



Fox Valley Aero Club

Flypaper

March 2018

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AMA Gold Leader Club

Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dale Gathman

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SWAP Meet.

We had another successful SWAP meet on Saturday, Feb. 17. Thanks go out to John Turner and Joe Pedone, our fantastic SWAP meet

organizers, for all the work they put into organizing the meet. Also, thanks to all of the volunteers who set-up on Friday and who worked the event. It takes a lot of help to have a successful event, and you, our members, always come through. This was the first year that I didn't have a table, so I was able to help out and also roam the floor. The only items I found to purchase were a wing bag for my P-47 wings and an OS 46AX engine NIB. It was great to see that there were a larger number of planes for sale this year as compared to last year.

Following the SWAP, we again had our indoor electric foamy fly. It was great fun, and was enjoyed by our members as well as a few guests. An hour or so into the event, we again tried our hand at 'carrier landing'. We simulate the carrier with tables, and this year we tried using 2 tables wide x 2 tables long. The extra width helped some, and we had many successful landings. By the end of the day, I had broken the nose off of my Sport Cub S, which often happens to planes I am trying to land on a table. The good thing about these foamies is that they can usually be fixed pretty easily.

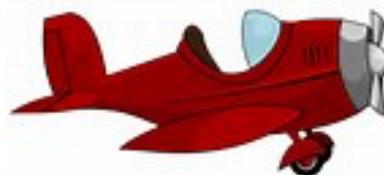
Winter Blues. Well, the field was inaccessible for a while, as we had multiple

snow storms and the snow got pretty deep. The city did not plow the road past the 911 center, so for a while our members could not get to the field. I did talk to Jeff Mrachek, and let him know that I used to fly from the gun range end of our field when the road was inaccessible, and shortly after, he texted me that it was a 'long tough walk' to get to the pavilion through the snow. I pulled up the camera view and saw Jeff with his plane and the long foot path he had made getting to the pavilion. I am happy that we still have some hard core winter fliers in the club. A few years ago, that would have been me.

Build Season. I have finally started on the Giant Corsair build. I just got done with going over every inch of the Ultracote covering with the iron to get rid of many, many wrinkles in the covering and to make sure it is stuck down everywhere. This part of the project took about 8 hours. I anticipate this build taking a lot of time, and I will try to get it done for this year's events, but I'm not totally confident that will be possible. The radial engine alone requires a full 3 hour break-in before any flying is done. I really do enjoy assembling ARFs and building kits, and encourage those who have not yet strayed from the RTF type planes to give an ARF a try.

Hope to see you at the March Member Meeting on the 8th, and please bring your winter projects to show to the group.

Dale



NOTE: There are no minutes report from our Secretary, **Debbie Howe** for February since we only had a Board member meeting which was held on February 15th (a week later) - due to bad weather the week before.

FROM OUR SAFETY CHAIRMAN

Jeff Peca
safety@foxvalleyaero.com



The weather is starting to improve, we change the clocks next weekend, and flying season will soon be here. Now would be a good time to begin checking your batteries. I like to start early because some packs require several days to put them through several cycles.

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. Just remember that for any given voltage 2000MAH is 2000mah. The chemistry of the battery is irrelevant. But, I do suggest that you cycle your batteries, regardless of the type. In addition to erasing memory in a NiCD, cycling will give a baseline 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 to discharge it. It is best to check with the manufacturer for specifics. The point is that no matter what type of battery you prefer, a little maintenance now could avoid problems later.

FROM THE EDITOR

Susan Galle
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Spring cannot come fast enough for me. And I can only hope that our upcoming summer is uneventful, the winds are light and there are plenty of sunny days to be had outside - I love the sun and warmth

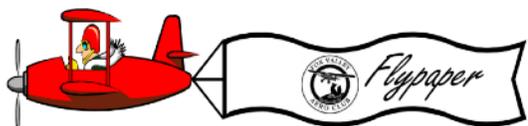
and when it's like that, I love to be out in it! And get back to my racing too! (*And we do race rain or shine*). So if you have no planes to fly and want to see me, come out to Joliet Speedway or the Autobahn - where there are actually a handful of women (maybe 5 tops) that enjoy this just as much as I do - we may be small in number but we rock it at the track!

Don't forget that next weekend (*March 11*) is a time change again for spring and we will be moving our clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night - yay! bring on the longer days! can't wait.

Also in this month's edition, I have once again combed through the numerous articles given to me by Orvil Fluharty and have some more wonderful tips to share with you (*and a drum roll please with pictures as well!*). I really hope these tips are helpful although they are probably even more so for the newer members and other newer members who may not even be in our club. Then again you never know what you might find here either no matter how long you've been flying but in any case I hope you enjoy them.

Lastly, I finally was able to get a new pic too and I think this one is a lot better than the other one I had used previously - I actually look happier here. Enjoy this month's issue!

Later,
Susan

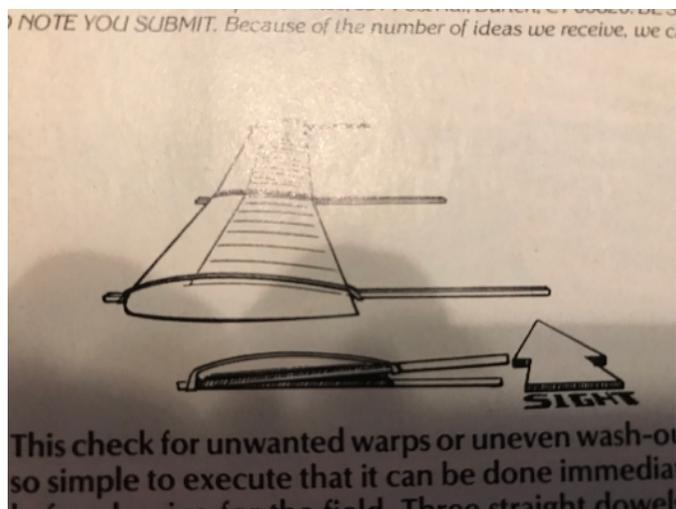


HINTS & TIPS (thank you Orvill!):

It can sometimes be difficult to separate the plastic covering film from its plastic backing sheet. In such an event, stick a piece of masking tape to each piece of film, then pull on the tabs. The film and the backing will part very easily.

If you have a delicate soldering job and require a third hand, one modeler found an old microphone stand that did the job very well - make sure that it is a screw tight bottom though as this is easier to use.

Checking for uneven warps or uneven wash-out is so simple to execute that it can be done immediately before leaving for the field. Three straight dowels or sticks rubber-banded under the wing, when sighted along from tip to tip, will tell the story. (see pic below).



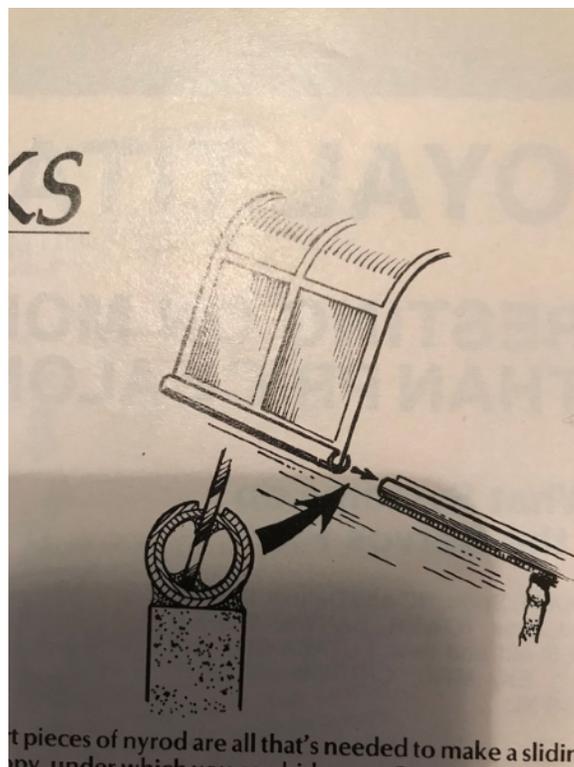
Tracing parts from plans is a laborious business if the part is too big for the copy machine. If it is a blue-line print you have to then moisten a sheet of paper with a damp rag, apply the paper (damp side down) to the plan, and follow-up with an iron set at 250-300 degrees Fahrenheit. On lifting the paper you will find a beautiful copy has transferred itself to the paper without damage to your precious plan.

It is late evening, no hobby store is open and you need hinges! Remember the polypropylene strapping that usually comes wrapped around

those lawn refuse bags - it is the right material for hinges. File a groove on each side of the short strips - with a technique called coining which is widely used in the plastics industry. Radius the end of a piece of 1/32 inch (8mm) metal, heat it, then press the edge of it into the plastic on each side, without melting it. (do test pieces first). Coining does not cut the grain of the plastic like filing will, it merely compresses it and gives added strength.

The bottoms of 2-liter soft drink bottles have proven to be ready sources of radial cowlings, but removing them has been a chore. The adhesive holding the bottom to the transparent part seems to be of the hot-melt variety, so the application of gentle heat has worked well in softening the glue, allowing the bottoms to be removed fairly easily.

Short pieces of nyrod are all that's needed to make a sliding canopy, under which you can hide your On/Off switch, for instance. Slit them both as shown, then use cyanoacrylate to glue the transparency into the inner components of the nyrod. The outer section is glued to the edge of the cockpit. (see below).



2018 Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 11	FVAC Member Mtg	7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 8	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 17	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-1:00 Kane County Fair Grounds
March 8	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 12	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
April 14	Field Work Day	9:00 am FVAC Field
April 21	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 am – 1:00 pm - FVAC Field
May 10	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
May 19	Fun-Fly –#1	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
May 28	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
June 2	Rocket Fest & Family Fly	FVAC Field
June 3	Pig Roast & Fun-Fly	FVAC Field
June 8	2018 Media Day	9:00 am – 3:00 pm - FVAC Field
June 14	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
June 21-23	2018 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 24	Open Fly – All Scale	FVAC Field
July 12	FVAC Member Mtg.	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
July 21	Fun-Fly – #2	1:00-3:00 FVAC Field
August 9	Retro Fly	2:00 pm at FVAC Field
August 9	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at FVAC Field
August 11	Cub Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open	9:00 am – 8:00 pm - FVAC Field
August 11	Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned - Open	8:00 pm – Midnight - FVAC Field
September 8	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
September 13	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
September 15	Night Fly & Chili Dinner	7:00 pm FVAC Field
October 6	Fun-Fly #3	1:00 - 3:00 FVAC Field
October 11	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 14	Turkey Fry	FVAC Field
November 8	FVAC Member Mtg	6:30 Board, 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 7	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn - St. Charles
December 13	Rookies Christmas Party	7:00 Rookies Sports Bar & Grill-St. Charles

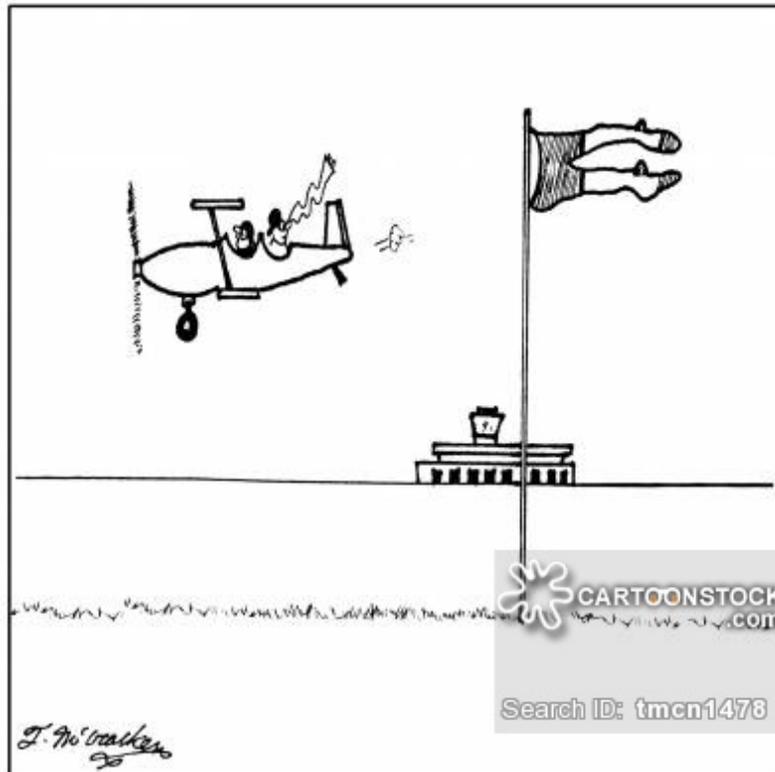












"The airport manager donated her pantyhose when the last wind sock blew away."



"I'm sorry. I probably should have talked to you before I took down our wedding photo and put up a picture of my jet."



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Interested in joining our club?? Go to foxvalleyaero.com and download the FVAC New Membership Form.