The Academy of Model Aeronautics is a nonprofit community of enthusiasts who come together to celebrate model aviation.

We are hobbyists who dream, design, build, and fly model aircraft of all sizes for fun and competition. We do this because we enjoy the company of fellow enthusiasts, we love flight, and we want to see participation in our hobby grow.

Our nationwide network of clubs supports this passion by providing flying fields, mutual learning, and a safe and fun environment for model aviation activities. Our organization advocates every day for the safe enjoyment of model aviation.


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Welcome to the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the world’s largest model aviation organization! As a member of the AMA, you are a vital part of our mission to grow the hobby and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and aerospace aviators.

This member guide provides you with a quick reference to many of the exclusive benefits, services and opportunities available to you as a member. Whether you’re just getting started in model aviation or you’ve been flying for years, the benefits, support and resources the AMA provides will help make your membership a rewarding experience.

We encourage you to make the most of your membership by taking advantage of everything the AMA has to offer from educational resources and publications to affinity programs.

For more than 85 years, the AMA has been serving the model aviation community and enthusiasts just like you. We are so glad to have you with us!

Welcome to the AMA community,
Membership Services
Model Aviation Magazine and Model Aviation Digital
Each monthly issue is filled with aeromodeling feature stories, product reviews, how-to articles, AMA news, member profiles and special features. As an AMA member, you can choose to have the printed magazine, the digital version, or both.

Peace of Mind Flying
Sometimes accidents can happen. Rest assured you’re covered with $2.5 million liability umbrella insurance, $25,000 in medical coverage and $1,000 in fire and theft coverage.

Get Connected and Stay Informed With Member Communications
AMA is a community of members who share the passion of model flying. AMA provides you with member communication resources to give you the latest news, information, advocacy updates, and opportunities to connect with other members. Be sure to provide us with your email address! For more on AMA’s communication resources, go to MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/MEDIA-PUBLICATIONS.

AMA Air
You’ll enjoy watching this informative online webcast presenting model flying news and feature stories from the AMA community. AMA Air is produced once a month at MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/AMAAIR.
Websites and Social Media

AMA Website and Members-Only Features
AMA’s website is your all access to everything AMA. From news, blogs, club locator, education, services, important AMA forms and documents to shopping, it’s all there for you.

Social Media Connects You to the AMA Community
Visit us and join members in the conversation and photo sharing on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Check out Flickr and our YouTube channel for more photos and exciting videos. Share your model building and flying story with our AMA Facebook group, I Fly AMA!

AMA This Week E-newsletter
Once a week you’ll receive this newsletter packed with the latest news about your organization and events in your area, as well as enjoyable features and insights into the hobby. Just make sure we have your email address!

Government Advocacy
Protecting your freedom to fly model aircraft is the foundation of our government advocacy efforts. We work with local, state, and federal officials so our voice is heard and acted upon.

Education and AMAFlightSchool.org
AMA’s premier website is devoted to model flying educational and training programs, activities, and resources for you, clubs, schools, and organizations.

Affinity and Marketing Partnerships
Enjoy savings and discounts from our partners Enterprise and National Car Rental. EAA offers AMA members discount tickets to EAA AirVenture, and periodically RC manufacturers offer special AMA member-only discounts on products. Many members have saved enough through these programs that they have paid for their AMA membership and more.

When it came time to get insurance for my 16-year-old son, we were able to save hundreds of dollars on our group policy just for being AMA members. Sure made up for our dues over the years on top of all the enjoyable weekends flying we have had.

AMA MEMBER

(765) 287-1256 membership@modelaircraft.org
MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG
Enjoy the fun and camaraderie with other enthusiasts like yourself who love model aviation by joining an AMA chartered club. With nearly 2,200 clubs throughout the country, there’s one near you. Just search the AMA club locator to find clubs in your area and their flying sites. MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/CLUBS

AMA Chartered Clubs
AMA chartered clubs receive a host of benefits including club and officer liability insurance coverage. Plus, the property owner of the club’s flying site can receive primary liability insurance, if requested. Consider starting an AMA chartered club. All you need are five adult AMA members and we’ll help you get started.

Flying Site Assistance and Competition
Without flying sites, we can’t enjoy our hobby. Flying Site Assistance helps clubs with advice, support and plans to address any opportunity or issue from flying site design to guidance on local laws. We’ll help you sanction your local events and competitions. International and world competitions are handled by this department as well.

Leader Clubs
Your club can become a Leader Club by demonstrating and achieving certain standards of community service and activity. Clubs qualify for different levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold, based on performance.

Leader Members
Individuals are awarded the Leader Member title, the highest level of AMA membership, by meeting specific levels of participation, conduct, and contributions.

Become an Introductory Pilot Instructor
Share your flying experience by helping new people to learn to fly. Through the Intro Pilot program, club instructors can reach out to non-AMA members and teach them to fly for a period of 90 consecutive days. It’s a great way to get new people excited about model flying and become AMA members and club members.
Value and Peace of Mind:
Flying models is a safe activity, but sometimes accidents can happen involving people or property. Enjoy peace of mind flying knowing you’re covered with liability, medical, fire, and theft insurance. This insurance is an outstanding member benefit that would cost you $1,000 or more to purchase separately on your own. And you’re covered for whatever type of model aircraft you fly and whether you choose to fly at an AMA club field, park, backyard, or wherever. Just fly for recreational fun and operate within the AMA’s Safety Programming.

Member Insurance Benefit
$2.5 Million Liability Umbrella
$25,000 Medical Coverage
$1,000 Fire and Theft Coverage

If You Purchased It separately
$400 or more a year
$600 or more a year
$30 or more a year

AMA members can now buy low-cost commercial drone insurance. Get a quote at MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/DRONEINSURANCE

Flying Site Improvement and Disaster Relief Grants
If your club is planning to make flying site improvements, consider applying for a Flying Site Development Improvement Grant: MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/GRANTS. Chartered clubs can be awarded 25% of their project’s costs (up to $3,000). Apply by February 1 each year.

Sometimes an act of nature or other event can damage a flying site. AMA can provide a $500 grant toward flying site and runway repairs. Rolling application deadline.

Club Recognition and Reward Program.
If your club has received positive media coverage of your club’s involvement in the community, AMA wants to know about it! We’ll recognize your club with a cash award for radio, TV, on-line, and print coverage. Learn more at MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/GRANTS

AMA is at another level with AMA Air. I receive the newsletters, important email updates, the thick magazine and now AMA Air on top of national support and insurance. Awesome and keep up the good work!

AMA MEMBER
We invite you to visit AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG to learn about our educational and training programs, activities, and resources for you, clubs, educators, schools, and organizations. The following is a partial list.

Your answer to, “How do I?” is AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG.

AeroLab
This STEM curriculum provides middle school and ninth-grade teachers a fun, engaging and hands-on course to teach conceptual physics and physical science using model aviation.

Club Support Packages
Free education materials and activities provided in support of AMA club outreach and events.

Camp AMA
Take your already developed flying skills to the next level with Camp AMA! World-renowned instructors and AMA Education staff present exciting and educational challenges to attendees, while ensuring ample time is devoted to expanding their flight skills in a multitude of different aircraft from sailplanes to 3-D helis!

AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG/CAMPAMA

AMA Quick Projects
Looking to engage students from pre-K to retirement? Check out the Quick Projects! These fun projects come complete with educational standards, videos, instructions and templates that guide the viewer through great aviation-themed projects. AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG/QUICKPROJECTS

Model Aviation Student Clubs (MASCs) help schools, groups, and organizations develop an officially chartered AMA club that comes with many additional perks. AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG/PROGRAMS/MASC

University Model Aviation Student Clubs (UMASCs) create officially chartered AMA clubs that come with many additional perks focused on postsecondary schools. AMAFLIGHTSCHOOL.ORG/PROGRAMS/UMASC

(765) 287-1256 membership@modelaircraft.org MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG
UAS4STEM Drone Challenge
UAS4STEM Drone Challenge: Students explore sUAS in two competition categories, beginner and advanced! Students must work as a team to pass their ground school training, source, build, test, fly via Line Of Sight (LOS), conduct autonomous flights, and perform missions related to search and rescue like picking up equipment, delivering supplies, and identifying points of interest. Qualifying teams are then invited to compete internationally at AirVenture OshKosh where cash and prizes await the podium teams!

The AMA ALPHA and BETA:
ALPHA: Offers easy setup and lasting durability. This portable EPS foam and stick balsa aircraft is quickly and easily assembled thanks to its simple clip-together technology. No cutting is required!

BETA: Provides a stable platform for both indoor and outdoor flights and features our 20:1 winder and 3/16" and 1/8" FAI rubber. The AMA BETA also has lessons using STEM principles to explore flight that are available for free from the AMA Education department.

Civil Air Patrol
AMA provides the opportunity for cadets of every unit to experience flight through radio control model aircraft.

EAA
EAA offers a free youth membership through the EAA Young Eagles program.

AMA has awarded more than $1.2 million in college scholarships.
Protecting your freedom to fly

Protecting your freedom to fly model aircraft is the foundation of our government advocacy efforts. We work with legislators at the local, state, and federal levels and engage with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation, Federal Communications Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of Homeland Security so your voice will be heard and acted upon. AMA is committed to educating newcomers and the safe operation of model aircraft. Because of our work representing this mission on Capitol Hill, Congress has recognized the efficacy of community-based organizations (CBOs) and our National Model Aviation Safety Program in legislation. AMA was named the first FAA-recognized CBO in the country, validating our Safety Programming as an authorized means of operating recreational, unmanned aircraft in the national airspace. Our hobby has faced many challenges throughout the years as we address an increase in government intervention and proposed regulations. The government team has fought back on these challenges, working diligently on behalf of AMA members to secure airspace authorizations for operations in controlled airspace, higher operating altitudes for sanctioned events and sites in controlled airspace, and protections for educational operations of model aircraft. Your membership helps support AMA’s government advocacy work, including AMA’s legal team and lobbying effort. We know that the entire modeling community benefits when we speak with one voice. Stay informed about AMA’s government advocacy efforts by visiting MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/GOV

SAFETY: It’s Part of AMA’s DNA

The model aviation community has always looked to the AMA to create safety practices. Starting in 1936, AMA was focused on keeping our model aviation competition community safe. As time passed, new activities and models came into existence. With these new models came the need to update safety programs. This process is still very much part of what AMA does today! The latest AMA Safety Handbook at MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/SAFETY, outlines the current safety programs that cover all types of model aviation activities. From personal safety practices to club flying site layouts and event operations, the AMA Safety Program has been developed to mitigate risks and creates a safe atmosphere for model aviation enthusiasts to operate safely. It is recommended that everyone review this document regularly and help create a safe environment for all to enjoy this hobby!

"Working with the FAA and Congress, AMA has shown some REAL FORTITUDE! The membership fee has been well worth every penny. I have a feeling that without the AMA we would have all gotten steam rolled into oblivion. It’s ESSENTIAL that AMA membership continues to grow. In numbers we have strength to protect what we have always loved to do—and that is FLY!"

AMA MEMBER

(765) 287-1256 membership@modelaircraft.org
MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG
The AMA Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the AMA, dedicated to upholding the joy of flight among model aviation enthusiasts, students, children, and communities through its strategic focus areas: STE(A)M/model aviation education, club grants, the National Model Aviation Museum, scholarships, and operational grants to AMA and the International Aeromodeling Center (IAC).

Programs Fund
The Foundation Programs Fund provides support to all AMA charitable programs and initiatives, including the following areas: club grants, STE(A)M and model aviation education, site improvements at the IAC, and funding for the National Model Aviation Museum.

Scholarship Fund
Since 1970, $1.2 million has been awarded to more than 300 AMA Youth members pursuing higher education.

Education Fund
Supports development of programming and model aviation activities for youth, AMA clubs, schools, and higher education with a focus on STEM-related curricula.

Museum Patron Fund
Contribute to the National Model Aviation Fund at varying levels of support, from $25 to $1,000.

How You Can Donate.
Make a one-time donation by phone, mail, or online at modelaircraft.org.

Make a recurring donation online and become an AMA Foundation Torchbearer. Visit MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/PASS-THE-TORCH for more information.

Include the AMA Foundation in your estate and leave a lasting legacy. Visit MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/FOUNDATION to learn more.

All donors contributing $10 or more will receive recognition in Model Aviation magazine and AMA’s annual report. Donors will also see a donor icon printed on their AMA membership card.

Celebrate With a Brick on the AMA Walk of Fame
The AMA Walk of Fame is a walkway with personal and memorial engraved bricks in front of AMA Headquarters (part of the International Aeromodeling Center) in Muncie, Indiana. Engraved bricks are available in different sizes starting at $150.
The National Model Aviation Museum will take you on a journey through model aviation history beginning in the late 1700s to the present day. Dedicated to collecting and preserving significant pieces of model aviation history, the collection features more than 10,000 artifacts including model airplanes, radio systems, engines, building tools and equipment, and memorabilia such as trophies, patches, stickers, and clothing.

The museum is located on the grounds of the AMA International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, Indiana. As an AMA member, you receive free admission to the museum. Unable to visit the museum? Go online and take a virtual tour.

Model Aviation Library and Archives
The Lee Renaud Memorial Library, located in the museum, contains more than 4,500 books, magazines, newsletters, and journal titles totaling 37,000 issues related to model aviation, full-scale aviation, and aviation history. The archives contain both records of the AMA and manuscript collections donated by individuals, clubs, and companies.

AMA Model Aviation Hall of Fame
The AMA Model Aviation Hall of Fame honors men and women who have made significant contributions to model aviation. Contributions can be in volunteer or administrative activities, product development, competition performance, or a variety or combination of activities.

AMA History Project
The AMA History Project is an ongoing initiative to assemble and store biographies of model aviation enthusiasts, club histories, companies, organizations, flying events, and special interest groups. Visit the museum website to view the AMA History Project or learn how to make a submission.

To learn more about the National Model Aviation Museum, or to contact the staff, visit MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/MUSEUM.
It’s fun to wear AMA’s branded clothing at your flying field. AMA’s retail and online store has a great collection of clothing, hats, bags, collectibles, DVDs, books, and products for your flying field. AMA’s branded merchandise makes great gifts, too.

Visit: MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/SHOPAMA.

AMA Plans Can Help You Build Something Unique

AMA Model Aviation Plans Service has more than 19,000 model aircraft plans available for purchase. This includes 10,000 plans from the collection of AMA Hall of Fame member John Pond. We can help you find the right plans to build your favorite aircraft or maybe something unique. Our plans are also perfect for collecting. Plans reduction or enlargement service is available.

Visit MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/PLANS to learn more.
MEMBER GUIDE

INTERNATIONAL MINIATURE AEROBATIC CLUB (IMAC) MINI-JAC.ORG

INTERNATIONAL RADIO CONTROLLED HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION (IRCHA) IRCHA.ORG

JET PILOTS’ ORGANIZATION (JPO) JETPILOTS.ORG

LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT (LSF) SILENTFLIGHT.ORG

MINIATURE AIRCRAFT COMBAT ASSOCIATION

MODEL ENGINE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION (MECA) MODELENGINECOLLECTORS.ORG

MULTIGP MULTIGP.COM

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCALE AEROMODELERS (NASA) NASASCALE.ORG

NATIONAL CONTROL LINE RACING ASSOCIATION (NCLRA) NCLRA.ORG

NATIONAL FREE FLIGHT SOCIETY (NFFS) FREEFLIGHT.ORG

NATIONAL MINIATURE PYLON RACING ASSOCIATION (NMPRA) NMPRA.NET

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF RADIO CONTROLLED AEROBATICS (NSRCA) NSRCA.US

NAVY CARRIER SOCIETY (NCS) NAVYCARRIERSOCIETY.ORG

NORTH AMERICAN SPEED SOCIETY (NASS) CLSPEED.COM

PRECISION AEROBATICS MODEL PILOTS ASSOCIATION (PAMPA) PAMPACL.ORG

RADIO CONTROL COMBAT ASSOCIATION (RCCA) RCCOMBAT.COM

SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION (SPA) SENIORPATTERN.COM

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUE MODELERS (SAM) ANTIQUEMODELER.ORG

UNLIMITED SCALE RACING ASSOCIATION (USRA) USRAINFO.ORG

US DRONE SOCCER DRONESOCCER.US

VINTAGE RADIO CONTROL SOCIETY (VR/CS) VINTAGERCSOCIETY.ORG

WARBIRDS AND CLASSICS ALLIANCE WARBIRDSANDCLASSICS.COM
National Model Aviation Day is AMA Foundation’s annual celebration of model aviation. AMA chartered clubs host events across the United States celebrating the hobby and raising money for charities.

MODELAVIATIONDAY.COM

AMA’s National Aeromodeling Championships. Modelers from across the country compete in various events to win the title of national champion.

MODELAIRCRAFT.ORG/NATS

AMA OF MODEL AERONAUTICS
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MEMBERSHIP ext. 129
SAFETY PROGRAM ext. 230
AMA FOUNDATION ext. 279
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