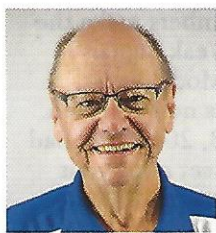


District III—Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia



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www.amadistrict-iii.org



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The 2016 Toledo Show: R/C Model Expo 2016 is history and, by all measures, it appears that our hobby is alive and well. One great thing about the Toledo Show is that AMA members can meet the AMA staff and district representatives.

AMA District III (Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Ohio) and District VII (Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota) hosted a meet and greet, and I thought I would bring some of the meeting to you so you could put faces with names of AMA officials and staff members.

The meeting began promptly at 1 p.m. in Room 314 of the SeaGate Convention Centre in Toledo with introductions of District III Vice President Mark Radcliff and District VII Vice President (VP) Tim Jesky. Next were introductions of the AMA Executive Council and District III and District VII associate vice presidents.

Mandee Mikulski, the AMA Foundation director of development, talked about the new AMA Discover Flight initiative (www.discoverflight.org). If you want to educate your local schools, municipalities, your friends, and neighbors about model aviation, I urge you to use this valuable asset.

Mandee also spoke about National Model Aviation Day, which is August 13, 2016. AMA would like clubs to promote model aviation and donate to charities in their local communities on this special day. Inviting local community

members and leaders to your flying fields will promote your club's activities and will go a long way toward helping when the time comes that your club needs a new or improved flying site.

Next on the agenda was Ilona Maine, AMA's director of Safety and Member Benefits. Ilona spoke and answered questions pertaining to insurance coverage for both members and clubs.

A primary goal of AMA is education, and Jessy Symmes spoke about Camp AMA, a weeklong summer camp held at AMA Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. Campers, ages 13-19, are given the opportunity to learn and work on their flying capabilities with some of the best RC pilots in the world.

Several former campers spoke of their experiences and the highlight was District III awarding a Camp AMA scholarship to 13-year-old Evan Gaston. Evan is looking forward to Camp AMA to further advance his flying. The most important part of the Camp AMA experience is the great social and life skills that these kids acquire.

The final meeting speaker was Chad Budreau from AMA's Public Relations and Government Affairs. Chad spoke about AMA's meetings in Washington, D.C., with the FAA and Congress. Following Chad's remarks, an active question-and-answer session took place, which led up to the final event, a drawing for a new radio for those AMA members in attendance. The winner was Matt Finley from Columbus, Ohio.



AMA District III Vice President Mark Radcliff (L) presented Evan Gaston with his Camp AMA scholarship. Photo by Jenni Alderman.



District VII VP Tim Jesky (L), Team JR and District III Associate Vice President Jeff Black, and District III VP Mark Radcliff (R) present a new radio to Matt Finley (with box), winner of the drawing for those AMA members who attended the meeting. Alderman photo.

Thank you to the more than 100 AMA members who attended our meeting in Toledo. I'm already looking forward to next year.

Until next month, fly safely—fly AMA. 🛩️



The turnout for the AMA Districts III and VII meet and greet filled Room 314 of the SeaGate Convention Center. Alderman photo.

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