

Greetings AMA Brothers and Sisters,

Our Hobby Needs You!

After the disappointing announcement was made back in July that the Toledo R/C Expo was coming to an end, a small group of R/C enthusiasts and swappers (myself included) weren't quite ready to see their early April swap meet and exhibitor shenanigans cease to exist. Through growing partnerships with the Seagate Convention Centre, the Valley City Radio-Controlled Club (AMA #930), and Hank's Hobby Hangar (Valley City, OH), the swappin' and selling fun will continue!

We would love for you to consider attending this well-known, two-day experience, which takes place on Friday, April 9th and Saturday, April 10th, 2021, at the Seagate Convention Centre, located in Toledo, Ohio. We are looking for both those who want to purchase a table(s) and sell and those who want to stop by, shop a bit, and enjoy the great food and conversation! Commercial manufacturers, businesses, and vendors are welcome also! The following is a list of businesses and organizations that have already purchased tables and will be in attendance: Ritche's Brew, Nankin Hobbies, TGK Connectors, WIND Catcher R/C, EZ Build (formally Lazer Toys), Innov8tive Designs, Sky Bench Aerotech, Carolina Custom Kits, Moustache Model Works, Team KNK Hardware, Metal Aviation, Hank's Hobby Hangar, Hobby Liquidators, ICBIM Products, MECA (Model Aircraft Collectors Association) Maumee Valley Scale Boat Club, NASA (National Association of Scale Aeromodelers, and Keystone Clippers.

Our vision for the first annual **Toledo R/C Swap Meet, Auction and Fun Fly** is to create a venue where all hobbyists can meet, regardless of whether they are swappers, commercial businesses and vendors, clubs or organizations, or just someone who stops in to join in on all the fun. We are all in this together! The trade shows in our wonderful hobby are all but extinct, providing fewer and fewer gathering spaces where one can check out the latest products, shop for amazing in-person deals, or sell hobby-related merchandise. What better place to make all of this happen than at a good ole' swap meet!

First and foremost, the **Toledo R/C Swap Meet, Auction and Fun Fly** and the Seagate Convention Center will follow all local and state-mandated COVID-19 guidelines and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of all those who attend. Recommendations of all health agencies involved will be strictly monitored and enforced. This venue has over 65,000 sq. ft. to help ensure social-distancing.

We have engaged in a marketing and media blitz that includes emails being sent to all AMA clubs located within 200 miles of Toledo and moderating multiple digital threads and forums on R/C Groups, Flying Giants and Facebook. You will find featured articles on R/C Groups and Flying Giants, and we have purchased large digital ad banners on those same sites. Finally, we have purchased a ½ page ad in an upcoming issue of *Model Aviation* and have purchased ad banners on all four AMA digital websites.

This AMA-sanctioned swap meet will take place on Friday (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM) and Saturday (9:00 AM to 2:00 PM). There will be 50/50 and R/C related merchandise raffles as well as vendor giveaways on both Friday and Saturday. Concessions will be offered by the Seagate Convention Centre, and there is an ATM located on site. All Vendors will receive 1 (ONE) FREE ADULT ADMISSION, 5 (FIVE) FREE R/C RAFFLE TICKETS, and 5 (FIVE) GIVEAWAY TICKETS with every table they purchase.

Table reservations have already begun and are coming in fast and furious! **To date we have sold over 150 TABLES!** All commercial businesses, organizations, and vendors will be provided with a booth that includes side and back curtains, an 8' table and two chairs. 8' tables/booths are being offered at \$25.00 each, per day, payable with submission of the registration form. All vendors will be able to set up on Thursday, April 8 (9:00 AM - 5:00 PM) or Friday/Saturday (starting at 6:30 AM).

We have worked with the **Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel** and are happy to announce that they will be offering a block of rooms at a discounted price! These rooms need to be booked by March 11, 2021. Click the following link which will assist in your reservation: [Book your group rate for Toledo R/C Swap Meeting Room Block \[marriott.com\]](https://www.marriott.com/BookYourGroupRateForToledoRCSwapMeetingRoomBlock)

Registration forms as well as additional vendor information are available at the [Toledo R/C Swap Meet and Auction website](#) and attached to this email. I have also attached the ½ page ad that will be featured in an upcoming Model Aviation. Please contact Henry "Hank" Rauhaus, Event Manager, with any questions at 330.419.2029 or uglydog1313@gmail.com.

We would love to see you there!

Henry "Hank" Rauhaus