



**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY CHAPTER OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC MODEL SOCIETY**

**June, 2022**

**Vol.XXX,Iss.xi**

**FROM THE IRON WORKS**

**By Big Bill Schwarz, President**

HI ALL! Not much going on in my world this time of year so we will keep it short. I'm glad we have 2 group builds back on track and we gotta' get the P-47 one back soon. Also it's great to see lotsa' guys building and having fun again! Keep it up. The only thing on for July will be the club BBQ held on JULY's meeting night. It should be a great turnout ! Anyway you all have a great summer and stay healthy !! Be well, enjoy life and " HAVE FUN " !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Regards , Big Bill



**Reminder: June's theme is FIGURES! A nice prize is being offered. So if you have a figure(s) that has not been displayed, consider entering it. Or, you have almost a week to get one done. I'm the Sponsor. Ed.**

## THE CONTACT'S VIEW

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Back in late April, in anticipation of attending the norEastCom show in Latham, NY, my wife and I spent a few days visiting Saratoga Springs. Our daughter and her husband had vacationed there a few years ago, and they had a fun time. So now it was our turn! We also enjoyed our stay and there is plenty to do and see and lots of beautiful scenery. I thought I'd pass along some of the places we visited that I think most of you would find interesting in case you're ever up visiting that area.

NY State Military Museum, Saratoga Springs NY: a very well done museum with a vast collection of artifacts and histories from every US military branch and area of service. Also has an incredible display pertaining to the 9/11 attacks. Highly recommended.

Saratoga Springs Auto Museum--: A great place for car buffs with lots of historical vehicles and many displays on loan/rotation from the famous Peterson Automotive Museum Collection in Los Angeles.

Empire State Aerosciences Museum, Glenville, NY: Another well done museum with indoor displays and a large collection of rare and unique aircraft on display.

USS Slater floating museum, Albany, NY: This was on our list but we ran out of time. The Slater is a WWII DE that has been restored to excellent condition. Martin paid it a visit and posted lots of quality photos-check them out because this ship is a real time capsule.

Best wishes,

Mike P.









**Great photos Mike. Looks like you had a great time! Ed.**



# THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



Hi all, it was great to see everyone this past month. This past week I took the time to go see “Top Gun: Maverick” and it was incredibly enjoyable. It does require suspending reality for some scenes, but it there were some very nostalgic, even emotional scenes for me. I don't have much else to say at this time. Please remember our fearless editor, Bill Schroeter will be sponsoring a Figures theme night this month. I'm sure he will explain further in his piece. Looking forward to see you all! Jon

Antonio Merolli is sponsoring “Italian Night” in July. Here’s his great reminder.

*prepare for:*

*Everything produced  
in Italy and serving  
in Italy or in other  
countries*

*Everything produced  
outside Italy and  
serving in Italian  
colors*

*the ITALIAN-NIGHT  
July 8<sup>th</sup> 2022*



*not ready ?  
bring “work-in-progress” !*

**I was not at the last meeting due to a fogged in GSP. Here's the proposed changes to MosquitoCon categories as per Martin Quinn. I apologize for all the space, but my download manager is very finicky, I had to Copy and Paste as was sent to me. Ed.**

### **MosquitoCon Contest Category Revisions**

By Martin Quinn

As mentioned at the last meeting, I had a discussion with Dan Spera and Mike Pavlo about revising the contest categories at MosquitoCon.

What got me thinking about the categories at our show was the recent decision by the IPMS USA National Contest Committee to revise the rules in advance of this year's National Convention. Gone are all the "Out of the Box" categories. In their place are new categories call "Basic Kit Built".

This made me think that it was time to review and maybe revise our categories. In a nutshell, I did what the nationals and some other clubs do, by separating each "class" of models out into its own set of category numbers (100, 200, etc.). This way, if we want to add or delete categories in the future, we don't have to renumber 45+ categories, just a few.

I also added three categories:

- 1/48 Multi-engine Jet category
- A specific Destroyer and Escort Ship Category
- The "Best NJ Subject" (re-introduced)

I also removed **ALL** the out of the box awards. That would save us money (less awards) and save us time (less to judge, less to announce). Plus, do we really hand out a lot of these OOB awards anymore anyway?

The proposed changes will involve some logistical tweaks. Here's a few that Mike Pavlo came up with:

- All new table category placards
- Modified Judging sheets
- New category stickers for the category folders
- Updates to the registration form
- Updated flyer incorporating the changes (and theme concept as mentioned)
- Updates to the NJIPMS website

Dan, Mike and I are leaning towards adopting this format, starting with next years show. However, we wanted to run it by the membership first, for any comments. I'm happy to discuss via e-mail or at the June meeting.

Thanks,

Martin

### **PROPOSED MOSQUITOCON CATEGORIES**

#### **A I R C R A F T (100)**

- 101. Single Engine Prop Aircraft 1/72 & Smaller
- 102. Multi-Engine Prop Aircraft 1/72 & Smaller
- 103. Single Engine Prop Aircraft 1/48
- 104. Multi-Engine Prop Aircraft 1/48

**Again, sorry about the formatting. Ed.**

- 105. Jet Aircraft 1/72 & Smaller
- 106. Jet Aircraft 1/48
- 107. Multi-Engine Jet Aircraft 1/48
- 108. Props & Jets 1/32 & Larger
- 109. Rotary Wing All Scales
- 110. Commercial (Civil & Racing) All Scales
- 111. Vacuforms & Resin Aircraft All Scale
- 112. Conversions & Scratch built All Scales

#### **MILITARY VEHICLES (200)**

- 201. Military Vehicles, 1/72 & Smaller Armored & Soft Skinned
- 201. Military Vehicles, 1/48 Armored & Soft Skinned
- 203. AFV, Tracked 1/35 & Larger & Wheeled, Pre 1945
- 204. AFV, Tracked 1/35 & Larger & Wheeled, Post 1945
- 205. Wheeled Soft Skins 1/35 & Larger
- 206. Self Propelled Ordnance 1/35 & Larger
- 207. Towed Ordnance— All Scales Howitzers, cannons
- 208. Commercial Conversions All Scales
- 209. Major Conversions All Scales & Scratch built

#### **CIVILIAN VEHICLES (300)**

- 301. Automotive, All Types Smaller than 1/25
- 302. Automotive, All Types Larger than 1/24
- 303. Stock 1/24 & 1/25
- 304. Custom 1/24 & 1/25
- 305. Street Rod (1948 & earlier) 1/24 & 1/25
- 306. Street Machine (1949 & later) 1/24 & 1/25
- 307. Competition, Open Wheel 1/24 & 1/25 (excluding Drag)
- 308. Competition, Closed Wheel 1/24 & 1/25 (excluding Drag)
- 309. Competition, Drag 1/24 & 1/25
- 310. Commercial/Trucks All Scales
- 311. Motorcycles All Scales

#### **SHIPS (400)**

- 401. Ships, Battleships, Cruisers, Carriers 1/400 & Larger
- 402. Ships, Battleships, Cruisers, Carriers 1/401 & Smaller
- 403. Ships, Destroyers and Escorts, All Scales
- 404. Ships, All Others Types and Scales
- 404. Submarines All Scales

#### **FIGURES (500)**

- 501. Beings, Robots & Suits All Scales
- 502. Gundam
- 503. Figures 54mm & Smaller
- 504. Figures 55mm & Larger

#### **SPACE & SCIENCE FICTION (600)**

- 601. Factual Vehicles All Scales
- 602. Fictional Vehicles All Scales

#### **DIORAMAS (700)**

- 701. Vignettes & Dioramas All Types & Scales

#### **MISCELLANEOUS (800)**

- 801. Miscellaneous— All Types & Scales



802. Trifecta– All Types & Scales  
803. Classic Plastic– All Types & Scales  
(any 20+ year old kit)

#### **JUNIORS (900)**

901. All Subjects, Types & Scales

#### **A W A R D S**

1st, 2nd, 3rd place in all categories.

#### **SPECIAL AWARDS**

Best "Theme Award"

Best Aircraft

Best Armor

Best Ship

Best Civilian

Best Tailhook (Naval Aircraft)

Best Vietnam Subject

Best of the Rest

Best "New Jersey" Subject

Judges Best

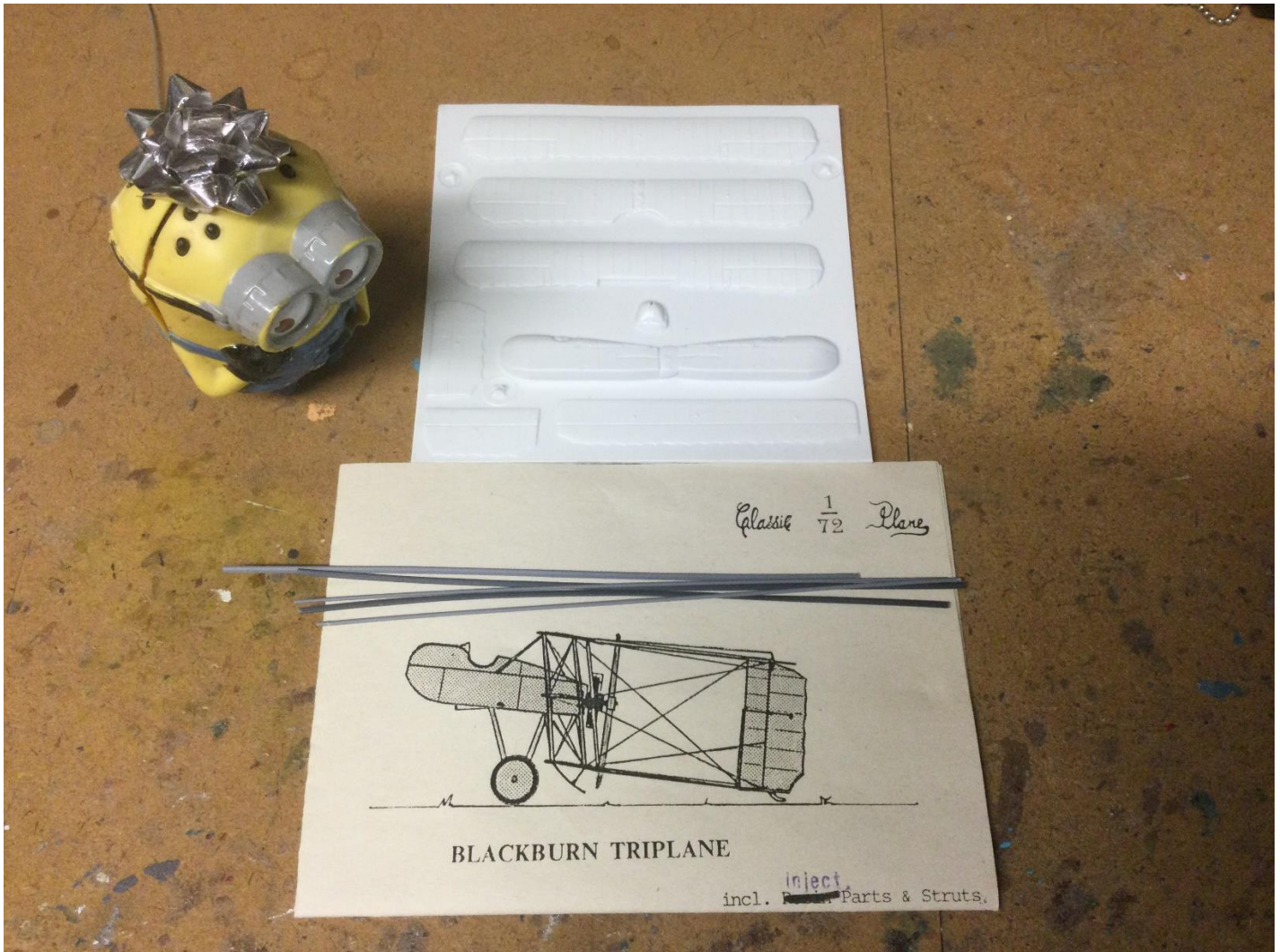
**ADDED: 1 new aircraft category, 1 new ship category, 1 new (reintroduced) theme award**

**GONE: Best SciFi Subject (this should fall under "Best of the Rest")**

**GONE: ALL out of the box awards**

## Now it's time for a new TERRE-A Gram!!!

After building a lot of injected kits I decided to build what I really enjoy and that's vacuform kits. I've been on a "Triplane run" the past few builds and found this beauty in my stash. It's the Classic Plane 1/72nd kit of the Blackburn Triplane. I liked the challenge of building a complex vacuform kit and it's associated rigging.



The first step in building a vac kit is cutting out the parts and sanding them down. It's also the most boring but most important step in the build. There are many ways to do this but here's my procedure. I cut the pieces out from the carrier plastic leaving a 1/16th edge around the part. Once this is done I place some masking tape on the piece to serve as a handhold and using a sanding board remove the excess carrier plastic. By judging the thickness of the excess carrier plastic you can see the evenness of your sanding. When the carrier plastic is tissue thin you run your finger around the piece there you have a part ready to go.

One of the big problems doing WWI vacuform aircraft is that the wings are very thin and will only have rib and flight control detail on one side. I overcome this problem by masking the space in between the rib and then spray a heavy coat of paint on the wing. Once dry the mask is



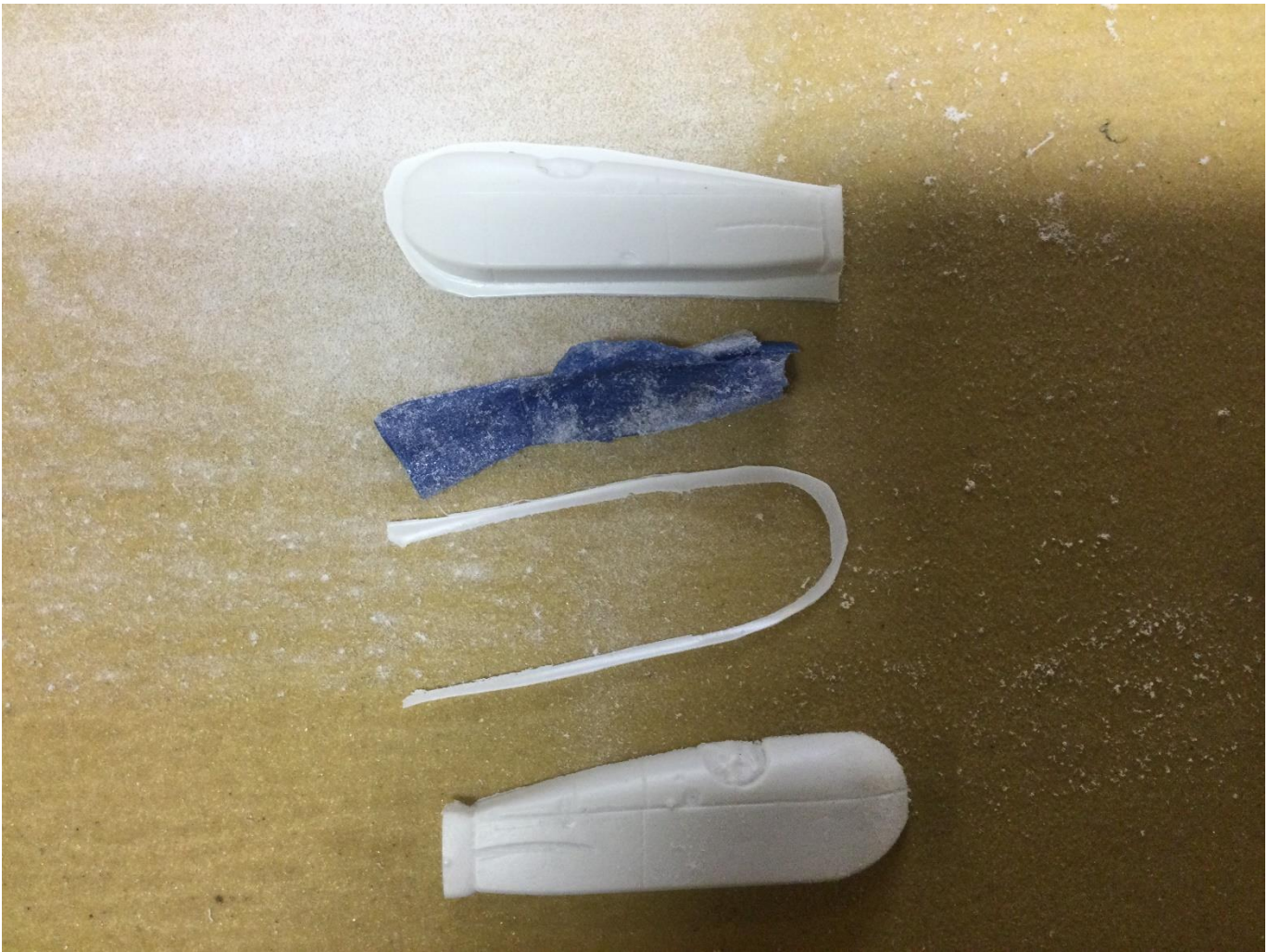
removed and the paint ridges are exposed. A little sanding across the wing to soften the ridges and there you have your rib detail. Flight controls are then scribed and the wing is ready for paint. This process can be used for other airfoil shaped parts such as horizontal and vertical stabilizers.



With all the parts sanded assembly can now start. I first started with the fuselage by detailing the cockpit. Sidewall structure was made using evergreen strip stock, the cockpit seat was an AeroClub white metal part, the control stick, rudder controls and throttle quadrant were all scratch built. All wood components throughout this build were painted by first painting Tamiya XF-16 Flat over the part then streaking Tamiya XF-9 Hull Red, followed by a coat of Tamiya X-27 Clear Orange. This technique gives a very good representation of varnished wood. The fuselage was then glued together and it was time for the wings.

When you do a multi-winged build wing alignment is essential and this was going to be a problem as this build had three wings, two of which were not attached to the fuselage! (At this point you wonder why you started this thing!) I decided to glue the middle wings to the fuselage as once secured they'd give me a solid base to work from. I made a small jig and after assuring they were lined up we attached. I use Tamiya thin glue and it really flows into the gaps and sets up quickly, however in this case I let them dry for a day to get a strong bond.



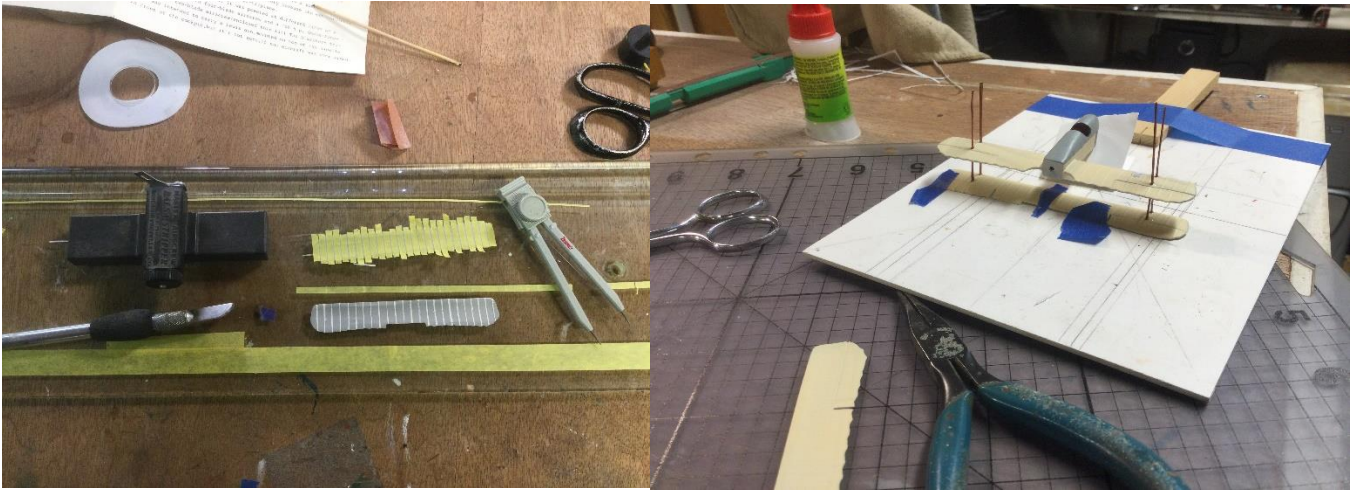


Due to the complexity of the build I now decided to paint all the parts. Parts were first primed with Mr. Surfacer 1000. Testors 4722 Radome Tan was used for all the clear doped fabric areas with Tamiya XF-66 Light Gray used for metal panels. Once dry all parts coated with Krylon Satin as this really gives the appearance of worn doped fabric.

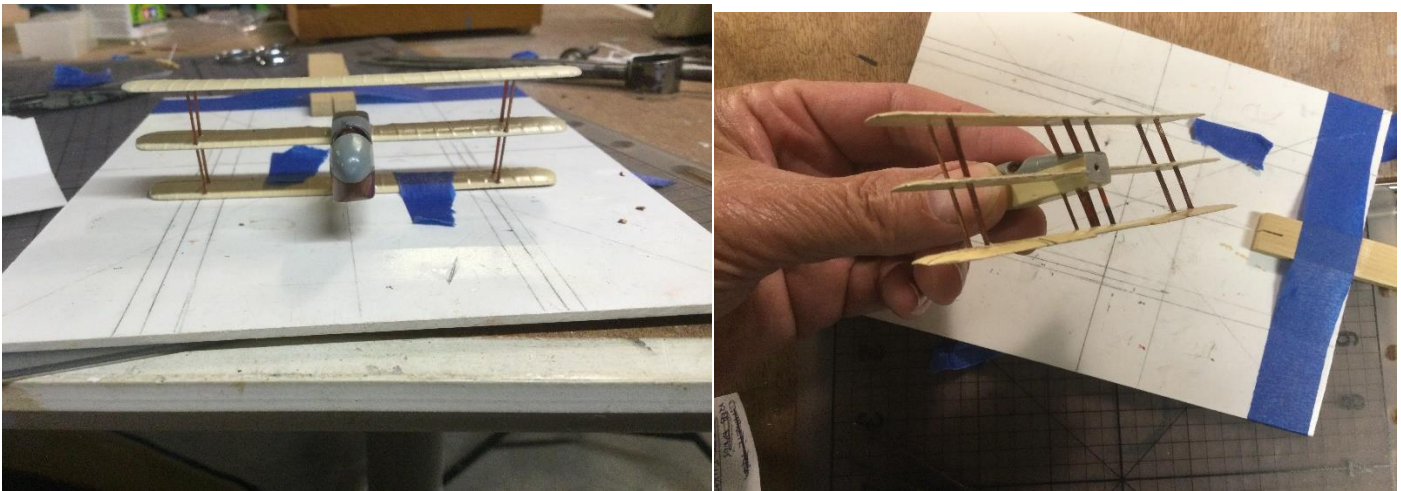
Now it was time to get the wings attached. I used a new technique that I thought up and it worked extremely well. I first lined up the parts to a 1/72nd drawing of the Triplane and drew the strut locations on the bottom and middle wings. From there I drilled small holes (#60 drill) through the wings. These holes were elongated using the tip of an Xacto #12 blade to allow the struts to fit snugly through them. Once the strut were through the bottom and middle wing and everything aligned there were secured with a drop of quick setting CA glue. The struts protruding through the bottom wing were flush cut and the area sanded and touched up. The struts for the top wing were then cut to proper length and the wing attached. With the wings secured the cabane struts were easily cut to length and installed. This whole process took only three hours and worked to perfection. (Amazing when an idea really works.

Again due to the complexity of the build the wings were rigged at this point, you really had no access to some areas once the tail booms were in place. Rigging material was stretched sprue.

Some weathering was also done at this point, again due to accessibility issues. This was done using a mixture of black and brown pastel/alcohol washes. Ailerons were highlighted using a Faber Castell SX pen.

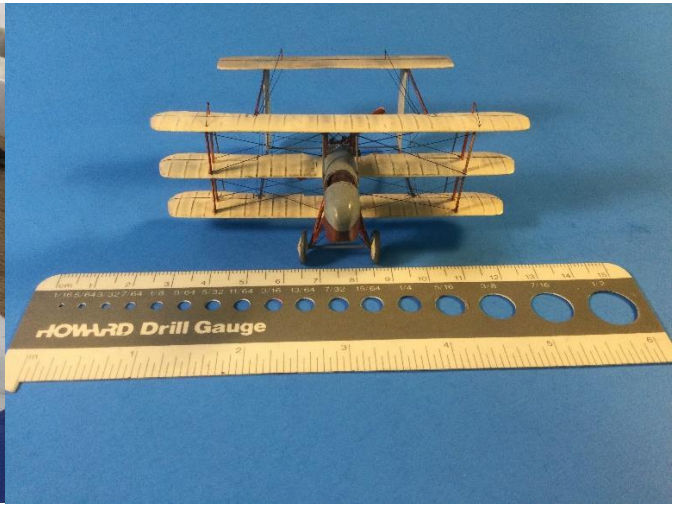
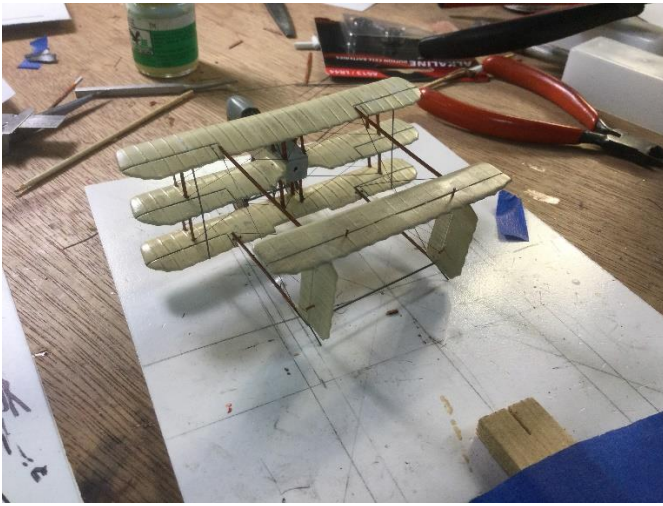


With the wing and fuselage completed it was time for the tail booms and flight controls. The tail booms were made out of Evergreen rod and strip stock. Using dimensions from the 1/72nd scale drawing this were cut to length and assembled. This went surprisingly quick and the tail flight controls were attached. I decided not to rig the flight controls until the landing gear was built.



The landing gear again was surprisingly easy as I had struts out of my spares box that were the exact dimensions needed. The wheels were Rosemount Hobbies (remember them?) resin parts and the axle was Evergreen rod stock. The tail skids are thin strips of copper bent to shape.





With assembly complete it was time to rig the tail booms, landing gear and flight controls. Flight control horns were made from Evergreen thin strip, the aileron interconnect struts were made from Evergreen rod stock, rigging material was stretched sprue.

The final touch was the engine and propeller, both AeroClub white metal parts and with that the build was complete.

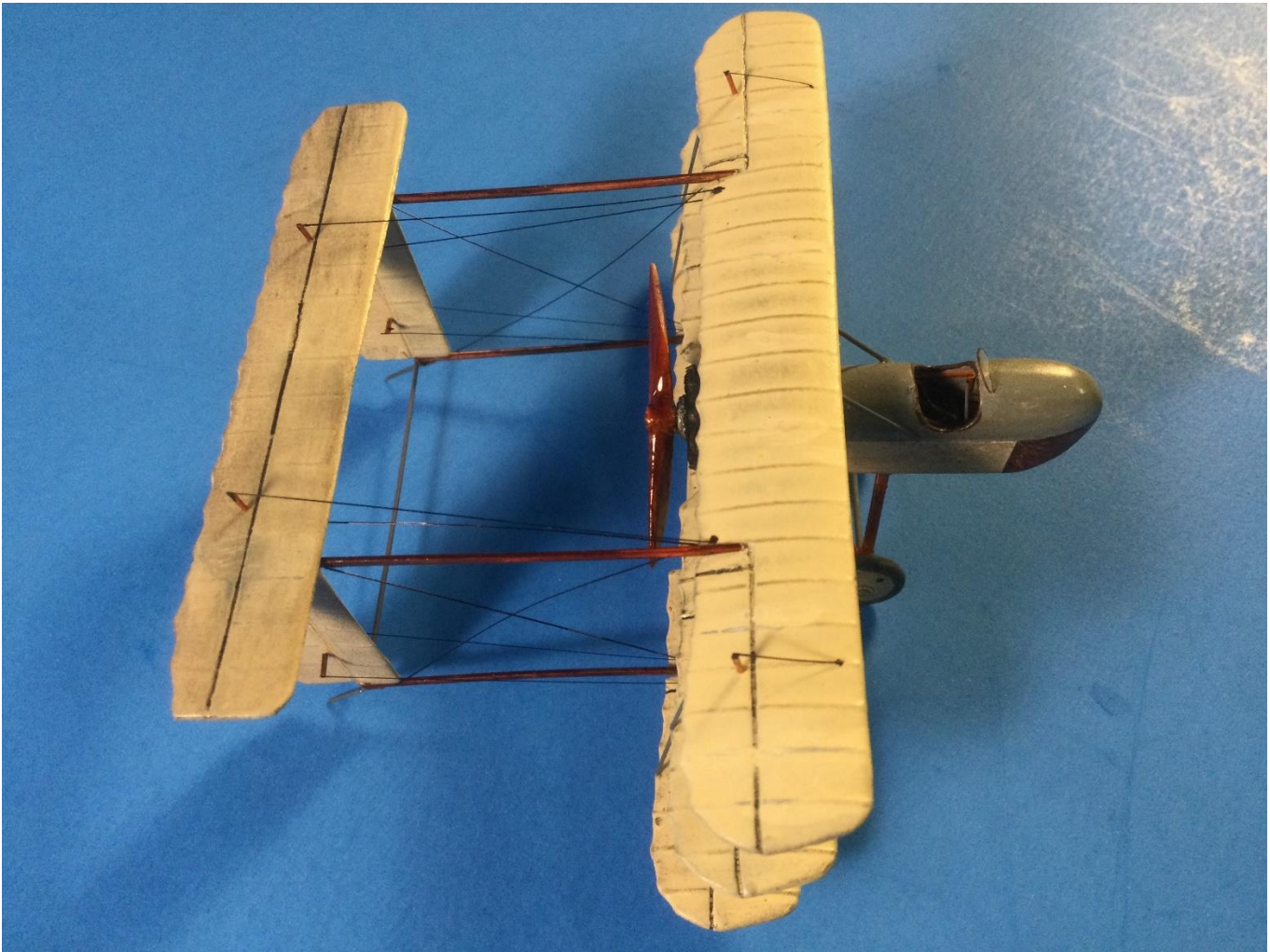


This was a very interesting as well as satisfying seven week build. I was happy to be back on a vacuform build and learned a new technique of attaching interplane struts to wings. That technique will be used from now on! The great 1/72nd scale drawings supplied with the kit were extremely helpful

Don't think I'll be coming to any summer meetings as gas prices and GSP traffic is a real killer, although "Italian Night" in July sounds interesting! Thanks for reading!

Mike Terre





**What a super build. Mike has never been to a Nationals, and I think he is an incredibly skilled modeler whose work would shine at a Convention. Ed.**

**Now John Bucholz continues his series on Tools.**

### **Tool Time Review- Plamo Work Station Pro-**

This item was listed on the Hobby Link Japan site in the tool section -related to Gundam construction. Plamo makes many items to help with the construction of models and the Work Station Pro is one of their bigger items in this category. About the size of a laptop computer this device is a portable work station large enough to work on most 1/72 models, model cars, and most armor models. Open the top and you have a backrest for your instruction sheet. The work surface is a metal grid that allows you to cut and file plastic while trapping the remnants in a slide out tray. A small cutting mat is provided with green and black surfaces. The most unusual part of the station is the fact that it contains a rechargeable battery pack. A USB cable is provided for charging and you have both a 4 led work light and a 2 led magnifier lens (approx. 2 times magnification). The battery will run for three to four hours and takes about two hours to

recharge. While this item can be used on your workbench, you also have the option of taking your work out on your porch or deck in the summer. This unit is not inexpensive (current price \$55.00 USD) but the portability of the unit might make it a worthwhile investment.

Happy Modeling- John Bucholz



**Thanks John!**



Now for May's models and WIP's on the table.



**Godfather** Vince D'Alessio brought in a nice AFV 1/35 8" Howizer





Above: John Bucholz's 1/20 Wave Models MONO-BIKE. John scratch-built about 30% of the what we see.



Bill Connelly built both of these beauts. Top is a North American BT-9.1/72 Special Hobby (older). Bill used the canopy from the newer release, which came with 3. Below that is a Special

Hobby North American Harvard II, also 1/72; is a re-box of Academy T-6 with new canopies and exhausts.



Jerry Hughson showed 1/144 Zvezda Boeing 787. Great Paint job!





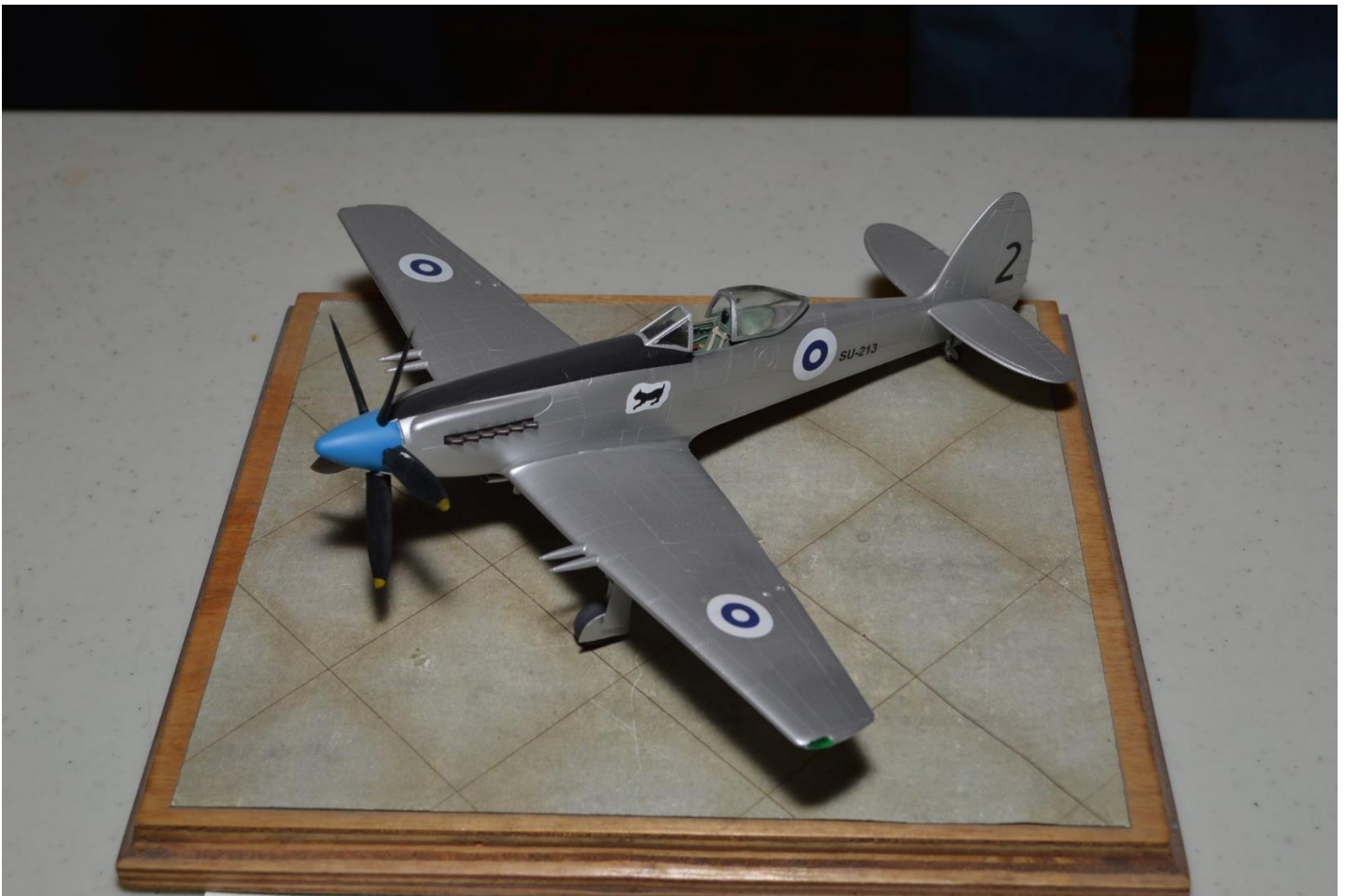


Martin Quinn showed Trumpeter 1/48 P-40B, of the 78<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Squadron, 18<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group at Pearl Harbor, 12/7/41.

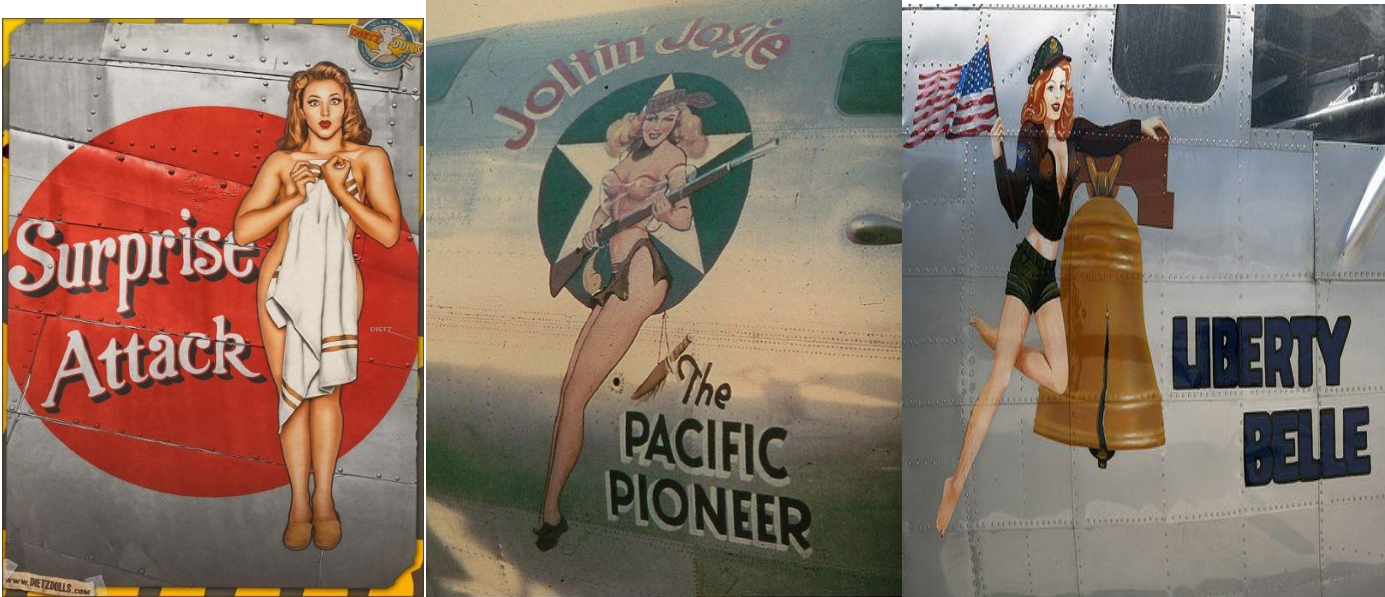


June 6, 1944. Never Forget!!





Patrick O'Connor brought in a Trumpeter 1/48 scale Spiteful (?)XIV. Is that name correct? It was difficult to read.



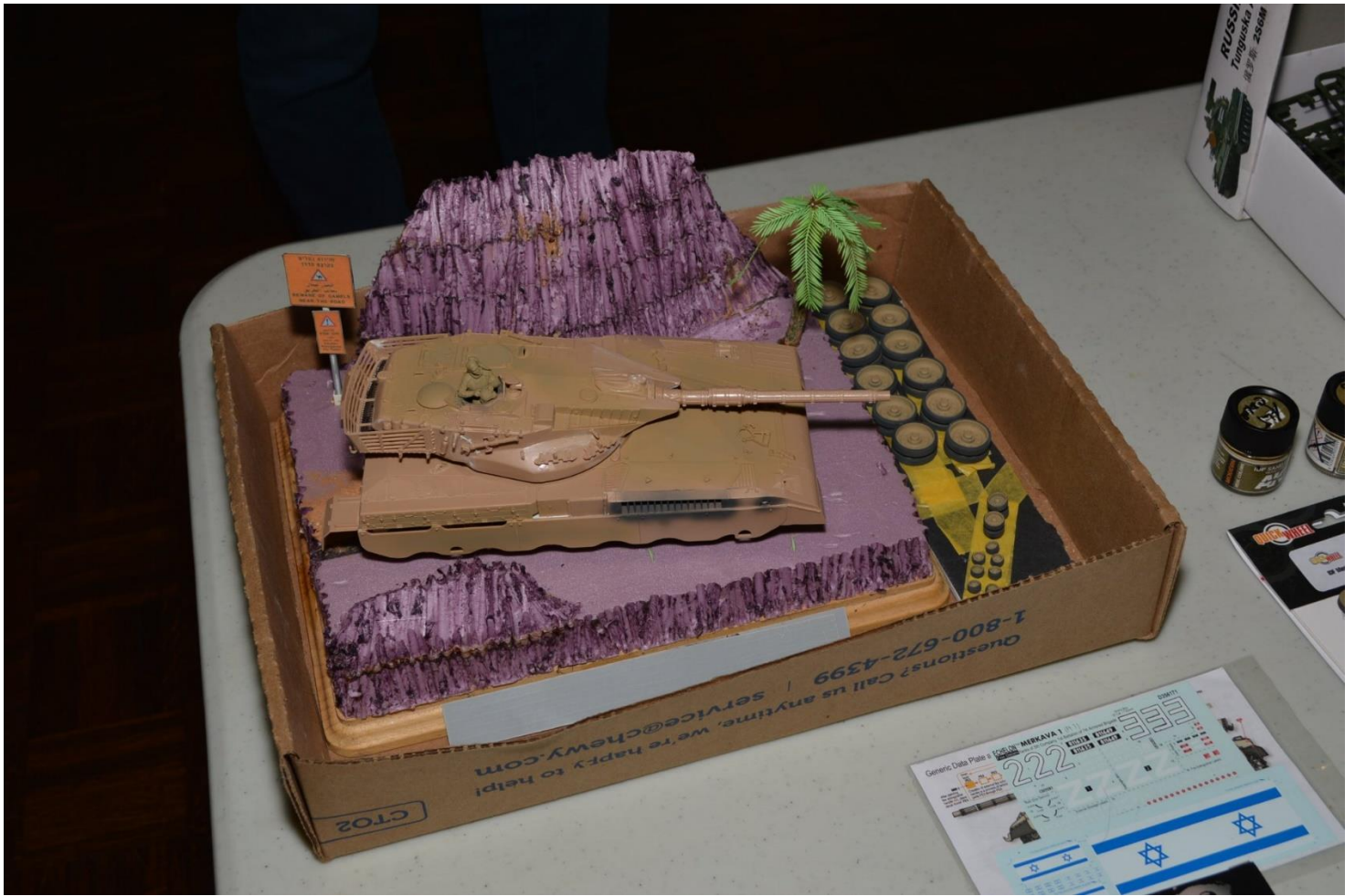


Antonio Merolli brought in a P-38G in Italian markings. 1/72scale. Shot down in August 1943, it was flown by the Italians and the aircraft shot down 2 B-24's, and damaged 10 others; Then the Italian AVGAS corroded the fuel tanks. This an old Airfix P-38F, converted to the G.

**Here's some WIP's.**









**Here's some REAL WIP'S!!!**



**That's All Folks. Hope to see some great figures on Friday! Bill Schroeter, Editor**