



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

MARCH, 2023

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“FROM THE IRON WORKS”

Hi all! HERES THE DEALIO! The show is upon us!!! In a few more weeks MCON 31 will be in the books and then we start on MCON32 ! From what i'm seeing, the show should be another BIGGIE! but that remains to be seen. Anyway here's that deal! THE SHOW'S ON APRIL 1st AND IT'S UP TO ALL OF YOU NOW TO BRING IT HOME!!!! Everyone knows what to do so just do it! NUFF SAID BOUT DAT!

Next and last I want you guys to know that ED MINTO AND JON AS WELL AS OTHERS HAVE STEPPED UP AND BROUGHT AWARDS AND OTHER AREAS TO NEW LEVELS! DEVIN has the website in hand, the raffle guys are good to go, and Patrick and the registration team are a go as well. Tom Vandermark STEPPED RIGHT UP and took control of walk in's, but can use a body or two for opening. Just do what you do and all will be fine! That's it for me. SEE YALL AT THE MEETING!

BE WELL. BB PRES NJIPMS



There are quite a few contributions this month, so enjoy everything. BS Ed.

THE CONTACT'S VIEW

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Everyone is aware that MosquitoCon is just a few weeks away. It's always an exciting, busy day that tends to fly by because we're all doing what we need to do. Just a reminder, if anyone has kits, etc. that they'd like to donate for our raffle, please bring them to the raffle table on the day of the show and give them to Vince or John. We all appreciate your generosity and support.

And speaking of generosity and support - thank you to each of our members who have already sponsored trophy packages for the show. There are still many categories and special awards that are open for sponsorship, so please see Joe Smith at the meeting if you'd like to help out. It's a great way to honor a late friend or family member if you choose to name the honoree with your sponsorship. It's also a way to give back to the club that gives us all so many perks....and fun filled holiday dinners and parties!

Best Wishes,

Mike P.

First, our Librarian John Bucholz reviews a paint and brush system by Pamo.

Mini-Review:Plamo paint box

This little gizmo is a handy way to get your painting done with less mess. The box has a threecompartment tray to hold your paint (handy if you are mixing a color). The paint pots slope towards the front of the stand so you have better access to the paint and they help to keep the color separate from any wash you are using. The rear section has holes so you can keep track of any small parts you have painted (Grabit Styx fit into the holes nicely). The paint brush rest keeps the wet brush off your workspace and fits under the larger piece when you don't need it.

You also get a large glass jar (aprox. 100ml) to keep any brush cleaner you may be using. The metal disc inside can be used to help remove any dried on paint from the bristles. The top is vented but also has an air tight cap to prevent spills or vapor from escaping. The paint cups have refill packs of 24 available, but the cups can also be cleaned and reused if you don't mind a little extra work (water base paints will come off with no effort).

Plamo has lots of handy items and while they are associated with the Gundam market, they will be useful to any modeler. I found them on line at HLJ, but I think you can find them on other sites as well.

John Bucholz



Thanks John! Next up is our Dr. Simon with a build of a Bearcat!

AS TIME GOES BY

Two months ago, Art Doran, Reuven Shapira and myself went to see “Devotion”, a really good movie, and miles better than “Top Gun 2”. Art was all there, talking about F8F’s, F4U’s, and how it followed the book (well). But after the movie he fell in the theater lobby, and bystanders had to help him up.

Art had been dealing with multiple myeloma, a type of bone marrow cancer for the last several years. But until the very end he kept his back straight and his appearance up, and he was unfailingly a gentleman. He and his wife Carol also had their cross to bear: their only son Peter died of an overdose in 1991. Art is now entombed with him; may they Rest In Peace!

I won't forget that in 2017, when complications from knee surgery nearly did me in, he and Reuven would come to my house once a week and do things I couldn't do such as changing our house water filter, or replacing the floodlight above our garage doors.

Just last summer when I wasn't doing so hot myself Art would help me cross the street or parking lots; he was 86 years old .

Inspired by "Devotion" I'd already started the old Monogram 1/72 Bearcat, and this build is in his memory. I remember when that kit first came out along with a couple of other releases in 1/72 including the B52, from a company that until then was doing mostly 1/48. Old dudes like yours truly have a lot of perspective on the history of scale modeling, and when those 1/72 Monogram kits came out in 1967, you could tell that they were a step forward with their clean molding, fine trailing edges and landing gear doors, and intelligent detailing.



The Bearcat begs to be put together, and assembly was totally problem-free. I tried to keep things OOB as much as possible, but the molded-on 20mm cannon broke off as those things are wont to do, and I replaced them with brass barrels

from an A1 Skyraider set by Ares. The oval leading edge air intakes needed splitter plates which I added, and a pitot tube needs to be added beneath the port wing. Whip antennae made from .009 guitar string were also added to the top and bottom of the fuselage. I'll note in passing that the photos of F8F's you get on a web search tend to be mostly of shiny currently restored examples , and not of aircraft in their original in-service condition.

The cockpit and seat are interior green, with seat belts picked off in off-white. The decal provided was used for the instrument panel. And a reflector sight was made from plastic scrap. The very small two-part cockpit has neatly engraved framing, which helps with painting

Airframe color overall including landing gear bays is Testors Model Master Dark Sea Blue, after spraying on a coat of black primer. The well-molded engine front's crankshaft is picked out in gloss grey. Wingtip position lights are picked out in silver, then with gloss clear red and green. The propeller is flat black including the hub ; the fine molded lines help getting the tips neatly painted yellow.

The fifty-plus year old decal sheet did not look too promising, and I first tried a Print Scale F8F sheet. I've read in the past that these are difficult to use with a wicked tendency to curl up, and I found this to be true to my expense! Except for the propeller stencils I wound up using the decals from a Hobby Boss F8F, and these were absolutely great. As usual I finished my model off with a coat of Testors semi-gloss and wound up with the perfect amount of sheen.



I'll just write a few words about the Hobby Boss F8F. It came out almost fifty years after the Monogram Bearcat, and you cannot but be amazed at the quality of a Navy fighter with a minimum of parts . Inspired by “ Devotion “ , I'm also finishing one as well as one of their F4U's. Yet, when it comes to which kit I prefer it's basically a wash for me. The elderly Monogram kit looks fine and scores some accuracy points over Hobby Boss ; for instance, its slightly tilted downward engine and the small hemispheric fairing behind the propeller hub, both of which are missed by Hobby Boss .

Dr. Simon Vichnivetsky

By the Way, “NOSTALGIA NIGHT” has been postponed because Mike Terre cannot make the meeting in March. He and Dan Spera will let us know when they can put it together. Ed.

This from Martin Quinn.

Irish Diplomacy

By Martin J Quinn

Irish Diplomacy: The ability to tell a man to go to hell so that he looks forward to making the trip.



March 2023

Looking on my computer for the template I used to use for this “column”, I found the last time I created one was March 2015 – 8 years ago! It's been a tumultuous eight years, for sure...

Update on the club polo shirts: since we were only able to drum up an order for about 30 shirts, the cost per shirt rose to \$42.50 per shirt. A few of you approached me after the meeting and expressed interest in moving ahead. However, unless we get just about everyone on board, the price will go up again (the less

shirts we have, the more it costs). At this time, I'm going to assume that the cost per shirt is too much for some folks (no judgement – I get it) and let the matter drop.

Do you know that we have a club Facebook page?

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064856403281>

Currently, we have over 1,200 people following our page. On the page, you'll find club updates – links to history or modeling related topics, MosquitoCon updates, pictures from the meeting or pictures from shows that either myself or Devin Poore attend (Devin and I are the moderators of the page).

Our club has always been known for having a lot of talented modelers. I'd like to start showcasing some of our members work on our Facebook page. If you are interested, send me an e-mail with four or five pictures of the model you'd like highlighted, and some text describing the model: what it is, what manufacturer, what scale, and what – if anything – you did to enhance the build. I'll post updates in the order I receive them.

Martin

And now it's time for a new **“TERRE-A-GRAM!”**



OOOOOOOHHHHHH!!!!!!

Tractor Pull

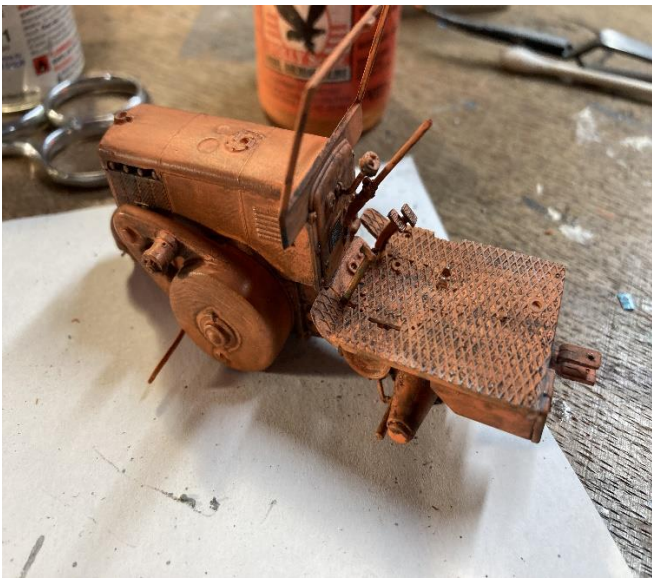
Ok, last month he built a sub and this month he's built a farm tractor and it's trailer. Thought this guy was an aircraft builder. Well yes I am! Currently working on a vacuform WWI aircraft but sometimes change in your modeling subjects is a good thing. Besides tractors are just plain fun. And it's all Big Bills fault, if he didn't bring in that Thunder Model 1/35th scale Case tractor many years ago I'd never have thought to build a tractor. Hey Bill, you ever build that beastie? The two models, the German farm tractor and its trailer are made by MiniArt a Ukrainian company, so support them by buying their models and are in 1/35th scale. These kits are absolutely fabulous, nice sharp detail, no flash, great fit BUT, there's two

problems. First all those nice fine parts have thick sprue gates, even with the finest flush cutters or saw there will be some breakage. Second the assembly drawings are very detailed but lack good verbiage, especially when defining left and right-side parts. This was especially true when assembling the steering system and gear shifts. You really have to pay attention to the drawing and then look to the next few drawings to get the part location and assembly sequence correct.



Both models were painted using Polly Scale (boy will I be hunting down that paint at MosquitoCon!) and we're weathered using pastel/alcohol washes. I really like using that weathering technique and if you don't like the effect you can easily clean it off and try again. The only extra thing I did was use fine copper wire for the fuel lines, which by the way, was optional in the instructions. Overall this was a fun three week project.

Oh, I attended the Richmond show, the "Old Dominion Open" where I was happy to meet Martin Quinn, who did very well in the competition. By the way the show had close to 900 models and damn close to a 1000 attendance. Very good show and very good vendors. Speaking of shows I will be attending MosquitoCon but won't be up for the March meeting. I usually sponsor Nostalgia Night in March but it's getting increasingly hard for me to get up to NJ anymore, this getting old is getting old! Hopefully somebody in the club would pick up the gauntlet and continue this tradition. If I could nominate anybody it would be Mike Pavlo as he is a walking encyclopedia of hobby stores and stories! Anyway, thanks for reading and hope to see you at MosquitoCon. Now be useful and build something. Mike Terre



That's a cool build Mike. Thanks. Ed.

Now for pics from the February Meeting



Eric Schroeter's "Winter Nashorn" Dio-rama looked pretty cool. The Nashorn is from Tamiya, with Master Club metal tracks, Aber metal barrel. The crew and the horse and rider are from Stalingrad Miniatures. Fence and farm accessories are from MiniArt, and Eric scratch[-]built the house and the cornfield.



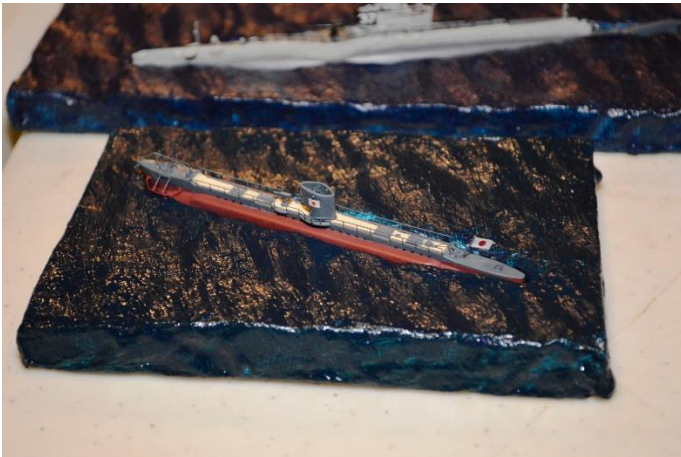


This nice Char B1 bis in 1/35 is from Tamiya by way of Dave Denardo.





This 1/72 PB4Y-2 Privateer is from new member Bill Joel. Nice job!





The F2H-3 Banshee is HobbyCraft in 1/72 scale. Bill Connolly used Starfighter decals for it. The Tamiya F4D Skyray carries Microscale markings.



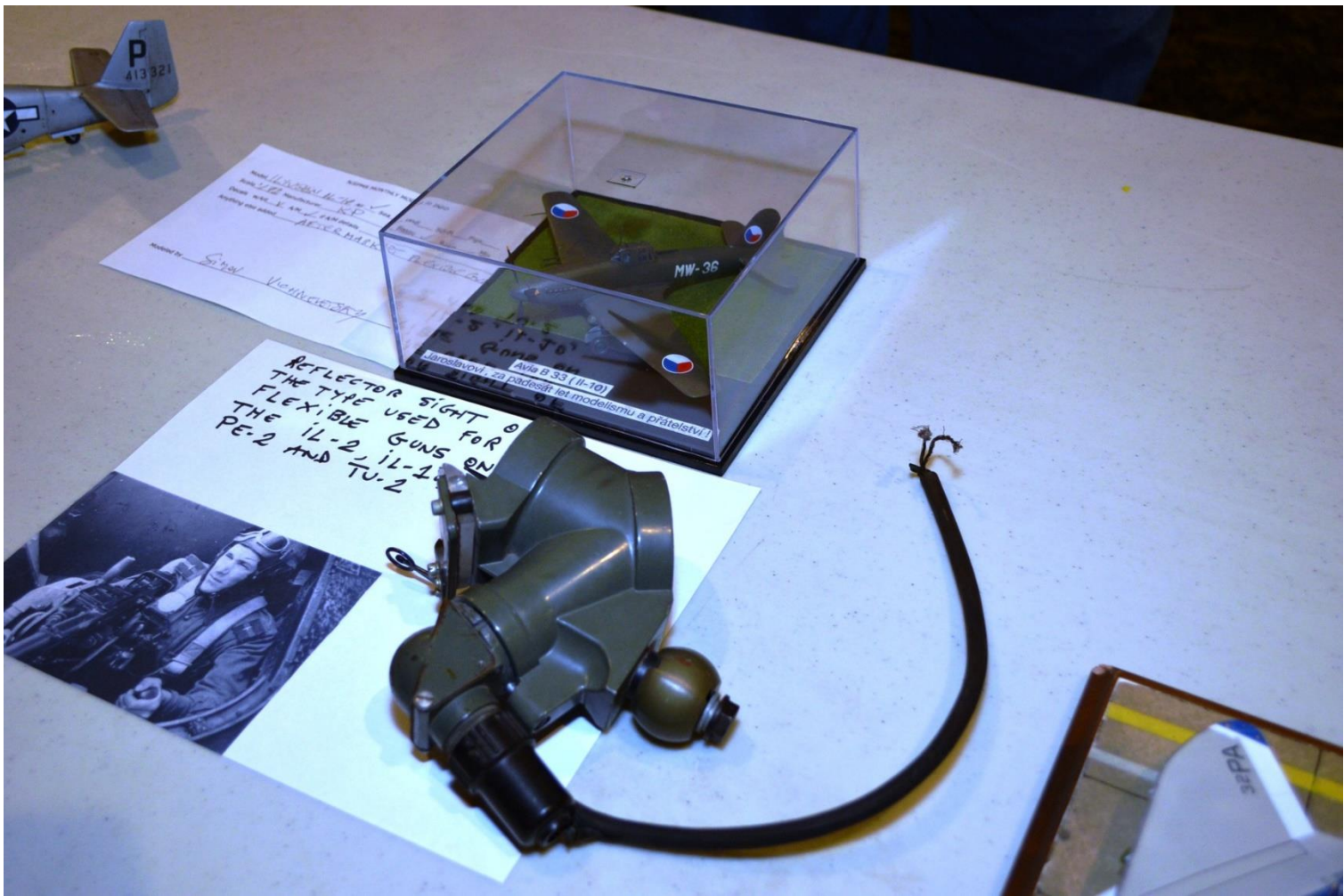


Jerry Hughson showed a 1/32 scale P-51D Mustang from Revell. Jerry used After-market wheels and cockpit details.

And remembering our ZOOM meetings.....

How to prepare for
a Zoom meeting





Dr Simon Vichnivetsky brought in a KP models 1/72 Ilyusgin Il-10, with an actual example of the type of sight used in the aircraft for the flexible gun.

There a lot of things on the WIP table and I'll use those pictures to fill space. If there's no caption, that's where the kit, build etc. was.



Devin Poore sent me a couple of Pictures of the late Gary Kingzett working on the scratch-built USS Maine that is permanently displayed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.



That's it! See everyone Friday.

Bill Schroeter, Editor