



**Academy of Model Aeronautics**  
5161 E. Memorial Dr. Muncie IN 47302 • [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org) • Tel.: (800) 435-9262

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Date: November 28, 2011  
Contact: Chris Brooks, APR  
765-287-1256, ext. 276  
317-250-4753  
[chrisb@modelaircraft.org](mailto:chrisb@modelaircraft.org)

### **Exposition of flying radio-controlled model aircraft to feature who's who of aeromodeling, January 6-8, Ontario CA Convention Center**

The premier exposition for model aviation, AMA EXPO 2012, hosted by the Academy of Model Aeronautics, will be held January 6-8 at the Ontario, California Convention Center. It will offer tens of thousands of people who like to build and fly model aircraft in Southern California an opportunity to see and purchase the latest in flying model aircraft technology, mingle with aeromodeling experts in many disciplines, listen to presentations by aviation celebrities, and enjoy a full weekend of learning and camaraderie.

Friday, January 6, noon-6 p.m.

Saturday, January 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, January 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

1-day pass: \$10 for AMA members, \$12 for nonmembers

2-day pass: \$18 for AMA members, \$20 for nonmembers

3-day pass: \$24 for AMA members, \$28 for nonmembers

For groups of 10 or more: \$8 per person per day

Youth 13-18: \$5 per day

*Active military with ID, all youth younger than 12, and youth in uniform are free. All youth will receive a free AMA Youth membership.*

#### **Big Deals-Large Displays**

**Vendors** from across the country will have great deals for Expo attendees. Several new vendors have signed up for 2012 with new items for sale. Available again this year is the Swap Shop. This shop is available for attendees to purchase used items and find great deals on collectable and new to you items.

**NASA's DROID:** Along with more than 100 exhibitors by the model aviation industry, EXPO attendees will enjoy presentations from several organizations and experts including NASA, which will display the Dryden Remotely Operated Integrated Drone, or DROID, research aircraft from NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, which is used for flight research, pilot training, and its internship program for high school students. [Learn More.](#)



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**Special Appearances:** Learn more about the people who have propelled the sport of aeromodeling.

**UAV Pilot:** Dan Landis, commercial pilot, certified flight instructor, AMA member, and accomplished UAV pilot, will be presenting at this year's event. He has written for and been featured in several major national aviation publications, competed in Precision Aerobatics world competitions, and traveled across the U.S. giving lectures and demonstrations.

**Hall of Fame Astronaut:** Joining the list of celebrities is Hall of Fame Astronaut and AMA Ambassador/AMA Lifetime Member Robert "Hoot" Gibson, who flew five space shuttle missions and served as pilot and commander. A longtime AMA member, Gibson has also flown more than 120 types of aircraft in his long, storied career, including model jets. His engaging style is always a hit with modelers.

**Hollywood's Model Builder:** The model builder for the movie *The Aviator*, AMA member Joe Bock of Aero Telemetry ([Learn More](#)), will have his 1/2-scale H1 Hughes Racer on display. This sleek, beautiful aircraft encompasses AMA's size and weight limits and is a flying recreation of the famous Howard Hughes cross-country, record-breaking racer of the '30s. Also on display will be the Howard Hughes XF-11. This 80-percent complete model has a wingspan and is quite the spectacle. Several other large-scale displays will be available throughout the EXPO including full-scale military aircraft engines used in both the P-38 Lightning and Corsair.

**Airshow pilot:** Skip Stewart, an AMA member, is one of the most entertaining air show pilots in the world, with more than 8,000 flight hours. He has owned and operated an aerobatic flight school, won many competitions, and has served as a chief pilot for Fed Ex. [Learn More](#) He is the first pilot to fly an airplane under a jumping motorcycle during an airshow, and has filled in as the driver of the "world's fastest Dodge Ram jet truck."

**Youth Activities:** Kids of all ages are encouraged to visit the Build-and-Fly area for the chance to make, fly, and take home a rubber-powered model airplane under the instruction of experienced aeromodelers. AMA was recently cited by the National Aeronautic Association for its longstanding commitment to education through aviation activities.

More than 5,000 are expected to attend the 14<sup>th</sup> annual AMA EXPO. Information and directions to the Ontario Convention Center can be found at [www.ontariocc.com](http://www.ontariocc.com).

The Academy of Model Aeronautics is the nation's collective voice for 143,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in every state and Puerto Rico. The AMA, founded in 1936, is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> year in 2011. A nonprofit association, AMA sanctions more than 2,000 events and competitions each year under the auspices of the National Aeronautic Association. Headquartered in Muncie, Indiana, AMA is open to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who fly model aircraft for recreation and education.



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