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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

Flypaper

March 2016

Fox Valley Aero Club

Doug Swanson Photo



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alvin Cole
president@foxvalleyaero.com



It's time to fly again! Wait we're in doors, no wind and a left hand pattern that's perfect. Our annual foamy fly in was great, and yes I bought another plane. This time I was able to kill three birds with one stone. The plane was cheap, a WWII plane and it was perfect for the event. A special thanks go out to each of the volunteers that helped to make this a great event. I heard several times from vendors and shoppers that we had a great show. The weather has started to show signs of spring and you can start getting those planes ready. I plan to fly a lot this season and I hope to see each of you at some point.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com



Congratulations to John Turner and Joe Pedone on another successful FVAC Swap which generated over \$2,000 for our treasury. Thanks also to the many members that donated time and effort to make sure it went off without a hitch.

Mark Knoppkie will be presenting the annual budget request for maintenance for the 2016 season at the next board meeting but I am confident the treasury is capable of handling what he expects. March is traditionally the month that we ask for all dues to be paid by and this is a friendly reminder to do just that. Several of you haven't paid your AMA dues yet and that must be done before you fly. Also, the FAA registration number must be on file with us so send it to me for listing on the roster.

The next big event coming up for a lot of you is Toledo R/C show on April 1st. Dorie and I attend this every year and usually count over 30 FVAC members at the show. If you haven't had a chance to see this I encourage you to make the trip.

My airplanes are all now ready for the season and the last item I needed was a 14 channel receiver for the Aeroworks Extra I bought from Doug Swanson. Jeremy at Hobbytown got it for me at a fantastic price and I encourage all of you to check with him first before you shop online.

Till next month,

Paul

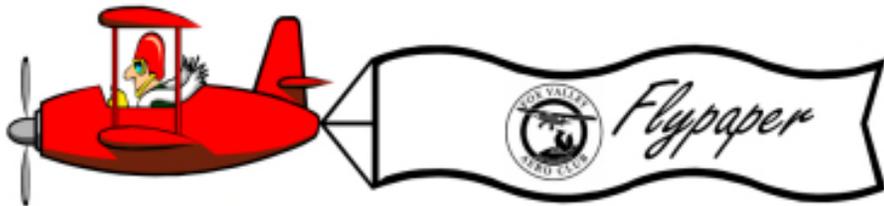
SAFETY CHAIRMAN'S MONTHLY TOPIC

Jeff Peca
safety@foxvalleyaero.com



Flying season will be here before you know it. Now would be a good time to begin checking your batteries. There has been a lot of discussion as to which battery chemistry is better than the other so I don't want to start that war. But, I do suggest that no matter what type of battery you are using you cycle your batteries. In addition to erasing memory in a NiCD, cycling will give a base line for battery health. Most chargers on the market today have a function for discharging a battery and recording its capacity. When I purchase a

new battery I always charge/discharge it several times to check the capacity. I also don't want to get into a debate as to discharge load or how low (voltage) to discharge it. Check with the battery manufacturer for specifics. The point I want to stress is that if you monitor your battery health you may be able to avoid an accident that reduces your pride and joy to a pile of junk or, more importantly, avoid an injury.



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.

FROM THE EDITOR

Jason Boettcher
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com



I'd like to share something personal with everyone. My wife and I are expecting a Baby in April! Needless to say, things have been crazy for us lately. We tried without success for ten years and resigned to being childless. Now we are gifted with this miracle. I'd like to extend thanks to Dale and Doug for picking up some slack lately while I've been concentrating on this adventure. For example, Jen and I had an 8 hour Baby class that fell on the day of our Swap.

The family knows how much I love our hobby, check out the airplane my sister-in-law made for our baby shower. The propeller blades are spoons! I think I may not get out flying as often as I'd like for a while, but that is OK all things considered. This R/C season will be a time of transition for me and my family, so please be understanding if things are 'different' for a while.... -JB





SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dale Gathman
secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2016 @ St. Charles Township Hall

Photos by Doug Swanson and Jason Boettcher

President Alvin Cole called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm and welcomed everyone.

Secretary Dale Gathman asked for any additions or corrections to the January 14, 2016 Member Meeting Minutes. None were voiced so the minutes were accepted as presented.



Dale Gathman
Doug Swanson Photo

Treasurer Paul Jacobs was absent. Dale Gathman conveyed that the checkbook balance is in great shape. Paul told him that he has already paid the deposit for the Hilton Garden Inn 2016 Christmas Party, the Wrist Bands for our upcoming events, and the Golf Cart Rental for the WCWC 2016 event. Sal Perno moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Rob Sampson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Safety Chairman Jeff Peca reminded everyone that while building they shouldn't cut their fingers off. Also, if we use epoxy glue, solvents or CA adhesive, we should use proper ventilation. Jeff also let us know that for the upcoming swap meet and Foamy Fly afterwards he plans on having the club's First Aid kit and a bucket of sand at the ready to address any accidents or LiPo fires. Jeff also announced that the Night Fly scheduled for August 13, 2016 will now be



Alvin Cole
Doug Swanson Photo



Jeff Peca
Doug Swanson Photo

an AMA sanctioned event. As such, it will be open to AMA pilots from outside the club. We may charge a small entrance fee to re-coupe the Glow Stick costs.

Membership Chairman Tony Bahowick was absent. Alvin Cole asked if any new members are here tonight. A new guest, **John**, introduced himself and said that he is interested in the club and came tonight to check it out. Another visitor, **Bob**, came tonight not interested in flying, but interested in starting a rowing club. He hoped to talk to some of our long time members about the process of starting a club and communicating with the city. Another guest, **Lou**, introduced himself as a flyer that started in RC 38 years ago, and is definitely going to get back into the hobby. He is interested in possibly joining the club. Alvin announced that 28 new members joined the club last year, and he asked anyone attending tonight who joined last year to please stand. The new members present received a round of applause.



New Guest
Doug Swanson Photo



New Guest
Doug Swanson Photo



Guest Bob
Doug Swanson Photo

Field Chairman Mark Knoppie introduced himself. Mark said that he and the board are on track to make some of the issues we had last year better this year. We already have the materials to fix the pavilion roof leaks. Mark encouraged everyone to have fun at the field, and asked everyone to be careful where we drive as the ground at the field is very soft and we don't want to create any ruts in the grass.

Alvin Cole reminded everyone that the Field Workday will be April 9 this year, and encouraged everyone to



Mark Knoppie
Doug Swanson Photo

attend as 'many hands make light work'.

Flypaper Editor Jason Boettcher announced that we're doing great. The crowd showed their appreciation for another great issue with a well deserved round of applause.

Government Relations Chairman Todd Culbertson



Todd Culbertson

Doug Swanson Photo

(Rocket Man) announced that June 4 will be our annual Cub Scout Rocket Fest and Kids Fly Day. He explained that in the morning the local Cub Scout groups gather at the field to launch rockets. In the afternoon, all kids are welcome to come to the field and try flying one of our RC trainer airplanes on the buddy box for free. Todd reminded all our members that they need to register themselves with the FAA by February 19, 2016. Once they register, the FAA issues them an FAA number which must be placed on any aircraft over 0.55 lbs that they fly outdoors. All members need to send their FAA number

to Paul Jacobs for inclusion in our member roster. All members should have received an email from Secretary Dale Gathman in January detailing this requirement. Our club is now requiring all of our members to register, and everyone's cooperation is appreciated.

Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day - Dale Gathman announced that we



Dale Gathman

Editor Photo

are going to have a special day on April 16 this year. During the day, we will have spotters stationed at the tree line to the west and at the berm to the east. These spotters will signal when any of our planes are at these two airfield limits so that the pilots can see what their aircraft look like when they are at the tree line or berm. Anyone who wants to see what their planes look like at these distances are strongly encouraged to come out during this day. We will need volunteer spotters to help, and Dale will get a volunteer list soon. Dale also announced that we will be having a Retro Fly Day on July 14, from 2:00 till dusk. This idea stemmed from a

discussion that Dale had with **Doug Swanson** who is collecting some old



Jason Boettcher

Doug Swanson Photo

radio gear and planes that he flew when he was new to the hobby. They thought it would be fun to have a Retro Day during which members are encouraged to re-activate their old radios and planes and bring them out to the field to fly and show them off. Period dress is also encouraged.

Swap Meet - Joe Pedone explained details about the



Joe Pedone

Doug Swanson Photo

upcoming swap on February 20. He said that we need a lot of volunteers and passed a sign-up sheet. Table set-up will be at 6:30 pm on Friday February 19. Joe said that vendors may start setting up at 7:00 am on Saturday. The goal this year is to only open the West doors for vendor entrance. The public will be admitted starting at 9:00 am. Joe explained that **Tom Flint** has entered details about the swap in local media, with hopes of attracting shoppers from the area who are new to

RC. **Jeremy Dale** from Hobbytown will be selling beginner packages at an introductory price at the swap. Starting around 1:00 pm we will be having our usual foamy fly. All volunteers are encouraged to wear their yellow club shirts.



Doug Swanson

Editor Photo



Jeremy Dale

Editor Photo



Jeremy Dale



HobbyTown USA

2061A Lincoln Highway, St. Charles, IL 60174

Windy City Warbirds & Classics – **John Fischer** introduced himself, and asked who was excited about our upcoming big warbird event. He announced that we currently have 37 pilots registered through RC Flightdeck at this time. Last year at this time we only had 17 or 18. John said that he is hoping for 70 to 80 pilots this year. The WCWC team has met a few times already. **Joe Pedone** has taken over the RC Flightdeck administration following Tom Siwek's move. **Armin Weber** is taking care of a number of things, **Sal Perno** will head the flight line again, and **Dave Cotton** is going to be Dave Cotton. John also gets support from **Tom Flint** and **Dale Gathman**. Tom will soon have the flyers designed and they will be posted on



John Fischer

Editor Photo

RC Flightdeck as well as on our website. **Todd Culbertson** will again print out some 11x17 posters, 8.5x11 flyers and 4x6 handout cards. **Tom and Hillary Bean** will represent our club and work at the Warbird and Classics Alliance booth at the Toledo show again this year. The event is coming along well. We plan on having a couple WWII period jeeps and a few guys walking around in WWII period gear. We plan to see how this goes this year, and may want to expand it next year. Linda Crooks, president of the WCA, as well as Chuck Hamilton are excited to have us on board again this year. The WCA is selling their own t-shirts this year. If pilots buy a shirt, they will be able to get stars at each event that they attend this year. There are seven events in all. Our shirts this year will have a WWI theme. We haven't come up with the exact details yet, but Tom, Dale and John will be working on that soon.

Festival of Flight – **John Fischer** announced that the Festival of Flight is very important to this club, and has been for years. It used to be called the Festival of Giants, and has since morphed into the Festival of Flight. It is open to pilots of all genres and is basically a large fun-fly without a lot of restrictions. Last year we made a good amount of money and had very little outlay. We



John Fischer

Editor Photo

charge the public \$5.00 per person to attend. This is a good way to show

the public what we are all about. We will as last year need volunteers for both events. Our members have been great at volunteering their time when needed.

Alvin Cole next opened the floor for questions and concerns with the stipulation that members with concerns also come up with a solution. **Tom Spriet** said that his concern and everyone's has been flying to the west edge of our field and what will happen to the property there. The solution is that the Kane County Forest Preserve is buying the property to the west of the tree line. Once they do, there should no longer



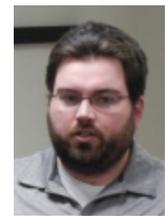
Editor Photo



Doug Swanson Photo

be homes there and the restriction on the west end of the field can then be lifted. This great news was followed by a rousing round of applause. Timing of the purchase is unknown at this time.

Jason Flowers announced that he just got his CD last year. He is a member of the Aurora Barnstormers and they are hosting their second annual open house on May 14. Anyone can come and watch people fly, and the field will be open to any pilot with an AMA membership. They have a grass field with unobstructed flying to the north and west. All size airplanes are welcome. The field is about 600'x600'. No electric is available. Jason says the grass is short enough for all but maybe E-Flite foamies.



Jason Flowers

Doug Swanson Photo



Alvin Cole

Doug Swanson Photo

Alvin Cole next reminded everyone of our three focus points this year, which are:

1. SAFETY
2. MENTORSHIP
3. CAMARADERIE



Dave Brustle

Editor Photo

Show and Tell – Dave Murray showed off his new Global Jet P-51 Mustang. This plane has a 100” wingspan, a DLE 85cc engine, and it has 12 servos installed. Dave credits Dave Brustle for an immense amount of help and expertise he provided assembling the plane and getting it ready for flight. It has Robart retracts and struts that came with it. It also has Robart wheels. The tail wheel retracts forward. Dave said that he and Dave B started the engine by priming it about 4 or 5 times, turned the ignition on and



Doug Swanson Photo



Editor Photo

it started right up. The DLE 85 has an incredible amount of thrust with the attached 4 blade 23x10 Mustang prop. It has a custom made Tru-Turn spinner, of which there are 32 available at this time. It has a Bisson Pitts muffler. Dave asked the group to help come up with a way to secure the canopy to the fuselage. The completed plane weighs 36 lbs. The plane is all composite and the

retracts are pneumatic. The prop was purchased from Aircraft International in Florida. The plane, which comes with the cockpit, a 2 blade spinner and retracts, goes for \$2495.00. Dave also announced that Global has an F4U Corsair of similar size coming soon.

Dale Gathman showed his Hangar 9 P-47D-1 Thunderbolt. This plane has a 67” wingspan, and is powered by an E-Flite Power 60 motor with a Castle Lite 100 ESC.



Doug Swanson Photo

It is equipped with E-Flite Electric retracts and struts. The plane weighs about 11 lbs. Dale purchased this plane from a guy up in Wisconsin, and has since put about \$700.00 into it. He installed Savox SA1256TG servos throughout, and installed a Spektrum AR9020 receiver and TM1000 telemetry module in it. He wired the main battery power into the telemetry module so that he gets real time power battery and receiver voltage. The power is provided by a 6S 5000ma LiPo battery. The prop is a 16x10.



The plane comes with dull finish Ultracote that has detailed panel lines printed on it. An interesting thing is that the green finish appears to be painted over silver base color, so that as the plane wears, any dings will show silver underneath, which is what would have happened to a full scale plane made of aluminum. Dale then mentioned a safety issue with the Castle ESC that he noticed on another non-E-Flite ESC last year. If this ESC is bound at zero throttle, and subsequently he switches his Spektrum radio's throttle cut on, the throttle cut position (which is about -30%) now becomes the new zero point for the throttle. When throttle cut is switched off, the throttle will run the motor even though the stick is at zero, as it re-zeroed at -30% stick position. Dale researched this,

and it appears that the Castle and maybe most other brands of ESC (other than E-Flite) come programmed to auto zero. By using the Castle Link cable, Dale was able to set the ESC to have fixed throttle end-points. Once the plane is bound with the ESC set this way, you teach it the zero and full throttle settings without using the throttle cut, and those settings stay in the ESC. The throttle cut functionality will now work as intended. Dale also mentioned that after binding the radio, the top 25% or so of throttle stick did not increase the motor RPM, which basically narrows the control band by about 25%. By sub-trimming the top part of the stick movement off, he was able to gain use of the full stick travel again.

Tom Spriet showed his E-Flite FJ2 Fury. He said that he didn't bring the plane to show, but he brought it to show a unique way that he applied his FAA registration number to the plane. He cut his number out of white vinyl, and applied it to the white tail area. The number is visible when held so that light shows through the tail, but otherwise is basically invisible. Tom said that he has a vinyl cutter, and he would be able to cut 15 or 20 FAA registration numbers on a sheet for our members for \$5.00. Tom said that for that price he will not do the 'weeding' of the vinyl surrounding the number as that is a tedious job. If anyone is interested in having their FAA numbers cut in vinyl, contact Tom.





Jeff Peca displayed what he calls his 'Redneck Bagging System'. It uses a storage bag and a Tetris Aquarium pump converted into a vacuum pump.



With this system, he can glue sheeting onto wing panels and use the vacuum to 'suck' the sheeting down to the foam. Jeff inserts a tube into the bag and seals it with a bead of caulk prior to applying the suction. Jeff also inserts a rolled up paper towel along the leading edge to prevent the tube from getting sucked into the bag, and to more evenly distribute the vacuum. The plane he is working on is a

military trainer from Finland called a Valmet. It is a constant chord fixed gear plane. A retractable version is also available. The plane was designed by Dick Sarpolus, who designed a lot of model airplanes. Dick had sold the canopy plug to Zirolu. Jeff called Zirolu and asked if they still had the plug, and they said that they did. Jeff was able to get two canopies from Zirolu, and he said they are about two feet long. Jeff plans on finishing this plane which is an L-70 and then build the L-90 version which has retracts and a tapered wing.



Rich Gabrys who usually comes in with a giant scale airplane, decided to scratch build a small foamy. He made it out of expanded polypropylene (EPP) foam. Rich said that is kind of the same plastic that we would find on the top of a coffee can. The foam is really tough stuff. Rich explained that he has a small electric plane that he flies at the field called the Flash, and he basically modeled this plane after the Flash. The thing Rich is most proud of is figuring out a way to make a hinge out of the polypropylene using a Dremel tool and a straightedge. He routed the EPP through almost to the skin, and just left a thin layer. He was able to create a hinge without using tape this way. Rich has flown the plane outside for about a minute and a half. He plans on flying it indoor at the



dome tomorrow. He acquired the foam board at a hobby shop. He said that it is 7 or 8 mm thick and comes in 24" x 36" sheets. The foam was cut using a razor blade and a straightedge. Rich used 3/32" plywood for the firewall. He said the plane weighs just less than 5 ounces. He mentioned that the plane weighs less than most of the wheels on his other planes. He used Elmer's craft glue to glue everything. Rich also routed a channel and installed a carbon fiber rod into the wing, as it was way too flexible without it. He also strengthened the fuselage with a rod.



Editor Photo

Dave Murray showed the new Chroma quadcopter from Horizon Hobby. It has a 16 Megapixel camera with an 8 GB SD memory card. It has seven flight modes. Dave said the lights tell you everything about the aircraft. If the batteries are fully charged, you get four green lights. At 75% charge, you get three greens and one red. The lights also change with the different flight modes. He says that you can take it up to about 100 feet, set the transmitter down and walk away – the craft will hold its position. Dave plans to fly it in the parking lot following the meeting.



Editor Photo



Editor Photo

Hearing no further business, President Alvin Cole asked for a motion to adjourn. Doug Swanson moved to adjourn. Kevin Kessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
 Dale Gathman – Secretary
 FVAC



Editor Photo



Doug Swanson Photo

Please Support our
Local Hobby Shop!



Jeremy Dale



HobbyTown USA

2061A Lincoln Highway, St. Charles, IL 60174

Friday

FVAC SWAP 2016



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



**Saturday
Morning**



Doug Swanson Photo



Doug Swanson Photo

Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo





Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo

Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo

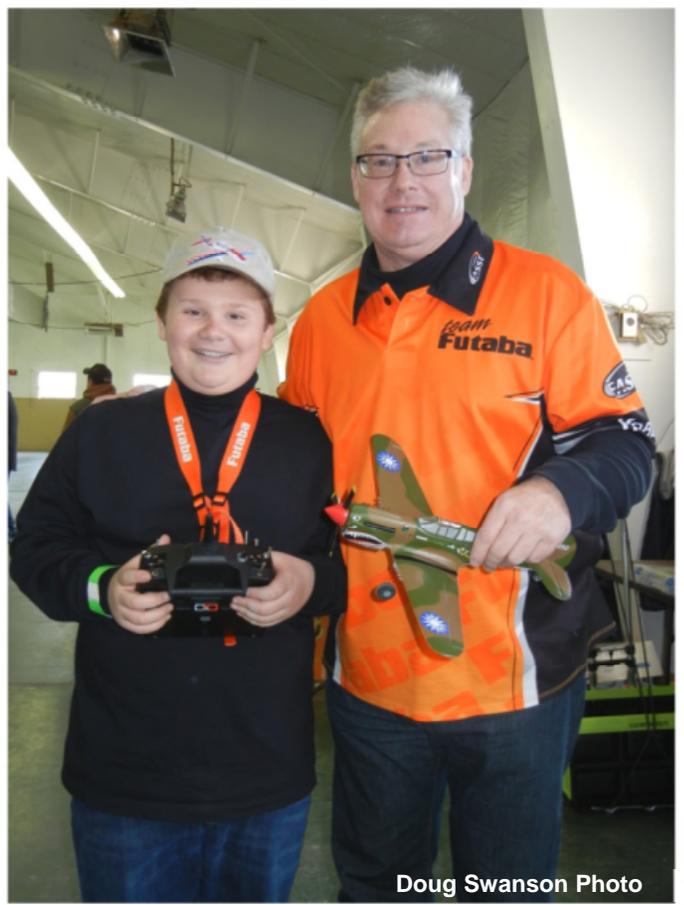




Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Doug Swanson Photo

Doug Swanson Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



Dale Gathman Photo





Doug Swanson Photo

Time to Fly!

Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



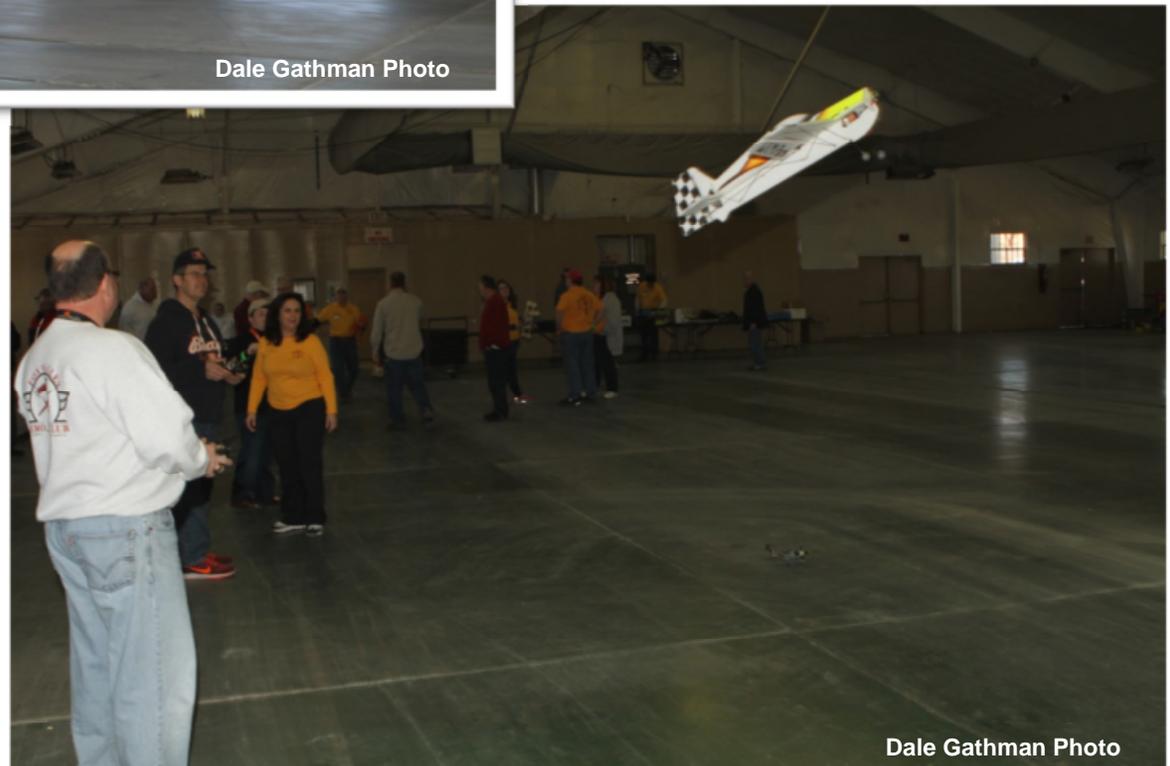
Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Doug Swanson Photo



Dale Gathman Photo

**Here are some photos of our
Parking Expansion project.**

Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo



Dale Gathman Photo

SHOT OF THE MONTH



Doug Swanson photo

A bird's eye view of our FVAC swap.

2016 Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 AM FVAC Field
January 14	FVAC Member Meeting	7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 20	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-2:00 Kane County Fair Grounds
March 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 9	Field Work Day	FVAC Field
April 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 16	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 am – 5:00 pm - FVAC Field
May 1	Batavia Loyalty Day Parade	Time TBD, Parade Begins at 1:30
May 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 21	Fun-Fly – 30 Second Climb/Target Land	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 30	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
June 4	Rocket Fest & Kids Fly	FVAC Field
June 5	Pig Roast & Fun-Fly	FVAC Field
June 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 23-25	2016 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 26	Open Fly – Small Scale	FVAC Field
July 14	Retro Fly and FVAC Member Meeting	Retro Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
July 16	Fun-Fly – Bomb Drop	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 6	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
August 11	Cub Fly and FVAC Member Meeting	Cub Fly 2:00; Meetings- 6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 13	Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open	8:00 pm FVAC Field
September 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
September 17	Night Fly	9:00 pm FVAC Field
October 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 16	Turkey Fry & Fun-Fly - Limbo	FVAC Field
November 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 2	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn-St. Charles
December 8	Rookies Christmas Party	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

Your Full Name:	AMA Number:	Age: (Junior Members only)	Dues Amount:
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____

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