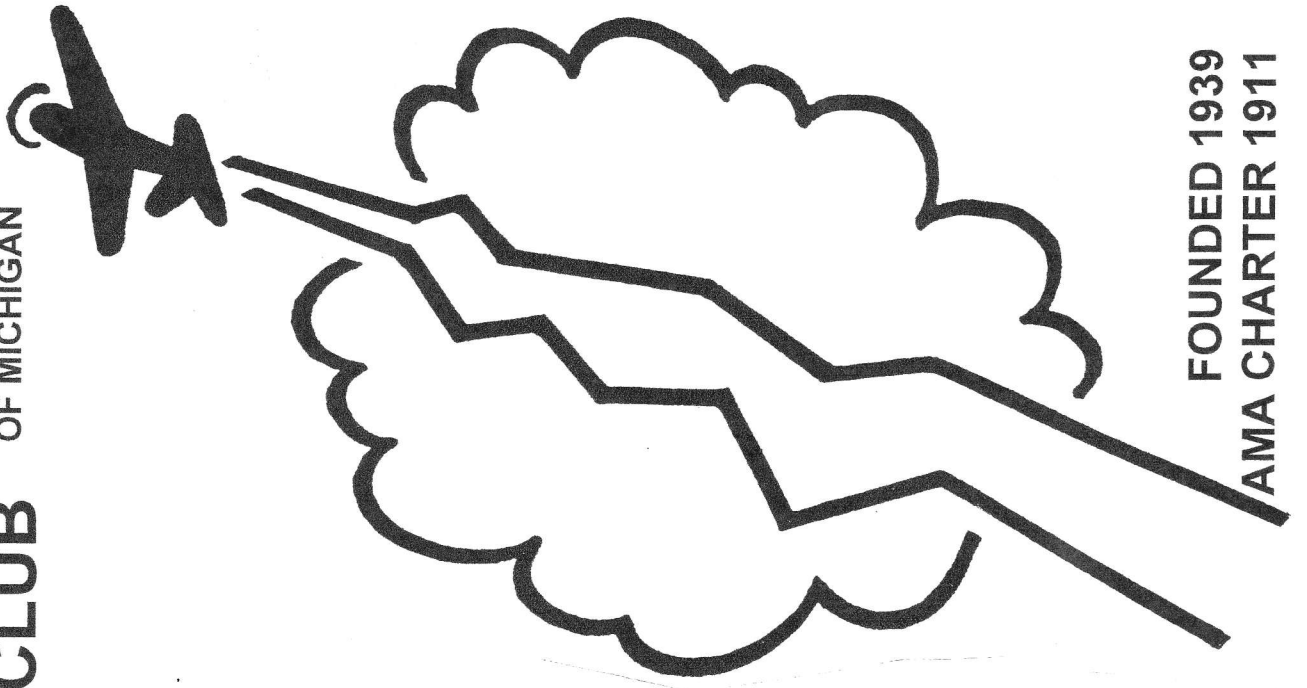


**CLOUDBUSTERS  
MODEL AIRPLANE  
CLUB OF MICHIGAN**



**FOUNDED 1939  
AMA CHARTER 1911**

**H A N D B O O K**

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES**

*Revised – December, 2014*

*Cover by Pres Bruning*

INTRODUCTION

This handbook has been prepared in order to acquaint members with various customs, practices and procedures that have been adopted by the Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club. It also contains a brief glimpse into the Club's history and traditions.

Much of the information contained in the handbook's pages has never before been made available to the general membership in written form. Our goal is to have an informed membership, and to that end, the committee hopes it has been successful.

Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club  
Handbook Committee  
Mike Welshans, Chairman

- |                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1991 Committee Members: | 2008 Revised: |
| Pres Bruning            | Mike Welshans |
| Don. Campbell           | Steve Sibal   |
| George M. Lewis, Jr.    |               |
| Jack Moses              | 2014 Revised: |
| Charles Schobloher      | Mike Welshans |
|                         | Steve Sibal   |
| 1998 Revised:           |               |
| Don. Campbell           |               |
| Steve Sibal             |               |
| 2003 Revised:           |               |
| Don. Campbell           |               |
| Steve Sibal             |               |
| Jack Moses              |               |
| Eric Knight             |               |

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**PART ONE  
BEGINNINGS**

Early in 1939 a group of teenaged model airplane enthusiasts from Royal Oak, Michigan gathered at the hobby shop of Jack Willett and under his sponsorship formed the Royal Oak Thermites Club. Meetings were held on a regular basis at Willett's store, but records of these activities have been lost though the years. Club members were, for the most part, involved in Free Flight models which included rubber and gasoline engine power airplanes of the scale and endurance types. Radio control and Control line models were still in development at the hands of experimenters during this period.

The favorite flying site for weekend contests was the huge vacant area of Nine Mile and Northwestern Highway (now the city of Southfield). This was also the home field of the Sky Guys Model Airplane Club of Detroit.

The years immediately following America's entry into World War II would see membership drop off due to older Thermites joining various branches of military service. This resulted in a consolidation of the Royal Oak Thermites with other clubs from Warren, East Detroit and Fraser, Michigan and insured a continuing membership.

In 1944, the name Thermites was dropped in favor of Cloubusters and the name has endured to the present.

The club grew in the post war period as former members returned from service and once again were free to pursue the model airplane hobby. Control line flying was by now an established modeling discipline and was popular with members of the revitalized Cloubusters Club. Most of the control line flying took place in Royal Oak at Normandy and Thirteen Mile Road. The Plymouth Motors Corporation sponsored a large contest known as the Plymouth International Meet. This well attended contest was once held at the Cloubusters flying field.

From 1946 to 1948 the Cloubusters had no regular home and meetings were held at the homes of various members. For a short time they met at Dunn's Hobby Shop in Royal Oak. In 1948 Jake Drake started a business known as the Hobby Hangar in Royal Oak. This provided the Club with a stable meeting place until 1957 when the business was closed down. Cloubusters now meet at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak.

## SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

The Club still thrives on competition in Free Flight and Control line events and can boast that many of this country's premier model builders and fliers are on its membership rolls.

In 1965 the Cloubusters were incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan. A Constitution and a set of Bylaws were adopted to give the Club its direction. The Club closely follows the principles as outlined in Article II of the Constitution: "This Club will be organized for the purpose of promoting model aviation; to procure and disseminate information of pertinent nature to its members; and indulge in all activities necessary to its existence."

Although individual members have belonged to the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) through the years, it wasn't until September 28, 1982 that the Club applied for charter status in the national organization. Cloubusters now operate under a charter number 1911 issued in March 1983.

The passage of time has brought with it the inevitable change in personnel. Some of the original members are still living in the Detroit metropolitan area but are no longer active in the model airplane hobby. Others have drifted away in pursuit of careers in various parts of the country.

Only the spirit and dreams of the Club's founders remains and these are being tenderly cared for by the present day membership.

Thus preserved and strengthened, the Club will be passed on to those who follow with confidence that it will last, no matter what form the model airplane hobby might take in the future.

*A special thank you is offered to Jake Drake (now retired in Florida) for his co-operation in providing the historical data on the Cloubusters earlier activities.*

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**PART SIX  
ANNUAL CLUB AUCTION**

March 25, 1997

1. Auction to be held on the date set for the second January meeting in each succeeding year.
2. Auction will commence at the conclusion of the formal business meeting; however, the President may ask for a waiver of the business meeting if there are no urgent matters to be resolved.
3. Each participant at the annual Club auction should be given a chance to bid on all items being offered for sale. Therefore, it is inappropriate for any auction item to be sold prior to the start of bidding as this would conflict with the definition and spirit of the auction.
4. Once an item is brought into the building it is considered an auction offering. Recognized vendors are exempt from this rule.
5. The seller of each item will be identified by the auctioneer and asked to set a minimum bid price for the item. It is understood that the seller will accept any bid meeting the minimum bid requirement.
6. It is unethical for the seller to bid on his/her items for the purpose of obtaining a higher selling price.
7. Sellers are asked, in the interest of good sportsmanship, not to use another person as their bidding agent to achieve a higher selling price.

**PART TWO  
AMA CHARTER**

Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club is Chartered by AMA.

The Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club was granted Charter Number 1911 by AMA in 1983 and continues to enjoy its association with the parent organization.

**INCORPORATED**

Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club is Incorporated.

In 1965, the Club became concerned (due to its widespread activities at the time) with its potential for liability and its public image. It was decided that incorporating under the corporate laws of the State of Michigan would remove some of the individual member liability and add some prestige to the organization's name.

Accordingly Articles of Incorporation were filed with the State of Michigan on November 1, 1965. The State issued corporate identification number 768-371 and we became known officially as The Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club, Incorporated. A non-profit corporation of the State of Michigan. To continue this Corporate status, a yearly fee is paid to the State of Michigan.

**PART THREE**  
**CLOUDBUSTERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB INC.**  
**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**Article I NAME**

The name of this Club will be The Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club, Inc. hereafter called the Club.

**Article II PURPOSE**

This Club will be organized for the purpose of promoting model aviation; to procure and disseminate information of pertinent natures to its members; and indulge in all activities necessary to its existence.

**Article III MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shall consist of such modelers as choose to submit to the jurisdiction of the Club, who shall abide by its rules and bylaws, and who shall be admitted to the membership rolls of the Club.

**Article IV OFFICERS**

The operating officers of this Club shall consist of the following:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Safety Officer

The officers shall be elected by secret ballot and shall continue in office for one (1) year or until their successors are duly elected.

**Article V BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

An executive Board of Directors shall exist, initially appointed by the membership, later vacancies to be filled by vote of the existing Board. The Board Officers shall serve indefinite terms.

**CLOUDBUSTERS LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD --**  
**Permanent**

In 1990 a proposal was adopted to establish a Life Achievement Award with the objective of honoring those persons who have made significant contributions to American Aviation. Areas of achievement include military aviation, commercial aviation and model aviation.

The Life Achievement Award will consist of a suitably worded certificate and letter to congratulate the winner and introduce the winner to the Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club.

Cloudbuster members and non-members are eligible for consideration. The only restriction is that awards will be made to living persons. A committee of no less than three members will be appointed by the President and will serve for one calendar year. The committee cannot succeed itself in successive years. The committee is empowered to make its selection and announce the winners at any time during their term of office. Suggestions may be made to the awards committee regarding future Life Achievement recipients, however, the committee has the final word on who will be selected.

**CLOUDBUSTERS MEMBERS:** Those members who have distinguished themselves and the Club by their participation in competition, model airplane design, club work or aviation related community service.

**NON-CLOUDBUSTERS MEMBERS:** Those who have distinguished themselves in American Model Aviation by their participation in competition, model airplane design or service in model aviation clubs and organizations.

**MANUFACTURERS AND HOBBY DEALERS:** Those who have contributed to the advancement of American Model Aviation by their participation as suppliers to hobbyists.

**COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY AVIATION:** Those who have distinguished themselves as designers, pilots or manufacturers of civil and military aircraft.



**PART FIVE**  
**CLUB PERPETUAL AND PERMANENT AWARDS**

**BILL ADAMS TROPHY - Perpetual**

The late Bill Adams was an avid modeler, member of the Cloudbusters, Pontiac Model Airplane Club, IPMS and the American Aviation Historical Society. Bill worked in the hobby industry and actively promoted all types of model aviation. Bill was especially active with youth groups.

The Bill Adams Memorial Trophy is awarded annually to the Cloudbuster who in the opinion of his peers contributes the most to model aviation. Nominations are made only in writing. Nominations are due prior to the last meeting in November. They are read by a Club officer and a vote taken by a show of hands. The award cannot be won in successive years.

**DAVE DULAITIS TROPHY - Perpetual**

Dave Dulaitis is a Charter member of the Cloudbusters, one of the best scale designers and builders in this country and the guiding light for many of the Club's current scale fliers. Dave is retired and currently resides in Florida.

The Dave Dulaitis trophy is awarded annually to the Cloudbuster who in the opinion of his peers contributes the most to scale modeling. Nominations are made only in writing. Nominations are due prior to the last meeting in November. They are read by a Club officer and a vote taken by a show of hands. The award cannot be won in successive years.

**RON SEARS TOP GUN TROPHY - Perpetual**

Named in honor of the late Ron Sears, who distinguished himself as a premier model airplane designer and competitor. His actions at major contest events have brought great credit to the Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club.

The Ron Sears Top Gun trophy is awarded to the Cloudbuster member who has the best contest record from all pre-publicized contests with three or more entrants during the year. Points are totaled from contest results based on: 3 points for 1st place, 2 points for 2nd place and 1 point for 3rd place. This award can be won in successive years. (*Revised - January, 2014*)

**Article VI - MEETINGS**  
Meetings of the Club shall be held as defined in the Bylaws.

**Article VII - ELECTIONS**  
Elections shall be held during the last meeting in November.

**Article VIII - BANK**  
A corporate banking agreement shall be adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Article IX - AMENDMENTS**  
This constitution may be amended by a two-third majority vote of the Club members present. A quorum for ratification purpose shall constitute attendance of fifty-one percent of the membership of the Club.

**BYLAWS OF THE**  
**CLOUDBUSTERS MODEL AIRPLANE CLUB, INC.**

**Article I - OFFICERS**  
This article shall deal with and govern the specific duties of the various elective offices, except that it shall not be construed so as to specifically limit the duties of these officers in duties and acts dictated by common sense involving the welfare of the Club. However, all acts of these officers not specifically mentioned here, or in the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure, shall be subject to the censure of the membership, and if such act, deed, or word shall cast aspersions of an evil nature regarding the Club, these acts, deeds, or words shall be sufficient evidence for removal from office. Such removal shall be the expressed desire of a majority of the members or of the Board of Directors.

**Section 1.** It shall be the duty of the President to conduct all meetings, and maintain order, using such rules of Parliamentary Procedure as he shall deem necessary. He shall recognize all speakers from the floor in the order of indication, shall direct the attention of the membership to the speaker, and provide each speaker with ample opportunity, but neither shall he allow deviation from the subject matter, nor filibuster. He shall perform all the duties of an executive officer.

**Section 2.** It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assist the President in all the above duties, and to perform said duties in the absence of the President.

**Section 3.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep all records not of a financial nature such as minutes of each meeting, and other Club activities, in such manner as to be easily referred to, in a legible manner, and these same to be presented at each meeting of the Club, except that at each meeting only the minutes of the previous meeting shall be read by the Secretary, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary shall also assume the duties of this office.

**Section 4.** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect all fees, dues, fines and assessments. He shall keep such records of receipts and disbursements as are necessary and shall report a financial statement at each meeting of the Club. He shall be subject to a mid-season audit by other officers of the Club at the end of June and immediately prior to the expiration of his term of office.

**Section 5.** It shall be the duty of the Safety Officer with the aid of whatever members he may deem necessary to maintain order and control at all sport, exhibition and competitive flying sessions. He shall ascertain that AMA safety regulations are maintained at all times.

### **Gifts and Memorials - June 4, 1991**

1. Gifts to worthy organizations will be approved by the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting, and will not exceed twenty five (\$25.00) dollars.
2. Memorials for Cloudbusters members may be approved by the Treasurer without membership approval, due to the timely action that is required in these cases.
3. Memorials not to exceed fifty (\$50.00) dollars. (Amended November 15, 1994)

### **Purchases of Goods and/or Services - June 4, 1991**

1. Prior approval of membership is required for any purchase of goods and/or services in excess of twenty five (\$25.00) dollars.
2. The Treasurer is required to withhold payment of transactions that do not meet the limit requirement.
3. Original sales receipt or invoice will be presented with any request for reimbursement.
4. All goods and/or services purchased must be necessary to the Club's operation or be of benefit to the Club in general.
5. Disputed payments will be brought before the Club membership for settlement.

### **Officer Membership Credits - October 25, 1998**

1. All Club Officers will be given credit for one year's membership at the expiration of their elected term of office. Membership credit to be applied to the year following the expired term.

### **Membership Expiration Date**

1. All memberships to expire on the 31st. day of December of each year. Note: See Bylaws Article III Section 2 for dues schedule (page 7 of Handbook).

## PART FOUR MONETARY POLICY

The Club has developed its monetary policy through a series of motions adopted by the membership over time. This policy serves to guide Club Officers in the conservation of Club assets.

### **Savings and Checking Account Established - February 12, 1986**

1. A Savings/Checking account will be established in the name of the Cloudbusters Model Airplane Club of Michigan
2. Account to be with a Federally regulated banking institution.
3. All Checks drawn on the Club account and any cash withdrawals from the Club account will be countersigned by TWO Club Officers.
4. Club accounts and Treasurer's records will be audited from time to time as directed by the President. Any unresolved discrepancies will be brought before the membership for disposition.

### **Gifts and Memorials - June 4, 1991**

1. Gifts to worthy organizations will be approved by the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting, and will not exceed twenty five (\$25.00) dollars.
2. Memorials for Cloudbusters members may be approved by the Treasurer without membership approval, due to the timely action that is required in these cases.
3. Memorials not to exceed one hundred (\$100.00) dollars. (Amended April 2, 2002)

**Section 6.** In the case of death, removal, or resignation of an officer of this Club, other than the President, such vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the membership at the next business meeting. Such officer shall take immediate office, and continue in this duty until duly elected, confirmed or replaced by another duly elected member. (Revised - January, 2004)

### **Article II - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the following positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.

**Section 2.** The Board shall direct the operating officers of the Club only when their actions appear not to be in the best interests of the organizations.

**Section 3.** The Board shall meet at least annually in January. Their business shall relate to the Club on a corporate level.

### **Article III - MEETINGS AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Meetings shall be held the third Tuesday of each month excluding June, July and August.

**Section 2.** Dues shall be assessed according to membership status: Junior - to age 16 inclusive .25 per month; Senior and Open - Age 16 and above .50 per month. With newsletter \$10.00 additional, total \$16.00 (Revised - December, 2014)

### **Article IV - ELECTIONS**

**Section 1.** The operating officers of the Club shall be elected from among the membership. Nominations to take place during the meeting of October, elections taking place during the meeting of November. Officers will be empowered to duties as defined in the Constitution and Bylaws.

**Section 2.** If a nominated candidate fails to be elected at the last meeting in November for the office nominated, he may be renominated at that meeting for other offices. No open nominations, however, may be made at that meeting from among the membership.

**Section 3.** All elections shall be by secret ballot. A majority vote shall automatically ensure election to any office.

#### **Article V BANK**

**Section 1.** The depository of the Club shall be designated by the Board of Directors. Signatories shall consist of any two of the following three:

1. The operating President.
2. The operating Treasurer.
3. The corporate Treasurer.

#### **Article VI ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of Business shall be:

1. Roll call of members.
2. Reading of minutes of the previous meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report.
4. Announcements and Correspondence.
5. Miscellaneous.
6. Old Business.
7. New Business.
8. Adjournment.

#### **Article VII PUNITIVE ACTION**

**Section 1.** Any member, who maliciously shall spread, or cause to spread, any falsehood, charge or rumor deemed injurious to the Club or its members shall be liable for dismissal of membership by a majority vote, or the Club may take action it deems justifiable by a majority vote.

#### **Article VIII AMENDMENTS to the BYLAWS**

**Section 1.** All questions which shall arise under the jurisdiction of this Charter and not herein covered implicitly or in detail, and not similarly covered in the Bylaws shall be passed upon by a majority vote of the Club. Such action shall be recorded in detail in the minutes of that meeting, and shall be presented by the Secretary as an amendment to the Bylaws for vote at the meeting held immediately following such occurrence. Such amendment will be passed only by a two-thirds majority vote, and shall become a permanent part of the Bylaws.

#### **Article IX AMENDMENTS to the CONSTITUTION**

**Section 1.** Amendments to the constitution shall be presented at any meeting, recorded in the minutes of that meeting and presented by the Secretary at the following meeting for vote. Such amendment will be passed only by two-thirds majority vote, and shall become a permanent part of the Constitution.

#### **Article X RATIFICATION**

**Section 1.** The following members, present at this Charter Ratification shall be entered on this document and herein after known as the Charter Members:

Richard P. Babisch	Patricia Karakas
Joseph H. Baranski	Charles R. Kotila
Albert Blatter	Ralph D. Kuenz
Robert Butley	George M. Lewis, Jr.
David D. Dulaitis	Marvin Long, Jr.
Dan J. Gavagan	Robert C. Mosher
Michael E. Gavagan	Norman C. Muench
Joshua Gittlen	Paul A. Polker
John H. Gurney	Charles Schobloher
Michael A. Hartman	Paul M. Smith
Robert C. Hedrick	Clarence E. Wentzel
Douglas Karakas	

Submitted October 25, 1966  
G. M. Lewis, Jr.