

The Iron Works

By Bill Schwarz, President



March/April, 2017

HI ALL. JUST A QUICK FEW WORDS. MCON 26 HERE AND GONE. IT DID VERY WELL INDEED. IT EXCEEDED MY EXPECTATIONS.

When we first got there till the time I left everything went very well. It's because you all (That Helped) made it happened. We are going to change 1 or 2 things next year but they are minor.

I wish to thank Dan Spera for stepping up with the contest, too. Well done Dan! Well with that said, I'm pretty much done for this month. Now I can get back to my Tomcat !!! The meeting is on but it is "Good Friday" so if a lot of you don't come, it's understandable.

Also, the MCON party we usually have the meeting after the show will be combined with the picnic and will be some time in May!

I think that's it for now for me, like I said anything we have to say as far as the show or other matters can be discussed at this meeting or the next. I wish to thank again all who helped, and all who attended MCON 26. All of you combined helped to make it the best show on the East Coast!

Happy Easter.

Regards/Friendship, Big Bill

From the Vice President's Desk

By Joe Smith



By all accounts, Mcon 26 was a run away success! There was so many models on the tables and the quality was just outstanding as well! The vendor room was packed all day. I would like to thank our very genoures club members and other clubs for sponsoring awards.

Joe Smith

From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio



April Meeting Wow!

Another successful MCon has come and gone! Hard to believe it was number 26! Thank God, the weather held out and things just happened the way a well-oiled machine hitting on all 8 cylinders performs. I had more than a few people say to me that we all make this show seem so easy. Oh Yea! We busted our butts and put on another great show. The E-board starts busting its butt months before we meet, to see that the many open items are covered and will not create a problem on April 1. Thanks Big Bill, Mike Pavlo, Joe Smith (the first) and Dan Spera! Your hard work paid off. If we don't have a healthy Mcon we would not have money to pay the bills.

Thanks to all the Members who showed up April 1st and contributed their hard work in support of the club.

My personal thanks to the Raffle guys, Art Doran, John Bucholz, and Rueven Shapira. You guys are the best. The rest of you guys at Registration and Walk-ins, I tip my hat to you all, great job!

Another tip of the cap to all who Judged the many categories, probably the hardest couple of hours ever, thanks again.

Every guest and vendor I talked to said that they were having a great time. And as usual, the models were amazing.

Keep modeling and keep on having fun, see you all April 14 at the K of C Garwood.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Here are a few pictures from the show. Can't wait to see the whole gallery!



This was one of the great vignettes. If I remember correctly it was a winner!



This was best small figure!

Okay, now back to the newsletter. JDS has some very interesting news and pictures for us.

THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



Wow, Mosquitocon was a great show! The turnout was far better than I (or I think anyone) anticipated. It felt like the day flew by. There were some really great raffle prizes and I thought the vendors had a great selection this year, though I kept myself to a \$100 limit. I picked up a few interesting books and four kits. As for the actual contest, this year we had a tremendous amount of entries in the categories I usually judge. It was unbelievable. Dioramas alone had almost 30 entries. I think a lot of model builders are starting to expand. Competition is regularly fierce in armor and aircraft. It's easier to enter one of the "smaller" categories and bring home a plaque.

In other news, I have a running list of monthly contests. June is "The Pacific 1942," July is "The British Are Coming," September is "Primary and Secondary Colours," October is "Russian Night." I have May, November, and August open. I know some people approached me about sponsoring a night. Please let me know if you still want to do such. We do eventually need to display our Chrysler Group Build. Perhaps that should be May?

Lastly, I just got back from my second trip to Japan. This time I went to Tokyo and spent a day in Yokosuka. It was great to see the USS Ronald Reagan and other JMSDF & USN warships up close. I went to the Mikasa museum and it's absolutely beautiful (photo).



(EDITOR'S NOTE) Obviously the Japanese victory over the Russians at Yashima is seen as pivotal in the history of Japan. This is a pretty attractive and well maintained monument!



(EDITOR'S NOTE) How did John get all of the tourists out of the way for this shot? John continues below.

When it comes to our hobby, Japan really takes care of its model builders. There's one "borough" of Tokyo called Akihabara. There are roughly 80 model shops within a 5 block radius. Some of them are 7-8 stories tall, each floor covering a different type of kit genre. I picked up a few rare model ships that I'll bring to the meeting as well as some really great tools. I found these interesting sanding pads that are very flexible, yet thick. They come in strips of varying sizes. If anyone's interested, I can bring them in to show.

See you all at the meeting,
Jon

The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP



I'm writing this just a few days after the completion of another MosquitoCon, therefore the impressions of the show are still fresh in my mind. I'd have to say that our show was once again a solid success. There were lots of quality models, packed vendor and contest rooms, and plenty of happy faces – all the elements of a successful show. None of it would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our members who helped out from start to finish. Thank you guys and gals! We are fortunate to once again have the support of the many trophy sponsors, raffle donors, outstanding vendors, judging volunteers and enthusiastic guests. There were so many truly amazing models on the tables, with several that I kept going back to again and again. It was truly a great day, and one that always seems to just fly by. It is hard to believe that it has already come and gone.

I won't be able to attend the meeting, so I won't be able to thank everyone in person. Please know how grateful the e-board is for the help and support that you guys provided.

Best Wishes,

Mike P.

(EDITOR'S NOTE) Here are a few more photos from the show.



I know this won BEST DIO-RAMA. I helped judge the category.



I don't recall if this was a winner or not. Like so many other models shown, the workmanship was superb! Judging was very difficult. Mike and the aircraft judges had it hard!

March TERREGRAM!

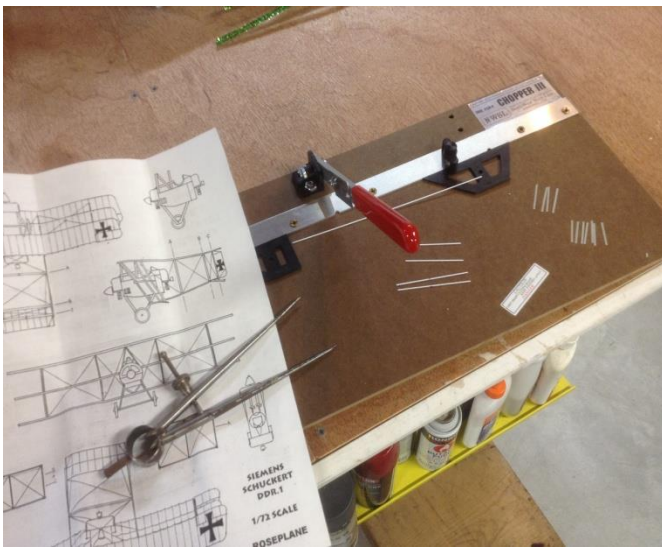
Tool Review: The Chopper III

As most of you know I like to build biplanes, both vacu-form and injected, with a little scratch building thrown in for good measure. These aircraft had a myriad (how do you like that word!) of struts ranging from interplane and carbane struts, landing gear struts, flight control supports and tail boom structure. In order for the model to go together relatively easy (sometimes they don't!)(SOMETIMES!?!? Ed.) these pieces must be cut to exact lengths and angles. And the Chopper III does all of this and more!

The Chopper III is made in the USA by North West Short Line, commonly known as NWSL, of Hamilton Montana. (Can't get much more American than that!). Their

website is **www.NWSL.com** and is worth a look, as they make a host of very handy and inexpensive modeling tools.

The Chopper III is nothing more than a metal arm holding a razor blade hinged to a piece of Masonite. It's very simple in concept but it works beautifully. There's an aluminum base guard running along the top of the cutting board with mount nuts permanently attached. These mount nuts, in conjunction thumb screws are used to align and secure the plastic mitre guides to the cutting board. You just loosen the thumb screw, slide the mitre guide to the proper length you need, secure it by tightening the thumb screw, lower the handle with the razor blade and presto you've made your cut. The Chopper III comes with two mitre guides so you can cut 30, 45, 60 and 90 degree angle cuts as well as using them for stop blocks for straight cuts. NWSL also provides an angle guide for any cuts made in between the above mentioned angles. The Chopper III works well with styrene and strip wood material.



This tool provides exact cutting of multiple pieces which is essential for my projects. The Chopper III lists for \$42.95 and can be directly purchased from NWSL through their website. It's also available through Amazon and other internet sellers. It's best to shop around as I've found it for as low as \$34.95.

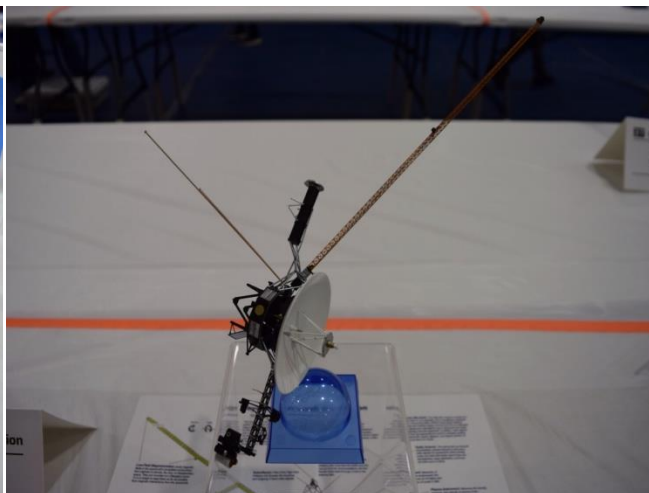
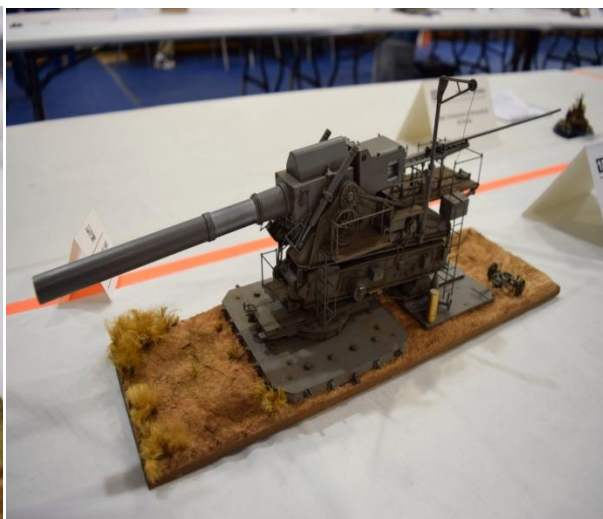
This is a quality tool, built in the USA. I've found it extremely useful for my building needs and am completely satisfied with my purchase. There are different versions of the Chopper so I highly recommend a visit to NWSL's highly interesting website, again it's www.NWSL.com

Thanks for reading, just have to say what a great MosquitoCon 26 we just had. Well done to Big Bill, the E-board and all supporting club members! Now take that latest MosquitoCon purchase, get down to your bench and build it or your wife is going to sell it for 25 cents when you go to the Big Hobby Shop in the Sky! Thanks for reading!

Mike Terre

EDITOR'S NOTE: I cannot thank Mike Terre enough for the work he has sent each month. And I have a Chopper II. It is great for scratch-building, replication and easily cutting stuff without aggravating the old rheumatizz!

Now, here are some more MosquitoCon 26 pictures.



(EDITOR'S FINAL NOTE) I think that is it for this newsletter. As all of the E-Board has mentioned.....IT WAS A GREAT SHOW! I was amazed at how many armor models there were. That had to some tough judging. At the registration table, we had some early confusion due to unforeseen circumstances. It is another testimony to this club that a bunch of us semi-newbies were able to smoothly (sort of) keep the modelers and lookers flowing. Our usual veteran "supervisors" had a family emergency, and had to go. Thankfully that all tuned out OK.

I would personally like to thank whoever got the bagels and coffee! And a real hand-shake to all of the guys who helped throughout the day.

MAJOR QUESTION: How can we do this show without the guys who have been doing such a great job for so many years? My son Eric and I first came to an MCon in 2001; and I don't think I've missed one since. Such a good time; humbling, educational, friendly, inspirational, historical, mesmerizing, all the things that are great about this hobby.

PLASTIC ON, PEOPLE!

Bill Schroeter