



**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

Happy New Year everyone! Wow, another year gone and a new one starting. Still glad to be above-ground and kicking. Let's take a moment and remember the club members who have gone to that big workbench in the sky, and remember the good times we all have had.

That said, I hope everyone had a great Holiday, whichever you celebrate.



THE CONTACT'S VIEW

By Mike Pavlo, VP



I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and perhaps got to relive some childhood memories by receiving a model kit or two! Sometimes it's hard to remember what I had for breakfast, but I can tell you which kits I received as gifts down through the years.

The club holiday party at the last meeting was a great time as usual. Delicious food, friends and laughter are always a welcome combination. Big thanks to Bill for bringing all the food and to everyone who helped during the evening.

We're all very fortunate to be able to enjoy those gatherings due to the hard work and success of MosquitoCon.....which is now less than 3 months away!

Best Wishes,

Mike P.

THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



I would like to wish everyone a very happy new year! Hopefully all holidays were enjoyable, and everyone had a chance to spend time with family.

Congratulations to Bill Connolly for Best Air Subject, Dave De Nardo for Best Land & Sea Subject, and Eric Schroeter for Modeler of the Year 2022. Job well done everyone.

With that said, if anyone has ideas for monthly contests this year, please let me know. I'm sure we'll have some of the usual themes. I will be holding a "90's Night" This will encompass anything involving the decades of the 1790s, 1890s or 1990s. It can be civilian or military. This should cover a lot of subjects like the wars in Africa and around the Black Sea, the Spanish-American War, & French Revolutionary Wars.

Hope to see everyone Friday

Best, Jon

As Jon said, Congratulations to the 2022 Winners. Here are the pictures.



Bill Connolly won best Aircraft for his 1/72 Macchi C.205.





Dave DeNardo took best Armor Model with his Panzer IV.





Eric Schroeter was voted Modeler of the Year for consistent excellence.





From the “LIBRARIAN” John Bucholz



January Book Review-From the NJIPMS Library-

Hitler's War by Jeremy Harwood- The sub-title says "WW2 as portrayed by Signal the international Nazi propaganda magazine", which sums up this slim volume of pictures. First published in April 1940, by 1943 the circulation was about 2.5 million readers. This magazine was similar to Life magazine, lots of pictures with plenty of photo captions (in over twenty languages) showing the power of the German armed forces. Plenty of full-page color photos many of which have been seen in other books but plenty that I have never seen before. The articles are definitely "Propaganda" of the first order and so well written you may have to read them twice to discover the fallacy of the argument. Definitely interesting reading about how the other side saw the war.

The Allies Strike Back 1941-1943 by James Holland- Subtitled "The war in the west, volume two", this book shows the start of the downfall of Germany and Italy in world war two. While there are many books written about the land, sea, and air

campaigns, Holland also covers the Political and Economic spheres of the war and how they influenced many different decisions made by both the Allies and the Axis powers. Plenty of maps, photos, and charts included in the 700 plus pages of this work (100 pages are notes, sources and index) make this large volume easy to read and there are plenty of first-person accounts hold your interest. This is the middle volume of a three-volume set.

A Game of Birds and Wolves by Simon Parkin- The sub-title reads, "The ingenious young women whose secret board game helped win World War II", but don't judge this book by its cover. About one third of the volume covers the German side of the U-Boat war, another third covers the British/Canadian response to the wolfpacks, and about one third covers the establishment of "The Game" designed to find the right tactics to defeat the U-Boat menace. You will learn about the problems of the German submarine service (not enough subs, crews, or innovations) as well as the difficulty the Allies had attempting to protect the convoys sailing to England. The game that was developed was one of the first combat simulations, and taught allied captains the countermeasures needed to defeat the U-Boats and win the Battle of the Atlantic

Just a quick note to all...The Library will be closed in January on account of a vacation for the librarian (ME)...Hope to see you all in February. Happy Modeling--
-John Bucholz

Dr.Simon has been becoming a regular contributor!

FIFTY YEARS OF MODELLING AND FRIENDSHIP

In 1973 I lived in Belgium . About then, word began getting around among modelers that you could obtain kits from the other side of the Iron Curtain by finding yourself a trading partner. Soon enough I found an ad in an English modeling magazine by a Mr. Jaroslav Novotny of Chomutov, CSSR. Communication was not an issue since we both spoke Russian. We exchanged quite a few kits and related literature, and in 1979 Mr. Novotny announced that he and

his wife Eva wanted to come and visit us; I believe that he was able to get permission to travel to the West because he'd just turned 45 and was no longer first-line in case of a military call-up. Jaroslav and Eva arrived in Brussels in their Skoda, and we had a wonderful time showing them the most we could of Belgium during their brief stay.



About ten years later, my wife and I visited them in Czechoslovakia when it was definitely still Socialist, and likewise had a wonderful time. Eva, Jaroslav 's always cheerful and energetic wife worked at Prior, a Socialist-style emporium where really nice merchandise was being sold next to the most mundane and drab of goods. There we found a beautiful Czech porcelain tableware set that we bought for a song. I still remember Eva and her co-workers carefully packing the whole set for us. We brought it back to the States by OK Airlines Il-62, and it has served us ever since, without any piece getting broken. We also came back from our trip with fond memories of Prague, Karlovy Vary and Most at a time when it was all still a little bit out of the way for western tourists.

I have gone back to visit Jaroslav twice since then. After he retired from his job as an engineer at a local power plant, he worked for a number of years at Eduard (yes, that Eduard). I visited him there, and we also visited the important aviation museum at Kbely several times as well as the small but interesting museum of the 1944 Ore Mountains Air Battle museum in Kovarska.

Jaroslav lost his wife Eva to Parkinson's six years ago, and he himself is now hospitalized. So, in addition to dedicating this write-up to my friend Jaroslav Novotny, I will ask you guys to have a positive thought for another old fellow modeler!

Some of the first kits Jaroslav sent me were from Kovoavody Prostejov, also known as KP or Kopro, and one of these was the 1/72 Ilyushin Il-10 'Beast'. This was, I believe, the second kit issued by KP, the first one being the L-29 Delfin. Jaroslav sent me more than one Il-10, and the particular kit I just finished has been in my stash for about forty nine years !

As I remembered from having built this kit decades ago, the airframe went together very nicely, with only the wing leading edge needing special care: the landing gear pod fairings and air intakes needed a little filling and filing, and splitter plates were added to the air intakes. Overall, shapes are very good and obviously, the mold-makers knew their subject. The propeller spinner is too rounded, and I tried to make it more conical with some filing and sanding. It also needs a fitting for a Hucks starter.



The clear cockpit might be minimally too short, although it is otherwise very well molded.

Cabin detail is minimal, basically just a spade-handle control column, and a near- unusable seat which I replaced with a Cooper State seat with belts. I also scratch built a PBP gunsight. The rear gunners compartment got a small bench seat, and one of those amazing Mini World brass UBT machine guns with a small reflector sight and an ammo can.

Cockpit overall color is a light blue-gray, with green for the ammo can.

The landing gear is as supplied in the kit. The main legs are lacking in detail but the rear wheel fork is beautiful once it is cleaned up.

The separate exhaust pipes are well-molded.

A fairing, I believe for a gun camera needs to be added to the leading edge of the starboard wing.

The airspeed probe was made from brass rod.

The antenna mast was made from a straightened-out staple.

There is a clear part supplied for the leading-edge landing light, but I found it easier to glue a tiny rhinestone from Harmons there and then a drop of epoxy glue.

I decided to build this ‘ Beast ‘ as an Avia B33 , the license-built version which was produced in the CSSR. This version has four 23 mm cannon, which were made from fine tube.

Czech colors were a dark olive green topside with a light blue-gray underside, with a straight dividing line and a distinctive S-shape beneath the stabilizer leading edge. I mix my own, still from Testors Model Master enamels.

After applying one coat of. Tamiya semi-gloss clear, I applied the simple decals. The roundels were from a newer issue Kopro Il-10, but I used the original 1973 decal sheet for the fuselage-side aircraft codes - they went on like a charm, with no silvering.

A second coat of Tamiya semi-gloss clear was applied to tie it all together , and I'm happy with the results . Thank You Jaroslav for this kit, and thanks for the memories!

That's it for this edition. Hope to see everyone on Fridaythe 13th!!!