

Celebrate America's Birthday at ECPM's "Americana"

DownEastCon.

Everything you need to enter and enjoy the
DownEastCon 2026 "Americana"

July 18, 2026, Haelock Tourist and Event Center
201 Tourist Center Drive
Havelock, North Carolina 28532



IPMS R 12 Regional July 18, 2026 Havelock Tourist and Event Center



Special "Americana Theme" rules:

There are no categories or scale divisions, all kits will be judged together as a theme class. All theme builds must be placed on the theme table(s) where they will be judged. Only models of subjects in the categories listed below will be allowed to participate in the Theme Contest.

NOTE:

Models entered in the Americana theme contest will be judged **only** in the theme contest. They are not eligible for competition in any other category. All entries for the theme award must be placed on the Theme Tables only. If they are mistakenly placed in their normal category area they will be eligible and judged for that category only. (A 1/72 P-51 would be judged in category 04)

X. DEC26 Special Categories for the America, Inspiration and Innovation Theme

Ships:

1000 USS Constitution, any scale
1000 Liberty Ship, any scale
1000 USS Nautilus (SSN-571), any scale

Planes:

1000 Wright Brothers Flyer, any scale
1000 DC-3 /C47, any scale
1000 Lockheed F117 Nighthawk, any scale

Armor:

1000 US Abrams, M1, M1A1, M1A2, M1A3,
US service, any scale
1000 US Willy's Jeep, any scale
1000 US Sherman M4, any model in US service,
WW-II or Korea, any scale

Automotive:

1000 Model T Ford, any scale
1000 Chevy Corvette, ('53-'67), any scale
1000 Harley Davidson, any scale, any era

Other:

1000 Space Shuttle/Space Program, any scale
1000 Moon Landing, Vehicles and Equipment, any scale
1000 Americana Diorama, any scales, any era

DownEastCon 2026 Contest Rules - 1

DownEastCon 2026 “Americana” Contest Rules

- 01.** Models will be judged against each other based on standard IPMS judging guidelines. **Each category will have a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.** There is no Out of Box (OOB) award. First place models in a category are eligible to be judged for “Best of Class” (901-910) Special Awards. Only the Best of Class winners are eligible to be judged for the “Best of Show” (910) Special Award. Any “theme model” is eligible for the Theme Special Award only and must be placed on the Theme Category section only.
- 02.** A contestant can enter a maximum of ten (10) models total of which no more than 6 per class and no more than 2 per category. Should a contestant wish to enter additional models they would be able to buy a space block of 5 additional models for an additional \$5.00. A modified “No Sweeps” rule is in effect that states a modeler cannot take all 3 places in a category but can take 2 of 3 places. (NOTE: Juniors classes are exempt from this rule and can enter unlimited models)
- 03.** This is a family-friendly show. The Head Judge may exclude from competition and/or public display and entries which he/she considers to be offensive to generally acknowledged standards of taste and acceptability. This does not apply to historical aircraft nose-art.
- 04.** All entries must be the sole work of the individual whose name is on the registration and entry forms, with the exception of category 001 where juniors may have limited parental aid subject to judges’ acceptance. However, a surrogate may bring another person’s model, but the registration must be that of the builder. Commercially built and/or finished models (die-cast, etc) won’t be accepted for entry in any category.
- 05.** Models are entered solely at the entrants’ risk. Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers does not assume any liability for loss or damage to any model. Models may be handled during judging. If necessary, we will ask the modeler to remove display cases prior to judging. If you do not want your model touched, please state so in writing in the notes section (on page 1 of the Model Builder Registration). This statement must include your cell phone number so you can be called to move your own model. If you do not respond to the call, your model will not be judged.
- 06.** Vignettes vs. Dioramas: The number of subjects (vehicles and/or figures) will determine in which category an entry is placed.
Vignettes: A single vehicle and/or no more than 5 figures. Vignettes will be placed in the proper Class/Category.
Dioramas: Dioramas are story-centric, specifically built to tell a story or convey a message, and with 2 or more vehicles and/ or more than 5 figures. Dioramas will be placed in Class VII and the appropriate category(ies). The storyline will be considered equally to construction and finish of the individual subjects, figures, and other presentation components. Builds and dioramas largest measurement must be no more than twenty four inches, (24”). Larger sizes must have prior clearance from the Chief Judge to be displayed.
- 07.** Junior entrants ages 13 to 17 (category 002) may compete in either their junior category OR any other category their model would be eligible for competing, but not both. Please fill in the category you wish to enter.
- 08.** The Contest Registration Committee will assist in determining entry class and category at the time of registration. If an entry qualifies to be in more than one category (i.e., a 1/32 biplane could be either 101 or 109) the entrant may select which category he would like the model to compete. In all cases the final determination rests with the Chief Judge and the decision of the Chief Judge is final. A category may be split or combined at the discretion of the Chief Judge to balance numbers of entries for competition.
- 09.** Judging: IPMS guideline standards will be used with every numbered category. Judges are not allowed to judge a category in which they are entered. For the “American Icons” theme, models within this Class will be judged together no matter their native category.
- 10.** An entry which has won a Gold/1st place medal or the People’s Choice Award in any previous DownEastCon will be placed on our Display Only Table. Silver and Bronze winners of previous DownEastCons can be judged for 2026. Those models that won₂

DownEastCon 2026 Contest Rules - 2

Gold/1st place in other contests can be entered for judging.

11. Automotive Category Definitions.

FACTORY STOCK - A vehicle as it would have come from the factory paint; must resemble factory paint; wheels can be replaced. Documentation may be requested for any vehicle that appears unusual.

HOT/STREET RODS, STREET MACHINES - Modified vehicles intended to be street driven. Models must be street legal; treaded tires, exhaust systems, license plate, etc.

COMPETITION (open wheel and/or closed wheel) - Those vehicles intended for a track (whether round, left/right or straight).

COMMERCIAL - (Heavy and/or light) - Those vehicles intended for the service industry (think of your local plumber up to long

hall trucker), They would have some sort of marking to indicate which industry for which they are working.

CUSTOMS - Vehicles that have undergone extensive body work, designed for display competitions, and may or may not be street legal.

12. Theme Competition and awards

- To be entered in the "Americana Theme" competition all models must be of one of the categories on the published Americana list. (shown at right) Models of other subjects will not be judged.

13. All theme models will judged together as one class/category regardless of their native categories and scale. Americana entries will only be judged as theme entries and will not compete in their respective class/category classifications. 🚫

X. DEC26 Special Categories for the America, Inspiration and Innovation Theme

Ships:

1000 USS Constitution, any scale
1000 Liberty Ship, any scale
1000 USS Nautilus (SSN-571), any scale

Planes:

1000 Wright Brothers Flyer, any scale
1000 DC-3 /C47, any scale
1000 Lockheed F117 Nighthawk, any scale

Armor:

1000 US Abrams, M1, M1A1, M1A2, M1A3, US service, any scale
1000 US Willy's Jeep, any scale
1000 US Sherman M4, any model in US service,
WW-II or Korea, any scale

Automotive:

1000 Model T Ford, any scale
1000 Chevy Corvette, ('53-'67), any scale, any era
1000 Harley Davidson, any scale, any era

Other:

1000 Space Shuttle/Space Program, any scale
1000 Moon Landing, Vehicles and Equipment, any scale
1000 Americana Diorama, any scales, any era

DownEastCon 2026 Classes/Categories

Americana Theme Category: Please note that a model can be entered in its normal class/category *OR* in the special “Americana Theme” contest only. A model cannot be entered in both. The Americana Theme rules are listed separately from the normal contest rules

0. Juniors

- 001. Junior entries, ages 5-12
- 002. Junior entries, ages 13-17

I. Aircraft

- 101. Multi-wing & rigged, all scales
- 102. Single engine prop, 1:72 and smaller
- 103. Single engine prop, 1:48, Allied¹
- 104. Single engine prop, 1:48, Axis¹
- 105. Multi engine prop, 1:72 and smaller
- 106. Multi engine prop, 1:48
- 107. Jets, 1:72 & smaller
- 108. Jets, 1:48
- 109. Aircraft, 1:32 & larger, all types
- 110. Helicopters, all scales
(Note: unmanned aerial vehicles, (UAVs), compete by engine & scale)

II. Military Vehicles

- 201. Armor, 1:35 & larger, closed top, all eras, Allied¹
- 202. Armor, 1:35 & larger, closed top, all eras, Axis¹
- 203. Armor, 1:35 & larger, open top w/interiors, all eras
- 204. Wheeled & soft-skin vehicles, all scales, all eras
- 205. Armor, 1:48 & smaller, all eras
- 206. Ordnance – missiles & towed arty, all scales & eras

III. Figures

- 301. Large Historical Figures, 54mm and larger
- 302. Small Historical Figures, 53mm and smaller
- 303. Tabletop Gaming Figures³

IV. Ships

- 401. Surface, sail & oar powered, all scales
- 402. Surface, powered, (steam/nuke), 1:499 & larger
- 403. Surface, powered, (steam/nuke), 1:500 & smaller:
1:600, 1:700, 1:1200,
- 404. Submersibles, all eras, all scales

V. Automotive

- 501. Factory Stock, all scales
- 502. Hot/Street rods & street machines, street legal, all scales
- 503. Competition, open wheel, all scales
- 504. Competition, closed wheel, all scales
- 505. Commercial, light duty, all scales,
(single rear axle, vehicles and trailers)
- 506. Commercial, heavy duty & equipment, all scales
(multi-axle & tracked)
- 507. Sit upon, (bikes, trikes, go carts), all scales
- 508. Customs, all types, all scales

VI. Space & Sci-Fi Vehicles & Installations

- 601. Real space, all scales
- 602. Fantasy/Sci-Fi, vehicles & figures, all scales
- 603. Gundam & Mecha, all scales

VII. Dioramas

- 701. Military, all scales, all eras
- 702. Civilian, all scales, all eras

VIII. Miscellaneous

- 801. All other entries, humorous, or hypothetical, all scales

IX. Special Awards

- 900. Best Junior
- 901. Best Aircraft
- 902. Best Military Vehicle
- 903. Best Figure
- 904. Best Ship
- 905. Best Automotive
- 906. Best Space & Sci-Fi
- 907. Best Diorama
- 908. Americana Theme
- 909. Marshall Smith Memorial Best EMS Subject⁴
- 910. Naval Aviation Golden Wings Award²
- 911. Best in Show

1 For contest clarification, Allied/Axis determination is by markings. i.e. a captured Spitfire in German markings is classified as Axis. All neutral vehicles are, by default, Allied.

2 Any U.S. Navy or Marine aviation related subject. If it flies, services or carries anything piloted by Navy or Marine Aviators it can compete in this special category in addition to its normal class/category. Must have the appropriate box checked on the model registration form.

3 Gaming figures are defined as scale no larger than 32mm, must identify what gaming system they operate in, and must be mounted on a standard gaming base.

4 Any emergency vehicle carrying first responders, Police, fire, ambulance.

READY TO REGISTER YOUR MODELS?

Do it ONLINE NOW through this handy link:

www.ecpmod.com



Model Registration Sheet

EGPM DownEastCon

We put it all together!

NOTE: A separate registration form must be completed and submitted for each model to be entered into competition.

Builder#: _____ Entry#: _____

Class #: _____ Category#: _____

Scale of Build: _____

Name of Build: _____

Kit(s) Used: _____

Notes (tell us about your build): _____

Theme:
<input type="checkbox"/> Americana
<input type="checkbox"/> Wings of Gold
<input type="checkbox"/> No Theme

Model Builder Registration

If you are entering more than one model please fill out this section on the first entry, then you only need to write your name on the subsequent forms. In any case this page needs to be folded under with this side facing the table.

I.P.M.S. Member? Club Affiliation: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

*If a registered model is not intended to be a theme entry (see theme descriptions on Rules, page 2, Rules 12 & 13) the builder can register the model in it's appropriate Class and Category and check off the "No Theme" box on this registration form. Then the model(s) will be judged for it's appropriate Class/Category.

If your models are participating in the "Americana" or Golden Wings" theme, please check the "Yes Theme" box and the Class/Category spaces on this form are not utilized.

NOTE: If either theme box(es) are **not** checked, then the default places the model in the normal contest and not the Theme contest.

Be sure to have your class and categories listed correctly.

This is a class: VI. Space & Sci-Fi Vehicles & Installations*
These are categories in this class: 601. Real Space. All Scales
603. Fantasy/Sci-Fi. All Scales

Models are entered solely at the entrants' risk. Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers does not assume any liability for loss or damage to any model. Models may be handled during judging. If necessary, we will ask the modeler to remove display cases prior to judging. If you do not want your model touched, please write in Notes (on page 1) by the model stating as such. The note **must include your cell phone number** so you can be called to move your own model.

If you do not respond, your model will not be judged!

Fold Here before placing on display table

ECPM DownEastCon

Contest Registration

Please PRINT clearly and complete all information

Participant Name: _____ IPMS # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Chapter or Club affiliation: _____

<p>E. C. P. M. USE ONLY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Entry Payment Received • Participant # assigned: _____</p>

Entries Data

Entry #	Scale	Model Name	Class/Category	Theme
01.				
02.				
03.				
04.				
05.				
06.				
07.				
08.				
09.				
10. A				B



A. Total number of Entries is a maximum of 10 models

B. Total number of Entries per Class is 6, per Category is 2

Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers thanks you for your participation and welcomes you to the event. **We hope you will have a great time!**

Sponsor An Award At DownEastCon 2026!

You can soon sponsor a category, class, or even a coveted "best of" trophy for the 2026 DownEastCon online and your name will live in song and legend forever.

OK, enough hyperbole but please consider becoming a sponsor. It's not expensive, we would certainly appreciate it, and would give you credit online and at the show itself.

Categories: 1st Category \$30
Each additional
Category \$25

Class:..... a bargain at \$40,
"Best Of":..... astoundingly, only \$50

Our online sponsorship is now live. Our goal is to make your supporting of the DownEastCon 2026 as easy as it is to breeze past the welcome desk at the DownEastCon 2024.

Contact Mark Sandvigen
mark.sandvigen@yahoo.com
(703) 434-0834
Mark Sandvigen
DownEastCon Sponsorship Coordinator
3908 Sienna Trail
New Bern, NC 28562-9219 . . . (OR)

<https://www.ecpmod.com/categories-for-sponsorship.html>





ECPM DownEastCon 2026 “Americana”



Final Checklist For Your Great Stay

- Printed out a copy of the contest rules for reference.
(and packed them)
- Already pre-registered my model(s) online and the ECPM website:
(www.ecpmod.com).
- Printed out the registration form and completed one form for each model I am entering
(no more than 10 and I should do this whether I am pre-registering online or not.)
- My models comply with **Rule #2** - 10 model entries total, of which no more than **6 models** are in a single class and **2 models** within a single category.
(Special this year, 5 more models can be entered for \$5.00 additional)
- Cleverly pre-paid my registration fee of \$10 on the ECPM website and saved myself a **whopping 1/3** of the at-the-door registration fee!
- If I didn't cleverly pre-pay online in advance, I packed exact change. (\$15 to enter contest, \$5 for one visitor or \$10 for family visiting)
- Cash for all those sweet kits, decals, detail sets, raffle tickets, etc. I am going to buy from the vendors.
- Wearing my comfortable walking shoes. (and they are tied)
- If I do not have any of the above completed before 9:00 a.m. on July 18th, then ECPM will have a **special** place for me. (at the Havelock Event Center form completing table)



Reserve your comfortable and convenient room at the excellent Havelock Hampton Inn

Your room is less than a half block from the front door of the venue, easy strolling distance.

They have graciously set aside a block of room for the event at a discounted price. You must use the code TAI when reserving for your special price.

Havelock Hampton Inn

105 Tourist Center Drive
Havelock, NC 28532
252 447 9400

