

# FLY PAPER



September 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](http://www.foxvalleyaero.com)

AMA Gold Leader Club



Academy of Model Aeronautics  
Charter Club #252

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## Cub Day! 2023



photo by Ken Sobolewski



## President's Message

**Dale Gathman**

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

A bunch of events. Wow, what a busy time of year for the club. Between the last meeting and now we had the Cub Fly, Night Fly, Family Fly, Windy City Jets, and Festival of Flight. Look for coverage of these events in this or future issues of the Flypaper. As I write this, we just finished the weekend with Festival of Flight. The combination of Windy City Jets and the Festival of Flight was somewhat of an experiment. We wanted

to see if we would get good spectator attendance having the Festival of Flight on Sunday and will be looking at that along with other factors when deciding on next year's schedule. We had our largest spectator attendance of the week on the Saturday of Windy City Jets, and that was expected. Saturday has always been the highest attendance for our events. I thank all of our fantastic volunteers who made the events possible. As always, you (our club members) come through when needed. All of our events are successful only because a team of people do the planning, set-up, running and clean-up of the events, and we could never pull them off without your help.

Upcoming Events – Don't forget, we have our Tailgate Swap Meet coming up on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9:00am-1:00pm. Vendors may arrive as early as 7:30am. That will be followed up by our Fun Fly #3 on Sunday from 11:00am-1:00pm. Then, what has become kind of our celebration of a great flying season is our Turkey Fry on October 7, starting at noon. The club provides turkeys, and members are asked to bring a dish to pass. Families and friends are welcome as well. This is a great time to just relax and get to know more of our members who you may not normally see at the field.

Please remember to look for new members at the field and introduce yourself. Also watch for new flyers who may need your help or advice.

I hope to see you at the September Member Meeting on the 14th at the St. Charles Township Building, and please bring your new planes and projects to show to the group.

Dale

## Vice President

Dave Murray

Contact@foxvalleyaero.com



Wow!

Windy City Jets is in the History Books! A huge Thank You to all of the Club members that volunteered and the pilots. Without you, this event could not have happened. There will be more information about Windy City Jets to follow in the October newsletter.

Dave

(On the adjoining page is a text that Dave received from Ali Machinchy, Horizon Hobby representative, one of the pilots at the Windy City Jets event)

### Text Message from Ali Machinchy

Horizon Hobby Representative

(For Context, the first portion of the text message is in response to a query if Ali had won the lottery with tickets that Dave had given to him at the WCJ dinner. The remainder of the text is in response to Daves thanks for Ali's attendance at the event.)

Dave,

Unfortunately, No. Only one number but that seems to be the story of my lottery experiences. Either way it was a very fun gesture and one it's much appreciated by Timmy (Rudleman) and I.

You and Club are very welcome. We all had a lovely weekend and that was largely down to how warm and welcoming the entire club was. You should all be very proud. You have an amazing facility and you put on a great show for the public. Looking forward to coming back and seeing you at the next event. Take care my friend.

Ali





## Secretary's Report

Armin Weber

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

### Fox Valley Aero Club Member Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2023 at  
FVAC Flying Field

1. **Welcome Members and Guests** – Dale Gathman.  
Dale Gathman called the meeting to order at 7:45pm
2. **Approval of Member Meeting Minutes from July 6, 2023** – Armin Weber.  
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the July Member Meeting minutes. Motion made by Bill Suhr, second by Steve Haas. All approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Stampfli.  
The balance is slightly more than this time last year. Recent income includes approximately \$600 from pop machine sales which will be used to replenish the pop. Plus, some new member dues.  
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurers report. Motion made by Dave Cotton, second by Jeff Pecca. All approved.
4. **Safety Chairman's Report** – Jim Thompson.  
No report.  
  
Dale mentioned that Paul Martin had an injury during the Fun Fly. Paul Martin explained that he was rushing to tune a glow engine and was momentarily distracted. The propeller hit several of his fingers, resulting in a trip to the hospital, and several stitches.
5. **Government Relations Chairman's Report** – Tom Spriet.  
Tom Spriet reported that he spoke with several officials at the Saint Charles Municipal Center regarding the FVAC Field Lease. The lease renewal is in process, and currently being reviewed by the Saint Charles legal department.
6. **Membership Chairman's Report** – Dave Cotton.
  - a. Member count at 201.
  - b. New Members – Johnny Gago, James Murphy, Michael Murphy, Paul Nelson, John Rubino.
7. **Field Chairman's Report** – Dale Gathman.  
Dale reported that we are waiting for two consecutive perfect days to prime roof.  
Walt Thyng has offered to recycle unwanted Lipo batteries. A 5-gallon ACE bucket will be available outside the pavilion for LIPO battery disposal. Walt will collect the batteries for recycling.
8. **Flypaper Editor's Report** – Paul Martin.  
We are doing great!
9. **Public Relations Chairman's Report** – Todd Culbertson.  
No report.  
Dale mentioned that Todd provided flyers for the upcoming events.
10. **Retro Fly Report** – Dale Gathman for Doug Swanson.  
Due to rain on Saturday, the event was rescheduled for the following day and combined with the Fun-Fly. Several members flew their vintage models and brought items to show. Doug will not run the event next year; however we may just announce a retro day and ask modelers to bring their vintage items.



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11. **Fun Fly #2** – Climb & Glide Variant – Dale Gathman.  
Several members participated in the Fun-Fly. Jeff Hughes was the First Place winner.
12. **Cub Fly Report** – August 12 – Tom Flint.  
Tom Flint is planning events including Limbo, Touch & Go, Kamikaze and Pop & Go.  
Pilots can earn “Ace” wings. Tom is hoping for 50 Cubs this year. We currently have 48 registered.  
Food will be provided.
13. **Night Fly Report** – August 12 – Dale Gathman.  
Dale mentioned the night fly is from 6:00pm – midnight. Food will be provided. Bring your own drinks.
14. **Cub Scout Rocket Fest Report** – August 26– Dale Gathman.  
Todd has cancelled the Rocket event.  
It is too late in the year. Scouts have not started meeting yet, and no rockets are ready.
15. **Family Fly Day Report** – August 26 – Dale Gathman.  
Family fly will be held 1:00 – 4:00 pm. We will need pilots with trainers, buddy box, and spotters.
16. **Windy City Jets Report** – September 8,9 -- Dave Murray.  
Dave reported: Lil' Debs is locked in, Buona Beef for Pilot's Dinner, two more Porta Potties scheduled.  
The Daily Herald will include 10,000 WCJ paper inserts in the newspaper, half sent out on 8/27 and half on 9/3.  
Storage Tent will be setup on Thursday. 4-wheeler crash cart with fire extinguishers will be on site thanks to Glenn LaRocco.  
Considered having golf carts to shuttle spectators, but the \$650 expense was not in the budget.  
Volunteer sheets were passed around.
17. **Festival of Flight Report** – September 10 – Jim Thompson.  
No report.  
Dale mentioned we do not have a food vendor. We may need extra volunteers to cook hot-dogs, sell drinks, etc.
18. **Tailgate Swap Report** – September 16– Mike Maciejewski.  
Dale reported the event has been added to the home page of our website.
19. **Turkey Fry Planning** – October 7– Dale Gathman.  
Planning is in process.
20. **Windy City Warbirds & Classics Date Change** – July 11-13, 2024 – Dale Gathman.  
No discussion.

#### Show and Tell:

Mark Knoppkie showed his new FrSky radio.  
The radio and components are reasonably priced. However, there is a learning curve for programming & model setups.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Suhr, second by Steve Haas, all approved.

Meeting was adjourned by Dale Gathman at 8:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Armin Weber – Secretary

## From the Editor

Paul Martin

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

The month of August for FVAC was an extremely busy one!

Retro Fly  
Fun Fly #2  
Cub Fly  
Night Fly  
Family Fly Day

All of these events were well run and well attended. FVAC continues on the path of being a great RC Aircraft club where we can support many areas of interest from the smallest of electrics to awesome Turbines! In this issue, I featured all of the events as they occurred chronologically.

I am putting this issue together the day after Windy City Jets concluded. What a spectacular event with some truly amazing pilots. Look forward to the October issue of the Flypaper that will detail all of the planes and pilots that were able to attend and give the spectators a spectacular view of what RC Jets can do!

Remember that the club meeting on Thursday will be meeting at the St. Charles Township Hall, **Not** the Field!!!

Paul



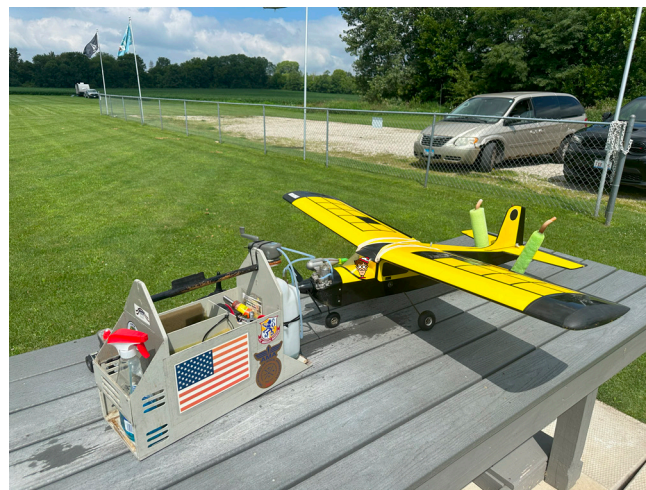
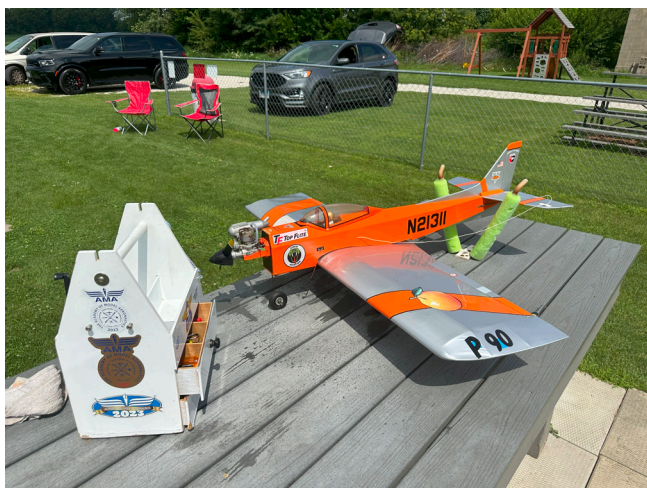
## Watcha got?

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



## Retro Fly Hosted by Doug Swanson August 5, 2023



photos by Doug Swanson and Paul Martin



## Fun Fly #2

### Climb & Glide Two Minute Timed Flight (with a twist)

By Dale Gathman

We held our second Fun Fly on August 6. It was a variation of Climb and Glide. The pilots took off, and a timer was started when their wheels left the runway. When the timer hit 60 seconds, 'Throttle Cut' was called. At that point, the pilot was required to kill their power source. The goal was for the pilot to land and have their plane completely stopped when the timer hit 120 seconds (two minutes). If the flight was longer or shorter than 120 seconds, the difference in seconds was subtracted from a score of 120. Bonus points were given as follows:

20 points for a loop anytime in the flight.

20 points for a roll anytime in the flight.

20 points if the pilot landed their plane completely between two lines drawn on the runway/grass. The lines were 20 feet apart.

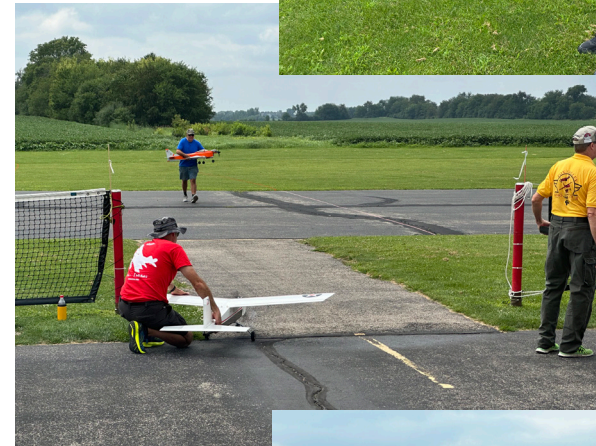
We had a total of ten pilots participate, and after three rounds, the results were tabulated.

Jeff Hughes – First Place – UMX Turbo Timber Evolution

Jeff Mrachek – Second Place - Artizan

Cliff Fullhart - Third Place - Contender

Thanks go to our participating pilots. All had a great time.



## 10th Annual Cub Fly Report August 12, 2023 by Tom Flint and Cliff Fullhart

You Can have your Cake and Fly your Cub too!

The 10th Annual Cub Day Flying Event, Saturday August 12th, was a success. We had 33 registered pilots and about 57 Cubs. We had great weather and completed the full list of Cub Challenges. Three of our Guest Pilots were from the Peoria Club.

We started with the Cub weather prayer which helped with good weather for our Helium Balloon Challenges.

"May Perfect Wind and Weather be Upon Us!  
Where all good Cub landings are a must,  
Where perfect weather can't be beat,  
And each new Cub take off is a treat.  
In Cubs we Trust!"

The weather calmed down. Our large helium balloons stayed afloat at 10 feet off the ground so that our large and small Cubs could try to fly below and between the balloons.

I am always amazed at the control our pilots have with their Cubs for the triple touch and go challenge. The flight attributes of a Cub are just amazing. It was also fun to see the Cubs stay on the ground for 50 to 100 feet for the long roll-out challenge.

I think the biggest challenge and best pilot reaction was our Touch and Go Kamikaze Balloon Pop challenge. Six balloons in a row were pinned to the ground with the goal of popping a balloon as you roll your plane through the row of balloons. It's much harder than it looks or sounds. Few balloons were harmed.

We exceeded our expectations for the Cub Ace Pin award with 12 Cubs in the Air at one time. The take-off was orderly and the landing was disorderly but all Cubs survived. "Just fly the yellow one" was good advice. All 12 pilots were awarded the Custom Cub Yellow Ace Pilot Award.



The Cub group picture, which seems to be everyone's favorite, was a real challenge this year as the wind picked up and blew the small Cubs across the runway. Our giant U-shaped Cub pose seemed to handle the many Cubs and Pilots well, but we had to stop to get a wider, wide angle lens.



photo by Ken Sobolewski

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Photos by Tom Flint



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We ended the day with Pizza and a 10th Anniversary Cub Cake. The Cub picture on the cake was edible but many were hesitant at first.



It is hard to believe Cliff and I have done this event for 10 years and we both stand in awe and appreciation of our Club Cub members. You guys are the best. May your Cubs fly far and last long.

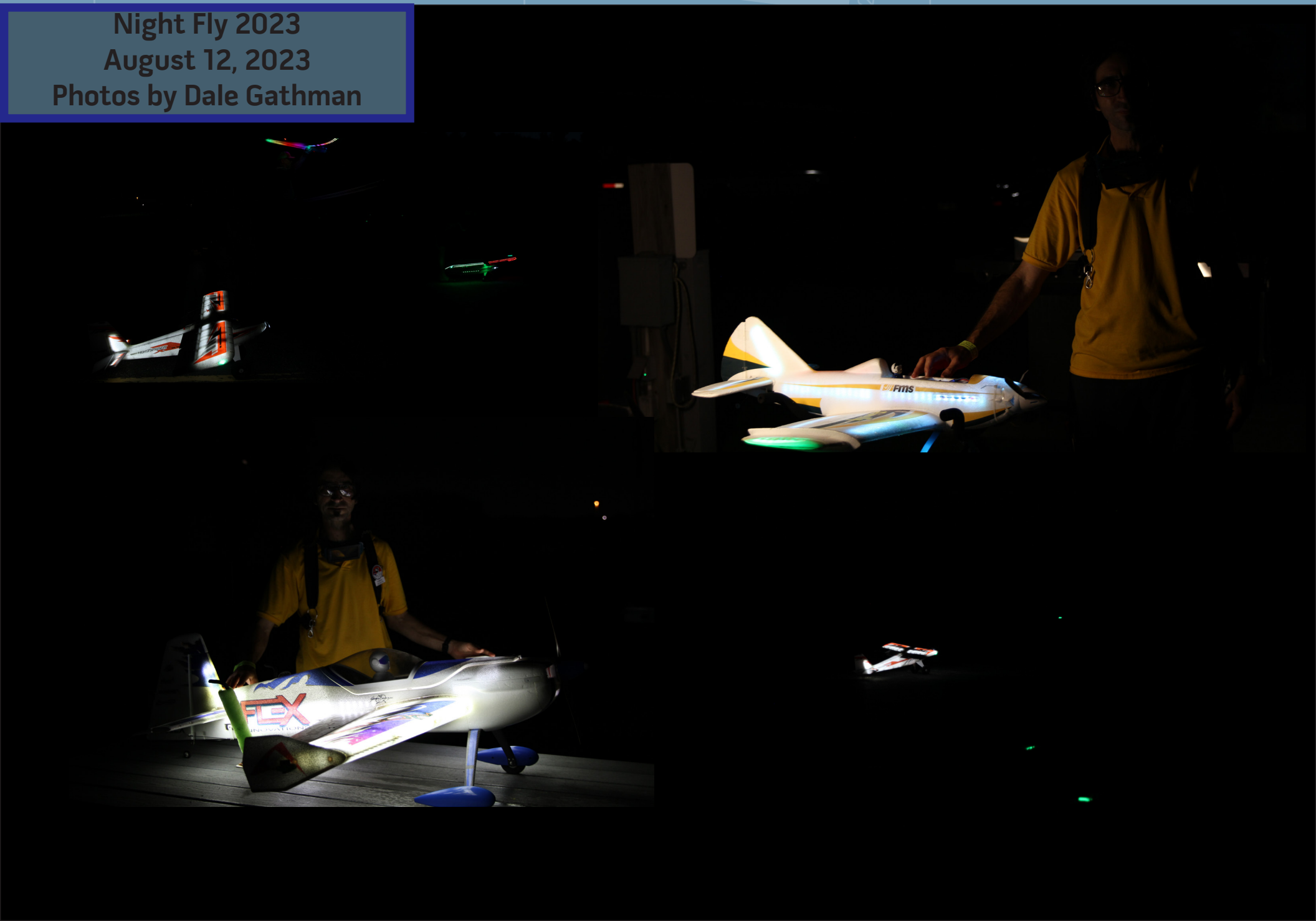
Always carry a spare Cub prop and your Cub will treat you well.

Cliff Fullhart and Tom Flint





Night Fly 2023  
August 12, 2023  
Photos by Dale Gathman





# Family Fly Day

August 26, 2023





# Swapportunity

## SWAPportunity

Hello, the outdoor swap is Saturday September 16th.

Volunteers for the outdoor swap are needed. I know you are tired of volunteering, I am too. I could use your help. I need two people for about an hour Friday night before the swap and five for three hours Saturday morning.

The parking spaces need to be laid out Friday evening and ticket takers and parking help on Saturday. Friday evening at 5:30 is when I be laying out the parking for the vendors. Saturday morning at 7:00, two ticket takers for vendors and three for parking.

If you have not been to the swap the past two years you are missing some opportunities. You may find that part or airplane you just can't live without. The cost is free for buyers and \$10 if you want a space to sell off unneeded items.

Your help will be appreciated.

Mike



**Fox Valley Aero Club  
Tailgate  
SWAPportunity  
R/C SWAP Meet  
Saturday, September 16, 2023  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Vendor fee is \$10.00 per car or car/trailer.  
Bring your own tables or sell from your  
car/trailer. No tables will be provided.  
(Vendors may arrive at 7:30 am.)**

Note that this is an outdoor event  
held at our flying field. As such, there is  
no shelter from stormy conditions.  
Please plan accordingly.

No admittance fee for shoppers.  
Shoppers will be admitted at 9:00 am.  
[www.foxvalleyaero.com](http://www.foxvalleyaero.com)



**FVAC Flying Field  
3831 Karl Madsen Drive  
St. Charles, IL 60174**





|                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| January 1          | <b>Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers</b>             | 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        | <b>FVAC Annual Swap Meet</b>                | 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           | <b>Field Workday</b>                        | 9:00 – FVAC Field                        |
| April 29           | <b>FVAC Cookout - Awards and Raffle</b>     | 12:00 – FVAC Field                       |
| May 6              | <b>Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day</b>       | 9:00 – 1:00 – FVAC Field                 |
| May 11             | FVAC Member Meeting                         | 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall |
| May 29             | <b>St. Charles Memorial Day Parade</b>      | TBD                                      |
| June 4             | <b>Fun-Fly – #1</b>                         | 11:00 – 1:00 – FVAC Field                |
| June 8             | FVAC Member Meeting                         | 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field    |
| <del>June 25</del> | <del><b>Swedish Days Parade</b></del>       | <del>TBD</del>                           |
| July 1             | <b>Electric Only – AMA Sanctioned</b>       | 9:00 – 3:00 Electric Only – FVAC Field   |
| July 6             | FVAC Member Meeting                         | 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field    |
| August 5           | <b>Retro Fly</b>                            | 9:00 – 3:00 - FVAC Field                 |
| August 6           | <b>Fun Fly - #2</b>                         | 11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field                |
| August 10          | FVAC Member Meeting                         | 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field    |
| August 12          | <b>Cub Fly - AMA Sanctioned</b>             | 9:00 – 1:00 Cubs Only - FVAC Field       |
| August 12          | <b>Night Fly – AMA Sanctioned</b>           | 6:00 - Midnight - FVAC Field             |
| August 26          | <b>Cub Scout Rocket Fest</b>                | 9:00 - 11:00 - FVAC Field                |
| August 26          | <b>Family Fly Day</b>                       | 1:00 - 4:00 - FVAC Field                 |
| Sept 8, 9          | <b>Windy City Jets Invitational</b>         | 9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field                 |
| Sept 10            | <b>Festival of Flight</b>                   | 9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field                 |
| Sept 14            | FVAC Member Meeting                         | 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall |
| Sept 16            | <b>FVAC Tailgate Swap Meet - Sanctioned</b> | 9:00 - 1:00 – FVAC Field                 |
| Sept 17            | <b>Fun-Fly #3</b>                           | 11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field                |
| October 7          | <b>Turkey Fry</b>                           | 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!*



# 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:

Your Work Mailing Address:

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 \_\_\_\_\_