

# AMA TODAY

Academy of Model Aeronautics Newsletter



Wednesday, September 21, 2016

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## AMA to host AMA Expo East in February 2017

The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) in cooperation with the Westchester Radio Aero Modelers (WRAM) announced it will continue the long-standing tradition of hosting an annual East Coast hobby trade show, which will be held February 24-26, 2017, at the Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus, New Jersey.

The show will be revamped to mirror the efforts taken to successfully host AMA Expo West, held in Ontario, California, each year by the AMA. AMA Executive Director Dave Mathewson said, "The Westchester Aero Radio Modelers' Annual WRAM Show has been a staple in the modeling world for nearly 50 years. AMA is pleased to be able to carry on the WRAM tradition that modeling model aviation enthusiasts from throughout the Northeast." [Ready Made RC](#), presenting sponsor for AMA West, has backed the new endeavor by sponsoring AMA Expo East, and friends of the AMA including astronaut Hoot Gibson and [That Drone Show](#) hosts David and Sarah Oneal will be attending for the guest speaker series.

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## Vote for the next AMA President

AMA members should receive their annual ballot for the 2017 flying season by October 1. Those whose memberships are set to expire will receive both an invoice and a ballot. Ballots must be postmarked and sent to AMA Headquarters by November 8. Everyone has the opportunity to vote for the next AMA president, and those in Districts I, V, and IX are asked to select a vice president as well. [The official campaign statements are now available online.](#) Remember, online membership renewal is a quick and easy way to make sure that your benefits do not lapse. Thank you for supporting the AMA's continuing work with your membership renewal, your votes, and your generous donations to the AMA Foundation.

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## Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome Recognized as Historic Landmark

AMA representatives attended the 50th Anniversary Rhinebeck Jamboree, held September 9-11. The event was hosted by the Mid-Hudson Radio Control Society at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, in Rhinebeck, NY. The Jamboree is one of the longest-running events of its type and has been a popular affair at the Old Rhinebeck since its inception. During the event, Eric Williams, AMA District II vice president, presented the president of the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, Michael DiGiacomo, with two plaques recognizing the site as a National Aeromodeling Historic Landmark.

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## The Drone Invasion to premiere Friday in Los Angeles

*The Drone Invasion* is an important documentary that features drone industry experts, drone company executives, and drone-flying celebrities who confront popular myths about drones and answer the question, "Are drones good?" *The Drone Invasion* is directed by David Oneal and produced by Sarah Oneal, hosts of the popular podcast, *That Drone Show*, and founders of International Drone Day. AMA President Bob Brown and AMA Director of Marketing Jeff Nance appear in the documentary. *The Drone Invasion* will premiere this Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Regal Cinemas in Los Angeles during the 8th Annual Downtown Film Festival. [Tickets are available online.](#)

[check it out >](#)



## National Model Aviation Museum increases digital engagement

The National Model Aviation Museum has made its newest debut in the digital landscape with [#AskClaire](#), a Facebook Live recording. The museum's staff started the program on a trial basis, and it was well received with nearly 3,000 views, 40 questions asked and answered, and an hour of museum fun. The museum intends to have a more active digital presence, and to provide the public with a stronger sense of who the museum employees are and what they have to offer.

*Fly By* is a collaboration between Dillon Carpenter, National Model Aviation Museum media specialist, and Claire Aldenhuisen, museum education specialist, that will be produced as a semistructured documentary. The short films will highlight specific objects, different model aviation topics, modelers and designers, the history of the hobby, and more. *Fly By* is intended to have a single focus for each episode and provide targeted content that can be accessed by both casual and expert modelers.

The National Model Aviation Museum's staff launched a [virtual tour on the museum's website](#) on September 19. The virtual tour offers visitors access to quality content across various platforms. This digital platform will serve off-site visitors in many ways and encourage more insight on the history and hobby of model flying and the artifacts preserved at the museum.

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## Indiana Warbird Campaign event bigger and better than ever

The Indiana Warbird Campaign was held September 1-3 at the International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, IN. The 13-year-old event had a record number of registered pilots and spectators this year. The Dawn Patrol open flying that took place each morning was a huge. Check out the event and make plans to attend in 2017.

[check it out >](#)



## Spaceport America Drone Summit

Spaceport America, the world's first all-purpose-built commercial spaceport, located in southern New Mexico, will be hosting its first Spaceport America Drone Summit on November 11-13, 2016. The three-day summit will feature FPV drone racing with thousands of dollars in prize money, RC flying demonstrations, guest speakers, drone workshops, and an aerial cinematography challenge. The event is sanctioned by the AMA. Registration is now open. AMA members receive 10% off admission by entering the code: AMADS16.

[learn more >](#)



## Remembering AMA team member Robert "Bob" Abernathy

For more than 25 years, Bob Abernathy shared his love for aviation with adults and children who visited the National Model Aviation Museum. Bob served as a tour guide for the museum, and loved to share his knowledge about the artifacts with whomever walked through the door. Bob passed away Friday morning, September 9, at his home, following a courageous battle with cancer. He will be missed by everyone at the AMA, museum visitors, and the model flying community.

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## AMA to discuss drone safety at NRPA

Members of the AMA staff will attend the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) conference October 5-8 in St. Louis to present "Drones in the Park, a Threat or Opportunity?" AMA will share the positive aspects of recreational flying and the opportunities that are available. Every year, thousands of park and recreation professionals attend the NRPA Annual Conference for energetic networking activities, inspirational educational sessions, and an inside look at the latest products for the field.

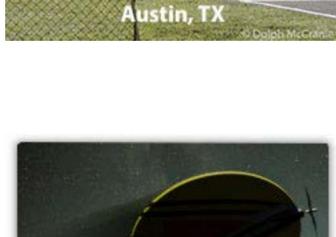
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## National Model Aviation Day donations due October 1

Thank you to everyone who helped plan or who attended! National Model Aviation Day event in celebration of model flying! Disabled American Veterans (DAV) has continued to update us on donations received. Approximately \$26,000 has been submitted so far. Please make sure to [contact us](#) if your club has decided to support a nonprofit other than DAV so that we can update our totals. And, as a reminder, if you are donating to DAV, please make checks out to the organization and [send the donations](#) directly to the DAV headquarters.

[Donate Now >](#)



## The Saucerus RC featured in Model Aviation digital

Retro RC has gone to the fabulous 1950s and brought back a flying saucer! Based on a 1953 George Harris Control Line model, this small saucer will get plenty of attention at the field. Read about building and flying this unique model and [watch a video at www.ModelAviation.com](#) and in the October edition of Model Aviation digital!

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## F3K Hand-Launch Glider team members selected

The US team trials for F3K (Hand-Launch Gliders) were held at the International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, IN, September 3-5. Top competitors from across the country met for three days of intense competition to determine who will represent the US at the 2017 FAI F3K World Championships that will be held in Lviv, Ukraine, July 24-30, 2017. They will participate in both individual and team competitions with more than 30 other countries. Congratulations to Toby Herrera, Mike Mauer, and George Morris, the top three finishers and our new US senior team. Good luck at the worlds! Go USA!

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## New AMA mugs on sale

Look no further. Here is the perfect gift for that special modeler in your life, or even for yourself! Enjoy your next hot or cold beverage in one of our newly introduced AMA ceramic mugs. It's available in four designs, each sold separately. Regular price is \$9.99, but they are on sale this month for \$8.99.

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