

MosquitoGram

The Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of IPMS



December 2015

The Iron Works

By Bill Schwarz, President



Hi all! Hope everyone is doing fine. I know we are well into the Xmas season and soon MCON 25 will be upon us. I only have a few things to say this month because I am very busy and also sad at the loss of one of our members as well as Jimmy P's father. Both were good guys and made me laugh. I will miss them. I again remind you to enjoy and live life and have a little fun because you truly never know what's going to happen.

Next up is MCON. We are doing very well show wise. I just booked Jane's Tools from Texas, as well as Larry's Legions from PA. I am certain the show will be a sellout vendor-wise as well as people wise. More to come on that as info is available.

Next up is the 25th anniversary logo! Ed Minto as always has done his part, and this time he stepped up to home plate and hit it out of the park! Take a look at it! It should appear in the NL somewhere. On the NL note, Devin maintains the best NL we have ever had! The others were great as well! Thanks guys!

Boys and Girls, Our annual Xmas party will be as usual held on our regular meeting night. It will be samplings from the "Bistro

De Glenda". She wanted to put on a party for all of you and if you know Glenda it will be first class. Servings will start between 7 and 730. There will also be appetizers and desert and the bar will be open for draft beer, wine and soda for an hour or so. Come hungry and enjoy! Just another perk for our members.

On a closing note, I wish to wish you all a happy holiday season and may it be free of trouble and pain and that you get something you love on Xmas day! With that said, don't forget Fabulous Phantom January and Happy New Year!!!

Regards/Friendship,

Big Bill

Next Meeting:
Friday,
December
11th

Upcoming Events:

December
Annual Party

January
Phantom Group Build

March
Nostalgia Night

April 2nd, 2016:
Mosquito-Con 25

August 3-6 2016:
IPMS Nationals, Columbia, SC



Joe's VP Piece

By Joe Smith

Hello,

It is so hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another year. With that said, it is also hard to believe that the MosquitoCon 25th show is only a few months away as well.

Ed Minto's talented hands are well at work on the logo, signage, and other items. Other

members of the eboard are as well busy with many preparations!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a healthy New Year!

~Joe Smith



[MosquitoCon 25](#)

April 2nd, 2016

Wayne, New Jersey



From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio

December meeting and only 24 shopping days left until Christmas 2015, as I submit this piece. I'm wondering where the time went and how fast a year goes by. I am being bombarded by online advertisements for discount models and such. This year I'm being good, I bought 2 Panzer 4 Ausf J last production, one from Tibby and the other from Dragon with Dragon dollars I had accumulated over the years. I plan on building one in Tri-color and the other in Ambush scheme.

That's it for models for me, my collection or stash as we like to call it is enough for 5 modelers, so that's it, I'm Done. Enough is enough. I know Mike O'Conner is taking every model he has built and those that are unbuilt with him to heaven, good luck Mike, I hope it's not for another 50 years or so. I understand from Big Bill that this meeting will be catered by Glenda and Harmon. Thanks in advance, I know it will be great, so bring your appetites.

The show of shows, MosquitoCon 25, is almost upon us. Normally we put on one of the best shows in the country, but this 25th

anniversary show will be one to remember. We already have a super Logo provided by



in-house artist Ed Minto. It's amazing. Every vendor table is sold, that's over 100. So guys when April rolls around have a great time at the show make time to see the models and enjoy the vendors.

This Holiday season please remember to keep others in your prayers, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

~Vince



THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva

Alright guys, here's a list of who needs to bring models for the model of the year:

January: Mike Terre - Otto Dopppe Decker,
Jerry Rinaldi - No Man's Land
February: Marc Rocca - USS Buchanan, Dan
Speara - F101B
March: Bill Connolly - F-11F, Tom
Vandermark - USS New Jersey
April: Vince D'Alessio - Tiger I, Mike
O'Connor - Hannover CLI
May: no contest
June: John Tamasik - Centauro, Dan SPeara
- Fiat CR42
July: Ivan Ordonez - A-20, Jerry Rinaldi -
LRDG

August: no contest
September: Mike O'Connor - Felixstowe F2A,
Pat O'Connor - Tiger 131
October: Harmon Kaplan - T34, Mike Terre -
KASKR-1
November: Vince D'Alessio - Italian Stallion,
Marc Rocca - BF109E-4

There will also be some prizes for the guys who ranked 1st, 2nd, & 3rd, in building points this year. I'm not going to reveal that information in the newsletter, I'd rather wait until the meeting. I don't have much else to say, I'll see you all at the meeting!

~Jon



The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP

Well, the December meeting is almost upon us, and with it our annual Christmas and Holiday party. It is always a fun time and a fine opportunity to reminisce about all the great times we've had during the year, and recall the memorable times from years past.



I think we can all remember our “wish lists” that we would create as kids, either in written form, or simply in our heads. These were the things we really wanted to receive. From a modeling standpoint, if I were to create a “wish list” I’m pretty sure it would include the following: How about a state of the art kit of the F-100 Super Sabre and F-105 Thunderchief? The Monogram kits aren’t bad, just very dated. Yeah, I know Hobby Boss and/or Trumpeter have released modern kits of them, but the shapes and nuances are way off. With all the technology available, it’s sad that some modern companies can miss the mark so badly, and so often. Another kit I’d love to see (and I know I’m not alone here) is that of the FJ-3

Fury. No kit in any scale has ever been made of that aircraft (Ignore the ESCI kit from the 70’s-it’s pretty much a Sabre). The FJ-3 served in dozens of squadrons, in countless colorful paint schemes, and is drop dead gorgeous, yet still no kit. Perhaps the manufacturers think it’s merely a Sabre in naval markings so therefore it’s covered. Oh my, are they wrong! There is a strong resemblance for sure, but it’s an entirely different aircraft. Maybe someday we’ll see one from Kitty Hawk. They did the F9F Cougar and are soon releasing the F2H-3 Banshee, so there may be hope yet. I’m also hoping that Kitty Hawk finally pulls the trigger and does the RF-101C Voodoo from their F-101C kit – all the signs are there, they just need to do it. What would be on your “wish list”??



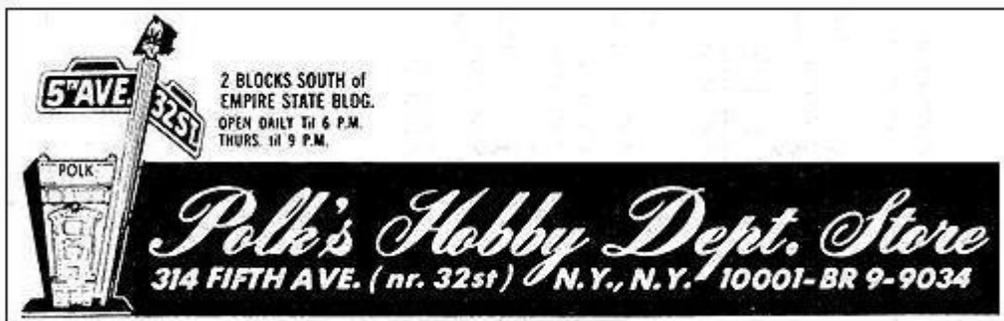
I’d like to wish everyone and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, as well as a Happy and Healthy New Year.

~Mike



A Polks Christmas

By Mike Terre



I'm just about finished with my move to Delaware (a state without hobby shops!) and have finished organizing my stash. It's nice to have everything in place and be able to open some long closed models.

I was looking at some of the early Airfix kits and pulled out their Grumman Hellcat, kit number, oh excuse me, it's British you know, pattern number 253. For its day, circa 1967, it was not a bad kit. You had the choice of cowlings to build the F6F-3 or F6F-5 variants, there were nice underwing stores and you could fold the wings. There was heavy rivet detail but in those days it was



considered "gorgeous". You even had the choice of US or British markings. It was pricey at \$1.29 however!

Opening the box a gift tag fell out. It was a Christmas gift from my mother. Normally I got kits from Dad so this was a little unusual and then a flood of memories hit me.

My mother was a nurse at Passaic General Hospital (now St Mary's) and occasionally had to go into NYC to attend lectures at the big city hospitals. In the fall of 1967 Mom had to attend a lecture at NYU Medical Center and knowing that I wanted to go to Polks, took me with her. After she completed the lecture we were off to Polks!

At that time the store was on 5th Ave, near 32nd Street, very near the Empire State Building. It was a very narrow, five story building that was chocked full of every kind of modeling stuff you could imagine. There were trains, model kits, paints, military miniatures, balsa models, ships, everything you could think of, it was heaven to this 13 year old! It's long gone now. I've attached some pictures from the Internet showing the store.

Polks had just got a shipment from Airfix and the Hellcat was among it. Mom purchased the kit for me but said I'd have to wait for Christmas to build it. It was a long wait till Christmas Day but I got my Hellcat. Well, it's been 48 years since that Christmas and it's still not built. Maybe it's time to do



so, raised rivet detail and all, but first it's going under the Christmas tree one more time!



It's like I've said many times before, models are more than just a box of plastic or a built kit, they're memories of pleasant times long ago. My stash is a time machine taking me to back to happy times. I'm sure it's the same for all of us.

Thanks for reading, Merry Christmas to all club members and their families. I know you've all been good guys so Santa's going to give you lots of models this year and better still, the memories that go with them.

~Mike Terre

Balsa Stripper

Tool Review By Mike Terre

Here's a quick review of the Windsor Propeller Company balsa wood stripper, a tool that has proven handy and useful for me. It costs \$6.95 and is available from most shops, that's if you can find a shop! It's also available on the dreaded killer of LHS's, the Internet.



Normally this tool is used by balsa flying model builders but I've found that it works great on thin sheet plastic up to .030". You just set the width of your cut by turning a knob on the side of the tool. You place your cutting material on a straight edge and then

run the tool along that edge. The blade is standard X-Acto and can be adjusted for depth by loosening two retaining screws on the tools side.

The tool really helps me out however when I'm building vacuform World War One aircraft. The wings of these early aircraft were thin and thus the wings on the models very thin. Normally on a WWI vacuform aircraft the wings are one piece, there are no separate upper and lower pieces. This is done to keep the wings to scale. Because of these one piece wings rib detail is only on one side, usually the upper surface. I simulate lower rib detail by painting it on, and there is where the balsa stripper really comes in handy.

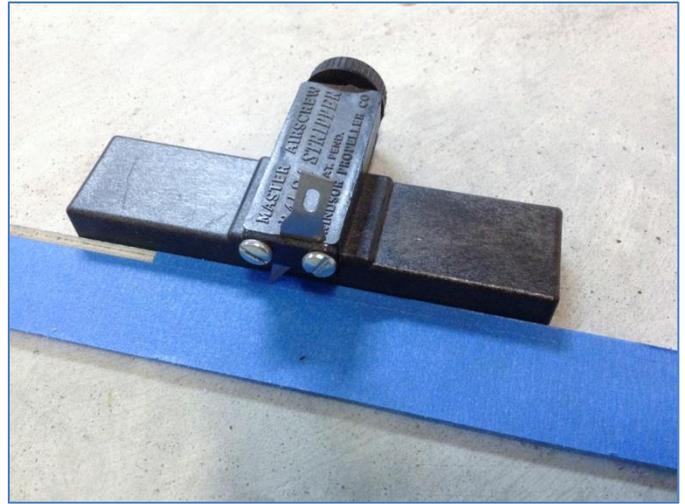
I place masking tape on my glass straight edge (a shelf from an old medicine chest) and cut strips that equal the space between the ribs on the wing. These strips are then applied to the lower surface of the wing, leaving just enough space to allow paint to go where the ribs are. I apply two or three coats



of heavy gloss white paint and let it dry. Once dry the masking tape strips are removed and the rib detail remains. A light sanding across the sharp paint edges and you have some nice ribs. By using the balsa stripper I get perfectly cut and uniform masking strips that make this job easy.

I also use the tool for cutting seat belts from masking tape but I'm sure you can think of other uses for it. It's one of my favorites and highly recommend it.

~Mike Terre



From the Editor

By Devin Poore

A big thanks to everyone that put a model on the table for last month's #13 contest. Some really great work and some really inventive ways were used to qualify for the contest. We had aircraft from VF-13, a Zero that's serial number added up to 13, a 2013 car, and a diorama with a house address of 13 on the tiny mailbox door. As always seems to happen, the entries split almost evenly between air subjects and surface, so judging was done along those lines. In the Air category Marc Rocca took the prize with his BF-109 "Yellow 13". In the surface category Stan Stankewicz took first with his War of the World's diorama. I'll have awards for both of them at this week's meeting. Photos of all the entrants, and all the other meeting photos, can be found here on the club's website: <http://njipms.org/?p=2787>

Big thanks again to Ed Minto for the fantastic log design for the 25th Annual MosquitoCon show. I'll be adding it to the website and putting up more information concerning the show in the coming days. My extremely busy fall at work is winding down with the end of classes, so I'll have time to take care of some neglected areas of the website (and maybe get some actual building done).

Also to be added to the website in the coming days is a scan of the thank you letter the club received from the For Still's Warrior Transition Unit. You'll all remember we took up a collection of tools and supplies and sent them their way a couple of months ago. They were well received, as the letter and card attests, and I'll have them up on the website for all to see in the near future.

This month's meeting will be on:

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Find us on the web at www.njipms.org
or at
<http://groups.google.com/group/njipms>



Friday
December 11th, 2015



Bill Schroeter spotted the above in the Delaware Valley Scale Modelers, October, 2015 Newsletter. Does it remind you of anyone that may, say, be the president of NJIPMS?



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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