

Welcome to Valley Aero Modelers

AMA Club Charter #670



Written and intended for use by the Members of Valley Aero Modelers Inc., Last Updated 12/16/2022

To the new Members of Valley Aero Modelers,

We would like to welcome you to our organization. The Valley Aero Modelers are truly blessed with a membership comprised of talented and skilled modelers. We appreciate that you have chosen to become one of us. We are dedicated to the sharing of the Aero modeling experience.

There are designers, builders, and pilots for many forms of aircraft within our club. As you experience these various facets of aero modeling, please make use of our knowledge by asking questions and seeking guidance. There are sure to be members within the club that have the answers you seek. Our only request in return, is that as you progress, you offer the same to others.

Our Membership is quite diverse. As individuals, we excel at the many disciplines of aero modeling and flight. When we bring our individual strengths together, we are a very strong organization. We look forward to your future contributions to aero modeling and to the club.

We'll see you at the field,
The Valley Aero Modelers

Meetings

The club meets once per month throughout the year. See club website for location and time. It is our intention to have a club business meeting immediately followed by modeling content and discussion.

Membership

Before joining the Valley Aero Modelers, membership in the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) is required. The AMA provides its members with secondary insurance coverage for property damage, bodily injury, and a monthly subscription to Model Aviation magazine.

A membership in the Valley Aero Modelers Club is an annual membership that expires on December 31st of the current year. Memberships started or renewed after November 1st will expire Dec 31 of the following year.

1. Full Member: Is eighteen (18) years or older.
2. Family Membership: Includes all flying members of the immediate family (spouse and children). Each family member must have a valid AMA membership. Children are included in a Family Membership until their 25th birthday.
3. Youth Member: Is younger than eighteen (18) years old.

Website

Upcoming events, club by-laws, election notices, membership information, meeting notices, used equipment for sale or wanted to buy and other club news and resources are available via the internet. The club maintains a website at www.flyvam.com.

Social Media

Facebook: facebook.com/flyvam

Facebook Group: [Valley Aero Modelers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/valleyaeromodelers/)

RC Groups forum: rcgroups.com/valley-aero-modelers-543/

Club Equipment

The clubhouse at Quarry Field contains fire extinguisher, first aid kit, event supplies, flight simulator and TV, snacks for sale, audio systems and numerous other items for club use and management of the site. A Port-a-Potty is provided and during the summer months.

Storage of non-club equipment and aircraft in the clubhouse is not permitted unless allowed by Contest Director, Club Officer or Field Marshall. If you have something for use at the field that you would like to donate please contact a club officer.

The gate and clubhouse combinations are changed January 1st of each year.

Activities & Events

Various club activities are hosted every year. Please see the event [Event Calendar](#) on the club website for upcoming events.

Various volunteer opportunities are available. If you are interested in helping out with activities or field maintenance please talk with a club officer.

Club Flying Site

Club membership is generally required to fly at the club field. An out-of-town guest of a member may fly with that member present, providing the guest pilot is a member of the AMA. A guest pilot may fly for two visits prior to joining the club. From time to time the club hosts events that are open to all AMA members. AMA members who are not also VAM club members may attend as many of these open events as they want to without a club membership. During some events the part of the field being used for the event is reserved for the event or contest.

The club flying site is located at 5007 Quarry Road Appleton WI 54913. The field is available for use by VAM Members, daily throughout the year. Due to our City of Appleton lease agreement, there are to be no modifications or land improvements, without specific pre-approval by Club Officials. Banners associated with such an event may be hung by the gate on the day of the event only and must be removed by the end of that same day. VAM will at all times operate the site in accordance with the lease with the City of Appleton. If you have questions, please contact a club officer.

Club members primarily uses 2.4 GHz radio systems and all new pilots are strongly encouraged to use this type of radio system. Narrow band FM transmitters are also allowed. If you will be flying with an FM system you must use the pin box to reserve the frequency you will be using. A club-only frequency pin clip must be clipped to your transmitter antenna while flying. An AMA card with members name is to be placed where the numbered frequency pins have been removed at Quarry Field.

Flying Site Rules

Be respectful of the land, our neighbors, City of Appleton employees and contractors working on the site. Should there be any problems with the lock, site, or any accidents involving City of Appleton property immediately contact a club officer or email the club at flyvam670@flyvam.com.

1. Follow the AMA Safety Code. See <https://www.modelaircraft.org/safety> for more information.
2. All pilots must be prepared to show a current AMA membership card to fly.
3. A current VAM member must accompany any Guest Pilot.
4. When using FM transmitters, frequency control pins must be used before turning on the transmitter for any reason.
5. For the safety of our members and visitors, VAM reserves the right to inspect any aircraft and flight check any pilot.
6. The first VAM Member to the field may unlock the gate, via the combination lock. The last VAM Member leaving must lock the gate, even if leaving a City of Appleton Employee on site. No guests may be left on the property without escort, and only City of Appleton Employees and city contract workers may be left on the property after locking the gate.
7. During winter months, when snow is present, the main gate must remain closed when possible to prevent snowmobiles from entering the site.
8. Tent stakes may be used but are limited to 8 inches in length.
9. The speed limit for all manned vehicles is 15 mph. Manned vehicles must remain on the gravel covered road or parking lot at all times unless specifically authorized by a club officer.
10. Aircraft set-up (fueling and/or engine run-up and tuning) must be performed in the pit area. Please do not perform your set up at the Flight Line.
11. Do not fly over any of the buildings or the parking lot.
12. When flying all models must stay in the airspace over the property at all times.
13. When flying a model helicopter, it is the responsibility of the Helicopter Pilot to establish, with the other pilots present, where the helicopter lift-off, hovering, and landing area will be. If the helicopter is to be flown in the flight pattern with fixed wing aircraft it is the responsibility of the helicopter pilot to maintain adequate speed and the proper pattern.
14. Smoking is allowed provided the following rules are followed:
 - a. Do not extinguish your cigarette butt on the ground
 - b. Put cigarette butt in a container and remove it from the flying field when you leave.
 - c. No smoking within 10 feet of any open fuel container or fueled aircraft.
15. No littering
16. Guns may not be discharged. (includes firearms, air guns, paintball guns)
17. No Hunting or Trapping
18. No Fireworks or Pyrotechnics
19. No Archery

Valley Aero Modelers Inc. Grievance Form

Any member who witnesses a violation of any AMA or VAM Safety Rule, whether accidental or intentional, are encouraged to remind the offender of the correct procedure. Any pilot who ignores such a reminder may be reported to the Safety Officer, Field Marshall, or any other VAM officer for disciplinary action using this form.

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Nature of Violation:

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Additional Witnesses (not required):

ETIQUETTE

Like other sports, certain courtesies should be remembered which make it nice for everyone. Some of these are:

1. We are tenants on government property. Please be considerate of the land and surrounding neighbors. Be mindful of the overflight area. Clean up all of your trash before leaving. Please also, look over the flying area and remove any trash you find, in addition to your own.
2. Please do not use profanity or suggestive language when children are present at the field.
3. If you are a Member of VAM, you are also our Ambassador. As you see Visitors arrive at the field, give them a bit of an air show. Also, please introduce yourself to them, and answer any questions they may have. They may be looking for a club to join.
4. In the sad event of a crash, please land safely and assist the pilot with recovering the wreckage. Leaving even a small piece of wreckage behind is not acceptable. Please do not make the pilot take the "Long Walk" alone.
5. If a pilot is aware of a conflict of airspace or landing area the slowest or least powerful aircraft will have the right of way. Right of way would normally be given in the following order: sailplanes, pattern planes, speed or racing planes, helicopters.

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

All members must agree to the Valley Aero Modelers Waiver of Liability:

I am aware that operating a radio-controlled model may present a hazard to participants and spectators. By filling out this form I exempt, waive, and relieve the "Valley Aero Modelers, Inc – AMA Charter Club 670", club officers, club members, field site owners and site operators of any current and/or future liability from personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death

There is a strict over-flight area in effect while flying at Quarry Field.

No flying should extend into the areas marked in red as those lines represent the no-fly boundaries in agreement between VAM and the City of Appleton.

When flying on the primary runway, all flying should be done in line with the runway and to the east (orange box). Everyone is allowed to use this runway no matter the aircraft size.

When flying on the west runway, all flying should be done in line with the runway and to the west and north (blue box). This runway restricted to smaller aircraft, park flyers, quads and helicopters.

