

# SCALE DIMENSION NEWS

MARCH 2007 VOLUME 14 · WWW.SCALESQUADRON.COM



The Official Publication of the Scale Squadron of Southern California  
Founder's of the U.S. Scale Master's Championships



## View From the "Real" Canopy

### Randy Wilbur, CO Commander

March has come roaring in like a lion. Not weather wise but OCMA wise. An incident took place at the Irvine lake field in January that was brought to the attention of the AMA. Rich Hanson, our District 10 Vice President, came to our last meeting to talk with our members to find out what was being done about this. He then came back and attended the OCMA board meeting to insure that proper safety measures were being implemented. The OCMA board did not respond to the incident as a serious matter. They wanted to just blow it off as a stupid mistake and give those people involved a slap on the wrist. The AMA is not taking this lightly and has sent a letter stating that if the following suggestions are not followed the AMA will not re-new the OCMA's charter.

Orange County Modelers Assn  
ATTN: Bob Swenson, President  
Bob,

I would like to thank you for allowing me to be a guest at the board meeting Monday night, and for allowing me to comment during the discussion of the safety concerns at the OCMA Black Starr Flying Site. Unfortunately, however, I left the meeting very much dismayed and troubled by the conduct and outcome of the meeting. I was saddened by the fact that you did not take a leadership role in resolving the safety issues and did not convey a positive organizational commitment to establishing safe and effective operations at the OCMA flying site. In fact quite the opposite was true in your attempts to trivialize and minimize the issues. It was also apparent the OCMA BOD is operating far a field from its bylaws and has run administratively roughshod over its member clubs as an AMA Chapter organization. For the first time in my fourteen years of representing

*District X I was put in the very uncomfortable position of having to be openly at odds with the club leadership in a member meeting.*

*It is obvious from your responses to my previous correspondence that you view my expressions of concern as a nuisance rather than addressing the safety issues in a responsible manner. This resistive response coupled with my personal observations at the board meeting raises serious doubt regarding the Board's resolve to handle this situation appropriately.*

*Without rehashing the content of Monday nights meeting, it suffices to say that I now have absolutely no confidence in the OCMA's intent, ability and commitment to its safety program (or lack thereof) under its current structure and leadership. I believe a repeat of the previous occurrence at the field or similar occurrence is likely, and there is high potential for personal injury and/or property damage given the current environment at the Black Starr flying site.*

*The safety of the AMA members and non-member visitors to AMA chartered/insured flying sites is a crucial issue for the Academy of Model Aeronautics, and my responsibility to act in the best interest of the District X membership and the Academy as a whole is exceedingly clear. As such, I am taking the following action to address this situation and mitigate the safety concerns.*

*The Orange County Modelers Association Board of Directors is hereby instructed to accomplish the following:*

- 1) Enact an immediate 60-day suspension of flight activities at the Black Starr (Irvine Lake) Flying Site, effective 8:00a PST, Friday March 2, till 8:00a PDT, Tuesday May 1, 2007. A notice of the cessation of flight activities should be posted at the flying site and on the OCMA Web page.
- 2) Conduct a review of and update the OCMA's safety program and field rules with special attention given to flight operations including normal flight patterns, operational boundaries and no-fly areas. The rules should also address flight line procedures,

pit area guidelines and transmitter impound procedures. Procedures should be amplified to ensure deadline/flight line delineations are clearly established, all flying is conducted from designated pilot stations behind the safety fencing and incursion onto the runway are clearly announced and only allowed to retrieve aircraft and/or in urgent situations.

3) Conduct a safety survey of the flying site to identify safety concerns, issues and hazards. Develop an action plan to address and mitigate these issues to include appropriate signage, fire suppression equipment and procedures, first aid supplies and communication procedures for summoning EMS and fire fighting personnel.

4) Determine policy and procedures for the visitation by non OCMA permit holders. Post appropriate signage to educate visitors as to the site access policies. If the site is not open to the public when the field is unattended, ensure the signage adequately communicates this policy and the site is reasonably secured to prevent unfettered access to the site.

5) Conduct an open meeting of all OCMA

**Continued Inside Page 2**

**March 2007**  
**MEETING**  
**MONDAY**  
**March 12**  
**7:00 PM**  
Green Valley  
Adult Clubhouse  
17250 West Los Jardines  
Fountain Valley, Ca 92708  
Bring your current scale  
aircraft project Bring a  
friend too!

*flying site permit holders to brief the site users on the flying site policies, procedures and safety rules.*

6) *Prepare a written document explaining the flying site policies, procedures and safety rules and distributed this document to each permit holder in person at the meeting and by direct mailing to those not in attendance.*

7) *Before and/or upon reinitiating flight activities at the flying site, conduct individual verbal briefings regarding flight operations and the flight line procedures before allowing individual users to begin flying. A signature verification of this briefing will be obtained from each individual and all verifications will be submitted to AMA as a package along with the OCMA's 2007 charter renewal. Failure to submit the verifications and/or comply with the above requirements will result in the non-renewal of the OCMA charter.*

*My local AMA Associate Vice President, Bill Malvey, is available to you to serve as a resource should you have any questions or run into any problems. I will also ask Bill to monitor OCMA's progress and compliance in accomplishing these tasks.*

*Let me be clear. I view these safety issues, your failure to act and reluctance to work cooperatively with the AMA as a very serious matter. I believe it may be time the OCMA and its participating AMA member clubs reevaluate the organizational structure and leadership of the association. The open meeting discussed in point 5 above may provide an excellent opportunity to initiate a dialog on this subject. Certainly, the continuation of OCMA's affiliation with the Academy of Model Aeronautics is something I and the other members of the AMA Executive Council most reflect on when taking into consideration the best interests of the Academy, its members and the overall health and welfare of the hobby.*

*I hope the OCMA Board of Directors views the above actions as a positive approach to addressing this issue and mitigating the safety concerns. I look forward to hearing of your progress in achieving these goals.*

*Rich Hanson, VP  
AMA District X*

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If we are to keep this field, now is the time for all members to stand up and get involved. This may be the last opportunity to have a flying facility in the Orange County area.

We all can let the other guy worry about the field and say "It won't happen to us", well here is your wake up call!

We can not afford to dismiss this situation as a passing thing or chalk it up as growing pains. Our club rep. Gordon Truax and the OCRCC's rep. Frank Dave will be working together to see that the AMA's suggestions are carried out. I urge all of you to take note of what is going on and get involved.

It is also important that all of the original OCMA Clubs have their Delegate get involved as well. This increases our voice to the OCMA Board of Directors. Many of those people are new and want to save the flying site as well.

The guest speaker at our last meeting was Rich Hanson from the AMA. I would like to thank him for coming down and taking the time to share with us all that the AMA has to offer. He reported that the AMA convention was the best yet and that next year's event will have more. Missing this year was a banquet. Last year they honored Burt Rutan with the Hall of Fame award. Rich also told us about the new AMA financial officer and some of the changes taking place in the national headquarters. Thanks again Rich.

The PVMAC Board at Prado approved our proposal to hold a Scale Fun Fly in late May or Early June. We have a few additions to the conditions required by the PVMAC, but all doable with the help of many of you. We will be looking for volunteers to handle various duties. Since this will be our first event since the closure of El Toro, I hope all of you will get involved in the flying as well as the help.

March brings with it the Bi-Annual 1/8<sup>th</sup> Air Force fun fly in Phoenix. The event is the 24-25 of this month. I hope, once again, that you can break away and take in all that this event has to offer. Rides and rooms are available to those who want to share with other members.

See their ad in this newsletter and hopefully we can find a hotel/motel close by with double bed rooms. We will keep you informed of that discovery.  
Stay involved and keep active.

*Randy Wilbur  
Commander*

## 2007 Dates to Remember

March 23-25, 2007  
One Eighth Scale Fly In  
Mesa, Arizona

March 26 (Monday)  
OCMA Meeting - Fountain  
Valley Library at 7:00PM

March 31-April 1  
RCX Expo, Pomona Fair-  
plex

April 3-4, 2007  
Aluminum Overcast B-17 at  
Chino for rides

April 8, 2007  
EASTER SUNDAY

April 13-15, 2007  
Scale Masters Qualifier  
Hemet, California

May 2-6  
Top Gun Invitational  
Lakeland Linder Airport  
Lakeland, Florida

May 12-14, 2007  
PVMAC Electric Fun Fly  
Prado Field - Chino, Ca

May 19-20  
Chino Air Show  
Chino Airport

May 26-27 (Tentative)  
Scale Squadron Scale Fun  
Fly  
Prado Field - Chino, Ca



# Second Annual Southern California Scale Masters Qualifier

April 13 – 14 – 15, 2007

Hemet Airpark - Hemet, CA

Hosted By: Hemet Model Masters

**Public Welcome**

## EXPERT- TEAM – OPEN – FUN SCALE

(Fun Scale does not qualify for Scale Masters)

**US SCALEMASTERS 2007 Rules**

**AMA Sanction #07-0013**

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

- **Friday April 13:** Registration 9:00am -Static Judging with Practice Flying until 4:30pm. Possible start of Open Flying.
- **Saturday April 14:** Pilots meeting at 8:00am. Qualifying Rounds begin at 8:30am until 4:30pm. Late Static Judging until end of 1<sup>st</sup> round.
- **Sunday April 15:** Completion of Round Five. Score is based upon the average of best three flying rounds plus static score.

**Entry Fee \$25.00 Before March 28, \$35.00 after**

**Awards:** Awards to third place (3) finishes in each class. Pilots Choice and Peoples Choice Award. Top 30% in each event Expert and Team qualify for the Scale Masters. Top 20% of Open qualifies.

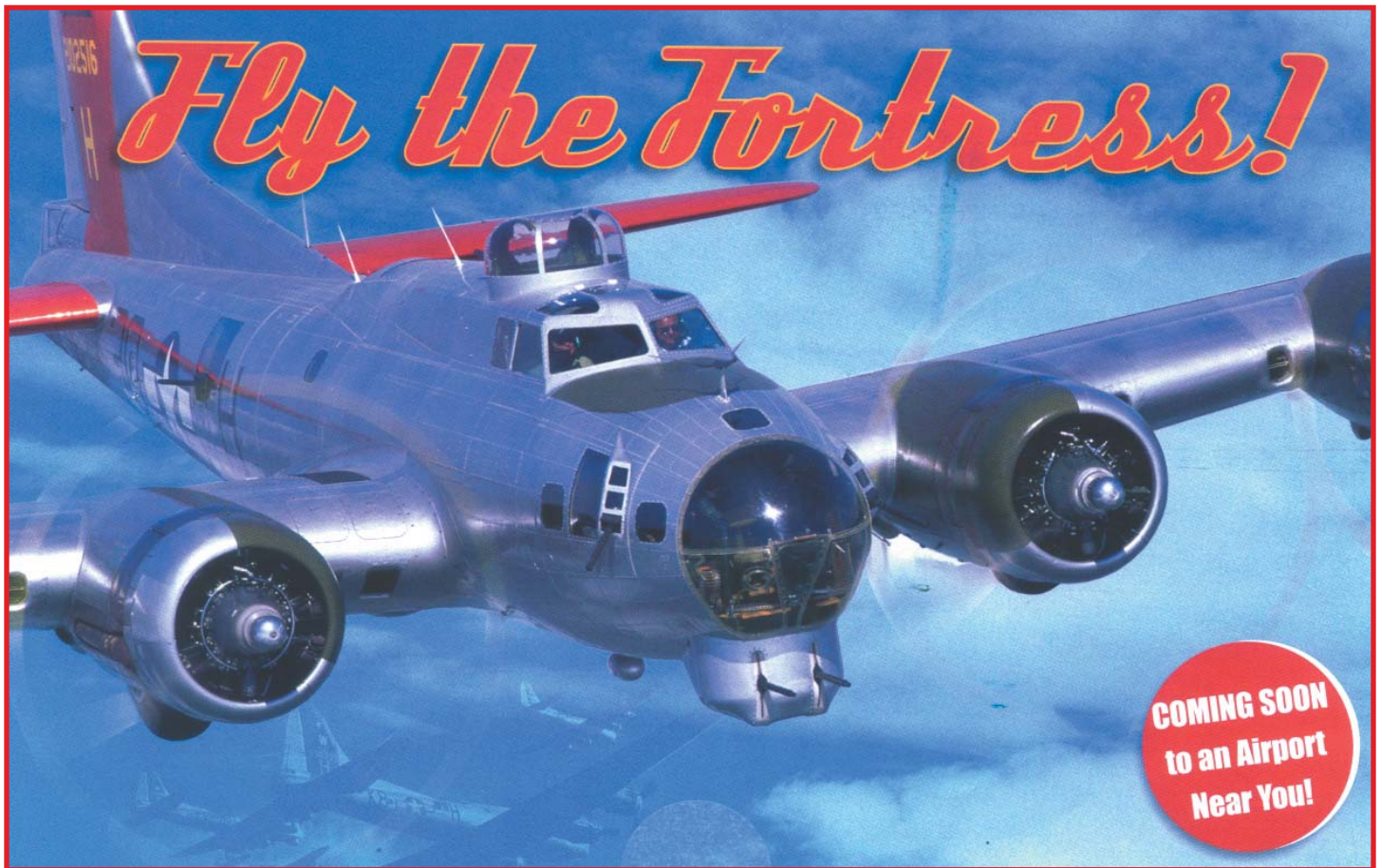
See Class Rules and Flying Maneuvers found in the 2007 Scale Masters Championship Rule Book, at [www.scalemasters.org](http://www.scalemasters.org) in PDF and MS Word format.

**\*\*\*400-foot altitude restriction, 100 db limit. Use of channel 28 not recommended\*\*\***

**AMA Sanctioned Event, All entries must have a current 2007 AMA membership card at registration. Turbine Pilots must have current waiver.**

**Contest Director:** Bill Hart, 9151 Larkspur Drive, Westminster, CA 92683,  
email: [billhartwestmin@yahoo.com](mailto:billhartwestmin@yahoo.com), (714) 894-2747  
Make checks payable to Hemet Model Masters

**Nearby Hotel/Motels:** Hampton Inn & Suites (951) 929-7373, Super 8 Motel (951) 658-2281  
Best Western (951) 925-6605, Motel 6 (951) 929-8900, RV parking at field NO HOOK-UPS



## **EAA B-17 Aluminum Overcast Coming to Chino April 3 & 4, 2007**

Ride with fellow Scale Squadron Members, and enjoy a real adventure aboard a flawlessly restored B-17 Flying Fortress!

### **PRICES: MISSION FLIGHT STATUS**

\$359\*\* B-17 Flight Experience - Current EAA Member

\$399\*\* B-17 Flight Experience - Not an EAA Member

\*(includes FREE 1-yr. EAA membership)

**\*\* These prices are for advance bookings only.**

Flights purchased on site are \$385 for EAA members and \$425 for Non-members.

Once the B-17 is on location at the current tour stop advance ticket sale prices are no longer available for that stop.

**Ground Tours** are \$10.00 for Family, Adults over 18 \$6.00, Students 8 to 17 \$5.00, WWII Vets Free

Book your flight at [www.b17.org](http://www.b17.org) or call 1-800-359-6217

Sponsored by the EAA Warbird Squadron 16 at the Chino Airport

Contact Warbird Squadron/ Scale Squadron members for more information:

Sam Wright 949-888-4711, Gordon Truax 714-624-5214

**With 12, 731 built less than 12 are flying today!  
Join us for this historical occasion!**



# OCRCC Palm Springs Air Museum Tour Sat March 24, 2007

**Saturday March 24, 2007**  
**\$14.00 if a group of 15 minimum is present**  
**Contact: Ron St. John 714-893-6973**  
**Meet in Parking Lot at the Museum at 11:30am**  
**Address:**  
**745 N. Gene Autry Trail - Palm Springs, Ca**  
*(Turn right off the freeway and drive until you see the museum on your right)*



## *Scale Squadron March Meeting snapshots*



Rich Hanson, District 10 AMA VP as Guest Speaker. Great insight to the AMA. Rich fielded many questions.



Bill Hart (left) Announcing his new role as Chairman of the US Scale Masters Championships. (Randy on right.)



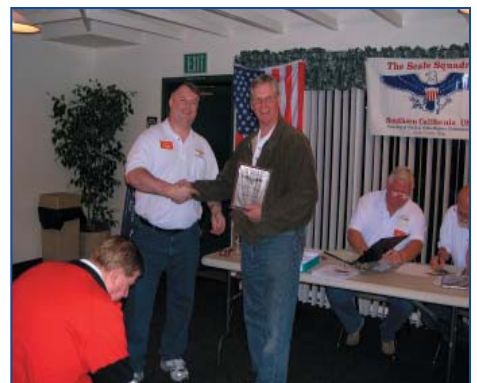
Joni Whitsett (right) Toys for Kids Chairperson presenting award to the Scale Squadron for 2006.



George Peter's 16 lb KMP Electric Heavenly Body B-25. Has lights, 10 bombs & 2 AXI 4120 motors.



Ray Young (RT) Accepts Appreciation award for his great support in 2006. Randy Wilbur (Left)



Gary Holderness accepts his award also, as did Several other Squadron members for 2006.

# **ONE EIGHTH AIR FORCE SCALE MODEL FLY-IN**

**MARCH 24 & 25 2007**

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**REGISTRATION STARTS AT 7:30 AM SATURDAY**

**AMA REQUIRED**

**AMA SANCTION #07157**

**\$10.00 ENTRY PER PILOT**

**100 DB SOUND LIMIT**

**ALL TYPES OF SCALE R/C AIRCRAFT WELCOMED**

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**PARKING \$5.00 PER DAY**

**DRY CAMPING AVAILABLE**

**FOR MORE INFO:**

**CD: AUSTIN GOODWIN 480- 357-1816 n4351x@aol.com**

**COMMANDER: HOWARD KENNEDY 602-361-8475**

**bushpilot1443@yahoo.com**

**[www.oneighthairforce.org](http://www.oneighthairforce.org)**

**Hotels for double beds in Apache junction and mesa are booked solid. We will see what we can find for our group and advise all those going.**

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**EXPO**

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Saturday, March 31, 2007 • 10a.m.-6p.m.

Sunday, April 1, 2007 • 10a.m.-5p.m.

\* Go to any Hobby People store and get your **FREE \$15 RCX TICKET** with the purchase of an Impulse Li-Po battery or gallon of Power Master fuel. *\* Some limitations apply. See store for details.* **Hurry into a Hobby People store near you!**

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**Mark**  
MODEL ENGINES

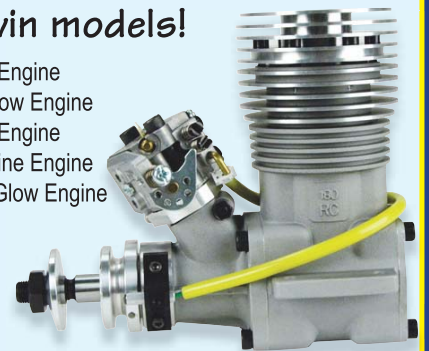
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performance  
engines now  
in stock!



## Gasoline, glow, and twin models!

- No. 214210 — M 135 RC Side Exh. Glow Engine
- No. 214213 — M 180 RC Side Exhaust Glow Engine
- No. 214218 — M 210 RC Side Exh. Glow Engine
- No. 214240 — G 180 RC Side Exh. Gasoline Engine
- No. 214250 — M 360 Twin RC Side Exh. Glow Engine

These engines were  
the RAGE at the AMA  
show last month!





[www.nasascale.org](http://www.nasascale.org)

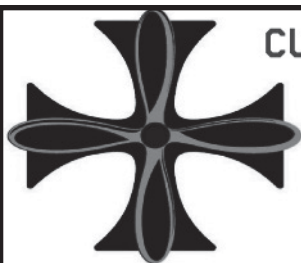
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Randy Wilbur (Left) with his first ever electric flight on his Kyosho Spitfire. Larry Wolfe had the first flight trim honors in really windy conditions at Prado.

## **In This March Issue:**

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