



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.

IS THERE A FORD IN YOUR FUTURE?



Mr. Jim Lund's Five Fabulous Fords, Big Response to Editor's Club Contest Theme

Text & Photos: Mick Burton

Things rarely come out as planned, it is said. SM All Hot Rod Fords targeted at F4D "Ford" Skyray, A4D "Hot Rod", of course all automotive "rods" and race vehicles. Nothing



prepared me for how our resident scale historian Jim Lund would read the promos or his take on it. Nothing could have pleased me more in the surprise, either. If you weren't there you missed out. Jim gave an excellent treatise on all these grand Fords, also more than sold me for one on the "hot rod aspects" too. Had he placed these on our contest table, likely have taken 10 bucks off of me too after awards judging. "Prez" Frank rightly awarded Jim's collection "honorary mention" for Model of the Month. Thanks for showing them!

Editor's Ravings – this month's editor, Mick Burton lending space to VP David Balderrama for this worthy plea:

Greetings one and all fellow members. With your help, in the past few years we've made some significant record sales at the contest raffle. In an effort to continue with that trend, I'd like to ask all members (paid up or not) to once again help out with a model kit donation to the contest's raffle table. So please, dig around, open old storage boxes or pull some kits out of the plastic abyss collection and bring 'em in! Thanks again, as always your help is appreciated. -- **The Raffle staff.**

EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME APRIL 2012 "Bombs Away on a Honshu Bay"

April, 1942. 70 years ago very significant link forged between the San Francisco Bay and Tokyo Bay areas. So, apro, any FINISHED subject (figures, flying, floating, etc) directly related to the Doolittle Raid is eligible. Or any variant of USS Hornet, USS Enterprise or B-25 Mitchell, not just those of 1942.

SVSM EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME MAY 2012 "MAY DRONE ON & ON"

Which is one way to say entrants are open to submit any manner of unmanned aerial vehicles of any scale, FINISHED, as long as they are air breathing and guided however rudimentarily. Kettering's "Bug", B-24s of Project Aphrodite, Crossroads Hellcats, along with Snarks, BQM Firebees and QF-80s all suffice alongside the expected RQ-1 Predators for entry. Don't forget, one can wreak Vengeance in this competitive category...

SVSM MEMBER'S CONTEST THEME JUNE 2012 "GO The Distance..."

Eligible: Finished items tied to Daytona, Sebring and of course Le Mans auto races. Also Targa Florio, Carrera PanAmerica, Mille Miglia and Dakar Rally. Round the world aircraft such as the B-50D, B-52, Rutan Voyager, OR sailing vessels that notably did the same, eligible. The 1934 MacRobertson Air Race has available qualifying subjects. Not to be exclusive, Figures or vehicles associated with LRDG, LRRP activities also eligible. Figures of baseball players also competitive, for cinema reasons, Anyone willing to scratchbuild those spacecraft set to leave our Solar System, feel free, you'll win 1st place.

SVSM MEMBER'S CONTEST THEME JULY 2012 "The DOGS of Summer"

Eligible: Anything FINISHED that you have so considered a "dog" of a model, i.e; one SO AWFUL that you've several times considered putting a bullet in it versus completing it. As a favor and perhaps means to increase the potential entrants, also eligible are finished "Hound Dog" AGM-77, Walker Bulldog M41, Staghound Armored Car, or of course any D, L, or K version of NA's famed Sabres. Or go ahead, indulge in your favorite Ilyushin. Thank member Eric McClure for this creative and timely theme. Watch out for Atticus Finch, may be a Judge

EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME OCTOBER 2012 "Eyeball to Eyeball" a.k.a

"Where were YOU in '62?" Many may not realize this will be the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis that month. It will also nicely coincide with the George Lucas's movie mythic triumph also set in that year. SO – ANY finished subject circa 1962 OR directly related to Missiles of October, very much eligible.

SVSM MEMBER'S CLASSIFIED ADVERTS For MARCH 2012

WANTED: Fit in the box scale Revell P2V-7 Neptune *Clear Parts*. Will pay 10 dollars. Contact Cliff Kranz at meetings (Hornets or SVSM) or email him via the SVSM Editor address. (run until March 2012)

WANTED: Fit in the box scale Revell P2V-7 Neptune "Operation Deep Freeze" *Decal sheet*. Will pay 5 dollars Contact Cliff Kranz at meets (Hornets or SVSM) or email him via SVSM Editor address. (run until March 2012)

WANTED: Super Scale Decal Sheet # 48-50 (for the Curtiss P-36). Will pay 5 dollars. Contact Cliff Kranz at meets (Hornets or SVSM) or email him via the SVSM Editor address. (run until March 2012)

These adverts will run on a space available basis for max 90 days and are for MiGS only (Members in Good Standing)

Tony Tidings from Midwesterner gone West



Hasegawa's 1:48 Ki-61 Hien (Tony) by Rodney J. Williams (Photos also by RJ Williams)

For those of you who do not know me, here is a bit of history. I grew up in Akron, Ohio/U.S.A. From about 1937 to 1954 I built solid wooden and "flying-stick" models. During WW-II my father worked at Goodyear Aircraft Corporation, better known as G.A.C. in Akron. He was a "Tool & Design" engineer. Somehow I got to go to the factory, become one of many delivery boys on weekends (full time in summer months). The Vought Corsair became my airplane, bar none. After the war, the "Cleveland National Air Races" resumed so we went to see my dad's Corsairs race and beat out all those other "no-name" airplanes from 1946 to 1949.

I left Ohio in 1971 and spent 7 years in American Samoa producing documentary films, then returned to San Jose, California and made it our home for 25 years. We moved from San Jose in 2004 and now live out in the desert near Cortez, Colorado.

I have been back into the model hobby since 1977. I joined "IPMS/USA" in 1984, including a local model club in San Jose. I am also a member of the "Society of Air Race Historians," (S.A.R.H.) since 1984. S.A.R.H. has its own web site and a bi-monthly news letter. Headquarters are located in the Cleveland, Ohio area.

With a background in "photojournalism" I was encouraged in 1985 to write stories for model magazines such as "FineScale Modelers," car magazines and the IPMS/USA Journal. With the advent of the digital revolution and the "net" I have continued to write what I call "HOW TO" model building stories and have several dozen of them posted on a few web sites. This is one of them.

MODEL CONSTRUCTION

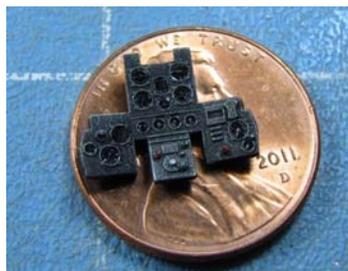
In November 2011 I drove down to Mesa, Arizona and attended the annual IPMS/Craig Hewitt "ModelZona" contest with 43 models. I have about 170 built models here in my home so I do not need to buy any more kits, however as any modeler knows... "JUST ONE MORE." I bought this 1:48 scale Hasegawa Ki-61 HIEN (TONY) kit from one of the vendors for 20 bucks. The kit was open and the previous owner tossed in some extra parts. I viewed the excellent "extra" clear plastic one-piece "windscreen/canopy" part. This was a "shoe-in" for me as I do not like to build my models with the canopy in a closed position. While at the 2006 IPMS/USA Kansas City National Convention I purchased a new type of razor saw. I think the company is named UMN (??). In any case, I have used this saw many times thus knew that I could cut the windscreen/canopy apart. If I screw-up, I use the second unit.



My initial kit review was A-OK. So I cut all the parts off the trees, put the model together with some strips of masking tape. There's always some good and bad points to a model, so no need to go into detail.

I started to work on the cockpit. Once it was painted, I used white glue to put it to the right side of the pre-painted fuselage. I dry fit on the left fuselage half, then glued the two halves together with super glue.

I like to drill out the holes in my torque links so they look more realistic. My drills range in size from .006" to 3/8" diameter. I bought these small drills from a place called "Small Parts, Inc." You can find them on the web. About 25 years ago I contacted "Starstruck" who sold me special "Jewelry & Watchmaker" fine cut #4 & #6 files.



There are 12 files in each set so I bought four sets. The sets come in two sizes, 6 inches and 4 inches long.

Each set cost me \$75.00. Wow !!! \$300.00 plus tax & shipping. Then I got another special curved #6 file for \$30.00. To say the least, these files have saved that day for me in model building and are worth their weight in "GOLD." I have used these files on every one of my models and they are still good today.



One of my web photos will show you a round disk that I put in the recessed area, which will represent the wing's landing light. I have been using my Waldron punch sets to punch out .005" thick aluminum disks from cola cans. These are attached using Future Floor Wax (FFW). Later I will glue in the clear lens cover with FFW. After a couple of days drying time, I apply super glue on top of the FFW to adhere the lens to the wings plastic. It's then sanded down using #400, 600, 800, 1,000, 1,200, 1,500 and finally 2,000 grit "3M wet/dry sandpaper." I polish the lens using Blue Magic Metal Polishing paste. Presto, I now have a realistic looking landing light. When I attach my lens cover with FFW first, I have never had the super glue seep in and fog up the inside of the landing light area.



Most times I glue on my windscreens using the FFW method, then add super glue, sand and polish. At times, if my windscreen fits next to perfect I just use FFW for glue.

I have used #11 "Surgical" knife blades for a few decades and save some of the lead foil wrappings. A couple of my web photos show my seat belts for the model. Look real close and you will see the Waldron "PE" buckles next to the penny.

PAINT & DECAL TIME

I use mostly Tamiya Acrylic paints since the mid 1980's and mix the paint with at least 4 parts of "Denatured Alcohol," (DA) to one

part paint. I have used this process very successfully over the years with my Badger-200 Internal-Mix airbrush. I have 3 different needles for my Badger: (Fine, medium and heavy duty). Air pressure is about 10-15p.s.i. I use water and "DA" to clean my equipment after each color use.

I use a thinned down mixture of Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black paint and apply it to my models then sand it off with 600 grit 3M wet/dry sandpaper. This shows all the flaws on the model that needs fixed. I may have to apply this application a few times so I get a model that comes close to being a perfect model.



I have been a local, regional and national judge and have judged at about 300 shows. I have never seen a perfect model to date, which includes all of my models.

Just prior to applying my paint to the model I clean it with some "DA" on a cotton ball then rub down the plastic with more clean/dry cotton balls. For the exterior, I applied Tamiya X-32 TITANIUM SILVER to the bare plastic and let it dry for about 24 hours. As you can see in the photos I found a couple of flaws on it. All of the other colors are by Tamiya.

The data on the instructions had a copyright of 1994. The decals did not look very good and had hair line cracks in them. I choose to paint on the insignias and the blue fuselage stripes which

turned out really fine in my book. I applied the tail's "faded" white decal. It came apart in some places and I'm not happy with it. I should have taken the time, made a spray-mask and then painted on the design.



Final assembly went along just fine. I added the pre-painted drop tanks, landing gear, tires, doors, prop, canopy and additional cockpit parts. My hand crafted brass pitot tube was installed just before I started the painting. I drilled two .011 diameter holes into antenna posts. I then installed "black human hair" for my antenna wire.

My model passed my final inspection test so it was photo time.

PHOTOGRAPHY

I have been using a "CANON POWER SHOT SX20 IS" 12.1mp camera for the past couple of years to take my model photos. The camera has two "macro" close-up settings, which is ideal for model photography. The viewing screen pulls out and the "user" can move it in a couple of different directions. You can also use the eye piece viewer. Great camera!

My set up is simple: I bought some 2' x 3' flat white 1/16" thick paper stock at a local "DOLLAR" store and pin it to my shelf that is on the back of my 3' x 6' modeling table. I roll it out and tape it down. I have two swivel light fixtures that I can move in any direction. A couple of years ago I bought the new 6500K daylight flourescent curly 26w light bulbs. These light give off nearly the same light as the sun and are much better than your regular "4200K" light bulbs.

I use the “IMAGE STABILIZER” system on my camera and just compose my image and go for it, nothing real fancy for my “in-progress” photos. As you can see I use a penny with some of my parts, which shows a size relationship.

My final photos are composed a little bit better. Sometimes I turn off my work lights and just use the camera’s strobe light. However it’s “NO GOOD” when you are using one of the “macro” modes as the lens covers half of your picture and you wind up with a black “half-moon” spot on your photo.

Long ago when I used my 35mm camera I had a “ring” light that I could attach to my special “Macro” lens.

As a retired professional film/still/video & digital person, I wonder when the camera companies will design a camera with these built-in ring lights, including a viewing system so that you don’t flatten your nose out of shape?



I am including a photo of my paint table, which is out in our garage and a photo showing my work bench/photo studio combo.

Enjoy,

Rodney J. Williams



February 2012 SVSM MEETING Minutes not available at publication. This due to somesuch reason or another...

Our meeting was VERY busy with lots of new exciting business put into discussion. Highlights: Joe Fleming has gotten a super start on a new "SVSM promo" display package for use at our LHS, D&J Hobby. Joe graciously volunteered himself as SVSM Point of Contact and Promo Director for this, and more contact data for the formalizing of "input items" will be soon forthcoming. Joe encouraged EVERYONE in the club to consider participation at some point in the future. President Frank "Sarge" Beltran echoed and expanded on the concept, and Ray from D&J was there to directly emphasize how much good this would do him, the shop and the club. Seems many questions weekly directed to him and others at shop about the existence of local model clubs. Mostly who and how to get in touch with them (US!). Expect to hear more about this in the coming months.



A small bit of OLD business came to completion, as the long lost award for "Most Creative or Quirky Entry" from September 2011 TriCity 7 contest finally made it to winner, Frank Beltran, for his "Gyrene Rotodyne". At right, shot of the infamous trophy



Reviews of both NNL West and Hobby Expo 2012 events which occurred on the prior Saturday seemed to indicate these 2 shows had healthy attendance and great chances to enjoy scale artistry abundant.

Model Talk soon followed this report :

(my apologies as I said, merely my notes not formal and complete minutes, so if I missed your work or misspelt your name, sorry – Editor) Santa Rosa's Hobby Expo seems to have set off a trend of sorts, Brian Sakai had his "Speed Build"



Flying Saucer which took 2nd place on table, nearby was David Balderrama's Avro Flying Disc 1/72 kit from MAI. David also has a 1/144 X-15 by DML underway, a same scale Space Shuttle completed and a "Dark Knight's Bat Pod" to start. Jim Lund's Ford collection ended up as front cover material this issue, neighbor Greg Plummer had three fine finished autos whose identities but for one I did not record. Bill Ferrante doesn't just take your money (as Treasurer), he has a conversion underway of Monogram X-15 to prove it again. He's a fearless modeler. Chris Bucholtz doesn't just take meeting minutes he provides a lot of material too, with his WIP Air Force this time consisting of Fairey Firefly, F4U Corsair, P-47D Thunderbolt, and a grand SPAD to round it out. All in 1/72 of course. Shervin Shembayati isn't just a very fine "in house contest judge" he's a crazy wild man building a 1/48 Me-109E "Yellow Nose" and a companion Formula One car in red. Laramie Wright managed to find room to fit 4 1/35 pieces of heavy armor on table, 3 Soviet and one German lacking a winter coat (of paint). Cliff Kranz seems somehow more serene now that he's rolled to completion of his two 1/35 German armor projects from the "Maus" family. Topping it off with an old molding of SB2C by Monogram in 1/48 with all the dive brake perforations hand drilled out! Unfortunately I did not catch who was responsible for the Iron Man related figures on display, nor whose B-25 Mitchell in progress from the Hasegawa kit that was. Adding to this insult, I do recall what I had on table nearby this fine display. Mick Burton thus took up space with a WIP "Coupster", 2 Monogram P-51Ds in 1/48 that will someday join his mad collection of 1/4 scale Ponies, a P-51D (early series) in 1/48 from the Hasegawa "Passion Wagon" kit underway he picked up cheap at Santa Rosa's auction in January. Also present was Burton's 1/35 Italeri Sdkfz 234/4 which somehow garnered a 3rd place in OpenTop AFV at the Hobby Expo. Lastly, he had his Tuskegee Airman tribute for the month in 1/48 form, a Monogram P-51B, "Ina". Randy Ray managed to fit in his latest artillery piece for a bit of model talk. That is all my recalled notes, best I can do.



The club contest is covered in a separate article elsewhere in this issue. So, last but far from least, February's Model of the Month went to Greg Plummer, for his stunning 'Vert Dodge Charger. Go Mopar – mick fini





CONGRATULATIONS TO

Greg Plummer

FOR WINNING February MODEL OF THE MONTH



February Club Contest Bemuses Editor But Is Rewarding !



Amazing that with Comet, Aurora, Hawk, Lindberg, UPC, Airfix and even TWO from Tamiya (in 1/72 & 1/48) making a kit of them in past 50 years, not one “F4D” showed. Oh well ! At least Cliff Kranz saved me from myself, showing up with a “Free Kuwait” late mod A4D “Heinemann’s Hot Rod” in 1/48. He got 3rd Place and ten bucks award from me, so my “unearthed” dust collector Blue Angels Skyhawk could sneak back home quietly.

Three different judges working in two groups came to the same conclusion as well for the Second Place winner, another great surprise for me (in that he’d entered, and that he didn’t know standard issue trophy for an Editor’s contest is TEN bucks US from my pocket). Congratulations to Louis Orselli taking that all home for his “Black Hot Rod 3 window Ford”. Fierce competitor and a good friend who delights to take money off me, “Alaska” Jim Priete was First Place with his excellent rework of old Aurora molding into racing Ford Torino Talledega.



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 03-16-12

Saturday, March 24 2012

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers host KOC 18. Santa Clara Convention Center in Hall ‘ A ‘, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara CA. Theme is “Viva La Revolucion”, inciting all to fearlessly rebel and enter.

Saturday, April 7 2012

IPMS/Seattle hosts Spring Show/R-7 Regional, Renton Community Ctr, 1715 Maple Valley Hwy, Renton WA

Sunday, May 27 2012

IPMS/Fresno Scale Modelers host R-9 Regional with theme of “ Desert Warfare ” Location is a hangar on the grounds of Castle AirPort, 4139 Tanker Circle Dr. Atwater CA. It’s OPEN COCKPIT DAY also, a bonus !

Saturday, September 8 2012

IPMS/ Reno High Rollers contest, “Between The Wars 1919-39” is theme. Usual locale and excellent event.

Saturday, October 13 2012

IPMS/Fremont Hornets host “Tri City Eight”, Milpitas Community Ctr, 457 E Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas CA. Theme “Midway & The Missiles of October” in “All American focus”. See this link www.fremhornets.org

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

MARCH 16

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

