

# MASTERS QUARTERLY



Volume 14, Issue 1

Jan.-Mar., 2012

## US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY MAR, 2012

### CHAIRMAN UPDATE

Hello US Scale Masters members,

The 2012 year is off to a good start. Flying in the Southern parts of the US is busy, weather permitting. For those of you that did not make it the 2012 AMA convention in Ontario, CA the attendance was strong, great sign that the economy is turning. We had a booth at the show where we modified an ARF demonstrating how easy it is to improve the scale details of an ARF. Lots of tricks of trade were performed in front of the attendees by world class builders like Jay Stewart, Mike Peck, Austin Goodwin just to name a few. The team did a bang up job of turning the bird into an Advance / Open class ready aircraft in front of everyone's eyes. Please see Curtis's Kitteringham's update for more juicy details.

Following up on our last newsletter I pointed out a few areas I plan to focus on for 2012.

- Scoring program update
- Better communication on where we are going and how we plan to get there
- More regional focus

- Updated Contest Guide
- More visibility to rule changes and process
- New USSMA venues like indoor electric and electric park activities
- Better documentation on USSMA process
- Membership growth

#### Touching on scoring software development: *In This Issue*

I have been working with a local AZ team on scoring normalization. We are close to completion. The real work is developing how the program will be ported over to the web easily for tracking all the needed items like regional standings, qualification to the finals and so on. The end product I hope will be easier to use over our current software and expandable as we need it.

#### Better communication on where we are going and how we plan to get there:

We have made progress here. We now have added more Area Directors.

Under Curtis Kitteringham "West Coast VP" we have add-

*(Continued on page 6)*

From the Chairman	1,8
VP—West Report	2
VP—East Report	2
Director of Admin	3,
Technical Director	4
Finance Director	4
South Central RM	5



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## West VP Report:

By Curtis Kitteringham

We started the new year with a display and work shop at the 2012 AMA Expo. The USSMA was a sponsor for the static awards.

At the work shop we had a DR-1, removed the red covering, replaced it with a cloth covering, painted it, put it together down to the radio and final touches in three days. During the Expo we had people coming back several times to check on how we were coming along. All were very surprised at what could be done to an ARF in a very short time.

I have three activities to ask of you the membership:

First- get a group together at your club and do an ARF makeover.

Second - put on a one day work shop for the modelers in your area that would like to know what the USSA is all about.

Third- take a modeler under your wing and help them, so when they go to their first contest it will be good experience. The first set of photo's are from the Expo, we named the ARF makeover, "The Phoenix" project. I had a lot of help putting this together including members from the local area and several members from AZ. We have also had a one day class at the Hemet Model Masters club, where the Phoenix project flew for the first time.

The 2012 Champs are in the works, so keep checking the web for updates and get to that Qualifier in your area.



**USSMA Booth at AMA Expo  
Courtesy Curtis Kitteringham**

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**HANSEN SCALE AVIATION VIDEOS**

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## Eastern VP Report:

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

Hello everyone, the winter was very mild in my area but due to the economy my concrete business was slow so scale building projects were benefited by my spare time. I hope everyone has had a good winter building season. I also hope those of you in the east are making plans to attend the Championships in Albany Indiana in September. Just a little bit about the field, it was built by a modeler for model flying. Nothing was overlooked, beautiful grass runway directly across from the paved runway. I believe the length is 800 feet and width of 35 feet. The Ohio Valley Fliers is the host club; they are not new to welcoming scale pilots because they hosted the Champs in 2010. So now that the agreements have been signed it's time to finish your projects and get qualified.

I will run down the list of qualifiers in the east that I will be attending. First of all what I consider a premier event is Top Gun in Lakeland FL. Some new things were added last year that really made the event scale model friendly. A very smooth grass runway was constructed and it is retract and jet friendly. Also because the runway is situated in a way that full scale flights do not disrupt the contest at all. They also extended hours of flying. Barb and I enjoy this event and look forward to this competition every year. The Top Gun dates are May 2 thru 6, 2012. I hope to see some of you there.

Next event on my calendar, and should be on yours, is the Mint Julep, probably the oldest scale competition, with the exception of the Nat's, in the states. This year under the CD guidance of Paul Cain, the event will be May 11, 12, 13, 2012. The site here is a full scale runway closed for the event. They also have an adjacent grass runway for the tail draggers and STOL aircraft. The Saturday evening banquet is probably the best on the contest circuit. Rooms go fast but you can try: just look up Rough River State Park, Falls of the Rough KY.

Next event are the Nat's, this year the dates are July 13, 14, 15, 2012. Again we find one of the best flying sites in the US, the AMA site in Muncie. Remember this belongs to all of us as we are all members of the AMA. This event is near and dear to my heart because I am the president of NASA, the special interest group of the AMA. We have the leadership of a well-established modeler Jim Martin as the event CD. We have plans for a Friday hangar party and a Saturday banquet which will be held in the AMA museum. They will be keeping the museum open late for the modelers who attend the dinner. Our banquet director is Shannon Ort. She has been doing a great job raising funds and prizes for the event. If you are in a hobby related business of just want your business mentioned you are welcome to donate merchandise or cash to the Nat's. The NASA web site is [www.NASA.org](http://www.NASA.org); check it out for more info.

I hope you will support these events to keep the Scale Dream Alive.

Mike Barbee  
[eastcoastvp@usscalemasters.org](mailto:eastcoastvp@usscalemasters.org)

## From the Director of Admin,

By Mitch Baker, Admin Director

Hello all, sorry for being behind on memberships, I am trying to focus on getting them done over the next couple of months. I am also trying to catch up on the qualifiers from the end of last year. We have had two so far in 2012 and one is posted and working on the other. I was at Gunsmoke, had a great time.

The official web site for U.S. Scale Masters is [www.scalemasters.org](http://www.scalemasters.org). Want to be able to keep up with everything going on? Want to have a voice within the organization? This is the first and foremost place to do that. I try to keep the site up to date as I get info in. But the biggest part of the site is for **you, the members, to post**. There are a few active forums but not many. I am challenging **EVERYONE**, officers especially, to participate on the site. We as officers are supposed to be leading, and we can't expect others to post if the officers and advisers don't take the time. Did you know there over 5000 pictures from USSMA and scale events from around the country posted there? Have some to post? Join the site and be able to post.

Have a facebook ID? Well then follow USSMA on facebook. With your QR scanner app on your smartphone scan the QR Code here to "Like" us.

You can also use this URL:  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Scale-Masters-Association/284442630696?v=wall> to get to the USSMA Facebook wall. Working on getting events posted and other items listed.



I'm going to try to put a little tutorial into each newsletter about the web site. Here is the first. Registering, Logging In, and Password Reset. First you do NOT have to be a USSMA member to register and participate in much of the web site. Yes, there are some parts that are for members only, but not everything. In order to participate, beyond looking around, on the web site, you have to register. Second, you might want to whitelist [webmaster@usscalemasters.org](mailto:webmaster@usscalemasters.org) as this is the e-mail address the web site uses to send e-mail out.

When you first go to the web site, [www.scalemasters.org](http://www.scalemasters.org) there are two places to get to the registration page. From the tab labeled "Register" just below the logo/flag banner at the top, or to the right of the logo/flag under where it says: "Welcome, **Guest**,"

Please *login or register*"

Click on which ever one you want. This will bring up the registration page. Fill out that form. Several field are required, Username (this is the name displayed to others on the site and when you post so you may want to make it something people will recognize you as), E-mail address (this has to be valid oth-

erwise you will not get the verification e-mail from the site, you have the choice to hide your e-mail address from the public by checking the box to the right of the e-mail address entry block), password you want to use (entered in twice), the anti-spam verification, First Name, Last Name, City and State. Optionally, but recommended your USSMA Member number, AMA and/or MAAC member number and Local Club Affiliation. Read the terms of use and click the check box by the "I Agree" then click on the "Register" button. You will be directed to the confirmation page indicating you have completed registration and an e-mail will be sent to complete the registration process. When you get this e-mail, click on the link within the e-mail and that will complete the registration. The link will bring you to a Login page. Your username will probably be filled in from the link and you will be required to enter your password. That's it - you're in. I will get notification, check your USSMA membership status and up date your site access accordingly. If you are a qualifier CD, let me know so I can add that access as well.

To log in, it's very simple. Again, same tab bar as you see Register, you should see Login below the logo banner, or in the wording to the right of the logo banner, click on Login. Fill in your username and password and you will be in.

If you forget your password, go to the login page (see above to find it) find the link below the "Login" button "Forgot your password?" and click on it. This will bring up a page when you enter in your username OR your e-mail address. DON'T check the box beside "Ask me a question." unless you have filled that part out within your profile. (The next tutorial will cover the profile.) Just click on the "Send" button. An e-mail with a link to reset your password will be sent to the e-mail address registered with your account. Click on it, follow the instructions and you will be able to reset your password. All passwords are stored encrypted on the site so I can't just tell you what your password is. If you get totally stumped you can e-mail me with questions.

We will have a booth at the WEAK Signals Expo in Toledo April 13-15 right now booth 182 -come say HI!

Until next time  
Mitchell Baker  
Director of Administration  
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Courtesy of Mike Barbee



## Technical Director

Kent Walters

In talking with Rich Hanson about a week ago (our FAA representative for the AMA), it is still too early to verify what all this means relative to the AMA working groups that have been in discussions with the FAA for acceptable "Standards" and if those will still generally be necessary. With the present wording that has been published, it certainly appears those Standards are still required for models over 55 pounds involving certification through a design, construction, inspection, flight test, and operational safety program administered by a community-based organization (such as the AMA). These and other details of what all this new law means (when signed by the President) remains to be determined for the updated "Standards" the AMA had been previously been requested to coordinate with the FAA on a broader basis that would be far less restrictive than the FAA Rules we are waiting to see for public review.

At this point in time, Rich indicates "passage of this bill will go a long way toward protecting model aviation from regulation." He also indicates that it may well make the Standards proposed in the rule unnecessary as it relates to what the AMA was otherwise trying to generate with the FAA. However that is only preliminary speculation. In summary, he further indicates: "This really is uncharted waters for us, but my guess (Rich) is it's going to take a few weeks before this is ironed out." He also indicates "My hope is this gets resolved one way or the other before the NPRM is released; this will allow us to advise the membership accordingly."

Kent Walters  
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**The Dr-1 "Phoenix" nearly finished**

(Courtesy Curtis Kitteringham)

### The one day class at Hemet

(courtesy Curtis Kitteringham)

## Incoming Finance Director

Richard Brandt

As a new face on the scene to most members, I had a good time attending the 2011 Championships in Fresno. While not many of you knew who I was, I did meet many of you and had a good time overall. My main goal at the Championships was to "observe". Observe the people, the airplanes, the judging, the social interactions, the financial expenditures, etc. Not having prior experience with the Association, it was a crash course.

After the Championships, I reviewed every financial transaction for the entire year of 2011. Thanks to my predecessor's (Gary Norton's) great record keeping, and his willingness to take my phone calls and respond to my emails, I was able to obtain a very accurate picture of USSMA's financial picture. At this time, the USSMA checking account and Pay Pal account are now transferred and I am able to pay bills and process membership applications/renewals successfully. Mitch's assistance was instrumental in getting the Pay Pal account transferred in addition to other areas of the overall transition.

One thing I want to emphasize as your Financial Director is "receipts." There will be many expenses coming up as we approach and run the 2012 Championships. Please take care to keep all receipts for expenditures for which you want reimbursement from USSMA. These receipts will need to accompany any request for reimbursement. I want all of you to have confidence in how I am dealing with USSMA funds, and having receipts goes a long way in maintaining your confidence.

I look forward to the coming year and upcoming 2012 Championships. If any of you has a question regarding USSMA finances, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Richard Barndt

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## South Central RM Report

by Lawrence Harville



The South Central area building season is in full swing around here as we gear up for the coming contest season. With the finalization of the Scale Masters Championship site and date, several pilots are beginning to make their plans to attend several events. As always just getting of the State of Texas is a major portion of our travel plans.

The Texas Championships are scheduled for June 9-10, 2012. The Kansas Championships are usually in July or August. AMA Nationals are on several of our plans with the highlight being the Scale Masters Championships in September. This report from the South Central Region is shorter than usual but next report will be in the middle of contest season and I'll have a more entertaining report for you guys



**Lineup of Warbirds**



**Lawrence's Devastator and Hellcat**



**Lawrence and Darrell Abby**



**Lawrence's Zirolu B-25**

Gear up and locked!

Lawrence Harville

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All photos this page  
courtesy of  
Lawrence Harville

(Continued from page 1)

ed Roly Worsfold. Roly brings outstanding support and communication to the NW. Under Roly we have Scott Enochs supporting the great Oregon area. In Southern part of CA we have added Tom Mulder and Tim. In Northern CA we have added Randy Warkentin. As most of you already know Mike Peck former West Coast VP has taken the AZ area and if I may add, he is doing an outstanding job.

Under Mike Barbee "East Coast VP" we have Dennis Crooks covering Illinois, John Boyko covering Ohio and Kentucky, Ed Terry covering Alabama and Dale Arvin covering Indiana.

Both Mike and Curtis are looking for Area Directors for all the other open area. If you feel you can fill the role or know someone that can please let us know. I personally feel the Area Director's job is the heartbeat to the street for the USSMA and is one of the most important jobs critical to our growth and well-being at USSMA. My goal as Chairman of USSMA is to build the local area support up to the level where we can have the U.S. broken up in to the NW, SW, NC, SC, NE, SE with 50 plus Area Directors servicing the U.S.

#### More regional focus:

In January Mike Peck and I on the way to the AMA convention dreamed up a short one day contest structure we call the "Scale Starter". This contest format development is being driven by the tiger team of Mike Peck and Kent Walters. This format outline is on our webpage in the forum section (<http://usscalemasters.org/forums/index.php?topic=782.0>). Please take a look. We feel this structure could turn into local 3 to 8 contest series per city.

#### Updated Contest Guide:

Work is ongoing looking at all the classes. My advisors and I have had many talks and I can promise there are changes coming we all get to vote on.

#### More visibility to rule changes and process:

More work going on behind the doors, stay tuned.

#### New USSMA venues like indoor electric and electric park activities:

The above mentioned "Scale Start" format is our first effort.

#### Better documentation on USSMA process:

This area is not developing as fast I would like. I am currently looking for help in this area. If you feel you are detail orientated and would like to participate in the growth and guidance of the USSMA please drop me a line.

#### Membership growth:

All in all, the membership is growing as is. The Scale starter series will help stimulate the needed interest in Scale Aircraft and competition. I also feel as we get better at what we do, deliver a stronger value proposition for our members with a more robust contest format the excitement will return and growth organically will begin again.

One ending note: the AMA convention was filled with new model aircraft everywhere. I walked, and talked to all most every vendor /supplier at the show. The message I got from all of them is scale models are the growth engine. Everyone from Hobbico and Horizon to AeroWorks had new scale models on display. I cannot believe the quality of these new ARF!

Please watch our forum section for more up to date info on hot items.

Cheers,

Bernie Boland  
USSMA National Chairman

[nationalchair@usscalemasters.org](mailto:nationalchair@usscalemasters.org)

Are you aware that any donation to U.S. Scale Masters is tax-deductible?

USSMA is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization. This means any amount of funds donated can be deducted on your tax return.

Please consider a donation to USSMA. Your gift will help us to 'Keep the Dream Alive' for your organization.



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## From the Editor

Jeff Whitney



Well, as you can see, stuff is starting to happen. I would like to invite all of you to check out and contribute to the forums on the ScaleMasters web site

<http://usscalemasters.org/forums/index.php?action=forum>

There is some good discussion going on there regarding how we static judge. A lot of people complain that USSMA is too quiet—the forums are your chance to liven it up. Your discussion there helps the staff decide on what direction to go.

Are there things you would like to see that aren't being done? Things that are being done that you think need to be changed? If you don't speak up the staff will not know.

Most of us have everyday jobs or tasks, and we try to fit in modeling activities—including running USSMA—as best we can. It would be great if we could have a paid staff like AMA to take care of the everyday stuff, but we don't. Here's a novel thought—if you want to see some change in USSMA, then why not volunteer to be an Area Director, or consider running for office, or just talk to the AD in your area (see Bernie's Update for names) and see what you can do to help out. (Like maybe you would like to take over the newsletter?)

Now back to your regularly scheduled editorial:

Spring is rapidly approaching, and with it—QUALIFIERS!

For me, the first one will be the 49er up in Woodland, near Sacramento. Last year's 49er was a challenge, newly constructed field and gentle breezes of only 20 MPH or so . . . LOL The wind was indeed a challenge but I don't expect that to happen this year. The Woodland/Davis Modelers have been steadily improving their new field and I am looking forward to flying there again. Better get on the repairs to my Sopwith.

In June will be the Dan Sullivan Memorial, this year Gus (Bob) Stuttzman is taking the reins again. The DSM is a great event, a lovely place to fly with a HUGE grass runway and the Ukiah Propbusters are some of the friendliest modelers I know. Not to mention a GREAT BBQ dinner at the field Saturday night with night flying and reveling going on. Be sure and put this one on your list!

Blue Skies and Fair Winds

Jeff



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