

## District III—Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia



**Mark Radcliff**  
Vice President

mradcliff@suddenlink.net  
199 Heron Dr., St. Marys WV 26170  
Tel.: (304) 684-2133



[www.amadistrict-iii.org](http://www.amadistrict-iii.org)



[www.facebook.com/ama.district.iii](http://www.facebook.com/ama.district.iii)

**Swap meet events** are popular during the winter months, held at venues that allow us to buy, sell, trade, and talk about getting ready for the flying season.

On February 10, 2018, I attended the Midwest Modelrama held at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Dayton, Ohio. This annual event is hosted by the Dayton Wingmasters Club #499 and is touted as the Tri-State's largest swap meet with more than 200 tables of every conceivable model aircraft item available for sale and auction.

I called the event organizers and reserved a table to set up an AMA information booth. Upon arrival, I was greeted by one of the club event organizers, Dave Thacker, who immediately showed me to my AMA table. The location couldn't have been better.

From show opening to closing, my booth was busy disseminating information, renewing memberships, answering questions, and more. As an added attraction, I set up an RC flight simulator for pilots of all ages to shake off the rust and practice for the upcoming flying season.

The huge fairground pavilion and tables were jammed with tons of model aircraft and supplies with plenty of buying and selling. At noon, the auction began under the expert guidance of club member Jimmy DeWinter.

I find these events are a great way to see the members and clubs of District III to discuss the latest news and information available and discuss any concerns or issues you or your clubs might have.

Thank you Dayton Wingmasters for allowing me to participate in your excellent show. I plan to participate in future events of this type in District III.



The Dayton Modelrama auction was packed with lots of airplanes and plenty of buyers.



A young man flying RC on the simulator at the AMA District III booth.

**I want to share** excerpts of a letter I received from a modeler in Pennsylvania.

"My name is William F. Cowles (Bill for short). I was born August 20, 1924, in Sayre, Pennsylvania. I started building rubber-powered airplanes at age 10 and flying same."

Bill goes on to say that he enlisted in the Army in World War II and fought in

Normandy on D-Day and in the Battle of the Bulge. Bill turned 21 on a ship coming home from Europe, later met his future wife, and has been happily married for 69 years.

Bill, now 93, believes he was the first RC flier in his area and "built a high-wing stable airplane and built a ground-based transmitter." Bill is a founding member of the Sayre RC Club that has existed for more than 50 years. He recently moved into Sayre Health Care Center and is mostly confined to a wheelchair.

After reading this beautifully written letter, I contacted my associate vice president in the area, Dan Luchaco, and asked him to visit Bill and present him with the AMA Award of Recognition.

Thank you, Bill, for all you have done for the betterment of model aviation and the AMA. I cannot think of a more deserving individual for this award than Bill Cowles.



William F. "Bill" Cowles, of Sayre PA, proudly displays his AMA Award of Recognition.



A few of the aircraft Bill flew in his more than 80 years as a modeler.

**Until next** month, fly safely—fly AMA. 🛩️

**Associate Vice Presidents:** Randy Adams, Fairfield OH; (513) 484-3318; R1rcpilot@aol.com; Mike Barbee, Delaware OH; (740) 362-5545; Mabarbee@aol.com; Jeff Black, New Oxford PA; (717) 965-5634; jrblack1964@gmail.com; Dave Brown, Hamilton OH; (513) 738-3249; dbrown@dbproducts.com; Dave Chisholm, Valencia PA; (724) 898-3386; dave@satcmdn.com; Nelson Gould, Macungie PA; (610) 395-9159; at6snj@ptd.net; Tony Husak, Harts Grove OH; (440) 283-7447; thusak1@windstream.net; Dan Luchaco, Sayre PA; (570) 888-1856; pafflyer23@stny.rr.com; Jim Martin, Franklin OH; (937) 260-0143; hooitelovesremy@yahoo.com; Al Myers, Canfield OH; (330) 506-6194; ajm486@hotmail.com; Joseph Vislay, Monclova OH; (419) 878-8843; jvislay@embarqmail.com; John Zoldak, Ravenna OH; (330) 554-9455; jzoldak@neo.rr.com; Lisa Zoldak, Ravenna OH; (330) 348-4543; lzoldak@neo.rr.com. **CL/FF/RC Event Sanction Coordinators:** Nelson Gould, 1340 Oak Dr., Macungie PA 18062; (610) 395-9159; at6snj@ptd.net; Sheila Nitsch, 5650 Boyd Rd., Grove City OH 43123; (614) 877-3453; tsnitsch@columbus.rr.com. **Webmaster:** Roger Luther, Johnstown, PA; (814) 266-2630; raluther@atlanticbb.net.