

## District III

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Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia



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District III Volunteers

### HELLO DISTRICT III!

As you probably know, much has changed in terms of AMA officers for the new year. The biggest being our own Bob Brown is now AMA president. In addition to Bob being elected our new president, he also was reelected as vice president in District III. Holding two offices at the same time isn't allowed, so someone must attempt to fill Bob's large shoes. That's where I come in.

My name is Mark Radcliff and I was appointed by Bob to be the interim District III VP. I will be assuming the duties of the office for 2012 until the fall when an election will be held. Please allow me to briefly introduce myself.

I have been involved in this hobby for more than 50 years. I was introduced to the hobby by my father as a young child and he taught me to build and fly U-control (CL) and RC. I became interested in RC aerobatics at a young age and flew my first Pattern contest in 1969 and won my class. During the next few years, I flew more contests and eventually competed on four US Aerobatic Teams (F3A) in the late '70s and early '80s and flew in the Tournament of Champions seven times ('74-'82).

I was influenced by many great District III modelers and events. After the '82 season, I retired from competition to devote more time to my family and profession. For the next 18 years, I was inactive in model aviation.

In 2000, AMA had a flying event called Homecoming so I made the trip to Muncie, Indiana, to see the AMA Headquarters and museum. After that weekend, I was hooked! All the advancements throughout the years in airplanes and equipment amazed me and the AMA facility and museum were also big inspirations.

It made me think, "What can I do for the betterment of model aviation since it had been so good to me?" I contacted then-District III VP Bob Brown and he immediately made me an associate vice president for the district. Since then, I have been actively involved in our district doing what I love to do, and that's fly model airplanes and meet others with the same interests.

Moving forward, I assure you I will do my best to serve the modelers of District III as VP and I look forward to meeting you in the future. Thanks to all the modelers of District III for making model aviation a great hobby.



Phoenix models I flew in the World Championship.

**Friends of RC Fly-In:** On September 3, 2011, the Clarksburg Model Aviation Club (CMAC) of West Virginia hosted its inaugural Friends of RC Fly-In. This event,

spearheaded by club member Garry Spar, invited all area clubs to come and enjoy a nice day of flying. The event also honored longtime member and model aviation advocate Randy Childers, who passed away earlier in the year.

The weather was nearly perfect with no wind or rain in sight, which allowed for plenty of flying the entire day. There were more than 25 fliers from the state of West Virginia, and the club arranged with a local television station to film some flying and conduct interviews, which aired later that evening. Overall, the Friends of RC Fly-In appeared to be a big success and a big thank-you goes out to Garry and his club. Hopefully, there will be a Friends of RC event next year.



The flightline at the CMAC Friends of RC Fly-In.



Steve Pumphrey taxis out to fly.



Young Branson Matheny flew his helicopter for the noontime demonstration.