



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

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FROM THE IRON WORKS

By Big Bill Schwarz

Hope all of u are having a great summer. Be well, watch the heat and enjoy life!
Don't forget NJIPMS end of summer party at September meeting. Nothing new here
just trying to recover. That's it for now. See you Friday night



BB PRES NJIPMS

THE CONTACT'S VIEW

By Mike Pavlo, VP



For the guys who went to the IPMS Nationals, it looks like it was a really great show. Thanks to Martin for posting so many fantstic photos on the Club Facebook page. We are able to see the quality work evident in the entries. I'm looking forward to hearing so first-hand stories at the meeting!

This month marks an important historical anniversary that I doubt will receive any mention in the mainstream media. August 11th marks the 50th anniversary of end of US participation in the ground war in Vietnam. When the 196th Light Infantry Brigade left Vietnam in early June of 1972, it left behind its' 3rd Battalion of the 21st, (nicknamed "The Gimlets) to protect DaNang airbase. By early August, this unit (as well as its' supporting artillery) was the last remaining US ground combat force in country. Elements of D Company performed the final ground action-a search and destroy patrol from August 8-10. Several men were wounded by booby traps. Several thousand US servicemen and women remained in Vietnam until the final pullout in January, but the official end of US involvement in the ground war came to an end when the American colors were lowered that August day 50 years ago.

Best wishes always

Mike P.

THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



Hi all,

August is a theme-free month. Last month there was a stellar turnout and there was some fine model building. September will be Empire Night sponsored by Martin Quinn. The theme centralizes on the British Empire. I assume this is any era and any commonwealth or protectorate, I'm hoping to see some ANZAC models.

I have been reading a book called The Grand Escape about WWI British pilots that were downed by Germans and captured. They ultimately staged one of the greatest prison escapes of the time and when I finish reading it, I'll add it to our monthly library (Thanks John Bucholz!).

Model building has been slow for me. I still have the Roma on my workbench, but I am limited with time and space at the moment. I hope to have it finished by Mosquitocon, but who knows. Last month, Bill Connolly and I had an extended discussion about the lack of a 80s B-Body GM sedan kit in 1/25 scale, even a conversion does not exist. The amount of Caprice cop cars in the 80s and 90s lends itself to a hot selling item, but I digress. I hope to be able to build my LeSabre one day. Cheers Jon

TO OMAHA AND BACK AGAIN

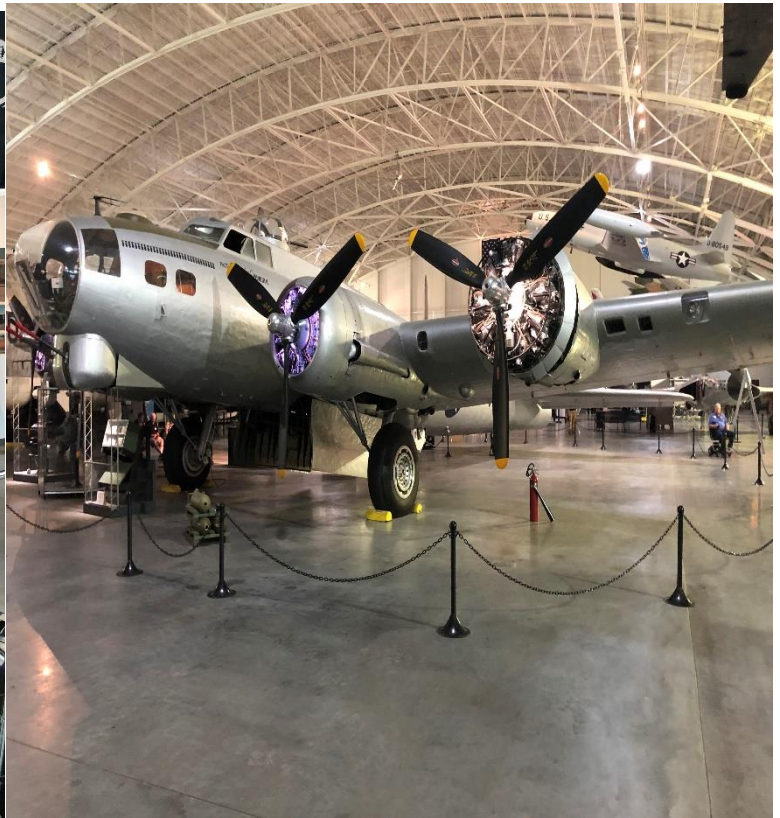
Dave DeNardo and I left NJ on Monday the week of the Convention. We allowed two days for the drive, which ended up being 11 hours each day! We were stuck in traffic several hours the first day, by some appalling accidents that we thankfully did not witness. The Hampton Inn in Fort Wayne, Indiana was our resting place on both ends of the trip.

We arrived in Omaha on Tuesday evening, had a nice dinner and called it a day. Wednesday the Convention opened at 10 AM, and we drove the two minutes to the Center. Registration was a snap! Kudos to the host clubs for really streamlining the process! Then we put our models on the tables. One of my kits, a Tamiya 1/48 Heinkel 219A “Uhu”, needed quite a few repairs before I could show it. Thanks to Dave for bringing such a great repair kit.



As Mike P. noted, Martin Quinn, who drove out with Joe Smith, has taken great photos of just about every entry, so you can really see what it was like. Of course the artistry and workmanship were stellar on just about every kit, except mine. Its' very inspirational to see my mediocre builds in company of such well built models, which is really why I like going to the Nats.

Thursday night was a trip to the Strategic Air Command Museum, just a 15 minute bus ride from the Convention Center. The aircraft there were really great to see: a B-17, B-29, B-36, several A20's, and a B-25. There was a Mig 14 as well as other jets but I'm not knowledgeable about Jets to know what they were.



The only drawbacks of the night were a pretty poor dinner, as well as the museum shop not being open.

Both Dave and I attended quite a few of the seminars, which we both felt were fairly good to excellent. And the vendors were great! Just about all were willing to negotiate, and there were some rare kits to be had.

Friday night I was an aircraft Judge-1/32 other than US, and Airliners and Airships. My two fellow judges were excellent to work with, and we were finished by 930 PM. Thankfully there were many more judges than when I last judged in Chattanooga-where we were judging aircraft till near midnight!

Saturday was for last minute haggling with vendors before heading to the banquet, which had good food and the ceremonies and awards announcements went quickly.

Martin Quinn took a 2nd place for one of his ships, but the rest of us (all four! Mike D. was our fifth member there) went home empty handed-of awards.

I really enjoyed this Nationals, as I've done at the eight I've attended. But this one will be the last time I drive so far. Time to fly the friendly skies to future Conventions-though I'll miss 2023 in Texas as I'll be (hopefully) part of a Cathedral Choir residency in England for 10 days.

I think if you have never been to a Nationals, you owe it to yourself to get to one. You won't regret it!

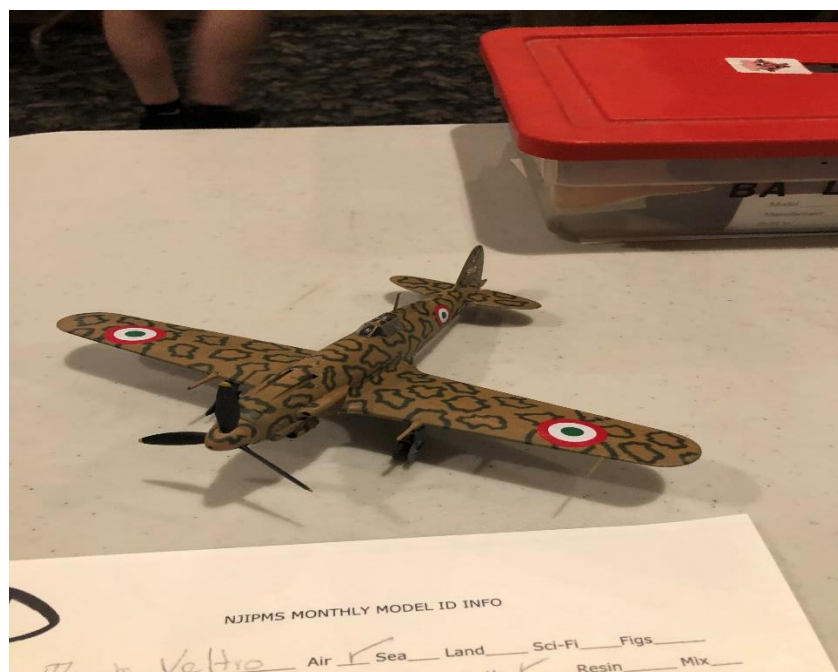
Bill Schroeter

July was "Italian Night" sponsored by Antonio Merolli, MD. There was a great turnout.





Bill Connolly showed three 1/72 Italian Aircraft he called the “Fives’.
 An Italeri Macchi MC-205; A Sword Reggian 2005; and Italian Resin Fiat G-55.



Sorry, but I did not get a tag for this entry.



Bill Schroeter brought in a Hasegawa 1/48 MacchiC-205 Veltro. Bill made seatbelts from winefoil and wires, and used instrument dial decals from UK Models.



Reuven Shapira built a Frems Models MB-339 in 1/48 scale.



The WINNER!

John Bucholz Royal Models Resin 1/35 scale WW I Italian Alpine Trooper.

Congrats.

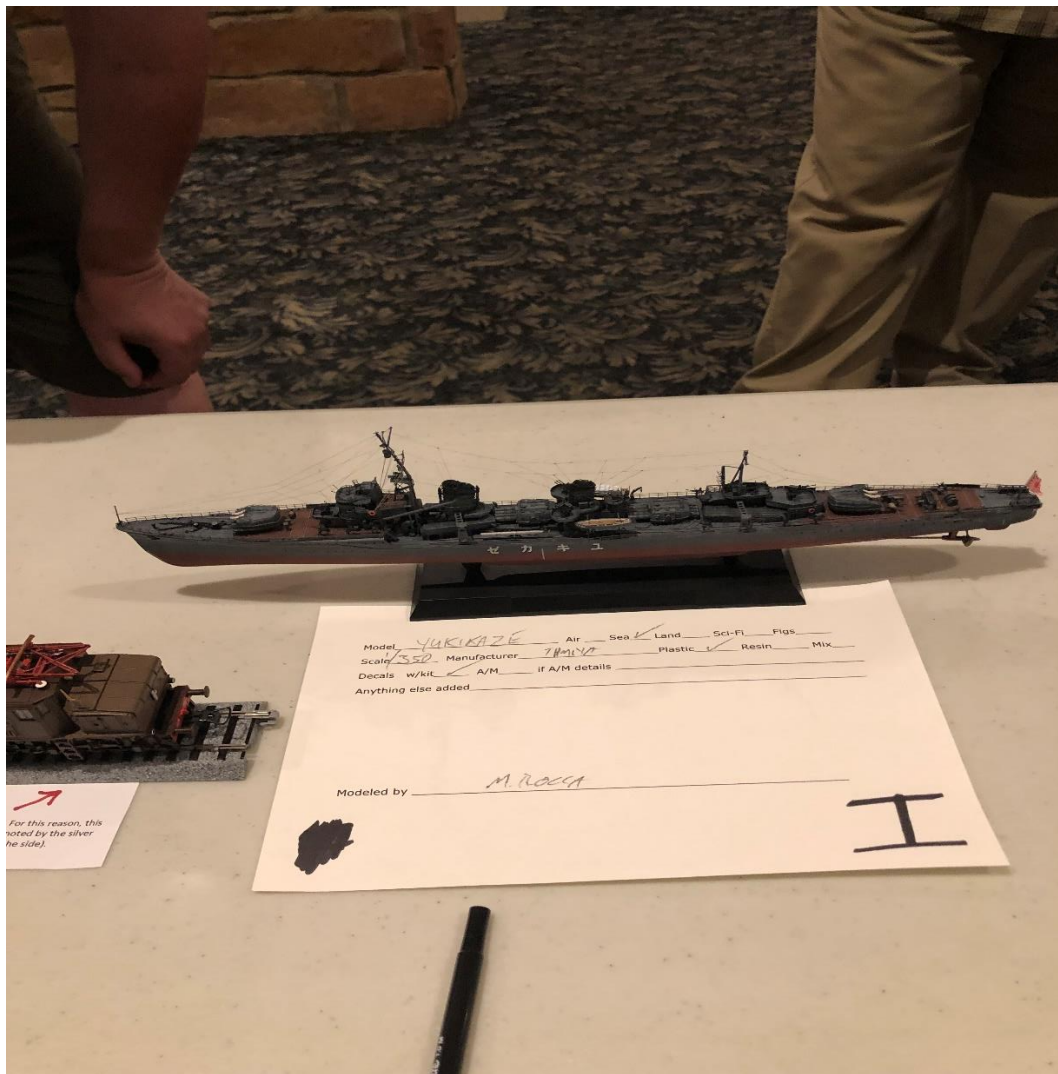
Other Models shown at the July Meeting.



Dave DeNardo brought in Tamiya's 1/35 M-8 Greyhound. Dave also entered this in Omaha. Should have at least placed.



Antonio Merolli brought in a great collection of Italian Aircraft in 1/72 scale.



Marc Rocca built a Tamiya 1/350 scale Yukikaze-Japanese Destroyer WW II.



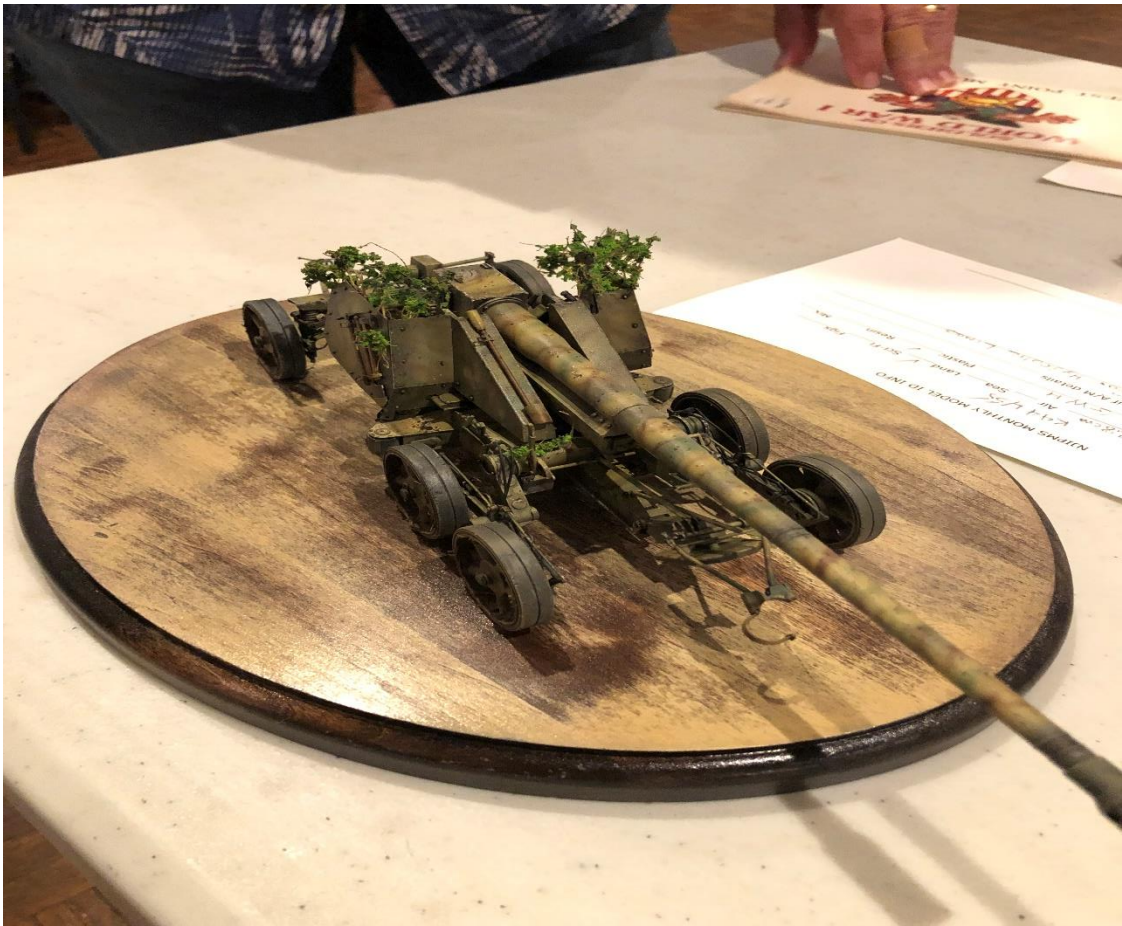
Another by Antonio.



Marc also built an Eduard 1/32 scale F6F-3 Hellcat.



Antonio again.



Bob LaPadura did a nice job GWH's 1/35 Rheinmetal 12.8cm K44/45



Martin Quinn built Esci's 1/48 scale F4 Phantom



More from Antonio! Nice collection.

On a sad note- Perhaps many of you who have been to a number of National Conventions hopefully had the pleasure to meet and get to know Ralph Forehand. Ralph and I became friends when he posted on FB that he needed a ride to Virginia Beach when the Nats was there. We picked Ralph up at his home in Elkton, Md. And we just loved him instantly. Ralph was full of stories about the 'old' IPMS days, his years in the service, and his most-positive outlook on life. Dave DeNardo and I grew to have a great relationship with Ralph and his wife, Jennifer. We took Ralph to 2 other Conventions: Columbus OH, and Columbia SC, where we also got friendly with Fred Horky, Ralph's long-time friend. Well Ralph passed away this past weekend-Saturday August 6. He will be greatly missed.

SO ENJOY LIFE AND SEE YOU FRIDAY AT THE MEETING! Bill Schroeter