

the

reaper

August		The EFO Officers	2025
President: Ken Myers 1911 Bradshaw Ct. Commerce Twp, MI 48390 Phone: 248.669.8124	Vice-President: Keith Shaw 2756 Elmwood Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Phone: 734-973-6309	Secretary/Treasurer: Rick Sawicki 5089 Ledgewood Ct. W. Commerce Twp., MI 48382 Phone: 248.685.7056	
Board of Director: David Stacer PO Box 75313 Salem, MI 48175 Phone: 313.318.3288	Board of Director: Arthur Deane 21690 Bedford Dr. Northville, MI 48167 Phone: 248.348.2058	Ampeer Editor: Ken Myers 1911 Bradshaw Ct. Walled Lake, MI 48390 Phone: 248.669.8124	
No Mailed Ampeer Subscriptions	The Next EFO Meeting: Sat., August 2, 2025 Time: 10:00 a.m., Place: Midwest RC Flying Field		

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EFO Flying Meeting Reminder

Please keep in mind that summer EFO flying meeting dates are **tentative** because of the weather.

Everyone is welcome and proof of current AMA membership is required to fly.

Spectators and visitors are always welcome.

The next EFO monthly flying meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 2, at 10:00 a.m. at the Midwest RC Society 7 Mile Rd. Flying Field.

Check the EFO Website for any possible changes.

<https://theampeer.org/>

Change of Email Address Requested

By Ken Myers

A reminder for *Ampeer* subscribers. If you wish to continue receiving the monthly notice, please update your email address whenever you change it.

Thanks,
Ken

The 41st Annual Mid-America Electric Flies Report

By the time that I arrived at the Midwest RC Society, on Friday, July 11, **Dave Stacer, Denny Sumner and Roger Wilfong** had the flying field mowed and much of the setup started! Thanks a ton guys.

Once **Keith Shaw** arrived, the rest of the setup was completed and we were ready to welcome our guests.

The weather was almost perfect for the set up and mowing. The temperature was in the mid-80s and there was a light wind with partly sunny skies.

The general setup went smoothly and easily, after the field mowing, on this beautiful Michigan summer afternoon.

Dave Grife, of Coldwater, MI was the first to arrive.

The rest of the early arrival Friday crew arrived through the afternoon; **John Kauk**, from Topeka, KS, **Jim Ryan**, (Cincinnati, OH), Mark Wolf (Brownsburg, IN) and **Don Belfort** of West Chester, OH. Don brought his traditional Mid-Am



Tim McDonough can be seen talking with John Kauk, Mark Wolf & Dave Grife.
Ken Myers photo

cookies and the Mid-Am was off to a good start for 2024.

Another early arrival this year was, once again, **Tim McDonough** from Springfield, IL.



John Kauk, Mark Wolf and Dave Grife smile for the camera.
Ken Myers photo

This year, Friday afternoon and evening, were an okay time to fly, with a bit of a crosswind from behind.

For many of us, Friday at the Mid-Am is a great time to be there to catch up with some old friends and do a bit of flying.

Once again, it was a great time for all of us on Friday!

Saturday, July 12, 2025

The Weather for Saturday

This had been a HOT and WET summer here in southeastern Michigan.

The weather guessers were predicting a high of 91 degrees or more, and it certainly made it there!

They also predicted rain, or possible, severe thunderstorms, at about 4 p.m.

The day started out very warm with high humidity, and both temperature and humidity went up from there.

Unfortunately, there was a very heavy crosswind blowing from behind the flightline and across the flying field.

The crosswind made takeoffs and landings, and even general flying interesting for the rest of the day.

The sun beat down relentlessly on those who chose to fly.

The Event Gets Going



Early morning on the flightline, before the attendees arrived.

Ken Myers photo

Ken Myers pretty much handled the pilot registration this year. He wanted to be sure to welcome everyone to the 41st annual Mid-America Electric Flies and to say “Hi” and “Thank you” to everyone who attended.

29 pilots registered, 28 on Saturday and 1 on Sunday, for the once again FREE event.

While he was handling registration, many folks started flying once they were registered and before the pilots’ meeting. They wanted to get in as many

flights as possible before the predicted weather event that was supposed to happen at about 4 p.m.



Don flying his PT-19 early in the day.
Ken Myers photo

Don Belfort brought out his big, beautiful, scratch-built PT-19. It looked absolutely great and it flew very well.



Don retrieving his plane after a fantastic flight.
Ken Myers photo



Don's PT-19.
Ken Myers photo



A look down the parking and pit area during the meet.
Ken Myers photo



Keith, Ken, Denny and Dave at the pilots' meeting.
Rick Sawicki photo

Keith and Ken held a very brief pilots' meeting at about 10 a.m. Ken called up **Dave Stacer**, **Denny Sumner** and **Roger Wilfong**, who was not able to come up as he was over helping Pete Waters set up the Midwest sale area. Ken thanked all three of them for all of the hard work they do, in every way, to make this event a great success. Keith and Ken went over the field rules and special notifications as to "where not to land". **Dave Stacer** added a special warning about the ticks and noted that the parking and pit area had been applied with anti-tick material. Ken also announced that the NCM event would not be flown because of the high heat and wind direction. He also said the the "potluck"

would be moved to noon because of the predicted 4 p.m. thunderstorms.



Folks at the Pilots' Meeting
Rick Sawicki photo

A Look Through the Pits

There was a lot of flying of different types of aircraft during the day.

These are just some of the planes awaiting their turn to take to the air.



Some of Joe Hass' fleet getting ready.
Ken Myers photo

Joe Hass brought several different types of planes to fly. The most "different" was the Astro-Mite. It is powered by a timed electric motor system and authentic Galloping Ghost system using a Min-X transmitter and Rand GG system!

It should also be noted that **Joe Hass** procured the donations for the pilots' raffle again this year. He brought donations to the field for this event.

Donations to the pilots' raffle were made by;
Dubro

Nankin Hobby
West Michigan Park Flyers
Prop Shop Hobbies
Beacon Adhesives

Thank you Joe, and to all the folks who provided us with raffle prizes.



A recovered Chris Hass launched the "Mite" for his dad.
Rick Sawicki photo



Steve Labuta brought three of his great self-designed or highly modified planes.
Ken Myers photo



Keith Shaw's D-22 Takes On Electronics
Ken Myers photo.



Roger Wilfong's pit area with his unique flight box/charging station.
Ken Myers photo



Roger Wilfong ready to take flight with his Cutie.
Rick Sawicki photo



Dave Grife's beautiful looking and flying Me-163.
Rick Sawicki photo

It's All About the People



Carolynn Foss rests with the dogs as Pete flies.
Rick Sawicki photo



Mark Wolf, Don Belfort, Tim McDonough, Jim Ryan and John Kauk rest between flights.
Rick Sawicki photo



The folks sought shelter from the sun and exchanged laughs, stories and information.
Rick Sawicki photo

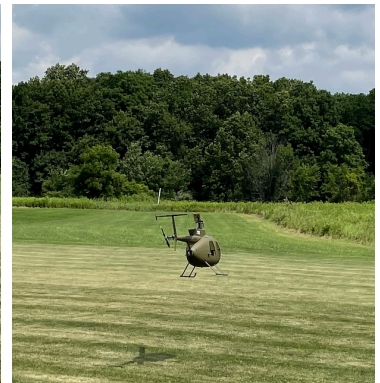
Yes, Indeed, There Was Flying Too!



Keith Shaw flew both his D-22 and Dreamer biplanes.
Ken Myers photo



Jim Ryan flew his Hughes OH-6 Cayuse helicopter, AKA the "Loach".
Ken Myers photo



Ken Myers photos

There were more helicopters flown at this Mid-Am than ever before. They were flown expertly and enjoyed by all.



Joe Hass, Ken Myers, Pete Waters and Keith Shaw celebrate Pete Waters turning 90!
Rick Sawicki photo



Dave Stacer and Denny Sumner man the grill.
Rick Sawicki photo

With the thunderstorm fast approaching, a lot of pressure was put on our cooks and guests to get us all fed before the storm broke.

A HUGE thanks goes to **Denny Sumner**, and **Dave Stacer** for being able to work under such pressure. Thanks so very much guys! GREAT JOB!



Just before noon, and the fast approaching storm clouds (note the dark sky!), Ken called a pilots' meeting to let everyone know that we'd be having lunch ASAP. Also, and more importantly, **Joe Hass**



Don's Mid-Am Cookies
Rick Sawicki photo

Even though we'd just had cake, a lot of Don's Mid-Am cookies were also enjoyed!

As the vicious storm was about to break, everyone scattered to get their sunshades down and planes packed into their cars.



Many folks left, while some of us stayed to ride out the storm in our cars.

About 40 minutes later, the storm subsided and a few folks got back to flying.



Packing before the storm broke.
Rick Sawicki photo

Unfortunately, the storm prevented us from passing out the awards and having the pilots' raffle this year. Dang!

All Was Not Lost!



Later in the day on Sunday
Ken Myers photo



Keith got in some nice flights while CJ captured some photos.
Ken Myers photo



Early Sunday Morning
Ken Myers photo

Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day with much milder winds, but still hot and humid.

Many folks came to the field for the open flying on Sunday, including one new registrant.



Ken Myers photo

Once again there was some great sharing. There were even some new spectators.



Midwest Head Flight Instructor, Dave Stacer, had invited his young student out for some training flights.



The young student, Dave and the student's dad.



The student prepares for takeoff.



The student's successful takeoff!

While the weather kind of messed up the meet, it was still a lot of fun for many of us.

Hope to see you next year at the 42nd Annual Mid-Am.

Keith Shaw's Comments on the 41st Mid-America Electric Flies

From Keith Shaw via email

The 41st Mid-Am E-fly started out fine on Saturday, other than an annoying crosswind from the south.

It was picturesque blue skies and some puffy clouds.

There was rain predicted for 4 p.m., so we announced that we would do the potluck meal at noon instead of 6 p.m., and hand out the awards and do the prize draw at 2 p.m.

Mother nature had other ideas. At 11:45, this cell (see previous storm photo) developed in about FIVE MINUTES. It went from nice skies to impending doom faster than I have ever experienced.

Everyone madly hustled to get airplanes stowed and tents taken down as quickly as possible, then a mad dive to the cars just as the storm hit.

It rained incredibly hard for over an hour, turning the runway and most of the parking lot into a shallow lake.

During a brief lull of a minute or so, the few remaining people who got trapped under tents slogged their way to their cars, followed by another downpour with many lightning strikes within 1000' (under a second between flash and boom), followed by some small hail.

When it finally quit, there was a flurry of farewell handshakes as most people left for drier areas.

Reports came back that many of the surrounding roads were closed/blocked by fallen trees and power lines.

By about 2:30 p.m., the few remaining diehards could fly, but it was still a crosswind and the rains had cranked the humidity up to 100%. The field was empty by 3. Sigh.

Sunday is no longer an official part of the fly-in, but open to anyone who wanted to stay and fly electrically powered aircraft.

A few local people showed up for a very nice relaxing day.

Next year we need to do a better job of filing a good weather request. :-)

Keith

Note to all from Ken.

Filing for, and receiving, good weather is well above my pay grade. Sorry, but I'll do the best I can. ;-)

I Was Impressed by an ARF

By Ken Myers



Rick Sawicki photo

I watched **Mark Wolf** fly his Flex Innovations RV-8 60E G2 Super PNP Electric Airplane and was very impressed with both his flying ability and the way the plane flew.

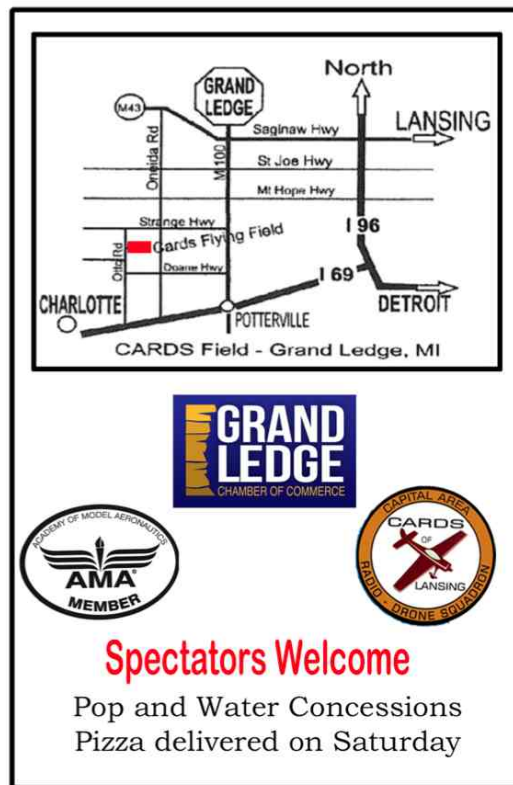
https://www.amainhobbies.com/flex-innovations-rv8-60e-g2-super-pnp-electric-airplane-red-1925mm-fpm4870c/p1567468?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=18970472354&gbraid=0AAAAAD_WU4Ak20PZyis68mOWAuGPrG4An&gclid=Cj0KCQjwm93DBhD_ARIsADR_DjEZDNjtWzeulg59b9d1kA_tsshWTFGjz1Cnw5RnEoe2e8bQHMBnYnMaAkNQEALw_wcB

It does come with a "gulp" price tag, especially with the option of the carbon fiber landing gear.

<https://www.flexinnovations.com/product/rv-8-60e-carbon-fiber-landing-gear/>

Mark flies it with a 6S 6000ish mAh LiPo.

I'm not sure why it takes a 7+ channel radio, but that is what it says. Guess I've got to start saving my pennies now. Dang, I just remembered, there won't be anymore pennies!



C.A.R.D.S. of Lansing 14th Annual Electric Fly

Friday August 22 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday August 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Pilot and Aircraft Requirements:

Current AMA — Open to All RC Electric planes, helicopters, and multicopters.

Pizza Lunch for Pilots on Saturday

Water and Pop will be available both day

Pizza, pop and water will be available on Saturday

Email or Text CD For any Updates

SPECTATORS WELCOME

Landing Fee: \$20

Marv Thomson/CD 517 802 7675

Email Marv: mthomson@wowway.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/334699376599886>

Flying Field Address: 8328 Otto Rd, Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Please Note: The only info I could get was the date via the AMA Website. They no longer have a Website and the facebook page is Private! Why???

Upcoming E-vents

On **Saturday, August 2**, EFO monthly flying meeting at the Midwest RC Society 7 Mile Road flying field. 10 a.m.

August 22 (Friday) and August 23 (Saturday), C.A.R.D.S. of Lansing 14th Annual Electric Fly (Some Details in this issue.)

More Mid-Am Photos?

More of **Rick Sawicki's** photos of the 2025 Mid-Am can be found here;

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/VXLEzhLf8DcP9TJUA>

A little help please: If you have photos from this year that you'd like to share, please email them to me or let me know where you've put them on the Internet. Ken



The Ampeer/Ken Myers
1911 Bradshaw Ct.
Commerce Twp., MI 48390
<http://www.theampeer.org>

August Monthly Meeting:

Date: Sat. August 2, 2025 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.

Place: Midwest RC Society 7 Mi. Rd. Flying Field