

AIRPORT DIAGRAM

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FOX VALLEY AERO (FVA)
ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS

88°22.5'W

November 2020

FLYPAPER



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VOCAL DECLARATION OF TAKEOFF &
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The Fox Valley Aero Club

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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

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Don Froula photo

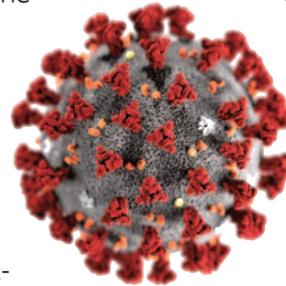
Festival of Hats

President's Message

Dale Gathman

president@foxvalleyaero.com

A Very Different Year at FVAC – 2020 has definitely been a different year for everyone. Due to the COVID-19 virus, pretty much all of our normal events had to be cancelled. We did, however, never close the field to members who wanted to fly, and during a few of the great-



weather weekends, it almost looked like we were having an event. I am so glad that we have such a fantastic group of members, most pilots, some not, that we get to hang out with at the club. Our hobby and fellow members have kept many of us sane during these trying times. I believe that 2021 will be a much better year, maybe not at the beginning, but before long.

A Couple of Great Quotes - I read a quote from Henry Ford in a magazine today. He said, "When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it". I thought this was a great quote for the hard times we are going through and for our club. We see many examples of people in history who have made the best of hard situations, and many times fantastic inventions have come out of the need to overcome problems.

The second quote was from

Airshow Pilot Extraordinaire Patty Wagstaff (not sure if she was the originator of this quote). She said, "You get the most freedom from the most discipline". This simple statement blew me away, and there can be many take-aways from it. One for me is that when we practice discipline, we do not create the need to be disciplined (we get freedom). It is when we do not practice discipline that others have to step in and make rules and enforce behaviors on us that maybe we should have been doing all along (practicing discipline). These rules and enforcement make us 'feel' that we have no freedom. When we practice discipline, we do not have to go through the feeling of not having freedom. My thoughts about this quote led me to thinking about how this ties in to flying within our field boundaries as well as how following our field rules makes life at the field much more pleasant for everyone.



Dale Gathman photo



Dale Gathman photo

FVAC Zoom Christmas Party and Raffle – I am happy to announce that the board has decided to hold a Christmas Party and Raffle via Zoom this year. The party is scheduled for Thursday, December 10



Dale Gathman photo

at 7:00 pm. This is the date we would have had our Member meeting if we had meetings in December. We will not be having dinner, but we can all join the Zoom party and provide our own refreshments. Christmas attire is highly recommended – wear your favorite Christmas sweater. This year, we will be having a small Christmas Raffle. We will be raffling approximately \$750 worth of prizes at the Zoom party. We encourage everyone to attend, but we are going to put every member's name in the raffle bucket even if they are not in the Zoom party. More details will be sent out in a few weeks.

☆☆☆ ELECTION 2020 ☆☆☆

FVAC Board Election 2021 – Last call for Nominations. Serving on the Board of Directors is a great way to help your club out and to get to know the inner workings of the club. We will need to fill two At-Large Director positions at this time, and we always welcome anyone who would like to run for At-Large Director or for any of the Officer positions. Just have someone nominate you. Our election process starts with open nominations at our October Member Meeting, and then again at our November Member Meeting. Give some thought to the possibility of joining the board for 2021. Please contact me if you have any questions about board duties. Club Secretary Debbie Howe (with John's assistance) will be running the election voting through Survey Monkey a few days after the meeting. Details will be sent out following the meeting.

Upcoming Member meeting – I hope to see you at our Zoom November Member Meeting on November 12 at 7:30 pm. If you have not joined one of our Zoom meetings, please give it a try. If you have questions about how it works, please contact me. A link to the meeting will be emailed on Tuesday.

I pray that you and your families stay safe and healthy as winter approaches, and that you are able to have some semblance of a normal Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year during the coming holiday season.

Dale

Spektrum NX10
10-Channel
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Festival of Hats: Top Gun Hat Ceremony

by Tom Flint "FUNSTONE" – Public Relations Director

photos by Kevin Kessler

When the Windy City Warbirds & Classics event was cancelled due to COVID-19, the Warbirds team put on their thinking caps and tried to think of a way to carry the spirit of the event forward. We then realized the answer was already on our heads. We decided to use our custom-designed hats that represent the "Planes of the Pacific" as a morale boosting club team building exercise. We decided to add names and call signs to the side of the hats to make the hats unique to the FVAC.

This turned out to be more difficult than expected. Along with many businesses, our hat provider was also shut down. Fortunately, he did open up after a few weeks of our first contact and was glad to get the business. Next, he had to find a hat provider that was open to provide the actual hats. During this time, we needed to find a way to get prepayment and hat names in an organized manner for the vendor. Joe Pedone built

a custom web site to take and process orders while the hat samples were being produced. The website was a huge success and the orders exceeded our goal of 50 hats. Thanks, Joe, for your extra effort.

I sent out a list of call sign examples that made me laugh for days. Our Warbird Chairman John Fischer "Scale Killer" and our President Dale Gathman "D - Tail Hunter" reviewed and approved the details of the master plan and as our field opened up again, we all had great fun thinking of names for each other's hats. Most we can't repeat. Some ordered one hat; others ordered hats with different names. We all guessed Dave Cotton's call sign name and were close for Cliff Fullhart.



Cliff Fullhart
"J3 Cliff"



Tom Flint handed out the hats, which were displayed alphabetically.

We had to talk Alvin Cole out of using "Zero", and I think Armin Weber's call sign, "Teflon", is my favorite. Yaba daba do.

Finally, the hats came in. We decided to hand them out on September 5th, our cancelled "Festival of Flight" date, and have an event just for our Club. For those who bought hats, we treated them like they had just completed the FVAC Top Gun Flight School. Below is the shortened notice for the "Festival of Hats, Top Gun Hat Ceremony and Fly-In" held Saturday, September 5th.

"Our summer of flying was the most unusual, the hottest, and the most stressful FVAC Flight School season on record. This class of graduates has suffered COVID-19 and record heat. We have had our "Pavilion" closed down and our flight pattern reduced. Our "Chief Flight Instructor", Dan Compton, and his assistants "Teflon" and "Scale Killer," led through example, and still, we lost some planes. We flew in a guest instructor, "LiveWire" RJ Monroe, who thrilled us with his tales of daring. "D - Tail Hunter" kept all the events of the summer documented in great "detail" to ensure we met our government regulations and made sure we lost no pilots."

Thanks goes out to all of the members who bought a hat. To those who would like to buy a hat in the future and join our FVAC Top Gun Flight School, the hats will be available without a call sign at the "2021 Windy City Warbirds & Classics" event, "Planes of the Pacific", June 17-19.

Remember to wear your hat to other Warbird events and that you represent the best our FVAC Top Gun Flight School has to offer. To quote Mulan, You are "Loyal, Brave, and True." ✈



Dorie Jacobs "Dorie J" picking up her hat.

"Flintstone" giving a pep talk to the new "FVAC Top Gun" flight school graduates. "You are number ONE. These hats bring you luck, and you will not crash when wearing this hat."





Secretary's Report

Debbie Howe

secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2020 @ Online Zoom Meeting

President, Dale Gathman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for logging on and reminded everyone to state their name before speaking so that the minutes are easier for Debbie.

Secretary, Debbie Howe asked for a motion to approve the Member Meeting Minutes from September. A motion was made by **Bill Suhr** and seconded by **Rob Sampson**, all approved.

Treasurer, Joe Pedone thanked everyone for signing on and said the checking account was doing well. We still have our regular expenses for the year, consisting of a couple more mowings, the porta potty, and dumpster, and without the Christmas party, the checking account is doing well. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report, by **Dave Cotton** and seconded by **Doug Swanson**. All Approved

Safety Chairman, Jeff Peca reminded everyone to STAY BEHIND THE FENCES, use the pilot stations, and remember social distance rules of 6' and **Keep Being Safe**.

President, Dale Gathman said that after the last meeting, a notice about the proposed late fee was sent out. After many members sent back responses, there has been a change in the statement to be voted on. Due to Christmas and the first-of-the-year expenses for many members, we will be voting on the new rule at the next meeting. It states that the dues would now be due March 1st and the late fee of \$25 for adult members and \$5 for Jr members would be due for any dues paid on or after April 1st. We will be setting up

online payments so that members can pay via PayPal or credit cards. We are asking that dues are paid after January 1st so that all the dues come in during the year they are for.

Membership Chairman, Dave Cotton said we have 3 new members; We have **Marc Roth**, a friend and flight trainer of **Cliff Fullhart**, Welcome Marc! Next, we have 2 Jr. members. First is **Andrew Curtis**, who is the grandson of **John Sargent**, age 14, Welcome Andrew! And next, we have **Alex Marczuk**, age 16. Dave Cotton said he will meet up with all the new members and show them the field rules and help them along the way, Welcome guys!!!

Field Chairman, Mark Knoppkie said that we had 8 yards of dirt and grass seed put down to level out some of the ruts we had that were damaging planes, so we are asking everyone to stay out of the dirt as much as possible. By spring we should have a much smoother field and nice new grass in there. Mark assured everyone that he has not forgotten about the cracks in the runway, we need 8-10 people to remove the old crack fill and replace with new and they would have to work basically on top of each other, so with social distancing, that is a project that we hope to do in spring. Mark said a big thank you to **Tom Flint** for all the help with the **Grass Gofers** and all the help setting up the dirt patching. Tom Flint in turn thanked Mark Knoppkie for always having gas in the mowers. Both of the guys and the Club want to thank **Rich Gabrys** for taking the red push mower home and working on it. It will now will be able to be used in Spring for cutting the new grass once it reaches over an inch high. Thanks Rich!!!



Mark Knoppkie and Tom Flint mark out ruts and craters for the landscaping crews to fill.

Doug Swanson photo

We have taken down all but 2 flags and are in the process of ordering all new flags for spring. The field will look great.

Gregg Yedwab did a show and tell of the locator that he was telling us about at the last meeting. The company name is Loc8tor, it is a company out of the UK, www.loc8tor.co.uk, Gregg showed us the receiver is the size of a credit card and the unit that goes in your plane is the size of a quarter and just Velcros in. It can be moved from one plane to another easily. You get 2 units for about \$100. These units can help when a plane is lost in the woods or corn fields to make finding the crash site easier. These units run off their own battery and parts, sender and receiver, each have CR2032 batteries that can be easily changed 1 time a year. Great show and tell!!!

Flypaper Editor, Doug Swanson was up next and there was a nice round of applause for Doug for doing a great job with the *Flypaper*. Doug thanked everyone and asked everyone with the building season coming to please send him pics of anything interesting that happens at the field but also what everyone is working on, any hints and tips that we all use. **Debbie Howe** also suggested with the winter coming send in pics of the way everyone stores their planes for winter. Doug also said he planted where's Waldo in the news letter, not once but TWICE, did you find him both places? **John Fischer** thanked Doug for the great spotlight on his Zero.



Steve Gawlik photo

Aircraft storage article to come in the December issue! -Doug

President, Dale Gathman said we had no government relations issues but he would be sending in the reservations to use the Forrest Preserve for our two events.

Public Relations Chairman, Tom Flint reminded everyone to wear their new hats and **SMILE**; in these trying times a smile can go a long way. And, he let everyone know that at that moment the Bears were losing 10-0.

Dale Gathman let everyone know that the **Tailgate Swap** was a success and we had about 16 sellers and everyone social distanced well and had a good time.



Kevin Kessler photo

The **Plane Search Corn Walk** went well. A great group showed up and they walked the entire field to the Geneva line and found 3 planes. They are hoping that once the corn is down, that the one more plane they are looking for might be able to be seen easier. It could possibly even be in the tree line, and once the leaves are down, we might be able to still find it.

Dale Gathman also said that the Board has talked and decided to present this year's and next year's plaques for Top Gun, President's Choice, and Members Choice at the 2021 Christmas party so that the recipient can get the recognition they deserve in front of the club rather than on ZOOM.

TOP GUN

The Board also decided that on Thursday, DECEMBER 10th we will be doing an online **Zoom Christmas/Holiday Party**. Christmas sweaters, antlers, or blinking lights are suggested. We will be doing a small raffle. Each club member will get once chance and Debbie/John Howe will pull and announce the winners at the beginning of that get-together on DECEMBER 10th. We will not sell any tickets; each member will get one ticket so everyone has a chance to win. There will be 5 prizes and as we call out the winners, each winner can say what they want of the prizes shown. If you are not present we will call you after the raffle and let you know what you have won.

President, Dale Gathman said we will be doing a **Donation Drop Off Day for Salvation Army** on DECEMBER 5th. Members are asked to drop off donations of Cash and Gift Cards, especially to be donated by our Club to the Salvation Army Angel Tree. We then take any cash that is donated and we buy gift cards to local businesses that the older kids in the charity will like. Finding gifts for the older kids has always been a struggle for the Salvation Army and our help has always been a blessing. If you know you are not available to drop off gifts to the field on DECEMBER 5th, you can feel free to mail your gift to the PO Box and **Joe Pedone** will get it and put it with the donation. **Jim Hari** also reminded everyone that you can also use the points many credit cards give to get the gift cards to donate.



DOING THE
MOST GOOD™

Angel tree

Nominations have opened up for the 2021 board and as of right now President Dale Gathman, Secretary Debbie Howe and Treasurer Joe Pedone have all agreed to run again for 2021. We just need to speak to Vice President, Dave Murray to confirm he will run again. People who have been nominated tonight and have agreed to run as of now are Scott Schilling, Jeff Mrachek, and Rob Sampson for At-Large Director, as well as the Current Officers and At Large with the exception of Sal Perno who declined nomination. Nominations will open up again in November as well.

Rob Sampson thanked **John Fischer** and **Armin Weber** for the Peel and Ply method help and showed off the Top Flite Giant Scale P-51 Kit he is building. Nice job Rob!! Guys also showed the rotary cutter that they have found at Joann Fabrics or any other fabric/craft store. Great for cutting fiberglass and covering. **Alvin Cole** also showed us the new runway lights he put on his carpet runway in his basement, looks great, nice touch Alvin.

A motion to adjourn was made by **Jeff Peca** and seconded by **John Sargent**

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.

Treasurer's Report

Joe Pedone treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com



I hope everyone is staying safe and well.

With regards to the Club treasury, we are winding down the last of our expenses for the 2020 calendar year, which looks much different than past years without our usual holiday party and related activities. For our normal recurring expenses, our last mowing payment is being made now, and we'll have continuing expenses through the winter months for electric,

porta-potty, and dumpster fees. Beyond this, we've also purchased a mobile dual-sink hand wash station with the approval of the club Board. This is something we leased from our porta-potty supplier in 2020, and the payback to purchase our own wash station was very favorable. So, this will be a nice addition to our field when we begin flying again in the spring. We also funded some great prizes to be raffled-off during our "Zoom Holiday Party" on December 10th.

As was mentioned last month, dues for the 2021 flying year will remain at \$125 for full members (\$25 for youth or additional family member). However, one important change we are proposing now is to move the due date for annual dues payment to March 1st. This has a couple favorable benefits. First it moves it later away from months when many of us are consumed with holiday bills. Secondly, it helps our club accounting by putting the dues income into the calendar year that it applies to (vs. Nov and Dec. of the prior year). The other good news is we are working on a process to pay 2021 dues by credit card, which many of you requested. Watch for more information on this soon.

Joe Pedone



From the Editor

Doug Swanson

newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

Hello, all,

It's hard to believe we're into November already. For a year with not a lot going on, it sure has flown by.

I've been very busy at home and work lately, so I haven't been out to the field much at all. I also haven't been able to put as much into this issue of the newsletter as I would like. My apologies.

In this issue, I feature Tom Flint's write-up on *Festival of Hats: Top Gun Hat Ceremony*. Thank you, Tom, for your contribution and Kevin Kessler for the photos. The calendar has been updated with new December events.

Coming in the next issue: As noted in the minutes, Debbie Howe made a suggestion at the last meeting that members send in their methods of aircraft storage over the winter months. I expanded this request in an email blast to also include transportation. I have received a great response, with a lot of photos and write-ups. Thank you, to all who have responded. I want to get all of this content organized and properly presented, and so, I need to push it to the December issue. If you still would like to contribute, I always welcome content. Send your storage and transportation ideas to me at: newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com. I also have coming a write-up and photographs of Bill Sponsler's Cub Scout rocket launch. Look for this also in the December issue.

The beautiful photo at right came from Jean LaRocco. John Turner also sent a photo of this visitor to the field. What a shot this is, with the fall colors contrasted against the dead tree limbs. Thank you both for sending in photos.

Until next time,

Doug Swanson



Jean LaRocco photo

Rob Sampson sent the following to remind us all to renew our FAA UAS registration before the expiration date (most likely in December 2020) Thanks, Rob..

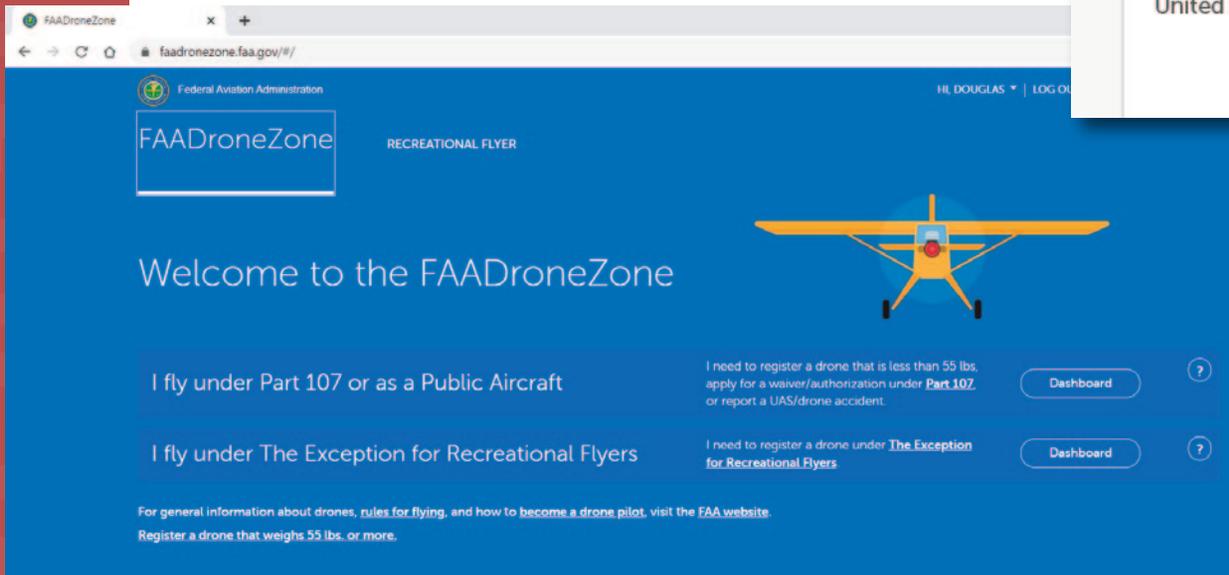
An article in the September issue of Model Aviation, page 8, reminded me to check my UAS registration. Mine expires in December. I think a lot of our members probably have the same date that was applied a few years ago as the FAA kept changing the rules.

The article mentions fake web sites that try to charge more than the \$5 for 3 years. My web browser tried to help me and took me to a web site that looked pretty official, but was going to charge \$5 per year, \$15.

I had to enter the official FAA web address mentioned in the article to get to the proper place: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov>. Make sure the dashboard looks exactly like the one pictured in the article.

Rob

Editor screen captures



HSDJETS 2000mm HSDJETS-182
Red Colors PNP
SKU: A63 01 02 00

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:00 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 15	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	9:00-1:00 Swap 1:00-4:00 Indoor Foamy Fly Kane County Fairgrounds
March 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 9	FVAC Member Meeting	CANCELLED
April 18	Field Workday	WILL BE RESCHEDULED
May 2	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	CANCELLED
May 14	FVAC Member Meeting	7:30 via <i>Zoom</i> application
May 16	Cub Scout Rocket Fest	CANCELLED
May 17	Fun-Fly — #1 —	CANCELLED
May 25	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	CANCELLED
May 29	2019 WCWC Media Day	CANCELLED
June 6	FVAC Cookout (formerly pig roast)	CANCELLED
June 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
June 18-20	2020 Windy City Warbirds & Classics	CANCELLED
June 21	Open Fly — All Scale	CANCELLED
July 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
July 12	Fun-Fly — #2 —	CANCELLED
August 1	Cub Fly — AMA Sanctioned — Club Only	9:00 — 1:00 Cubs Only - FVAC Field
August 1	Electric Only — AMA Sanctioned — Club Only	CANCELLED
August 1	Night Fly — AMA Sanctioned — Club Only	8:00 pm — Midnight - FVAC Field
August 8	Retro Fly	9:00 — 3:00 - FVAC Field
August 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
August 22	Family Fly Day	CANCELLED
September 5	Festival of Flight	CANCELLED
September 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
September 13	Fun-Fly — #3 —	CANCELLED
September 19	Tailgate Swap Meet	9:00-12:00 — FVAC Field
September 20	Plane Search Corn Walk	9:00-11:00 — FVAC Field
October 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
October 10	Turkey Fry	CANCELLED
October 22	Cub Pack 260 Rocket Launch	5:00-6:30 pm
November 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member; via <i>Zoom</i> application
December 5	Donation Day for Salvation Army	9:00-3:00 — FVAC Field
December 5	Annual Christmas Party	CANCELLED
December 10	Zoom Christmas Party/Raffle	7:00 pm via <i>Zoom</i> application
December 10	Rookies Christmas Party	CANCELLED

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:
 \$ _____

Complete and mail this form to:
FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB
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Make checks payable to:
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Signature _____ Date _____