

District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

In the 1980s I served as the content director (CD) for several Pattern/Scale contests hosted by the Vienna Sky Sharks and KERA model clubs in Ravenswood, West Virginia. At one of these events, I met a man flying a meticulously prepared scale P-47 Razorback. His name was Bill Carper.

At the time, my focus was Pattern flying; however, for the past 10 years I have been flying some Scale events, one of them being the Bob Evans event in Rio Grande, Ohio. On August 12, 2018, I competed in the 30th annual Bob Evans contest. I asked the current event CD, Bob Ripley, to give me a history lesson on the roots of the contest's origin.

"In 1988, Top Gun-level Scale competitor, Bill Carper, saw the need for an RC contest geared toward those who were infatuated with Scale model aircraft but were either intimidated by or did not know the first thing about competing in a contest environment. Bill partnered with

several local RC clubs and the Bob Evans Farms in Rio Grande, Ohio, for a Scale venue.

"The second weekend in August was chosen, and the first Bob Evans RC Scale contest was born. That was 30 years ago. Now, as it was back then, the Bob Evans RC Scale Fun Fly is a family-friendly event designed to introduce Scale model contest flying to those who are interested but don't know where to start."

What an amazing story: to start a Scale competition for beginners and it is still going strong 30 years later! Bill moved from Ohio and went south a few years ago to be closer to family and some good fishing, but I am told he still promotes Scale flying in his area.

The District III Scale modeling world owes a debt of gratitude to Bill for having the foresight to see the need to create an event for novice Scale modelers to be introduced to flying in RC Scale competition. Thank you, Bill, for your dedication to model aviation. We are looking forward to the 31st edition of the Bob Evans Scale event in 2019.

Until next month, fly safely—fly AMA. 



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Bob Evans Scale event founder, Bill Carper, with his beautiful P-47 model circa 1988.



Ohio scale modeler Keith Numbers prepares to fly his beautiful Red Devils Pitts Special.



CD Bob Ripley (R) presents the first-place Champion Class trophy to District III Associate Vice President Jim Martin.



Eight-year-old Evan Brewster won second place in Novice and Best Pilot thanks to the support of dad, Dennis, and grandfather, Joey.



Flying Forks member Tony Scott flew this nice Taylorcraft at the Bob Evans event.