

WINDY FLYER

From the Editor

By Ed Miller



A Big Thank You to Our Points Night Team

Kudos to Tim Mercier, Brad TerMaat, John Baderman, and Craig McKenzie for organizing a fantastic Points Night! The evening was filled with prizes, laughter, and camaraderie. This special event celebrates members who go the extra mile for the Club, earning points for attending meetings, helping at the Cavalcade, Open House, Club picnic, Field maintenance, and more. Don't forget to check out the list of award prizes starting on page 4.

Planes for Points at January's meeting

There were no Planes for Points, at Points Night, but (see From the Editor next page)



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

Did You Know ?

The WW2 Ace Found Still in His Cockpit after 24 Yrs

This is a story about Heinrich Bathurst, one of the deadliest pilots who for the German Luftwaffe in WW2. Unlike many others, he had an unusual background; he was a baker in Austria before the war. More significantly, during the war, Bathurst was highly successful against British and American forces.



Bathurst began his career on the Eastern Front, where he downed nearly 50 enemy aircraft in his first two years. In 1943, he was moved to the Western Front.

(See Did You Know on page 2)

.....(From the Editor continued).....

with Christmas just around the corner, there will be plenty to showcase at our January meeting. I always tell myself I don't need another plane, but inevitably, I end up adding a new one to my collection-sometimes after a crash (who me?) or just for fun. Santa will definitely be getting my wish list this year.

Frozen Fingers Fun Fly

Join us for our annual Frozen Fingers Fun Fly (F.F.F.F.) on New Year's Day! The first members to fly-whether electric, gas or nitro-will have their name featured in the Windy Flyer (yes, you get points for that). Be prepared with skis or pontoons, or try a hand launch.

Congratulations to Our New Pilots

A round of applause for Pete Mesha and Mark Wilson for earning their Solo Certificates.

Wishing You Happy Holidays

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Ed Miller

Club Secretary

Windy Flyer Editor-in-Chief

(Did You Know continued)

Most German aces fought primarily against the Soviets, But Bathurst excelled against the formidable Spitfires, Thunderbolts, and Mustangs of the Western Front, achieving a high kill tally quickly.

In the summer of 1942, while in the Mediterranean theater, Bathurst increased his victories to 73 by the year's end, including 14 American P-38 Lightnings. His success continued into 1944, as he participated in the defense of the Reich. By mid-December 1944, he had 98 kills and was eager to reach the coveted 100 kills. But fate had other plans.

On December 23, 1944, Bathurst took off to intercept a raid near Bonn, Germany. During the mission, he destroyed an American P-47 Thunderbolt for his 99th kill. However, this would be his last. Shortly after, Bathurst disappeared, likely shot down by another P-47.

Bathurst's fate remained a mystery for 24 years, with no crash site ever recorded. In 1968, a small group discovered his fighter buried in soft ground in a wooded area in Germany, with Bathurst's remains still in the cockpit.

This was confirmed by a wedding ring inside his glove, engraved with his wife's name, Marga. Bathurst was finally laid to rest in Germany. At the time he was shot down, he was only 29 years old.



Woodland Aero Modelers

Radio Controlled Flying Club

Club Officers

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

Calendar

December 2025

- 2nd Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00 pm. Officer Elections, Points Night Auction and raffle.

January 2026

- 1st Frozen Fingers Fun Fly (F.F.F.F.): First one to fly on New year's Day wins!!
- 6th Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00 pm.
- 17th Holiday/Christmas Lunch starting at noon, at Chuck's

February 2026

- 3rd Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00 pm.
- 14th Fox Valley Aero Swap Meet at the Kane County Fairgrounds 525 South Randall Road in St. Charles 60174. Starts at 8:30am

Minutes from the December 2nd Meeting

** note: This was a truncated meeting due to Points Night.*

Meeting Called to Order:

- 7:00 pm by President Tim Mercier

Secretary's Report:

- Report was approved although not read

Treasurer's Report:

- Report was approved. John Baderman stated we are in the process of updating our website. This should net us about \$200/year in savings. John asked us to email him with any updates or suggestions concerning the new website. jbaderman@ gmail.com

Executive Director/ Vice President:

- No Report

Chief Instructor:

Pete Mesha and Mark Wilson received their Solo Certificates.

Safety Director:

- No report

New Business:

Minutes continued)

- Elections: The previous officers will stay in their respective offices; Tim Mercier president, Craig McKenzie vice-president, John Baderman treasurer, Ed Miller secretary. Stan Warden is a new trustee.

Announcements:

- Dennis Miendersma stated that due to the upcoming Holidays there is no indoor flying at the Naperville Yard on December 17th or December 31st. Flying resumes on January 7th.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 pm

POINTS NIGHT

WHO GOT WHAT?

EP-15 Super Chipmunk	Stan Warden
Elder	Mike Doose
Avance 0.46 size ARF	Mark Ebert
Element 30 73A (50")	Dave Ford
E-flite UMX Waco	Craig McKenzie
E-flite UMX sabre 30mm EDF	John Horwath
J-3 Cub	Scot Emmerling
Micro Vintage Stick	Gary Watson
Blade MSR helicopter	John Baderman E-
Flite UMX Turbo Timber Evol.	Brad TerMatt
Bearcat	Ludwig De Mesa
Insulated Cup	Mike Doose
Plane Stand	John Horwath
Lightweight dolly	Jim Fox
Storage Containers	Ludwig De Mesa
Bungie cords	Jerry LaBarge
Epoxy & Foam-Tac	Dennis Miendersma
HeatShrink	Tony Mataitis
Batteries	Scott Emmerling and Jerry LaBarge
Fuel(15%)	Steve Zielinski
Gift Certificate \$100	Gary Watson
Gift Certificate \$50	Brad TerMatt
Grab Bag	Dave Ford and Tony Mataitis
Shirt	Tony Mataitis



Solo Certificates: Mark Wilson



Pete Mesha



Some of the guys checking out the Points Night goodies

Christmas Photos

