The EFO Officers

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<tr>
<td>Ken Myers</td>
<td>Richard Utkan</td>
<td>Rick Sawicki</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911 Bradshaw Ct.</td>
<td>240 Cabinet</td>
<td>5089 Ledgewood Ct. W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce Twp., MI</td>
<td>Milford, MI 48381</td>
<td>Commerce Twp., MI 48382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 248.669.8124</td>
<td>Phone: 248.685.1705</td>
<td>Phone: 248.685.7056</td>
</tr>
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<th>Board of Director:</th>
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<th>Ampeer Editor:</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Stacer</td>
<td>Jack Lemon</td>
<td>Ken Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16575 Brookland Blvd.</td>
<td>8908 Sandy Ridge Dr.</td>
<td>1911 Bradshaw Ct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northville, MI 48167</td>
<td>White Lake, MI 48386</td>
<td>Walled Lake, MI 48390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 248.924.2324</td>
<td>Phone: 248.698.4683</td>
<td>Phone: 248.669.8124</td>
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Ampeer subscriptions are $15 a year US & Canada and $20 a year worldwide.

The Next Meeting:
**Date:** September 10, 2010 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Midwest RC Society 7 Mile Rd. Flying Field

What’s In This Issue:

The 2011 Mid-America Electric Flies

Upcoming Events

**Mid-America Electric Flies 2010**

The 27th Edition

By Friday, July 8, **Jim Lapham** and **Rich Sievert** had the Midwest RC Society field grass close-cropped and swept. They were determined to have the field in the best possible conditions for all of our guests. They succeeded! The field was in great shape! Thanks Jim and Rich and Midwest mowing crew. We really appreciated your work and allowing us to use this very nice field for our meet.

Many EFO members were out early on Friday and helped with the field set up. Keith Shaw came out about one to do the final set up of the large sunshades for transmitter impound and the housing for some of Keith’s great fleet. By early afternoon on Friday, we were ready for our guest fliers, and they started appearing and flying. Friday afternoon is always a fun day with a lot of relaxed flying and “catching up” with our many friends. Thanks to the wonderful weather this year, many, many great planes took to the air through the afternoon and into the evening. While this is officially a two-day meet, lots of folks get a lot of flying in on Friday.

**The Weather**

Friday’s weather was a preview of the good flying weather for the whole weekend. The event was blessed with sunshine, but with temperatures in the low-90’s for the whole weekend.

When I arrived at the field on Saturday at about 7:15 a.m., Phil Alvirez of Windsor, Ontario, was already flying his slow fliers in the perfect conditions. By 8:00 many pilots were taking to the air using the field’s frequency control pins. By the pilots’ meeting at 10:00 the majority of the folks attending had at least one flight.

2.4 GHz transmitters were not impounded this year. There appeared to be no problem doing this and it did reduce the workload of our volunteers in the impound tent.

Registration was also handled at the impound tent with **Dave Stacer** handling the lion’s share of the responsibility for this operation on Saturday with **Denny Sumner** help out then and on Sunday.
The Pilots

This year, our fifty-one registered pilots came from all over Michigan, Ohio, Iowa, and several places in Ontario, Canada. As always, it was great fun catching up with our “old friends” and making new friends. The Radio Control Club of Detroit (RCCD) had a large contingent of flyers present with some very nice planes. That is what this meet is really about. Okay, the really “cool” planes are a very nice bonus.

A Word About the Photos

A lot of folks captured the images used to illustrate this article. Greg Cardillo captured many great images, and Plenny Bates, Willie McMath, Rick Sawicki, and Wade Wiley also captured images used here. Greg Cardillo has even more great photos of the 2011 event on his Web photo page found at http://greggallery.gmcdesign.com/index.php?cat=8. Greg’s great photos also cover the Mid-Am from 2004 through 2010. Rick Sawicki’s photos can be found on the Web at https://picasaweb.google.com/101603741372512372194/July92011MIDAMERICANCAELECTRICFLY?authkey=Gv1sRgCM367bUolaBYQ&feat=email

Awards

We give out some simple plaque awards on each flying day to recognize some of the great planes and pilots flying at the Mid-Am. To receive an award the model must fly at the event.

Saturday’s Awards

Don Belfort of Westchester, OH had a very nice Nesmith Cougar. It received the Best Scale Award on Saturday. It looks great and flies wonderfully!

Jim Young of Brighton, MI had his very impressive ducted fan at the meet again this year. His self-designed Gloster Meteor won the Best Ducted Fan award. It is very impressive in both looks and flight. You can find out even more about it in his thread on RC Groups as well as leaning when the plans and short kits will be released.

Mark Rittinger of Roseville, MI flew his self-designed version of Ken Willard’s classic and...
received the **Best Sport Plane** award. Mark has plans available and there is a build thread on RC Groups at http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1312209

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**Willie McMath** of Mt. Clemens, MI took this photo of his Loving’s Love with CD Keith Shaw standing by it. This 1/3-scale beauty by Willie received the **CD’s Choice** (Ken Myers) for his fine work on this scratch-built plane. That HUGE spinner is something to see!

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**The Saturday Potluck**

Once the awards were presented and the pilots’ raffle held, it was time for **Dave Hares** and his volunteers to get the steaks and onions going for the potluck. Thanks go again to Pam for pitching in on the potluck too. (She’d been helping in the concession stand all day as well!)

The pilots, friends and families provided a wide selection of foods to go with the steak sandwiches.

As usual, **Don Belfort**, *Flying Models* columnist from Westchester, OH, brought his “traditional” Mid-Am cake. The cake tradition has been going on for almost as long as the Mid-America Electric Flies.

After the potluck is a wonderful time to be at this meet. It is when folks continued to get in more flights as well as set around and “catch up”, talk planes, family, and politics and just relax. The flying and gab sessions lasted well into the evening hours. It is simply a marvelous time to be at the Mid-Am. Several Midwest RC Society pilots joined us to enjoy the festive atmosphere.

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**Sunday**

The weather somewhat cooperated on Sunday with clear skies. The winds were pretty much out of the south making landing a challenge. A high temperature in the mid-90’s and high humidity presented some challenges as well. Again, a lot of flying took place with many, many beautiful planes in the air for most of the day, until the heat caused an early wrap up of the event about 1:30.

Again, **Keith Shaw** handled the flight line beautifully on Saturday and Sunday as the flight line coordinator.

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**Sunday’s Awards**

**Mark Rittinger** took **Best Scale** top honors with his P-63 Tucker clipped wing racing plane. It was not a pleasure to fly on Saturday, but with added nose weight on Sunday, it flew quite nicely.


**Roger Wilfong** took home the **Most Beautiful** award for his very uniquely covered Tiger Kitten.
Mark Rittinger’s scratch-built 1/2A Curare took home the Best Mini-Electric award.

Jim Young was awarded the CD’s Choice (Keith Shaw) for his WACO. Part of the active flight line can also be seen in this photo.

Denny Sumner had his beautiful Mark Rittinger designed Super Sportwin flying very well. His scratch-built project, from Mark’s plans, received the Best Multi-motor award.

Our Sponsors

We would like to thank all of our sponsors for providing some very nice “goodies” for our participating pilots.

At the field we had Radical RC, Air Hobby, Retro RC, T&J Models, Dan Schwartz and Mark Rittinger. Other very welcome donations came from Tower Hobbies, Carsten’s Publications/Flying Models, Horizon Hobby, Inc./E-flite, and Sig Manufacturing Company, Inc. Plenny Bats and Ken Myers also donated to the pilots’ raffle.

Keith and I thank all of our sponsors very much. We know that the registered pilots who received items from our sponsors are very grateful as well.

A HUGE thanks to all who helped

Keith and I cannot even begin to thank all of the folks enough from the EFO, Ann Arbor Falcons and Midwest RC Society who helped to make this meet the success it is. It is pretty easy to go to a “meet” and enjoy the facilities and forget that it takes a lot of dedicated and hard working folks to pull it all together. From the physical field being in the best possible condition, the special parking set up, dining facilities, porta johns, registration, impound, concessions, potluck picnic grilling and myriad of other details, these behind the scenes folks are the best. Guys and gals, Keith and I cannot be more sincere when we say thank you, and we really couldn’t have done it all these years without you! Also, a special thanks goes out to the Midwest RC Society for allowing us to use their field and flying
time for the majority of our Mid-Am meets. You guys and gals are the very best!

Keith and I sincerely thank Denny Sumner, Paul and Pam Sockow, Dave Stacer, Arthur Deane, Jim Lapham, Roger Wilfong, Mark Lambert, Michael Benjamin, Walt Trancygier, Rich Sievert Frank Thibeau and Don Wilke for all their super help.

The Flavor of the Mid-Am

It is very hard to describe what the Mid-Am is. It is friends, family, planes, camaraderie and just “plane” fun!

Wade Wiley sent along a photo he captured on Sunday from his impressive aerial photo plane.

Some of the RCCD folks enjoying the day.
W. McMath photo
Martin Irvine of Kingston, Ont. heads to the flight line.

Ken Myers’ Super Stearman & Flite 40

Tom Bacsanyi’s Big, Powerful EDF
Power to weight ratio was awesome!

Plenny & Bob rest between searching for thermals with their gliders and old timers.

Keith Shaw getting ready to launch his Horten IX EDF

Some of the planes ready to take flight.
Wade did not make the local birds happy with his giant, soaring eagle!

One of the more unusual creations at the meet. This one by Le Phan.

Keith Shaw’s planes ready for the demo flights. Dave Grife’s Mystery Ship on the far right. Plenny Bates photo

Getting ready and seeking shade
Denny Sumner photo

**In the Air**

There were a lot of different types of flying machines that took to the air at the Mid-Am this year.

Wade Wiley’s Eagle scaring the heck out of the local birds
Plenny Bates photo

The tilt-wing takes off
Al Murok’s Curtiss-Wright – G. Cardillo photo

Keith Shaw’s Bugatti – G. Cardillo photo

Dave Grife’s Me-163 – G. Cardillo photo

Keith Shaw’s Czechmate – G. Cardillo photo

Keith Shaw’s Yak UT-1 – G. Cardillo photo

Me-163 gear drop – G. Cardillo photo

Ken Sulkowski E-flite PT-17

Keith Shaw’s Yak UT-1 – G. Cardillo photo
Old Timer Thermaler – P. Bates photo

Ray Foley’s Glider – G. Cardillo photo

Roger Wilfong’s oops with the Super Sportster
Flew in just fine – G. Cardillo photo

Parkzone BF-109

A Quadcopter in flight

Flite 40 Takes flight

Impromptu Combat on Saturday afternoon
Upcoming E-vents

**August 21, Sunday** Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club Electric Fly-in & Pancake Breakfast, CD: Amy Klopman at the PMAC field, time not noted, but be early for breakfast. Info at: www.pmac.us


**Sept. 10, Saturday**, EFO flying meeting at the Midwest RC Society 7 Mi. Rd. field, 10 a.m., Everyone with an interest welcome – AMA member to fly

**Sept. 10 & 11** E-Fl-Iowa, Darryl Miller, Morrison-Rockwood State Park 3 miles north of Morrison, IL. Morrison is 125 miles west of Chicago on US 30 about 4 miles north of I-88. Direct questions or suggestions to Daryl Miller at dlmrcpilot@gmail.com

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The Mid-Am, Final Thoughts, Until Next Year

Thanks to everyone that came, everyone that helped and everyone that has ever helped to make the Mid-Am what it is today, 27 years after its very humble beginning.

To my flying buddy, Keith Shaw, thanks, you’ve really made this “electric thing” all happen!