



Fly paper

September 2012



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

An Illinois not-for-profit Corporation

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Academy of Model
Aeronautics Charter
Club #252

critter photo

FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT page 4



New in this issue:
Officer / Chairperson Reports
Aircraft Spotlight: Dave Murray's T-33 page 10
Shots From the Field page 12
Meet the Members: R. Thomas Flint page 18



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Tom Spriet-president@foxvalleyaero.com

Members and friends,

Last month I sent out a notice regarding flying over the trees to the west, as well as the houses and families that are located there. I had reached out to Mr. White last week to check on our recent performance but didn't have any luck in direct contact. Mr. White did return my call and did respond in a positive manner on my voicemail. He mentioned that there has been a noticeable difference and appreciates our efforts in not over flying his home. He also wished us well for the balance of the season. I want to thank you all for your efforts. It has paid off in a positive manner and is a very good start to changing our habits. Through this new awareness that we now have of our neighbor and complete cooperation of all our members and friends this potential storm has passed.

Speaking of storms... I read in the almanac that another storm is headed our way.. This storm will be destructive in nature and most likely single out the large tree just to the north of the pavilion. I was going to forward on to the membership the specific book and page number for reference but have lost that information. The threat is real, really!! Someone better tell the bugs that it's time to move and get out while the getting is good!!

With September here, the writing is on the wall. Fall colors will soon be upon us as well as north winds and the chill of fall. Before that happens, get out and enjoy some of the best weather that northern Illinois has to offer.

Remember, one more major field event is yet to come..... The highly anticipated annual FVAC turkey fry / fly. Plan on attending this event with family and friends. Now is the time

to plan on what fabulous culinary creation you can bring to share with the FVAC family.

Keep them out of the trees and see you at the field,

Tom Spriet
GHP

FROM THE EDITOR

Doug Swanson
newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

Our flagship event, the Festival of Flight, was held back in July. I have prepared a report on the event, and compiled a photo journal of many of the people and planes from that weekend. I have photos from five different photographers besides me—thank you all for sharing. Be sure to look for the photo credits by the images. The write-up can be found on page 4.



Gary Stephens and Paul Jacobs have provided some photos of Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest, held in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. What a huge event! The photos can be seen starting in Paul's report on page 14.

This month's Meet the Members features a relatively new member, R. Thomas Flint, a.k.a. "RTF". He is very enthusiastic

continued on next page



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about this hobby and a great guy to talk with. His responses to the *Flypaper's* probing questions can be found on page 18. Thanks for taking the time to share, Tom!

I'm starting a feature this month that I should have done a long time ago: *Shot of the month*. Dale Gathman and others have provided so many great images over the past year+ that I feel need to be shared. This month I've included one by Dale and a rare one from myself. I have a feeling it will be *Shot(s) of the Month* most of the time, so maybe I need to figure out a new name? You can find them at the back of this issue.

Have you visited the Club website photo galleries lately? If not, give them a look. Several events from this year (before the Festival of Flight) and last year have been added by our webmaster Paul Apostolos. I will be sending another disk to him soon with the Festival, IMAC, and Cub Scout Rocket Day images. I'll let you know when they're posted.

I'm writing this column during the Bears' season opener vs. the

Colts. It appears that the rest of the Club is also watching! I happened to click on the field camera feeds to see who is out there on such a nice day—no one! Thanks to Prez. Tom for working to get those cameras installed—I find them usefull and entertaining.

'Till next month, Doug



Who has a tip they can share?

Unless you want more meat tray-type tips from me—let's hear from YOU!



Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

September 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 21	Fun-Fly & Turkey Fry	10:00 AM FVAC Field
November 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 7	Annual Christmas Party	Hilton Garden Inn
January 1	First-to-Fly Fun Fly	10:00 AM FVAC Field
February 23	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	Kane County Fair Grounds

Past Events of 2012

January 1	First-to-Fly Fun Fly
February 25	FVAC Annual SWAP
April 21	Member Work Day
May 26 & 27	Classic Pattern Contest
June 2 & 3	FVAC Pattern Contest
June 9	Kids Day
June 10	Fun-Fly & Pig Roast
June 15 & 16	Al's Helicopter Fun-Fly
June 21 & 22	Festival of Flight
August 4 & 5	IMAC Challenge
August 18	Cub Scout Rocket Day

FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

report by Doug Swanson

THE 2012 EDITION of the Fox Valley Aero Club Festival of Flight is in the books. 90 pilots came together with aircraft of all different sizes, types and power systems.

Club Treasurer, Paul Jacobs served as Contest Director again and organized a smoothly-run, enjoyable event for both pilots and spectators. President Tom Spriet and Board member Eric Karl worked early in the year to promote public interest in the event by organizing our parade float appearances in St. Charles and Geneva. Field preparations started on Wednesday as Field Maintenance Chairman Greg Bohler and member volunteers got the field set up and ready for the crowds to arrive. Secretary Tony Sokol kept the crowd entertained and informed as he worked the microphone announcing pilots and their aircraft.

Doug Swanson photo



Jen Keller photo

Jim Watkins photo



Paul Makowski photo



John Fischer's smoke-belching Beast on flyby. JR radio, DA 120 power

Armin Weber pulls some G's with his Byron P-51. 85" w.s., G62 engine Dale Gathman photo



Dale Gathman photo



Bill Brundle, Sr. flew the Hangar 9 P-47D-40 Thunderbolt 30cc ARF

Cliff Fullhart's 80" Sopwith Pup powered by a G23, Futaba radio



Paul Makowski photo

Dale Gathman photo



Alvin Cole flies a scale pattern with his Hangar 9 Cessna Skylane. 98", O.S. 1.60 twin, Futaba 7C

Dave Groenendal's EG Aircraft MX-2



Paul Makowski photo

Dale Gathman photo



Dale Gathman photo



Kevin Kessler flew this Hangar 9 Super Cub. Hitec Aurora 9 radio, 20cc, 108" w.s.

Dale Gathman photo

Great Planes Stearman flown by Steve Baker. Futaba radio, O.S. 1.20 4-stroke



Dale Gathman photo

Ed Gombash's Hangar 9 Extra 260. DLE 55, Spektrum radio, 78" w.s.



critter photo



Matt Brustle hovers his Wings Maker Slick 540

Several members of the Civil Air Patrol were on site from Friday evening through Sunday. They helped with parking direction, golf cart ferrying of spectators and guarding the aircraft storage tent, both during the show and in the overnight hours.

Bending Creek BBQ Concessions provided delicious food for sale during both days of the event. A post on their Facebook page on day one reads: "What a blast we are having at the RC flying show! Great business and gorgeous weather! Come out and join us!"

The stormy weather of last year stayed away this time. Sunday morning had a few light sprinkles, but nothing that required any aircraft to be put away. Most of the time the weather was nice, with light winds.

Aircraft were flying each day from 9:00 a.m. on throughout the day. When 12 noon struck, the pre-planned noon-time demonstration flights began. The demos provided a great variety of aircraft types and flying styles for the crowds (and fellow pilots) to enjoy.



A few of the Civil Air Patrol members who volunteered their time to help us out.



Saturday morning greeters L-R: Joe Cubalchini, Mark Hamilton and Bob Watson



Club President Tom Spriet, Vice President John "JT" Turner & Treasurer and Event CD Paul Jacobs pause from their weekend duties to smile for the camera.



Bending Creek BBQ Concessions provided the food

photos this page by Doug Swanson



Debbie Brustle and Dorie Jacobs sold the custom-made shirts for the event.

DJ Johnson helped with pilot registration





critter photo



Event Announcer and Club Secretary Tony Sokol kept the spectators informed all weekend.

John Fischer's DA 50-powered P-40 screams out of the sunshine.



Dale Gathman photo

Both pilots and spectators enjoyed the combat demonstration.

Jim Watkins photo

Dale Gathman photo



Eric Karl's Top Flite B-25J Mitchell Bomber. 88.5" w.s., Robart retracts.



Dale Gathman photo

Bill Mikesell's Dauntless. 100" w.s., GT80 power, Futaba radio gear, Robart retracts.



Each day Armin Weber, Steve Gawlik and Eric Karl organized a group of warbird pilots to make strafing runs down the runway. The aircraft ranged in size from giant-scale to .50-size. Regardless of size, they all flew scale-like maneuvers in a race track pattern around the field.

scale Extra 260. This behemoth made several low-level knife-edge passes down the flight line before experiencing a flame out and dead stick. The field went from total silence to loud cheers as he made the turn over the corn back towards the field and a safe landing.

14-year-old Mitch Marozas put on a helicopter demonstration that can only be described as unbelievable. I've seen some impressive heli flights and videos on line, but this flight was over the top. Al Smith brought out his gigantic 60%

Dave Murray and Greg Wright impressed the crowd by burning up the sky with their turbine-powered jets. Dave flew his scale Global Jet Club FeiBao T-33 and Greg made low, high-speed passes with his BVM Bandit.



Jim Watkins photo

Dan Rocha flew his crazy-fast Swist F5D. Announcer Tony Sokol set up the flight surprise by describing the plane as a nice, easy-going glider. After a few circles overhead, Dan pushed the left stick forward to reveal the planes true flight envelope. This high-speed glider needs to be seen to be appreciated.

Several pilots took to the skies with combat SPADs trailing streamers. A few "kills" were made, as evidenced by their streamers floating slowly to the ground.

Chris Gini put on an aerobatic freestyle show set to music with his Aeroworks Extra



critter photo

Al Smith props his 60% Extra 260 before flying several low knife-edge passes across the field.

300. I've seen Chris perform demos for a long time now and each time he impresses me with new moves which I haven't seen before.

Jim Martin flew several flights with his Fly Eagle F-14 electric ducted fan jet. This impressive aircraft weighs 52 pounds and



Paul Makowski photo



Doug Swanson photo

Foamy air guitar!

Fly Eagle F-14 electric EDF by Jim Martin. 9' w.s., JR 12X, 14s 10,000 Mah battery per side, Neu 1915 motors, Tam Jets 110 fans, 5 min. flight time.



Chris Gini flew a freestyle demo to music during the noon-time show.



Doug Swanson photo

Dan Rocha with his Swist F5D



Jim Watkins photo

Following the noon demos the spectators were allowed out on the flightline to inspect the aircraft and talk with the pilots.



Doug Swanson photo



Dale Gathman photo



Dale Gathman photo



Jen Keller photo

Mitch Marozas' Gaui X7 heli in one of its more 'unusual' flight attitudes. I say this because it was normally flopping around inches off of the ground!



Jim Watkins photo



Dale Gathman photo

spans 9 feet. An operating swing-wing mechanism adds to the scale realism.

Young Matt Brustle demonstrated 3-D flight on both days, first with his Extreme Flight Yak 55 and then with his Wings Maker Slick 540.

Bill Brundle, Sr. Product Developer for Hangar 9, made the trip up from Champaign. He brought and flew their new P-47D-40 Thunderbolt 30cc ARF—a great-looking scale aircraft.

Following the noon demonstration flights, the spectators were allowed out on the flight line to inspect the models more closely and talk with the pilots and builders of the aircraft they just saw fly. This is always one of my favorite times during the Festival—what pilot doesn't like to talk about his aircraft? A note to my fellow pilots: If you want to generate interest in a less-than-impressive aircraft, put a Barbie or Ken doll in the pilot's seat. It works every year!

I know I had a great time at this year's Festival of Flight and I'm sure all of the other pilots and spectators did as well. Be sure to make plans to attend the 2013 Festival of Flight! ✈

Dave Murray readies and taxis his Global Jet Club FeiBao T-33 out for a demo flight.



critter photo

Author's note: I want to thank all of the photographers who helped me with this report—please see each photo for their individual credits. My go-to guy, Dale Gathman, has come through again with some great work. Paul Makowski has contributed images for a few events this year and I'm



Doug Swanson photo

grateful for his giving of time to help out. Member Tom Keller and his wife, Jen, approached me at the last meeting with three DVD's full of photos from photographers who attended the Festival and have donated their work to the club: Jen Keller, Jim Watkins, and critter. Jen has a web site at www.JOLPbyjen.com and critter has a flickr photostream at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/critter>. I will work with our webmaster to get all of the photos posted on the website. Also, Tom Keller has put together a video of

A couple of planes crashed into the back of Bob Boen's SUV. Oh wait, those were carefully packed in there for the ride home! Nice job, Bob.

Dave Murray's T-33 flight during the Festival. Look for these additions soon. -Doug



SPOT **light**

By Doug Swanson
photos by Dale
Gathman & Doug



This month I highlight Dave Murray's Global Jet Club FeiBao T-33. This model has been featured on our float display for public parades and recently at the Festival of Flight.



Specifications:

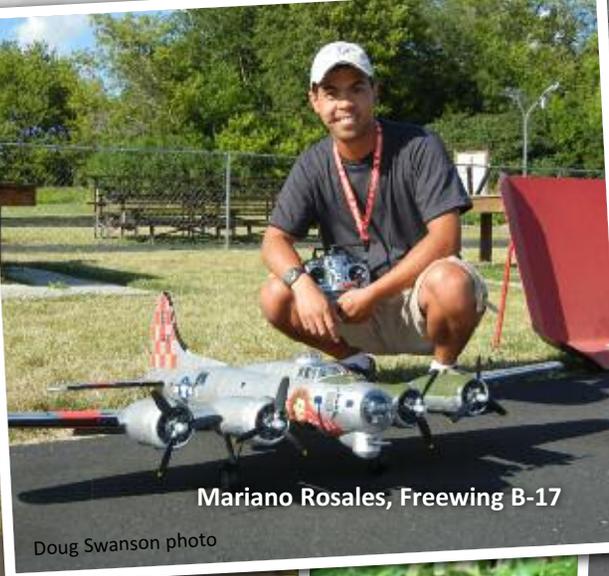
Airframe and Retracts: **FeiBao**
Distributed and Painted by: **Global Jet Club**
Wingspan: **108 in.**
Length: **100 in.**
Radio: **Futaba T10CAP**
Receiver: **Futaba R6014FS**
Servos: **Futaba S9156 (Ail. and Elev.)**
Hitec 645 (Rud. and Flap)
Turbine: **Jet Cat P-180, 40 lbs. thrust**
Onboard Batteries:
8000 mah 7.4v for turbine
4500 mah 6.0v for half of flight controls
2400 mah 6.6v LiFe for remainder of flight controls
Air Tanks and Valves: **Robart (4)**
Fuel capacity: **180 oz.** Flight time: **10-12 mins.**
Smoke fluid capacity: **80 oz., 6-7 mins.**



SHOTS FROM THE FIELD

by Dale Gathman

Jason Flowers w/Trex 600 Nitro Pro (w/flybar), Trex 700e (flybarless), Great Planes Cherokee w/O.S. FS52, Stinger 64



Mariano Rosales, Freewing B-17

Doug Swanson photo



Rich Gabrys w/Ace Pitts Model 12 w/DA170



Tom Blassick w/Great Planes Extra 330L Kit w/DA100 and Photo realistic cockpit



Jim Finks (guest flyer) w/ Trex 600 Nitro Pro (flybarless)



Nick Trifilio w/Hangar 9 Giant Scale Tiger Moth w/OS GT33cc Gas



Piotr Niedoba w/Carden Extra 300 40% w/DA150



VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Turner-vicepresident@foxvalleyaero.com

Labor Day Weekend sure came up pretty quick at the FVAC! As the summer flying season comes to a close, a lot of activities took place this year with some challenges and great memories. Some of our members have expressed concern about too many activities during the

summer's weekend "prime flying" time. We will review this year's events and determine how to improve or modify monthly activities in 2013. No doubt some of the key events like Kids Day, Al's Helicopter, Festival of Giants and IMAC have been successful for our members and guests.

Many members are now flying on 2.4. GHz. I have noticed that there are still those flying on 72 MHz and not using the frequency board! A fellow member lost his plane when another member, using the same frequency, turned on his

transmitter for a ground check. Every RC pilot who comes to fly must continue to check the frequency board, place their AMA card on the board and remove a pin

designated for their frequency! This is a safe cross-check and will maintain safety on the ground and air! Just the other day, a fellow pilot maidenied his plane on 72, and did not use the frequency board.

Looking ahead into next month, there will be our annual Turkey Fry where all members will enjoy the cooking of Chefs Karl and Tom Spriet! The date has been set for October 21, to take advantage of the nice fall weather for good eats, conversation, and of course, some flying.

From the workshop, I will be working on my Hangar 9 Extra 260 and attempt my first gas plane. I will start to pick up the "mechanics" over the course of various fall swap meets and/or look to Santa Claus to bring me a new DLE or DA 50.

Regarding our own Fox Valley SWAP, I have sent in the advertisements to both AMA and Kane County Fairgrounds. Your Fox Valley Aero Club SWAP will be **Saturday, February 23, 2013.**

Early-Pay Rental Discount, if paid by February 1st, is:

- One Table: \$15.00 each
- Two Tables: \$12.50 each
- Three or more: \$10.00 each

All table rentals after February 1st will be \$20.00 each. All table rentals include one free admission. Cost for admission (not table rental) is \$5.00 at the door with children under 12 FREE. From last year's success of indoor foamy flying, we will offer this again starting around 1:00 pm. AMA cards are required.

I look forward to seeing everyone this fall and fly safe!

JT





TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

It has been a quiet month for a change, and Dorie and I had a chance to travel to Fond du Lac Wisconsin to visit for their Warbirds & Classics event. I've included a few pictures to give you a feel for the size of the event and to

show some of the great airplanes on the flight line. Carl Bachhuber and his Canadian friends put on a great show and I was able to hand out some Festival shirts as they were unable to come to our event this year but perhaps the dates can be coordinated in the future.

That's Gary Stephens discussing a scratch built Russian something to Dorie.

There were many familiar faces there including Doug, Dennis and Eric from Robart as well as Bill Mikesell. If you get a chance to attend this event don't forget to eat some the bratwurst as it is the best in the country.

It's hard to believe it is September already and we have only two events left this year. The annual Turkey Fly & Fry is scheduled for October 21 and the Christmas Party for December 7th. The treasury is in great shape so both events should be spectacular again this year.

See you on the flight line,

Paul





Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest



Gary Stephens has shared a few of his photos from the Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest event held in Fond Du Lac, WI. Over 250 pilots were registered, some of whom had multiple aircraft. That's Gary at the upper left with his Top Flite P-47.





SECRETARY'S REPORT

Tony Sokol—secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

General Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2012 @ Township Hall

President Tom Spriet called the meeting to order at 7:45pm.

Secretary Tony Sokol asked for additions or corrections to the July minutes as published. A motion to approve was made by Alvin Cole and seconded by David Todd. The minutes were approved.

Vice President John Turner was contacted by a Tribune reporter regarding local clubs. Although only a slight mention of the FVAC appeared in the article, John will be contacting her and other reporters regarding the upcoming Cub Scout rocket fly. Hopefully we can gain some good publicity and along with a mention of the AMA, we may even qualify for their cash publicity award.



John Turner

Looking ahead to 2013, a flyer has been designed for the upcoming February 23rd Swap Meet. This will go to the AMA for publication as soon as possible to allow others to plan ahead. The individual entrance fee is \$5 and tables will be \$15 for one table, \$25 for two tables, with 3 tables and above priced at \$10 each if paid by February 1st. After that date all tables will be \$20.

Hopefully **Mike and Rosemary Raynes** will be able to handle food concessions again this year. A Foamy Fly is also planned following the meet.



photos by
Doug Swanson

Treasurer Paul Jacobs reported that the checkbook is in good shape with all Festival expenses having been paid. We had a good turnout with 90 pilots registered. Many thanks to Paul and his wife Dorie for all the work they did to put on a great Festival.

Paul also mentioned that we have a half dozen new members since the last meeting.



Paul Jacobs



Greg Bohler

Field Chairman Greg Bohler noted there are two large holes that have appeared about ¾ of the way to the West end of the runway on the South side. Temporary repairs will be made with a more permanent solution coming later in the flying season. Greg also thanked everyone for the help setting up and tearing down for the Festival.

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Bob Peters

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Membership Chairman Sal Perno introduced new member **Bob Peters**.

Flypaper Editor Doug Swanson reported that the IMAC competition event went very well with 25 pilots competing. Once again a big thank you goes to **Paul and Dorie Jacobs** for handling the scoring chores all weekend. Also to CD **Mel Ziska** and to President **Tom** for creating a beautiful

etched mirror award which was presented to the highest overall scorer. **Dan Knippen's** wife, **Glenda**, was also presented with a similar plaque expressing our thanks for all that Dan had accomplished in organizing and running the IMAC event over years.

The event generated enough income to cover all of the expenses. Doug presented the club with a check for \$290 representing the excess income left over from the event.

Doug reminded us that he is always looking for articles, photos, and building tips to share with the readers of the *Flypaper*.

Government Relations Chairman Alvin Cole initiated conversation regarding community relations with our neighbors. Tom informed us that there have been 6 incidents where aircraft have crashed to the West of the tree line where several homes are located. Some have been far to the West of these homes! Most flyers do not realize how far to the West their aircraft are flying and how irritating the sound is unless you are standing in the neighbor's yard. Not only is noise a problem but safety becomes an even greater issue. For this reason, flying over the tree line to the west is no longer an option and doing so will result in serious consequences. Flyers MUST turn south



President Tom Spriet

before they come to the tree line. Larger faster planes should stay farther south and higher in altitude avoiding the homes to the West at all costs. The recent IMAC and Festival events prove that the larger craft can stay within the boundaries of our flying area by simply remembering to do so and exercising good piloting skills.

Much discussion regarding methods of "self policing" ourselves ensued yielding several good ideas. We will be pursuing these ideas and more on a permanent basis to insure that the problem does not escalate to the point that we end up losing the field.

Show and Tell

Dale Gathman displayed several eye popping photos of aircraft in flight during the Festival. The highlight of the presentation was an action photo of Cliff's



Dale Gathman

beautiful WW I biplane doing a "bounce and go" with the right wheel deciding to go off on its own. The timing was impeccable! Cliff did land the plane without incident.

Todd Culbertson displayed a scratch built rocket that will be used as a demo flight during the upcoming Cub Scout rocket fly. There will be 3 Cub packs participating from Batavia and St. Charles which could potentially bring 70 or more Cubs, parents, and friends to the event.



Todd Culbertson



Chuck Noyes

Chuck Noyes shared an unusual experience with us involving control surface flutter. The unusual part came when the problem was traced down to the battery! The battery was changed and the problem has not reoccurred. Putting the old battery back in line caused the problem to return. Go figure!

Mark Knoppkie displayed his newly acquired Spectrum DX-18 radio.

A motion to adjourn was made by **Doug Swanson** and seconded by **Alan Galle**. The meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Tony Sokol
– Secretary FVAC

MEET *the* members

R. Thomas Flint (RTF)

FlyP: What is your first experience with scale model flying?

RTF: My introduction to the hobby of flying scale planes was when I was 10. My older brother came back from a large nearby field holding his wrist all covered in blood. He had discovered when flying control line you need a second person to hold the glow engine plane after it starts. A few stitches later on my brother and I got to do the holding. We both enjoyed control line flying back in 1957. Then life came along and got in the way until a year ago when I joined FVAC.

FlyP: What do you enjoy the most about RC Planes?

RTF: I always say half the fun is the building and fixing. I have always enjoyed model making and even worked as a commercial artist for Monogram Models plastic model kits where I designed the packaging and did the photography for the box covers of the kits. I photographed some great custom built dioramas of planes and tanks.

I enjoy RC plane building because everything you need fits on a table top, is easy to



lift and requires no ladders. In the past I was always adding on home additions to our houses, always working my way up to larger homes to fit my family's growing needs. The construction required trailer

loads of lumber, endless tools and sometimes 40 foot ladders. It was like a huge model kit, but the home additions never fit in a box that fits on your desktop. RC plane building is the same creative process without the heavy lifting.

I enjoy the RC flying because it is just for me and is a true escape from everyday pressures. For a few minutes you are on the edge of control of a record breaking race plane, a strafing mission to take out the tank that is too close to your home base or flying next to your dad as you taxi that cub and lift into the air. It is feeling the excitement of a touch and go in a warplane combined with the thrill of doing a victory roll as you pull up the gear and take off. It is the excitement of going home with the same number of planes and pieces you arrived with.



FlyP: I understand you are retired. What was your occupation?

RTF: I am retired, as is my wife. I worked at Northern Trust Bank in the loop downtown Chicago as VP Marketing/Graphic Services. Janice taught 5th grade in the Glen Ellyn School District where our kids also went to school.

FlyP: Are you married? Have any children?

RTF: My wife Janice and I have 4 grown daughters and have been married 43 years. She encouraged my RC flying to get me out of the house. I think she is changing her mind because the planes may soon use more bedrooms than our daughters did.

FlyP: What are your interests beyond model aircraft?

RTF: With four daughters and three grandchildren, I enjoy having the time to be with them and help with their projects around their homes. My cell phone is like the family ER/911 service and has heard many stories of "Dad what is that funny noise my engine is making?" with my response "Ah.....did you ever change or check the oil?"

FlyP: What are you flying currently?

RTF: I enjoy scale RC planes that have flaps. I have an E-flight P47 D, a Parkzone T-28 D with added flaps, an E-flight 25e Cub on floats with flaperons, an E-Flight 15e Beechcraft Bonanza, a Hangar 9 RV8, and a clipped wing Carl Goldberg Cub with added flaps.

FlyP: Do you have any current or planned aircraft projects?

RTF: I am working on a bi-plane Nieuport 17 NRF (never really finished) that I bought used. This very old half-done VK kit was from 1969. My brother has given me an OS Max Blackhead HS60F GR new in the box from the same year. Because of the patina on some of the old plane

parts I am building the Nieuport to look like it was found in a barn and put back into service, perhaps a true barnstormer of the day.

FlyP: What is/was your favorite model aircraft?

RTF: I really enjoy flying planes on floats. I have written an article about my float flying experience that will appear in the next issue.

FlyP: What is your favorite full-scale aircraft?

RTF: The small Cubs and Cessna's I got to fly in with my dad as the pilot.

FlyP: Is there anyone that you look up to in the radio control hobby?

RTF: When you are a newer member like me, I admire all members that don't need to keep a large Ziploc bag in the car to carry home broken plane parts. I most admire those who have maintained an excitement for the sport, still help newcomers, and still love to fly. Dan Compton and Cliff Fullhart have helped me with great patience, kind words, and amazing technical knowledge and flight skills.

FlyP: Are there any embarrassing moments at the field you would like to forget--but are now remembering because I asked?

RTF: I tried to trim my own plane, the Beechcraft. I carefully added a few down clicks to the elevator as the plane was climbing, then a few more down clicks as it got worse and climbed more. At that point I am not sure who was flying the airplane, the scale pilot or me. One of us did a perfect hammerhead into my patented death spiral. Only Dale Gathman was watching and I was happy his camera was put away. As I



walked into the cornfield I was glad for my large Ziploc bag. But I can tell you I rebuilt the plane and it is back in the air. Never trim your own plane as a rookie. That is why Dan and Cliff are a gift to our club.

FlyP: Are there any facets of the hobby that you would like to try? (eg. a certain power system type, different type of aircraft, competitive flying)

RTF: So far I have tried both electric motors and glow engines and prefer the pure engine sound and power of glow engines. I really enjoy flaps and retracts on a plane. My ideal plane would be a Corsair F4U with folding wings and sliding canopy. I would also like to get a twin engine scale plane in the air. The double engine harmony keeps calling the initials of my name. RTF RTF RTF. Yes, Yes, R Thomas Flint is Ready-To-Fly — any time, any weather, anywhere. ✈

SHOT *of the* month



Cliff Fulhart's Nieuport 17 lost a wheel during a touch-and-go during the Festival of Flight. Dale Gathman caught this great shot of the action. If you look closely, you can see the wheel collar still flying through the air under the rudder.

SHOT of the month



Dan Rocha's 40% Composite ARF Extra 260 launches into low Earth orbit. Picture taken during after-hours fun on Saturday during the Festival of Flight. Doug Swanson photo