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Blue Max Aces

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

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



Another successful annual Blue Max picnic is in the books! This time making history with a rain storm interrupting our climatic “box-raffle prize drawing!” Hopefully everyone had a great time despite the rain. Once again, Steve Gelman did a great job organizing the event and the lunch was outstanding thanks to Gene Derbick and his helpers. A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped make the day a success!

Our next meeting will be **Monday, August 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the Deer Grove Flying Field**. We will not be able to use our video link, so we hope to see you at the field if you can make it. In the event of inclement weather, we will send an email of the change and resort to our video link on Google Meet.

Don't forget to **bring a lawn chair and your Show and Tell**.

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

Blue Max RC Flying Club

MEETING MINUTES by Craig Brown

July 20, 2026 Meeting

The meeting was held at:

Blue Max Flying Field

Deer Grove East Forest Preserve

Palatine, IL

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Vice President, Al Valenzo.

12 members in attendance

Around the Hangar

Guests:

No guests in attendance

Officer Reports

President's Report – Bruce Volocyk

Vice President Al Valenzo presided over the meeting due to Bruce Volocyck's absence.

There will be a board meeting on Wednesday, July 22 to discuss the upcoming picnic details.

Secretary Report – Craig Brown

The June 15, 2026 meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer Report – Jim Kaufman

Overall club finances are looking good. No concerns with covering the costs of the upcoming picnic.

Anyone with specific questions regarding club finances may contact Jim for more information.

Committee Reports

Newsletter – Mike McTague

Mike did not receive any build photos for the last newsletter. Keep them coming folks!

Webmaster – Brian Sokol

No report

Field Marshal – Mike Anderson

The next field projects will be work on some of the plane stands that are in need of repairs.

We will hold off on replacing the main safety nets until we can get 3 nets of the same height to keep the overall height consistent across the flight line.

Mike suggested that the current fire extinguisher in the shed is losing pressure and should be replaced. We should also consider replenishing/upgrading the first aid kit.

Picnic - Steve Gelman

The picnic will be held on Sunday, August 9. Details will be finalized at the upcoming board meeting on Wednesday, July 22.

Flight Instructor – Carl Will

Carl reported that recent weather conditions have made it challenging to offer flight training.

Augie Brandis soloed this past weekend and passed his proficiency test. Congratulations Augie!!

Noise – Carl Will

No issues to report

Safety – Chris Mays

Nothing to report

Crash Reports

Nothing to report

Club Skill Challenge/Fun-Fly – Brian Sokol

The July Fun Fly was postponed until Saturday, July 25 at 10:00 a.m. due to weather conditions the previous week.

The next event will be the Precision Dead Stick:

- A line is drawn across the runway at the center of the runway
- Pilots takeoff and climb/fly
- After 10 seconds, the pilot is instructed to throttle cut/kill engine
- Pilot must land on the runway, stay on the runway, and roll to a stop as close as possible to the line
- Measurement is specifically taken from the nose to the line
- No brakes, flaps, reverse thrust, speed brakes, or other braking mechanisms

Old Business

No Old Business to report

New Business

No New Business to report

Show & Tell

Lunch Time Dave showed his F-22 Raptor. Dave has been experimenting with a 6S battery in the plane, and showed his hot glue gun skills in the rebuilt plane.

Raffle

No raffle was held due to the limited attendance.

Upcoming Events

Club Meeting Monday August 17th - 7:00 p.m. DEER GROVE FLYING FIELD

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, (**Fall session sign up begins soon** <https://www.ce.d214.org/>)

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

AMA Member Visit



AMA member, Brian Shields, reached out in mid-June advising he had heard of the Blue Max RC Flying Club and Deer Grove Flying Field through the AMA website. He was inquiring if it would be possible for him to fly at the field and if there were any restrictions while he was passing through. As he travels, he has been taking a plane with him to see if he can eventually fly in all 50 states. He shared that he has quite a way to go at this point.

I found his inquiry and goals both considerate and inspiring. Brian did stop by the field on July 26 and followed up with an email on his visit. With his permission, I am sharing his experience. Brian wrote:

I stopped today on my way to Wisconsin. There were four other club members that I was able to interact with ... Carl, Abe, Al and Lyubo. A plane ran out of fuel and went down out in the tall grass so there was a little excitement with that retrieval.

Anyway, I got my flight in even though it was a tad on the windy side so I can officially cross off Illinois from my list. Now I need to pick up some of these southern states near me in Nashville. I'm including a picture of the states I've flown in over the last three years.

Thanks for allowing me to fly at the Blue Max field ... I really appreciate it!

It is my hope that we continue to be a club of interest and our pride continues to show through our pristine field and club members welcoming one and all.

Safe flying!!

Bruce



Complete! My Ultra Sport 60 is on the CG and ready for its maiden flight.
Bruce

Despite the afternoon rain... A great time was had at our annual picnic...



















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