



# THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 57, No. 2 [www.svsm.org](http://www.svsm.org) FEBRUARY 2023



A Publication of the Silicon Valley Scale Modelers, A chartered Chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society, USA branch.

## TO THE NEW YEAR A SALUTE AT SIXTY



*Aaah the sweet mood of the first meet for year...*



Photos/Text: Mick Burton Minutes: Chris Bucholtz

At the January meeting, we had three new attendees – a great sign for the club! If you know anyone who builds models or who are interested in building models, let them know about us and invite them to our meetings.

That's the best way for us to grow!

See more minutes @ [Page 3](#)



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



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

“ A NEW BEGINNING ”

**THERE THEY GOES AGAIN. ANOTHER CLUB CONTEST CONUNDRUM** from this Editor & The President of club !

They are at it, those modeler miscreants. While at dinner in winter, it came up as topic that the returning President was all for having Club Contests again, and we should come up with themes for some soon. Followed quickly enough by the Editor launching at SVSM holiday meet the “120 Day Wonders” Club Con for April. Then, answering a challenge from within his other club, Editor devises a “dual” Club Con, D-Day & D Day Deux. President has now devised “M.A.G.A. & B.B.B” in response...more madness on the way!

*HAVING OUR FUN with our own money here, but hoping some of you will join in making it all the more enjoyable - mickb fini*

*Meeting Minutes wrap up from page 8 & Editor apologies for having not enough pictures in this issue*

**Ken Miller's** workbench is crowded with Atlantis' re-pop of the old Renwal Task Force kit, featuring a dozen ships (some of which are from different eras). Ken bought it because it has a U.S.S. Hornet, and he's enjoying the kit so far. He's also converted a two-door Chevy Malibu into a four-door to replicate the auto from the movie *Repo Man*. Ken is still researching what to use for the radioactive green finish. **Bob Meyers** says Tamiya's new 1:35 Comet is a great build, although Tamiya does take some shortcuts, like molded-on grab handles. He painted the Comet with Tamiya paints and even painted the figures, then wired their headphones and microphones. Bob also knocked out the new Airfix 2K/Y ambulance in less than a week! He didn't expect it to be as good as it is; it built quickly and he was able to move to the Caunter paint scheme and weathering quickly, although the decals were frustrating and he had to apply the crosses in the white disks in duplicate to prevent the camouflage from showing through. **Pete Long** says that, if you follow the instructions, Tamiya's new 1:48 F-35A falls together. Stray from the instructions and you'll have problems! Pete's smooth finish was done with lacquer paints. **Ben Pada** liked Eduard's 1:48 F4F-4 Wildcat, but he said the horizontal stabilizers didn't fit especially well. He painted his with MRP paints but used decals for the striped rudder. **And the model of the month goes to... Cliff Kranz** and his MPC 1:24 Dodge Dart dragster! Cliff built the model way back in 1968 or 1969 while he was stationed at Fort Bragg.



Check out home page of [www.mickbmodeler.com](http://www.mickbmodeler.com) find supplementary pictures of January 2023 SVSM meet for a limited time



As President provides candid moment, new member Taizo puzzles what we're up to and Gabriel holds on

SVSM 2023 JANUARY MINUTES continued from 1 ...

In April, don't forget we're having our 120-Day Wonders – any model you acquired at the gift exchange in December is eligible if you can finish it!

*(EDITOR'S CORRECTION ... As I am the Club Contest sponsor for this event, only fair to point out that I have opened potential for "an Unfinished Winner" to encourage more possible entries in April. Refer to the original flyer of last issue or the mickmodeler site Club Contest page) And please, participate in the gig !*

2023 is SVSM's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a model club (we became IPMS-affiliated in 1964). We allowed our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary to pass without much commemoration. Secretary Chris Bucholtz sought permission from the chapter to look into some swag possibilities (shirts, etc.) and to work with John Heck to design a 60<sup>th</sup>-anniversary logo. Chris did similar work with IPMS/Gray Ghost, so he has contacts to work for this.

**In model talk...** Gabriel Lee wanted to build Pete Mitchell's Navy jet from the film "Top Gun: Maverick" and bought the Airfix kit, only to discover they had merely stuck in decals with their old F/A-18C, when the movie plane was the very different F/A-18E. Gabriel swapped a Hasegawa kit for the Airfix plastic, then adapted the Airfix decals to the bigger plane.

He also has a Hasegawa F/A-18A as a Spanish EF-18, complete with the tan-and-brown camouflage use in training at Cecil Field in 1996.

**Cliff Kranz** brush-painted the Imai Captain Scarlet Angel interceptor, and modified the pilot's seat to match what was in the show as much as possible; the one time an Angel pilot ejected, she was shown floating to earth in a comfy recliner under a parachute!





Cliff's Mitsuo Fuso 10-ton dump truck has a number of battery-powered features, like drive wheels and headlights, which come on at unexpected times. Cliff brush painted the model emerald green.

**Pat Nichols** added Star Decals markings to his Tamiya 1:35 "Seep" amphibious jeep, and added gear to the driver to match the two well-equipped passengers. He says the AFV Club LVT-4 is a difficult kit; his second attempt is an Army machine that was used at Okinawa.



Pat's Italeri 1:35 DUKW received a new .50-cal. machine gun from Tamiya, Verlinden figures, Value Gear stowage and Star Decals.

Pat especially liked the rope fenders, which he picked up at the 2018 Nationals – at the table where he bought his, the vendor's wife was knitting additional products!



**Ron Wergin's** 1:72 Zvezda T-34 was a snap-together kit, but the pegs were all too big so Ron cut them off and glued the model together. He said the tracks were a nightmare.

Ron had a better time with Dragon's initial production Tiger I; he used pastels to fade the gray paint. Both tanks were crewed with figures from Prieser.



**Kent McClure** acquired a new set of three 1:72 Luftwaffe figures from CMR, made a small fleet of steampunk flying cargo ships for a game, bought a superdeformed car from Japan (to get free shipping!), painted up some 1:72 Lithuanian knights by Mars, displayed some 1:72 mummies from Red Box, and has an Esci 1:72 M113 mostly done as a police vehicle from the "Modern Roman" planet Kirk et al visited in the *Star Trek* episode "Bread and Circuses."



**Dave Balderrama** is working on a Military Wheels North-2 AeroSan which has been full of surprises. First, it's 1:72 scale, meaning it's small. Second, it's needed a lot of clean up of flash. And third, it's a real alignment challenge.

**Si Yang's** 1:35 Konigstiger with the Porsche turret was built using the Nichimo kit. He did it 30 years ago and it marked his first attempt to make zimmerit using putty and the blade of a screwdriver.



7262



**John Carr** needed a break from challenging fits and over-abundance of flash, so instead he built a Bandai 1:12 Shoretrooper from Star Wars. John says these kits fit together like Gundam kits and allow him to get right to painting and weathering. He ditched the kit decals and painted the markings himself.



chassis of the 8-wheeled vehicles are. He also painted a set of Hornet heads for the eventual German crews of the two vehicles.

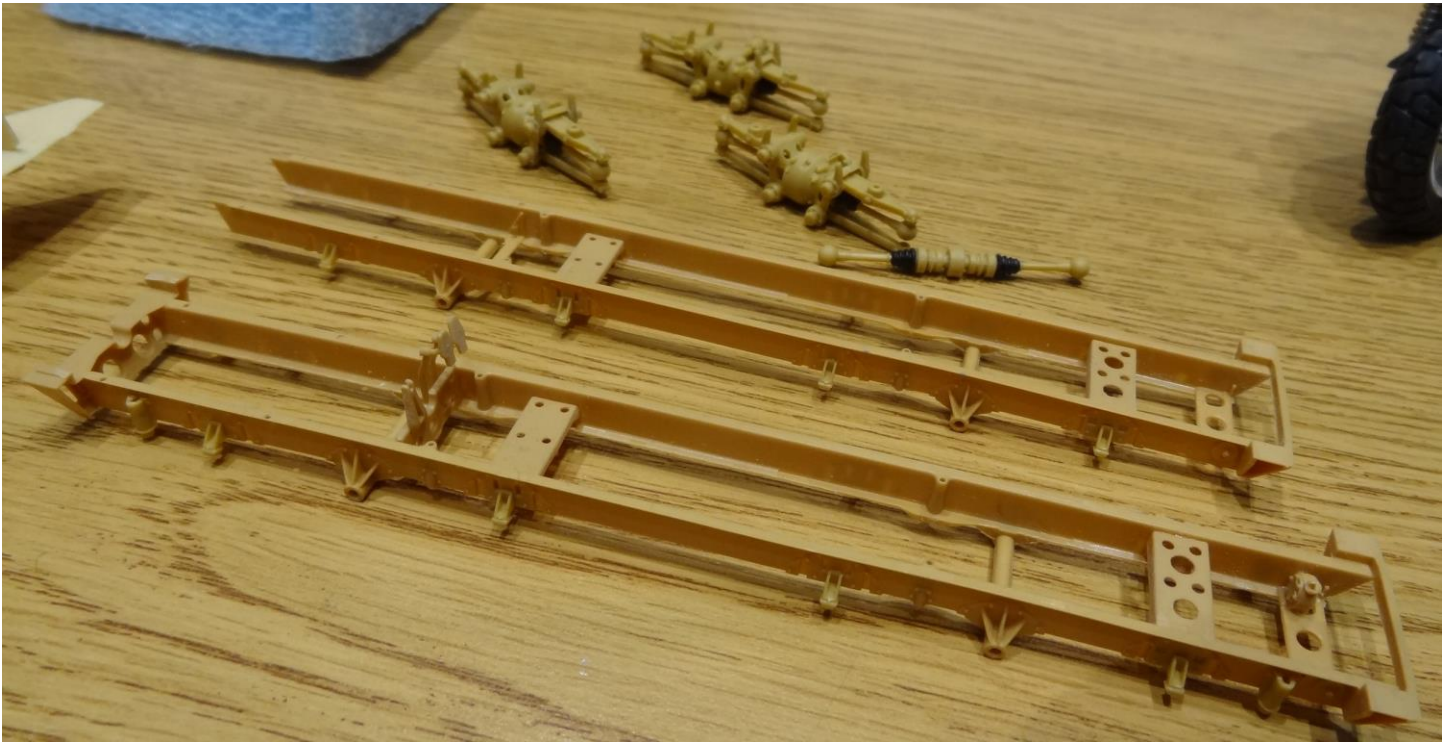


**Landon Carr** received a Tamiya LRDG patrol truck with a Breda 20mm gun for Christmas, and he's exploring ideas for putting it in a non-desert environment.

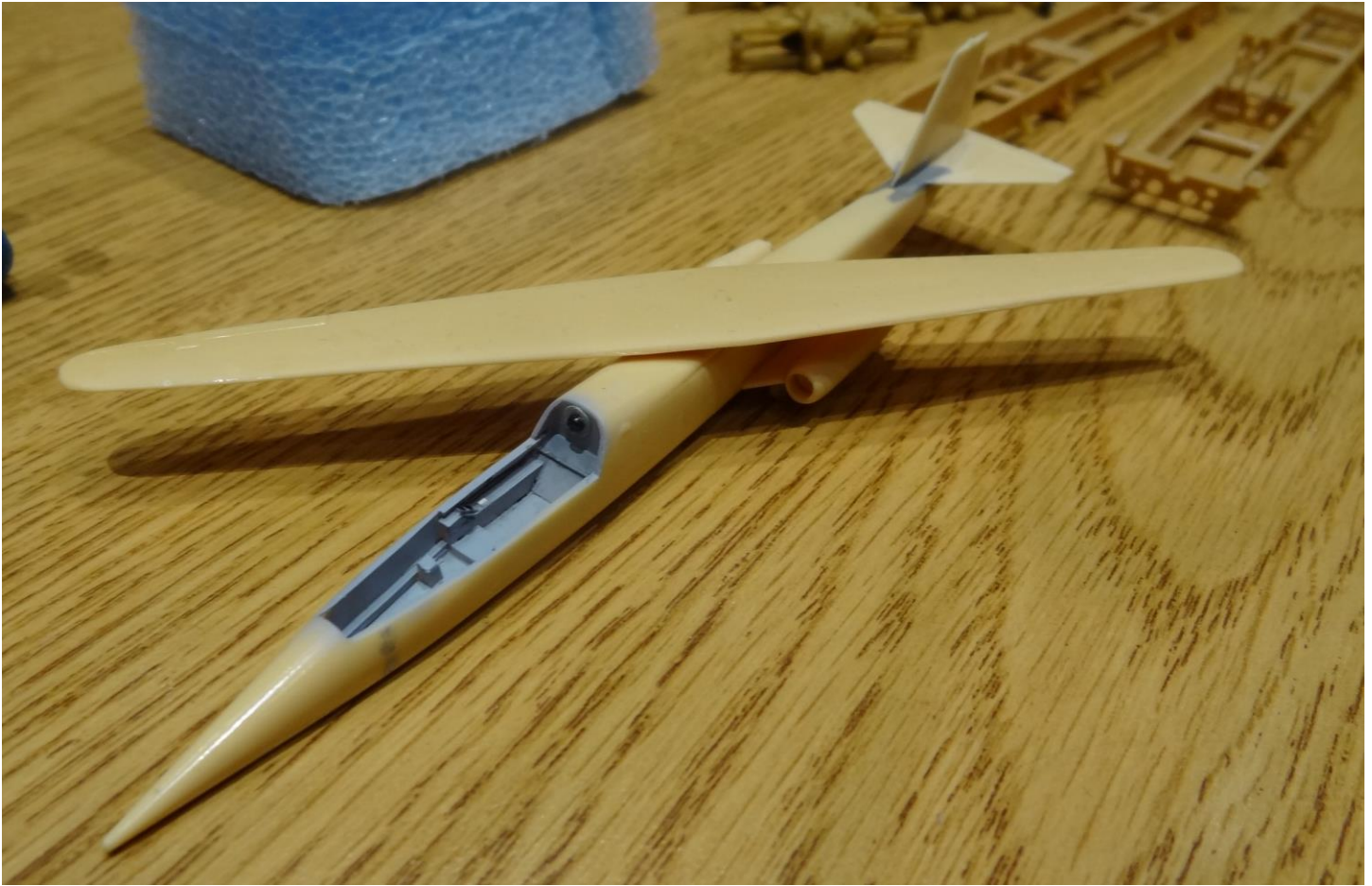
**Chris Bucholtz** completed his Bedouin and camel combo, taken from the Masterbox Commonwealth AFV crew set. He added reins for the camel from lead wire.

These figures will go in a diorama with one of the two AFV Club Sd.Kfz. 232s he's building; he was warned that the AFV Club kits were "fiddly" but he was still surprised by how many parts just the





Chris is also at work on Muroc Models' Ames-Dryden AD-1 Oblique Wing in 1:72; the resin model presented some fit challenges, but CA and sanding fixed them. Chris plans to add some detail to the cockpit before he adds the clear parts and applies the white NASA scheme...





**Greg Plummer** modified his Tamiya Honda Monkey motorcycle by removing the bogus air cleaner, fitting a scratch-built muffler and lowering the handlebars. His mix of Testors paints looks great, but Greg warned that it never really dries.



He also updated a Monogram 1957 Chevrolet Corvette into a modern street machine by shaving down some of the exaggerated styling features, scratch-building an interior with racing seats and a racing steering wheel, and replacing the wheels and tires with more modern items from Aoshima.

*Go to page 2 for a wrap up of the Meeting minutes & Editorial...*





Congratulations to **Cliff Kranz**  
FOR WINNING JANUARY MODEL OF THE MONTH



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

**3rd FRIDAY of Month**

**FEBRUARY 17 (at OLD meeting site)**

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

**1275 N. Milpitas Blvd**

Milpitas, CA

***HOWEVER DON'T COUNT US OUT FOR THE MONTH***

---

**7:30 PM OPEN, MEETING ENDS 9:45 PM SHARP**

**4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY of Month (BUILDFEST NITE)**

**FEBRUARY 27 (at COMPLETELY NEW site)**

COMMUNITY ROOM

**GAME KASTLE**

**SANTA CLARA**

**1350 Coleman Avenue**

Santa Clara, CA

