

the

# MONITOR

December

The MRCS Officers

2011

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**Newsletter Editor:**

Ken Myers  
(see above)

**The Next Meeting:**

**Date:** Wednesday, Dec. 7, **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** EAA building, Mettetal Airport, Plymouth, MI

**What's In This Issue:**

Guest Speaker: Ken Myers on Initial Safe CG – December Meeting – The Swap Meet – Ken Myers receives the Carl Goldberg Vital Person Award at our annual swap meet - Upcoming Events

### November Meeting

The 7:00 video was an excellent one on general aviation and full-scale flying today.

### The Initial Safe CG

**Ken Myers** presented “The **Initial Safe CG**”. The presentation covered how to determine a safe CG for the maiden flight of a conventionally designed monoplane. Ken noted several available online CG calculators and several formulas used for calculating the CG.

A full text article of Ken’s presentation, as well as documentation and active links is found on the Midwest Web site near the top of the homepage.

### The Meeting

**Arthur Deane** started the meeting by giving the treasurer’s report for Scott Rellinger.

**Lynn Morgan** noted that it is the start of the 2012 membership drive.

Applications may be turned into Lynn at a meeting, along with a copy of the 2012 membership card and a check for \$100 for the 2012 dues. March 7 is the due date. After March 7 a \$25 late registration fee will be charged to returning members. 2012 applications are available at the meetings and on the Midwest Web site.

**Bill Brown** noted that the field was left in beautiful condition for the winter.

**Bruce Ferns** thanked **Jim Lapham** and **Ole Yeller** for all of their hard work this past year. It was **very sincerely appreciated!** **Rich Sievert** and **Arthur Deane** were also thanked for their hard work on some great field improvements.

The field entrance was improved by the addition of drains, crushed asphalt, etc. There was a lot of work completed on the tractor as well as the other equipment.

**Helicopter Frequencies**

21,27,29,39, 41

**Sailplane Frequencies**

11, 12

The outhouse has been serviced for last time this year but it will remain in place over the winter.

Next year's field improvements are already being planned. One of the first priorities will be to work on ruts on the dive at the top hill.

**Rudi Reinhard** reminded the members about the upcoming Swap Meet on Sunday. He reminded folks that set up was at 7:00 a.m. and the all-important tear down always needs a lot of help. Arthur volunteered to see that the coffee and donuts concession were manned and taken care of.

### Officer Elections

The officer elections for 2012 were held. All of the currently serving officers volunteered to be nominated once again. Toot, toot, railroad, all were reconfirmed.

### Initiation Fee Change

A motion to change the initiation fee to \$25 for 2012 was passed after much discussion.

### The Upcoming December Meeting

The December meeting will be a social gathering at the EAA building with some indoor flying of smaller aircraft. Please bring a 'dessert' or snack to share, similar to last year. The club will provide coffee, water and pop. Bring along any true indoor fliers you might have to thrill us with your flying ability in the confined space of the EAA building.

### Our November Swap Shop Was Again a HUGE Success

By all standards, our swap shop was a huge success thanks to the hard work and dedication of our members and especially **Rudi Reinhard**. Rudi has led us through this annual ritual for longer than most of us can remember. We can never say, or even show, how much we appreciate all the work he's put into this annual event. A simple 'thanks' just does not seem to be enough, but THANK YOU SO VERY, VERY MUCH RUDI.

All of the officers want to say thank you to all of the members who helped with the Swap Meet on November 6. Many hands made light work of the set up, tear down, concessions and the admission areas. Overall, the event went without a hitch and everybody seemed to have a good time. Especially, Ken Myers!

### KEN MYERS AWARDED COVETED GOLDBERG VITAL PEOPLE AWARD

By Joe Hass

Ken Myers was awarded the Carl Goldberg Vital People Award in a surprise presentation during the annual Midwest R/C Society Swap Shop in Northville, MI USA on Sunday November 6, 2011. Over 200 modelers were in attendance. Through special arrangements, Ken's wife was there for the award as well.



Ken and Chris Myers

Ken was recognized for his decades long work in promoting electric flight, in all of its many forms, through the *AMPEER* newsletter and the MID-AM Electric Flies. Keith Shaw probably said it best, "Ken provided the vehicle, through the *AMPEER* and his technical expertise, to help electric flight grow into the remarkable form it is today". Ken's unselfish willingness to help modelers around the world be successful has been appropriately recognized. The award application can be found elsewhere in this issue of the *AMPEER*. It was very difficult to compress all of Ken's contributions into the limited space available on the form. Imagine writing and, for many years printing and mailing, a monthly

newsletter for over 20 years! Ken did it without hesitation.

After it was confirmed that Ken was the winner, work went in to high gear. The event director Rudy Reinhart, officers of the Midwest Club and members of the EFO where all contacted. Last years Goldberg Award winner Gary Weaks from the Skymasters R/C Club and past AMA Hall of Fame winners Keith Shaw and Pete Waters were present. Erin Dobbs at AMA headquarters expedited getting the award created and delivered to chief instigator Joe Hass as there were only a few days from the initial confirmation of Ken's award and the swap shop. Arrangements were made for the application to be framed with a large mat so that those in attendance could add their personal wishes to Ken.



**Joe Hass (right) presents Ken's Award as former award winner Gary Weaks (left) looks on**

The biggest challenge was to keep the award a surprise. Fortunately Ken had moved to the back of the venue as the final preparations went into place. Jim Young graciously agreed to take pictures. At 10 AM Hass took to the microphone. After a brief explanation of the significance of the Goldberg award Ken's name was announced. As applause rose from the crowd Ken, smiling from ear to ear, made his way to the front of room. Reinhart, who was standing next to Ken, stated that Ken was totally surprised. As evident by one of the pictures Ken was equally surprised by the check that accompanied the award.

After the presentation Ken graciously accepted the best wishes and congratulations of all those who

appreciated and benefited from his contributions and generosity.

For those who have been involved in aeromodeling for a while the name Carl Goldberg (1912-1985) is synonymous with prolific free flight, control line and R/C designs that forever changed the landscape of modeling. Carl worked for Comet Models, was one of the founder of American Hobby Specialties (which eventually became Top Flite Models) and founder of Carl Goldberg Models. A consummate gentleman, Carl helped modelers young and old and contributed to AMA during its formative years. Prior to his death he and his wife established the Carl Goldberg Vital People Award to recognize and reward those who make aeromodeling so rewarding. Nominations from the aeromodeling community are accepted by the AMA. A committee reviews those applications and makes the awards in November of each year.

Join all of us who know and work with Ken in congratulating him in this well deserved recognition.

*Wow, all I can say is thanks to everyone! It was indeed a very pleasant surprise! Special thanks to Joe Hass for the nomination and to the AMA for this recognition. Since only five people a year are awarded this honor, I feel extremely honored and humbled. KM*

#### **The Award Application Read:**

There are a precious few individuals who unselfishly contribute to the success of our hobby/sport. To have one who dedicated over 2 decades to the growth and enjoyment of electric flight is truly a gift.

For 23 years Ken Myers has created and edited the *AMPEER* newsletter. With the masthead of "The Future is Electric" Ken's handiwork has been and continues to be the leading source for data on all things related to electric flight. It is read worldwide. Well before successful electric flight was even imagined Ken's work showed how it could be done.

Ken's skill as a math teacher and his familiarity with computer programs allowed him to develop a variety of analytical tools to help guide us in making successful flight performance and power system decisions. Ken is also a gifted speaker willing to make prepared presentations and impromptu talks. The best example occurred to me personally. I was speaking on electric flight at a local hobby shop with Ken in the audience. A question stumped me so I asked Ken if he had any insight. Not only did Ken willingly come to my aid but introduced an entirely new way of matching aircraft to power systems. Using the inventory in the hobby shop he set out example after example of how his techniques could allow a novice to create the perfect power system for any electric airplane.

**To change your email address contact Ken Myers at [kmyersefo@mac.com](mailto:kmyersefo@mac.com)**

**The 2012 membership application is available at the club Web site, <http://www.midwestrcsociety.org>, for downloading with the link on the homepage.**

**IMPORTANT: Channels 36 & 56 May NOT be used at the 7 Mile Rd. Field**

**Upcoming Events:**

**December 7, Wednesday** Midwest monthly meeting. Aviation video at 7 p.m. followed at 7:30 by the annual social and small indoor e-flying

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If publishing a monthly newsletter wasn't enough Ken created and ran the Mid America Electric Flies in Southeastern, MI. The MID-AM, as it has become known, has been an annual tradition for 27 years. It continues to be one of the premier events where you could see the latest in electric flight actually flying. With the ability to camp on sight flying begins at the

first hint of the morning sun and continued into the night. There was always something to surprise and amaze.

Ken's warm personality, expertise and willingness to unselfishly share epitomize the goals of the Carl Goldberg Vital Persons Award. He deserves to be one of the winners in 2011.



**Joe Hass presents Ken Myers with the Carl Goldberg Vital Person Award**



The Midwest Monitor/Ken Myers  
1911 Bradshaw Ct.  
Commerce Twp, MI 48390  
<http://www.midwestrcsociety.org>

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Plymouth, MI