

## District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

**Modelers have** many interests, including Control Line (CL), RC, Free Flight, rockets, and more. It is rare to see all of this diversity at our flying fields, however, one place where all of these disciplines come together is at a swap meet. These interests were all on display at the annual Dayton ModelRama Swap Meet and Auction held April 29-30, 2022, hosted by the Dayton Wingmasters in Dayton, Ohio.



AMA District III's information table and flight simulator at the Dayton ModelRama.



Paul Stimmel of the Dayton Wingmasters kept attendees informed at the ModelRama. Thanks to all for a great event!

The Wingmasters have held a swap event for years and each year's event gets bigger and better. A couple years ago, the Wingmasters had a tornado come through the area and destroy its flying field. The proceeds from the event are helping to rebuild the facility.

Throughout the years, I have attended many swap events and I have begun to appreciate the atmosphere of fun and camaraderie. I enjoy talking to our members about AMA business and seeing their varied interests. Although traditional hobby expos are a thing of the past, it appears that swap events are growing year after year. Congratulations to the Dayton Wingmasters for another successful swap meet and I'm looking forward to next year's event and beyond.

**I like to highlight** District III modelers doing great things. On April 8, 2022, I was in Muncie, Indiana, for a quarterly AMA Executive Council meeting, which happened to coincide with the



National Model Aviation Museum Director Michael Smith (L) and Brett Becker (R) inducted Brett's award-winning U-2 model into the museum.

induction of Brett Becker's Top Gun-winning U-2 model into the National Model Aviation Museum. Brett is from Dayton, and was Mr. Top Gun in 2020 and 2021.

Brett's U-2 model is one of only two to ever receive a perfect static score at the prestigious Top Gun event. One must see this model to appreciate the detail he has built into it. Congratulations, Brett, for having your model inducted into the museum and I encourage all District III members to visit the facility to see it and other significant model aviation artifacts that illustrate the history of our hobby.

**Some of you know** that in addition to flying models, I am also a full-scale pilot. There is nothing I like more than combining those two aviation elements. That is exactly what I did on April 23, 2022, when I flew into the Danville, Pennsylvania, airport to attend and fly in the Susquehanna Valley Modelers Spring Fling event.



Members and friends of the Susquehanna Valley Modelers attending the club's Spring Fling event.

The club acquired a new flying field on airport property in 2021, and held a grand opening, which I attended. Added to the field this year are two CL circles. It is refreshing to see a club encouraging additional model aviation activities. Thank you, Susquehanna Valley Modelers, for making your field more accessible to more model enthusiasts.

**Until next month,** stay safe and fly safely. 



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