

FLY PAPER



August 2026

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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WINDY CITY WARBIRDS AND CLASSICS JULY 9 - 11



Dale Gathman Photo



President's Message

Dale Gathman

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

Oshkosh 2026 – I once again was able to spend 13 days in Oshkosh, attending and volunteering at Airventure 2026. The highlight this year was 80-year-old (approximately) planes. There were a lot of planes that came out right after WWII ended, thus many were produced in 1946. The vintage flightline was full of many fine examples of these, as well as planes that were produced earlier than that. This year, I got to meet up with Joe Pedone again, both on Wednesday and Thursday.

I also saw Dave Jacobsen and Armin Weber and heard that there were a few other club members up there as well. They broke the attendance record again this year, with 734,000 attendees. Over 10,000 aircraft were there, and 6000 volunteers kept everything running smoothly. I encourage everyone to go to Airventure Oshkosh for the world's greatest aviation show at least once in their lifetime. If you have never attended, you don't know what you are missing.

Windy City Warbirds & Classics 2026 – Thanks go to John and Debbie Howe for doing an amazing job of planning and executing our Windy City Warbirds & Classics event for 2026. With help from the additional WCWC planning committee members (Dave Murray, Scott Stampfli, Jim Thompson, and Myself), this third event run by this team went very smoothly. We had pilots come from 5 states, including our friends the 'red shirts', and we once again had a great group of pilots from Missouri join in the fun. The weather was great all three days. A huge thanks go to all of our volunteers, with special thanks to Rich and Jan Gabrys for preparing and selling food on Friday and Saturday, and Jes Stampfli for organizing the sales of our apparel.

Thank you to all who participated in making this event a great success. Look for photo coverage in this issue.

Cub Fly & Night Fly – We unfortunately had to cancel the Cub Fly and Night Fly this year due to rain and high wind. Look for these two events to return in 2027.

Future Events – Look forward to the **Retro Fly** on **August 22**, the **Fun Fly #1** on **August 23**, our **Festival of Flight** on **August 29**, our **EDF Jet Only Event** on **September 5**, the newly named **Fly Market Swap Meet** on **September 26**, and the **Turkey Fry** on **October 10**.

Our full calendar is available on the website, as well as published in our Flypaper issues.

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 **August Member Meeting on the 10th at the Flying Field**, and please bring your new planes and projects to show to the group.

Dale

Watcha got?

The FlyPaper is always looking for content! Send your builds, tips, and tricks for inclusion in this newsletter to: contact@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 Aero Club.

Did You Know!

If you sponsor a new member that joins Fox Valley Aero Club you will receive a \$50 discount off of your annual dues. This applies up to 3 new members annually, for a potential total of \$150.



Secretary's Report

Armin Weber

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026 at
St. Charles Township Hall

1. **Welcome Members and Guests** – Dale Gathman.
Dale Gathman called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.
2. **Approval of Member Meeting Minutes from June 08, 2026** – Armin Weber.
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the BOD Meeting Minutes from June 08, 2026. Motion made by Tracy Wienrich, second by Jeff Mrachek. All Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Stampfli.
Expenses: Routine summer field expenses. WCWC expenses (food, golf karts).
Income: Net Income from WCWC was \$3500 (\$1500 more than last year).
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion made by John Howe, second by Debbie Howe. All Approved.
4. **Safety Chairman's Report** – Jim Thompson.
No issues to report.
5. **Government Relations Chairman's Report** – Dave Murray.
Dave recommended and the board agreed that we not renew our membership in the St. Charles Area Chamber of Commerce. Savings of \$195 per year.
6. **Membership Chairman's Report** – Jeff Peca.
 - a. Member count at 203.
 - b. New Members – Brett Kline, Alexander Kline (Junior Member age 12).
7. **Field Chairman's Report** – Greg Bohler.
Greg thanked the WCWC volunteers.
8. **Flypaper Editor's Report** – Paul Martin.
No report.
9. **Public Relations Chairman's Report** – Todd Culbertson.
Our advertisement in the Patch is paying off. We had over 500 spectators attend the WCWC event.
10. **Chief Flight Instructor's Report** – Dave Jacobsen.
Training continues. Kids are doing great.
11. **Spring Cookout Report** – Debbie Howe.
Successful event. Attendance was good. Food and weather were great.
12. **Electric Only Fly Report** – Jim Thompson.
Successful event. 18 registered pilots.
13. **Windy City Warbirds & Classics Report** – John Howe.
Successful event. 44 registered pilots. John thanked volunteers and vendors.
Volunteer raffle was held; the winners were:
 - Brian Sokol – \$50 gift certificate from Gator RC.
 - Debbie Howe - \$50 gift certificate from Gator RC.
 - Todd Culbertson – AeroScout airplane donated by Mark Knopkie.

(Continued from previous page)

14. **Cub Fly** – Dale Gathman (Kevin Kessler).
 - a. August 1 – 9:00am until 1:00pm. \$10 landing fee. Kevin has special activities planned.
15. **Night Fly** – Dale Gathman.
 - a. August 1 – 6:00pm until midnight. Dale will send an email to all members and area clubs.
16. **Festival of Flight Report** – Jim Thompson.
 - a. August 29. Event is on track. No landing fee. We will charge spectators.

Show & Tell:

Jim Clousing showed his Well-Circulated Balsa USA Phaeton Biplane.

Jim originally built the Phaeton and passed it on to Cliff Fullhart. Cliff flew the plane for a while and passed it to John Howe. John Howe then returned it to Jim Clousing. We look forward to seeing Jim and the Phaeton at the field.

Motion to adjourn by Jeff Peca, second by Debbie Howe. All approved.

Meeting was adjourned by Dale Gathman at 8:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Armin Weber—Secretary

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John and Debbie Howe



Dale Gathman



Maiden Mentions

Armin Weber maidenized his beautiful Beechcraft Staggerwing on July 19. Congratulations Armin!

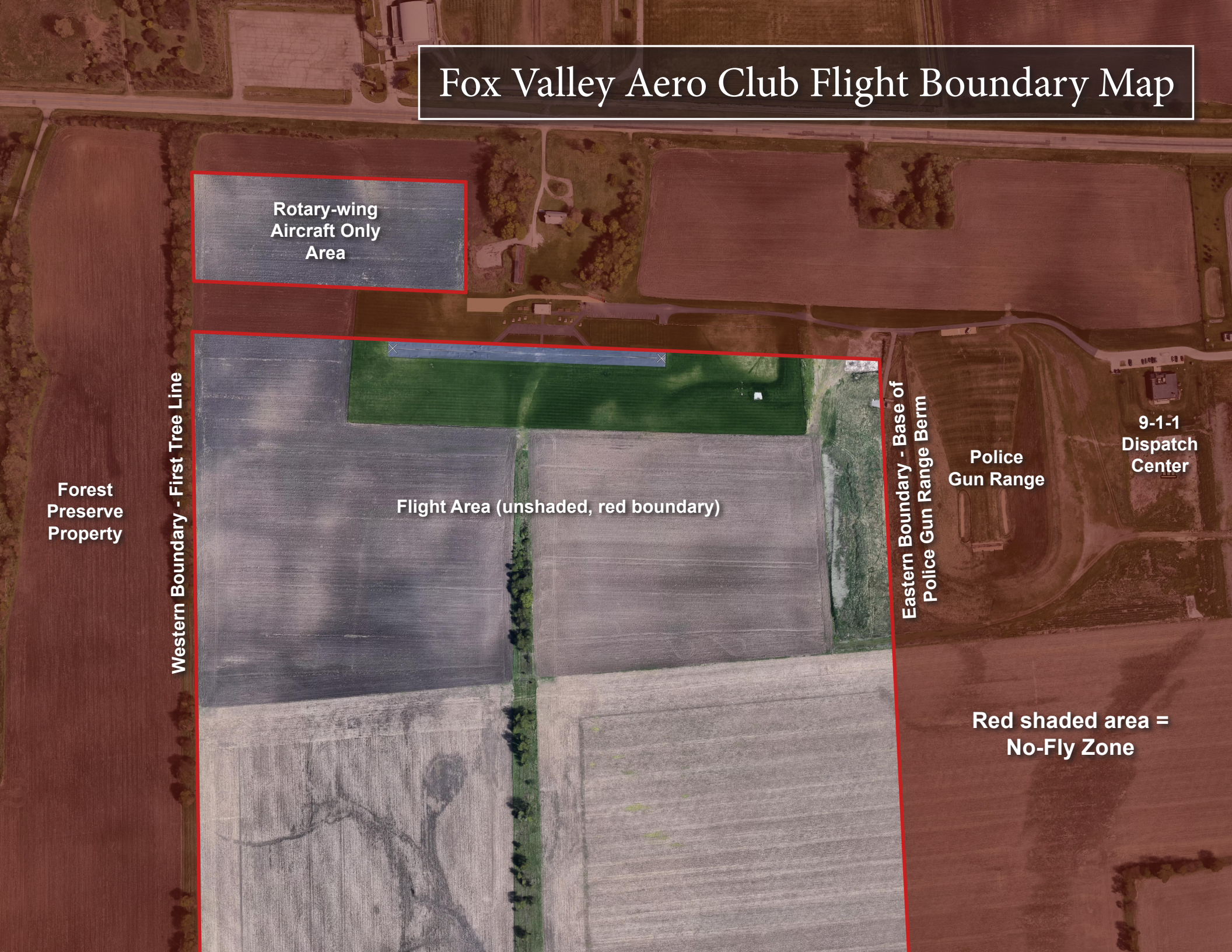


John "JT" Turner Photo

January 1	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers	10:00 am FVAC Field
January 12	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 14	FVAC Annual February 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 18	Field Workday	9:00 – FVAC Field
May 2	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day	9:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field
May 9	Family Fly Day	10:00 - 2:00 - FVAC Field
May 11	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
May 25	St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	TBD
June 8	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
June 14	Fun Fly - #1	11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field
June 20	FVAC Spring Cookout	12:00 - FVAC Field
July 4	Electric Only – AMA Sanctioned	9:00 – 3:00 Electric Only – FVAC Field
July 9-11	Windy City Warbirds & Classics - AMA Sanctioned	9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field
July 13	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 1	Cub Fly - AMA Sanctioned	9:00 – 1:00 - Cubs Only - FVAC Field
August 1	Night Fly - AMA Sanctioned	6:00 - Midnight - FVAC Field
August 10	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 22	Retro Fly	9:00 – 3:00 - FVAC Field
August 23	Fun Fly #2	11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field
August 29	Festival of Flight	9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 5	EDF Jet Only - AMA Sanctioned	9:00 - 3:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 14	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
Sept 26	FVAC Fly Market Swap Meet - AMA Sanctioned	8:00 - 1:00 – FVAC Field
October 10	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 5	Christmas Party	6:00 - West Chicago VFW Hall

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



Mail this completed form to:

Fox Valley Aero Club
P.O. Box 837
St. Charles, IL 60174-0837

Fox Valley Aero Club Membership Form

New **ADULT** member assessment fee: \$300 (does not include dues)

Yearly dues

ADULT members (19 years old and over): \$150.00 per member

JUNIOR members (under 19 years old): \$25.00 per member

FAMILY membership: \$150.00 for primary member

\$25 for each additional household member
(A.M.A. membership required for flying privileges.)

Make checks payable to "Fox Valley Aero Club"

Primary Member PLEASE PRINT

☐ New member

New **ADULT** member assessment fee ☐ \$300

FULL NAME

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL

☐ Send club notices

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

BIRTHDATE

A.M.A. NUMBER

Dues amount

(See above):

☐ \$150.00

☐ \$25.00

☐ I am a current turbine waiver holder

☐ I agree to abide by the FVAC
Constitution and By-laws & the
Field Rules of Fox Valley Aero Club.

SIGNATURE

(signature of guardian if Junior Member)

DATE

Additional Household Family Member PLEASE PRINT

☐ New member

FULL NAME

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL

☐ Send club notices

BIRTHDATE

A.M.A. NUMBER

Dues amount (see above):

☐ \$25.00

☐ I am a current turbine waiver holder

☐ I agree to abide by the FVAC
Constitution and By-laws & the
Field Rules of Fox Valley Aero Club.

SIGNATURE

(signature of guardian if Junior Member)

DATE

Additional Household Family Member PLEASE PRINT

☐ New member

FULL NAME

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL

☐ Send club notices

BIRTHDATE

A.M.A. NUMBER

Dues amount (see above):

☐ \$25.00

☐ I am a current turbine waiver holder

☐ I agree to abide by the FVAC
Constitution and By-laws & the
Field Rules of Fox Valley Aero Club.

SIGNATURE

(signature of guardian if Junior Member)

DATE

Were you referred by an existing member?

If so, please list their name here: _____

Total amount enclosed: _____