



# THE STYRENE SHEET

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

## IT FIGURES : RODNEY MAKES TOTAL WAR



Reflecting on Challenge, Changing Perspective on Figure Modelling By: Rodney J. Williams *(continued page 3)*

**Editor's Ravings** – this month's editor, Mick Burton

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone for the incredibly (almost suspiciously !) smooth elections process for SVSM Officers serving the 2011/12 term. My hats off to the outgoing President, Eric McClure, he again proved a mighty force for good in trying times. I am especially going to miss his Presidential Ramblings, he provided much thought provocation, inspiration.

Also many many thanks from all of us to 2010/11 VPs Randy Ray and Laramie Wright. They are this year going to work to be *unavailable* for *other than fun* aspects of model clubbing! That is some trick for an alumnus, they know it too well !

For the record, our 2011/12 elected board came out as this: President : Frank Beltran , 1<sup>st</sup> VP (Contest Dir): Mick Burton 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Greg Plummer, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP: David Balderrama, Secretary: Chris Bucholtz, Treasurer: Bill Ferrante, Newsletter Editor: ?

David and Frank both have been long time members who have been hard workers at many events of ours over the years. In the past two years they along with Mark McDonald put together teams and effort that produced simply miraculous raffle returns. That is in no way intended to slight the tremendous contributions in years prior. David has been the alumnus chief of that vital portion of our Kickoff, since 1994 in fact. David was also President of SVSM back in 2001, and brought us the new gavel we're still adding new battle scars to today. So besides having many great ideas plus energy to implement them already on hand, Frank and David have already a greater depth of background than some may have appreciated. So...enjoy the "new blood" as they add their strengths as veterans, with new positions to work from and with us. I know I can depend on some of you stepping up to take on some of their past responsibilities they know so well when the time comes, so they'll be better able to flex their new muscles without burnout ! Yes, that's right, we're already on board with down payment into the Santa Clara Convention Center and a date 99 percent secured as of this writing (100 % mark at point we have SCCC's signed off copy of contract ) So Frank and David will be seeking able volunteers for help with raffle company KOC 2012.

For our KOC 2012 the theme we all agreed upon is " Viva La Revolucion ", by the way. Roughly speaking, there's a great range possible as this includes all sorts of obvious events. Such as The Spanish Civil War, The American Civil War and of the course Revolutionary War, with all the attendant vessels and figures associated with. The 1917 Russian Revolution that lasted into early 20s, various Congo rebellions, the Boxer Rebellion, Chechnya, Hungary 1956, other such material not so obvious but clearly rich with potential. So you see, trying to capture a new, "original" theme without losing the fun aspects.

In that same vein, my hat's off to our good friends down south in Lancaster, CA known as IPMS/Antelope Valley Group. I had calendared their 2011 event when I'd gotten date confirmed , months ago, but theme always being shown as "TBA". Well I am happy to publish in an excerpted form, in their own words, the refreshing and challenging theme they've crafted:

### **Desert Classic Contest Theme**

The next AVG contest theme has been decided. We debated over a few ideas, but the winner agreed upon by everyone and introduced by Tom Hamel was "Arch Rivals". This will include a wide variety of subjects, yet still stick with a specific theme. Entries may include any articles, whether they be aircraft, autos, military vehicles, figures, etc., which have known historical rivalry such as F-4 Phantom vs. Mig-21, Ford Mustang vs. Chevy Camaro, Batman vs. the Riddler, and so on. As you can see, the possibilities are widespread. Judging ties in any two "rivals" entries will be broken by the impact of the topic, as determined by the head judge. Also, because entries specifically for the theme will include at least two models, one of the models in the pair will be allowed as a previous Desert Classic winner, although our rule against entering previous winners from the National IPMS contest remains in effect.

*WELL DONE, TEAM AVG.* Now all of you know too, what they are offering up for fun competition . Start building! – *mick*

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**HEY DON'T GO AWAY, THERE'S MORE BREAKING REGION NINE NEWS YOU CAN USE!**

**IN EARLY JUNE YOU ARE ALL INVITED to the IPMS Region Nine Bar-B-Cue Meet & Greet**

**Thanks** to the friendly folks of IPMS/Santa Rosa AND IPMS/Mt Diablo, on Schelleville Airport Display Day, (Saturday June 11 2011) there will be a BBQ Meet and Greet event in Sonoma at 23982 Arnold Drive (airport) They are planning to have a Model Display for the general public to enjoy, so please plan to bring along at least one model to assist effort if you are planning attending. The hosting clubs will provide the main BBQ fare, but advise this is a Pot Luck so plan to bring one side dish appropo for a BBQ as well. Event runs 10AM to 4PM. Please RSVP to John Admire at [admire@pacbell.net](mailto:admire@pacbell.net) so that meal plans can be accurately forecast.

**2011 REGIONAL CONTEST for R-9 is Saturday July 23, in Yuba City. Host IPMS Dragon Lady** plans on showing a 60 plus subject display commemorating Centennial of US Naval Aviation as part of the event. This should be quite a lively and unique show with lots to do and see. SO DON'T MISS IT !

***Rodney Does Some Figuring on Modelling War (continued from page 1)***

About two decades ago during one of our monthly club meets, Kent McClure brought in some of his “figure” models for our “Show and Tell” section of our meeting. To say the least Kent’s figures were small, like an inch or so tall. My eyes were real good in those days, so I could see that Kent even dotted the pupils in the eyes.

I, like other modelers were always impressed with Kent’s ability to do a bang-up job on such “TINY” little models. He brought them by the dozens at times. I was so impressed with his work that I painted up a couple of my 1:48 scale airplane pilot figures. I was unable to put tiny little black dots to represent pupils in the figures’ eyes until I went and bought me one of the paint brushes that only had a few hairs in it. I was always going to buy and build some models like Kent was building...but “AIRPLANES” always got in the way.

Well I finally did it: I built my one and only figure several years ago. I do not remember what company made the kit. I don’t even remember what scale it is. I can’t remember when I built it. Wow, old age sure plays heck on ones’ memory bank. Construction went something like this:



The model was a heavy solid one piece of some type of plaster, which was very hard. It’s a little over 9 inches tall, weight estimated at about one pound.

The figure was attached to a square-like base and had the word “WAR” engraved on the pedestal. The additional items that came in the kit were a small length of chain, a .45 caliber pistol and a long sword which was encased in its sheath. There were some instructions, but I tossed them out long ago.



Like all models there was some minor flashing to be removed which was done by using my small #4 and #6 files. I dry sanded some areas with #400 and #600 sandpaper. Once I was done with all of this work I guess the next step was to paint the model.

Looking at the model today, I must have painted it an overall flat white color and then applied the other colors to the model. The eyes were painted with a blue color and I even applied a “tiny” white dot in center of each one.



*(completed on page 9)*

## **SVSM EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME MAY 2011 “ Red Stars ”**

What else could it be in the revolutionary month? ANYTHING Finished, as long as it wears a Red Star OR is of Russian, USSR, PRC, North Korean, Yugoslav derivation. Don't forget, more than a few Air Racers and Sport craft fit that “derivative” definition. Think of it as “May Day is Pay Day” and try to take the Editor's prize bucks

## **SVSM EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME JUNE 2011 “ Here Comes The Sun ”**

This is a SUMMER CELEBRE! . Editor's not shilling as a Solar Power Consultant, merely emphasizing the bright outlook for participation in this. ANYTHING Finished in PRIMARILY Yellow is potential winner. Realizing some need more clarification: conceive not only do USN trainers and Blue Angel “Beetle Bombs” fit this bill alongside “Roth Mysterion” and Dick Tracy Space Coupes, so also does any WW2 German vehicle with Dark Yellow schema. Need more nudging? Rest of concept will have to await another issue when more room on page available...

## **SVSM EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME JULY 2011 “ Vive Le Republique ! “**

This is a PATRIOTIC riff, in spirit of our annual celebre, of course with twist. Editor's outline of obvious entry: any FINISHED Republic Aircraft product (for competitive purposes I am allowing Seversky aircraft inclusion) There is of course an edge to gain, if you can finish your work in French markings convincingly, more success. Which offers you a rainbow of possibilities, I hope a flash of inspiration will streak through you. Chief concern is you all aren't just struck with a thunderbolt of a single note, makes me screech to think of it. Must jet off now.

Oh, My Bad! I have completely overlooked the more inclusive angle to this particular patriotic endeavor! NOTE everyone who wants to enter ANY AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR subject (and like many “modern” historians, I consider the War of 1812 to be the true “end of that conflict” so you can build range accordingly...) OR if you're in a wheeling and dealing mood, AMERICAN MOTORS COMPANY products clearly do qualify!

## **SVSM EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME NOVEMBER 2011 “ SPORTS NIGHT ”**

Actually, this theme came about (forgive me) as *a team effort* while at a winter contest, brainstorming for a new “global outreach” for SVSM's annual KOC contest. Since I couldn't stand idea of not using it sooner than later, chose to offer it up as perfect way to wrap up the club meeting contest year (this being last meeting w/models)

You can thank Super Sport Fan Mr Chris Bucholtz for sparking this up when we were first discussing ideas and also for the majority effort in making this compiled list of possible entrant examples. Not exhaustive list yet, btw

NFL category:

SH-60/Armstrong-Whitworth SEAHAWK , A-1 SkyRAIDER, Dodge CHARGER, Tu-95 BEAR, OV-10 BRONCO  
Hawker-Siddeley BUCCANEER, F-105 ThunderCHIEF, AN-2 COLT, HH-65 DOLPHIN, F-15 EAGLE,F-16 FALCON  
SEPECAT/XF10F JAGUAR, F9F PANTHER, PATRIOT missile, EF-111 RAVEN, AT-6 TEXAN, TITAN missile  
S-3 VIKING, (figure or diorama subject) COWBOY

MLB category:

PBM MARINER, An-12 CUB, Yak-28R BREWER , F-82 TWIN Mustang , F6U PIRATE, CV 440 METROPOLITAN  
XPBB-1 RANGER, F4D-1 SkyRAY,F11F TIGER, P5M MARLIN, Jolly Green GIANT (HH-3 or H-53)

NBA Category:

A-3 SkyWARRIOR , A-4 SkyHAWK, F-84 THUNDERJet (or, really, any Republic fighter) , F-22 RAPTOR  
Boeing/Martin CLIPPER, Tu-4 BULL, Piper PACER, Douglas D-558 SkyROCKET, F/A-18 HORNET,  
BAe HAWK, T-50 BOBCAT

NHL Category:

A2D SkySHARK, P-38 LIGHTNING, UH-60 BLACKHAWK, F9F PANTHER, CF-100 CANUCK  
Britten-Norman ISLANDER, XPBB-1 RANGER, Wright FLYER, RQ-1 PREDATOR, F-86 SABRE  
Hawker HURRICANE, Grumman J2F DUCK

## April 2011 SVSM MEETING Minutes by Chris Bucholtz, with minor edits by yours truly

At the April meeting, Steve Travis disclosed that the VA Hospital Model Drive's table at the Stockton show netted \$534 for our program to put snap-together kits in the hands of our veterans who are undergoing therapy. Thanks to Steve and Anita for faithfully shepherding this program to its continued success!

We also want to thank the members who teamed up to make a \$1000 "bridge loan" so that we can reserve the hall at the Santa Clara Convention Center for next year's Kickoff Classic.

In model talk... Gabriel Lee took awards at the Tomcats' show with his Comet Models Disney Nautilus and his Trumpeter 1:700 Seaview submarines, and he has another pair of fantasy vehicles close to completion. His Fantastic Plastic "Space: Above and Beyond" Hammerhead is assembled and even has decals from J Models already applied, and his resin "classic" Viper from "Battlestar: Galactica" is close to being painted. Both are in 1:72 scale. Max Balderrama has the fuselage assembled on the Revell 1:40 X-5, and he's also making progress on a Monogram B-26 Marauder in 1:72 and a 1:48 Airfix Spitfire. Mark Balderrama lost the canopy on his 1:100 Il-28 "Beagle," but he's progressing just the same.



John Heck thinks that the AEF Designs set for the Israeli KT-619 anti-tank missile defense system may have been one of the very last items ever sold by the company, which recently shuttered its doors. Ron Wergin experimented with pastels to weather his 1:72 Cromwell, his 1:72 King Tiger with zimmerit from Dragon, and his Dragon 1:72 Tiger I. Jim Lund brought in a trio of Fairchild transports: the extremely rare O'Neil Vacuform kit of the C-82N Packet, his conversion of the Italeri C-119G into a C model (his is better than Italeri's G – it has the proper propellers, nacelles and boom details) and an Italeri AC-119 Stinger gunship. Roy Sutherland's 1:48 Hasegawa Spitfire IX is being built as a decal subject for Roy's Barracudacals line; he has the interior installed and is about ready to button up the fuselage. He also has a 1:32 Spitfire outfitted with a Barracuda Studios interior, which will rest on Australian-style tires. For a change of pace, Roy's also working on Dragon's SdKfz.109 Demag, a beautiful but complex kit with 696 parts! Frank Babbitt's "eyes in the skies" project is AFV Club's 1:48 RF-5E Tiger Eye, which boasts the extended nose of Nationalist Chinese aircraft. Frank used a Black Box cockpit for his RF-5E. He's also completed a Hasegawa Phantom GR.I, using a Black Box cockpit and Seamless Suckers intakes, and equipped it with a recon pod, qualifying it as another recon bird. A third snooper will be his Monogram RF-84F, which he's in the process of re-scribing. (*Editor's note: "Eyes in the Skies" is a Fremont Hornets Group Build Project for 2011, a theme of Recce & Photo Aircraft*)

Ben Pada detailed the engine and used a Jaguar detail set to improve the cockpit on his 1:48 Hasegawa P-47D, which won first in its category and Best Pacific Theatre subject at the Stockton show. Chris Bucholtz has the decals on his 1:72 FineMolds A6M2b Zero, and is looking forward to have the model on its landing gear soon. The model is part of the Midway project for the USS *Hornet* Museum, for which Laramie Wright is building two fighters: a Special Hobby F2A-3 and a Hasegawa F4F-3. The Wildcat now sports a True Details cockpit and wheel compartment, and Laramie added an ignition harness to the engine. The Buffalo is an "interesting kit," says Laramie; it has iffy fit, but it also has very nice resin interior parts and an engine. Laramie's not left armor behind this month; his M4A1 "Frankentank" made from components from 14 different manufacturers, won the Sherman category in Stockton, and his Dragon Firefly Vc from the 13/18<sup>th</sup> Hussars is now finished. It has a scratch-built wading trunk and waterproofing, tracks from AFV Club, and stowage that matches a photo of the tank before D-Day. Bill Ferrante's Midway contribution will be a Fujimi D3A1 "Val," a kit that has virtually no cockpit. Bill used some spare Obscureco cockpit parts to fashion an interior for the dive bomber. He's also slowly inching his Roden Albatros D.II closer to completion. Paul Bishop decided the gray was too dark on his Tamiya 1:35 FAMO halftrack, so he added some "field-applied" brown camouflage to change its character a little. Eric McClure is starting Academy's 1:72 M26 "Dragon Wagon," and he was astounded at the number of parts in a kit of this scale. They all seem to go together quite well, he said. He's also started the new Dragon 1:72 LVTA-1, a nice kit that boasts some photo-etched parts in the box for things like gun shields. Steve Travis took a 1941 Plymouth – not his favorite car – and gussied it up with headlights from the Monogram Green Hornet kit, wheels from a 1949 Mercury, and Replica in Scale wheel covers to create a custom ride he calls "Ugly Betty." The model was painted Tamiya pink and Testors Electric pink.

Greg Plummer is going for the win in Revell's car contest with a 1955 Chevy; he cut off the roof and grafted on a new one taken from an Acura Integra! Greg is also at work on a 1:48 Zero from Hasegawa, which he's building out-of-the-box. Nick Moran's non-skid surface was a bit over-scale on his Megablox Leopard 2A5 in 1:23-and-a-bit scale, but it had very clear instructions and the turret was mechanized to be controlled by a little lever in the back. Shervin Shembayati's "relaxing" 1:48 Tamiya Spitfire Mk.I took a turn when he lost his landing gear, and while hunting for it managed to damage his airbrush! After a further \$70 invested in the hobby, he's back on the right track.

And the model of the month goes to... Tom Trankle, for his Tamiya 1:48 J1N1 "Gekko." Tom likes the detail in the kit's cockpit, and he survived the rough, insta-stick AML decals to complete his "Irving."

**APRIL'S MEETING SHOWN TO BE SOME FINE FOOLISHNESS !**



At left, Nick Moran's Force Lego takes aim at Mike Burton's display of awards from Stockton Catfight 2011 show below!



Laramie Wright showed he took home some awards too      Gabriel Lee sailed to a victory with more on way too!



Steve Travis calls her Ugly Betty, hmm. I close this essay with four shots of Jim Lund's fine Boxcar Alley. -mick





**CONGRATULATIONS  
Tom Trankle  
FOR WINNING APRIL MODEL OF THE MONTH**



## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 05-20-11

**Friday, May 20 2011**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting, club contest theme “ Red Stars ”

**Friday, June 10 2011**

**IPMS/Fremont Hornets** monthly meeting, night’s theme “ June BUGS ” Insect & Arachnid related subjects such as USS Wasp, F-18 Hornet, DH Dragonfly, P-61 Black Widow, “Wespe” armor, etc. Puss Moths even!

**Saturday, June 11 2011**

**IPMS/Santa Rosa & IPMS/Mt Diablo** host “ Region Nine BBQ ” event at the Sonoma Schellville Airport, from 10AM to 4PM. This is also “Airport Display Day” **All of the R-9 club membership is invited.** Please be advised this is a Pot Luck event so plan to bring a side dish. Get RSVP to John Admire, [admire@pacbell.net](mailto:admire@pacbell.net) so that the main BBQ meal plans can be accurately made. Please check website [ipmssantarosa.org](http://ipmssantarosa.org) for updates.

**Friday, June 17 2011**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting, club contest theme “ Here Comes The Sun ”

**Friday, July 8 2011**

**IPMS/Fremont Hornets** monthly meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> hold Elections THEN ON TO HORNET SUPER AUCTION !

**Friday, July 15 2011**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting, club contest theme “ Vive Le Republique!”

**Saturday, September 10 2011**

**IPMS/Reno High Rollers** yearly contest, “ Centennial of US Naval Aviation “ Raffle, Special Awards, Vendors Location is Mt Bismarck Elementary School, Reno, NV (located VERY CLOSE to Reno Nat Champ Air Races)

**Sunday, September 25 2011**

**IPMS/Fremont Hornets** host Tri City Classic 7 Exhibition & Contest. New Locale, now in Main Auditorium, Milpitas Community Center, 457 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas. Event theme: " Black Rain " anything Japanese or directly related. Contest Director Woodrow Yeung, via [warhawkp40@gmail.com](mailto:warhawkp40@gmail.com) or see [www.fremonthornets.org](http://www.fremonthornets.org)

**Saturday, October 8 2011**

**IPMS/Orange County** host their OrangeCon at the Pavilion, CSU Fullerton. Event theme TBA

**Saturday, November 5 2011**

**IPMS/Antelope Valley Group** host “Desert Classic 15”, AntelopeValley College, Lancaster CA. Theme will be “Arch Rivals “. Allows for a wide range of paired subjects, e.g; F-86 v MiG-15, Batman v Joker, etc.

**Saturday, December 3 2011**

**IPMS/Silver Wings** host “Silvercon 2011”, Elk Grove Elementary Gymnasium, Elk Grove, CA.

**Saturday, February 4 2012**

**IPMS/Santa Rosa & Friends** host “Hobby Expo 2012”, Petaluma Community Ctr, Petulama CA. Theme TBA

**Saturday, February 11 2012**

**NNL West** host “NNL Western Nats 2012”, Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA. Theme TBA



***Rodney Does Some Figuring on Modelling War (completed from page 3)***

During the last couple of decades I have always took photos of my models and put the prints into my photo albums, alas, I have none of this model. The model has always set on a shelf in my model room, so it got real dusty. I had to clean the dust off from time to time. Recently I washed the model with soap and water and got it ready for its first photo session. The enclosed photos were taken with my new 12mp digital Canon camera. My photographic background is a 2' by 3' white sheet of art paper that I buy at the local Walmart story in nearby Cortez, Colorado. *(my apologies to Rodney, I had to edit the photos in order to publish them, so not as fine as originals he sent. Ed.)*



In closing out this story I use the following: “Kent, you have always been an “INSPIRATION” for me.” Even tho I have been gone from San Jose for over seven years, you are one modeler that stands out above the rest of us in my book.



Well, it's back to modeling as I have to get a couple more models finished for the IPMS/Albuquerque, New Mexico 2 day model contest on the 20<sup>th</sup> of next month.

Bye for this time and I almost forgot to tell you that I named my figure “WAR EAGLE.”

Should I take War Eagle down to New Mexico?

*Rodney - fini*

**7:00 PM**

**FRIDAY**

**MAY 20**

**COMMUNITY ROOM**

**Milpitas Police Administration Building**

**1275 N. Milpitas Blvd**

**Milpitas, CA**

