



THE STYRENE SHEET

VOL. 44, No.12 WWW.SVSM.ORG December 2010



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

WAR SURPLUS = US NAVY'S FIRST SLBM !



Undertaking a Mission to Illuminate History and Use Some IPMS Convention Special Decals (gasp!)

By: Mick Burton

What's an [\\$#@%-ing](#) SLBM, you may ask? There's a fine start for our journey here, initialism's r US one could say. Or not. Currently, it is most commonly read in the defence community and interested parties as "Sub(marine) Launched Ballistic Missile" with USN association to Trident Weapons System family.

A long successful lineage of ancestors of Trident in this mission, likely familiar to a good number of you if Bay Area residents of some term. "Poseidon series" and "Polaris series" for the US Navy courtesy of your local LMSC (Lockheed Missiles and Space Company, I know, not it's current moniker but old family habit) Those were and are fine examples of what an SLBM was and is, in US Navy terms. Born and made in the USA, proudly with honorable service. It's one of the main reasons I am extant here, raised in a two income family with the main bread from the LMSC part. But even he was as surprised as I, to learn that the FIRST ballistic missile launched from a USN vessel wasn't from LMSC or even US made! We both thought we had our "family history" down solid. Thanks to IPMS Virginia Beach 2008 Nats, I got to educate Dad with a



little model payback for "getting me into a hobby, might do you some good" in a subject very close to home.

2008 IPMS Nats Special Convention Decal included an "A size cardstock" double sided with b/w & colour illustrations, photos and history for two post WW2 captured German A-4 rockets used in "Operation Sandy"

When I came across this a good while after the event (I missed that one), I had to know more! Getting research on Web, then decal from our gracious Master Ship Maker Vlad, set me afire when I learned what "Sandy" was.

In September 1947, US Navy prepared the aircraft carrier USS Midway for a serious attempt to launch a war prize German A-4 (V-2) from her armored deck, then clear this operation and resume flight operations as a test.

While the actual launch did not result in a long ballistic flight, missile in a shallow 6 mile arc versus the 200 of plan, the entire "Sandy" operation went smoothly from start to finish and was hailed as a success. Since the A-4 was considered then and now a "ballistic" missile, and it was launched from a US Naval vessel in a serious test of military potential, I think clearly qualifies as a Shipboard Launched Ballistic Missile. Aka USN SLBM, no?

Thanks to the swift assembling Condor/Special Hobby kit in 1/72 scale (only trick items: the two loose tail fins and multipart launch stand) plus that Special Decal, I now have the start of the USN SLBM family on my shelf. Thanks to Cliff Kranz as well, he's already way ahead of me in making those postwar US V-2s. – *mick fini*

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

Representative Republic. Return on Investment. Building Market Share and Maintaining Momentum with Brand Identity. Executive charter, Responsibility to Shareholds. Democratic Rule while balancing Citizen Freedoms vs Responsibilities.

From last month's editorial opening. All threads for further expansion in upcoming issues. Suffice for now that I have spent far too much time crafting the immediate bridge across the chasm faced today, to reiterate in another arena how vital that everyone be part of the solution not expect it just "gets done" or "we could just stop doing that (and expect the party to go on... as if!) Churchill hit it outa the park, the few for the many. No one is owed, actually wish I better able to bestow now.

FOR NOW I WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL AN EXCELLENT REST OF THIS YEAR AND AWESOME NEXT!



Two more of my favorites from Dennis Ugulano's collection (see page 5) "Common Tripes" and Uncommon Submariner! Collections as an entry and a crowd attraction is SO underappreciated by many. Glad people do them! - *mick fini*

SVSM EDITOR'S CONTEST THEME FEBRUARY 2011 "Doctor's Orders"

Since this is my birthday month, your Editor often indulges in his convoluted contest whimsy at this annual passage. 2011 will be no different. As if to underscore anonymous MD opinions that I am indeed in need of a serious change of pastime or face lifelong tragic circumstances, I have crafted my latest competition to suit.

Eligible subjects include: ANY Finished McDonnell, Douglas, or McDonnell Douglas Aircraft. Or FW190D for "Dora" or TA152 series (both in honor of Dr Kurt Tank). For car guys, Dodge products (as in Mopar-Dodge if you missed the "MD" connect). Or any Porsche subject (see next for why) For armor fiends, any subject that can be tied to "Dr Porsche", as in "Porsche Turret Tiger" etc. For Real Space folk, Dr Werner Von Braun and his team offers a number of subjects from V-2 thru Redstone Arsenal works all the way to Saturn Five rocket.

Not to overlook also the huge number of potential subjects within framework of models that can be done using Coast Guard, Hospital Ship, Rescue Ambulance/Fire themes. Or Red Cross, another under looked useful area.

Others should not feel slighted, anything tied to "Dr Who" will fit right in to compete (Daleks may "eliminate") as well as "SuperCar" (thanks to "Dr Beeker"). Star Trek fans will be limited to only things and craft that can be directly associated with "Dr McCoy", which still leaves a wide range. Of course, as always, competitors should feel free to attempt to stretch, hornswoggle or otherwise fiendishly craft a credible or incredible premise to make it possible for their entry to qualify as a suitable "MD", as this is still an "in house contest" (Doctor's Orders!)

SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME DECEMBER 2010 "Eat Pizza, Dude"

This is simply the Editor's obtuse rejoinder to the logician's logic fetish, aka a wordy reminder of Xmas meeting Which again takes place at: Round Table Pizza, 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose CA with a 7 PM launch. No Models (human or otherwise) will be turned away, but likely to be few as food, wild animals will be present. We remind you, you provide the food/drink, we will try to provide the entertainment/fun.

EVEN IN WINTER, ONE CAN COME OUT A WINNER, GO NORTH AND SEE

A Snapshot of SilverCon 2010, IPMS/Silver Wings' December Classic

This deep in the year, pretty much a barren outlook for social IPMS events other than the traditional fun clubs have with holiday parties and the like. Even if weather is in your favour, calendar is seen as not. One group in Region Nine has for many, many years now, managed to prove that axiom fallible. Sacramento's IPMS/Silver Wings has made the first week of December a reliable "party favor" by their hosting of an event rain or shine. This year was another quality notch in this R-9 tradition. To this writer, appeared it had an uptick in attendance and definitely increased fun factor. A very good turnout of a wide variety of vendors (now a trademark of this event), a rowdy crowd of modelers and onlookers, *many* new models on tables to look at, cooperative weather (mostly) too! Several SVSM and Hornet folk took home awards (I wasn't taking notes, sorry, too busy shooting pics and my mouth off) as bonus. Very fun to run into folks whom I hadn't had much time to see or catch up in this year there, or hadn't seen since last year's show there in Elk Grove. If seeing your friends, models, spending the day in our "society of modelling" isn't enough: consider visit to nearby California Aerospace Museum. The best Railroad Museum in the West or maybe in the USA is another fine magnetic point. The Riverside Hobbies shop is always a delight to consider. Even when you think you've seen or done all the model shopping in a day you can stand. Trust me, they'll have something "you just gotta have" at "price you can't pass up". Such as an AR-234B in 1/48 by Hasegawa at a very reasonable rate. During show someone told me that like myself they'd been looking for long time for one, only finding 4 engine "C" versions everywhere. I came, I saw, I purchased. Only took slight detour (such as some see it), from show site to Riverside, at end of day. Saw, alas no budget for it tho, a Classic Airframes J2F Duck in 1/48. Earlier at show another member had told me this was on their must have list. I'd agreed they *seem* to be made of *Unobtainium*, yet here one was. Maybe that Duck's still there... Well, okay, this sort of madness is basically reserved for the terminally modelaholic. I will be quiet now.



This shot taken from the stage as SilverCon 2010 still getting underway...filled in a lot! - mick *fini*

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 12-17-10

Friday, December 17 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme "Eat Pizza, Dude" Location of meet is Round Table Pizza, 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose CA 95129. Food is on you, fun is on us. Be there!

Friday, January 14 2011

IPMS/Fremont Hornets monthly meeting, night's club theme "One" (as in M-1, A-1, Formula I, etc)

Friday, January 21 2011

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme "NOT A DAMN THING".

Friday, February 18 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme "Doctor's Orders"

Saturday, February 19 2011

IPMS/Santa Rosa and Friends host "Hobby Expo 2011", a huge show held in Petaluma Community Center, just off McDowell Boulevard in Petaluma, CA. This year's show theme "Start to Finish". The Model Contest is of course a large feature of the event. However every year the number, variety of hobby related displays, demos, and just plain cool things to see grows, this year promises to best yet. Also the signature "Speed Build" (what can you do in 60 minutes?) Make N' Take, Huge Raffle that are Expo standards will of course be going on. Contact John Admire at admire@pacbell.net or call him at 707-539-4563 for more information.

Saturday, February 26 2011

NNL/West present their 2011 Show at the Santa Clara Convention Center, Event themes "Replica and Firsts" Held also in same hall at same time, West Coast Model Expo! Admission is 15 dollars and covers all events.

Saturday, March 5 2011

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers host their Kickoff Classic at the Santa Clara Convention Center, Hall "A", 5001 Great America Pkwy, Santa Clara. Event theme "Best of the Bay".

Friday, March 11 2011

IPMS/Fremont Hornets monthly meeting, night's club theme "March Madness" (stay tuned for details here)

Friday, March 18 2011

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers monthly meeting, club contest theme "TBA"

Sunday, April 10 2011

IPMS/San Joaquin Valley Scale Modelers host "Catfight 2011" at San Joaquin Valley Fairgrounds, Bldg #2 Stockton, CA. Event theme "Grumman Fighters, Wildcat to Tomcat". Special Awards, Raffle, Lots of fun! BONUS! Same time, same locale! Stockton Model Car Show & Contest. So TWO chances to enter, win!

Sunday, September 25 2011

IPMS/Fremont Hornets host their returning "Tri City Classic Seven" Exhibition and Contest. New Locale, now in Main Auditorium, Milpitas Community Center, 457 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas. Event theme: "Black Rain" for anything Japanese or directly related. Special awards tied to theme, also for most creative or quirky entry. Also "Make 'n Take", raffle, vendors and day of event items TBA. Contest Director Woodrow Yeung, contact via email via Fremont Hornets Club, daze61283@mypacks.net or directly via woodrow_yeung@yahoo.com Check also website for more info or updates, address is <http://www.fremonthornets.org>

FURTHER ENTICEMENT FOR TAKING A WINTER TRIP UP NOR CAL WAY

A Tiny Glimpse of Dennis Ugulano's World War One Wonderland of the Air

This year for the first time in a goodly while, one tireless entrant and fierce competitor (and not just in the wind in the wires categories, trust me!) was inspired to go all out and share with us his magnificent collection. Group



that's brilliantly illustrating there's ever so much more than "just SPADs, Camels and damn Fokkers" to Knights of the Air days. Dennis entered this in "Collections" and took the First, against competition.

Trust me, pictures don't ever do this Expression justice, truly you have to have been there to totally enjoy it. As a bonus, Dennis is there to infect you With his eternal enthusiasm and deep knowledge, passion for the subject. I saw this grand madness many years back at another SilverWings show, didn't do digital then and so can't share the awe in the clearly expanded horizon since then.

There is SO much to describe...I can't !
- mick *fini*



were the



November 2010 SVSM MEETING *Minutes were not available at time of publication*

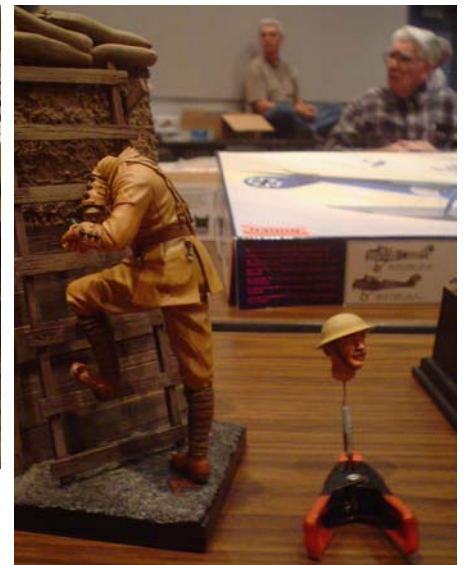
Thusly a summary from my memory (not a tremendous resource at this hour) prompted from my photos will have to do...

November's meeting business items included a review of Kickoff 2011 progress. Significant details are being addressed but we asked for additional early help (*already have major APPRECIATED response from two Saints, thanks from editor*) see no obstacles we can't overcome by game day. Reminders about our upcoming December Pizza Party/Gift Exchange/theft meeting, invitation from IPMS Santa Rosa's "Super Auction" in January before our first meet in 2011, new Club contests. Welcomed return for visit from the UK Robin and Linda Powell of Poole IPMS-UK, somehow Roy Sutherland managed to sneak in from the same Isle, not sure how, both filled us in on the current English modelling world as none other can! We got a review of the very exciting Lancaster IPMS (Antelope Valley) Regional down south from attendees, and managed to get underway with Model Talk, even with a significant table setting for the last club contest for 2010 taking up much room!

Model Talk was swift, since much was going to be tied into the "NAG" contest. Model of the Month was awarded very deservedly to a NEW member, Alfred Kuhn, for his very elegant collection of Sopwith 1 1/2 Strutters in 1/72. Titled as "One Aircraft, Three Versions", he had a Bomber, Interceptor and Russian Fighter version. Lovely work and not an easy kit!



Above, the wild turn of NAGs were running the table it seemed from the front aspect. At right, Admiral Bert and Quiet Richard are keeping their heads, no easy trick ...



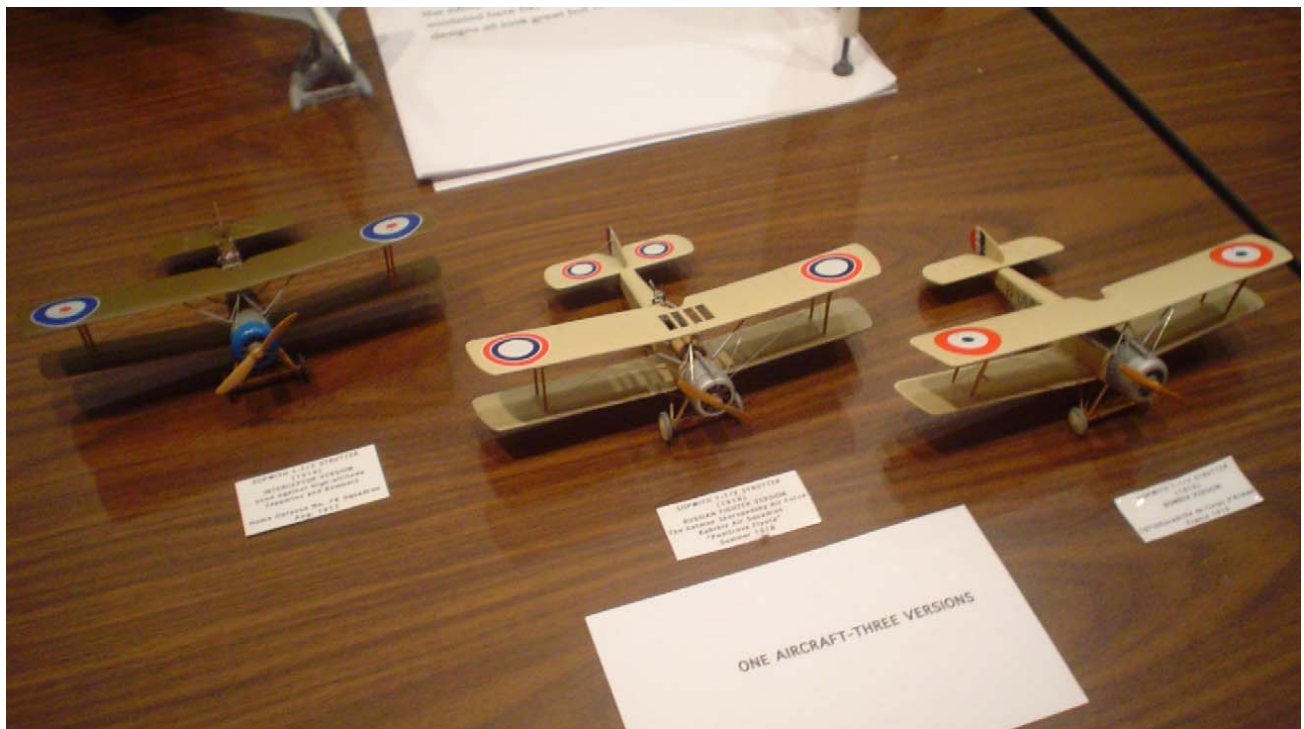
Speaking of tricks, if you missed this meeting then don't expect me to reveal how "Chrisodini" managed to fit into this Char B and still carry on taking notes... on your left.



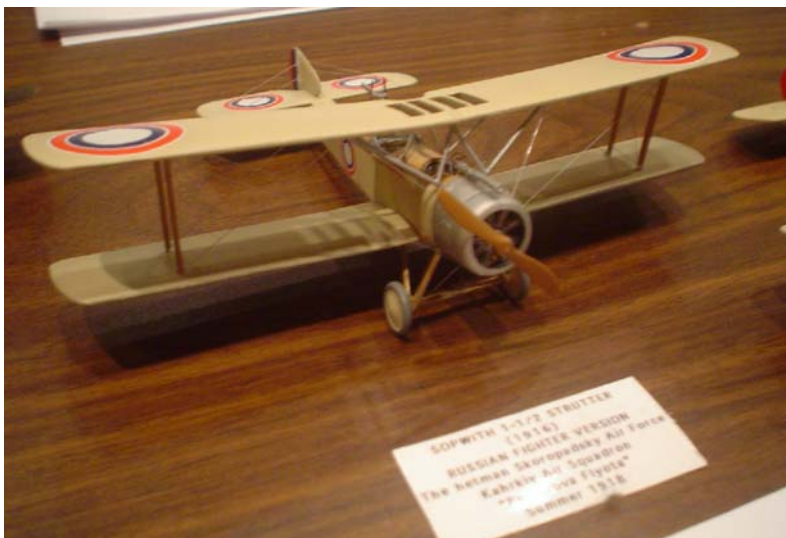
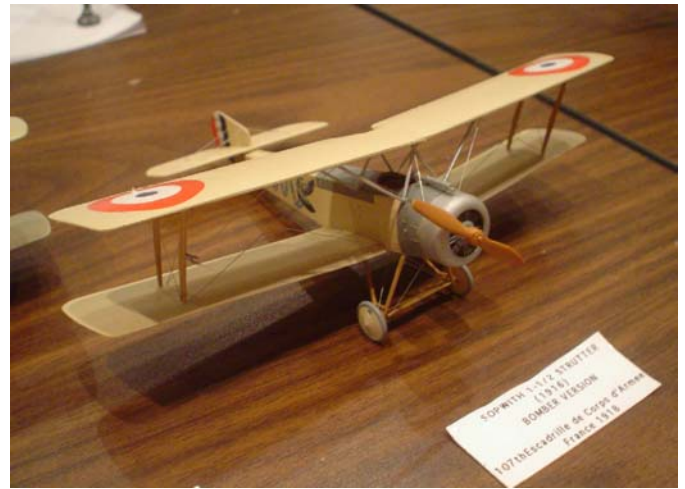
A dire fate may await those who fail to complete their project ☺

- mick
fini





CONGRATULATIONS
Alfred Kuhn
FOR WINNING NOVEMBER MODEL OF THE MONTH



“ That NAGGING Feeling ”: Review November 2010 Club Contest



Field of Battle for our last “ model meet “ for 2010, didn’t disappoint when it came to turnout, did it? We definitely managed to turn up some North Americans and Grumman Iron, eager to take editors money!



First Place for X-15A-2 (modified) 1/72 scale Monogram, by Jim Priete



Second Place for 1/48 scale F-51D, Fuerza Area El Salvador by Frank Babbitt

Third Place for 1/72 P-51D, by Chris Bucholtz



In case you only now landed on Planet Earth, or recently awoke from a slumber I'd be envious of these days: Review our November Club Contest, sponsored by the Editor on theme dreamed up by another Life Member, "Racer Mike" Meek was : NAG, NAG, NAG. No, not some sort of harsh, negative prodding to push all to do something for the table. It stood for " North American or any Grumman ", National Air racing Group, or (I lied, sue me) Nagging you to do one or other!

Rewarded were we all with a splendid showing of new and old machines alike. All *new* models were in the winners circle, thank you Judges and contestants alike! May have to consider using this theme on an "upscale", namely fit it into a yearly contest somehow, could be interesting! Hey. Someone's already on the Cat's tail...



On the left, alas, a nice effort in 1/144 that ended up was " Triple Zilch " ☺

On the right, duo in 1/144, the Pony in Race Markings was a favored NAG other was nothing but a Hown Dawg...



Don't forget Cats RULE.

Look out in 4-10-11

- Mick fini

NEXT MEETING:

7:00 PM

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 17

At the

ROUND TABLE PIZZA

4400 Stevens Creek Blvd

San Jose, CA 95129

