

FLY PAPER



March 2021

The Flypaper is a monthly publication of

The Fox Valley Aero Club

An Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

P.O. Box 837
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837

www.foxvalleyaero.com

AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

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Sunset at FVAC. Visible in this image captured by Past President, Tom Spriet, are ski and float tracks from recent activity at the field.

President's Message

Dale Gathman

president@foxvalleyaero.com

What a winter— As you have seen, this past month has provided us with an amazing amount of snow (and shoveling). This is great for our winter flyers who like to fly off of snow. Tom Spriet contacted one of our past members, Dave Todd, who works for the City of St. Charles, and he was able to have the city plow our driveway up to the parking area to make it easier for our winter flyers. If you have never tried snow flying, you might want to give it a go. You

can use floats on most planes, and skis work well with taildraggers. Many of our experienced members would be happy to give you advice on how to outfit your plane for snow flying.



FVAC Calendar – The board has already decided to modify one item on our calendar. After discussion at the February Board meeting, we decided to eliminate the FVAC Field Swap that was scheduled for May 15, and instead have that swap on September 18. That will change the September 18 swap from a club only swap to a sanctioned swap where outside sellers will be invited. This decision was made due to the current and expected Covid-19 situation, and we felt there was a much better chance that we would be able to have a full-blown swap at the field in September rather than May. We are still discussing plans for this event, and I would love to have another volunteer or two to help run this swap. If you would be able to help out, please let me know.

Build Season – I have seen many awesome projects being built via text message photos from some of our members. We were talking at the last member meeting about how many planes we will have ready for maiden at the beginning of this flying season. It will be a very exciting year for us. I am so looking forward to getting out to the field again with our members and their superb aircraft.

FVAC East 2021/02/20 07:06:32



Sunrise at FVAC Field.
Image captured by Past
President, Tom Spriet.



Member Meetings via Zoom – After conducting our Member Meetings online via Zoom for almost a year, it seems that everyone is getting more comfortable with this format. Our last meeting went very well, and some of you

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were able to fill us in on your winter projects through Show-n-Tell on our computers. Unfortunately, we will have to continue the Zoom format for the foreseeable future. The St. Charles Township has opened their meeting room again, but only for limited groups (25 max). This is not enough to hold our meetings yet, so until they open back to full capacity, we will have to keep meeting via Zoom. We will keep looking into our options and will keep you up to date as things change. We as a Board are keeping our member's health and ability to fly when they wish always on our minds and in our discussions as we make decisions about how all of our yearly events are planned.

I look forward to a great 2021 flying season. I hope that you can make it to our Member Meeting via Zoom on Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 pm. Also, if you have been working on any winter projects, please have them ready to show to us during our Zoom meeting during show-n-tell.

Dale



Blade Fusion 360 Smart BNF Basic with SAFE BLH6150

From the Editor

Doug Swanson

newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

Hey, Folks. Here it is: March. Spring is in the air, build season is coming to a close, and the flying season is ahead of us. Also, **Daylight Saving Time is about 2 weeks away: 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 14!** Personally, I need several more months of build season to be ready.

Thank you to the contributors this month: Rob Sampson has shared some photos of a project that he's been working on this winter: a 1/4-scale Breezy. See the details and photos on page 5.

Tom Spriet has shared a simple, yet effective, method of constructing an airplane stand—see it on the next page. He has also shared several images, spread throughout this issue.

Vice President, Dave Murray shared a rare-condition image from the field web camera of his turbine-powered F-16. See it on page 9.

Shot of the Month – It can be seen at the end of this issue—just like normal—except I'm including the notation here to keep the image 'clean'. Who knows, maybe one of you would like to print it out..? I took Tom Spriet's cover image and played around with the new neural filters in Photoshop 2021. The result is a very pretty, stylized look of the snowy landscape. This thumbnail gives a preview of the full-page image on page 10.

I'll see you at the March 11 member Zoom meeting, and hopefully out at the field in the not-to-distant future.

Take care,

Doug





Focke-Wulf Fw 190A
1.5m Smart BNF Basic
with AS3X and SAFE
Select EFL01350

Simple Airplane Stand

By Tom Spriet

Here is a very flexible stand I put together. It consists of 1-1/2" PVC pipe, 1/4" plywood, 2x4s, and 1-1/2" rigid foam. All materials were pulled from scrap and assembled in a short time. The foam has been cut on the ends for different shape models. Uses and model conformities are endless.

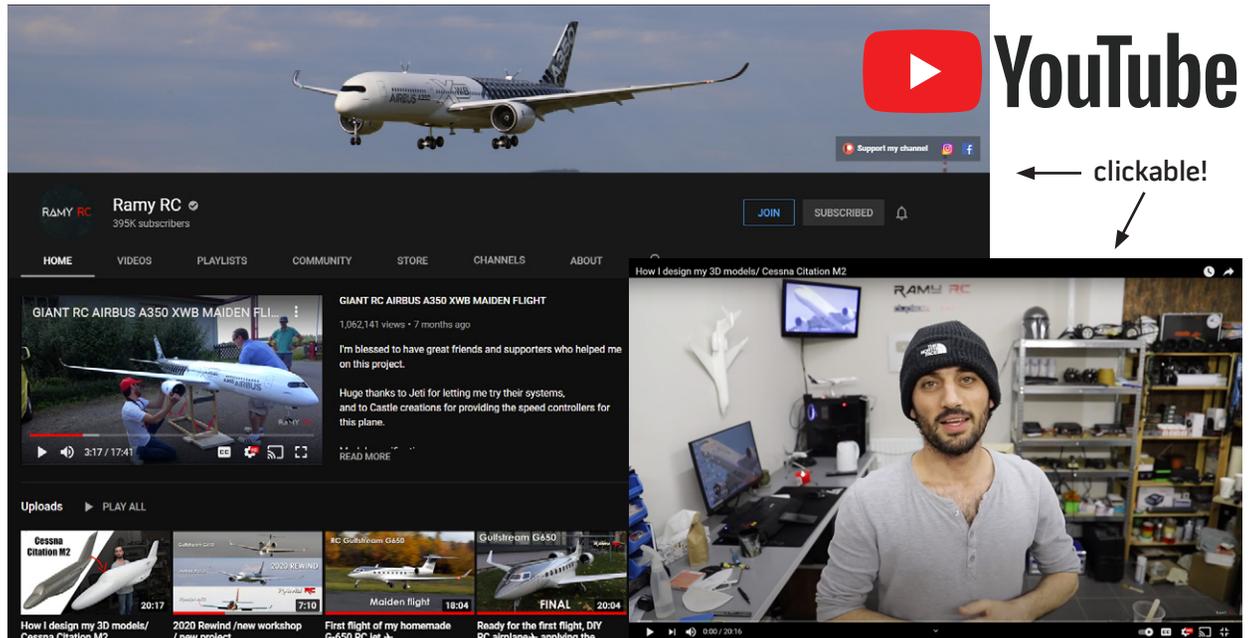


On the Web

I've been known to get sucked into YouTube (like many of you, I'm sure) for some hours-long viewing sessions. You go on there looking for one thing, and three hours later, you're watching a stoat kit jumping on a trampoline. Oh, you want to see that?

OK, click this: [Stoat Kit Goes Wild Bouncing On Children's Trampoline](#)

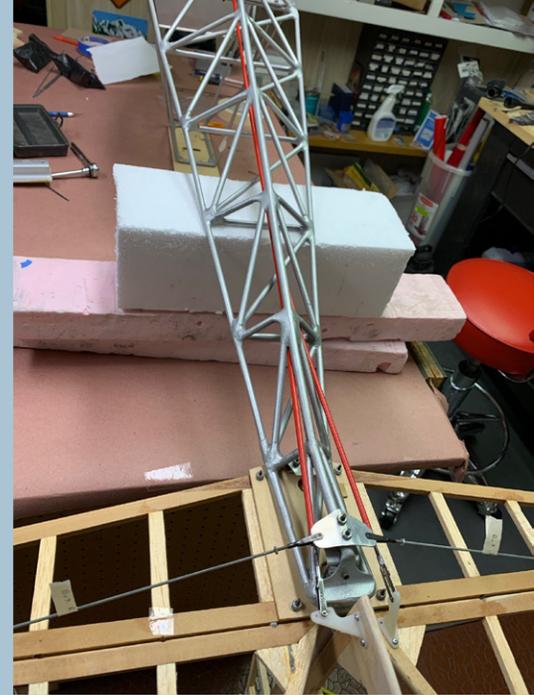
On the R/C side of things, one YouTuber that I like to follow is Ramy RC. He does some amazing scratch builds on tube-liners and biz. jets. Check his YouTube home page here: [Ramy RC](#)



Breezy



Build details by
Rob Sampson



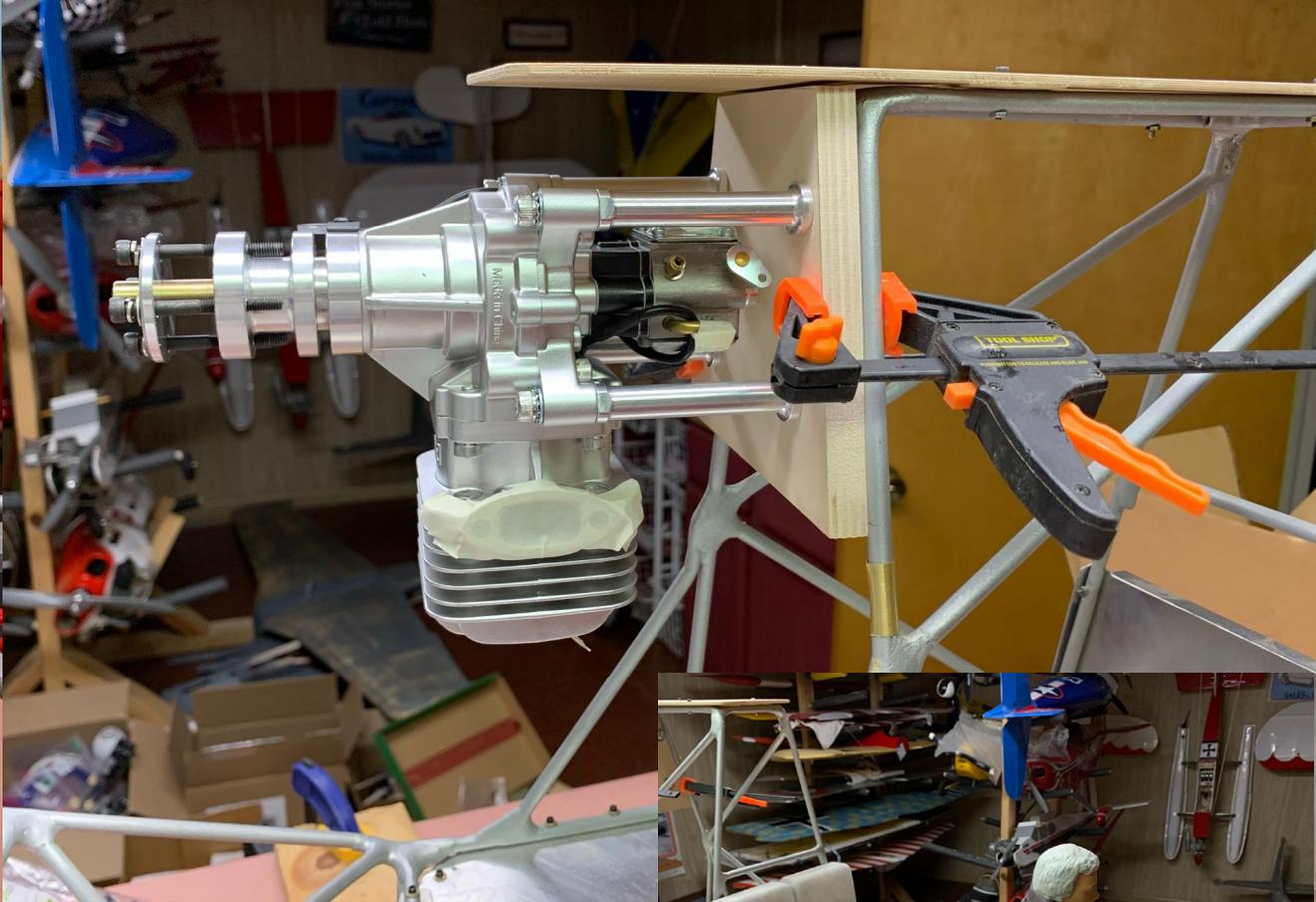
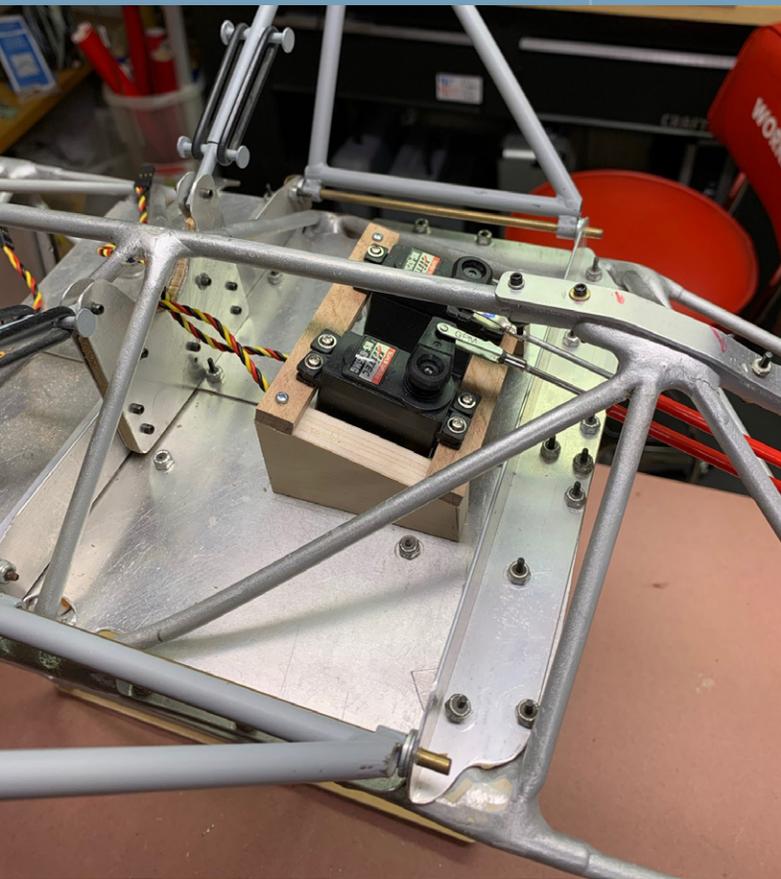
This 1/4-scale Breezy was built, but not finished, by club member Bill Brown. Bill passed it to Cliff Fullhart, who then entrusted it to me to finish. Bill used plans for the full scale aircraft for the build. The fuselage appears to be welded aluminum tubing—what an ambitious project. Bill did a great job! The wing appears to be from a 1/4-scale Cub. I've repaired hangar rash on the wing, probably from storage. I've made several metal brackets for mounts. I fashioned a compartment under the bench seat to house the battery, which also raised

the seat up to match the plans.

Preliminary balancing showed the plane to be quite tail heavy. When I designed the pilot seat, I made it hollow to hold the weight needed to achieve balance. I made a mount for the elevator and rudder servos that is located under the fuselage center section to hide the servos and keep from adding additional weight in the tail. I mounted the nose wheel steering servo up front, hiding it as much as possible.

I'm now finalizing the engine mount. I'm waiting on a fuel tank that will be mounted in the wing pylon. Once that is figured out, I can work on the throttle servo setup and start covering the wing and tail. Engine is a DLE 30. It will have an 18x8 pusher prop. I haven't been able to find an 18x8 pusher, so I'll be cutting down a 19x8. I'm limited by prop tip clearance on the fuselage.

It will be a very unique airplane, and am looking forward to flying it.



Tom Spriet captured Cliff Fullhart, assisted by Gary Tice and Smoky, getting in some Cub float flying on a crisp winter day.



Watcha got?

The *FlyPaper* is always looking for content! Send your builds, tips, and tricks for inclusion in this newsletter to: newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

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.



Bar scene from the upcoming *Top Gun: Maverick* movie. When I was a kid, this is what I wanted my bedroom ceiling to look like. Paramount Pictures website says, 'In theaters July 2nd'. Click image to see the official trailer on YouTube.



Treasurer's Report

Joe Pedone

treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

Like many of you, the continuous snow in February has kept me spending more time in the workshop, and less time thinking about flying. However, I did get the itch to get out for some snow-flying after seeing how awesome all the snow looked covering the field. So I got a little stick time on my old GP Dazzler with Dubro skis. [Picture below]. Forgot how fun that is! But now that the weather is starting to

warm up, I'm sitting here watching the webcam every day to look for the asphalt of the runway again, and get started into some "spring training" flying without skies. I hope it won't be long!

From the Club treasury standpoint, we are in good standing. Our expenses are low at this time due to the season just getting underway, and the majority of members have already submitted their 2021 dues at this point, which is appreciated. A great number of members took advantage of using the new PayPal link for payment this year, and the feedback has been very positive so far on how easy this is. Of course we will always continue to accept checks for those that prefer this payment method.

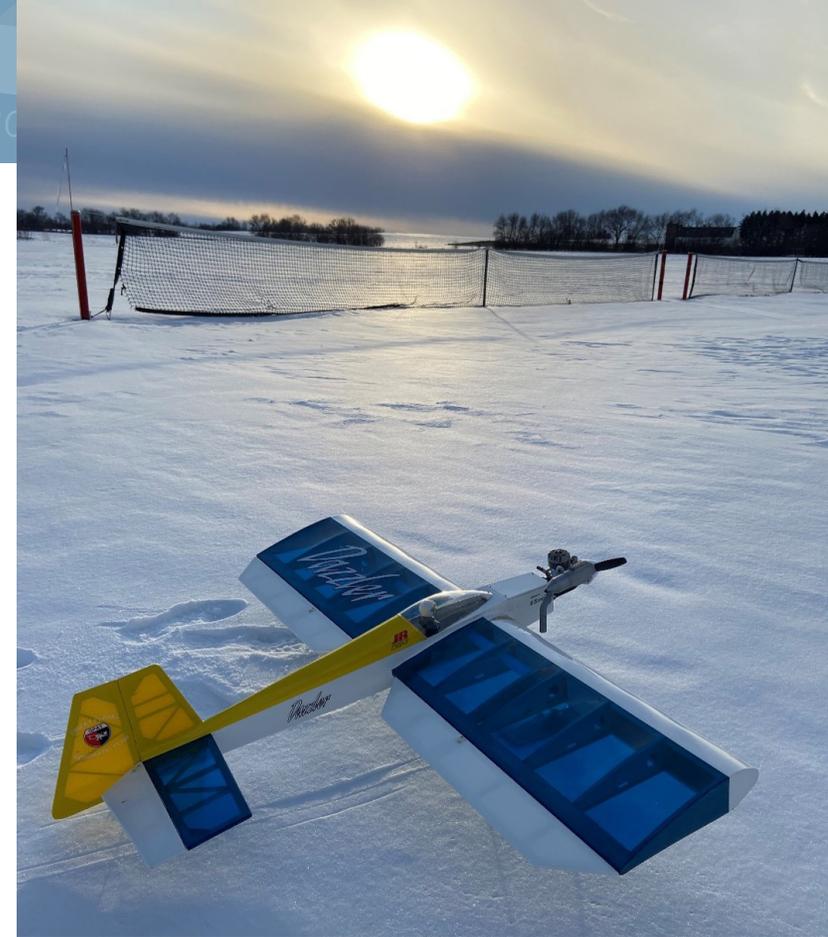
So as a reminder for those who have yet to submit their FVAC Club membership dues, the 2021 dues are due by March 1st, 2021. In order to avoid a late fee of \$25.00 for Regular Adult Members and \$5.00 for Junior Members, dues must be paid online by March 1st, or if mailing, postmarked by March 1st.

If you haven't submitted your dues as of yet, you can simply copy the link below and paste or type the following this address into your browser:

<https://www.paypal.me/fvacdues>



You can use this link if you have an established PayPal account, or wish to create a new PayPal account at that time. You will be prompted to



enter the dues dollar amount to get started, since it may vary depending on your membership status.

As a reminder, the price for 2021 dues remains the same as last year:

\$125 for Regular adult members

\$25 each for additional family members living in the same household and under 19 years old, or a spouse.

\$25 for Junior Members (under age 19)

If you wish to mail your dues payment, please send by check to the club PO Box, which is:
Fox Valley Aero Club, P.O. Box 837, St. Charles, IL 60174-0837.

Sincerely,

Joe



Secretary's Report

Debbie Howe

secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club
Member Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2021 via Zoom

President, Dale Gathman welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming and made the reminder for everyone to say their name when they speak so that Debbie can do the minutes off the recording and know who is speaking.

Secretary, Debbie Howe asked for an approval for the Member Meeting Minutes from January, a motion to approve the minutes was made by **Bill Suhr** and seconded by **Jim Hari**, all approved.

Treasurer, Joe Pedone said the checking account is in really good shape with member dues coming in steadily. We made a payment for the WCWC website and domain name and the PayPal system has really made things easier with about 50% of dues being paid with the PayPal. A motion to approve the Treasurers report was made by **Dave Cotton** and seconded by **Bill Suhr** all approved.

Safety Chairman, Jeff Peca reminded everyone to be safe in their shop and remember to use good ventilation while using solvents and glues. A reminder to wear footwear that covers the foot was made by **Debbie Howe**, after seeing many X-Acto knives roll off the table and land in people's feet, most members agreed that they have encountered the same thing. The suggestion was made to put a rubber band or a square pencil guard on the X-Acto knife handles to help stop them from rolling.

Government Relations Chairman, Tom Spriet said he had nothing to report. He was going to see if the Village would plow the road to the field a little closer to the parking lot.

Membership Chairman, Dave Cotton reminded everyone that dues are due March 1st and that at this time 64% of the membership is paid. **Dale Gathman** and **Dave Cotton** would be getting together to draft a reminder to members that the due date is coming soon. **Jim Hari** suggested we do a certificate or some sort of special mention for our 200th member.

Field Chairman, Mark Knoppkie said "it snowed" and he will look into finding out what Sanchez Brothers would charge to plow the road and parking lot.

FlyPaper Chairman, Doug Swanson said that the combined January/February issue was due to him getting a little behind and doing a switch to a new program for doing the paper. He asked members to continue to send in pics. and build articles, how-to hints, and tips. He thanked **Armin Weber** for his last submission. Looks great, nice work, Doug!!!

John Fischer showed his new wing bags from Revoc.eu. He was very impressed with the quality and the fit of the wing bags. He did say there was a 6-8 week wait for them but he was impressed that he was able to go to their web site and say what plane by what company and they knew all the specs and could list if they have the bag available. John said he would be ordering these for all his planes one at a time.

Dave Brustle showed his current build on his Top Flite P-51 Mustang. It was originally an ARF, that has been stripped. He has the first coat of primer on, and is in the process of putting all the recessed rivets and panel lines on. He does the recessed rivet look by putting a small piece of copper tubing on a trim sealing tool and burning each circle to simulate the rivet in place. Dave made a template to make the process go faster as well. Looking great, Dave!!

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Tom Spriet showed his Extra 260 ARF that has a DA 50 and is 29%. Nice Looking Plane Tom!!

Mark Knoppkie showed his balance system for his 126" Wendell Hostetler Reliant. Mark had to put the starting battery for the on-board ignition in the tail to get it to balance. That equaled out to be the 1 lb. of tail weight that he needed. He plans to do the plane in the Jimmy Doolittle color scheme. Very impressive, Mark!!!

Public Relations Chairman, Tom Flint said that we don't have much to report. We will be doing the Festival of Flight as planes-only this year, without cars, as the cars did not do much to help our club financially. This would also help us limit excess people with COVID still being a concern.

Fun-Fly Chairman, Jeff Peca said that we would be making the Fun-Flys easier events so that even novice pilots could participate on a buddy box. We will also be doing food and have raffle prizes. The prizes will be awarded by drawing for all who participated, not just the winners. Jeff is hoping this will bring more people out and create more interest in the Fun-Flys.

Windy City Warbirds Chairman, John Fischer said that his committee met earlier this week and decided to move forward with the event. We will be limiting the pilot count to 65 for the three-day event. We will be sending out an email sign up for club pilots first, and asking that they sign up and pay the \$45 in order to register in the first two weeks. Then, John will be sending out invitations to other pilots who have attended in past years. We will not have any pilots' dinner or any new hat or shirt designs for this year. We will be selling hats and shirts that we have in inventory from past years. We will be putting up signs saying no spectators allowed. Club member spectators will be welcome.

President, Dale Gathman let everyone know that due to COVID there will be no Swap Shop on May 15th, and that we are moving it to September 18th.

A Motion to adjourn was made by **Doug Swanson** and seconded by **Jeff Peca**, all approved.



40 degree temps., hot, humid jet exhaust, and 150 mph = contrail!
Vice President Dave Murray pilots his turbine-powered F-16 before the cold and snow overtook us. Note the shadows of the F-16 and contrail on the runway as well.



January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:00 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
February 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
February 20	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	CANCELED
March 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
April 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
April 17	Field Workday	9:00 – FVAC Field
May 1	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field
May 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
May 23	Fun-Fly – #1 –	1:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field
May 31	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	Time TBD
June 5	FVAC Cookout (formerly pig roast)	12:00 – FVAC Field
June 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member Zoom
June 17-19	2021 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	FVAC Field
June 20	Open Fly – All Scale (TBD)	FVAC Field (TBD)
July 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member - TBD
July 11	Fun-Fly – #2 –	1:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field
August 7	Cub Fly – AMA Sanctioned – TBD	9:00 – 1:00 Cubs Only - FVAC Field
August 7	Electric Only – AMA Sanctioned – TBD	1:00 – 6:00 Electric Only – FVAC Field
August 7	Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned – TBD	6:00 - Midnight - FVAC Field
August 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member - (TBD)
August 14	Family Fly Day	9:00 – 1:00 - FVAC Field
August 28	Retro Fly	9:00 – 3:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member – (TBD)
Sept 11	Festival of Flight	FVAC Field
Sept 12	Fun-Fly – #3 –	1:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field
Sept 18	FVAC Tailgate Swap Meet – Sanctioned	9:00 – 1:00 – FVAC Field
Sept 19	Plane Search Corn Walk	9:00 – 11:00 – FVAC Field
October 9	Turkey Fry	12:00 – FVAC Field
October 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member – (TBD)
November 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member – (TBD)
December 4	Annual Christmas Party	6:00 Hilton Garden Inn – St. Charles
December 9	Rookies Christmas Party	7:00 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 (19 years and over) \$125.00 per Member
- Dues for Junior Members (18 years and under) \$ 25.00 per Member
- Family Membership \$125.00 1st Member
(*\$25 for each additional family member with an AMA card, either a spouse or a child under 19 years old.*)

PLEASE PRINT

Your Full Name:

AMA Number:

Birthdate:

Dues Amount:

Include me on the club email list.

_____	_____	_____	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your Complete Mailing Address:

Please list the R/C channel(s) you use:

Your Phone Number/s:

Home:

Work:

Cell:

What is Your Occupation: (Please provide details)

Your E-mail Address:

Total Payment Enclosed:
\$ _____



**Make checks payable to:
"Fox Valley Aero Club"**

Complete and mail this form to:

**FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB
P.O. BOX 837
ST. CHARLES, IL 60174-0837**



Signature _____

Date _____