

# WINDY FLYER

## From the Editor

By Ed Miller



We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your enthusiastic participation in our presentation at the Clow Cavalcade of Planes and our Open House event. Your help and engagement were instrumental in making these events a resounding success.

The support and involvement not only showcased the strength of our Club but also helped us to create memorable experiences for all attendees.

A special thanks to John Baderman for organizing Clow and to Gary Watson and Dave Ford for organizing our Open House.

We've had terrible luck in try-  
(see from the editor on the next page)



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

## Did You Know ?

### Why Do Airplanes Have Red and Green Lights?

Ever notice those small red and green lights on an airplane's wings and wondered what they're for? These lights aren't just decorative—they play a critical role in aviation safety. A lot of our model R/C planes come with them and they can help with orientation. Here's everything you need to know:

#### Main Purpose:

The red and green lights are navigation or position lights, designed to ensure safe aircraft movement, especially at night or in poor visibility conditions.

Red Light: Located on the left wing

Green Light: Found on the right wing

(See Did You Know on page 2)



(From the Editor continued)

ing to schedule our Beer and Fly night! Rain, wind were all working against us. We'll try again on the 17th.

Our flying field looks great, our instructors have been busy and it's been a pleasure to see so many of you at the field flying, and flying well!

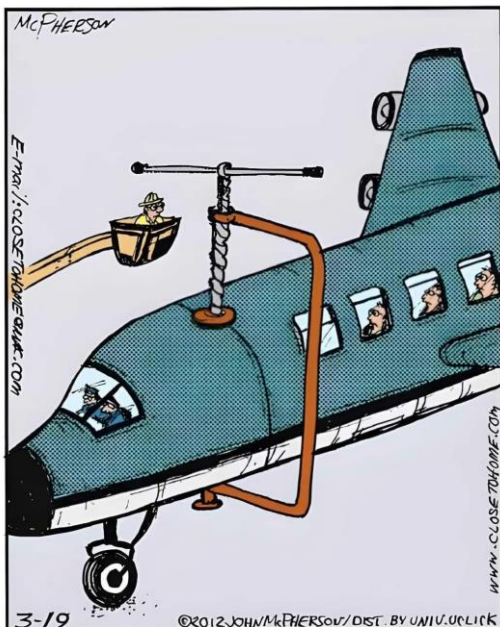
Don't forget to save the date for our fun fly on July 19th.

Happy Flying!!

Ed Miller

Club Secretary

WindyFlyer Editor-in-Chief



"Folks, our mechanics are waiting for one little repair to firm up a bit and then we'll be on our way."

(Did You Know continued)

Together, they help pilots and other aircraft determine the orientation of a plane-Whether it's approaching, departing, or crossing.

Key Success:

These lights contribute to the remarkable safety record of aviation, preventing mid-air collisions by allowing pilots to understand each other's relative positions. For example:

Red Light Seen Alone: Aircraft is crossing left to right.

Green Light Seen Alone: Aircraft is crossing right to left.

Both Lights Seen: The Plane is heading toward you!

Key Challenge:

The biggest challenge lies in ensuring these lights remain:

1. Highly visible in all weather and light conditions.
2. Durable enough to withstand high speeds, extreme temperatures, and altitudes
3. Reliable with minimal maintenance, as failure could compromise safety.

Budget Considerations:

While individual navigation lights cost only a few hundred dollars, the entire lighting system on a plane can cost thousands. This includes power supplies, redundancy systems, and installation. For airlines, maintaining operational lighting systems is a small but crucial part of their multi-million-dollar safety budget.

Why This Matters?

These tiny lights are a testament to the attention to detail in aviation safety. Though often overlooked, they've saved countless lives by ensuring safe navigation. The next time you fly, look out the window and admire the unsung heroes of the skies.



Woodland Aero Modelers  
*Radio Controlled Flying Club*

### Club Officers

President/membership	Tim Mercier
Vice-President	Brad TerMaat
Executive Director	Craig McKenzie
Secretary	Ed Miller
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

#### July 2025

- 1st Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00pm
- 5th Fox Valley RC Electric Fly Day
- 12th SAC Club float fly, Twin Lakes, Oak Forest, 8:00am till noon
- 10th -12th Fox Valley RC Windy City Warbirds & Classics
- 12th Rock Valley RC Flyers Tailgate Swap & Fun Fly 8:00am till 4:30 pm
- 17th Save the date, Fly and Burger night, weather permitting.
- 19th FunFly competition at the flying field-prizes & refreshments, weather permitting
- 20th Fun Fly rain date
- 21st-27th EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh

(See Calendar on next page)

## Calendar (continued)

### August 2025

5th Monthly Club meeting at the FVW; starting at 7:00pm

16th or 17th Club picnic and Fun Fly (date to be picked one week out)

16th and 17th Chicago Air and Water Show

16th SAC Club float fly, Twin Lakes, Oak Forest, 8:am till noon

21st Save the date. Fly and Burger evening, weather permitting. Look for an email early in the week with details.

## Minutes from the July 1st Meeting

### Meeting Called to Order:

- 7:00 pm by John Baderman, subbing for Tim Mercier

### Secretary's Report:

- Report read, and approved

**Treasurer's Report:** -We have \$12,149 combined with our checking, savings and CD. No unexpected expenses. We have renewed our CD at 4% for 8 months. We received a grant check from the AMA for \$807.33 to be used for promoting our Club Open House. Much thanks to Gary Watson for applying for the grant and for following through to its completion. John gave us a "mid-term" financial report, we are looking pretty good.

### Executive Director's Report:

- Nothing new to report

### Chief Instructor:

- We have been busy training new members and some old members!

**Safety Director:** Take water with you at the field. If there are more than a couple of you there, use the tent to stay out of the sun. John Horwath has donated some icepacks. Carry a cooler with you and place your batteries in it to keep them cool.

**Old Business:** We had our hanger spot at Clow and did our Open House. Lots of thanks to all who participated. We're hoping some new members trickle in. We made a donation to Clow.

(Meeting notes continued on next page)

## (Meeting Notes continued)

### New Business:

- We discussed at length whether to register our Club as a non-profit organization. It was noted it was a lot of work and other than some liability issues we didn't find much upside. However, liability is a legitimate concern. We will explore this further.
- Earning Club points was discussed. We had three major events where you could have earned Club points, Clow, maintenance day, and our Open House. In the next couple of weeks we will be sending out your current level of points. Keep in mind you also get points for meeting attendance, Newsletter mentions, planes for points and other work you do for the Club. Brad TerMaat our vice-president is in charge of keeping track of points. He is currently doing a gig in Virginia so Craig McKenzie is taking over that job. Thanks Craig. If you find you should have gotten points for something you did and they weren't recorded, please let Craig know.

### Announcements:

- The Forest Preserve Display cabinet at the southwest corner of our field has been refurbished. Stan Warden suggested some type of signage near the intersection of Bluff Road and Lemont Road advertising our flying Club and highlighting free flight training.
- The Argonne weather site was down but now is working
- Stan Warden brought in some AMA magazines labeled with our information. He suggested taking some magazines and place them in doctor's offices or other places of business.

### Model building hints and tips:

- We discussed using alternate brands (less expensive) of receivers and radios. Some members have had good results, others have lost their planes. There's a time to be frugal and a time to be smart. Sounds biblical.

### New Members:

- Two new members: Reed Stoffer and Pete Mesha. We welcome them and are very pleased they have joined our Club

### - Planes for Points:

- Joe Kleifges showed off his Hobby King Tundra. This is his 3rd Tundra and he noted several improvements.

### -Special Presentation:

- With the recent helicopter crash in New York's Hudson River, the term "mast bumping" has been in the news. Steve Zielinski, our helicopter instructor and helicopter expert gave an enlightening and informative explanation of "mast bumping" and how helicopters are kept stable.

Joe Kleifges with his Hobby King Tundra





Steve Zielinski demonstrating the ins  
and outs of helicopter flight.

**-Meeting Adjourned : 8:15pm**

Fun through Model Aviation



## Cavalcade and Open House Photos



Mike Doose and Craig Mckenzie  
Setting up the Sims and Signs



Herb Gosewischenticing folks  
to enter our hangar station



John Baderman and  
Bob Sass at our static display



Tony Mataitis getting the infamous candy drop  
plane set up.



John Baderman giving the kids their final  
instructions before the candy drop.