

the

# Monitor

May

The MRCS Officers

2020

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**Next Meeting: Date:** To Be Determined (TBD)

**Time:** TBD **Place:** TBD

**What's In This Issue:**

Important Email from Roger Wilfong - Update on the Progress for the New Entrance Road from the Track - 2020 Mowing Information - Tentative Upcoming Keith Shaw Birthday Electric Fly-in - Upcoming Mid-Am - Upcoming Events

**Important Email from Roger**

**Wilfong**

**April 5, 2020**

*You should have received this email from Roger on April 5. I have copied it here incase you didn't see it. KM*

**Email from Roger**

The April meeting, originally postponed to next Wednesday. April 8, is [was KM] cancelled.

We're taking this action in response to the current situation with the COVID-19 Corona virus pandemic. Michigan reports 14,000+, confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 500+ deaths.

[Much more now! KM]

A statewide stay at home order has been issued and is in effect until at least through April 13.

[As of this writing, now April 30. KM]

Also, the EAA building closure has been extended until April 14 (so we have [had KM] no where to meet).

The CDC lists "older adults, over 65 years of age, as being at higher risk for severe illness" - a high percentage of our members fall in that group. So let's stay safe.

What can we do in the mean time, build a new model or repair one that's been waiting to fly again.

On the lighter side, I've attached a picture, courtesy for Keith Shaw, that looks like a typical day in the shop.

[It is on page 2 KM]

In other news, the AMA held a live stream, round table discussion, Thursday afternoon. The primary topic was the Corona pandemic, but there was also an update on the 400' ceiling and RID situation. Here's a link to the YouTube recording:

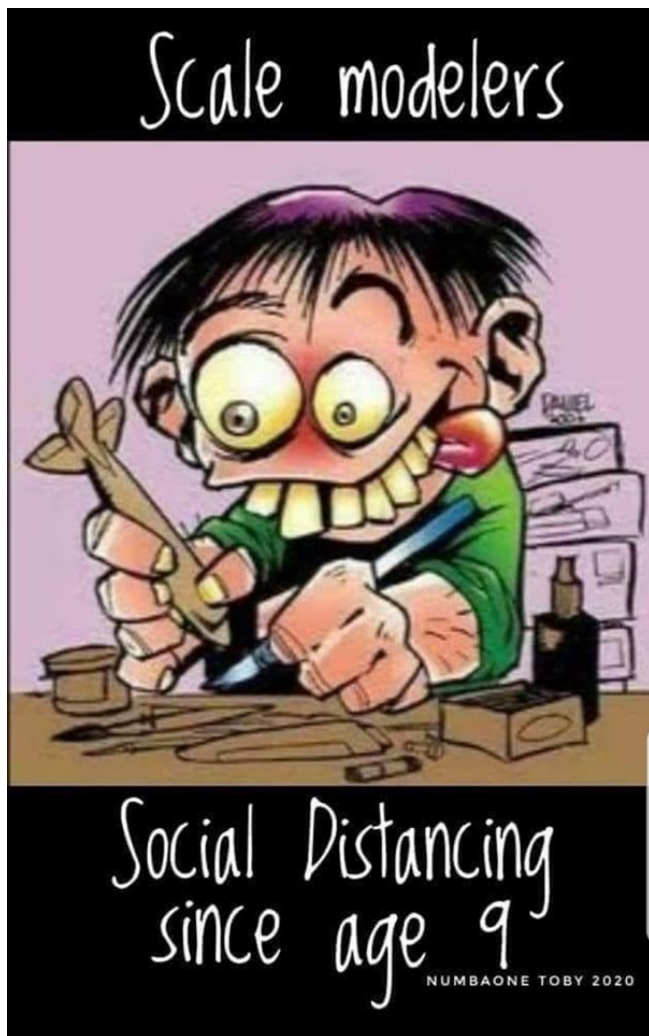
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ddEpKIq3ls&feature=youtu.be>

**Helicopter Frequencies**

21, 27, 29, 39, 41

**Sailplane Frequencies**

11, 12



As might be expected, most of the meeting was in regard to COVID-19. The questions about 400' and RID are mostly in the last 10 minutes. I'll briefly summarize that part of the discussion:

- AMA is working with local clubs to obtain exemptions to the 400' ceiling from the FAA, and has succeeded in obtaining exemptions for AMA registered fields to well over 400'. There's a brief description of the process.
- It appears that the FAA recognizes that it needs a more robust, long term policy for registered sites. Presumably recognizing both long term sites and accommodating new sites.
- As we know, FAA was overwhelmed with comments to the RID NPRM. Their next step is to analyze the comments and update the rule.

- AMA has formed the "AMA Government Coalition", consisting of aviation associations and industry, to support the AMA in dealing with the FAA.

Those are just the highlights from my notes. Be sure to watch the whole round table.

Petitioning the FAA for a higher ceiling for our field is something we should consider. This would be good for both the pattern and sailplane flyers. Looking at the AIRMAP application, there are fewer than a half dozen RC flying fields in southeastern Michigan that do not fall within a 5 mile radius of an airport - ours is one of them. It is likely that we could get an 800-1200 ceiling.

Which segues into the field. Several members went and surveyed the field seeking a better route from the track onto the field. They think they have identified a site to the east for Marty's access road. It appears to be higher and firmer than the current route. I have talked with Marty (who came back from Florida early due to COVID-19 - she's fine, but wanted to get back home while she could) about our plans, which involves removing a section of the rail and having gravel and dirt delivered through her yard. She is fine with both of those. In the next few weeks we need to finalize a plan to improve road.

Until next time, everyone stay safe and healthy.

Roger

### **Update on the Progress for the New Entrance Road from the Track**

From Bill Brown, Jr. via email

On Monday, April 6, Denny and I cut a new road where we had it marked from our previous survey.

We also cut some walking paths from the runway north to track in case anyone loses a plane in the deep grass.

The flying field and old road were dry and passable on Monday of this week. I don't know about now after yesterday's rain. I'll take a ride out in next couple of days to check out and let you know.

Thanks,  
Bill



Bill with his tractor and brush hog.



To get to the new entrance, turn right upon reaching the track. Pass through the new entrance and head towards the sheds. When driving to your parking spot, stay on the south side of the cut area and when you reach the entrance to the control line circle, turn in towards the runway and head to your parking spot.

The photo at the top of the page, in the right column, shows what it now looks like to enter the flying field from the track once you've passed through the opening.

The middle photo looks back to the new entrance from the sheds.

The final photo shows Bill cutting to the north of the runway.



And on April 10 Bill wrote to Roger and noted:

I am not sure if we need rocks on new road as it was dry when it was cut. I'll go out and drive on it to see.



Also, the old road was dry and with a load of rocks would make it another good entrance alternative.

The track is firmer when you turn left versus right, which is the new way, when coming in.

When things open up, I think we should coordinate getting a load for the low spots. I would coordinate getting that done if we decide to do it.

We owe a HUGE THANK YOU to Bill and Denny for their hard work and efforts. THANKS GUYS!!!

### 2020 Mowing Information

**Special Note:** *The field mowing teams and schedule will be posted to this newsletter, once I receive them. There will be a second newsletter and Website notice to let you know when both have been updated. KM*

#### Please Note:

1. The mowing schedule is presented as a general mowing guide to help insure that the field is mowed at least once a week.
2. As shown each of the 4 mowing teams usually have a period of 4 weeks between their respective turns to mow, but this is subject to change (see below).
3. The schedule is NOT intended to be an unbending, all encompassing rule that covers every situation.
4. Each Team Captain is empowered to adjust his team's mowing time and day if required due to weather, special events or another reason; he is responsible for communicating his adjustments to all the members of his team.
5. In case of vacation or a leave of absence, it is the Team Captain's responsibility to swap weeks with another Team Captain.
6. Additional cuttings are at the discretion of the Team Captains.
7. The attached schedule will NOT be modified for any of the changes listed in items 4, 5 or 6.

**Wednesday is mowing day (weather permitting)  
otherwise Thursday before 6 p.m.**

**Typical Mowing times:** (TBD)

**Flight Instructors**, please consult the mowing schedule and mowing team leader prior to scheduling training sessions to avoid conflicts.

**Team members**, PLEASE call your team leader if you are unable to show up for field work. All team members must check with their Team Leader for the actual mowing time.

Any team member whose personal schedule conflicts with his team's mowing schedule should contact Bill Brown, 248 379-4935, for reassignment to another team.

**All TEAM LEADERS AND MEMBERS MUST BE CHECKED OUT BEFORE RUNNING ANY OF THE EQUIPMENT USED TO TAKE CARE OF THE PARKING AREA OR FLYING FIELD.**

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#### SAFETY FIRST

**NO SMOKING IN OR AROUND THE STORAGE AREAS!**

**NO REFUELING of EQUIPMENT INSIDE THE STORAGE CONTAINERS!**

All Hand and Riding mowers:

\*\*\*Check oil before mowing!\*\*\*

#### Ford Tractor Rules:

Check oil and water before mowing!

Do not exceed 1850 RPM!

Always mow in 2nd Gear- never in 3rd Gear!

No high speed turns!

Keep cut grass away from the grill and the radiator!

Report any equipment problems to Roger Wilfong 248-349-9079.

#### The Upcoming Keith Shaw Birthday Party Electric Fly-in 2020 (Tentative)

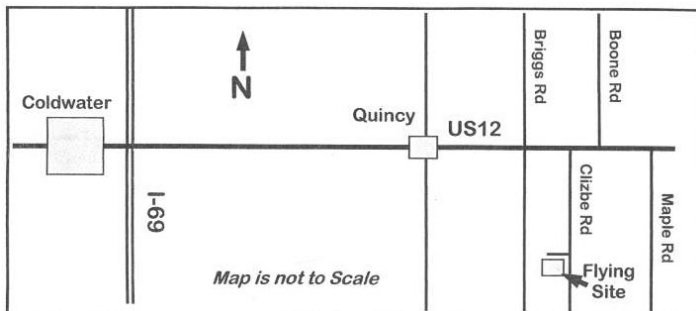
The Balsa Butchers are hosting the "Keith Shaw Birthday Party Electric Fly-In", for the 18th year, at their field near Coldwater, MI. The event takes place on Saturday, May 30, 2020. It is a one day event again this year.

The event consists of Open Electric Flying with a "Special Guest of Honor Theme", Happy Birthday Keith Shaw [June 6].

Enjoy a day with the "Pioneering Master of Electric R/C Flight". 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday. NO LANDING FEE! Donations for field maintenance and lunch appreciated.

For additional information contact:  
Dave Watson 517-250-6190 or  
flybuddy619@yahoo.com  
Contest Director: Dave Grife - E-mail:  
grifesd@yahoo.com or Phone: 517-279-8445  
Please e-mail or call with any questions.

The field will be open for guests to fly on Sunday as well.



### 36th Annual Mid-America Electric Flies 2020

AMA Sanctioned Event (Proof of AMA/MAAC membership required to fly)

Saturday, July 11 & Sunday, July 12, 2020

Hosted by the:

**Ann Arbor Falcons and Electric Flyers Only**

The 7 Mile Rd. Flying Site, Salem Twp., MI, is

Provided by the:

**Midwest R/C Society**

Contest Directors are:

Ken Myers phone (248) 669-8124 or email  
kmyersefo@mac.org – <http://www.theampeer.org> for  
updates & info

Keith Shaw (734) 973-6309

Flying both days is at the Midwest R/C Society  
Flying Field - 7 Mile Rd., Salem Twp., MI

Registration: 9 A.M. Saturday

Event Flying from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Sat. & 10 A.M.  
Until You Leave Sunday

(Open Flying Saturday after the Event & All Day Sunday, which is an all electric open flying day)

**Pilot Landing Fee - 18 and over**, \$10 for both days,  
Under 18, FREE (AMA/MAAC membership  
required)

No Parking Donation Will Be Requested from  
Spectators

### Awards on Saturday Only

Best Scale

Most Beautiful

Best Mini-Electric

Best Multi-motor

Best Sport Plane

Foam Flurry for NCM aircraft

CDs' Choice

Planes Must Fly To Be Considered for Any Award  
Plaques for winner in each category

The Field is Open for Open Flying All Day Friday  
and Night Flying Possible, Weather Permitting,  
Friday & Saturday Nights

Field Lunch (hot dogs, chips, water or pop) Available  
on Saturday

Burgers, Brats and Potluck on Saturday evening for  
Pilots & Their Guests

Come and join us for two days of fun and relaxed  
electric flying.

### The NCM (Not Conventional Materials) Event

Traditionally, model aircraft airframes have been  
mostly constructed from balsa wood, plywood,  
spruce, and fiberglass. For the purposes of this meet,  
NCM airframes are mostly constructed from not  
conventional materials i.e.; sheet foam, foam board,  
cardboard, block foam, foam insulation material, etc.

**Foam Flurry for NCM aircraft:** This is a true  
event. It is based upon the all up/last down event of  
early electric meets. Any NCM aircraft may be used  
(no ARF types). Power systems are limited to a  
maximum of 3S (no paralleling) LiPo batteries or 4S  
maximum, no paralleling, for A123 packs. All planes  
qualifying for this event will launch at the same time,  
and the last one to land will be declared the winner.

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

**The 2020 membership application is available at the club Web site,  
<http://www.midwestrcsociety.org>,  
for downloading with the link on the homepage.**

**Upcoming Events:**

**May?, TBD,** Midwest RC Society Monthly meeting, Time and Place to be determined

**May 30, Saturday (Tentative),** Keith Shaw Birthday Party Electric Fly-in 2020 (details in this issue)

**July 11 & 12, Saturday and Sunday,** 36th Annual Mid-America Electric Flies, AKA the Mid-Am. More details to be published soon.

Midwest RC Monitor  
Editor: Ken Myers  
1911 Bradshaw Ct.  
Commerce Twp., MI 48390

**The Next Meeting:**  
**Date:** To Be Determined (TBD)  
**Time:** TBD  
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