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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

Flypaper



December 2016

Fox Valley Aero Club

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PRESIDENT (ELECT) MESSAGE

Dale Gathman

president@foxvalleyaero.com



The Party is Over (the Christmas party that is). We had two very successful Christmas parties this year, with record attendance at both the formal party and the pizza party at Rookies. It was great seeing many of you at both parties. A good time was had by all attendees. We also donated a record dollar amount in gift cards to the Tri-City Salvation Army Angel Tree Program this year (look for John Turner's coverage on this). Thank you for your generosity.

This also means that the election has taken place, and the new board members have assumed their responsibilities. Thank you for your confidence in electing me as president for 2017. I have been fortunate to have two awesome mentors to help me prepare to take on this responsibility. I can only hope to do as good a job as Alvin Cole and Tom Spriet have done during the past six years collectively.

Thank you both for your wisdom and guidance. Congratulations board members on your election to your board positions. We have a very strong board again this year. We are lucky in that both the Immediate Past President (Alvin Cole) as well as the President who served before him (Tom Spriet) will still be serving on the board. I am looking forward to working with you all as we do our best to make this year the best ever at FVAC.

I hope all of you had a great Christmas and that you will have a Happy New Year. Don't forget the 'Frozen Fingers' First-in-Flight event coming up on January 1st. Details are available on our web site. Even if you do not compete, it can be a blast to watch.

Hope to see you there,

Dale



TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs

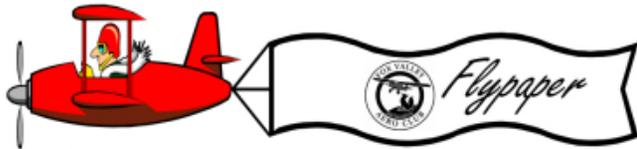
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com



Congratulations to John and Pam Turner on another great FVAC Christmas party at the Hilton and the follow up gathering at Rookies. Their work is certainly appreciated and enjoyed by the membership. Carl Will was the big winner for the \$1,075 Big Dog Raffle. One of these years I'm going to win this. Todd Culbertson captured the well-deserved Top Gun award for 2015. Check out the

website for some great photos of the events. Next year will start with the first to fly contest on January 1st at 10:00 AM at the field. Following the event we light the tree adorned with all planes that have met their demise over the year. Dorie and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you on the flight line in 2017.

-Paul

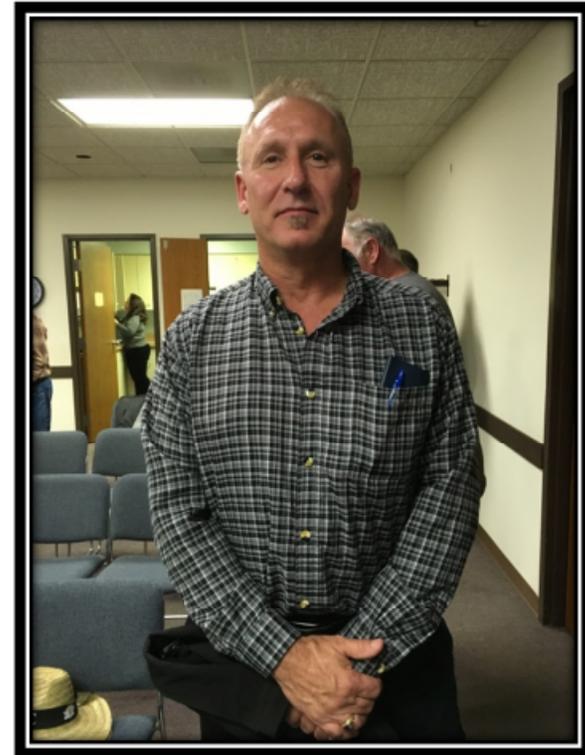


The viewpoints in this newsletter are solely those of the individual authors. They may not necessarily represent those of the Editor, Officers, Board or Membership of the Fox Valley Aero Club.

Meet the New Members

By Tony Bahowick

Mike



Mike Weber

Mike has always been interested in flight and its history. A licensed pilot since 1992 he was part owner of a Cessna 172 and flew out of both Midway and Howell airports. Mike decided to join the club and take up R/C flying in August. He had never flown R/C before joining. Mike lives in Wasco, just a few minutes from the field.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dale Gathman
secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2015

@ St. Charles Township Hall

Photos by Doug Swanson



President Alvin Cole called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm and welcomed everyone.



Alvin Cole

Secretary Dale Gathman announced that there were two errors in the original minutes from the October 13, 2016 Member Meeting minutes which were distributed to the members in the November 2016 Flypaper. The errors were that Rich Gabrys was listed as being a candidate for

Director at Large and in actuality Rich did not accept the nomination, and that Tom Spriet was not listed as a candidate for Director at Large, and he should have been. These two errors will be corrected and the Flypaper with the corrected



Dale Gathman

minutes will be re-posted on the web site. Dale then asked for any other additions or corrections to the October 13, 2016 Member Meeting Minutes. None were voiced so the minutes were accepted as corrected.

Treasurer Paul Jacobs reported that the checkbook balance is in good shape. Paul mentioned that dues are being collected tonight, and any Christmas party payments should be given to John Turner. Paul also said that Big Dog payments are being accepted tonight. Alvin asked Paul to explain what the Big Dog is, and Paul explained that the Big Dog is a raffle that members can enter for \$25.00. Each member may only purchase one ticket. The total proceeds from the raffle are given to a single



Paul Jacobs

winner at the Christmas party. Typically the prize is about \$1000.00. Paul then explained some history of the Big Dog Raffle. It started when the club would pick a giant plane as the prize, hence the name 'Big Dog'. At one time when the club was short on funds, members were required to pay their dues before being allowed to purchase their Big Dog entry as an incentive to get members to pay their dues on time. Since then, it was decided that any member can enter the Big Dog, and that it was easiest to give the cash as the reward and let the winner choose their own item to acquire with the money. In **Cliff Fullhart's** case (the 2015 winner) he chose to buy a ¼ scale Hangar 9 J3 Cub and engine. So many of the members loved his plane and flying of it that when they recently went on sale, at least ten of our members purchased the same model ARF. Rob Sampson moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Sal Perno seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



Jeff Peca

Safety Chairman Jeff Peca reminded everyone that the field boundary to the east is the second (farthest from the field) berm when the gun range is not in use, and the first (closest to the field) berm when the gun range is in use. Jeff said that there have been some

complaints of pilots flying past the second berm and closer to the 911 center. Jeff asked that everyone keep their planes over the field more. We are never to fly past the second berm. Jeff then reported that he was glad to read in the Windy City Warbirds & Classics article that was in the Model Aviation Magazine that we as a club make safety a very important part of our club.

Field Chairman Mark Knoppkie reported that the field is ready for winter, and he plans on filling the hole in behind the pavilion this weekend. He also said that a little help filling the hole would be appreciated. **Rich Gabrys** asked whether we were going to do anything about the cracks in the runway. Mark answered that we will be getting them fixed in the spring. Rich said that the company that just fixed the cracks in his subdivision made the repairs almost seamless, and we may want to have that company quote the job. **Alvin Cole** recommended that we get some type of reflectors installed on the two sign posts at the entrance to our field (only one has a sign on it currently). Now that it gets dark earlier, the posts are hard to see.

Membership Chairman Tony Bahowick announced that we now have 197 members. He then asked if there were any members here for the first time tonight. **Michael Weber** introduced himself, saying that he lives in Campton Hills. Michael said he had a full scale Cessna a long time ago, but got bored with that. He is much more interested in flying his model planes. He is enjoying flying at the field. He said he has crashed a couple of times. Michael mentioned that he has met a lot of nice people so far. The members welcomed him with a round of applause. A visitor, **Thomas Tezky** from Mount Prospect introduced himself. He mentioned that this is his second time here, and he is currently working on building a scale dragster that uses an old Dynajet red head engine. Thomas then showed the club his project, and said that we probably haven't seen that type of engine in thirty years.



Mark Knoppkie

Alvin Cole then announced that the club was informed that **Jim Toth** has passed away. He was a member of the club since 2002.

Flypaper Editor Jason Boettcher reported that we're doin' good. The crowd showed their appreciation for his efforts with applause. Jason then shared that he is stepping down as Flypaper Editor at the end of this year. Jason said that he wanted to let any potential future editor know that the Flypaper doesn't have to be as big as it has been for the past couple of years. Jason said that the previous editor (Doug Swanson) did a fantastic job, and once Jason got started, it was so fun that he had a hard time stopping. This is why the issues got so big. Jason said that there has been some discussion of maybe having just a simple trimmed down issue each month, with a large issue and expanded coverage every third month or so. Jason finished by saying he has enjoyed doing the Flypaper, but at this time in his life he can barely find any time to get to the field, not to mention editing the Flypaper. Alvin expressed that Jason has done a great job during the time he has edited the Flypaper, and the members again showed their appreciation with a rousing round of applause.



Jason Boettcher

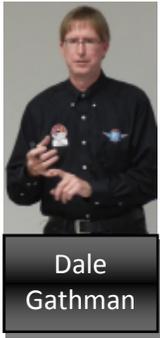
Government Relations Chairman Todd Culbertson (Rocket Man) reported that while driving past the drive leading into the property to the west of our field, he noticed that a couple of metal posts with a wire between have been installed to block the drive. This is an indication that all of the houses on the property have been vacated. This reinforces that our boundary to the west is no longer the tree line, and we may fly farther to the west if we so choose. Todd mentioned that we still need to maintain line-of-sight with our planes when overflying the tree line. Other than that, not much is going on with Government relations at this time. Todd mentioned that on a blog he was looking at, he saw technology that is being developed to



Todd Culbertson

bring down drones. The device looks like a rifle, and when pointed at a drone it bombards it with mixed frequencies that are designed to bring it down. The FAA does not like any technology that will interrupt any type of flight, so Todd said that they will block the use of this type of device. He said that the FCC will also block this type of technology as it uses radio waves. Todd did say that if you do have a drone, and someone aims a shotgun at it, that the drone may still be in danger.

Land Use Exploration Committee - Dale Gathman announced that



the Land Use Exploration Committee has been looking into the land surrounding our field to determine who owns it and if any of the land would be available for our use. At this time, we are working with the University of Illinois formulating a six year agreement so that we can legally use the storage shed as well as use the land between the shed and the tree line to the east of the shed, from our driveway to route 38, for parking during our events. The latest version of the agreement has

been reviewed by the club's real estate attorney, **Mike Wlodek**, who recommended a few changes. Dale sent the requested changes back to the University to get their thoughts. Dale said that the agreement will probably be revised back and forth a few times before it is finalized, but progress is being made. Dale reminded everyone that once the agreement is finalized, we will be required to get the shed re-roofed. He then said that Committee member **Tom Flint** has come up with an idea to help with the roofing project. Tom Flint said that originally we were looking into roofing the shed with our own club volunteers. However, Tom said that the roof pitch was found to be 12/8, and with all of our member's 'young knees', it was thought that we may want to stand on the ground and watch someone else roof the shed. Tom said that even with some really good bids for roofing the shed, we figured we would start a 'Save the Shed' fundraising campaign to raise money to help pay for the roofing. The committee thought that many of our members would find it worth \$10, \$50 or \$100 to

be able to stay on the ground while the shed gets roofed by a contractor. Tom then showed a new STS logo that he created, which will be printed in our literature over the next few months. Tom said that as a reward for donating to the Save the Shed fund, members will receive one extra Christmas Party raffle ticket for every \$10.00 that they donate. All of these donations will be earmarked specifically to pay for the re-roofing. **Dorie Jacobs** reported that **John Fischer** was the first member to donate, contributing \$50.00 to the fund tonight. Tom also mentioned that we will still be installing a wall and overhead doors on the open side of the shed this spring. Alvin Cole reminded the crowd that if we chose not to roof the shed, we would lose the use of the shed. A question was asked about why we aren't using club funds for this project, and Dale replied that we will be using club funds. The STS campaign is mainly to try to recoup the difference between the costs of our members roofing the shed versus a contractor roofing the shed.

Turkey Fry - Tom Spriet reported that "We did good", which was followed by rousing applause. Tom said that we consumed six 'birds' and everyone had a great time. Alvin thanked Tom Spriet, Karl Griesbaum, Cliff Fullhart and all of the volunteers who made the Turkey Fry the great success it was.

Christmas Party Coordinator John Turner announced that the



Christmas Party is coming up on December 2, at the Hilton Garden Inn in St. Charles. It starts around 6:00 - 6:30 pm. There will be hors d'oeuvres followed by our choice of Prime Rib, Chicken, Pasta or Salmon. There will be the usual raffle, with some prizes donated by Jeremy at Hobbytown, a couple prizes donated by the Hilton Garden Inn and some prizes donated by some of our members businesses. The club will buy the usual large selection of R/C items as raffle prizes as well. Members are encouraged to bring unwrapped toys and gift cards to donate to the Tri City Salvation

Army's Toys for Tots program. During the evening, the new board will be introduced, and the awards for 2016 will be presented. JT finished by announcing that this will be the last year that he and Pam coordinate the party. He is looking for a new volunteer to coordinate the party for 2017. Any club member that is interested should contact JT or one of the club officers. Alvin reminded everyone to let him know what music they want played during the party. He said that digital music could be provided to him at the party or prior to that.

John Turner then announced that we will follow the party with our annual Christmas Pizza Party at Rookies in St. Charles on December 8. The club pays for the pizza, and during the night the hat is passed. **Tom Spriet** explained that he came up with the pass the hat idea a few years ago. The idea is that all members come prepared to pay for their food, but instead of paying for the food, they



Tom Spriet & John Turner

pay the hat. Following the event, all money collected is used to purchase additional gift cards for the Salvation Army's Toys for Tots program. Every year, the Salvation Army tells JT that they count on FVAC for our donations, and they really appreciate them.

Swap Meet Co-Coordinator John Turner announced that the swap meet is coming up on Saturday, February 18 at the Kane County Fairgrounds. Registration is open on RC Flightdeck now, and ads are placed in Model Aviation Magazine. The swap is also listed on the Kane County website. We will be setting up tables on Friday, February 17 at 6:00 pm, and it should only take about an hour. Table rental is \$22.00 per table or \$20.00 per table for two or more. After February 1, the cost goes to \$25.00 per table. Tables usually sell out, so if you want a table, let JT or Joe Pedone know as soon as possible.

Windy City Warbirds & Classics - John Fischer asked the crowd who had seen the last issue of Model Aviation (the November issue which had **Jennifer Alderman's** fantastic article covering our Windy City Warbirds & Classics event). Most had read it, and **Tom Spriet** had his copy with him. Tom had it turned to the photo of **Dave (Shooter) Cotton**, and asked Dave to autograph it for him, which Dave did. The crowd gave a round of applause. John then reminded everyone that this article wouldn't have come to be without the efforts of **Tom**



John Fischer

Flint, and the crowd gave a round of applause in recognition of Tom's efforts. Tom went the extra mile by contacting the AMA and Model Aviation and convinced them to send Mandy Mikulski up here to cover our WCWC Media Day event. This led to Jennifer being sent up to cover the WCWC event, and she did a fabulous job reviewing our event with a five page article. John mentioned that Model Aviation doesn't cover many events, so it is a real honor that they covered our WCWC event. John reported that the WCWC team met via Skype



Tom Flint

shortly before the magazine was mailed out, and during the discussion, John stressed the importance of getting our 2017 event up and running on RC Flightdeck so that when pilots read the article, they could register for next year's event right away. **Joe Pedone** did a great job and got the WCWC event up and running on RC Flightdeck. As of today, we already have 28 pre-registered pilots for WCWC 2017. Both Carl Bachhuber and Chris Tucker have already registered. John



Dave Cotton

reminded everyone that the first year we had 53 pilots, with 64 the next year, and 90 pilots in 2016. We could reasonably expect to have around 120 or 125 pilots for the 2017 event. John said that if the land use committee gets rid of the barn, and we make a

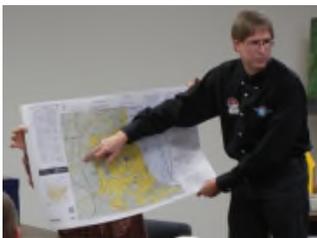
little better use of our full flight line, we will have a spectacular event for 2017. John said that we have a lot of great ideas for 2017's event, and asked for anyone who has any ideas on how to improve the event to let him know. John finished by thanking Tom Flint once again for his efforts to get the coverage we received in Model Aviation. **Alvin Cole** added that the closing part of the article said that "If you love all of these elements wrapped up into one place, make sure to put the Fox Valley Aero Club and the Windy City Warbirds & Classics event on your list. It's definitely one not to miss!" He said that we couldn't ask for a better advertisement for our club. Alvin said that because of our great membership and our camaraderie, we are going to continue to have people want to be a part of what we are doing, and that is a confirmation of that camaraderie and the positive way we as members interact with other members and visitors. Alvin then asked the members to give themselves a round of applause, which we did. John Fischer then added that he thanks the volunteers as well.



John Fischer

He said that it wouldn't be an event without the five or six guys who serve on the WCWC planning committee and of course the 67 volunteers that helped out in all facets during the event. **John Howe** then mentioned that he and **Bob Boen** attended six of the seven Warbird & Classics events, and by far our event was the most recommended for flight line control and for the number of helpers we had available. He said that some of the pilots posted some really nice

comments about our event on RC Scale Builders, such as some pilots did not have a spotter, and our volunteers were glad to help them start their airplane and spot for them. It was a good testament to everybody.



Dale Gathman

Dale Gathman next took a few minutes to explain how the TFR zones are listed and how we can know which ones affect our field. Dale said that the last time the AMA

sent out the TFR email, they did us a disservice in that they did not send the correct TFR zone and times that cover our field. Because of this, a few of our members assumed that all flight was banned at our field for the whole weekend. In actuality, we were only banned for about 1 hour and fifteen minutes while the President's plane was actually coming in on Friday and again when it was taking off on Sunday. All the rest of the time, the TFR zone shifts to the south east and ends at approximately Randall Road, and thus misses our field. There was a total of (2) 30 NM (nautical mile) RADIUS TFRs (Temporary Flight Restriction), (3) 10 NM RADIUS NO-FLY ZONES and (1) 9 NM RADIUS NO-FLY ZONE issued for the weekend of October 7-9. The only zone of all of these that covers our field is the 30 NM RADIUS TFR. Dale highly recommended that pilots check the AOPA website whenever we get notice that a TFR is in effect for Chicago, as their site has more accurate listings and better resolution maps. In the future, we will try to send an email to our members letting them know when flight is restricted at our field whenever TFRs are in effect for our area. If anyone wants to understand these zones better and was unable to attend the meeting, please contact **Dale Gathman, Alan Galle, Tom Spriet, Dave Murray** or any of our other members that have full scale pilot training.

Alvin Cole next opened the floor for 2017 board nominations. Dale Gathman reviewed the nomination results from the October meeting during which the following people were nominated and have accepted that nomination:

Dale Gathman for President, Dave Murray for Vice President, Debbie Howe for Secretary, Paul Jacobs for Treasurer, John Fischer for Director at Large, Tom Flint for Director at Large, John Howe for Director at Large, Sal Perno for Director at Large, Rob Sampson for Director at Large, Tom Spriet for Director at Large, Armin Weber for Director at Large.

The following final board nominations were made and accepted (includes nominations made at the October meeting):

Dale Gathman for President (currently Secretary)
Dave Murray for Vice President (incumbent)
Debbie Howe for Secretary
Paul Jacobs for Treasurer (incumbent)
John Fischer for Director at Large (incumbent)
Tom Flint for Director at Large (incumbent)
Orvil Fluharty for Director at Large
Susan Galle for Director at Large
John Howe for Director at Large
Mike Maciejewski for Director at Large
Sal Perno for Director at Large (incumbent)
Rob Sampson for Director at Large (incumbent)
Tom Spriet for Director at Large
Bill Suhr for Director at Large
Armin Weber for Director at Large (incumbent)

Note: Shortly after the meeting and before the ballots were prepared, Susan Galle accepted the position of Flypaper Editor, which is automatically a board position, so her name did not appear on the ballot.

Alvin Cole then closed the floor for nominations for the final time for 2017.

Dave Murray then addressed the members. He said that he has been talking to numerous club members, including Paul Jacobs, and they have decided that the turbine jet pilots, if landing from the east, must station themselves at one of the last two flight stations on the west end of the flight line. This will bring the pilot's perspective towards the west to help prevent them overflying the 911 center. Dave said he has violated this rule and overflew the 911 center the other day, so he is going to lead this charge to help fix this problem. **Bob Boen** recommended the same rule be applied to heavily loaded warbirds. Alvin recommended we apply this only to jets at this time. Dale

Gathman mentioned that this is not a Field Rule yet, so we should try it for a short time and then discuss the results.

Susan Galle next came forward and announced that tonight is Alan's birthday. She presented him with a new Foamy Turbine airplane for his birthday with the help of Dave Murray. The members celebrated Alan's birthday with cake provided by Susan and Dave.



Show and Tell – **Todd Culbertson** showed his newly finished Hangar 9 Corsair 60. Todd said that this plane does not have an electric motor or a ducted fan, which his planes usually do have.

Todd said that this plane is version 1, which is older than the current version 2. This plane was made for Nitro power. Todd started with an Evolution 60, and decided he needed 'more power'. So, Todd removed the Evolution and installed an OS91. Todd installed a regular Master Airscrew three blade prop. He painted the tips yellow. Todd just installed the guns and also installed rockets. He got the drop tanks from FMS. They were originally made for the FMS foamy Corsair, but were about the right size. Todd painted the foamy parts with clear coat to protect them. The retracts are the standard mechanical retracts that come with the plane. He did customize the gear doors. He basically used spring wires attached to the retracts, so that when the retract goes in, it pulls the door shut. Todd said that this is a standard method that was used in 'the old days' to actuate gear doors. Todd also installed a landing light, with a switch that is linked to the retracts, so that at a certain point during the retract extension, the light comes on. Todd also installed a retractable canopy, which is programmed on one of his radio dials. Todd mentioned that he was not a 'tail dragger guy', but with the help of some of our club members, he has become one. Todd said that he has been taking off on the runway, and he has the plane tuned in perfectly.

John Howe showed a kit wing that he has been working on. It goes on a Dynaflite PT19 from many years ago. John has been in search for the best way to cover the wing with cheap fabric and all water based products. This wing is covered in uncertified aircraft ceconite, which is used on a lot of ultralight planes. The covering is very inexpensive. John adhered it to the wing with Mod Podge and covered it with Polycrylic. John did warn that the material is extremely strong and can crush balsa if it is over-shrunk. It is incredibly strong, which he demonstrated by 'thumping' it hard with his hand. John plans to write an article on this covering method.



John Howe next displayed a pilot figure that he produced on a 3D printer that he got from Hobby King on sale for \$200.00. He downloaded some shapes from Thingiverse and was able to successfully print his first pilot bust. He said if he makes three or four more, he will have paid for the printer. John said that the roll of material that the printer uses costs \$16.00 and he only used about three percent of the roll to make this pilot. John said that the pilot did take ten hours to print.

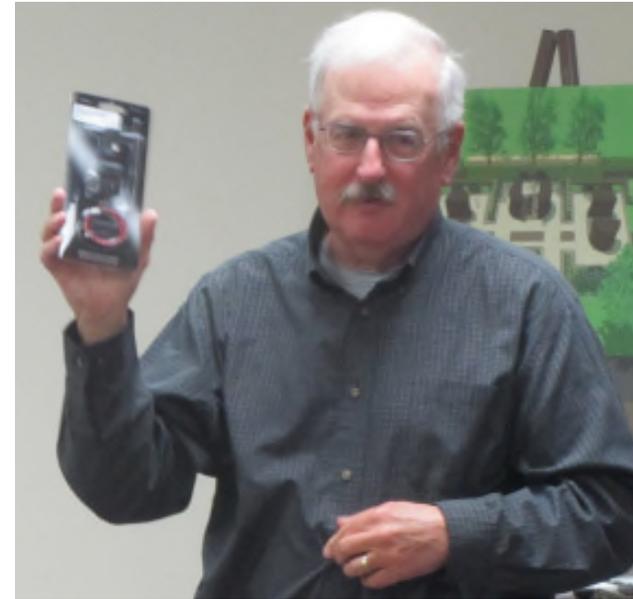




Dale Gathman showed his newly built Hobbico Ultra Tote Flight box. Dale bought it at last year's swap. He customized it by replacing the bottom plywood with a longer piece, and set it up to have two bottles of fuel, one for four-stroke and one for two-stroke. He said he uses hand crank fuel pumps and a LiPo starter, so the battery is not needed any more.



Tom Flint showed his new Spektrum six channel receiver with built in telemetry. It only cost \$69.95, and soon there will be an eight and nine channel version.



Sal Perno showed his new E-Flite 1.2m P-47 Thunderbolt. It is a Bind & Fly Basic. Sal said E-Flite also has the P-51, Spitfire, Corsair and T-28 in the 1.2m series. They all fly very very well. The plane comes with bombs, rockets and drop tanks. A nice new feature is that they installed hard plastic 'pinch points' at the rear of the canopy, so that the foam doesn't get crushed from the pilot continually grabbing the corners in order to remove the canopy. Sal uses a 3200-3s LiPo to power it, but it can also be run with a 2200-3s. It comes with a four blade scale prop. It is also equipped with AS3X. Assembly took all of 20 minutes.



Hearing no further business, President Alvin Cole asked for a motion to adjourn. John Fischer moved to adjourn. Sal Perno seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Dale Gathman – Secretary FVAC

FVAC Membership Renewal 2016

Dues are now due

Annual Dues are \$125.

Family Members are \$25 each, must be an AMA member and live in the same household.

Children must be under 18.

Make all checks payable to FVAC and send to:

Fox Valley Aero Club
P.O. Box 837
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837

or

Paul Jacobs
1010 Bankfield Ct.
Naperville, IL 60540



Member Meeting

Doug Swanson Photo



FROM THE EDITOR

Jason Boettcher
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

It has been an honor being your editor for the past few years. I'd like to thank Dale Gathman and Doug Swanson for all their contributions to our newsletter. And honorable mention goes to Paul Jacobs as well, who always submitted a nice write up each month.

As I was putting together the photos from our Christmas party it struck me how special our club really is. There are so many active members doing so much for the club and community! There is incredible talent within our membership.

Dale Gathman has been contributing a ton of his time moving our club forward, and I can't wait to see where his vision and leadership will take us as President.



HobbyTown USA
2061A Lincoln Highway, St. Charles, IL 60174

At the bottom of this page is our Board for 2017. Thank you for your dedication and service to Fox Valley Aero Club.

Finally, thank you Susan Galle for stepping up to be our next editor. Likewise to Debbie Howe for being our Club Secretary.

See you at the field.

Best wishes for the new year! ➔



Fox Valley Aero Club

Annual Christmas Party / Member Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2016 @ Hilton Garden Inn- 6pm

Our evening was planned by the amazing team of **John (JT) and Pam Turner**. Their efforts continually make our Christmas parties an event that no one wants to miss. They do a wonderful job and the next time you see one of them, make sure you let them know we appreciate all their hard work. We had a nice back ground music that was prerecorded by **Alvin Cole**, nice job. We also had a nice screen show going of pictures from the past years events and attendees for all to enjoy. So as a reminder, if you take pictures throughout the year and think they would be great to be included in next year's slide show be sure to let **Debbie Howe** or **Dale Gathman** know and get us a copy.

Our evening started as John (JT) Turner started asking everyone to find seats and get the last drinks before dinner from the bar, and reminded everyone he drinks Vodka and Tonic, and takes a size large shirt, for any gift ideas (hehehe). We had a round of applause for the Hilton Gardens for working with us to help pull together this event and their staff for their hard work.

Around 7:30 **Alvin Cole** had just "a few" words to start off the evening, and then turned over the floor to **Jim Clousing DDS.** to deliver the blessing. We then followed by the meal being served. This year we had a choice of four entrees: a vegetarian, prime rib, chicken or salmon. I did hear a lot of positive feedback about the meal throughout the evening.

Alvin started out again by having everyone give a round of applause for all the participation on everyone's parts through the year and letting everyone know that this is one of the largest Christmas parties for attendance in FVAC history.

After the dessert the spouses, girlfriends, significant others and all females were asked to step into the lobby where they were given their choice of soft mittens. This is special thanks for being the support and at home pit crew for these guys. The ladies were also asked to put the mittens on and see what they feel like, and to keep in mind that the frozen finger fun fly is coming up (the women had a good laugh). A special thanks to **Pam Turner** for getting all the mittens, (great idea).

After the women returned Alvin Cole moved on to ask the new members of the club for this year to stand, a nice round of applause followed.

Next **Alvin Cole** introduced the members of the SGMOP (short grass mowing program) to stand so that we can see and thank them for all the time they have donated to make our landings much easier and more successful. These members include:

Tom Flint, Orvil Fluharty, Don Froula, Paul Jacobs, Pete Regnier, Tom Spriet, Jason Walsh, Robert Watson. Our subs for these members were **Todd Culbertson, Dennis Smalley, John Turner, and Jerry Wika.** A nice round of applause for the hard work these members do came after we had all standing.

Dale Gathman next stepped up to thank a special group of people that keep our website, You Tube, and Fly Paper full of pictures. Our FVAC photographers include:

Jason Boettcher, Ashley Fischer (John Fischer's Daughter), Dale Gathman, Brandon Makowski, Paul Makowski, Kevin Ross, Doug Swanson and Wayne Barcheski. With special thanks going to **Doug Swanson** for all the work compiling pictures and posting to the FVAC web site.

Dale went on to ask all the people that have volunteered for anything in the last year to stand, it was very impressive to see the great amount of help that we had all through the year. A nice round of applause was given.

Alvin Cole then asked us to give special recognition to Jeremy and Summer Dale, the owners of Hobbytown- St. Charles. They have been helping and supporting our club throughout the year and have donated the \$400 gift certificate to be one of our raffle prizes. They have also worked with us discounting the raffle prizes we are all hoping to win tonight. They are a great help with all their knowledge and helpful staff all year long, they are definitely one of our Christmas blessings. We asked Jeremy and Summer to stand for a rousing applause of appreciation from our club. Thank you to them.

We moved on to the awards part of the meeting to Dale Gathman who started with the first event of the year: Each member mentioned received a certificate.

First Award for First to Fly 2016 went to: **Armin Weber**

Fun Fly Winners:

Climb and Glide: 3rd place winner: **Jeff Peca**

2nd Place winner: **Alan Galle**

1st Place Winner: **Tom Spriet**

Bomb Drop: 3rd place Winner: **Rob Sampson**

2nd Place Winner: **Alan Galle**

1st Place Winner: **Gary Koester**

Limbo: 3rd Place Winner: **Tom Flint**

2nd Place Winner: **Rich Gabrys**

1st Place Winner: **Matt Brustle**

Overall Fun Fly Winners: 3rd Place Winner: **Dale Gathman**

2nd Place Winner: **Jeff Peca**

First Place Winner overall also has an engraved plate with his name on it installed on our perpetual Fun Fly Champion plaque. First Place Overall went to **Alan Galle**.

As Dale sorted things out we thought we would give Alvin Cole a Zero Test. Alvin was a great sport (he might have gotten a little help from the crowd) about it, and it even managed to stump some other members (great fun). A picture time line was presented to **Alvin Cole**. A reminder of Alvin's 3 pillars was discussed and it seems from the examples given the club is doing a great job with our three pillars: Safety, Mentorship and Camaraderie. We also recognized all the great work Alvin has done while he was president, great job Alvin Cole.

Alvin Cole then introduced the new 2017 Board of Directors

Officers: President: **Dale Gathman**

Vice President: **Dave Murray**

Secretary: **Debbie Howe**

Treasurer: **Paul Jacobs**

Past President: **Alvin Cole**

Chair Persons:	Membership:	Tony Bahowick
	Flypaper Editor:	Susan Galle
	Government Relations:	Todd Culbertson
	Field Maintenance:	Mark Knoppkie
	Safety:	Jeff Peca
Directors at Large:		John Fischer
		Tom Flint
		Tom Spriet
		Sal Perno
		Armin Weber
		Orvil Fluharty

The entire group received a nice round of applause.

Next Dale moved on to a power point presentation for the Members Choice Award. There were 17 people nominated and it was great to see all the votes and the reason people were voted for. The nominees were as follows: **Orvil Fluharty, Alvin Cole, Cliff Fullhart, Dale Gathman, Dave Brustle, Doug Swanson, John Howe, Dave (Shooter, Scooter) Cotton, Mark Knoppkie, Karl Griesbaum, Joe Pedone, Dave Murray, Tom Bean, Paul Jacobs, Dan Compton, Tom Flint, and John Fischer.**

And the winner of the Members Choice Award goes to.....**John Fischer**.....for John’s development of the Windy City Warbirds and Classics event, and his dedication to making it bigger and better every year. This takes many hours of personal time and attention to all the details of a huge event and we want him to know it is noticed by all. Congratulations to **John Fischer** for Members Choice Award. John was the first person to have the honor of receiving our new Member’s Choice plaque that has our logo on it, so once again Congrats John.

Last year’s top gun winner **Tom Flint** came up to announce the winner of the 2016 Top Gun award. Tom went over a slide show giving us hints to the winner that included Sesame Street, The Cubs, 1st Amendment, Where’s Waldo, Education, Rome, and the police and fire trucks. Where did this all lead? Well of course it leads to the winner of the 2016 Top Gun Award going to **Todd Culbertson**. Todd has been a tremendous teacher to our kid’s day participants; he has done so much with our community and the STEM program. Todd has saved our club thousands of dollars by donating all of the printing of posters and information flyers for club events. Todd, also known as “Rocket Man”, has just helped our club sore to new heights in so many ways. Todd received a large round of applause and the award, but most of all he got his Rum and Coke to drink. Todd accepted and said that he was proud to be a member and that he feels our club is a place to come to be accepted and get a warm greeting by all the club members on any given day.

This year’s Presidents Choice award was then announced by Alvin Cole who said that this member does so much for the club and never expects that pat on the back and always when asked just says “We’re doing good”, so without further suspense this year’s 2016 Presidents Choice Award winner is Jason Boettcher. Congratulations were heard by all with a round of applause for Jason.

The time all had been waiting for finally came *****Raffle Time*****

Alvin Cole started off the raffle with the first item being a Four Star forty kit and then as each winner came up, they had to pull a ticket for each prize after that. After all the prizes were claimed the last order of business for the club was to pull the winner for the Big Dog Raffle. The big dog raffle is an additional raffle that winners can enter by buying a ticket

for \$25 each, with the payout this year of \$1075.00. The winner this year went to a member that just joined last year, **Carl Will**. Carl had already left for the evening but we did manage to get him on the phone and told him we would get him a check for the winnings.

In conclusion of the evening, many members stayed around and talked and helped clean up, there were a lot of smiles and wishes for Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays for all. Once again there was the faint but ever lasting reminder about the Frozen Fingers Fun Fly January 1st. Hope to see a lot of you there.

In a final note, I just wanted to thank everyone who has read these meeting minutes and has not called me screaming about any errors or names spelled wrong. This is my first time doing these minutes and I hope everyone will bear with me this year as I learn everyone's names and get all the jobs under my belt with being the new secretary of the club. It will be an honor. Thank you to all and from my family to yours, I truly hope each and every one of you has a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season! And many of you might know as I sign many of my Christmas cards with, May we all have a Merry Christmas and a happy healthy new year filled with light winds and soft landings!

Respectfully Submitted

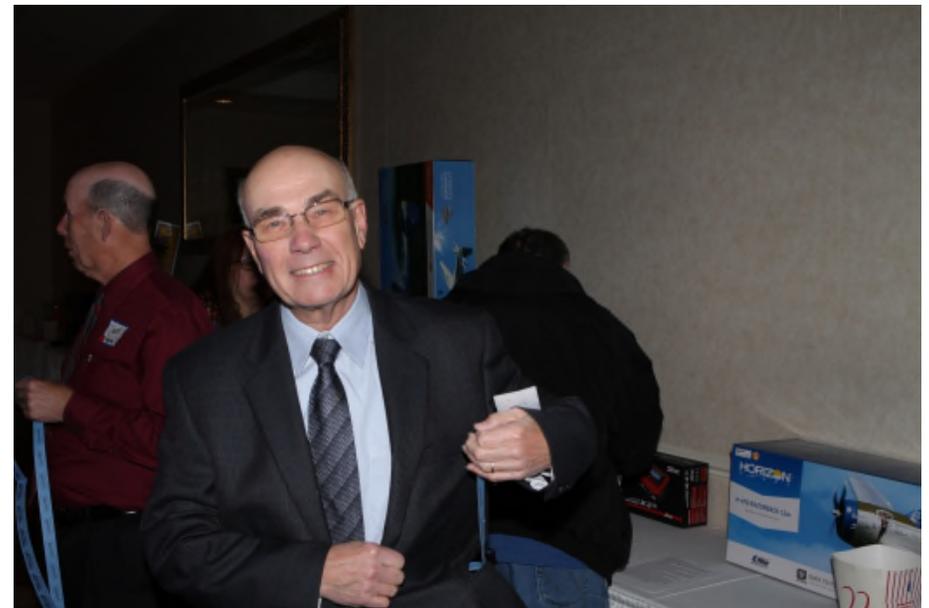
Debbie Howe
Secretary - FVAC



Alvin Cole Entertains again at our 2016 Christmas Party



John Turner once again organized our 2016 Christmas Party









The ladies choose their gift to take home.

Thank you, Pam Turner!







President Elect Dale Gathman at our 2016 Christmas Party



Awards are presented.

Fun-Fly Awards:

Jeff Peca

Tom Spriet

Rich Gabrys

Rob Sampson

Tom Flint

Matt Brustle (Dave accepts for his son)

Dale Gathman

Allan Gathman









Alvin receives recognition for his contributions as our President for the past three years.





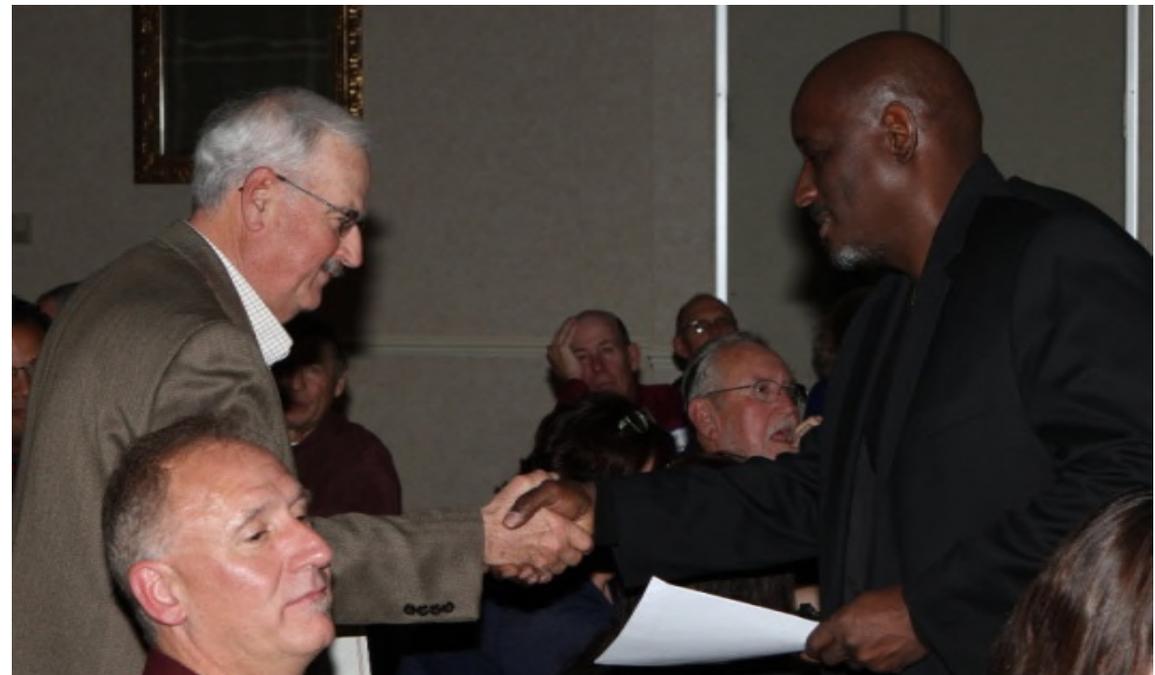




Member's Choice
Nominations:

Joe Pedone
Tom Bean
Mark Knoppie
Dave Cotton
Paul Jacobs
Dan Compton
Tom Flint









More awards are
Presented.

Member's Choice:
John Fischer

Top Gun:
Todd Culbertson

President's Choice:
Jason Boettcher













SHOT OF THE MONTH



Your 2017 Board of Directors. Have you ever seen such a good looking Board?

2016 Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 14	FVAC Member Meeting	7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 20	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-2:00 Kane County Fair Grounds
March 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 16	Field Work Day	9:00 am FVAC Field
April 23	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 am – 5:00 pm - FVAC Field
May 1	Batavia Loyalty Day Parade	Time TBD, Parade Begins at 1:30
May 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 21	Fun-Fly – 30 Second Climb/Target Land	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 30	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
June 4	Rocket Fest & Kids Fly	FVAC Field
June 5	Pig Roast & Fun-Fly	FVAC Field
June 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 23-25	2016 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 26	Open Fly – Small Scale	FVAC Field
July 14	Retro Fly and FVAC Member Meeting	Retro Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
July 16	Fun-Fly – Bomb Drop	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 6	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
August 11	Cub Fly and FVAC Member Meeting	Cub Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 13	Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open	8:00 pm FVAC Field
September 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
September 17	Night Fly	9:00 pm FVAC Field
October 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 16	Turkey Fry & Fun-Fly - Limbo	FVAC Field
November 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 2	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn-St. Charles
December 8	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:

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

Your Work Mailing Address:

Your Phone Number/s:

Home: _____

Work: _____

Cell: _____

Your E-mail Address:

Total Payment Enclosed:
\$ _____



Complete and mail this form to:

FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB

P.O. BOX 837

ST. CHARLES, IL 60174-0837



Make checks payable to:
"Fox Valley Aero Club"

Signature

Date