



**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 Shwarz, Presidenot**

Hi all. not much going on clubwise these months. Hot weather and climate change is keeping me indoors these days! Hope y'all are well! I've been busy on several projects and one of them is a car I've loved since I was a boy! It's a '1970 Chapparral 2J which was deemed the sucker car! It didn't use a wing for downforce but it used a snowmobile engine and fans to suck the car to the ground! it worked very well but was banned because the technology was way ahead of its time! It only competed in 4 races before being banned! After searching and not finding a decent one in small scale I decided to scratch build one in 43rd. I bought the files from chg trader and printed a body shell in my Inger orange 30 3d printer. I was happy with the print. I'm doing a bit of body work on it now. I had to scratchbuild the wheel mounts and interior tub and bottom panels. I'll have it at the meeting Friday. Markings are coming from Lemns decals in Spain. I also had to source some seats, wheels and hatches which came from my 43rd leftover parts and brass from leftover etched frets from airplanes. I'm very happy so far and other than print filler, cost, and resin (which I have) it cost nothing! I'm glad to have scratchbuilding skills for projects like these !

Next up is BIG BIG THANKS TO MARTIN ORLANDO ! HE IS VERY TALENTED AND I'M HAPPY HE SHARED HIS WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE WITH US! WELL DONE! With that said, depending on the weather, the club summer BBQ night could be either August or September! I will let y'all know what's going on. Till then ENJOY YOUR SUMMER! STAY COOL AND MOST OF ALL REMEMBER TO TREAT EACH DAY SPECIAL! WE ARE ALL NOT YOUNG AS WE ONCE WERE SO TRY TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT! That's all from me this month. Hope to see y'all Friday at the K of C Garwood !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**REGARDS , BIG BILL PRES !**

**Here's another build from Dr. Simon.**

## GARAGE CLEAN OUT ONE MODEL AT A TIME

I'm probably not the only one here who has so much stuff in their garage that no car has been parked in it for years. In my case, most of that stuff is actually not mine. But some of that stuff is mine, including a number of half-finished models.

Taking a cue from being told to "get some of this junk out of here" , I recently grabbed a priorly assembled and primed Airfix's B24J Liberator and decided to finish it; I acquired it at a Mosquitocon for somewhere around \$10, it had been laying in a plastic bag on a shelf for more than ten years.



I've always had a liking for the B24. My father told me that once, in Occupied Belgium, he saw a B24 explode overhead. The tail section came fluttering down and landed in a field. All the

locals ran to it, and saw that the tail gunner who was a Black man was still alive. They tried to help him out from his turret, but before they could do anything the Belgian SS showed up and cordoned off the plane's tail section. They stayed there until the tail gunner died.

I also had the honor of making a flight in the Collins Foundation's B24 in 2019. Flying at about 5000 feet on a beautiful, warm fall day it all seemed so peaceful. And then I realized how different it must have been flying at 25000 feet with the enemy trying to kill you by any means that they could.

This particular kit, the Airfix's 1/72 B24J, first came out in 1962. I first built it in 1966 when it was in Airfix's Series 4 along with the Bristol Superfreighter, Halifax, Lancaster and B17J; those sold for \$1.29. There was only one kit in Series 5: the Sunderland which went, I believe, for \$1.49.

I had fond recollection of my first build of this B24J, and when I slapped together my Mosquitocon-acquired oldie, a middle 1980's reissue, I was actually quite pleased. It has the usual "action features" that were "musts" when it first came out: moveable control surfaces, retracting landing gear, rotating wheels and propellers. This is all well executed, as are the raised rivets and panel lines; after some gentle sanding, they all look quite acceptable, even beneath a notoriously unforgiving natural metal finish.



I did cheat a little bit and used the vertical tail surfaces from an Academy B24J because I was planning to use one of the nice available post-market decal sheets; these would have been very difficult to use on the Airfix provided tails, which are a little smaller and have much more prominent rudder hinge lines than Academy's .

As I've already written , basic assembly and priming of this kit were done by me years ago. After a de-dusting rinse in the kitchen sink, I proceeded to finish what I'd started. I will mention that this was a lip bit of a challenge, albeit a pleasant one: the B24 was built in huge numbers and by a series of manufacturers. Variations are multiple, even within any one of its versions, and I did my research to decide on the most credible layout for this particular B24J.

I cut out small square windows on the fuselage sides behind the gunner's station, and modified the shape of the portholes just below and ahead of the cockpit. Crew positions were furnished with seats, machine gun belt slides and sundry equipment boxes, mostly from scrap. For the pilots instrument I cut out the printed item provided on the yellowing instruction sheet and glued it in place. Old school!

I chose a natural finish scheme with no de-icing boots; I can do those just fine, but I don't really enjoy it! The entire airframe was can-sprayed with Design Master Brilliant Silver, easily found at Michael's. This product was recommended to me by Mr Michael Terre several years ago, and has given me excellent results on several "natural metal" models. I used a B24J decal set from Lifelike; these were really great, with first-class documentation, looks, and ease of handling .

Clear parts were OK ,and improved by a dip in Future. Framing was done with silver decal strip. There is no metallic framing on the top turret: its clear components had glued joints, which I reproduced by strips of clear decal painted with a mix of flat clear and light gray paint.

I am happy that I did finish this oldie. It is still a perfectly decent model, mostly let down by its overly boxy cockpit and, for the finish that I chose, by having the older type of nose turret. As I already mentioned, I enjoyed doing the research needed to get a lot of minor details such as position lights or portholes right. Hemophiliacs beware: the multiple antennae and airspeed probe that I added are good old sewing pins!

Simon Vichnivetsky



John Bucholz has some info on a company he likes.

An old site with new products-

Let me introduce you to Noble Knight Games, an old established game store that now has a great selection of hobby kits and accessories. I have been dealing with them for over thirty years, purchasing numerous board and card games. The big difference with Noble Knight is that they also buy back your used games you no longer want. If you are looking for that long lost game you played as a teen, the odds are they have a copy. I noticed that a few years ago they added a new heading for scale models. At first, I figured they would have a limited selection like the model aisle at Hobby Lobby. Not even close! They have a full line of kits and the paint department is amazing. Just like the game store, the hobby department also buys unwanted model kits from customers, which means you will have a good shot at finding a rare out of production kit.

I can say with certainty that the customer service is first rate. I placed an order Friday evening and got a shipping notice Saturday morning. They also over pack orders very securely and I have never had a customer issue in all these years. Two quick notes: if an item is listed as "in Stock" it is, but check to see if it is listed as in another cart. Whoever places the order first will get the product and this site is not a super discount outlet. You will pay a fair price for your **kit and if it is very rare the price will reflect the rarity, but you can be sure if they show it in stock, you will get your order.**

NOBLEKNIGHT.com is located in Wisconsin and the direct phone line is 608-758-9901

Happy Modeling. John B.

**That's it.. I missed last months' meeting, so I don't have pictures. Please visit our FB page or web-site. Hope to see everyone Friday.**

**Bill Schroeter, Editor**