



NATIONAL  
**MODEL AVIATION**  
MUSEUM

# About **THE AMA**



## *History of*

### **THE ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS & THE NATIONAL MODEL AVIATION MUSEUM**

The idea for the AMA began in 1935 (perhaps even before that) at the National Aeromodeling Championships in Detroit. Leaders and contestants were interested in a self-governing body of aeromodeling experts, the thought being that there should be expert guidance of, for, and by model builders. Modelers wanted a single voice to develop national rules for aeromodeling contests, as well as one voice to speak to the government.

First known as the American Academy for Model Aeronautics (AAMA), the organization dropped "American" from its official title and changed "for" with "of" within a few years.

## *We are...*

- ✘ the world's largest model aviation association, representing a membership of more than 170,000 from every walk of life, income level and age group.
- ✘ a self-supporting, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote development of model aviation as a recognized sport and worthwhile recreation activity.
- ✘ open to anyone interested in model aviation.
- ✘ the official national body for model aviation in the United States. AMA sanctions more than 2,000 model competitions throughout the country each year, and certifies official model flying records on a national and international level.
- ✘ the chartering organization for more than 2,500 model airplane clubs across the country. AMA offers its chartered clubs official contest sanction, insurance, and assistance in getting and keeping flying sites.
- ✘ the organizer of the annual National Aeromodeling Championships, the world's largest model airplane competition.
- ✘ the voice of its membership, providing liaison with the Federal Aviation Administration, the Federal Communications Commission, and other government agencies through our national headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. AMA also works with local governments, zoning boards, and parks departments to promote the interests of local chartered clubs.
- ✘ an associate member of the National Aeronautic Association. Through NAA, AMA is recognized by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), the world governing body of all aviation activity, as the only organization which may direct U.S. participation in international aeromodeling activities.



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