



**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, Pres.**

Not much to say. Hope everyone had a great Turkey Day!! It won't be long before the Holy Days are upon us. Hope everyone is healthy and well.

We'll be having our Christmas Party this Friday so hope to see a big turnout!  
That's it for now. BB



## THE CONTACT'S VIEW

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Hard to believe that it's December already, but here it is. And that can only mean one thing for our meeting this month...Holiday Party! I'm looking forward to all the great food that Bill has catered for us, and also enjoying the fun and good times with all the club members. Model of the Year is always an enjoyable thing to see as well.

Hopefully Santa brings all the modeling goodies that you want and leaves them under the tree for you. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Best Wishes,

Mike P.



**THE JUDGES BENCH**

Jon DaSilva

Hello everyone,

I've just gotten back from a vacation in Charlotte, NC. What a great time. I spent an entire afternoon at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, an entire day at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC, and then another day at the Richard Childress Racing Museum in Welcome, NC. There were far too many highlights to this trip. I got to see many of

the cars up close that I watched every Sunday. The Richard Childress Racing Museum has dozens of Dale Earnhardt's cars as he drove for that team. Definitely a recommended visit for anyone that can make it.

This month we'll be hosting our annual holiday party. That also means we'll be having our annual model of the year contest. If the following people could please bring the mentioned models, we'll have our usual contest for the models of the year. There will also be plaques for the three "Builder of the Year" winners.

## **February**

Eric Schroeter - Winter Nashorn

Bill Connolly - F2H-3 Banshee

## **March**

Marc Rocca - A6M2 Zero

Martin Quinn - USS Nautilus

## **April**

Antonio Merolli - A6M2

Devin Poore - USS Enterprise

## **May**

Martin Quinn - USS S37

Bill Connolly - C-121F

## **June**

Antonio Merolli - SM79

Dave Goldman - Jaguar SS100

## **July**

Vince D'Alessio - Nashorn

Bill Connolly - F-105B

## **August**

Bill Joel - HE111z

Dave De Nardo - SD.KFZ 232 Grad

## **September**

Bill Schwarz - M3 Stuart

Eric Schroeter - BF-109 G-6

## **October**

Jerry Hughson - Merkava

Dave Goldman - 58 Cadillac

Mark Celli - "Messerschmitt"

## **November**

Dan Spera - F3F-2

Devin Poore - M33

John Bucholz - Crusader Mr.1

**Thanks Jon!**

**Ed Minto is working on a Project and asks for help acquiring some kits.**

### Looking to buy these 2 kits.

If anyone has an Airfix Saturn V in 1/144 scale and/or a Airfix or MPC Hawker Harrier in 1/24 scale, please let me know. I need them for a build I'm doing.

Kit can be complete, or not (just not built). Both of these kits were released in different boxes with various artwork. I'm interested in any of the releases shown to the right.

Thanks.

**Contact:** Ed Minto (emoji5@comcast.net)



## FROM THE LAB OF DOC VICHNIVETSKY

### F -Toys 1/144 SUKHOI Su-24

Our friend Mariya P. from Ternopil, Ukraine has just gone home after a short visit. While she was here, she in a very matter-of-fact way told me how a shell landed close to her son at the front; his friend who was standing next to him was killed , but he was OK although they put him in the infirmary for a couple of days to rule out a concussion. Andrei who is 43 and has a family is now back on the front lines; I video-chatted with him there.

I made myself the reflection that this and other stories from over there that were told to me, very dispassionately, have a lot more impact than a dozen interviews of weepy people by some bespectacled albino cable news dude making believe that he is the new Barbara Walters.

The Sukhoi Su 24 “ Fencer “ came out in the late 70’s and caused quite a stir because it was seen as the aviation spearhead of an eventual Warpac attack on Western Europe. In the same league as the Panavia Tornado and produced in large numbers ( 1,400 + ) , it had a relatively mundane service history . A number of Su 24’s were exported to Middle Eastern countries who squandered them in various ways, the exception being Iran which still operates them in some numbers.

By the time Russia launched its attack on the Ukraine in February of 2022, its Su 24’s were seen as fading stars in the process of being replaced by the much more dangerous looking Su 34. The latter wound up not being a game-changer and getting itself shot down by the Ukrainians with some regularity. At least some of it was due by the lack of stand-off weapons, with the funds available to acquire them having been siphoned off to build fancy villas and yachts.



The Ukrainians on the other hand have about two dozen legacy « Fencers “ that were left to them when the Soviet Union broke up in 1991. These have turned out to be a success story in the current war, and have been successfully been adapted to carry Western stand-off weapons with, most conspicuously, the British Storm Shadow. In addition to flyable Fencers, the Ukrainians were also gifted with many “derelicts” which are now turning out to be a great source of spare parts.

I decided to build a 1/144 Sukhoi Su 24 Fencer in Ukrainian colors for Mariya. There is an Armory kit available, but I decided to build a F toys pre-painted “Gashapon” kit which I already had. This one has the “digital” air superiority camouflage which would be extremely difficult to reproduce by painting. The quality of these F toy kits is quite high, but it takes some attention to get the best out of them. Fits are tight, and paint should be gently scraped off of contact surfaces. Joint lines that remain can often be made to disappear by careful application of a thin liquid glue such as Tamiya’s. This will also often momentarily melt the paint, which will further erase the joint line.

The landing gear is really nice. Cockpit detail is limited, and I painted the inside of the clear canopy with Tamiya « smoke » to good effect. There are prominent airspeed probes on each side of the front fuselage; I drilled and represented these with bent sewing pins inserted into priorly drilled holes.

The printed-on finish is excellent but a few construction-related blemishes occurred, which I touched up with a fine brush and Testors Model Master Camouflage Gray, and Light and Dark Ghost enamels. Minor details such as position lights were painted on, and landing lights are tiny rhinestones for ladies’ fingernails, courtesy of now-gone Harmon’s.

The decals are very nice. They look thick and shiny on their backing sheet, but they lay down extremely well. The dark blue on the roundels is actually in line with current paint schemes.

I am happy with the end product, and you guys might also enjoy some of these ‘toys’. I do not see either F-toys or the equally good Cafe Reo / Big Birds putting anything new out lately, but these kits can easily be found on E Bay and are quite inexpensive; the Su 24 has a companion F-111; I haven’t seen it but you can assume that it is equally nice.

I put that Su 24 into a display box from IKEA that I’ve had for about twenty five years and will send it to Mariya by mail after I’ve added a couple of Storm Shadowsc from PitRoad in flight. I’ve shipped stuff back and forth to the Ukraine for years and never had any problems with the postal service or with my correspondents; that was the case with Russia too, but that country is off the table for the time being ...

Slava Ukraini ! Geroyam Slava !



**Thanks Simon!**

**Our Librarian John Bucholz has another product review for us.**

### Product Review-Roket Card Glue

The English firm Deluxe Materials make a wonderful product called Card Glue. Do not let the name fool you-this stuff can be used on more than just paper and cardboard. It states on the label that it can glue paper to plastic and I can attest that it really does just that. I glued some card stock to a plastic part and when I later decided to replace the card with sheet plastic, I had to use a small chisel to remove the card from the plastic! It also will work on photo etch pieces and is very useful because you have a much longer time to position the part before the glue dries.



Of course, it also works on wood, plaster, and resin for those of you building any type of diorama. It has a slightly beige color out of the tube but it dries to a very clear finish. I use it to install clear parts like windshields and such onto plastic. You can remove any excess with a damp brush, but once it dries you will probably have to scrape the excess off so be forewarned. Not many shops stock this item but a USA distributor is Mega hobbies in New Jersey (Mega-Hobby.com). As the old saying goes "try it, you'll like it!" Happy Modeling John B.

**If it works for PE and is not as finicky as CA, sounds good to me!!!**



**I apologize for not having pictures of the November meeting, but I wasn't able to go and didn't get the pics off the web or FB; sometimes I just can't find them. See everyone on Friday and if not HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**

**Bill Schroeter, Ed.**