

## **SVSM Silicon Valley Classic 2014 Special Award Reference Material Briefing**

Recognized while many show veterans understand how “Special Awards” are set up and judged , a good many veterans dismiss this truth a good many Contest Directors deal with more often than not. Having their staff, other parties or themselves being called upon to answer the questions “What are these Special Awards? How do I qualify? How do *You* (the show hosts/judges) know *I* do? Why didn’t I win one when it’s clear to me , how I qualified” (often because no one had a sign up sheet or clearly explained you have to sign up, as much as when they clearly didn’t qualify)

Material courtesy of your 2014 Contest Exec Staff

### **SA1. “Best of Show Senior”      SA2. “Best of Show Junior”**

As stated, Best of the show in each division as selected by the Judges. In the case of Junior, all categories of Junior/Subjunior are considered

### **SA3. “Ralph Patino Memorial” Best Model/ Worst Kit (Silk Purse Award)**

As generally understood from the long subtitling, making a Silk Purse (Best Result) from a Sow’s Ear (Worst Start) is the major aim here . As an enhancement, this award is in memory of our long time member Ralph Patino, who hailed from San Jose and last resided in Salinas. Ralph did not let legal blindness stand in the way of his model construction, nor total lack of “good references”. An example of Ralph solving an issue:

Revell Models had a lovely box scale kit of the USS Pine Island Sea Plane Tender, all of about 12 inches in length. It came with a scale (very small) PBM Mariner. This happened to also exist as another “box scale” Revell kit, which Ralph also had built. Ralph one day had a powerful reason to want a larger “Pine Island” to go with the larger PBM Mariner he had built. So he set out to make himself plans to scratchbuild an entire USS Pine Island (Currituck class) in of course ever popular 1/118 scale, using in part for references, the 12 inch Revell kit. Ralph Patino managed to have this all done in less than a year’s time whilst also running his family’s restaurant business in a downtown Salinas bus depot plus carrying on his valuable volunteer work with underprivileged and “troubled” youth whom he also taught modelbuilding as a means to improve their lives.

Oh, and then there was Ralph’s 1/72 Hindenburg, the 1/24 Caterpillar Earth Mover/Scraper, Backhoe/FrontLoader... as scratchbuilding pursuits.

There were no “worst kits” in Ralph’s world, just like there were no “worst kids”. Only material which “needed the right attention and guidance” which only “an old reformed two fisted drinker from the wrong side of San Jose town who didn’t know “you can’t do that”, so thus he just did it. SO for this award this year from this contest , those if any vying for this award in competition:

ANY subject in any media in any scale, as long as it’s capturing that spirit of excellent achievement especially in the face of daunting or hopeless odds. An almost unrecognizable realization of an old Airfix Stirling into something mistaken for a recent Tamiya molding. A vacform mistaken for an injection version of the same subject on viewing or during judgement. A scratchbuild not necessarily to George Lee standards but nicely done, any of these give you the concept of spirit behind award and the memorial. Sometimes we get gold other times pyrite, important to get entries.

In any case, recognized that this WILL REQUIRE entrant SIGN UP ON SHEET on day of event for improved chances and our success Judging...

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### SA4. “Mike Williams Memorial” for Best Sci Fi, Fantasy or Real Space

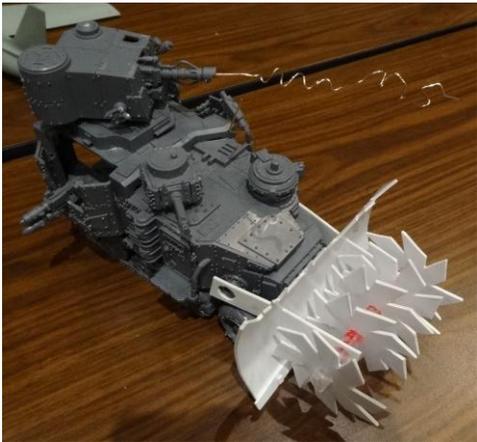
Mike Williams was a very kind and generous new member who was only with us a short while before being taken down by Sickle Cell Anemia. In the few years we had to enjoy Mike’s unencumbered enthusiasm, we definitely learned what it meant to ‘live life to the fullest’ and never let a lethal health condition stand in the way of your being with your friends and community. Mike couldn’t always make all the meetings or shows he wanted to especially near his end, true. However, when he was in our orbit you were made to know how much he enjoyed your company and a fine hobby madness we shared (you and he). Mike knew he may not have as long as he’d have liked, so he made damned sure to learn and share all he could in some of the scariest model projects taken on we’ve ever seen. Thusly to memorialize him with this subject mantle was a natural.

I suspect Mike would have preferred we didn’t make such a fuss over him and instead have just built more of this range of subject. However he’d always known how irreverent his model club circle of associates are and wouldn’t be too surprised we’d disregard in order to be having fun here.

SO for this award this year from this contest , the following illustration of what this boils down to, for any vying for this award in competition:

ANY Science Fiction, Fantasy or Real Space subject within those category ranges (so includes figures as well as vehicles) is considered eligible.

As stated, selected usually on Technical points (from 1<sup>st</sup> place winners pile) Below are merely ideas of what could be eligible in some way...



## SVSM Silicon Valley Classic 2014 Special Award Reference Material Briefing

### SA5. “Tom Harrison Memorial” for Best Maritime Subject



Many of us “old timers in SVSM” got to know Tom of “Tom’s Modelworks” in our time with the club and the Region 9 community. However, as best method to enliven the spirit that inspired this award, meant updating a friends obituary ... here ‘tis

**This hobby of ours lost a real friend** with passing of **Tom Harrison** in February, 2009. I first met Tom in the late 1970s at our place of employment.

Tom’s hobby was building WW I aircraft models, producing vacuform kits of same. He drew up his own photo etched parts for things like spoked wheels or the machine guns. Tom noticed my lunch time occupation (building ship models) we hit it off immediately. I drew up some my own ideas, upon which he improved on until the parts worked.

I think that was the time I got him hooked on warships.

I may have done a few less than twenty P E sets for him but from then on, whole catalog was Tom's. He became better versed in naval matters than I'll ever be.

Tom was an innovative creator of many kits and sheets of P E brass. His kit of the 1/350 scale Essex class carrier of WW II in resin was a first in the industry, being introduced at the 1998 IPMS convention.

Unfortunately, Tom received more orders than he could produce. He gave his patterns to Trumpeter to do the injected version but smartly insisted on receiving an early test shot so could measure his brass to fit the kit. He felt it was a good trade-off for the modeler, as the resin kit was too expensive for the average wallet anyhow.

Tom was always easy to talk to and many found him to be a very giving person. Favors were not uncommon with him. He was also a friend to his local IPMS club, the Silicon Valley Scale Modelers, contributing to their contests and was also a sponsor in a number of IPMS national conventions. Tom's loving wife Carolyn says that their kids will attempt to keep producing Tom's catalog of products for a while in his name. They knew how much Tom enjoyed his work and the many contacts he made over the entire planet. All those contacts, including myself, will sorely miss him. – *Bert McDowell*

I miss Tom’s impish wit, mischievous smile (that’s my shot of him here from the 2007 Nats in Anaheim), value lessons in prioritizing what’s important in one’s life he taught me. Especially one immortally linked to 1/48 Fokker DR.1 Triplanes and contesting. In honor of Tom’s twin passions, we offer memorial award in his name for one (Naval) or other (World War I) in every Kickoff since, but now you know...the rest of the story. – *Mick Burton*

So for this year 2014, ANY Maritime/Naval Subject is eligible, and likely winner will be selected from 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers regardless of category

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### SA6. “ 1964 ” for Best Representative Subject of Contest Theme

A Basic Explanation for those who may be unclear as to what this award is for and what constitutes subject eligibility.

Year of the Goat (Pontiac GTO), Goldfinger points out Bond's got staying power even when dealing with an Odd Job, especially driving his cool DB5. The Munsters move in down the block from you, The Beatles cross the pond and increase volume to screaming pitch. Chevrolet introduces the Chevelle, Plymouth the Barracuda, Oldsmobile the Cutlass 442, Ford the Mustang. So for autos, figures and movie modelers, already grand beginnings available. Air and Space certainly don't lack though: the XB-70A Valkyrie makes its first flight, the SR-71 Blackbird sets a speed record for jet aircraft, Minuteman II missile (the quintessential American Cold War symbol for years) begins tests, NASA's Gemini program sees Gemini I vehicle launch, Apollo 2 achieves earth orbit. At sea on TV, Admiral Nelson and Captain Crane begin their Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. While on real world seas; Destroyer USS Maddox, aircraft carrier USS Ticonderoga, North Vietnam and LBJ prove to be a very bad mixture in the Gulf of Tonkin. That is just scratching the surface of ways that our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as IPMS USA chapter offers opportunities to model in our year theme choice. It will be very pleasing to see how others fully employ this to their own very competitive ends

Eligible: Any and all subjects with a 1964 linkage or direct assignation. In any case, recognized that this WILL REQUIRE entrant SIGN UP ON SHEET on day of event for improved chances and our Judging.

JUST A FEW QUALIFYING ENTRY EXAMPLES FOR AN INCENTIVE



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### **SA7. “Best Auto” for Best Representative Subject of this type**

As stated, Best Auto can be selected from ANY Scale or Type. Usually chosen on Technical points from assessment of 1<sup>st</sup> Place in all Auto cats

### **SA8. “Best Armor” for Best Representative Subject of this type**

As stated, Best Armor can be selected from ANY Scale or Type. Usually chosen on Technical points from assessment of 1<sup>st</sup> Place in all Armor cats.

### **SA9. “Best Aircraft” for Best Representative Subject of this type**

As stated, Best Aircraft can be selected from ANY Scale or Type. Usually chosen on Technical points from assessment of 1<sup>st</sup> Place in all Air cats.

## SVSM Silicon Valley Classic 2014 Special Award Reference Material Briefing

### SA10. “Nifty Fifties (ANY) ” for Best Representative Subject

As entitled above. ANY subject that is representative of the years 1950 to 1959 is potentially competitive eligible. Competition subjects range is WIDE OPEN when you consider the “sci fi movies and books”, other less often considered avenues for mining material. Bel Airs, B-47s, Beast from 20,000 Fathoms, Bettie Page, Bomarc, ALL qualify just for a start. Korean Peninsula and Formosa Straits come to mind for some reason...

### HOWEVER – THAT IS NOT ALL OR ONLY WHAT CAN POTENTIALLY WIN HERE

BECAUSE THIS TIME OUT WE ARE CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY SCALE MODELERS AS AN IPMS CHAPTER

That being made clear, here’s hoping you get our “unique twist” on “Fifties Modelling”. For our Golden Anniversary Year Only, you can qualify with subjects from ANY “FIFTIES” IN ANY CENTURY. 1156, 1450, 1654, 1759, 1850, all those years for example qualify. So even if you’re not any fan of the 1950s, there’s plenty of chances to find something in the past 2000 years to model that still interests you and fits into “a 50s mold”

As for the original strict interpretations and most often path taken for entitled above: ANY subject that is representative of the years 1950 to 1959 is potentially competitive eligible. Competition subjects range is WIDE OPEN when you consider the “sci fi movies and books”, other less often considered avenues for mining material. Bel Airs, B-47s, Beast from 20,000 Fathoms, Bettie Page, Bomarc, ALL qualify just for a start.

Korean Peninsula and Formosa Straits come to mind for some reason...oddly the Suez Canal seems to harken as does Hungary possibly, hmm.

Think there’s nothing to the rest of this but silliness? Okay, if you’re a Figures modeler, consider the Crimean War, which I am virtually sure there are figures to model and dioramas to construct, which places you in the 1850s (’54-’56). Perhaps a bust or a full model of Napoleon III or Franz Josef ? Again, 1850s and thus fully competitive here. Not to mention the possible ships or machinery in this period.

The 1750s offer you the French and Indian War (for USA portion begun in 1754) and “Seven Years War” which began in Europe in 1756. Again, some figures no? Just some thoughts to provoke you. Again, ships seem to offer another easy avenue here

You get the idea I am sure, and in any case, no requirement to take this route, only providing the extra for those might want to and to give fair warning that if some one does, they could beat out an “obvious” one.

In any case, recognized that this WILL REQUIRE entrant SIGN UP ON SHEET on day of event for improved chances and our success Judging...



# **SVSM Silicon Valley Classic 2014 Special Award Reference Material Briefing**

## **SA11. “ Back to the Drawing Board ” for Best Representative Subject**

Our Contest Directors traditionally have had a favorite or two chosen for themes within their annual event, and thankfully this anniversary year with the launch of our new Silicon Valley Classic is proving to be no different.

“Back to the Drawing Board” is SVC 2014 Contest Director’s choice, and an appropriate one at that. Embodies deserved Triumph in the face of Adversity as the underlying subtext, while appearing to look opposite. Recognition that persistence often pays big dividends and so much more when combined with a truly committed team of distinct characters. Stubbornness and determination is no vice when you’re on the right track... especially when “the smart money” is on giving up, pulling out, recognizing “it can’t or won’t” work... but you won’t buy it, believe it, stand for it

Initial offered examples for this edition of “reference briefing”, courtesy of the “Chief Designer” (and his appreciative staff):

Lockheed’s “Have Blue” XST demonstrator aircraft and it’s follow on success, the “Senior Trend”/F-117A Nighthawk. Despite the crash of the two vehicles, the proof of concept was clearly on target and after return to the drawing board the much larger F-117 aircraft went on to prove this all the way home in full scale war employment.

Boeing’s Model 299, famous for crashing in critical demonstration to US Military customer and already behind the eight ball due to tremendous increase in cost/complexity in comparison to its competition in same specifications, went on after loss of only prototype to become famous as the star of “Twelve O ‘ Clock High”, “Memphis Belle” and thousands of crew who knew her well as the B-17 Flying Fortress that followed.

Convair’s YF-102, true fighter borne from the early success of XF-92 , couldn’t meet the critical need of customer for supersonic performance interceptor no matter the method, and nearly was turned out as “promising failure”, probably dooming deltas in USA military circles. Thanks to return to drawing board to apply another “then radical idea” (area rule), went on to serve well and bring forth other successful family members after rebirth as F-102A.

JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU GET IT AND KNOW WHERE/WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR OWN PURSUIT OF THIS AWARD: In other words, you can build either “Have Blue” XST aircraft OR F-117s (there are kits by the way of them both). Or you could make either the original Model 299 (not easy, but could be done) OR take the task on of making the very best B-17 to try to beat everyone else competing with other or the same ideas. Again, there is at least one kit of the Convair YF-102 available and at least three of the F-102A, go for it and be sure to sign up at day of event.

Obviously, there are similar examples in Armor, Auto, Space and other popular categories, now that you know how to play go out and find some!

Be competitive and not lazy, document on the table even a little of the how/why your entry fits this theme, you’ll be potentially “money ahead”.

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SA12.

## THE '49ER' AWARD



CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC

WILL BE GIVEN TO THE  
BEST SUBJECT  
CAPTURING THE  
CALIFORNIA SPIRIT

SIMPLE OFFERED EXAMPLES OF POTENTIAL AWARDEES INCLUDE:

Fair: 1/48 F-106A in California Air Guard Scheme (Simple but effective effort)

Good: 1/25 "Orange Crate" in 1963 Oakland Roadster Show configuration

(yes, while Portland Oregon based, California Spirit all the way and a REVELL kit!)

Better: Ed "Big Daddy" Roth "Tiki" Surfite or "Outlaw" or "Beatnik Bandit" or...

(Ed Roth = SoCal Kar Kulture, all were "Roth Hot Rods" all are REVELL (Venice CA) kits)

Better Still: Diorama of YB-49 Flying Wing on Muroc hardstand with figure of Jack Northrop...

(Diorama (difficulty), Northrop YB-49 & Muroc (Iconic California), Jack himself...)

Best: Your Imagination Run Amok with result so utterly astonishing, a clear winner

## SVSM Silicon Valley Classic 2014 Special Award Reference Material Briefing

### SA13. “Angelo Deogracias Memorial ” for Best Competition Auto Subject



Midwest Man to the core. Fierce Competitor and an even more fiercely loyal friend. Modeler of the armored vehicle (a nod to his days at FMC Corp) aircraft (Hawker Typhoon !) and automotive ( hey **I am from INDIANAPOLIS**, Burton, geez c'mon!) in equal measures, and huge fan of all modelling,

**This hobby lost a real friend & cornerstone** with passing of **Angelo Deogracias** in December 2013.



One of his favorite 1/1 passions was that of Competitive Motorsports, especially the Indy 500 & Formula One, though he gave California points for Laguna Seca, plus for Douglas & the Able Dog

Whole concept that he'd be the subject of a memorial trophy, would be as amazing to him as his sudden departure before his 52<sup>nd</sup> year coming up February was to us, his friends “Out West”. But he'd want it to be shared, and Angelo was a major spirit force to SVSM's keeping their Ayrton Senna Memorial Award for Best Competition Auto Subject going for so long.



On behalf of his adopted home model club in California, we offer this award in honor of SPAD. – Mick Burton & Mike Meek (sponsors)