

New England Combat News

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 8 JANUARY 2008
THE CONTROL LINE COMBAT NEWSLETTER OF NEW ENGLAND



**Jeff Vader and Brian Stas
Finished One, Two
In the Advanced Division
Season Points**



**Ken Hargreaves (left)
Finished
Second in the Expert Division
Season points race**

2007 Regular Season Award Winners

The final results have been tabulated
The following flyers are
The 2007 Division Champions

**Neil Simpson-First Place Expert
Ken Hargreaves-Second Place Expert
Glenn Simpson-Third Place Expert**

**Jeff Vader-First Place Advanced
Brian Stas-Second Place Advanced
Paul Kubek-Third Place Advanced**

A Recap of the 2007 season can be found
on page two

Photos of the awards presentation held
As part of the Fall Fly Off
Can be found throughout
This issue

**2007 Formula GX Season Re-Cap
14 Contests (5 different winners)**

4/29	Wompatuck Ice Breaker-Hingham, MA	Ken Hargreaves
5/5	Wingbuster Spring Kick Off-Middleboro, MA	Neil Simpson
5/26	Ron Connors Memorial-Wrentham, MA	Neil Simpson
6/10	Eastern Mass Invitational-Kingston, MA	Neil Simpson
6/24	Len Minick Memorial-East Hampton, CT	Ken Hargreaves
7/29	Granite State Championships-Franklin, NH	Neil Simpson
8/11	Eastern Mass Championships-Middleboro, MA	Brian Stas
8/19	Granite State Invitational-Franklin, NH	Glenn Simpson
8/26	Salmon River Shootout-East Hampton, CT	Neil Simpson
9/2	New England Championships-Worcester, MA	Neil Simpson
9/30	Wompatuck Invitational-Middleboro, MA	Neil Simpson
10/7	North County Shootout-Leominster, MA	Neil Simpson
10/14	The Fall Finale-Worcester, MA	Phil Cartier
11/4	Wompatuck Fall Fly Off-Hingham, MA	Neil Simpson



**The 2007 Advanced Division Season Champs are
Jeff Vader (1st) , Brian Stas (2nd) and Paul Kubek (3rd)**

FROM THE EDITOR: New England Combat News exists, not to make a profit, but rather, to promote control line combat in New England. It is distributed without charge to those readers who participate in New England combat contests or who support these contests through donations to the New England contest fund. The subscription rate is \$10.00/year for people who do not meet the above criterion. If you have information you would like to see in this newsletter please call or write:


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PHONE: 508-867-8702 (Home after 6:00pm) E-MAIL: podunk129@charter.net

If you make a donation or if you subscribe to this newsletter make the check payable to NEIL SIMPSONDonations go into the New England Contest Fund and are used to cover the cost of running New England control line combat contests. IF YOU WANT TO RUN A CONTROL LINE COMBAT CONTEST IN NEW ENGLAND AND YOU NEED HELP (FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE) CALL OR WRITE NEW ENGLAND COMBAT NEWS. We want to continue to help make New England a "Hot Spot" for control line combat. New England Combat News is your newsletter-USE IT. Control line combat is your sport-PROMOTE IT.

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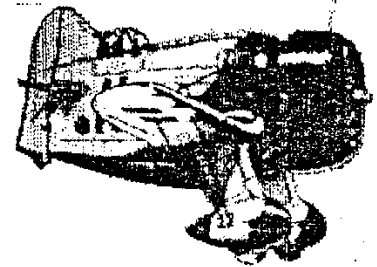
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F2D News - December 2007

Mark Rudner
rudner@mit.edu

Winter's finally here and out in full force. Although the weather might not be good for combat these days, the conditions seem to be right for everybody's second favorite event: mouth racing. Actually, there are a lot of things to discuss these days, so the timing is just right.

As many of you may know, long time AMA president Dave Brown is about to retire from his post. For those of you who have never had the chance to meet Dave, he is a very thoughtful and impressive man. He really took on a lot of responsibility as AMA president, and maybe most importantly for you and me, was a powerful advocate for our sport. In case you've had your head in the sand, the AMA is an organization primarily comprised of casual "sport" fliers. As "competition" fliers, we comprise a pretty small fraction of the total organization (even if we include radio control and free flight). As a result, there are many who feel that the amount of AMA funds directed towards competition-related resources is disproportionate to the contributions of competitive fliers to the organization. This article is not about the details of those arguments. However, as a long time competition flier himself, Dave Brown understands the needs of the competitive modeling community and has stood up for us many times.

Let me give just one example from my own experience with Dave that I believe demonstrates how lucky we've been to have him on our side. In 2004, the Control Line World Championships were held at the AMA Headquarters and Official Flying Site in Muncie, Indiana. How did this happen? It wasn't magic, and it didn't happen overnight. The decision was made years before hand. Because of his pride in the organization and his desire to represent the country and the AMA well to the rest of the world, Dave took it upon himself to thoroughly research what goes in to hosting a successful Control Line World Championships. To this end, he traveled with the US Team to the 2000 Control Line World Championships in Landres, France and observed all aspects of the competition with a keen eye. He also spent a lot of time talking with us, the fliers, mechanics, and supporters, to get as much information as he could. After returning to Muncie, Dave had a clear vision and helped organize a very successful World Champs in the US.

It is both sad and a little bit scary to see Dave go. To be honest, he will be a very tough act to follow, and I fear that we may lose some clout within the AMA in coming years. "Hmm, this sounds serious," you say. "But what can I do about it?"

Well, as one person it might be tough for you to have an impact. However, we have a group called MACA (the Miniature Aircraft Combat Association) which is an official AMA Special Interest Group for Control Line Combat. "Wow! That sounds sweet! What does it do?" MACA will do as much or as little as we put into it. With the impending turnover of AMA administration, MACA's role will be crucial in presenting a unified front for us, the control line combat community, to the AMA. Together we stand, divided we fall, right?

Recently I've been involved in some discussions about how to strengthen combat in the US and how to get more young fliers involved. The answer seems to always be that we should start by organizing these efforts through MACA. James McKinney put together a really great new MACA website this year, which you should all visit at: <http://www.maca.hobby-site.com:3535/>. This is a great resource, and should be the launching point for the new MACA. James has provided a forum section with room for experienced pilots to share their knowledge and offer all kinds of tips on building, flying, etc. for new pilots. Don't worry about giving away your secrets - if you don't share and we don't help new pilots get up to speed, there won't be anyone to fly against. There is no use hoarding information. Open exchange of ideas can only make us stronger as a whole. It might even force you to step your own flying up a notch to keep on top of your game, but that's a good thing! Just as with the entire organization, the website will only give back as much as we the community members put into it.

Let's take this as a starting point and rally together to put some weight back into MACA. We're going to need it in the coming years. Peace out.



Brian Stas and Jeff Vader at this year's Granite State Invitational



**You never know what Ken Hargreaves will put together next !!!
This time it's a vintage F2D Warlord
Powered by a PAW diesel**

2007 Sportsman Competitors



**Left: Vinnie Langella flying Ken Hargreaves
Right: Arron Seymour in a match with his Dad**



**Left: Kevin Seymour pits for Phil Cartier
Center: Richard Sherman Right: Shay Vader**

NECN CONTEST FUND
8/1/2007 Through 12/15/2007

Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Total
8/1/2007	balance		91.00	91.00
8/2/2007	Ernie Carosella	contribution	25.00	116.00
8/12/2007	Eastern Mass Championships	trophy expense	(128.00)	(12.00)
8/12/2007	Eastern Mass Championships	entry fees	130.00	118.00
8/12/2007	Rick Clark	contribution	20.00	138.00
8/19/2007	Granite State Inv/2nd Date	Permit/Sanct Ex	(45.00)	93.00
8/19/2007	Granite State Invitational	trophy expense	(80.00)	13.00
8/19/2007	Granite State Invitational	entry fees	60.00	73.00
8/26/2007	Salmon River Shootout	trophy expense	(80.00)	(7.00)
8/26/2007	Salmon River Shootout	entry fees	60.00	53.00
8/26/2007	Vinnie Langella	contribution	25.00	78.00
8/27/2007	North County Shootout	Permit/Sanct Ex	(25.00)	53.00
8/30/2007	Will Rogers	contribution	50.00	103.00
9/2/2007	Jeff Vader	contribution	30.00	133.00
9/2/2007	New England Championships	entry fees	360.00	493.00
9/2/2007	New England Championships	trophy expense	(352.00)	141.00
9/2/2007	New England Championships	t-shirts	(153.00)	(12.00)
9/6/2007	Len Thibault	contribution	25.00	13.00
9/9/2007	District I Championships	trophy expense	(48.00)	(35.00)
9/9/2007	District I Championships	entry fees	80.00	45.00
9/9/2007	Brian Stas	contribution	10.00	55.00
9/30/2007	Wompatuck Invitational	trophy expense	(64.00)	(9.00)
9/30/2007	Wompatuck Invitational	entry fees	80.00	71.00
9/30/2007	Glenn Simpson	contribution	40.00	111.00
10/7/2007	North County Shootout	trophy expense	(64.00)	47.00
10/7/2007	North County Shootout	entry fees	50.00	97.00
10/14/2007	Fall Finale	trophy expense	(80.00)	17.00
10/14/2007	Fall Finale	entry fees	130.00	147.00
10/14/2007	Paul Kubek	contribution	15.00	162.00
10/21/2007	Last Shootout	entry fees	70.00	232.00
10/21/2007	Last Shootout	trophy expense	(48.00)	184.00
10/24/2007	Ken Hargreaves	contribution	100.00	284.00
11/4/2007	Wompatuck Fall Fly-Off	entry fees	90.00	374.00
11/4/2007	Wompatuck Fall Fly-Off	trophy expense	(64.00)	310.00
11/4/2007	Season End Awards	trophy expense	(180.00)	130.00
11/4/2007	Wompatuck Fall Fly-Off	Raffle	160.00	290.00
11/6/2007	Roy Glenn	contribution	20.00	310.00
12/11/07	Streamer String (10 rolls)	streamer expense	(21.00)	(21.00)
GRAND TOTAL				289.00

2007 Season Champs

**Right: Neil Simpson and
Jeff Vader
were the Expert and Advanced
Division Season Champs**

**Below: Neil Simpson
was first in Expert,
Ken Hargreaves second
and Glenn Simpson
finished third.**



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