



Blue Max Aces

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

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



Congratulations to our membership raffle winners: Jim Ackleson, Maxim Gulinsky, Mark Lacasse and James Neumann. Each won a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Our Spring Banquet was held April 8 and was well attended. Thank you to Steve Gelman for organizing. A fun time was had by all. If you fly electric planes, or would like to convert a nitro engine to electric, the April 20 meeting is the meeting you should attend. We will be joined (via video Google Meet link) by Lucien Miller, President & CEO Innov8tive Designs, Inc. Lucien will be speaking on the two most common topics asked: 1) How do I know what size motor and other power system components to pick for a plane? 2) How do I calculate how long I can fly from a given size battery? Q&A to follow.

The next meeting will be Monday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton Ave., in Arlington Heights. As always, a video link will be provided prior to the meeting if you're unable to join us in person.

There will be no Show and Tell at this meeting.

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President
Bruce Volocyk

Vice President
Al Valenzo

Secretary
Craig Brown

Treasurer

Jim Kaufman

Board of Directors

Chris Mays
Mike Anderson
Brian Sokol
Steve Gelman

COMMITTEES

Spring Banquet
Steve Gelman

Field Marshal
Mike Anderson

Flying Proficiency

Steve Gelman

Fun Fly

Brian Sokol

Picnic

Steve Gelman

Flight Instructor

Carl Will

Webmaster

Brian Sokol

Safety

Carl Will

Noise

Carl Will

MEETING MINUTES by Craig Brown

March 16, 2026 Meeting

The meeting was held at:

First Presbyterian Church
302 N Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President, Bruce Volocyk.

Around the Hangar

New Members & Guests:

New member Edwin Gonzalez was in attendance. Welcome Edwin!

Officer Reports

President's Report – Bruce Volocyk

Bruce mentioned he will be reaching out to several individuals and organizations to make presentations at a future meeting:

- RC Flight School, based in Wisconsin, had expressed interest about the opportunity to make a presentation to the club. This would be via Google meet.
- Innov8tive Designs, a distributor of electric power systems for RC vehicles
- Herb Rizzo, owner of Sig Manufacturing, a local provider of RC plane kits, parts, and accessories

Bruce also mentioned that payment of 2026 membership dues is at ~80% paid. A raffle was held later in the meeting for all paid-up members for the chance to win 1-of-4 \$25 Amazon gift cards.

Secretary Report – Craig Brown

The February 16, 2026 meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer Report – Jim Kaufman

Jim reported on current expenditures for the past month:

- Disbursements - \$450 check to Carl for planes to be raffled at the summer picnic.
- Anyone with specific questions regarding club finances may contact Jim for more information.

Names were drawn from all members with 2026 paid-up-dues, for \$25 Amazon gift cards.

- Mark LaCasse
- James Neumann
- Jim Ackelson
- Maxim Gulinsky

Committee Reports

Newsletter – Mike McTague

The Newsletter has been looking great! Please continue to send your build photos to Mike.

Webmaster – Brian Sokol

Brian will be adding a link to the Sig Manufacturing web site to the Blue Max site.

Field Marshal – Mike Anderson

Pit Area Carpet Replacement

Al Valenzo found information on how to correctly lay the pit area carpet that the club is considering for replacement.

- Crushed limestone or crushed granite is best for the base. The existing base should be okay to use for installation of the new carpet. The black plastic weed barrier that sits over the limestone base will be replaced as needed.
- The carpet is best secured using primarily nails, with glueing/taping only needed at the seams. The web site has suggested spacing of nails.
- A carpet kicker should be used to stretch the carpet while putting in the nails.
- After carpet installation, it is recommended to spread silica sand over the carpet. A rotary brush should be used to stand the pile up, spread silica sand across the surface, brush again, then use a blower to remove excess.

There will need to be a board meeting vote to authorize the expenditure of the new carpet. If the decision is made to move ahead with the project, volunteer days will be organized to work on the project.

Safety Netting

The center section of safety netting can be repaired for the upcoming flying season, however, the end pieces will need to be replaced. Mike is continuing to look for sources of netting. He is hoping that the Midtown Athletic Club, adjacent to the field, may be able to provide some used tennis nets

Banquet/Picnic - Steve Gelman

The Spring Banquet will be held on April 8 at 6:00 p.m.

- Location - Moretti's 128 S. Wool St., Barrington, IL 60010.
- The member cost is \$30/person. Blue Max will contribute an additional \$10/person. Payment may be made in the following ways:

- Zelle to bluemaxradiocontrolclub@gmail.com (preferred method!)
- Cash or check at the door.
- RSVP by March 28

Flight Instructor – Carl Will

There are multiple new members inquiring about training. Nothing further to report.

Noise – Carl Will

No issues to report.

Safety – Carl Will

Carl will have safety recommendations at the next meeting.

Crash Reports

- One member reported flying at a small field, where he flew across the sun, lost orientation and crashed into a tree. The airplane was painted in a camo pattern that was very difficult to find in the high trees. Post-crash assessment is 1) There was poor planning for the flying time, which did not account for the morning sun, and 2) Should have thought further about the limited visibility of the camo pattern.
- Carl has done a post-mortem on his P-51 Mustang crash from last summer, and now believes it was caused by a failure of one of the 2 batteries used to power the servos and electronics.
- Another member suggested using Airtags in your planes to assist with locating your plane after a crash.

Club Skill Challenge/Fun Fly – Brian Sokol

Nothing to report

Old Business

No Old Business to report.

New Business

Upcoming Swap Meets

- Mt Prospect 4/18
- Naperville 3/28
- Swap meets can be found on ModelAircraft.org

Bruce mentioned that we may need to find a new meeting location due to the growth of club membership. The libraries in Arlington Heights and Palatine will be explored as possible meeting locations.

Show & Tell

- Bruce showed a CA product he has found called Star Bond. The Pro Kit comes with 2 nozzle caps and 8 microtips.
- The Dynamite GPS unit was shown that will record the flight path that can be downloaded to a PC.

Raffle

Two raffle tickets were drawn for \$25 Amazon gift cards. The winners were:

- Dave Rokusdk
- Mike Anderson

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **Monday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. at the following location:**

**First Presbyterian Church
302 N Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by all in favor at 8:10 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Club Meeting

Monday April 20 - 7:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 302 Dunton, Arlington Heights

Indoor Flying

"Come Fly Indoors With Us"

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, (**Spring Session starts in late March**) Contact: Warren Bjork 847-975-9517

3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Canlan Sportsplex – 28156 W. Northpointe Parkway, Lake Barrington

Fridays 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$16 per session

For more info or directions call 847-382-3433

Steve I. - Customized FMS PA-1800mm



ED D.- KI-84 Hayate

Zenoah G26, Sierra air retracts, Xoar 17x8 prop, 13# 8 oz. I partially completed this plane over ten years, but it's been sitting in my basement ...probably because I've torn out the landing gear on two other war birds. I think it was imported by Kondor Models or ESM.

It has Sierra air retracts. When I initially assembled the plane, I left the air system for later. Now after installing the air system, I tested the retracts and found the 4 inch wheels were touching the underside of the wing sheeting. I didn't want the wheels slamming into the sheeting so I had to add 3/8 inch ply to raise the height and used 3 1/4 inch wheels to get it to work. I also had to adjust the flaps because they were binding.

It has a used Zenoah G26 with electronic ignition that I purchased online from Frank Borman. He used to sell piston rings that he modified. Since the engine was bought used, I think I should pull it and test run it on a stand. Please look at the pic of the engine compartment. The carb is about an inch from the side of the cowl. Do you think I need to cut an air hole in the cowl? Hopefully it will fly this summer after I get some practice landing.



Jim A- Beech Starship



Bruce V. Covering the Doubler II pylon racer.



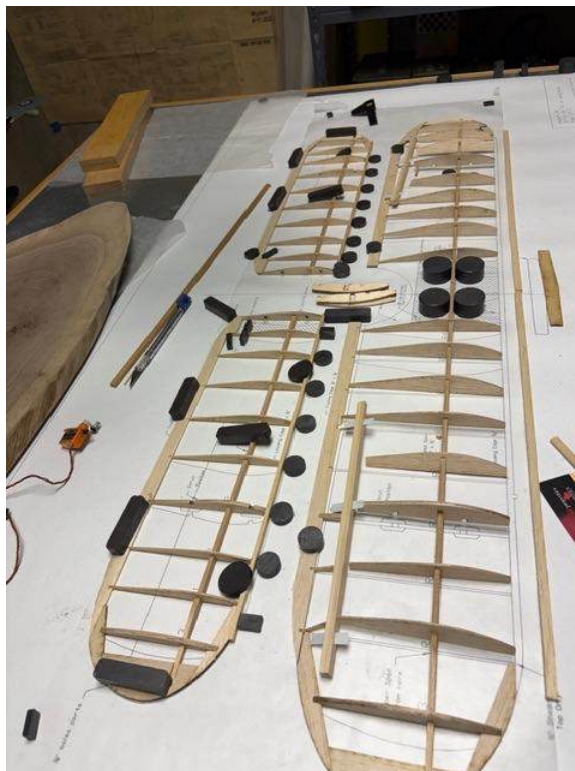
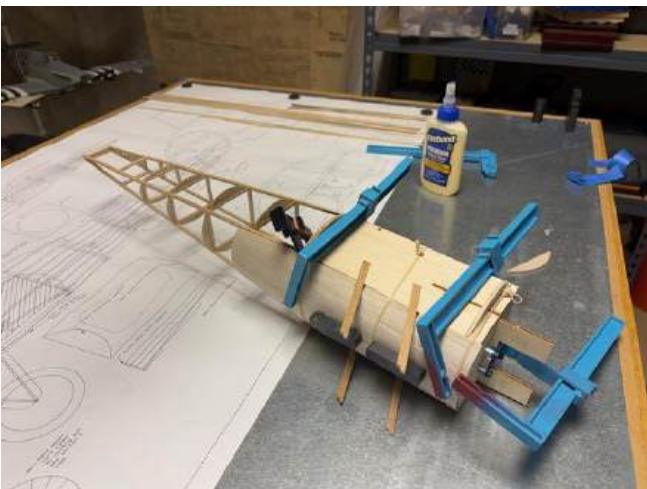
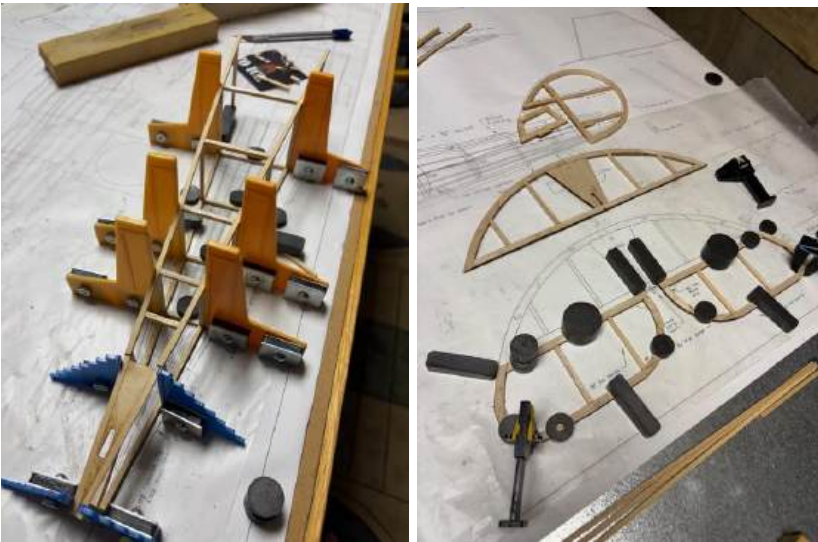
Mike M. Skunkworks... Finished 2nd project of 2026, 22 yr.old GP 1/4 scale Shoestring ARF. Makes me remember why I loathe Monocote ! Saito 100, Futaba FASST, 2000mah 6v. NIMH. Favorite civilian plane.



Mike M. Skunkworks cont. Finished up the Thomas Morse SC-3. OS .55 was best fit, glassed the center sections of wings and fuse forward of the rear cockpit. Added a replica Marlin MG as was done in US service. 6#-9 oz. rtf.



Paul R.- Pictures of Nieuport 28 from an older kit. Electric- somewhere around speed 400 motor. I am modifying, to lighten, and adding ailerons. Typically, I build on a magnetic board using Tight Bond and occasional CA.



Brian and Anton S. - each building an Avios Super Tucano. Aeroscout in one pic for a size comparison/reference.



2026 Blue Max Banquet! Great Success! Thank You Steve G. for organizing







And last but not least... Boldly going where no human has gone... Artemis II...

