

# The Monterey Bay Muddler



**WE ARE WATCHING YOU!**

Today's meetings a real beaut. We had 11 members show up... one a brand new one named Matt Robbins. Also present were Ron K., Ramon and son Oliver, Dave C., the Marcum Bros., Lee and Larry (Moe and Curly stayed home!), Tom L., Kelly A., and Me! There was no Presidents' report so we went right into the Sec'y and Treas., reports. Financially, we are very solvent. We did send a \$25.00 check to the U.S.S. Hornet in memory of Bill Campbell, one of the original (Red Tails) Tuskegee Airman. He was a member of Meadowbrook Tennis club, as am I, and Bill and I had many a wonderful chats. He was a gentleman, a gentle man, and a living history book. He was loved, admired and respected by all who knew him.

As for other news, Lee and Larry went to the SVSM show at Napradak Hall (alias the Black Hole of Calcutta). They said that the show was smaller than ever and the hall darker than ever. Glad I missed it. Sorry I missed my friends, but I'll see them all at the next show. They also said that Jamie and Erik were there. Lee, Larry and Tom were also up at the NNA Car show and said it was an absolute gas... great show, great models to see. With nothing more to say, we went right into Show and Tell time.



Our newcomer, Matt brought 2 WIP kits, one in 1/72nd scale. The first was the Hasagawa Ki-27, a Japanese Army fighter plane. The other, a Dragon 1/144th scale U-2. Matt shared that the U-2 was excellently (over)engineered.





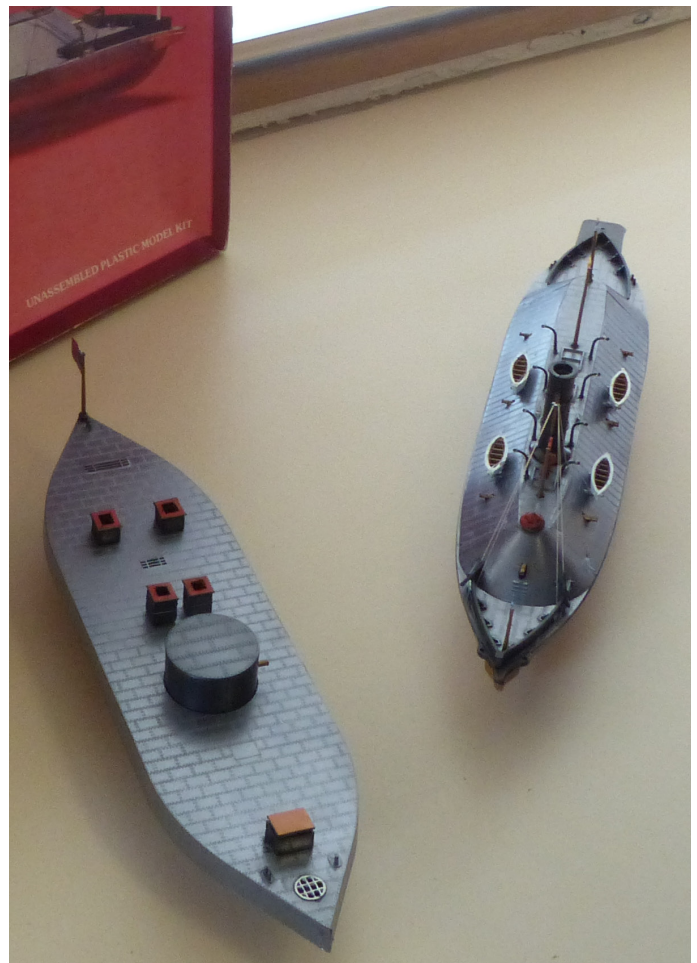
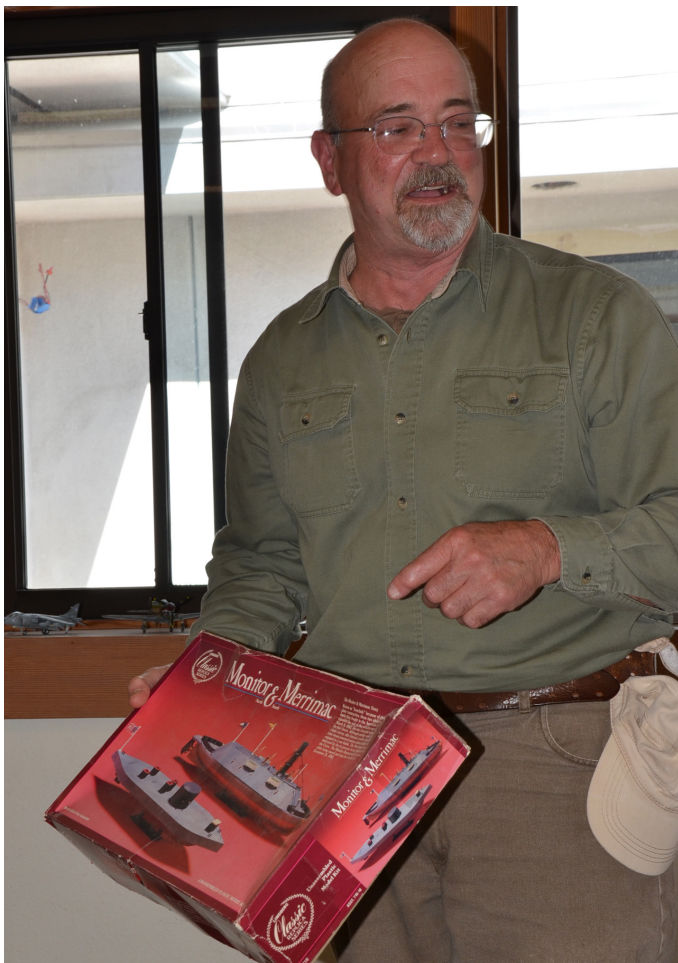
Lee brought in again the monstrous Godzilla that he's been working on since the Ice Age ended. He took Ramon's advice and used Millaput to fill seams and reshape arm and leg parts.



Larry showed us his Monogram 1/48th scale Hawker Typhoon. It too has been worked on since the Ice Age (of course...they're brothers!). He's got a bit more filling and sanding before he puts the first coat of primer on. I'm guessing that my grandson will get to see the finished product!



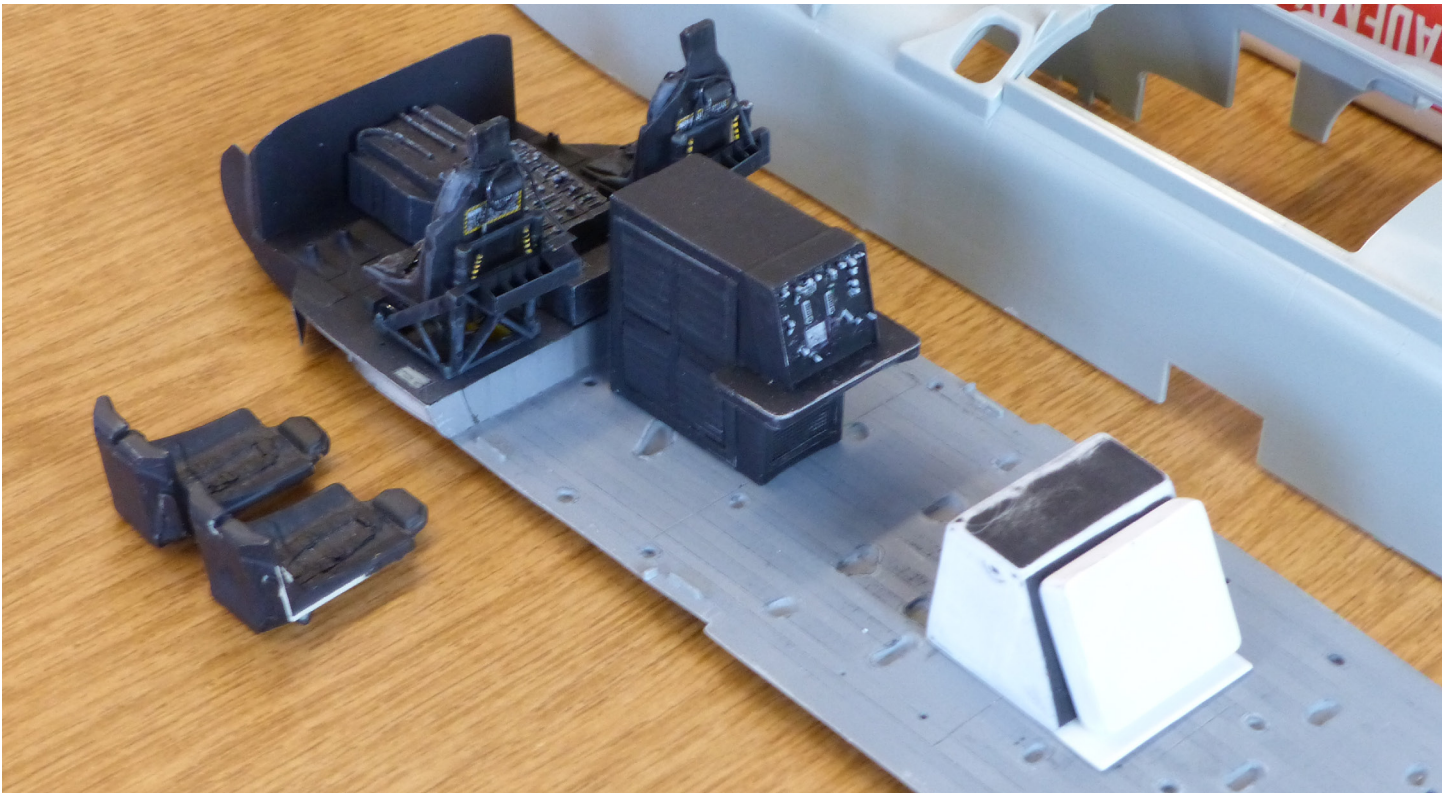
Dave brought in something COMPLETELY OUT OF CHARACTER! A Lindberg box scale kit of the Monitor and the Merrimack...to be more precise, the VIRGINIA and the Monitor. As usual, a great history lesson came with the presentation. Way to go Dave..keep up the good work.



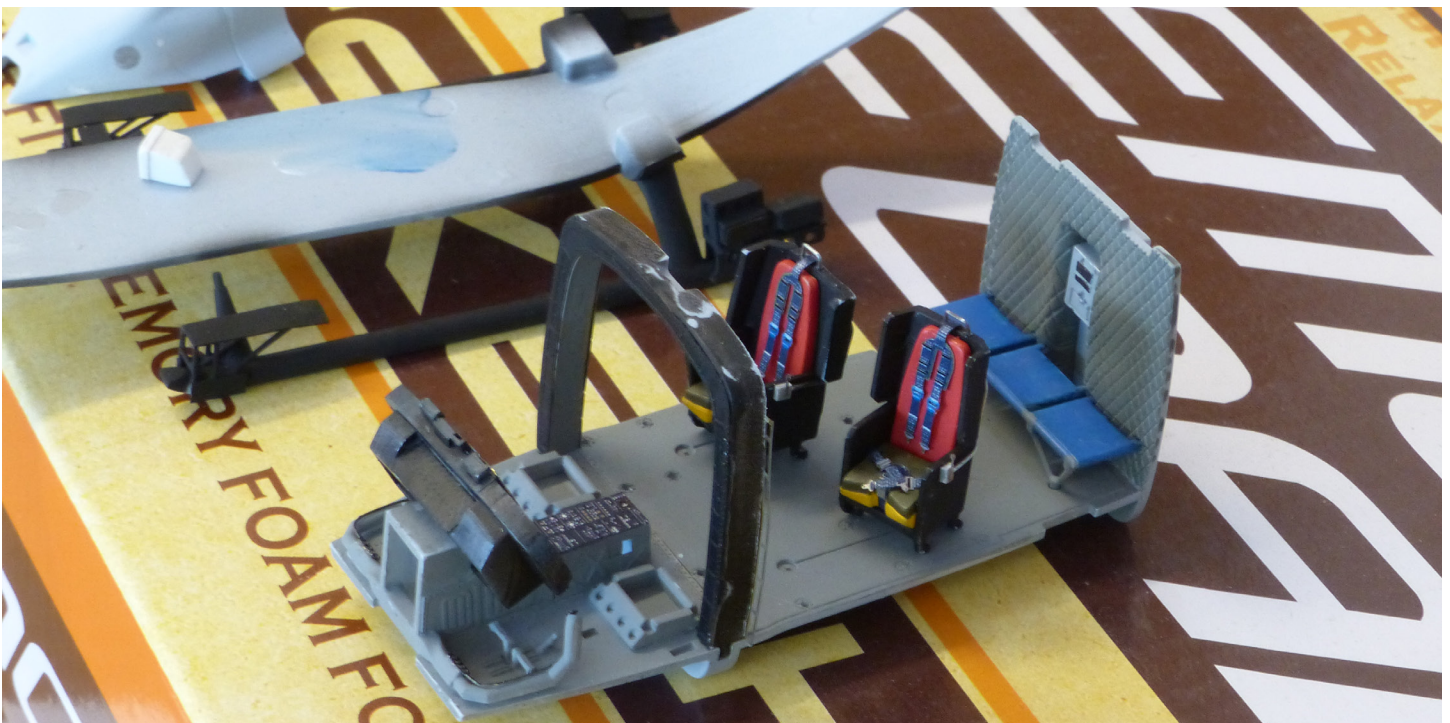


Ron, as usual, brought in 2 beauties: an Airfix 1/48th scale Seafire 17, and an Accurate Miniature 1/48th scale F3F1 bi-plane. We've got to get Ron to show up more often!



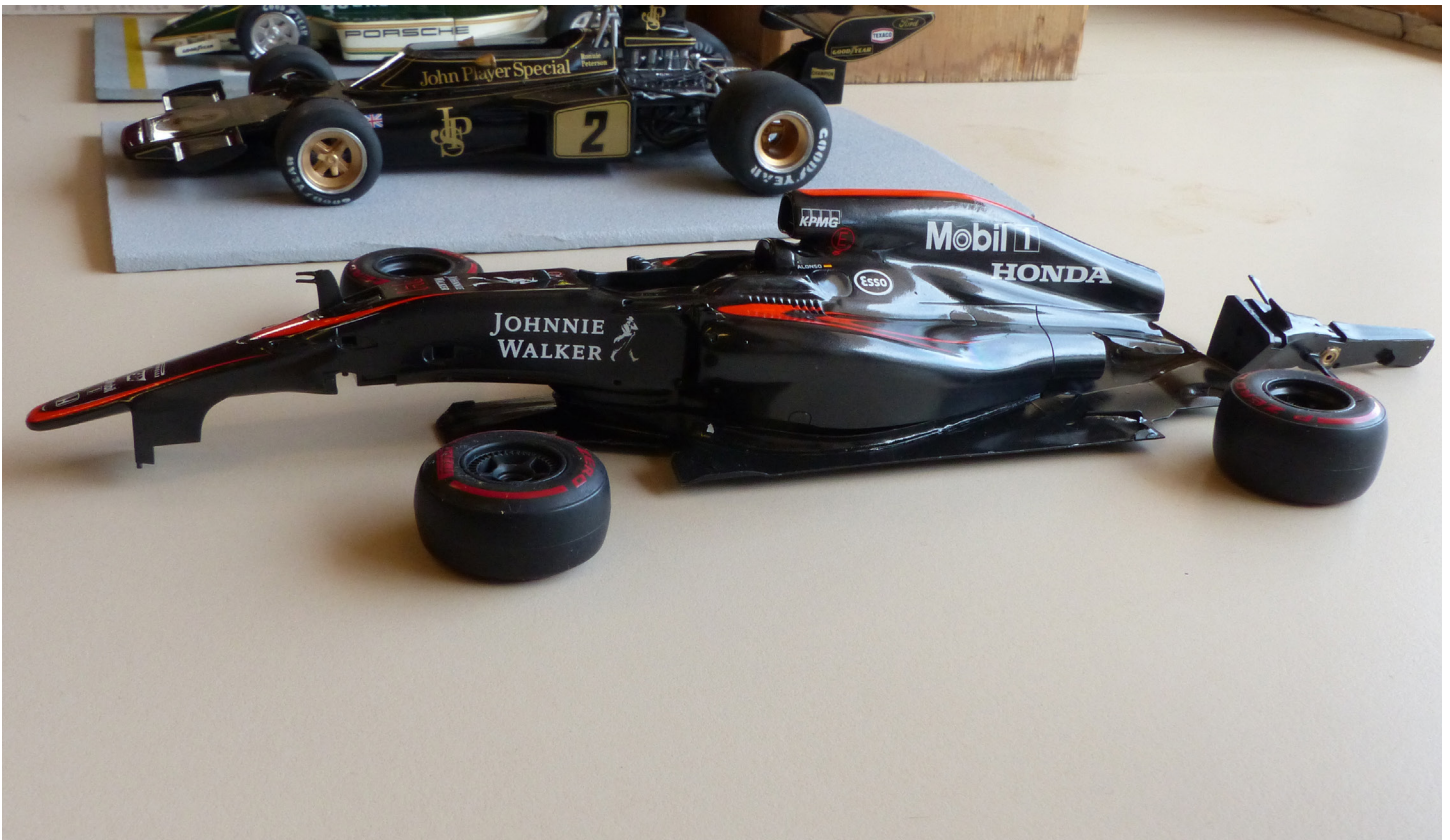


Ramon did not disappoint us... 2 more helicopters. Actually, the same 2 copters he's been working on. The Academy 1/35th scale UH-60A is going to send him to the Funny Farm before the month is over. Just look at all the scratch-building he's doing. Talk about sado-masochism in its highest form...duh. The worst of it is that Ramon admitted to being a thief!!!! He actually stole photo-etched parts and decals from other kits. Will someone please call 911 immediately. His next repeat performance is the Airfix 1/48th scale AH-7 Lynx. All kidding aside, we are very lucky to have such a talented and skillful obsessive-compulsive modeler in our midst!



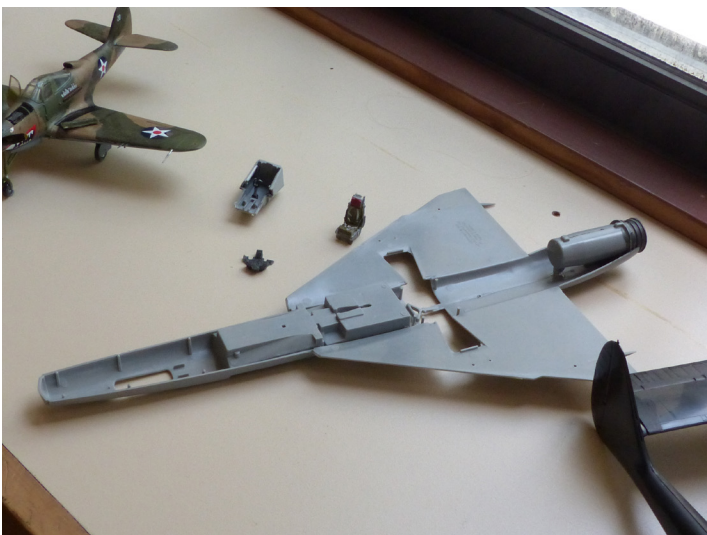


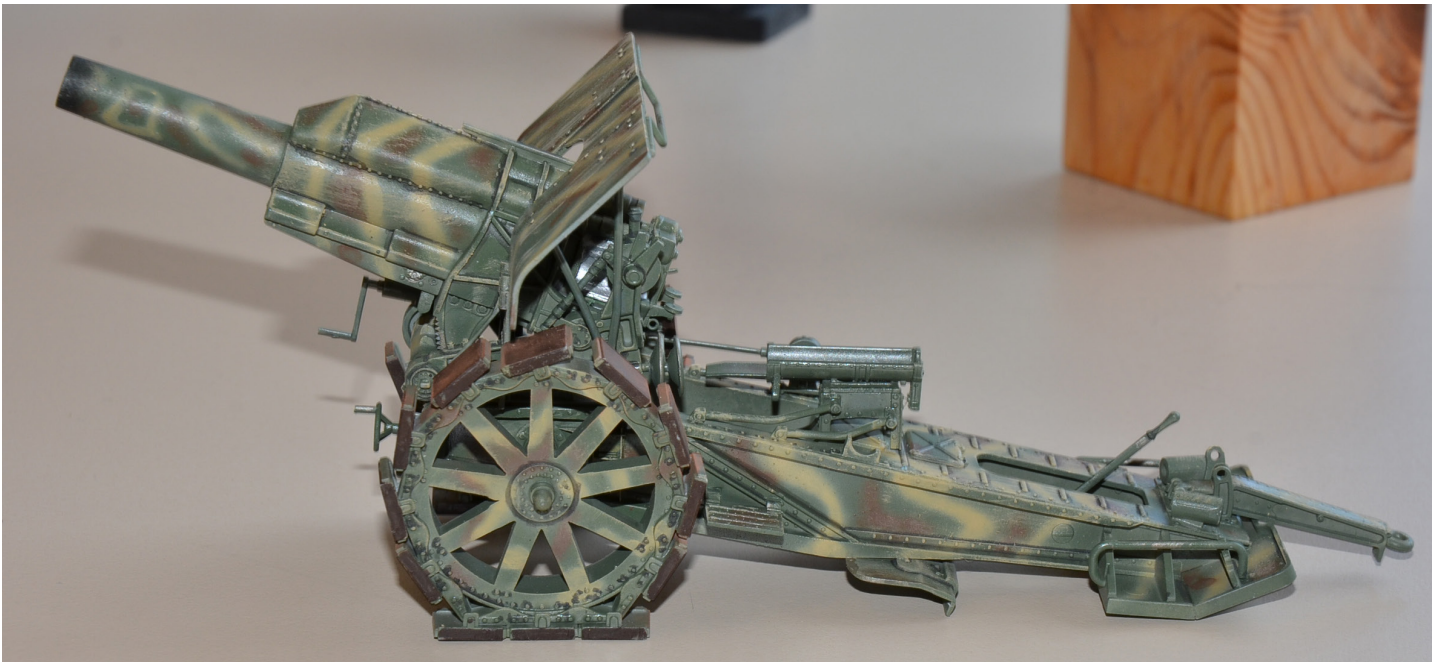
Speaking of obsessive-compulsive, look at what Tom brought in. The first is the Monogram 1/24th scale Quaker State March Porsche. Next is his Ebbro, 1/20th scale John Player Special, Lotus 72 E. Last is also an Ebbro kit in the same scale, the McLaren MP4-30. Tom has fallen in love with Ebbro. Tom, your work speaks louder than any of the words I can say or write. Kudos, kudos, kudos.





Next came Oliver, with 2 WIPs and 3 completed models. The first two are the Airfix 1/72nd scale Harrier and A-4 Skyhawk, from the Falklands War Box Set. Next, an Eduard 1/48th scale P-400. Oliver cut open the gun bay on the nose and scratch built the guns and ammo. Very fearless and resourceful! Next, a Revell 1/48 scale F-106 Delta Dart and last, another Revell 1/48 scale Black Widow. Readers, when I first met Oliver some 3-4 years ago, he couldn't put a sentence together loud enough for anyone to hear. Now he presents his work as well as the adults in the club. And if you want to talk about skills and talent growth...he's off the chart!





Now don't get a heart attack...yes...that's a plastic model...its a Czech made, WW I, Krupp 21 cm Mortar, 10/16, 1/35 scale kit by Takom. Takom is making some very unusual kits, thank G-d...most having little or no photo-etched parts. This one had 5, and they were very easy to work with, even with neuropathy. They do their research beautifully...providing 5-6 color/camouflage schemes. I have 2 more kits from Takom on the shelf and will be working on the next some soon. I also brought several busts in 1/10th and 1/9th scale. The first one is a Winged Polish Hussar. The problem for me on this one was...yup...you guessed it...the leopard skin...it took hours. The Bounty Hunter, a kit from Pegaso of Spain was one of the easiest busts to do. The fit of the parts was so good, there was no cutting, sanding or grinding to do. As is true with all my busts, enamels and oils are mixed to get desired colors, blending or textures. Also by Pegaso, a Roman Gladiator...this one an African slave. Once again I have thank Jamie D. for the hint of adding purple to my black/brown mixture. I think it works perfectly. Last is a Zapotec Priest, all by Pegaso. This was one of the toughest busts I've ever done. I needed many hours just to get the skin tone that I wanted. Meso-American skin tones can range from a light tan to a medium or dark amber. The face has no skin tone on it, but is a 3 color combination of light red, black, and a warm yellow ochre. Even the greens in the jade jewels took longer than I expected to get the right color combos.





With the end of Show and Tell, many of the members broke into small groups and kibitzed for a while. I left to get dinner ready for the family.... roast chicken and fresh veggies, lightly steamed!

Our next meeting will be at the Monterey Library, on May 4th. Hope to see all of you there!

May the Fourth  
Be With You!



Best wishes to all  
-Lester

**President:** Lester Tockerman  
**Vice President:** Larry Marcum  
**Treasurer:** David Conneau  
**Secretary:** Lee Marcum  
**Layout Artist:** Ramon Lomeli