

MASTERS QUARTERLY



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US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY JAN., 2010

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

By Carolyn Van Herk

Hi Everyone,

As I mentioned in my last newsletter article, the Ohio River View R/C Flyers in Rosewood, IN will host the 31st Annual Championships. Dale Arvin will be the CD for the event, which is being held September 15-19, 2010. Rosewood is across the river from Louisville, KY (about a 45 minute drive from the Louisville airport) or a 1-1/2 hour drive from Indianapolis, IN.....be sure to mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend and join in the fun.

The new Qualifier season has already begun with two Qualifiers already completed. The SIR/CM Scale Classic was held after the Championships in late September and the Corvin Miller Memorial was held in November. If you have not already done so CD's, please be sure to send in your Qualifier dates and information so that we can get them posted on the web page. I have already received several phone calls this past month from pilots wanting to know when the Qualifiers in their areas are scheduled so that they can plan to

attend and participate. Don't miss out on competitors by not letting us know when your events are being held.

Airtronics will again be giving a 2.4 transmitter to each Qualifier to be given to the winner in either Open or Advanced. The Qualifier must be posted on the web page and the CD must contact Mike Greenshields at (714) 964-0827 ext 308 or email Mike at MikeG@mail.hobbypeople.net.

Reminder to all contestants and CD's the **ONLY** events which will qualify for the Championships 2010 are **Open, Advanced, Team and Expert!** Please refer to the Competition Guide for the requirements for each of these qualifying categories. **Also, CD's, please be sure to schedule your Qualifier for 2010. Use the link on the Calendar Page 2010 Calendar !!!** Then, please go back to the Calendar 2010 page to enter the results when your contest is complete. This is important for all your contestants who are planning to attend the Championships. Without this information, we cannot send them their notifications or Championship packets.

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West VP Report:

By Jeff Lovitt, Vice-Chairman West

Building season has arrived. As I try to make some progress on something for next year, thoughts of the past year are on my mind. The 2009 qualifier year was a good one, culminating in the northwest Scale Masters in Wenatchee. This was a fantastic event and really set the stage for the upcoming 2010 event in Indiana. Planning is underway so begin making plans now to attend in September.

The time has come for me to step down from my post as the USSMA West Region VP. The demands on my time have gotten to the point where I don't feel that I am giving USSMA the attention that it needs. Please continue to support the Scale Masters and get involved when and where you can. This means helping at a local event, getting someone new (or just hasn't done it in a while) to an event or start a new qualifier. We've worked hard to create classes for competitors at all levels. We want to see new blood in the form of competitors, contest directors, and helpers. If you want to get involved, contact the USSMA Board.

I've enjoyed my time over the last 4 years in this role and I look forward to continuing to compete and CD events in the future.

Jeff Lovitt, West Region VP
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 USSMA West VP

Eastern VP Report

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

I would like to wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Well the big freeze finally hit our area this weekend. On Saturday my shop was full of modelers that's how I can tell its cold outside. There were a number of discussions and we even got some work done. Bob Benson was on hand with his new PT-19 project. A very nice fiberglass fuse and foam wings Bob has designed a lot himself. This one should be a very competitive plane for Bob. John Boyko, you know the Top Gun Pro Am Pro champ, was over with his new Top Gun Pro Am plane a T-28. Two of the local club members stopped by to observe the Barbee method of fiber glassing wings. I am working on another new project a T-34-C in a 28% flavor. My turbo prop T-6-A is ready to go but I ran out of weather to get the test flight complete. The Jet Cat engine runs and prop testing is complete, now comes the fun part. Maybe now that my Aeronca in the hanger I will get some fun stuff done. I set a target date of the Toledo show to have my new project complete and that enables me to test fly before Top Gun. Does anyone have pictures of a yellow and white [military] T-34-C? If you do I would like to

borrow them to copy. You know that the most popular color to exit my shop is yellow.

Last August I flew at the field where the Scale Master Champs will be held. The field is exceptional. Paved and grass runways close to each other for easy access and exit. Dale Arvin will do a top job as CD of the event. His experience with the Mint Julep over many years will aid him in putting on a fine championship event. I know the local qualifiers will be well attended so plan ahead to get qualified don't miss this years event. The Scale Masters will have a booth at the Toledo show. I am sure that Mitch Baker and Carolyn could use your help to man this event. More news on this should be coming shortly.

This year I think we should all make an effort to get new members. Take a fellow club member with you to a qualifier and help him get started in the beginner events. Or let him fly one of you planes in the team event, that way you can give him first hand help during every flight. Let's see if we can't get some young people involved. We have a great sport so we should promote it fully.

Remember to send in your dues for the New Year 2010, take advantage of the Championship class membership. Send me an email about your suggestions or concerns I am not on the computer all the time but I will respond, I promise. Computer time cuts drastically into my shop time.

Mike Barbee East Coast Chairman
Mabarbee@aol.com

Scale Masters North West Regional Manager

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

Here we are the end of 2009. I hope that everyone has had a happy holiday season and wish you the best for 2010.

2009 was a very good year for scale in the North West with the following 5 successful qualifiers held which includes the U.S. Scale Masters Championships:
 Alberta Scale in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada,
 S.W. Idaho Scale Squadron in Nampa, Idaho,
 British Columbia Scale Classic in Vernon, B. C., Canada,
 Evergreen Scale at Molalla near Portland, Oregon,
 Finally the U.S. Scale Masters Championships held in Wenatchee, WA.

Congratulations to the contest directors, judges and contestants for supporting the U.S. Scale Masters program through your efforts to make the qualifiers successful. "Kudos" to the Red Apple Flyers and the city of Wenatchee for all their work in supporting the Championships event. Special thanks to Rick and Cindy Dunn for their behind the scenes organizing work in and for producing the Championships shirt/hat designs and the event program. A big thanks to Carolyn in doing a very good job of look-

ing after the registration and all the details that goes along with it. Everyone did a great job and should be proud of the results and support of the participants at the event.

Looking ahead to 2010 plans are underway for the qualifiers along with one new one that will hopefully happen near Munroe WA in June.

Once again thanks to all of you in the North West who support the U.S. Scale Masters program through participation at the qualifiers. It is a privilege to have met so many of you over the years.

I am sure that Scale Aero modeling in the North West will continue to grow as we move forward.

Looking forward to meeting you on the flight line.
Roly Worsfold – U.S. Scale Masters – North West Regional Manager

Photos – taken by Sue Snyder of Wenatchee, WA are of Scale Masters 2009 Grand Champion Jeremy Fursman and his award winning 1/4 Scale - Tiger Moth. The plane has a Wing Span of 88 inches and weighs 17 pounds. It is powered by an O.S. 120.

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South Central RM Report

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Northeast Regional Manager Report

Mitch Epstein

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Building season is in full swing here in the Northeast. Snow-fall yesterday in most parts of the Washington/New York/Boston corridor totaled between 12 to 24 inches of the white stuff. No question about having a white Christmas this year. My personal projects include improvements of the YMF-5 and a rebuild on a BUSA Stearman (don't ask) as well as a restoration of a Ziroli P-40.

RCUniverse was lit up for a couple of months recently with the question being "What is the Future of Scalemasters". There were many issues brought up...some with possible solutions to ongoing growth problems as well as locations of Championships contests and even the whole structure of the Scalemasters. A short search on RCU will bring up the discussion and hopefully will serve to strengthen the group. Every one of our membership should read the thread. It's hard for dialog to occur with the scattering of our membership. Mitch Baker is attempting to help this dialog take place through the website. Hopefully there will be some progress there.

One big concern for me is why allow persons who are not Scalemasters members to compete at the championship level? At the qualifier level I don't think membership should be a requisite but if one cannot support the group at the qualifier contests, he/she should at the higher level. We need all the membership/funds/help we can get and that's one way to obtain it as I see it.

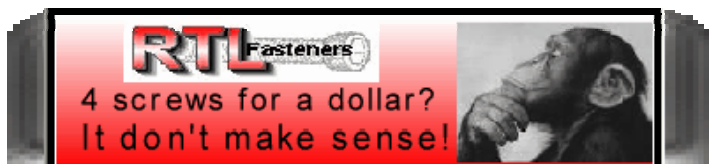
Best wishes to everyone for the coming year and here's hoping for growth and success to Scalemasters., Mitch Epstein

Thank you,

Mitch



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Midwest Quarterly Manager Report

By Mitch Baker

Mdbaker@mdbaker.org

From the Midwest and Director of Administration. I am still wearing two hats. Looking for someone to take over as the Midwest Regional Manager. If you would like to try to fill this position or know someone who you think might work well at this, please let me know... mdbaker@ussma-midwest.org. I am currently taking down the Midwest site and folding it into the new main site. Most of my efforts of late have been finishing off the new site to make a formal switch from the old site to new site. For those who have not been there yet, the new site is <http://www.usscalemasters.org>. There are forums, a picture gallery, and we hope to have a lot more. Please check it out. There will be several announcements coming from the Board here in the next few weeks. We have several committees looking at what we can do to make your membership work better for you. Also trying to take the suggestions from the members for the 2010 Championships Guide. The committees are close. As I have said before, all documentation will be posted on the new web site so it is even more important as we make these changes for you to sign up and participate in the forums.

So, what is on the build table for this year? I am still working on a 1/5th scale Bates A-36 Apache. My goal is to have it complete and ready for the 2011 season. For those of you who know me you know this is a LOFTY goal!! There is a build thread going on www.rcscalebuilder.com in the Jerry Bates Plans section.

Now putting on the Dir. of Admin hat... There is a new Internet radio station out there called Warbird Radio. <http://www.warbirdradio.com>. A radio station devoted to warbirds of all kinds. Not just R/C. Matt Jolly is a skilled R/C Scale builder and pilot as well as a full scale pilot. I have been interviewed a couple times by him, one live show dedicated to USSMA and hope to have more interviews with him in the future about qualifiers and the Championships. Please check it out, again that is www.warbirdradio.com

Remember the 2010 Championships are going to be held in Southern Indiana. Keep checking back on the web site. Shortly after the first of the year, we will start the new "2010 Championship Central" where you will be able to find the qualifier schedule, currently qualified pilots and more...

FLASH!!!!

"The USSMA Board of Directors has started a project to enhance the value of your USSMA membership. We are contacting several vendors in the industry to sponsor discounts to you. Currently we have 6 vendors who have come on board with discounts. We are continuing to pursue avenues to make your membership work for you. We will be putting the details of how to use your discounts with these vendors on the web site over the next week. Some gave us codes to use while checking out, others have coupons. If you know of any vendors who might fit, e-mail the contact information to mdbaker@ussma-midwest.org and we will contact them"

Winged Stitches

Only authorized USSMA apparel vendor.
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10% Discount on "one of a kind", custom work. Setup and shipping fees not included.

Does not include special USSMA member jacket, we already get a price break on that.

Club orders are welcome, contact Chris directly for that.

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VQ Models - 5%

Hanson Scale Aviation Videos \$10.00 Coupon

USSMA will have a booth at Toledo this year—Weak Signals

Toledo R/C Expo - April 9th, 10th, 11th, 2010

<http://www.toledoshow.com>

HELP WANTED! Help man the booth or other support—may be some perks associated—contact Mitch for details.

Until next time....

Mitchell Baker

Director of Administration

Midwest Regional Manager

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www.usscalemasters.org



THE BUCKET LIST

Ron Peterka

Have you seen that movie "The Bucket List"? In the movie two very different older men become close friends and make up a list of things they want to do or see before each one "kicks the bucket". Well, my bucket list is incomplete and much too long to have any chance of crossing off all the items. Two items have been crossed off during an effort of over ten years.

I won a championship with a model airplane I had built and found a very real personal friend in modeling that I value very highly. The path hasn't always been smooth, but every problem seemed to improve my skill and deepen our friendship.

After I retired in the early 90's I was able to spend more time on my favorite pastime..... building model aircraft, RC model aircraft. In fact I enjoyed building so much that my piloting skills never did catch up very much.

Well, my secondary hobby of writing about model airplanes, one thing I knew something about, brought some success with construction articles for model magazines, and finally I was offered a product review for a new scale model. The model turned out well and a photo of the model made the cover of the magazine. Since my piloting skills were questionable, I asked a newfound friend to test fly the model for in-flight photos. We worked well together and we decided, after a beverage or two, to enter the world of team scale model competition. After all, he could fly, and I could build. Perfect, right? At that point neither of us had made a serious competition flight in competition, so we began to learn.

Who knew there were so many rules? Oh, there are mandatory maneuvers and optional maneuvers? How really good was my model when judged by competent judges? Will the other competitors accept us into the group of serious contenders? (Yes, wholeheartedly.)

We made our debut at a qualifying contest in Mesa Arizona and I presented my best effort for static judging. Do you know how many errors they can find in the three categories of static judging? I do, and it was a long list. The judges were kind but uncompromisingly picky. But, I figured I could fix almost all the problems by the next contest.

My pilot and I discussed which maneuvers to choose for the optional selection and in what order we would attempt to fly them. Then we looked for our flight order and prepared the model. I still kid him about throwing up before the first flight. He claims he just needed a pit stop to drain a morning cup of coffee.

The static score was very mediocre and the total flight score was not much to write home about, but we hadn't crashed, and we both gained valuable experience. We would be back, and back, and back.

At the next contest the static judges tried to finish the list of deficiencies they had started at the last contest, the deficiencies were almost all new. The score was better, but not better enough.

My pilot was better, but not better enough. We still didn't

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Thoughts from the Editor;

As you noticed, Jeff Lovitt has resigned as VP West due to work and family reasons. I think he has done an outstanding job during his tenure, and that is only partly because I know him personally. He has always been thoughtful and aware of the potential effects of the changes we have discussed and made over the last few years.

I hope you all will join me in saying Thank You to Jeff.

You will also note that there are some changes to the membership fee structure, and that some "goodies" are on their way to USSMA members. Mitch Baker has been hard at work lining up vendors that will give discounts to USSMA members in good standing. See Mitch's article for further information.

Many of the VPs and RMs have started off their reports saying something similar to "Well, it's building season . . ." I try to take the week off between Christmas and New Years and was able to do so again this year—and spent most of the time with MY secret project—I have been working on it for literally years—but for several months each year I am only able to put in a couple of hours a week, if that. I have gotten to the point where I have had the wings on and the model up on the landing gear—and I am pumped now! I find myself sneaking odd moments out in the shop either adding something or figuring out how or what do next. At this rate, I might be finished in another 5 years or so . . .



Until next time,

Jeff

Opinions expressed by me do not necessarily reflect those of USSMA



<http://www.rcscaleproducts.com/>

Chairman's Report continued

(Continued from page 1)

The new By-laws have been voted on and approvedmembers can find them on the web page. Thank you for taking the time to vote!!

This is not a Qualifier, but the 2nd Western Scale Rally (WSR) event at Coachella, CA will be held on February 6-7 2010. This event is a semi-structured scale event (Static Judging with supporting documentation and Flight Judging of 5 mandatory and 4 optional maneuvers). This event's primary goal is 4-fold:

- Introduce all pilots to Scale Masters' Competition Rules and Documentation requirements
- Provide a learning platform for pilots with little or no prior contest experience.
- Provide critiques and feedback of a pilot's static judging and flight maneuver performance.
- Provide for a "practice" competition environment for pilots with previous contest experience.

* Critique and feedback will be given during Static and Flight Judging.

* Demonstrations of Scale Master maneuvers (mandatory and optional) will be performed by expert pilots during the event.

* Static displays of Scale Masters aircraft that have qualified for the Championships and their Documentation will be available for "Show & Tell"* as well as a few bashed ARF's (BARFS) that demonstrate what can be done to an ARF/ARC to make it competitive in Scale Masters' Qualifiers. You can go to this web site to get a copy of the flyer: <http://www.wrcscale.org/Documents/WSR2010Flyer1.pdf> . So, if you know of anyone in the Southern CA area who is interested in learning about r/c flying and competition and is interested in participating please give them this information.

I hope that everyone had a great Holiday and that 2010 is a great year for you.

With Best Regards,
Carolyn Van Herk



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qualify for the Championships round.

It was our third year of competition before we finally scored high enough in the ranking to qualify to fly in the Championships. The Championships that year were held in Dayton, Ohio, at the Air Force Air Museum. Talk about heaven for a scale modeler. We camped on the museum grounds and the museum was opened privately for the awards banquet. But, the most important and amazing thing happened there.

My pilot and I hoped fervently for a place in the top 10 in the team scale class. Then, lo and behold, we earned a sixth place. Talk about a nice ride home! It was a great feeling for a couple of pals who hadn't made a flight in competition just a few years before. We were both ready to go further and felt the experience helped our confidence immensely.

For the next six years we managed to qualify one way or another to fly in the Championships. We traveled all over the Country to Olathe, Kansas, Phoenix, Arizona, Muncie, Indiana (cold there), Hemet, California, and finally Sarasota, Florida. Our faithful Stinson survived two major crashes, but was rebuilt each time and placed us in the top ten every year but the one where we placed eleventh.

The weather was hot and humid at Sarasota in 2008 while the field was beautiful. An engine problem showed up during our first official flight and threatened to end our competition. A call for help and we had about fifty competitors and local club members ready to do anything they could to keep us in contention. What a great bunch of people to share a hobby with. We finally got the engine running just in time for the second flight.

The competition was tight in every class, and ours was no exception. It all boiled down to the scores from the last flight. A lot of anxious competitors waited for the scores to be tallied. The three best flight scores of each competitor are averaged and added to the static score for a total score.

By the closest margin in seven years of competition, the Stinson won First Place in Team Scale.

I guess I never mentioned the name of my good friend and a great pilot. He is Curtis Kitteringham from here in the San Diego area and we make a great team.

When the Scalemasters decided to open a competition for team scale it made it possible for guys like me, who are experienced builders, but who have never managed to get good piloting skills to locate an experienced

pilot and compete with other teams in local and National competition. Thank you Scalemasters, and more than a few thanks to my pilot, Curtis.



So that's the story of how I crossed off a couple 'bucket list' projects. I hope anyone reading this will have as much fun as we have crossing off a project from your own 'bucket list'.

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