

# MosquitoGram

The Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of IPMS

## SCI- FI NIGHT



February 2013 Edition

# THE IRON WORKS

By Bill Schwarz, President



Hi all. Now the holidays are over its time to just do what we always do this time of year. model and MosquitoCon! MosquitoCon "22" is in what seems to be a short few weeks. Can't believe I started this way back when some 21 years ago. As I have said on many occasions, it was originally my thought to have a show and I knew it would grow because we have the talents to make a fabulous show. Also for those of you who weren't around, I could not have done this show without key people. I provided the space at Fort Monmouth and the means to get the show started. The rest was done by the same core of individuals and members that we have today. These guys make it all happen and I thank all of you for making MosquitoCon as well as the club one of the finest in the US or even the world! It has been a privilege and an honor to be in the club with all of you and I look forward to



having another 22 MCONS under our belt before it's over! LOL WELL DONE!

Now on for other matters show wise. I have been selling tables since mid December and I believe we should easily do the 100 tables I would like to do. This means revenue for things we like to do like the party and other things we do that have become a normal routine in the club! So far, tables are selling and I have a lot of commitments from the regulars. I even have several we talked to from Poughkeepsie to add to our vendor list. Red Frog Hobbies is a Biggie and just sent me a check. Gundam Planet has also bought 2 tables. This is just a few to mention. Ray Guinta was first as always to commit and send his Money! Tommy

Next Meeting:  
Friday,  
February  
8th

Upcoming  
Events:

April 6, 2013  
MosquitoCon  
22

March  
Heavy Metal  
Night

August  
Pearl Harbor  
Night

September  
Movie Night

Date to be  
Determined:  
WWI Night

We need  
volunteers to  
host a theme  
night or put  
on a  
workshop!





Thomason is going to be selling his books this year again also. MRC, Jimmy Pentifallo, Rare Plane and others will be there as well! Nice to see things lining up! More to come on this as I get info.

Ed Minto as always did a wonderful flyer and a 1/2 page ad for the Journal, Jimmy Lincoln will do the table category cards and our own Jon DaSilva will be doing the awards this year. We hashed out samples at the last meeting and everyone will love them. Doc Peters has rearranged the Automotive part of the show this year as well and with his contacts hopes to bring more automotive people to the show as well as IPMS in general. This is a great thing all around! Thanks for your help and support Doc! You Da Man.

After the show this year, 1 week if I'm right, is the LISMS show out on Long Island. They have always supported us and if any of you guys can go and support their show, please do so. I'm going to go and I'm sure the regulars will all be there. I really look forward to some of the other shows because I get to relax and not worry about

MosquitoCon! LOL. Next up are workshops. We haven't had one in awhile so Jimmy Clappsy listen up, We need to get working on the Workshops again! Jim will be providing workshops in the future as time permits. One More thing. The Offy Midget Group Build is Underway! It's a real nice small project and even if you don't do cars, try one. Doc has a few left if you want to get one at the next meeting. He even provides the alternate decal sheets to make many other versions! Thanks again Doc!

Well, I think that's it for now. I'm going to get back to my Eduard Fokker DR1 Build in 48th scale. It was fun learning how to do the streaks with pastels. I'm a symmetrical person, and it was very difficult for me to put what I call a half-assed paint job on an airplane. But that's the way it was done so I forced myself to do it too but with just a little artistic license! LOL. I'll bring the in-process to the meeting again for all to view. On that note, whatever your building, bring in and show it. It's nice to see stuff underway! That's it for now, See Y'all Friday!

~ *Big Bill Schwarz*

## Joe's VP Piece

By Joe Smith

Fellow members of NJIPMS,

As the final countdown begins to MosquitoCon, there is just over two months away as we prepare to make this like everyone in the past to be the best! That as usual falls on the shoulders of the entire club to execute and make sure things run smooth!

Our past success has been a result of the great and dedicated members, which have

set themselves apart from other clubs and shows! That is not meant as an insult to other clubs or there shows, I have heard this several times from many that attended our show. We have a reputation to live up to!

Happy Modeling

~*Joe Smith*



# Irish Diplomacy

By Martin J Quinn

*Irish Diplomacy: The ability to tell a man to go to hell so that he looks forward to making the trip.*



It's been – outside of a few days – quite the chilly winter. Hope everyone is hunkered down inside getting to build models.

Your e-board met on a recent chilly Saturday to discuss preparations for MosquitoCon 22, which is now only 9 weeks away! Nothing says “spring” like our annual modeling extravaganza!



Which means it's time for my annual “it's your show, please do your part” rant. You guys are vets at the show thing now, and I know the e-board can count on you to step up and do your thing. Remember, we can't reap the benefits (parties, picnics, etc.) without exerting some effort. Please consider doing your part. The e-board will be asking members to help out in certain areas, especially the day of the show.

They'll be more on this Friday at the meeting.

I still haven't had the time to sit down and switch over the website to a new service provider, but I am hoping to accomplish that soon. If there is anyone in the club who would be interested in taking over the reigns as web editor/webmaster please let me know. I've been updating the website for about 10 years now, and I'm ready to hand it off to someone else.

As I was looking through files, I stumbled upon an NL article I had written two years ago, in it I had talked about having a “building night” at the club – where members would bring models and everyone so inclined would just hang out and build. That idea had morphed into a “Build Saturday” when brought up at the club. However, for one reason or another, it never got off the ground. If anyone is still interested in doing that, let us know at the meeting. Maybe it's something we could set up this year.

Don't forget that in March the theme will be “Heavy Metal” night. Anything that was considered “big” in its day (no Bill, you are not eligible to enter as yourself) is welcome on the tables for the theme. There will be



prizes for the winners – one for Land/Sea, one for Air.

That's it from here. Hope to see everyone at the February meeting.

~*Martin*

## THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva

Last month's Sci-Fi night was a real success. I simply cannot believe the amount of quality models that were present. Hats off to everyone and I had a real tough time deciding the winner. It came down to either



Stan and his War of the Worlds dio, or John and his Star Wars mini dio. I gave the nod to John because of the amount of scratch building. I will definitely be doing this type of contest again next year.

Speaking of contests, we really need some more volunteers for specialty nights. Art will



be having Pearl Harbor night in August and Devin movie night in September. I believe Martin is doing Heavy Metal in March. John is deciding if he wants to sponsor a night or not. I will DEFINITELY be doing WWI in November, and I have a feeling we'll be doing Russian Night in October again. That leaves April, May, June, and July open. One night will have to be for the car group build so I need to get in touch with Doc.

Next month I'll be bringing the 1/350 Combrig HMS Tiger (WWI British Battlecruiser), so feel free to take a look. MosquitoCon is coming up too. We're going to have a ton of great sponsors this year, so try and promote.

Things are looking up for 2013. All we need now is a new functional website and we're set.

Ciao,

~*Jon*





# The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP

Most of us who have been modeling for a long time can vividly remember the “old days”. Some of the manufacturers from those days are no longer with us (although many of their kits are still around!). I recently finished reading two books that I’ve had for a while: “Remembering Revell Model Kits” and “Greenberg’s Guide to Aurora Model Kits”. For anyone interested in modeling history, or who has fond memories of those great old kits we grew up with, these books are a must. I also have the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this trio from Thomas Graham: “Monogram Models”, but I haven’t fully read it yet.

A common thread among these books is that, in each case, these companies got involved with plastic model kits “by accident”. That is, they did not start out as model kit manufacturers. Aurora began in a garage in Brooklyn by molding plastic clothes hangers and various assorted plastic items like baby food dishes, etc. It wasn’t until a representative for a model pattern making company paid them a visit one day and suggested they get involved in manufacturing plastic models that they began making kits. The rest, as they say, is history. Revell started by molding ladies make-up cases and children’s toys until they had to be convinced by local hobby distributors that model kits were the wave of

the future. Revell’s owner, Lew Glaser, couldn’t understand “why anyone would want to assemble an item that they could buy already built?” Thankfully for us, he eventually saw the light! More to come in



future articles.

I’m sure others in the newsletter have mentioned how MosquitoCon is right around the corner. Please consider sponsoring a trophy package – see myself or Joe at the meeting. Also, if you have any unbuilt modern kits that you’d like to donate for our raffle, we’d love to have them also.

Best Wishes,

*~Mike P.*



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or at  
<http://groups.google.com/group/njipms>



# Quick Kit Review: "The Batpod"

Moebius Models, 1/18<sup>th</sup> Scale

By "Big Bill" Schwarz

Hi Guys! I just want you to get a feel for this model if you ever want to build it. It's the



Moebius Models 1/18th scale Batpod from "The Dark Knight Rises". It has about 45 or so pieces all done in soft black styrene. The moldings were ok, but the ejector pin marks as well as the seams from the molds should have been attended to better from Moebius. The mold release agent is very slimy and should be taken care of with a good detergent to get it off. Once initial cleanup was done, the build went very quickly. I think like 6 hours in total start to finish. It took more time to clean up the parts than it did to build the model. The ejector pin marks inside the front forks were hard to remove so I got creative with strip styrene so it looks good. Painting required 2 colors. Black and silver. I mixed some different shades and reflectiveness of black from Testors chrome trim paint and did the silver out of the spray can from the wonderful Tamiya line of Laquers. I love their silver. It hides good and flows smooth! Once the parts are all painted, I did a little weathering on the brake rotors and added some basic plumbing to the kit.

You can get away without doing this and it will probably go unnoticed. One thing you must do with the Moebius kits I've built: the tire rims have ridges on them to hold the tires on. I think this is a bad idea. If you don't heat the tires in hot water first, the rims will put gashes in the tires, and they will be seen on the model, especially one this large! Oh, one other thing, use 5 minute epoxy to fit the front end to the frame. This way you can tweak it until the whole cycle is straight and have the time to do it. The tires are rounded and only part of them touches the pavement as it is on the real Batpod. I got to see it, touch it, and photograph the real one at Warner Brothers last year. If you do these simple things, a nice model will be built with a lot less aggravation. To sum it up, no model is perfect! This one has a lot of



little things to be fixed but a real nice looking model can be built from it! Thanks to Moebius for making this kit, and they also make it in 1/25th scale. Next month the tumbler will be out in 1/25th scale and they just released a 1/25th scale batman standing and riding the pod figure set! It's a great year for Bat stuff!



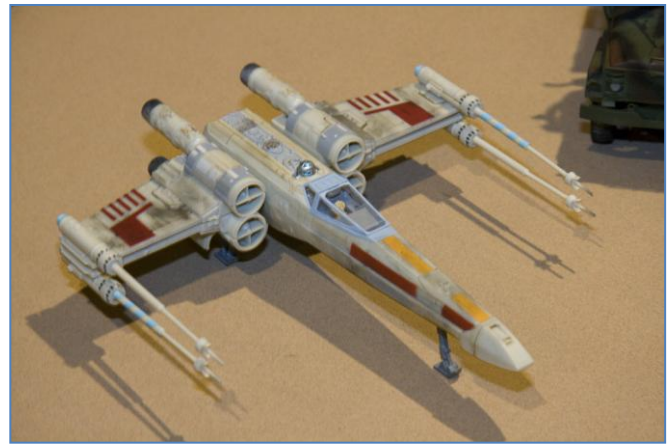




### More from the Meeting:





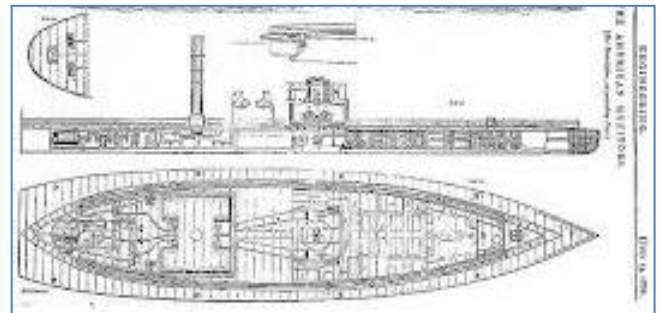


## From the Editor

By Devin Poore

First off: see Jon or me if you want to sponsor a theme night. It's fun, easy, and you can just make stuff up (like I did for Movie Night).

Second: a self-promotional announcement. Those who know me and have watched my website, my meeting in-progress pieces, and my contest entries over the past few years, know that I have a particular fondness for American Civil War ironclads and naval subjects. I have started a series of Civil War pieces, focusing on the naval aspects of the conflict, for the New York Times website's "Disunion" feature. The first one, titled "Ironclad Fever" went up two weeks ago. If



you have any interest in that time frame, or those warships, check it out:

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/20/ironclad-fever/>

See everyone on Friday.

~Devin



This month's meeting will be on:

**Friday**

February 8th, 2013



**Newsletter Editor:**

**Devin Poore**

**Contact Info:**

me 'at' devinjpore.com



*IPMS/USA*

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



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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Adult: \$25 ☐ Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ If recommended by an IPMS member,  
list his/her name and member number \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (IPMS#)

**IPMS/USA**

**P.O. Box: 2475**

**North Canton, OH 44720-0475**

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