

MASTERS QUARTERLY



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US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY JAN. 2008

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

By Bill Hart

Hi Guys,

We have been very busy preparing for the 2008 Contest season since finishing up the 2007 Championships in Hemet. The Board has agreed to make modifications to our competition offerings, creating a smooth, logical transition from brand new beginners to expert competitor. For '08 we offer, at the discretion of the Contest Director, the "Fun Scale" event with its five (5) point static, Open (still a beginner's event) with a thirty (30) point static matrix, and then a new event called "Advanced". The "Advanced" event is designed to accommodate all levels of expertise, including a transition from Open by those who have become proficient, and yet wish to continue flying their ARF. There is no Builder of the Model Rule (BOM) and any aircraft may be used provided it has not placed in the top ten in Expert or top five in Team at any of the Championships. Static scoring for this event is identical to that used for Expert and Team. The top 20% qualifier winners will qualify for the Champs. Fun Scale and Open

do not qualify for the Championships, so the CD will determine whether, according to local need, these events will be held at the Qualifier. Of course, we still have Expert and Team Scale, with the top 30% in each of the Qualifiers going on to the champs.

The three events being flown at the champs are Expert, Team, and Advanced. I strongly encourage you to download a copy of the 2008 Competition Guide and study the "Events Categories" pages. While not yet on the web, it soon will be.

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The Board looked at a wide variety of rule "tweaking" and for the present, decided to continue with what is current in the Guide. Giant Scale (up to 75 pounds for turbines and 100 pounds for piston engines) may be included at the Expert level provided that documentation is provided stating that the airplane has been inspected and deemed airworthy by an AMA certified inspector and, in the opinion of the CD, the flying site can safely accommodate an aircraft of this size.

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The 2008 USSMA Championships will be held in Sarasota, Florida on October 9-12. Jon Hay is the CD. Jon

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West VP Report:

By Jeff Lovitt, Vice-Chairman West

It's time again to get out the calendars and start making plans for the upcoming contest season. This season's events are locking in their dates so keep checking the contest schedule on the web for final updates and confirmed dates. The Finals have also been announced for the fall, to be in Sarasota, Florida this year so begin making plans now.

I had the opportunity to go to Hemet for the 2007 Finals and in the midst of having a great time, tragedy struck my dad and myself, when our airplanes and equipment were stolen. As a follow up to the events at the contest, we have not gotten the airplanes back or anything else for that matter. For those that don't know, we had a vehicle break-in at the headquarters hotel during Friday night/Saturday morning of the event. We had left everything in our vehicle charging off of the 12 volt source in the back of the vehicle. When I came to the vehicle on Saturday morning, I found it nearly empty.

We filed a police report and contacted our insurance companies. The damage from the forced entry was taken care of by the auto policy. The loss of property was taken care of by our respective homeowner's policies. We are continuing to pursue any benefits related to AMA's secondary insurance policy. I can't advise strongly enough to avoid leaving anything in a vehicle that you care about. It is simply too easy to break into a vehicle and grab something. We relaxed our judgment and left the models because we had a second floor room at the hotel, and paid for it. Second, should you find yourself in a similar predicament, take advantage of professionals in the hobby industry to provide a written appraisal of the aircraft. Having just completed my airplane, I took photos of it on the runway immediately after static judging. These were the only pictures that I had of the airplane with all of the details on it, and with a nice background. Unfortunately, that camera was also stolen. If it weren't for folks who took pictures and sent them on to me after the contest, I would not have been able to provide data to the appraiser to show the surface detail, finish, and craftsmanship that went into the plane. A professional appraisal was critical to putting a value on something that started out as little more than plans, sticks, cowl, canopy and some purchased components.

Looking forward, I can't wait for some nice flying weather and getting back out on the flight line. I look forward to getting to some different events this year and meeting some new faces. I hope to see you on the flight line.

Jeff Lovitt, West Region VP
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 USSMA West VP

Eastern VP Report

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

News from the East Coast Chairman January , 2008

Boy it's cold outside today. Like most of the scale modelers it is a great opportunity to work in the shop. I am on a mission today to get the B-25 completed. No don't get alarmed it is the ARF from Top Flight. It is a great ARF kit. I don't do many of these just two to date, the Stearman and now the 25. One thing different is that mine is silver now. The first thing I did as I unpacked and checked all the parts and mask the cockpit and windows scuff and iron down the monokote covering and blast a coat of silver on everything. I don't care for OD. I also removed the white stripes and other markings. It looks good now. A coat of clear and it is ready to fly. I will probably test it and fly it at the Mint Julep. The hardest job of the whole building process was finding a picture to copy. We all know you should start with a picture, then build the model. The process is much easier that way. Other news from the Monster Hanger is my new [old] full scale Aeronca that is now complete and flying. Pictures are on my site of the 1946 Super Chief.

Now for the business at hand. The Masters Organization has put some rule changes in effect for this year. I agree that some of these were needed to clarify the classes and participants. I caution the group however we can rule ourselves out of pilots. By this I mean the farther and more diverse our rules deviate from the AMA and Top Gun, the better the chance for confusion of the competitors. I know years ago this was exactly the factor that shied me away from FAI competition. I viewed it as another set of rules to digest and conform to. So I never flew in FAI competition.

Good news from the Southern Indiana R/C Modelers, they are having a qualifier this year. Dale Arvin sent me a flier, it is September 13 and 14, 2008. Directions and schedule are on their web site, or email Dale at darvin8094@aol.com. This is

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Scale Masters North West Regional Manager
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Well another year has gone by and I believe a good one for Scale Masters. The Championships were well done and finished the year off in fine fashion.

Good to see all the North West flyers (14) who participated in the 2007 Championships in Hemet, CA. Congratulations to Bill Ensley along with ex-North West pilot Bernie Boland who placed 1st in Team Scale and to Eugene Job who placed 2nd in Expert. Dick Hansen, Bob Heikell, Gene LaFond, Scott Enochs, Brad Eaton, Gary Norton, Paul Haynes, Don Schaefer, Earl Aune, Randy Smithisler and Roly Worsfold were all winners by making the trip and participating in the event.

Looking forward to the future I think we should be looking beyond 2008 by planning the Championships well ahead. Keep the enthusiasm in place by spreading the word to bring in new judges and flyers to participate in Scale Modeling.

By planning the Championships site at least 3 years in advance more people can make arrangements to attend. Some flyers need more than a year to get the time off from work and to arrange with their families. This will also allow the organizers and the local area lots of time to prepare for the event. Maybe each Regional Manager could arrange to have a location to host the event.

Another suggestion to consider for the Championships is to set minimum criteria for the site - e.g.: is the flying area large enough (restricted flying space?) – Hospitable camping & pit areas – Vendor space – runway suitable for jets – I know there are many more. I think that if we want the “Best of the Best” to participate we should be providing the Best facilities that we can arrange.

A one or two day introduction/refresher program for judges and flyers may bring new flyers and judges to the qualifiers. People in the Portland area, led by Rick and Cindy Dunn, are coordinating a “Scale Boot Camp” at the “Dusters” flying field on May 10th. The idea is to canvas **all** clubs in the area to come to an information/learning session involving class room presentations on competing as a builder/pilot and teaching people how to judge. The afternoon involves putting the learning’s to

practice by flying and judging at the field. Through this training program we are hoping to get more judges and flyers participating in Scale Qualifiers. We hope to develop a template that can be used anywhere. Our learning’s will be shared after the “Boot Camp”. Contact is Rick Dunn Rjdunn1@gmail.com .

I have noticed that once people learn and understand what they are supposed to do at an event they are more prone to participating in flying and judging. I have seen new judges as excited about an event as flyers. Flyers who have flown at an event for the 1st time are more than likely to be saying; “Wow, I’ll be back again next year” they are excited and determined to improve their building and flying skills.

Promote Scale Masters at mall shows and hobby expositions. Make a Scale presentation at club meetings – As they say “if you don’t go fishing you won’t catch any fish”. We plan on having a Scale Masters information booth at the North West Hobby Exposition in Munro - Washington.

2008 looks to be a very good year. With the new “Advanced” class changes I’m sure we will be seeing more participating flyers & high quality aircraft at our events.

Safe Building and Flying for 2008 – Roly

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South Central RM Report

by Lawrence Harville
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There are two scale contests in the works for the coming flying season for the South Central Region of the Scale Masters. The flagship of the season will be the Texas Scale Championships-Scale Masters Qualifier hosted by the Fort Worth Thunderbirds. It will be held on May 31-June 1, 2007. We moved it back a couple of weeks this year to get out of the rainy-dry – hot - windy (take your pick) season. I can guarantee these dates will be the best ever-I know I said that last year and it rained out the second day-but I have to have hope. Put it on your calendar and come compete for the title. We have yet to have anyone from out of state win the Texas Scale Championship so come on down and show us someone who doesn't live in Texas can actually fly a scale plane—YES consider that a challenge.

With the departure of Jerry DeLuyck, from the Austin area we have yet to find anyone to fill his shoes and host a contest -come on you South Texas guys lets have a contest down there. I can only assume someone in Houston, San Antonio or Austin flies scale planes-although I am beginning to wonder-since they never show up anywhere in Texas, seems North Texas is the only place with scale pilots.

The 2007 flying year Scale Masters events brought out the standouts in the South Central Region-just to name a few-and yes-I will probably leave someone out, from Kansas--Doug Crumley, John Ostmeyer, Lyle Vasser, Howard Schlange Missouri--Steve Forrest 2007 Kansas Scale Champion, Oklahoma-Gary Fuller, Arkansas--Olen Rutherford, and from Texas--Ernie Harwood, Vic Larson, Tim Lovett, Max Ficken, Lee Rice, , Ed Newman, Elvis Burnell, Bill Kuntz, Gary Alpin, Terry Thorpe, Lawrence Harville and Woody Lake-2007 Texas Scale Champion and two time winner of the Texas Championships.

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Midwest Quarterly Manager Report

By Mitch Baker
Mdbaker@mdbaker.org

Hope everyone is have a great building season... If you still have some flying weather I hope you are taking advantage of that as well. I had the privilege of going to Hemet CA. for the USSMA Championships back in Oct. What a great time! Lots of beautiful models and great flying. Pictures can be found at <http://www.ussma-midwest.org> . It has been announced that the 2008 Championships will be held October 9-12 in Sarasota Florida. Thanks to Sarasota R/C Squadron for stepping up to host the 2008 Championships.

After the Championships I was able to fly out and attend the 1/8th Air Force (of which I am now a proud member) Fall Fly-in in Phoenix AZ. That was also a great time and got to spend more time with many of the folks I have met at the past couple championships. Boy do they know how to host a fly in!!! Pictures also can be found at <http://www.ussma-midwest.org> . I wore my Canon Digital Rebel out the last day of the championships. Had to take picture at the 1/8th Fall Flyin with a camera borrowed from work. But never fear, \$200.00 and 4 weeks later I had my trusty Rebel back in action ready for the upcoming flying season.

Speaking of the USSMA Midwest web site (what a segue), I have been working really hard getting forums up and running. This is the official announcement for the opening of the USSMA Midwest forums. Now, just because the title has Midwest in it, I am hoping they will be used for ALL of USSMA. There is a section there for the Chairman to post announcements. Also for each of the Vice-Chairs to post announcements. These are set up so only they can post to them to keep them free of general chat. If any of the other Regional Managers would like an announcement section setup, just ask. I believe that the only way to build a stronger better membership is through continuous current communication. Forums are the web's e-mail list replacement.

Here is a list of what is there:
Announcements (as mentioned before)

General Discussion

Access Requests: request full access after registering on in the forums.

Flightline Chatter: General chat about USSMA. This is open to be read by anyone accessing the site but only registered members can post

USSMA General: Only accessible by USSMA members

Events: Events posting. You can use the Calendar link in the menu to post the event so it will show up on the calendar and in the forum.

Scale Masters: Specific discussion about USSMA for all USSMA members.

Midwest Region: What is going on in the Midwest Region

Southeast Region: Southeast Region discussion

South Central Region: You guessed it. South Central Region

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info

Northwest Region: Discussions from the Northwest Region
The upcoming events displayed on the front page and the new discussion area for Non-SM member CD's who are CD'ing a SM qualifier

There are a few other limited access discussion areas to provide the Board and Advisory Committee a place to discuss items they need to address. If you have any Ideas for other forum categories, just let me know and we will add them.

I mentioned before there is a Calendar. A mini-calendar is displayed on the front page. Upcoming events will also be displayed below the calendar. If you click on a day, you will be taken to the calendar. You can then register an event and the writeup will also show up in the events forum. You can also access the calendar from the Calendar option on the menu.

The Links page is where I will be putting links to all the USSMA Sponsor web pages. You can also submit links to use-ful site for Scale Modeling.

The last feature I would like to point out is the Download section. There are already a few items I pulled from the USSMA web site and setup for download. If you have something of interest that you think the rest of the USSMA community will find useful then let me know and we can add it. Currently there are two **File Repositories:**

Competition Aids - As it says. Competition guide is available there as well.

Newsletters - As they get published I will post a copy here.

Eventually the Photo Gallery will be directly linked to the forums and the current front page (<http://www.ussma-midwest.org>) will go away and the front page of the forums will be the front page of the site.

To get started point your browser to <http://www.ussma-midwest.org/forums> If you have not registered, you may do so by clicking on the Register tab in the menu below the USSMA Logo. You will be asked for a username, e-mail address and password (You may also hide your e-mail from the public profile if you like by checking the box beside the e-mail block) . There is a Visual Verification as well. This is necessary to help reduce the number of SPAM bots out there which love to post junk into forums.

Read and Agree to the registration agreement. You will be sent an e-mail to complete the registration. The e-mail will contain the username and password you registered with and a link to complete the registration process.

After that you will have general access to the forums. Leave me a message in the Access Request forum or you can PM me with your USSMA member number so I can grant you access. If we run into problems then we will have to figure out another way to verify members.



If you try to register and you get an error that the e-mail address you used is already in use, then you are already in the system. You can use the "Forgot Password" option. Enter in your e-mail address and your password will be reset. Your username is also included in the e-mail.

The forums are a tool to be used to enhance the overall membership in US Scale Masters. Only you can make it work for us. Any feedback will be greatly appreciated."

That is what has been submitted... Most of you already have a username and password and a couple have logged in. If you have problem accessing or would like your username changed, let me know... I hope that announcing in the news letter will start a flow of communications between everyone that I think this organization desperately needs. Seems there is a flurry of activity just before and just after the championships and then little or nothing. Guess the other option is things are still going on, but I was pulled off the list... if that is the case then.. never mind.... :)

So as the "leaders" of USSMA, lets lead the way in opening up the lines of communications within the organization as a whole.....

Until next time - happy flying!

Mitch Baker USSMA Midwest Regional Manager

Southeast Regional Manager Report

http://www.mikechilson.com/ussma_southeast/

Well here we are knee deep in another building season (although weather-wise it really doesn't exist down here in the south) and hope everyone's projects are going well. We have a new "transplant" in this area... Vance Mosher of Vanguard Vancouver and his wife moved to Birmingham, AL to escape the cold winters of the great northwest. Vance's designs are well known and he has been involved in scale building for quite a while. You can find his plans at <http://www.vanvan.us> . So if you attend any of the events in the southeast you might run in to him.

Also, we have been discussing a qualifier in the central Alabama area. I would really like to get some feed back from the members in the southeast who are interested. We are shooting for some time in fall 2008 before the championships as a preliminary date.

Also, I am very excited about the championships coming to the southeast region. We have more scale builder in this area than any other part of the country. So dust off that model and start practicing early this spring for one of the qualifiers in this region.

Mike Chilson
USSMA Southeastern Regional Manager
mike@rcscaleproducts.com

The 2008 Mid State Scale Classic/Kansas Scale Championships will be held in late summer-I don't have the exact date yet but John Ostmeyer will put on another good show for us-Its in the middle of the country at an excellent flying site-as John would say "come on down and play with us"

I have very few reports on new airplanes but John Ostmeyer will have his new T-28 1/5 scale, Lee Rice has a new Ziroli Corsair and I will have a new Ziroli Hellcat for the upcoming season-If your in the South Central Region and have a new plane for the year or are building something drop me a line and I'll get you in the next newsletter—always looking for NEW planes. The South Central Region needs a qualifier in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and South Texas this year, if you would like to CD one I can give you the paperwork to make it very club friendly and the club could make money. All it takes is ONE person to get it started. You will be supported by the South Central Region and the Scale Masters Organization, give me a call and lets get a qualifier in your area, its not too late for this year.

The season is coming, get ready and lets have a great time this year and start making your plans now to attend the Scale Championships in Florida later this year.

Gear up and locked

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John Osmeyer's T-28
Via Lawrence Harville



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Thoughts from the Editor;

Roly mentioned the US Scalemasters Boot Camp that is happening later this year. This is a very exciting concept and stands a great chance of "de-mystifying" scale competition for a lot of pilots in the Northwest. Be sure to contact Rick Dun at Rjdunn1@gmail.com for more information. They are planning on making the template available to USSMA after the event. They have some pretty good sponsors too!

I would suggest that each region host something similar—maybe every year, maybe every other year. It would be a great place for current competitors to brush up on their skills, and even to get a chance to sit on the other side of the clipboard for a change. I know from my own experience that judging a contest gives you a completely different look at how you should present your own flight.

Quite a few guys stroll up, hand you the score sheets and then go start the airplane, and mumble their way through the flight. A lot of that is due to nerves, but really—the greatest pressures are the ones you put on yourself. Of course we all want to do well, but you will do a lot better if you relax a bit.

It reminds me when I was taking a drafting course. We had to learn lettering. I got myself all braced, knee was snug against the table, I held every muscle still—after about 10 letters I was exhausted! Once I learned to relax, the lettering became a lot easier. Same thing happened when I started flying in contests. The first couple I was shaking like a leaf—the tip of the antennae was a blur, and (even though I don't really remember) I am sure my voice was trembly and indistinct.

I really don't know what changed for me, maybe I just decided unconsciously to relax and enjoy myself—but the shakes went away and I found that I could fly and talk at the same time.

Until next time,

Jeff
Opinions expressed by me do not necessarily reflect those of USSMA



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and his team have already done an amazing job in the planning and preparation of this event and are to be commended for their efforts. It looks like Florida will be a great one! Also---we might be a part of a "Scale Month" in Florida and will be backed up with Frank Tiano's Monster Scale Rally! More on this as it develops.

I am working on publicity for the USSMA and, as part of this, desperately need the dates for several of the scheduled Qualifiers for 2008. If you have not already done so, please go to the web site and enter the information for your Qualifier so that it will go to Carolyn and she can get it on the calendar and the Qualifier Flyer. The plan is to publicize our calendar in order to generate interest, contestants, and sponsors.

I recently heard from Dave Johnson regarding a fundraiser to send Team USA to the F4C World Scale Championships in Poland. Bruce Betschnieder is doing the raffle for this and can be reached at brucebrl@cox.net or (623) 334-4760 for further details.

Rick Dunn and his team are working on a "Boot Camp" to train prospective contestants and judges for USSMA competition. This event will be held in Oregon on May 10. Rick is to be commended for his exceptional enthusiasm and hard work in promoting this valuable service. A service that all of us should do at least once a year.

Well, here we go for another year of smoothly organized and run events. Carolyn and I have a year's experience now and sometimes seem to know somewhat what we are doing. Ten thousand thanks to all of you who so graciously helped us over the learning hurdles. Now, don't go away; we still need you!

Thank you to all the pilots and winners of the 2007 Championships, as well as our wonderful sponsors, and outstanding support team it was a great time with the "Best of the Best".

All the best,

Bill and Carolyn



(Continued from page 2)

the fifth year for the event and Dale does a great job, the Saturday night barbecue is fantastic. I will be there.

Good news number two, The Mint Julep Scale Meet is continuing for its 36th year. I have been there over 30 years. I missed the first three because I was in the process of starting Barbee Concrete and back then there wasn't much time for flying. Now after 35 years in business I still don't have as much time to fly as I would like. The CD is Paul Cain who was Dale Arvin's understudy and now runs a fine contest. For all the particulars you can contact Paul at c103iflyrc@att.net .

Finally I would like to congratulate the Sarasota Florida club for stepping up and hosting the Scale Masters Championships 2008. I know the fact that it is on the East coast will boost the scale participation at all the local contests. Good luck and good flying to everyone this coming season. Let's all support the Masters Organization this year.

Mike Barbee East Coast Chairman
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