

# WOODLAND/DAVIS AEROMODELERS



Prez Sez

## Jan Newsletter 2023

2023 is just about here and it's hard to think of a better way to ring it in than by sharing in some chilly temps, warm chili and fun times at the field on January 1. I'll be there, I hope you will too. The wet weather even looks like its going to give us a break and it could actually be a pretty nice day.

For 2023, we have a lot ahead of us. There are a number of events lining up on the calendar which help us cover our operating costs and provide the funds to make improvements to the field. I would encourage everyone to pick an event that they have never watched or participated in and get involved in it. You might be surprised. I helped out at the pylon race last year counting laps, and found myself putting together an EF1 model for this year. There's so much this hobby has to offer and I think it helps us all to have an appreciation for the variety of the hobby that our members participate in.

Speaking of improvements, we want to hear what you think. Where do you feel that attention should be focused? What do you have to offer in terms of making a difference and getting involved? If you see a need, its probable that the board or others have identified the need as well, but that resources have not stepped up previously to make it happen. It's very important in a volunteer organization like ours that the members are willing to get involved, and lend their experience to solving problems. What we have in our field is the result of what our individual members have been able to bring to the club in terms of equipment, experience, materials, or contacts who have been able to help us. We would have only done a small fraction without this influence. I urge each of you to consider your own experiences, and get involved in some

Prez Sez

Jeff Lovitt

Board Meeting Minutes

Mike O'Kane

General Meeting Minutes

Mike O'Kane

Modeler's Corner

Rich Geertson

**Happy New Year!**

**The WDA General meeting will be  
Monday Jan. 9th @ 7pm at the Round  
Table Pizza Party room  
421 Pioneer Ave, Woodland.  
Check the website for any changes.**

[wdarc.org](http://wdarc.org)

way this year to make the club a better place. We have a portion of our membership that seems to always be at the field working on something. It's time to see if we can spread that workload out, as the saying goes many hands makes light work.

Another improvement on the horizon is the club website. Gonzalo Martinez has graciously given his time and expertise to help develop a new, modern website for the club. It will hopefully help us attract new members and provide information about our site and what we do to anyone who is looking. Look for the new website to roll out early in 2023.

We have a new/old event on the calendar this year. We used to host an open house which showcased lots of different types of model flying and even included trainers and buddy boxes for anyone who wanted to give it a try. It directly correlated to new members. With the move to this field, we were spending a lot of time on improvements, etc and so this event was dropped. We are bringing it back this year and we will be looking forward to having lots of members out at the field to get involved in the flying demonstration, meeting and greeting people, answering questions, and helping to provide that first flight experience to someone who will inevitably become bitten by the bug. This event is our future, bringing new members of the local community in Woodland and Davis is extremely important to our future and showing our neighbors that we provide an important resource to the community is very important.

I think that's about it for now. My best wishes to you all for a happy and prosperous 2023. May there be a new project under construction and many happy flights in the new year.

Best,  
Jeff



Red Jensen 'Alley Cat' EF1 pylon racer. This is a laser cut basic kit that Red designed and produces. The fuselage is built up balsa/ply with fiberglass cowl and cockpit cover. Power is a 32 size outrunner eflite/avian motor. The background is an F86 which is progressing along steadily if a bit slowly. I expect to make a lot of progress on it this year.

Red Jensen 'Alley Cat' EF1 pylon racer - foam wing beds and cores ready for laminating. Balsa skins are 3/32 and have been edge trued and glued together. I'm just looking for some suitable heavy objects to park on top of the foam beds when I do the epoxy resin bonding of the skins to the core.



## Board Members Meeting

December 12, 2022

Board Members present: Jeff Lovitt, Forrest Barton, Mike O'Kane, Chris Dellinger, Doug Barton, Keith Young, Danny Winter and Bill McGaughey.

Meeting was conducted prior to the General Membership meeting on December 12 at 6pm

Meeting called to order at 6:13pm, meeting place is the Round Table Pizza on Pioneer Ave.

2022 Membership is at 96

John Eaton has resigned as the Club Treasurer for personal reasons effective 10-8-2022. Chris Dellinger has stepped up to act as interim Treasurer.

Previous motion was made to accept Chris as the interim Treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike, discussion completed. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Chris met with John last week and has been briefed on the accounting process. Bank account access signature cards were signed tonight. The Board position Chris held will be open for 2023.

Bill McGaughey brought up a plan to move the additional I beams onto the conex roof to span the distance between to big conex install trusses and cover the roof with salvaged metal siding. Discussion to be continued.

Tileston House is being emptied and prepared for sale (as is). Forrest has signed with a realtor to sell the house. Discussion regarding what may need to be taken care of prior to the house being listed. This item is open

The Board is considering Certificates of Deposit for earnings on the Bank account. Information is being gathered regarding rates and certificate terms. Item is open

Porta-potty purchase, Jeff will reach out to Mike Radu to discuss his previous offer to develop a fund for the purchase of a new unit. Item open.

Treasury reports this month not available due to transition to the new treasurer.

FAA-Recognized Identification Area questionnaire has been submitted to the AMA. Coverage area was discussed and will be sent to the AMA for processing. The center flag pole at the memorial plaques has been set as the reference point for the Field. A request for a 4,500' radius will be submitted as the Identification zone area with the origin of the radius being the center flag pole. Item open

### Event Calendar for 2023

Jet Fly	WDA Field	March 31 thru April 2
Open House	WDA Field	April 22 thru April 23
Float Fly	Lake Minden	April 26 thru April 30
Heli Scale Masters	WDA Field	May 11 thru May 13
Pylon	WDA Field	Race May 20 thru May 21
Dawn Patrol	WDA Field	September 2 thru September 3
Pattern Contest	WDA Field	September 23 thru 24
2nd Float Fly	Lake Minden	September 27 thru October 1

The next Board meeting is set for January 9 for 6pm at the Round Table Pizza located on Pioneer Ave in Woodland CA.

The General Membership meeting will be held following then Board meeting at 7pm

Meeting adjourned



## General Members Meeting

December 12, 2022

Board Members present: Jeff Lovitt, Forrest Barton, Mike O'Kane, Chris Dellinger, Bill McGaughey, Keith Young, Danny Winters and Doug Barton

Meeting was conducted after the Board meeting on December 12 at 7pm

Meeting called to order at 7:11pm, meeting place is the Round Table Pizza on Pioneer Ave.

### Discussion

New members present: Ron Cotterel

Members present constitute a quorum

2022 Membership is at 96

### Officer reports

- President: nominations for the upcoming Board and Officer positions will open during the meeting
- Treasurer: No report available.
- Secretary: The long wait for FAA advisory circular for guidance relative to the exception for FAA-Recognized Identification Areas (FRIAs) AC95-57C has ended. FRIA questionnaire for WDA Identification area has been submitted to the AMA, the AMA will submit to the FAA on behalf of our Club

**Events:** Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup> Chili-n-Chilly Open to all AMA members, good eats.

- Comments were made to upgrade the Porta-a-potty, suggestion came from an event leader. Replacement cost is approximately \$800.00, Jeff will respond to the person that made the suggestion. Jeff will reach out to Mike Radu and ask if he is still interested with upgrading one of the Porta-Potties. Item open
- Bill McGaughey brought up a plan to move the additional I beams onto the conex roof to span the distance between to big conex install trusses and cover the roof with salvaged metal siding. Discussion to be continued. Item open

Tileston House is being emptied and prepared for sale (as is). When emptied Forrest will contact Realtor and begin the sales process. Forrest Barton is co-executor of this estate and has taken charge from John Eaton. Forrest has signed a realtor. Item open

Chris Dellinger has met with John Eaton and has been briefed on the accounting process. Bank Cards for account access have been signed.

The WDA WEB page is being upgraded, roll out of the new look is not set as of yet.

2023 Nomination are open. The following persons are nominated for the following positions:

- ♦ **President - Jeff Lovitt**
- ♦ **Vice-President - Forrest Barton**
- ♦ **Treasurer - Chris Dellinger**
- ♦ **Secretary - Mike O'Kane**
- ♦ **Board Member - Jim Dahl Position vacated by Chris Dellinger**

No further nominations were made, nominations closed. Motion was made to approve the individuals/positions nominated, 2<sup>nd</sup> was made, no discussion. Vote was unanimous

All members are encouraged to take the TRUST training/test and ensure they are registered. Links to the TRUST testing and Registration can be found on the AMA WEB site @ [www.modelaircraft.org/safety](http://www.modelaircraft.org/safety)

Next Board Meeting is set for 6:00pm January 9<sup>th</sup> at the Round Table Pizza on Pioneer Ave.  
General Members meeting will follow at 7pm

Meeting adjourned @ 7:56p

Here is hoping your Christmas (or pick your celebration) holiday(s) were enjoyable. HARD to believe we will be writing "2023!" WHERE does the time go?

Also hoping you aren't getting bored with my Wildcat build. At times, this feels a bit self-indulgent. My goal is to INSPIRE and MOTIVATE so that perhaps we can feature someone else's build in coming issues of the club newsletter.

# Modelers Corner

Last month I stated I would be adding some "weathering" to the cockpit parts - and that remains on my to-do list. Now that all cockpit parts are completed, I have turned my attention to wing construction.

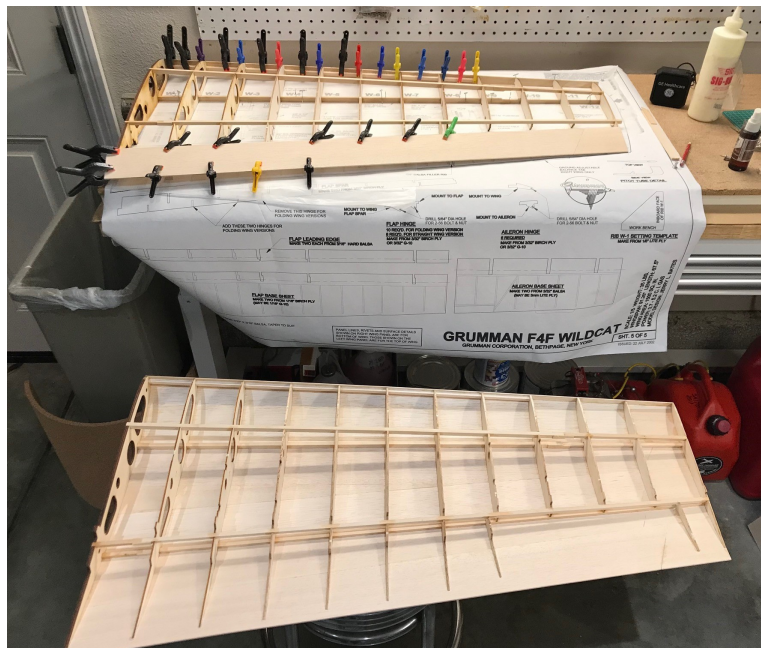
The Bob Holman laser-cut short kit I acquired, includes all the shaped parts (like wing ribs), but no sheeting, stringer, or other wood stock. First thing on the agenda was an estimate of what was needed. Did you know that SPRUCE is now almost impossible to obtain for modeling purposes? You won't find it for sale from the usual wood suppliers (Balsa USA, SIG, etc). I also spoke to a person at RC Country who told me it had been nearly 5 years since he was able to acquire any spruce! Basswood is a suitable substitute and IS still available. I shopped several suppliers and will tell you, pricing varies A LOT. For my purposes, I found **Balsa Wood Inc.** to have the best pricing.

## Example: 3/32" x 3 x 36" sheeting:

- Balsa USA \$2.63 / ea.
- SIG \$2.29 / ea.
- Balsa Wood Inc. 1.52 / ea

I have purchased from Balsa Wood Inc. previously and was very satisfied with the quality of wood and speed of shipment.

The Wildcat wing is built over the plans in two halves and features convention construction techniques. I have found the easiest way to handle most building is to cut the plans into smaller, more manageable sheets. While this renders them "very well used" by project's end, it also aides in the building process.



For shaping leading edge plate, a simple plane is the right tool for the job. Once wing sheeting is applied top and bottom, a 1/4" balsa leading edge will be glued on and shaped.

With top sheeting in place, the flaps and ailerons are built and hinged. Bottom sheeting is the last step.

The wing halves plug into an aluminum tube that runs through the fuselage. The tube was purchased from Zirol products and comes with a hard, cardboard receptacle that is glued to several inboard ribs once proper placement is ascertained. Attaching the wings to a model is always an exciting MILESTONE in any build!



With wingtips, the Wildcat spans 93" and exhibits an immense amount of wing area. With an anticipated finished weight of about 35 pounds, it should be a wonderful flyer. The flap and aileron servo wires pass through cardboard



tubes in the wings. Unable to find rocket body tubes in the required 11/16" diameter, I elected to make my own from a cereal box. Having sacrificed its protective shell, a bag of cornflakes now shivers in the cupboard... half naked ;-)

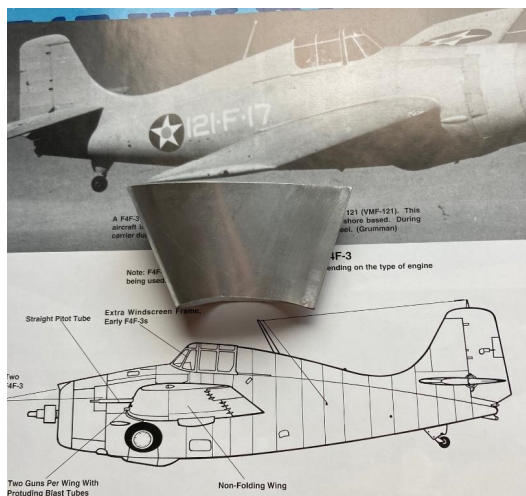






Not satisfied with my first or second attempt at a tailwheel fairing, I elected to construct a third and am happy with the results.

The Robart 'Wildcat' tailwheel unit came with its own non-scale challenges...first, the control arm was located such that it would be seen protruding from the bottom of the fuselage. I had to make a new and longer vertical pivot and relocate the control arm inside the fuselage. Second, the tailwheel fork was too long to allow the wheel to be located correctly in relation to the fairing. My 3rd fairing was also made taller to more closely mimic the version I am attempting to replicate.



The fairing is formed from printers plate and joined at the rear with JB Weld. Some microballoon filler was applied to smooth the wrinkles in the metal. 2-56 mounting holes had to be drilled and tapped into the tailwheel unit.

**(left) FIRST fairing**

**SECOND fairing (right)**







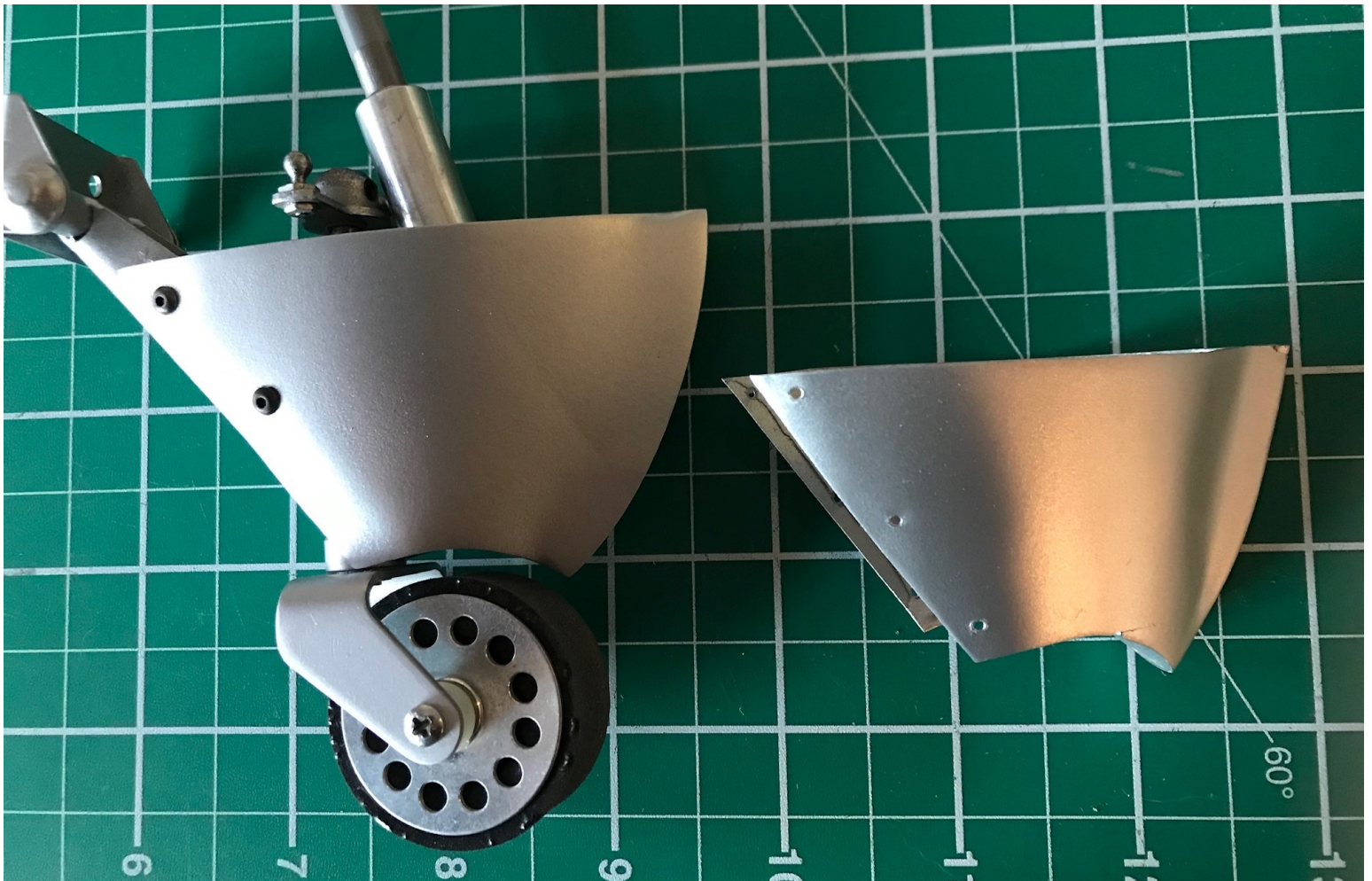
THIRD tailwheel fairing

Below left is the finished fairing shown next to my second.

The second was close, but as they say, NO CIGAR. Shortening the TW fork by 1/4" brought the tailwheel into the correct location directly under the fairing.

Until next month.... BUILD something :-)

**Rich Geertson**





# WDA Officers and Board

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# Flight Instruction

## Flight instructors:

⇒ Carlos Reyes (650) 243-8894  
[carsi@hotmail.com](mailto:carsi@hotmail.com)

## Jet Turbine Instructors

⇒ OPEN

## Multi-rotor Drones

⇒ Keith Young (530) 848-3666

## Helicopter Instructor (Only):

⇒ OPEN



**Next Club Meeting: Monday Jan. 9th, 7pm Round Table Pizza, Woodland**



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