

WINDY FLYER

From the Editor

By Ed Miller



What a wonderful time we shared at our Club picnic! Despite the summer heat, the weather held off, keeping rain at bay until late Saturday night—just enough time for plenty of flying and feasting. The spread was delicious, and those desserts truly stole the show. Sincere thanks go out to everyone who helped set up and clean up, to those who contributed food and treats, and especially to Bill Brzostowski for handling our food arrangements. Be sure to check out the picnic photos on page 6!

Exciting news: our Club received a \$75 Club Recognition and Reward Grant from the AMA, thanks to our feature in *Downers Grove Magazine* as a local “Hidden (see From the Editor next page)



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

Did You Know ?

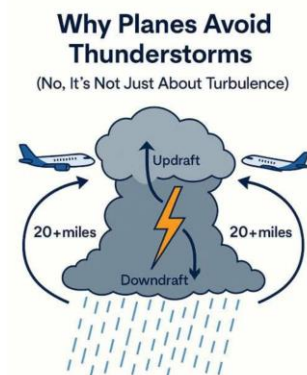
Why Planes Steer Clear of Thunderstorms?

It's More Than Just Turbulence!

When you think about thunderstorms and flying, turbulence probably comes to mind first—but there's a lot more going on up there that makes pilots avoid these powerful weather systems at all costs.

-Extreme Turbulence: Thunderstorms can generate “severe” turbulence—strong enough to toss passengers and crew around, damage equipment, or cause loss of control.

(See Did You Know on page 2)



(From the Editor continued)

Gem." A little spotlight is always welcome. Thanks to some guy named Ed for organizing that.

Our Beer/Fly night brought us together for another round of fun—let's be honest, any reason is a good reason for a brew or two. If you haven't joined in yet, you're definitely missing out on some good times.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for the FunFly competition on September 20th! It promises plenty of laughs and excitement, with contests suited to both beginners and seasoned flyers. No matter your skill level, there's a spot for you—so come out, take part, and enjoy the camaraderie!

Happy Flying!!

Ed Miller

Club Secretary

Windy Flyer Editor-in-Chief

(Did You Know continued)

-Lightning Strikes: While aircraft are built to handle lightning, it's still dangerous. A strike can affect electronics or temporarily blind pilots.

-Hail Damage: Thunderstorms often carry hailstones that can seriously dent aircraft fuselages or crack windshields—especially around the cloud tops where planes fly.

Wind Shear and Microbursts: These sudden changes in wind speed or direction are especially dangerous during takeoff and landing, causing rapid loss of lift or control.

-Icing: Thunderstorms can rapidly form supercooled water droplets, which freeze onto aircraft surfaces adding weight and disrupting airflow.

-Low Visibility: Heavy rain and thick clouds reduce visibility and make instrument flying much more complex, even for seasoned pilots.

Modern radar and satellite systems help pilots detect and avoid thunderstorms long before they get close, even at night or when embedded in cloud layers.

Pilots don't just fly around thunderstorms, they give them a "very wide berth", often 20 miles or more!



On one hand it was a 40 million dollar plane,
on the other hand the spider was
inside the cockpit.



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.co
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

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.
- 20th Fun Fly at our field starting at 10am
- 27th Fox Valley Tailgate Swap Meet 3821 Karl Madsen Dr. St. Charles, Il.

October 2025

- 7th Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00pm
- 11th SAC Club float fly, Twin Lakes, Oak Forest, 8:00am till noon. Last one for 2025
- 16th Save the date. Fly and Burger evening, weather permitting.

Minutes from the September 2nd Meeting

Meeting Called to Order:

- 7:00 pm by President Tim Mercier

Secretary's Report:

- Report read, and approved

Treasurer's Report:

- Report read, and approved, Wintrust Bank has adjusted their specifications so we do not have to register as a non-profit organization. John Baderman presented next year's budget. We're showing a deficit of \$750. However, John stated we usually come in under budget. One of our biggest expenses concerning the Clow Cavalcade is the printing of our Open House/Club info handout. Steve Zielinski has graciously volunteered his company to do the printing at no charge.

Executive Director's Report

- Nothing new to report

Chief Instructor:

- We are still available for instruction. Congratulations to Ray Loy who soloed.

Safety Director:

- Scott Emmerling lost a plane on the east side of the field. While he and Craig McKenzie were out searching for it they stepped on a wasp nest and both were stung. Watch where you are walking! Scott did not find the plane, but returned the next day with a friend who had a drone. He found the plane. Scott brought some wader pants. Although very warm, he experienced no thorn cuts, insect stings, burrs, or poison ivy. Waders go for about \$25, perhaps we should keep a pair under the table by the windsock?

Old Business:

- Our picnic was a great success. The food and desserts were terrific. Kids and adults got a chance to fly. Much thanks to all who participated.

Announcements:

- Our Fun Fly will be Saturday, September 20th starting at 10am. Five contests are scheduled, 1. Balloon burst, 2. Spot Landing, 3. Loops and Rolls in a specific time period, 4. Climb and Glide where you climb as high as possible, cut your throttle and glide back to the field without reactivating your throttle, and last, 5. a taxi race. You can participate in all events or just pick the one that interests you the most. There will be snacks, drinks and prizes.
- Points night has been moved from October to our December meeting (December 2nd.)

- (Meeting notes continued on next page)

(Meeting Notes continued)

Model building hints and tips:

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

New Members:

- None

Planes for Points:

- Mike Doose brought in two planes, a Mad Bull by Hacker Models and an Eratix by E-flite. The Mad Bull is a flat foamy and is better flown as an indoor plane. It has remarkable aerobatic capability. The Eratix can be flown outdoors, but the small wheels and wheel pants make it a hand launch plane.
- Steve Zielinski donated a Real Flight Simulator. Thank you Steve. Also, Steve brought in some spoked wheels from Herbie Wheels. Very authentic looking.

Meeting Adjourned

- 7:56 pm

PicnicPhotos



Photo taken with an Exo Fly Ranger Drone.



Time to chow down



Ludwig De Mesa showing off his heli skills



John Baderman finally talked his lovely wife Catherine into taking a flight. She did great!

More Photos



Mike Doose and his Mad Bull



Mike Doose with his Eratix



Ray Loy showing off his Solo Certificate with John Baderman, Craig McKenzie and Ed Miller



Mike Doose with his Pitts.