



(above) After several months of intense labor our armor guy, Charles Colucci, brought in a selection of finished builds including this M-3 Lee. Article begins on page 2

Meeting Debriefing

- by The Editors

Happy Thanksgiving All!!

Our November meeting was well represented with 16 in attendance: David Mohr, Dennis Korn, William Reece, Rodney and Melissa Huyett, (returning member) Gregory Marchlinski, Joe Gray, Robert Brackin, Charles Colucci, Dale Hansen, David Stiteler, Marshall Smith, Stephen Michel, Andy Fulcher, Alan Welch, and Jeff Maples. It was a good turn out with some new faces.

After introduction we launched right into old business.

Jeff Maples instituted our new "Name Tag" initiative, the feeling was this way new members and visitors would have names to associate with faces rather than our normal, "HEY YOU

...." (Of course, that could be a help for some of our more senior members as well) Tags will be stored onsite and each member can retrieve his or hers at the start of each meeting, returning them before leaving.

We then ponied up with yearly dues which Marshall gleefully accepted. Those who had paid earlier in the year were excused from paying again despite Marshall's protestations.

IPMS membership was next discussed and, surprisingly, it was discovered our original membership estimate was in error. We had originally thought we had 6 paid IPMS members but the actual count now stands at 11.

Well done ECPM.

(continued on page 7)

Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Meeting Debriefing | 1 |
| Regional Meetings | 1 |
| Con Roundup | 2 |
| Colucci's Tanks, Tanks, Tanks | 2 |
| Confessions of a Closet Modeler | 6 |
| On Model Rescues | 9 |
| Politicking in Plastic..... | 9 |
| ECPM Display Case | 10 |
| JOIN TODAY | 17 |
| IPMS News..... | 18 |
| AMPS | 19 |
| Editor's Notes..... | 19 |

Meetings

Contact & meeting info on regional model building groups and info on upcoming cons and other events.

New Bern Maritime Modelers Guild.
Meeting location: 604 Guion St., New Bern, NC the second Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon. For up to date info on their meeting: <https://www.facebook.com/nbmmgnc>

Wilmington, NC Plastic Modelers
meet on the 1st Saturday of each month. Meetings are held at the New Hanover County Public Library, Osprey room, 3802 S. College Rd, at 2:00 pm to 4:30. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117277425006833>

Jacksonville NC Plastic Modelers
meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 pm 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>
(continued on page 2)

Meetings

(continued from page 1)

IPMS Eagle Squadron General meeting on the second Sunday at 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at the American Legion Post 116 in Fuquay Varina and an Informal Build Night, Hangar 18 Hobbies in Cary the last Wednesday of each month from 6pm-8pm.
<https://www.facebook.com/IPMS-EagleSquadron>

Carolina Maritime Model Society
Next meeting will be at the North Carolina Maritime Museum, 315 Front St., Beaufort, NC, meeting time and date TBA. This group builds ships and boats and the museum is a great meeting space. <https://www.facebook.com/CMMSNC/>

Con Roundup

January 28, 2023

"Eagle Squadron Minicon"
American Legion Post 116
6400 Johnson Pond Rd.
Fuquay, NC
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/874411673009197>

February 25, 2023

2023 Old Dominion Open
Richmond Raceway Complex
Henrico Hall
600 East Laburnum Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
<http://ipmsrichmond.blogspot.com/>

Saturday, March 25, 2023

BeachCon 22
"The Best of the Beach"
800 Gabreski Lane
Myrtle Beach, SC
www.grandstrandscalemodelers.org/

August 2nd - 5th, 2023

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

Colucci's Tanks, Tanks, Tanks, Tanks

by Chuck Colucci

I suppose you all probably noticed that I haven't brought anything in for show and tell lately, but I have finally started to finish up some projects that I've been working on. So for this month, I have several models to share.

First up, I have my US M-3 Lee. The M-3's were designed in 1940 and produced from August 1941 thru December 1942 for the US and Britain. There were 6,258 produced. 2,887 were supplied to Britain as the M-3 Grant. Their primary armament consisted of (1) 75 mm gun in the hull and (1) 37 mm gun in the turret. The secondary armament consisted of 2-3-4x 30-06 Browning machine guns. The operational range was about 120 miles. Crew size was 7 for the Lee or 6 for the Grant.

The tank's overall performance was considered unsatisfactory and it was withdrawn from combat in most theaters as soon as the M-4 Shermans became available in larger numbers. However, the British continued use them against the Japanese in Southeast Asia until 1945.

As far as the model, this kit is an Academy 1/35 scale kit. I also got the Academy M-3 Grant which I will build at a later date. I highly recommend this kit. I build the Tamiya version a long time ago and from what I can remember, this kit is far superior as far as detail as well as fit with very little clean up of flash and mold marks.

The kit comes with a great interior. The only problem with that is you can not see any of it unless you build it with all the hatches open and the turret not installed. I didn't do that. I might build up the interior when I decide to build the Grant but I'll cross that bridge when I get to it at some later date. The model was painted with Tamiya paints and moderately weathered in my usual fashion with very little battle damage but lots of mud and dust. My build represents a vehicle that saw action in Bizerte, Tunisia in May of 1943.

(continued on page 3)

(below) Chuck's M3 side view. At its introduction it was lauded for having a 75mm gun regardless of its shortcomings.



Colucci Tanks, Tanks, Tanks

(continued from page 2)

Next up, in my quest to build all the German Panzer tanks, I got my PzKpfw V Panther Ausf.D. Ordnance designation is SdKfz 171. I decided to build a vehicle of the 1st Battalion, 15th Panzer Regiment, "Grossdeutschland" Division as depicted in Kursk, August 1943.

The vehicle was designed in 1942 and produced from 1943 - 1945 and 1946 - 1949, post war for France. It remained in service on the Eastern and Western fronts by Nazi Germany from mid 1943 til the end of the year in May of 1945 and by France from 1944 - 1949. There were a total of 6,000 vehicles built and it was operated by a 5 man crew. The main armament was a 75 mm gun while the secondary weapons consisted of (2) 7.92mm MG-34 machine guns. The operational range was 160 miles on road and 62 miles off road.

The model itself is a typical Tamiya kit in 1/35 scale. Although there are probably better kits available, this one was not bad at all. It was definitely way better than its predecessor of earlier times. The kit has adequate detail and goes together well with very little problems. The only problem I did run into was installing the tracks. The kit calls for installation of the tracks early in the assembly process but that would make painting them difficult. I therefore choose to paint them separately and install them later and I had trouble getting them to fit. I did finally get them on but I probably should have planned it out better.

Other than that I again painted the model with Tamiya paints and weathered as usual. I must point out, however that this was my first camouflage paint job and I think it turned out pretty good considering.

(continued on page 4)



(above) Chuck's Panther from the port side. This tank belonged to 1st Battalion, 15th Panzer about to go into the ill fated Kursk offensive.

(below) It must be before the offensive since it's still in one piece. This view shows the sloped, frontal armor to good effect. Rushed into production for this operation, a number of defects showed up much to the consternation of the crews.



Colucci Tanks, Tanks, Tanks

(continued from page 3)

My third model this month is my Zvezda 1/35 scale U.S.M.C. M4A2 Sherman of the Pacific Theater of Operations (PTO). 3rd Tank Battalion, Iwo Jima 1944-1945. The M4 Sherman was designed in 1940 by the U.S. Army Ordnance Department as a replacement for the M-3. The first prototype was produced in September 1941 and production continued from Feb. 1942 - July 1945. There was a total of 49,234 built with too many variants to list. It was produced with a 75 mm, 76 mm or 105 mm gun. It was also equipped with a .50 cal Browning and (2) .30 cal Browning machine guns. The vehicle carried a 5 man crew and had a range of 100-150 miles or 60-100 miles depending on the variant.

Again, the model is a 1/35 scale kit by Zvezda. I have never built a kit by them before and was surprised as to the quality of this kit. Detail was good and the kit parts fit like a glove. It comes with molded track sections rather than the typical rubber band type tracks that are typical of other kits. The wooden planks attached to the sides of the hull actually came from another kit. The model was again painted and weathered as usual.

Fourth up is my Italian M-47 Patton. With an updated turret, the M-47 was a development of the M-46. This was the second US tank to be named after George S. Patton. It was developed in 1949 to replace the M-4 Sherman, M-26 Pershing and the M-46 Patton. The M-47 was produced from 1951 until 1954 and there were 8,576 built. Armament consisted of (1) 90 mm gun, (1) .50 cal machine gun and (2) .30 cal. machine guns. It was operated with a 5 man crew. The M-47 never saw action with the US Army but was extensively used by many other nations.

(continued on page 5)



(above and left) The classic Sherman showing its distinctive high silhouette and cast turret.

(below) The M-47 Patton in Italian service complete with armament modifications.



Colucci Tanks, Tanks, Tanks,

(continued from page 4)



My model represents a vehicle that was supplied to the Italian Army. There was a total of 2,580 units delivered to Italy and remained in service from 1952 - 1959. They replaced the aging Semoventi M-41 & M-42 da 75/15, M-4 Sherman and other vehicles based on Sherman hulls.

From the late 1950's thru 1960 they were modified in Italian factories. Some of the modifications included removing the hull machine gun and covering the hole with an armor plate eliminating the hull machine gunners seat and the 7.62 mm side rack. The hull machine gunners hatch was welded shut. This enabled the operational crew to be reduced to four. Also the Browning coaxial machine gun was replaced with an Italian made Beretta 7.62 mm machine gun.



The model is an Italian 1/35 scale kit and though the kit has been around for a while, it really is not bad. I basically built it out of the box with no added detail. The Italian markings come with the kit so they needed not be purchased separately. The kit went together well and was painted and weathered in my usual fashion.

Last up for this month is my Tamiya US- M24 Chaffee named after US Army General Adams R. Chaffee Jr.

(continued on page 17)

(left top) Another view of the M-47 Patton. This was an updated and improved version of the M-46 of the same name and was widely distributed during the Cold War.



(left middle and bottom) Starring in several war movie, including "Battle of the Bulge", the M-24 Chaffee was a light tank that really looked battle worthy. Carrying a 75mm main gun she was able to fight for her information during reconnaissance. As all American tanks post M-3 she carried a 5 man crew.

Confessions of a Closet Modeler

By David Stiteler



In October family obligations got in the way of a lot of plans, like doing a bit of vacationing and taking time off from work to enjoy, for once without interruption, my hobbies. I was hoping to catch up on both the B-17 and my CJ5 out in the driveway, but to no avail. My wife's sister and mother went to Ohio at the end of September and spent two weeks, leaving my wife and I being caretakers to their cats and German Shepard. The dog spent his vacation at our house; the cats, all five of them stayed at their home.

Now, the week of the meeting, I find myself being volunteered to go to Dayton, Ohio, where I would have liked to spend some of my vacation time, to help my wife's brother back home from the hospital after having his back surgery rescheduled. You got it, when Mom and Sis where in Ohio, they were there for sister-in-law, who was herself in the hospital at the time. Time to set my hobbies aside-again.

While we were in Dayton though, I was able to escape for a few hours to the National Museum of the Air Force, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Years ago, that place was a home away from home to me and boy has it changed. The whole purpose of going there for

me was to see the recently displayed bomber, the B-17, "Memphis Belle". This aircraft has a great history, as I'm sure most of you already know, and it took over ten years of work to complete a most beautiful restoration. Getting to see it up close and personal was a treasure, and I do plan on going back again, hopefully alone, with no family obligations, and just soak in the atmosphere for as long as I can.

After getting back home and trying to get back into a normal routine, one day we were out running errands and I was asked to stop by Hobby Lobby. My wife needed something for something and since it was Hobby Lobby, I wasted no time in getting there. She went her way, I headed for the model isle. You know, paints, brushes and any other supplies I might need would be there. I wasn't even thinking about models, until I spotted that sign hanging on the racks, "40% off all boxed model kits". And wouldn't you know it, staring me in the face on the bottom shelf was not one, not two, but three 1/72nd scale Academy B-17's of ... you guessed it, "Memphis Belle".

I must have been standing there for some time, just staring back at that beautiful box art of one of the most famous B-17's in the world when

I suddenly heard those immortal words spoken from behind me, "Don't you dare." Such a dilemma, looking back over my shoulder at my wife with that look most husbands have seen when they are not amused, and then back to the box art of fame. Decisions, decisions, decisions. And then I made mine, reaching down to grab ONE, putting it under my arm and seeing the eye roll and hearing, "Oh Lord". I walked out with yet another model to add to my B-17's. It seems I've developed a Flying Fortress fixation lately.

Obviously, this will be a future project. And yes, I will complete the B-17 currently in work. And I will complete it in this decade, as promised to my wife and the owner of the model. The visit to the Air Force Museum and seeing Memphis Belle was a great source of inspiration to get back to work. "Thunderbird" deserves to be finished and fly into the sunset, as it will be heading back to Oklahoma once finished where it belongs. With a little luck, and some peace and quiet I can get that mission accomplished. With the holidays coming up, and hopefully, my full retirement, that will happen. So, for now, I wish everyone a safe and very Happy Thanksgiving! See ya in December. ■

- David Stiteler

Meeting

(continued from page 1)

Next item of old business was by Jeff Maples who is rationalizing the member roster and bringing it up to date. He passed around a Excel sheet and everyone present was invited to update and/or correct their information which you all did like bosses.

Jeff then reminded all that on our ECPM website (ecpmod.com) is the sign-up sheet for December's meeting Potluck Lunch is live and ready for your contribution. Simply go on to our website and see the menu on the left. Click on "Chapter Business" and then scroll to the bottom of that page. Type in your name, email, and the food item(s) you are bringing December 17th. Thanks!

This is an event that no one should miss as there will be a Hobby Chest Raffle, too. Hey! You already had me at Free Lunch!

We then moved on to new business

Marshall Smith delivered the treasurer's report and we are still solvent, especially after collecting dues from the ten members renewing.

Alan Welch passed around 4 designs for an updated logo for the group and one was a clear favorite. (This is not a solid referendum. The image is shown here so all members, even those not in attendance, can make their opinions known)



After logo discussion, Alan also discussed the lack of progress on setting up a club sponsored "Make 'N Take" for young Marines at Cherry Point. There seems to be little to no interest shown, so working through the Single Marine office seems to be a dead end. If that changes in the future we'll review the idea at that point.

In the meantime, Jeff Maples paid a visit to Veterans Hall at Wilmington North Carolina University (UNCW) that now has a building dedicated to student veterans). Much enthusiasm was received by the front desk admin who works with those who arrange for student veteran events. Presently, their events for 2022 have been filled, so Jeff will pursue this conversation further at the beginning of next year.

After that it was off to giving away free stuff and showing off our builds.

Since Jeff still had the floor (from talking about UNCW), he showed 2 items he wanted to give away. First, were 4 sets of vac-u-form Perforated Steel Planking (PSP) for 1:48 planes that he would never use. These made it to William Reece who had brought a F4U Corsair that the set would be perfect for. Second, a set of white metal landing gear for a 1:48 ROKAF (Republic of Korea Air Force) T-50 jet trainer that Jeff knew he would never use. Jeff then passed the landing gear to David Mohr who had a fun surprise for us. Read on...

David Mohr led off the Display Case of models brought by speaking about finding kits in unusual venues. (See David's article on page 6) He then showed several kits he had "rescued" at bargain basement prices. After that he moved on to the mystery kit, an aircraft accidentally left at one of our events, which was, actually, identified as a Academy 1/48 T-50B Black Eagles Republic of Korea Air Force! The mystery kit was the exact model that needed the white metal landing gear. How crazy is

that? Dennis Korn chimed in saying, this mystery model should become a 'conveyor belt-group-build' where all members who wished to contribute parts can finish the model. Jeff predicted that with the last contribution to the model, it would turn out to be a flying tank.

William Reece spoke about the new Eduard "filmless" decals and showed some tests he had worked on, they look very impressive. He also showed a number of his 1/48 builds including a carrier based SBD and a spectacular F4U Corsair. He brought in a WIP of a P-39 as well that should be finished for December!

Rodney, "I like the oddball stuff", Huyett showed another pair of kits he is waiting to build. Raumpanser "Tiger – Rammtiger. (Yes, a tank designed for knocking things down), apparently built on a Porsche tiger chassis as that didn't fail badly enough as an AT mount.

And second, was a Hütter 136, truly a dead end, oddball ground attack aircraft. This made the BV-141 look rational.

Greg Marchlinski brought an A-4 Skyhawk as a WIP. It's a 1/72 which is not his scale of choice. More to his choice was a larger scale German mounted cavalryman in 1/16 scale. This is rather an unusual subject so we're all excited to watch the progress.

Greg also brought in a large box of much appreciated IPMS Journals and other reference materials to give away to chapter members.

Joe Gray was up next and, while not having a model to show, he was getting ready to buy an airbrush and compressor and asked advice on which way to go. There were a number of suggestions on brands and outlets and we hope we were of help to him.

(continued on page 8)

Meeting

(continued from page 7)

Robert Brackin brought in a spectacular Knight from the Crusades. It was a 90mm casting painted with hobby craft paints and his technique continues to get better and better.

Next, 2022 new member Dale Hansen, displayed 3 model oil tankers built from research done scuba diving on the actual wrecks off the coast of North Carolina that were torpedoed by U-boats! There was some confusion about the exact locations as to where some of these wrecks ended up and Dale has been instrumental in locating the hulks with his research and scuba diving skills. To help him locate these sunken ships, he re-created the 3 oil tanker models with the damage (i.e. torpedo blast holes, fire damage) reported from visual siting records and he, impressively, managed to read through Kriegsmarine battle logs giving the other side of these actions. This chapter continues to get more interesting all the time. We hope to have a newsletter article on this effort sometime in the future.

David Stiteler has added to his stable of B-17 models. (the full story is on page 6) So he has now added a 1/72 kit to the 1/48 kit he is also building.

But he also related that he has discovered Bombshell decals that will allow him to build another of his dream projects, the 1/48 scale A-26 known as "Dream Girl".

In fairness, this was partly inspired by the tragedy in Dallas involving the "Texas Raider".

Then it was Chuck Colucci's turn to show off his newest armor builds. (our lead article this month)

He had five (!) finished tanks including an M-47 Patton in Italian service, A Tamiya Panther Ausf D,

an M-3 Lee medium by Academy, this was followed by a Bandai M-4a3 operation on Iwo Jima. Last up was an M-24 Chaffee light tank. The article goes into much deeper detail.

Our esteemed treasurer, Marshall Smith, detailed his progress on the fable V-22 Osprey. He has painted pieces and this time not even grey color. He has expanded his palette.

Steve Michel showed an MPC kit from 1973 of the "Pearl Harbor Attack". The kit comes complete with a base encompassing a destroyed P-40, American ground troops, and an Aichi D-3 Val dive bomber. It looked like a fun build except for the fact that the decals took about an hour's soak time to release!

His other model, though not plastic, was a stick and tissue Christmas aircraft. It's a flying model complete with Santa which he does not fly but it decorates a tree each year during the holidays. Sweet, Steve.

Andy Fulcher talked about the wooden boat project that has been constructed, deconstructed, reconstructed so often that this boat has become a living legend. Andy says he removed another pair of boards for replacement so if removing parts is considered progress then progress has definitely been made . . . we think.

Next up was Alan Welch who brought . . . a SHIP!! Alan brought in the Trumpeter 1/350 kit of the John W. Brown which he is building to be the "Zebulon B. Vance". This Liberty Ship is notable as she was the first Liberty built in Wilmington and she was launched on December 6, 1941, ironic date.

Jeff Maples brought in an older build. This would be his 1:48 1983 released Airfix Ju-87A/B Stuka. Jeff stated he was very proud back in 2012 when he bought this kit for \$5.00. He had just got back into building again

and the Stuka was one of his favorite planes of WW2. He got through the whole build with no problem and really enjoyed one of his first airbrushing trials with this Stuka. So, finally, it comes to simply putting on the (now) 30+ year old decals. What could go wrong? Let's just say the decals didn't just crack but they, actually, evaporated. Once the blue backed sheet was pulled out of the water, all that was left was the blue backer sheet. Simple solution...go online and buy Stuka decal. Which he did find at the cost from \$15 to \$25 dollars. Yikes! That's 3 to 5 times the cost of the model. NOPE. Next...go to contests/shows and find the decal vendor. I'll shorten this for you. No vendor had 1:48 WW2 German ANYTHING! Apparently, they were bought up by other builders and put them online for \$15 to \$25 dollars! The final solution ended up being purchasing the newly-tooled Airfix 2017 Stuka kit for \$30 that offered 2 markings...Battle of Britain (the ones he needed) and the Spanish Civil War (X in a circle). So, now, at least he has 2 different Stukas...1 expensive-cheap Stuka and 1 expensive-expensive Stuka. ■

-Editors



it's time to re-up!

**Join or Renew your membership
in ECPM,
IPMS,
and AMPS.**



NOVEMBER IS RENEWAL MONTH, DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND

On Model Kit Rescues

-by David Mohr



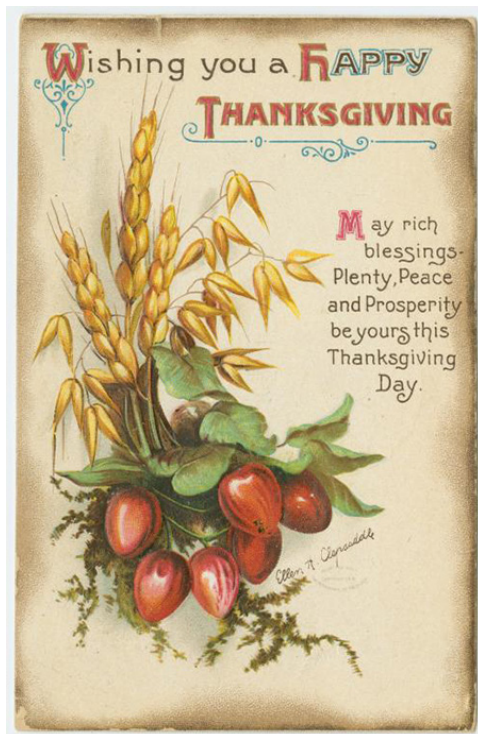
My wife has a part-time business in the resale of antiques and other collectables. To keep a steady flow of inventory, we visit literally dozens of thrift stores, antique malls and even garage sales each year in search of things that might have resale potential. I make it a point to be on the lookout for model kits and have purchased a fair number from such sources over the years.

This activity is referred to as "Model Kit Rescue" since I often find them unwanted or alone and give them a new home. The photo represents the results of a recent trip to visit our son in Huntsville, Alabama, stopping in more than a dozen places in seven different states.

This acquisition method will not get you the latest 1,000 piece multi-media wonder from overseas, but most of these were very reasonably priced – most under \$20. And many older kits can be made into something special with a little TLC and skill.

A word of advice, though – always ask to open the box if it is not factory sealed. For some reason vendors like to put partly or completely built models, generally of poor quality, back in the box and call it "complete". Happy Hunting! ■

-David Mohr



Politicking in Plastic

For 2023, ECPM will need to vote active members in official chapter positions. Each of the following offices are open to any active members who wish to run:

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary/Chapter Contact, Chapter Historian, and Webmaster.

This was discussed at the October 15th meeting, and as per Robert's Rules of Order, members were nominated from the floor by calling out their name. They are the following:

President: Alan Welch

Vice President: Jeff Maples

Treasurer: Marshall Smith

Secretary/Chapter Contact: Mark Sandvigen

Chapter Historian: Andy Fulcher

Webmaster: Jeff Maples

Again, these are the nominations for now. Voting will take place at our December 17th meeting when we should have a larger group/caucus to make the vote fair.

This means that if any active member or future active member (paying dues by our December meeting. *No later.*) is eligible to vote and/or run for and hold any of the above ECPM positions/offices. **Please announce your intentions at our December 17th meeting so your name can be added to the ballot before voting commences. The positions will be voted on and announced at the December meeting.**

Thanks. ■

-Jeff Maples

E.C.P.M. DISPLAY CASE

ART: CAROL PEARL



(above) William Reece brought in his finely detailed 1/48 SBD-3 Dauntless



(above) Another of Mr. Reece's 1/48 Pacific Theater war-plane, this time a spectacularly aged F4U Corsair.



(above) Another of William Reece's soon-to-be additions, this time WIP project of a 1/48 Monogram P-39 Airacobra showing some of the office detail. The love and attention William adds into his builds is amazing.



(above) The Colucci Armor Park on display last Saturday. Full descriptions in the article on page 2.



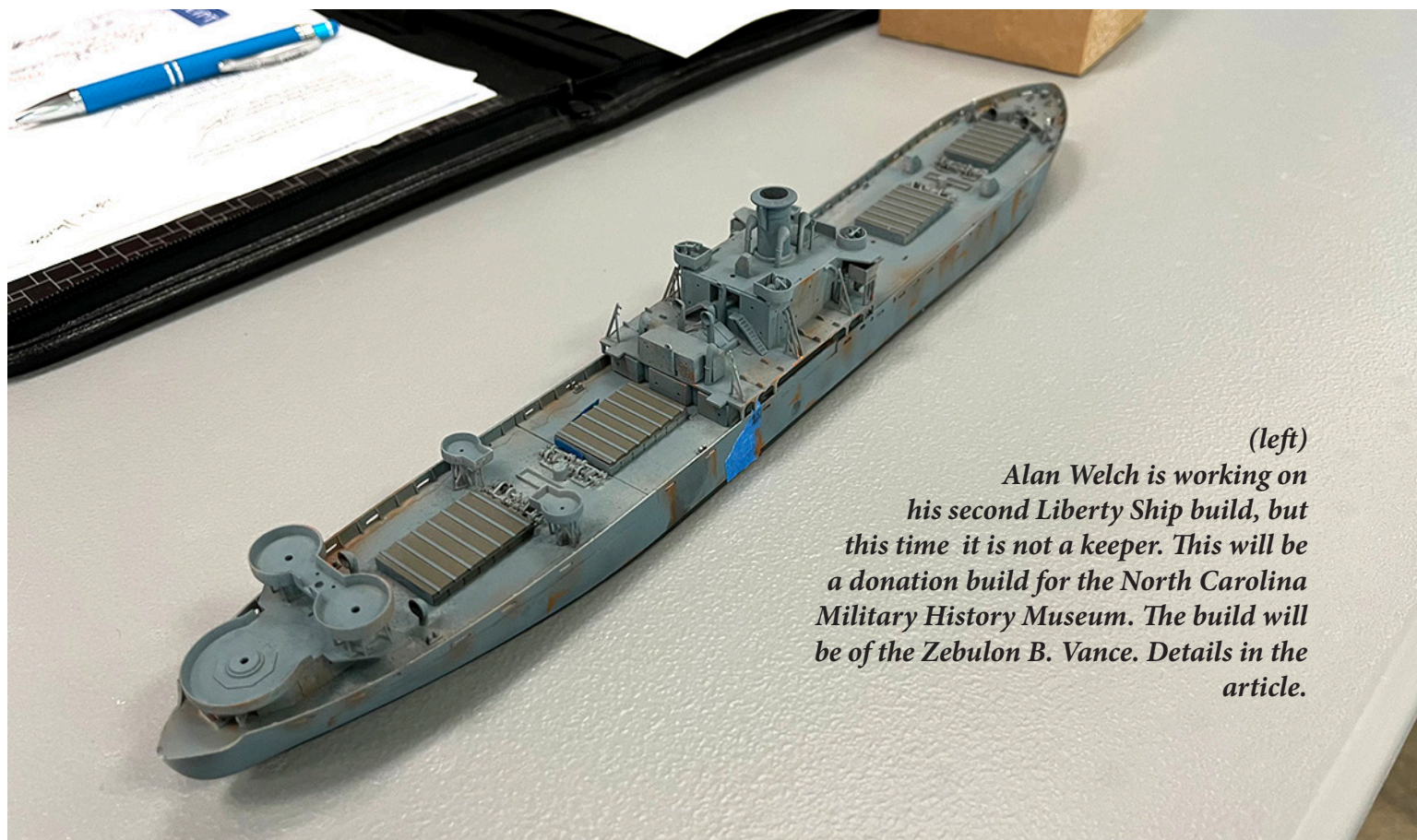
(left) Steve Michel's Pearl Harbor attack dio. Nicely set on a wooden base with a scratch built stand for the Val.

(below) William Reece's Bf-109f in the process of becoming Hans-Joachim Marseille's yellow 14 in North Africa.





(above)
 The “orphaned” T-50 brought back by David Mohr and the first of the donated parts, metal landing gear. Jeff had brought the gear in to offer to anyone who could use them since he did not need them and, (what were the odds), they were actually gear for this particular aircraft!



(left)
 Alan Welch is working on his second Liberty Ship build, but this time it is not a keeper. This will be a donation build for the North Carolina Military History Museum. The build will be of the Zebulon B. Vance. Details in the article.



(above) Robert Brackin is back to figures, this time a Crusade era knight standing at ease. Robert used a rub down transfer for the Angels and they worked perfectly.

(right) A different angle of sir knight, Robert gets the best results out of the craft acrylics he uses.





(above) Steve Michel's stick and tissue "flyer", although he never flies it. (unless you count when he places it on top of his Christmas tree. After all, it DOES have Santa, a reindeer and a Christmas stamp!)

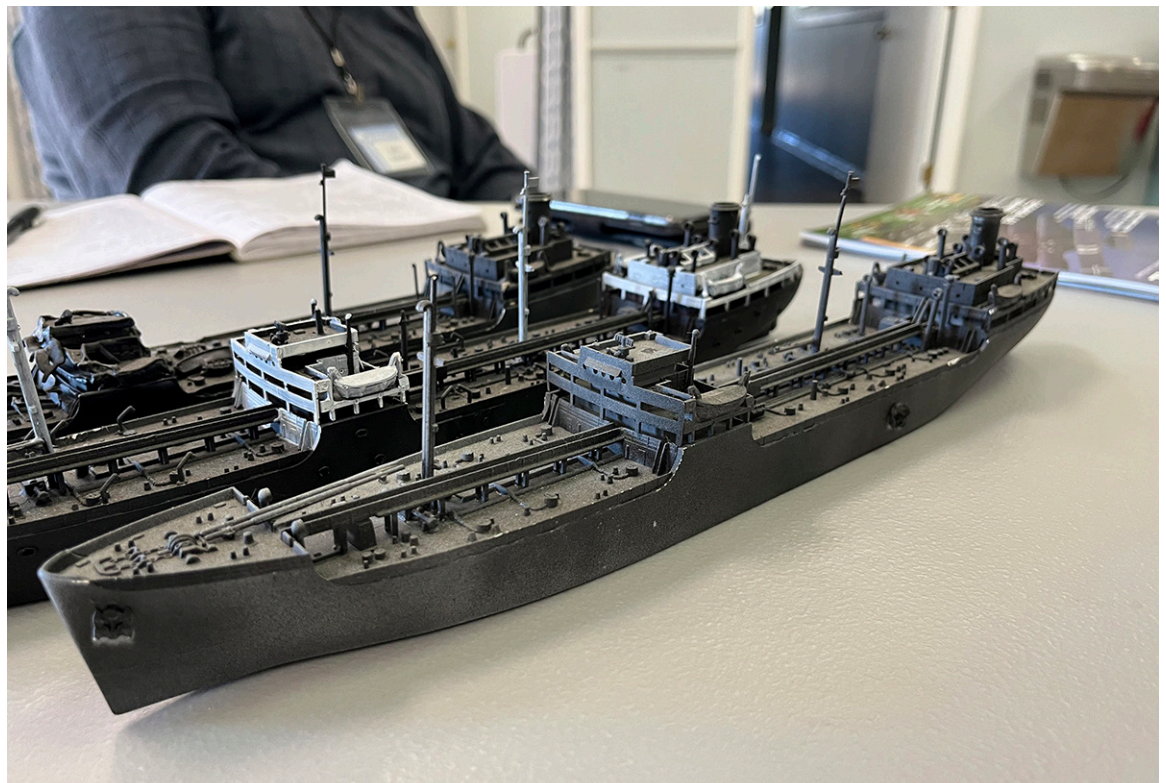
(right) Another view of David Mohr's orphaned T-50. We have the plane, the instructions and (now) metal landing gear. All we need now is a canopy, wheels, exhaust, decals, etc., etc., etc.





(above) Dale Hansen displays his sunken trio. Dale takes his research to new depths by actually diving on the wrecks to collect data.

(below) Dale was also able to obtain access to U-Boat war logs to help him find the actual plots of the attacks on these tankers. Then he built models both before and after. Quite impressive.





(above) Steve Michel brought in the original box as well as his built version of MPC's Pearl Harbor Attack kit. Base, dive bomber and defending troops included.

(below) And here it is in real life. (Well, real plastic anyway) Steve had to fabricate a stand for the Val to be displayed as airborne.





JOIN TODAY

Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers chapter, but our DownEastCon in the future. To be blunt, it makes the DownEastCon possible.

As a sanctioned chapter we can operate under the **IPMS** insurance umbrella which is needed to host DownEastCon. Without that we would have to buy our own coverage or move our event from the Havelock site if we could find one that would let us operate without coverage. And frankly, the club and every one of us do not want to operate with that kind of liability.

Also, there is the aspect of support from other **IPMS** chapters. There is no need for the rest of the Region 12 chapters to sponsor awards and promote a non-**IPMS/AMPS** contest. Many of our contestants, judges, and raffle-ticket buyers came from other **IPMS** Regional chapters and even outside of our own Region 12.

Understand that the above holds a lot of value to just be thrown away.

There are other valuable reasons to join **IPMS/AMPS**. There are the bi-monthly journals, the **IPMS/AMPS** branded merchandise available, the options, benefits, and con information found on the clubs' websites, and the spiffy membership cards.

Right now we meet the **IPMS** minimum membership requirements. But considering the unpredictabilities faced in the world today it would be wise to increase the number of members as a safety measure.. As a

group we need to increase our membership to protect our good standing as a sanctioned **IPMS** chapter and to continue receiving the many benefits that come with that status.

Remember, it's National structure supports show, regions, clubs - combo of insurance, national publicity, etc. And on a local level the regional structure supports that effort with regional contests, regional publicity, and support.

This is why I urge all who can to join **IPMS** and **AMPS** to keep our advantage up to date. So, let's make this November meeting our **ECPM Dues + IPMS/AMPS** enrollment month.■

Addendum from John Ratzenberger

You know, this IPMS/AMPS membership thing - I wonder how many of our members have been to the IPMS National or AMPS National, or even any of the Regionals. Andy & I were regulars on that circuit for 10 years or so - and judged at those shows. ECPM used to travel pretty well to local shows. Folks who just hang in their basement or their local club are missing a lot. They'd probably understand more if they got out more. Years ago, we competed every year for Website of the Year - even had some of our members at the Nationals Award Dinner cheering for us. We competed strongly against the big boys, were known for a great show and for being fair judges, and for supporting others by sponsoring awards and by traveling to their shows and judging. We were little guys but had a big rep as team players and that gave us a voice at the table regionally and nationally. That's the non-monetary benefit.

Dear ECPM chapter members, I'd like you to join the two national organizations our chapter is part of . . . International Plastic Modelers' Society and Armor Modeling and Preservation Society.

First, we hear a lot of noise about how this hobby is dying. Whether or not you agree with this, it is certainly clear that scale model building IS changing and being part of an international organization certainly helps all of us keep current with these changes. And the more we support this hobby, the more of a chance it has to survive.

We have in our club a microcosm of this change - wood, composite modeling, 3-D parts manufacturing, resin, photo etch, and those who find great pleasure in taking something crude (early Airfix and Revell models) and making something beautiful.

As **IPMS** members we can share in the change and help guide it. The fact that our newsletter is read literally around the world is made possible in part to our presence at **IPMS** and their regular newsletter blast. We should not squander this reputation for excellence for the cost of less than a trip to McDonalds.

Also, we need to think how being an **IPMS** Chapter affects not only our



News from IPMS/USA

Region 12 Spotlight
Regional Contest, 2023

The Eagle Squadron has successfully re-scheduled their MiniCON to January 28, 2023.

Until then, happy holidays to you all.

<https://www.ipmseaglesquadron.org/minicon-2022>

Most of you will have seen posts of our canceling the November '22 date due to storm Nicole.

With that being said, the MiniCON location, time, categories, and rules are all staying the same. We are even using the 2022 forms we have already printed. So, no worries.

Here is something new, we'll be in 2 buildings. The contest and the vendors will each have their own building on the American Legion grounds.



IPMS National Convention | Home
nats2023.com



The International Plastic Modelers' Society - USA

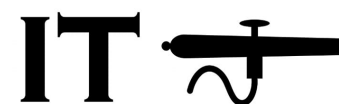
National Convention 2023

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

PO Box 1411

Riverview, FL 33568-1411

Colucci Tanks

(continued from page 5)

The M-24 was designed in an effort to replace the M-3 Stuart light tank and was produced from April 1944 thru April 1945. It saw service with the US Army in the late part of WWII and other post war conflicts through 1953. There were 4731 units build for US service and 28 other nations.

It was equipped with a 75 mm main gun, (1) .50 cal. Browning and (2) 30-06 Browning machine guns. It had a Max. speed of 35 mph and a range of around 100 miles. It had a 5 man crew. The first 34 vehicles reached Europe in November 1944 and used by the US 2nd Cavalry Group in France. These 35 tanks were then issued to troop F and divided between the 2nd and the 42nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons during the Battle of the Bulge in Dec. 1944. My model represents a vehicle from the 42nd.

Again the kit is a Tamiya in 1/35 scale and an excellent build. It has individual track links and great detail. Also comes with a metal barrel. I had some trouble with the tracks but other than that, it was a pretty standard build with no real problems.

My only issue was that it comes with optional side skirts and I couldn't get the to fit over the tracks. From what I can find, a great number of vehicles did not have them installed anyway so no great loss.

Well that's it for this month and next up are my two German Tiger tanks, hopefully to be complete by our December meeting. ■

-Chuck Colucci



SitRep

AMPS Atlanta and Atlanta Military Figure Show 2023

Feb. 17, 2023

The Hilton Atlanta Northeast
5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd,
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

AMPS Armor & Miniature Figure Contest

April 14 - 15, 2023

Santa Rosa County Auditorium
4530 Spikes Way,
Milton, FL 32583

AMPS 2023

Internatinal Convention

May 4 - 6, 2023

"The Pacific War" theme

Penn Harris Hotel
1150 Camp Hill Bypass,
Camp Hill, PA 17011

-Mark Gray

**When in Jacksonville
experience a REAL
hobby shop again.
VISIT:**



Your place for:

Models, Radio Control, Airsoft,
Board Games, Trading Cards,
Collecibles, Warhammer!

Wed. - Sat. 11am - 9pm

Sunday: 12:00 - 6:00pm

345-A Western Blvd.

Jacksonville, NC 28546

910-353-4473

info@hobbychest.com

since 1992

Editor's Notes:

It was a delight seeing another earlier member return to a meeting and introduce himself to us newer guys. Greg Marchlinski returned and brought a treasure trove of publications and knowledge to share. Welcome back Greg, it was a distinct pleasure to meet you.

I will just say that if you are a legacy member and still on the mailing list then I speak to you now. The hobby, and the chapter, is always changing and you could be part of that change. And the December meeting would be an excellent time to come back, meet the new members and restore some old friendship and, as an added treat, enjoy some great food. (December will be our group lunch which was pretty outrageous last year. You can check it out in this back issue of the newsletter:

https://www.ecpmod.com/uploads/6/7/9/5/6795095/february_2022_issue.pdf

And if that isn't enough, We'll be repeating our raffle for a \$100 gift certificate from Hobby Chest in Jacksonville. (see ad at left) GEEZ, can things get any better? Well, yes.

I also want to remind everyone that there will be an IPMS regional contest scheduled for next year. Details will be posted here as soon as they are available.

Happy holiday season to all chapter members and friends and I'll see you at the lunch. ■

-Editor

The next meeting will be Saturday, December 17, 2022, 12:00 pm until 2:00 pm at the Fairfield Harbor Fire Department, 585 Broad. Creek Rd. Please bring your new builds and any work-in-progress projects and **POTLUCK DISH. 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