

'The Instruction Sheet'

I.P.M.S. / Granite State Modelers Club

Nashua, New Hampshire

Newsletter: March, 2015

<http://home.comcast.net/~vf84>

Email: ipmsgsmc@gmail.com

Facebook: IPMS/Granite State Modelers Club



GSMC/IPMS meet the third Monday night (4th Monday in Jan & Feb) of each month from 7: P.M. to 9:00 P.M. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court Street Nashua, New Hampshire. Visitors are welcome to attend.

Monthly show and tell pictures are posted on our website. Website maintained by Vincent Farruggio Sr.

Club Officers:

President: Mac Johnston (603-359-0595) macatflandersandpatch@hotmail.com

Vice President: Keith Touchette (603-578-9231) touchettekr@gmail.com

Treasurer: Edward Mele 9603-626-0923) emeliv@gmail.com

Secretary/Club Contact: Rodney Currier (603-726-3876) nickmatt2@roadrunner.com

Meeting Reminders:

2015 meeting dates: March 16, April 20, May 18

Business Report

February's meeting found us in a corner of the library A/V room, rather cramped, but with an excellent turnout for a school vacation week. Because of the vacation, the library was not very busy and the meeting space, while cramped and disorganized, was not the disaster I was actually expecting. We had to borrow tables and chairs from another section, but since it wasn't busy it wasn't a problem. This month we will be back to our normal space in the theater. After reminding members about the two upcoming March contests, we tackled a couple of "money" issues. First, we voted to renew the Finescale Modeler subscription we have been providing the library since the club started. Next, we voted to purchase trophy packages for both Noreastcon and the IPMS/USA Nationals. We opted to sponsor Junior Categories for both. We discussed paper color for our own Granitecon Flyers. We have found in the past that while some colors work out great, some just don't "pop." We decided on bright yellow this year. I will have a batch ready for this month's meeting so we can get them out at the spring contests. We found that by starting earlier than we used to last year, we got better and longer "coverage" and had a better show turn out. Pick up a few to put out in your favorite hobby shop, too! It is also time to start selling those Granitecon trophy packs. The more we sell, the more we make. Last year we sold out early. If each member sold one, we will be in good shape! One of Mac's friends donated a bunch of kits for the Granitecon raffle, so that collection has also started.

Those who were interested in getting in on the aircraft build using the kit collection we bought lined up for numbers and drew their kits. The completed kits are due at our August meeting. We discussed having another club BBQ this summer. Vinnie Farruggio has once again volunteered to be our host. Tom Shanahan has also offered his place in Nashua. More later as we get to the date setting stage. The Milford Train Show that we went to last spring instead of the Hooksett Lions Club Train Show has been cancelled. We have been asked to put on a "make and take" at the Hooksett show again this year on April 26th. Since we have not yet gotten our

kits from Revell from last year (long story I am still working on) we should plan on buying them direct if we decide to do it. More discussion on this at the meeting. Pete Davis mentioned the train show in Bartlett, NH at the elementary school on May 23rd. Vinnie sent along the information that the Blue Angels will be performing in Brunswick, Maine on the 2nd and 3rd of September. There is also a demonstration planned showing off the F-22 Raptor. This month John Cook is going to put on a demo using photo etch to enhance the Mobius new series Battlestar Pegasus. Parts allow the modeler to hollow out the landing bays of the ship. This is a great chance to learn how one of the best Sci-Fi modelers in our area “gets it done.”

Its dues time again. Still only \$12/year. See me at the meeting or send a check. Please bring the correct change if paying in cash!

Participating Hobby Shops

These are the hobby shops that support us and our efforts year after year. They give club members discounts, provide donations for club contests, and stock the supplies and new kits we crave. Please support them, too!

Hobby Emporium (978-649-5055) 440 Middlesex Rd Tyngsboro, MA 01879
The Spare Time Shop (508-481-5789) 222E. Main Street Marlboro, MA 01752
North East Trains Model Center (978-532-1615) 18 Main Street Peabody, MA 01960
Hobbys “N” Stuff LLC (603-298-6111) 1 Glen Rd Plaza West Lebanon, NH 03784
Elite Hobbies (603-749-0800) 90 Washington St Unit 334 Dover, NH
Hobbies With a Twist, LLC (603-223-0132) 1 Depot Street Concord, NH

Upcoming Region 1 Events

March 15, 2015 ----- MassCar 27 Holiday Inn Taunton, MA
March 29, 2015 ----- ValleyCon 25 Knights of Columbus Chicopee, MA
April 12, 2015 ----- Downeastcon Thornton Academy Saco, Maine
April 25, 2015 ----- CAN/AM Con 13 VT National Guard Armory Winooski, VT
April 30 – May 2, 2015 –AMPS Nationals Auburn, Indiana
May 2, 2015 ----- Noreastcon 2015 Polish Community Center Albany, NY
May 17, 2015 ----- NorthShoreCon 2015 Gloucester High School Gloucester, MA
May 29-30, 2015 ---- AMPS Great White North Regional and Re-Enactment Day Oshawa, Canada
July 22-25, 2015 ---- IPMS/USA National Convention Columbus, Ohio
October 17, 2015 ---- HVHMG Elks Club Lodge Poughkeepsie, NY
October 18, 2015 ----- Granitecon XXIII Nashua Elks Club Nashua, NH

Raffle Winners

Since we had no raffle last month due to space limitations, we had no winners! DUH!

Pete’s Ponderings

As many of you know, I have been fighting with a severe case of modeler’s block for the last couple of years, which I finally brought to an end early this year, with my managing to finish a Starship Enterprise model I had promised to a friend in Vermont. It started me on the road to a very active building spree, finally also finishing the aircraft kit that incited the block in the first place. All modelers go through this at one time or another and

are familiar with the frustrations involved. But few really know how to get beyond that point working by themselves.

The friend I built the Starship for is invalided and unable to get out much. He suggested, once I advised I had the Starship done, that it might be great to have a group of our model building friends trek up to his home up north and have a round robin model building day. Five of us, all of whom were working through stall periods, signed on and a date was set. Unfortunately, three of us could not make it, but the two of us who did, had extremely productive days working with each other on our various projects.

My invalid friend is currently fascinated by model railroad craftsman style structure kits, and worked on one during our visit, making great progress. My other friend, also a model railroader, spent the time working on a scratch built structure he was developing for his layout at home. I finally tackled a small railroad depot for my traveling model railroad layout, and got many of the initial details in place. For the others of us who couldn't come, we sent out photos by the web so they could see what we were accomplishing, and continue to do so. In return, we are also receiving images of their progress on their own projects! It is an ongoing process for all of us.

It appears that, the more we build and share, the more excited we get about building models again! One of the guys who couldn't make it has been dawdling for years in working on an N scale model railroad layout in his bonus room over his garage. He has now started constructing his bench work and has gotten into working very enthusiastically on a number of quite detailed structures to be placed at strategic points on his layout. He has also developed a number of passenger cars based around trains run by the Boston and Maine railroads back when he was a kid. I have completed the railroad depot and have moved on to an old airplane kit that has been buried in my personal stash since the 1980's. Another friend has been incited to rework his traveling model railroad layout, which attaches to mine, and to develop new structures to go with his revised track plan.

We are all building at a furious pace and are constantly providing each other with incentives. Our efforts are feeding off one another, and we are all way more productive as a group than we had all be individually for quite some time. The web has allowed us to intercommunicate in spite of being a hundred or so miles apart from one another the majority of the time. It is exciting and tremendous fun for all of us!!

I don't think any of us would have ever thought that connecting like this and feeding off one another's enthusiasm would have such a major impact on our model building. Individually, we were able to work effectively, but slowly. As an interactive group, we are all churning out much more than we would have ever accomplished independently. It kind of shows one of the great reasons we all belong to the Granite State Modelers Club, to be able to share and be challenged by our socialization with our fellow club members. Having people who appreciate your efforts involved and aware is a great help in keeping focus. It also means that any problems you may have are shared with people who have had similar issues, and who can provide guidance when you are stuck, or encouragement when you are flagging. You can short circuit any concerns quickly and get back to the process of building. Having people available to you via the internet at all times can really keep sharing your progress in real time, without having to wait once a month for the club meeting to roll around.

This online round robin building is really helping our little group. I am convinced that, if we as club members, start communicating with one another as we build, we all might find that level of excitement again. I am thinking that those of us with email addresses and mobile phone cameras or real cameras can participate in this and include all of the others in the group so that everyone gets in on the parade and can share as they go, as well. It is easy enough to show progress in a build or to highlight a problem and solicit advice. This might just be a way to extend our club activities into a more consistent program for all of us, at no additional cost!

February Show and Tell Photos



Jack Sutcliffe's 1/48th Eduard Messerschmitt Bf-108



Chuck Converse's 1/72nd Monogram "Snap" B-26 Marauder



Chuck Converse's 1/72nd AMT Japanese Betty Bomber



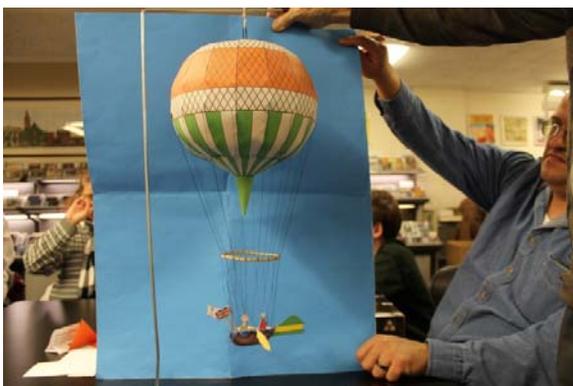
Pete Davis's 1/48th Classic Airframes Westland Wyvern S.4 "A kit from hell"



John Walker's 1/35th Iakom 30.5 cm Howitzer



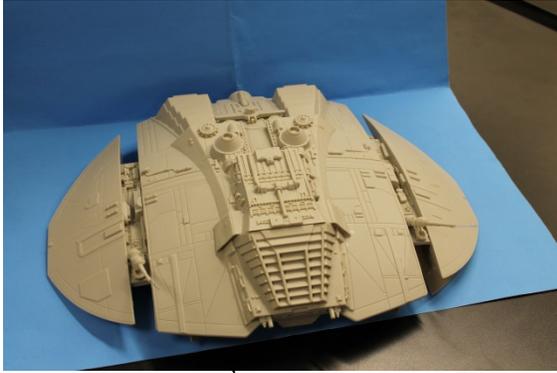
John Walker's 1/35th Italeri/Tamiya Soviet T-34/76 German 8 cm mortar and crew diorama



Dick Zoerb's Fiddlers Green 1785 Balloon



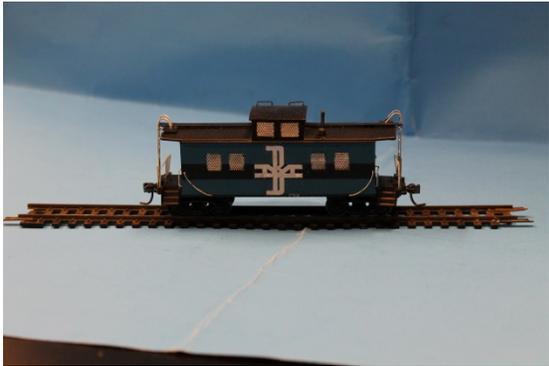
Pete Davis's 1/1 AMT Galaxy Quest Laser Gun



Icie Cook's 1/32nd Moeius Cylon Raider



Paul Lessard's 1/76th Hornby Observation Tower



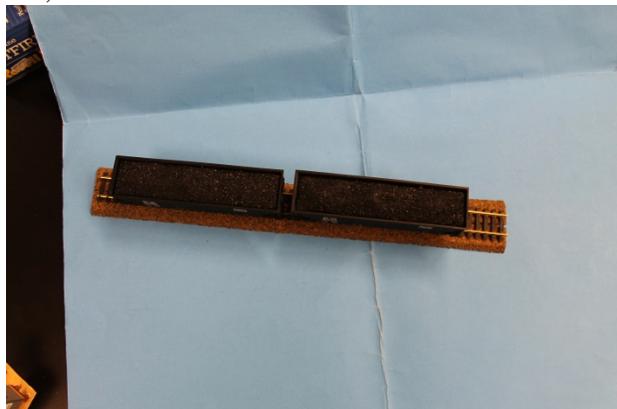
Paul Lessard's 1/87th Life-Like B&M Wood Caboose with added details



Guy Lessard's 1/87th JL Innovations Milk Platform, built "out of the box."



Guy Lessard's 1/87th Bachman Coal Hoppers with his trademark "real coal" loads.





Tom Shanahan's 1/24th Monogram Cop Out Drag Car with Chimneyville decals.



Mac Johnston's 1/72nd Matchbox WWI Mk2 Male Tank, built "out of the box."



Jack Sutcliffe's 1/48th Monogram P-40C



Jack Sutcliffe's 1/48th Hobby Boss Wildcatfish