



THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 48, No. 4 www.svsm.org APRIL 2014



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

AND ... A GOOD DEAL TURNOUT ... BY ALL



THE OFFICIAL MINUTES of March

by Chris Bucholtz



Start on 3

BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD

FIRST Saturday in April, 2014. New Contest Director “Helo” Mike Woolson & his team opened launch doors to one and all for our NEW SV “Classic”. By the time I got inside there to become entrant # 81 with my entry # 278, ALREADY was obvious ALL WAS VERY VERY GOOD. By the ways, thought that it was just poetic that my entrant # happened to end up being 1 digit higher, my single entry (an Unfinished Model, of course!) number 2 digits below “threshold” that I had asked the other XO's of the first SVC to consider the FINAL PUSH to secure the whole thing for SVC # 2. Still with forty minutes to go, too! Best part was catching up with new Contest Director in Action, to confirm what President had already told me, they had already been at work long enough sure enough that basically mechanism to close the deal, already GO.

Onward ho !. Being assigned task of being Junior Division Head Judge, succeeded in being useful and amusing myself with hiring in a brand new Judge, Hillarie Smith. Who, with dear club veteran Ken “Airliner” Miller, got the HUGE turn of Junior/SubJunior models dealt with expertly. Learnt some new tricks along the way, including how to increase awards and spread the fun legitimately but creatively “out on the edge”, also got to experience the inside workings of a big contest with serious insights to what does, doesn't work and why. As well assist me in Special Awards Judging when less intrepid souls deigned not to tread. Demonstrated a solid understanding of the “philosophy” involved as well as an ability to speak up and be counted, especially when dealing with snarly seniors and their somewhat odd categories like Collections, Miscellaneous and Hypothetical. Best part for me, at the end , she willingly took up offer to be my Head Junior Judge at TriCity Ten show

One of her valuable learning experiences and huge help to the show, me here, relates directly to the title here. The Contest Director's handpicked Special Award was “Back To The Drawing Board”, a creative and challenging theme that took me a while to get worked into full flower. Also, during the heat of battle during the Event, he'd disavowed any knowledge that it was his. Nonetheless, I led her to the award to guide her in the basics for it, she learned first hand the intricacies of getting all the intel when your customers don't give you much help (no signup sheets, the few who filled out the “entry data cards” she found out too, weren't easy to find, read or use, especially when everyone keeps asking why you're holding things up) Didn't phase her, we picked out the potential winners, we whittled it down to two then a final answer and finished “hard” choice, satisfied we both could answer why we picked what we did. Same for the “Silk Purse” Special, which she learned AFTER the fact I had to have her critical skills so that I could attest I wasn't just “home cooking” results. Hillarie knows it was a fair and square deal done in difficult conditions with far less clarity, help than “hindsight 20/20 armchair generals” in coming days will again, ever appreciate. Just like I do appreciate how much our new Contest Director has done, will do and is doing to actually accomplish what he said he set out to do. Thanks to him, I get to relax, use our shared appreciation of History as a tool, to make sure we won't be another “club living in the past, so has no future”. The Past is Prologue, truly.

Mike Woolson's “Back To The Drawing Board” Special Award will return, like the SV Classic, and this time several may in fact better appreciate what it's about and what he's about. Or not. It doesn't take big numbers or big names or big deals, only critical timing, critical thinking and an appreciation that there is a difference at times that others blur lines for, at peril. Living History is not living in the past, but being in the Present demonstrating what can be learned so not to be repeating, but building on, so there is a Future to be proud of. That is one fact that is truth, where often fact is mistaken for the same.

LESS IS MORE, TRULY

One of those “facts” is this: Our final numbers for this show are less than last years. Much less than year before. With 17 years now of material to work from, I know as does our current event staff just how the numbers roll out in comparison to “past”. While I am quite proud of the past numbers, I also pointed out to the staff that in context those numbers lie more than they tell true, taken on face without the full history of “Big Picture”. *So much so, that I won't give them here to you.* You'll have to wait until the SVSM meeting and another writing spell. BECAUSE ALL THAT MATTERS IS THE TRUE NUMBER, the ones we had 4-5-14. That gave you and us the 411 to have our own personal 4-11. As in April 11 2015, as the fixed firm paid deposit money in bank after that fact. As one who personally knows and appreciates how long it has been and how much it cost (ME, and some others) to learn from history, that's the bottom line and the true measure.

We will see the numbers again that we have recorded in our past, for the SV Classic in the future. I have faith and facts to back that up. I'll be happy to take any who want to argue pro/con over a dinner or two if they are so inclined. (Yawn)

Just know this. LESS IS MORE, and we proved it. We have now more than ever, the scars and the success banked, to be Willing, Able, Ready. Already underway, back at our drawing boards incorporating lessons learned, things tried to be not Tossed, others to be retooled, still others to be brought to light and mind. Our reach shall always exceed our grasp. Human Those who are about to spend again (their time, others and their money) I also salute you. With THANKS - *mickb*

*Don't forget: **SVSM CLUB CONTEST APRIL 2014** “*The 90 Day Wonders Mk III*”*

NEWS FROM MAGNIFICENT MARCH '014



Photos: Mick Burton Models : everyone

At the March meeting, contest chairman Mike Woolson told everyone to be at Napredak Hall by 7:30 to help set up. There will be a food truck there at lunch time (it had better be a BIG truck!) and we can still use donations for our raffle.

Chris Zanella was selling magazines to benefit the **Bay Area Dragons** model club, and Dave Anderson put out the call for more adult volunteers to help at the juniors' club. They've received donations from several club members, including Tom Orsua, Ray McCarley, Chris Zanella, Steve Travis and Frank Babbitt. The time and date of the next meeting is still to be determined.

In model talk... Laramie Wright received the Accurate Miniatures Il-2 at the Gift Exchange in December and the Sturmovik is getting close to painting time. He says the kit is nice but a bit fiddly in places.



A student of Lily Liu's father built the Accurate Miniatures Yak-7; he painted it with spray cans, learning how to use the proper pressure to get the desired effect.



Chris Bucholtz is backdating the old Monogram Snap-Tite B-26 Marauder from the B-26B-5-MA it depicts into a B-26-1-MA; the model has received detailed engines from Quickboost, a flight deck from Strategic Aircraft Conversions and former detail made from Evergreen strip styrene.



Jim Lund's three Curtiss biplanes came about from something of a common root; his F11C-1 is from the classic Monogram kit, and the same kit provided the basis for his BF2C-1 conversion. Many years later, Special Hobby did a BF2C-1, so Jim added a second one to his collection of built-ups.



leading to misalignments here and there. Randy's big project lately has been the assembly of two runs of tracks for Bronco's M24 Chaffee tank; each run has 225 parts, making for some marathon modeling sessions.



Ben Pada's 1:32 F4U-1 Corsair from Tamiya is oh-so-close

Randy Ray has finished his HobbyBoss Panzer III; he built it out of the box, but it wasn't easy



thanks to the unclear instructions about the tracks and its sub-par fuzzy tow cable. He used Tamiya paints and then applied weathering using AK Interactive filters and washes.



Randy's also nearing completion of a British 6-inch howitzer from ResinCast, which was fun to build but which is somewhat imprecise in areas,



to being finished. He says it's a great kit but he's been plagued by some problems with the Eagle Editions decals he used for his weathered U-bird.



Tom Orsua had his 1:24 Volkswagen Beetle convertible nearly finished, but he put it on the shelf for a while. Returning to it, he enjoyed painting and finishing the model – although if someone has some taillights, Tom would be happy to add them to his Bug!

Max Balderrama built Italeri's 1:700 USS Theodore Roosevelt; the mast was missing in his kit, but the 15 airplanes on deck made up for that.



Dave Balderrama says the 1:200 Cyberhobby XB-70 Valkyrie is a really nice model; Dave has most of it together and is eager to get some paint on the big bomber. He's also working on the PM Models 1:72 Arado flying wing; his landing gear was a casualty of the trip to the meeting.



Mark Balderrama built his 1:33 Ames-Dryden 1 oblique wing experimental plane from a paper kit.



Brad Chun did a bunch of modifications to Revell's 1950 Olds, only to see Revell release a kit a year later that had essentially the same modifications! His Big John '41 Willys was built in 2001-2002, and Brad contends that the model's a good six-footer because of his inexperience at the time. He removed the window frames from a



1937 Ford, and had to do lots of sanding on the wheel wells to accommodate a lowered body. His Super Wagon awaits some aftermarket quarter end joints after getting its interior completed.

Kent McClure's latest figure, Cheri from "Claymore," has her armor painted. For a change of pace, Kent's working on a PBY Catalina egg plane, and he's working on Airfix's P-51D for the Fremont club contest, turning it into an F-6D with the addition of the Obscureco set.

Mark Schynert's Monogram F-82 Twin Mustang is nearing completion; the next hurdle is the addition of about 200 tiny stencil decals! Mark finished his P-51 from the Academy kit, adding a little weathering to the tires as a final touch.



Frank Babbitt combined the multiple parts of the fuselage of Anigrand's 1:72 XB-51 and came up with a very nice looking fuselage despite the kit's complexity.



Brian Sakai is working on a modern Japanese destroyer from an Aoshima kit; he says it fits nicely, but he's having to add detail on superstructure surfaces that run perpendicular to the molding directions of the parts.



John Carr's 1:16 German infantryman was airbrushed in sections to get a good base to start painting. He plans to chip some of the soldier's gear using the rubber cement method.



Ron Wergin built his Tamiya 1:48 Fw 190A many years ago – and it was a fun build! – but for some reason, put it aside and only recently painted it. Storing the model also meant having to repair the landing gear on several occasions, reports Ron.

Cliff Kranz enjoyed building his 75mm Russian field gun, and he really enjoyed Tamiya's 1:20 kit of Michael Schumacher's first Formula 1 ride. He started it years ago, and finishing it has him fired up to tackle another F.1 model.



And the model of the month goes to... Cliff Kranz, for his A-Model Tu-28 "Fiddler," which is what you have to be to complete the model. The landing gear has 15 pieces per strut/wheel assembly, and the model was so big Cliff sanded the fuselage parts in a large sink!

Our contest of the month was the Beatles. There were several "Back in the USSR" entries, including Laramie Wright's Trumpeter KV-1. He says this is a great kit, with very good tracks and enough detail to make it an almost out-of-the-box build. In keeping with the same song was Laramie's M4A2 76mm Sherman, which received new road wheels and tracks to make it a Soviet Sherman. On a similar theme, Randy Ray built Dragon's Su-100 and gave it Fruimodel tracks and an Aber barrel, yielding a lovely assault gun. Chris Bucholtz played off of "Yer Blues" with his glossy sea blue VMF-211 F4U-1D Corsair, built using the Tamiya kit and the Eduard detail set. Chris is proudest that the pilot of the real plane, Dean Caswell, had picked it up and flown it around! And the winners were... In third place, with a 1:48 Fine Molds D3Y1 "Judy" (representing "Hey Jude") was Mike Burton. Mike's model was built out of the box and forced him to overcome many fit issues. In second place, with a 1:35 Sherman Firefly Vc, was Laramie Wright. Laramie used the Dragon kit, and he marked it with transfers from Archer Fine Decals. He based his model on photo of the tank before it was loaded on an LST for D-Day, so it fit the song "A Day in the Life" ("...The English Army had just won the war..."). And in first place, with his anime figure Yoko, was Brian Sakai. Brian scratchbuilt the bipod for his 1:7 scale resin figure's gun. –fini CB

(coverage with photos, for this, was already published in March 2014 TAMS !) Fini- for now !



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Cliff Kranz

FOR WINNING MARCH MODEL OF THE MONTH



7:00 PM

FRIDAY

APRIL 18

at

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

