

Skymasters Radio Control Club Information Sheet



The Club

It all started in early 1974 when a few RC flyers who had lost a flying field started looking for a place to fly and a club to join - Skymasters was formed and was chartered as an Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) club, number 970, in late 1974. In 1976, the club was incorporated in the State of Michigan as a Not for Profit Organization. In 1994, Skymasters was recognized by the AMA with a 'Gold Level Leader Club' award which is based on our community involvement, flying field control/safety and flying facilities, a status which has been renewed each year since.

The Purpose

The purpose of the club is to further the advancement of radio control miniature aircraft in all aspects as a sport. In support of this, the club holds monthly meetings, publishes a monthly newsletter, and maintains and operates a flying field in Bald Mountain State Recreation Area.

The Membership

The club is open to all who have an interest in model aviation. There are currently about 200 members who range in age from grade school to retirees. The membership of Skymasters is concentrated from Royal Oak to Oxford and from Clarkston to Utica.

Requirements of Membership

Prospective members must attend a single meeting and be a member of the AMA. Membership in the AMA provides many benefits including liability insurance for flying activities.

Benefits of Membership

Flight Instruction - The club has many members who will provide free flight instruction. All members are welcome to make arrangements with these instructors for one-on-one mutually convenient flight instruction. During the flying season, Wednesday late afternoon and evening is designated for Student Instruction. Instructors are available to help beginners check aircraft and give instruction. Wednesday evening is also pot-luck buffet so that beginners and instructors and families can swap stories and ideas over food.

Monthly Meetings - The club holds meetings every month of the year. At each meeting there is a business portion and a program portion. The business portion is dedicated to the operating requirements of the club. The program portion is dedicated to providing enjoyable, informative presentations on various aspects of the hobby.

Our meetings for the months of January through May and September through December are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 PM at Larson Middle School on Long Lake Road (between John R and Dequindre). From June through August, meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday at 8:00 PM at the Scripps Road Field (following Student Night).

Monthly Newsletter - The club publishes a monthly newsletter called 'Skywriter.' This publication not only keeps the membership informed about current and future Skymaster activities but also contains informative articles and news about other local model clubs and flying activities. Current and past issues are available on our website.

Flying Site - The club currently leases, maintains and operates a flying field located within the Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion. All vehicles need a State Park Motor Vehicle Permit (annual or daily). The field has bench sites, tables, handicapped accessible facilities and a sun shelter.

Events - The club sponsors more than 10 flying events, and several non-flying events each year. Our largest is the Midwest Regional Float Fly in September which has received national coverage in RCModeler magazine the last several years. The current schedule is available on our website.

Tape Library - The club has an extensive library of video tapes on all facets of the hobby. These tapes are available for loan to all members.

Comradery - The membership is a large group of diverse people with a common interest - model aviation. From the beginner to the most experienced, all are willing to share information, techniques and tall stories with their fellow members.

For more information about Skymasters, contact Gary Weaks at 248-540-8358 or email us at info@skymasters.org or stop by our field or a club meeting. Visitors are always welcome.

Visit our web site at www.skymasters.org and the AMA web site at www.modelaircraft.org for more information!