



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.

TriColor In Quarter Scale Flags In New Year



ITALERI'S 1:48 Scale F-86F Sabre Jet "SKYBLAZER"

Text & Photos by: Rodney J. Williams

This kit is classified as: "Italeri F86F Sabre Jet - Skyblazer Aerobatic Teams" with a kit number of 2684 and is produced in 1:48 scale. Several years ago, I found a finished model of this Sabre Jet on one of the model web sites so I contacted the builder for additional information. Alas, the kit was out of production and none of the "on-line" vendors had it in stock. Late last year I found the kit on (www.scalehobbyist.com) website, thus it was in my hands a few days later. I opened up the kit and reviewed all of the parts, which looked A-OK in my book as I had built 4 Sabre Jets in years gone by. I accessed the web site Google, clicked on "IMAGE" then typed in "Skyblazer" within the search bar. Hit enter, and up comes several color photos of the aircraft which has the same tail I.D. number of 3201-FU-201, which matched the kit decals. I noticed that this jet had a straight air speed tube and there were no small wing fences attached top side of the wings. *(continued page 3)*

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

With the close of another year, we swiftly begin another, full of promise and peril that is a given. What's NOT a given, far from it, is surety of familiar "happenings" Very happily here I can report we in Region 9 are fortunate to have three closing fast on us! For those who get their "Sheet" as "E-Dition" (in COLOR, via email PDF) you're the recipient of complete invitations from our good friends putting on show at the right. A mildly edited persuasive letter inviting ONE AND ALL to their Auction Fund Raiser.

Which is partially why I had to get this edition emailed and mailed EARLY in 2012. Thanks to those who wrote articles ahead of schedule, came to the Xmas "exchange" or came up with or inspired contest themes, now I have plenty material to pull this off.

NOW I need to remind you, our SVSM Dues renew THIS MEETING. A Deal @ \$25 ! Our March 24 show would be helped with a vigorous January renewal. Just so you all know: most of our monthly club contest costs, all costs of newsletter printing/ mailing or flyer production is now fully "sponsored", as is website. It helps us in stretch of our \$\$, however we still need to attract more folks to shows to continue these economies.



EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME FEBRUARY 2012 " SM all Hot Rod Fords "

My birthday month, my traditional twisted thematics. Eligible subjects: FINISHED, any scale, F4D Skyray (aka "Ford"), A-4 Skyhawk (Heinemann's Hot Rod), or Ford Hot Rods. SM? Ref to Santa Monica, home of Douglas.

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, approx, 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 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

SVSM MEMBER' s CLASSIFIED ADVERTs For JANUARY 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)

SWEPT WINGED TRICOLOR SWORD COVERAGE (continued from page 1)

CONSTRUCTION

I removed all of the kit parts and taped some of them together. Other parts were “white-glued” together. The entire model was assembled and it was a “tail-dragger.” I took the two drop tanks apart, filled the front parts up with my “BBs”, then put them back on the model and the model fell back down on its tail. I took off the front intake section, put in more weight and the model finally sat on its nose gear.



The model was taken apart, then I super glued the tanks and wings together. I put my wings into a small portable vice. Then gently pour in a few drops of super glue, which runs down the inside of the wing to the wing tip. I then take the wing and turn it, so that the glue gets to run down the other side of the wing. This operation seals the wings on the inside in addition to what you have applied on the exterior. I only use super glue, (SG) to glue and fill up gaps on my models.

I just discovered that I didn't take any “in-progress” building photos of the cockpit, however I have some photos of “my way” of painting, installing the windscreen. The windscreen is cleaned up then dry-fit to the fuselage, which needed to be revised slightly. I masked off the inside of windscreen and applied some Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black paint. Once the windscreen was correctly positioned onto the model it was glued in place with “micro-dots” of SG. Next, wet sanded with 3M wet sandpaper, (400-2000 grit) then I polished it out with Blue Magic.



The model is assembled, then I give it a wet wash with diluted XF-1 mixed with Denatured Alcohol, (DA). This old method of mine sure shows up the sanding flaws and any missing panel lines that need to be replaced. As always, several things need my attention, so they are fixed to the best of my ability.

“PAINTING & APPLYING THE DECALS “

I got the bright idea to cut out all the white stars, also the “USAF” letters and the national insignias from the decal sheet. However, due to my age of 80 years old, I have developed rather “shaky-hands” so I wonder if I can accomplish this simple task. The photos will give you the end result.

The model first is painted with Tamiya X-2 Gloss White paint. I then mask off the model and start to apply X-7 Gloss Red and the X-3 Gloss Blue paints. After about ten days, the model is wet sanded with 800 to 2000 grit 3M wet sandpaper. I then apply several coats of Future Floor Wax thinned with about 3 parts of DA. Light sanding is accomplished on the FFW/DA. I inspect the model, finding no blemishes on the overall finish, so it's



time to apply "Alclad II Lacquer Polished Aluminum" (ALC 105) paint. I mask off the two .50" cal. gun cover plates then apply some Testors steel paint. I rub down the aluminum paint with some clean new cotton balls and get ready to apply the "thick" pre-cut kit decals. To say the least, this becomes a bit time consuming, however end result is fantastic. All excess water, Micro Set/Sol mix is cleaned off model. I then apply a few more coats of my pre-mixed FFW/DA to the model.



Final assembly is next as I have to attach the drop tanks, the 3 landing gears and doors. Plus attach intake and exhaust "kit" cover plates, "remove before flight" tags, home made wing tip lights and the canopy. On a scale of "one to ten" I think this model rates at least a big number nine. Ten is classified as "perfect" and I have never built a #10 model, nor have I ever seen one while I have been a local, regional and/or national judge since 1984.



1:48 Scale F-86 Sabre Jet - "SKYBLAZER."
Model & Photo by: Rodney J. Williams - April 21, 2011.

The model was entered in the "2011 IPMS/USA Omaha National Convention," and it did not place. (You can not win them all).

Due to limited space in our monthly SVSM-Newsletter I can't show all 139 photos. If you want to see some other ones please email me at: fox17439@gmail.com.

Happy Modeling from Colorado. -Rodney.

December 2011 SVSM MEETING *Musings and pictures of Gift Stealing Night's madness by the Editor...*

Our normal locale was not suitable for our annual end of the year festivities, so again we were fortunate that our VP Greg Plummer secured us a private party room reservation. At our favored Round Table Pizza on Stevens Creek Boulevard as in last few years. Although upon first arrival some of us had a 2 mile long traffic blockade to penetrate for access to parking,



to then find the room we prefer to use was still in use by a kid's birthday party. Began next set up of what became one half our occupied territory.

Friend Eric McClure volunteered to take over duties as Registrar from Laramie, with 8 wheeled armor car assistance and an interplanetary monitor to keep objective. As seen in picture on left, Mars also lent us a "secure vault" to hold player names

Since I wasn't player in the game, I had plenty of time to take pictures, open doors, relax and enjoy all the dramatic turns.



President Frank "1st Sarge" Beltran went ahead to open the meeting at 830 pm, after most folk had eaten. Shortly, he left our veteran Theft Director Chris Bucholtz in charge of process so they both could play!

One who found out early on we had folks who were truly grand spirits in playing Gift Theft was Postoria A. He opens a lovely NEW B.1 V-bomber from Airfix, far past our 20 dollar mark set for gifts. P.A. as

you see, knew it wasn't to be in his hands long. Laramie Wright reviews his brief custody of it with Randy Ray after his theft from P.A.. Along the way as it happened, P.A. had himself another big item opened which became a subject of larceny (late issue kit of a 1/48 B-24J)



While some had secret strategies working out on paper, others just went with the luck of the draw with intimate partners playing in the exchange. Sometimes with "killer" or angelic results, just ask Elizabeth.



Not in least lacking confidence in his grasp of game's subtleties of play, Postoria saw another gift "liberated" soon after he opens. But Valiant effort paid off, in end it's his!





As noted, that B-24J was a popular theft, at left see one awestruck player. The view in play from Chris's aspect was a white tornado (middle). However his skill at this tracking meant First Sarge knew "the last steal home" was his... so B-24 joins a Valiant among the dead.



While some new members showed up early to enjoy all this "exchange", one old hand showed up a mite late (must've come from the Far North, eh?). Redeemed himself with his great hand made resin gifts!

The Gift Theft portion of the evening took the larger portion of the time we occupied Round Table, so some present held at bay any tedium by taking good medicine. The tasty brownies by Ms Natalie P, helped a lot of us (me) too.



Others, like Ken Miller (on right) seemed happy enough with simply by applying liberally those extant on hand remedies.

Closing honors this year and Hero to Those Who Sat and Waited went to Mr William Bauer, who chose to open last gift (below at the left)



Our final total of players was 38 which meant we had that vital "critical mass". Helpful too, a major number of these brought a max of two gifts each



A call for volunteers to sign up to run it next year is my only gift offered in 2011 exchange.

If everyone enjoys doing it as much as it seems, only fair to share some in the work too.

Thanks all who did it this year and those years past. Made sure of our Happy Holiday! -mick



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 01-20-12

Saturday, February 11 2012

IPMS/Santa Rosa & Friends host “Hobby Expo 2012”, Petaluma Community Ctr (just off McDowell Blvd, take Washington Exit off Hwy 101) in Petaluma CA. Theme “Good Old Fun” . Excellent show, fine raffle, a signature 1 hour contest challenge called “Speed Build”, lots to see and do. This year features a very special award called “Retroward” , see this link for details <http://www.ipmssantarosa.org/uploads/Retroward.pdf>

Saturday, February 11 2012

NNL West host “NNL Western Nats 2012”, Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA. Theme is “V-12” and “Dead Cars”. V-12 of course is anything to do with those marvelous engines including of course the Allison rendering of the famous Merlin motor, which also powered some racing vehicles. “Dead Cars” are those whose Marque is now “no longer in production”. More well known oldies in this frame : Studebaker, Kaiser, Hudson. Add to that some more modern names: Pontiac, Oldsmobile, American Motors, etc. You get the idea.

Friday, February 17 2012

IPMS/ Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting. Editor’s Contest Theme is SM All Hot Rod Fords.

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 participants to fearlessly rebel and revel in wide scope of entries. Obvious avenues include : American Revolution, American Civil War, The Spanish Civil War, 1917 Russian Revolution, Cuban 1958 Revolt. That’s figures, field pieces, floating and flying things all encompassed by the way. Not so obvious but clearly qualifying are items tied to Hungary 1956 uprising, Prague Spring 1968, Texas Rebellion, Mexican Revolution, Congo Rebellion, etc.

Friday, April 13 2012

IPMS/Fremont Hornets monthly meeting, theme “ Tokyo Hauling ”

Friday, April 20 2012

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers meeting, contest theme “ Bombs Away on a Honshu Bay”. Finished items directly related to Doolittle Raid , April 1942. Also any versions of USS Hornet or B-25 Mitchell.

Friday, May 16 2012

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme “ 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. If sufficient completed subjects show up then, goal is to coordinate an effort to have as a possible “club entry” into Collections at several upcoming contests.

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 !

Friday, July 10 2012

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers meeting, Alumnus contest theme “ The DOGS of Summer ”

Wednesday thru Saturday, August 8-11 2012

IPMS/USA Nationals hosted by Pelikan Model Club, at the Fantasia Ballroom of Disney Contemporary Resort Convention Center, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Not to say any of our models are Mickey Mouse...

STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND

(or, How I used IPMS to make a bad situation better)

by VP David Balderamma

Here's the scenario (or for me, harsh reality): As you're at work, blissfully pondering which model to work on at the end of the day... One of your company's foreign located sister plant's new machines breaks down.

In a country that you've never been to or have ever thought of visiting before. So now, because of the urgency of getting this machine back on-line, the crosshairs of doom have unknowingly landed on *you*.

Reason: You're the "only" person who can go down and perform repairs. How is this so? Because. You work on machines here, are technical enough, you build models for a hobby *AND* you happen to speak the local language enough to get your order understood at the local taco place.

Oh, and if you don't, your job could probably expire the minute you say "I can't (won't) go".

In this economy and with the price of kits rising, not much of a choice is it?

So now with trip that will drop you off cold turkey 1695 miles from home, looming in 3 days, what do you do?

Correct! Use Google Earth ahead of time. Scanning around shows that the hotel is nice. But your choices of after-work activities are pretty much zip as it's in the middle of a rough looking neighborhood and business area. Driving is out, as you were not provided a car. Which is good. You don't have the Indy 500 reflexes to navigate the local highways anyway.

(My joking opening aside, work did provide a good safe place to stay, wonderful local flavor, and killer meals to eat during the week I was in Guadalajara, Mexico.)

Falling back on old habits, I look for the local hobby stores when on business trips, to see what unclaimed treasure I can bring back. I figured the best way to cut to the chase would be to ask the locals. After a quick search online for "IPMS" "Guadalajara", find there's indeed a local IPMS chapter to contact. So, hoping that someone would know English (as my written Spanish is pretty much zero), I contacted the local chapter to ask what's the best local hobby store.

That E-mail opened a floodgate of welcome from IPMS Guadalajara, that I had not seen in a club before.



(IPMS Guadalajara logo)

We immediately began looking at the local groups' work and got down to model business.

Offers to meet, pick me up from the hotel were immediate, multiple and most welcome. Best of all, the group's ability to stay on "standby", due to my works changing schedule.

When time did come to set out (last day, at 7:00pm), my coworker and I met the local club contact , followed him from my hotel to the club meeting site in a local business office. My late arrival negated a hobby store visit which was, after the way the night ended, OK with me.

The IPMS Guadalajara group provided a most warm welcome.





Honestly, from what I have seen, they would have no trouble competing here in our contests. The quality of work is that good. After awhile, my coworker needed to leave (Thanks Marco, for getting me there), but he was reluctant to leave me with the IPMS group.

(you know us modelers)

They assured him, they would chaperone me and that they would take me back to the hotel in one piece. As they put it, it was like taking care of extended family.



After about an hour of discussion, we visited a local restaurant to continue the meeting.

I was treated to dinner, also to taste Guadalajara's main export > **TEQUILA!**

Yes, it makes the night more memorable but it does sadly make the night pass that much faster, too.

After many a discussion, we wrapped up around 11:30 PM with fond good-byes and killer memories. As I was driven back to the hotel, I was sad that I had such a short time to hang out with the group. It really did feel like leaving family behind.

To this day, I still look at the figure provided me by the guys in IPMS Guadalajara and wonder if I'll get a chance to go back again for round 2.

Thanks for the memories guys!

-D



Sociedad de Modelistas Jaliscences



IPMS Guadalajara

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

JANUARY 20

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

