

## District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

If there is one area in our hobby that is growing, it is the swap meet/flea market/auction events.

On March 18, 2023, AMA Senior Director of Government Affairs Tyler Dobbs and I were invited to attend the Mad River Flying Association Swap Event at the Champaign Air Museum at Grimes Airport in Urbana, Ohio. The museum welcomes modelers to set up swap tables among the full-scale aviation artifacts in the museum.



Just one of many vintage aircraft surrounded by modelers selling at the Urbana Swap Meet.



The National Association of Scale Modelers sold raffle tickets for a P-47, with proceeds helping to fund the US Scale Team in world competition.

A few of the museum's aircraft include a fully restored and flying B 25 Mitchell "Champaign Gal," a B-17G Flying Fortress that is under construction named "Champaign Lady," and a C47/

DC 3 Skytrain that you can walk in and tour the cockpit, along with many other vintage aircraft. Because the tables were among the museum's aircraft, it was fun to work your way around to see the model items for sale among the aircraft and artifacts on display.

The event was well attended by both modelers and spectators. At approximately 11 a.m., I kicked off an informal District III meeting and spoke about events in the district, and Tyler updated everyone with government relations activities. Following our presentations, the floor was open for questions and answers. I agree with the club advertising that stated, "This event is the most unique venue you will ever attend." If you want to learn more about the club and the museum, please visit [www.flyurbana.com](http://www.flyurbana.com).

The following Saturday, on March 25, I attended an RC Flea Market & Auction held in Delmont, Pennsylvania, hosted by the Murrysville Area RC Society. This event has been going strong for many years and it was my first time attending. The club supplied me with a table for literature and such to handout to those interested, and District III Associate Vice President (AVP) Dave Chisholm lent a helping hand and introduced me to many of the modelers he knew in his area.

The selling activity was very busy and mid-morning, the club began a very successful auction. After the auction, I was asked to say a few words to the crowd about all that is going on in the district and at AMA.

Thank you to the Murrysville Area RC Society and the Mad River Flying Association for your hospitality, and I'm looking forward to attending your events in the future.



An overall view of modelers selling at the Murrysville event.

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



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