

# Flypaper

March 2011



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

An Illinois not-for-profit  
Corporation

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## FVAC Swap Meet photos – page 5



Doug Swanson photo

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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model  
Aeronautics Charter  
Club #252



Can you identify this poor soul at our field?

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Tom Spriet—president@foxvalleyaero.com

Hi All,

By the time you read this February should be about gone with March just around the corner. With winter mostly behind us, we are all very anxious to feel the warmth of the sun and be standing on the flight line. Not so fast!! March can be cruel and still send us weather we would rather just read about, so go back in the cave and finish that airplane project. The other choice would be to fix up your house to make your spouse happy! It will pay off in the end, I promise!

At our last meeting I mentioned Teamwork. Please notice there is no **"I"** in teamwork!! Remember this:

*"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."*

With that in mind, if **WE ALL** come together as a focused group, that has a common idea, we can enjoy our hobby and friends to its fullest potential. Our flying facility is second-to-none, so save the dates and participate at our events as best you can.

It is the board's position this year to invite the community as our guest to the Festival of Flight.

Let's give them an event that they will remember and talk about to their friends as a must-do for years to come. We want to portray this as a family event to the city of St. Charles of which the public looks forward to attending. Show the City that this is an event that stimulates the local economy by bringing in people from distant communities that will use its local merchants. We want to convey FVAC as an asset to the community!

This past weekend I attended the E-Fest at Champaign. There were some pretty cool things happening there. If you have never gone, try it next year—it's a great way to pass a cold winter's day with friends.



Tom Spriet photos

Steve Gawlik (foreground-center) and Armin Weber (flightline-right)

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Cindy and Dennis McFarlane

Tom Spriet photos



I saw possible propulsion for Merlyn's next multi-engine project.



Ultra Micro F4U Corsair BNF by ParkZone PKZU1680

## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Turner—vicepresident@foxvalleyaero.com

**DURING MY COLLEGE DAYS,** I built and flew one of the original Phoenix pattern planes and enjoyed flying the various maneuvers using my old Proline single stick. After graduation and starting my new job, I found it difficult to find time to fly and maintain my hobby and therefore, eventually sold my planes and radio. Only a few years later I got back into this wonderful hobby and started flying again. Most of my models are now sport aircraft, but as time passed and ARF's became more acceptable, I started

looking for that old Phoenix plane or a pattern aircraft from the late 70's. I was excited when Hangar 9 announced this new ARF last spring and knew this plane was coming home to join my fleet! After a long wait, the "big box" arrived at Al's Hobby Shop and could not wait to get it home and check out the kit. Wow, was I impressed with the quality of the entire plane and ease of construction—including the covered wing/stabilizer, and installed wheel wells for the retractable landing gear. Here is my viewpoint and pictures of this beautiful aircraft and quality of construction. The Phoenix comes to life....., and thanks to Hangar 9 staff!



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The fiberglass fuselage is superior, along with a flawless paint job. The wing and stabilizer are built-up, covered with sheet balsa and UltraCoat. As with any ARF, I had to apply some heat to the surfaces to shrink up any wrinkles. It was recommended to use digital servos, so I purchased five Futaba servos (S3151) and installed them in the wing and fuselage. The "cut outs" for each servo were ok, as I am sure the original recommendation was for JR. There are no outside servos for the rudder and elevator as both are enclosed within the body. This set up complies with the original pattern planes from the 70's.

The one-piece wing is of exceptional quality. I inserted the 2 digital Futaba

servos for each aileron and installed the new electrical retracts by Eflite. This new retractable gear looks to be top quality and was easy to install. The only challenge was the retract mounts had to be slightly modified and did not fit as snug as I wanted. I had to cut out about 1/8" of the sheeting and move the retract assembly forward to accommodate the gear. No

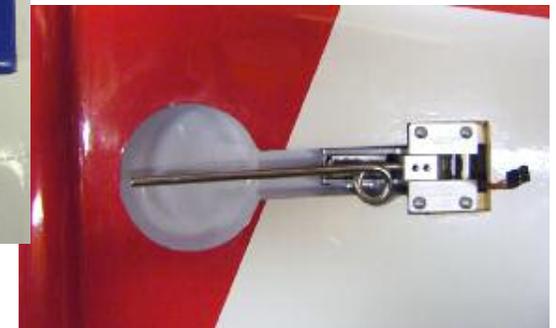


problem, but it did take some time! My next step will be to install the front gear which will be done later this month (more to come in an update article). The "horsepower" will be the Evolution 60. This was recommended by the folks at Horizon and Rusty Dose. I have reservation about the "Evo" versus my reliable O.S., but will take

our expert's advice! My 2.4 Futaba will be the radio of choice with a NiMH battery pack to run the system. I believe a JR 2100 NiMH will do just fine for operating the entire plane's electrical system, including retracts.

Overall, the kit was one of the best by far that Hangar 9 has brought out to the market! Plans are to finish the plane over the next couple months with a maiden flight set up in May/June. I know a few of our members have this plane, and look forward to seeing them on the flight line. ➔

Fly safe!



## Fox Valley Aero Club annual Swap Meet

comments and photos by Doug Swanson

Our annual Swap Meet took place at the Kane County Fairgrounds over this past weekend. I hope everyone who planned to come out was able to make it. Over 100 tables were sold making for plenty of browsing/buying opportunities. I was able to sell a few items, as well as find a few bargains. Food concessions were provided by Neal and Nancy Hickok of Tiki's Windy Dog.





## TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs—treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

Time seems to be flying by quickly and the flying season is just around the corner. This is the last month (March) to pay your dues for 2011 without the late penalty. So far we are 70% renewed and I hope the rest will pay on time. Also be sure to check that your AMA dues are current as April 1st is the day you lose flying privileges without dues being paid.



This photo shows that my DP ¼ Super Cub has been returned to airworthiness status. This plane spun in on final last year and broke off from the dashboard forward. It destroyed the prop, cowl, and windshield as well as all the balsa holding on the firewall. The cowl was easily replaced by Fiberglass Specialties and thanks to a suggestion from Dennis McFarland, a new windshield was purchased from Hangar 9 from their ¼ scale Cub which fit perfectly on the Dave Patrick.



The IMAC fleet stands at the ready...in the front is my Colombo-Andersen Extra 300 which is waiting for me to get good enough to fly the Sportsman class and in the background is the Sukhoi which I will fly in Basic. I really like the 100 cc size aircraft and I think they are the perfect IMAC size for the lower classes.



This is my March project which I have just begun. The first thing I changed was the graphics. It will have an O.S. SF .61 with a Hatori pipe and I'm using fixed gear. It should still fly like a rocket and I hope the "old" pattern birds continue to come out as ARF's.

The SWAP is behind us and we are still tallying the results, but it doesn't look like we did very well compared to earlier years. Perhaps the economy is taking its toll as the attendance was very low and we didn't have the food concession this year. More on that later but the treasury remains strong and it looks to be a fun year ahead.

Till next month, Paul

Ultra Micro Mosquito  
Mk VI BNF by ParkZone  
PKZU1380



**President Tom Spriet** called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

**Secretary Tony Sokol** asked for approval of the January minutes as published in the Flypaper. **Chuck Noyes** motioned for acceptance 2nd by **Dave Brustle**. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer Paul Jacobs** reported that at this point our bank account is in good shape. He also reported that the meeting room rent has been paid to the end of the year. We have approximately 67% of the members renewed so far. **Sal Perno** moved to accept the report 2nd by **Dave Brustle**.

**Field Chairman Greg Bohler** had nothing new to report at this time. He did mention that the drive had been plowed up to the shooting range bunker.

**Flypaper Editor Doug Swanson** thanked everyone for getting their reports and articles in on time. Doug asked that anyone having something they feel would be interesting to the members please submit it for publication. The deadline for the March Fly Paper is February 24th.

**Safety Chairman Carl Griesbaum** was not present.

**Membership Chairman Sal Perno** introduced 1 new and 1 possible new member.

**Government Relations Chairman Alvin Cole** stated that there has been a good deal of negative feedback regarding the

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Tony Sokol—secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2011 @ Township Hall

idea of having members sign statement that they have indeed read and understand the field flight pattern. The idea of signing a document appears to be threatening. To alleviate this situation he has broken the membership list into approximately 12 smaller groups with telephone numbers. Each of the Board members and officers will call or contact each individual on their list to verbally confirm that they have an understanding of the concept. No signatures will be required! A short discussion ensued regarding the mounting of a sign or signs denoting the flight path in a prominent place.

**President Tom Spriet** informed the group that the Chief of Police will be attending the April meeting to answer questions that he will be given in advance so that he can come prepared with the necessary information. Members are encouraged to bring some large impressive models to that meeting to demonstrate our commitment to the hobby. In addition the Chief will be invited to observe our flight activities at the field and their relationship to the shooting range. The prime concern is distraction to those using the range. Safety is also of prime concern. Plans are to have some type of indication (i.e., a red flag displayed) when the range is being used. We will have shared our schedule of events with the Police Chief to help prevent any conflicts with the shooting range schedule.

On another topic, Tom mentioned that rumors have been circulating indicating that turbines will no longer be allowed to fly at FVAC. This is of course UNTRUE, as is the one regarding **Paul Jacobs** selling off all his gear and planes. Later on **Dennis McFarlane** stressed the importance of going directly to the source when inquiring as to the validity of such information.



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Up coming events were discussed next. All events are on track with sanctions either procured or having been applied for. Members are encouraged to bring a trainer and sign up for the June 11th "Kid's Day" event. Tom mentioned that **Tom Anderson** will allow us to advertise on his sign located at Randall Rd. and Dean Street in St.Charles.

**Festival of Flight**, scheduled for July 23rd and 24th, is on track. We hope to keep this weekend over at least the next three years which will help attendees remember it and plan ahead. **Dave Murray** has contacted **Lewis Patton** who will be attending. Paul stressed that we need as many participants as possible to keep planes in the air at all times. Instead of charging a pilot's landing fee, we will be running a 50/50 raffle and circulating a donation basket to offset expenses.

**I.M.A.C.** CD **Dan Knippen** reported that he will be assisted by **Doug Swanson** and **Dave Genovese** for the August 6th and 7th event. He encouraged members to try it out by entering the Basic category to get your feet wet. This gives you something to practice and become a better pilot. While IMAC planes usually require a scale aerobatic plane with a pilot and control panel, the basic category allows just about anything that can complete the basic maneuvers.

The **Turkey Fry**, scheduled for October 23rd, has become one of our biggest family events. A suggestion was made regarding the possibility of a pig roast earlier in the season.

### Who's up for a Pig Roast?

As you just read above, a suggestion was made at the February meeting that the Club hold a pig roast. This would be an event similar to the Turkey Fry held in the fall. An available date is Sunday, June 12th. Who's in? The Board would like to gauge interest in such an event via feedback at the upcoming meetings or by e-mail response.

Show and Tell:

8 **Kevin Kessler** displayed his Maxford RC electric Fieseler Storch ARF. Kevin was somewhat disappointed in the quality and construction design of the

model, however it did have a good deal of scale detail. The fuselage and wings are rather delicate, however the covering was very good.

**Rob Sampson** brought his Henry Haffke designed highly modified Coverite Fokker monoplane. The plane now has a symmetrical wing which has been lightened significantly. It weighs in at 4 1/2 lbs (1lb lighter than advertised) and is powered by an OS-46 2 cycle engine.

**Dennis McFarlane** brought a foam version of the familiar looking Goldberg Falcon 56. The somewhat smaller model is electric powered and weighs in at a mere 8 oz. with battery!

**Bill Best** demonstrated his 3-axis flight simulator which is a work in progress. The 8 oz. plane mounted inside had a hard time moving the 5 lb. simulator around so a larger 2 motor plane is slated to be tried next.

**Dave Brustle** brought an example of the new DLE gas motors. This one, a DLE-20, boasts the capability of swinging a 16x6 or 17x6 prop bringing it into the category of a 120 4-stroke. It weighs a mere 30oz including the ignition. The motor is a perfect alternative to the now expensive-to-operate glow engines.

**Alvin Cole** brought a laptop computer with a slide presentation showing the various stages of building the current FVAC flying site.

President **Tom Spriet** reminded us that it really is more rewarding to give than to receive. With this in mind, he presented an autographed, framed photograph of the Blue Angels to **Mark Knoppkie** for his efforts to help **Dominic Saverino** master flying a JR transmitter which he had modified to be flown with one hand.

Tom then presented a similar photograph to **Dan Compton** for his tireless effort to help introduce new members to the sport of model aviation by helping them develop their flying skills. Dan is also noted for his never ending support of the FVAC.

A motion was made by **Paul Jacobs** and 2nd by **Greg Bohler** to adjourn. President **Tom Spriet** adjourned the meeting at 8:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Sokol – Secretary FVAC

## E-Fest 2011

report and photos by Dennis McFarlane

Held each year at the University of Illinois Armory Building, E-Fest has become one of the must attend, mid-winter all electric indoor aviation events.

Now in its sixth year, E-Fest continues to grow and as with all events has experienced some growing pains. Fortunately these have been addressed and this year's event ran very smoothly with few, if any, glitches.

*continued*



Cindy McFarlane and Armin Weber



# E-FEST

*Hosted By Great Planes*

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Although most consider an event like E-Fest to be all about flying, there were a number of seminars—all worth attending. My presence was requested at two. The first was hosted by the AMA where President Dave Mathewson presented the AMA's position on impending FAA regulations on model aviation. The three things the FAA is taking a strong look at are weight, speed and a line-of-sight flying of our models. However, this scenario is changing so rapidly it is becoming next to impossible to stay abreast. The latest post-event development is a successful senate bid to exclude model aviation from federal intervention. The second seminar I was asked to attend was hosted by Horizon Hobby and presented by Chris Hulme. Chris explained the latest Spektrum developments and who this will affect. Basically, if you fly in a crowded 2.4GHz environment, like NE Illinois, or attend major national events such as Joe Nall, where there is a lot of equipment all vying for a narrow band of available frequencies, Horizon is suggesting you upgrade to DSMX as soon as it becomes available.

Work obligations require I do things differently when attending events like E-Fest; I don't fly, but take photos of other people flying. One of my projects for this year's event was to do a photo shoot of the new Carl Goldberg Electric Falcon. Armin and Steve were both walking the floor, but Armin was a few inches ahead of Steve so he was asked to fly for the shoot. However, both Steve and Armin will attest to the Falcon's fly-ability. I tried flying myself, but had my mind on too many other things and was all over the place. Cindy was spotting and didn't suggest I land, but told me; "Bring it in now."



Dave had the worst luck, his airplane only lasted about 15 seconds, but John made a lap of vendor's row, purchased a replacement airframe, and within an hour was doing the test flight.

Members attending were Armin Weber, Steve Gawlik, John Horvath, Dave Gustafson, Chris Gini, Tom Spriet, and of course Cindy and I. E-Fest dates float, as the event is based on the availability of the armory building, and the university doesn't post a schedule until the fall semester. It's worth keeping an eye open for the dates and attending. E-Fest is a great break from cabin fever and the winter doldrums. ✈



## 2011 Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

|              |                                   |  |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| January 1    | <b>First to Fly Fun Fly</b>       | 10:00 AM FVAC Field                      |
| January 11   | FVAC Board Meeting                | 7:30 Board Meeting E & T Glass, Geneva   |
| January 13   | FVAC Regular Meeting              | 7:30 Regular at Township Hall            |
| February 10  | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| February 26  | <b>FVAC Annual SWAP</b>           | Kane County Fair Grounds                 |
| March 10     | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| April 14     | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| April 16     | <b>Member Work Day</b>            | FVAC Field                               |
| May 12       | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| May 27 & 28  | <b>Classic Pattern Contest</b>    | FVAC Field                               |
| June 4 & 5   | <b>FVAC Pattern Contest</b>       | FVAC Field                               |
| June 9       | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field    |
| June 11      | <b>Kids Day</b>                   | 9:00 AM start, 1 PM second round         |
| June 17 & 18 | <b>Al's Helicopter</b>            | FVAC Field                               |
| July 14      | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field    |
| July 23 & 24 | <b>Festival of Flight</b>         | FVAC Field                               |
| August 6 & 7 | <b>Chicagoland IMAC Challenge</b> | FVAC Field                               |
| August 11    | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field    |
| September 8  | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| October 13   | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| October 23   | <b>Fun-Fly &amp; Turkey Fry</b>   | 10:00 AM FVAC Field                      |
| November 10  | FVAC Member Meeting               | 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall |
| December 2   | <b>Annual Christmas Party</b>     | Hilton Garden Inn                        |



## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Doug Swanson-newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

The A.M.A. has recently called out for support from it's members.

(taken from the A.M.A. website)

*The FAA is developing new regulations that may place onerous and unnecessary restrictions on the hobby, sport and educational pursuit of model aviation.*

*It is extremely important that all aeromodeling enthusiasts stand up and tell Congress to protect model aviation from pending federal regulation by the FAA.*

The A.M.A. has made it easy for all members to contact their district Representative and state Senators. Click on the button below to navigate to the A.M.A. website for more information and to send letters to congress :



or visit:  
<http://www.modelaircraft.org/aboutama/gov.aspx>  
then click on:



J.T.'s photo of himself and a his Phoenix in 1978 gave me an idea. I always enjoy looking back at my old RC photos. I think it would be interesting, and perhaps comical, to see club members and their aircraft in photos from "back in the day". Let's see a picture of you and your first plane, the big grin after your first solo flight, or you and a favorite plane or helicopter. Whether you've been flying for 6 months or several decades, dust off those old albums or shoe boxes (or CDs), have a laugh, and find a scanner. Send them in to: newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com and I'll get them published. If you don't have access to a scanner, bring them to one of the meetings and I'll scan them for you. I'll start it off:



Doug Swanson photo

**Myself doing a little engine break-in on an O.S. .10 F.P., mounted in a Kyosho Prelude 10, with a Futaba Conquest 6 ch. for guidance. 1987-88? Not my first plane, but maybe 3rd or 4th.**

I'll see you all at the meeting next Thursday!

Doug

# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT Alvin Cole-Albass6man@aol.com

So, now that I have finished my winter project, I guess that I will spend some time with maintenance on my existing fleet. Now is a great time to cycle your batteries, change fuel lines, and tighten everything up for the upcoming season that we are set to have in 2011.

Look forward to a call from someone from the Board regarding our agreed flight pattern. We are doing this instead of having anyone sign a letter of acknowledgment. We will also compile a list of FAQ and have it for anyone that is interested.

Our club, FVAC, has great amenities and a great group of people that all share the same passion for our hobby. It is very important that we maintain our good standing in the community and keep relationships with our neighbors strong. As we all go through this next year, let's remember all that was put into making this field a great place to fly.

See you at the field!

Alvin Cole



1/4-scale RV-4

Alvin Cole photo

My winter project. This is one of the raffle prizes from this year's Christmas party. I am ready to maiden it as soon as we get perfect weather.

We will continue to communicate with the St. Charles city officials regarding the upcoming flying season. Please share with me any questions or concerns that you may have—I will get the answers.



Fox Valley Aero Club Flight Pattern



## FIELD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Greg Bohler—gbohler@sbcglobal.net

This is probably the last time for a while I will be able to say that there is not much going on at the field. The only current field activity, other than our hearty all-season fliers, is me trying to figure out the field budget for this year. During the month of March I will put out the bid specs for mowing and fertilizing the field, as I do every year. The board will make a determination on the bids at the April meeting. I will soon be calling the portapotty people and dumpster people. We will have those back in place the first week in April.

There is still time to send any ideas to me that you may have for bettering our field this year. Just email them to me so we can figure out if they are doable and affordable.

All that being said, it is time to finish up your winter projects and start going through your planes to prepare for another great year at our field. I am excited to get ready for another flying season. Two years in the making, I am actually almost done covering my Cherokee and should be ready to show it soon, and fly it this spring.

I will be seeing all of you at the field soon,

Greg Bohler



Great Planes ElectriFly F-20  
Tiger shark EDF Rx-R  
GPMA6010



O.S. FS95V  
Ringed 4-Stroke Engine 30900

## Pilot Projects Wanted!

The *Flypaper* is looking for photos of your latest project(s) for these pages. We all work very hard building and assembling our aircraft—why not show us the fruits of your labor? If you have something you would like to share, please send an e-mail with photos to [newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com](mailto:newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com)



Blade 450 3D RTF  
by BLADE  
BLH1600

## 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 stores 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

Cell: 312-518-0075  
jeffxx@comcast.net

#### Cliff Fullhart

Cell: 630-709-1533  
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#### Alan Galle

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#### John Horvath

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#### Paul Jacobs

Home: 630-778-1184  
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paul\_jacobs@att.net

#### Mike Kostecki

Cell: 630-373-2722  
mkostecki503@comcast.net



Hobbico NexSTAR Select Brushless Trainer RTF 68.5"  
HCAA09\*\*

#### Tom Siwek

Cell: 224-542-0323.  
tsiwek@sbcglobal.net  
Available primarily on weekends

#### Bill Sponsler

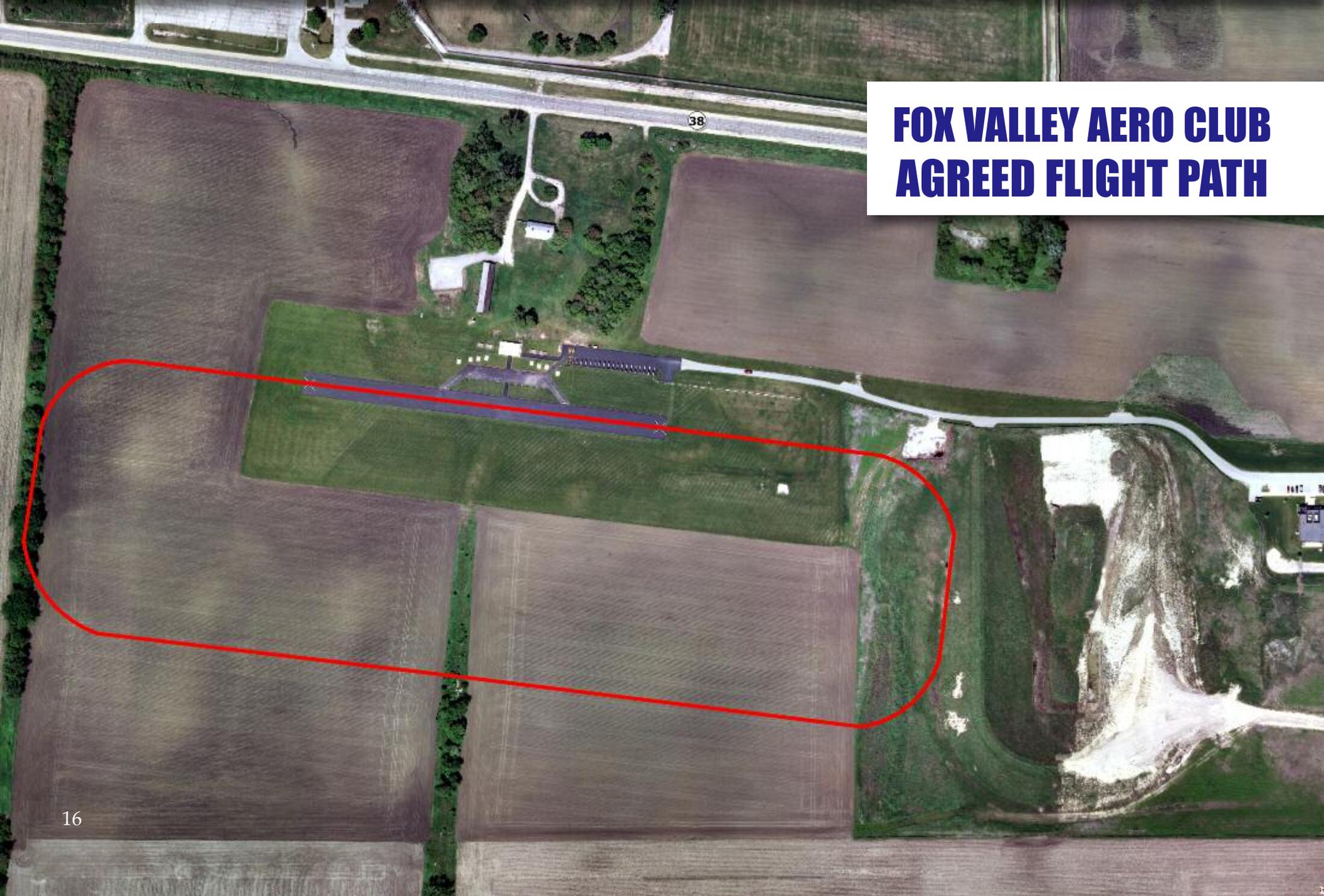
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#### Jason Walsh

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**FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB  
AGREED FLIGHT PATH**



# **FVAC**

# **PATTERN CONTEST**

**June 4 & 5, 2011 - Fox Valley Aero Club**

**AMA charter club # 252 - St. Charles, IL**

**Entry Fee: \$30.00 (includes Saturday lunch)**

**Classes: Sportsman, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters, FAI**

**Awards: 1st thru 3rd in all flying classes**

**Judging: All classes will be judged by contestants.**

*Please be prepared to judge all classes. Volunteer judges are welcome.*

**Practice: Friday, June 3, 2011 starting at 10am**

**CD: Gary Stephens Co CD: Paul Jacobs**

**Facility: 50' x 800' asphalt runway – East to West with AC power.**

**Field address: 3821 Karl Madsen Dr., St. Charles, IL 60175**

**Info: Gary Stephens (630) 992-0226 [stephens89@att.net](mailto:stephens89@att.net)**

**<http://www.foxvalleyaero.com>**

**Registration: 8am Saturday, Flying Starts: 9am**

# *Al's Hobby Shop Celebrates 64 Years of Family Business*

On Saturday April 16th, Al's Hobby Shop will be hosting an Open House and super sale in the store in honor of its 64 years of doing business in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Please come and join us in our celebration. There will be manufacturer representatives on hand to talk about their products, slot car and mini-rc racing, drawings, and in store raffles.

Refreshments will be available as a thank you to all of our customers for their loyal support.

April 16th, 2011

10am-5pm

Hope to see you there!

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