



MOSQUITO-GRAM

Official Newsletter of the NJIPMS.

December 2021

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FROM THE IRON WORKS

Hi all. Due to medical appointments and matters, the Iron Works will be short and sweet ! My article on the young man we helped with modelling items will be in next month's NL so enjoy the Terre-gram and words from the other members. With that said the only thing I have to say is our annual XMAS PARTY is meeting night and will be catered by Demarco's and there will be added items as well as an open bar. So enjoy. The EBOARD will be serving as usual and as I say every year be courteous of all members and get your seconds after everyone is done. Whatever's left will go to the K of C members who are always welcome ! That's it for now guys. If I don't see some of you at the party have a safe and MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY HAPPY NEW YEAR ! Enjoy life and appreciate at least one thing each day
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Regards/Friendship "BigBill" Pres.

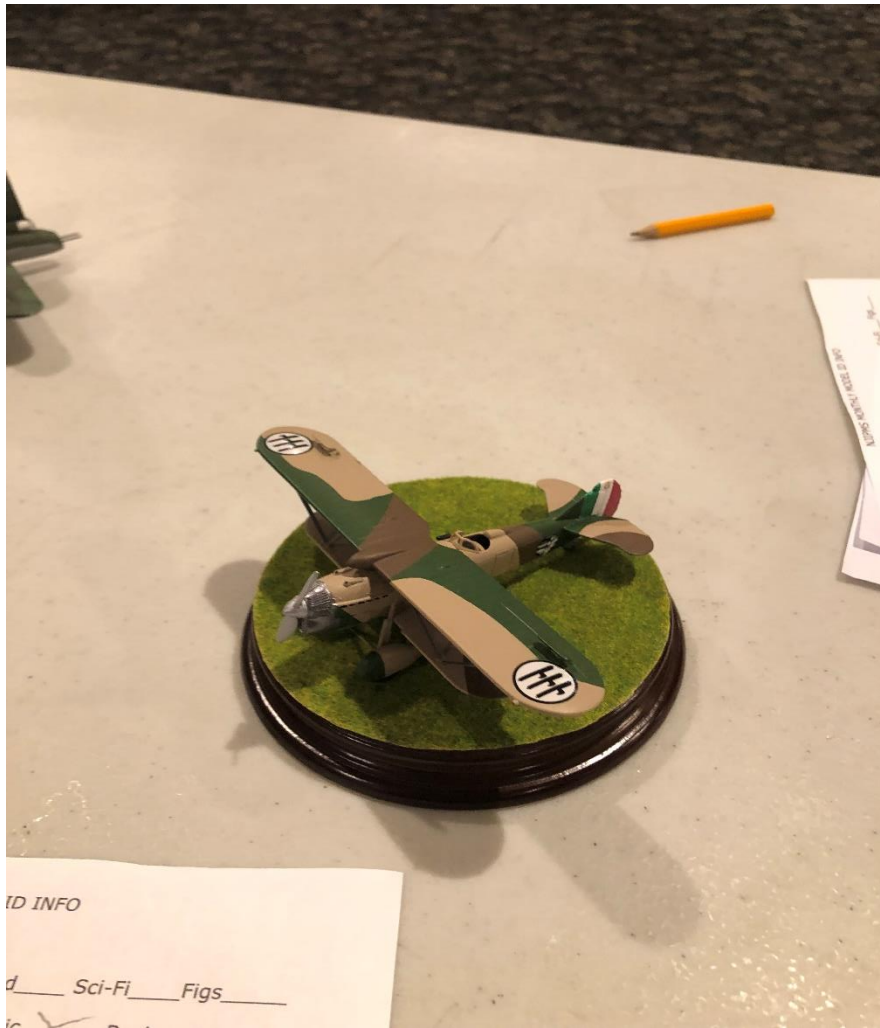


Last month saw a nice array of models on the table for everyone's enjoyment.



Jerry Hughson built Hasegawa's 1/72 B-17B "Memphis Belle" Out of the box





This Super Model 1/72 scale Fiat CR 32 was done by Antonio Merolli



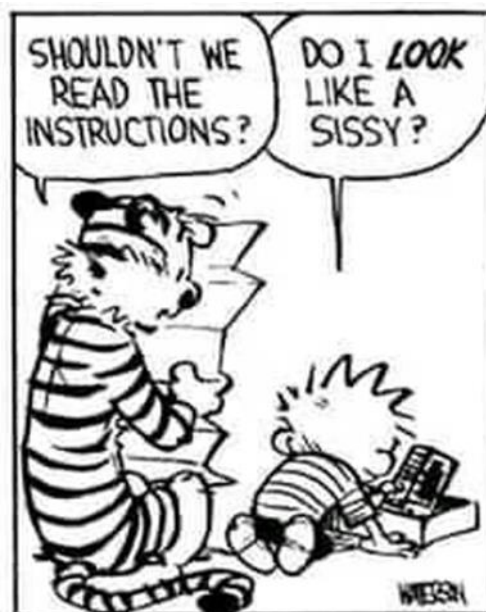


Bob LaPadura completed Meng's 1/35 T-90.



Patrick O'Connor put together Tamiya's 1/48 scale F-4B Phantom.

Patrick added a 3-D Cockpit set and Resi-Cast Wheels.





Dr. Simon Vichnevetsky built Eastern Express' 1/72 scale Soviet MBR-2 OOB





Bill Connelly brought in Airfix' 1/72 Supermarine Swift F.7. He added Fairey Fireflash missiles, and Xtra Decals. The Swift is on the left. The Hawker Hunter is just keeping company for tea.



Modeling in Nature



Marc Rocca showed his Tamiya 1/32 F4U-1A Corsair.



John Bucholz showed a WAVE 1/20 scale SF3D NEV Spotter. It's half scratch-built and half kit. Obviously Sci-Fi, I have no idea what it is.



Vince D'Alessio showed AFV Club 1/35 scale German Sig-33 150 mm Howitzer.



Mike Terre brought in a 1963 Airfix 1/72 scale Avro 504K. Decals are from Rising from Czech Republic, painted with Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum, stretch sprue for rigging and Paste/Alcohol weathering.

The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and got to spend time with family and friends. It's hard to believe that it's already December and that we're gearing up for our annual Christmas Holiday party at this month's meeting. I'm certain that Bill has ordered a phenomenal menu for us all to enjoy, as he always does. It will be fun for us all to get together again this year to enjoy the food and have a good time.

I've been checking The Modeling News website regularly and there are quite a few new kits on the horizon that will be highlighted on many modeler's wish lists. Eduard has announced a dual kit 1/48 Zero 21 to be released this month. I'm waiting on the Tamiya M-18 Hellcat and the Arma Hobby 1/72 P-51B, among many others. Hopefully the kits you've been waiting for will find their way onto your workbench soon as well.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting!

Best Wishes,

Mike P.



FROM THE JUDGES BENCH

By Jon DaSilva

Hello all,

I hope you have had a wonderful Thanksgiving, celebrating it however you may. At last month's meeting we decided on a theme for our upcoming Mosquitocon show, "Between the Wars" and I already know what model I'll be working on; the 1/350 Combrig Aurora. I will probably build Aurora as she looked in 1927 when she received the Order of the Red Banner. I'm hoping to actually finish the ship as I take a very long time to build anything. I've already visited Mikasa so it is my goal to visit Aurora as well as I find the Russo-Japanese war to be fascinating. The Russo-Japanese war, in my opinion, directly resulted in the Japanese attacking the US in 1941. It was incredibly interesting to see all of the ship models from that war aboard the Mikasa.

As most of you know, we have only had a few months of model contests this year. I think it makes more sense to carry the points over from the past 4 months throughout next year and have a grander Model of the Year contest next December. We do have a Nostalgia Night

planned for March, but if anyone else would like to plan a theme night, please contact me. I am going to have a "What If?" night in September. I would like to have the theme nights added to the website in advance like they were in years past.

Also brought up at the meeting were our group builds. There was a 1/72 scale group build that unfortunately was put on hiatus due to the pandemic. We will have a night sometime next year showing off the completed models. Perhaps we can all come to an agreement on when at the meeting.

I hope to see everyone at the party. It should be a fun time as it always is.

Jon



**AND NOW HERE'S ANOTHER SERVING
OF THE "TERRE-A-GRAM!"**

Revell's 1/72nd U-Boat, kit 05015

Revell's 1/72nd U-Boat, kit 05015 If you remember from last months article I'm a member of the Fort Miles Historical Association (FMHA) and volunteer Thursday every week to work at the Fort. The Fort had a collection of large scale ship models that had been stored in a shed and needed restoration. These models were mostly destroyers and submarine chasers. As I've completed work on each one they've been put on display. Recently it was decided to refresh one of the displays to tell the wartime story of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and its involvement with fighting the German U-Boats that operated off the East Coast of the United States. This display would need a model of a U-Boat and could I build one? Well, I sure could and here's the story of that build.



The Revell kit had parts and markings to build one of six different boats. I chose the U-552 in its early markings for two reasons; first this boat sunk the USS Reuben James, a U.S. destroyer in October 1941, setting off a major diplomatic incident and second, this boat made many patrols along the US East Coast sinking many ships. One special interest is that this U-Boat survived the war only to be scuttled by its crew on May 2nd 1945 in Helgoland Bight to prevent capture. For many of its patrols it was commanded by Captain Erich Topp, who survived the war and was Germany's fourth ranking U-Boat "Ace". There was another reason why I selected this boat. It was the fact that it had a large "Red Devil" painted on either side of the conning tower. I'm a sucker for great box art and colorful markings, what can I say?



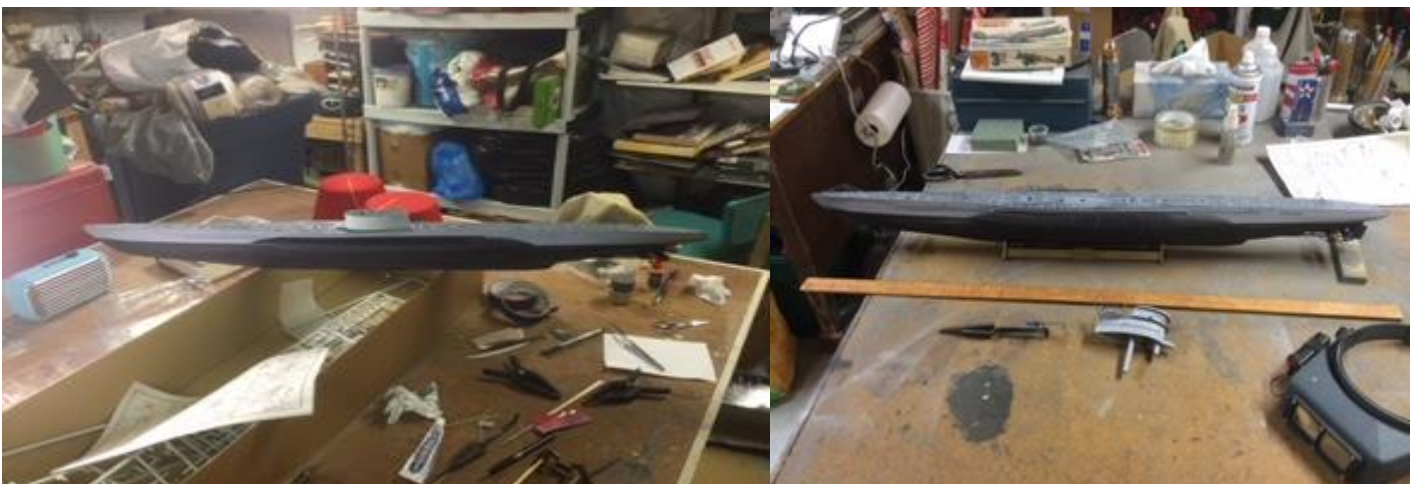
Ok, on to the build! This was a large model, just about three feet long. After building 1/72nd scale biplanes this was quite different however I had previously built the Matchbox 1/72nd scale Flower Class corvette so I kind of knew what I was getting into. The hull came in two

pieces that had crosswise stiffeners and went together with surprising ease. I had to use sectionalized gluing to get the hull together, but the fit was extremely good (what would you expect from Revell of Germany?) and the Tamiya Extra Thin cement working with some

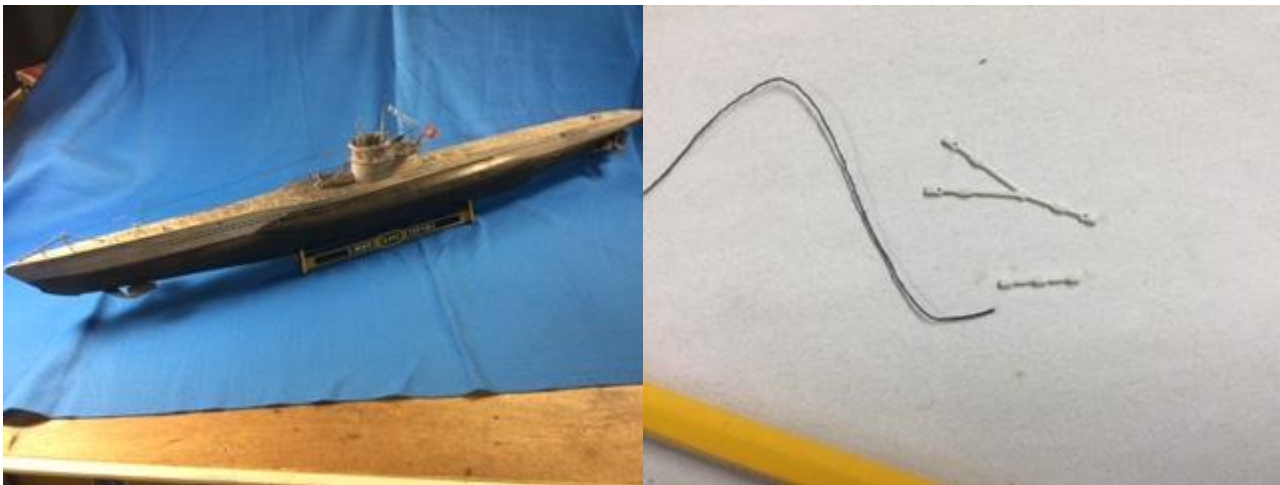


clamps soon had the job done.

The diving planes, rudders, and propellers were also added at this time. The three-piece deck assembly was not installed at this time pending paint. This model could be built in subassemblies which made painting and final assembly a snap. After the hull was complete, I started on the conning tower and this is where you had to be very careful to pay attention to the instructions. Remember this model could be built in six different configurations and the instructions were very confusing. I literally had to check off each step to make sure I was using the right parts. The conning tower was an easy build, however the hand and guard rails around the antiaircraft guns were very thin and had been broken. It took a lot of time to piece them together with portions being replaced by Evergreen rod stock. The antiaircraft gun went together without a problem but was not installed pending painting of the conning tower. The deck gun was next and it was a joy to build. The part fit was just fantastic and it went together without a problem. Hey would you believe this thing was ready for paint?



Due to the size of the model I decided to use my old Badger Mini-Spray paint gun. This was my first “airbrush”, had it since I was ten years old and it’s perfect for spraying large surfaces. The major portion of the hull was painted Tamiya XF-69 NATO Black (scale black) with the upper portions painted Tamiya XF-66 Light Grey. The propellers were painted Design Master 764 Antique Gold which gives an excellent representation of bronze. The conning tower was also painted Tamiya XF-66. Now it was time to paint and install the three-piece deck assembly. This was painted Tamiya XF-20 Medium Grey as were the top sections of the conning tower. Once the decks were dry they were installed on the hull. Having the decks separate really made painting easy as it minimized masking. The only masking so far was on the hull. The deck gun was painted Tamiya XF-66 with its upper portions hand painted with Tamiya XF-20 Medium Grey. Once painted it was installed on the deck. The conning tower and it’s anti aircraft gun was also installed at this time.



As with the guard and hand rails on the conning tower I had the same problem with the deck railing. Many parts were broken and had to be reconstructed with Evergreen rod stock. I believe that much of this breakage was due to the large hull pieces hitting the smaller parts while in the box, however the fix was easy. I also added the two life preservers to either side of the conning tower. These were painted Tamiya XF-7 Red with the supports picked off in Tamiya XF-66 Light Grey. The anchor was also installed at this time, naturally painted Tamiya XF-69 NATO Black.

Decals were next and this was only a pair of “Red Devils” along with a smaller pair of “snorting bulls” for the conning tower. I didn’t bother to spray the assemblies gloss, but only applied gloss where the decals would be placed. They went on without problem and once dry coated with Micro Flat. The final thing to be installed was the bow mounted net cutter. I mean how could you build a U-Boat without a net cutter? And here is where I screwed up! Remember how I said you had to pay attention to the instructions? Well, there was a version you could build without the net cutter, if you wanted the cutter you had to drill holes in the deck before it was installed and I didn’t do that. However the cutter could be built up as an assembly and it wasn’t hard to figure out where the holes had to be drilled.



With the cutter installed it was time to rig the model. What you say, rig a submarine? Yes they had these long cables that ran from bow to stern and they aided the sub in clearing its way through nets. These cables also had tensioning devices installed along their lengths. Revell thoughtfully supplied these tensioners along with black thread for the cables. I drilled out the mounting holes in the tensioners and used CA glue to secure the tread. I made four cable sections, two for the bow and two for the stern. Working from the stern and going towards the bow I secured each length making sure that the tensioners were properly spaced. I thought this would be a tedious job but it was completed within an hour. I was impressed with the quality of the thread as it really looked like cable and had none of the “fuzz” associated with ordinary thread. I also added victory pennants and the KriegsMarine flag and here I was disappointed. Revell has been supplying ship models with cutout paper flags since I can remember. I used them as I had no choice, but boy I wish there was another method. Finally it was time for weathering. I used pastel/alcohol washes in various shades of black and dark gray to bring out details. An orange/red wash was also used for rusted areas, particular around anchor and hatch areas. With the weathering completed the model was done. The model was mounted on the excellent stand supplied by Revell with great decals showing the U-Boats identity. This was a fun two month build that I greatly enjoyed.



U-552 will soon be displayed at Fort Miles and I'm looking forward to seeing it there. Now it's time for getting back to my “groove”. Next build is the KP 1/72nd Nieuport Triplane

(Google that if you want to see an interesting aircraft). Hope to see you all at the club Christmas party but if I don't I'd like to wish you and your family a Joyous Christmas and Best Wishes for a safe and happy New Year. Thanks for reading.

Mike Terre

Great build Mike!!

John Bucholz sends a review of Tamiya's 1/35 Panther



The Panther Ausf.D was the first Panther model produced by Germany but it is the last Panther model released by Tamiya. The stock number is 35345 and is a very good copy of the first variant of the Panther line. The kit is molded in the now typical tan plastic used by Tamiya for most of their armor models. It follows the usual Tamiya mode: easy construction-low parts count-one piece band tracks-two nice figures-three marking options-all with the high-quality molds we all expect from Mr. T. This kit is an all-new mold and has all the traits of the first production tanks including smoke dischargers, early jack block, spring latched cleaning rod canister, and horizontal jack stowage.

The detail on this kit is very crisp and would be a great kit for the beginning armor builder. The hull is just two pieces with one rear plate. The wheels all have poly caps which means you can easily remove them for painting. The side skirts are one piece but they have the correct overlap often missing from many kits. the drivers hatch and the rear loaders hatch are both operable and the hull and turret hatches can be posed open or closed (the two front hatches have nice internal detail !). The best part is the two inserts that fit under the rear hull openings. You get both the fan and radiator detail that is usually missing from many kits. (No more black hole when you look through the deck grates!)

As we all know, nothing is ever perfect, and this kit is no exception. The small nit-picks are as follows:

1) If you want to show the cupola hatch in the open position there is NO inside detail. This thing should have two layers of armor about four inches thick with armored glass blocks. With the hatch closed you might get by, with the hatch open-good luck!

2) The spare track rack is way over scale and the tracks are vagrants (they have no visible means of support!).

3) The front sprockets have nice external detail but no inside detail. It may be hard to see but it is visible through the spokes.

4) The limits of plastic molding mean you have to drill out and thin down the usual items (exhaust pipes, smoke dischargers, tool brackets, fender edges, etc.).

On page two of the instructions the options are listed for this kit. I will go over the "Detail-Up" (Tamiya term) parts that are offered.

#12664- Metal gun battel set- If you are a Metal Maniac this kit is for you. Not only do you get the turned aluminum barrel but they include all the internal gun breach parts including gun sight and co-ax M.G. My opinion- The kit barrel is a nice one-piece casting with only a trace of a mold seam (I removed in with one light scrape with the back of an X- Acto blade). With no other internal detail in the turret, I would say skip this one.

#12666- Photo-etch grill set- Really a no-brainer, this is custom made for the kit and has a nice screen texture. Get this!

#12665- Separate track link set-The rubber band tracks in the kit are some of the nicest I have seen; however, they have a solid guide horn and the real items are hollow. This item is metallic plastic color and has the hollow guide horns as a separate piece. It is an easy step to glue the two pieces and then snap fit the tracks together. I would say yes to this option especially if you are not going to use the side skirts.

#35180-Tank engine maintenance kit- This option provides an engine and plumbing allowing you to open the deck hatch and see the Maybach HL230 engine. You also get two mechanics and a bunch of tools and related equipment. If you want to make a nice little maintenance diorama this would be a good option.

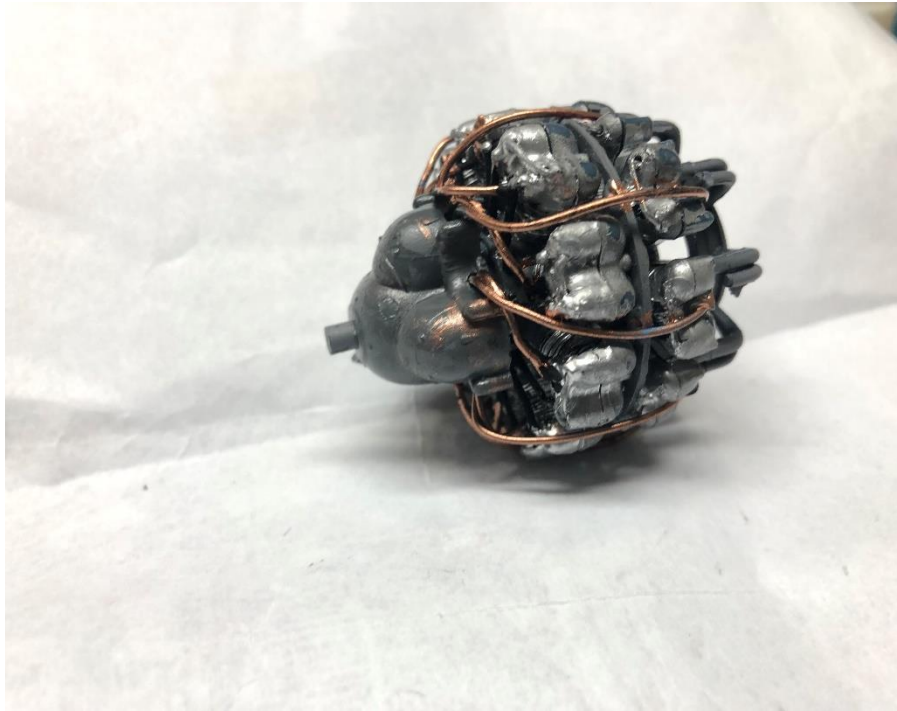
Next Month- We build this Cat!

Now a quick bit from your Editor.



This is the rebuilt dual Wasp engine in the Revell 1/32 F4U-2 Corsair I am building. The kit parts were awful, so I rebuilt it adding top cylinder cover clamps made from staples, black side supports for each cylinder from small black wires, and the firing ring and firing wires for each cylinder are cut from old telephone wire. Each cylinder required three holes to be drilled. This

took me about 12 hours of work. I know it is not as detailed as some, but this for me this not too



bad of an effort.

Bill Schroeter

The major issue is THEME NIGHTS for 2022. Dr. Simon wants to do Russia night again, Nostalgia Night is in March, and I'll be glad to sponsor a FIGURE(S) NIGHT in July. I know Jon DaSilva also has a month planned. We'll firm these up at the meeting, and see if there are others.

THAT'S IT BUCK-A-ROOS! Bring your appetites on Friday!