



# Fly paper



January 2012

The *Flypaper* is a  
monthly publication of  
**The Fox Valley  
Aero Club**

An Illinois not-for-profit  
Corporation

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## FROZEN FINGERS 2012

In this issue:  
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Build a Dust Collector for your Shop  
Toys for Tots Get-together at Rookies



AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model  
Aeronautics Charter  
Club #252

Doug Swanson photo (taken with Dale Gathman's awesome camera)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Spriet  
 president@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club's 2011 season came to a close with its annual Christmas party, at which over 100 people were in attendance. We also had a gathering a couple of weeks later of 40-ish members and wives at Rookies where an additional contribution of gifts and gift cards were collected by John "JT" Turner, for the Toys for Tots program. I do not know the specifics about our donations this year but want to thank all that generously donated to this needy cause.

In late November, or early December I was contacted by a gentleman

on behalf of his son looking for a simulator to be donated to our troops serving in Afghanistan. I put the request out and within one day was contacted by Cindy and Dennis McFarlane who graciously donated a copy of



Some of the fine soldiers who will enjoy using the donated simulator

Dennis McFarlane photo



Mark Cassidy (center) receiving a donated RealFlight 6 flight simulator from Dennis and Cindy McFarlane to be sent to our troops in Afghanistan. An e-mail from one of the soldiers, Jason Voight, can be found on the next page.

RealFlight. It is people like these two that make our club the fantastic group that it is! The copy of RealFlight was given to Mark Cassidy, who sent it on to our troops in time for Christmas. It is my understanding, after being contacted by one of the men stationed in Afghanistan, that a formal thank you is in the making.



continued on next page

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On January 1st at 10:00am we kicked off the 2012 season. John Turner, while at the controls of one of his many craft, exhibited his skill as an RC pilot in a 35mph zephyr to win the coveted trophy for first in the air at FVAC. This was by far the best-attended January event since I have been a member. I didn't count noses, but I'm guessing at least 60 people came out to watch or participate in the event.

I hope this note finds you all well and preparing for a great flying season at Fox Valley Aero Club.

Tom Spriet

Tom, Cindy, Dennis,

I got the following email from Jason Voight early this morning. (I had emailed him to see if his group needed anything else.) Please keep these guys in your thoughts.

*we really thank you for your help we have been having quite a hard time with the holidays not just not being home but things seem to be getting bad for us here. The Pakistan border is closed and we got most supplies from there and are now in a bad spot. So we have been a little busy trying to button everything up here on our end and have not had much time off...Again thanks so much for your donation and all the help...as soon as we can get back on our feet here we will be mailing out a few thank yous.*

Thank you again for the kindness you have shown these guys.

Regards,

Mark Cassidy



O.S. 105HZ  
Heli Engine  
(18700)



Steve Baker gave more of his free time for the good of our club. The impassable mud hole has now been replaced with a gravel road to higher ground. This will be the foundation for a west parking area and helicopter pad of the future.





## FROM THE EDITOR

Doug Swanson  
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

Happy new year, everyone!

Here it is: January. Besides a few dustings, we have yet to have any measurable snow. I'm just fine with that.

This is the time of year when I start to think about how I would like to spend my time over the warmer months, and what it will take to prepare and make it happen. This usually means purchasing a new aircraft or selecting one of the many unfinished projects down in the workshop for spring completion and maiden. My decision (for now) is to get some of the old projects finally in the air. I also like to look at the calendar and begin reserving dates for RC events—both FVAC and others. The Club's calendar can be found on page 20—be sure to save a few dates!

One year ago I started producing the *Flypaper*. It's interesting for me to look back and compare the amount of content from this year to last — what an improvement! I want to thank the normal contributors as well as those others who have taken some time to share in this issue. In case you missed it in the last issue, I put a call out for the sharing of knowledge this year. With just over 200 members, we have a great wealth

Hobbico FlyZone  
Cessna 350  
Corvalis Select  
Scale RTF  
(HCAA2533)



View from the field last week.  
Oh, wait this was last year.  
What is that white stuff?

Doug Swanson photo

of expertise in our members. Why not share your knowledge with us? Do you have special building or finishing skills? Have you learned a new flight maneuver or skill that could help others become better pilots? Are you experienced in a certain aspect of the hobby (ie: electrics, engine tuning, pattern flying, gliders, etc.)? Please share with us.

On the next page you will find a report by Dale Gathman on our first event of the year: Frozen Fingers. Thanks Dale for your work on the newly-adopted rules for the First-To-Fly competition.

On page 8 you will find a builder's tip by Dennis McFarlane that will come in handy during the winter months.

On page 10 you will see Walt Thyng's solution to a problem common to all modelers. This is another helpful article for our winter building season.

Thanks for the contributions!

Doug

# FROZEN FINGERS 2012

by Dale Gathman

captions by Doug Swanson



FVAC VP John Turner, 'JT', was the First-to-Fly winner this year, and takes home the wood.

**OUR ANNUAL FIRST-TO-FLY** event was on January 1st at 10:00. It was very well attended. The weather was a balmy 32 degF, with a wind speed of approximately 30 MPH gusting out of the west. Sal kept the fire burning to help keep the shelter warm, and with the wind direction, the windows in the shelter kept it pretty pleasant.

This year, we adopted a few rules that the competitors had to follow. Mainly, to be considered the winner of this year's title of 'First-to-Fly', the pilot's plane had to be the first plane to leave the ground that also completed at least one lap around the field and finished with a successful landing.

We had five brave pilots (considering the wind speed) who competed this year. The competitors were:

**Alan Galle** (last year's title holder, flew an Al Meyers Super-Pro glow)

**Dennis McFarlane** (flew a Super Sportster foamy electric)

**Dave Murray** (flew a Habu foamy electric)

**Tom Spriet** (flew a Mini Funtana X electric)

**John Turner \*** (flew an Ultra Stick glow)

\* Winner of title 'First-to-Fly 2012'





Dale wanted to make sure he could be heard *and SEEN!*

Cindy McFarlane, Karol Spriet, and Dorie Jacobs were enlisted to judge the event and watch for any disqualifications. Doug Swanson took some great photos of the start, and we carefully inspected them to determine this year's winner. Dennis McFarlane was the first off the ground, but he had some bad luck trying to get his

lightweight foamy back on the ground (see photo). The first plane to leave the ground, and have a successful flight and landing, belonged to pilot John Turner. Tom Spriet's plane was third off the ground, Dave Murray's fourth (Habus have a long takeoff roll) and Alan Galle had engine troubles and didn't get his plane off the ground.



Dennis McFarlane - First in the air, but not a complete flight. Well, OK, it was *complete* – how about not a successful flight?



Alan Galle

Tom Spriet - 2nd Place

John Turner 'JT' - 1st Place!



Dave Murray performed this hot dog knife-edge maneuver just before touchdown - SKILLS!

Dave Murray - 3rd Place





Once all the planes were back on the ground, Alan Galle presented the trophy to this year's winner, John Turner. Congratulations, JT.

This being the first 'Frozen Fingers' event for me, I must commend the pilots that competed. I have great respect for

their talent, not just being able to takeoff and fly in 30 mph wind, but especially being able to get their planes back on the ground in one piece. They made it look easy (I know it's not). Thanks to all who attended. It was great to kick-off the 2012 flying season and new year with friends who share the same passion for flying. ✈



Several spectators left the warm security of the pavilion to cheer on the competitors at the flightline.

# Builder's TIP

## Honey, why is there an airplane in my bathtub?



by Dennis McFarlane

It all started just a few hours before the start of this year's January 1st Frozen Fingers event. Basically, when I picked up my Super Sportster from the dungeon floor (we all have names for our hobby rooms) the right landing gear leg/mount fell out of its wing panel. Everyone would simply love it if we could simply put a bead of thick Ca around a landing gear mount and "zap" it in place, but anyone who's taken more than a few laps around our flying field knows that Ca just doesn't cut it. Proper landing gear/mounting block installation requires the use of slow-cure epoxy. Epoxy is needed in an application such as this not only for its strength, but for its ability to flow into the crack and crevices, which results in the proper bonding of these vital components.

Now I was in a bit of a bind. Had the landing gear mount broken the night before it would have been a simple fix.

Mix up some epoxy, slather it onto the landing gear block and into the wing pocket, shove the two components together and let the epoxy cure over-night. This is the option the vast majority of us use regularly, but in this instance the trouble was time—three hours until we had to pack for the trip to the flying field.

Several years ago I attended a trade show seminar that was hosted by BSI (Bob Smith Industries), the makers of many of the adhesives we use in the construction of our airplanes. The focus

of the seminar was what adhesive would be best for a dealer to recommend to a customer for different applications. It was the question and answer session at the end of the seminar which explains this article's title.

One of the dealers located in the more northern latitudes asked what could be done during the winter months to help slo-cure epoxies flow. Thinning the epoxy with alcohol can weaken the bond, and the application of heat, like when using a hot-air gun will cause the epoxy to flow, but can also cause the finished joint to be brittle.

The answer was surprising, but I've found it works, and works very well. Charlee Smith, the seminar's emcee explained that many years ago

contractors determined the best location for a furnace was either directly under the bathroom, or as close to the bathroom as possible, making this room the first register off the main trunk. The reason is obvious (although never thought of before). No contractor wants to hear a complaint that his customer likes the new house, but the bathroom is cold. As Charlee explained, the heat coming out of this first register is often in the 100 degree-plus range. All a modeler has to do is place the components recently epoxied together in the bathroom, close the door and raise the thermostat two-degrees. As the rest of the house struggles to warm, the bathroom will rise in temperature more than 15 degrees, usually rising to the mid 80's or above. Plus the hot air coming out of the register is dry and the hot air not only allows the epoxy to flow, it assists in getting the catalyst to "kick."

Try it, it works and works extremely well. Not just for hurried repairs of landing gear mounts, but in many of the applications where epoxy is used as the primary adhesive, but you can't get it to flow where you want it to go (although doing this when your spouse isn't around might be a discretionary). In the available three hours, the gear had been epoxied in place and the slo-cure epoxy hardened. Of course the repair didn't prevent the vertical powered landing that was my contribution to our Frozen Fingers event, but the gear held; it was the foam surrounding the landing gear that failed. **DM**





## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Turner-vicepresident@foxvalleyaero.com

A big thank you goes out to the FVAC members and their families who donated toys and/or gift cards to this year's Toys for Tots campaign. This year, our contribution matched last year's dollars (\$1,000.00), with a big thank you from Major John Miller at the Salvation Army. Both Sal Perno and myself delivered the toys and gift cards and on behalf of the FVAC. "This recognition by the FVAC is truly grateful to the many families who

need support and is appreciated by organizations like the FVAC. Please extend our thanks to your association!" I have to say, it is a great feeling to represent our club and know we make a difference within our community.



See the SWAP flier on page 15.  
For table reservations contact  
**Jim Toth:**  
Phone: 1-847-888-8890  
Fax: 1-847-888-0992  
E-mail:  
jimhaydu2@sbcglobal.net

As we look forward to the New Year, there are many exciting activities scheduled for 2012. The SWAP meeting is being set up for Saturday, February 25th at the Kane County Fair Grounds. This is one my favorite club activities as we have the opportunity to get some great deals with RC models, electronics, and even sell our accumulated stuff to make a little money to

buy more stuff for our hobby! Please be sure to tell your fellow members about the upcoming Fox Valley SWAP in February!

In closing, the days are slowly getting longer which means those long winter days are now getting shorter! I can't wait to fly my new Christen Eagle II (H-9) that was delivered by the big guy on Christmas day.

Fly safe. JT



Vice President John Turner and Membership Chairman Sal Perno met with Maj. Jonathan Miller of the Salvation Army to deliver our donations from the recent Toys for Tots donation drive.



# HOW-TO

## Build a Shop Filter

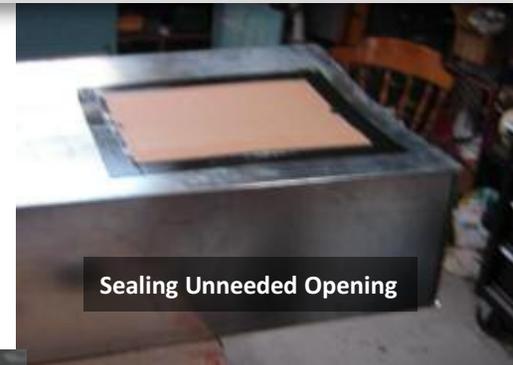


by Walt Thyng

Shortly after reading an article in one of the model mags about making a dust collector out of a cardboard appliance container, I had to replace my HVAC unit. In the pile of aluminum to be thrown away was a large manifold about 5 feet high and 12" deep by 24" wide. I promptly rescued it from recycling oblivion to my model shop where it languished until an end-of-season sale on 20" box fans. With a left-over filter from my old HVAC unit, a piece of acrylic from a remodeling job, some screws, angle brackets, a bit of acrylic caulk, a roll of duct tape, and an old kit box, the project was ready to go.

The first step was to seal an unneeded opening on the back side of the manifold with a piece of kit box

and some duct tape. Next, the opening in the other side of the manifold had to



Sealing Unneeded Opening



Enlarging Opening

be made both taller and narrower to fit the 20" square fan. A pair of tin snips took care of the



Fitting Adapter Plate

height problem and a piece of the acrylic made a great adapter. I sealed the adaptor with acrylic caulk and



Basic Parts



More Basic Parts



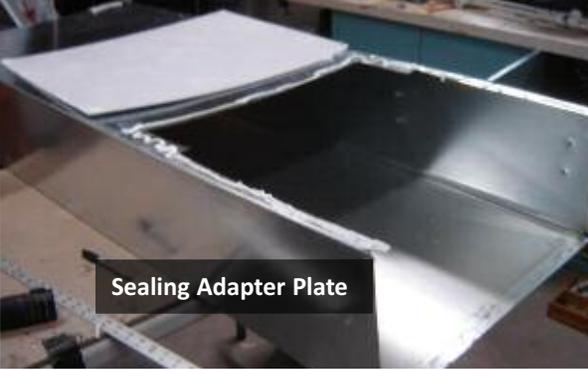
Fan Outline on Adapter

[continued from previous page](#)

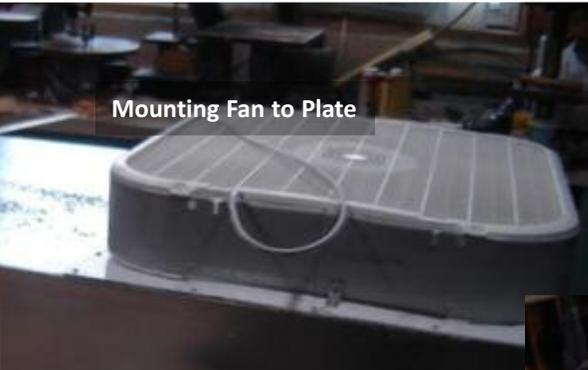
attached it with sheet metal screws.

Next, I traced the outline of the fan on the adapter and made a cutting line one inch smaller all around. The excess was cut away with that new wonder tool, the Sawzall, and the fan was attached with one inch angle brackets. Finally, the filter was attached with more duct tape.

The last step was to create a deflector for the top. I used more of the kit box for this (see photos). More duct



Sealing Adapter Plate



Mounting Fan to Plate



Tracing Exhaust Deflector Curve



Deflector Blank



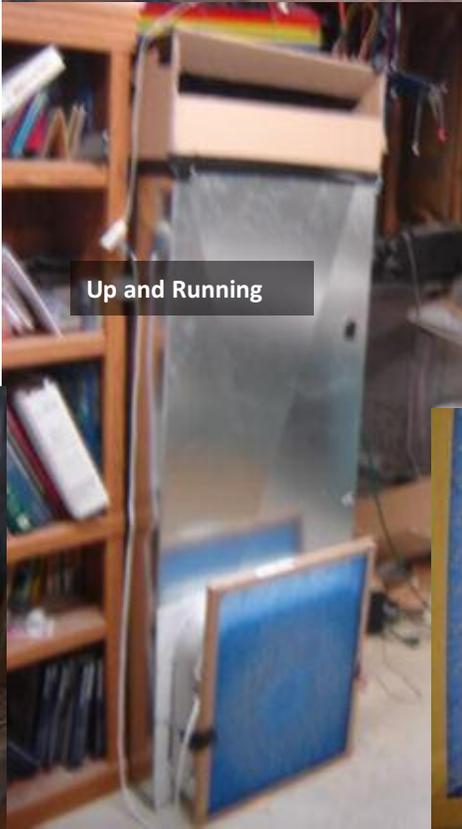
Shaping Deflector



Completed Filter



Deflector Mounted



Up and Running

tape shaped the deflector and attached it to the manifold. Voila — an effective, quiet, dust collector! See the final photo showing the filter after one hour's running in a recently vacuumed shop. ✈



Filter After 1 Hour

Have you checked out the March issue of FLY RC? Located inside the back cover you will find an article featuring our own Doug Scatterday, VP of Robart Manufacturing, who sat down with Thayer Syme to discuss the Stirling engines they manufacture.



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

**Robart 470-L SE-01 Stirling Engine**

E-Fest is coming quickly! It's held over February 11 & 12, 2012, in Champaign, Illinois at the University of Illinois Track and Field Armory

[www.hobbico-efest.com](http://www.hobbico-efest.com)



## Aviation Movie Alert!

**RED TAILS**  
Rated PG-13

In theaters January 20th!

Red Tails is an upcoming film directed by Anthony Hemingway, from a script by John Ridley and story by executive producer George Lucas. It is based on the Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African American combat pilots during World War II.



Link to trailer – Click the video at left or paste the following into your browser:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpA6TCOT\\_Lw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpA6TCOT_Lw)



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs—treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com



Happy New Year! We start out 2012 with over 50% of the membership already renewed. Dues are now due for the rest of you and are considered "on time" if paid by March 31. We finished last year down in cash but we knew that would happen as the Festival didn't charge admission; although it wouldn't have

mattered due to the rain. We also spent some money acquiring our reusable parade float platform and we started the paving preparations on the driveway past the pavilion to get rid of the constant mud hole. Thanks to Steve Baker it looks great in stone and will be a welcome improvement next year. By the time you read this all checks will have been deposited and the checkbook balance back up to where it should be for the start of the maintenance season in April.

The first to fly event on January 1st was extremely well attended and a lot of fun. If that is any indication of how 2012 is going to go we should have a lot flying fun ahead. Don't forget the FVAC Swap coming up in February. I'll be bringing some great ARF's that are left in Dom's inventory and will try to get a list out before the event. If any of you are considering a trailer purchase this year, drop me a note and we can talk about Dom's still sitting in the warehouse.

Looks like its time for me to get back to closing out 2011 and getting a report ready for the Board for the next meeting. 'Till next month,

Paul

## FVAC Membership Renewal 2012

### Dues are now due

Annual Dues remain at \$100  
Family Members are \$25 each.

Must be an AMA member and live in the same household.  
Children must be 18 or under.

Make all checks payable to the FVAC and send them to:

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

or

Paul Jacobs  
1010 Bankfield Ct.  
Naperville, IL 60540



P-47D-40 Thunderbolt  
30cc ARF by Hangar 9  
(HAN4485)

On December 15th, many members and spouses gathered for one last time in 2011 at Rookies in St. Charles. JT organized this "Good Cheer" event for all of us to enjoy. In addition to the good company, it was also a time for us to give again to JT's Toys-for-Tots drive.

Many members donated cash and gift cards to go along with the toys that were collected at the Christmas party.

*photos by  
Dennis McFarlane*



# FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB RADIO CONTROL SWAP MEET

**Saturday, February 25, 2012**

**Location: KANE COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS**

**525 Randall Rd., St. Charles, Il. 60175**

**Use Randall Rd. entrance between Rd's # 64 and #38**

**BUY, SELL and/or TRADE**

**RC AIRPLANES, HELICOPTERS, CARS and maybe some BOATS  
BIGGEST SWAP in Illinois with 15,000 sq ft. of heated facility, washrooms and  
gourmet hot dogs/sausage food service available. 190 plus tables.**

## PREPAID TABLE RENTAL

NOVEMBER PAID RENTALS \$10.00 PER TABLE

DECEMBER PAID RENTALS \$12.00 PER TABLE

JANUARY PAID RENTALS \$14.00 PER TABLE

( note- all tables include one FREE PASS )

**TABLES \$19.00 AT DOOR AND ONE FREE ADMISSION**

**Pay early and save some bucks**

**TABLES READY FOR YOUR SET UP AT 8:00AM**

**OPEN ADMISSION AT 9:00AM TO 3:00PM  
AFTER 1PM, WE WILL BE OPEN TO FOAMY  
ELEC. FLYING INDOORS AND LIGHT ELECTRICS.**

**Come and participate or sit and enjoy the show.**

**COST \$5.00 ADULTS  
(CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE)**

**FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION**

**CONTACT JIM TOTH**

**Phone: 1-847-888-8890**

**Fax: 1-847-888-0992**

**E-mail: [jimhaydu2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimhaydu2@sbcglobal.net)**

**Mail Address: 39W140 Red Cloud Lane, Elgin, Il. 60124**



## FIELD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Greg Bohler—gbohler@sbcglobal.net

I just looked outside and realized that winter is really here. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I sure did. Now it is time to head for my work shop and see what is next on the build list. It won't be long and I will be talking about this next project, and at my normal speed of building, probably driving everyone nuts for a couple years with it. As you head into your workshops please remember good work practices and shop safety. It won't be long and we will be looking forward to seeing everyone back out at the field.

I want to take a second and acknowledge the effort that Steve Baker put in for us. He came out to the field and installed the long-overdue drive way that we all wanted. Hopefully this will help with the spring mud problem. Thanks Steve for a job well done.

It is at this time of year that we start planning our spring projects so we can budget for them. If anyone has any ideas for field improvements that they would like to see or design please shoot me an e-mail so we can start working on those plans. I will be working on the bids for mowing and weed and feed for the upcoming year. We will be amending the mowing bid to cut more of the grass shorter because of popular demand. I will present those bids in March and they will be posted in the *Flypaper*. They will be awarded at the April meeting.

For now stay safe and warm and I will see you at the next meeting.

Greg Bohler



BLADE mQX BNF by  
BLADE (BLH7580)



Doug Swanson photo



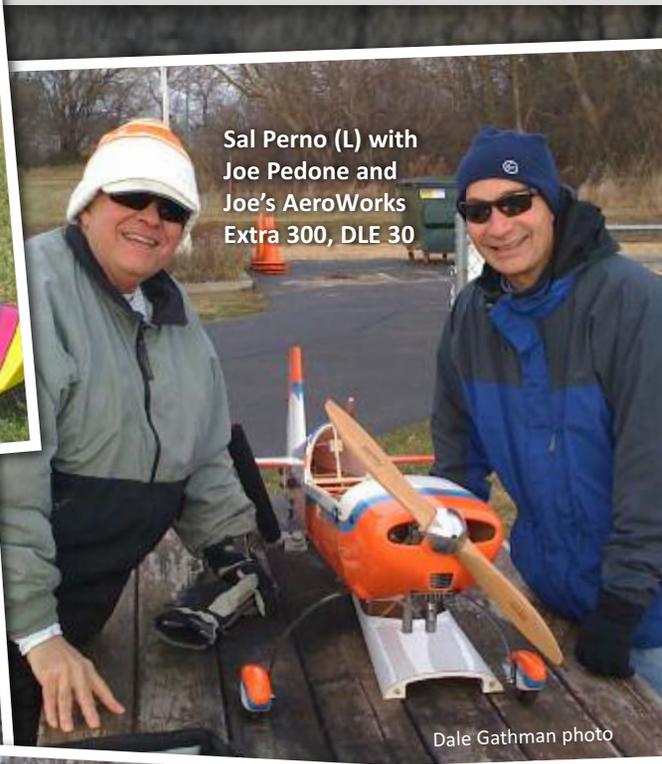
Sebastian Kowalski, Eurofighter

Dale Gathman photo



Cliff Fullhart with his Hangar 9 Twist "Miss Appropriation" of Funds

Dale Gathman photo



Sal Perno (L) with Joe Pedone and Joe's AeroWorks Extra 300, DLE 30

Dale Gathman photo



Dr. Ross VanDorpe with his Mikado Logo 600

(2) 4000 mAh 22.2v batteries in series, Castle Phoenix Ice HV 80

Doug Swanson photos



Kevin Kessler with his \$5.00 Trainer

Dale Gathman photo



Collin Griffin with his ParkZone F4U Corsair

Dale Gathman photo

# FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB INSTRUCTORS

## Support Your Local Hobby Store

Your local hobby store will help you save a ton of money in the long run by guiding you, and helping you avoid purchasing products that are not right for your skill level. Hobby stores are available to help lend their expertise with pre-sale questions, after-sale support and personal customer service. They will make sure that you are not getting yourself into something that you will regret after you get home, and help you avoid spending more money than you need to. The ultimate goal of the hobby store's staff and owner is to keep you involved in the hobby for life and keep you informed with everything you need to know to get the most out of whatever direction you choose.

**Dan Compton**  
Chief Flight Instructor  
Cell: 630-664-6426  
trainu2fly@comcast.net

**John Fischer**  
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jeffxx@comcast.net

**Cliff Fullhart**  
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**Mike Kostecki**  
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Eclipse 7 Pro  
2.4GHzTX by  
Hitec RCD Inc.  
(HRC173241)



**Tom Siwek**  
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Available primarily on weekends

**Bill Sponsler**  
Cell: 847- 323-6578  
bsponsler@comcast.net

**Jason Walsh**  
Cell: 630-291-1872  
jwalsh1@ameritech.net



January 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 9 February 25	FVAC Member Meeting <b>FVAC Annual SWAP</b>	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall Kane County Fair Grounds
March 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 12 April 14 or 21	FVAC Member Meeting <b>Member Work Day</b>	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall FVAC Field
May 10 May 26 & 27	FVAC Member Meeting <b>Classic Pattern Contest</b>	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall FVAC Field
June 2 & 3 June 14 June 9 June 15 & 16	<b>FVAC Pattern Contest</b> FVAC Member Meeting <b>Kids Day</b> <b>Al's Helicopter Fun-Fly</b>	FVAC Field 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field 9:00 AM start, 1:00 PM second round FVAC Field
July 12 July 21 & 22	FVAC Member Meeting <b>Festival of Flight</b>	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field FVAC Field
August 4 & 5 August 9	<b>Chicagoland IMAC Challenge</b> FVAC Member Meeting	FVAC Field 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
September 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 11 October 21	FVAC Member Meeting <b>Fun-Fly &amp; Turkey Fry</b>	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall 10:00 AM FVAC Field
November 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 7	<b>Annual Christmas Party</b>	Hilton Garden Inn