



## ECPM - We Put It All Together.



(above) Model talk at the fire station. Most of the group discussing the pros & cons of different kits and building styles in a non-standard meeting location.

## Meeting Debriefing

- Mark Sandvigen

The meeting started with the sign attendance sheet & membership roster update. We asked members to change anything that was not correct.

Chapter members present were: Jeff Maples, Alan Welch, Chuck Colucci, Dennis Korn, Kelvin Gaither, Dale A. Hansen, David Stiteler, Andy Fulcher, Melissa Huyett, Rodney Huyett, Richard Adams, Jim Gower, Mark Sandvigen, Marshall Smith, and William Reece.

The meeting started with the sign attendance sheet & membership roster update. We asked members to change anything that was not correct.

Alan made introduction of our newest member, Melissa Huyett, the spouse of Rodney Huyett.

### Old Business:

*IPMS membership status report:*

- New payment system

- IPMS Nationals – we voted to purchase sponsorship to get our name out there and show support to IPMS. The \$95 dollar price was approved by the membership. Action: Purchase as sponsorship. Per the chapter's vote we purchased category 191 – Aircraft Dioramas. We will be notified by IPMS which category we have.

- Logins now include Facebook and Google along with a personal login.

- IPMS now has a page for gift memberships where members can purchase a gift for aspiring modelers.

*Upcoming IPMS and Non-IPMS shows:* Jeffrey Maples stated that all the local and interstate contests were now posted. If anyone is interested in what is available, they are on the chapter Website and also listed on page 16 of this issue of the newsletter.

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## Meeting Schedule 2023

May	1:00-3:00	Community Center
June	1:00-3:00	Community Center
July	1:00-3:00	Fire Department
August	1:00-3:00	Community Center
September	1:00-3:00	Community Center
October	1:00-3:00	Fire Department
November	1:00-3:00	Community Center
December	1:00-3:00	Community Center

## Staff

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Editor .....	Mark Sandvigen
Meeting Photographs .....	Alan Welch
	Dennis Korn
	Dale Hansen
Columnist .....	David Stiteler



# PANZERS in Drag

by Chuck Colucci

Over the centuries of war, elaborate disguises have been utilized to hide a combatant's true intentions. The famous Trojan Horse of the Trojan Wars is an example of some of those efforts. In WW-II the German Wehrmacht employed such tactics in quite an interesting fashion.

In the winter of 1944, the Battle of the Bulge was in full swing. As part of a special operation, Hitler tasked the German Army to undergo such a deception; Operation Greif.

The Battle of the Bulge, also known as the Ardennes Offensive, was the last major German Offensive campaign on the western front during WWII. Hitler's most trusted operative, Austrian born, Waffen SS commando, Otto Skorzeny was ordered to form Panzer Brigade 150 and their mission would be to capture as many bridges over the Meuse River as possible before Allied forces could destroy them. The mission required the use of captured U.S and British uniforms and equipment to infiltrate American positions and create as much general havoc as possible behind enemy lines. The troops in the brigade would be disguised as American and British troops, using captured equipment and vehicles, in hope that it would lead to catastrophic confusion.

The SS commando was concerned, however, with his men in disguise, they would be in breach of the Hague Convention of 1907. This meant that if any of his troops were captured wearing US or British uniforms, they could be shot as spies



*(Above) The actual M-10, the US Army's concept for the primary anti-tank weapon. The M-10 and successors gave yeoman service during the war. They were fast, agile and hard hitting thanks to an up-gunned main armament.*

*(below) The German Panther, M-10 fake, she may very well pass for a Easy 8 In the dusk, with a light behind her!\**

*\*with apologies to Gilbert and Sullivan*



With the Ardennes Offensive on the horizon, Skorzeny only had a few weeks to assemble his brigade. He requested 3,300 troops to fill 3 Battalions. They were required to speak English. His request also included 15 tanks, 20 self-propelled guns, 20 armored cars, 100 jeeps,

40 motorcycles, 120 trucks and all necessary uniforms and equipment. Once gathered, the equipment, uniforms and vehicles were to be delivered to the Brigades training grounds which was set up in Eastern Bavaria. What was delivered fell far short of Skorzeny's request.

*(continued on page 3)*



# Panzers in Drag

*(continued from page 2)*

Scraping the mission was no option. Skorzeny's only option was to use German vehicles already on hand which included 5 Panthers G's and 5 Sturmgrschutz III's. The Panthers were modified and painted to resemble US M10 Tank Destroyers while the Sturm III's were painted and modified to look like M7 Priest's. The 7.62 mm machine gun was removed from the Sturm. III and both vehicles were fitted with sheet metal to try and complete the disguise. While the Panther did have a slight resemblance to it's counterpart, the Sturm III's looked nothing like the M7 Priest it was supposed to resemble. All said and done, as history had shown, Operation Greif went nowhere and the mission failed badly.

Well this was the concept of Operation Greif, so now let's talk about the models. Let's start with the Takom Ersatz M7 Sturmgrschutz III. This is a typical Takom kit with great detail. The kit went together with very little problems and other than a little extra effort cleaning up parts, fit was good. The kit includes individual track links that went together better than I expected, due

*(below) Looking remarkably little like what it's pretending to be, (an M7 Priest of all things!), this Stug III still looks menacing enough. Again, perhaps the thought was to make it look like a captured vehicle . . . who knows.*



*(Above) Perhaps they were hoping American troops would think this was German equipment captured and put in service with new owners or maybe they thought inexperienced American troops really were just that stupid.*

to my lack of experience dealing with them. I typically use the rubber band style tracks which are usually the norm for most of the kits I've built this far. There is also photo etched parts included in the kit, some of which they probably could have done without.

I chose to paint the track links before assembly and then add them to the finished model later rather than installation as per the directions. It would have been too difficult to paint them later. The model was painted with Tamiya acrylics and the only

markings are the white stars. The only weathering I applied was some light mud and an airbrushed layer of dirt and dust on the lower parts of the vehicle. The tanks were freshly painted shortly before deployment into Battle so I expect that they should have been in pretty good condition cosmetically without much weathering from the elements.

Next we will talk about the Dragon Ersatz M10 Panther G. Again, this was a straightforward build with no real problems. I really like that the parts resembling the sheet metal were molded extremely thin for a more realistic representation.

I wasn't too happy with the tracks. They're supposed to be glue-able but took several tries to get them to finally hold. Also they did not take paint very well. The paint tends to flake off after it dries and I've never encountered this problem before. So I tended to have to keep touching up the paint and now I need to use extrema care when handling to make sure the paint stays. Again the model was painted with Tamiya paints and oils in my usual fashion and then very very light weathering applied. Light mud and moderate dirt and dust and the finished product came out relatively ok. ■

*-Chuck Colucci*



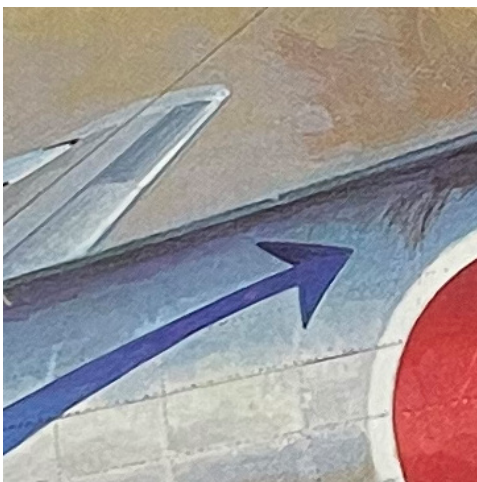
# Know Your Kit Kontest!



Section one, February



Section two, March



Section three, April

No official winner yet so we will post the final section this month and at the end of the month the contest will end and the kit will be revealed.

This first correct identification of **both** the kit *and* the manufacturer gets their choice of any painting mask for their next project, free form Kitmasx.com in Canada.

*(also see their special offer below)*

The award is for chapter members only although after the prize is won it will be reposted on the facebook page for open competition for bragging rights.

So here it guys, bigger, better and bolder, now have at it!!

# Know Your Kit Kontest!



**Rule 1.** To win the contest prize you must be a current ECPM chapter member.

**Rule 2.** Each month we'll upload a new contest image section here in the newsletter and our award winning website. The image is a one (1) inch square clipping of a popular plastic model kit box top art. We will keep adding a section until someone can I.D. the art or the contest ends.

**Rule 3.** The kit can be of anything, airplane, armor, ship, Sci-Fi, monster . . . . anything.

**Rule 4.** Identify the subject *and* the kit manufacturer and upload your answer onto our [Award Winning Website!](https://www.ecpmod.com/chapter-business.html)

<https://www.ecpmod.com/chapter-business.html>

**Rule 5.** First correct answer on our ECPM website wins your choice of one KITMASX\* pre-die cut masks that you pick out at the next ECPM meeting. (kitmasx.com) You must be present to receive your prize. If you cannot attend the next ECPM meeting, then we will hold your choice until we see you again.

**Rule 6.** If no winning entry has been submitted by the publication of the 5th section the contest will be voided.

(\* See special offer to the left)



I find it very impressive that we have 2 members in ECMP with their own streaming video shows. Those 2 would be Kel Gaither and Steve Kasza. I had the pleasure of reviewing their shows and found them both fun and educational. Also, they're different in the format and presentation. So, let's get started...

Kel Gaither definitely loves Cars. So, when you go to Kel's show, 'Kgcustom Scale Models' (<https://www.youtube.com/@kgcustomscalemodels4762>), do not be surprised that you will only find videos about building cars. I get it...I love planes and that is what 90% of in my stash is. Sometimes a genre is a passion for a builder.

Kel's show has been streaming on YouTube (on and off and on, again) for 9 years. Yes, I would call that a passion. Kel has over 40 videos each showing one of his models already completed and ready for the contest table. They are all quite impressive.

Kel's videos don't just show his models (on his rotating glass round table) but also has some great videos showing his workbench, tools, paints, model kits, and a closet full of too many clothes and not enough kits. His paint collection is heavy on the Tamiya TS lacquer rattle cans which makes sense as they are made to be used on plastic auto kit bodies. I believe Kel said he uses the Tamiya acrylic lacquers for the interiors.

There is one video that caught my attention on Tires, or as Kel would say, 'Tars' (Kel, by no means is this a diss. My mother and father were from Knoxville, Tennessee, and I loved hearing it, again). He will tell you that it is worth buying aftermarket tires for the Tamiya F1 kits (Kel shows us his Tamiya Ferrari

641/2 [F190] large kit) because the tires that come with the Tamiya kit will sometimes rot. This is due to being packaged in clear plastic that will hold in the heat from the warehouse in which the kit has been sitting. Kel does show us the aftermarket MFH (Model Factory Hiro) 1:12 scale 80's F1 tires he bought. They are not inexpensive (what is in modeling?) but they are beautiful!

Kel has built and talks about his Zack Knowlden race car Half Ax 4, Revell's Davey Allison Havoline Thunderbird, Revell's '68 Chevy Chevelle SS 396, Revell's NASCAR Ford Fusion (as seen at our 2022 DownEastCon), Revell's (okay, there is a pattern here) Foose Cadillac, and...well, the list goes on.

Lastly, an endearing quality from Kel is shared by him in his videos as he is very open about his life in and out of model building. If you start with Kel's older videos, you will see some weight on him that you would not notice today. He tells his story over a number of videos that he took responsibility for the weight and dedicated himself to a healthy diet and exercise along with weight loss surgery. He also found love, a new job, and a new home in Morehead, NC. By Kel's life path, and our good fortune, it has led him to ECMP.

Steve Kasza has his own Duck Pond. Not the wet kind where water rolls off the ducks backs, but rather, a scale model video show called 'War Duck Miniatures' on Twitch.TV. In Steve's set up, he has audio and 2 cameras filming at once. Camera #1 shows you a 'birds-eye-view' of his workbench where you can clearly see the model he is working on, what tools he is using, and how he mixes his paints. Camera #2 is facing Steve from the far side of the workbench so you see both Steve and the model.

Steve is a multi-tasker. So, as he is working on a model, he is also

talking with his fellow builders/fanbase who are sending him messages or maybe they have their audio on, too. It is quite a party and a group-build without seeing the other faces.

I watched the most recent videos (as they are saved on his channel) and took note of the variety of genres Steve worked on. In chronological order the models are: LCVP (Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel), T-6/SNJ (Navy version), Shiden Type 11 (Japanese WW2), The 3 Stooges (3 separate kits), Lockheed Hudson (British), and Lysander Mk II.

Steve very conveniently shows the kit he is working on so if you are interested in, let's say, building Lysander then just find the kit picture. Each video is about 2 hours long, so you do get to see the whole build and painting of a model.

You can easily find Twitch.TV on your computer, or phone, or TV. On my iPhone, I simply typed in WarDuckMiniatures, and the link immediately popped up (<https://www.twitch.tv/warduckminiatures>). I would imagine the same would go for a desktop computer. For your Smart TV, you may have to download the Twitch app which is easy to search and then download.

Once you are on War Duck Miniatures, click on a video you might be interested in, and if you are lucky, you will be visited by Oliver (Steve's cat).

If you missed the live links in the body copy, here they are again:

Kgcustom Scalemodels: <https://www.youtube.com/@kgcustomscalemodels4762>

WarDuckMiniatures: <https://www.twitch.tv/warduckminiatures> ■

-Jeff Maples



# Confessions of a Closet Modeler

By David Stiteler

Since the beginning of the year after my return from South Korea, there have been changes in personnel, work schedules and responsibilities that have had some effect on my ability to enjoy my hobbies and just plain relax.

Except for the occasional request which was reluctantly approved for time off to visit family in Michigan, or just catch up on stuff that's been put off, I've had very little time to get to the B-17 or any other project I try to work on. The stress level has increased, my moods have gotten darker, and life with David hasn't been a bed of roses of late.

That side trip to Michigan to see my daughter and grandson eased things a bit, as well as the trip to Myrtle Beach for BeachCon 2023. The show was a great inspiration to get motivated again. Then, we moved into the last week of March and the first week of April, when the pot boiled over, and everything changed.

Without getting into too many details, things weren't going well at work at all. I wasn't sleeping well, and the stress level not only at work but also at home got to almost a breaking point.

Now, Friday nights are usually Subway nights for my wife and I. After she gets home from work and working out, I'm usually off by then and I pick up our favorites, and we sit down and discuss the day, have dinner, and then settle in for some TV or a movie to unwind. I picked up the dinner, but I wasn't talking. My mood was so foul and with every attempt from her to get me to open up about what was wrong, my mood just got worse. She knew it had to have something to do with work, but I wasn't talking.

So, we ate our dinner in silence, and after she finished, went out to the Carolina room to work on a puzzle, and to get out of my way. Not wanting to make a bad situation worse, I did something that any disgruntled veteran suffering from PTSD should not do...I isolated myself in my den, or hobby room.

Let me explain something here. I found from an early age that the best therapy for my mental health was to concentrate on something that I enjoyed and tune out everything else. When my father introduced me to model building, I used that to help me out when things didn't go so well for me. For instance, during high school, if I had a rough game of football or baseball, or a test didn't go so well; when all my friends might be out having fun to let off some steam, I headed for the basement and started building models.

Sometimes I would spend the entire weekend building and lose track of time. I might have missed a meal or two, and some sleep, but it was important for me to get my head on straight. I was able to focus on a task, tune out the distractions, and relieve my stress level. It worked for me, and unfortunately, I had moved away from that proven method.

That was my thought that Friday night. I needed to get back to what worked. I needed just one thing that I had control over. I needed just one victory, and I needed to do something to get my mood under control. I did have the presence of mind NOT to look at or even think about touching a project that was important for risk of having frustration take over and ruining everything that I had already done.

So, I headed for my stash and looked for a kit that I had no plans for,

something without a future project in mind. I found that I had two Airfix F4F Wildcat kits in 1/72 scale. I have no idea why I have two of them in 72nd scale, because my scale of choice is 48th scale. So, I figured one of them was good enough.

Now, I'm going to steal a line from the movie Top Gun: Maverick here, and anyone that has seen the movie will understand. "Don't think, just do." That was my focus on this exercise; no deep research, no pre-thinking on scheme, markings or relevance to anything. Just find a kit, and build it straight out of the box, raw. Tune out everything else and focus on building. "Don't think, just do." At this point I pulled out my 80's mix tapes like I used to do long ago, which are now CD's these days, since I haven't seen a tape player in decades, turned on the Bluetooth speaker and CD player, closed my eyes, took a long, deep breath, and opened the box.

Everyone goes through phases. Sometimes you just have to sit back, push Control-Alt-Delete, and reset or reboot. In my case, I needed something more than that, like taking a twenty pound sledge to a sixteen penny nail to get the job done. I love modeling, and I wanted to get back to the place where I was most comfortable in the hobby, with the added benefit of relaxing my mind. And that's what modeling does for me. I have other hobbies, but modeling is the one where I can tune everything else out, and focus. In time my mind relaxes and I start to think things out and logically work out solutions to problems. And it helps improve my mood. Let me know if something like this works for all of you as well.

I'm going to stop here and pick up where I left off next month. Yes, a two-parter folks. I can't wait to see what happens next. I hope you come back to find out, too. ■

-David Stiteler

# Meeting Debrief

(continued from page 1)

## *Treasurer's report:*

Marshall was unable to print a report but stated we had \$17 more dollars than last month. He will send out a separate report once his home office is back up and running.

Discussion of the DEC themes vote – Not done

## *KNOW YOUR KIT contest update:*

To date we have not had a winner so we will add one additional box top image, (see page 4), and if no winners this month open it up to general submissions on our facebook page.

## *Categories review announcement:*

Jeff discussed last year's DownEastCon and the fact that IPMS is changing the naming conventions and rules on some of the categories. He asked the membership to look over the categories, do some research, and make recommendations for next year.

## *Kel Gaither:*

was congratulated on getting two golds and a silver medal at the BeachCon.

*Tuesday evening ZOOM build report:* Jeff mentioned that if was not for the Zoom call, 2-hour window, he and others would not be getting any modeling done. He encouraged members, if they want to participate, to send him an email and he will send them the invite.

## *Wilmington club's NC Aces project:*

Alan laid out Bobby Long's plan from our sister modeling club in Wilmington. He has kicked off a volunteer project that may or may not appeal to the chapter. Bobby wants to build 1/72 aircraft models of all the fighter aces born in, or retired to, North Carolina for a permanent display at the North Carolina Military History Museum in Kure Beach. For interested members, the instructions for this build will be posted on the website.

## **The ECPM Display Case:**

Jeff Maples brought in a WIP 1/48 Scale-Hasegawa, Nakajima Ki-27 Nate. He told us that 99% of the build was done during the weekly ECPM 2 hour Zoom Group Build.

The only thing done NOT during the Zoom build was airbrushing the primer

on. Jeff will be spraying Tamiya XF-14 (J.A. Gray) for the Japanese Army color.

William Reese brought in color cards reflecting interior paint schemes for several interiors (B-17s, B-24s, and P-40s). William also discussed the issue of salmon primer and why it was used in WWII aircraft production. It turns out that it was an immediate visual aid to ensure the aircraft had been prepared and painted properly before getting its top-coat. He also discussed why there is so much difference between interiors and exteriors at the beginning of the war and towards the end. It had everything to do with air superiority. Hence B-17 quasi-camouflage green in 1943 and unpainted aluminum in 1945. The same goes for the interiors – less paint, less weight.

William also brought in his unfinished old Monogram Bell P-39 Airacobra; circa 1972. There was a significant sidebar about lend-lease and the Russian P-39s and their varied color schemes. He also brought in an old Monogram P-40 as Kel Gaither stated he would be building one. The decals arrived to do a British desert air force which was the origination of the shark-mouth. It was adopted Claire Lee Chennault for the famed Flying Tigers' P-40Bs. William concluded with P-40 workarounds should you end up with kits with very poor fits – like AMtech. Solution: glue the upper wings to the fuselage and then glue the bottom wing sections on.

Richard Adams brought in two beautifully carved basswood figures – an Alaskan Native Totem Pole and a figure delivering drinks from the barrel on his back. A really skilled craftsman, Richard also brought in a beautiful stainless steel ballpeen hammer – amazing.

Rodney Huyett brought in Bandai Spirits 1:144 MSM-04 Acguy Zeon's Heavy Mobile Suit (Amphibious) – with some very creative kit bashing. Rodney explained the levels of Gundam – this model was meant to be able to be taken apart and modified. He also stated that Hobby Lobby was now stocking Gundam paint markers which can be wiped off with your fingers as opposed to media weathering kits need to be removed with mineral spirits.

Chuck Colucci brought in a set of modified 1/35 Panzers from "Operation Greif". The story and these models were

fascinating, and they represented a special operation commanded by Waffen-SS commando Otto Skorzeny during the Battle of the Bulge. One of the models was a Panzerkampfwagen V Panthers and disguised to look like an American M10 3in GMC Tank Destroyer. Chuck also explained the problems with the tracks and how a wrong move required disassembling a model to get the tracks to lay in correctly. He has promised a full article on building this special collection of panzers from this operation.

Kel Gaither brought in one of his trademark car models in production. While the model that was in progress was of interest, Kel held a clinic on fit and finish. He has his paints custom mixed (this particular color was Ppg Banana Yellow). He gets in four oz bottles and then mixes it 50/50 with Mr. Hobby lacquer thinner. With this model, the only gripe he has was placement of on the body of the bare metal foil. There was no lip on top of the door. He used Tamiya tape to make an edge. He then cut the bear foil providing nice crisp edge so it can be detailed out. The engine compartment will be fully wired and there will be a charcoal interior.

How does he get his finishes: he uses Tamiya sponge sandpaper the wet/dry, however, he never puts the body under the water, he dry sands the project. He goes through all the grits up 12 thousand the micro mesh and then uses the polishing kit. He then blows off the sanding dust with his airbrush. When you run under the water, you're cleaning the micromesh scratches out. You're defeating the purpose, just blow it off. He then puts about three or four coats of paint and then lets it flash off for a couple hours and then will put on a clear coat. Kel leaves the clear to dry for a couple of days before polishing it out. Depending on the paint, dictates the kind of polish used. ■

*-Mark Sandvigen*

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**Always Speak Like a Sailor  
and**

**Drink Like A Pirate!**



# E.C.P.M. DISPLAY CASE

ART: CAROL PEARL



*(top left and right) As detailed in the lead article Chuck brought in several tanks. The Stug II and altered Panther are both representative of armor disguised for Operation Greif, the initial thrust by Otto Skorzeny in the December 1944 Ardennes offensive.*

*(right) A Czech 35t light tank appropriated and used by Germany in the early part of the war. This unit was in action on the Eastern front. There will be an article covering this AFV in next month's newsletter.*







*(above) This is the Bandai 1/144 scale MSM-04 ACGUY. It is a Zeon mass productive Amphibious Mobile Suit. This version has super hard steel alloy armor and for weapons; a six missile launcher, a mega-particle gun (Vulcan gun) and iron nail (claw). Pros: cost \$17, no glue and easy to build. Cons: some plastic gets stressed because of the tight fit discoloring the finish (needs to be painted now) and some detail is covered by the outer armor. Built by Rodney Huyett.*

*(right top and bottom) Kelvin Gaither's 1970 charger by Revell. Kel is in the midst of a very fine yellow paint job using stock PPG paints banana yellow. Hopefully it will be done by next meeting and we can present the finished build.*







*(above, and top right) Welcome to the Richard Adams page. Richard continually amazes us with the breadth of talents the man displays. Yes, although these are not plastic and they are not a kit they are wonderful in their artistry. Left is a brewer/distiller hauling a cask of deliciousness and right we have a totem. The animals are from top, a raven atop a bear. Both carved by hand from bass wood.*



*(above) And now changing gears is a ballpeen hammer Richard also fabricated, this time from steel. He pointed out that the head is pinned to the handle.*





*(top) William Reece brought in two aircraft in two scales. First up is an Airfix 1/72 Curtiss P-40B marked as it was during the Pearl Harbor attack. These are kit decals for one of the current Airfix issues.*



*(bottom) Next up, from William, is the Bell P\_39 Airacobra, an older 1/48 kit from Monogram but one which Richard says is still a very fine kit.*



*(above right) This 1/48 Hasegawa Ki-27 WIP is Jeff Maples' current project. Jeff is just about to the paint stage so we expect a finished build by next month. (no pressure, Jeff, no pressure)*



*(below) right Jeff is considering painting the markings in lieu of using the kit decals. It only has 2 colors so it should be duck soup. (no pressure, Jeff, no pressure)*







*(above and below) Alan Welch brought in his finished, (FINALLY!), Arma Hobby's 1/72 P-51B Mustang. It's a beautiful little kit and a lot of fun to build. This is out of the box with two exceptions, he used a 3rd party set of exhaust stacks and some ancient Microscale decals to make Fred Glover's aircraft from the 336th FS. The pilot is also a 3rd party addition. The kit comes with four canopy options, original closed and open and Malcom hood, open and closed. He went for the open original as it still gives a good view of the cockpit details.*







(above) OK, this was my disappointment of the day. We had wanted to run an airbrush cleaning clinic at the meeting and William, Jeff and Alan all brought in their ultrasonic cleaners and solutions and tools. Several chapter members brought their spraying systems in to be cleaned and then . . . somehow . . . things just got out of hand and the cleaning never happened.

Apologies to all concerned, we will reschedule this as we feel it's a good chapter service, but not next month as Jeff is holding the chapter quarterly group build.





# Region 12 Listing

*Contact & meeting information on regional IPMS model building groups. This will give you the opportunity to visit other IPMS chapters.*

## **Charlotte Scale Modelers**

Meeting Times: 1st Friday of each month at 7:00pm at the Memorial United Methodist Church; 4012 Central Ave, Charlotte, 28105.

**Contact Name: Dave Maher**

Email: [dad4204@aol.com](mailto:dad4204@aol.com)  
[charlotte\\_scale\\_modelers@ipmsusa.org](mailto:charlotte_scale_modelers@ipmsusa.org)

## **Coastal Carolina Modelers Association**

Meeting times: 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 am, at 119 Bramwell Drive, Summerville, SC

**Contact Name: Dave Corvino**

Email: [dcorvino@sc.rr.com](mailto:dcorvino@sc.rr.com)

E-mail:

[coastal\\_carolina@ipmsusa.org](mailto:coastal_carolina@ipmsusa.org)

## **Eagle Squadron**

**General Meeting Times:** 2nd Sunday at 1:00pm-3:00 pm at the American Legion Post 116 in Fuquay Varina & an Informal Build Night, Hangar 18 Hobbies in Cary the last Wednesday of each month from 6pm-8pm.

**Contact Name: Lee Griffin**

Email: [eagle\\_squadron@ipmsusa.org](mailto:eagle_squadron@ipmsusa.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/IPMSEagleSquadron>

## **Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers**

Meeting Times: 3rd Saturday of the month, 12:00pm-2:00pm at the Fairfield Harbor Fire Station, 585 Broadcreek Road, New Bern, NC 28560

**Contact Name: Mark Sandvigen**

Email: [mark.sandvigen@outlook.com](mailto:mark.sandvigen@outlook.com)  
[eastern\\_carolina@ipmsusa.org](mailto:eastern_carolina@ipmsusa.org)

## **Gamecocks**

Meeting times: 2nd Sunday of the month at 3pm-5pm, at Sumter County Airport, Sumter, South Carolina from 3pm-5pm

**Contact Name: Wes Macon**

Email: [awmacon@yahoo.com](mailto:awmacon@yahoo.com)  
[gamecocks@ipmsusa.org](mailto:gamecocks@ipmsusa.org)

## **Gaston County Model Builders**

Meeting Times: 4th Friday of the month 6:30 pm at Christ United Methodist Church, 3415 Union Rd Family Life Center, Gastonia, NC

**Contact Name: Lee Whitworth**

Email: [dlw6290@hotmail.com](mailto:dlw6290@hotmail.com)  
[gaston\\_county@ipmsusa.org](mailto:gaston_county@ipmsusa.org)  
Zoom meeting also available at same time, email to: [dlw6290@hotmail.com](mailto:dlw6290@hotmail.com)

## **George Preddy**

Meeting Times: 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Sarah's Kabob Shop- 5340 W. Market St. Greensboro, NC

**Contact Name: William Workman**

Email: [stonehill123@peoplepc.com](mailto:stonehill123@peoplepc.com)  
[george\\_preddy@ipmsusa.org](mailto:george_preddy@ipmsusa.org)

## **Grand Strand Scale Modelers**

Meeting times: 10:00am- 3rd Saturday at Horry County Memorial Library, Socastee Connector Road 141, SC-707 Socastee, SC

**Contact Name: Phil Cavender**

Contact Email:

[cavenderpw@gmail.com](mailto:cavenderpw@gmail.com)  
Email: [grand\\_strand\\_scale\\_modelers@ipmsusa.org](mailto:grand_strand_scale_modelers@ipmsusa.org)

## **Lafayette Scale Modelers**

Meeting times. 2nd Friday of each month, at 6:30 PM at the Westover Recreation Center, 267 Bonanza Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28303.

**Contact Name: Eric ENGstrom**

[srericengstrom@aol.com](mailto:srericengstrom@aol.com)

## **Mid Carolina Swamp Fox**

Meeting Times: 3rd Wednesday of the month 6pm-8pm at the Lexington County Library 5440 Augusta Rd, Lexington, SC

**Contact Name: Hub Plott**

Email:

[dlhpgamecocks@mindspring.com](mailto:dlhpgamecocks@mindspring.com)  
Email: [mid\\_carolina\\_swamp\\_fox@ipmsusa.org](mailto:mid_carolina_swamp_fox@ipmsusa.org)

## **Mooreville/Race City Modelers**

Meeting Times: 3rd Sunday of the

month, 2pm to 5pm, at Fast Trax Raceway & Hobby, 1-50 Ostwalt Amity Rd, Troutman, NC, 28166

**Contact Name: George Witter**

Email: [gsw0882@gmail.com](mailto:gsw0882@gmail.com)  
[ipms\\_mooresvillerace\\_city\\_modelers@ipmsusa.org](mailto:ipms_mooresvillerace_city_modelers@ipmsusa.org)

## **Piedmont Scale Modelers**

Meeting Times: 2nd Saturday of the month at 10am-4pm at the Greenville Military History Center of the Carolinas at 14 Airport Road Ext. Greenville, SC

**Contact Name: Christopher Whitford**  
Email:

[greatbirdofthegalaxy@yahoo.com](mailto:greatbirdofthegalaxy@yahoo.com)  
[piedmont\\_scale\\_modelers@ipmsusa.org](mailto:piedmont_scale_modelers@ipmsusa.org)

## **Scale Modelers of Rowan County**

Meeting Times: 1st Sunday of every month at 1pm-4pm and the third Friday of every month at 6pm to 9pm At Christiana Lutheran Church on HWY 52 in Salisbury, NC

**Contact Name: Ed Funderbunk**

Email: [edvantage@prostead.com](mailto:edvantage@prostead.com)  
[ipms\\_scale\\_modelers\\_of\\_rowan\\_county\\_chapter@ipmsusa.org](mailto:ipms_scale_modelers_of_rowan_county_chapter@ipmsusa.org)

## **Spartanburg Scale Modelers**

Meeting times: 4th Saturday of the Month, 12pm-3pm; Spartanburg Memorial Airport; 500 Ammons Rd, Spartanburg, SC 29306

**Contact Tim Kirkland**

Email: [kirklandmr6@aol.com](mailto:kirklandmr6@aol.com)

## **Winston-Salem**

Meeting Times: 3rd Thursday of each month at 7PM; Southfork Community Center 4403 Country Club Road Winston-Salem, NC

**Contact Name: Steven Murphy**

Email: [pmurphy1970@gmail.com](mailto:pmurphy1970@gmail.com)  
[winston-salem@ipmsusa.org](mailto:winston-salem@ipmsusa.org)

Region 12 Coordinator

**Tim Kirkland**

170 Kensington dr #107

Spartanburg, SC 29306

Phone 864 504 0745

Email: [kirklandmr6@aol.com](mailto:kirklandmr6@aol.com)

(continued on page 22)



## A Message from Charlotte and Gaston County

Greetings fellow modelers,

We would like to invite you to the 2023 IPMS Region 12 Regional Contest hosted by Charlotte Scale Modelers and Gaston County Model Builders on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

The venue is at the Gaston County Citizens Resource Center, 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy, Dallas NC 28034. Some of you might have attended the successful Regional Contest held there in 2017.

We very much hope you'll mark us down on your calendars and come out to participate in what we hope will be a great show.

We will also be providing additional spaces for those who only want to display their work and not compete in the contest. A great way to share your craft and provide inspiration to other builders.

Attached is a copy of our contest flyer, contest categories, and a sample entry form. Please there will be a correction to the categories with the addition of 46A. Automobiles 1/9 & Larger.

As you see our main theme is "All Things RECCE", which can encompass anything reconnaissance or exploration, land, sea, air, or space, and even Sci-Fi. Additional themes are "All Things Great & Small", simply put we'll judge the best very large scale model and the very small scale model. Lastly, we have the "Last Decade of Real Cars - 1960-1969"

As with any contest we'd love to have contest category trophy sponsors. We haven't set a fee, we're only asking for a donation in whatever amount a club or individual can afford. Contact any of us listed below if interested.

We will be posting updated information about the contest, judging rules, sponsors, vendors, raffles, registration, and model entry forms. We will also be putting together a list of amenities to include area hotels for those wanting to spend the night. This information will be on our Facebook page:  
<https://m.facebook.com/100067006667600/>

and our Internet site:

<http://ipmscharlotte.org>

***Our webpage is currently down undergoing major work and upgrades. Please be patient.***

These links can also be found on the Events page of the IPMS-USA website.

Hope you all can make the trip to see us.

Christopher Fish  
Charlotte Scale Modelers  
[mrfishs@hotmail.com](mailto:mrfishs@hotmail.com)  
(704)451-5329

Dave Maher  
Charlotte Scale Modelers  
[dad4204@aol.com](mailto:dad4204@aol.com)

Roger Woods  
Gaston County Model Builders  
[sky4raider@gmail.com](mailto:sky4raider@gmail.com)

Lee Whitworth  
Gaston County Model Builders  
[dlw6290@hotmail.com](mailto:dlw6290@hotmail.com)

## Con Roundup

**May 20, 2023**

*"40th Smokey Mountain Con"*  
Knoxville Catholic High School  
9245 Fox Lonas Rd. NW  
Knoxville TN  
<https://www.knoxvillescalemodelers.com/annual-model-contest.html>

**July 15, 2023**

*"The Forbidden Contest"*  
Spartanburg SC  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/428551304620352>

**August 2nd - 5th, 2023**

*IPMS Nationals*  
Embassy Suites and San Marcos  
Convention Center  
San Marcos Texas  
<https://www.nats2023.com/>

**November 4, 2023**

*Region 12 Convention and Contest*  
*"All Things Recce"*  
1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy,  
Dallas, NC, 28034  
<https://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/chapter/ipmsgaston-county-model-builders>





# News from IPMS/USA

Region 12 Spotlight  
Regional Contest, 2023

*This is the "good news" email we received from Tim Kirkland, R12 Coordinator.*

Good morning R12 contacts.  
Hope all of y'all are well today. I Met several of y'all Saturday at the SCMA Show here in Spartanburg. However, I did miss some that did attend.

Late Friday I Received news about the progress of the rechartering. After confirming that all 14 of ours are rechartered, I saw only one other Region completely rechartered. I was informed later Friday night that our Region was the first to have all chapters done by 12 hours!!!

I want to thank all you officers that took time to do the system of club

profiles. Also, for attempting to keep good records on your part. I'm proud of all of you!

"ATTA BOY"

Let's move forward in submitting Bids for Chapter of the year, Member of the Year, Newsletter of the Year, and Website of the Year by March 1st. I'm sure we have Chapters that can receive the IPMS USA National award from these I've listed.

I look forward to our shows so far this Spring and Fall and maybe a few more scheduling more before long. Again, I'm proud of all of y'all for promoting and working for your Chapters and IPMS USA! ■

*-Tim Kirkland RC R12*



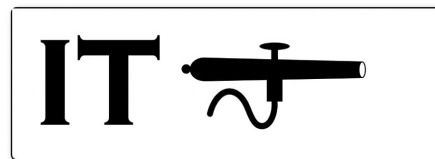
IPMS National Convention | Home  
nats2023.com



## The International Plastic Modelers' Society - USA

National Convention 2023

Embassy Suites and San Marcos  
Convention Center  
San Marcos, Texas  
August 2nd - 5th, 2023



## IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ If Renewing \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required by P.O.) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership ☐ Adult, 1 Year: \$30 ☐ Adult, 2 Years: \$58 ☐ Adult, 3 Years: \$86

☐ Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 ☐ Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Canada & Mexico: \$35 ☐ Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order

Payment Method: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order

Chapter Affiliation, (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_

# IPMS/USA

Join or Renew Online at: [www.ipmsusa.org](http://www.ipmsusa.org)

PO Box 1411

Riverview, FL 33568-1411



# Region 12 Chapters

(continued from page 16)

*The following clubs are non-IPMS groups but are included as a courtesy:*

## **Carolina Maritime Model Society**

Meeting time/date TBA at the North Carolina Maritime Museum, 315 Front St., Beaufort, NC, and the museum is a great meeting space.

<https://www.facebook.com/CMMSNC/>

## **Jacksonville NC Plastic Modelers**

Meeting times: 7pm every third Wednesday at The Hobby Chest, 345 Western Blvd, Jacksonville, NC. The Hobby Chest carries a great selection of hobby kits and supplies and is a grand center for tabletop gaming activities. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1319666224752922>

## **New Bern Maritime Modelers Guild.**

Meeting location: 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at 604 Guion St., New Bern, N. For up to date info on their meetings: <https://www.facebook.com/nbmmgnc>

## **Wilmington, NC Plastic Modelers**

meeting times: 2pm-4:30pm the 1st Saturday of each month. Meetings are held at the New Hanover County Public Library, Osprey room, 3802 S. College Rd. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117277425006833>

*This is the best up to date info we have on the scale model clubs in our region. Should you find an error or omission please contact the editor of this publication.*



# SitRep

## **AMPS 2023**

### **International Convention**

May 4 - 6, 2023

"The Pacific War" theme

Penn Harris Hotel

1150 Camp Hill Bypass,

Camp Hill, PA 17011

-Mark Gray

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## **REMEMBER!**

If you get this newsletter via email it's the **low** resolution version. The **HIGH** resolution version, (better suited for printing), can be downloaded from the chapter website:

[www.ecpmod.com/newsletters.html](http://www.ecpmod.com/newsletters.html)

## **Editor's Notes:**

*Greetings chapter members,*

*April's meeting was somewhat different. First, we were displaced from our normal meeting space by the yacht club, (I think a group build of torpedo bombers would be in order), so we met instead in the fire department space. Still a more than adequate space and thanks to Marshall Smith for the set up. (Seriously, Jeff would have been thereon time to help save for his navigator getting lost)*

*Second, there was a light offering of builds. I suppose this is to be expected given that the weather is improving and the outside beckons.*

*And third, we got so wrapped up in business and shop talk the air brush cleaning clinic completely went by the board.*

*Hopefully, now that we have a published schedule, we will be able to avoid issue #1 in the future. (see page 1.)*

*So next month marks the return of the quarterly group build. Everyone should remember to bring glue, hobby knives and other implements of destructions, tape, rubber bands, sandpaper, and seam filling putty.*

*Oh, a kit would be a good idea as well.*

*I had hoped to join you but urgent business calls me elsewhere. Guys, have a great meeting without me. ■*

-Editor

**The next meeting will be Saturday, May 20, 2023, 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm at the Fairfield Harbor Fire Department, 585 Broad. Creek Rd. It will be a GROUP BUILD! Bring your new builds and any work-in-progress projects. And check your email, facebook page and ECPM website in case changes are made in time and/or date.**

**Isn't it time you joined IPMS? [http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms\\_application\\_form\\_2019.pdf](http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms_application_form_2019.pdf)**