DIMENSIONS

IPMS/Ocala President: Joe Caputo





50's Oldsmobile by Mark Box

It's All About Fun!

Random Thoughts & Musings

By Joe Caputo

Hi Guys and Gals,

Happy New Year! I guess we're all pretty much into it by now. The 2013 holidays are all behind us now, but let's take a moment to reflect on our last meeting of the year. I felt, and I know a lot of you did too, that our "Christmas party", December meeting, was something special. It was more like "family" than just a model club. Perhaps it was the season, maybe the "Chinese auction" (thank you, Mr. Knowles), the fellowship, or even the food, but it just seemed different. I went home feeling really good about it, and really looking forward to 2014. I know I'm not alone in that feeling.

Mark your calendars for March 1st. That's the Saturday we show our ladies, our appreciation of them, by taking them to dinner. The Olive Garden will be the place, 6 PM, and we'll fill you in on the details. We've done this at least 3–4 years, and it's always proved very successful, and a fun night. The ladies always enjoy the opportunity to meet each other, and the guys are never short of conversation either.

Speaking of the ladies, you all know we've always welcomed them all. Recently, more of the wives have been coming (and staying) with their husbands, and are getting to know each other. It's a pleasure to have them, and in no way does it detract from our fun evening. We don't exactly back away from those treats they bring once in a while. To the rest of you guys, don't be shy, invite your better half. We'd all like to meet her. Hello Ladies!

As we talked about, briefly, at our last meeting, we have a quite a "theme" lineup for 2014. January we kickoff with "Something New", a model

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newly started, newly finished, etc. Let's see what you've been doing. A while back, Mike Knowles, Dad, Wayne, donated a load of Airfix, 1/72 aircraft models, to our club. After careful consideration our Eboard decided that we would let you choose, at the January meeting, your choice to build for a club contest in May, to be judged by Wayne Knowles, himself, who will be our guest speaker once again. The contest will be on a volunteer basis, free, however (there's always a "however") if you accept and do not present a completed model at the May meeting, you will owe the club \$5.00. In all, a pretty good deal, and it sounds like fun too. (I imagine most of us will return our completed model to Mr. Knowles, as a thanks for being our guest speaker (several times), so he will finally get the enjoyment of seeing a few of his models built.)

In this issue it will be my pleasure to introduce Mr. Simon Whitney, and his column, "Across the Pond". Simon has been a reader of our newsletter for a couple months, and would like in on the fun. All I'll tell you is that Simon, and wife, Rose, live in the UK, and he has agreed to share some of his "modeling experiences" with us. Stand by for some interesting reading, and we'll be glad to pass along any questions you may want to ask him. Hopefully we'll have him around a while. Welcome aboard, Simon.

Perhaps Simon will be an inspiration to our other members. Jake is always looking for "content", and I'm sure he'd like hearing from our club members more often. No excuses, guys. We know you all have plenty of interesting tales to regale us with. Take a few minutes out of your busy month, and drop Jake a line or two.

Let's not forget about JAXCON. IPMS First Coast once again hosts the "kick off" contest of 2014 on Saturday, February 1st. For all the information you could ask for, check their site: Home. Usually at least half our guys show up, so start making your plans now! There will be plenty of great models (don't be shy, bring something to enter in the contest), vendors, big raffle prizes, and modelers from all over. We're fortunate to have one of Florida's (Region 11) premier shows within a 2 hour drive of Ocala. See you there.

Now back to Ocala for a moment. I'd like to thank each of you who participated in our annual "can drive" for the needy. Considering we have our meeting place rent free, it's little things, such as donating to the needy, that shows our appreciation. Later this year we'll be asked to give a hand with the church's annual "clean-up" day. Somewhere in this issue should be an ad for one of their rib-chicken BBQ's (Feb.8th). Let's try to give them a little more support while enjoying a good meal. Well worth the cost!

If your dues are paid, you're a "member in good standing", if not, Mr. Box will be collecting your "guest" fee (if this is your 3rd meeting without joining) at the door. That's it for this month. See you all at the meeting. If you're not there, we'll miss you.....but you'll miss out!

Club Dues

Adult

\$40.00 Local & IPMS

\$25.00 Local only

No charge for local family members.

Junior

\$17.00 Local & IPMS

\$8.00 Local only

Adult Family

\$45.00 Local & IPMS

Dues must be paid at or by the December meeting.



Some of Biggles's builds

Across the Pond, in wet and windy England.

By Simon Whitney

Hi all, my name is Simon Whitney. I am 52 years old, married and live in Portsmouth, England.

I was born and raised about 20 miles

Northeast of Portsmouth in a little market town
called Petersfield. It was there over 40 years ago
I built my first model plane, a Frog "baggie", I
cannot remember what it was exactly but it
ended up after a few hours of building more
glue than plastic, but I was hooked. From there
on, pocket money, birthday or Xmas presents I
tried to get models.

Airfix was the main brand sold in our local toyshop, so I brought many of them as a young teenager, before venturing on to Revell, Hasegawa Matchbox and Tamiya before I left home. Back in those days, all my kits were painted with a hairy stick with Humbrol enamels, not all that well I may add, acrylics, what were they? I built various genres planes, tanks, cars and boats, but they were never going to be show winners. I can remember reading an Airfix magazine once, with an article about the IPMS show, WOW; it opened my eyes to what could be done to a basic kit. Even back then in the mid 70's the Tamiya catalogue was the one to have hidden under your bed. The dioramas shown in there were amazing; it left me thinking how did they do that, food for thought?

1981, and I moved to Portsmouth, where I have lived ever since. And after a couple of years of moving from place to place, I sort of gave up on modeling, finding beer and women more fun instead. Fast forward to about 2 years ago, and a friend popped around one evening with a catalogue for a company called "Modelzone". They had opened up a chain of



stores all over the U.K. and there was one in the city centre. So I went down to investigate and it was back to my childhood again, although the store was not that big and stocked other things as well, there were boxes of kits up to the ceiling, plus glue and paints etc. That day was fatal in many respects; I had a couple of kits indoors that my wife Rose (Biggles) had brought me so I needed some paints. Well the rest was history.

I count myself as very lucky to have a supportive wife like Biggles, since I re-started the hobby, she has brought me stuff, including a couple of Fathers Days ago the Airfix "Beast" 1/24th scale Mosquito, which when I opened the box and saw the size I said "I am going to need an airbrush for this " . Well she went out and brought me one for that Xmas, bless her. The guys in the shop were really helpful in telling me paint to thinners ratios and spraying pressures, one of the guys contributed a couple of articles to the Airfix Model World mag, so I took heed of what he said. It was going to be a new learning curve (and a half) having never used one before, but after several attempts and finding out that the airbrush wasn't properly put together (lesson 1) learn how to strip and re-build the airbrush for cleaning. I was soon



on my way to hours of FUN plus a lot of swearing. The first kit I sprayed was the V.W. new Beetle (see pic).

Of course it did mean having to buy more kits to practice on though, and Modelzone was always having sales of which did help. But sad to say that Modelzone went bust, thankfully with some spare cash I was able to build a stash of kits during their closing down sale, which as it goes was handy, for Biggles decided that she would like to have a go at building a kit.

So I brought a pair of Airfix Yak 9D's which the moldings themselves were crap but cheap. I sat down with her and she followed what I was doing and to my surprise she did a nice job for her first attempt, she than wanted to do another one, so she had also got the bug too.

This leads to the question, where do you go from there? For us it was finding a decent hobby shop. Unfortunately there are not many in Portsmouth, those that exist on the main cater for more specialist subjects trains, remote control cars etc, and die cast models. We were lucky though, through the internet we found a store which was on the outskirts of town, brilliant, the type of shop that used to be around by the dozen many years ago but with the advent of the web and online shopping slowly disappeared. This

shop has its own web site but unlike some stores you can visit it and browse around, the other thing is that the owner knows his stuff so you don't get the dumb looks from just employees who know very little about the hobby. Lesson two, support your local hobby shop before that becomes another distant memory!!!!

One of the first things I noticed about the hobby was not only some of the old brands were still around but also some newer ones as well, especially from the East European countries and the Far East as well. Aftermarket stuff like photo etched and resin, white metal parts etc.

Having access to the internet also opened up my world, not only company web sites but also the forums, this is where I met Joe "Da Bears" Caputo, plus many new friends. Not being a club member did not matter. Don't get me wrong, clubs are great to belong to, with a wealth of knowledge shared between the members, also the friendship that one can find. I build for FUN only; my skills are never going to be show stoppers. Also I have seen that modeling is the same around the world, maybe different kits or paints but we all do the same type of thing, cut, glue and paint pieces of plastic and metal to depict what was on the box lid or similar. The use of your imagination if needed makes for even more interest when no or little reference material is available, the "what if's" syndrome becomes an area which can develop the use of other materials not usually connected with modeling.

Well that just about wraps this letter up, on the bench at the moment are a pair of Airfix A4 B`s, new tooling but some old problems, a warped fuselage. Also a Hellcat Mk2 that's about 75% done and a F84 E that's also about 75% done. Hope to write soon with more on the modeling scene in the Old Country.

Hapless Harold's Hobby Horse

By Hapless Harold

In August of 1945 George Orwell released his seminal commentary on government **Animal Farm**. In it barnyard animals rebelled against their lot in life at the hands of heartless farmer, only to establish their own oppressive government in its place which was patterned after the farmers themselves. His story was allegory, but the scenario is real.

Historians and Sociologists have examined the life cycles of Countries and companies and found an amazing correlation – they have a **predictable life cycle.** Every great nation, every great company, every great movement follows the same trajectory of Birth, Growth, Peak/Plateau, Slippery Slope, and Death.

Let me explain. In the beginning was a Person (or an Idea). A lofty goal was promulgated and a path discerned. A following developed to achieve the goal. It energized the people, which drew more followers. Obstacles are overcome, and finally the Goal is achieved with great celebration and acclaim. Kudos are distributed, and the happy masses now have a decision to make - WHAT NOW? Wise leadership discerns another mountain to climb. dragon to slay, product to market. Unwise leaders instead sit back to enjoy their triumph and reap its rewards. Bureaucracies are established to maintain the achievement, codify the process, and honor their leader. Eventually, the leader dies, but the bureaucrats continue. They pass laws to entrench their position and worship their leader now gone. They prey upon the faithful followers, until they begin to question their leaders. Dissidents are then

identified, silenced, and flowery speeches promulgated to placate the increasingly restless masses. Eventually, a now imperial government will be over thrown by a rebellion (often uncivil) and a new leader arises from the ashes to point a new way, or re-establish the original vision of the now-sainted ancient leader.

Thus went Rome, thus followed Nordrigen (Once the most cutting edge business in history, have you even heard of them?) Thus goes IBM, U.S. Steel and Texas Instruments. Thus go many of our churches. Some say, there goes the USA.

So what of plastic modeling and IPMS? (This is after all a hobby newsletter.)

I suggest that the model industry has been hard at work to fulfill the wishes of a deeppocketed, aging, ever-shrinking hobby community. It is doing what they do with excellence, with phenomenal new technologies that make model craft much more precise and accurate, and much more costly. The aficionado is over joyed; the simple model builder is over whelmed. Our industry is on a drive for perfection that is a glorious death spiral as we die off.

IPMS likewise has made a choice. No one quite knows WHEN; no one quite understands WHY; no one is willing to identify any WHO that might be responsible. All I know is that every time I meet or hear of someone questioning the direction of our hobby or our Society, they are

all too frequently – all too predictably – ushered to the Island of Perpetual Solitude. Too enjoy the hobby, one is counseled to never, ever question the powers that be . . . certainly not to ask such questions as what is our vision? What is working? Do we have ANY evidence that we are reaching and enrolling new folks with our ABC or Make–n–Take programs? Are we satisfied with 4500 members nationwide when numbers in the past were many times more? Do we really publish the finest modeling periodical in the industry? Do we have answers or are we merely afraid to ask?

IPMS members must know that our leaders have a vision for growth of the hobby and our beloved organization. Without it, we will go the way of Rome, the way of Eastern Airlines, the way of so many churches slowly dying on the vine.

Is that what we want? If so, remain silent.

If you desire more, ask and expect answers. If you get stonewalled, DEMAND, and don't accept NO for an answer. And if they persist in giving you the cold shoulder, replace the braggarts. We don't need blind bureaucrats in IPMS – we need leaders.

I will be watching and reporting.

I think I smell Revolution in the air

Signed, Hapless Harold

Book of the Month

RMS Titanic Owners' Shop Manual

By:

David F. Hutchings and Richard de Kerbrech



I got this book for Christmas and while not targeted at the model builder it tells you all about the ships construction. There are many pictures of equipment and plans of the construction. This book also tells you about the day to day operation of systems on the Titanic. This is helpful because once you know how something works or why a piece of equipment is there you can start to see how it all comes together.

This book would be great for the diorama builder. You could easily build a correct diorama of any maintenance or operation as this book tells you the step by step process.

This book is filled with information and facts about the Olympic class of ships. A must read for any Titanic buff.

ISBN# 9780760340790

Newsletter Poll

January's Poll Question: What does our club President Joe Caputo do as President? (Other than make us laugh with his dirty jokes and innuendo.)

"When I first came to Florida, there was a model display at the Paddock Mall. I stopped to talk but when I mentioned I had over 2000 models built in boxes I was told I was telling stories. By the time I reached the other end of the mall I tried again and was told no one had that many models. I told myself right them that I would never consider joining that bunch of $x\%\&\#\%^*^^\&$ s. Many years later, when Joe saw my photos on line he invited me to join. I related the above story and he apologized for the club and asked me to give them another chance. It was one of my greatest decisions and would not have been made had not Joe reached out to me. Out of everyone I met in 25 years in Ocala, I miss the club the most. That's what he does for this club!

PS, Now I sit in North Carolina with most of my models in boxes again. I don't think I'll meet another Joe Caputo."

Ed Bonthron

"I'm torn between taking this question seriously or to try to offer something amusing for an answer. I probably should stick to seriously.

Over the years I have been a member of several hobby clubs in several states, and everyone had a different culture. Some were very structured, some were pretty loose. The President's personality often set the tone of the meetings. Sometimes it worked out OK and then there were times we couldn't wait for the next election.

This never bothered me much. If I did not like

what was happening in the club, I would either, run for office or find / start another club, bearing in mind that the members who wanted to have a hand in club affairs usually represented a small total of the membership. Over the years I did hold office in several clubs and found I enjoyed it.

I must say, that of all the clubs I have belonged to, the Ocala club is the first club that the office of President has been held by one person for thirty years. I have been in a club where the person who held the Presidents post, held it for five years. Eventually the members wanted a change and voted in a new member to the position.

I take my hat off to Joe for the job he has done and continues to do. Joe brings many talents to his position. He sets the direction, which is always based on making the hobby a fun experience. He has gathered a good group of officers to help him stay on that track, and his sense of humor keeps the meetings from being too structured, and he gets through the agenda in a timely manner.

Obviously Joe has a good management style that works for the club. Much is done behind the scenes that the membership never sees, which is as it should be. Most members come to the meeting to socialize and to be entertained. Making all this work takes talent and a good understanding of all the personalities you will find in a club. The fact that the club is still going strong after all this time says Joe must be doing something right."

Jack Mugan

"He sends me neat e-mails. He makes the meeting inviting--Always takes an interest in people--ask all the hard questions--has a natural sense of humor --has a nice wife---knows a lot of stuff--is funny looking----"

Danny Mayer

"Think about it Jake. Joe is a mastermind behind all that laughter, joking and easy going personality. He has survived his youth, graduated high school by age 23, dodged many a jealous husband, bought houses, furniture, automobiles, supported two x-wives, raised two sons, gave it all away, twice. He endured 3/5's of his life working for the Post Office. He was the founder of this model club in 1983. He survived some serious medical issues, just before his retirement and still made a comeback to put his Don Juan moves on his present wife, the beautiful Carol Caputo. It takes quite the "Stud Muffin" to capture the Postmaster, best looking woman in the workplace, the most thoughtful and precious lady I know, not to mention she earned more money than he did. With all this said, how can you question his performance as our club president? His tactful, talent of surrounding himself with knowledgeable, reliable, fellow, club officers secures his position. Ask him, he will tell you, I am surrounded by good people that make my job pretty much invisible. Are you sure you are not just a tad envious, I am!"

Mark Box

"Dirty jokes, Innuendo, I have no idea what you mean... As far as what I do, well Tin man, you might as well as the Wizard, about his job in Oz.... and, it's Don Giuseppe (Joseph), if you

don't mind. I don't like to stand on formalities. After all, no one actually ever kisses the ring. And I think you ought to give an award to anyone who gets the correct answer to your.....question. I'll decide if anyone got it right. Dirty jokes and innuendos, I still don't understand that one....."

Joe Caputo (Don Giuseppe)

"What Caputo Joe does as president is well beyond the job description...

- ...He eats sleeps and drinks! IPMS.
- ...He is on the phone or computer most of his waking hours searching and researching hobby relayed issues.
- ...He regularly promotes IPMS issues.
- ...He forwards hobby related web sites.
- ...He is our hobby web master.
- ...He is our very own standup comedian.
- ...He is our modeling cheer leader.

In reality, Joe does whatever Joe wants to do!"

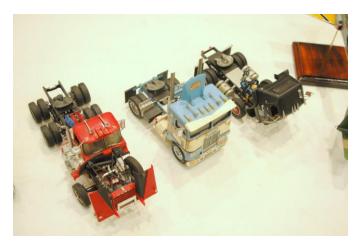
Mike Knowles

It's All About FUN!

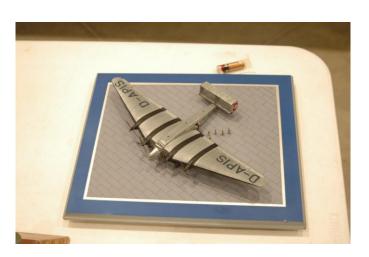
Show and Tell



FW 190 by Jack Mugan



Big Rig Collection by Paul White



Junkers G38 by Dan Murtz



PT Boat by Joe Caputo



BF 109 by Joe Caputo



T 45 by Mark Fiddler





A 26 by Howard Burke



HE 111 by John Fox



Raiden by Mike Knowles



Shinden by Mike Knowles



Shinden by Mike Knowles



Jack by Mike Knowles

Happy Holidays! From Mike Knowles

(This is written to you because I cannot be in attendance at Thursday's meeting due to professional obligations.)

Maybe this seems a bit out of place, but I had a great holiday season – Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's all became a hobby marathon for me. I decided that I have been WAAAAAY too serious about my modeling of late, and so – taking a page from Imperious Leader's book (ie Have Fun), I decided to see how many started models I could finish without starting a new one, that last part was tough because I am really driven to start 1/350 Bismarck and 1/72 Lancaster B– I, II and III.

And so I set to work in my man cave. I was not seeking museum quality, not even contest quality. I was just looking to finish projects that tell a story. I have emerged on the other end with a model finishing frenzy even I did not expect. I list for you the projects completed, followed by the next wave.

- *Hobbycraft Canada I-16 in Russian markings
- *Eduard I-16 in Chinese markings
- *Tamiya Panzer II d Polish campaign markings
- *Lindberg XF-91 in fictitious squadron markings (my first Alclad success!)
- *Mongram A/B-26b in natural metal WWII markings (for my dad)
- *Italeri A/B-26c in Korean night intruder markings
- *Hasegawa Jack
- *Tamiya Jack
- *Eduard DFW 28 "Flea" WWI biplane
- *Delta 2 S-55 Italian bi-float plane
- *? He-178 the world's first jet aircraft

About to be finished (maybe in time for Jaxcon!)

- *Tamiya 1/350 Yamato (huge!)
- *Aoshima 1/350 Isuzu
- *Hasegawa 1/350 Mikasa
- *Dragon 1/35 King Tiger
- *Hobbycraft Canada Humvee (secret markings)
- *Monogram RB-36g (really huge)
- *Academy KB-29
- *Academy RB-50g
- *Zvezda 1/350 Suvarov
- *Fine Molds 1/350 Amagiri
- *Monogram A-26K
- *Eduard Fokker E-III
- *Dragon Fokker D-VII

Quite a list huh? I can't wait to bring them in to the February meeting. I may well need a couple tables just for my stuff!!





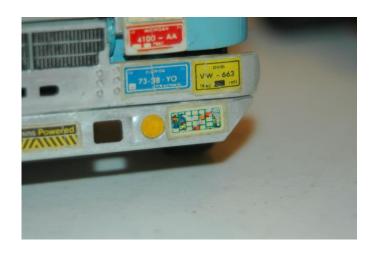
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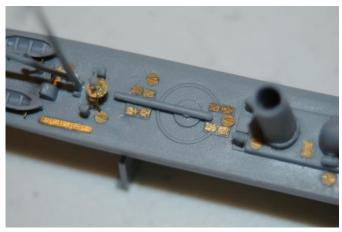












2014 Meeting Themes for the Year

	Month	Theme	Program
•	January	something new/just started/just finished	ТВА
•	February	something "competitive"	ТВА
•	March	foreign made (the \$1.00 club models are due)	ТВА
•	April	something on a base (we'll pass out 2"X 2" bases for a con	test) TBA
•	May	something fictitious (Airfix group build contest from Dec.)	ТВА
•	June	open	Swap N'Sell
•	July	summer/hot related	ТВА
•	August	wop-wop-wop (use your imagination)(2" base build due)	ТВА
•	September	"what FLOATS your boat"	ТВА
•	October	open	Possible club picnic
•	November	open	Swap N' Sell/ Cans/ Dues
•	December	open	Cans/ Dues

It's All About

Fun!

Websites of Interest

http://www.ipmsusa.org/

http://www.scalemates.com/

http://imodeler.com/2012/10/how-to-paint-figure-faces-with-an-airbrush-a-video-tutorial/

<u>HyperScale - An Online Magazine for Aircraft and</u> Armour Modellers

imodeler

Tony Matteliano's Scale Model Index

Swanny's Models

Do you have a website you would like other to know about? Let us know and we will share it with everyone.

Club News & Events

- Next meeting is January 23rd at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 P.M.
- February's meeting will be the 27th at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 P.M.
- January's theme will be something new.
- The address of our meeting location is 4001
 NE 25th Ave, Ocala, FL 34479
- JAXCON is Saturday February 1st. Get with your carpool buddies to make arrangements.

Letter from the Editor

Hello Again everyone.

Happy New Year Everyone! Well this month's newsletter is a complete one eighty from last month. I have articles coming from everywhere. As you have seen we even have a fellow modeler from merry old England Simon Whitney. It's interesting to see the differences and also the many similarities in the hobby from across the Atlantic. I hope we will hear more from Simon and the state of the hobby in Europe.

We also have a new member as you might have noticed, Harold. I don't know much about Harold but his article makes for some interesting reading. I'm sure we will be hearing more from him in the Future.

This month's poll question was another interesting one. I'm glad to see you guys can write when it interests you. I wish you guys would give me more. Like Joe says this newsletter isn't just for us. It is seen and read by many all over the world.

Next month I will be writing an article about our hobby being a solitary hobby and how that many hinder new members joining. I don't know if I will be able to make it to Jaxcon so I hope someone will step up and do a report.

Store Discounts

Rob' Hobby World

8600 SW ST RD 200 Ocala, FL 34481 (352) 854-2799 www.robshobbyworld.com

www.robshobbyworld.com

A Novel Idea Bookstore

Chapter One 2019 E Silver Springs Blvd. Ocala Shopping Center Ocala, Fl. 34470 (352) 351-9475

Chapter Two
3131 SW College Road
(Across from the Paddock Mall)
Ocala, Fl. 34474
(352) 390–8662
www.anovelideabooks.com
10% discount

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Signature (required by P.O.);	
Type of Membership: ☐ Adult, 1 year: \$2	25 Adult, 2 years: \$49 Adult, 3 years: \$73
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☐ Canada & Mexico: \$30 ☐ Other/Fo.	reign: \$32 (Surface) Other/Foreign: \$55 (Air)
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