



August 2025 Edition

President's Corner: Ernie Padgett



The Usual Suspects

Do you remember the famous quote from the movie "Casablanca"? The quote by the police captain, when he says "Round up the usual suspects"? The idea engendered by the quote is that of a stylized approach; an approach in which we all know there won't be anything new discovered; we're just going through the motions, doing the "same old, same old" and we'll get the usual, and worthless, result we got last time. And, the time before that. And, the time before that.

Well, that's how I usually feel whenever we have anything resembling work going on at the FARM Club; or ever our sister club, CMB. I show up for the work party or the meeting and I see the same old faces; the same people I've see for the past 10 or 15 years. The only time anything changes is when someone dies or becomes temporarily, or permanently, infirm. Otherwise, we just keep trucking along; with the same people doing all the work and all the business of the club.

And that, although it has been going along for quite a few years now, simply cannot continue. And believe me; when something cannot continue, it won't.

There is another old saying that comes to mind: "Ten percent of the people do 90 percent of the work". Well, we now have a bit less than 70 members of the FARM club. And, about the same, roughly, at CMB. That would mean approximately 7 people are doing all the work of each club. And since I can't remember any time we've had more than a handful of people working at the same time, or even attending the club meetings, that seems about right. I know, the younger club members are still working. They have jobs. And, they have children and families that need time and attention. And sure, the older members are, in the main, retired. That means they have plenty of time on their hands and they're all looking for something to do, right? Well, not really. Not even close.

The simple fact is the people who are doing all the work now are the same people who were doing all the work ten years ago. And, in some cases, 20 years ago. Or even longer. And some of us are really struggling to keep the clubs going. None of us could, by any stretch of the imagination, be considered as being in the prime of life. I can't speak for everyone, of course; but my "prime" was several decades in the past. I was doing a lot

of work with volunteer groups before some of our members were born. And I am not the only member of the club leadership whose is beginning to struggle with things that used to be easy. We need help!

If FARM and CMB are to continue, there has to be a change. The Old Guard can keep going for a few more years. But I think we have all fairly and completely earned the right to say "It is time for some new blood to step forward and at least help out now and again". If you enjoy this hobby of ours, then it's time to step forward. You don't have to do anything special, or anything really hard. But you do have to do something.

Thanks;

Fly Safe.

Ernie P.

President's Pilot Box: Ernie Padgette

- See above.
- No additional Club specific items this Month.

Ernie P.

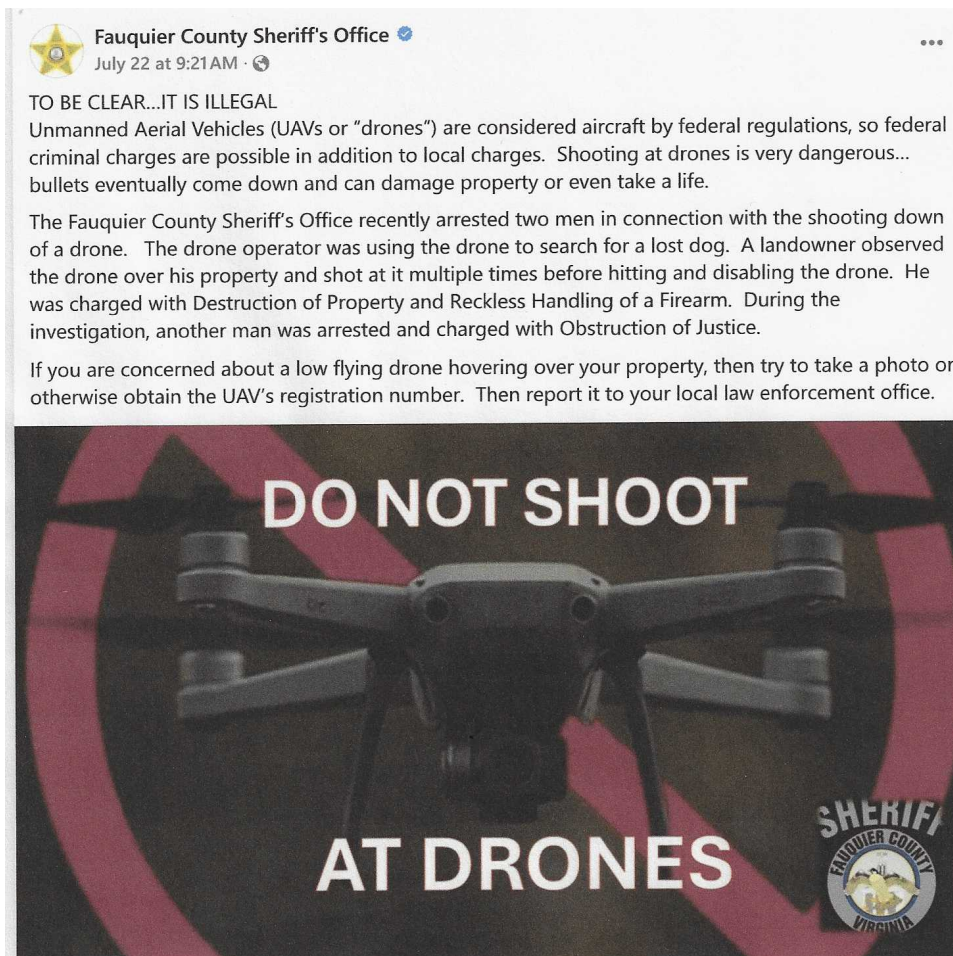
Vice President's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- No specific items this Month.
- Stay Cool

Nic

Secretary's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- Yes, the Sheriff Departments are aware:



- We have a newly rejoined Member: Michael Harper. Welcome Back Michael!

- FARM Club Calendar:

Upcoming 2025 events:

August 31	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #5 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training, and Flight Check day</i> CD: Ernie Padgett Food: ???	All Day
August 31	Sunday	FARM Club Meeting @ Club Field	1:00 PM
September 13-14	Sat-Sun	FARM Pattern Contest @ FARM Field CD: Don Szczur dszczur@verizon.net	All Day
September 23	Tuesday	FARM Club Zoom Meeting	7:00 PM
September 28	Sunday	FARM Club Day & Fun Fly #6 @ Club Field <i>Picnic, Pilot Training and Flight Check day</i> CD: ??? Food: ???	All Day
October 8-9	Wed-Th	<u>Culpeper Airfest STEM Days / static displays</u> CD: Nic Burhans npb6218@earthlink.net	8A-4P
October 11	Sat	<u>Culpeper Airfest static display / air show</u> CD: Nic Burhans npb6218@earthlink.net	7AM-4PM
October 28	Tuesday	FARM Club Zoom Meeting 2026 FARM Board Nominations Open	7:00 PM
November 4	Tuesday	State/Local Election Day	All Day
November 25	Tuesday	FARM Club Zoom Meeting 2026 FARM Board Nominations Close Voting begins	7:00 PM
December 6	Saturday	<u>Joint CMB and FARM Christmas Party</u> 2026 FARM Board Election Concludes	6:00-10 PM

Remember to Be SAFE and stay hydrated!

Nic

Treasurer's Pilot Box: Nic Burhans

- As of 14 August, the FARM Club presently has 58 members. (19 Regular members, 33 Senior members, 1 Junior member, 1 Associate member, and 4 Life members).

- As of 12 June, the Club presently has a balance of \$5,950.20 in the general fund.

Continue to Be Safe and Cool

Nic

Safety Officer's Pilot Box: Mike Wiczalkowski

- No Club specific items this Month.

Continue to Be Safe

Mike

Field Marshal's Pilot Box: Ralph Graul

- The grass has slowed its growing rampage. We will be returning to our regular once a week mowing schedule.

- Thank you to the extra mid-week mowers.

- No other Club specific items this Month.

Ralph

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Charlie Koustenis

- No Club specific items this Month.

Charlie

Member at Large's Pilot Box: Bill Flathers

- No Club specific items this Month.

Bill F

Web Master's Pilot Box: Dick Sutton

- No Club website specific items this Month.

Dick

FARM Member "Tips & Projects" Box: Any FARM Member

- No member items this Month.

"From the Field" Anything Input Pilot Box: Any FARM Member

- Reminder from the Virginia State Police:



Virginia State Police

December 23 at 2:07 PM

Getting or giving a drone this Holiday Season? Make sure you "COMPLY BEFORE YOU FLY."

HAVE YOU:

1. Registered your drone (if it weighs .55 lbs. or more) with the FAA's Drone Zone?
 - a. If so... is the registration number visibly displayed on the outside of your airframe. The only exception to this rule is drones that weigh less than .55 lbs. (250 grams).
 - b. If not.... Failure to register your drone and flying in the National Airspace could result in criminal charges and/or fines.
2. Obtained the appropriate license?
 - a. You must obtain a T.R.U.S.T. Recreational Pilots license if you're going to fly for fun— (don't worry it only takes a few minutes & it's free to take online), OR
 - b. You must obtain a Part 107 Commercial Drone Pilot's license if you're going to fly for compensation or to promote a business or non-profit.
 - c. The licensure requirement applies to all drone operators regardless of the drone's size or weight. Information on licensure can be found on the FAA's Drone Zone.

3. Ensured your drone has a built-in Remote ID?

a. As of September 16, 2023, all drones that must be registered with the FAA must comply with the Remote ID rule as well.

b. The specific Remote ID data the drone needs to broadcast from takeoff to shutdown includes drone ID, drone location and altitude, drone velocity, control station location & elevation, time mark, and any emergency status.

c. All drones manufactured after September 16, 2022, were required to have Remote ID built in (but if you're not sure--consult your drone manufacturer).

While you're flying you must be in possession of the appropriate license and your drone registration which you are required to present to law enforcement upon request.

Important things to remember for operating a drone:

1. Find an open space for your initial flights to give yourself plenty of room to learn and develop your piloting skills.

2. Keep the drone within your visual line of sight and/or use a visual observer who is co-located (physically next to) and in direct communication with you.

3. Give way to and do not interfere with other aircraft.

4. Fly at, or below, 400 feet in Class G (uncontrolled) airspace. Fly at, or below, FAA-authorized altitudes in controlled airspace (Class B, C, D, and surface Class E designated for an airport) only with prior FAA authorization by using LAANC or FAA's Drone Zone

5. Anyone flying a drone in the U.S. National Airspace System (NAS) is responsible for flying within the FAA guidelines and regulations. That means it is up to you as a drone pilot to know the rules.

6. Do not operate your drone in a manner that endangers the safety of the national airspace system.

If you have questions, reach out to your local Public Safety drone team or recreational hobbyist group.

<https://faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/>

https://www.faa.gov/.../gett.../where_can_i_fly/airspace_101

https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange

Nic Burhans

- FYI: FARM Pattern Contest

- And we will need helpers.

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FARM PATTERN CONTEST AND SPA EVENT



September 13-14, 2025

Event Sponsor:	Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers	Pilots Meeting 9:00 a.m. Group photo of SPA planes at Noon
Event Category:	RC Aerobatics	
Event Class:	Class AA	
Description:	FARM Club Pattern and SPA Contest (JSO) and also plan to run a SPA (Senior Pattern Event) with the pattern contest as a separate event. (classic pattern planes, retracts, pipes or 6S Batteries allowed). Campers are OK but no hook ups.	
Event Website:	http://www.farmclubrc.com	Pattern (Club Class through FAI), SPA (Basic through Masters) Entry Fee: \$10 for Club Class - Sportsman, \$30 all other classes, \$10 for SPA class if also flying RC Aerobatics (modern pattern)
Special feature:	Kirk Wicker's Aircraft- come see!	
Event Contact:	DONALD SZCZUR	
Contact Information:	dszczur@verizon.net; or Nic Burhans npb6218@gmail.com	
Site Detail:	5350 Savannah Branch Rd, Bealeton, VA, 22712-7234 (38.528985, -77.736369) Get Directions	



FARM CLUB 2024 OFFICERS

President.	Ernie Padgette	540-439-6085
Vice President	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Secretary	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Treasurer/Contact Point . .	Nic Burhans	540-219-9646
Safety Officer	Mike Wiczalkowski	571-437-4705
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Training Coordinator. . .	Ralph Gaul	540-729-1586

The FARM Newsletter is published monthly by the Fauquier Aero Recreation Modelers, AMA charter #1654. It is forwarded to FARM members and to other clubs on an exchange basis. Articles related to all types of aviation are welcome. Opinions expressed in the newsletter articles are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of FARM Inc.

Publishing input deadline is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please forward all inputs (Pictures in jpg format) to: Nic Burhans

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Our Club web site is: <http://www.farmclubrc.com>