



Flypaper

September 2013



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

An Illinois not-for-profit
Corporation

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AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model
Aeronautics Charter
Club #252

Cubs on Grass! *page 9* (and asphalt)



Doug Swanson photo

New in this issue:
Officer / Chairperson Reports
Shots from the Field *page 14*

Bill Mikesell's F4F Wildcat *page 11*
Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest *page 13*
In the Air *page 17*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Spriet—
president@foxvalleyaero.com

Hey Guys,

Football season is upon us and some of the best RC weather is here.

Our calendar has totally cleared until turkey fry Sunday [Oct. 20]. Those pesky red and black bugs have gotten the message and are not

bothering us any longer. The conditions at the field are spectacular now that team SGMOP is in full swing. Bring out your cub or war bird and fly from the turf. The grass runway is now better than ever! Who would have thought we could have improved on our fantastic facility, but we have.

At this writing, our Government Relations Chairman, Bill Sponsler, is drafting a letter of intent to present to the City of St. Charles to renew our lease for another ten years.

August was another successful month at the field. The IMAC went off as planned. The rocket day went off almost as planned but with a few misfires. I guess that's normal for rocketry. Anyway, Todd Culbertson had a really good turnout of boy scouts and parents for the 3rd rocket event at our field. Thanks Todd!

The weather forecast for the near future is fabulous, so swing into September by flying your favorite bird at our field—the best field in the Midwest—just ask any non-member who has flown here!

See you at the field,

Tom Spriet
GHP



Tom Spriet photo

Membership Chariman R. Thomas Flint heads up team SGMOP (Short Grass Moving Program). The grass area lying directly south of the paved runway is now being mowed to a length of 2". The limits of the short grass area are delineated by orange cones at the outer corners.



Dale Gathman photo

All FVAC Members and their families:

Fox Valley Aero Club annual Turkey Fry!

Time: 10:00 - 4:00 pm with lunch (Turkey) being provided by the Club.

This annual event has become very popular. We begin to close our flying season with some fun, food, and fellowship—along with a day of flying. Please bring a dish to pass and our top chefs (Karl, Tom and Alan) will be asked to bring their turkey friers to prepare the feast, with Cliff as our carver!

Alert: it's October 20th!



FROM THE EDITOR

Doug Swanson-newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

September, 2013.

I became a member of this club in February, 2009. Admittedly, my main draw to this club was the airstrip. In a short period of time I began to realize there is much more to this club than the field. During my first months attending club meetings and spending time at the field, I met a lot of interesting people and friendships started. I was not involved too much in club events during my first two years; I mainly attended meetings and spent time flying my planes.

Then, around the end of December, 2010, newly-elected President, Tom Spriet put out an e-mail looking for a new editor for the *Flypaper*. I thought to myself, what a great way to get more involved in the club. Also, this would be a great outlet for my love of graphic design. After talking to my wife, Laurie, I replied to Tom's message and took over the position in January, 2011.

Being Editor has literally changed my life. I have come to know a larger portion of the membership than I ever would have normally. As I said earlier, there are some great people in this club. As editor, I have come out of my shell and taken the time meet more members while reporting for the different features of this newsletter. [I encourage you to do the same. At the next meeting or trip to the field, take time to meet someone new.] Also, because the editor position includes a seat on the Board of Directors, I have been more involved with Club business. Hopefully, through my involvement in both, I have helped to make FVAC an even greater club than it already was.

To date, this is my 33rd issue—not a record by any means. After three more issues, I will have been your editor for three years. I thank you for

allowing and trusting in me to produce this publication each month. It is truly a joy and honor to be a part of the great institution that is the Fox Valley Aero Club *Flypaper*.

Sadly (for me) this December's issue will be my last. It simply comes down to available time. I want to continue my involvement in the club, but can't dedicate the amount of time that I have previously with this newsletter. I also believe this publication could use the fresh perspective and ideas of a new editor. Would I like to return to this position down the road? You bet. I still have unrealized ideas, and look forward to revisiting the position at a later date.

I hope to continue my involvement with club business and events in 2014 as a member of the Board of Directors. (assuming a nomination)

Thanks go out this month to Dale Gathman, Paul Makowski and Gary Stephens. They each have shared photos for this month's issue. Be sure to thank them when you see them.

Please remember those who lost and gave their lives in the events of September 11, 2001.

Doug Swanson





TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Jacobs—
treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

This was a crazy month which started out good with the completion of the Decathlon and making the successful maiden flights. Paul Makowski took and posted the video on the FVAC's YouTube site. In the middle of the month, Dorie and I made it

to the Fond du Lac event which is always well attended and great to see. Several FVAC members flew including Eric Karl, Dave Murray, Sebastian Kowalski, and Gary Stephens. Bill Mikesell, Doug Scatterday, Sal Perno were also there and saw John Fisher fly his P-40. Sorry if I missed anyone but I really go there for the Bratwurst as they are the best I have ever had. I've attached a few photos including one showing the results of actually losing an engine in the air. Carl Bachhuber's airplanes are a real work of art.

The treasury remains in good shape and on budget for the year and I don't expect any surprises coming our way in the line of expenses.

The month ended on a worrisome note with the sudden illness of Cindy McFarlane. Dennis has been keeping us up to date on her recovery. She has somehow contracted the Legionnaires disease which is a form of bacterial pneumonia and her recovery will be a long, but successful, fight. Keep her in your prayers.

Until next month, Paul



Paul Jacobs photos



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dale Gathman—secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club
Member Meeting Minutes
 August 8, 2013 @ FVAC Field

President Tom Spriet called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm, and welcomed everyone to the last 'meeting at the field' for the year. The remaining meetings for 2013 will be held at the St. Charles Township Hall. (Note: Due to a lack of business that the board needed to address, this meeting is a combined Board Meeting and Member Meeting).



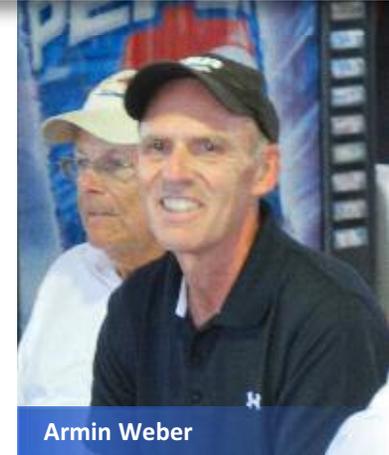
photos by
 Doug Swanson,
 except where
 noted

Secretary Dale Gathman asked for any additions or corrections to the July 11, 2013 Member Meeting Minutes. None were voiced and the minutes are accepted as presented..

Treasurer Paul Jacobs reported that the checkbook is in good shape at this point. All the bills are paid. The Festival of Flight made a little money, we paid for the web site programming and the new riding mower, and are still in good shape.

Festival of Flight – **Armin Weber**, CD for the Festival of Flight,

received an enthusiastic round of applause for the work that he did in organizing the Festival. Armin expressed thanks to everyone that showed up, and hopes that they all had a good time. He asked anyone with suggestions for improvements to submit them to him for consideration for next year's Festival. Thanks, Armin.



Armin Weber

Safety Chairman Karl Griesbaum reported that he has shirts and hats available for anyone interested. He also reminded everyone that all pilots are required to hang their AMA card in the frequency box when flying at the field.

Flypaper Editor Doug Swanson reported that he has been very busy the last couple of months, and apologized for not getting the August issue published before this meeting. He said that the August issue is coming, and should be sent to us within the next week. The timing of the Chicagoland IMAC Challenge, for which he was the CD and coordinator, left him very little time to work on the Flypaper. On that note, Doug reported that the IMAC Challenge, held on August 3rd and 4th, was a success. There were 17 pilots participating, which was down a little from last year, when 25 pilots participated. The lower number of pilots allowed for running a single flight line, rather than having two pilots flying at the same time, which is typical at the IMAC event. This was a lot less stressful on the pilots, callers, and Doug, who was assigning the judges for each flight. After paying all of the bills for the event, there was \$200.00 left, which Doug presented to Paul for depositing into our account. Doug expressed appreciation to the membership from himself and the IMAC pilots for allowing the IMAC event to be held at our field. Doug also expressed appreciation to **Paul and Dorie Jacobs**, who volunteered their weekend in order to keep score for the event. According to Doug's calculations, they entered 1896 scores into the computer. Paul and Dorie received a rousing round of applause for their efforts.

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Membership Chairman Tom Flint asked if there were any guests or new members here tonight. **Brennon Smith**, who joined tonight, introduced himself.



Tom Flint and Brennon Smith

He got his first ARF (a Kadet 42 trainer), in January, and had a lot of fun assembling it, and equally (sadly) repairing it after a couple of 'events'.

Welcome Brennon, Fred, and Jerry.

He stated that he is learning to fly, and just got a new plane to help with the endeavor. **Fred Nilles**, who also joined tonight, introduced himself next. Fred lives in Batavia, and said he "just wants to try this flying thing out". Next, **Jerry Wika** introduced himself. He stated that he is not only a new member, but is new to the world of RC planes.



Jerry Wika

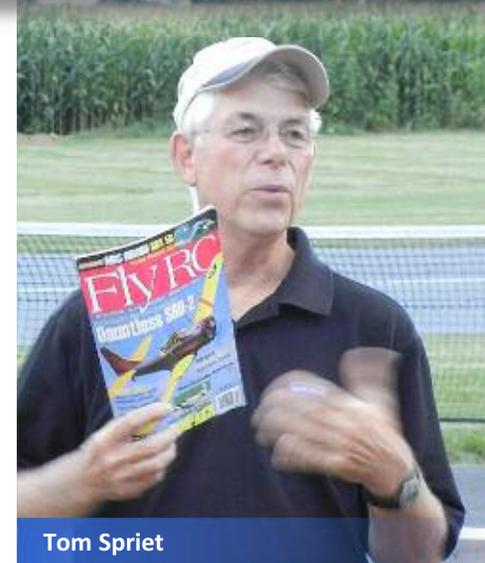
Vice President Alvin Cole thanked all who took heed to the board's concern with the waste management (doggy doo) problem. He asked that all pet owners who bring their pets to the field continue to be diligent in cleaning up after their pet. Alvin then expressed appreciation to **Cliff Fullhart** and **Tom Flint** for organizing the 'Cubs on Grass' event, which was held at the field tonight. It was a great success, and the attending members showed their appreciation with applause.



Alvin Cole

Tom Spriet next stated that over the years, he has

met some really neat people in this club, and that the wealth of talent and depth of where the members come from is amazing. Some of the builders we have in the club are really 'world-class'. He mentioned **Merlin Graves**, **Armin Weber**, and **Billy Mikesell** just to name a few. Tom displayed a Fly RC magazine which displayed Billy's Dauntless on the cover. Billy's attention to detail is awesome.



Tom Spriet

At this point, **Tom Flint** drove up near the flightline, piloting the club's latest acquisition, a John Deere riding mower with attached grass catcher. **Tom Spriet** stated that he has been struggling with the issue of the long grass at the field for years. He recommended to the board that we look into getting a riding mower,

so that we could cut the short grass runway area ourselves. He started getting bids on a mower, and at the same time sent a blast out to the members, asking if anyone who would be willing to help out with the expense of the mower. **Dave Farquhar** came forward and told Tom that he had a mower that only had about 250 hours of use on it (approximate value of \$5000.00), and that he would give it to the club in exchange for \$1300.00 and a lifetime membership. Thank you, Dave for this generous offer. This mower will allow our members to maintain the runway grass area at the length we need it to be to safely land our planes in the grass. Tom said that they have expanded the grass runway to 600' long x 75' wide, and that if we can't land a plane in that space, we should think about taking up bowling. It is not the club's intent to maintain the entire field, but to improve on the

field maintenance that we already have. Tom Flint has enlisted a group of volunteers from the club who will do the grass runway upkeep. Tom Flint stated that with Tom Spriet's help, they have installed an FVAC logo decal on the side of the mower. The mowing will be done on Monday, and takes about 1.5 hours now that

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Tom Spriet and the Club's new mower

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the area is short to start with. Any volunteers who want to help with the mowing should contact Tom Flint, or show up at the field in the morning on Mondays.

Swap Meet - **Joe Pedone** mentioned that we need to get our Swap Meet Flyer into the AMA this month in order to get it into the Model Aviation magazine. We received a 13% price increase on the fairgrounds building rent for next year, and the Swap Meet team (Joe and JT) has decided to increase table prices to compensate. The table prices for 2014 will be \$18.00 for one table and \$15.00 for two or



Joe Pedone

more tables before February 1st. After February 1st the table price will be \$20.00 each. At these prices, the table rental will cover the cost of the building rental.

Tom Spriet then called on **Chuck Noyes**. Chuck stated that he is a firm advocate of a



Chuck Noyes and Tom Spriet

device call Air Alert, available from Hobby Zone. The small device, which he passed around the crowd, emits a tone from an airplane if it doesn't detect throttle movement for a period of time, such as after a crash into the corn. This tone helps the pilot locate a downed plane. The cost is \$14.99. (Note: This module is made for 4.8V receiver packs only, but can be adapted to work with other voltages). Check the Hobby Zone website for details.

Todd Culbertson alias (Rocket Man), addressed the members regarding the upcoming **Cub Scout Rocket Fest**. The Rocket Fest will be held at the field on August 24th, from 9:00am till noon. This is the 3rd annual Rocket event, and at this point it looks like about 40-45 scouts will

be participating. This is a community 'give-back' type of event. It is very well organized, and Todd takes care of the set-up and tear-down. Hobbytown will be helping run the Fest this year. All members are invited to come out and watch the rockets fly.

Show and Tell -Todd brought a few rockets to show the club. One was a scratch built AIM 54 Phoenix missile, and he also showed a kit built SR-71 which contains RC components which enable it to be flown back to earth after a rocket engine takes it up. Todd gave a short lesson on rocket motor sizing, and then announced that Estes is now making rocket engines up to the E12 size. As his finale, Todd launched (or attempted to launch), his Phoenix missile. Unfortunately, the



Todd Culbertson



Unfortunately, the ejection charge ignited as soon as the engine ignited, and the nose cone ejected immediately, spoiling the flight. As a side-note, Todd mentioned there is a video that **Paul Makowski** posted on You Tube

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last year, which is called 'Unsuccessful Space Shuttle Launch'. It shows Todd's Space Shuttle launch attempt, which did not turn out very well, but made for a funny video. The video has had 1.4 million views to date.

Government Relations - Tom Spriet reported in Bill Sponsler's absence, that they are going to have the first meeting with the City of St. Charles people regarding the lease renewal on Monday, August 12th.

Show and Tell – Tom Spriet reported that the new John Deere lawn mower has a 52" cut, 20hp motor, three blades, cruise control, and a cup holder.



Sal Perno

Brian Wituk photo

Sal Perno showed his new, beautiful, Top Flite Giant Scale P-51, aptly named 'Big Beautiful Doll'. It has a full depth cockpit, and is powered by a DLE-55cc engine with rear exhaust. It has Sierra retracts, Robart wheels and a Robart retract on the rear wheel. Sal installed a 22-10 prop with an 8-screw spinner. He has HiTEC and JR servos installed. The plane is very close to being complete, and Sal is anxious to fly it. He hopes to take it to the Elkhart RC event.

Alvin Cole stated that according to the web site he is

not an enthusiast any more, he is just 'Plane' crazy. His latest acquisition is a Nitro Planes 'Duke 60 something or nother' foamy. It is electric, with dual engines. He added a lighting package to it. It comes with nav. lights on the wingtips, but Alvin added more. Now it even has an internal cabin light. It also came with retracts. At this point, Alvin taxied it towards the runway, while the crowd cheered him on, hoping for a take-off. No such luck, as it was getting pretty dark.



Alvin Cole

Field Chairman – Mark Knoppkie thanked all who helped set-up and tear down the field for the Festival of Flight. He also reported that he had talked to the pilots who complained the most about the grass being too long and they were all happy with its current length.

President Tom Spriet then announced that he is planning to retire from the position of club president after this year, and we need to start thinking about a replacement to elect at the end of year election. Tom said that he enjoyed serving as president, but it is time for him to step down.

Hearing no further business, President Tom Spriet asked for a motion to adjourn. Eric Karl moved, and Todd Culbertson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Dale Gathman –
Secretary FVAC



Mark Knoppkie

XG14 14CH DMSS System w/RG731BX X-Bus Receiver by JR (JRP00631)



Cubs on Grass Fly-In

Photos by Doug Swanson, except where noted

Cliff Fullhart and R. Thomas Flint (RTF) organized a fly-in before the August meeting. They called it Cubs on Grass. It was a celebration of the new, short grass strip and the new club mower which produced it. Members were encouraged to bring their Cubs to the field for some flying fun. Commemorative cups were given to all of the attendees with Cubs. At the end of the flying, the Cubs and their pilots were lined up on the runway for some photographs.



Dale Gathman photo







Bill Mikesell's

F4F Wildcat

Photos by Paul Makowski

SPECIFICATIONS:

PLANS: JERRY BATES
WING SPAN: 91-1/4 IN.
SCALE: 1/5
ENGINE: ZENOAH G62
RETRACTS: ROBERT
RADIO SYSTEM: FUTABA
APPROXIMATE WEIGHT: 35 LBS.



Fox Valley Aero Club Calendar of Events

September 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
October 10 October 20	FVAC Member Meeting Fun-Fly & Turkey Fry	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall FVAC Field
November 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
December 6	Annual Christmas Party	Hilton Garden Inn, St. Charles
January 1 January 9	First-to-Fly Fun Fly FVAC Member Meeting	10:00 AM FVAC Field 6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall
February 13 February 22	FVAC Member Meeting FVAC Annual Swap Meet	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall Kane County Fair Grounds
March 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board 7:30 Regular at Township Hall

Past Events of 2013

- January 1 **First-to-Fly Fun Fly**
- February 23 **FVAC Annual Swap Meet**
- April 27 **Member Work Day**
- May 27 **St. Charles Memorial Day Parade**
- June 8 **Kid's Day**
- June 9 **Fun-Fly & Pig Roast**
- June 14 & 15 **Al's Helicopter Fun-Fly**
- June 23 **Geneva Swedish Days Parade**
- July 20 & 21 **Festival of Flight**
- August 3 & 4 **Chicagoland IMAC Challenge**
- August 24 **Cub Scout Rocket Fest**



Flyzone Hadron Flying Wing Rx-R 33.5" (FLZA3614)



Carbon-Z Cub BNF Basic by E-flite (EFL10450)

Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest

Photos shared by Gary Stephens from the event held in Fond du Lac, WI, Aug. 15-17, 2013



SHOTS FROM THE FIELD

by Dale Gathman

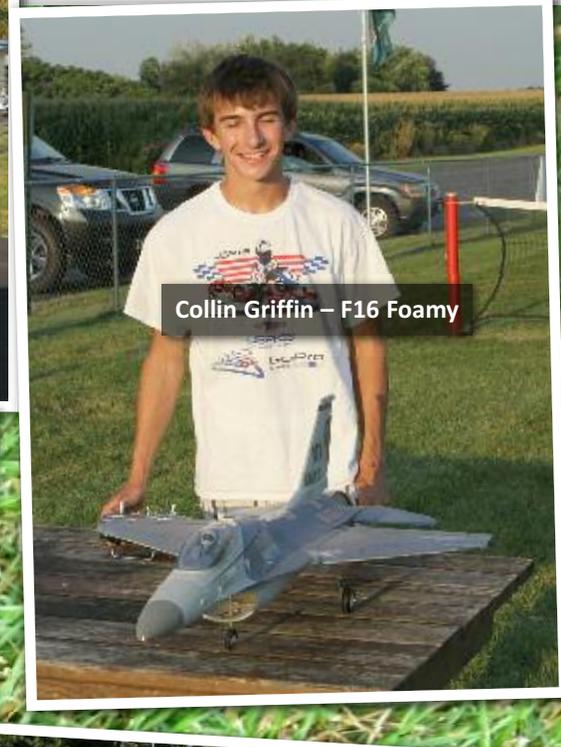
Joe Pedone –
Great Planes
Extra 300SP



Alvin Cole – Hangar 9
Cessna 182 w/OS60
twin w/glow driver



Collin Griffin – F16 Foamy



Tony Sokol – Custom made
scaled to 63" wingspan
from Midwest Bipe 40 plans
w/Saito 150 Golden Knight



Dave Forsell –
Hobbistar
Avistar w/OS40



Rob Sampson – E-Flite
mini Edge 540
w/Rimfire 3530 950kv
on 2100 3S Lipo



Mark Beezhold –
Hangar 9 Saratoga 40
w/Thunder Tiger 46



SHOTS FROM THE FIELD

by Dale Gathman



Chris Gini –
Trex 700 Heli



Alvin Cole – Cap232
w/Zenoah G45



John Turner – ‘walking’
his Great Planes Dirty
Birdy w/OS65AX



Jason Boettcher –
Parkzone Habu 2
w/Retracts and Flaps



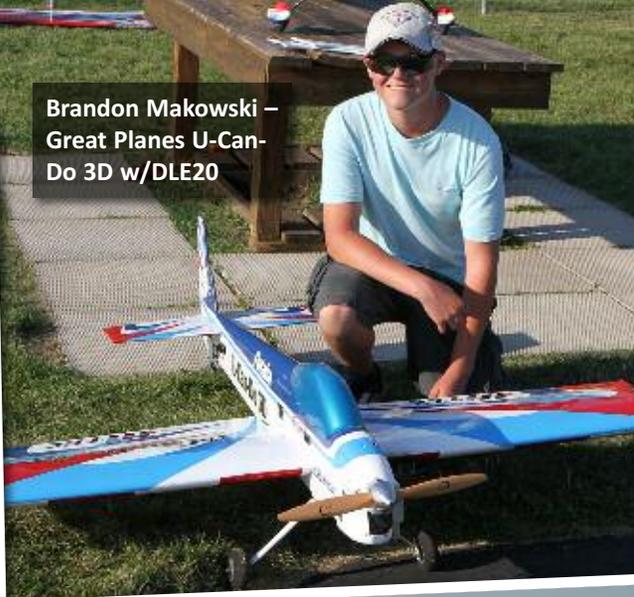
Rich Gabrys – 41% Pitts
Model 12 w/DA170



Mike Kirkpatrick –
Hangar 9 Taylorcraft
1/4 scale clipped wing
w/Zenoah G26



Dan Rocha – 40%
Comp Arf Extra 260



Brandon Makowski –
Great Planes U-Can-
Do 3D w/DLE20



Cliff Fullhart – ¼
scale Balsa USA
Sopwith Pup
w/ZenoahG23
turning Xoar
Simitar prop



Kevin Kessler – 30% Oracle
Challenger hand built by
Rich Gabrys w/3W80



Paul Jacobs –
Hangar 9 Ultra
Stick Lite



Brian Wituk –
E-Flite PT17
Stearman 15e



Fred Kavanagh
and Kevin Kessler
sporting their Joe
Nall 2013 shirts



Kevin Kessler – Hangar
9 Super Cub w/20cc



John Fischer – ParkZone
Ultra Micro Mosquito Mk VI



John Fischer –
B-25 Mitchell

Chris Gini – Trex 700



Jason Flowers –
Habu 32 DF



in the
air
by Paul Makowski

Dan Rocha –
E-flite MiG 15 DF



Brandon Makowski –
Great Planes U-Can-Do 3D



Mike Kirkpatrick –
Hangar 9 Taylorcraft



R. Thomas Flint – Hangar
9 PA-18 Super Cub



R. Thomas Flint – Great
Planes Stearman "Red
Baron" pizza



Ed Gombash –
Hangar 9 Extra 260



20 years ago in the Flypaper

August general meeting was held at the field with a pattern demonstration by Mark Weber.

The Crasher Award was presented to Elmer Baneck for his Ace 1/3-scale Extra 230. "I just plain dumped it!"

Club President Keith Burns thanked Bob Walker for the "excellent publicity you provided us during your recent Rotary Club meeting held at our flying field".

An "Air Show" report tells the story of a rain delayed / shortened event. Flying took place from 1:30 to 3:00. Income was \$579.70 and expenses were \$727.60 for a loss of \$147.90.

A letter from Rick Stephens, President of Horizon Hobby Distributors, talks about an FCC proposal which would possibly affect 31 of the 50 frequencies on 72 MHz. The AMA, consumers, dealers and manufacturers reacted quickly to write the FCC and Congresspeople expressing concern over the effect of the proposal. "The net result is that the FCC has gone back to the drawing board to create a more acceptable method of solving the problem they face—the need for more frequencies to satisfy the exploding demand created by new electronic technology."



September, 1993 Flypaper image: Dale Gathman

Inverza 33 ARF by Hangar 9 (HAN4925)



P-51D Mustang 280 BNF Basic by E-flite (EFL6150)



Show us your stuff

What have you been working on? We want to see it! Bring in your latest masterpiece—kit or ARF—to one of the upcoming meetings. Tell us about the equipment installed, any modifications made, obstacles overcome. No matter how big or how small, simple or complex—lets see it!

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.

SHOT of the month



During the warbird demonstration at the Festival of Flight, Paul Makowski captured this Hellcat from the top of the firing range hill.

FVAC NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member Assessment Fee: \$300.00 (For new memberships only.)

- Dues for Senior Members (18 years and over) \$100.00 per Member
- Dues for Junior Members (17 years and under) \$ 25.00 per Member
- Family Membership \$100.00 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 Phone Number/s: _____

_____ Home: _____

_____ Your Work Mailing Address: _____ Work: _____

_____ Cell: _____

Your E-mail Address: _____ What is Your Occupation? (Please provide details) _____

Total Payment Enclosed: _____
\$ _____



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"Fox Valley Aero Club"**



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Signature _____

Date _____