

FLY PAPER



Election 2021

The Flypaper is a monthly publication of

The Fox Valley Aero Club

An Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

P.O. Box 837
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837

www.foxvalleyaero.com

AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

Special Edition:

ELECTION 2021



This "extra" is dedicated to the upcoming election for the Officers and Directors who will lead our club in 2022.

The voting is again happening by e-mail ballot this year. You will receive an e-mail from Dale with the voting instructions and link to the ballot on or about Wednesday, November 17th. Simply make your selections, and then submit to electronically cast your ballot. Voting will close at 11:59 p.m. on November 24th.

This issue intended to make you familiar with the candidates vying for your vote. The individual statements are in order by position, and second, alphabetically.

Doug Swanson, Editor

Candidates:

President

Dale Gathman (unopposed)

Vice President

Dave Murray (unopposed)

Secretary

(none nominated)

Treasurer

Joe Pedone (unopposed)

Director-At-Large (six positions available)

Art Alvarez

John Fischer (incumbent)

Steve Haas (incumbent)

Paul Lund

Mike Maciejewski

Jeff Mrachek (incumbent)

Rob Sampson (incumbent)

Bill Suhr (incumbent)

Armin Weber (incumbent)

President:

Dale Gathman

president@foxvalleyaero.com

Vice President:

Dave Murray

vicepresident@foxvalleyaero.com

Secretary:

Debbie Howe

secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Treasurer:

Joe Pedone

treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

Flypaper Editor:

Doug Swanson

newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com



Dale Gathman for President (unopposed)

I thank you for nominating me once again to serve as president of our great club in 2022. If you are new to the club and would like to know a little about my history before FVAC, see the Meet the Members section of our September 2011 Flypaper, available on our website. Since joining the club in 2011, I have served one year as an At-Large Director, four years as Secretary, and the last five years as President.

While reviewing last year's candidate message, it was a sad reminder that we have been affected by Covid-19 restrictions for the last 20 months. Much longer than most of us thought. As a board, I feel we effectively handled all of the changes necessary to meet the Covid regulations, and still managed to keep our field open for our members to fly the whole time. I appreciate all of our board members who served during 2021, and those who will serve in 2022. No one person could possibly run a club of this size, and between our board members and all of the additional volunteers that step up and help, the club has been and will be in great hands once again.

I am very hopeful that we will be back to (close to) normal for our 2022 flying season. We plan on having our full schedule of events again, starting with the Frozen Fingers event January 1st and our SWAP meet in February. It will be great having spectators again at our biggest event, Windy City Warbirds & Classics, in 2022.

As a board, I feel that it is our responsibility to assure that we are

making decisions based on our members needs and wants. While we cannot make everyone happy all of the time, we strive to make the best choices for the majority of our members. One tool we use to determine the member's needs and wishes is a survey. We sent a survey out to the members in January of 2020 and reviewed the results during our board meetings following. I plan on doing this again for 2022. We will be sending this survey to you either in December 2021 or January 2022. The results of this survey will be very valuable to us in making decisions on club activities for the upcoming year. Look for details soon.

Our club is very strong, with many new members joining every year. While there are many things that go against our hobby of flying RC aircraft, we can all do our part to keep our hobby vibrant. We have seen the FAA try to pass rules that would have affected us in a bad way, and through your comments to the FAA and the efforts of the AMA, those rules have been made much less harmful to AMA clubs like ours. I will do my best to stay informed of regulation changes and the state of the hobby and will keep you, our members, informed about what you can do to help our hobby. Obviously, we are stronger as a group than we would be individually, so thank you all for being members of our great club. Together, we can keep the Fox Valley Aero Club one of the best RC flying clubs in the country.

Let us plan to have another fantastic year of Flying, Fun, Safety and Camaraderie. I count it a privilege to have you as FVAC members and look forward to spending some time with you in 2022.

See you at the field,

Dale

Dave Murray for Vice President (unopposed)



devote long hours of their time to helping make our Club and events successful. This could be anything from cooking a turkey, parking cars, mowing our short grass runway, or painting a picnic table. We are truly lucky to have this time commitment from so many of our members

However, it's also been my personal experience that there are a lot of benefits from becoming involved as a club Officer or Chairperson, be it a Director-at-large, or another elected or appointed position. Yes, I will admit that it is normally a somewhat greater time commitment (BOD meetings, some additional tasks), and most of us already have a full plate of personal and work commitments. But I've found the benefits of being a part of shaping the future of the Club out-weigh the additional time commitment.

It is also interesting where the road may take you when you become more involved in the operations of the Club. For me, it was the ability to learn some new skills outside of flying model airplanes. I can give you one example from my experiences as a case in point.

In the early days of the Windy City Warbird event, we used an on-line software called RC FlightDeck to do pilot registration. That was managed by a member who ended up leaving the Club when he relocated out of the area. John Fischer asked me if I would volunteer to take over his role on the committee, and I said sure, knowing I had zero experience doing anything that was IT or Web related. But I learned the software, and took over the process. Knowing its capabilities, we found RC FlightDeck also worked for on-line management of our Swap Meet table registrations, which I had earlier become involved

(continued)

Joe Pedone for Treasurer (unopposed)

My name is Joe Pedone, and I've been a member of FVAC since 2008. I am currently running unopposed for the position of Treasurer. Since most of you know me pretty well at this point, I'd like to take a little different perspective with my candidate statement, and talk a bit about volunteerism within our Club. This is especially pertinent now as we struggle to fill 2 key Club board positions (Secretary and *FlyPaper* Editor) from within the 200+ members of FVAC.

When I first joined FVAC and became involved with RC airplanes, it quickly became clear to me that one of the key success factors for our Club is the amount of member support and volunteerism at every event. Our members are highly dedicated, and at times



(continued from previous page)

with along with JT Turner. Great, another immediate benefit! When RC FlightDeck was unfortunately discontinued, by necessity I learned how to create a new WCWC website, with some great help from our colleague RJ Monroe from Goshen, IN. Having gained some web development experience, I was next able to launch a stand-alone website for our Swap Meet event. Today, I'm providing input to the strategy for our new and improved FVAC club website, which is being developed by member Bob Mosinski, who, unlike me, truly is an IT professional!! In the end, this has been a great learning experience for me in an area totally outside of anything I've done before.

The point of all the above is not to toot my own horn, but to point out that getting more involved as a Club officer or chairperson position can provide opportunities for some great personal or skill development. But even more important than the opportunity for personal development, being more involved in Club activities has also provided me with some close friendships and camaraderie that never would have occurred had I not raised my hand and said, "yes, I can help". Those friendships will always be priceless to me!

So, thank you again for allowing me to serve as your club Treasurer again for 2022, and I hope I can provide even a small amount of inspiration to members that may be considering a higher level of involvement in the operations of our Club, now or in the future.

Sincerely,

Joe Pedone, Treasurer

Art Alvarez for Director-At-Large



John Fischer for Director-At-Large

Hi,

My name is John Fischer. I am running for at-large board member for 2022. I have been a member of FVAC since 2004. During this time I have been very involved with the FVAC over the years to include VP as well as several years as board member at-large. As you may know, I am currently the event chairman for the highly successful Windy City Warbirds



(continued)

(continued from previous page)

and Classics event. The 2021 event was held and although we needed to restrict the event to the public my team feels we will be able to bring it back in 2022 and restore this event to reveal its full potential. The 2021 board has approved dates for the event for 2022 and I plan to continue to be your event chairman. I am asking for your vote to be retained as board member at-large for 2022. Together, we can make 2022 another fun and exciting year!

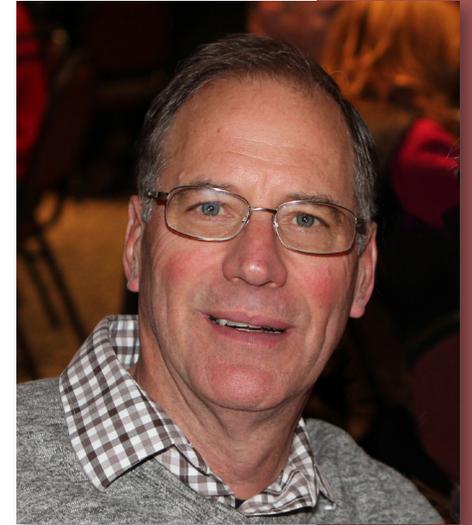
Thank you for your consideration.

Steve Haas for Director-At-Large

My name is Steve Haas and I am running for the Board. I have been involved with RC flying since 1979. I have been a member of the Fox Valley Flying Club for over 7 years and have been on the board for the last 2 years. I have helped out at the Warbirds and Classics and the Festival of Flight. What I like about the Fox Valley Club is it is a very well run and organized club with great club members that volunteer when needed, and without them it would not be able to run all the events that it does. I do not see any need to change anything with how the club is run.



Paul Lund for Director-At-Large



Mike Maciejewski for Director-At-Large

Hello, my name is Mike Maciejewski. I'm running for Director-At-Large

I have been a club member for a little over five years and in the hobby for more than 35 years. I would like to be more involved with the club. This is a way for me to help and meet others in the club, and share some of my knowledge.

I still have the first balsa model I built, a Sig Kadet Jr. The power for the planes I fly are gas, glow or electric. I enjoy flying from small to giant scale.

I would enjoy representing you at the board meetings and the flying field.

Thank you.





Jeff Mrachek for Director-At-Large

My name is Jeff Mrachek.

I'm currently a Director At Large and running for the same position. I have been involved with radio control airplanes over 16 year and became a FVAC member in 2016.

Throughout the year I enjoy attending local flying events, meeting other flyers, helping others, and building and flying my own planes. I consider myself an all-season flyer logging flights every month of the year.

I ask for your vote and would be honored for the opportunity to serve as a Board member this coming year.



Rob Sampson for Director-At-Large

I'm Rob Sampson. I attended the University of Illinois Institute of Aviation where I earned most of my pilot certificates, Airframe and Power- Plant mechanics license and graduated with a degree in Marketing.

During my 40 years in Aviation I've been a mechanic on WWII aircraft and worked in a simulator factory. I did flight instruction, charter flying, corporate jets and flew 34 years with the airlines, retiring 10 years ago.

Like many of you, I started building and flying

u-control models in the 60's. I enjoy flying all types of aircraft, large, small, gas, electric, sailplanes, and float planes. I enjoy building both kits and from scratch, but I also have many ARFs in my hanger.

I've been a member of FVAC for 19 years and I have served on the Board in the past. I'm constantly impressed by the talent and professionalism of our club members and how the club presents itself to the community. We have been blessed with insightful, hardworking, talented, dedicated, and skilled leadership. The icing on the cake is the friendly, helpful members that make this club better each year.

I strive to be an actively involved member, helping on work days, festivals, family fly events etc. I also enjoy the social events and attending the monthly meetings.

It would be an honor to once again serve on the Board of such a great organization.

Thank you, Rob Sampson

Bill Suhr for Director-At-Large

My name is Bill Suhr and I am a candidate for Board Member at FVAC. I am a full time pilot for the past 25 years flying private jets, currently a Hawker 4000 based at Chicago Executive Airport. For the past 49 years I have been involved with and flying RC

(continued)



(continued from previous page)

aircraft, from my Sig Kadet through turbine powered jets like my F-15, and now my electric OV-10.

I have been a member of FVAC for approximately 9 years and have actively participated in our various events, usually as one of the flight line crew.

My relationship with the FAA through my work and knowledge of the airspace in the Chicago area is an asset to FVAC and as a board member can make a meaningful contribution to the club.

Thanks, Bill



Armin Weber for Director-At-Large

Hello FVAC Members,

My name is Armin Weber. I am currently an At-Large Director, and am running for the same position in 2022.

During the week, I am a senior software developer with a large health care organization based in Naperville. I enjoy my work and am

proud to say this year marks my 42th year with the same company. I saw my first RC airplane fly in the early seventies and have been hooked ever since.

My primary interest is large scale models, WW2 aircraft being my favorite.

I have been a member of several clubs over the years and have served in various positions. I have spent over 20 years with FVAC, and consider it to be one of the finest clubs in the Midwest. I have been a contest director for many years and have helped organize past Kids Day and Festival of Flight events. I served as contest director for the 2014 - 2021 Warbirds & and Classics event and look forward to working on the 2022 event. I am a member of the Warbird and Classics Alliance, and attend several of the Warbird and Classic flying events.

My goal as At Large Director is to:

- Support the board in promoting a safe and welcoming environment for the membership, guests, and spectators.
- Support, and promote activities that engage our neighbors, and the local communities.
- Represent FVAC at flying events
- Balance the considerable need for safety and restrictions, with the goal of this hobby (which is to have fun).

Thank you for your consideration for At-Large Director.

Armin Weber



DOING THE MOST GOOD

Angel tree

The Club is once again collecting donations to support the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. **Donations will be collected on two occasions: December 9th, at the Christmas Party at Rookies, and December 11th, at FVAC Field from 8 am until noon.** Cash and gift cards are helpful in supplying gifts for older kids, who the Salvation Army normally struggles to find gifts for.