

January 2014

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# Fly By Jan 2014



*Two times when modeling isn't fun, maybe ...*

.We all love our hobby and most bemoan not being able to spend more time at it but life intervenes and we have other "stuff" to take care of. However, there are two times when I have found that modeling was just not fun.

The first was when I did a model on commission. The person was actually a member of our club at the time, Karl Altvogt. He wasn't really a modeler, but rather sold lots of merchandise that appealed to aircraft modelers, like flight jackets, decals, patches, old instruments, etc. anything aircraft related. He found a client that wanted a collection of F-8 Crusaders in various markings but he couldn't build them all, so he asked if any club members would be willing to build one. He'd supply the kit and the specialized decals and I think we got paid in some way, but it was a long time ago. I was a purely armor builder then, but thought, what the heck, and gave it a shot, Karl was a good guy and I might learn something along the way.

The kit turned out to be the Monogram 1/48 F-8 Crusader, which was state of the

art at the time. We didn't have to do anything special, just build it OOTB as the markings were the real selling point. Of course, there was a deadline to meet, so there was no time to waste. Now Walt Champlin can build an award winning model in a weekend, but not me. I am a slow builder and remember, back then I didn't "do" airplanes. I plodded along with this project trying not to screw it up too much. Everything else I had going on had to come to a halt so I could get this thing done on time. Painting took forever as I was not use to anything other than green or tan and there was much masking and free hand camo to do. Finally I got it to the gloss coat stage to get ready for the decals, which were the whole reason for the build. I just could

not make a mess of them as they were one of a kind, at least for me.

Anyhoo, after much hand wringing, gnashing of teeth and pulling of hair, (that's why I look like I do now), it was done. Looked ok to me, but would Karl like it? The day he picked it up, he barely even looked at it. A cursory glance and he declared it "Great". Apparently his client was not very discerning about the models, he just wanted to see the markings. While I learned some things doing the model, the experience was not very fulfilling. It was too much work and not much fun. The deadline was a drag and having to stop everything else was frustrating. Never did that again.

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**For This Months Meeting, bring:**

- Warm and Alert body
- OOB kit
- The current model you are working work on, as well as your tools to share your experiences.
- Anything new that you wish to share with the gang.

We have a very quick turnaround for a our meeting this month, due to Andy being sent by ODOT to exciting Wichita for training, so I hope that you marked you calendar that we meet this Sunday.

Last month we had our annual buildathon, which was a great success. We had more attendees than ever before with quite a lot of people being there for 8 hours or more. Once again talk was of having more than one of these, well we will see.

So see you Sunday for some fun new things.

## History on our doorstep, well almost

After nearly a century in obscurity, America's first airplane factory began to reappear in 2013 as demolition crews peeled away surrounding buildings in Dayton, Ohio. The original Wright Company factory began to emerge on the 54-acre, former Delphi Home Avenue plant in west Dayton as demolition crews razed other buildings to prepare the site for redevelopment. The Wright Company factory was the first in the United States built for the purpose of producing airplanes..

Public and private partners have invested approximately \$5 million in the Dayton Aviation Heritage Redevelopment Project. Their goal is to preserve the 20-acre historic parcel that includes the Wright Company factory and open the original two buildings to the public as a unit of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

The project has made dramatic progress since December 2012, when Home Avenue Redevelopment LLC acquired the site from DPH Holdings Corp., the company that emerged from the Delphi Corporation bankruptcy proceedings. Most of the site has been cleared, and demolition is expected to wrap up early in 2014. Although still fenced off from the public, the Wright Company buildings can be glimpsed from Abby Avenue between West Third and U.S. 35, about two miles west of downtown Dayton.

Built in 1910 and 1911, the single-story, white-painted brick structures are distinguished by gracefully arched parapets on the fronts of the buildings. They are buildings 1 and 2 in a north-to-south row of five matching structures that include three later additions. A sixth building attached to the north side of Building 1 and a heating plant behind it are also to be demolished. "The Wright Company buildings are significant because they were the origins of the American aircraft industry. Every one of the major aerospace companies can trace its roots back to this site," Dean Alexander, national park superintendent, said in May 2013.

Used for aircraft manufacturing through the First World War, the site offers a wide range of opportunities to examine the lives of American workers in the first decade of aircraft manufacturing, Alexander said. "This is a place where we can talk about World War I and middle-class manufacturing jobs. It's a 100,000-square-foot blank canvas," he said.

Besides preserving aviation history, Dayton city officials have said redevelopment of the property will be "transformative" for the neighborhood and surrounding areas by returning jobs to the site, removing more than 50 acres of vacant industrial properties and providing new public green space. In addition, a new national park unit will provide residents with a new source of neighborhood pride and vitality, while further strengthening the Dayton region's essential role in aviation and commercial history, city officials said.

The National Aviation Heritage Alliance (NAHA) has worked for years with the city of Dayton, the National Park Service, Home Avenue Redevelopment and others to plan and guide the project. Wilbur and Orville Wright lived in Dayton and built their first flying machines in their west Dayton bicycle shop. They formed the Wright Company in New York in 1909. Wilbur died in 1912, and Orville sold his holdings in 1915. A new company, the Dayton-Wright Airplane Company, used the buildings to produce military aircraft parts in World War I. General Motors Corp. acquired Dayton-Wright and the factory buildings in 1919. It soon formed the Inland Manufacturing division there, converting the plant to auto parts production. The addition of three more buildings of similar style marked the beginning of decades of expansion. The original Wright Company buildings remained in active use as an Inland, Delco and Delphi plant until Delphi closed it in 2008.

Besides adding the two Wright Company buildings to the national park, the remaining three buildings offer opportunities for other institutions or companies to operate educational, research or commercial activities that complement the site's aviation heritage, said Tony Sculimbrene, NAHA's executive director. "Imagine learning how to design, build and maintain manned aircraft or UAVs (unmanned air vehicles) in the very place where the industry began," he said.

## *Two times when modeling isn't fun, maybe ...*

### Cont'd

The second is building for a kit review. Sometimes, not all the time. It has many of the same drawbacks as building for a commission such as deadlines, unfamiliar subjects, having to put everything else on hold, etc, and you have to document everything as you go along, which means photos and written notes. Then when you're done, you have to put it all together in a way that will give other modelers info they can use. There are times when you happen to score a review kit that you may have bought anyway. That's great, but you still have to build it.....NOW. Kind of puts a dent in the fun and you certainly can't wait for that perfect aftermarket photoetch/resin/decal set to come out.

I won't do another commission, but I continue to do the reviews as most of the time I enjoy them. I build anything now and I have no real schedule, so I just have fun with it. But there have been a couple models that were more work than fun. I just grit my teeth and plough through them.

So, there are two times when modeling is not fun. All the rest of the time it's great, right? Like when the model you've been working on for weeks suddenly goes screwy and the gloss coat reacts with the decals and melts the photo etch and you fling it against the wall. You know, fun like that. Yeah. Fun.



Here are the contest themes for our meetings for 2014

January 5	Out of the Box	Voted	No
February 9	TV or in a Movie	Judged	No
March 9th	Ohio	Voted	Yes
April 13	Pre 1980 Kit	Judged	No
May 18	Adversaries	Voted	No
June 8	Humor in modeling	Judged	Yes
July 13	Fits on a 4 inch round or square	Voted	No
August 10	A is for August	Judged	No
September 14	James Bond	Voted	Yes – picnic
October 12	Multi-color scheme (3 color minimum)	Judged	No (auction)
November 9	Something Different	Voted	No
December 14	Best of the Best – Monthly Winners only	Judged	Members Only

## Upcoming Shows of Interest to Region 4 Club Members

1/10-1/11/14 Chattanooga, TN  
Modelcon 2014  
Region 3 Regional Convention, Chattanooga Convention Center

2/1/14 Bay City, MI  
Mid-Michigan Model Makers Contest and Show  
Region 4

2/15/2013 Columbus, OH  
41st Blizzcon  
Region 4, Eddie Rickenbacker Chapter Columbus, Ohio

[www.ipmscolumbus.com](http://www.ipmscolumbus.com)



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Monthly meetings are held at the ODOT aviation building behind Beightler Armory off SR 161 on the north side of Don Scott field. Members and non-members alike are welcome. Anyone who has content for next month's Fly By, please forward in electronic format to: [zed@columbus.rr.com](mailto:zed@columbus.rr.com) or [mabell@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mabell@columbus.rr.com)

**Need to know anything about the club, please visit us on the web at:**

[www.IPMSColumbus.com](http://www.IPMSColumbus.com)

## Secretary Minutes

Notes from the club secretary Graham Holmes about last month's meeting

### Old Business

Discussion on this month concentrated on the themes for next year. As usual, there were many great suggestions and next month we will see what Bruce has chosen.

Other than that, Andy gave us a briefing on what we can have for the Build a thon.

A reminder to all members,

If there is something that you would like other members to know about, please let me know. I can do the research, just

need to now what you would like me to feature.

### Contributions

As you will have noticed, there are contributions from several people this month. Thank you to the effort put forth, include the photographers.

I encourage anyone and everyone to come up with anything model related that they would like to share, even if it is just as simple as the first impressions that you have when you open a new kit for the first time, or an interesting old article that you may have.