

## District I

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

**AMA member** Stan Kulesa emailed me an invitation that he received from Diana Robinson at the FAA UAS Integration Office to participate in the New England region FAA Droning On event at the University of Maine (UOM) Brunswick Aviation campus.

Because the event was open to the public and free with a focus on UAS/drone benefits, career opportunities, public safety, best practices, and offered demonstration flights, simulators, and how to get started in UAS, I decided to call Mrs. Robinson to see how AMA could be involved. She offered AMA booth space and said she would love AMA's participation on Saturday, October 1, for the general public day.

Associate Vice President (AVP) Steve Brehm and I drove the 200 miles to the campus aviation hangar on Friday and set up the AMA booth and tables with model airplanes, drones, a flight simulator, and AMA free informational handouts.

AVPs Daren Hudson and John Yassemedis arrived early Saturday morning with a variety of model airplanes to do outdoor demo flights and buddy-box RC fixed-wing flying, which they did all day with the public and nearly



Each day, attendees could listen to presentations highlighting the societal, economic, and educational benefits of UAS.



Ten FAA personnel, including two from the UAS Integration Office in Washington, D.C., and other FAA Regional Administrators and personnel, hosted the Droning On New England event along with the UOM Augusta UAS directors and staff educators.



(L-R standing): FAA national and regional personnel are Alina George, Colleen D'Alessandro, Ed Cormier, and Diana Robinson. AMA district officers are Daren Hudson, John Yassemedis, (kneeling) Steve Brehm, and District I Vice President Andy Argenio.

every student, drone pilot, and FAA personnel. It was a big hit at the event!

Steve and I worked the booth, engaging with the FAA personnel and exhibitors, and introduced attendees to the benefits of AMA membership.

Thanks to all of the FAA personnel and UOM Director of UAS Education Daniel Leclair for welcoming AMA's participation. We hope to continue collaborative UAS outreach efforts with the FAA and other educational institutions.



AVPs John and Daren buddy-boxed first time RC fixed-wing flights with the smiling drone pilots, FAA personnel, and the public on Saturday.



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