The Windy City Warbirds and Classics was our biggest event and was successful. With the upcoming festival your help will be also needed to help the event be successful. Hope to see you all there.

I want to thank Tom Siwek for his contributions to the club in all of his many capacities. He has been devoted to the well being of the club and he will be missed. Good luck to you Tommy and we wish you and your family the best.

See you at the field,
Alvin

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com



The treasury is back up to normal levels after a successful Warbirds and Classics event. It could get even better if the Festival weather cooperates as there are no major expenses involved with the event.

This month we say good-bye for now to our Safety Director Tom Siwek and thank him for all that he has done for the club. Anyone interested in that

position should contact Alvin.

Fond Du Lac is the next event I will attend and bring the DC-3 up for Armin to have something to play with. Actually I hope to get some stick time on it as well. My goal this year is to get all airplanes I have completed in the air at least once during the season. I have already flown and retired the Klotz stik, flown its replacement the Giant Stik, flown the U-Can-Do several times and of course the big Decathlon. Three pattern ships have made it to the skies including the Finesse II I purchased from Mel and the Dirty Birdi and Phoenix 7. Both twins have flown and besides the DC-3, the Duallist actually took off on a single engine. Dennis pointed out that only one of the fans was turning so I landed and fixed it and it flew great. Cliff helped me get the little YS110 powered Pitts up for a successful test flight. Yet to make it into the air are the 100cc Extra, the Patrick Ultimate 120 and a Haigh Superstar with a SuperTigre 3000 engine.

Until next month,

Paul

SAFETY CHAIRMAN'S MONTHLY TOPIC

Tom Siwek

safety@foxvalleyaero.com



Farewell Friends

Well this is it, my final Flypaper submission as your Safety Chairman. The time has come for me to start a new chapter in life. I've taken a new job that will have me moving to Massachusetts next week. I had a lot of great times over my 8 years of membership. We've put on a lot of great events and I've experienced a lot of sunny weekends out flying. I never

got to fly as much as I wanted – life is busy – but wherever I was out there, I was rarely alone. This was one of my primary reasons for joining the club. There was always someone flying and you always had company.

In the years where I was on the board, I've served with a lot of great people. The current group is the best I've served with. Feel fortunate that there is such a great group of volunteers to provide leadership for the club. There's no question, FVAC has a bright future.

In closing, I thank you all for your friendship. I've experienced a lifetime of memories. While I may be leaving, I'll always consider myself a member of Fox Valley. When I come back to Chicago to visit family, I hope to always have FVAC as a home where I can stop by the field to catch up with you guys. Besides, you never know how paths will shift along the way and mine could always lead me back to Chicago somewhere down the line. Take care of the club and take care of each other.

Goodbye for now,
Tom

FVAC *Flypaper* – August 2015

An advertisement for FoxValleyInternet. The background is a dark, textured pattern with a red and white curved border at the bottom. The text is white and red. The main headline is "Internet Service starting at \$24.95 a month" with "WITH 2 YEAR CONTRACT" in smaller text below it. Below that, it lists "Service Levels to Fit Your Needs: 1.5M, 3M, 6M, 12M, and 25M" and "VoIP service for \$25.90/month". The FoxValleyInternet logo, featuring a stylized fox head, is on the right. At the bottom, contact information is provided: "Visit our website at FoxValley.net", "2585 Millennium Dr Suite G • Elgin, IL 60124", "Phone: 847-742-4623", and "Email: Sales@FoxValley.net".

Internet Service
starting at
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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dale Gathman
secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes
July 09, 2015 @ FVAC Field

Photos by Jason Boettcher

President Alvin Cole called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm and welcomed everyone.

Secretary Dale Gathman asked for any additions or corrections to the June 11, 2015 Member Meeting Minutes. None were voiced so the minutes were accepted as presented.



Dale Gathman

Treasurer Paul Jacobs reported that the checkbook balance is low at this time, the lowest he has seen it in the last five years. However, **John Fischer** just gave him about \$9600.00 in proceeds from the Windy City

Warbirds & Classics event, which will bring the balance back up to where it belongs and then some. All of the WCWC expenses have already been paid. John Fischer moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Mark Knoppkie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Safety Chairman Tom Siwek thanked everyone who flew at the Windy City Warbirds & Classics last month and were great examples by communicating and working together on the flight line as well as making good sensible decisions. The event had very few incidents and no close calls to speak of. Pilots and the flight line crew communicated well, and there was very little confusion or mix-ups. This showed that we



Alvin Cole



Paul Jacobs

practiced what we preach and were good examples to our guest pilots. Tom said that **John Fischer** received comments from attendees that we are 'best-in-class' when it comes to running a nice safe flight line. Tom gave kudos to the guys who worked the flight line, and to the pilots who flew during the event for keeping it safe and incident free. If we continue like this during our everyday flying, we will keep the flight area safe and incident free all year. **Tom Siwek** then announced that at the end of July, he will be stepping down as the club's Safety Chairman. The reason for this is that he was approached with a new job opportunity in Boston and he has accepted the offer. He will be moving to suburban Boston the third week of August. Tom expressed that he is very grateful for all of the time he has had with this club. He has been a member since January 2007, and has had some ups and downs, but overall has had more fun as a member of this club than he can ever re-tell. This is not because of the paved runway or anything other than the people, the friends he has made over the years here. Tom said that when you leave town, a house is a house and a job is a job, but the people that you leave behind is the most difficult of all. Tom agonized over the decision for two to three weeks before deciding that the move is in the best interest of his family. He then bade us 'Farewell', saying he may not make it to the meeting next month. Tom concluded by saying the he feels the club is in as good a shape as it has ever been, and that the people that are leading the club now have their focus in the right place in trying to create an environment that is fun for all of the members. Tom believes that we will have a lot of success in the future, particularly with events like the WCWC event, which will continue to grow and get better each year. Tom promised to keep tabs from afar. **Tom Flint** asked whether Tom Siwek would come back to announce for our WCWC 2016 event. After some laughter about Tom sounding like a Boston resident in the future and the mention of an appearance fee, he said that he could possibly work something out. Tom then said that he will be selling a couple of his planes that he cannot take with him, and he will be posting them to the members through an email blast. **Paul Jacobs** then mentioned that one thing that impressed him the most during the WCWC event was the knowledge that Tom Siwek had about the planes, stuff that Paul had never heard before. Paul said that he has a good knowledge of airplanes, and Tom was coming up with a lot of facts that Paul didn't know. Paul was wondering 'where does he get this

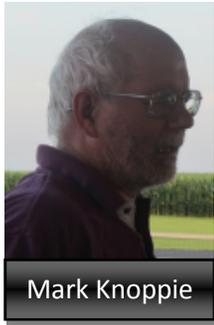


Tom Siwek

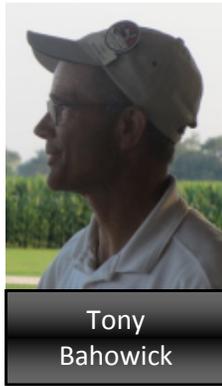
stuff? He queried Tom during the event, who explained that he looks the planes up on his iPhone using Wikipedia and is able to get stats and a lot of data and history about all of the planes that our models are based on. **John Fischer** then praised Tom by saying that while he may have been getting the data from the internet, it takes a special type of person to be able to string words together like Tom does. John said that after the noontime airshow on Friday, **Linda Crooks** came up to Tom and gave him a hug, saying that his announcing was the best that she has ever heard. This is strong praise as Linda runs the noontime shows at all of the Warbird and Classics events. The crowd gave Tom Siwek a thunderous round of applause for his announcing and all that he has done for the club. Tom let us know that he still has family living in the area, and when he visits he will always make it a point to stop by the field and see what is going on.

Field Chairman Mark Knoppkie thanked everyone who came out to help setup for the Warbird event, as well as helping during and after the event. He especially thanked **Sal Perno** and **John Fischer**, who spent a tremendous amount of time preparing for the event. Mark mentioned that he learned a lot about how to mow the grass and where to mow the grass for an event like WCWC. Mark thanked the SGMOP group for coming out and keeping the grass short for the pilots. Mowing goes back to the regular days next week, and the trash has finally been picked up. Everything should be set for the rest of the year. Mark received a round of applause for his efforts. Mark mentioned that he is going to pick up a few bales of straw to have on hand in case we need them.

Membership Chairman Tony Bahowick asked if any new members were attending. **Scott Stampfli** introduced himself, saying that he has been flying for about 10-12 years, and he flies 'anything and everything'. He is in it for the fun and thinks that this is a great club. Next, **Orvil Fluharty** introduced himself. He said that he is just glad to be part of the club, and that he has been flying for a long time. The crowd welcomed Scott and Orvil with a round of applause. Alvin mentioned that the new guys had



Mark Knoppkie



Tony Bahowick



Scott Stampfli



Orvil Fluharty

their families out at the field last Friday night (Jeff Peca and family were also there), and had the grill going and shared food with the other pilots at the field. I (Dale Gathman) was also there, and it was a very enjoyable time with good company. Thanks and welcome new members and friends.

Flypaper Editor Jason Boettcher announced that the Flypaper is doing good, which was followed by applause.

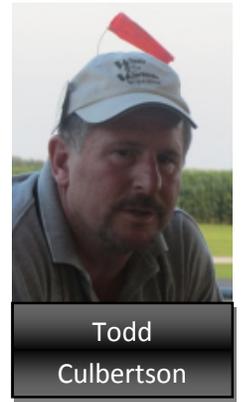
Alvin Cole mentioned that Jason and Todd Culbertson got together and got the latest edition of our Flypaper professionally printed (thanks Todd) and made them available to all of the visiting pilots at the WCWC event. Jason and Todd received a great round of applause for making the issues available.

Government Relations Chairman Todd Culbertson (rocket man) happily reported that he had informed all three of our neighbors that we were having our WCWC event, and that he has not been contacted by any of them with any complaints.

Past President Tom Spriet asked if any of the members not look at the field cameras on the internet, and it appeared that all of the members in attendance do look at them. Tom said that he mentioned to the board that Fox Valley Internet has been providing free internet service to the club for about the last five years. In order to show our appreciation, we will be putting free advertising for Fox Valley Internet in the Flypaper in the future. Tom then mentioned that our internet connection is fairly slow in that it is transferring photo images over wireless. He especially noticed this during the WCWC event, when a lot of the visitors were probably using the WiFi at the field for their smart phones. Once a bunch of the visitors got on, the field camera images really bogged down. Because of this, we may disconnect the WiFi



Tom Spriet



Todd Culbertson

portion of the service in the future to see how it affects our members. The field camera images would then get the full bandwidth. Depending on how the members respond, we could leave the WiFi on and only disconnect it for our big events if members convey the need to have it available. Alvin thanked Tom for maintaining the good relationship between Fox Valley Internet and FVAC.

Windy City Warbirds & Classics – John Fischer announced that he



John Fischer

doesn't have a lot of skills, but one that he has is being able to pull people who have a lot of skills together to pull off an event like our WCWC 2015 event. Those people brought their skills to the table for our event, and John said that he would really like to thank them. John mentioned that he has been with the club since 2003, and he doesn't think he has ever seen as many volunteers step up to the plate as he saw for this year's Windy City Warbirds & Classics event. John specifically thanked the following people:

Flight Line – Sal Perno – (Coordinator), **Bill Suhr, Dale Gathman, Dave (Shooter) Cotton, Dennis McFarlane, Glen LaRocco** and **Steve Haas**.

John then said that Chuck Hamilton came up to him at the end of the event and told him that our club actually 'set the bar' as far as the alliance is concerned for running a flight line. This is saying a lot, as Chuck goes to all these events. He has been doing it for the last 15 years, and he is an event pilot. He doesn't belong to any club, he just goes to many different events. He is also the coordinator at the Elkhart event. John said that the icing on the cake was when Dave Cotton wore his shooter outfit during the noontime airshow. John then said that the crew did a hell of a job. The crowd showed their appreciation through applause.

Gate (Admissions) – Alvin Cole, Bob Watson, Cliff Fullhart, Dave Farquhar, David Russell, Eric Stenson, Jason Boettcher, Mike Cannata, Pete Regnier, Tony Bahowick and Walt Thyng. John gave special thanks to Dave Russell for being there bright and early every day and getting the canopy set up and the gate ready for business. John said that he really appreciates the gate volunteers as working the gate is a thankless job. The crowd showed their appreciation to the gate volunteers with another round of applause.

Parking/Shuttle – Karl Griesbaum (Coordinator) (John thanked Karl for coordinating the parking crew again this year, as he has done every year since John has known him. The crowd responded with a rousing round of applause for Karl), **Bill Scherer, Dave Farquhar, Dorie Jacobs, Glenn LaRocco, Helen Ekstrom, Hillary Bean, Jack Ekstrom, Jim Clousing, Joe Pedone, Pete Regnier** and **Rob Sampson**. The group showed their appreciation with another round of applause.

Pilot Registration/Shirt & Hat Sales/Raffle Sales – Paula Fischer (Coordinator) (John gave special thanks to his wife Paula for getting up every day and coordinating this group of volunteers, as well as helping out with other needs), **Bill Brown, Dave Farquhar, Dave Forsell, Fred Nilles, Jeff Peca, Jerry Ann Brown, Jerry Wika, Kevin Kessler, Mike Cannata, Peter Regnier, Susan Galle** and **Tom Flint**. John thanked this group for the great job they did, and the group responded with a round of applause to show their appreciation.

Announcer – Tom Siwek (announcer) and **Lars Lavine** (data gatherer). John gave another shout out to Tom Siwek for his great announcing, and he mentioned that the announcing was key to holding everything together. He thanked Tom and Lars for their efforts. The group again responded with a well deserved round of applause.

Field Maintenance – Mark Knoppkie (Coordinator), **Tom Bean, Patrick Rafferty**. John thanked Mark for handling what was an unbelievable 'curve ball' when a trailer almost got stuck in the mud on the west end. The west end parking had to be closed off, and a lot of the pilots had to be sent to the other end which ended up working okay. John reported that we had a total of 64 pilots, which was about ten higher than last year. It was a little short of our goal of 70, but he is getting great reports from those who attended. John then thanked the Field Maintenance crew, who were also thanked with another well deserved round of applause.

John Fischer then made special acknowledgement for the following people without which he could not have done this event:

Armin Weber for being the event CD and for procuring and framing the pilot's prizes. John mentioned that our pilot prizes also 'set the bar' for pilot prizes. They are pencil sketches of airplanes, and have 'Windy City Warbirds & Classics 2015' on them.

Tom Siwek for not only doing the announcing but also for handling the web registration. John Fischer mentioned that he will be needing people to do the web registration and announcing for next year's event, so if anyone has either of these skills they should contact him.

Sal Perno for coordinating the Flight Line Crew, and for being a sounding board for John whenever he would get frustrated.

Dave Cotton our shooter. He continues to be a great friend, and John said he appreciates everything he has done.

Tom Flint for the amazing job he did. John said that Tom came up to him after the event last year and said 'John, I'll help you next year'. John said 'Okay', not knowing what Tom did for a living or anything about his capabilities. Once Tom got started, he came up with many great ideas, including our fantastic 'Media Day' during which we got covered by three newspaper reporters. We got front page coverage in four newspapers and were in five newspaper articles, all leading up to our event. John said "All of that was thanks to this guy right here – Tom Flint". The crowd broke out in applause. John also mentioned the t-shirts and hats which really knocked it out of the park, artwork courtesy of Tom Flint. Tom also provided the artwork for the event flyers.

Dale Gathman for really stepping up to the plate. John said Dale didn't realize that when he told John that he didn't really like the 2014 shirts that he would be put on the team to do something about it. Dale also handled the emails between Tom, John and Todd during the apparel and flyer design process and helped keep track of the progress and timeline, as well as handling the volunteer assignment list and budget.

Todd Culbertson for printing all of the flyers and cards, and also for setting up his 'Introduction to Flight' canopy where kids could learn how flight, especially RC flight works. John got many comments from families conveying appreciation for what we were doing 'over there'.

Alvin Cole for his support and encouragement to proceed with another WCWC event this year.

(The crowd acknowledged each of the aforementioned members with applause).

Alvin Cole announced that we need to acknowledge the person responsible for the WCWC event. Alvin said that two years ago, **John Fischer** mentioned that he was thinking about doing a Warbirds and Classics event. Even though Alvin is an avid pilot, he said "what is that?" John came up with an idea. Alvin said that two years ago it was an idea, last year it was an inaugural event, and this year it was refined to the point that people who already host similar events were saying they want to do what we do. So John, Awesome Job!!! John received a very well deserved rousing round of applause.

John Fischer announced that the board has approved the dates of June 23, 24 and 25th for the Windy City Warbirds & Classics 2016 event, followed by an open fun-fly on June 26.

Todd Culbertson mentioned that he parked an older WWII vet, whose eyes just lit up and he was in awe when he saw the event going on. The event was for all ages, kids loved it as well as older adults. Todd heard many people commenting on their way out that they thought the event was great.

Alvin Cole expressed that he wanted to make sure before we share the financial results of the WCWC event that we clearly divide the success of the event from the profitability of the event. These are two completely different things. Alvin reminded that last year we spent a lot of time talking about how successful or unsuccessful the event was based purely on how profitable or unprofitable the event was. In reality, first a seed has to be planted, and then after a time, the seed flourishes. Alvin said that when he hears that kids were leaving the event saying "Wow, I want to do this", and veterans were enjoying the experience, combined with all of the fun that we had is what makes this year's event a successful event. Dale is next going to talk about the profitability of the event, which is a totally separate thing.

Dale Gathman presented the following figures from the WCWC 2016 budget to date:

Expenses -	\$6756.10
Money Received -	\$9862.05
Actual Gain	\$3105.95

Dale reported that we received \$50.00 from the AMA today for submitting the Kane County Chronicle article covering the event to the AMA's Club Recognition Reward program. We may also receive \$125.00 after he submits two additional articles. Also, Global Jet Club promised to donate \$100.00 towards the pilot dinner for the event. (Note that these figures are subject to a few small changes as a couple of the bills were not firm as of the latest calculations). We also still have 82 shirts and 26 hats that may still be sold for \$20.00 each. If the shirts are discounted, it would not be until next year's event. **Tom Siwek** conveyed that he knows a man named **Lewis Patton**. Lewis is a retired school teacher who started an event called Kentucky Jets. Tom remembers Lewis telling him that for the first couple of years they lost money on their event. It took them a good five or six years before their event was profitable to the point that they were getting out of it what they felt was worth what they were putting into it. So for us to go from

breaking even the first year to making \$3200.00 in only our second year is a pretty impressive feat, and Tom thinks it shows that there is still so much more potential for this event if we keep doing things like Media Day and other things to bring out more and more pilots. Tom feels that we are in for a really big future with this event as long as we continue to have a team that is committed to it and is willing to nurture and grow it. **Gary Stephens** commented that some of the other alliance shows like FonDuLac do not make money, and are lucky to break even. That show is three times the size of ours was this year. Gary said that whatever it is worth, the weather can kill you. Tom Siwek stated that we got very lucky that we were able to get three days of flying in during what was considered one of the wettest Junes in history. **Karl Griesbaum** reminded us that ten days before the event, our field was almost completely under water. **John Fischer** also mentioned that guys like **Carl Bachhuber** and **Paul LeTourneau** really make the event. They have both told John that they plan on attending our event every year, and Carl even told John that he wants to see our event succeed more than John does. **Fred Nilles** suggested that we could have sold food and beverages that weren't available on Thursday and Friday. John Fischer replied that we have already had an 'After Action' meeting to go over deficiencies and improvements that can be made for next year's event. We will definitely arrange to have food and beverages available to everyone on all three days next year. John asked that anyone who has any other thoughts or comments about the event please contact him with those ideas.

Alvin Cole next announced that our new (used) pop machine is installed, cold, and full of beverages. The club now owns this machine. Alvin thanked **Dave Murray** for the time and effort he expended acquiring the pop machine. Alvin also announced that we allowed the AGCO Company to use our field this morning to demonstrate their quads to their sales force. We asked that they give a donation to the club for the use of the field, and they very generously donated \$500.00 to the club.



Alvin Cole

Dale Gathman then read the following hand written letter (transcribed below) which was sent to the club from Ben Brown of Aurora, IL following our WCWC event:

06-28-2015

Fox Valley Aero Club

Po box 837

St. Charles., IL. 60174

Greetings – just a “few” (?) Words to let the club members know how much I enjoyed the “fly-in” fri. 6-25-15. The flights were awesome. Some 65 yrs. past when I was doing control line flying @ Phillips Park off Montgomery Rd. in Aurora – and radio control was in its infancy – I never imagined that RC would progress to the state it is in today – the club is to be commended for their 1st class – no, make that “world class!” – way they produced & administered the event – very impressive! I must admit I left the model airplane biz at age 16; driver’s license! From that point on its been hot rods, custom cars, drag racing & more, but always centered around cars. But I can still enjoy a 1st rate air show, any kind, anywhere, any place – as I penned my weekly letter to my 25 yr. Old grandson (a member of the US Navy as of 6-9-15) and told him how much I enjoyed your show, my only lament was no replica of the USN’s “Blue Angels” precision flight team – in a very roundabout way I do have ties to the RC industry. From 1994 to 2011 I worked part time at the Geneva Montessori school – two of the many children who passed through the school while I was there were Madeline & Nathan Kroll – their parents, Brian & Lisa, are part of the Robarts mfg group, makers of fine RC sub-assemblies and a fine family if I do say so – when I closed my letter to my US Navy grandson last night what I stated then bears repeating here. “The \$5.00 admission fee was easily the most bang for the buck I’ve received in ages!” So thanx to everyone responsible for the air show this past June 26 & 27, I’ll be looking forward to another –
Ben Brown

Dale then read the following email which was sent to the club from Dan Miller of Aurora, Colorado on June 28, 2015. Dale said that it is very touching, and that while names are not given, the club members that it refers to will know who they are:



Dale Gathman

This message is a very sincere THANK YOU to some of your club members.

My Father is 85 years old and lives in Carriage Oaks Independent Living in St. Charles. At this time he receives In home hospice care as he now has only weeks to live. My Sister was visiting him and my Mother last Tuesday.

It was according to them, an almost perfect day. They got him out on their balcony and he remarked that it was, and also said since it was such a nice day that the guys at the model airplane field were probably flying. My Father has enjoyed visiting your field and watching for many years now. When he was much younger he built and flied planes. Back then they were controlled by wire of course.

He has not been out of the house for many weeks but my Sister convinced him that they could pull off one last visit to watch the planes.

They arrived at the field (last Tuesday, June 23rd.) and about 4 or 5 guys were there but no one was actually flying. She went up and talked to one of the guys. At first he probably figured she was another person who typically bothers you guys. I understand. But after she explained his situation he and the other guys basically gave my Father a private airshow! He was especially impressed by one guy's son who was "very talented" and did a number of impressive maneuvers.

I just had to let you know how some of your members helped make one wish of a dying man come true. This may have been his last trip out of his home.

I cannot thank them enough.
Sincerely, Dan Miller, Aurora, Colorado
PS, My Wife's cousin, Jack Ekstrom, is a member of your club.
Thanks, Jack.

Alvin Cole said that this email highlights some of what we do that is an awesome thing, and that people really need to think a lot of you to write something good. If you were one of the members who provided the air show for this man, THANK YOU, our hats are off to you.

Festival of Flight – **John Fischer** announced that he will be coordinating the Festival of Flight which will be held August 22. John thanked **Paul Jacobs** who will be the CD for the Festival, and he has submitted our sanction. All AMA pilots are welcome, and there is no pilot registration fee. Any type of plane is welcome, from 3D, Jets, Warbirds, Sport Planes and Helicopters. Sal Perno will be running the flight line for the event. The entrance fee for spectators will be \$5.00 for adults, and kids under 12 are free. We are going to work on getting a food vendor for the day. Jason Boettcher has offered to help John run the event this year, so that

maybe he can take the reins next year. John encouraged members to invite all the AMA pilots they know to attend. **Alvin Cole** recommended that because any type of plane is welcome, we make sure visiting pilots know our safety rules, especially the dangers of mixed aircraft types flying at the same time. The show will run from 9:00 am till dusk, with a night fly following starting at 9:00 pm. We will have a noontime air show. **Tom Flint** has once again volunteered to design our flyers, and **Todd Culbertson** will print them. As far as media coverage, Tom Flint plans to put this event in the online calendars available on the local newspaper's web sites. We need to come up with a catch for the Festival, similar to Dave Murray flying RC and full scale airliners was used as a catch for the WCWC event. There will be very minimal expenses for this event, as we will not be getting a tent.

Gary Stephens recommended that we create 'Save the Date' cards and flyers to advertise next year's Windy City Warbirds & Classics 2016 and Festival of Flight 2016, so that we have them to hand out at other events that we attend this year.

Show and Tell – **Dave Brustle** presented the club with a swivel stool, which if someone re-upholsters the seat will make a good stool for some

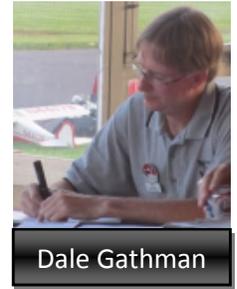


of our senior members who have a hard time standing at the flight line. Dave then showed the attendees his P47, which didn't make it to the WCWC event this year. Dave is making the plane from scratch, and thought that some of us would like to see the plane in various stages of finishing. His fuselage is in a semi-finished stage now. He showed different stages of production on the fuselage, where he had panel lines drawn in, and chartpak tape applied which would later be removed after priming. Dave is going to make inner and outer landing gear doors for the wing. He will also make threaded inserts in the wing so that the guns can be screwed on and off. He made access doors on the fuselage side for all of the switches. Dave is installing Robart electric gear. He plans on using a DLE55RA engine, and is going to install a scale functional exhaust. Dave showed the spacer he used when marking the rivets into the fuselage, and he showed the gun sight. He copied the turtle deck from **Armin Weber's** ARF. Dave said that **John Fischer** once told him that "You never finish a scale airplane, you finish working on it". Dave hopes to get more people back into building, and said that there is a world of knowledge available from Armin Weber, Himself, John Fischer and Rich Gabrys among others. Some people tell Dave that they don't have the patience to build their own plane, and Dave says that he has no patience whatsoever, but he loves building planes. The wings have three



different sizes of rivets, 1/16", 3/32" and 1/8". At this point, Dave has used 120 feet of Chartpak tape, and still needs more. The whole plane was laid out from a 1/72 scale drawing.

Hearing no further business, President Alvin Cole moved to adjourn. Sal Perno seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.



Dale Gathman

Respectfully Submitted
Dale Gathman – Secretary FVAC



2061A Lincoln Highway
St. Charles, IL 60174

(630) 587-1256

info@hobbytownstcharles.com

Monday	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Tuesday	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Wednesday	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Thursday	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Friday	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sunday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Please Support your Local Hobby Shop!



FROM THE EDITOR

Jason Boettcher
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

This month meet a couple new members in Tony's "Meet the new Members" article. Also, we cover our Warbird and Classics Event, which I think is one of the largest, if not THE largest event I've ever seen at

FVAC. Check out the Timed Loop fun-fly. Luckily, I was able to attend the Warbird event with some family and also participated in the fun-fly. Hopefully you had a chance to get out the field also.

Last month at our club meeting I mentioned that I wanted to get more involved with the Festival of Flight. Unfortunately recent family circumstances mandate that I go out of town on that Saturday. I'll still do what I can to help. On another personal note, I'd like to share that the Festival of Flight event is what initially attracted me to visit and explore FVAC. In fact, I think the first time I ever flew at this field was when FVAC opened the field to other clubs to participate. I don't think I'll ever forget the excitement surrounding being part of such an event for the first time.

Here we are into August and I regret to admit I've only flown glow fuel three times, and have not even flown my 100cc gasser yet this season. Thank goodness for the electrics! They are good option when the weather looks sketchy, because if you get to the field and it is raining then not much time has been lost lugging and loading/unloading bulky support equipment. It has been a difficult season in terms of weather, and now for me weekends may be tied up for while also. One day long ago my Uncle shared a bit of wisdom. He said to make sure you have priorities straight. He stated the order should be work, family, friends, then your toys. Sometimes I don't want to observe this philosophy, but a man has to do his best to do the right thing. The rest is icing on the cake!

About the Cover

This month we see birds lined up at our War Birds and Classics event. A substantial audience stands in the background. John Fischer's daughter took this shot. Look for more of her work in this issue.

Here is a cool shot Dale took of Scott's Tiger moth:



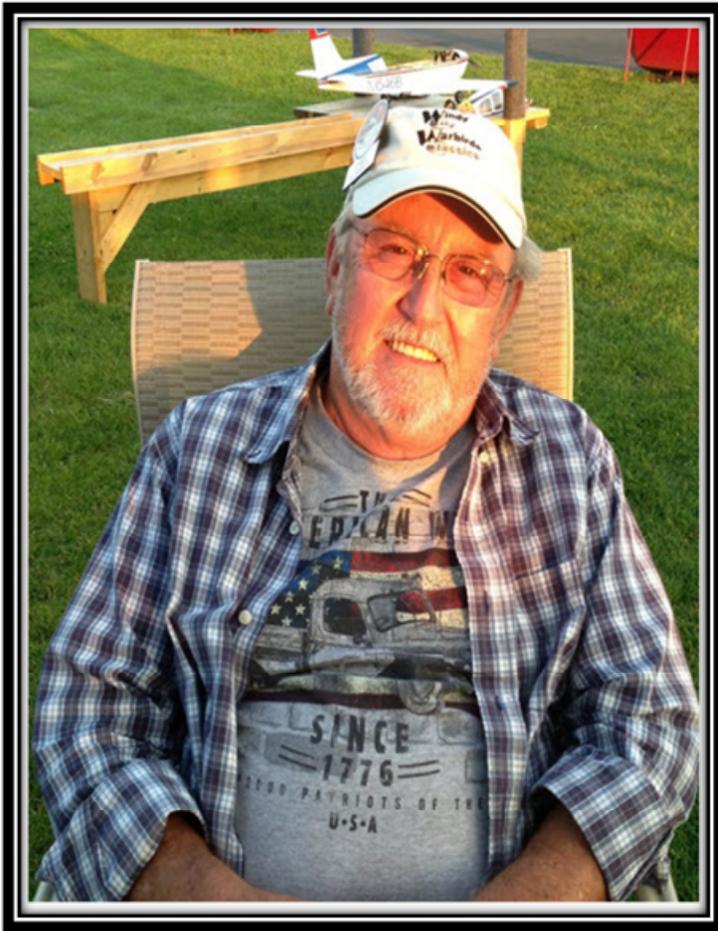
Remember to support your Local Hobby Shop!



-JB

Meet the New Members

By Tony Bahowick



Orvil Fluharty

Since 1967 Orvil has been active in many aspects of R/C flying. His most recent interests are in giant scale. He brought the Spirit of St Louis to the WCA event. He has close to a dozen giant's, including a EXM VAL- WWII Japanese dive bomber. Orvil travels from Algonquin.



Scott Stampfli

Scott started his R/C flying career in the early 2000's. From Bartlett, he lives 5 minutes from the Pratt Wayne field. Our paved runway and facilities were attractive and Scott joined in June. He's been involved with many aspects of R/C planes, from little foamies to aerobatics to his Current 110" PT19. Warbirds are his most recent focus.

Please give Orvil and Scott a warm welcome.

Fun Fly Report: Timed Loops 5 Inside, 3 Outside

How fast can you fly loops? This event was ran by Dale Gathman on Saturday, August 1st at 1:00 PM.



Editor Photo



Editor Photo



Editor Photo



Editor Photo



Editor Photo



Editor Photo



by Your Editor

Editor Photo

Editor Photo



Editor Photo





1st Place: Jeff Pecca, left
2nd Place: Scott Stampfli, right

3rd Place: Rob Sampson

FVAC Windy City War Birds and Classics



Dale Gathman Photo

Photos by Dale Gathman
unless otherwise noted



Carl Bachhuber



Billy Mikesell

This year's event was even bigger than last years! John Fischer headed up our 2nd Windy City War Birds and Classics. Tom Flint led a Media Day, and the event was published in various newspapers. Also we received AMA's Club Recognition Award. Not only did we have fun, but the event also raised some money for the club.

Many members volunteered to make the event a success. A table was developed which defined tasks, days, and time frames which helped allocate people to volunteer chunks of time.



Dennis McFarlane



A candy drop was made from a plane during the Noon Show, thanks to John and Deb Howe of the Barnstormers. The children (and adults alike) loved it!

Guest Pilots included:

Lee Watkins
Cliff Fullhart No Wheel
Chuck Hamilton
Tom Flint
Carl Bachhuber
Paul LeTourneau
Billy Mikesell
Chad Asmus of Balsa USA
Dennis Crooks
Dennis McFarlane
Lee Watkins







Carl Bachhuber



Lee Watkins



Tom Flint



Paul LeTourneau



Dave Cotton



Chad Asmus of Balsa USA



Wituk Photography



Wituk Photography



Lee Watkins





Dale Gathman Photo

Chuck Hamilton



Billy Mikesell



Dennis Crooks



Alvin Cole keeps an eye on our Warbirds Event while he and Kevin Kessler work the audio.



Lee Watkins

Brian Wituk Photo



John Fischer



Wituk Photography

Dave Murray and Eric Orig



Lee Watkins



Carl Bachhuber



Billy Mikesell



Big 5 GPS Meter

By Dennis McFarlane

A fun little gadget that serves a real purpose.

Every now and then I'm asked to evaluate a product that many enthusiasts might consider a gadget, do-dad or a gizmo, some might even go so far as to call some of these devices a gimmick. Yet, although not every single device is needed by every single modeler, they all serve a purpose. An example of this might be a power meter. Without a power meter it is absolutely impossible to do a correct electric setup. Everything becomes a guess, which usually leads to puffed batteries or smoking ESCs. But at the same time, modelers who dabble in large scale ignition powered aircraft really don't have much need for a power meter and would, in many cases, consider the thing completely useless.

Hobbico has recently released a new device, one that many modelers may shrug their shoulders at, wondering about its usefulness. Honestly when I was sent the unit and asked to do an evaluation of the product I had to snicker myself. There was no question the device would be evaluated, that's my job, but the question still lingered, "Are there any practical applications, or basically, what exactly was I going to do with the thing?"

The **BIG 5 GPS Meter** is quite compact in size. Measuring roughly 1.5 inches by 2.5 inches it's not much bigger than a key fob. Although I don't know exactly what the five is supposed to represent, looking at the instructions seems to indicate they are: longitude/latitude, altitude, speed and time.

The instructions are pretty simple, basically a folded piece of paper. To start, charge the on-board battery using the included USB to mini USB cable. While the battery is charging, read and re-read the instructions, memorizing how pressing combinations of the mode and enter buttons gets you to different locations in the firmware. Using speed, once having entered the speed readings, pressing the mode button cycles the meter through current speed, average speed and peak speed.



The first time the unit is put into operation it takes about four or five minutes to acquire a satellite signal (this is outdoors, it may not locate a satellite signal indoors) and calibrate. That said, figuring the first test should be kept simple, the record mode (for recording trip data) was entered, the little GPS was tossed in my pocket. Heritage was then taken for his morning stroll.

At the end of the walk the meter was connected to my computer and the honest truth was there for me to see. Even though Harry and I always take long walks, they aren't as long as I thought - guess I'll be adding a few steps to the route. Not only was distance part of the trip data, but so was our average speed, 5mph. Useful information, especially if one is on a simple diet or even a supervised health plan.

The next test was serious business. Although new (and existing) members might not be completely aware of the boundaries of our field, we fly in some pretty restricted airspace. The law enforcement firing range is to the east, and we have neighbors just on the far side of the tree line to the west.

Flying fields are hard to come by, and easy to lose. If you think this is a careless statement, just read the pages of *Model Aviation*. Just about every club I've belonged to over the years has been affected by urban infestation. And those members who are newer may not be aware that our current flying site is not our first, and it's based on a lease. We do not own the property and the bottom line - even if it would require a lot of legal wrangling - the lease can be pulled by the City of St. Charles, so a good neighbor policy is paramount.

Okay enough soapbox. To see exactly where I was flying, and even more importantly, was I flying within the borders dictated by our rules and regulations, the record mode was entered and the meter was placed in the fuselage of a Sensei trainer. A standard flight ensued, and this was done for three flights.

Once home, the flights were mapped on Google Earth (the app is part of the GPS). The results were interesting to say the least. It's pretty obvious all three flights stayed within the boundaries, but this was to be expected, the Sensei is not a large airplane. It was kind of fun to look at the maps and immediately spot the time during one flight when Cliff Fullhart announced he was taking off. In response I gave



him a wide berth, and flew a bit east of my normal pattern.

One area surprised me, it actually caught me completely off-guard. The afternoon sun had kicked up a couple of thermals. Even though the Sensei is not a glider, it's still pretty light and I was playing with the "boomers." The peak altitude recorded was over 1500 feet ASL or Above Sea Level. St. Charles is roughly 700 feet above sea level, but the math is simple. That put me at an altitude of 800ft AGL, or Above Ground Level WAY too high considering our proximity to DuPage airport - Thank you Cliff for helping me with the acronyms.

The BIG 5 GPS is a great little device that serves an extremely useful purpose, thereby making it a tool for every pilot's field kit. Unfortunately there are times when spotters are telling pilots they are too far out, but this is frequently met with a shrug. It only takes a tab of velcro to stick the GPS in a fuselage or on a wing and to map out a flight, let a pilot know exactly where he is flying and if needed, to adjust his pattern accordingly.

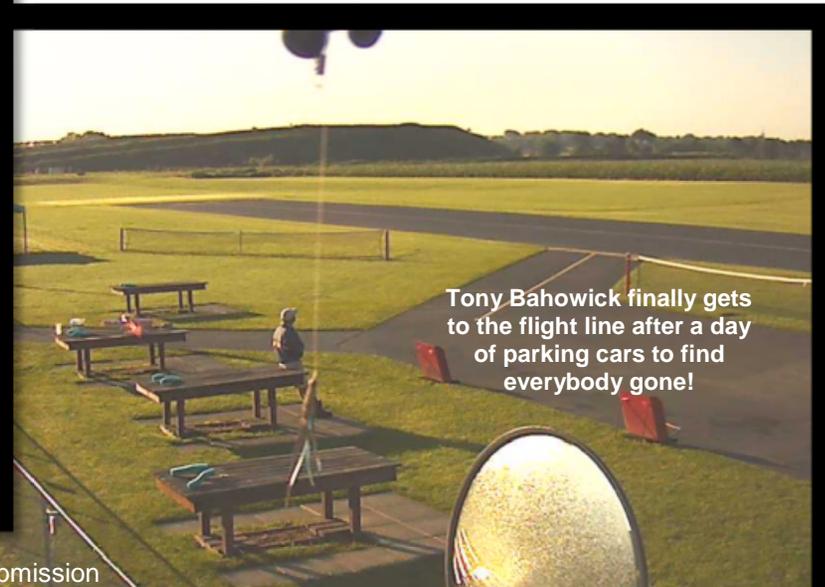
Urban sprawl is closer than many might think. Our stated goal is to have fun, and to keep enjoying our hobby as we now know it; all of us need to be good neighbors. →DM



SHOTS from the Field Cameras

Made possible by:

FoxValleyInternet



<http://www.foxvalley.net/index.htm>

Tom Spriet submission



Above: Tom captures what appears to be a serene moment when Tony enjoys the outdoors.

Left: Tom takes a couple pictures during the War Bird event.

Special thanks for Fox Valley Internet for making this possible!

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SHOTS from the Field



Tom Bean
Marquart Charger by
Walt Lucha Models
Super tiger

Editor Photo



Dave Vazquez
Cardenas Edge 540, 40%
DA 170 with stock stacks

Editor Photo



Sal Perno
Super Stearman

Editor Photo



Rob Sampson
Top flite 60 size AT-6 Texan Advanced
trainer six
Saito 100

Editor Photo

SHOTS in the Air

One of the new guys who recently came over
from Suburban Barnstormers with his Warthog
EDF on final



Dennis McFarlane photo

Vic Miller
GeeBee



Dale Gathman photo

Cliff Fullhart, Seagull models Dehavolid Gypsy Moth from the '30s
(Preceded the Tiger Moth) Saito 120 4 stroke



Editor Photo

John Fischer
Nitro planes Me-261



Editor Photo



Armin Weber's 172 just before
touchdown

Dennis McFarlane

Paul Jacobs
DC-3
Twin OS 95v's
13x7 three bladed props.



Wituk Photography

SHOT OF THE MONTH!

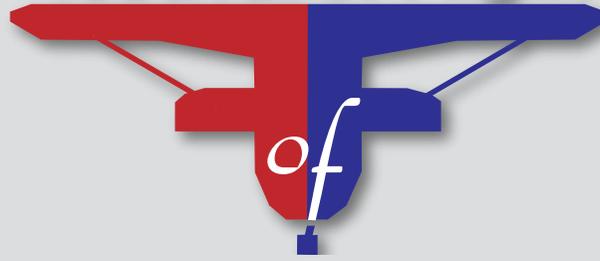


Dale Gathman photo

Here is a shot of Joe Pedone's B-25 right after the tire split in tow following a hard bounce. You can see the tire in the background.

Fox Valley

Festival of Flight



Aero Club



August 22, 2015

9 am to Dusk, Night Fly starting at 9 pm

**Please Join us for the Fox Valley Aero Club's 10th Annual
Festival of Flight R/C Air Show**

- \$5.00 Adults - Kids 12 and Under FREE
- Food Vendor Onsite, Lots of Restaurants and Shopping Nearby
- Incredible RC Aircraft of all types and sizes, Helicopters and 3D Stunt Planes
- Close Up Plane Viewing around Noon
- Skilled and Safe Pilots, with as Many as 6 Planes Flying at Once
- Exhibition Flights with Special Aircraft and Noon Time Air Shows - Bring a Lawnchair
- Good Family Fun - Talk to the Pilots
- Excellent Photo Opportunities

www.foxvalleyaero.com

2015 Fox Valley Aero Club

Calendar of Events

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 AM FVAC Field
January 8	FVAC Member Meeting	7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 21	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-2:00 Kane County Fair Grounds
March 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 11	Norton Creek STEM Rocket Contest	1:00-7:00 FVAC Field
April 12	Alternate Norton Creek STEM Rockets	1:00-7:00 FVAC Field
April 18	Field Work Day	FVAC Field
May 3	Batavia Loyalty Day Parade	Time TBD, Parade Begins at 1:30
May 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 23	Fun-Fly - Two Minute Flight	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 25	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
June 6	Rocket Fest & Kids Fly	FVAC Field
June 7	Pig Roast & Fun-Fly	FVAC Field
June 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 25-27	2015 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 28	Open Fun-Fly for any AMA member	FVAC Field
July 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 1	Fun-Fly - Timed Loops 5 Inside, 3 Outside	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 13	Cub Fly and FVAC Member Meeting	Cub Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 22	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
September 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 18	Turkey Fry & Fun-Fly - Limbo	FVAC Field
November 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 4	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn-St. Charles
December 10	Rookies Christmas Party	Rookies Sports Bar & Grill-St. Charles



FVAC NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member Assessment Fee: \$300.00 (For new memberships only.)
Does not include dues.

- Dues for Senior Members (18 years and over)** \$125.00 per Member
- Dues for Junior Members (17 years and under)** \$ 25.00 per Member
- Family Membership** \$125.00 per Member
(\$25 for each additional family member with an AMA card, either a spouse or a child under 18 years old.)

Yes Include me in the member only phone book **No** Do not publish my information

PLEASE PRINT

Your Full Name:	AMA Number:	Age: <small>(Junior Members only)</small>	Dues Amount:
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____

Your Complete Mailing Address:

Your Work Mailing Address:

Your E-mail Address:

Total Payment Enclosed:
\$ _____



Make checks payable to:
"Fox Valley Aero Club"

Please list the R/C channel(s) you use:

Your Phone Number/s:

Home: _____

Work: _____

Cell: _____

What is Your Occupation? (Please provide details)

Complete and mail this form to:

FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB

P.O. BOX 837

ST. CHARLES, IL 60174-0837

Signature

Date