

'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club

Nashua, New Hampshire

Newsletter: January 2021

www.granitestatemodelersclub.org

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Facebook: IPMS/ Granite State Modelers Club

GSMC/IPMS meets the third Monday night (4th Monday in Jan & Feb) of each month from 7 to 9 PM 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 Brandon Clifton.

Club Officers:

President: Mac Johnston (603-648-2244) macatflandersandpatch@hotmail.com

Vice President: Rich Filteau (617-592-4268) r.filteau@comcast.net

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

Treasurer: Edward Mele IV (603-203-9878) emeleiv@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Russell Gosselin (603-858-9052) gosselin2112@gmail.com

Meeting Reminders:

January 25 (Zoom), February 22, March 15

Zooming Into the New Year

GSM will be holding its first club meeting in almost a year via Zoom. The online meeting will be held on January 25th at 7PM. We haven't come together as a club in quite a while, so there is sure to be a lot of discussion. Mac has asked that everyone limit themselves to one model each during show and tell. Being our first Zoom activity, it is only natural that it will take some time for everyone to get used to the concept and work out any impediments during the "pilot" trial. With no doubt, we will all be Zoom experts in no time.

All of this has been made possible by our very own Bob Ferri. Some time ago, he purchased a Zoom account for his family. Being the generous person that he is, Bob has invited GSM to use his account (with Bob being the sole administrator). This is a new relationship, and so it will take some time to work out any kinks and/or add some moderators to help Bob with running build days and club meetings.

Please direct all questions regarding Zoom to Bob or Russ. There is little if no downloading required. Just follow this

link: <https://zoom.us/j/91501558106?pwd=NHpvM3RzMUJZTFBSOFgxNEpOanhPQT09>

Meeting ID: 915 0155 8106

Passcode: 462959

Tom Mitchell's FJ Cruiser Build

by Nate Clark

Tom Mitchell is a close friend and superb, tenacious & methodical photographer whose ambition is to build an overland vehicle that can handle all his photographic excursions. These often include camping on location for a week or more, lengthy treks into rough country away from manmade light pollution, and the ability to handle all kinds of weather. He wanted the vehicle to not only be a self-contained survival outfit, but also a working platform from which to shoot. He sought online and purchased a Trail Teams edition FJ Cruiser from Pennsylvania. The vehicle color is Cement Grey, so I thought it was a perfect subject for our '50 Shades of Grey' show theme this year.



There is only one FJ Cruiser kit in existence right now, a snap-together made by Fujima. I purchased the kit online directly from the manufacturer in Japan. It was not available in the subject color, so I bought a white one.

The kit tires were these wimpy street versions, not the beefy Trail Teams edition tires and rims. After an extensive and fruitless online search, I bought a better set from Mac Johnston (big thanks!). The detail of the kit was excellent, from the roof rack to the windshield wipers, glass and trim. Fit and finish were excellent, comparable to any of the better model companies. One drawback I could not correct was the fact that this was a right-hand steering wheel edition, so I simply detailed the interior to match the subject and let it go at that.

As this project unfolded, more and more modifications were made to the actual subject vehicle, as the owner purchased and installed various overland custom components to try out, such as an auxiliary fuel tank, custom roof rack, roof tent & ladder, interior custom cabinetry, and other accoutrements. Several of these changed during my build, so I had to keep adding and subtracting scratch-built components.

Modifications & scratch-build parts include:

- Fog lights – (clear sprue)
- Brush guard – (black sprue)
- Fridge & cabinets (Evergreen styrene sheet stock/spare parts)
- Tow package (spare parts)
- Vanity license plate (AURORA1) NH tag
- Trail Teams logo medallion – (sticker decal stock)
- Trail Teams dashtop gauges – (clear sprue & Evergreen sheet styrene)
- Floor deck in rear – (Evergreen sheet styrene)
- So Real Concepts off-road tires & rims – (painted to match TrailTeams scheme)
- Custom roof rack – (black sprue, alum. tubing, Evergreen styrene bar stock)

- Parquet wood decking on roof rack – (Evergreen sheet & strip styrene, photo-etched brass)
- Modified suspension & axles to accept bigger tires
- Added Trail Teams lights to side mirrors
- Scratch-built backpack to mount on spare tire – (Tamiya Putty/sheet & strip styrene, wire)



I could not match the paint color with anything available, so had to combine Tamiya XF-66 Light Grey with Tamiya X-2 White to get the match. Took a few attempts to get it close.

The display case is EAB, bought online.

The terrain is Woodland Scenics Mold-A-Scene plaster, with Woodland Scenics turf, scrubby brush and stones. The tuft grass is L.L. Bean moose body hair and dyed deer bucktail from my fly tying supplies. Model Master paint and General's chalk pastels round out the ground coloring and tire weathering.

Summary

I never would have chosen a snap-together kit (I glued everything), but this was superb quality, great fit & finish, and a fun build.

-Nate Clark



Hobby Shop Directory

These are the hobby shops that support us and our efforts year after year. Most give our club members discounts. They support our 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) 222 E. Main St Marlboro, MA 01752

North East Trains Model Center (978-532-1615) 18 Main Street Peabody, MA 01960

Double Play Hobby (603-582-4224) 187 Elm St. Milford, NH 03055

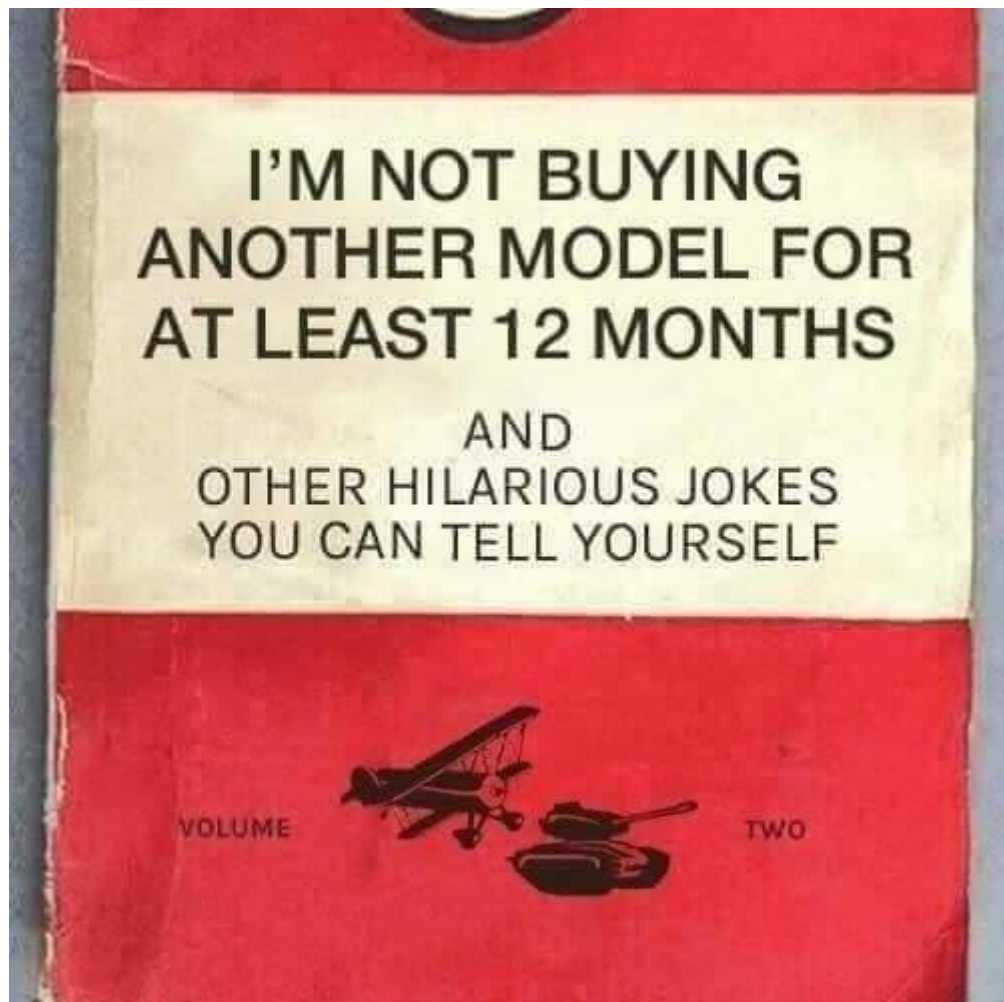
Hobbies With A Twist, LLC (603-223-0132) 1 Depot St Concord, NH

Elite Hobbies (603-749-0800) 90 Washington St Unit 334 Dover, NH

Granite State Hobbies 20 Pleasant St. Claremont, NH (603-504-5605) ajmsugaring@icloud.com

Minuteman Scale Models 472 Amherst St. Suite 21 Nashua, NH (603-921-5048)

Boomer's Books & Empire Models 273 North Stark HWY Weare, NH



December Show and Tell



Chuck Converse built this 1/72 Heinkel 111 from Italeri.



Mac Johnston built this 1/35 Russian 122mm Corps Gun 1931/1937 from Trumpeter.