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

Flying road trip, part one:

On the weekend of June 9 and 10, 2012, I took a trip to Quakertown, Pennsylvania, to fly in the BUC-LE Aero Sportsman club's annual Harold Weil Memorial Giant Scale Fly- In. BUC–LE is short for Bucks and Lehigh counties and is just outside Philadelphia.

Upon arrival I was impressed with a nice 1,000-foot grass runway which was lined from one end to the other with canopies and large RC models. Another thing that struck me was that the Pennsylvania Turnpike was approximately 100 yards behind your back as you were flying (more about this later).

The event was CD'ed by club president, Travis Moyer, who is not only a model enthusiast, but a captain for a major airline. Participants were from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and West Virginia, and Travis noted that attendance was up from the previous year.

The president of the International Miniature Aircraft Association (IMAA), Frank Fels, also was in attendance. He and I were thrilled with the quality and quantity of the Giant Scale aircraft at the event.

The club put on a noon airshow for the public both days and I noted a large number of spectators enjoying not only the flying, but the provided food.

Judging from my first experience attending this event, I believe the Harold Weil Memorial will have many more successful years in the future, and I look forward to attending again. For more information go to www.buc-le.org.

Club president Travis Moyer and his J-3 Cub.

BUC-LE flightline.

Rick Andrese with his Neuport 17 and Larry Alles with his Fokker Dr. I Triplane.

On Sunday, June 10, I said goodbye to the BUC-LE modelers and jumped on the Pennsylvania Turnpike to head to The City of Brotherly Love: Philadelphia.

After entering the turnpike, a mile or so down the road I saw a glorious site to my left. Fokker Triplanes, Sopwith Camels, Neuports, and more World War I aircraft were flying and putting on a great show. Of course it was the BUC-LE pilots performing a Dawn Patrol flight, and with their field so close to the turnpike, it made a spectacular site for passing motorists. Great club exposure!

With my eyes back on the road, my goal was to go to Valley Forge National Historic Park and fly with the Valley Forge Signal Seekers. Valley Forge is where General George Washington's Continental Army spent the winter of 1777 to 1778 during the American Revolutionary War. I wanted to see how an RC field could be tied into such a historic place.

After getting lost (GPS had me going in circles), I finally found the park entrance and the RC field was visible. I drove up and began talking to several modelers and eventually was greeted by the club president, Michael Lebrun.

He was helpful and explained a few of the club rules—one of which was I needed a special one-day flight permit since I wasn't a member. Michael had me fill out a card with my name and AMA number, and if a park ranger came by I needed to show it, if asked.

He also noted that because the club is in a national park, there are noise limitations. If an BUC-LE officer feels an aircraft is noisy, he or she will use a dB meter to see if it meets the club's noise requirement.

Since I was visiting and couldn't stay long, I pulled out my electric Super Cub and Mike and I got in a couple of flights. I was honored to fly in such a historic place. Flying electric there just seemed the right thing to do and added to the atmosphere of the entire experience. If you're a modeler and you are in the area, you owe it to yourself to stop in and fly at this historic site. You can learn more about the club and site at www.vfss.org.

Club president Michael LeBraun and Mark Radcliff.

I had a fantastic time in the Keystone State flying, however, this was just the beginning. Stay tuned for part two of my Pennsylvania flying road trip. Until next month, go fly and have fun!

Associate Vice Presidents: **Randy Adams**, Fairfield OH; Rlrcpilot@aol.com; **Mike Barbee**, Delaware OH; (740) 362-5545; Mabarbee@aol.com; **Jeff Black**, New Oxford PA; (717) 965-5634; jr.black@comcast.net; **Dave Brown**, Hamilton OH; (513) 738-1576; dbrown@dbproducts.com; **David H Ellis**, Cross Lanes WV; (304)776-1408; wdellis@suddenlink.net; **Nelson Gould**, Macungie PA; (610) 395-9159; at6snj@ptd.net; **Tony Husak**, Hartsgrove OH; (440) 283-7447; racer749@gmail.com; **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; **Leo Rodriguez**, New Stanton PA; (724) 925-0159; lrodriguez44@verizon.net; **Matthew Turowski**, Nescopeck PA; (570) 379-2014; mt@rjglaw.com; **Joseph Vislay**, Monclova OH; (419) 878-8843; jvislay@buckeye-express.com. **Frequency Coordinator**: **Ron Morgan**, Scotland PA; (717) 264-7425; rem8435@embarqmail.com. **Webmaster**: **Roger Luther**, Johnstown, PA; (814) 266-2630; raluther@atlanticbb.net.