



# THE STYRENE SHEET

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## SVSM BANTAM WEIGHT TAKES X-PRIZE



### Revisiting the Valley of the X-Planes By Mick Burton

Antelope Valley Group (IPMS/AVG) hosted another of their "Desert Classic" contest and show events Saturday November 7, 2009, much to the delight of several of us. Staged in the cafeteria general dining hall of Antelope Valley College which is located in lovely Lancaster, California, AVG's show is a flower in the desert for all who come to enjoy it. This year was no exception, and their theme "Land of the Rising Sun" offered something a little different, being the emphasis of course on Japanese subjects primarily from World War 2. Rewarded with a fine response in entrant subjects and not just Zeroes either, several superb lesser seen items such as a "Gekko" and a "Seiran" both in 1/48 scale were on table. Some new special awards this year spurred interest, with Best F-4 Phantom, Best 1950s Jet getting good contenders. A very deserving Silk Purse from Sow's Ear winner came of a real sorry sow. Builder explained briefly how he'd bought a slightly started Lindberg F-100 Super Sabre in 1/48 which was missing parts (as well as a faithful resemblance to the scale subject). Stated he determined best approach to take was make it into a replica of retired aerial drone QF-100D he had seen at Chino Air Museum. Masterfully a true gem emerged from waste, my pictures can't do it justice but I tried to capture some idea.

Of course, the main attraction of this particular event for many of us perennial attendees is pursuit of AVG's Signature offering "The Best X-Plane" award. This year was no different, and two SVSM members entered in the competition against some intriguing opponents. The most ambitious one being a scratchbuilt X-20A Dyna Soar atop Titan III-C rocket launch vehicle and its platform, in 1/48 scale!

No matter, in the end the Judges awarded our Jim Priete the "X-Prize" for his grand rendering of the Northrop X-4 "Bantam" in 1/72 scale from the MPM kit. Congratulations James, especially since this is SECOND TIME he's taken home the award against stiff competition. We'll see what we can do about this trend next year, within the framework limits of modelling any X-1 to X-49 that is. *-mick fini*

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

Well, with only moments to go before the newsletter is late, an editorial concept struck me, Just In Time!

Welcome to the Thanks for the Contests Issue of the Sheet. I am as ever, thankful for these events purely for selfish reasons; I love to shop for things I don't need in abundance with friends nearby to assist me. Also enjoy seeing what the damned things look like built up a lot better often than mine will ever turn out. The awards are also a treat, the judging is an amusing chore to engage in, and helping make sure the whole show comes out fun is great motivator. I am thankful as well for all of you who come to the events, put them on and be patient when things don't fall out quite as planned.

\*Grin\* Of course I am thankful as well how such events permit me to create a newsletter full of photos and rambles about past and present ones such as the content primary of this one!

Thanks as well for this beginning the third year of editorship redux, as Young William did the inaugural launch for us both in September 2007 and I have now seen the October 2009 do the right thing, marking my own 2 year completion of Sheet.

Hope this issue catches you all having fun and envisioning a fine holiday

mick out for now

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### **ANNOUNCING CLUB “FUN-TESTS” FOR LAUNCHING US INTO 2010 !!**

FIRST THINGS FIRST! NOVEMBER MEETING WILL NOT HAVE A CONTEST DUE TO 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



# “DESERT CLASSIC 2009 LAND OF THE X-PLANE “

The X-20A Dyna Soar in 1/48 scale!



This shot still doesn't include the Titan III Booster or the launch platform in it!

Mike Meek's 1/144 jewel of an X-1B



1/32 scale X-1, builder unknown to me



Jim won X-prize in past with an X-2 resin kit similar to 1/72 kit above, not noted who built the one at this show.

Jim's X-4 & awards



## “HORNETS SCORE BIG STING WITH TRICITY NUMBER SIX!



A totally biased account of the event by mick burton



Johnny Chang, with “KGB” & “007” awards, along with shot of his HMCS Snowberry in 1/72 which garnered the two “secret” awards.

An October surprise for the Fremont Hornets of Region 9, in their sixth Tri-City Classic contest and show held October 17 2009. Final results revealed healthy increase in show returns vs costs, which will help encourage the future plans for another fall show in 2010. Happily they also saw slight increase in number of entrants.

Additional great news: More vendors this year, another make'n take completely sponsored and carried off by folks from Hobbytown Fremont, which was muchly appreciated by contest staff as well as those kids who participated in it. Plus abundance of interesting new entries, operations run so smooth that even contest director had to check to see if he was dreaming this (disclaimer: I was the CD for the event).

Highlights included pleasing response to the very unique, desirable category trophies which were incredibly tuned to contest theme. TriCity's theme this year continued their "movie/geography" spirit of past years with "From Russia With Love". While broadly covering eligible subjects of any type Russian, Warsaw Pact or Soviet Union basis, also offered a chance at extra special awards. One for "Best Yak or Yakkity Yak" (Best Yakovlev subject or Best Propaganda subject, a large award plaque featured an authentic shot of AleksandrYakovlev as background). Also receiving "star billing" (forgive me) was Sergei Ilyushin for "Best Ilyushin or Illusion" (Best Ilyushin subject or Best Camouflaged Soviet, Russian or Warsaw Pact subject) and of course, last but not least, Josip Stalin himself for the "Order Of Stalin: Best subject fitting theme "From Russia with Love""

Our own Paul Bishop got this Order with his monster scale (1/16) T-34/76, narrowly edging out a lovely 1/48 MiG-29 Fulcrum in final judging cut. Paul didn't learn of this until he'd got award at the November 13 Hornets meeting, having left contest too early! Another contestant who nearly left before getting his just rewards was Johnny Chang, a local entrant who is unaffiliated but competes rather fiercely. He was surprised recipient of the "secret" theme related awards. Awards which only Contest Director and the excellent master maker of trophies knew existence of until day of event, and only then shared knowledge with the select judges. Just a bit of fun and experiment, feedback so far has been positive about them. They were "The 007 Award" for "Killer Finish" and "The KGB Award" for the "Office of State Security & Contest Director Choice to reward entrant who should have placed and didn't". Johnny Chang's lovely 1/72 scale ship, the HMCS Snowberry, won both awards by the unanimous call of all the judges involved on first ballot. Since these trophies were outside the TriCity Six contest paper trail, naturally they almost didn't get announced or delivered to intended recipient. Which meant Contest Director (me again, dammit!) will have to re-evaluate the balance of contest security versus operations before upsetting the contest staff with another stunt like that! Hats off to the trophy designer and manufacturer, my dear fellow editor William Ferrante, from all who came and saw or won those truly wicked works of art. My thank you to all who came and participated, you made it very fun! Hope to see a lot of you entering next year as well. – *mick fini*

## “From Russia With Love: TriCity Six Contest and Show “



Frank Babbitt's DB-3 won "Best Ilyushin or Illusion" very handily, considering it was a camouflaged Ilyushin subject!



Mark Schynert's MiG-3 was in running for the "Yak or Yakkity Yak" award, thanks to slogan!



Peter Olesko's smashing 1/48 MiG-21 was no illusion!



Open Whl Competition Cars offered eclectic mix!



Trophies proved "revolutionary" all on their own.



"The Warhawks of Newark" P-40 family. Collections entry comprising the Hornets Club Project for 2009. This work won them a Third place at event.

**October 2009 SVSM MEETING** as recorded by Mr Chris Bucholtz (with minor edits by yours truly)

At the October meeting, president Kent McClure reminded us all that November's meeting would be our annual auction. Bring any model you don't think you'll build and we'll auction it off to benefit the club; leave the junky stuff at home, please! Also, we were reminded that December's meeting will be at the Round Table Pizza on Stevens Creek Boulevard; that will be the site of our annual Holiday Gift Exchange party.

In model talk... Ron Wergin built Tamiya's 1:48 Jagdgtiger, and then finished it with Tamiya's own paints. Ron said the model had a stunning number of parts. Cliff Kranz used decals from an old Entex kit to mark his lovely Monogram 1:48 F-86D Sabre Dog. Cliff's entry for the Fremont P-40 Contest will be his Academy P-40B, which wears decals from an old MicroScale sheet for a 55<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Squadron/20<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group plane based at Hamilton Field. Frank Babbitt converted a Hasegawa T-33 into a TV-2 simply by applying a Navy paint job. He rescribed the model and added True Details seats; Frank was inspired by a Hawk kit he built during his childhood. Greg Plummer's also building T-33, using the Hasegawa kit to create an aircraft finished in Nicaraguan markings. Postoria Aguirre brought in a pair of wooden desktop models: an Antonov An-225 in some unknown scale, and a Aerospaiale SN601 Corvette in 1:48, a true rarity among business jets since only 12 were ever built. John Carr's first try at the mottled German uniform camouflage came on a 1:16 Dragon Herman Goering Division signalman figure. John also added lead foil straps to the figure's equipment.

Jim Priete is building Fine Molds' 1:72 Keiun experimental fighter and he says the model fits as well as most recent Fine Molds kits. Mike Burton's doing an older Fine Molds kit, the 1:48 D4Y1 Suisei, says the fit recalls kits of the 1970s. He's also working on a 12 Squared GAM-67 Crossbow, which fits about as well as the D4Y1. Mark MacDonald is about 98 percent finished with the Trumpeter C.1 Ariete main battle tank; it's almost ready for its paint. Mark's also enjoying ICM's Soviet tank crew figures set, which depicts the black-uniformed tankers from 1963 through the 1980s. They look rough on the sprue, but after some work they fit very well. Chris Bucholtz has at long last finished his Tamiya 1:72 P-47, which is finished in 362<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group markings from EagleCals; Chris added an Aires R-2800 engine and a few bits from the Aires detail set to the cockpit. His P-40E is nearing completion as well; he used a circle template to paint the painted-out red centers on the national insignia for this 1942-vintage plane, using shades of pink on the decal sheet before applying them to the model. Kent McClure is still waiting for Hannants to deliver his red code letters so he can complete his Otaki Hellcat Mk. I. Kent's depicting it as one of the planes that flew on the strike against the Tirpitz; the national insignia were taken from various sheets by AeroMaster and SuperScale. Kent's closer to completion with his Finnish P-40, built from the Hasegawa kit. He's decaled and sludge-washed the model, and flat coated it, but he then spotted some areas where the wash had not been cleaned up. Kent also brought in HAT Industries' Carthaginian war elephant in 1:72; the elephant is from a now-extinct African pygmy species. Laramie Wright says Tamiya's Panzer IIC is a nice kit, but has some major errors he needed to fix, like the mold seams on the leaf springs and the angle of the front armor plate. He's had no such troubles with Tamiya's Bf 108E-7, which he's built largely out of the box and will finish as a Battle of Britain aircraft. Laramie also has Airfix's 1:48 Canberra B.2 taped together; it's somewhat simplified, but it fits very well – and will need a lot of nose weight! And the model of the month goes to... John Carr's Ford TFC armored car. John built the RPM kit in his hotel during business trips; the headlights were smash-formed using wire mesh for texture, and about half the model was scratch-built to replace the flawed kit parts.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

**John Carr**



**FOR WINNING OCTOBER MODEL OF THE MONTH**

## "Presidential Ramblings" by Kent McClure

*It was the eleventh hour,  
the eleventh day,  
the eleventh month.*

If you asked most people what the significance of the above statement is, how many people would know the answer? If you ask people in their 70s and above, probably a good number would know. If you ask people in the 30-50 bracket, I would hazard to guess that you would be lucky to get an answer from about half the people.

If you ask anyone under 20, you would probably get a blank stare.

If you are unsure of the significance of the statement, add the year 1918 to it. It was the time that the guns fell silent on the first major war of the modern era. But how much do we actually know about it? What actually happened on that day? Who was the last casualty?

The last British casualty was Private George Edwin Ellison of the 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Lancers. He was scouting on the outskirts of the Belgian town of Mons, a place he knew well having started the war there in August of 1914. The time was 9:30 AM when a shot rang out and Private Ellison was dead.

The last French casualty of the war was Soldier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Augustin Trebuchon of the 415<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He was a regimental messenger, so he knew of the coming armistice before the others of his unit. He was on his way between Sedan and Charleville, carrying a message to his unit when he was killed by a single bullet at 10:50 AM. The message read "Muster at 11.30 for food".

The last Commonwealth casualty was Private George Lawrence Price of the 28<sup>th</sup> North West Battalion, 6<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division. In action at the Belgian town of Ville-sur-Haine, Private Price and his patrol was in pursuit of a machine gunner who had harassed them as they crossed the Canal du Centre to enter the town. The Canadian patrol had just entered a house as the machine gunner exited out of the back. The house occupant advised against following the machine gunner, but Price ignored him. As he stepped out of the house into street, a German sniper shot Price dead in the region of his heart. The time was 11:59 AM.

The last American to die was Private Henry Gunter, Co. A, 313<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 79<sup>th</sup> Division. His unit was advancing on the village of Chaumont-devant-Damvillers near Metz on the German border. There are two different accounts of his death. One states that his unit was ordered to take a German machine gun post and that the Germans, knowing that the ceasefire was just minutes away, tried to stop the attack. They failed and Private Gunter died at 10:59 by a shot in the left temple. The other account stated that he and his platoon ran into an ambush. Enraged, Private Gunter rose up and charged with fixed bayonet. Just as a messenger arrived at the front with the message that the war was over, Private Gunter was shot in the left temple and side and died. The time was 11:01.

The last known German to die is believed to have been a junior officer named Tomas. This officer was in the process of approaching a group of Americans to tell them that they could have the house that he and his troops were vacating, since the Germans knew of the war's end. Unfortunately, the Americans didn't know that the war was over. A communications breakdown meant that the Americans did not know the war was over, and as the German approached he was shot dead. The time was 11:01.

The first Armistice Day was on 11 November, 1919. Then in 1938, the United States made Armistice Day a federal holiday. In 1954, the name was changed to Veteran's Day. Fast forward to earlier this year- July 25<sup>th</sup> to be precise. Harry Price, the last survivor of the trenches of World War 1, dies at the age of 111. Just a week earlier, Henry Allingham, who served in the navy and the RAF, died at the age of 113. One hundred and eight year old Claude Choules, formerly of the Royal Navy, is the last survivor of the Great War.

Now jump forward to Veteran's Day 2009. We have a new batch of veterans that need our help and support. There are many different ways that we can show our support, but one of the simplest ways is to support our club's Veterans Kit drive. In a nutshell, the purpose of the Kit drive is to supply model kits to the local veteran's hospitals, where those kits will end up being used as a tool for rehabilitation. So, how can we show our support?

One way is to donate models to the club. It doesn't matter what the kit is. The preferred kits by the hospitals are usually snap together kits, but it doesn't really matter. Why? Because the club can sell the kits and re-invest the money by purchasing snap together kits. Another way is by supporting the club's vendor table that Steve and Anita Travis usually man at the local shows. Because these are kits that are donated by other members, there always seem to be something of interest and decent quality. And where does the money that purchased your kit go? Right back into the kitty to purchase more snap together kits for the vets. What could be better than that? Truly, a win-win situation.

So, the next time you're at a contest and happen to see SVSM's Vendor Table, remember your vets and pick up kit from them. You may never see the results of your actions, but they do appreciate it. And it's a nice way to say thank you for their sacrifices. – *Kent Fini*

## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 11-20-09

**Friday, November 20 2009**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** host their SVSM Auction at regular meeting hall in Milpitas, 8-1030pm

**Saturday, November 21 2009**

**IPMS/Region 9** present "Travis Scale Model Expo" at Jimmy Doolittle Air & Space Museum, Travis AFB, Fairfield, CA. It's a Model Exposition, not contest! For details, contact Chris Bucholtz [@bucholtz@aol.com](mailto:@bucholtz@aol.com) or see our website [www.scalemodelexpo.com](http://www.scalemodelexpo.com) EVENT DATE CANCELLED

**Saturday, December 5 2009**

**IPMS/Silver Wings** present their event Winter Classic 2009 at the Joseph Kerr Middle School 8865 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove, CA. For details, contact Art Silen email [artsilen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artsilen@sbcglobal.net)

**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 at [www.ipmssantarosa.org](http://www.ipmssantarosa.org) or contact John Admire.

**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](mailto:gregplummer@gregplummer.com), see also club website [www.svsm.org](http://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 address <http://sjvscalemodelers.org>

NEXT MEETING:

**7:00 PM**

**FRIDAY**

**NOVEMBER 20**

**COMMUNITY ROOM**

**Milpitas Police Administration Building**

**1275 N. Milpitas Blvd**

**Milpitas, CA**



**“SHEET 1 OF 2 for KOC2010 flyer is filler page 6 after Tricity Coverage “**

**“THIS PAGE IS REMINDER OF HOW PRINTED VERSION DIF FROM EM “**