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August The EFO Officers 2012

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No Mailed Ampeer Subscriptions	The Next Meeting: Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m., Midwest 7 mi. Flying Field	

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**Mid-America Electric Flies 2012  
The 28th Edition**

By Friday, July 6, **Jim Lapham** and **Rich Sievert** had the Midwest RC Society field grass close-cropped and rolled. They were determined to have the field in the best possible conditions for all of the guest fliers, even though this was one of the hottest and driest weeks ever in southeastern Michigan. They succeeded! The field was in great shape! Thanks Jim and Rich and the Midwest mowing crew. We really appreciated your work and allowing us to use this very nice field for our meet.

Many EFO and Midwest members were out early on Friday and helped with the field set up. This was especially important, as Ken was without power and had to run back and forth between the flying field, a 32 mile round trip, and his house. They really picked up the slack and their hard work was very, very much appreciated. Keith Shaw came out about one to do the final set up of the large

sunshades for transmitter impound and to provide additional shade for the pilots.

By mid-morning on Friday, we were ready for our guest fliers, and they started appearing and flying. Actually, some folks camped at the field starting Thursday evening. Friday afternoon is always fun with relaxed flying and "catching up" with our many friends.

Despite the EXTREMELY HOT weather this year, some great planes took to the air through the afternoon and into the evening. While this is officially a two-day meet, several folks got in some flying on Friday.

**The Weather**

Friday's weather was a preview of the Extremely HOT flying weather for Saturday. While blessed with sunshine and light winds, the temperature soared to over 100 degrees with very high humidity! Saturday was a brutal day to be at the flying field.

Sunday proved to be the better weather day of the two. The temperature only rose to the mid to high 80s, and the humidity was down a bit, and there was a nice breeze.

### The Pilots

This year, our forty-one registered pilots came from all over Michigan, Ohio, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas and several places in Ontario, Canada. As always, it was great fun catching up with our “old friends” and making new friends. 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. I am sincerely indebted to Denny Sumner, Mark Wolf, Joe Hass, Paul Goelz and C.J. Wysocki for their great photos.

### Awards

Simple plaque awards are presented after each day of flying. The plaques 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 with his Tri-Pacer  
Denny Sumner photo

**Don Belfort**, of West Chester, OH, had a very nice 89” span, 12 lb. Piper PA-22 Tri-Pacer. It received the **Best Scale** Award on Saturday. It looks great and flies every bit as good as it looks!

**Dennis (Denny) Sumner**, of Canton, MI brought his LoPresti Fury. Although it could have ‘won’ many of the awards, the Fury and Denny took home the **Most Beautiful** award on Saturday. To learn even more about this beautiful, great flying plane, visit

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1511865>



Denny's LoPresti on a flyby  
C.J. Wysocki photo

**Don Belfort**, of West Chester, OH, flew his neat, little F-6 Skyray ducted fan and won the **Best Ducted Fan** award. It is impressive in both looks and flight for such a demure model.

**Roger Wilfong** of Novi, MI flew his scratch-built version of a 4-Star that he calls the 4-Star 380. It has 380 sq.in. of wing area and is 80% of the size of the Sig 4-Star 40. The plans were reduced from a Sig 4-Star 40. It is similar in size to the Sig 4-Star 20, but appeared at the flying field long before the kit was available. He received the **Best Sport Plane** award for his efforts.



Mark Rittinger with his FSW P-51 Hybrid  
Denny Sumner photo

**Mark Rittinger**, of Roseville, MI, created a forward swept wing (FSW) hybrid P-51 based on a wind tunnel model created by North American Aviation. While NA never flew a version, Mark's flies great and has a very unique 'presentation' in the air with the swept forward wing. The full scale was to have had a Merlin engine up front and jet engine buried in the fuselage. Mark received the **CD's Choice Award** for this unique model. More information can be found at:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1664516>

**Don Belfort** received a special award. Keith Shaw made up a fantastic plaque that said, "Retired Worker, Full-time Modeler". The plaque even had a "brand-new" tube of Ambroid attached. If anyone has a photo of this award, could you please send it to Ken Myers so that he can share it in *The Ampeer*?

### The Saturday Potluck



The Potluck Begins  
Denny Sumner photo

Once the awards were presented and the pilots' raffle held, it was time for the Mid-Am Gals (**Chris Myers, Pam Sockow and Jane Sumner**), along with Mike Russell (Midwest RC Society) to get the steaks and onions going for the potluck. Both Mike and Pam worked the Midwest concession stand and then helped out with the potluck. On this brutally hot day, this was amazing. Thanks to you all very, very much!



Chris Myers, Jane Sumner and Pam Sockow  
the Mid-Am Gals  
Joe Hass photo

The pilots, friends and families provided other great foods to go with the steak sandwiches.



Chef Mike Russell (really he is a chef!)  
Denny Sumner photo

As usual, Don Belfort, *Flying Models* columnist from West Chester, OH, brought his "traditional" Mid-Am cake. The cake tradition has been going on for almost as long as the Mid-America Electric Flies. Carolyn Foss and Joe Hass also provided cakes! More on the Joe Hass cake later. We have a bunch of sweet folks attending this event!



Ken with the annual Don Belfort Mid-Am Cake  
Denny Sumner photo

During and after the potluck is a wonderful time to be at this meet. This is the time when folks continue to get in more flights as well as set around and “catch up”, talk planes, family, and politics and just relax. It is simply a marvelous time to be at the Mid-Am. Several Midwest RC Society pilots, special guests and folks representing the AMA joined us to enjoy the festive atmosphere. More on that later.

### Sunday

As noted earlier, the weather was somewhat cooler on Sunday with clear skies and gentle winds. With a high temperature ONLY in the mid-80's and lower humidity, the day was much more bearable.

There were nine new registrants on Sunday and a lot of flying took place with many, many beautiful planes in the air for most of the day.

Again this year, Keith Shaw handled the flight line beautifully on Saturday and Sunday as the flight line coordinator. He also put on a

demonstration flight of his Horton twin-ducted fan flying wing.

### Sunday's Awards



Mark Wolf photo

**Mark Rittinger** of Roseville, MI took **Best Scale** top honors with his P-63 Tucker clipped wing racing plane. More information can be found at: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1273688>



C.J. Wysocki photo

**Jim Young** of Brighton, MI took home the **Most Beautiful** award for his gorgeous, twin ducted fan Gloster Meteor. Jim kits this plane and more information can be found at: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1161755>

**Denny Sumner** of Canton, MI flew his Aerocommander Shrike very well with two 370 brushed motors and took home the **Best Mini-Electric** award. It flies great and proves that you don't need to go brushless to have a great flying twin.



C.J. Wysocki photo

**Joe Rubenstein** of Lake Orion received the **Best Multi-Motor** award for his Messerschmitt Me 109Z. The Me 109Z prototype incorporated two Bf 109F-4 fuselages, joined with a constant chord wing center section and parallel chord tailplane. It was a very unique aircraft.



Denny Sumner photo

**Dave Thacker** of Dayton, OH and Mr. Radical RC, was awarded the **CD's Choice** (Keith Shaw) for his 1905 Wright Flyer. Dave is offering it as a kit through Radical RC.

<http://www.radicalrc.com/category/Radical-RC-E-Kits-190>

Keith Shaw was very much impressed with the plane and bought the kit at the Radical RC booth. Yep, Mr. I design and build my own planes, bought a kit. It was about the 8th kit purchase of his life.

Obviously, it impressed Keith very much.

### 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, T&J Models, Dan Schwartz and Mark Rittinger.

Other very welcome donations came from Tower Hobbies, Carsten's Publications/*Flying Models*, Sig Manufacturing Company, Inc., Retro RC, RTL Fasteners, Eagle Tree Systems, Castle Creations, Ken Myers and a ‘ton’ of goodies from Innov8tive Designs (Lucien Miller).

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.

**Ken** was very **disappointed** when **Horizon Hobby refused even a small donation** to the longest, continuously running electric meet in the country because their budget didn't allow it this year. Really?



Denny Sumner photo

### 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 and Jane Sumner, Paul and Pam Sockow, Chris Myers, Mike Russell, Dave Stacer, Arthur Deane, Jim Lapham, Roger Wilfong, Jim Young, C.J. Wysocki and Rich Sievert for all their super help support. There were also more members of the EFO, Ann Arbor Falcons and the Midwest RC Society who pitched in with parking and other spur of the moment jobs. Thanks to you folks as well!

organizer of the potluck and chief wrangler to see that everything was there for our guests.

Unfortunately, Ken applied for the sanction for the wrong dates! This year's Mid-Am should have been the weekend of July 14 and 15. Dave was, unfortunately for us, still on vacation on the weekend of July 7 and 8.

The Mid-Am Gals, Jane Sumner, Pam Sockow and Chris Myers, and Midwest RC Society member, Mike Russell, stepped in at the last minute and 'pulled it all off' very well. A huge, huge thank you to you folks!



Denny Sumner photo

Paul Goelz photo

**Ken Myers Inducted Into the AMA Hall of Fame**



Unbeknownst to Ken, Joe Hass, Skymasters' member and local super RC community spark plug had nominated him for the Hall of Fame for his work on the *Ampeer* for 23 years and the promotion of electric flight. Ken was accepted and inducted into the Hall of Fame with a presentation of his Hall of Fame plaque

by AMA District VII V.P. Tim Jesky.



Pilots' Meeting and Registration  
Denny Sumner photo

**And Where Was Dave Hares?**

Many folks attending the Mid-Am know Dave as THE MAN manning the grill at the Saturday evening potluck. For more than 20 years he's filled this extremely important position. Besides cooking the steaks and sautéing the onions, he has been the



Tim presents Ken with his HOF plaque  
Joe Hass photo



Keith Shaw, Ken Myers, Art Adamisin, Tim Jesky  
Joe Hass photo

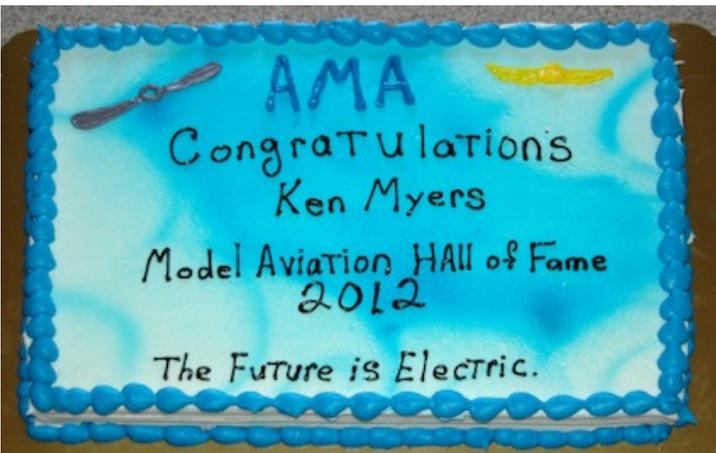
Art Adamisin, another great local area Hall of Fame Member was also there to wish Ken well.

Ken felt proud and awed to be inducted. Besides being president of the Electric Fliers Only, Ken is also vice-president of the Midwest RC Society. The Midwest RC Society now has three Hall of Fame members; Keith Shaw, Peter Waters and Ken. Now that is cool!



Joe Hass shows Tim the framed induction letter  
Joe Hass photo

Joe Hass also presented Ken with a framed letter of his induction from AMA President, Bob Brown. Joe also provided a special cake and cake photo.



Ken's letter reads:

June 21, 2012

Dear Ken Myers,

Congratulations! A noteworthy panel of past AMA presidents and representatives from ten AMA Districts has selected you as a recipient of the 2012 Model Aviation Hall of

Fame award. This award is given each year to a select few modelers who have, over the years, contributed outstandingly to the promotion, development, and advancement of aeromodeling in the United States.

Inductees receive a plaque, patch, and a lifetime AMA membership. Their names are also added to a perpetual plaque held at the AMA headquarters in Muncie, Indiana.

Again, our sincere congratulations to you and thank you for all you have accomplished in helping make aeromodeling the wonderful activity that it is today.

Sincerely,  
 Bob Brown, AMA President  
 Jerry Neuberger, Hall of Fame Committee  
 Chairman  
 Erin Dobbs, Marketing Partner Lead

OUTSTANDING SIGNIFICANCE WHICH  
 HAVE FURTHERED THE INTEREST OF  
 MODEL AVIATION.

and it is signed by Bob Brown, President, Academy  
 of Model Aeronautics.

**More Aircraft**



David Albin of Jackson, MI brought along several  
 large electric planes and helicopters. He flew them  
 all very well and they were impressive.

Denny Sumner photo

Joe Hass Letter & Plaque photos

The plaque reads:

AMA  
 Since 1936

BY THE AUTHORITY OF  
 THE COUNCIL OF AMA PRESIDENTS

Academy of Model Aeronautics

Ken Myers

IS HEREBY ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN  
 THE

Model Aviation Hall of Fame

SUCH HIGH HONOR IS BEING ACCORDED  
 IN DUE RECOGNITION OF  
 DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AND  
 MERITORIOUS SERVICE OF



Jim Ryan of Cincinnati, OH built that excellent  
 looking and excellent flying Hughes OH-6 Cayuse.

Denny Sumner photo

The C.J. Wysocki photo on the top of the next  
 page shows Ken Myers's Super Stearman landing  
 after an extremely short flight. The 'rotten' altitude  
 density made him feel uneasy trying to fly it. Keith  
 suggested that a higher pitched prop would have  
 helped.



Dave Thacker's 1905 Wright Flier in the air  
C.J. Wysocki photo



Mark Rittinger's FSW P-51 presents itself very interestingly in the air.  
C.J. Wysocki photo



Paul Goelz's very nice tiny, scale helicopter  
C.J. Wysocki photo



Jim Young brings in his Waco for a beautiful landing.  
C.J. Wysocki photo



Keith Shaw's Horton EDF Flying Wing  
C.J. Wysocki photo



Don Belfort's Tri-Pacer in flight  
Mark Wolf photo



### Upcoming E-vents

**August 4** EFO Flying Meeting at the Midwest RC Society 7 Mile Road Flying Field, about 10 a.m., everyone is welcome, current AMA membership required to fly.

**Aug. 18 Saturday**, Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club (PMAC) electric fly-in PMAC Flying Field, 9480 White Lake Rd. White Lake, MI 48386, Web site: <http://www.pmac.us/>.

**Aug. 25 Saturday**, Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (C.A.R.D.S.) (Lansing area) RC Electric Fly-in, C.D. Marv Thompson, Location and Pre-registration at <http://www.cardsrc.com/2012/electric/>

(continued from page 9)

The last photo in the right column on page 9 is of Jim Ryan's Lockheed AH-56 Cheyenne. The photo was taken by Mark Wolf.

The photo to the right shows Jim Ryan with his OH-6. The photo was also taken by Mark Wolf.



This year's Mid-Am, although very hot, showed off many outstanding aircraft and pilots. Keith and I hope to see you next year at the 29th Annual Mid-America Electric Flies.



The Ampeer/Ken Myers  
1911 Bradshaw Ct.  
Commerce Twp., MI 48390

<http://www.theampeer.org>

#### The Next Monthly Meeting:

**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2012 **Time:** 10 a.m.

**Place:** Midwest 7 mi. Rd. Flying Field