

District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

For many years, AMA's tagline was Bringing Modelers Together. That statement was true when it was written and it is still true today.

Several years ago, I met Rich Barch at an event in Dayton, Ohio. Rich, a member of the Springfield Model Airplane Club, in Springfield, Ohio, told me of his club's annual spring event in which area clubs are invited to enjoy a fun day of flying, food, and fellowship. Every year Rich invited me, but the timeframe never worked out.

This year's event was held on June 4 and I was able to attend. Upon arrival, I was greeted by Rich, who had held a parking space open for me and kindly allowed me to utilize his large pop-up shelter. The club has a beautifully manicured grass runway in a large field with no obstructions in the area. The club installed a large aluminum shelter for shade and picnic tables, which made it enjoyable to eat and not have to endure the hot sun.



Club members and friends who attended the annual Springfield Model Airplane Invitational Fun Fly.



The Springfield Model Airplane Club's large, aluminum pavilion providing shade for members and spectators.

The event had more than 40 pilots from the area clubs. I knew several pilots who attended, and I also met a lot of modelers whom I can now call my friends. Thanks, Rich, for inviting me year after year to attend your club's event. I am glad my schedule finally allowed me to attend, and I look forward to going in the future.

On the subject of Bringing Modelers Together, the third annual AMA National Fun Fly was held June 24-26, 2022, at the International Aeromodeling Center (IAC) in Muncie, Indiana.

This event was established so that AMA members could enjoy their national facility, which includes more than 1,000 acres of flying sites, the AMA Headquarters, and the fantastic National Model Aviation Museum.

The event featured multiple flightlines, a swap shop, the AMA simulator trailer, raffle prizes, buddy boxing, museum tours, food vendors, and more. District III had a 20 x 20-foot tent and I invited members from the district to utilize the shelter at their convince. The event was well attended with safety in mind by utilizing district vice presidents and associate vice presidents (AVPs) running the multiple flightlines.

The weather was nearly perfect and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves with flying, food, and fellowship. If you have never been to the IAC, I encourage you to attend the 2023 event. It is a great opportunity to see your AMA Headquarters and to utilize the beautiful flying facility that your dues have helped to create.



Todd and Heather Powell, of Springfield OH, attended the AMA National Fun Fly and are always helpful to everyone in the hobby.



(L-R): Nathan Saylor (The RC Saylor's) District III AVP Jim Martin, and yours truly had a good time at the National Fun Fly.

Until next month, stay safe and fly safely. 



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