



The purpose of the Benzie Area Remote Control'ers is to provide radio controlled model aircraft flying enjoyment in a safe manner for members and guests. We would love to have you join us. Please visit our web site for more information: [www.benziearearc.com](http://www.benziearearc.com).



Great time at the Float Fly Wednesday at Ed McIntosh's place on Platte Lake. We had some flyers - Doc Pepper, Dennis Holcombe and Peter Blitzer. And we had some spectators - Fred and Judy Stafford, Chris and Sally Bobek and Ed McIntosh. We also had a new flyer come by with his family and join. Welcome to Fred Wendland. He lives in California, but like many of us, has a vacation home in the area.

Even tho it started out a little windy, three planes went up (a few times each) and successfully flew around the lake. We even had some party boat riders enjoying the show,

This is a good opportunity to get together, watch (or fly) and enjoy time with friends. The two wives there enjoyed getting to know each other and share stories about being a remote control widows!

Below: Rescue boat going out after Upside down landing!



Watch your emails for scheduled float flies or Thompsonville and Empire Airport flies. If you haven't joined us, you should. Whether you fly or watch, we guarantee you'll have a great time. Some guys fly and sometimes we just sit and talk about flying - but we all have questions - and advise, and we'd like you to join us!



# Meet Fred Stafford

I began trying to build and fly rubber powered stick and tissue model airplanes when I was five years old. That was 70 years ago. I started flying control line models about 1948. At that time, there was no commercial radio equipment available for model airplanes. In the mid 1950's factory built RC equipment on the Citizens band began to be produced. Most of it was very crude and only worked occasionally. I began messing around with it in the late 1950's without much success. I still continued to fly control line.

In the 1960's model RC equipment improved dramatically using technologies developed by the Country's entry in Space exploration. Very reliable model RC equipment became available, but as you might guess, the equipment was very expensive. A multi channel radio system cost about \$500.00. That would probably be equivalent to \$1500.00 in today's dollars.



Judy and I have three children: A daughter in Westland, Michigan, a daughter in Murfreesboro Tennessee and a son in Florida. We have Two Grand-daughters and a grandson who live in Michigan and a granddaughter who lives in Texas.

Judy and I spend the winters in our home down State in the City of Wayne Michigan. Wayne is a western suburb of Detroit. I served 25 years with the City of Wayne's Police department until retirement in 1990. After retirement, Judy and I began spending the summers in Benzie County, April to October.

The airplanes currently in my hanger range from a tiny electric indoor model to a 1/4 scale Extra 300 nitro "Slimmer". My favorites are my electric " Old Timers" such as my Miss America and Mercury. I can sit in a lawn chair with a cold drink and fly them without too much stress.



July's meeting brought a dozen guys to Empire Airport to fly and talk.