



# WINDY FLYER



## From the Editor

By Ed Miller

It's February, that means meteorologically two thirds of winter is over! The only one who doesn't know that is Mother Nature! We'll see winter until April.

On March 3rd we will have our Key Night meeting. You'll recall we change the gate lock every year. Your key will open the gate, the bottom cabinet under the windsock and the first aid cabinet. To get a key you must be a member in good standing with the AMA and be up to date with your Club dues. If you cannot make the meeting, mail service is available. Instructions will be sent out later this month.

We had our Executive Meeting, and we have dates for Clow, our Open House, Points Night, the (see From the Editor next page)



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

## Did You Know ?

Rudder: Use it to Fly Better!

Pilots should begin their flying careers by using rudder from the very beginning. One of the ways to help a beginner pilot is by programming in an aileron/rudder mix from the very start. This improves the plane's performance by eliminating adverse yaw, which is the opposite yaw or skid inherent with aileron deflections on flat-bottom-wing planes, the very ones many new pilots start with. What is important is that adverse yaw grows worse at slower speeds and/or with larger inputs. This is why some pilots, who seem to fly around OK, struggle with controlling their planes during landing.



(See Did You Know on page 2)

## (From the Editor continued)

Club picnic, and our fun fly.

We debated whether it's worth it to continue our presence at Clow. It's a lot of work and we spend most of our time policing kids on our simulator. We decided to continue with Clow for another year but will limit our setup to just a few planes and have one simulator. Last year we had zero new members directly because of Clow, but instead they joined because we talked to them at the field or they contacted us through our website.

On February 14th we will participate at the Fox Valley Swap Meet. Thanks to all the donations we will have 5 tables. This, besides Club dues, is our only source of income. Thanks to all those who volunteered with setup, sales, and take down.

To keep your flying skills up, try indoor flying. There's the Naperville Yard, Wednesdays only; the MAX in McCook, anytime, but you may have to share with other sports; and Canlan Sports in Lake Barrington, Fridays only.

Finally, don't forget to pay your dues. If you can't make a meeting you may mail your completed renewal form (only if something has changed), your check (or scan the Zelle QR code) and mail them to:

Ed Miller  
Club Secretary  
Windy Flyer Editor-in-Chief

Safe Flying everyone! Stay warm!

## (Did You Know continued)

By coordinating rudder deflection with the aileron and rudder moving in the same direction, you prevent the nose from skidding to the left. Adverse yaw is thus prevented; banks and corrections, even rolls, will be smooth and axial, and you will feel more connected to the plane.

When a loop, or any maneuver related to one, is performed in a crosswind, the airplane will drift sideways with the wind during the slower portion of the loop. This drift will generally happen as the plane rounds over the top of the loop. Consequently, a loop that was entered on a parallel flight path with the runway will exit downwind - no longer tracking parallel. If you don't use the rudder, you will have to do a number of corrections afterwards to reestablish the preferred parallel track taken at the start of the loop.

To correct cross-wing drift, apply rudder in the opposite direction the wind is blowing. For example, if the crosswind will blow the plane to the left, a right-rudder wind correction would prevent it. Ailerons are for keeping the wings level before and during a loop. Don't try to correct wind drift by creating a new wing deviation using aileron; sideways wind drift is a function of yaw, not roll.



## Woodland Aero Modelers

### *Radio Controlled Flying Club*

#### **Club Officers**

President/membership	Tim Mercier
Vice-President	Craig McKenzie
Executive Director	Gary Watson
Secretary	Ed Miller
	secwamclub279@gmail.c
	630-745-1102
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**

#### **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

#### **March 2026**

3rd Monthly Club meeting at the VFW; starting at 7:00 pm. This is our Key night meeting. Bring in your old key, exchange it for the 2026 season key. You must be an AMA member in good standing and paying/paid your Club dues.

## Minutes from the February 3rd Meeting

### **Meeting Called to Order:**

- 7:00 pm by President Tim Mercier

### **Secretary's Report:**

- Report was approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- The mower will be tuned up and some painting and bench repair will be done. Should be a minor expense.

### **Executive Director**

- Gary Watson is our new Executive Director. He will continue our positive relationship with the Forest Preserve.

### **Chief Instructor:**

- Start getting your airplanes ready for spring.

### **Safety Director:**

- Not present

### **New Business:**

- Dates have been set for our Club activities, they will be added to our website. May 16th, Field maintenance day; June 6th and 7th Clow; Open House, June 13th; August 9th, Club Picnic; July 25th Club Fun Fly; Christmas Lunch or Dinner TBD. We will start our Thursday night flying as soon as the weather improves.

### **Announcements:**

- We had about 20 folks at our Christmas Lunch. We discussed ways to increase attendance. Perhaps change the venue (service was very weak at Chuck's), have it at a different time or a different day. As of now, we are looking at a different venue. We will send out a questionnaire later in the year to see what the majority would like to do.
- Volunteers needed for the Fox Valley Swap Meet. Setup at 7:00am, will need take down help and folks to sell our stuff.
- Should we stop participation at Clow? We get a very small amount, if any, of new members from Clow. We spend so much time with kids using the simulator. This year we will use one simulator and cut down on the number of airplanes we bring for a static response.
- Next month is Key Night. Bring in your old key to exchange for the new 2026 key. You must be an AMA member in good standing (as of this date every one is) and you must be up to date with your dues. If you cannot attend the meeting we will provide mail service. Instructions will be emailed out next month.

**Model Building and Tips**

- Two sources for batteries, Mike Doose suggested SMC batteries at [smc-racing.com](http://smc-racing.com) and Dave Ford recommends Roaringtop batteries at [roaringtopusa.com](http://roaringtopusa.com).

**Planes for Points:**

- Scott Emmerling demonstrated his Happy Model Mobula 6 drone. It is very small and very fast.
- Tony Maitaitis brought in his Catalina PBY. He hasn't flown it yet, a little tricky to program, but a beautiful plane and it will fly on snow, grass or water.



Tony Maitaitis with the Catalina PBY



Scott Emmerling and his Mobula 6 drone



Ludwig De Mesa brought in an Align T-Rex 550 Helicopter. A truly beautiful machine. Ludwig demonstrated how to determine the Center of Gravity.



Jay Ostrowski showed off his Freewing F35 by Motion RC. It uses a 6S battery

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:56 pm

## Photos

From the Christmas Luncheon:



Ludwig De Mesa, Dave Ford, Tim Mercier and Tim's sweetie.



Marilyn Miller, Scott Emmerling, Craig McKenzie and Donna McKenzie



Joe Urbas, Bill Brzostowski, and Herb Gosewisch

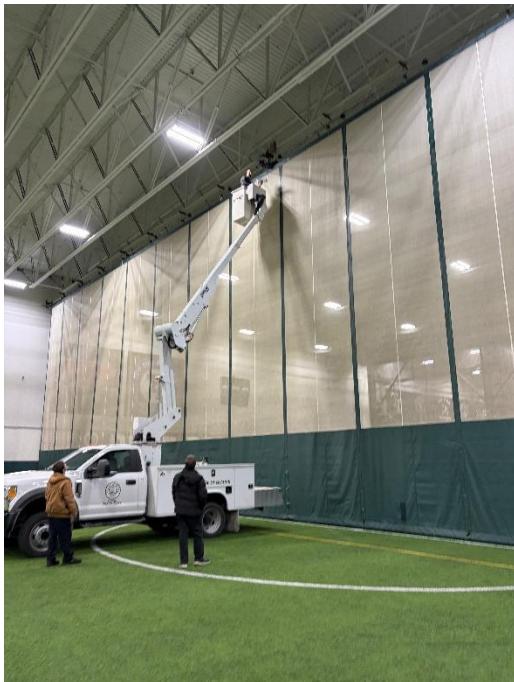


Joe Urbas's son, daughter-in-law and Ray Loy

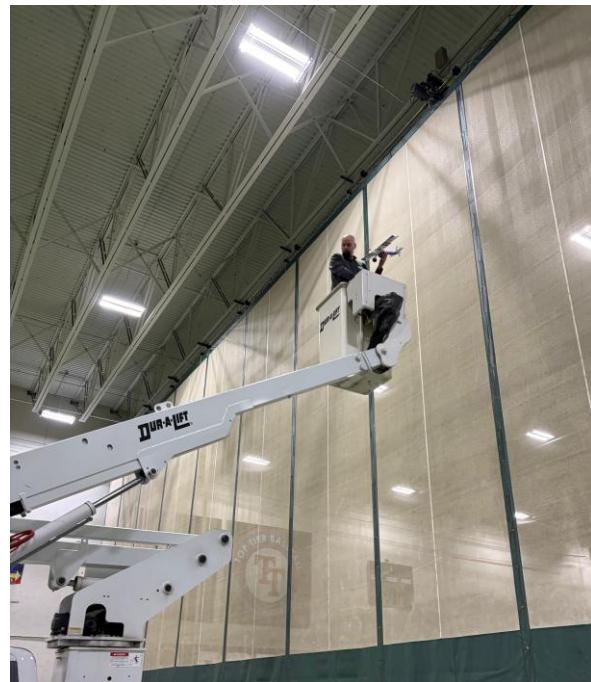
## Society of Aircraft Demolition (SAD)

As the new season gets underway we are introducing a new feature called The Society of Aircraft Demolition or SAD. Pictures of crashes, tales of airplane heroics and funny or stupid things we've all done

February's winner is Scott Emmerling. We were flying at the MAX Dome in McCook and Scott kinda sorta misjudged the height and width of the field. His plane got caught in the rafters and the Maintenance Department from the city of McCook was called in to use their bucket truck to retrieve the plane. No damage to the plane and we all had a good laugh. Even Scott.



Scott asking if he can ride up!  
Answer: NO!!



He's got it!

**Membership Application**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!**

Meetings: 1st Tuesday each month  
7:00 PM at the VFW Hall (rear entrance) 5101 Belmont Road, Downers Grove.

Info Online at [www.woodlandaeromodelers.org](http://www.woodlandaeromodelers.org)

New

Renewal

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / (month and date only)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: E-mails and phone numbers are used for WAM business only.

**AMA Classification and Woodland Aero Modelers Club Fee (Check all that apply):**

- Youth 19 years or under up to July 1st of membership year FREE
- Adult \$50
- Family Plan: One adult member at full price, all additional family members' dues at half price.

Need free flight training?

- Yes
- No

*"I agree to comply with Woodland Aero Modelers (WAM) Club Flying Field Safety and Operational Rules which includes employing/abiding by club safety guidelines and demonstrate proper flying protocols. I understand that my failure to comply with the WAM field rules, by-laws, or any activity deemed detrimental to the Club may constitute grounds to be dropped from the Club's membership roster"*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Officers Use Only**

Treasurer: Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sec: AMA exp. Date recorded: Date \_\_\_\_\_