



'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club

Nashua, New Hampshire

Newsletter: August 2022

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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 (603-361-2872) gosselin2112@gmail.com

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

Meeting Reminders:

August 15, September 19, October 17

Weekend Build Sessions via Zoom:

Saturdays 1-4pm; Sundays 6-9pm

To keep within the budget for GraniteCon, Rod has decided to keep all the category trophy plaques at 5X7 dimensions this year.

Trophy packs are selling for \$25. If you would like to sponsor a category or know someone who is willing, contact Rod.

Bob Ferri would like to host another build day with demonstration sometime in early September. More information to follow.

Russ Gosselin received the Region 1 newsletter of the year award from IPMS USA President, David Lockhart. He would like to add that the newsletter is a composite of the contributions made by the club as a whole. He thanks everyone, not only those that contribute towards the success of the newsletter, but all who help make GSM a great club.



Sherman Overhaul Pt. III

By Russell Gosselin

On this last leg of the overhaul journey, we will return to the chassis and work on the running gear. The original tracks that came with the kit decided to walkaway sometime before my acquisition of all this overhauling goodness, so they had to be replaced. Lucky for me, I had an old set of Modelkasten tracks lurking about in the stash. To be clear – they are not workable. This should make everyone shudder with fear. German indie tracks are straight forward and easy. Not so much with American armor where the guide horns have to be individually glued into place. You might be thinking this is all madness and I should dump this kit in the bin. Truth be told, there is always a solution to each and every problem.



It didn't take me too long to come up with a method that wouldn't give me the crazies. Somewhere in the deep and dark recesses of my mind I had an inkling that a piece of balsa wood with some double-sided Scotch tape would do the trick. Everything seemed pretty easy, right? Sure. Placing each shoe on the tape was easy enough. Heck, gluing the guide horns in place was easier than some math exams. Removing the completed track from the tape and balsa jig posed a challenge. Timing is essential with all successful indie tracks. The glue has to be soft enough to allow articulation on the running gear. Much to my dismay, I failed to remove the stickiness of the tape. This in turn caused some breakage of the tracks upon removal from the jig. Recovery from my error wasn't too much of a big deal. A few pieces had to be glued back or straightened out. Lucky for me, I had decided to install the tracks piecemeal; sections at a time. Overall, it was a successful installation. Once the glue had fully cured, I returned to check for weaknesses in the links and added a little more glue.



The last major project were the road wheels. I'm not sure what Tamiya was thinking. Perhaps it was a matter of budget, but not having detail on both sides of the wheel leaves much to be desired. I believe the same sentiment would be paid by any judges at a model show. This would require a jump into the resin casting world. Something that I am still relatively new at. But first I had to find a master for the idler and road wheel. I made a dash into the stash. I'm sure there is a Sherman in the mix. The only one available was a Dragon ETO M4A3 (75)W Sherman Smart Kit. Some would be repulsed by

my taking some parts off the sprue, but I had no choice. Besides, once the wheels were cast, I would return the masters and be done with it. No one would be the wiser.

Micro Mark produces a fine mid-range quality resin for a fair price. Moreover, the curing times and mix ratios are very user friendly. The first task was to build a box to pour the rubber mold

and set the masters in. Once cured I applied a little petroleum jelly on the surfaces and poured the second half of the rubber mold. After curing it was just a matter of cutting channels out of the mold for pouring resin.

Casting can be a fickle process. There is always that one cast that refuses to cure. Others like to make air bubbles and pockets. There are many ways to remedy if not limit these challenges. Instead of pouring the resin directly into the molds, I tried using a pipette and slowly adding the resin drop by drop. This made a huge improvement on my casts.



With the chassis complete, all that remained were a few loose ends on the upper hull. The first order of business was to ensure that the model was built for easy breakdown into subassembly for painting: tracks and road wheels; upper hull and lower hull; and turret. The sandbag armor on the glacis plate had to be reckoned with first. If you look at period frontline photos closely, you will notice that the wooden beam support is fixed to some metal angular pieces that were welded to the fenders. I certainly needed some styrene square bend, as the whole resin cast would look dreadful. With a little double-sided tape, I attached the sandbag resin to the upper hull and closed it to the lower hull. Once happy with the position, I added some styrene angle pieces from Evergreen. Once glued, I could open and close the hull for ease of painting and track installation.



Because I had spent some time texturing the cast on the turret, it would look rather inconsistent if I didn't bother with the lower hull transmission cover. Instead of using green putty, I used some Mr. Surfacer 500. I found this to be a lot easier to apply than green putty with less fumes. Moreover, it allowed me to go back to the turret and apply it on hard-to-reach areas.

Lastly, I added weld beads using some thin styrene rod from Evergreen. Thinned with a little liquid cement, I textured it using the back edge of my hobby knife.

The Sherman overhaul series is complete. I have no idea how much time was put into this project, but the overall outcome was that I had fun and learned a few new tricks to add to my skillset. It is my hope that after reading this series, the reader will be less afraid to tackle some of the detailing and aftermarket additions that can be used to enhance the model of his or her choice. And perhaps to be empowered with confidence to build some of the older kits out on the market. After all, it just takes a little tender loving care to make these oldies shine like a new penny.

July Raffle Winners



Bob Ferri

Mac Johnston



Tom Shanahan

Upcoming Events of Modeling Interest

August 14	GSM Club Picnic	Bob Ferri's House
September 18	PatCon	Hudson, NH
October 2	Classic Plastic	Lawrence, MA
October 2	BayCon	Smithfield, RI
October 7-8	ArmorCon (AMPS)	Southbury, CT
October 16	GraniteCon	Manchester, NH
October 22	HVHMG 2022	Poughkeepsie, NY

July Show & Tell



Chuck Converse built this 1/144 C-119 Boxcar from Roden.



Russ Gosselin added more paint to his 1/35 King Tiger from Dragon. Will it be done in time for GraniteCon?



Paul Lessard built this 1/87 Square Foot scenic module. He titled it, "Stuck in the Rough."



Tom Shanahan is working on this 1/24 Revell 1976 Chevy Sport.



**We choose to build models
and do the other things, not
because they are easy, but
because they are hard.**

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.

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 (603-529-5644)

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