



# 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.

## *A SLIGHT CHANGE OF LOCALE PLAN IN OUR MARCH*



***NO, NOT QUITE THAT DRASTIC RELOCATION, EDITOR JUST MISSED THE TURN***

*Minutes: Chris Bucholtz   Photos/Text: Mick Burton*



The March meeting was held at the Plex facility in San Jose on Monday, March 23 — an unusual date and location, which accounted for a smaller but no less dedicated turnout.

The next meeting is at the traditional location on the traditional time and date (third Friday, this time April 17).

We'll also hold our "Here Comes the Sun" and "120-Day Wonders" contests in April. *(cont'd on page 3)*

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



Shameless plug: [www.mickbmodeler.com](http://www.mickbmodeler.com)

“ A ROCKING START of REGION 9 EVENT YEAR ”

*I am wrapping this OSS up as fast as I can. Having only just finished recently three headed monster publish of my other usual business, The Fremont Hornet BUZZ V.1 This time, the 107 pages total gave me peace of mind and an open horizon for 2026 !*

*One issue to neatly cover the April Hornets Nest, two subsequent issues to give the TriCity Classic 17 a proper roundup/close. My being able to get all done was partly thanks to going to the Wine Country Model Expo in Petaluma that kicked off Region Nine 2026 Event Year. There I was to meet with Mr. Ernie Gee of G-Factor Models, a good long time friend who had a disc set of his photos from the TC-17 for me to add with the fine group of Vladimir Yakubov's gallery and the few pictures I managed. Thanks.*

*By now, many of you likely know it's official: Ernie also now is our NEW Regional Coordinator for R-9, taking the reins after a long reign by Chris Bucholtz who was seeking a person to take that post now that he's IPMS Historian/Publications Director for USA branch. Congratulations and kudos to both gentlemen on all this. Also major props to new IPMS USA Social Media Director who happens to also be our second term SVSM President, Ms Eugenie Ray. We have a solid representation on the E-Board , yes !*

*NOW in less than week, we have SVSM Meet, SilverCon 2026, week later Fresno/Castle AFB event. OK Stay tuned, have fun -mb*

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## ***MAY 2026 MEMBER's Club Contest***

### ***BUILD YOUR NAME !***

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## ***JULY 2026 MEMBER's Club Contest***

### ***RIDE THE WAVE !***

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***BREAKING NOTICE OFFICIALLY BEING GIVEN !***

***Now in AUGUST 2026 Editor's Club Contest***

## ***THE GUNS of AUGUST !***

***PLUS IN FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 SVSM Meet at MPD site (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday)***

## ***TRACK 'n TRACKS***

***Oh yes, there's even more***

***PLEASE DO NOT get dismayed as coming to you JUNE 2027 and ANNOUNCED NOW***

***MEMBER's CLUB CONTEST courtesy of sponsor Steve Hays***

***“ WORLD WAR TWO 1946 ”***



**In model talk...** Bill Christman has the Fw 190A-8 he bargained for with Mick Burton at the gift exchange assembled and painted.



The 1:48 Butcher Bird came from the Eduard kit, and Bill said the fit was a little iffy.



Nevertheless, the model's together here, painted and in its gloss coat following decals.

**Steve Hays** had a couple of models that live in his office come to the meeting: a 1:35 Hetzer assault gun, which was his first German vehicle in the ambush scheme, and a Jagdpanzer IC from Italeri that he bought from Lou Orselli, which was a pain to get together but a lot of fun to weather.





Mark Balderrama has an NB-52 mothership project in the works, with a 1:144 conversion kit from Cutting Edge and a Muroc Models X-38, which includes the proper cradle to mount it to the NB-52's wing pylon.





Mark turned a 1:72 Mercury capsule on a lathe at work; the metal model only lacks windows! He's also working on a 1:48 Hasegawa F-104.

**Chris Bucholtz** completed his Airfix 1:72 TBD-1 Devastator in the Markings of Torpedo 3 at Midway, borrowing bits from the Valom kit, the White Ensign photo etched sets and a .30-caliber machine gun from Master Models.

He also borrowed the propeller from a Hasegawa SBD and swapped in clear parts from Falcon, and added a scratch-built life raft to the bombardier's seat — Lloyd Childers, who was the radioman/gunner on this plane, said the squadron's practice was to relocate the raft when there was no bombardier on board.





Chris also had his Academy 1:72 PV-1 nearly finished; it suffered a gear collapse on the way to the meeting and needs some small repairs, plus it needed its aerial antennae to be rigged.





Chris is also converting an Airfix 1:72 Jeep into a tow vehicle used on aircraft carriers, with most of the model painted gray.



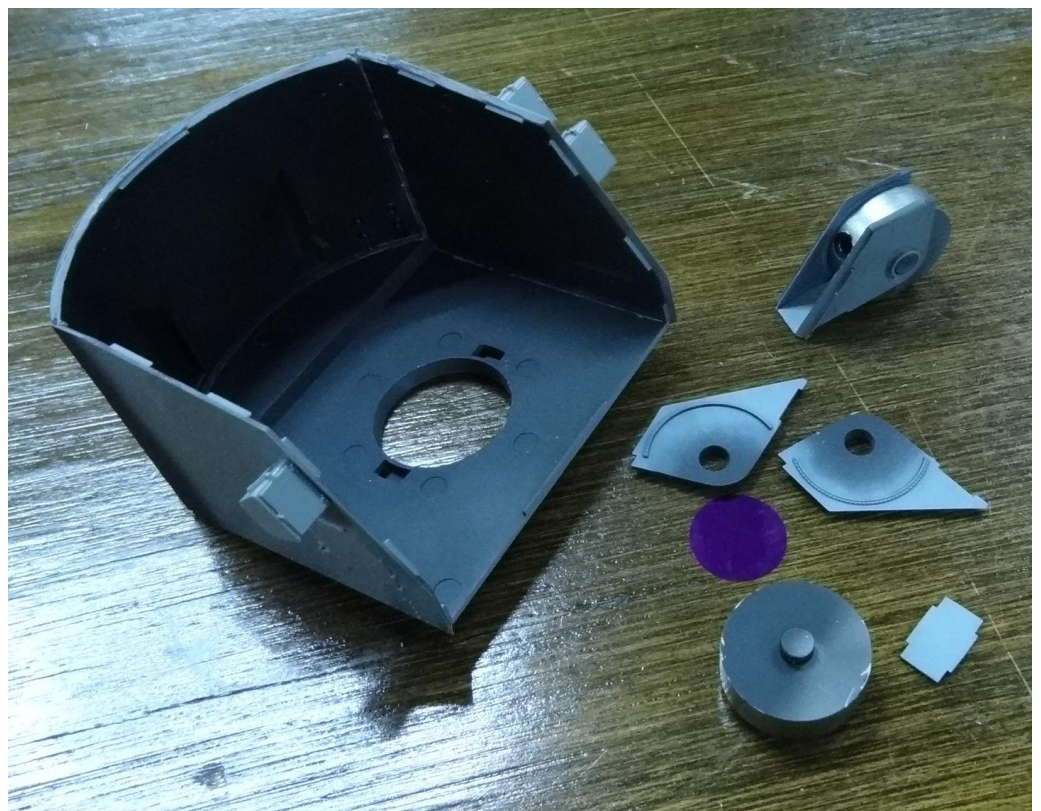
**Greg Plummer** took the Hasegawa J2M1 Raiden kit in 1:72 that dates back to 1977 and updated it with floats from the much newer and yet very much worse Antares SC-1 Seahawk, creating a conjectural J2M2-N float fighter code named "Rufe II." Greg created an all-flying rudder for the machine, plus a ventral fin for stability, and he trimmed the propeller so it would clear the float.





**Randy Ray** has much of the Snowman 1:72 5-inch 38 caliber twin turret assembled; he says the fit is “inexact.”

He replaced the ladder to the turret with wire bent using a jig, and he’s taken great care to fix the tiny 3D printed visual sight to the top of the turret.





**Riley Kitchen** is building the big P6M Sea Master that came as a gift from Frank Beltran, who realized he'd never build the 1:72 monster! Riley's looking forward to tackling the beast, perhaps applying some skills acquired by building a wooden oyster catcher! -*chris fini* (by the way, yes, there was no *Model Of the Month* March 2026)



**Well there you have it, our small but mighty March Meet on a Monday at The Plex. In future if Milpitas Community Center schedule is again derailed, consider how much space, nice lighting with a great table and chair supply, along with generous parking and onsite food/beverages we're able to have meeting here . Only a limit of Monday to Thursday 7PM to 10PM for calendaring, hardly a sacrifice in the balance -mb**

**7:00 PM OPEN, MEETING ENDS 10:00 PM SHARP**

**3rd FRIDAY of Month**

**MAY 15** (at TRADITIONAL meeting site)

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

**1275 N. Milpitas Blvd**

Milpitas, CA



**ALSO THIS MONTH**

**INVITATIONAL BUILDFEST MEETING NIGHT**

**MONDAY MAY 25**

**at THE PLEX, Northside Meeting Room**

**Address is 800 Embedded Way, San Jose CA**

**From 700 PM to 1000 PM**

*THE PLEX is located just off Highway 101*

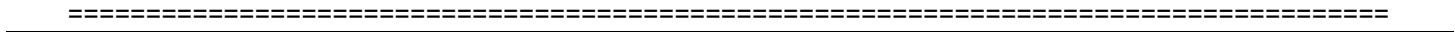
*From NORTH use Hellyer Avenue Exit*

*From SOUTH use Silver Creek veer left at Hellyer*

*Our good friend and Member Steve Hays will have A-Frame Signs with Arrows at the intersection to get you to the best entrance to use.*

**PLENTY OF PARKING, especially on the North Side where the meeting room door seen on left has entry**

**RESTARAUNT inside WILL BE OPEN if you're hungry**



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SILICON VALLEY SCALE MODELERS

EDITOR

