

FLY PAPER



April 2023

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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Paul Martin Photo



President's Message

Dale Gathman

president@foxvalleyaero.com

Upcoming Events you won't want to miss:

Field Workday - Saturday, April 22 –

The flying season for most members is just around the corner. I know some of you have been flying regularly already, and I applaud you for braving the cold and wind. In order to get our field spruced up following the winter season, we will be having our yearly Field Workday on Saturday, April 22. We have a list of things to accomplish, and I will be sending the list, along with a call for volunteers via an email blast to the members. I can always count on a great group of you to help out, and the more volunteers we have, the more we can get done in a reasonable amount of time. I look forward to working with you this year.

Spring Cookout, Awards and Raffle - Saturday, April 29 -

The week after field workday we will be holding our always enjoyable Spring Cookout, Awards and Raffle on Saturday, April 29. The Gabrys and Howes have volunteered to prepare some fantastic main course items for us to enjoy. Members who attend are asked to bring your favorite dish to pass, along with your own drinks. We will be handing out the 2022 awards following the meal, and finishing up with what we will now call our Spring Cookout Raffle, where every member who attends will be given raffle tickets which can be used to try to win some of our sweet selection of raffle prizes. I will be sending out details and a request for RSVP for this event very soon, possibly even before you read this.

Treeline/Berm Orientation Day – Saturday, May 6 - We will once again be having a Treeline/Berm Orientation Day, where we will be posting watchers at the gun range berm and, if we have enough spotters, at the treeline. They will communicate with a monitor person on the flight line, who will let you know, while you are flying, how close you are to the berm or treeline. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your larger and faster planes out to the field and orientate yourself to what those planes look like when they are close to the field boundaries. Every member will benefit from this if you just take the time to come out for this event. Please consider attending this event if at all possible.

We still need a Field Chairman for 2023 – I will temporarily be handling the scheduling with the help of volunteers. If you have an interest in taking over the Field Chairman duties, please contact me to discuss. You would be doing me, your club, and your fellow club members a great service.

I hope that you can make it to our Member Meeting on Thursday, April 13 at 7:30pm at the St. Charles Township Hall. I look forward to seeing you there. Make sure to bring any projects you have been working on. Your fellow members would love to see them.

Dale



Secretary's Report

Armin Weber

secretary@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club
Member Meeting Minutes
 March 9, 2023 at
 St. Charles Township Hall

1. **Welcome Members and Guests** – Dale Gathman.

Dale Gathman called the meeting to order at 7:40pm

Dale Gathman shared some interesting facts about the Supermarine airplanes. We had a small raffle of items donated by Armin Weber.

2. **Approval of Member Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2023** – Armin Weber.

Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the February Member Meeting minutes. Motion made by Mark Knoppkie, second by Steve Haas. All approved.

3. **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Stampfli.

Scott reported we are doing good. Balances are slightly higher than this time last year.

Recent income includes Swap \$3800.

Expenses include field lease and swap hall rental.

Scott reminded members of the additional \$25 for late dues payment.

Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurers report. Motion made by Dave Cotton, second by Steve Haas. All approved.

4. **Safety Chairman's Report** – Jim Thompson.

Jim Thompson reported we are considering an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) device for the field. Devices start at \$795 (refurbished) plus \$129 for the storage cabinet.

Discussion: The device needs to be easily accessible but there is a concern of theft or vandalism.

The board will invite the Saint Charles FD to the next meeting for advice and possible training. Jeff Peca mentioned that the AMA website has a recommended AED machine \$1499 including the cabinet.

5. **Government Relations Chairman's Report** – Tom Spriet.

No report.

6. **Membership Chairman's Report** – Dave Cotton.

a. New Members – Ralph Robinson (returning), Imran Naeemullah, Stacey Naeemullah, Andrew Naeemullah.

b. Member count at 212.

Welcome Guests Scott & Jacob currently flying at Prop Masters in Naperville. Jacob is also an instructor at Lewis university.

7. **Field Chairman's Report** – Dale Gathman.

Dale Gathman reminded members of the upcoming field workday 4/22. Activities will include:

a. Painting of Pavilion roof.

b. Raise Tennis Net poles.

c. New plywood on parade float and epoxy paint.

d. Possibly replace the poles on the Rt 38 sign.

8. **Flypaper Editor's Report** – Paul Martin.

Paul Martin reported the Fly Paper is doing well. He will accept newsletter submissions on a first come first serve basis.

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Dale Gathman reported that GoDaddy cancelled our FVAC email addresses. Dale worked with Bob Mosinski to add a form to the website. Anyone needing to contact FVAC can complete the form. The form will go to Dale, who will forward to the appropriate member.

9. **Public Relations Chairman's Report** – Todd Culbertson.
Todd reported that he will help get the word out about upcoming events.
10. **Swap Meet Report** – John 'JT' Turner.
John Turner reported the swap was a success. Income was \$3800. The club table did very well with nearly \$1600 in sales. Next year we will accept only PayPal for pre-registration. We will begin working with Larry Grela to look into the possibility of using his warehouse space for the 2024 Swap.
11. **Windy City Jets Report** – Dave Murray.
Dave Murray reported that everything is in place for WCJ. Currently 37 registered pilots. Dave will attend Florida Jets and possibly get a few more pilots. Pilot count will be increased to 45 in case some are unable to attend. Dave gave a personal invitation (through her staff) to the Mayor of Saint Charles. Robart Manufacturing may provide Tee shirts. Larry Grela provided additional flyers.
12. **Festival of Flight Report** – Jim Thompson.
Jim Thompson reminded members the Festival of Flight will immediately follow WCJ. He is searching for a food vendor and mentioned that the Electric Event (7/1//2023) was extended from 9am – 3pm.
13. **Flight Trainers** – Dave Jacobsen Chief Flight Instructor.
 - a. Tom Blassick, Paul Martin, Matt DiPietro (ducted fan), Art Alvarez.
 - b. Any others??

14. **Sanctions Needed** – Dale Gathman.
 - a. Windy City Jets – 9/8, 9/9 - Gary Koester.
 - b. Festival of Flight – 9/10 - Jim Thompson.
 - c. Electric Only Fly – 7/1 - Jim Thompson.
 - d. Cub Fly – 8/12 – Doug Swanson.
 - e. Night Fly – 8/12 – Mark Knoppkie.
 - f. Tailgate Swap – 9/16 – Dale Gathman.

Dale Gathman reminded Contest Directors to get their Sanctions completed.

We are also waiting on the status of FAA Recognized Identification Areas (FRIA) and Remote ID (RID) requirements. Once FRIA is approved for FVAC our models will not require an RID device. However, it will be needed if you fly at a non-FRIA field. The requirement goes into effect on September 16, 2023.

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Show & tell:

Dave Murray showed some custom floor mats from Robart Manufacturing. The floor mats are very well made and can be printed with your custom artwork (from .PDF). \$25 from Robart Manufacturing.

Tom Flint showed his nearly complete Hanger 9 F4U Corsair. The beautiful 85" model is powered with an EME 70 engine & electric starter. I-Fly-Tallies cockpit, Lights, Bomb Drop, and Sierra Pneumatic gear.



Jeff Mrachek showed the new engine on his favorite Fun-Fly model. The SH .55 Glow engine performs well, and it's a direct replacement for the OS .55. Its available online from Mike-Goes-Flying.



Todd Culbertson showed his nearly complete SR 71. The impressive model is built from plans, covered with fiberglass cloth, and painted. Many surface details including panel lines. 112" long and 56" span. JP retracts with brakes. Powered by twin 90 12 blade electric fans, each on 8S batteries.



Motion to adjourn by Dave Cotton, second Dave Murray, all approved.

Meeting was adjourned by Dale Gathman at 9:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Armin Weber – Secretary

From the Editor

Paul Martin

newsletter@foxvalleyaero.com

As I write this I am looking at the forecast and am very happy to see temperatures in the 70s! Wow! Very nice to see. Although it has been a pretty mild winter, for some reason it has seemed to be a long one for me.

I am sure that everyone, like me is looking to get out to the field in shorts and tee shirts to knock the dust off of their planes and helis!

As Dale mentioned in his Presidents Message, the upcoming events in April are the Field Workday as well as the Spring Cookout, Award, and Raffle event.

I am looking to get out to the field and see you all out there!

This issue is a little "light" as we are in a lull in activities. I have included in the next page, a little trick to making easy aircraft canopies using 2 litre soda bottles.

Cheers and Happy Flying!

Paul



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

Tips & Tricks

By Paul Martin

I have been working on a scale project over the winter and am nearing completion. One of the scale elements that I have to incorporate is the canopy. I tried buying a similar sized warbird canopy on ebay but it just wasn't going to fit right. After going to youtube, I found a page that showed me how to make a canopy using a 2 liter soda bottle.

If you have a plane or heli that is custom, out of production or simply want to create something new, this is a pretty easy way to make an inexpensive lightweight canopy.

You will need to start by making a balsa plug for the canopy shape that you want. In my case, I started with a pretty large block of balsa assembled from several thick pieces of heavy balsa. Using the plans and then marking, cutting, shaping and sanding, I came up with this.



After completing the canopy plug, I mounted it on a length of heavy balsa stick and glued some filler pieces to the stick to take up space in the 2 liter bottle. The photo on the top of the adjoining page roughly shows the next step.

Cut the bottom off of a 2 liter pop bottle and slide it over the plug assembly. Using your heat gun, work on the back edge first, folding the plastic over the edge of the plug to hold the plastic in place. Next, Carefully heat the remainder of the bottle to conform to the plug. You will probably need to hold the bottle spout down with a pair of pliers to make it work out. This is sort of a three-handed job so this would be a great time to get some help from someone.

This is the result after heat application:



After carefully cutting of the waste portion of the bottle, you will be left with a lightweight canopy that is ready to be glued in place.



If you would like to watch the youtube video, this is the Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34ZsTGHrWW4>

WINDY CITY JETS

Radio Control Jet Airshow



September 8 and 9, 2023
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Adults: \$5.00 Kids 12 and under: FREE
Food Vendors Onsite
Incredible Turbine-powered RC Aircraft
Skilled and Safe Pilots

Hosted by: **FOX VALLEY AERO CLUB**

www.foxvalleyaero.com
see website for more information

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 10	FVAC Member Meeting	7:00 Board Zoom
January 12	FVAC Member Meeting	7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 18	FVAC Annual Swap Meet	8:30 – 4:00 - Kane County Fairgrounds
March 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 22	Field Workday	9:00 – FVAC Field
April 29	FVAC Cookout - Awards and Raffle	12:00 – FVAC Field
May 6	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 – 1:00 – FVAC Field
May 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
May 29	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	TBD
June 4	Fun-Fly – #1	11:00 – 1:00 – FVAC Field
June 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
June 25	Swedish Days Parade	TBD
July 1	Electric Only – AMA Sanctioned	9:00 – 3:00 Electric Only – FVAC Field
July 6	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 5	Retro Fly	9:00 – 3:00 - FVAC Field
August 6	Fun Fly - #2	11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field
August 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 12	Cub Fly - AMA Sanctioned	9:00 – 1:00 Cubs Only - FVAC Field
August 12	Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned	6:00 - Midnight - FVAC Field
August 26	Cub Scout Rocket Fest	9:00 - 11:00 - FVAC Field
August 26	Family Fly Day	1:00 - 4:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 8, 9	Windy City Jets Invitational	9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 10	Festival of Flight	9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
Sept 16	FVAC Tailgate Swap Meet - Sanctioned	9:00 - 1:00 – FVAC Field
Sept 17	Fun-Fly #3	11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field
October 7	Turkey Fry	12:00 – FVAC Field
October 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
November 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
December 9	Christmas Pizza Party	6:00 Nick's Pizza & Pub - Elgin

Note that starting this month we are back to meeting at Township Hall!

Township Hall

Fox Valley Aero Club Flight Boundary Map

Rotary-wing
Aircraft Only
Area

Forest
Preserve
Property

Western Boundary - First Tree Line

Flight Area (unshaded, red boundary)

Eastern Boundary - Base of
Police Gun Range Berm

Police
Gun Range

9-1-1
Dispatch
Center

Red shaded area =
No-Fly Zone

FVAC NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member Assessment Fee: \$300.00 (For new memberships only. Does not include dues.)

- Dues for Regular Members (19 years and over) \$150.00 per Member
- Dues for Junior Members (18 years and under) \$ 25.00 per Member
- Family Membership \$150.00 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 _____