

MASTERS QUARTERLY



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US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY MAY, 2008

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

By Bill Hart

Hi Guys,

Carolyn and I recently attended the Gunsmoke Qualifier held in Mesa, Arizona. This is the first qualifier of the year held in the western region and we were curious to see how the attendance would be as well as how our new "Advanced" event would work out. There was no need for concern as the Advanced Event worked out well.

Compared with last year, the attendance was down. Also, the number of "Fun Scale" flyers exceeded the total of entries in Expert, Team and Advanced combined! We have always had more entries in the less or non-competitive events but I thought these numbers were interesting. Paul Goldsmith did an excellent job of CD and should be commended for his hard work in putting together a very smooth running event.

Two weeks later we returned to Phoenix for the One Eighth Air Force Fly-In. There were 70-80 entries, a live band and a steak dinner to die for.

The One Eighth guys are good friends and a great group to hang out with. They are also serious USSMA competitors with years of experience in scale flying and are hard to beat in competition, as well as guys who really know how to put on a party. The One Eighth Air Force Fly-In happens twice a year in Phoenix, March and October, and it is well worth attending.

The next Qualifier here in the west was the So Cal which Carolyn and I put together. This was the third qualifier to be held in Hemet, California where the Champs were flown last October. The Hemet Model Masters are an enthusiastic group and do a great job in this realm. The city of Hemet is also very pro-model, so we have a win-win situation.

Once again, I was curious to see how many entries we would have. I sense that there might be a drop in contest enthusiasm out here in the west since the '08 Championships are in Florida this year. Lots of the guys have told me that they would like to compete, but can't make it to Florida. I know that the east coast guys feel the same way when the Champs are on the west coast so this isn't a surprise.

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West VP Report:

By Jeff Lovitt, Vice-Chairman West

West Region VP Report
Jeff Lovitt

Well, it is that time again. Actually, it was that time again about two weeks ago as our outstanding Editor reminded me! Anyway, as I sit down to type this report, we are about to swing into the heart of the qualifier season. If you haven't made plans already, check out the calendar and find an event that you haven't tried before and go for it. Some of the best events that I have been to are ones that I tried out for the first time.

New Names

Roly Worsfold has worked hard in the Northwest Region in the last several months to be a go-to person for folks who are interested in making scale happen in the NW. In order to make that happen, it takes others in each state who are willing to be points of contact and to serve as a conduit for information to the Regional manager. Roly has recently requested that Gene LaFond and Rick Dunn be appointed as Advisors to the Northwest RM and that request was confirmed by myself and Bill Hart. Gene and Rick are working to increase scale activity along with Roly and are to be commended. In particular, Rick's effort to put together a "Boot Camp" that will indoctrinate more competitors into the ranks deserves attention, and it is my hope that we can get a complete write up on the event for others to consider using in their areas.

Test Flights

I just went out this morning and test flew a new airplane to me. It had been flown a few times by another member of our club, but when the opportunity to add it to my hangar, I picked it up. Before doing so, I took the time to go through the whole airplane from one end to the other checking control surfaces, linkages, servos, batteries, landing gear, air system, and engine. This process brought me into "knowing" an airplane that I hadn't built, and thus made me more comfortable with it. Since this airplane had sat around for a while, the batteries were changed and the gas engine required some attention to tune up the fuel system and carburetor. I had a few false starts on previous trips to the field, but this morning, we were able to get the Byron Corsair, back into the air. I took it easy on the test flight, not knowing what the gear or flaps were going to do to the trim. As it turned out, the trim impacts were minor and I was able to get two flights on the plane before it was time to head home to give it the "Post Test Flight Check Out", maybe one of the most important steps that can be taken with a new airplane.

The 49'er

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Eastern VP Report

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

Scale Masters News from the East Coast Chairman Mike Barbee

I guess I am the last to submit his article for the newsletter. I am sorry. But I do have some good news to report. This news couldn't be reported until I got home from Top Gun. First I am very happy to report that Larry Folk will be the CD of a Scale Masters Qualifier in Grove City Ohio.

This is the TORKS field, home of the Heart of Ohio Jet Scramble. The field is located about 8 miles south of downtown Columbus. The club web site is www.TORKS.com - all the necessary info should be there. The field is excellent for the event with a paved runway of 1000 feet by 70 feet wide. There is an adjacent grass runway, that's what I like, parallel to the main runway and close enough to maneuver on. So with the Championships in the East this year I hope pilots take advantage of a great chance to qualify at this event.

I participated in the Top Gun competition again this year and was pleased on a couple of accounts. Number one was the number of quality models and pilots in attendance. I believe there were 168 pilots in all the classes and what a show the spectators got. The weather was the best in the 19 years I have attended. My good friend and building buddy John Boyko, you remember him from the freeze fly Champs in Muncie, did an excellent job with his Pitts S1 again. He finished first in the AM of the Pro-Am class. The unusual part of this story was not John's flying but the fact he crashed the plane just two weeks before we left. Thanks to some other club members and me it was rebuilt in just one week. Modeling is a great hobby made up of great friends and good fun. The new motto of the Monster Hanger is "if it ain't fun, we ain't doing it!"

Ok enough, now the second goods news story. I went to Sarasota first before Top Gun. There was an IMAA fly in the week-

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Scale Masters North West Regional Manager

Roly Worsfold – rolydd@telus.net – 250-374-4405

I hope everyone is looking forward to another good year of Scale Masters contests. The North West has a new qualifier **"The Red Apple Challenge"** is planned for June 6th – 8th in Wenatchee, WA. The **Alberta Scale** event is scheduled for June 20 – 22nd in Edmonton and the **"British Columbia Scale Classic"** on July 18th – 20th in Vernon British Columbia. Rounding out the schedule is the **"Evergreen Scale Rally"** to be held in Molalla, OR. Many thanks to the CD's, the clubs and volunteers who host these events.

The Dusters RC club in the Portland area lead by Rick Dunn are putting on a "Scale Masters Boot Camp" on May 10th. This will introduce new flyers and judges to the Scale Masters program. There has been lots of interest about the concept from all over the country. We hope to build a template from which others can use to promote Scale Masters. Contact is Rick Dunn Rjdunn1@gmail.com .

Rick Dunn and Gene LaFond have been approved as Regional Manager Advisors. Their role is to be an additional Scale Masters contact for flyer's and judges. They will be able to listen to people about concerns and program improvement suggestions. I welcome them and look forward to working with them.

Dianne and I looked after Scale Masters information booth at the North West Hobby Exposition held at Munro – Washington in early February. We handed out Scale Masters membership forms and promoted the Scale events in our area through posters. We were right beside the Static Display. Lots of flyers left their contact information at a sign-up sheet. We felt the exercise was very worth while and hope to do it there again. We will be doing the same thing at a RC Symposium in Vernon British Columbia.

I have recently retired and so far it's the Best Job I have ever had. Looking forward to completing the many modeling projects stacked up in my basement.

Of note; I am fitting two mini servos to control the elevator trim taps on of my 1/4 Scale Tiger Moth, hopefully it will be flying in a couple of contests this year.

2008 looks to be a very good year and I am looking forward to participating in all the "qualifiers" in our area.



Static Judging at Alberta Scale 2007 in the Edmonton Museum

Safe Building and Flying for 2008 – Roly

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South Central RM Report

by Lawrence Harville
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Since the last newsletter it has been very quite around here, our Contest season is yet to start. But it will start with the oldest, biggest contest in the 10 state area down here. The Texas Scale Championships-Scale Masters Qualifier hosted by the Fort Worth Thunderbirds. It will be held on May 31-June 1, 2007. Contact: Max Ficken
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N. Richland Hills, Texas, 76180
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Come on down and play with us. I'll have a detailed report on the event-who showed, placed and won.

The contest season is up and running in other areas-just wish it was closer to Texas.

Gear up and locked

Lawrence Harville

Midwest Quarterly Manager Report

By Mitch Baker
Mdbaker@mdbaker.org

First the bad news... I have had to cancel the qualifier I was trying to put on this year. I am starting the planning now for next year and hope I can pull it off. One of the major problems is support. Trying to put on something and get it right is hard work and I



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Midwest Report (continued)

admire those who are putting on qualifiers. I would like any advice and/or help over the next year to attempt another go at this. Another idea, if I get a show of support, I would consider trying to put one together later on this year... Say September? You folks need to let me know. Is there another qualifier needed? If so, is west central Indiana (Terre Haute) a location that is fairly convenient? Please let me know by logging into the midwest forums www.ussma-midwest.org or e-mailing me at mdbaker@ussma-midwest.org. Also we are starting to look for a site for the 2010 USSMA Championships. Would like to have it somewhere in the midwest to make it somewhat convenient for both east coasters and west coasters..... If you have a site in mind let me know as well.

Next, the midwest forums. There is some traffic in the forums but would like to see more. Remember this is for you folks. I need you there to contribute and make suggestions. You can post your events, ask questions, advise others on the world of scale R/C modeling or get advice. There are a couple really good discussions going on now so check them out at <http://www.ussma-midwest.org>. If you have any problems getting access e-mail me.

FOR A GOOD TIME CALL THE 1/8th AIR-FORCE!!! I mean it.. I recently returned from Arizona where I attended the Spring fly-in for the One-eighth Air Force. What a great time. Lots of wonderful planes and boy do they know how to throw a party. Weather was perfect as well. If you ever get a chance to attend one of the fly-ins they hold -do it. You will not regret it. Pictures from the event will be posted on <http://ussma-midwest.org> shortly.

Lots of stuff coming up so check out the calendars on the main USSMA <http://www.scalemasters.org> and the Midwest site <http://www.ussma-midwest.org>.

Upcoming events in/near the Midwest Region:
Mint Julep Scale Meet - May 16-18 - Falls of Rough KY.

Wabash Valley Scale Qualifier - May 30 - June 1 - Clinton, IN (CANCELLED).

Northeast Regional Manager Report

Mitch Epstein
Mepst22487@AOL.COM

By way of introduction my name is Mitch Epstein from Leominster Ma. I've been a modeler since dirt was invented and have enjoyed many facets of the hobby but the last 20 or so years I've gotten involved with scale models and especially heavy metal types. My current favorite is a Don Smith designed B-17 which I've flown at Scalemasters champs in Muncie 2 years ago as well as several TopGuns and many local fly-ins. I've enjoyed mostly the part of the hobby which consists of meeting people from all over the country as well as overseas and forming friendships. To me the competition is secondary to making friendships.

This winter has been particularly long and hard in the northern climes and one might say it's good for building!! For me however I got into house projects and am just digging my way out of them.....in time for flying season! First off for me will be bringing the bomber once again to Lakeland for TopGun and WARM WEATHER! Then there's a warbird fly-in at South Albany airport in early June and then one on Long Island NY. As far as the New England Scalemasters Qualifier is concerned there's a question mark. It no longer will be at Gardner MA Airport and an effort to have it in Farmington CT didn't pan out. As soon as a venue is nailed down I'll try to get the word out. Check on the Scalemaster's website as well as on RCU and RCSB.

Any information which I can pass on should be e-mailed to me at Mepst22487@AOL.COM

Thank you,

Mitch



Southeast Regional Manager Report

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

Greetings all!

Not a lot to report except I am working with a local club here to possibly have a qualifier this fall. I will disclose more details as things get firmed up. We need a another qualifier here in the mid-southeast so keep your fingers crossed that this works out. By the time you read this Top Gun will be over and we will be getting close to the Mint Julep qualifier. Hope to see some of you there.

Remember, it is OUR responsibility to keep this hobby alive and well. Find someone in your club interested in scale and mentor them. The satisfaction you receive is worth as much to you as what they will get out of it!

In closing let me wish everyone a safe and enjoyable flying season.

Clear skies and no wind to you!
Mike Chilson

Mike Chilson
USSMA Southeastern Regional Manager
mike@rcscaleproducts.com

Midwest Report (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

2008 Heart of Ohio Scale Championships - July 12-13 2008, Grove City, OH
Minnesota Scale Classic - Aug 2 2008 - Anoka, MN
AMA Nats Aug 8-10 Muncie IN

So what's your current project? Have a question about the rules? Just want to chat with folks about USSMA. Scale Building or Flying? Join <http://www.ussma-midwest.org> and check out the forums.

Mitch Baker
USSMA Midwest Regional Manager

We are on the eve of the 49'er Qualifier, here at the Woodland Davis Aeromodelers field, near Sacramento CA. This is the 20th annual event, which marks a significant milestone for a contest held consecutively. As usual, this event will attract modelers from Southern California to Oregon and we expect stiff competition if nothing else! Last year, as some heard there was some stiff wind that kept the event grounded, so we are really looking forward to some good flying this year with some favorable weather.

Wrapping Up

That's about it from way out west. Check out as many events as you can and encourage someone to try out scale. It's not as hard as some folks think it is and more fun than they know.

Jeff Lovitt, West Region VP
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USSMA West VP

VP East Report continued

(Continued from page 2)

end before the Gun. I wanted an opportunity to fly at the field that will be used for the Championships. I must report that the field was very good. It has a paved runway 600' x 100'. There is an adjacent grass strip that will be rolled and ready for the competition in October. There were a lot of spectators at the event on Saturday which means that the Masters should be well viewed. I had a great time. All the club members were very cordial and helpful to all of us that invaded from the north. We actually got a number of practice flights in on Monday before leaving for Lakeland. Jon Hay will put on a first class event. So all I can add is get qualified and head toward the sun in October.

That's all for now, remember support the Masters. It is good fun and friendship. See you at the Mint Julep. If not Dale Arvin will be having a qualifier in New Albany IN. in August, see you there.

Mike Barbee East Coast Chairman
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Thoughts from the Editor;

I got to spend the weekend up at Jeff Lovitt's 49er Qualifier, I think it was pretty successful. There were about 17 entries in all—I had planned on flying but a last minute change of heart by the radio kept me grounded. Instead I did Craftsmanship Judging—and I am glad I did—I got many, many ideas on how to do things.

It's true—if you want to see what good documentation looks like, just take a turn as a static judge. You will come away with a new appreciation of what they go through. Same with flight judging—take a turn on the flight line, and you will have a better understanding of how to present your own flights. Hmmm—by that criteria I should be able to win any contest I enter!!!!!! LOL!

Seriously—if you can take a turn as a judge, it will help your flying immensely. If you can take a turn as a static judge, it will help you lay out your documentation better. Both types of judging will help you make your "spiel" to the judges. Do you just walk up to the judges and say "Here's my flight sheet" - or do you explain the maneuvers you are doing and the peculiarities of your particular aircraft?

Later next month I will be heading up to the Dan Sullivan Memorial Qualifier in Ukiah, CA—I am working hard to repair my Camel to fly there, but I have already acquired another airplane as a back-up so that I will have SOMETHING to fly there (and take advantage of all my hard-earned judging knowledge). If you are anywhere in or near Northern California or Southern Oregon (or Northern Oregon), you should make an effort to get to this contest at least once. It is one of the best contests I have ever been too—I ALWAYS have a great time.

Until next time,

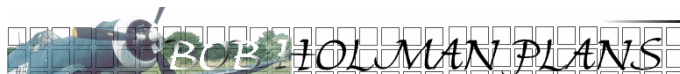
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As a thought.....why not have a "Western States Championship" while the Champs are in the east and vice versa when they are in the west? This "Championship" could be an "amped up" qualifier with a small banquet or something similar. Perhaps it would help to keep the interest and enthusiasm high, even when the USSMA Championships are miles out of reach for the local contestants. The concern about this that I have heard the most is the possibility that this would "water down" the USSMA Championships and cause a decrease in attendance, as well as create a split within the USSMA itself. I would be interested in knowing what you think about the idea.

We attended the 49'er Qualifier in early May. Jeff Lovitt (West Coast Vice President) did his usual excellent job of putting on a great contest. He even had Carolyn doing the scoring, while I was "volunteered" to judge color and markings. The quality of aircraft was, as usual, excellent.

Look for the issue of Model Airplane News that came out in May (page 139). We have a full-page calendar of all the qualifiers which we are having in 2008. There will be a second full-page ad later, which will publicize the October Championships. Debra Cleghorn, Executive Editor for MAN has offered to do this for us as a sponsorship, which we greatly appreciate. They will also come down to Florida in October and cover the Champs for their magazine. If you ever have a need to contact Model Airplane News, get in touch with Debra. She is enthusiastic and a real professional.

The nice part of our hobby/sport is that it is possible to immerse yourself in a project and completely forget what is going on around you. Do this. Don't forget the wife and family, but it is ok to forget about the economy and the price of gas. Maybe this will help us all live a little longer.

Bill



Scale Boot Camp

I have a report forwarded to me by Roly, about the RC Dusters Scale Boot Camp held recently near Portland, OR. Unfortunately it is too long to squeeze into this issue, but I will see if I cannot organize things so that I can get it in next time.

By all the accounts that I have read, it was very successful, even though it was colder and windier than expected. Steve Stricker, one of the attendees wrote "I feel I got two years of knowledge about how to compete very quickly and am very happy with the experience!"

Roly says that those associated with the boot camp are evaluating the experience, and are thinking of possibly "boxing" the presentation for use in other areas.

Rick Dunn and the staff from the Duster's are to be congratulated on a successful and useful idea!



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