

A Publication of the SVSM Chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society, USA

**Taking A MUCH Broader Look At AVG's "Real to Reel" High Desert Classic** Whereas the Styrene Sheet Covered only the X-Plane Award aspect, Now here can share Rest of the Script:







### GOING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER PROVIDES MUCH ANEW IN MODEL FUN !

Photos/text: Mick Burton

Continued coverage of AVG Fall event, perhaps tempting more of our Region 9 folks to consider going next year. – continues, sheets 3, 4 & 12



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### Editor's MisBehavings - this month's editor, Mick Burton

As you may have already ascertained, Editor Mick Burton is taking up a valued Member In Good Standing on an offer to put to paper his take on some things, which I am sure more than a few of you will find stimulating and thought provoking as I have. That was where the "Guest Editorial" for 2012 December's Styrene Sheet was spawned from. Also why the Club Contests calendar ended up on this page of TAMS, I wanted to be sure the entirety of the work was presented well as writ.

While it is not always easy to get someone to provide an article with strong viewpoints expressed much less an editorial, I for one enjoy them when they're offered up well intended and thought out, with no reservations or expectations of "yes'm"

Considering all that has gone before and of late, it is refreshing to have someone provide counter to viewpoint we all should be doing something OTHER than enjoying our hobby and the unique community it engenders. A community better served as is the larger one surrounding it, when practicing the tolerance it loudly publicly professes to uphold. While oft proving more giving lip service with a unsubtle heave ho "if you're not elegant or polished enough" for some who fancy themselves "always in the know about the show" and don't get challenged much, or often well enough, to "square things with reality".

## SVSM MEMBER'S CONTEST THEME FEBRUARY 2013 "Happy Birthdays "

Thanks ever so much to Treasurer Bill Ferrante, for being "Instigator, Special Project" on this conception here. The idea is to either to build a model of a vehicle or figure that was active in the year of your birth or something that occurred on the day of your birth from any year. For example from Bill, he could build a 1962 Corvette or a Lancaster that bombed the Tirpitz on November 12, 1944. As long as it ties into your birth year or birthday, anything is eligible. TRULY A MEMORABLE AND UNIQUE BIT OF CLUB BUILDING FUN. See you !

## SVSM EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME MARCH 2013 "That's A Spicy Meatball"

While it may be a hard one to swallow, this dietary diatribe of a theme was independently tested during a meal after it was cooked up by your Editor. Chief aim of this recipe was to enable a wide variety of subjects that are otherwise unrelated, to be blended for competition. Ingredients of this non culinary conspiracy are: FINISHED items of either Mediterranean Seacoast Nations (of which there are MANY) OR the Nation of Japan (thus the meatball...) Aircraft, Armor, Autos, Figures, Animals, all eligible along with Maritime subjects, as long as they are as outlined above. So Italian, French, Greek, Turkish, Cypriot, Libyan, Spanish, Israeli (to name a few) and Japanese Air Forces or Ground Forces are easily competitive. That alone ought to spice things up. Bon Appetit.

## SVSM MEMBER'S CONTEST THEME JUNE 2013 "UNKNOWN HISTORY "

Thanks to Webmaster Vladimir Yakubov for being "Instigator, Special Project" on this idea here. The concept is simple enough. Examples given include the Yak-23 "Flora" test flown in USAF markings at WPAF before it was returned to Eastern Bloc from whence it came. Or the Russian warship that was docked in SF Bay back in 1904 (during the Russo-Japanese War) thus subject to possible internment if not embarked within 24 hours. I'm not sure in fact what happened to that one. Or of course a LOCAL favorite, tied to Oakland and El Cerrito. What is it? The Capelis XC-12 from the Safety Airplane Corporation. Be prepared to share when you bring entries !

### EDITOR'S TABLE OF CONTENTS DECEMBER 2012 AFTERMARKET

- 1) BEGIN EXTENDED COVERAGE NEWS AVG DESERT CLASSIC 16 EVENT in LANCASTER
- 2) EDITORIAL / CALENDAR CLUB CONTESTS / TABLE OF CONTENTS DECEMBER 2012 TAMS
- 3) CONTINUE AVG EXTENDED COVERAGE
- 4) CONTINUE AVG EXTENDED COVERAGE
- 5) SVSM NOVEMBER MEETING COVERAGE START
- 6) CONTINUED COVERAGE SVSM NOVEMBER MEET
- 7) CONTINUED COVERAGE SVSM NOVEMBER MEET
- 8) IBID
- 9) CONCLUDE SVSM MEET NOVEMBER
- 10) EXTENDED COVERAGE "TANKSGIVING" CLUB CONTEST
- 11) CONCLUDE SAME
- 12) FINISH AVG EVENT COVERAGE

Making Note of Real to Reel Action Down SoCal Way continued







Travel to shows outside one's own immediate area always engenders new looks at "same old" Here's some examples. 1/72 Single Eng Prop, a traditionally considered "populous popular" of categories, had ONE Allied and TWO Axis in those. Yet here the 1/96 & smaller Air had this splendid variety, including the sweet "Carvair"



Miscellaneous had some intriguing entries like this "Makino" from a kit I'd never heard of but was assured is mainstream sourced. The "Banana Buggy" with requisite crew was a neighbor in this arena. Opposite side of room was the very well done large scale "Russki Nieuportski", again here's a contest where the Fabric and Bipes competition in both quantity and quality outstripped 1/72 Air!

Another shock to me, more localized, was the fact at end of day there was no "Viper" award given out, meaning there was absolutely NO F-16 entries of any kind in contention. This has become a staple AVG Special Award, in their Desert Classic almost as trademark as their X-Plane trophy. On other hand, such a great turnout in Ships that the categories were last to be finished judging, the quality and quantity as well the variety truly splendid. It may be "High Desert" in 1/1 locale, but scale Maritime rendered everyone a good time in spirit and competition.

The Armor categories have been often very lively at last few Desert Classics, perhaps with Fort Irwin as a local feature that shouldn't surprise me so. 2012 provided again a grand assortment, and one particular well done work was a modern Mine Clearing Vehicle (Buffalo?) which I thought at first was a South African machine, as the look harkened to some I knew of vaguely from the 1970s. Nope, a USA triumph. Another lovely work in a completely different take was a "Range Relic" late model Sherman rusted hulk "target", literally.

Making Note of Real to Reel Action Down SoCal Way continued



Another surprise, this Monogram Black Widow, excellent "sow/silk purse" which in fact it took home as award Below is one of those award winning ships, and below that two shots of another American classic competitor.



More coverage of "Theme" aspect in conclusion, sheet 12.





# Taking Stock of Our Last "Model Talk Meet" in 2012, aka November SVSM Nite

Ramblings and Scattered Remembrances of Your SVSM Editor, In Effort To Capture Some Of The Meeting :



As you may surmise, we opened with a fairly full house and table of models, which is always a great greeting. If you look to the right, seated quietly (well, of course, it's a bloody digital photo, right? Not a talkie picture?) is an alumnus member from now afar. Yes, one Paul "T-34" Bishop, now a resident of Utah. Good to see you, my bad, didn't get time to say much other than hello! We had a pretty good demographic for the night with old, new and visiting alike. President Joe and Treasurer Bill were with us this time. So Joe gave us a mighty large scope of things to discuss, disseminate and ruminate about in pretty damned good brief manner of order. A reminder of the upcoming Sacramento IPMS SilverWings event which was quickly rescued from the "cancelled" show list, now on for sure at the usual locale on Saturday, Dec. 8 2012. A swift recounting of the Lancaster (IPMS-AVG) show, congrats to Jim Priete for winning AGAIN the X-Plane award there. News about the various exciting new things happening aboard the USS Hornet Museum, of which Joe will be apprising us further in the near future. He asked for help getting a request to have a 1/48 TBM Avenger in VT-2 markings built as soon as practical to suitable museum display quality. I believe it ended up with Joe taking this one on himself. Know the feeling...



Joe brought along a photo montage that showed the requisite scheme this TBM would need to finish out in, along with an idea of model display areas aboard the USS Hornet that have become his charge of responsibility.

There is a LOT of potential to be utilized here, but as Joe outlined, first thing is to get the clutter out, generate cash flow to provide resources to improve these areas, before we all rush forward with items to display. Right On.

By the way, Joe emphasized that the museum is very supportive of working with the model community at large, we only need to approach it in a business like manner and realize it's a volunteer effort. With stress on the **effort** part, **not** a **passive** operation. Work is involved, but it's fun and spreads the joy for everyone, builds community.

Mick's Rendering of November 2012 Meeting (No Sci Fi Classic, but it works for editorial needs)



Above, another viewpoint of the excellent variety of attendees and works of art that made November plenty fun.





WIP it, WIP it Good. No, not a subtle trick to promote a "Devo"-esque club contest theme. Merely my word play to introduce what is always a valuable aspect of any club's meeting table. Those Works In Progress, as perfect platforms for explaining and illustrating what is "the joy of modeling" Here we have Mike Meek's 1/72 "Stoof" FireBomber, next to it is Mick Burton's rendering underway of Gloster Meteor F.8 from 1/72 Merlin Models. It's a tribute build to Stan Muniz and also to vy for "Sow's Ear" award, kit was from Stan. Below, white winged twin is Frank Babbitt's A-Model Yak-28, blue thing is someone's Frog Gannet .





I applaud those last two builds, some would say the "Sow's Ear" applique fits both the A-Model or the Frog material. While the "heads on a platter" 12 part Fairey Gannet does easily enough lend itself to be a contender there if you want to go that route, that 40 plus year old bird is just fun if you let it be, too. The Yak-28 is awesome, and Frank will go on making it look easier to finish than I for one know it is. In the end though, to listen to the owners of these WIP projects is inspiring and cheering. Due how joy in the process comes out while they tell us all of their works here. Which is why I had to make them in the first part of this article. Below are two more inspiring from this genre, by Chris Bucholtz, he of the Pork Pie hat that night. CB's next Hasegawa Skyraider has "smoking" underpaint technique underway, his 1/72 "airfield utility vehicle" (it's a truck who's provenance I failed to record, but it's way cool)



again demonstrates values of WIP table. Note all the conversion and aftermarket in Chris's work up !





Another look at Frank's Yak-28, so cool, then what Mike Schwarze had amongst his myriad works on table. Thankfully he had "Cloaker" identified, otherwise I'd have thought it was an embodiment of the torment being expressed by Roy Sutherland in the building process of his Dragon Gloster Meteor. I'm seriously concerned about ever taking this kit into my home, after his rendition of his experiences... Or maybe I'll just have a Tiger Tank as chaperone, like here done with this "wild" Black Widow WIP





Of course, our table was not all just WIP and "Tanksgiving" contestants. There was plenty of great work finished to be seen and enjoyed. For instance, a"textile" Dauphin (paper kit of Aerospatiale helo)



Again, I was pressed for time, shooting pictures, getting intel on the judgements for Model of The Month & Tanksgiving awards so I'd be gone with safe capture of all material for this newsletter effort. So forgive my lack of giving proper credit to the builder of this helo.

Jack Clark made the meeting, He'd had his fine Wood Tan Panel Truck, plus his most recent completion



the Revell  $1/40^{\text{th}}$  Cargo Truck w/men in back. I was his ride home so had to leave early with these creations carefully packed up for the trip back. He was pleased to show !





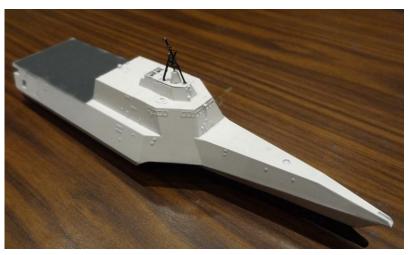
Jack is a big fan of "the old cars" too, so seeing Cliff Kranz's WIP of this one was a delight for him, along with us. I'd still not gotten straight the vintage kit of which this is, since seeing previously at the Hornets meeting. Sorry.

Another automotive splendor which caught all our eyes was Steve Travis's Classic Cruiser. Love them '32 Streets!





@ left, excellent WIP also got no record this time. Nice work, it's a WNW kit ?....



This modern warship in WIP is to make sure that maritime models get fair representation, they showed so I should picture that here, yo! No?







Barry Bauer made the Coasties fess up how the color scheme he has underway with this 1/48 Hercules was more a mystery to them (the operators of full size one he was making the model of, for posterity) than to he, but being the Curator of the Aerospace Museum of California is not for sissies. Ask Barry. Nearby, the approach upon Mike Schwarze's brood of WIP finds Mike's "Fish Tank" is edging in...





With of course me about to forget to make some small mention of Mark Schynert's tribute to true scale masochism The Bristol Buckingham... **Great meet. Seeva all. -mick** 

We'll close out this long rendition of the November SVSM meet with Jim Priete's X-3 marking the spot. You see it here, finished and menacing Roy S's not finished Meteor, and pointing out the very well done (especially considering the source kit, also English) Desert Storm Blackburn Buccaneer (okay, Hawker Siddeley or somesuch now but hey, traditionalist...) Brought forth to us by Shervin Shembayati, in 1/72 the one true scale. Really.





## **KEEPING TRACK ON ATTENDANCE for LAST CLUB CONTEST 2012 "TANKSGIVING "**

Having come up with this concept during a road trip to another contest, was rather curious to see just how well or not so well it would be responded to. Aiming to provide maximum flexibility for both the serious armor fans or the most whimsical "whiff" among us, there was ample room for tanks, tankers, figures associated with same, and a whole gamut of imaginative opportunities along with. After all, you're going to take 10 bucks (or more) of the SVSM Editor's hard earned monies, try at least. Happily, a number of you did and with some range, too. ©







Pleased was I to have one late entrant, Mike Meek, who'd hinted he'd have a surprise tank entry to amaze us all. As you see here in more detail than in OSS article, No. 21 a fine shock. I had to advise the able team of Judges this was no "hypothetical" but the last days of largest single engine prop craft ever to serve with the US Navy. "Firebomber Guardian" civilian air

drop tanker, conversion from the Grumman AF "Killer". Editor pleased to see this Esoteric Vacuform in 1/72 in public, partly due

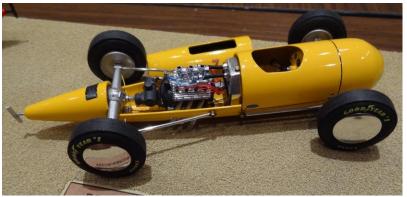




to having supplied the requisite decals from his Siga injected mold kit of the same Grumman. Thanks Mike !

The 7 tank lineup pictured below the Guardian is evidence of the two "paper panzers" having been part of the contest field for the first half, the only other shot I had of them closeup is beside that. As I said in OSS article, I did not have record of whose works these were, but nonetheless pleased we had these entrants. Especially fun for me as spectator and sponsor of this event, seeing again Steve Travis's trio of "Belly Tank Lakesters".





While I am no expert at Tankspotting, I am able to point out what I like looking at. "Hela" is probably British in origin, I'd thought the expression of the crew priceless, what you think? .



Here is another look at his Rosamond Dry Lake Bed Racer #7, which took third in the contest. A few weeks before, several of us were in the Rosamond vicinity watching other vintage race cars, kind of nice synchronicity of sorts, hey ?



Laramie Wright showed up with a lineup aimed I am sure at taking some of those prize monies home (or to dinner...) Which he did.



"Frantic" did not win but it was again, an Eye pleaser to me.

Thanks to all who played "Tanksgiving"

- mickb



#### Wrap Up Production of Coverage, Real to Reel Action Down SoCal Way continued from sheet 4









In theme, AVG this year offered "Real to Reel" As per their practice, it becomes a category all its own. As you see here, "Iron Man", "Star Wars" "Herbie the Love Bug", "The Blue Max" and last far from least "Cheech and Chong's Up In Smoke" movies all represented. First Place went to Pfalz of George Peppard of "The Blue Max". Second went to 1964 Impala "Love Machine" from "Up In Smoke", it was spectacular work of conversion. Herbie VW beat out Iron Man, TIE Fighter for Third. Hats off to the judges, I thought they chose very well.



Last 3 looks, are in case you hunger or feel need to armor up...



IF YOU"D LIKE TO SEE MORE DESERT CLASSIC 16 EVENT PICS or these, unedited and uncropped...link

http://s919.photobucket.com/albums/ad35/smilodon49/AVG%20Desert%20Classic%2016%20Collection%20by%20Mick%20Burton/



EDITOR SILICON VALLEY SCALE MODELERS P.O. BOX 361644 **MILPITAS CA 95036** 

Email : dens25403@mypacks.net