



# Blue Max Aces

*The monthly newsletter of Blue Max  
R/C Flying Club*

*Every Flight is a New Adventure!  
By Bruce Volocyk, President*



Ready for some fall flying? Practice your cross-wind landings, sharpen your skills, and enjoy a beautiful day of flying before we move into the really cold weather.

This month we provided some flying education at a local middle school. Hear more about it at our next meeting which will be Monday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton Ave., in Arlington Heights. Bring your show and tell.

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### President

Bruce Volocyk

### Vice President

Al Valenzo

### Secretary

Open

### Treasurer

Jim Kaufman

### Board of Directors

Chris Mays

Carl Will

Brian Sokol

Steve Gelman

### COMMITTEES

#### Winter Banquet

Steve Gelman

#### Field Marshal

Carl Will

#### Flying Proficiency

Steve Gelman

#### Fun Fly

Steve Gelman

#### Noise

Open

#### Picnic

Steve Gelman

#### Programs

Open

#### Safety

Chris Mays

#### Noise



See you on the field!

### September 16, 2024 Meeting

The meeting was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Arlington Heights.

### ***Around the Hangar***

### **REPORTS**

**President:** The meeting was called to order by President, Bruce Volocyk, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**New Members & Guests:** New members: Brian Jacobi introduced himself and gave some background on his interest in the sport and prior experience. Joe Long, who is familiar to the club as he brought the cadets out last year, also gave some background on his flying experience.

Bruce opened the topic of the AMA article discussing club failings. He shared that Blue Max is almost 80 members strong. Emphasis was on how members need to be involved. Member feedback suggested that we need to have some additional flying instruction, such as “advanced aerobatics.” Bruce asked if anyone was interested in teaching these skills. Steve Gelman and Chris Mays volunteered. Additional discussion continued.

Bruce reported that he received an email from Wendi Heintz, who teaches a STEM Flight and Space Class at Carl Sandburg Middle School in Rolling Meadows. The Flight and Space class teaches middle school students the principles of flight and aerodynamics concepts to promote a curiosity for further aerospace endeavors. She asked if the Blue Max Flying Club would be interested in talking to her students and demonstrating radio controlled planes. Mike McTague and Steve Gelman volunteered. They will continue the discussion with Wendi and confirm an October date.

The Mettawa club offered two flying table/stands to us. We will gladly accept them; they will arrive at the end of October.

**Secretary:** Secretary still needed. Bruce will be recording the meeting tonight. The August 19 meeting minutes were reviewed. No changes; minutes approved.



**Treasurer – Jim Kaufman:** Jim reported overall club current balances. There were a few larger expenditures this month: P.O. Box renewal at \$182/year; Blue Max hat order for 12 hats at \$270.90. This is repaid as new members join.

**Newsletter – Mike McTague:** All going well. Nothing new to report.

**Webmaster – Brian Sokol:** Brian added the club group picnic picture to the website.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Field Marshal – Carl Will:** Several members commented on how great the field looks and the carpet area – no tripping! Jeff is doing a great job on the grass.

**Proficiency/Certifications – Steve Gelman:** Steve has two certificates to present: Sport Pilot for Chris Mays and Solo Pilot for Mike Leathers. Congratulations!!

**Club Skill Challenge/Fun Fly – Steve Gelman:** Steve shared Fun Fly results for the season; Anton Sokol is the winner. Presentation date of the trophy to be determined. Bruce suggested perhaps we have a pizza party around the end of the year and we could do it then.

**Safety – Chris Mays:** Chris shared that members are doing a great job announcing when they are going out on the field to retrieve a plane but asked that they do the same call back announcement when they are returning. Again, have a spotter when you're going out. Brian suggested walking the flight line may be helpful as well, instead of diagonally across the field.

**Crash Reports – Steve Gelman –** Mike Anderson crashed his 300 Extra on first flight landing. After discussion, there was a spin-off topic on how to assess the flying skill of new members. Most new members mark their application that they have flying experience. Larry Bochenko mentioned that they used to start members out at "solo" and they come out to do the "solo" test. Steve Gelman jumped in and said he'd do the testing. Members voted and agreed to take this approach.

**Noise – Leo Hanula -** No report.



**Training- Carl Will:** Carl shared (during crash report which then led to level of flying experience discussion), that he does adjust his training with students by the type of plane they're flying. He also reminds them there's a big difference going from a foamy to a nitro.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – Bruce mentioned that there were two planes for sale. These originated from a family where the RC flyer was no longer flying and moving. One sold for \$20 as a donation to the club. The other plane was placed in the raffle. A thank you/donation letter will be issued to the family.

**Show & Tell** – George Gruber showed his Banshi made by Free Wing.

**Club Raffle** – Raffle was held - \$5 for 6 tickets.

**Adjournment** – All in favor; meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be at First Presbyterian Church in Arlington Heights.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Club Meeting**

**Monday Oct 21st. 7pm First Presbyterian Church, Arlington Heights**



## Indoor Flying

### "Come Fly Indoors With Us"      **No summer session- More info before the fall session**

If you want to learn how to fly RC airplanes, or if you are a seasoned veteran and want to hone your skills during the winter months, this is a class for you. Our "classroom" is the field house where we fly small to medium sized, electric RC planes in any weather. Most of our students are "repeat attenders" and have become good friends who enjoy sharing their knowledge with newcomers. So, if you are just starting out and need some help, or if you are looking for a comfortable place to fly during the winter, join us for fun and fellowship.

#### Location:

Forest View Educational Center : Field House  
2121 S Goebbert Rd (Enter door 31 register)  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
(847) 718-7700

Mondays, Fall session starts soon      Contact: Warren Bjork 847-975-9517  
3:30 - 6:30 PM  
Price: \$ **89.00** (less with a gold card ie., District 214 resident)

**Canlan Sportsplex** – 28156 W. Northpointe Parkway, Lake Barrington

Fridays 11am until 2pm. Cost is \$16 per session

For more info or directions call 847-382-3433



Dave Gruber demonstrated a simple, easy to build CG finder.

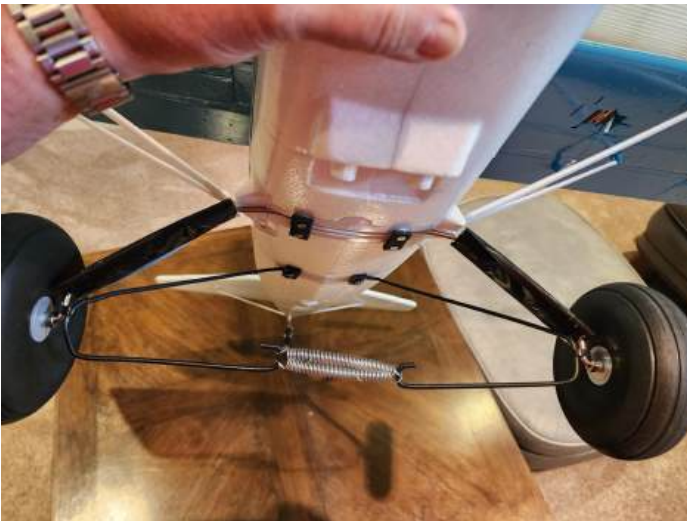


Steve and Bruce present Chris with his Sport Pilot certificate.





Another beauty from Melendy Skunk Works!

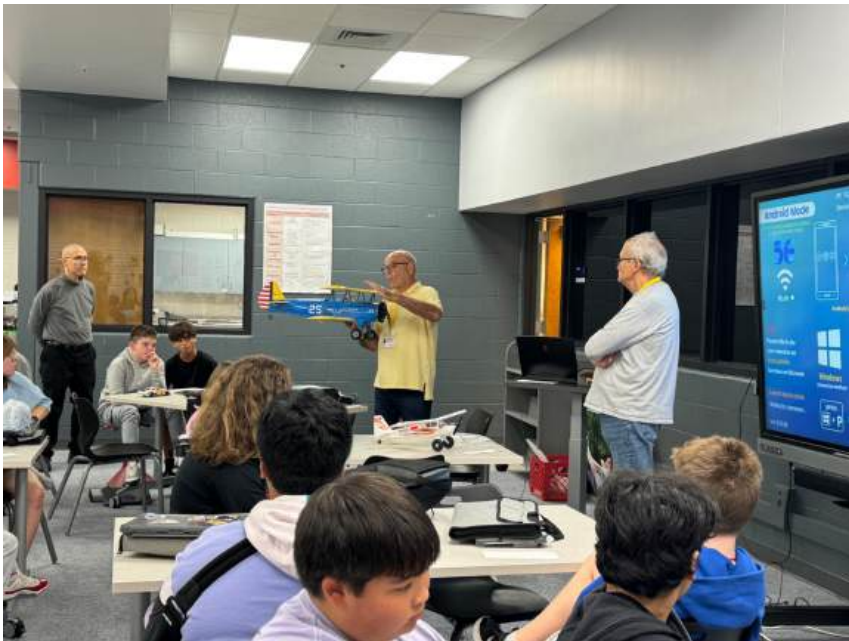
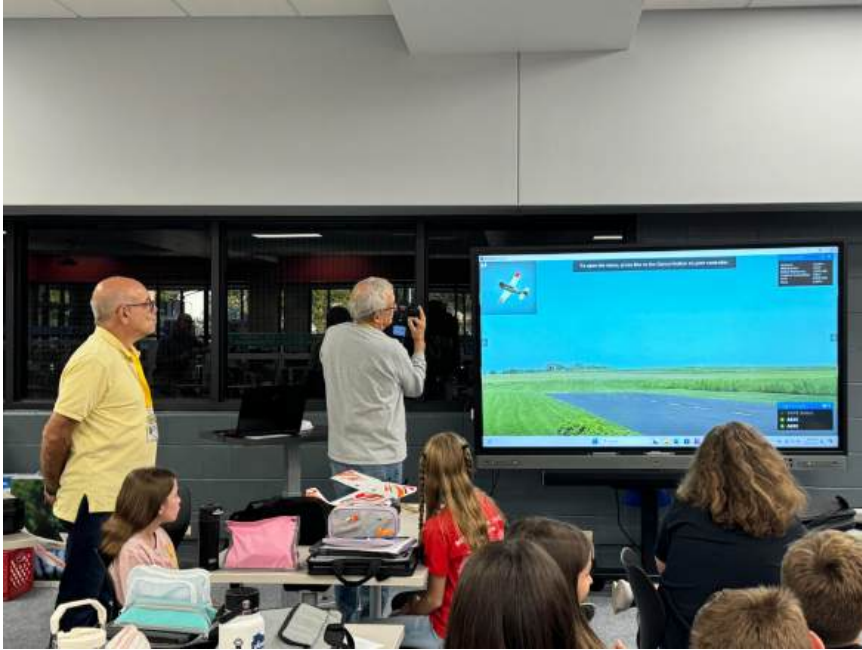


There is an inherent issue with the landing gear on the Maule 7.1 that is not unusual for most RC Planes using Chinese Metal. I found that the gear was insufficient in offering stability and alignment whether as an experienced pilot or beginner. I found that the landing gear would splay apart causing the operator to re-bend them or straighten the gear after every flight. My solution is depicted in the photos. It was an inexpensive fix that took little time and last minute modification after determining the springs were catching grass - problem resolved with a guard covering the springs and modification of the angle under the motor for greater clearance. The fix cost was about \$6.00 and resolved my frustration. If interested, I am more than happy to share my concept and implementation strategy. I also modified the landing gear for my Tundra that had similar issues, and retrofitted it with larger bush tires. It's fun to successfully innovate.

Safe Flying!

Steve Irving





Steve Gelman and I visited a Space and Aeronautics class at Carl Sandburg Middle School in Arlington Heights. We demonstrated basic aeronautics and the students had an opportunity to fly on a Real Flight simulator. A fun way for Blue Max to reach out to the community. Mike McTague

**Can you see the lost plane in his drone photo?**



**Can you see the lost plane in his drone photo?**



**Mike L. (can you spot him) was directed to the plane using our new walkie talkie system with help from Jeff P. and Mike McT.**





**Great Success! Another reminder- Get help... don't venture out into the mud and tall weeds by yourself!**