



Fox Valley Aero Club

Flypaper

February 2019

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AMA Gold Leader Club

Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dale Gathman

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Frozen Fingers. We had another very successful and fun Frozen Fingers – First in Flight contest on January 1st. We had mild weather and great attendance.

Look for coverage of this event in the Flypaper.

Windy City Warbirds & Classics. The WCWC committee is already hard at work planning our 2019 event. We already had our first Skype meeting and will have had our second prior to the February meeting. Our Event Chairman John Fischer is coordinating everyone's efforts, and has already gotten a contract for the tents. Joe Pedone has completed our new Windy City Warbirds & Classics website, and it looks great. Make sure to check it out at www.windycitywarbirds.com. Tom Flint has sent the draft copies of our event flyers, posters and cards for proofing, and they will be posted on our sites by the time you read this. Armin Weber has gotten our event sanction, and is contacting sponsors for the event. Dave Cotton and Sal Perno are working on our flightline plans. RJ Monroe provides much appreciated input to our Skype meetings, and Katie Howe will join our February Skype as she will get working on our social media for the event very soon. I really appreciate that these members donate so much of their time to make this event come together. Please let them know you appreciate their efforts. And if you have any ideas for improvements, please let one of the committee members know.

SWAP Meet. Make sure not to miss our annual Swap Meet at the Kane County Fairgrounds on Saturday, February 16. It is a great way to pick up some things that you didn't know you needed, as well as some things you have been looking all over for. The swap is attended by many fellow pilots from surrounding clubs who share the excitement of our great hobby. Details are on our web site.

2019 Calendar. Make sure to check out our 2019 calendar, which is now posted on our website. We have a full year of cool things to do, and there should be something that interests everyone.

Hope to see you at the February Member Meeting on the 14th, and please bring your winter projects to show to the group.

Dale

FROM OUR SAFETY CHAIRMAN

Jeff Peca

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With temperatures at record lows we are reminded that in this part of the country we call this building season. Some of us brave the elements and some will find those indoor venues but for the majority of people it is time to cross another project off our bucket list.

Last year at this time I reported that I was building a Valmet L-70 Miltrainer and was hoping to fly it last year. Because of circumstances beyond my control that did not happen. I am pleased to report that it is now completely built and I am almost finished glassing it. I decided to try water-based polyurethane to attach the fiberglass to the structure. It is easy to work with, easy water clean up and tolerable smell. The wood structure has to be sealed before using the water based polyurethane or you run the risk of thin balsa warping. The recommended product used to seal the wood is lacquer based sanding sealer. When they say use in a well-ventilated area they mean it. Unfortunately it was too cold to leave the garage door. Lesson learned.

As you head to your shop please keep in mind the basic safety precautions when using power tools. Keep your hands and fingers out of harms way and don't forget safety glasses. Keep your shop well-ventilated when using CA, epoxies and paint. There are a lot of CA brands on the market that are odorless and less harmful to our respiratory system. If you build models that require painting, consider latex paint. It is cheap, doesn't smell and is easy to clean up. And the results look great.

Stay safe while working on the projects in the shop so you can enjoy them at the field.

Jeff

FROM OUR EDITOR

Susan Galle

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Not much to report on my end - just trying to stay warm and patiently awaiting the sun and warmth (which I know all of you are as well)

I am hoping to get some flying in this year (esp. at our upcoming swap meet) but that is still up in the air. I must say that working and trying to also find some fun is all about time management - something I thought I had a handle on but apparently don't. There's just too much to do and not enough hours in the day to get it all done.

I hope all of you have found the time to build, repair and build some more and have some new planes/jets and/or rockets to show off this coming summer - cannot wait til the warmth hits - bring it on!

That's all for now - see you soon.

Your faithful editor, Susan

FROM OUR SECRETARY

Debbie Howe

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Fox Valley Aero Club - Member Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2019 @ St Charles Township Hall



President, **Dale Gathman** welcomed everyone to the meeting. Next we have confirmed our president appointed board positions, **Tony Bahowick** for Membership Chairperson, **Tom Flint** for Public Relations, **Susan Galle** for Fly Paper Editor, **Karl Griesbaum** for Field Chairman, **Tom Spriet** for Government Relations Chairperson and **Jeff Peca** for Safety Chairman.

Next up Secretary, **Debbie Howe** asked for a motion to approve the November Member Meeting Minutes, these minutes would have been sent out at the same time as the December Fly Paper. A motion to approve these minutes were made by **Steve Gawlik** and **Jeff Peca**, All approved.

Treasurer, **Paul Jacobs** said that the checking account was doing well and he will be expecting to do more deposits with incoming dues after tonight. A motion to approve the treasurers report was made by **Todd Culbertson** and seconded by **Dave Cotton**, All approved.

Next President, **Dale Gathman** said that 2018 was a great year due to all our great members and all the volunteers at our events. We are looking to have a great 2019, keep up the good work and please remember our 5 words of our club; those words are **Safety, Camaraderie, Mentorship, Fun and Courtesy**.

Dale Gathman was up next to pass out some Fun Fly awards:

Wiffle Ball Touch and Go: 3rd place Tom Bean, 2nd Place Doug Swanson, and 1st Place Alan Galle

Limbo: No 3rd Place, 2nd Place (3-way tie) - Dan Compton, Alan Galle, Doug Swanson, 1st Place Jeff Mrachek

1 Minute Timed Rolls: 3rd Place John JT Turner, 2nd Place Dave Brustle, 1st Place John Fischer

Fun Fly Over All Champions: 3rd Place Doug Swanson, 2nd Place Jeff Mrachek, 1st Place Alan Galle

A round of applause was had for all!

At our Frozen Fingers First in Flight, **Jeff Mrachek** was this years winner!!

Safety Chairman, **Jeff Peca** said we will be working on the visitor and flight pattern rules to help keep everyone safe.

Membership Chairman, **Tony Bahowick** said we have a couple new members, **Reese Farquhar** and **Michael Strevik**, neither are here tonight. Tony also wanted thank everyone for being a member of this great club and reminded everyone that club dues are due at this time. Tony also said we have a returning member, **Peter Rosch** is a police officer and took a break from the club in order to get his full scale pilots license, Pete told us he noticed that R/C was a hell of a lot cheaper than full scale. Pete said he can't believe the advancements in the hobby with electric planes and the benefits of ARFs. His main interests right now are the electric ducted fans. Welcome Back Peter!

Dale Gathman reminded everyone that everyone does need to have FAA registration and for all members Please make sure **Paul Jacobs** has your AMA numbers and for junior members please give Paul Jacobs your birth date.

Dale Gathman made the report for Field Chairman, **Karl Griesbaum** who had to leave early. We will be having our field work day April 20th, the field will be closed that day until the work is done. We will be looking into getting a contractor to install a chain link fence in the shed to lock up the mower and roller. We will also be redoing the east side flight tables.

Fly Paper Editor, **Susan Galle** said she did not have anything to report. Everyone thanked her for doing the Fly Paper again for 2019.

Public Relations Chairman, **Tom Flint** said the Cub Fly day will be August 3rd and it will be till 2pm and after 2pm the field will be open to all planes. Tom also said that the theme for the Windy City Warbird and Classics event will be D-Day, so start getting your planes ready now. May 31st will be our media day for the event.

Dale Gathman wanted to take that time to thank the Howe Family for the great Christmas Parties.

John Turner was up next to tell everyone about the donation that was made to the Salvation Army Toys for Tots. JT said between cash and gift cards we were able to donate just over \$2100. Then Dave Brustle went to his work and collected more cash and gift cards so in total we donated just about \$2400 in cash and gift cards plus a lot of toys were collected. JT said we got a thank you letter that will be in the next news letter.

President, **Dale Gathman** then opened up the floor to suggestions or comments about the Christmas party and everyone that voiced comments were mainly positive. There was a comment that a person's chicken dinner was cold at the Hilton Garden but the rest of the comments were very nice and seemed that everyone had fun.

Next we talked about Rookies, the only negative there was that the pizza lines were a little long but that boils down to how many pizzas Rookies can cook at a time. All the other comments were positive and everyone seemed happy with the event. **Debbie Howe** and **Dale Gathman** expressed that if there were things members want to see changed, please let us know, as this party is for the entire club. Debbie thanked everyone for the comments and feedback.

Armin Weber brought his very impressive Top Flite Cessna 310. Armin said he had always wanted this plane and then he waited too long and Top Flite discontinued the kit. About 3 years ago Armin was at the Woodland Club swap and someone there had a new in the box kit. Armin said while much of the plane was fiberglass, the wings, stab and control surfaces were Monocoted so Armin striped all the Monocote and covered it with fiberglass and then proceeded to spray the whole plane with white Bear paint and the custom

red and then he used an automotive clear spray, the clear came in a spray can that has a bladder in it so that once the bladder is broken, the two part epoxy paint inside mixes and gets rid of the need for all the spray guns and compressors and mixing. It took about 4 cans to do the plane; the spray is called Spraymax K-2 and was purchased on Amazon, looks great! Armin used Robart retracts with sequencing doors so when the gear is down the gear doors are actually closed. Armin said the wing was very time consuming because he wanted to use the Robart wheels, so he got the same diameter wheels that came with the kit but realized that the Robart wheels were thicker so there was a lot of altering the wheel bays. The plane is about 25lbs and Armin let us know that he got this color scheme from a full scale 310 out in Key West. Beautiful Plane!

Dave Murray was up next with his show and tell, the new product from Jetcat. It's a starter that turns into a generator; with the BMS system (battery management system) from Jetcat. Dave can now charge the ECU battery and the receiver battery while it is in flight. This is rated at 49lbs of thrust and as Dave so said, it got his attention real quick. Dave said it can be varied from 7v-14v. With this system it would be a soft start and the fuel pump and the valves are all onboard. This will be going into an F-16. Of course, a member had to ask THE question, the cost, Dave said that retail it was \$4500. The projected weight of the F16 it will be going in is 55lb and the fuselage is 120" long. Can't wait to see!

Next **Todd "rocketman" Culbertson** brought out his version 2.0 high power rocket. It will be powered by 1 G70 motor. Todd said he worked to balance this perfectly so it will go straight up. The goal will be for that once he pushes the throttle forward the shuttle will detach and then he will fly that part down to the ground and then the other will have a 5' parachute with an American flag. Very Sweet Todd!! Can't wait to see. Todd also showed his F4U Corsair from General Hobby. This was a great Christmas present from his wife. Todd had a 60 size with an 90 motor and then Todd said the lesson learned was you can't have enough elevator. So after that hard lesson, Todd is ready for his Christmas gift. General Hobby has about 700 planes and his plane is all foam with rockets, tanks and 4 blade prop, retracts all ready to drop a battery and receiver in and go for \$157 and funny thing is even the pilot is included. Last but not least Todd showed a cut away for a rib of a set of plans that he plans to build after printing up the plans. After letting the membership guess the plane, **Mark Knoppkie** guessed

correctly it is for the SR71 Blackbird. It will be over 100" long and will be a big plane and will bring in the build in for us to see in sections. He is building to build a parachute system that is in the works. Nice! Todd also said he printed a bunch of the flyers for the swap. Thanks Todd!

Vice President, **Dave Murray** said that he would be running the St. Charles Memorial Day Float for the Club. We will be setting the float up on Saturday for the Parade in the Robart Mfg parking lot and then taking planes down off the float and storing them at Robart Mfg so they are there and ready to be reset on the day of the parade. We will need some smaller planes for the float as Dave will be providing the big ones, but again we will get more information out to the club as the parade day gets closer.

The **pig roast day** will now be a **club cookout**. We will have the club provide the main dish and everyone will still bring a dish to pass and it will still be a great way to open up the flying season and get everyone together.

Media day will be May 31st, for our Windy City Warbird and Classics event. We ask everyone to bring out their Warbirds and Classic airplanes and then ask the local newspapers/TV stations to come out and do segments or articles that will help promote the event to the public.

August 3rd will be our **Cub Fly** and our night fly - both these events are sanctioned and the Cub Fly hours are going to be 9am-2pm and then the field will be open for all planes and then other clubs will be invited to join us for the night fly that evening.

Retro Day will be August 10th Saturday, the field will still be open but members are invited to bring out all their old planes, magazines, memorabilia, etc... show all the young guys what used to be new and exciting.

Family Fly Day will be August 24th. On this day, all ages can come out and try flying on a buddy box with one of our pilots. This is a great way for the cub to gain new interest into the hobby and let the public know we are here. We moved to this date because we can advertise this during the Warbird and Classics event, everyone is welcomed to come out and help with the event as we will need 6-7 pilots and spotters.

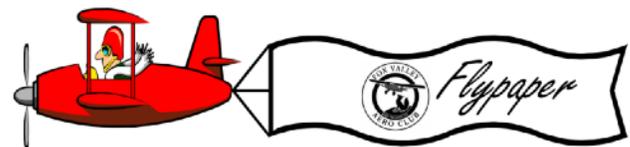
While these are just some of the dates on the upcoming calendar that we talked about please see the updated calendar with the news letter.

Joe Pedone and John "JT" Turner were up next with the Swap Shop update. At this time we have over 70 tables sold, we will need volunteers to come out on Friday evening around 4:30pm in order to set up tables. We will let everyone know times at the meeting closer to the swap. Our hot dog lady said she can't do our event this year, so if anyone has any contacts with a hot dog concessions company please see Joe Pedone. We will also need volunteers the day of the swap in the morning for opening and unloading and for the take down and clean up especially.

Just a reminder that after the swap is closed up and cleaned up we have an indoor electric fly. Prices go up on February 2nd, so get your reservations in on rcflightdeck.com.

Dale said the Warbird and Classics committee had their first Skype call and it was decided that we are going to have the big charging tent again this year and preregistered pilots will pay \$35 instead of \$45. This will encourage more people to prepay and will provide the money to the club regardless of the weather. Joe Pedone is working on a beautiful registration website with the Go Daddy software, and Joe said that we now own the domain name - WindyCityWarbirds.com.

A motion to adjourn was made by **Alan Galle** and seconded by **Jeff Peca**, all approved.



Calendar of Events

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 10	FVAC Member Mtg	6:00 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 14	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 16	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-1:00 Swap, 1:00-4:00 Indoor Foamy Fly Kane County Fair Grounds
March 14	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 11	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 20	Field Work Day	9:00 am FVAC Field
May 4	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 am–1:00 pm - FVAC Field
May 9	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 18	Cub Scout Rocket Fest	9:00-12:00 FVAC Field
May 19	Fun-Fly –#1 - ?	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 27	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
May 31	2019 Media Day	9:00-3:00 FVAC Field
June 1	FVAC Cookout (formerly pig roast)	12:00 - FVAC Field
June 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
June 20-22	2019 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 23	Open Fly – All Scale	FVAC Field
July 11	FVAC Member Mtg.	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
July 21	Fun-Fly – #2 - ?	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 3	Cub Fly - AMA Sanctioned - Open Night Fly - AMA Sanctioned - Open	9:00-2:00 Cubs Only, 2:00 All - FVAC Field 8:00 pm - Midnight - FVAC Field
August 8	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 10	Retro Fly	2:00 pm at FVAC Field
August 24	Family Fly Day	10:00 am – 3:00 pm - FVAC Field
September 7	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
September 12	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
September 14	Tailgate Swap Meet	9:00 - 3:00 FVAC Field
September 21	Fun Fly #3 - ??	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
September 28	Night Fly & Chili Dinner	7:00 pm FVAC Field
October 10	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
October 13	Turkey Fry	12:00 FVAC Field
November 14	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
December 6	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn - St. Charles
December 12	Rookies Christmas Party	7:00 Rookies Sports Bar & Grill-St. Charles

Revision 02-10-2019

FVAC
FROZEN FINGERS 2019
First-In-Flight Fun-Fly
By Dale Gathman

Our annual First-In-Flight event, titled 'Frozen Fingers 2019' was held on January 1st at 10:00 am at the field.

The weather was pretty mild for January, with a temperature of around 30 degrees F and a wind of 10-15 mph out of the NNE. There was no snow on the field, so all of the pilots used planes with wheels, not floats or skis. 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 his name plate added to our new Frozen Fingers 'First in Flight' Champion plaque. The plaque is a perpetual plaque, and it contains the names of past winners along with the year of their victory. The new plaque will be displayed in the pavilion at the field for all to see.

Upon arrival, I moved the Christmas tree which was ready for our annual burning of crashed airplane parts to its location between the pavilion and the taxiway. As pilots arrived, they brought a good selection of plane pieces and added them to the tree. We had a great attendance due to the weather, and a total of 11 pilots signed up to compete. There were also about twice that many members who came just to watch the event and enjoy each other's company.

During the pilots meeting, the pilots were instructed that we would be lining the planes up on the south edge of the runway east of the east taxiway, and takeoff aiming to the North West across the runway. This put the planes straight into the wind, and allowed for the large number of planes to line up abreast without being too close together.

The final starting line-up was as follows (East to West):

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. Jim Thompson | E-Flite Carbon Z Cub |
| 2. Alan Galle | Al Meyers Super Pro |
| 3. Jeff Mrachek | E-Flite Mini Ultra Stick - Winner First-in-Flight 2019 |
| 4. Kevin Kessler | Fun Cub XL |
| 5. Tony Bagnola | E-Flite Mini Apprentice |
| 6. Jim Clousing | Multiplex Mentor |
| 7. Armin Weber | Hobby King Flybeam |
| 8. Joe Pedone | Great Planes Electrify Yak 54 |
| 9. Rob Sampson | Yak 54 |
| 10. Kevin Hersey | E-Flite Super Cub |
| 11. Don Froula | Hangar 9 Ultra Stick 40 (scratched – unable to get engine running) |

Doug Swanson again graciously volunteered his talent behind the lens shooting high speed time lapse photos of the start. A video camera was also set up on the north side near the nets to catch the action.

I counted down the last ten seconds and then hit the airhorn blast, which worked great this year (I kept it inside my coat to make sure the diaphragm wouldn't freeze up like last year). Once all 10 pilots successfully landed (or unsuccessfully in a couple cases), Doug and I went over the time lapse photos to determine the winner. This year again Jeff Mrachek and his Mini Ultra Stick lifted off before the others by a good margin. Once the winner was determined, we announced it and presented Jeff with the old trophy (which is full and will be replaced with the new plaque) so that we could get a photo of the proud winner. Jeff also donated a prize of a hand warmer for the winner this year, which went to Second Place winner Rob Sampson.

After the trophy was awarded, we 'torched the tree'. It ended up being pretty full, with a Yak, and Escapade, a Stick, and sadly Mark Knoppkie's Giant Beaver Fuselage (he already has a replacement). Rob Sampson did the honors and lit it up with a road flare. The tree burned well with the addition of some charcoal lighter. One

of the wings popped from the covering getting pressurized from the heated air inside, which is a first.

All in all, we had another fun, fantastic, great event. After the event, some of the attendees went over to Colonial for breakfast and conversation. As in previous years, we started the year off right, doing what we love to do. It is always great to be able to spend a little time with our awesome members on the first day of the year. If you were not able to make it this year, I hope that you will be able to attend next year so you can experience what this fun event is all about.















Jeremy Dale



HobbyTown USA

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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.

The Flypaper is a monthly publication of:
The Fox Valley Aero Club
P.O. Box 837
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837
www.foxvalleyaero.com
An Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

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