

MosquitoGram

The Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of IPMS

IPMS Nationals
2015



August 2015

The Iron Works

By Bill Schwarz, President



Hi all! I have several things to tell you about but I will keep it brief so as not to bore you to tears. The Nationals have come and gone, over 3 weeks by the time you read this! My impressions of the Nats are favorable with the exception of parking which was 26 bucks a day at the hotel and everyone had their hand out at said hotel. For those of you who like the pampering this is a good thing! I'm not that type so it was just OK at best! Other than the experience I just talked about, The Nats was a fun and very rewarding experience!!!! I got time to spend with old friends and got to see some guys that were in our club but have moved elsewhere. John Vitkus and Glenn Klieber were 2 of these guys. I can't believe it has been so long! Hope in my lifetime I get to spend more time with them!! Nice to see you guys. Outside of competing in the show, the best time for me was to spend time with 2 guys who are hero's to me. We are in a sort of club (Brotherhood) together. All combat vets as well as members of the "Helo" community. It was funny to see the look on some guys faces as the stories were told about the not so good days in S.E.A. The fact we are alive is a miracle. I wouldn't have changed one day of it either. I have been asked and encouraged to tell my story and perhaps I will someday before I die. The 2 guys were Buzz Lockwood and Floyd Werner. Buzz was a Loach pilot and

Floyd flew Cobras. I was a mere crewman/Gunner, and always appreciated the guys I flew with. It would have been a honor to fly with either of these guys but I'm glad to call them friends!!!

Moving on, the "NIGHT OUT AT SCHMIDTS" turned out very well indeed! It was well attended and the comradery was outstanding!!!!The food was GREAT as well as the Dark and Light Bier flowed!!!! I'm glad to have been able to take the guys out and enjoy some non modelling time with them!!! Thank you booooooooooys! The party continued in the Hotel Bar as our server "Amber" kept the pints and 3 fingers of whatever coming! The topic ranged from those who really served, those who said they served places but didn't, "SQUATTIE POTTIES", MANPONS,

Next Meeting:
Friday,
August
14th

Upcoming Events:

August
Open Contest

September
Out of the Box Night

October
Russian Night

November
Number 13 Night

December
Annual Party



and the list went on and on. My overall review of the Nats is "I'd do it all again and intend on doing so"! The Nats 2016 will be in South Carolina, then on to OMAHA for 2017. I'm looking forward to the next West Coast event so I can make a family trip out of it! I think that's about it for the Nats with the exception of me Thanking Joe Smith for sharing his room and being a great Friend all the time we were there! Thanks Joe!

Now on to the show and other matters. I've added 2 more vendors from the Nats to our show! They actually are looking forward to coming and have heard we as a club do a great show (WHICH WE DO!) with that said, we are all in the 25th show spirit. I am looking forward to it myself and it is nice to see the little show I started at my work in the Community Center at Ft. Monmouth is now in its 25th year! We as your Eboard are going to try to make it the best one yet. If my vendor list is any indication of the show size we are going to have a stellar show. All the awards will be custom Silver by Jon and we will have a little Token of the show for every dues paid member!! The surprise will be

issued on 02 April 2016! See you then.

Lastly but not least I have more not so good news. Another one of our members has fallen ill with the Big "C". It is a personnel hit to me because I have been friends with him for a lifetime and I just want him to get better. I've asked our friend upstairs for a favor to help him out. Only time will tell but me thinks he will pull through. I will tell you more at the meeting! On that note, Marty Quinn is still hanging in day to day and we all hope and pray for little Kiera to get better. I won't elaborate any more on this because if we spent the same money on healing as we do making WAR maybe the outlooks would be a lot brighter! Anyway, I think that's about it except Marc Rocca took one award at the Nats and I took 2, but anyone who attended was also a winner!!!! That's it for now, I will see y'all on Friday Night, K of C Garwood!

Happy Modelling and Friendship,

Big Bill



Joe's VP Piece

By Joe Smith

The nationals have come and gone. Congrats to the winners, I hope we will see your awards as well. I for one had a great time! Thanks to Bill for letting me car pool with him.

On Thursday night a group of us crowded around a table in a German restaurant where we ate and drank. It was a great night.

Next year's event will be held in Columbia, SC, for those planning to attend. And the announcement was made at the awards ceremony that the following year will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, once again.

On Friday we drove to the Air Force museum and spent several hours walking the

exhibits. If you have never been to this place, please try to get there, you will not be sorry!

My Phantom build is making progress and I plan on getting her done for January.

Happy Modeling!

~Joe Smith



From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio

Just got back from the National Convention in Columbus Ohio had a great time. The Sausage Factory in that city was in full production, an amazing place with great food. I didn't think you could make a cream puff the size of a softball. WOW. Thanks Big Bill.

The convention venue was good, but not great. Instead of one vendor room, there were 6. I remember finding something interesting on Wednesday and it took me 3 hours to find the vendor on Friday.

The August meeting is upon us and the summer is speeding by. Hope to see you all at the Garwood KOC hall.



~Vince



THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva

Hello all, I'd like to begin with a bit of a nationals recap for those that went, but mostly for those that did not go. First of all, I think it's important to let everybody know, there's nothing to do in Columbus after 9pm. The city just shuts down. Hard to believe there's over a million people in the metropolitan area, but then again I think we're jaded since we've all been exposed to NYC.



On to the actual convention. There was a vast display of models. This was my first nationals, and I was really excited. It's really not that unlike MosquitoCon to be honest. I think we put on one of the finest shows in the country and the quality of the entries at our show speaks to this. There were a ton of vendors in Columbus. I couldn't help but pick up several kits. I'll bring some to this month's meeting, hopefully you guys find them interesting.

The air force museum is a must see. To me the most impressive planes have always been the Phantoms. There were 3 on display at the museum and there was even a Phantom cockpit, which I got to sit in (overjoyed)! The most impressive feature of

the museum, to me, was the display of rockets and other spacecraft located all the way in the aft hangar. The actual Apollo 15



capsule is on display as are several Titan rockets. It really is an overwhelming display. If you ever have a chance to visit the museum, it's a must see. You can easily spend 20 minutes staring at the open bomb bay of the B-36 and, on display next to it, its entire arsenal.

Onto regular club business. This month is an open theme, and I expect the table to be pretty lite, not a big deal. Next month we're having an Out of the Box group build. The idea is to have fun and simply build a model out of the box. That being said, I can't stop you from using the photo etch and resin parts included in some of these kits. Please bring the instructions to make my life easier. On a final note, we have a few other contests to round out the year. Namely Russian night in October and #13 in November. January will conclude our Phantom group build and it would be great if some people could bring in their kits to show progress, and so we can shame those that haven't even started.

~Jon



The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP

I'm writing this about a week after the start of the IPMS Nationals, having arrived on Wednesday afternoon just before the doors opened in the vendor and display rooms. It was great to see and spend time with all the other "Jersey Guys" in Columbus! Everyone seemed to have a fun time and we shared lots of laughs and renewed friendships with guys we haven't seen for a while.

There were many vendor rooms, which is common, but it was quite different from last year's show where every vendor was located in one giant room. This year, there were several times where I entered a vendor room and had to take a moment to determine if I had been in there before! The volume and variety of products available for sale was mindboggling. Throughout the four days, I only purchased one kit! However, I did come home with some hard to find parts, books, decals and finishing supplies. I was excited to see the guys from Vallejo demonstrating the new line of acrylic metallic colors. They seemed very easy to use, have a large range of tones, were durable, and cleaned up easily. They looked every bit as good as Alclad, but without the pitfalls of being lacquer based.

The model display room was jam packed with examples of outstanding workmanship. The only downside was the marginal lighting. Everyone was commenting on this, but nothing is perfect. There were several pieces that I kept going



back to repeatedly and I felt fortunate to have met and chatted with some of the builders. I find the exposure to so many great pieces to be very inspirational. Congrats to Big Bill and Marc Rocca for the awards they won!

Best Wishes,

~Mike P.



DeHavilland DH-82 Build Review

Airfix, 1/72nd scale

By Mike Terre



I've always wondered about those "in-box" reviews of models, especially when they contain such comments as "looks easy to assemble" and "should be no problem". Well I found out! I wrote a in-box review of this model back in the November 2014 newsletter and now have built it, so let's see how my remarks stood up to the actual build.

In the first review I did not like that the fuselage did not have molded in anti-spin strakes. If you wanted to build the version with the strakes you had to cut out a large portion of the upper rear fuselage and install a two part plug containing the strakes. I thought that this would pose a small problem. Cutting the fuselage exactly was no problem as it was very well marked, however the two part plug with the strakes caused a bit of a headache. The plug is split into a left and right section, you glue them together and install the completed assembly into the cut fuselage. The problem is that the plug does not follow the exact contours of the fuselage; it is too narrow in width. You must spread out the sides of the plug while the

glue is still setting to get a good fit. Once installed the joins of the cut fuselage and plug easily cleaned up with a little Squadron putty. I did not see the two part plug as any sort of problem in the first review but the build proved otherwise.

In the first review I thought that Airfix had come up with a good idea in regards to biplane wing alignment in that both upper and lower wings were one piece and that they used an innovative cabane strut (struts that hold the upper wing to the fuselage) locking method.

The one piece wings were great and helped to build strength into the model which is always a problem with biplanes. However the cabane strut locking method posed a serious problem. The locking portion worked



well and ensured positive wing alignment, however the struts, molded to scale, were **EXTREMELY** thin and would snap at the slightest pressure! Extreme care had to be used during assembly. What I thought



during the first review was a good idea was proven to be less than good.

Further, in regards to easier wing alignment Airfix molded in a cross brace between the interplane struts (struts that hold the upper wing to the lower). This cross brace would insure that the struts were at the same angle and distance and was to be cut out once the wings were secured. I did not like the idea of cutting out this cross brace on a completed biplane as you might damage the strut and naturally have to touch up the paint. I cut the cross brace out and installed the struts individually. This was correct as the thin interplane struts would never have stood up to the strain of cutting and snapped.



In the first review I liked that the instructions contained a very good rigging diagram and this proved true when following them in the build. I used stretched sprue for the rigging material.

I did like the cockpit detail in the first review but complained that Airfix did not give you molded in seat belts for an otherwise very detailed cockpit. There were similar comments from many modelers concerning this omission. Seat belts have now been added to new Airfix kits so it proves that Airfix is listening to modelers!

The cockpit side doors could be cut to expose



the nice cockpits and this proved an easy and worthwhile exercise. It was especially nice that Airfix gave you separate doors and that you didn't have to use the cut out pieces. The instrument panel decals were very nice and looked great when installed. Cockpit sidewall detail was excellent and after painting them cockpit green, a little rub of pastel black and "Rub-In-Buff" silver really made the detail pop out.

The paint scheme for this model was extremely simple and required no masking, all major assemblies being painted and decaled prior to assembly and rigging. Tamiya XF-7 flat red and XF-16 were airbrushed on, followed by a gloss coat for the decals and then a satin coat for final finish. The Cartograf decals were splendid and went on without a problem.

All in all I was surprised that some things I thought were good in the "in-box" review proved to be less than good in the actual build. In my first review I thought this would be a good model for a first time biplane builder but in this I was wrong, the fragility





of the struts would cause problems. The model is however an extremely good value. This particular model of a civil Tiger

Moth is rather hard to get in the states and the reason for this is that it is in the markings of the aircraft owned by the Shuttleworth collection in Great Britain. It is flown regularly during the summer and the Airfix kit has proven to be a great souvenir for all those summer tourists with most of the production going to that end!

Thanks for reading, see you at the meeting, now go do something useful like building a model!

~Mike Terre

From the Editor

By Devin Poore

Since most have gone over their Nationals experiences already, I'll keep my recap brief. I stayed with friends just outside of downtown, so I'm not able to comment on things like hotel parking (I parked in an adjacent lot for \$10 a day, every day), but overall I did have a good time. I've attended writer's conferences in that venue in the past, and will do so again next November, so I was pretty much prepared for the location.

There were some amazing builds on the tables this year. What photos I did take are posted to the club's gallery website [HERE](#). Congratulations to Bill and Mark and the other club members who took home awards.

Looking forward to next year, the website for Columbia, SC, is already online. I've linked to it on the last page of the newsletter. This

coming week they will start taking hotel reservations, so get yours while they last. I was 50/50 on going next year – August in South Carolina is a bit hot for me – but it appears as if I'll be giving a seminar during the convention, on Civil War ironclads. That pretty much made my decision for me, so I'll see everyone in Columbia 2016.

Remember, in November I'm hosting #13 night for the club contest. Again, it's anything with the number 13 in it (race car number, ship hull number, tank designation, a show that ran on channel 13, etc.). I like the inclusive categories, and with this one you can bring almost anything!

Finally, [Jersey Fest](#) is this month. Several from the club will be attending this sci-fi oriented model show. It's worth checking out.





More photos from the Nationals are available **HERE:**
<http://njipms.zenfolio.com/p338205705>



This month's meeting will be on:

Friday

August 14th, 2015



EVERY MODEL TELLS A STORY

**COLUMBIA 2016**
THE IPMS/USA NATIONAL CONVENTION

THE COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CONVENTION CENTER • COLUMBIA, SC • AUGUST 3-6, 2016
Presented by IPMS/Mid-Carolina Swamp Fox Modelers and IPMS/Piedmont Scale Modelers
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