



While the EFO and Ann Arbor Falcons members were setting up the field for the Electric event, there was also set-up for the Price-less sale and the open air swap being set up by **Pete Waters** of the Midwest RC Society, whose field was being used for the meet. Many folks may remember Pete as the owner of Kraft Midwest, an RC repair business specializing in Kraft radios, but repairing almost any brand. You do remember Kraft radios, right?

### The Weather During the Meet

Saturday's weather was sunny and reasonably cool for southeast Michigan in July. The skies had some clouds, but it was sunny and the high temperature was only somewhere in the mid-70s. Nice. Unfortunately, there was a bit of a crosswind, off and on, all day.

The excellent weather held through the whole day, including the Saturday evening steak sandwich and pot-luck dinner.

Sunday was warmer and sunny with lightly shifting breezes. It was a great day for flying.

### The Pilots and Their Planes

This year, our thirty-seven registered pilots came from all over Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas, and Ontario, Canada.

It was a lot of 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 and more are posted online in RC Groups Events section for the Mid-Am 2017. <https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2873697>

Even more photos, by Rick Sawicki can be found at;

<https://goo.gl/photos/wFpT6eWDDvaBVf7a8>

and

<http://tinyurl.com/y89ppaqo>

I am sincerely indebted to C.J. Wysocki, Steve Labuta, Rick Sawicki, John Kauk and Hong, of RC Groups, for their great photos.

## Saturday's Awards



Ken Myers photo

**Don Belfort**, of West Chester, OH flew a beautiful Convair 240 in Mohawk airlines livery. It received the **Best Scale Award**. It weighs in at 12 lb., has a span of 83" and 1000 sq.in. of wing area.



CJ Wysocki photo

**Mark Rittinger**, of Roseville, MI, brought an impressive little Me-262 electric ducted fan (EDF) and was awarded **Best Ducted Fan**. It is extremely impressive in flight for such a 'tiny' fellow. It is scratch built and uses the electronics from a UMX A-10.

**Denny Sumner**, of Canton, MI, was awarded **Most Beautiful** for his Monocoupe 90A. The plane not only looks great, but it flies very nicely. Details of

Denny's Monocoupe build can be found on RC Groups.  
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2784586>



Rick Sawicki photo



John Kauk photo

**Denny Sumner**, of Canton, MI, flew his plans built AcroStar Biplane. Denny was awarded **CD's Choice** for his fine effort.

Details of Denny's Acrostar can be found on RC Groups.  
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2749251>



CJ Wysocki photo of the Trishula  
**Mark Ritinger**, of Roseville, MI, flew his new Trishula sport plane. It is a great flying plane and Mark was awarded **Best Sport Plane** for it on Saturday.

Details of Mark's Trishula can be found on RC Groups.  
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2771105>

**Tim Young** won the **Foam Flurry Event**. The event was new to the Mid-Am this year. It was an all up/last down type of event for Not Conventional Materials aircraft. Tim flew a Flite Test Spitfire for approximately 25 minutes. Great job Tim.

Here is a link to a build and video of a build for a Flite Test DTFB (Dollar Tree Foam Board) Spitfire.  
<https://www.flitetest.com/articles/ft-spitfire-build>



Rick Sawicki photo

Tim's Spitfire can be seen in the middle of this group of not conventional materials aircraft, towards the top.

### Sunday's Awards



CJ Wysocki photo

**Martin Irvine**, of Kingston, Ont. Canada, flew a beautiful Nieuport 11. It received the **Best Scale**



**Award.** It looks great in its Italian livery and flies extremely well!

**Mark Rittinger**, of Roseville, MI, flew his small, Me 262. It was awarded **Best Mini-Electric**. Video of this little bird, that uses the electronics from the UMX A10, can be found at:  
<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2833051>



CJ Wysocki photo

There was a new award this year for the **Most Unique Not Conventional Materials Aircraft**. **Pete Foss** of Oxford, MI won for his Snoopy on a skateboard, complete with flapping ears.



Rick Sawicki photo



Steve Labuta photo

**Jim Young**, of Brighton, MI, flew his beautiful, self-designed and built Monocoupe 90A. It received the **Most Beautiful Award** on Sunday.

Details of Jim's Monocoupe can be found on RC Groups.  
<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2359828>



CJ Wysocki photo

**Tom Bacsanyi**, of Farmington Hills, MI, received the **Best Multi-Motor** award on Sunday for his VQ Legend P-38.



Dennis Sumner photo

Sunday's **CD's Choice** award was given to **Denny Sumner** of Canton, MI for his WACO SRE.

This little gem weighs in at 7.5 ounces. More information about it can be found on RC Groups.

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showpost.php?p=36601601&postcount=13>

### The Saturday Evening Potluck

Once the awards were presented, and the pilots' raffle held, it was time for the Annual Steak Sandwich and potluck dinner.

Unfortunately, **Dave Hares**, our head chef, had was just out of the hospital and recovering. Fortunately for us, he was still able to bring all the steak sandwich supplies and oversee the dinner. **Dave Stacer** and **Christine Myers** prepared the

steaks and onions and got everything set up under Dave's direction. Dave Stacer had already worked pilot registration and then helped out with the potluck. He provided the much needed help in preparation and clean up. A HUGE thanks go to both Daves and my Chris.



Ken Myers photo

As usual, **Don Belfort**, from West Chester, OH, brought his "traditional" Mid-Am cake. This year's cake celebrated the 33rd Mid-Am. The cake tradition has been going on for almost as long as the Mid-America Electric Flies. Unfortunately, it had been cut before I got a photo of it this year, but it does say, "Mid Am 33", and it was as delicious as ever. Thanks AGAIN Don!!!

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 'sit around' and "catch up", talk planes, family, and politics and just relax. It is simply a marvelous time to be at the Mid-Am.

This great tradition WILL BE CONTINUED! It is just too great to let go!

### Our Sponsors

We would like to thank our sponsors for providing some "goodies" for our participating pilots each day.

**Mark Rittinger** provided two sets of plans for his Pharaoh sport plane.  
<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=2514451>

A very special thanks goes to **Joe Hass** for acquiring donations from Hobbico and Beacon Adhesives.

**Hobbico:** Tactic DroneView FPV Wi-Fi Mini Camera

**Beacon Adhesives:** several 1 oz. FOAM-TAC Adhesive

<http://www.beaconadhesives.com/all/rc-planes/foam-tac/>  
**Retro RC/Mark Freeland:** 1937 Slingby T7 Kirby Cadet - RC kit

<http://retrorc.us.com/retroemoth-1-2-1-2-1-1-3-1.aspx>  
 21 cell Ammo Box Divider

<http://retrorc.us.com/batterybox1-3-1.aspx>  
 8 Super'Phatic! Glue

<http://retrorc.us.com/specialglues.aspx>

4 Bill's Fingers - 4 pack

<http://retrorc.us.com/hatchlatch-2-1-2-1-2-2-1-1.aspx>

**Roger Wilfong** a small, complete ARF Spitfire

**Keith Shaw** - many vintage, full-scale aircraft books (*Again they proved to be a HUGE hit this year! KM*)

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.



Rick Sawicki photo

Denny Sumner receives an award from Ken and Keith on Saturday. Awards are presented both days.

### A HUGE thanks to all who helped

Keith and I cannot thank enough all of the folks 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 people to pull it all together. The physical field needs to be in the best possible condition, the dining facilities, registration, concessions, potluck picnic grilling and a myriad of other details need to be taken care of. **Our behind the scenes folks are the best!** Guys, 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!

### **The Flight Line**

**Keith Shaw** handled the flight line beautifully on Saturday and Sunday as the flight line coordinator. He also put on noon demonstration flights both days.

### **Parking**

Parking and parking directions were handled by the Midwest RC Society members **Barb and Bob Weak** and **Arthur Deane**.

### **Registration**

**Denny Sumner** and **Dave Stacer** handled registration. Gotta love these guys. They are there all of the time to do anything and everything asked of them and more. Thanks so much!

### **And More Thanks**

Keith and I sincerely thank Denny Sumner, David Stacer, Dave Hares, Arthur Deane, Roger Wilfong, Barb and Bob Weak, C.J. Wysocki, Pete Waters, Charlie Dochenetz, Jim Ouillette, Mel Berent, and Greg Eilers for all of their super help and support. There were more members of the EFO, Ann Arbor Falcons and the Midwest RC Society who pitched in with other spur of the moment jobs. Thanks to you folks as well!

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!

### **Our Potluck Chef Dave Hares**

Many folks attending the Mid-Am know Dave as **THE MAN** attending to the grilling 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 organizer of the potluck and chief wrangler to see that everything is there for our guests. That is no small feat, especially this year after just getting out of the hospital.

Thanks again Dave for another special year at the traditional Saturday evening potluck. Also, a huge thanks to Dave Stacer for pitching in after working a full day at registration. Dave Stacer was also able to give a helping hand this year during the potluck setup and clean up. Thanks to my wife, Chris, for also stepping up and filling in this year.

## **It's Just 'Plane' Fun**



Rick Sawicki photo

This is the first year that we have recognized the model BUILDERS who use Not Conventional Materials to construct their aircraft. These types of aircraft are becoming popular with younger builders and we will continue to encourage this segment of the hobby with recognition for their efforts.

The photo shows many of the NCM aircraft and their builders at the Mid-Am this year.



Hong photo

Robyn Rissell, of Orion Township, MI, demonstrated electric power control line flying on both Saturday and Sunday. That is Robyn at the controls and Rick Sawicki, a control line expert, hand launching for him.

### **The Noon Demos by Keith Shaw**

On Saturday, Keith flew his Yak UT-1 and his new Ryder 6 8 Ball. The winds were quite brisk, and shifting. Keith handled both planes well, even though he'd had little time on his new 8 Ball.

On Sunday, he flew the 8 Ball again, and also brought out a crowd favorite, the Bugatti. Keith flew the 8 Ball even better on Sunday. The twin engine powered Bugatti is thrilling to listen to as Keith flies his precision routine with it.



Hong photo  
The Yak UT-1 Bottom View



Steve Labuta photo



C.J. Wysocki photo  
Yes, that is an inverted pass.



Ken Myers photo

**Wade Wiley** of Ferndale, MI, flew this beautiful Blackburn with onboard sound.



C.J. Wysocki photo  
Gotta love the sound of those two props!



C.J. Wysocki photo

**Pete Foss**, of Oxford, MI, took Wile E Coyote for a drive and then a flight.

**Jim Ryan**, designed, published and produced kits for several very successful 'Speed 400' stand-off scale kits. He flew the P-38 once again at this year's Mid-Am. Also in the photo are his P-47 and two of helicopters that he brought.

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=38463>





Rick Sawicki photo

The start of the NCM Foam Flurry, all up/last down event.



Hong photo

Tim Young doing a bit of FPV flying while Jim Young spots.



Rick Sawicki photo

Jim and Denny's Monocoupes together.



Hong photo

Don's Convair on a fly-by with gear up.



C.J. Wysocki photo

Mark Rittinger's P-51B.



Rick Sawicki photo

Keith and Ken get 'em flying with the pilots' meeting on Saturday morning.





Rick Sawicki photo

This big and beautiful old timer belongs to Gordon Pearson of South Lyon, MI.

**Upcoming Electrics Over White Lake**  
From CD Hank Wildman

On Saturday, July 22, the Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club (PMAC) present Electrics Over White Lake at their flying field in White Lake, Mi. A map to their flying field available on the PMAC Web site. (<http://pmac.us/>)

Registration begins at 1 p.m. and flying is from 1:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

There will be awards for the top two places in each category; Best Scale, Best Ducted Fan, Best Sport Plane, and Pilots' Choice. Planes must fly to be considered for an award.

PMAC wants fliers to join them for a day of fun and relaxed Electric Flying! Even through this is called a contest, the purpose is fun and enjoyment in sharing the electric experience!

Food and Beverages are available throughout the day

**NO LANDING FEE**

AMA membership required for all pilots

P.A. Announcer

Daily/Yearly State Park Pass Required

400' maximum altitude

Come Look, Listen & Learn

Fly Electric ~ Fly the Future

CD: email ([hankwildman@comcast.net](mailto:hankwildman@comcast.net)) Hank Wildman for more info

**Upcoming Event**  
**Cards of East Lansing, MI**  
**7th Annual Electric Fly In**  
from Marvin Thomson

**When:** Friday, August 25 4:00 pm - 9:00pm and Saturday August 26 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

**Pilot and Aircraft Requirements:**

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

Best two runways in Mid-Michigan

Practice FPV Multicopter Course on N/S runway open on Friday and Saturday from 4:00-9:00 pm

Pilot Raffle on Saturday

Pizza, pop, and water available on Saturday

**Spectators Welcome**

**Landing Fees:**

\$15 (includes Pilot Pizza & Soda )

CD Marv Thomson 517-8027675 or

[mthomson@wowway.com](mailto:mthomson@wowway.com)

Website: [www.cardsrc.com](http://www.cardsrc.com)

Address: 8328 Otto Rd, Grand Ledge, Mi 48837

### Upcoming E-vents

**July 22**, Saturday, PMAC Electric Fly-in (info in this issue)

**August 5**, Saturday, 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. 26 Saturday**, Capital Area Radio Drone Squadron (C.A.R.D.S.) (Lansing area) RC Electric Fly-in, (info in this issue - also see info for flying on Friday, Aug. 25)

**More Mid-Am 2017 Photos can be found at:**

<https://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?2873697>

and

<https://goo.gl/photos/wFpT6eWDDvaBVf7a8>

And

<http://tinyurl.com/y89ppaqq>



Hong photo

Jim Ryan's Cheyenne, which is beautifully crafted, flies as good as it looks.

### You are Invited!

Keith and I cordially invite you to join us for the 34th Annual Mid-America Electric Flies in July, 2018. See you then!



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

<http://www.theampeer.org>

### The Next Monthly Meeting:

**Date:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 **Time:** 10 a.m.

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