



THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 44, No.4 WWW.SVSM.ORG April 2010



A Publication of the Silicon Valley Scale Modelers, A chartered Chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society, USA branch.

Santa Clara Show has AMAZING attendance !



The lone entrant (with back to us, so hard to identify) seems at loss where to place his entry on table...

KOC 2010 turnout slightly smaller than past years, however was well received.

By Mick Burton

Thanks first off to everyone who showed up and made sure we hosted another Kickoff Classic with satisfying responses, no matter what presented itself for an obstacle. We challenged ourselves again and won, handily.

Thanks even more to the wizards who created photo editing software, so that the true dimensions of reduced attendance (shown in unretouched picture, above) were cleverly masked in subsequent photos found inside.

Wandering from this tiny tome to the internet to visit club website, one could even gain the impression by the number of pictures there that some large number of eager attendees made it to the Santa Clara Convention Hall A. Viewers might be seduced into sense that all those folks exist in real life, and had a great old time there too. Luckily, this freelancer (or is it freebooter? Can't recall) caught true show in pic, above. *(continued on page 3)*

Editor's Ravings — this month's editor, Mick Burton

Yea, quite true, we're in that month of April with all it's attendant foolishness. Not that I would have anything in that vein.

Because this issue is late, I owe you all an apology with qualifications. Our Kickoff 2010 followed quickly in time by the R-9 Regional Contest was hard enough to keep up with even if I wasn't planning on entering, working shows just the same. Helped hurry along (for sound financial as well as time economic reasons many old contest hands would understand) plans for Kickoff 2011, which was 95 percent secured before Laramie and I left the Hall after sweeping floor from 2010. While it was a good idea and in fact the contract was already in the signoff before 10 days had passed, left me committed to making damned sure all the detail work for 2011 paperwork was "in the can" before life intervened and lessons learned were lost.

So, of course, I repeat learning again you can't work two and three jobs every week and expect to get all your fun stuff or your unpaid fun work projects done without some cost. A long time planned website for my other club (the Hornets) made it to the top of my to do RIGHT NOW while critical resource available (a willing webmaster who would teach me too!) at same time we were getting much infrastructure laid for KOC 2011 AND I was desperately crunching data for results check so we could post on SVSM website KOC 2010 contest awards. Although I had half of the April Sheet ready before Kickoff it wasn't enough prep to save me. This is tax month too, and silly me, I didn't forecast my time or monies accurately ...

Which touches upon the original concept for this month's editorial. "Fragility". A theme of serious breadth and character.

I am as guilty as any of the classic human blindness of ignoring the essential fragile nature of our lives. We all go to such great lengths to "get the details of the YB-49's left throttle quadrant just right" and subsequently protect the finished model from all sorts of calamities. Worrying about its health and welfare, often while blithely trusting to fates our own. Only too recently while working on this newsletter prep (an earlier issue) I got a dealt a cruel reminder of this, fortunately that's been turned around some. I can always fix or replace a damaged or lost model, but I can't ever replace Kent or other friends like him in my time here. Same in remembering how truly magical it is that we are "a social modelling community". Since the hobby itself wouldn't appear at all to lend itself to anything but solitary or nearly so, activity. Fragile, indeed, are the ties that bind us, and so pay heed when working and playing together. Not be too swift to judge harshly another's actions when it may pay bad dividends far longer than when the "just provocation" has since ceased from memory. We are all here such a short time, we would do well to look out for each other and ourselves with the same care we give to our art. - *mick fini*

On a less dour note:

Having this spot of room to share with you some personal favorites. From the Kickoff 2010 (wicked hot Yak-28 in 1/72, traveled all the way From Southern California this one)

And below it, two excellent works on the March SVSM Meeting table. The well "squiggled" Focke Wulf with an exposed engine (an elegant solution) on the left. Right hand shot of Lost In Space Chariot in 1/24, with lights And Robot B-9 in stowed back seat!



Looking back at the KICKOFF CLASSIC 2010 (continued from page 1)



Wait a minute! Who ARE these people, and what are they doing? COULD THIS BE A RAFFLE AT THE KICKOFF CLASSIC? Could this be the team who is owed a pizza party by the Contest Director FOR A NEW RECORD IN REVENUE ??

YES! All of us in the club and community THANK YOU FOR JOB EXCELLENCE.

The photographer appears to have caught David B looking for the exit, while rest of team is quietly plotting to run off with \$\$\$

Just kidding!



Hey, maybe a few others did show up. Seems a lot more going on tables here. Even a Make and Take! Hmmmm.



Even a great display of Russian aeronautical history, by our very own Jim Lund, historian.

Seems there was some turnout after all. Glad we did it. While we had a few less modelers (109 vs 130 plus in last two years) and a few less models (425 this year, still an impressive number anytime) than in recent past, by those numbers alone we did 80 percent which is a very fine "recessed" result.

We have already secured with contract for next year With an even earlier date, and have every reason to believe we'll host a fine and feistier fun filled day, So Show Up or be wishing you had!

My appreciation to everyone who came and played!

EVEN MORE APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO CAME AND WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!!!

"2010 REGIONAL Ramblings" by an Old Tomcat

(quick musings on a very fine return to the show circuit by a great herd of cats from Region 9)

April 11 2010 was another rainy Sunday for most folks and nothing more. For some intrepid souls though who were more than willing, able and ready, it was a chance to celebrate the return of the Stockton Area Modelers once known as the Tomcats and now roaring through Region Nine as the San Joaquin Valley Scale Modelers!

The Region 9 Regional Contest was hosted by SJVSM as their inaugural event, and a decidedly fine showing.

Not only was there an IPMS style show going on there, they also had a Stockton Car Modelers model show in same hall, and a 1/1 Vintage and Custom Car Show/Swap Meet on grounds. A little weather didn't faze them.

Many showed up from areas near and far, and several SVSM and Fremont club members took home some gold

Very nice awards, very special raffle (a ride in a vintage Vultee was grand prize) and friendly atmosphere. YES!

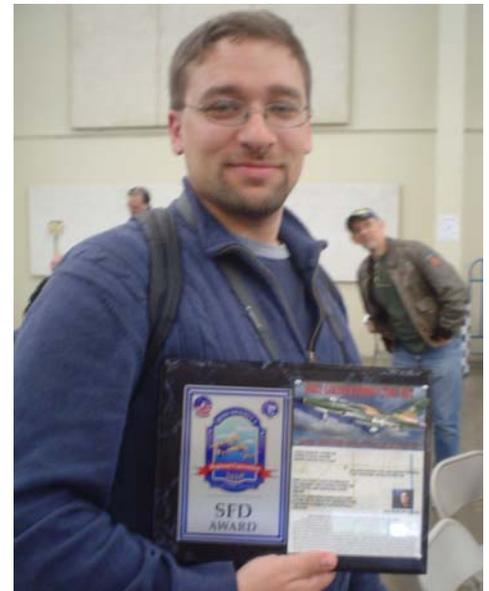


The Awards!
Very attractive ones

Another fun part was the story of their new "SFD" award for Vacforms, Resins and Scratchbuilt subjects. The origin story is one I was aware of when it occurred (it's a local legend now)

Pleased with this new and interesting award and even more that our Vladimir

was the first one to win it, for his most excellent scratch ship building artistry.



Vlad with SFD award & Roy



March 2010 SVSM MEETING as recorded by Mr Chris Bucholtz (with minor edits by yours truly)

At the March meeting, Steve Travis let us know that the Travis Air Force Base rehabilitative unit has not yet responded to our offers of models (collected via the Veterans Administration Hospital drive), so we'll continue to bring models to the three VA facilities we're already serving. Steve says our funds will allow us to start serving the Travis AFB unit when the time comes.

MODEL TALK

In model talk... Gabriel Lee has finished his Matchbox 1:72 T-2D Buckeye, which he finished in Venezuelan markings. That's also the livery worn by his Special Hobby F-86K, which won an award at the Petaluma show, his Fujimi F-86F Sabre, and his under-construction Airfix Canberra will also be Venezuelan. Gabriel plans to add more weathering to his FineMolds Star Wars X-Wing, and he's busy adding the many small data decals to a nearly-finished Hasegawa 1:72 Kfir C.7. Ken Lee used the Aztek paint masks to finish the roof of his Moebius Models "Lost in Space" Chariot, and he added small LED lights to the console and the robot in back. Speaking of robots, he also installed the Mecha Labs light kit into his Moebius Robby the Robot, which he built over a weekend. Eric McClure has the tracks in place on his 1:72 Esci M1 Abrams, and he used issue No. 1 of FineScale Modeler to nail down the early colors worn by the first tanks. Eric's also using Archer Fine Transfers to apply markings to his DML M16 halftrack. Richard Linderer used the JB Models kit to build a Polish tankette, and he finished it in German colors. He also took a 1:76 Land Rover and modified it with a 20mm gun from Airfix to create a "technical" gun truck. Chris Hughes has added some details to the turret and added intake screens to his AFV Club YPR-765. Greg Plummer's Ford Thunderbird started life as a Revell snap-together kit, but he used traditional hot rod and custom techniques to turn the new-style T-bird into a much hotter ride. Greg also tackled AMT's new-style Dodge Challenger, which he says is more like a promo kit than a real model. He turned the Challenger into a convertible, with a scratch-built boot. John Heck says that, since he's run out of things to do on his 1:35 Trumpeter Strv.103 "S-Tank," he must be done! He stole the antenna mounts from an M1, and he slathered the model with mud made from an acrylic gel medium that was given some extra crunch with the addition of some dried tea. Shervin Shembayati's moved to a slightly larger scale with Accurate Miniatures' TBM Avenger; he's found it a little tricky to build the cockpit because he was actually required to read the instructions. Dave Marzola found it hard to apply a mirror wave camouflage pattern to his 1:32 Fw 190A from Hasegawa, so he outlined the pattern with BluTack and sprayed it that way. The plane's exposed engine didn't fit just right, so he left the cowling panels off and detailed it! Dave also built Hasegawa's venerable F11F Tiger, which he says isn't the best kit but which came out rather nicely. Ron Wergin finished Italeri's somewhat reworked M13/40; he said it's a nice kit, but the separate bolt heads were taxing. Ron also discovered the use of epoxy to make headlights and the glossy surface of goggles on figures. Ben Pada rebuilt a Tamiya Mustang as a very-long-range (VLR) machine flying from Iwo Jima in 1945, complete with large drop tanks from an Academy P-47N. He's also using Alclad to provide the finish on a Tamiya P-47D in 1:48, which will be depicted as a Mexican Air Force aircraft from 1948. Frank Babbitt took Esci's 1:48 MB-326K and reworked some areas for accuracy, then turned it into a plane flown by the air force of Zaire using decals from Zotz. Randy Ray made short work of Trumpeter's Flak 37; he said it was a very straightforward model, and the plastic is so well done he didn't use the alternate photoetched gun shield. Laramie Wright's choice of a Sherman Firefly is well documented, so he took great care in getting the stowage right. Laramie made the wading trunks from scratch and he marked the tank with Archer Fine Transfers, Tasca kit decals. Mike Burton has added a canopy to his 1:48 Azur kit of Arsenal VG.33, and he's made considerable progress on another Monogram MiG-15. His Airfix/Frog hybrid B(I).12 Canberra is now in high-speed silver paint, and his B-57 with a Bomarc missile in the nose is nearing paint. He also proudly showed off his 1:24 "Lost in Space" B-9 Robot, which he built during the Hobby Expo speed build contest as a Russian hot dog vendor (and managed a 3rd in the category, only model he had entered!). Chris Bucholtz has his Maryland cleaned up and ready for decals; he went back over the camouflage with some loose masking to sharpen the boundaries between colors. Chris also took a Dragon 1:35 figure from the "Rangers at Normandy" set and turned him into a BAR gunner from the 29th Infantry Division on D-Day, adding a gas mask bag, gun sling and extra straps from lead foil. Mark Schynert finally completed his 1:72 Czechmasters Resin Welkin, which is finished as a developmental aircraft; he found that he didn't have enough gear doors, but an email resulted in some replacements, and he swapped the propellers for Aeroclub units. He's also built Hasegawa's 1:72 P-40N nearly from scratch, adding only seatbelts and decals for the propeller blades, and finishing the model in a combination of Gunze Sangyo lacquers and Tamiya white primer. Paul Bishop got the Tamiya 1:48 Kubelwagen at the Petaluma show and already has it assembled. He says it's a very nicely detailed kit. Mark Hernandez's 1:144 Aoshima Thunderbird I spaceship wears a finish of Tamiya gloss aluminum along with Tamiya blue and red. All the decals are in place although Mark said they were 'like leather.' He also built Konami's much smaller Thunderbird I, which helped with the colors for the larger model. Cliff Kranz has used a lot of body putty to eliminate the seams on his 1:32 Revell F-4 Phantom; he plans to hang the finished model from the ceiling of his office.

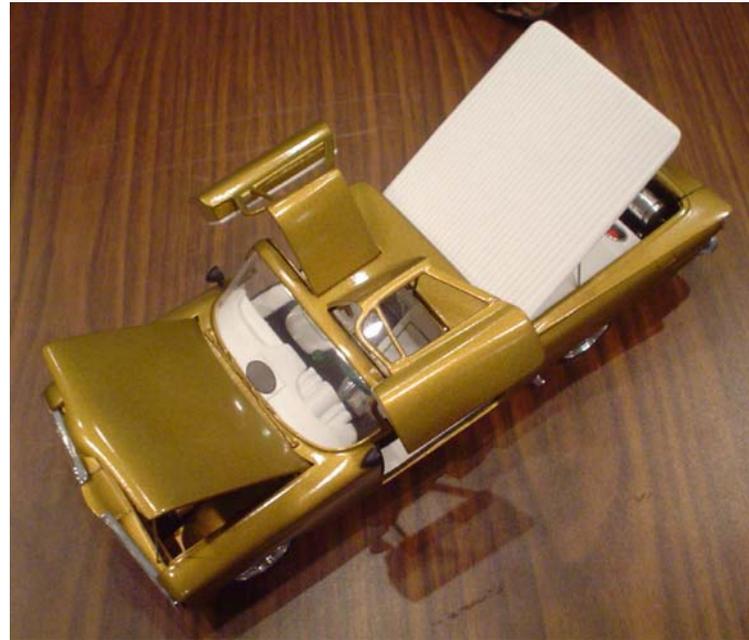
And the model of the month goes to... Steve Travis, who went to town on the AMT 1959 Chevy El Camino, giving it a tuck-and-roll interior and piping, Pegasus wheels, and an aluminum exhaust system, plus a custom dash and a brilliant yellow metallic finish.

We had nothing but winners in our 90-day wonders contest. In our Ancient Wonders category, First went to Cliff Kranz and his VEB Plasticard 1:100 An-12 “Cub,” beaten together and then given a coat of Humbrol aluminium to finish it off.

In our New Wonders category, in First was Laramie Wright with a DML StuG IIIF, which sports photoetched grilles from the original kit and tracks taken from a newer Tamiya kit. And the Second place winner was Paul Bishop and his Tamiya 1:48 Fw 190A-3, which he built out of the box. Paul’s fighter had a run-in with his trunk lid on the way into the meeting, but it was still an amazing display of modeling under a deadline.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Steven Travis



FOR WINNING MARCH MODEL OF THE MONTH (‘59 El Camino Boom Box)



Editor's Postscript:

Now just as an aside, due my having room this time to do this, I include here two of my favorites from The March Meeting Table.

At right, ablaze with very appropriate blue radiance, Ken Lee's Robot, Robby. Really have to see this in color to gain full idea.

At left, Postoria Aguirre brings whole new scale dimensions to the simple expletive of "RATS!"

Utterly evil what them wee teeth monsters did here...



“Wonder Full”: Look back at our March 2010 Club Contest



Modern Wonders had two entries, and they finished out such as this:

First Place, Stug III in 1/35 by Laramie Wright

Second Place, “One Legged One Ninety” in 1/48 by Paul Bishop

(damaged in transit, but a winner)
(the FW-190, NOT Paul !
He seemed intact ☺)

Ancient Wonders had ONE entry, which won Cliff Kranz a deserving First Place for his 1/100 “CUB” Antonov assault transport from VEB kit.



This goes to show that: one, you CAN make something from those kits apparently made as secret weapons by the East Germans (ask Cliff about “the plasti-crete” this seemed molded of) and even win something for your efforts.

Two, that your editor was over optimistic as ever. Even with the “Ancient Wonders” codicil, allowing completion of “90 day wonders” LOOOOONNGG after they arrived as gifts, he couldn’t get damned thing done. Apparently he was in great company.



At right: my still undone, ancient VG33



At left: First Place Winner Laramie W’s Stug, every inch a deadly adversary!



At left: Paul’s 2nd Place finisher FW. One legged yes, but undaunted!

At right, perhaps a **clue** what was **the real cause??**

—mick fini



SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME MAY 2010 “ Language, Dude, Watch the... ”

Originally announced as, now just sub titled “Like, Silicon Valley Speak, Dude”. Also known as “What the Hell...?” theme

Basis of categories is Computer related Languages likely spoken at one time or another here in Silicon Valley

BASIC = Out of the Box entrants, any kind, MUST BRING INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPETE

C or C++ = Any "C" designated aircraft (such as C-47, C-97, CF-100, CF-101, etc)

OR

"C plus plus" Named subjects such as Chieftain, Challenger, Cougar, Cheyenne, etc.

XML = Any X designated vehicles, including XF-, XB-,XP-, examples.

HTML = Any rotorcraft subject

JAVA = Any subjects connected with Indonesia, including WW2 Pacific subjects of course as well as Malaysian, Sumatran, etc military service material

PERL = Any subject finished in Pearl or credibly considered connected to "Pearl of the Orient" or "Mother of Pearl" as a basis. Also consider items such as “Ace of Pearls” P-40 Tuskegee Aircraft as eligible, for thought provoking example. Or even (gasp!) subjects relating to a particular location in Hawaii, especially in December.

Sorry to say to those who were planning on entering “Assembly” category, but it would be too damned easy to complete something for this (as opposed to using the language in its original context) so not offered this time.

SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME JUNE 2010 “ BATTLE OF FRANCE, 1940 ”

Suggested thank you very much by a member and reader of last month’s editorial on “themes” Although inspired by and celebrating the 70th anniversary of the aforesaid event, not limited to subjects entirely from The Battle for France, 1940. ANY subject tied into the year of 1940 somehow will be also eligible.

SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME JULY 2010 “ From the Earth to the Moon”

REAL SPACE AND RELATED SUBJECTS COMPETITION

EARTH: Eligible : Any scale, finished: Early rockets such as V-2/A4 (including wartime versions as well as obvious postwar research uses by USA, USSR, etc). Other ballistic missiles that served as launch vehicles for real space, like the Redstone, Thor, Jupiter, Atlas, Titan, SS-6, need not be in peacetime configurations. Current launch vehicles such as Ariane, Pegasus, Spaceship One are definitely encouraged. North American X-15 series considered to be in this category as well, along with X-20 Dyna-Soar and SPACE SHUTTLE (including Buran). Don’t forget, the entire series of “lifting bodies” also qualify under this statute! Earth orbiting satellites will fall in here as well. (Explorer, TIROS, Keyhole Series, Sputnik, etc). Research rockets like Aerobee are also OK.

TO THE MOON: Any scale, finished: Project Mercury, Gemini or Apollo, Soyuz, Lunokhod, Mariner, Venera, Pioneer etc subject matter. Basically any subject matter that was directly related part of a lunar research project or for real space exploration beyond the lunar orbit.

Remember! REAL SPACE as a definition here, DOESN’T EXCLUDE projects that weren’t built or flown ever in real time. Which is how the X-20 Dyna Soar for one, becomes eligible for “Earth” category. Over the years there have been many kits of serious proposals that never saw the light of day, but would legitimately qualify for either category in this contest. Sanger’s “orbital bomber”, Convair Space Shuttlecraft, Von Braun’s “Ring Orbiter Space Station” among them. Several cool Willy Ley designs come to mind also, put out by Glencoe.

So don’t be shy, look to the stars this summer and bring something to compete outside your normal orbit hey?

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 04-16-10

Friday, April 16 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme “Ready for Tomorrow?”

Saturday, April 17 2010

IPMS/Seattle host their Spring Show at the Renton Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Highway, Renton WA. For information go to their website at www.ipms-seattle.org or Terry Moore @ 425-774-6343

Friday, May 21 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme “Silicon Valley Speak, Dude”

Saturday, May 22 2010

IPMS Las Vegas Chapter will hold it's Best of the West XIV show at 2800 South Boulder Highway in Henderson, NV. For more information go to their website at ipmlasvegas.org or contact [Johnny Galza](mailto:Johnny.Galza).

Saturday, June 5 2010

IPMS San Diego will hold it's San Diego Model Expo 2010 at San Diego Air & Space Museum Gillespie Field located at 335 Kenney St in El Cajon. For more information: check www.ipmssd.org or contact [Gary Williams](mailto:Gary.Williams).

Friday, June 18 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme “Battle for France, 1940”

Saturday, June 26 2010

IPMS/Ontario host their MiniCon 2010 at the Ontario Senior Center, 225 E. “B” Street, Ontario CA.

Saturday, July 24 2010

IPMS/Dragon Lady hosts their 2010 model contest, theme is “Wet and Wild”. 9Am to 4Pm at the First United Methodist Church, 3101 Colusa Highway, Yuba City CA. Make ‘N Take, movies all day in a theatre on site, and fine number of special awards all featured. Contact Don Terbush @ Hillcrest Hobbies, 530-674-8194, email him via donaldterbush@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.myspace.com/ipmsdragonlady> for more info.

Friday, July 16 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme “From the Earth to the Moon”

Saturday, September 11 2010

IPMS/Reno High Rollers host their show at Desert Heights Elementary School, 13498 Mt Bismark, Reno NV Their 11th year’s contest theme is “The New Millennium”, stated to cover subjects designed & built since 2001. More information can be found at their website www.renohighrollers.com

Saturday, October 9 2010

IPMS Orange County will host the annual OrangeCon 2010 at Titan Conference Center - California State Fullerton located at 800 North State College Blvd in Fullerton. For more information go to their website at www.ipmsoc.org or contact [Nat Richards](mailto:Nat.Richards).

Saturday, December 4 2010

IPMS/Silver Wings host their SilverCon 2010 at the Kerr Middle School, 8865 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove CA. Check www.ipmssw.com for additional information and updates

NEXT MEETING:

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

APRIL 16

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

