

# 'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club

Nashua, New Hampshire

Newsletter: September 2021

www.granitestatemodelersclub.org

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## Facebook: IPMS/ Granite State Modelers Club

GSMC/IPMS meets the third Monday night (4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:macatflandersandpatch@hotmail.com)

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

**Secretary:** Rodney Currier (603-726-3876) [nickmatt2@roadrunner.com](mailto:nickmatt2@roadrunner.com)

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

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

**Zoom Administrator:** Bob Ferri (603-547-7456) [ferri@gsinet.net](mailto:ferri@gsinet.net)

### Meeting Reminders:

September 20, October 18, November 15

### Weekend Build Sessions via Zoom:

Saturdays 1-4pm; Sundays 6-9pm

### Congratulations!

GSM has started off on the right foot with regards towards the few model shows taking place in the country. Our very own David Osbourne won first place in the category of submarines at the IPMS USA Nationals in Las Vegas, Nevada. Jody Kelm travelled to Wayne, New Jersey taking home a few awards at MosquitoCon. Mac Johnston made his way to South Bend, Indiana to take part in the Super Regional AMPS show, taking home silver.

### "Rod's Ramblings"

Greetings fellow modelers. It is time for a couple of club related updates. After having two successful club meetings at "Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Catholic Church" in Manchester (Our thanks to Father Tom for letting us meet there to get ready for GraniteCon), September's meeting will find us back at our old haunt, the Activity Room in the lower level of the Nashua Public Library. We have the room reserved through June 2022. As of now, masks are required in the library, so please don't forget to bring one!

As far as GraniteCon goes, almost all news seems to be good so far. Ed Mele has “paid the bills” and ordered the tables we need to rent. John Rauscher has sold all of the vendor tables and collected for them. We have even sold all of the trophy packs! I have ordered the trophies from Crown Trophy in Hooksett. I have filled out the paperwork for our city permit and sent it in, along with the check for the fee (\$300 in case you were wondering). Our show is not the cheapest to put on, but we are very popular, so we must be doing something right! Paul (who does the food truck) called me and I headed him in the right direction to get his food service permit. He is very excited to be coming again. I have gotten a bunch of calls asking if we are still on, so I think we shall be pretty busy. Just remember- we need everyone there to make this happen! October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM! We expect lots of models, so Mac asks that if you have judged before or want to start to learn, please volunteer to help judge! The more we have, the quicker the job will go. The only “bad” news is that by getting the trophy order in last month, we avoided an increase that is coming in September. That means that next year our trophy costs will be higher and we will either have to find a lower cost option or increase the cost of a trophy pack.

On a really sad note, I am sorry to report that Dan Belcher had a massive heart attack at the end of July and passed away while doing one of the things he enjoyed most, scuba diving. He had surfaced to take some weight off, and when he didn't come right back down, his buddy surfaced and found him “sitting” in the back of the boat. Jan, his wife, told me that he had always said that when he died, he wanted it to be quick and while doing something he loved. He got his wish.

Dan and I grew up in Manchester, just a couple of blocks away from each other. We did the Boy Scout thing in our youth and enjoyed many Scout camping trips, including one to Expo '67 (or '68, I forget) in Montreal, Canada. We played a lot of “pick-up” baseball games in his yard with others in the neighborhood. His dad was a colonel in the Air Guard and got us into some aircraft on Grenier Field on occasion. We also built a lot of models. And of course, had a special place out in the woods where we gave them the old firecracker and fire treatment! We quite often would bump into each other at “NH Buyers Service” on Elm Street, drooling over the latest plastic kits or Cox flying models.

After high school, we lost touch for many years. I met Jack Sutcliff at work and found out he had been buying kits mail order from this Dan Belcher guy. This was in my forties... Turns out the store we worked at started getting our warehouse deliveries on the route serviced by Vincent Farruggio. In talking, Vinnie found out that we both built models and told us about this club he belonged to: Granite State Modelers Club. He gave us directions to the library and we went to our first meeting. So, who was there when we walked in? None other than my old buddy Dan Belcher, who was the club secretary!

Over the years, Dan would get models for members on the cheap through his company, Ideal Models. A lot of my stash is because of Dan. He always gave a 30-40% discount off from retail. He was in charge of getting the models for the club raffle, and we always had some really nice

kits that he picked up on deal. Dan was our club secretary for years, then moved up to vice president, and finally did a stint as our president. He really hated the cold, so when he had a chance to retire from the Public Service Company early, he and Jan moved to Florida. One of the things about Dan was that he never seemed to have time to build anything! Between his day job and Ideal Model, he never seemed to have spare time. I knew he built, because I had known him so long. But when he retired to Florida, he started up again in earnest. Many of us remember going to his house and seeing his “in progress” 1/32<sup>nd</sup> Razorback Thunderbolt that he had added all sorts of scratch-built detailing to, but never finished. In the past few years, he turned out some incredible models! If you go to our website and check out the album I set up for him, you can see how good of a modeler he really was. As Pete Davis said, “who knew?”

**Rest in peace, Dan.**



## Armor Sightings in Wyoming

*By Nate Clark*

Nate Clark went on a trip this summer to Wyoming, where he visited family, fly-fished, and explored Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Along the way, he stopped at the National Museum of Military Vehicles in Dubois, Wyoming.



He writes that, "This is now the largest collection of military vehicles in the US, outside of the military itself. Dan Starks is the founder, and the 140,000 sq/ft, \$100M museum opened in August of 2020. It contains 475 restored military vehicles, artillery pieces, aircraft and naval vessels, dating from 1897 to the present, with heavy emphasis on WWI & II, Korea and Vietnam. He also has a massive gun vault with small arms that include the first musket fired on Bunker Hill (fired by a militiaman from Deerfield, NH!!); one of Patton's 1911 Colts; a six-shooter carried by Wyatt Earp; rifles owned by Teddy Roosevelt and many other historical pieces.



The museum tour progresses you from WWI through WWII; Korea and Vietnam (the latter two displays just opened), and this place is remarkable, and at times, an overwhelming experience to take in. We did it in about 3 1/2 hours, but could have taken much more time if we weren't heading towards Jackson

Hole the same day. You can easily spend most of a day here; there is that much to absorb. It is a multi-media museum, state of the art, and the displays and dioramas are staggeringly well presented. Outside the museum they have a covered area with many more tanks and military vehicles that could not be contained inside the museum itself.

This place is more than worth the trip, and Dubois is incredibly scenic and charming as a small, western Wyoming town tucked into the Wind River Mountains. The vistas are incredibly beautiful, and the small town possesses an old West flavor that includes the National Bighorn Sheep Conservation center. Combine it with a trip to Yellowstone, Grand Teton or Jackson Hole to make the entire trip more valuable, and you will not regret it. This is an amazing



museum, done exquisitely well, and located in a very scenic part of Wyoming.”

For more information about the National Museum of Military Vehicles follow this link:

[NMMV.org](http://NMMV.org) | [About](#)



### **Upcoming Events of Modeling Interest**

(Due to Covid-19 these events may or may not happen)

October 1-2	ArmorCon/ AMPS	Wyndham Southbury	Southbury, CT
October 10	ValleyCon 30	Knights of Columbus Hall	Chicopee, MA
October 17	GraniteCon XXVIII	La Quinta Hotel	Manchester, NH

## 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](mailto: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

## August Raffle Winners



Andy Wade

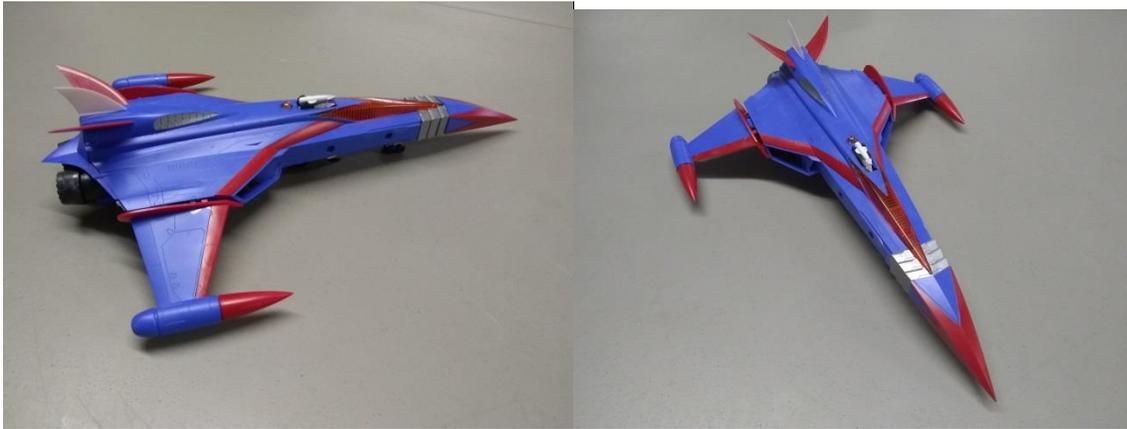


Rich Filteau

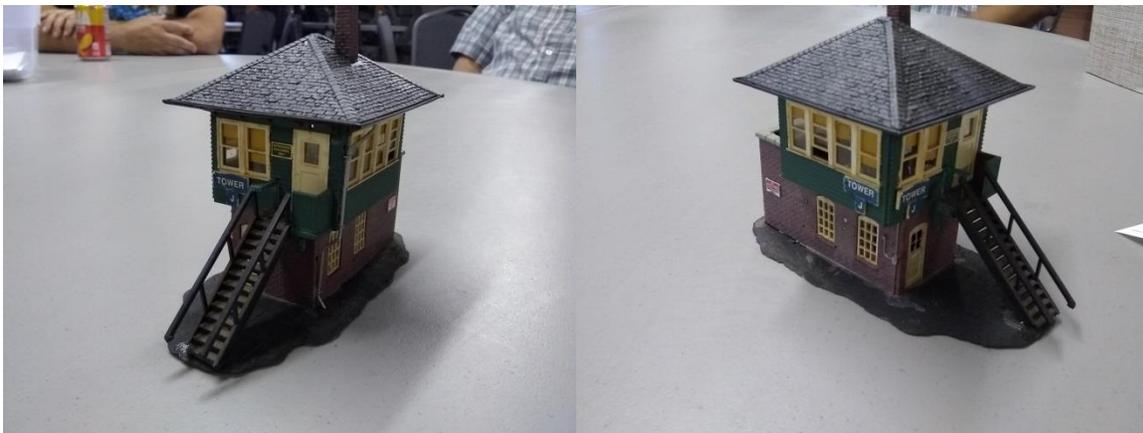


Pete Davis

## August Show & Tell



John and Icie Cook built this God Phoenix hero ship from Academy. It is the ship from the Japanese anime “Gatchaman” that aired in the US as G-Force or Battle of the planets during the 1970s.



Paul Lessard brought this 1/87 Atlas train yard tower back to life with his model building wizardry.



With all the privatization of space flights for the 1% going on these days, Chuck Converse built this space shuttle converted as a passenger ship.



Andy Wade used the hairspray chipping technique on his 1/35 Trumpeter KV-1. He still has much to do before he calls it finished.



Rich Filteau built this 1/144 KC-46 (767-300) Phoenix from Zvezda. He added all the refueling probes and tanks from spares or scratchbuilt. Richard said that the fuselage wasn't to scale, so he shortened it with the help of a razor saw and some filler.



Thomas Shanahan brought in his WIP of a 1/35 AH-64A Apache helicopter. It will be built strictly out of the box.



Pete Davis built this 1/35 US M2A1 halftrack.



Pete Davis built this Italeri/ Zevezda 1/35 ZIS-5 truck.



Pete Davis Built this 1/35 Standard B Liberty truck from ICM.