Cuper San. Box tino, Scale 1052 95015 Modeler

P.O. Box 1052 Cupertino, CR 95015



IPMS-San Jose

MARCH 1988

Mext Meeting: March 18, 1988; Friday

Meeting Time: 7:30 PM - Gab, Shop, 8:00 PM -Business 9:00 PM -Entertainment? Location: Mercury Savings Meeting Room 19376 Stevens Creek Blvd. Cupertino





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LEAP MONTH MINUTES

The business portion proceeded neatly and fairly quickly, so here is what transpired. Don Brown thought we needed to have more "how-to" clinics. Don is a new member (too bad he was not here last year!), so he was given the usual new member welcome; he was made clinic coordinator. Actually, he volunteered willingly (now you KNDW he is a new member!). That is what is nice about having a new supply of suckers, er, new members.

I guess we did not have enough new members, for we could not get anyone to volunteer to be video librarian, but the club did break loose with \$50 to buy video tapes. Several members may have access to bargain case deals, just what

we need.

Several members desire the hard plastic badges that Tom Harrison made. Tom brought the materials, but no one volunteered to perform the labor. I have the list of people wanting badges, but I do not know who picked up the

materials. Please let me know who you are.

The TV program "Adventures In Scale Modeling" is still not showing in the area, but from Cliff Kranz, the show is on the Rhonert Park (Santa Rosa) station and he says were not missing much. Editing and sound quality are poor. Very disappointing!

Joel Thomas spoke again about the gaming convention (Flyer Enclosed). The model part has been changed from a contest to a display. Several members are already planning to participate. Contact the flyer or Joel Thomas for

Nominations were opened for a new crop of officers with the following hearty individuals getting the nod:

PRESIDENT:

Dave Hansen, Ron VanDerGrift, Barry Bauer VICE-PRESIDENT:

Eric McClure, Bill Ferrante, Mike Burton

SECRETARY:

Cliff Kranz, Alan Wolcott (I)

TREASURER;

Rex Barden (I)

No comments were submitted by any of the candidates for publication.

FOR THIS MEETING

This month we will have election of officers. We will also have a clinic on how to make your own showcases. Also, all members and guests who won an award at our contest last month are asked to bring their winning models and award to this meeting for display. Of course, any other models are also welcomed. Especially this month, we would like to encourage all of you to bring models that are under construction, Ideas-In-Progress, shall we say. That is what this club is most about so let us share our ideas (and gain ideas) with other members. Get the ol' juices flowing!! Nothing is too incomplete or simple, just bring it along!

Also, next month's news letter will probably contain a roster of members. If you **DO** want your phone number listed, or **DON'T want** your address listed, please let Treasurer Rex Barden know at THIS meeting. Many members phone numbers are not listed, as you may have noticed when you went to call them, so

please double check this.

To continue this, if your address, or expiration date is incorrect, please notify the TREASURER, not the secretary (me), as the Treasurer maintains whose

dues are paid, etc.

Also, at this meeting, let's discuss whether the members would like to have their names/addresses given out to firms who mail catalogs on aviation/military/automobile books, small tools, and other hobby related items?

NATIONAL NOTES

Dick Eole is the new Editor for IPMS/USA. I have heard, but do not have confirmed, that Dave Chevalier was severely injured in an auto accident. Election of new officers is coming up soon, too.







IPMS Travis

proudly announces their

1988 Chapter Model Contest

OH

Salurday, March 19, 1988

al the

Travis Air Force Museum

Special Contest Theme and Award: U.S. Air Force Aircraft and Vehicles. Any aircraft or vehicle which has served with the USAF.

Entry Fees: Seniors - \$1.00 per person for registration & \$1.00 per model. Juniors - \$.75 per person for registration & \$.50 per model.

Schedule: 10.00 AM Registration Opens 1.00PM Registration Closes.

1.00 PM Judging Begins

3.00 PM Awards Presentation.

Awards: 8 x 10 wood plaque for Special Awards
5 x 7 wood plaque for 1st place

Ribbons for 2nd & 3rd. All Juniors will recieve a participation ribbon.

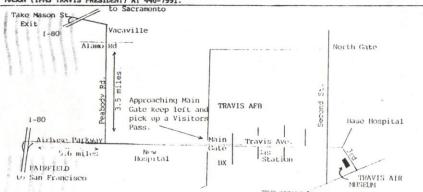
Contest Rules: Standard IPMS - USA Rules apply. Models which have placed in the Nationals may not be entered in this contest. Also models which have won 1st place in Region 9 competition may not enter. Judging will follow IPMS - USA standards is "Basic Construction Concepts On Model Building"

Patertainment: Videos on the 84,85,86 &87 Nationals and MWII films will be shown - Free. All Kavis All Museum Aircraft will be open & on display for modelers to photograph.

Vendors Tables: Will be available for a \$15.00 donation.

Door Prizes: Drawings will be held throughout the day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT TON KANGAS (CONTEST DIRECTOR) AT 448-0114 OR CAPT DAVE MASON (IPHS TRAVIS PRESIDENT) AT 446-7991.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

CONTESTS: March 19, IPMS/Travis, Fairfield

April 17, IPMS/Central Valley, Fresno , IPMS/Dam Busters, Redding June 5 , IPMS/Silver Wings, Sacramento

July/Aug., IPMS/Nationals, Dayton, Ohio
DISPLAYS: October 2, Model Car Show, in Conjunction with Modesto Concours
D'Elegance. All model cars welcome, special theme:
Lincoln Continentals. Contact Vince Nemanic 209/522-4729 or Bobby Duvalt, 209/577-4769 or write P.O. Box 2327.

Modesto, CA 95351

AIR SHOW TEAMS:

Blue Angels - 4/16; NAS China Lake, 4/17; NAS Lemoore, 4/23-24; MCAS El Toro, 9/20-21; NAS Miramar, 10/8-9; NAS Point Mugu Thunderbirds - 5/18; Rancho Murieta, 5/20-21; San Diego, 6/18; Mather AFB, 7/2; Redding, CA, 7/3-4; Moffet NAS, 8/10; Beale AFB, 9/17; Reno (Air Races), 9/18; Vandenburg AFB, 10/29; Salinas, 10/30; George AFB, 11/12; Bakersfield

AVIATION: May 13-22; San Diego - Air/Space America 88. 1st International Aerospace Trade Exposition. Brown Field. Contact: Dub Allen 619/294-8808

> May 20-22; Hayward - 24th Annual Hayward-Bakersfield-Las Vegas Air Race. Contact: Lou Chianese, 415/581-2345

May 27-29; Watsonville - West Coast Antique Fly-in and Airshow

AUTO RACING: Sears Point International Raceway - 707/938-8448

April 10; Spring Funny Car Shootout April 22-24; 7-Up Nascar Winston West May 14-15: 2nd Annual Sonoma Classic (Vintage) May 27-29; L-M SCCA Trans-Am June 4-5; CSRG Vintage Car Races June 25-26; NHRA Winston Drag Races July 1-3; Shelby American Convention July 29-31; NHRA Motocraft-Ford California Nationals Aug. 12-14; 13th Annual L-M California GP/IMSA Camel GT Sept. 16-18; Super Chevy Sunday Weekend Sept. 23-25; General Tire SCCA Championship Oct. 8-9; CSRG Vintage Car Races Palo Alto Concours D'Elegance; June 26 Laguna Seca Raceway -

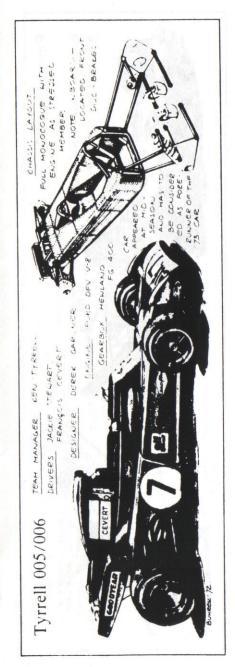
COMMENTS ON MODEL SELLERS

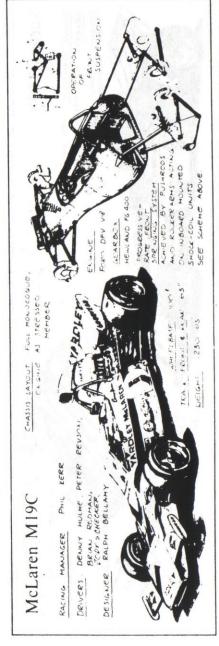
April 10th weekend; FIA Motorcycle Races

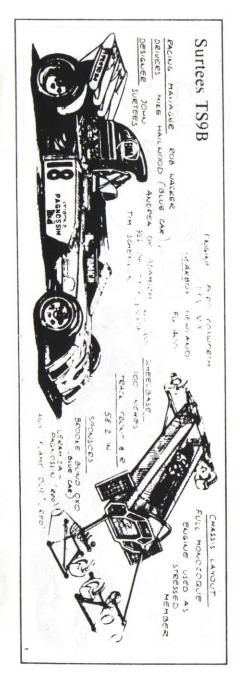
NO IMSA Race this year. Others to follow later.

Thought I would get on my soapbox one more time, as it might be (if I am lucky) my last chance as editor. Actually, I needed to fill a blank space at the bottom and did not have a cartoon to fit. I overheard, or was given, some negative comments on sellers at both our last meeting and our contest.

"So & So wanted an outrageous amount for a Frog--- kit!" Most of these comments came from model builders. "Well, who else was there?" Collectors, sir, collectors. They will pay good money for common or poor quality kits that are in rare or unique packaging, with completeness and condition, as added factors. The fact that you may want the plastic parts just to build doesn't decrease the collector value. But these sellers have to recognize their market, our meetings and contests are 98% builders, and a seller can not expect to get collector's prices too often at these meets. If he does, then he does not know his market! But don't think he is gouging you, for often he may have invested \$20-25 in a \$35 kit, hoping to find that one buyer. It is simple principle, if it is not worth it to you, don't buy it or make an offer. If it is, buy it. They spend their time, travel & money on speculation, which gives you the choice to buy or not. You have no choice if they did not come.









FUTURE THOUGHTS

The club fun contest for the A-7 Corsair built anyway you want, is coming up

at the June Meeting, do not forget.

The day after our meeting is the IPMS/Travis Contest (Saturday, March 19). I understand they have arranged for a C-5 and C-141 to fly in and be on display, as well as the museum aircraft. That is what I call atmosphere! Moffet Field's Air Show will be July 4th weekend again. Note this however, from the schedule I have, the Blue Angels will NOT be there, but the USAF Thunderbirds will be there!? That sounds interesting to me for even though I am a Blue Angel fan and have seen them at least 20 times, in F11F-1s, F-4s, A-4s and of course F-18s, I have never had the opportunity to see the T-Birds. Now, just when I get that opportunity, what is going to be the same weekend but the national Shelby American Car Club convention at Sears Point Raceway. They are expecting over 1000 cars. Can my heart take it? Can my film budget take it!?

(UnNamed Title)

You are all mondering now how much Barry's attractive and well-brought-off contest put us in the whole, about now. Well between the excellent precedent the last year's VP, Rodney Milliams, set with our Regional Extravaganza Contest in 1987, and Barry's clandestine, but well budgeted effort this year, we may have actually MADE money on this contest. It does not seem possible, but here is what the figures say; 84 entrants, 245 models and \$648 income. Let us also note Tom Harrison's excellent efforts in producing raffle prizes that drew in money. Another spin-off of the notoriety of our contest is that many vendors showed up and of course paid \$15 a table to get in. Comments I heard were that sales were only modest, but I am sure if we had publicized the swap part more, we would have had a lot more traffic.

And if you need a way to spend \$687.50 of your own money, well Franklin Mint has finally taken aim at you. They have released the series titled "The World's Greatest Aircraft", 25 miniatures at \$27.50 a piece. They are not constant scale, but to give you an idea of their size, all 25 fit easily in their 20" x 21" showcase. For that price, you do not get solid silver, or even silver-plating, only pewter. Plus you get recessed panel lines that make Matchbox look delicate in their efforts. Unless I win the lottery. I will

pass on these.

WANT ADS

WANTED: To Borrow, Aurora "Parts-Pack"-style car louvers. Want to make molds from your original. Will return unharmed and will supply a duplicate set cast in white metal. Need ASAP, Please bring to meeting, Tom Harrison

WANTED: Monogram 1/48 B-26 Marauder, unbuilt. Don Brown 408/225-3274

WANTED: IMC "Battle Damaged" F-100, RF-4 & Mig 21. Need in original, clean packaging, complete. Also, Monogram 1/48 C-47, any condition. Alan Wolcott

NEW RELEASES

Squadron Publications:

Jan. - Strangers In A Strange Land; US aircraft in German hands

Feb. - MIL24 in Action

Mar. - FAF Wildcat in Action

Apr. - Ju88 in Action May - Pz PKFW III in Action

June- Hornet

July- U-2 in Action

Aug. - M-24 in Action Sep. - 0-1 Bird Dog in Action

Oct. - Bristol Blenheim in Action

(courtesy of the IPMS Silver Wings 'The Tech Order')

and many of the myths were dispelled. The leke was found to conventional in construction, with little armor because its 1,130-hp did not allow such weighty items. The new US aircraft had 2000-hp or more, and were maneuverable which allowed them to carry more armor, firepower and strength so they could climb, dive, and fly at high altitudes with the Zeke, and could literally blow it to pieces in the air with their firepower.

As early as 1940, Horikoshi had pushed for a successor to the ASM, using a new 2,200-hp engine, but continued delays on the engine kept the A6M in production. This may have been a critical point in the Pacific war. Already suffering staggering losses, and with the loss of six carriers in the late summer of 1942 hindering Japan's ability to deliver planes to the battle, hasty measures were underway. In 1943, the A6M4 was created with a turbocharged engine, but it was very unreliable and only two prototypes were built.

The AbM5 quickly followed as a stop-gap measure that proved better than expected, and actually had the highest production numbers. The A6M5 returned the rounded wing tips on a new 36'1", strengthened wing that did not make the A6MS any more maneuverable, but increased its diving speed, a key weak point of earlier AbM's. A noticeable change is the separated exhaust stacks that

actually added a small propulsion effect.

A further problem for Japan was that the losses of so many planes also cost them the lives of all their well-trained and experienced pilots. The hurried replacements were ill-trained and could not use the improved, but not superior Zero's to change the tide of the war. Additionally, Japan was being outproduced in aircraft, carriers and trained pilots. The improved Zero's were too little, too late.

The last model to see action in WWII, though it did nothing to improve Japan's declining fortunes, was the AbMbc, which incorporated water/methanol injection. Two final versions that flew in 1945, but never got to production were the A6M7, outfitted for a 250-kg bomb plus twin, wing-mounted drop tanks, and the ASMO, which came to late with what the Sentai ('Sen-' fighter, '-tai

groups) needed most, 1,560-hp.
In all, almost 10,500 A6M's were produced, plus 327 A6M2-N's and 515 A6M2-K's & A6M5-K's. The A6M2-N was the seaplane version, often referred to as the "Rufe". It first flew on the day of the Pearl Harbor attack, but never had any superior abilities to non-float equipped fighters, and never played any noticeable role in the strategy of the war. The A6M2-K and A6M5-K were both two place trainer versions of the same model. Neither of these trainer model's prototypes even flew until November of 1943.

It can only be speculated as to whether the Japanese could have built a maneuverable, and possibly superior, airplane at the higher gross weight for armament and armor that a more powerful AND reliable engine would have

DRAMINGS -

The drawings I have done are merely to indicate the differences I could perceive in the different models.

A6M2: An early production model.

A6M3: The rearward firewall and longer cowl can be seen here. Note also the clipped wing tip, twin instead of single bumps under the wing by the shell ejection slot, and the nose-mounted guns go into the cowl and fire out through a slot, where as the A6M2 had a cowl-length groove.

AGMS: Note here the separate exhaust stacks, ailerons continue into the wing tip and the rudder trim-tab is incorporated into the rudder surface. Although not drawn, the A6M5 does have the row of vertical slots just behind the cowl. The bumps under the wing were not apparent in the

drawing I referenced, but both were on the A6M5c artwork I had. A6M2-K: NOTE: This is only an approximation. I thought it an interesting. little-known variation and I estimated its appearance from a very distant & sketchy photograph. It has spin-reducing strakes on the rear fuselage and has no wing cannons nor wheel well doors, to save weight. I am unsure as whether it retained the nose guns, or had a front pilot canopy, so I have left them both off for variety.

HILLER AIRCRAFT MUSEUM

Maybe some of you already knew about this but I sure did not. It is in Redwood City, and has 18 aircraft, 15 designed or built by Stanley Hiller, Jr. a resident of San Mateo County. The Museum is only open by appointment. I will check into getting the club an appointment to see it. Contained in the museum are: prototype Hiller UH-5, two H-23B, prototype UH-12E4, Hiller HI "Hornet", Hiller UH-4 "Commuter", FH-1100 \$1. "Flying Platform", Hiller YHJ!, Dorman LZ5 1YH-31, XRDE-1 Rotorcycle, Hiller ULV/YH32 "Sally Rand", Republic SpeRep RC3 and a Razda Helpspeeder. SeeBee RC3 and a Gazda Helospeeder.

AVIATION ART GALLERY

An aviation specialty store has opened at Reid-Hillview Airport. The list videos, sculptures, brass models, books, posters, signs and more than 200 prints and originals on display. Name is COLLECTAIR, at 2555 Robert Fowler Way, #A, San Jose, CA 95148, 259-3360. Hours are; 10-5 M-F, 11-4 Sat.

MITSUBISHI A6M 'ZERO'

There are surely a few of our members who could quote you candlepower specs on the landing light of every aircraft Japan used in WWII, but I suspect the majority of us have some curiosity about Japan's aircraft that opposed us in the Pacific, but have never taken time to research your curiosity. I had seen many planes that had different names on Japanese kit boxes, but sure looked like the stereo-typical "Pearl Harbor Zero" to my uneducated eye. Most articles focus on one specific model, but I found one in issue #38 of the English magazine "AIRCRAFT" that explained a lot about all "Zero's" and I

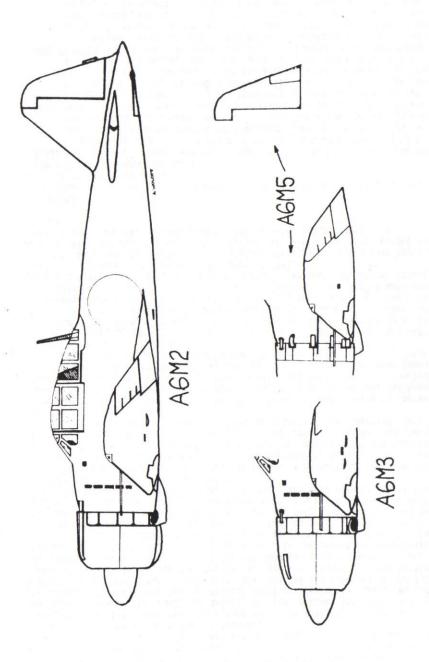
thought I would condense it and pass it on.

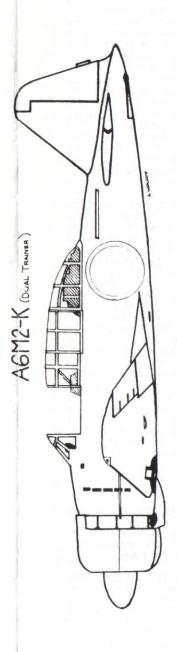
In 1937, the Japanese designer Horikoshi (already famous in Japan for his highly maneuverable ASM) was working on a new design to meet Japanese Imperial Navy specifications, to be called the ASM. "A" stands for carrier-based attack fighter, with the "6M" meaning the sixth (6) such model from Mitsubishi (M). It's popular name in its home country was Reisen ('Rei-' for zero. '-sen' for fighter) for the legendary A6M2 first flew just before the start of the Japanese year 2500 (1940 AD). The A6M1 was a prototype only, flying April 1, 1939 for the first time. It handily met its goals except for speed, so the more powerful A6M2 was developed, and exceeded expectations. Fifteen Zero's were sent to China as a test, where they scored 99 victories against no losses in aerial combat. Because of this success, and later the domination in the early part of WNII, the Zero took on an invincible, legendary status on both sides of the Pacific. Nothing could maneuver with it, and therefore nothing could keep its guns aimed at the Zero. Records and reports of the Zero were compiled by Chenault in China, but as with most such details before Pearl Harbor, were given no priority or importance.

From the 65th A6M2, the outer 20" of the wing folded upwards manually. In June 1941, the A6M3 was developed with these 20" tips omitted and replaced by a squared tip. It was also powered by a two-stage supercharged 1,130-hp engine, already a significant increase from the two A6M1's 780-hp. This bigger engine moved the firewall back 8" and accordingly lengthened the cowl. 328 AbM's were on the carriers to attack Pearl Harbor. From the start of WWII, they dominated the less agile and dated, P-40's, CW-21A's, Buffalo's, Hurricane I's and others. Not knowing the name of this devastating opponent, the allies first named it "Ben", then "Ray", then "Zeke", with the visually different (square tipped) A6M3 referred to as "Hap", then changed to "Hamp" (because of General "Hap" Arnold). When the Hamp was known to be a 'Zeke' variation, it was called the Zeke 32. This partly explains part of my confusion in box names, as already, two versions of the same plane had seven names; Ben, Ray, Zeke (& Zeke 32), Hap, Hamp, Zero & Reisen.

The legend of the Reisen was on the downhill in the latter part of 1942 as

the US now had the F6F Hellcat, P-38 Lightning, and F4U Corsair plus an A6M2 was found in nearly perfect condition in the Aleutians after a forced landing that killed the pilot. This plane was analyzed at NAS North Island, San Diego





Mitsubishi A6M Reisen variants

Mitsubishi A6Mt: first two prototypes, powered by 780-by (582-bW) 7, ige 13 access

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wingfibs were capable of manual folding (the subbeing designated Model 21)
Mitsubshi A6M3 Model 22: improved production

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725 Ib (27.33 kg)

Fuubshi A6M5a Model 52A. derivative of the A6M5

hithicker skins and improved Type 99 Wodel 2 Mark 3

Mitubiahi AAM5 Model 528 imposed AAM5guah entopoletor file entogosing system tor hefuel forks, and over 7 imm (8 30shi machine-gun neploced by 612 shim (85 nil) type 8 weapon Mitubiahi AAM5C Model 550 seist menmonan

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Oakland Airport Hilton May 27-30, 1988

94614 1 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA

Starring:

ONFLICT Symulation OCIETY Landwehr Society of Northern California (World Wide Diplomacy)

Tercio Group

Painting Contest

(Miniatures Tournaments)

International Plastic Modelers Society

Computer

Marathon Mustangs & Messerschmitts Roleplaying Tournaments New Fantasy GM's Welcome!!! Squad Leader Tournament

mood staked

Questions can be directed to Cynthia at (415) 865-3668 Pre-Reg (through April 30): \$15.00 for all three days At the Door: \$10 for one day, \$20 for all three from 1 to 9pm. Please no calls from 6 to 8pm

3 Days of General Quarters Competition

Squad Leader

Flea Market

Samenimeren Sceneration Open Garning

Novies

Memorial Day Weekend May 27-30, 1988



PRE-REGISTRATION/GAMEMASTER FORM

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|---|---|---|---|
| (please write clearly) | Registration Costs ril 30, 1988): \$15.00 for all three days At The Door: \$10.00 for one day, \$20.00 for all three days. /Event: | Gamemasters who run 1 event get pre-registered for all three days for only \$10.00 Gamemasters who run 2 or more events get pre-registered for all three days free of charge. | games can be CamesCaucus I other question I 550 Benton Street #C |
| Address: City/State/Zip: Home Phone: Work Phone: Age: | Pre-Registration (through April 30, 1988): \$15.00 for all three days At The Door: \$10.00 for one day, \$20.0 l would like to run a Game/Tournament/Event: (Fill out the bottom section I would just like to be registered as a gamer: (Please make checks pay Just send me more info on GamesCaucus please: | Gamemasters who run 1 event ge Gamemasters who run 2 or more even | Questions relating to Fantasy Role-Playing games can be directed to Mark Steiner at (415) 352-9555. All other question can be directed to Cynthia at (415) 865-3668 from 1 to 9pm. Please no calls from 6 to 8pm. |

1550 Benton Street #C Alameda, CA 94501

| # of Characters (if applicable): GM will provide Characters | Players will provide Characters Length of Game (hours): Level (if applicable): Kill % (if applicable): Tables/Space Needed: | Smoking? Yes Day: No Time (am/pm): Alternate Time: Description of Event: | |
|---|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Game Title: | Type of Game: Boardgame Tournament Miniatures Non-Tmmt Game System Used: | Variant: None/Regular Rules Light Variant Medium Variant Home Rules Home Nothing You've Ever Seen on This Planet | Player Experience Desired: Novice |