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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



Happy New Year 2026! We're off to an exciting start. Many club members turned out for New Year's Day at the flying field and at the Frozen Finger Fun Fly. Hopefully, we see some mild days ahead to get in more winter flying. Hope to see you on the field or at our next meeting. The next meeting will be Monday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 302 N. Dunton Ave., in Arlington Heights. As always, bring 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

MEETING MINUTES by Craig Brown

Around the Hangar

December 15, 2025 Meeting

The meeting was held at:

Barnaby's Family Inn

933 W. Rand Rd.

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by President, Bruce Volocyk.

New Members & Guests: The December meeting was held as a members-only event.

REPORTS

Note: Due to the special meeting location, a very abbreviated business meeting was held by officers-only. The next monthly meeting in January will resume with a normal agenda.

The club treated current members to pizza and soft drinks.

President's Report – Bruce Volocyk

No items to note.

Secretary Report – Craig Brown

The November 17, 2025 meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer Report – Jim Kaufman

Jim reported that all club finances are in order. Anyone with specific questions regarding club finances may contact Jim for more information.

Newsletter Report – Mike McTague

Mike is still looking for new model updates from club members as we enter the winter build season.

Webmaster Report – Brian Sokol

No items to note.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports this month.

Old Business

No Old Business to report.

New Business

No New Business to report.

Show & Tell

No Show & Tell this month.

Raffle

5 Amazon gift cards were given away by raffle drawing. The winners were:

- Bruce Voloczyk
- Gene Derbick
- Al Valenzo
- Chris Mays
- Jim Nueman

Special Holiday Raffle

Special thanks to Herb Rizzo, the owner of SIG Manufacturing. Herb provided a Sig Kadet to the club which was given away as a special holiday raffle item. The Sig Kadet raffle winner was Larry Rapach.



Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, January 19th, 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 8:06 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Club Meeting

Monday January 19 th - 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

Frozen Finger Fun Fly - 2026

"Insanity in individuals is something rare - but in groups, parties, nations, and epochs, it is the rule." - Friedrich Nietzsche the German philosopher. Welcome to the insanity of Blue Max R/C 2026.

New Year's Day temperatures at 9 a.m. Thursday hovered near 11 degrees Fahrenheit. The real feel dropped to 6 degrees Fahrenheit with winds blowing 3 mph out of the NW and gusting to 7 mph. A layer of snow and ice covered the field. Weekend temps were forecasted to be a bit warmer, but still brutally cold.

Driving to the flying field New Year's Day morning I asked myself this question: ***"Who else would be insane enough to fly in weather like this just to ring in the New Year"***? When I pulled into the Forrest preserve entrance there were two deer casually gnawing on some of the foliage along the tree line. Ironically, at the very moment I drove past them they turned to look at me, then at one other. With their mouths still moving, I swear, it appeared to me as if they were asking each other that very same question.

Animals survive the cold through the use of various strategies. Strategies, like migration, hibernation, and physical adaptations such as thicker fur, blubber, and specialized heat exchange systems to stay warm, conserve energy, and find food, while using shelters like dens or tunnels for extra protection from the cold.

In spite of my best efforts to protect myself from the cold I still walk away with frozen fingers. I don't have the physical adaptations the animals have, but I should look into those hand warmers I see mentioned in the Blue Max chat as being the next best thing. In the meantime, for me, there's nothing like a couple cups of hot coffee to warm my hands around to get the blood flowing again.

It's a curse - a sickness I tell ya - to have the need to fly regardless of how cold the weather is! But it's nice to know there are a few more of us insane enough to do just that. Check out the pictures below and the list of members who joined in on this 2026 New Year's Frozen Finger Fun Fly insanity.

Happy Landings and Happy New Year.

Steve Cerve



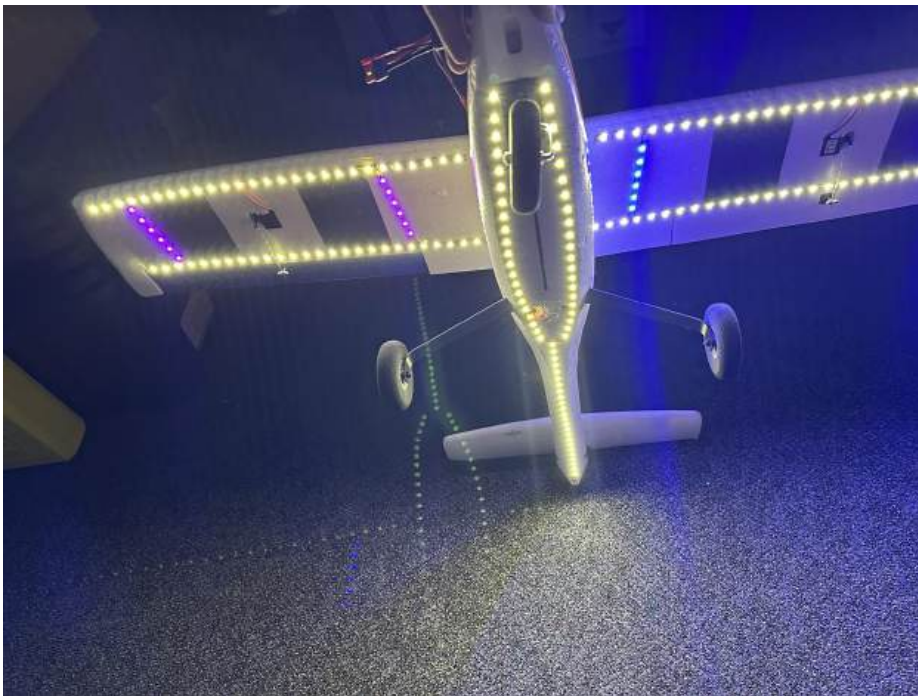
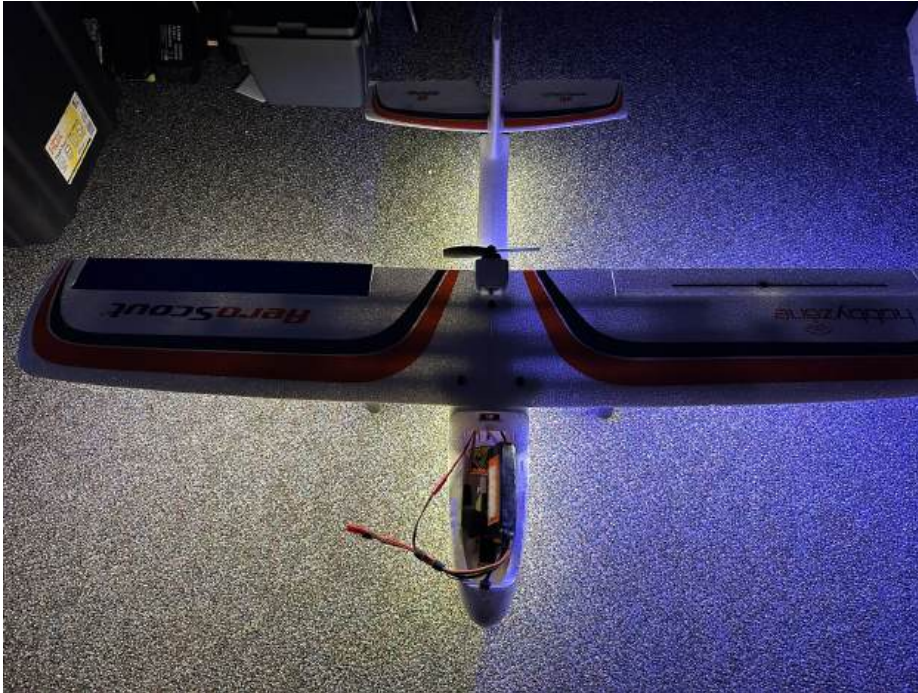
New Year's Day Crew...



Sunday Crew....



The First Annual Frozen Fingers Fun Fly was well attended! Lets keep this going!



Garry D. added lights to his Aeroscout. Looks great!



Holiday Party at Barnaby's Great turnout!



M. Melendy Skunk Works- Frog WW2 Dewoitine 72" DLE 35RA Another Beauty...



Bruce V's Ultra Sport 60 Great color scheme.