District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

Although events were reduced in 2020, there was still plenty of activity in the district. I received the following event report from Associate Vice President Dave Chisohm, of Valencia, Pennsylvania.

"On June 19-21, the Oil Creek Flyers hosted the 13th annual Summer OC-Turbo Fest Jet Meet at the Titusville Municipal Airport in Titusville, Pennsylvania. Organizer Rich Miller prepared a first-class event hoping that the meet would attract fliers and friends whom we might have not seen in a while due to the current national situation.

"The event is held on a fantastic facility located on more than 100 acres of well-manicured grass fields and a pristine 4,800-foot runway. This year, dozens of spectators and 25 pilots from as far away as Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Ohio were invited, brought some incredible aircraft, and took advantage of some of the best flying weather the event has ever had.

"Some of the highlights included a visit from the local mayor and his team, showing the communities support for the event. Jim Hiller, from Youngstown, Ohio, took Ken Olson's T-33 through a patriotic flight set to music with plenty of smoke and smooth aerobatic maneuvers. DeWayne Woods Jr., an up-and-coming 16-year-old phenom from Chicago, put his Mephisto jet through a series of jaw-dropping maneuvers.





"Another junior AMA member, Ben Vilinski, from Henrietta, New York, achieved his turbine waiver at the event under the watchful eve of his grandfather, Scott Miller. Scott is an aviation professional, longtime AMA member, and Top Gun competitor who turns out incredibly detailed aircraft. He certainly is proud of Ben and his stellar accomplishment."

Thank you, Dave, for your report.

I received the following email from District III member Daniel Miller Jr.

"After my wife bought me a Great Planes Avistar for Christmas in 2014, I joined AMA and the Flying Aeros club in Bazetta, Ohio, where I learned to fly using the Avistar. The Avistar survived several crashes throughout the years, although it no longer looked very pretty.

"I was recently asked to help with an annual benefit auction that our local Amish community puts on to raise money for the DDC Clinic for Special Needs Children in Middlefield, Ohio. I decided to donate my old Avistar trainer, so I totally rebuilt and re-covered it. I contacted Callie Graphics and asked the company to make a decal for the fuselage featuring the DDC Clinic logo.



"A friend donated a new O.S. .46 engine, I found a new Spektrum DX6E on RCGroups, and donated the airplane as a ready-to-fly model to the benefit auction. We hung it above the auction ring to make sure all bidders could get a good look at it. This airplane sold for \$1,700!"



The refurbished Avistar model hanging for all to see and bid on at the DDC Clinic Benefit Auction.

Great job, Daniel! Thank you for not only promoting model aviation but also for using your model and talents to benefit the community.

With winter weather setting in and the COVID-19 pandemic an issue, now is a good time for all clubs to review everything your club does and plan for 2021.

Until next month, stay safe and fly safely.



Mark Radcliff

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