



III

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District III

Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

Summer has arrived in District III and let's hopes the excessive rain is behind us.

For many years, the Laurel Highlands Model Airplane Club has had static displays at the annual full-scale air show in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. This year, I received a call from the club needing help with the event because its members were invited to fly RC in the show and they needed a CD and qualified RC show pilots.

I contacted my friend and fellow CD, Jeff Sumey, to run the event and put together a team of pilots. Here is Jeff's event report.

"The Laurel Highlands Model Airplane Club (LHMAC; www.lhmac.org) presented a display at the Westmoreland County Airshow on May 25-26, 2019, at the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport, in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Club members Steve Mickel, Jim Andrews, Jeremiah Ulishney, and others did a great job organizing a show-center static display and fielded questions from the public both days.

"AMA associate vice president, Dave Chisholm, represented AMA. Demonstration flights were organized by CD Jeff Sumey and presented before crowds in excess of 35,000 spectators. Jim Hiller, of Warren, Ohio, flew a Der Jet Models Grumman EA6B Prowler, and Ed Andrews of Pittsburgh demonstrated a scale model of an L21B Super Cub as flown in the Suez Canal conflict.

"Jeff, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, piloted a 105-inch Extreme Flight Slick 580."



The LHMAC once again had a great static display at the annual air show in Latrobe PA.



Two experienced pilots are required for RC demonstrations at full-scale air shows. Westmorland pilots were (L-R) Jeff Sumey, Ed Andrews, and safety spotter Bill Bisdell.

Thanks for stepping up and organizing the RC portion of this event, Jeff. As I have stated before, full-scale air shows are a great way to expose the public to model aviation and your club.

On the subject of large aviation events, I attended the 2019 Joe Nall Week and it was spectacular as usual. The event was rained out in 2018 and because of that, I believe this year's event was bigger and better than ever.

Statistics showed more than 1,300 pilots and total attendance exceeded 14,000 guests from 47 states and 17 foreign countries. There were thousands of aircraft of all shapes and sizes.

New this year was an improved electric flightline featuring a geotextile runway that made flying smaller electric models better. The 3D flightline and lake flying was as exciting and beautiful as ever.

I decided to go back to my roots so I visited the Control Line circles headed up by my friend, Mark Weiss. I grabbed the handle, the electric model was released, and I took off and flew just as I did when I was a youngster. What a great feeling! Flying models is like riding a bicycle; you never forget how to do it! I urge all District III members to put Joe Nall Week on your bucket list.

After attending this event, you realize model aviation is alive and well and will continue into the future. Thanks to Pat Hartness and his staff for hosting such an amazing event.

Until next month, fly safely, fly AMA. 



Many District III modelers attended Joe Nall Week. Pittsburgh native Chuck Gratner with his own-design Riley B featuring a wood-laminated fuselage. It has impeccable workmanship and flies as good as it looks!



Under the backdrop of Pat Hartness' fantastic aircraft collection, AMA held its annual membership meeting at Joe Nall Week. The meeting was well attended and is an excellent way to meet your elected AMA officers.