



THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 43, No.12 WWW.SVSM.ORG December 2009



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

NOT JUST ANOTHER X-PLANE ON THE COVER



Bill and Barry's Big X-15 Adventure, then and now
By Mick Burton

December brings us the IPMS/SilverWings Holiday Classic every year from our friends up in our state capitol town of Sacramento. This year again I selfishly took respite from judging at the event in order to revisit "local" California Aerospace Museum. Rewarded to discover disposition of a certain scale model X-15 once seen in progress at a winter 2007 SVSM meet. Last year, she'd hung to right of current locale, fairly anonymously. Now has pride of place above new display titled "TO THE EDGE OF SPACE : Major Mike Adams and the X-15". Major Adams was last pilot of X-15 and a Sacramento native. The exhibit honors him and features this model by Scorpio Innovations (aka our own Bill Ferrante) in markings flown by Mike Adams. SVSM Lifer Barry Bauer is Curator of the Museum. My shots above bring you Bill, Barry and the *big* X-15, then & now! -mick fini

Editor's Ravings – this month's editor, Mick Burton CHANNELS Chris Bucholtz from 2006...

T'was the night before the Friday before Christmas, and all through the club, not a gift was safe from stealing, not even by some schlub! Yes, it is again time for the SVSM gift exchange, that annual event that is second in fun only to negotiating a snowed-in Oregon logging road with only directions from Mapquest to guide you!

For the newcomers, these are the ground rules. For the old-timers, this is a refresher in how to taunt your peers and perhaps, if you're very good, make a small child weep bitter tears!

Anyone may participate, or choose not to. The gifts should be valued at \$15; higher-priced gifts are okay, too. No, I take that back. Higher-priced gifts are fantastic and, depending on how gullible you are, may actually earn you a place in heaven right next to baby Jesus. The bigger the gift, the more stealing will ensue. Please bring no more than two gifts (this being the so-called Jim Priete rule, named for the so-called Jim Priete) so that we can conclude the event at a reasonable hour. Make sure the gift or gifts is or are wrapped.

When you arrive with your gifts, your name shall be written on a piece of paper (or pieces, depending on how many gifts you bring). These names will go in a hat, helmet, toque, cap, bonnet or some other head-based garment. You will also write your name on the gift. This is our way of ensuring that violators of the "lame laws" will be subject to the full ostracism of the club. The lame laws prohibit the alleged "gifting" of low-quality or partially-built kits; there shall be no Lindberg, no dumping of outdated kits, and no purging of useless supplies. Bring a model you would actually want. Violators will have their crap gift given back to them and their names removed from the hat. This time we're serious.

The gifts shall be piled on the table, and at the proscribed hour of 8 o'clock, the gift exchange shall begin.

The sequence is as follows: The first name is drawn, and that person shall briskly scuttle to the table, select a wrapped gift, and open it for all to see. The next person whose name is drawn may open his own present or steal the first present, in which case the first person will open a second present. The third person may open a fresh present or steal from the first two recipients, who may then either steal from each other or open new presents. After a present is stolen three times, it is dead and out of play. This continues until all the presents are opened or Bert McDowell's ship model is stolen, whichever comes last. That is the way it works. While it seems complicated, the expert record-keeping of Chris Bucholtz and his pitiless, iron-fisted rulings (especially when it comes to Gato-class subs) will maintain order throughout. As always, any violent acts of retribution should be confined to the parking lot. And happy holidays!

ANNOUNCING CLUB "FUN-TESTS" FOR LAUNCHING US INTO 2010 !!

REMINDER! OUR NOVEMBER MEETING DIDN'T HAVE A CONTEST DUE TO SUDDEN AUCTION SCHEDULED SO RATHER THAN BE TEE'D OFF ABOUT IT YOUR EDITOR DECIDED WE'D "TEE OFF" NEW YEAR RIGHT

IT's " T " TIME! SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for JANUARY 2010



Eligible: Any scale, finished subjects as outlined: Autos that have "T" names such as Toronado, Tempest, Tiger, Torino, Talledega, etc. Aircraft that are "T" named such as Tomcat, Tempest, Tigercat, Thunderjet, etc. Plus of course "T" for Trainer mission aircraft. Armor builders may also rejoice, of course. Eligible are Tigers, all manner of Soviet "T" tanks (T-34, 55, 74 among them) USA T-26 Pershings, etc. Maritime and Prehistoric buffs need not feel slighted, Typhoons, Ticonderoga, Triceratops or a T-Rex all are fair game as quick examples. Figure and Fantasy/SciFi builders, please! Show us your imaginative entry sense. Turnout is key, for the editor will still award more than 3 if enough entrants show

" F is for February " SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for FEBRUARY 2010

Eligible: Any scale, finished: F is for Fighter, Ford or Frigate. Or any Fallschirmjager, Fantasy Fraulein, or Frankenstein. Or F is for Foto recon aircraft, or Firefly or Ferdinand or Ferrari ... I trust everyone who wants to furiously compete can find something suitably "F'd" enough to suit them.



For example, here's shot of two potential entrants underway now Works in progress, but definitely fit into the stated theme

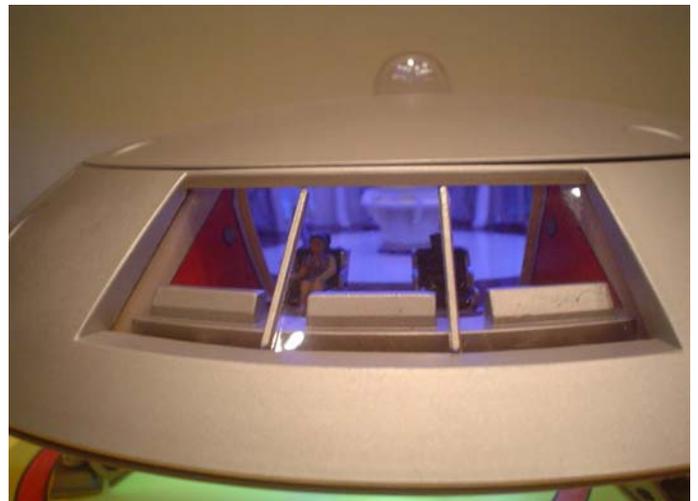


“SVSM 2009 November Meeting Memories“

From these Usual Suspects and this seemingly small pile of materials...we managed to generate an amazing \$ 1013 which is nearly 20% of our base cost for Kickoff Classic Hall !



Chris deftly exhorts (or is it extorts?) funds from all



These guys flew in from far away just to bid!



Of course, meeting had some model surprises as well as the scheduled paper for plastic event

One of them was Bill Abbott's most excellent "art entry" from a recent gallery showing. Cool.



A new guest showed up with some spacey subjects...



Can you hear Black Sabbath? I think these guys are returning things to pile just to prolong agony!

----- mick fini

OH NO IT'S TRUE!!!! Announcing **The "Like, Silicon Valley Speak, Dude" Club Contest for May 2010**

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.

"Presidential Ramblings" by Kent McClure

Christmas Memories

Hard to believe that it is almost Christmas time again. Christmas time has always held fond memories for me. And strange as it might seem, models have also been part of those memories. No, not those kind. I mean plastic models, not silicone ones. Recently, the memories have revolved around the annual Christmas gift exchange – or as it is also known as the Annual Bloodbath. There is nothing more fun than to steal a present for the third time from someone who thought that he was going home with it.

But my Christmas model memories go far back, much further than I really want to admit to. You see, my first introduction to models came as a result of a Christmas related activity. I think I was four or five at the time. It was so many years ago that I forget the exact details (don't ask how many years because I will not tell you). At that time, my brother Eric (yes I have a brother) was in the Cub Scouts and they were having their annual Christmas party/pack meeting. I was too young to be a cubbie, but the pack leader handed out presents to every kid that was there. Care to guess what the present was? It so happens that the present was the Monogram kit of a Tupelov Tu-16 Badger. I was so jazzed that I got a toy! I remember putting it together when I got home and flying it into the Christmas tree. Never mind that I didn't have any glue. I just trapped the wings between the fuselage, ran around the room and threw it into the tree over and over again. Thus began two life long activities – 1) building models and 2) having the urge to throw them into solid objects.

Other Christmases came and went. Now being somewhat mischievous little monsters (or should I just say devious), Eric and I started another "fine" Christmas tradition. That tradition was knowing exactly what we had given each other as presents. This "tradition" came about as a result of various factors bringing themselves into play. Part of it was due to the fact that we gave each other rather specific wish lists. Part of it was due to the fact that sometimes we accompanied each other to store where we bought the gift. We either waited outside or in a different area when the gift was purchased, so we did have the semblance of not knowing exactly what kit was bought. But then there was the clincher. Since both of our parents worked, we stayed home unsupervised and we developed the knack of unwrapping gifts in such a manner that they could be easily rewrapped. It was nothing for us to go home from school, unwrap the kit, open the box, inspect the contents, plan out how we would build the silly thing, and then rewrap it. Now, I don't know if our folks ever caught on, but they never said anything to either of us about it. Of course, by the time we were in high school, we had grown out of such silliness. But as a kid, it was certainly a fun thing to do.

But that was then and now is now. I have to say that our annual gift exchange is an event that I look forward to as much as I do attending our annual contest. So until then, I leave you with a little challenge. Attached to this "Ramblings" is a little quiz to see just how well you listen to movies that you watch. It's simple. I will give you a quote from a movie and you will have to identify the actor(s)/actress(es) who made the quote (1 point), the name of the character that made the quote (2 points) and the movie that the quote came from (3 points). So have fun and be my guest to use this quiz as an ice breaker at the Christmas party. Sayonara! – *Kent Fini*

(My apologies to Messr Kent, I had to edit this to a smaller size for the newsletter, selecting on my biases of course. Ed.)

Rules: You score 1 point for identifying the actor(s)/actress(es), 2 points for identifying the character, and 3 points for the name of the movie

- 2) "Louis, I think this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship." (6 pts)
- 4) "You talkin' to me? You talkin' to me?" (6 pts)
- 5) "Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas any more." (6 pts)
- 7) "Rosebud" (6 pts)
- 9) "I'll be back." (6 pts)
- 15) "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn." (6 pts)
- 16) "You don't understand! I coulda had class. I coulda been a contender." (6 pts)
- 17) "I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore!" (6 pts)

- 19) "Houston, we have a problem." (6 pts)
- 21) "Gentlemen, you can't fight in here! This is the War Room!" (6 pts)
- 22) "Get you stinking paws off me, you damned dirty ape." (6 pts)
- 23) "Soylent Green is people!" (6 pts)
- 24) "Yo, Adrian!" (6 pts)
- 27) "I love the smell of napalm in the morning." (6 pts)
- 31) "Gort! Klaatu barada nikto!" (6 pts)
- 32) "You've got to ask yourself one question: "Do I feel lucky?" Well, do ya, punk?" (6 pts)
- 36) "I'm going to make him an offer he can't refuse." (6 pts)
- 37) Character A – "Do you expect me to talk?"
Character B - No, Mister Bond. I expect you to die."

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 12-18-09

Friday, December 18 2009

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers meeting held at the Round Table Pizza, 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd in San Jose. The food is on you, the fun is on us! Rumors have it another "gift theft exchange" is going to take place.

Saturday, February 20 2010

IPMS/Santa Rosa will hold Hobby Expo 2010 at Petaluma Community Center 320 North McDowell Blvd in Petaluma. For more information go to their website @ www.ipmssantarosa.org or contact John Admire.

Sunday, February 21 2010

NNL West presents NNL West 2010 "25th Anniversary 1985-2010" Car Model Show and Swap Meet. Held at the Santa Clara, Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara CA. Theme is "Race Cars and Decade Cars" See their excellent website @ www.nnlwest.org for much greater details and flyer

Saturday, March 20 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers host their SVSM 2010 Kickoff Classic at Hall "B" of the Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara CA. Theme is "News at Eleven..." - any subject from the last 10 years. Vendor contact: gregplummer@gregplummer.com, see also club website www.svsm.org

Sunday, April 11 2010

IPMS/San Joaquin Valley Scale Modelers host their SJVSM 2010 REGIONAL Convention & Contest at the San Joaquin County Fairgrounds, In Building #2. 1658 Airport Way, Stockton CA. Theme is "Learning to Fly" and features a special raffle to win a flight in a vintage Vultee BT-13 trainer among other fun events. There will be several other shows on the grounds that day, including a Model Car Show and Contest, Antique Toy Show, a real Car Show and Swap meet. Information available in detail at website <http://sjvscalemodelers.org>

Saturday, April 17 2010

IPMS/Seattle host their Spring Show at the Renton Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Highway, Renton WA. More details as they become available. Contact Terry Moore 425-774-6343 for more info.

NEXT MEETING:

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 18

At the

ROUND TABLE PIZZA

4400 Stevens Creek Blvd

San Jose, CA 95129



“SHEET 1 OF 2 for KOC2010 flyer is filler page 7 after Calendar “

NOTED FOR EXPLAINING DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRINT & EMAIL EDITION

“SHEET 1 OF 2 for KOC2010 flyer is filler page 7 after Calendar “