



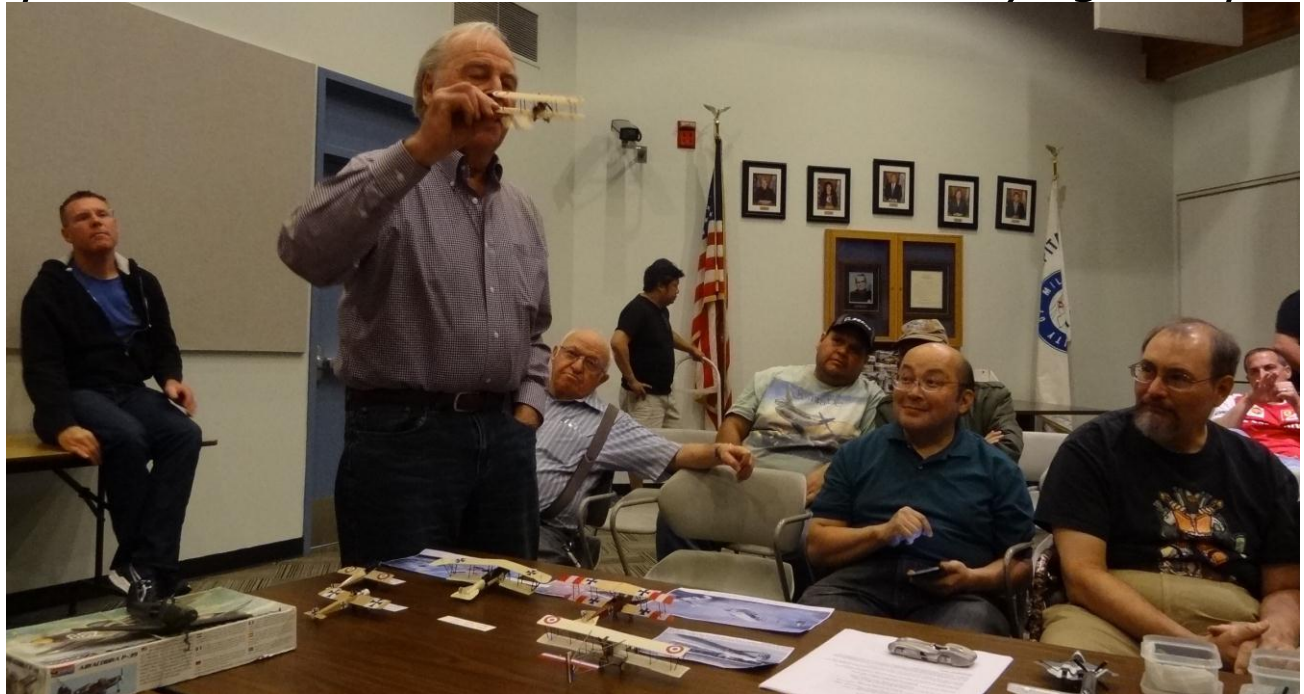
THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 49, No. 5 www.svsm.org MAY 2015



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

April Meet Sees Scale Pilot Make Death Defying Escape!



DETAILS SKETCHY as NO Official MINUTES of SVSM April 2015 Meet, by Chris Bucholtz (YET)

Text: Mick Burton Photos : Mick Burton Models : Unusual Suspects & New Talents

At the April meeting ... Contrary to popular belief, crew of Jim Lund's Be.2 survived a "leap of faith", in fact



Editor's Ravings – this month's editor, Mick Burton

(shameless plug: www.mickbmodeler.com)

“ MAY WE REPEAT, NO FOOLING ! WE MODELERS COME IN ALL SHAPES AND WALKS OF LIFE ”

You're traveling through another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind; a journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination. That's the signpost up ahead — your next stop, the Twilight Zone.



*"Rod Serling Inger Stevens Serling model airplane collection 1960" by CBS Television
- eBay item photo front publicity release. Licensed under Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons*

With those opening lines, my hero (and I'm sure many of you were/are fans of his) Rod Serling launched Season One of his anthology series in 1959. It as easily could have been spoken by him then or now in reference to this hobby (obsession) of ours. Which unbeknownst to me until fairly recently, he too also partook of. Bravely and boldly too, I might add. That's 1958 Airfix "Wimpey" (Wellington) that he's plying the sumptuous Swede here with, in 1960 publicity still. As IPMS at all had yet to be birthed (much less become truly International), clearly I can say Inger wasn't able yet to become member of the excellent IPMS-Sweden chapter. One whose web archive alone, has me jealous & inquisitive. So I will imagine, for my model of editorial excess, if you will, that she's *not thinking*: *How the hell* could he have done such a masterful job of this good base kit. Without help of the local IPMS, or Fine Scale Modeler, Green Stuff, Mr Surfacer, Tamiya-almost-anything? Or, any other of yet to be known widely, created yet, or even thought of, things we take for "must have before starting" all granted today. Sweet to discover this facet of someone I have enjoyed the life sharings of, that we have this too. *Go ROD!*
– mick

SVSM PRESIDENT' s CONTEST THEME MAY 2015

“ MAY FIVES ” See April **TAMS** or www.mickbmodeler.com for review of rules if needed

A StraightFaced, Fact Checked & DOUBLE DOG DARE YA Prove Otherwise, True Account of APRIL SVSM (from 1)



he later on was found to be comfortably ensconced in the cosy confines of this WIP P-39's nose. By Louis Orselli, builder of that model. Seen here, pointing this find out to the audience, who appear to be somewhat skeptical yet.

Although I too, did *not actually espy* the aforementioned escaped pilot, let me point out his 1/72 dimensions would easily allow him to snugly quarter within that 1/48 model

So I am satisfied with the essential account of the entire "Bloody April in Milpitas PD" incident as relayed to me. Captured in clear color stills, with the evident abundance of reliable suspects (*er I meant to write*) uhhh witnesses

Any attempts later to confirm or deny this true and full (load of BS) story, or to paint it as Weekly World News filler material, will be forcefully dealt with. Now, in our breaking stories : "... a New Editor is sought for SVSM "

In model talk... John Carr's latest excellence in the making here in green and grey, was seen to step off in a large salute to this ambitious smaller scale figure and in doing so, lost his head!



Just as an aside, I must say those dried leaves a cool touch, subtle, nice.

Other figures came into play, in effort to corral the errant model pilot.



Thanks to this motley crew of Kent McClure's here, as you see on the right, the offender was made to stand head bowed on a banner, disgraced, simply identified as "moron pilot" O Garr

Of course, could also be said that the sign painter was no genius, as there is no "a" in moron ...

Well, as you may have noticed, President Mike and VP Bill just patiently looked over to the Editor. Asked if he was done now in his mangling of April's event records, so we could go on. An act

of leadership for which audience cheered. Editor, sulkily said yes, a more dull report ahead.



A Far Less Fact Checked & TRIPLE DOG DARE Ya Prove ANY of It, Allegedly Likelier Account of APRIL '15 SVSM



April 2015 SVSM meeting officially came to order not too long past the hour of 8 PM, as it worked out. Having had now a whole 6 days to wage war with the data since the event, Editor Burton was ready when President and Contest Director Mike Woolson asked for a brief report on the final results of Silicon Valley Classic # 2.

Bottom line of 77 entrant modelers with 279 entries (totaling 302 models in competition) was healthy enough, a good opening to lead in with. Significant inside these results, which wasn't obvious nor well understood even at the point after briefly outlined, was the rendered analysis that revealed we had a vibrant 30 percent "changeup".

That "golden ratio" was found in several key areas of the event statistics, and was reported in depth to the show Execs prior to the meeting, to spare the majority the boring important parts while giving the ammunition if any needed assurance that we did have a very successful, solid annual show. The high points of what this all meant were given in brief at the opening of the meeting, then President and others roundtabled a conversation to carry a more human rendering of the "Sun, Sand and Surf" results, from those present for those who weren't there.

Burton closed with an advisement that thanks to having the photos from Vlad already, and results compiled, a "special issue" of sorts was underway for the April TAMS, with drop dead line of 4-30-15. (*shock, he made it*)

Oddly enough following that swift summarizing, SVSM Board Elections were held after a DUBIOUS nominations process was undertaken. Results (allegedly) unanimously acclaimed, ARE AS FOLLOWS FOR THE 2015/16 SEASON:

*President – MIKE WOOLSON (He actually wanted to repeat in place, and a motion to assent to this was part of vote)
Vice President – GREG PLUMMER (ABSENT, but railroaded into office again anyways and later confirmed, accepted)
Vice President – MICK BURTON (PRESENT, railroaded into office anyways, due he owed VP GREG & Prez MIKE)
Secretary – CHRIS BUCHOLTZ (Showed up too late, so arrived only in time to learn of his sealed fate)
Treasurer – BILL FERRANTE (Saw " FAIT ACCOMPLIT " in the clouds on way, drove on to meeting despite this)
Contest Director for SVC III – Board unanimous to entrust this to new SVSM President WOOLSON & his TEAM
Editor of What He Can Manage To Muster Up – MICK BURTON (almost managed to leave that vote out of meeting)*

As well, clearly recorded the thanks of a grateful SVSM Club Nation to the successful 2014/15 Elected Board, who were :

*President (and SVC Director) – Mike Woolson,
VP – Christine Anderson, VP - David Anderson, VP – Bill Ferrante, Sec'y – Chris Bucholtz, Treas- Bill Ferrante, ED - me*



When the smoke cleared, President Mike got things back on track with a normal agenda of Model Talk. Chris Bucholtz had arrived by this point to learn how without opposition he was again railroaded into Secretary post.

Noted now, so that reader realizes an official minutes recording *was* done. What you are reading now is merely unceremonious and decidedly biased account of the Editor's take on meet.

So advised, perhaps understand why singular focus and any lack of fully fleshed discussion of all on tables.

The Editor's Club Contest for April, "Bloody April", caused an excellent response by Jim Lund, seen above. As



he began his model talk, Jim outlined that he wasn't in mode to compete with his work here. Rather he wanted to support theme chosen for night with a brilliant display and brief history of real "Bloody April" in World War One air combat terms. Admirable and informative as ever, Jim had the Editor wishing again he'd video recorded this part of the evening .

Especially since Jim's smooth and sure speech will not be

reflected in the manner of my recollection here, nor in order of his superb delivery. Perhaps though, will capture a flavor.

Voisin III Jim's photographs capture in capsule form how a French design of 1914 drew first blood, purpose designed to do just that. Not just observe, as first primary mission of all aircraft in WW1 had been initially defined, but to now seek out and kill "the enemy" pursuing that first mission.



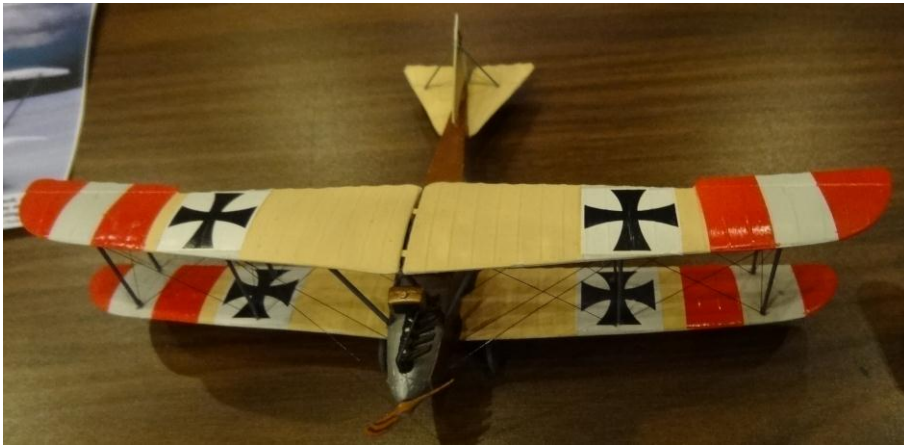
Note as did Jim, how designs here are based on two seat crews.

A Pilot, and plus one to "observe". Second becoming a "gunner", as things evolved.

Also: Voisin, like a number of others in early year successes as "killers", made as a "pusher" design.

So, no prop in way for a shoot solution.





The airplane on the left is “tractor” prop with gunner in rear on a ring mount. This would be standard solution for “tractors” for most of the Great War in the Air.

Just in case you wanted to know:

The Enemy, in this case, is a Lloyd C II of Austro Hungarian Army Air Service, a belly over victim shown earlier in Jim’s photo of early air combat.

Like his Voisin, on our table, upright, it takes on a peaceful character for viewing.

Now, it fell to another Frenchman to advance the technology in practice for efficient aerial killing, eerily 100th Anniversary of this fell in this month. As Jim recounted, and illustrated with another of his great “period photos”



Roland Garros, after consulting with Morane Saulnier during his service as a recon pilot, came up with working Prop Mounted Metal Deflector system for his Morane Saulnier Type L monoplane and proceeded to prove it. On April Fool’s Day, 1915, little more than 4 months since he visited Morane works, Garros took down a German D.F.W to achieve the “first aerial kill using a forward firing machine gun through a tractor propeller”. Say that fast four times... In the following 17 days, Garros would add two more “Jerry Birds” to his total before ending up grounded, captured and his aircraft seized for study, including by Anthony Fokker who was already working on an “interrupter gear” solution for this problem, finding the deflector concept a hazardous, makeshift approach

Again, seeing Jim’s artistry in recreating them in 1/72 scale, a fine way to get full measure of “living history” in miniature.

This is D.F.W. of the German Air Service.

This prey of Garros soon had revenge...



Anthony Fokker's being spurred on by the capture of the deadly deflector prop gunfighter, soon enough led to a period in 1915 known as the "Fokker Scourge". A perfected interrupter gear system linked to machine gun firing through prop.

Nearly in front of pilot, it gave the German flyers a flying loaded gun like no other. Aim and firing true like never before, all now was in their hands.

The speed and visibility from the simple lines of Anthony's E-III proved a deadly combination, and only one crew needed!



Compare now with this



RFC contemporary, the Be-2. The extra wing alone provides a less than optimal firing solution, plus the pilot and gunner are separate! Oh, Fokker Fodder, indeed, Jim.



Everyone present appreciated Jim's talk as he is indeed, "a Historian who Models".

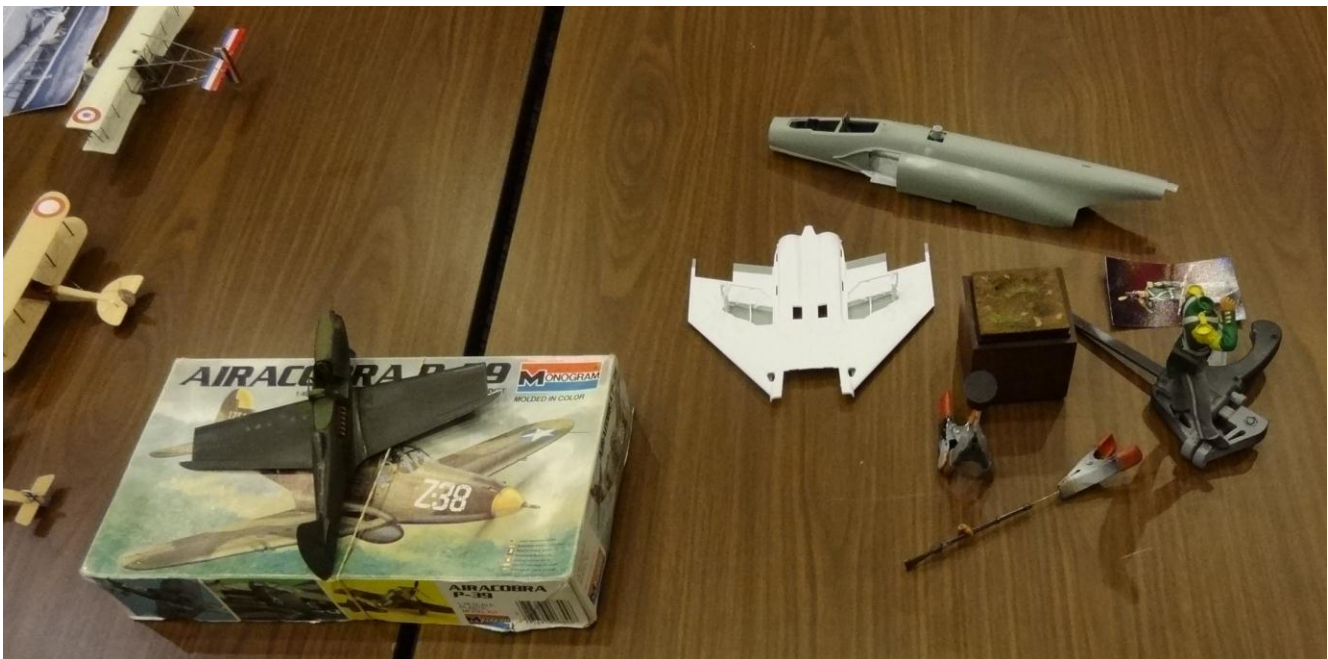
Hey look, there's evidence of Sec'y Chris there in background, furiously scribing the minutes, as Jim keeps us all rapt attentive.

Any attempt, by anyone, to link his recent absence and the missing minutes, to famed "STOS Red Shirt Mortality Syndrome", is utterly without merit or substance. Just ask Captain Dunsel. Oh, wait, you can't. He'd wore a red shirt to Starship duty that day...





Laramie Wright, Randy Ray, Kent McClure all showed up to the April table seen here with awards fresh from the 2015 SVC, that much can be easily gleaned here. Any more detailed accounting of the April Table will, for now, have to again await either the official minutes finding the Editor, or his quick sketchout for May TAMS.



There was as noted earlier, an Editor Sponsored Club Contest for month, as seen in one shot on right, and already covered exhaustively in April TAMS.

Mention here though **must** be made, for a marvelous “Model of the Month” Winner. Frank Beltran’s finally done with his project; “Mace Missile on the TeraCruzer” . I remember seeing this in S37 “Unfinished” category at Expo 2013 ! 280 plus pieces don’t just fall together. Especially ‘50s vintage kits.

– *mick fini (for now)*





CONGRATULATIONS TO

Frank Beltran

FOR WINNING APRIL MODEL OF THE MONTH



7:00 PM

FRIDAY

MAY 15

at

COMMUNITY ROOM

Milpitas Police Administration Building

1275 N. Milpitas Blvd

Milpitas, CA

