District III—Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

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In 2016, I decided to fly RC Scale and competed in several events sponsored by the National Association of Scale Aeromodelers (NASA), the official AMA Special Interest Group. Each year, the NASA organization hosts its final event, which typically moves to different areas.

For 2016, the third annual NASA Scale Classic season finale was held in District III in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, at the Greene County airport. The Scale Classic encompasses not only RC, but also Control Line (CL) Scale aircraft, so it is imperative to have a large facility to handle the logistics of such an event.

The airport was closed to general aviation traffic and the airport taxiways were used to fly both RC and CL. The competition began on Friday with static scale judging for aircraft entered in the expert/designer events. The field was open for practice on Friday, giving the competitors a chance to become accustomed to the field and airspace. Competition flying began Saturday and concluded Sunday with beautiful fall weather.

On Saturday evening, a nice banquet was held at a nearby restaurant and the camaraderie among the Scale community couldn't be any better. Modelers from all areas of the country set aside their competitive spirt and enjoyed an evening of good food, fellowship, and fun.

CL Scale CD Allen Goff and his award winning Ryan STA. Allen indicated the event had double the CL entries from the previous year.

A few of the CL Scale aircraft at the NASA Scale Classic in Waynesburg PA.

An event this size requires two contest directors (CD) and the NASA group provided two of the best. For RC it was Dale Arvin and for CL it was Allen Goff. These men need no introduction to anyone flying Scale competition because they both have overseen many events throughout many years.

A big shout-out goes to the person most responsible for having this event take place in District III and that is John Brodak. John is an avid CL Scale flier and a major manufacturer of CL aircraft and accessories. His manufacturing and distribution facilities are located in nearby Carmichaels, Pennsylvania.

Event organizers were pleased with the turnout and the airport manager welcomed the aviation activity at his airport. Thank you to everyone involved for hosting such a nice event in District III.

These are the folks who did all the work to ensure a smooth RC Scale event Thank you Dale Arvin and crew!

A view down the flightline of a few of the RC Scale models at the NASA Classic.

If your club would like to host a Scale event for the first time, the NASA organization can help. Mike Barbee, NASA president, initiated a program to give $500 to help with promotion, trophies, etc., to any club that will host a Scale event for the first time.

I encourage all District III clubs to consider hosting a Scale event in 2017, and I would encourage anyone remotely interested in Scale to go to an event and fly. I guarantee you everyone will welcome you and help you. You will have an enjoyable experience.

I enjoyed myself at all the events I flew and made some new friends in the process. I am looking forward to flying Scale in 2017.

Until next month, fly safely—fly AMA.

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