November 2026

FLYPAPER

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

AMA

Academy of Model Aeronautics
Charter Club #252

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The photos on this page were contributed by Armin Weber. He has his models displayed next to full scale aircraft at the EAA Museum in Oshkosh, WI.
The Spacewalker was displayed next to Maxey Hester and Hazel Sig Spacewalker1. The Staggerwing was displayed in the Eagle hanger under the Grumman Duck.

PRESIDENT



President's Message

Dale Gathman
contact@foxvalleyaero.com

An Awesome Reason to Build and Repair Your Own Planes – As the cold weather and short days set in, I was thinking about the flying season coming to an end for most of us. The next few months will be considered 'Build Season' to those of us who build and repair our own planes. I look forward to this time each year, as I always have a list of projects that I do not have time to get to during the 'Flying Season'. By building and repairing my own models, I get to spend time involved in our hobby even when the weather outside is terrible. Following a build, there is nothing like the exhilaration of watching a plane that you built take to the skies on its maiden flight (hopefully successfully). That feeling can even come from the successful maiden of a plane that has undergone an extensive repair job. If you have never built a plane from a kit, you may want to give it a try. We have many members in the club who build and can give advice. There is also a great series of videos from Balsa USA (available on YouTube) showing the step-by-step complete build of one of their Nieuport 17 kits.

FVAC Christmas Party 2026 – The Christmas Party will again be held at the VFW Hall in West Chicago. It will be on Saturday, December 5 at 6:00 pm. We are currently collecting names of our attendees, so if you have not yet replied to the email asking if you plan to attend, please do so right away. We will once again be collecting gift cards and cash for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program this year. Please donate generously to this great program. The gifts go to those kids in the Tri-village area (St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia) who are not as fortunate as we are. We will also be collecting toys and gift cards at the member meeting on November 9th. The toys and gift cards will be delivered to the Salvation Army from the club following the Christmas Party. Note that any cash received will be used to purchase gift cards for the donation.

February Swap 2027– Debbie and John Howe are working on the 2027 Swap Meet at the Kane County Fairgrounds. This Swap Meet will be on Saturday, February 20, 2027. Details are available on our website and registration will be open soon. Contact Debbie if you have any questions.

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. We always welcome anyone who would like to run for At-Large Director or for any of the Officer positions, just 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. Give some thought about the possibility of running for a board position for 2027. If you have any questions about serving in this capacity, please contact me.

FVAC Board Election 2027 – Our election will be taking place via a ballot which will be accessible to you through an email link. We will be sending this out sometime during the week of November 16. Your ballot must be completed within one week of the date it is sent out. The Election results will be emailed out soon after. To facilitate getting the plaque for our Members Choice Award for 2026 in time for the Christmas Party, I will be asking for your Members Choice Award votes via an email from constant Contact (voting members will get this in the next day or two). Your Members Choice selection can be any of our members who you feel are deserving of special recognition for 2026.

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Members who have won this award in the past are not eligible and a list of the previous winners will be provided in the email.

Thanksgiving – I wish you and your families a special Thanksgiving, and hope that we all keep in mind how blessed we are. I also look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Party on December 5.

I hope to see you at our Member Meeting on November 9 at 7:30 pm at the St. Charles Township Building. We will be accepting additional nominations for the election. As always, please bring any projects that you have been working on to show to the attendees.

Dale

SECRETARY



Secretary's Report

Armin Weber
contact@foxvalleyaero.com

Fox Valley Aero Club

Member Meeting Minutes
October 12, 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 September 14, 2026** – Armin Weber.
   Dale Gathman asked for a motion to accept the Member Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2026. Motion made by Jeff Mrachek, second by Bill Suhr. All Approved.

3. **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Stampfli.
   Expenses: Christmas Party and a few more mowings.
   Income: $2988 Tail Gate Swap.
   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. The AED will be moved inside for storage shortly.

5. **Open Floor for Officer and At Large Director Nominations** – Dale Gathman.
   All current elected board members will run for 2027.
   Dale asked for a motion to accept the nomination of all current elected board members. Motion made by Dave Jacobson, second by Bill Suhr. All Approved.
   Debbie Howe was nominated for Director At Large.
   John Zingale was nominated for Director At Large.

6. **Government Relations Chairman's Report** – Dave Murray.
   No report.

7. **Membership Chairman's Report** – Dale Gathman for Jeff Peca.
   a. Member count at 208.
   b. New Members – Vincent Lynn, Dale Hendricks, Calvin Zdunek (Junior, Grandson of Dale Hendricks).

8. **Field Chairman's Report** – Greg Bohler.
   Pavillion is ready for winter. Mowing will be done for the year soon.

9. **Flypaper Editor's Report** – Paul Martin.
   No report.

10. **Public Relations Chairman's Report** – Todd Culbertson.
    No report.

11. **Chief Flight Instructor's Report** – Dave Jacobsen.
    Working with several students. No issues.

12. **Fly Market Tailgate Swap Report** – Mike Maciejewski for Glenn LaRocco.
    Very successful event. Weather was great. 55 spots sold. Cleared $2988.

13. **Fun Fly #2 Report** – Dale Gathman
    Cancelled due to TFR.

14. **Turkey Fry Report** – Karl Griesbaum.
    Successful event. Weather was great. Food was great.

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15. **Christmas Party Report** – Deb Howe.
    a. December 5 at West Chicago VFW Hall.
    b. Awards Presented.
    c. Full Raffle Prizes.
    d. Big Dog. $25 per ticket.
    e. Salvation Army / Angel Tree donations will be accepted at the party and at the field the weekend before the party.

16. **February Swap Report** – Deb Howe.
    a. February 20, 2027 – Kane County Fairgrounds. Planning is in process.

17. **Windy City Warbirds & Classics 2027 Date** – July 8,9,10.

18. **Tailgate Swap (Fly Market R/C Swap Meet) Date** – September 25, 2027.

19. **Close Floor for Officer and At-Large Director Nominations** – Dale Gathman
    There were no additional nominations. The floor was closed to nominations and will open again at the November Member meeting.

Jeff Hughes showed his new Steam 420 Size Helicopter. Jeff won the kit at a recent helicopter event and added his own electronics to complete the kit.





Armin Weber showed his recently Completed Gee Bee. The 65" model is from a Vintage Great Planes ARF. The model has a fiberglass fuselage and built-up wing. It was originally intended for .90 to 1.20 glow. The model was converted to electric power with a 450 KV motor and 100amp esc.

Show & Tell:

Jacob Olef showed his New Top Flite P-39 Airacobra purchased at the recent Pot-Of-Gold Swap held in Indiana. The model was intended for .60 glow but currently has 6s 6000 electric power with an 80amp ESC and electric retracts.



Dale Gathman mentioned that he tried Deluxe Materials Foam Finish. The product can be used as a final clear coat or an undercoating prior to painting. When used as a primer prior to painting, it prevents masking tape from pulling up the color.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Maciejewski, second by Tom Flint. 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 election for 2027 positions is coming up later this month. If you plan on running for a position, even as an unopposed incumbent, please submit a candidate statement and a photo no later than 5 pm on Friday, November 13th. I will not accept any contributions after 5 pm. Please include the photo as a separate file in JPEG format.

Along those lines, I continue to reach out to anyone that would like to contribute their talents and imagination as the new Flypaper Editor. The position allows you to participate and contribute to the club largely on your own time by collecting articles and pictures and arranging them in the monthly newsletter. Please reach out to me if you are at all interested in the position.

See ya at the field!
Paul





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 Turkey Fry











Parting Shots



Steve Gawlick with his P-12E Electric



John Zingale with his L-39 EDF

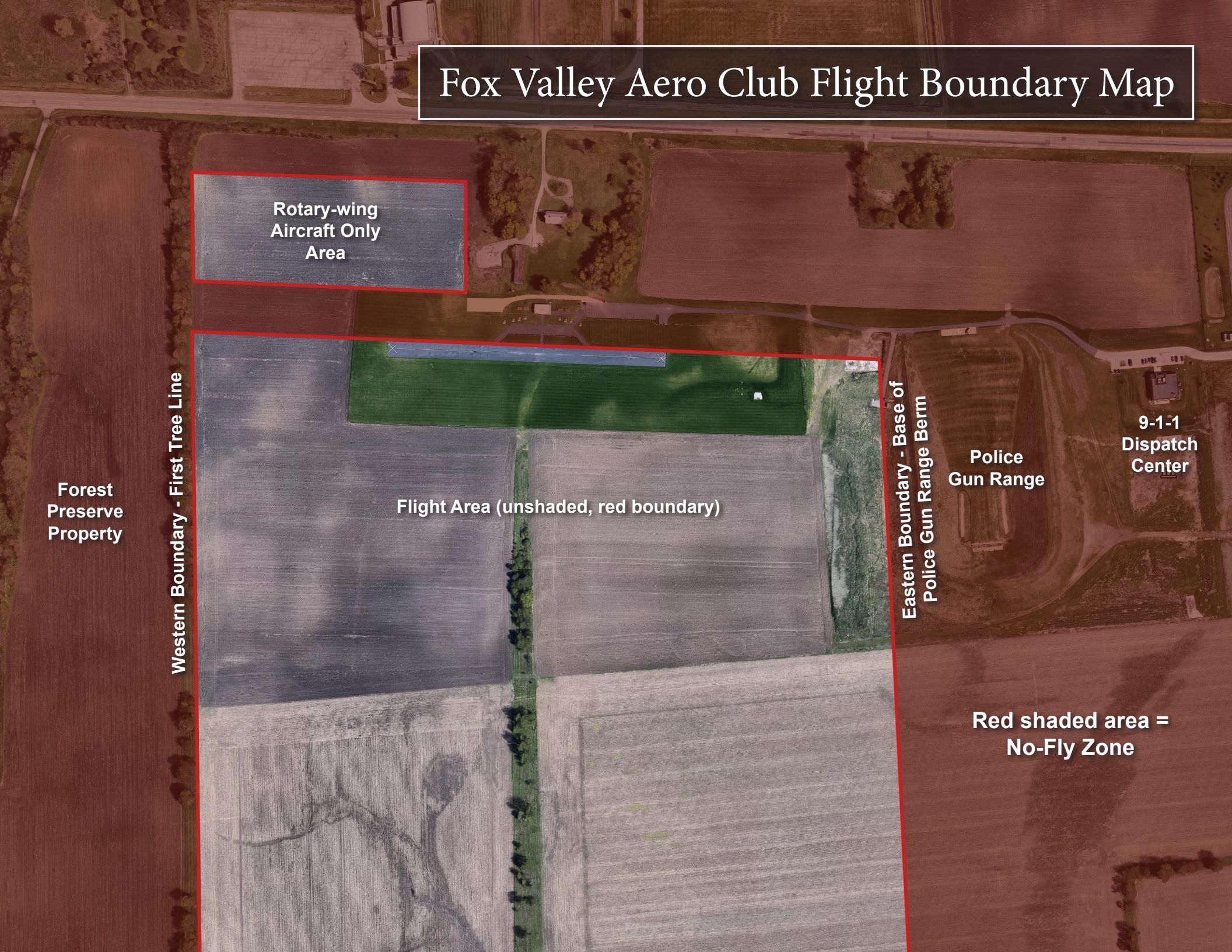
John "JT" Turner Photos

2026 EVENTS

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** **Postponed**	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** **Cancelled**	9:00 – 1:00 - Cubs Only - FVAC Field
August 1	**Night Fly - AMA Sanctioned** **Cancelled**	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 #1 - Loop, Roll, Touch-n-Go**	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
Sep 27	**Fun-Fly - #2** **Cancelled**	
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



Fox Valley Aero Club Membership Form

Mail this completed form to:

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

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 privledges.)

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: _____