



Volume 12, Issue 2  
March-May, 2010

## US SCALE MASTERS QUARTERLY MAR., 2010

### CHAIRMAN UPDATE

By Carolyn Van Herk

Hi Everyone,

As many of you may know, our West Coast Vice President, Jeff Lovitt resigned, and we were very sorry to see him go and wish him well. Jeff has done an outstanding job as WCVF.

I am very pleased to tell you that I have appointed Mike Peck from Phoenix as the new West Coast Vice President. Mike has been very active in Scale Masters for many years and is going to be a great addition. Mike as many of you may remember stepped to the plate in 2005 and took over the job of CD for the Championships that year after we lost the Castle Air Base field in Merced California just 3 months before the Champs. If for any reason, you need to contact Mike his email address is [peckster1@msn.com](mailto:peckster1@msn.com). Welcome aboard Mike!

Scale Modeling is alive and well and Qualifiers are already underway. In September, the SIR/CM Scale Classic Qualifier was held in Rosewood, IN. November brought us the Corvin Miller Memorial

Qualifier held in Sarasota, FL hosted by the Sarasota R/C Squadron. Unfortunately, this year due to unforeseen circumstances, Gunsmoke Scale Qualifier in Phoenix had to be cancelled, but they will return again next year.

For those of you who live in the Arizona/California area, who are looking for a Qualifier to participate in, the Southern Cal Qualifier will be held in Hemet, CA again this year, on April 9-11. Curtis Kittingham is the CD and can be reached at (760) 746-5913 in the evenings for more information. You can also reach him by email at [cak11@cox.com](mailto:cak11@cox.com). We have a couple more Qualifiers that will be coming up in April and May... Top Gun is being held April 29 – May 2 and Mint Julep will be May 14-16. Hope that everyone will try to attend at least one or maybe even more as either a pilot participant or spectator. You will have a great time I am sure.

Speaking of Qualifiers, I would like to welcome two new Qualifiers this year in one in California and another in Canada. The Central California Scale Qualifier is being held in Madera, CA August 27-29, and the North American Scale Squadron Qualifier will be held in Samia, Ontario, CA September 25-26 and will be the first qualifier

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## West VP Report:

By Mike Peck, Vice-Chairman West

It's been a few years since I've had the opportunity to communicate with you, and I'm enthusiastic about having been afforded the opportunity to work for the USSMA again as the western vice-chairman. I want to thank Carolyn Van Herk for giving me that opportunity, and I specifically want to recognize Jeff Lovitt for his years of excellent service to the organization and all of its members. Jeff has done a great job as is evidenced by the great scale qualifier and championship events that have been run in the west under his leadership, and he has helped your board of directors effectively navigate the ScaleMasters organization through difficult times and major changes in our contest classes. During that time he also managed to build new r/c models and compete with them in our events. Thanks, Jeff, for your hard work and perseverance.

I would like to be able to speak with many of you about what you think about the US ScaleMasters organization and its future direction. I know that with many scale r/c modelers, the emphasis seems to be on tweaking the rules in our Guide. I'm hoping that we can have more discussions with a wider focus, and to that end, I'm going to give you a little insight on my way of thinking.

First, I believe we need to spend more time promoting our product of scale r/c modeling, and a whole lot less time complaining about what is wrong with contests, judges, scoring, rules, and the USSMA organization whose purpose is to help people have fun and enjoy our sport in a competitive environment. Of course there are things that can be improved upon in those components of scale competition I just mentioned, but if we don't start talking about the fun that we have doing this, how are we ever going to convince new people to try it and grow the sport and our organization?

Second we need to spend some personal time at the local club fields encouraging the guy (or gal) that shows up and flies that kind-of-scale ARF to consider "fixing up" their next scale ship to make it a little better and more detailed. Maybe you can talk to them about flying it through some prototypical scale maneuvers instead of just flinging it around the sky. Some of you have run outstanding scale boot camp programs that expose new people to our events, rules, documentation, etc. Those are great programs and need to continue and be expanded, but nothing beats a little one to one help. Why not offer to go to their house and help that ARF modeler with their next semi-scale ship. Help them find some three views and some color pictures of something their ARF can be turned into with just a little work. Invite someone who has shown a little interest to accompany you and be a caller at the next scale fly-in or qualifier you attend. That's how we can help to get a new person involved and interested. They need to hear, see, and experience the positive side of what we do.

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## Eastern VP Report

By Mike Barbee, Vice-Chairman East

Hi everyone. How about a weather report! Here just on the north side of Columbus Ohio we are experiencing record snow fall. To date almost 30 inches in February alone. This brings our total for this winter to about 50 inches. Barb and I were in Crested Butte Co. a couple of weeks ago and their snow fall was just slightly more than here. My shop time has been interrupted weekly for trips up and down the driveway behind that big John Deer snow -blower.

Remember to renew your Scale Masters membership. There is no better way to support the sport of scale modeling. Go for the Champion membership or the new Life Time membership both are good deals.

When does the fun begin? In our area it all starts with the Toledo Show. This year the dates are April 9, 10, 11. I will be conducting a one hour seminar on, Building Scale your first model. I am directing this to the beginner and not you old time builders that already know everything. The Scale Masters will have a booth at the show. We welcome you to stop by and chat, pay your dues or both. This is the first beauty contest of the year, great looking planes a few of which may show up on the contest circuit.

Fun time number two, is the Mint Julep. As I see it one of the oldest scale contests in the U.S.

I was unable to attend last year and this broke my string of 32 consecutive attendances'. This is a primer event, with everything going for it, well attended by spectators, and a well trained contest director. The Julep dates are May 14, 15, 16. In beautiful Kentucky home of fast women and beautiful horses, I think...

Now we are rolling in the fun. The AMA Nat's will be held July 9, 10, 11. I always look forward to this contest because it brings old friends together for flying at our national site. We are looking for a sponsor for this event. Please contact me if interested, a good opportunity for some advertising on the contest shirts.

If those three months of contests don't have you rolling on the shop floor, then get up to the Long Island Qualifier in New York. It is Roy Vaillancourt's event in August. The dates are August 14, 15. I have attended this event and it is well run, by the best, and held on a wide open field that is 100' X 800' of beautiful grass.

All of these events in the East Coast area lead up to the Championships. This year in Rosewood, Indiana. The field is like a country club, with a paved and grass runways. There is a great group of guys putting on this event. The championship dates are September 15 thru 19. See the website for more details. If you or your company would like to sponsor part or this entire event

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Finally, we need to find better ways to involve the public and media outlets in what we are doing. This leads to better sponsorship opportunities that help to make all scale events more financially sound. That is a key factor in getting clubs to be more receptive to hosting scale events and to involving more new pilots in our type of competition. We cannot expect the modeling industry to be our sole or most financially effective supporters and sponsors. Other companies will become interested only if we are able to expand public and media interest, and the largest types of potential media outlets available to us are the new social media formats. I'm talking about the internet, folks. Modeling forums, Twitter, Facebook, etc. are all forms of the new media that we can contribute positive information to that creates the "buzz" that interests potential corporate sponsors. Flaming, complaining, and other negative inputs kills that buzz immediately. We need to think about that while we are online.

For those of you who may not have heard, the highly regarded and well-attended Gunsmoke qualifier was not held this year, and the Arizona Model Aviators host club has indicated they are not going to run that event any longer. Other r/c organizations in the Phoenix area are currently looking at the possibility of picking up & hosting the event for 2011. I know that the scale modelers in the Phoenix metro area are very concerned that a premier qualifier event like Gunsmoke needs to be continued and are working to re-establish that contest under new management as soon as possible. Stay tuned for more news when information becomes available.

I want to make myself as available as possible to the members of r/c scale community, so my e-mail address is [peckster1@msn.com](mailto:peckster1@msn.com) and my home landline phone number is 623-872-0176. I like to think that I'm open and receptive to suggestions for improvement and new ideas, and I will listen to what you have to say. I respond most favorably when you are willing to help with the work. Feel free to call or e-mail me to chat and share.

Michael Peck  
[peckster1@msn.com](mailto:peckster1@msn.com)



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please contact Dale Arvin C.D. or Al Vacka 812-923-9527.

I know this was a bit long winded but there are a lot of contests in our area leading up to the Championships so plan ahead to attend them and have fun.

Mike Barbee East Coast Chairman  
[Mabarbee@aol.com](mailto:Mabarbee@aol.com)



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## South Central RM Report

by Lawrence Harville

We are enduring one of the most grueling winters I can remember. Just to go to the field is a hardship but we try to make it out at least 3-4 times a week. You can pull up to the field and the guys are dressed in the usual winter clothing, of ski suits, gloves and hooded parkas, sometimes we have to build a fire just to keep from freezing. The temp has been hovering in the mid 50's and I don't think we can exist if it gets much colder. So keep us southern boys in your prayers and maybe we can make it through the winter months-We can't wait for Global warming to knock off the chill in the air.

The South Central area has two Scale Masters Qualifiers scheduled so far. The Texas Scale Championships will be held June 12-13, 2010 at the Greater Southwest Aeromodelers flying field again. 2009 was the first year for the GSWAM club to host the Championships/Scale Qualifier and I have to say they went out of the way to put on a good show. The members pitched in and ran a first rate contest with raffles, prizes and providing free meals to the pilots. I think the Texas Championships was the first contest to offer a discount to U.S. Scalemasters members. It is good to see the USSMA recommending to all qualifiers to give the discount—I think that is a great idea. It is a small amount but it lets USSMA members stand out from the crowd-and may entice a few more to join up.

We push pretty hard to get new pilots to enter the contest by visiting several clubs in the area and telling them how easy it really is to enter in the Fun class and during the contest we mention the pilots name every time they fly. All this to encourage NEW pilots to try scale. It seems a lot of guys are intimidated to fly against the veterans. When we have a large number of pilots in one class we divide the class on the spot, like we had 12 pilots in fun class, we split them into Military and Civilian. The idea was to have more pilots win a trophy. To get them some success and to come back next year. It seems to be working-only time will tell-we'll see how many returning new pilots we have this year.

John Ostmeyer has the Mid-States Scale Classic scheduled for July 24-25. If you are in the middle states you need to put this one on your list of contest to attend. John has been the CD for many years and runs a first rate contest that is laid back and fun to go to. I missed last year, for the first time in 4 years but I'll be there this year.

There are several new contest birds being build or finished for the coming season. I am building a Zirolli B-25, Lee Rice has just finished his Zirolli Corsair, Peter Fritsche has finished up a Zirolli P-38, Max Ficken has a new Zirolli Bearcat and Ed

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## Midwest Quarterly Manager Report

By Mitch Baker

[Mdbaker@mdbaker.org](mailto:Mdbaker@mdbaker.org)

Midwest RM Hat (we are looking for a new Midwest RM):

Well contest season is cranking up. I just got back from the 1/8th Air Force spring fly-in and had a blast. Check out the 1/8th web site, [www.oneeighthairforce.org](http://www.oneeighthairforce.org) for all the pic's I took. Coming up, I will be at the Weak Signals Expo <http://www.toledoshow.com/> in Toledo Ohio, April 8,10 and 11. USSMA will have a booth at the expo so please stop by. Bring new folks and sign them up. After that will be the Mint Julep Scale Qualifier, May 14,15 & 16 in Falls Rough Kentucky, hosted by SIR/CM. If you have never been to this qualifier, you have to try to attend. It is a lot of fun.

Dir of Admin Hat:

The member packets are a little slow getting out but should be arriving soon. We were waiting for the USSMA member hats to get finished up so we could mail them out with the guide, pin, decals and other USSMA information. The hats have arrived and the guide will be going to the printers and shipping boxes ordered. We are excited to be able to add more "bang for your buck" so to speak. In addition to the new hat and decal, we have also changed around the championships fees for Classic members. In addition we have added a new membership category, Lifetime Member. Now for a one time fee of \$750.00 or 10 monthly payments of \$75.00 you can become a lifetime member of USSMA. With your membership you will get a special hat embroidered with Lifetime Member, and a special USSMA jacket also displaying you are a Lifetime member. Yearly you will get all the other items set to you that you would as a Classic member. Keep an eye on the web site for more details on that.

Last from the web site, please check it out. I am looking for suggestions from you, the members on how to improve the web site, propose improvements to the guide or just to ask questions. Being a member of USSMA gives you a voice, so please use it. Only with participation of the members can we improve USSMA. Members have a link on the main page to fill out a form to suggest changes to the guide. Download member only files, and new is the Vendor Discounts. These were introduced in the last newsletter. Several vendors have graciously offered discounts to USSMA members. Lets show them we appreciate this by giving them our business. I am working with more vendors to make it even better. If you have a contact, let me know. Another member perk we have introduced is a \$5.00 discount

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## Northeast Regional Manager Report

Mitch Epstein

Mepst22487@AOL.COM

Just a short note this time with a couple of good news items. #1 The Gardner, MA qualifier will again take place in June. I believe it'll be the weekend after Father's day but don't hold me to the date positively. Also I got confirmation that the Long Island NY qualifier is back. It's held on a billiard table flat and green sod farm....a terrific spot.

If I might blow my own horn.....I received top honours with the Best of Show award at the annual WRAM's trade show with my Waco YMF-5 on the weekend of Feb21st. I was humbled to say the least. I hope to fly it at several qualifiers during the upcoming season. Hope to see you there too.

Mitch

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Newman building an Italian Fiat G.50. That's just the ones I know of.

If you are looking for a contest this year, we have TWO of the best in the Scale Masters organization, come on down and have a blast with us.

Hope to see you at the finals-can't wait  
Gear up and locked

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for all USSMA members if you fly a Championship Qualifying Class (Expert, Team, Advanced or Open) at a participating qualifier. We have asked all the CD's to participate. You only get one discount per qualifier, so it does not matter how many classes you enter, its only one \$5.00/qualifier. Again check out the web site [www.scalemasters.org](http://www.scalemasters.org). If there is anything else you need or want to see, please let me know.

Until next time....

Mitchell Baker



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(Unless noted, photos are from Lawrence Harville)

Wow—springtime again. Those of you that don't have to do daylight savings don't know how lucky you are! The good thing about it is that I seem to have more time in the evening to use for modeling, checking my friend's builds on-line and so on. One thing I have noted about the modeling community and scale modelers in particular is the camaraderie—I recently needed a copy of an old Profile publication and I asked for it on-line at [RCSCALEBUILDER.COM](http://RCSCALEBUILDER.COM)—within a couple of days I had 3 or 4 offers to either copy theirs or sell me theirs—one fellow had a spare and just sent it to me, did not even ask for postage. Sweet. I made a donation for him to RCSB just to keep things square.

People say that building is a dying art, where have all the kits gone and so on and on. But what I am seeing is a lot of cottage industry types showing up—a lot of them are small electrics selling laser cut short-kits, but some like Bob Holman (who has been around for years) are selling the larger laser cut short- and full-kits. And if you check sites like RCSB, RCU and RC Groups—there are a heck of a lot of people building scale.

Where it used to be a few guys in a club or group would get together at someone's shop or garage for a little bench flying and some building, now we are sharing the works on-line and globally. I have several friends in foreign countries now—and find more all the time.

Check out the on-line resources and see what is happening!

Jeff

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



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for 2011.

We are still missing dates and information on several Qualifiers. If the CD's for these Qualifiers would please send in your information it would be greatly appreciated.

**Buckeye Scale Championships**

**High Plains Scale Classic**

**Minnesota Scale Classic**

**L.A. Scale Classic (formerly San Fernando Valley)**

Things are coming together nicely for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Championships being held at Rosewood, IN, September 15-19, hosted by the Ohio River View R/C Flyers. Dale Arvin will be the Championship CD this year. We have an International Pilot who has already committed to attend, his name is Chris White and he is from Narellan N.S.W. 2567 Australia. His bio is included in this issue of the Newsletter. The Ohio host club is working hard to make this a great and memorable event! You don't want to miss it. Make sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend. Watch the Scale Masters web site [scalemasters.org](http://scalemasters.org) for more information up-dates.

A Big Thank you to Jeff Whitney, Nigel Tarvin, Mel Santmeyers, and Mitch Baker for all the hard work they did on the Rules change to the Competition Guide. The new 2010 Competition Guide should be received by members in good standing shortly if you haven't already received your copy.

Until next time, Fly Safe!!

With Best Regards,  
Carolyn Van Herk

## Chris White Bio

The US Scalemasters Championship will be joined this year by Chris White, a noted modeler from "down under". Here is his description of himself and his achievements:

**Chris White**

**66 Valley View Dr, Narellan N.S.W. 2567**

**Married with 2 children**

**Age: 46 PH: 0246479153**

## PAST EXPERIENCE

**Total years experience in R/C Aero modelling 35 years:  
Represented Australia in the following F3A events:**

1. Trans Tasman Cup New Zealand 1986
2. USA National Nebraska 1987 (Made the finals)
3. World Aerobatic Championship France Avion 1987.
4. World Aerobatic Championships USA Chesapeake

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1989

5. Trans Tasman Cup Australia 1990

6. Trans Tasman Cup New Zealand 1992

CAOCC International Singapore 2000

Note: 2002 Australian F3A Aerobatic Champion



Photo 1 Myself with my design for Hobby People "Corby Starlet" sold under the Sportsman Aviation brand wingspan with FS180



Photo 2 shows my first design for Hobby People "Corby Starlet" Wingspan 60" with FS70 which is now discontinued.

Photo 3 (next column) with my design "Vista Air-tourer" now being sold once again by Hobby People under the Sportsman Aviation brand. Wingspan 67" engine required FS91 .



(Photos courtesy of Chris White)

Welcome Chris—hope you enjoy your visit!

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