

WINDY FLYER

From the Editor

By Ed Miller



Wow! July brought us some wild weather with a trifecta of heat, wind, and rain. Despite that, we managed to enjoy a successful Burger and Fly night. It's a fantastic event where you can sit next to a fellow member and get to know them better. Keeping up with the social spirit of our Club, we have our Club picnic coming up on August 16th (or the 17th if it rains).

We'll be serving food, water, and soft drinks, and we ask that you bring a dessert to share. All members, their families, grandkids, and friends are welcome. Instructors will be available for anyone interested in a flying lesson. And don't forget to bring a plane to fly. Show your guests how good you are!

(see From the Editor next page)



Woodland Aero Modeler's Flying Field at Waterfall
Glen Forest Preserve, Lemont, Illinois

Did You Know?

On the morning of June 4, 1942, Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron, a proud member of the Oneida Nation, led Torpedo Squadron 8 (VT-8) from the USS Hornet into the Battle of Midway. Flying outdated TBD Devastators, they faced an impossible task, slow, under-defended torpedo bombers against the best fighters and pilots in the Imperial Japanese Navy and the formidable Kido Butai.

Waldron knew the odds. Before takeoff, he told his men: "If there is only one plane left to make a final run, I want that man to go in and get a hit"



Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron

(See Did You Know on page 2)

(From the Editor continued)

We're excited to welcome our new member, Ludwig De Mesa. After a 16 year hiatus from R/C, Ludwig is back and flying beautifully!

Happy Flying!!

Ed Miller

Club Secretary

Windy Flyer Editor-in-Chief



Now that's a Club picnic!

Erratum: In July's *Windy Flyer* we incorrectly placed our Club picnic on July's Calendar. We are having the picnic on August 16th and the Fun Fly has been rescheduled for sometime in September. Our proof reader has been duly punished.

(Did You Know continued)

VT-8 found the Japanese fleet, but without fighter cover. All 15 of Waldron's aircraft were shot down. Only one man survived, Ens. George Gay, who watch the battle unfold while floating in the sea.

29 of the 30 men from VT-8 were KIA.

Though none of VT-8's torpedoes struck, their sacrifice drew Japanese fighters down to sea level, leaving the skies clear for the dive bombers that arrived moments later and turned the tide of the war.

John C. Waldron and the VT-8 didn't come home, but, they changed history.

A legacy of courage, duty, and devotion.



A bomber dropping its torpedo

Woodland Aero Modelers

*Radio Controlled Flying Club***Club Officers**

President/membership	Tim Mercier	
Vice-President	Brad TerMaat	
Executive Director	Craig McKenzie	
Secretary	Ed Miller	secwamclub279@gmail.com
Treasurer	John Baderman	
Safety Officer	John Horwath	
Chief Instructor	Craig McKenzie	
Instructors	John Baderman	
	Ed Miller	
	Brad TerMaat	
<i>Control Line</i>	Mark Romanowitz	
<i>Helicopter</i>	Steve Zielinski	

Calendar**August 2025**

- 5th Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00pm 16th or
- 17th Club picnic (date to be picked one week out)
- 16th and 17th Chicago Air and Water Show
- 16th SAC Club float fly, Twin Lakes, Oak Forest, 8am till noon
- 21st Save the date. Fly and Burger evening, weather permitting. Look for an email early in the week with details.

September 2025

- 2nd Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00pm
- 6th Fox Valley EDF Jet Event 9am-3pm
- 13th SAC Club float fly, Twin Lakes, Oak Forest 8:00am till noon
- 18th Save the date. Fly and Burger evening, weather permitting. Look for an email early in the week with details.
- 27th Fox Valley Tailgate Swap Meet 3821 Karl Madsen Dr., St. Charles, IL

August Birthdays

Minutes from the August 5th Meeting

Meeting Called to Order:

- 7:00 pm by President Tim Mercier

Secretary's Report:

- Report read, and approved

Treasurer's Report: -We have \$11,884 combined with our checking, savings and CD. Our Wintrust Bank accounts were unexpectedly closed! The accounts have been reopened. They claimed they could not find us as a registered corporation. We may have to register as a not-for-profit. A preliminary budget will be presented at next month's meeting. Any suggestions or changes to the budget, present them to John Baderman.

Executive Director's Report: Nothing new to report

Chief Instructor: We are still continuing with the same instruction. If you need any help, let us know.

Safety Director: Take water with you at the field. Fly with someone. The field looks beautiful. Watch out for poison ivy if you venture out into the woods. There is a hedge trimmer located in the cabinet under flag pole table. Use it to cut a path.

Old Business: None

New Business: John Baderman has lubricated our gate lock and field locks. Very smooth operating now. Grass cutting cannot be scheduled. John monitors it regularly but if you feel it is too long then let him know. This year's rain has really kept it growing. Craig McKenzie mentioned small wheels and wheel pants makes it difficult to take off. You need bigger wheels or hand launch. We do have a short rug stored in the cabinet under the wind sock pole that can be used for planes with small wheels.

Our Club Picnic is scheduled for Saturday August 16th with a rain date of August 17th. We are leaning strongly for the 16th. Final determination will be early next week.

Bill Brzostowski will pick up the food and John Baderman will get drinks.

Our Fun Fly will be in September.

Announcements:

Dennis Miendersma suggested having something at the field for National Night Out. However, Forest Preserve rules won't allow anyone in the preserve past dusk. We do have our monthly Thursday night Burger/Beer event however.

Jeff Peca from the Fox Valley Aero Club mentioned two interesting events his Club is holding. First, an EDF Jet Event on Saturday September 6th from 9am to 3pm and a Tailgate Swap Event on Saturday September 27th from 8:00am to 1:00 pm. Jeff also recommended a starter EDF, the V2Avanti by Freewing.

Steve Zielinski mentioned that SIG now has in stock their LT-40 Trainer and the Somethin' Extra kits.

Model building hints and tips:

Check out FaceBook Market Place. Lots of stuff on there.

New Members:

We are pleased to welcome Ludwig De Mesa. Ludwig is an experienced flyer but had stopped flying for 16 years. He has started up again and flies beautifully.

Planes for Points:

None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:55pm

Photos

Mark Ebert and Scott Emmerling with Mark's Cub



Chris Brook with his Beaver airplane.

Upcoming Events

**Fox Valley Aero Club
Tailgate
SWAPortunity
R/C SWAP Meet
Saturday, September 27, 2025
8:00 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 8:00 am.
www.foxvalleyaero.com



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



**Fox Valley Aero Club
Presents
EDF JET EVENT**

Saturday Sept 6th 9am-3pm
\$10 Landing Fee Lunch Included
Fox Valley Aero Club Field
3831 Karl Madsen Dr., St. Charles IL
Questions Contact Jeff Peca 630-772-7246
www.foxvalleyaero.com