



THE STYRENE SHEET

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February Full of Model Surprises & Surmises



Photos: Mick Burton

Text: Chris Bucholtz

Models : by everyone who showed up

Strictly The MINUTES, nothing but Minutes of SVSM February Meet by Chris Bucholtz

At the February meeting, we leapt into Model Talk. Jim Lund told us of his friendship with Gordon Stevens, and brought in not just four models built from Gordon's fine Rareplanes kits –an XP-31, an A-12, a KC-97L and especially a Keystone B-4 – but also examples of Gordon's masters. Jim says that most of the subjects Gordon did are now available in kit form, but he says he prefers editions from the vacuform era, in which your skill and work truly determined the final quality of the model.

(Continued on 3)



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

(shameless plug: www.mickmodeler.com)

“ AS A BONUS REMAINDER : NO TAMS first of year provides impetus and a perfect space answer ahead of time ! ”

Thanks to the February 2016 AfterMarket Sheet published earlier, Editor had enough room to feature Jim Lund work from this meeting and still craft this OSS for March without losing photo coverage for most part. I find it again a luxury item which still pays off handsomely for me , nearly 4 years since I began as a lark publication !

– mick

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SVSM FEBRUARY MEET WRAP ! (continued from page 8) (see page 3 if you missed start)

Laramie Wright had a couple of 1:48 Tamiya float fighters on the table and nearly ready for paint: a N1K1 Rex, which has great fit, and a A6M2-N Rufe, which is a nice kit despite its age. Laramie is also working on a 1:35 conversion of the Tamiya Mk. Churchill VII into an NA75, using K&K Castings detail parts, and he is loving the new Tamiya Challenger II, which is outfitted for operations in Operation Granby in 1991.



Gabriel Lee's Airfix Caravelle now wears AvenSA markings, even though the plastic in his kit was impervious to plastic cement. Gabriel's also nearly finished with two Vipers– a II and a VII – and he says he's currently in decaling hell.



Jim Priete did extensive work to bring the old Academy 1:72 PV-1 Ventura up to snuff. He added some Cooper Details R-2800s, scratch-built the turret, outfitted model with the nightfighter conversion from Owl, and brass barrels from Master Model.

And the model of the month goes to...



the Gundam built by **Morgan Carr!**

The kit is from Bandai in 1:600 scale, and the model features many, many parts. The colored plastic makes painting unnecessary, and Morgan's favorite part was adding the head.

This month's contest was Douglas aircraft. **Gabriel Lee** had a 1:72 A-4B Skyhawk in Argentine colors, built from the new Airfix kit. **Cliff Kranz** suffered a nose gear failure on his 1:48 Monogram A-26 Invader, finished as "the Seventh Chadwick" and featuring an entirely brush-painted finish. And the winners were ... In second place, Gabriel's A-4F adversary. His Skyhawk came from the old Italeri kit, and has a pilot from Revell. And in first place, with his converted A-4KU, was Cliff Kranz. Cliff's model came from the old 1:48 Eschi kit and was converted and marked with SuperScale decals. (Go to the Editor's website for pictures of these items...mick)

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SVSM TREASURER & EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME MARCH 2016

“ MARCH of Time's Up ”

SVSM FEBRUARY OPENS WITH SEVERAL COLLECTIONS ! (from page 1)



Kent McClure is working on a slew of 25mm figures, including an English rogue, a sumo wrestler, Mr. and Mrs. Barbarian, some random creatures and a surfer. We sincerely hope these all are to be used as game pieces in the same game!



Cliff Kranz's 1:72 Airfix B-29 Superfortress started out destined for a WWII paint scheme, but recent developments are leading Cliff toward a Korean War final finish. He did a very nice job on 12 Squared's rendition of the diminutive XF-85 Goblin, and



his Vanguard rocket started life as a Hawk kit.



Ron Wergin expected to make short work of Hobby Boss's 1:72 Northrop F-5, but he ended up using an Airfix canopy to compensate for a badly-designed Hobby Boss part. Ron added a Revell pilot and finished his Navy adversary plane with Gunze Sangyo paints.



Ken Miller picked up some 3D-printed work stands to add to his 1:144 L-100 diorama; Ken dipped them several times in Future to minimize the jaggy artifacts left by the 3D printing process.

He rigged the crane in the diorama with cable, and he's also adding more ramp clutter to the diorama.

Ken is also working on the old box-scale Revell A-3 Skywarrior.





Barry Bauer seems a bit fixated on Spitfires –

his amazing assortment of in-progress Spits included a Ventura Spitfire FR. 47, a Fujimi Mk. XIV, an MPM Mk. XVIII, an MPM PR. XIX, the less-than-satisfactory Academy XIVE, and a Fujimi XIVE low-back.

Barry's also been toiling away on the Revell 1:72 F4U Corsair, which is over-engineered and under-accurate.



It's nearly 2/10 of an inch too long between the tail and cockpit; Barry cut out a section and shortened the model; he says it has fussy wings, an over-engineered cowling, separate radiators and gun panels that didn't have to be separate, and a decent cockpit.



John Carr loved the Accurate Miniatures F3F-1, and finished it in Marine markings.

He said the instructions were great, but the decals were not so good in his example.



Shervin Shembayati thought Airfix's Vampire T.11 is a pretty good kit with the exception of some rough intakes, and the need to add the main gear struts before adding the landing gear booms. Decanted Tamiya gloss aluminum spray paint provided the high-speed silver finish for Shervin's plane.





Shervin also has a Tamiya Il-2 close to completion; he used Gunship Gray, Soviet Brown and U.S. Olive from Testors in place of the dubious callouts in the kit instructions.

Eric McClure's 1/35 M36 Jackson tank destroyer from Academy has a completed interior, and the addition of details to the turret is well underway.



Al Kuhn's Airfix steam engine dates back to some time between 1955 and 1960, but it still works. He painted the model with Floquil railroad colors.



Chris Bucholtz's Monogram Snap-Tite B-26 Marauder now has a completed radio/navigator's compartment, and some of it may even be visible when the fuselage is closed ! The model's next big modification is to the tail gun position, which is provided for with a Squadron vacuformed set; Chris is using references



to detail the tail gun area.

Chris is also nursing a Special Hobby Firefly FR.5 toward completion; his latest folly was the loss of a Master Models brass gun barrel inside the wing!

Now, you will have to go back to page 2 of this OSS, to get the final wrapup of Secretary's essay on February.

(February Finish Up, see page 2)





Congratulations to
Morgan Carr

FOR WINNING FEBRUARY MODEL OF THE MONTH

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

MARCH 18

at

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

