

President:  
**Alvin Cole**  
president@foxvalleyaero.com

Vice President:  
**Dave Murray**  
vicepresident@foxvalleyaero.com

Secretary:  
**Dale Gathman**  
secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Treasurer:  
**Paul Jacobs**  
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

Flypaper Editor:  
**Jason Boettcher**  
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com



AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics  
Charter Club #252



# Flypaper

February 2015

## Fox Valley Aero Club



Joe Pedone wins the  
Frozen Fingers 2015  
Fun Fly.

Paul Makowski Photo

The *Flypaper* is a monthly  
publication of:

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

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

An Illinois not-for-profit Corporation



Paul Makowski Photo

In this issue:

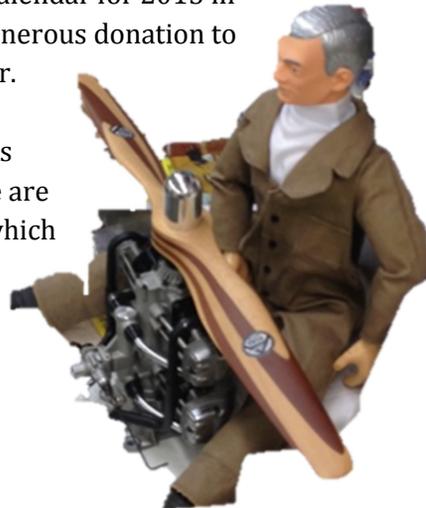
**Applying Fiberglass: an Experimental  
Approach** page 11  
**Frozen Fingers Fun-Fly** page 13

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Alvin Cole**  
president@foxvalleyaero.com



Ready, set, fly? Ok I'm getting ahead of myself and wishful thinking. We are off to a great year as we have our calendar for 2015 in place. Thanks to the club we made a generous donation to the Salvation Army once again this year. This will continue to help our club be known as a positive organization in this community. As you are reading this we are preparing for our annual swap meet, which I fully expect to be successful. See you all at the swap.



-Alvin

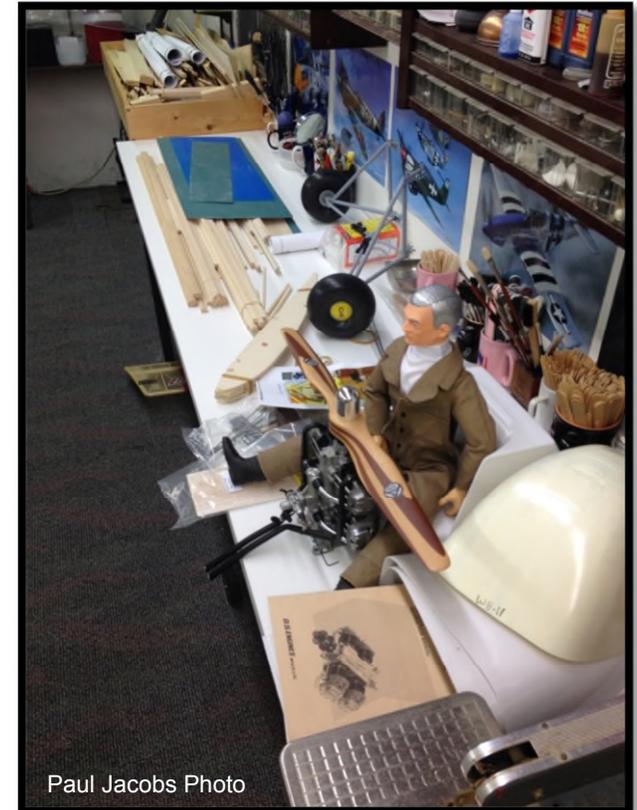
## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Paul Jacobs**  
[treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com)



It's that time of year again so your dues are due. Be sure to pay your AMA and FVAC dues before the end of March to prevent your flying privileges from being suspended. Actually the AMA memberships expire on December 31 so you are not insured unless you renew before you fly. This isn't a problem for 99% of us who do not do any winter flying but for the few crazies out there be sure you are covered.

This is actually building season and on a few of my benches I have the 1/3 J-3 under construction with the left wing just about done and another started. I haven't started the fuse yet but the engine and pilot are ready to go (OS FF320).



Paul Jacobs Photo



Paul Jacobs Photo

As the Klotz stik has had its 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, I felt it was time to get another ready so I purchased the Giant Stik from Great Planes and will put a slightly larger engine on it (YS 1.40 DZ)

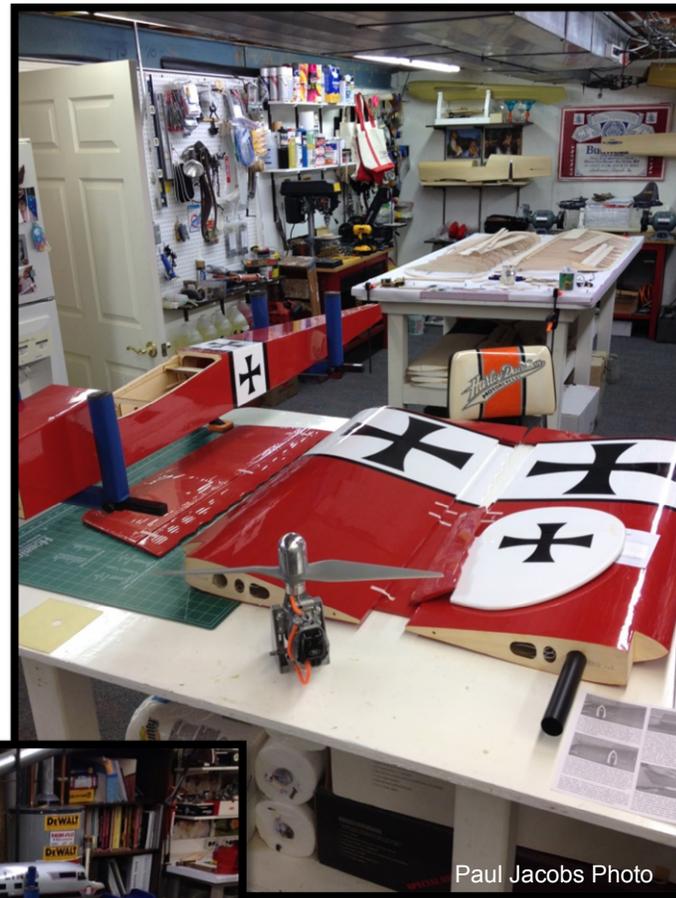
**From the editor:**  
**Pegasus**

The O.S. FF-320 (Nicknamed "Pegasus") is a Flat-Four Cylinder Engine. It is the ultimate in scale realism: abundant power, realistic noise levels, and scale appearance.



FVAC *Flypaper* – February 2015

I'm looking forward to our Swap coming up on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February. Don't forget to make your reservations for Toledo coming up in April. I'm also going to Joe Nall this year in May to get another event off my bucket list.



Paul Jacobs Photo



Paul Jacobs Photo

Till next month,  
 Paul

# SAFETY CHAIRMAN'S MONTHLY TOPIC

Tom Siwek  
safety@foxvalleyaero.com



## Local Law Enforcement Enters the UAS Game

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has recently published a guidance document imploring law enforcement agencies to support its efforts to curb unsafe and illegal use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS). This document has a peripheral impact on the model aircraft community. The document clearly and correctly refers to the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-95) in referencing that model aircraft operations fall outside the FAA's scope of direct governance. Specifically, it states that "Under Section 336(a) of the Act the FAA is restricted from conducting further rulemaking specific to Model Aircraft as defined in section 336(c) so long as the Model Aircraft operations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of section 336(a)." For reference, the requirements of section 336a are as follows:

*(1) The aircraft is flown strictly for hobby or recreational use;*

*(2) The aircraft is operated in accordance with a community-based set of safety guidelines and within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization;*

*(3) The aircraft is limited to not more than 55 pounds unless otherwise certified through a design, construction, inspection, flight test, and operational safety program administered by a community-based organization;*

*(4) The aircraft is operated in a manner that does not interfere with and gives way to any manned aircraft; and*

*(5) When flown within 5 miles of an airport, the operator of the aircraft provides the airport operator and the airport air traffic control tower (when an air traffic facility is located at the airport) with prior notice of the operation (model aircraft operators flying from a permanent location within 5 miles of an airport should establish a mutually-agreed upon operating procedure with the airport operator and the airport air traffic control tower (when an air traffic facility is located at the airport)).*

Now, here's the rub. The FAA states that it has the authority to act in cases where one is operating a model aircraft in a "careless or reckless" manner. Further, it now is inviting local law enforcement to assist in this endeavor. From the document:

### Model Aircraft that Operate in a Careless or Reckless Manner

*Section 336(b) of the Act, however, makes clear that the FAA has the authority under its existing regulations to pursue legal enforcement action against persons operating Model Aircraft when the operations endanger the safety of the NAS, even if they are operating in accordance with section*

336(a) and 336(c). So, for example, a Model Aircraft operation conducted in accordance with section 336(a) and (c) may be subject to an enforcement action for violation of 14 C.F.R. § 91.13 if the operation is conducted in a careless or reckless manner so as to endanger the life or property of another.

Ultimately, the FAA is providing guidance to local law enforcement to lead investigation and evidence collection efforts in cases where reckless or illegal operation of UAS devices are suspected. The following subject areas are covered in the document:

1. *Witness Identification and Interviews.*
2. *Identification of Operators.*
3. *Viewing and Recording the Location of the Event.*
4. *Identifying Sensitive Locations, Events, or Activities.*
5. *Notification.*
6. *Evidence Collection.*

Additionally, The following NOA/TFR (Notice to Airman / Temporary Flight Restrictions) are referenced at the end of the document. Presumably, to educate local law enforcement as to when and where common flight restrictions occur.

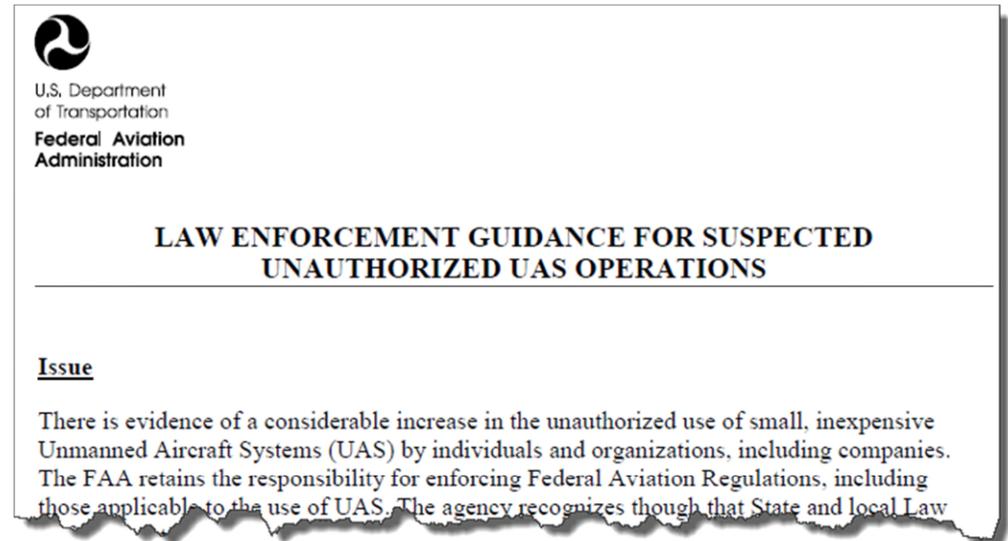
- *DC FRZ – Flight restrictions in the Washington D.C. area*
- *Avoidance of Power Plants*
- *Select Sporting Events*
- *Disney Theme Parks*
- *Presidential Movements*

So what does this all mean for us and the club? We must remember that local law enforcement is our neighbor and the FAA has made available some pages from “the playbook” as to how local law enforcement could take action on “careless operation” should they see fit. Visibility on this topic has been enhanced as a result of the explosive growth of UAS

products (quad-copters and the like) for both recreational and commercial use. This is further amplified by the media chronicling when UAS products are believed to be misused. With greater exposure comes greater scrutiny. All the more reason for us to keep safety at the top-of-mind and continue to use good judgment whenever we’re at the field. We’ve historically done a good job in practicing the hobby in a safe, responsible manner. It is more important than ever to continue to do so going forward.

The following is a link to the actual document:

<http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/files/2015/01/FAA-UAS-PO-LEA-Guidance-010715.pdf>



Till next month, be safe.

-Tom



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dale Gathman  
secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

### Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

January 08, 2015

@ St. Charles Township Hall

Photos by Brian Wituk



Paul Jacobs

**Treasurer Paul Jacobs** reported that the checkbook is in good shape for this time of year. He explained that January and February are heavy dues months so more money will be coming in. Tom Spriet moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Rob Sampson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Membership Chairman Tony Bahowick** was absent. **Alvin Cole** reported that we plan on having a membership drive this year to try to build up our membership a little. We have about 189 members now, and hope to increase that number.

**Field Chairman Mark Knoppkie** announced that the field is now winterized (set up for winter). He said we plan to install power outlets along the fence line this year, and this project will probably be done on a different day than the annual Workday. The outlets will be available so that pilots can charge their planes next to the fence, and not in the pavilion. Alvin mentioned that once the outlets are in, we need to let everyone know that they must charge their planes at these outlets and not in the pavilion. **Paul Evans** requested that we install a 240vac 15A Twist



Mark Knoppkie

Outlet, as he has a large plane with a battery charger that needs this power source. Consensus was that installing one would not be a problem. Alvin Cole next mentioned that this year we plan on creating a schedule for the Field Workday, and all the volunteers will be assigned a specific project to work on. This way, members know what they need to bring and what they will be working on before they get there.

**Christmas Party – John Turner (JT)** announced that the Christmas Party was a success. The members showed their agreement with applause. JT said that he has secured the Hilton Garden Inn for next year's Christmas Party on Friday, December 4th 2015. He also announced that he and his wife **Pam** will continue to organize the party until they may need



John Turner



**President Alvin Cole** called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm and welcomed everyone to 2015. He then asked new board members **Rich Gabrys** and **Rob Sampson** to stand and be recognized. Alvin next announced that the 2014 committee chairmen have been re-appointed and confirmed to serve for 2015.



Alvin Cole



Dale Gathman

**Secretary Dale Gathman** asked for any additions or corrections to the November 13, 2014 Member Meeting Minutes and the December 05, 2014 Annual Christmas Party/Member Meeting Minutes. None were voiced. Rob Sampson moved to accept the minutes as presented. Dave Cotton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

some help down the road. Alvin Cole then stated that JT and Pam did a superb job of organizing the party, and it seems to get better each year. JT mentioned that if anyone has any ideas for entertainment for the 2015 Christmas party, they should let him know as soon as possible. JT also mentioned that **Jeremy Dale** from Hobbytown - St. Charles really outdid himself helping him obtain raffle prizes at a great price, as well as donating \$400.00 in gift certificates to his store. Thank you, Jeremy.



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

JT next mentioned that while talking with **John Miller** from the **Salvation Army** during our Toys-for-Tots donation delivery, he found out that John was an avid model enthusiast. He lived in Muncie for a while, and knows what we do from being close to the AMA headquarters. JT asked John if he would come in one evening over the next few months to give a presentation on what the Salvation Army does, what his role is, and what they do in addition to the Christmas giving. John Miller said that he would be happy to do so. JT then announced that the Rookies Pizza Party was a great success, and between the donations from that and the Christmas Party, the club donated a total of \$2300.00 in gift cards plus toys to the Toys-for-Tots campaign for Christmas 2014. Alvin asked for a show of hands of all who attended the Rookies party, and then asked that we all let those who didn't attend know what they are missing.



**Swap Meet – John Turner and Joe Pedone** announced that they have about 55 tables reserved for the swap meet at this point. The swap is set up on RC Flightdeck, where sellers can register for their tables. **Dave Murray** mentioned that **Bill Brundle** from Horizon



Hobby is coming to the swap, and he has some really great stuff to sell. **President Alvin Cole** then gave his 2015 address to the club members. He mentioned that last year's recommendation that 'we concentrate on being Courteous, being Safe and having Fun', came to him in a dream before the January meeting. This year, not having a similar experience, he decided to ask the board at the board meeting what they thought the club should 'stand for' this year. After a few minutes waiting for ideas, **Tom Spriet** said "If it's not broke, why fix it?" The board decided that we should just do more of what we did last year. So the vision for this year is 'More of 2014 - be More Courteous, More Safe, and have More Fun'. Alvin said that we are basically going to 'super-size' what we did last year.



**Alvin Cole** next handed out the 2015 calendar, followed by a brief summary of this year's events. We are once again hosting the Windy City Warbirds & Classics on June 25, 26, and 27. One change from last year is that we are not hosting the Chicagoland IMAC event this year. Another change is that the Fun-Flys will be held on Saturday afternoon from 1:00-3:00pm instead of Saturday morning.

**Safety Chairman Tom Siwek** finally arrived after battling terrible traffic. He said that he didn't have anything prepared for tonight, but mentioned that the AMA has been working with the FAA, and has come out with



some safety guidelines pertaining to flying multi-rotor aircraft. Tom also reminded everyone to be vigilant to maintain safe work practices at all times while working in their shops this winter. He also recommended that everyone practice during the winter on their flight simulators. Tom recommended that we use flight failures if our software has that capability. This allows testing ourselves when we have simulated hardware failures or other unplanned

conditions. **Alvin Cole** also said that it is a good idea to make sure the wind is turned on in the software settings and then practice with different wind directions and speeds. **Mark Knoppkie** also mentioned that for those who have RealFlight simulator, add-on files are available from some of our members and on the internet to allow pilots to fly at our FVAC field in the simulator.

**Alvin Cole** reported that we did a really good job as a club of focusing on safety last year. Everyone was mindful of doing things the right way, and did a good job of policing each other in a nice way. Alvin said that one thing we talked about at the board meeting is that we would like incidents that happen at the field or in the shop to be reported to **Tom Siwek**, so that all members can be made aware of the circumstances around the incident, and hopefully we all can learn from someone else's incident/mistake/error and can avoid the same problem ourselves. If a specific problem happens multiple times, Tom will know that that topic needs to be covered in more detail soon. In compiling these incident reports, Tom will not use anyone's name unless they specifically give him permission to do so.

**Windy City Warbirds & Classics - Tom Siwek** next announced that details of our Windy City Warbirds & Classics event are up on the RC Flightdeck web site, and that our FVAC website has a link to the RC Flightdeck site in the Warbirds & Classics calendar listing and the news listing. Tom encouraged all pilots who are planning to fly at the event to register for the event on the RC Flightdeck site. Payment for the registration can be made via PayPal, or deferred and paid anytime up to five days before the event. The more pilots listed on the site the better, as larger events draw more pilots from outside the club. Tom also stated that we have been talking with the organizers of the Warbird & Classics Alliance (WCA) about getting our event accepted into the alliance. The organizers sounded very positive, and said that they had gotten a lot of positive feedback from the pilots in the WCA who attended our event last year. The advantage of being in the WCA is that we would get much wider coverage and recognition through the alliance. **Dave Murray** said that he should know by Saturday whether the WCA members have voted to accept Windy City Warbirds & Classics into the alliance. Tom stated that we plan to promote our event at EFest at the end of January, as well as at Toledo and the local Swap meets. We had 59 registered pilots last year, and Tom said that we are setting a goal of getting 75 pilots minimum this year. Tom said that we are going to investigate how we can attract more spectators and more volunteers this year. Dave Murray mentioned that weather permitting we may have a guy in a full scale SU29 fly an aerobatic routine during the event this year.

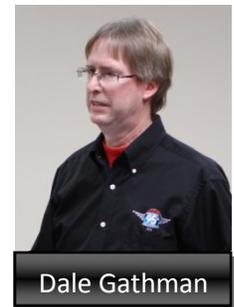
**Alvin Cole** next announced that the board talked about the importance of keeping our membership up, so the board put together a Membership

Committee consisting of **Tony Bahowick, Rich Gabrys** and **Tom Siwek**. Rich Gabrys stated that if any of our members have any ideas or hears suggestions from visiting pilots or pilots at other clubs about what might make them more interested in joining our club, they should send the suggestions to Rich via email at [rich.gabrys@comcast.net](mailto:rich.gabrys@comcast.net). With that, **Bill Suhr** announced that we have two new members tonight. The new members, **Steve Haas** and **Carl Will** announced that they have been hanging out with Bill since he joined FVAC. They are members of the Blue Max club from up north. Bill has been flying since 1979 and flies pretty much everything. Carl started back in 1994, and got to know some of the pilots at our club and decided to join. Welcome to the club, Steve and Carl.



Carl Will

**Dale Gathman** announced that the board voted to delete rule #8 from the field rules, which stated *'All models shall meet the AMA guidelines for noise output. A club officer or board member may request that a model be checked if it is believed that the noise guidelines may be exceeded.'* Dale explained that the reason for deleting this rule is that we don't want to get involved in measuring sound levels of pilot's planes. We do want to promote pilot's doing everything in their power to keep their planes as quiet as possible, so that we maintain our good relationship with our neighbors and with the city. Tom Siwek mentioned that it is usually possible with the right muffler and propeller combination to keep the noise at a reasonable level. As long as everyone polices themselves, the noise level should not become an issue. Dale also mentioned that the AMA has some great guidelines on ways to make our planes quieter on their website.



Dale Gathman

Dale next presented a motion that will be proposed at the February member meeting to revise the constitution in regards to member dues, initiation fees, and to clarify the minimum voting age and minimum age of board members. The proposed motion will be emailed to all members at least 14 days before the February meeting, and the motion to modify the Constitution will be made at the February meeting.

*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.*

**Show and Tell** – Dave Murray showed a new multi-copter airframe that he may be distributing through Robart. The Chinese manufacturer approached Dave and asked him to distribute, sell, demo, fly and teach this multi-rotor. Dave is talking with the FAA about Robart setting up a



repair station as well as teaching people how to fly it. The airframe has retractable gear. Dave flew one in October and had a ball with it. It has lights under the beams, uses two big batteries, and will stay in the air for 35 minutes. He said he is waiting for additional parts to arrive to complete his demo unit.



**Dave Murray** next showed an electric fuel dispensing system that has a variable speed pump. It allows Dave to control the tank pressure when he is fueling his jets. It comes with double pickups and double filters. The retail price for this setup will be around \$280.00.

Hearing no further business, President Alvin Cole asked for a motion to adjourn. Paul Jacobs moved to adjourn. Brian Wituk seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.



## Member Meeting

Respectfully Submitted  
Dale Gathman – Secretary FVAC



A “meeting of the minds” during the Frozen Fingers Fun-Fly



## FROM THE EDITOR

**Jason Boettcher**  
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

Over the past couple of months your board of directors has been putting together the club calendar and attending to many of the details that makes this club click. Thank you for your service, gentlemen.

Be sure to read **Tom Siwek's** article, he discusses the FAA's involvement with Unmanned Aircraft Systems with respect to law enforcement. Tom shares a link to a white paper by the U.S. Department of transportation. Remember to keep all your model aviation activities safe. Now is the time for all of us to be aware of our government's involvement in our hobby and fight for our rights to enjoy all aspects of this hobby.

**John Fischer** submitted an interesting article that shares his experiences with applying Fiberglass. He worked with folks from our club as well as the Naperville Propmasters. We have some incredibly talented builders living in our area. Thanks for taking the time to share, John.

On a personal note, New Year's Eve was special this year, we took two weeks of vacation mainly to celebrate the New Year Holiday in Australia. What an amazing country... Friendly people, beautiful land, and observing lots of animals that don't live in North America made it quite an adventure. Unfortunately, that meant missing the January club meeting, our Frozen Fingers fun-fly, and other things.

I'd like to thank to **Brian Wituk** for taking photos at the January member meeting. Also, thank you **Dale Gathman** for keeping me up to date with club business and covering the fun-fly event. And Paul and Brandon Makowski for covering the Frozen Fingers Fun-fly.

One of the places we visited during our trip was Kangaroo Island which is a bit south of Australia. We took a small plane from the mainland and landed at Kingscote Airport. I thought the tower was interesting so I took a shot to share with the membership.

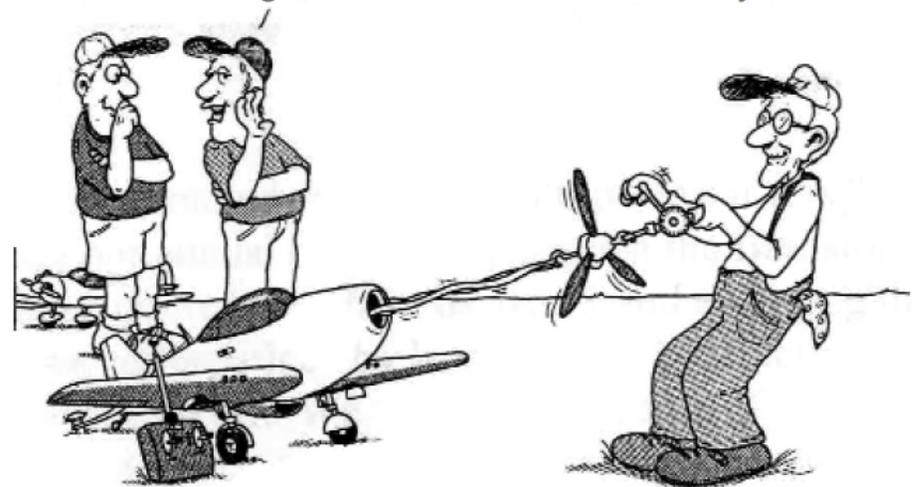
## About the Cover

**Joe Pedone** takes the win for the 2015 Frozen Fingers fun-fly. **Dale Gathman** organized the event, **Paul Makowski** took the photos.



**Kingscote Airport, Kangaroo Island, Australia**

"Old Elmer is positive there's going to be a model fuel shortage, and he wants to be ready for it!"



# Applying Fiberglass: an Experimental Approach

*By John Fischer*

Sal Perno and I are undertaking a project this winter which will include stripping and applying fiberglass to two Hanger Nine P 51 60cc class models purchased from Hobby town. While investigating the proper techniques to refinish the models I have employed several fellow modelers suggestions all of which sounded great but I thought that the best approach would be to test each finish to see what provided the best results with the least amount of work. Something that I think we could all appreciate. All contributors will be acknowledged at the end of this article.

Materials used:

1/8" x 4" x 48" balsa sheet  
EZE Kote  
ZPoxy resin  
¾ oz fiber glass cloth  
Polyester cloth, obtained from Propmasters Bill Hickey thanks to Dave  
Cotton  
Denatured alcohol

I proceeded to make 4 preparations:

1. 50%/50% Zpoxy resin to denatured alcohol x 3 applications
2. Zpoxy resin with polyester cloth laid on top
3. EZE Kote using recommended specs
4. 50%/ 50% Zpoxy resin to denatured alcohol x 1 followed by ZPoxy straight then polyester cloth laid on top

In preparation #1, I placed the fiberglass cloth on the balsa then put on three applications of a mixture of 50%/ 50% ZPoxy resin to denatured alcohol. Dave Brussel provided me with an AMA link to a fiber glassing

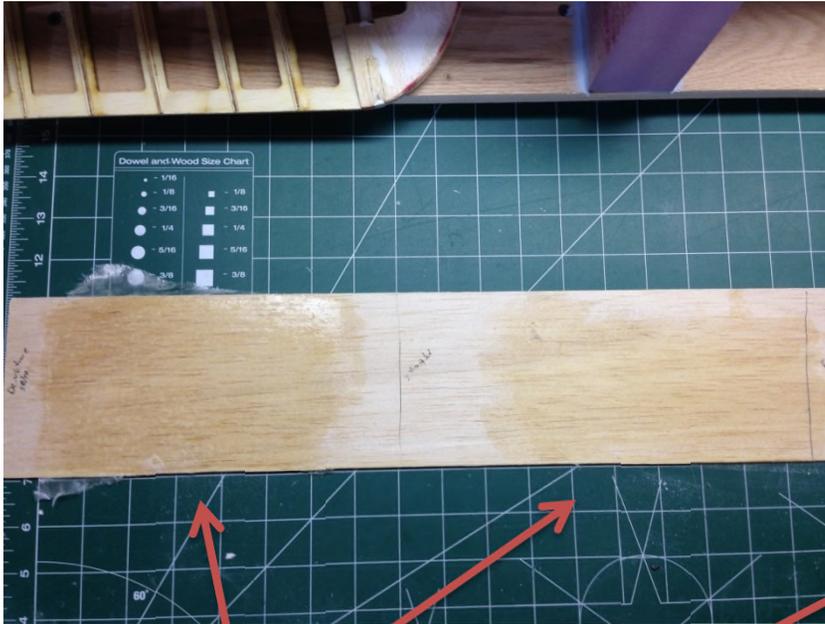
technique used by Greg Hahn in which he used this method. Each application of mixed resin is allowed to dry then the next coat is added. Significant sanding is required after the third application. I did notice that the first coat went on very smoothly as the first coat mainly soaks into the cloth seals the wood and binds the wood to the cloth. A significant amount of weave needs to be filled by the subsequent coats.

In preparation #2 I applied straight resin to the top of the cloth this was very difficult to do and resulted in a lot of repositioning of the cloth as I proceeded. I then used a credit card to remove the excess resin and placed to polyester resin on the top of the preparation.

In the #3 preparation I used a new comer to the market, EZE Kote. Gary Stephens and I exchanged several emails regarding this product as it is relatively new and he has a friend who completed a project with the material with good results. I purchased a bottle from Hobby town for \$21.00 and gave it a try. This product is water based so there is no smell and cleanup is with water, pretty nice! The prep is as follows: apply the product with a brush, allow to dry and lightly sand. Apply the fiberglass, and apply a second coat, once again allow to dry and sand once more. Finally, apply a third coat and sand a third time.

In preparation #4 I once again used the 50/50 ZPoxy prep as in # 1 but for the second coat I applied undiluted ZPoxy, took off the excess with a credit card and applied the polyester cloth.

I then let each of these preparations dry overnight and examined the results the next day. The results are pictured are here:



Above picture: left #1, right #2. Picture on the right: left #3, right #4.

All four methods seem to work well however the reason for the experiment was to find out which method gave me the best results with the least amount of invested time and cost.

I like the results from preparation #4 the best. This is why: The 50/50 solution flows out easily and is almost the consistency of water so the cloth remains where you put it and the application time is fast. This application also soaks into the wood binding the wood to the resin. Then when you add the second coat of undiluted resin the cloth stays in place and is easier to squeegee in with an old credit card. The polyester cloth is the real jewel here as it absorbs the excess resin that does not fill the weave and when it is removed after it is dry produces a finish that is ready for primer, virtually no sanding required!

Preparation #1 will take some sanding to take off the excess resin, # 2 was too hard to apply because undiluted resin is so thick and the #3 prep just took too many steps, too much sanding.

A few years ago many of you will recall a demonstration by Merlin Graves in which he used a pure polyester product called peel ply. Merlin was clearly very sold on this product and demonstrated its ease of use to those of us who attended the meeting. I found it very informative and I can remember saying to myself that if I ever do another scale project involving fiberglass I would use this technique. Last month when Dave Cotton and I were discussing this he remembered one of the modelers from Propmasters, Bill Hickey, had brought a whole bolt of polyester resin to one of their meetings that he had purchased rather inexpensively. I asked Dave to reach out to Bill to see if I could have a little to do this experiment. A day later I had my swatch in the mail, thanks Bill. Guys, this stuff is as light as fiberglass cloth and I think can

even be used around compound curves, it works great! I will need to pick some up for myself as soon as I find out where Bill got his from, it is awesome.

I guess that's it from here. Please reach out to me if you have questions.

-John Fischer ➔

Contributors:

**Sal Perno**            **Bill Hickey**            **Gary Stephens**  
**Dave Cotton**        **Dave Brussel**

---



The E-flite® NIGHT VisionAire® park flyer is specifically designed for sport pilots who want a 3D experience with more options.

## FVAC

# FROZEN FINGERS 2015

First-In-Flight Fun-Fly

*By Dale Gathman*

*Photos by Paul Makowski*

Our annual First-In-Flight event, titled 'Frozen Fingers 2015' was held on January 1<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00 am, at the field. The weather was reasonably cold, about 13 deg., but the wind was about 20-30 mph out of the southwest.

The goal of the event is to be the first pilot to have your airplane leave the ground once the starting signal is sounded. The pilot must then complete a minimum of one pattern flight approximately the length of the runway (800'), and land successfully. The winner of the annual event gets to take home the FVAC First-In-Flight trophy. The trophy is a perpetual trophy, and it contains the names of past winners along with the year of their win. The winner gets to keep the trophy until the following January 1<sup>st</sup>, when it is awarded to the next year's winner.



I was the first to arrive, a little after 9:00 am. As we got closer to start time, more and more members arrived, but very few brought planes. The wind speed was a deterrent for many of the members I talked to. Kevin Kessler brought a small Hacker Pitts Special, and he was hesitant to fly. After some encouragement, he decided to give it a test fly to determine if he could even control it with the strong wind.



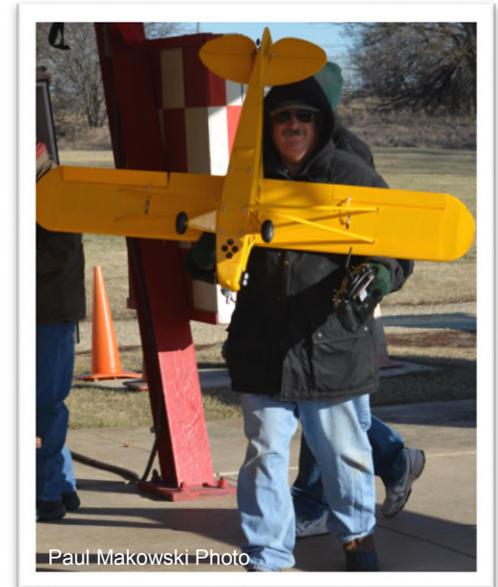
Paul Makowski Photo

Joe Pedone brought his Great Planes Yak 54 3D, and he let me know that he told his wife that his plane would most likely not be coming home in one piece.



Paul Makowski Photo

By start time, we had a total of three brave competitors, with Tom Flint with his Hangar 9 Cub being the final brave sole to commit to fly. Tom noticed that his prop was broken off, with one blade about 1.5 inches shorter than the other. After some conversation and persuading, Tom, being the trooper that he is, broke the other blade off to get the prop fairly balanced, and proceeded to compete.



Paul Makowski Photo

During the pilots meeting, the pilots were instructed that we would be taking off to the west, and flying an east-to-west pattern.

The final starting line-up was as follows:

- |                    |                      |  |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. Tom Flint –     | Hangar 9 Cub         |  |
| 2. Kevin Kessler – | Hacker Pitts Special |  |
| 3. Joe Pedone –    | Great Planes Yak 54  | ← <b>Winner<br/>'First-In-Flight'<br/>2015</b> |

Paul Makowski, Brandon Makowski, and Brian Wituk all had cameras ready to record the action, with Paul and Brian shooting stills, and Brandon shooting video. We always try to get multiple angles and cameras going so that we can determine the winner if the take-off is too close to call visually.

At the start signal, Joe Pedone's Yak shot forward, and was clearly the first to leave the ground.



Now I was thinking "if he can just fly the pattern and then get it back down in one piece". Joe managed a great pattern flight and nice landing, with only one somewhat hard bounce, to complete the requirements to win the title of 'FVAC First-In-Flight 2015'. Joe was also the winner in 2013, so he clearly knows how to get his plane off the ground quickly.



CONGRATULATIONS JOE. It is always a treat to watch some of our best. In the end, all three pilots successfully completed their pattern and landing. GREAT JOB guys!



Ater the trophy was awarded, we once again placed any scrap wood airplane parts from the previous year's crashes on a dead Christmas tree, and lit it on fire. This year, we had a nice dry tree, but still had a hard time getting it lit due to the high wind. Being modelers, we did not give up, and finally successfully burned the tree down.



Joe Pedone's Yak 54 is the first in flight in 2015.

At the conclusion of the event, many of us went over to Colonial for breakfast, where we ate and talked RC, two of our favorite activities (RC more so than eating, well at least for me). What makes this event interesting is that in our climate we never know what the weather conditions will be. I can't wait to see what next year's 'Frozen Fingers 2016' brings us. Hope you can attend. ➔



See it on the FVACHannel on Youtube!

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=E11V1j47fIE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E11V1j47fIE)



# SHOT OF THE MONTH



Paul Makowski Photo

**Joe Pedone's electric powered Yak flies to victory during the Frozen Fingers first-in-flight fun-fly 2015**

# Radio Control Swap Meet

Hosted by:



www.foxvalleyaero.com

**Saturday, February 21, 2015**

*Kane County Fair Grounds*

525 Randall Road

St. Charles, IL 60175

(Use Randal Rd. entrance between North Avenue and Lincoln Highway/Route 38)

**BUY, SELL** and/or **TRADE** RC Aircraft, Helicopters, Radios, Equipment, Cars, and Boats.

Over 15,000 sq. ft. of tradeshow space

Admission \$5.00 per adult, children under 12 **FREE**

**OPEN ADMISSION from 9:00AM TO 2:00PM**

Food service available all day

**AFTER 1PM, WE WILL BE OPEN TO FOAMY ELECTRIC AND LIGHT ELECTRIC INDOOR FLYING**

Come and participate or sit and enjoy the show.  
AMA cards required for pilots

**FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

John Turner @ 630-443-7807 Joe Pedone @ 847-695-0328  
jtgrassroots@yahoo.com jpedone777@comcast.net

*Table rental available on-line at:*

[https://www.rcflightdeck.com/event\\_details.cfm?event\\_id=3959](https://www.rcflightdeck.com/event_details.cfm?event_id=3959)

**Early-pay table rental discount if paid by February 2nd**

One table	\$20.00 each
Two or more tables	\$18.00 each
All table rentals after February 2nd	\$22.00 each

*All table rentals include one free admission*

Checks Payable to: Fox Valley Aero Club, PO Box 837  
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837

— TABLES READY FOR SET UP AT 8:00AM —

# 2015 Fox Valley Aero Club

## Calendar of Events

January 1	<b>Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers</b>	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	<b>FVAC Annual Swap Meet</b>	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	<b>Field Work Day</b>	FVAC Field
April 18	<b>Alternate Field Work Day</b>	FVAC Field
May 3	<b>Batavia Loyalty Day Parade</b>	Time TBD, Parade Begins at 1:30
May 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 23	<b>Fun-Fly - Two Minute Flight</b>	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 25	<b>St. Charles Memorial Day Parade</b>	Time TBD
June 6	<b>Rocket Fest &amp; Kids Fly</b>	FVAC Field
June 7	<b>Pig Roast &amp; Fun-Fly</b>	FVAC Field
June 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 25-27	<b>2015 Windy City Warbirds &amp; Classics</b>	FVAC Field
July 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 1	<b>Fun-Fly - Timed Loops 5 Inside, 3 Outside</b>	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 13	<b>Cub Fly</b> and FVAC Member Meeting	Cub Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 22	<b>Festival of Flight</b>	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	<b>Turkey Fry &amp; Fun-Fly - Limbo</b>	FVAC Field
November 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 4	<b>Annual Christmas Party</b>	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn-St. Charles
December 10	<b>Rookies Christmas Party</b>	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

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

**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