

MASTERS QUARTERLY



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August-October, 2007

US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY OCT, 2007

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

By Bill Hart

Hello to All,

At the time this is being written, we have 50 registered pilots for the Championships, with more coming in. Except for a few more details to complete, we are ready to go!. Carolyn and I have been on a long and often difficult learning curve to get to this point in our ability to lead the USSMA, and I publicly want to thank her for all the "Heavy Lifting" that she is doing to help make things happen. Without her we would have been doomed!

I plan to present a change in the structure of the USSMA to the Board in the very near future. The plan is to make some changes in the Open class and to add a new class where ARF's can be flown. Expert and Team will **NOT** be changed. You will hear much more about this after the Board has had time to look at the proposal. Perhaps through all the debate, we can find a way to streamline our competitive offerings, making them more in line with what is happening out in our real world.

ARF's are a reality guys and we need to find a way to let them be competitive.

My major concern is the lack of a well-defined identity that the USSMA has with both the general modeling public and the manufacturers. The general public has no idea of what we are (the foremost scale modeling group in the country) and what the Championships are all about, including the qualifying structure used to arrive at that level. I have also found that many if not most of the manufacturers, when asked for financial support, show little if any interest in us, and yet support the other scale contests with regularity. Why? Because these events get more press and magazine exposure that we do. To make it short, they don't know about us simply because we haven't told them.

In order to help fix this problem, I plan to begin an aggressive publicity campaign through which we reintroduce ourselves to the modeling public and to the manufacturers. We must have the USSMA name and logo on everything, and articles about us must be in the magazines on a regular basis. (Any volunteers to help me write?). The message is simple. While the NATS and Top Gun are wonderful, they both are only qualifiers for our Championship Meet. The manufacturers need to know that we help generate a market for their products, and it

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West VP Report:

By Jeff Lovitt, Vice-Chairman West

Summer seems to have gone by faster than ever. That can be good news or bad news, depending on who you are. Most are saddened by the loss of the long summer days, but for those who are reading this newsletter, the fall months signal the arrival of the much anticipated Scale Masters Championships.

The Championships holds a special place for all of us. It is an opportunity to see old friends, make new ones and take a brief break from the responsibilities at home. I have great admiration for those who are willing to spend years on a project, only to throw caution to the wind and travel to an event like this and put their airplane in harms way- on the static table and in the air! Yes, the static table feels like harms way sometimes. We offer up our best work to be critiqued at the highest level. It takes determination and courage to see a project to its completion and then to put it before discriminating eyes. To the pilots and builders who will make the trek to Southern California this year, I wish the best of luck, and smooth landings. To those who have never competed at a Finals - may the stories, photographs and reports of this event inspire you to reach that goal.

Many of you are aware that the months following the Championships are a busy time when the event, the rules and the qualifying system are perpetually analyzed for the betterment of the program as a whole. If you or someone you know has questions or ideas, this is the time of year for proposals to be heard. Please consider putting your idea in writing and sending it to a member of the board for review.

As I write this, we are just over a week away from the finals. I have a little more work to do on my plane so I'll be off for now. I look forward to seeing many of you in Hemet.

See you on the flightline!

Jeff Lovitt

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USSMA West VP



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Eastern Vice-Chairman's Report

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

Quarterly News Letter October 2007

First I want to wish all the pilots who will be flying in the Championships good luck. I am sorry that I could not attend. There were many reasons but the saddest was the passing of my good friend and flying buddy Mike Leonard. Mike had planned to drive my truck and trailer to the event so I could participate. The long trip would have taken too much time away from the business. Some of you might remember Mike he was the flight line boss at both of the Championships in the East. I will miss him. Semper Fi Mike.

How many qualifiers did you attend this year? I had the privilege of attending three even though I was qualified from the 2006 Masters. All were great events. The CD's of the events work very hard to make things go smoothly and pilot friendly. We should all support them by either flying or working at the competition. Getting good qualified judges seem to be one of the hardest tasks of the event directors.

Now for the next question, how many new pilots did you bring to a qualifier? We all know the phrase "dying breed". I don't want to hear that. So I enlist pilots at our field to start flying scale. I have even given the prospect a plane to fly in the Open class. At this year's Mint Julep, Matthew Laine flew my Stearman to second place in the novice class. He even got his picture in Model Aviation Magazine. If that is what it is going to take to get pilots interested I suggest we all try it. Matthew is hooked and we have just completed his own scale model, a brand new Extra 260 replica of Patty Wagstaff's plane hanging in the Smithsonian. I am going to continue to help Matthew, he is only thirteen, and the real reason is I want him to stay in the Open Class is I am afraid he will beat me.

Now for my next protégée, John Boyko, great pilot and very good friend, he has only flown scale one year. He is having a ball and did a great job at Top Gun this year in the Pro Am Class. His fifth place finish got him a championship bid. John builds in my shop and his next project will be very noticeable. Watch for John next year. So my challenge to all the Scale Masters pilots and members is "Get someone started". This can be done a number of ways, let's see some new faces on the flight line or are you old guys afraid to get beat?

Last weekend in Columbus was absolutely the biggest and best air show I have ever attended. It was the Gathering of Mustangs and Legends Show. I know some of you have heard about it and it was true there were over 100 Mustangs at the show. There were no hanger queens either. They were flying all of them, even the rare B models. All of them were on display and their pilots and owners were more than willing to talk about their steeds. The formation flight on Sunday was twenty five in the form of 51. What a sound. We will probably never experience

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Scale Masters North West Regional Manager

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

Scale Masters North West regional Manager

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The 4 North West Qualifiers are in the books for 2007, many thanks to the CD's who organized the events & the judges and pilots who make these events possible. The S.W. Idaho, Alberta Scale, British Columbia Scale Classic and the Evergreen Scale Rally Qualifiers were all very successful. Worthy of note was the increased numbers of new pilots in Fun Scale.

This year we were fortunate to attend all 4 events and what a great pleasure to meet all the CD's and many new people getting involved with Scale Competition. A consistent pattern that was very noticeable to us was that the new participants who flew were very thrilled to have achieved this and were "pumped" to attend the next event. This is very encouraging to see as it bodes well for our future. I'm sure they will be talking it up with their flying friends and bring new participants.

The second consistent factor was the judges. The comments from the new judges are that they enjoyed the experience and will be back again. One thing that helps to promote scale events is to invite people from all the clubs in the area to Scale Judging training clinics. If they are directed to the Scale Masters website do some studying prior to the clinics is very effective. Arrange for volunteer flyers to practice scale routines to be judged - the enthusiasm is self promoting.

Consider having a Fun Scale **"Fly Only"** event a month prior to your Scale qualifier. This will promote the judges training and encourage some sideline "Builders" to perhaps come out and "give it a go".

The more promoting of Scale that is done removes the mystery of what Scale Competition is all about and encourages people to take that 1st step.

The middle of June – at Nampa, SW Idaho Qualifier was hosted by the SW Idaho Scale Squadron and the field provided by the Nampa Model Aviators. The runway is one to be envied by most clubs and an exam-

ple of how a flying site gets along with their neighbors. The field is great (like flying off an aircraft carrier) and is situated in the middle of a golf course and overlooks a couple of subdivisions. It looks to me like they are all "good neighbors" to each other. Under the capable guidance of Ray Schellekens and Dave Coulter, the event got 6 rounds of flying in. (For shame – I opted out of the last round to keep the plane in good shape for the following weekend Alberta Scale Qualifier.) The Saturday night supper was a nice treat and well received. Everyone at the table got some flying in with the traditional "paper airplane fly".

Sunday afternoon we packed up "Ol Yeller" and headed North to Edmonton Alberta for the Alberta Scale Qualifier. Dianne and I plan to be back again next year.

This year was the 27th year for the Alberta Scale Qualifier. The Static Judging was held at the Edmonton Air Museum a great spot surrounded by vintage aircraft. Saturday's weather was not kind for flying however we completed 2 rounds. Saturday night one of the Edmonton Radio Control Society club member and his family hosted a great steak and trimmings supper along with some of Duke's famous chili and home brewed wine. Sunday morning the weather was great, almost perfect. Some of the judge's and flyers have been attending Scale Master events in the North West for more than 25 years.

The next event we didn't have to travel very far for the 3rd "British Columbia Scale Classic. The Vernon RC Aero Modelers provided the field and event volunteers came from no less than 7 area clubs. 7 flyers from South of the border came up to participate in some "Canadian Hospitality". "Mr. Scale" - Dick Hansen has not missed one of our events and records the event so we can enjoy his DVD's after the fact. We braved some light rain for the Static judging on Friday and were treated to near perfect flying weather on Saturday and Sunday. Utilizing 3 flight lines we managed 6 flying rounds. There was a "Hangar Party" Friday night with "Pizza and Pop" - Saturday night we enjoyed a "Beef on the Bun" Pot Luck supper. Overall the event is growing with no less than 9 pilots trying out Scale Competition for the 1st time. There were lots of smiling faces from the "new comers" - judges and flyers alike.

Flyers & Judges at the British Columbia Scale Classic.

The final North West event --- Evergreen Scale Rally — at Grant Sharp's field in Molalla OR was held the 1st weekend in August. This is a very enjoyable event. The weather was great and the hospitality second to none. No wonder they tout the event as the "Fun One!" The event is hosted by the "Portland Sky Knights" along with help from several surrounding area clubs. The "Windsock Café" - run by club members - featured

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South Central RM Report

by Lawrence Harville

Several pilots attended the AMA Nats in Muncie this year –Max Ficken and me in Expert; Lee Rice /Ed Newman in Team. We saw a lot of Scale Masters members and had a great time. If you have never been to the NATS-YOU GOTTA GO!

The only other Scale Competition in our region was the Mid States Scale Classic. John Ostmeyer's report follows. I will not be at the Championships this year and to you guys who lay it on the line-Good Luck and have a blast!

Mid States Scale Classic

By John Ostmeyer

August 11-12, 2007

Boy, who would have thought 15 years ago with Jim Workman's suggestion that this would still be going on. Anyway the 15th annual Mid-States Scale Classic has come and gone. It seems we always are blessed with decent weather for this event. Saturday was hot, hot, and hot but with a little breeze out of the south it wasn't all that bad. You may want to get the opinion of the judges before you take my word for it.

Blue skies prevailed throughout the day and we were awarded with some excellent flying. 17 Contestants came from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas. A number of Barnstormers entered the contest and came home with some very nice prizes donated by Hobby Haven, the RC Barnstormers and Global Hobbies.

We were able to get four rounds in on Saturday and with bad weather predicted for Sunday, the pilots elected to call it completed. There were unfortunately a few mishaps. My new T28 was damaged in a landing incident caused primarily by the loss of a signal, the one between the mind and hand. Lawrence put his P-47 in the only small and I mean small pond on the 59 acres we use, but luckily very little

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Midwest Quarterly Manager Report

By Mitch Baker

Mdbaker@mdbaker.org

Wow . . . The summer has flown by and the Championships are almost here...

I will be attending again this year to gather up as many pictures as I can. I may even start a daily blog about the event on the USSMA-Midwest web site. A couple of qualifiers took place since last report, the Minnesota Scale Classic in Anoka, MN. and the AMA NATS. Unfortunately I was unable to attend either. Looking at the USSMA web site there is nothing posted as to the results of either qualifier. Please, CD's after you hold a qualifier, make sure you send the results in ASAP to the folks who can get things updated. Not saying that the CD's from the last two events have not sent in anything . . . this is just a reminder for up coming events . . .

I mentioned in the last issue about the low number of qualifiers in this region. The local clubs here in the Terre Haute Indiana area are still looking at holding a qualifier next year the first weekend in June. I will update the USSMA-Midwest website as details become more available. If there are folks in the region who are willing to help with this I would greatly appreciate it. We will be looking for judges especially.

Well I look forward to meeting anyone who is going to be out at the Championships next week and seeing some folks I met last year.

On a side note. At Mint Julep this past year I picked up Advance Scale Models P-61 ARF (yes I said it) . . . For an ARF, not a bad aircraft. But the reason I mentioned it is to acknowledge the support folks from Global Hobby. There were a few parts missing from the package and they had them to my within a few days. I had a mishap on landing during the second test flight and the nose wheel steering broke . . . I was able to get the parts to fix the damage at a very reasonable price and quickly. So from my experience, I can say the support from them is great and as with anything, your mileage may vary . . .

As we move closer to the building season I would like to invite anyone with pictures from scale events, or scale building projects to contact me at mdbaker@ussma-midwest.org (note new e-mail address) to have them included in the web site. There are forums set up there as well. Just need to get input as to what topics people want to see.

Until next time - happy flying!

Mitch Baker

USSMA Midwest Regional Manager

www.ussma-midwest.org

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a great menu of chicken, special sausages and great hamburgers. The Event had a GREAT surprise as Bill Hart and Carolyn Van Herk the national chair people showed up. They drove all the way from Southern California and had a visit with all the participants - a very nice touch. Bill and Carolyn enjoyed presenting the Championship "Notifications". Their participation was very much appreciated by all.

- The Evergreen Qualifier is special to Dianne and I as it is the first event we attended 5 years ago. All have been very helpful to us to improve "OI Yeller" or CF-TEA (Coffee & Tea) to be reasonably competitive. This year we finally earned a 3rd place trophy, we were very humbled.

A BIG thanks to the CD's, Flyers, Judges and all the volunteers who make these events possible. I'm sure the N.W. will be well represented at the "Championships" in Hemet, California.

Safe Flying - Roly

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PS: Food for thought; ***Change is good... it reminds us that life isn't permanent.***



Southeast Regional Manager Report

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

Greeting all!

As we move into the winter building season here in the southeast (and yes I know... We don't know what WINTER really is) I would like to try and get everyone thinking about another qualifier in the Southern US. I have been investigating this for several years and finally have a Judge locally to help train up some individuals as static and flight judges. Right now we are looking at Clanton, AL as a possible site for a scale qualifier.

We DESPERATELY need another in the Mississippi and/or Northern Florida area.

If your club would like to organize a scale qualifier please contact me.

Folks, the only way we can grow the number of competitors is to have a contest that is in convenient travel distance. We have more scale flyers here in the southeast than any other area of the country, yet we have the least number of scale contest.

it is very important to our part of this wonderful hobby to encourage and mentor younger folks in scale building and flying. and offering a scale contest at your local club really helps! So please try and bring this up at your next club meeting and see what everyone thinks. We will help you as much as we can to get organized but ultimately YOU and YOUR club make the event successful.

Until next time!
Mike Chilson

Mike Chilson
USSMA Southeastern Regional Manager
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damage. There were some very nice aircraft in attendance with some very good static scores

We really want to thank John and Ron for getting these put together. If it were not for the club members helping year after year, I don't think this thing would have lasted. The scale guys in the area really do appreciate the great effort everyone puts out to give them a venue to show their latest masterpiece. I personally want to thank everyone who helped out, especially score keeping and judging. And Steve, the flight line control, as always, went very smoothly. Steve Forrest won Expert Class and again won the highly sought after Sunflower State Scale Champion award. Interesting enough, there was less than 1 point between first and second in all classes. Flying is getting better. And it pays to have all the required paper work.

Again thanks to everyone for helping, and we'll see you for the 15th.

See you all for the 16th Mid-States Scale Classic in 08..

Results: **Mid States Scale Classic**; August 11-12, 2007; Hillsdale Ks.

There were 17 total entries. Broken down as they placed Expert:

- 1 Steve Forrest
- 2 Doug Crumley
- 3 Lawrence Harville

Open:

- 1 Lyle Vasser
- 2 Olen Rutherford
- 3 Deon VanDerMerwe

Fun

- 1 Howard Schlange
- 2 Art Kittler
- 3 Richard McIntyer

Qualifying for the 2007 US Scale Masters National Championship

Expert:

Steve Forrest: 513 N. Fairgrounds Rd., Sturgeon, Mo. 65284

Gary Fuller: 7076 E. Heather; Claremore, Ok. 74019

Howard Schlange: 2701 Fairway Dr., Independence, Ks. 67801

Open:

Lyle Vasser: 15126 W 154th Terr., Olathe, Ks. 66062

Thanks Again
John Ostmeyer

That's about it for down here, see you at the finals.

Lawrence Harville
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817-284-5537

Thoughts from the Editor;

Well darn it, I don't have much room for a change!

I can only echo Mike Barbee's challenge: recruit someone to come to a qualifier!

Best of luck to all of you at the Championships, wish I were able to go this year.

Until next time,
Jeff

Opinions expressed by me do not necessarily reflect those of USSMA

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

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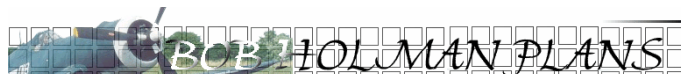
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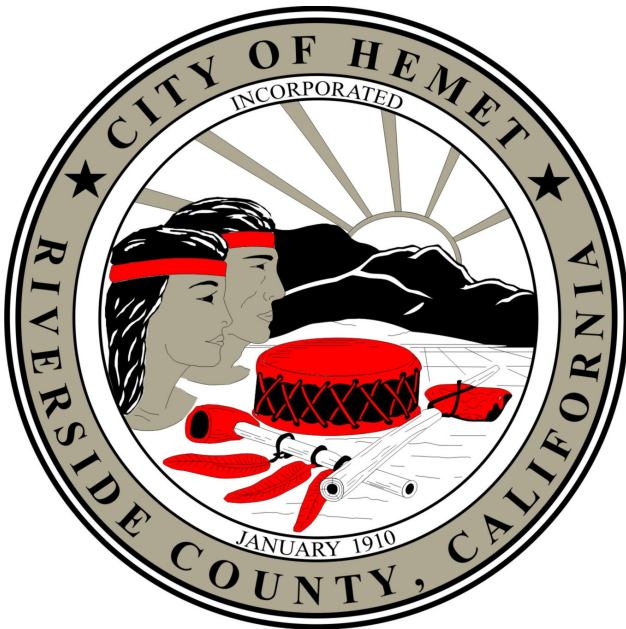
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would be mutually advantageous for them to support us. I want to see our logo and "Proud Sponsor of the US Scale Masters" on far more magazine ads than just Bob Smith Industries. I plan to get ideas from many of the sponsored pilots flying at the Champs, send packets of information to the manufacturers regarding what we are all about, and to meet with the manufacturer's when they come out for the AMA Show in January. Taking our own ads in the magazines might also be worth looking into. Anyone have any other ideas?

Do you ever wonder why a Fun Fly will draw one hundred plus pilots, where a contest only draws a fraction of that number? Me too. Maybe we need to make competitive flying more fun and less nerve wracking! More on this later.....

Till next time,
Bill and Carolyn

Many thanks to the City of Hemet, California for all their support of the US Scalemasters Championships!



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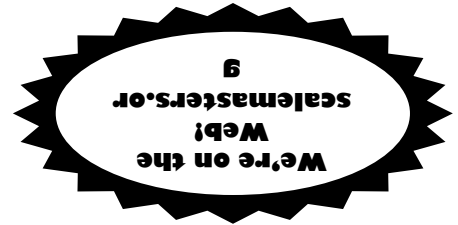
that again. Oh I was lucky I am currently working on a P-47 there were two along with two P-38's and an Aircobra. Good documentation and even an idea of the scale speed.

This is my last challenge to the membership. We need some one or some group of scale modelers on the East coast or just east of the Mississippi to come forward and offer a site for the 2008 Championships .I will help you in any way I can. We need to get this done. I am very disappointed in the pre-registration of this years' event as of yesterday only 29 planes. I can get that on a Saturday afternoon at the field. Why this big deal every year to have it in the west. Last year will go on record as the coldest championships, but we had 76 pilots registered. Who cares about making money, what are we going to do with it when we have it? I must miss out on the term non-profit. If we run a good well attended event after all aren't we doing this for ourselves? Why do we have to make money and what are we going to do with it? I would like to see a Championship committee same people every year to find a venue and put on the event. Sponsors want bang for the buck if we find a field that will draw five thousand spectators every year let's have it there every year. This helps the pilot and his family plan well in advance. Not much chance in promoting a national championship event with only twenty nine pilots. How many Scale Master Members are there? Maybe an East Coast Championship and a West Coast Championship, is that the answer? We have a great program, I believe in it and I want it to prosper but I don't think it will if we continue the way it is. Good luck to all involved in the Championships, you have my interest and support and my continued love of this great sport.

One more very important news item, I am sponsoring a new member and hope to each year. This year he is Christian Michael Joly, I am sending his charter member dues for 2008. You all will know him soon he is my first Grandson. Although he is only seven weeks old, he has his own Futaba 14 MZ radio and scale airplane. See it soon on my website.

Good Health, Good Luck and Good Flying
Mike Barbee East Coast Chairman

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