

FLY PAPER



October 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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Vice President:

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treasurer@foxvalleyaero.com

Flypaper Editor:

Paul Martin

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2026 FVAC Outdoor Fly Market

September 26, 2026



Dale Gathman photo



President's Message

Dale Gathman

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

Fly Market R/C Tailgate Swap – Our sixth 'sanctioned' tailgate swap went very well. We filled the sellers area with around 55 sellers, and we had our largest shopper turnout yet. Thanks to Glenn LaRocco and crew for running the event. Also, thanks to all who donated items for the club table, and to Dave Jacobsen, Kevin Hersey and Greg Bohler for organizing the donations and manning the club table. See the article from Glenn as well as photos from the event elsewhere in this issue.

Turkey Fry – As I am writing this before the Turkey Fry, our annual Turkey Fry is Saturday, October 10 at 12:00 noon at the field. This is a fun event, and a time of celebrating another great flying year with our members and families. I hope to see you there.

Opportunity to Serve the Club – Serving on the Board of Directors is a great way to help your club out and to get to know the inner workings of the club. If you feel called to run for one of the At-Large Director positions or for an Officer position, have someone nominate you. Our election process starts with open nominations at our October Member Meeting, and then again at our November Member Meeting. The Election takes place via electronic vote shortly after the November meeting. Give some thought to the possibility of joining the board for 2027. If you have any questions about serving in this capacity, please contact me.

I look forward to seeing you at the Member Meeting on Monday, October 12 at 7:30pm. We will be meeting at the St. Charles Township building. Please bring any new projects you may be working on. Hope to see you there.

Dale



Clint Hull - Mayor of Saint Charles
with Todd Culbertson



Secretary's Report

Armin Weber

contact@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2026 at
St. Charles Township Hall

1. **Welcome members** – Dale Gathman.
Dale Gathman called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.
2. **Approval of Member Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2026** – Armin Weber.
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the BOD Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2026. Motion made by Jeff Mrachek, second by Bill Suhr. All Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Stampfli.
Expenses: Routine summer field expenses. About two more months of mowings left.
Income: EDF event, Festival and Donations.
Scott projected income and expenses thru the end of the year. We are looking good.
Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion made by John Zingale, second by Jeff Peca. All Approved.
4. **Field Rules Revision to Rule 6 and Rule 17**
– Dale Gathman.
The board voted to change the following Field Rules:
 - a. Rule #6 – Change "All pilots not utilizing 2.4 GHz radios shall obtain an appropriate frequency pin from the frequency box. Pilots shall not fly without the pin in their possession." to "All pilots utilizing 72 MHz radios must coordinate with any other pilots at the field who are using 72 MHz to assure that they are not using a frequency being used by those pilots."
 - b. Rule #17 – Change "The direction will be indicated by the pattern direction arrow posted at the center of the flight station area." to "The pattern direction will be decided by the pilots flying and should be into the wind for takeoffs and landings."
5. **Safety Chairman's Report** – Jim Thompson.
Jim will make sure the field address is posted inside the AED case. He reminded all pilots to be careful of the possibility of flying through the sun this time of year. Pilots can use the sun dots or block the sun with their radio.
6. **Government Relations Chairman's Report** – Dave Murray.
Dave mentioned the Mayor of Saint Charles attended the festival.
7. **Membership Chairman's Report** – Jeff Peca.
 - a. Member count at 205.
 - b. New Member – Lyubomyr Lyasota.
 - c. Welcome guest Vince Lynn.
8. **Field Chairman's Report** – Greg Bohler.
Projects for this year are complete. No new projects are scheduled for this year.
9. **Flypaper Editor's Report** – Paul Martin.
No report.

(Continued from previous page)

10. **Public Relations Chairman's Report** – Todd Culbertson.
Advertising in the Patch is paying off. Todds welcome tent at the Festival drew a lot of interest.
Attendance at the Festival was great. Attendees included Clint Hull - Mayor of Saint Charles and the President of Futaba.
11. **Chief Flight Instructor's Report** – Dave Jacobsen.
Students are in training. New member Doug Fick will be ready to solo soon.
12. **Retro Fly Report** – Dale Gathman.
The event was a success. The weather was great. We had a great turnout of retro planes and equipment.
13. **Fun Fly #1 Report** – Dale Gathman.
a. Loop/ Roll/ Touch-N-Go.
Fun event but had a strong crosswind.
1st place: (Tie) Dan Vancura, Jeff Mrachek. 2nd place: Jacob Olef. 3rd place: Armin Weber.
14. **Festival of Flight Report** – Jim Thompson.
The event was a success. Lots of spectators. Weather was great. 33 registered pilots. 36 exotic cars. 5 vintage motorcycles.
15. **EDF Jet Only Event Report** – Jeff Peca.
The event was a success. Weather was great. Food was exceptional. 41 registered pilots. Great prizes supplied by Horizon Hobby.
16. **Fly Market Swap Meet** – Glenn LaRocco.
a. September 26 from 8:00-1:00 (sanctioned).
17. **Fun Fly #2** – Dale Gathman.
a. September 27 – 11:00-1:00. Topic TBD.
18. **Turkey Fry Plan** – Dale Gathman, Karl Griesbaum.
a. October 10 – 12:00- ???.

Show & Tell:

Steve Gawlik showed his giant Shoestring. Steve enlarged the original Goldberg plans from a 54" model to a 108" model. The model is glassed and painted with Behr Latex and will be powered by a 38cc engine. Graphics are from Callie Graphics.



Steve Gawlik also showed his wing-bags made from Harbor Freight moving pads with the edges stapled together.



Jeff Mrachek showed his new Skynetic Dragonfly from Motion RC. The model can be flown from water, snow and grass. Jeff applied EZ-Kote for a glossy finish and uses a 3s-1800 LiPo.

Bill Suhr showed his Roban 407 Helicopter. The 700-size heli has a beautiful factory applied finish. The model uses two 6S batteries and flies with a four blade rotor head. It came with full cockpit including lighted instrument panel, seats and even a carpeted floor. Bill added details such as seat belts.



Motion to adjourn by John Howe, second by Debbie Howe. All approved.
Meeting was adjourned by Dale Gathman at 8:45pm.
Minutes submitted by Armin Weber—Secretary

As Dale mentioned in his Presidents message, elections are approaching and will be held electronically in November. Prior to the election, a Special Election Issue of the Flypaper will be sent to the club membership that will include a photo and brief statement of those who choose to run for positions in the club. If you are planning on running, even if you are an unopposed incumbent, please give some thought to what you would like to include in your article. You still have plenty of time as the issue will go out in November. I will let everyone know when I need your articles and photos.

Along the lines of new positions, I would like to take a moment and reiterate the request for someone to step into the Flypaper Editor position. I enjoy composing the issue every month but my work is slowly putting more demands on my time. If you have even the slightest interest in giving your time, enthusiasm, knowledge and skill as Flypaper Editor and would like to learn more about it, please reach out to me!

See ya at the field!
Paul

From the Editor

Paul Martin

contact@foxvalleyaero.com



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.

2026 FVAC Outdoor Fly Market

THANK YOU to everyone for your help in making the 2026 FVAC Outdoor Swap a huge success this year! The feedback from both guests and members was very positive. It is awesome to see how much this event continues to grow each year contributing to our club. We had travelers come from as far away as Iowa and Wisconsin this year.

We had approximately **55 vendors** attend, and the parking lot was packed with shoppers all the way down to the gun range (not to mention those selling and buying)!

A special thanks to **Rocket Man, Jeff Peca, and Jessie Stampfli** for helping with advertising; the **Friday morning setup crew - Mike Maciejewski, Jim Clousing, Rob Sampson, Dale Gathman, and Rich Gabrys**; and the group of volunteers who collected, organized, priced, and sold all of the donations for the club table – **Dave Jacobsen, Greg Bohler, Kevin Hersey**. Thank you also to **Dave Jacobsen** for going above and beyond with the donations this year; **Peter Hughes and Dale Gathman** for running parking; **Jessie** for working the gate; **Mike Maciejewski** for parking and organizing vendors; **Jean and Jeff Peca** for keeping us warm with coffee and donuts; and **John Anzalone** for the Jet Display for all of our guests to enjoy—it definitely had a **WOW FACTOR!**

Our success this year from the **gate, coffee, and club table** resulted in nearly **\$3,000 addition to our account balance!**

Thank you again to everyone who helped make this year's swap such a success!
Sincerely,
Glenn LaRocco

PS I apologize if I missed any volunteers...it takes a team!



A PARTING SHOT

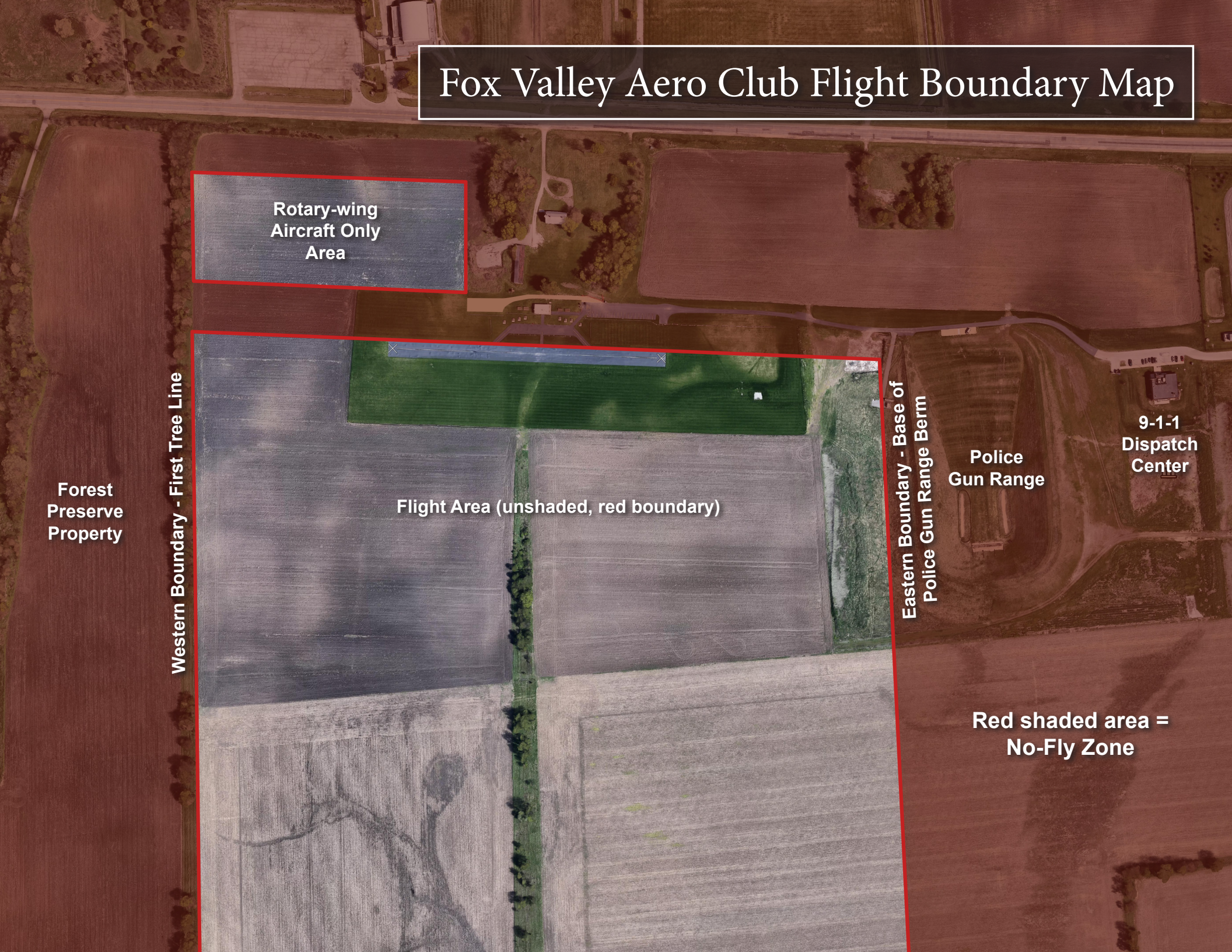
A recent photo of 2 beautiful WWI aircraft.
Armin Webers DR1 Triplane with Dave Brussels D7



January 1 January 12	Fun-Fly — Frozen Fingers FVAC Member Meeting	10:00 am FVAC Field 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
February 9 February 14	FVAC Member Meeting FVAC Annual February Swap Meet	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall 8:30 – 4:00 - Kane County Fairgrounds
March 9	FVAC Member Meeting	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall
April 13 April 18	FVAC Member Meeting Field Workday	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall 9:00 – FVAC Field
May 2 May 9 May 11 May 25	Tree Line/Berm Orientation Day Family Fly Day FVAC Member Meeting St. Charles Memorial Day Parade	9:00 – 3:00 – FVAC Field 10:00 - 2:00 - FVAC Field 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall TBD
June 8 June 14 June 20	FVAC Member Meeting Fun Fly - #1 Postponed FVAC Spring Cookout	6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field 11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field 12:00 - FVAC Field
July 4 July 9-11 July 13	Electric Only – AMA Sanctioned Windy City Warbirds & Classics - AMA Sanctioned FVAC Member Meeting	9:00 – 3:00 Electric Only – FVAC Field 9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field
August 1 August 1 August 10 August 22 August 23 August 29	Cub Fly - AMA Sanctioned Cancelled Night Fly - AMA Sanctioned Cancelled FVAC Member Meeting Retro Fly Fun Fly #1 - Loop, Roll, Touch-n-Go Festival of Flight	9:00 – 1:00 - Cubs Only - FVAC Field 6:00 - Midnight - FVAC Field 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at FVAC Field 9:00 – 3:00 - FVAC Field 11:00 - 1:00 - FVAC Field 9:00 - 5:00 - FVAC Field
Sept 5 Sept 14 Sept 26 Sept 27	EDF Jet Only - AMA Sanctioned FVAC Member Meeting FVAC Fly Market Swap Meet - AMA Sanctioned Fun-Fly - #2 Cancelled	9:00 - 3:00 - FVAC Field 6:30 Board, 7:30 Member at Township Hall 8:00 - 1:00 – FVAC Field
October 10 October 12	Turkey Fry FVAC Member Meeting	12:00 - FVAC Field 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

Flight Area (unshaded, red boundary)

Forest
Preserve
Property

Western Boundary - First Tree Line

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: _____