



O.H.M.S.

Oklahoma Historical Modelers' Society

NEWSLETTER



Volume 44, Issue 2

February, 2014

Coming Events

February 7--OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
February 15--ModelFiesta 33, IPMS Alamo Squadron, San Antonio. San Antonio Events Center, 8111 Meadow Leaf Drive, [Kent Knebel](#) 210-481-2731
February 21--OHMS Meeting. Program Night. Slides from Turkey.
March 7--OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
March 8-- RiverCon III, Clairon Hotel, 1419 East 70th Street, Shreveport LA, IPMS/Red River Modelers, contact [JACK CRUMBLISS](#) (318)-828-4597
March 8--IPMS MCMA Showdown 24, Dr. Pepper Center, 12700 N Stemmons Frwy, Farmers Branch TX, Metroplex Car Modelers Association, [Len Woodruff](#) 972-979-5722
March 21-- OHMS Meeting. Program Night.
March 29-- IPMS Flying Tigers Great South Tigerfest XXI, St. Jerome K.C. Hall, 3310 Florida Ave., Kenner LA. Contact [Richard Marriott](#) (504) 737-9514
March 29-- IPMS Tulsa Modelers Forum model contest (not to be confused with the non-IPMS figure contest in June), at a new location--Bixby Community Center, 211 N. Cabaniss in Bixby. Contact [David Horn](#) 918-810-1880

Meeting Reports

Business Meeting—January 3

Due to the weather this evening, attendance was very small and no club business could be conducted. It can be announced, however, that the club IPMS charter has been renewed for 2014. Memberships for 2014 are due, starting in January. Annual dues are \$15.

We need some input about programs for the second meeting night. If anyone has any ideas (or, even better, is willing to DO a program), get with Steven.

Model of the Month— January 3



Mobil 1 NSX

Steve Jones



A7V

Dave Kimbrell

To Preserve the Past for the Future

Est. 1967—The tenth oldest chapter in the United States
Region 6 Newsletter of the Year 2011 and 2012



F9F-2 Panther

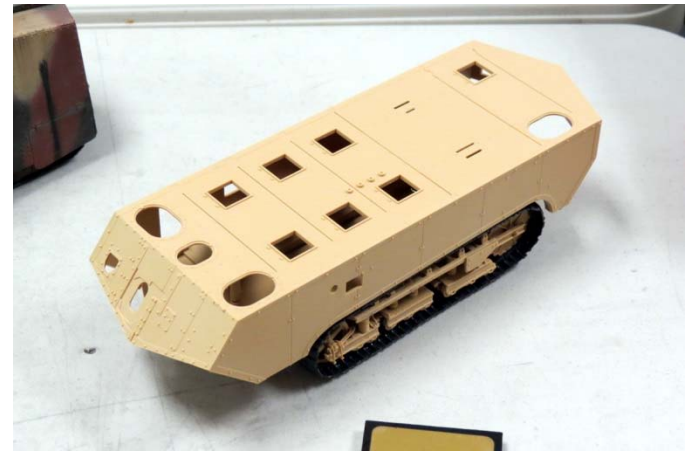
Rick Jackson



Mark IV Male

Dave Kimbrell

And a couple of works in progress.



What Steve doesn't do in quantity, he makes up for in quality. His race car left the rest of us in the dust as he sped away with this month's award.

A few thoughts from the Head Chicken...



A Cunning Plan

Back last July, I sent an inquiry to IPMS about acquiring some issues of the Journal for distribution locally. I figured if we could get them placed in places like barber shops, doctor/dentist offices, etc, people would pick them up while waiting and learn about model building and IPMS.

It took a while, but Mary Jane Kinney finally got me a batch and I have handed some out to various co-conspirators, as well as taking some around myself. The plan seems to be working well. The copy I left at the barber shop is well dog eared after a month. The idea was

to put copies out where the general public might find them and start looking at model building and IPMS. I don't know if we will pick up members from all this, but it can't hurt. I figure you have to reach out if you want new people. I hope more chapters try it.

Dak

The Dark Side

Come to the Dark Side.....the directions are merely the manufacture's opinion of how it goes together!

GAS! (Hold the beans)



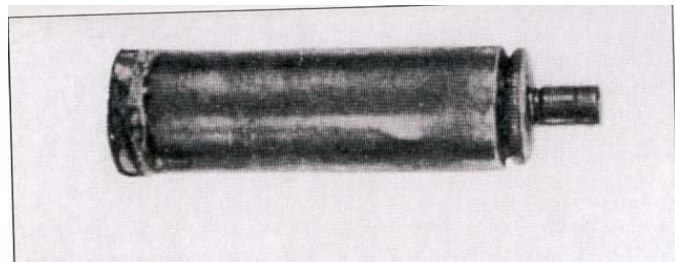
In the hot, humid August summer in Florida in 1972, I was herded into an air tight bunker and subjected to a one percent concentration of tear gas. It was an edifyingly unpleasant experience. I can only imagine what it would have been like to have to go through more deadly stuff with people trying to kill me, or having to try killing them.

WWI is noted for all sorts of new technology, but **Gas**....just the mere threat of it....sends chills up almost everyone's spines. As we have seen from recent events, it is a reality which is still with us. Like with the atom, the genie is out of the bottle.

Generally speaking, there are six types of war gases, although some can fit into more than one class. First are **Lachrymators**; the tear gases. Second are the lung injurants, which are **Asphyxiators**. Third are the **Toxic Agents** which get into the blood stream, like cyanide. Fourth are the **Sternutators** which are respiratory

irritants. Fifth are the **Vesicants**....blistering agents like Mustard gas. Sixth are the **Nerve Gases**. From this point on, things get far more technical, and you would need to be a chemist to follow most of it.....Yes, I know, Steve; I'll loan you the book

While most tend to lay the blame on the Germans, it was really the French who kicked things with the use of tear gas grenades.



In trench warfare, these proved of limited use and effectiveness. In fact, many of the early attempts to use Gas went unnoticed by the victims! What worked well in the lab did not always work well under combat conditions. Gas can be a real danger to the user, also. A change in the wind and you are also the victim; you can stop an artillery barrage, but if they are Gas shells, the gas lingers on. Of course, not all the "gases" are really gases. Many are particulate or liquids that are dispersed by explosives.

The big day came on April 22, 1915, at Ypres, 6pm German time. This was the first Chlorine gas attack by the Germans.



They aimed it at the French lines using the simple expedient of opening gas cylinders as the wind blew towards the enemy lines.



Crude, but effective. While the French line was breached, it did not lead to the grand breakthrough desired and needed. But from this point on it was a game of measure and countermeasure. Even animals were given protection.



Combinations of various gasses were used to defeat the various protective gear. Colored powders were sometimes added to warn friendly troops away from contaminated shell holes.





German mask



Early chlorine mask



Early French mask



Early British masks



Small box mask



French trissot mask



Lederschutzmasken

Special Delivery

The main problem with gas was getting it onto a target in sufficient quantity to be effective. Releasing the gas from cylinders meant they had to be in safe trenches, taking days to set up, and was subject to the wind and weather. Mortar and artillery shells were the preferred because you could actually aim them. This required much experimenting to find the right types of gas and explosive. In many attacks, white Phosphorous and Thermite would be used to add to the confusion and incendiary effect.



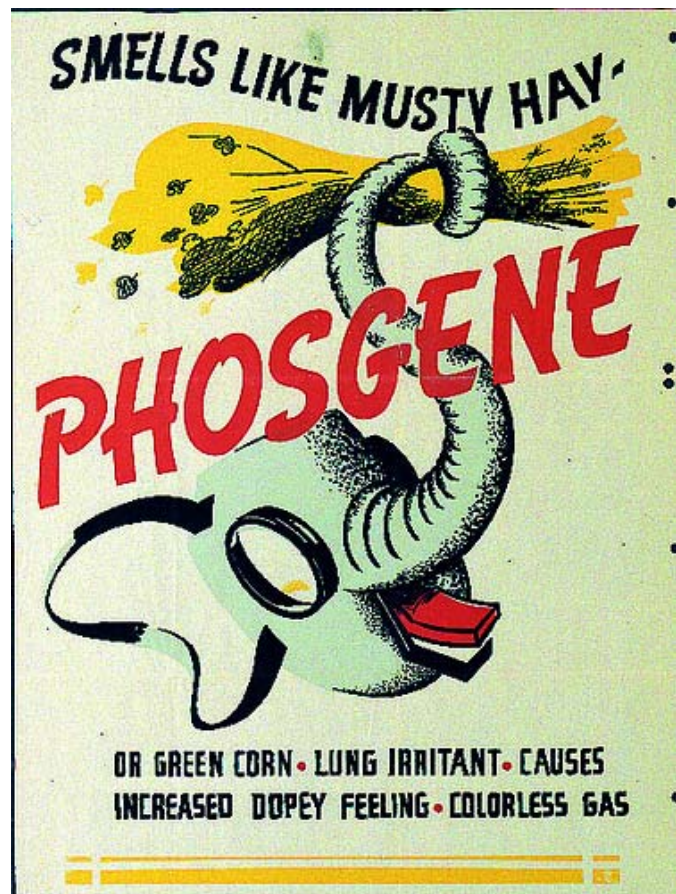
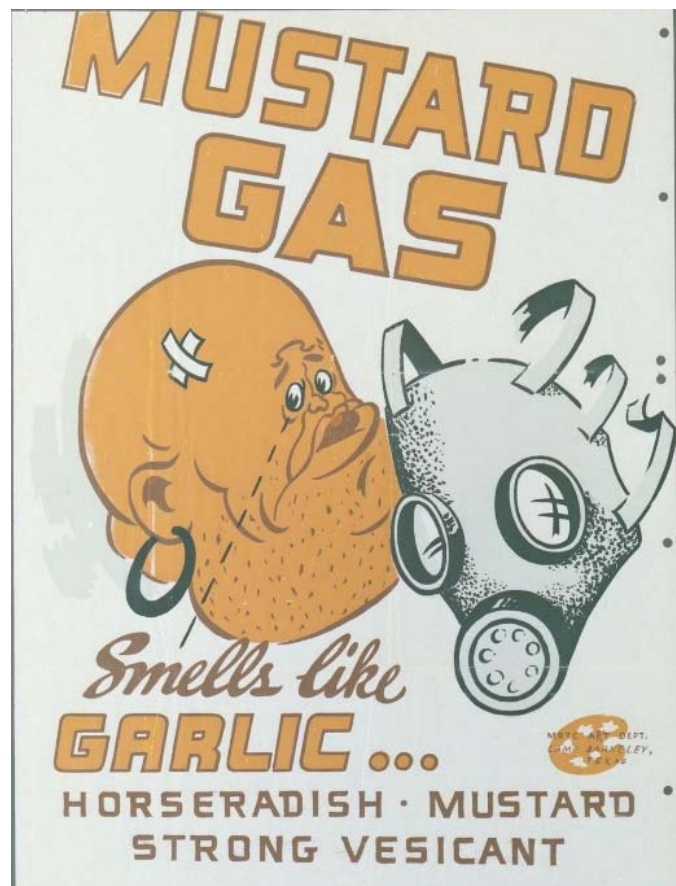
This need for concentration led the British to develop the Livens Projector.

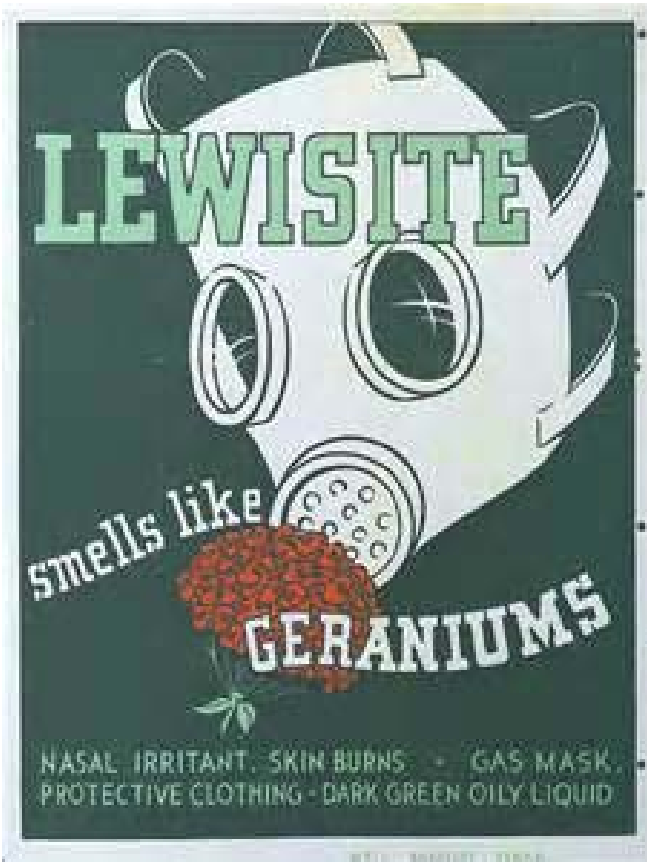


Basically, a muzzle loading tube is buried in the ground and fired remotely. Not long ranged, but extremely effective, they were copied by the Germans. These were the forerunners of the Nebelwerfers of WWII.

The big three in WWI were Chlorine, Phosgene, and Mustard. The Nerve gases would wait for another day. Chlorine and Phosgene were lung injurants. Mustard was a blinding and blistering agent. Smelling like horseradish/garlic, it would seep through clothing. Often the victim would be unaware of the contamination until much later. It would linger longer than simple gases and could cause problems days or weeks after the bombardment. Mustard would become the best war gas of the era and still is in use today. A clear brownish liquid, it could be delivered but artillery shell and has a long linger time. *Of course, now days, it is mostly used on civilians.*

Here are some posters warning of the gases.





Verdict: a valuable weapon?

There has always been a debate about whether gas was an effective weapon. During WWI there were 1,286,853* casualties due to gas (*Adolf Hitler was one.*). Any weapon that puts a million and a quarter men out of action is a weapon worth using. 1,389,000,000* standard artillery shells were fired during WWI to produce one casualty per 110 shells fired. Yet 66 million gas shells produced 75% of the gas casualties; 68 rounds per casualty. Yet, 93%* of all gas casualties survived, with only 12% of those suffering permanent disability. And a post war study in the USA showed that those having been gassed having almost a 50% LESS occurrence of Pulmonary TB! Compare that to the survival rate of being shot with a .45 cal. bullet, or having a 105 mm shell land close aboard.

Final Note

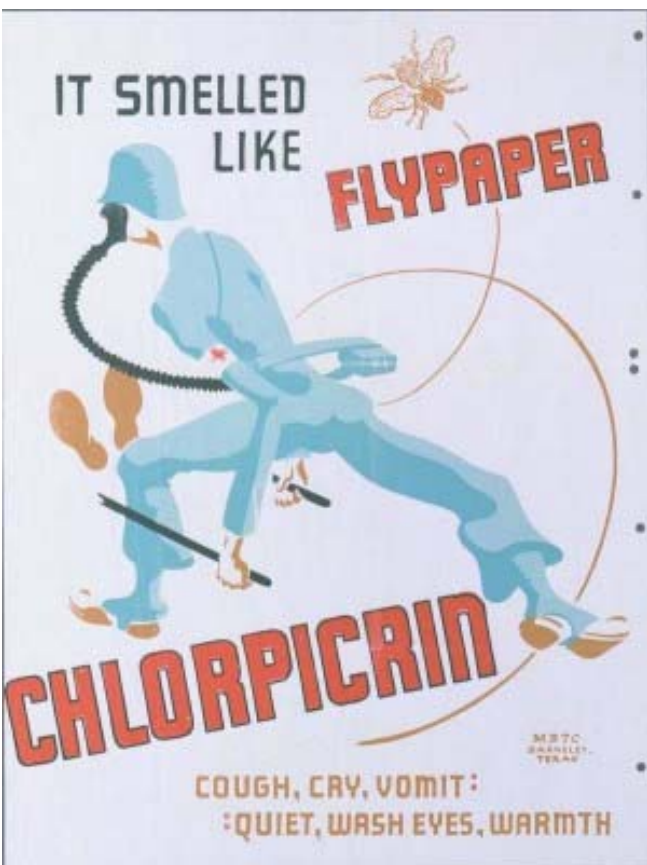
When the British started manufacturing Mustard gas, the plant worked three shifts. The workers suffered 28% casualties on all shifts. Here is a shot of a German plant.



There was no safety equipment. Believing the substance to be fairly harmless, bucketsful were dump out on the ground or in nearby streams. Consider that the next time you hear someone complaining about OSHA or the EPA.

KITS

There are various WWI figures around in gas gear. I believe there is a **Verlinden** set showing several Germans advancing through No-Man's Land with masks on. There is his nice figure from **Citadel Models** of a German wearing the Dräger Model 1914 Selbstretter, in 120mm-1/16 scale.





Additional reading:

Osprey Books

World War I Gas Warfare Tactics and Equipment by Simon Jones, Osprey Elite 150

French Tanks of WWI by Steven Zaloga, New Vanguard 173

German Panzers 1914-1918 by Steven Zaloga, New Vanguard 127

First Battle of the Marne 1914, Campaign 177

Amiens, 1918, Campaign 197

Vickers-Maxim machine guns

Messines 1917, Campaign 225

Cambrai 1917, campaign 187

St. Mihiel 1918, Campaign 238

Chateau Thierry & Belleau Wood, Campaign 177

Forts of the Meuse in WW I, Fortress 60

The Fortifications of Verdun 1914-1917, Fortress 103

Other books

*GAS by Ian V. Hogg, Ballantine's Weapons 43
(main source of numbers quoted in article)

M Model has an interesting mounted German lancer wearing a Gummimaske or Rahamenmaske and a mask on the horse, in 1/35 scale.



Model Cellar has a 75 mm British Artilleryman with a Small Box mask hanging down.

GERMAN TANKS IN WWI, by W. Schneider & R. Strasheim, Schiffer Publishing

COMPENDIUM MODELING MANUALS 4, Jerry Scutts, editor

The Guns, 1914-18 Ian V. Hogg, Ballantine weapons 27

Trench Fighting 1914-18, by Charles Messenger, Ballantine's weapons 28

No Man's Land by John Tolland

The Arms of Krupp, by William Manchester

Small Arms of the World, by W.H.B. Smith

German Artillery of World War One, by Herbert Jager

Catastrophe: 1914 by Max Hastings

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND PRIVATE INFORMATION

BARI, ITALY, 1943

On December 2, 1943, Luftflotte 2, under the command of GFM. Wolfram von Richtofen, sent 105 JU-88 bombers to attack the Italian port of Bari, on the southeast coast. There were 28 Allied cargo ships in port along with a number of warships. For the Germans, the raid was resounding success.

The big tragedy came when the USS *John Harvey*, a Liberty Ship, was hit. Among its cargo was a load of US M47A1 bombs containing mustard gas. This was a secret and no one but the *John Harvey* crew knew it was there; most of whom were killed. The harbor was devastated and put out of service for three weeks. There were 628 hospitalized victims, 83 of which died. An unknown number of Italian civilians were also affected. The whole affair was kept secret because of the mustard gas.



Dave Kimbrell

Mind of the Married Modeler



Life Before Dave: it was all so much simpler then

Here we are back at ya again after a little break..... and y'all thought we was gone.

- One fat hen
- A couple of ducks
- Three brown bears
- Four horny hares
- Five fickle females
- Six simple Simons sitting on a stump
- Seven Siamese sailors sailing the seven seas
- Eight egotistical egoists eking in and out of existence
- Nine nibbling Nubians nibbling on Nat's knuckles and nicotine.
- Ten tenaciously turnabouts traveling through trickily tackily Timbertown

And y'all thought we was gone, but we back at ya again!

Let's talk about obsession, not the fragrance either. Obsession can be good and can be bad; as we all well know, some of us more so than others. Many of us (no names mentioned) have been appropriately diagnosed with mild to moderate to severe OCD. Somewhere at the beginning of 2012, Dirty Dave Kimbrell suggested that I should venture into the world of dioramas. Keep in mind I had only done two figures and a bust by September of 2012 and they were stand-alone pieces. I had only done an interactive base once. At the end of 2012 my first venture into the dark world of dioramas was to take a WWI plane that I already had done (Bristol M.1C) and see if I could come up with a decent story. This wasn't too difficult since I had purposely left the spinner off when I built it back in 2009. The LeRhone rotary engine on this *Blue Max* kit was a thing of beauty, a model in itself so I never wanted to cover it up with the giant spinner. I had done some extensive research and found out that during WWI many of the planes sent to the Middle East/Mesopotamia region had their spinners removed to aid in cooling the rotary engines. I already had a box of the *Eduard* (1/48)

RFC Personnel which included 5 figures. With just a bit of elementary conversions to two of the mechanics I could get one to be holding the prop and the other to be holding the recently removed spinner and presenting it to an on-looking officer. Hence, the name of the diorama became: "Now This Should be Cooler."



The base was to the most extent already done. All I had to do was secure the plane and the figures, drip a few drops of oil on the ground and create a new plaque. In retrospect, it was nothing spectacular but it was my first diorama and that will always make it special to me, like the first girl I ever saw naked. One never forgets that. So it was on February 28, 2013 that I "saw my first naked girl"; hey I was a very sheltered kid,.....OK, quite naïve, too.

Well this would open the door to the latest in a long line of obsessions. Or, would it be more appropriate to call it a disease, a disease of the mind which now consumes me. In the old days, before Dave Kimbrell infected me and led me to the Dark Side, models were models and what was in the box is what the build was. Perhaps some aftermarket and scratch building were appropriate, but I never worried about a base, figures or any kind of story.

However, by the end of 2012, everything had changed, and with the building of my first real diorama "Dawn Departure" the OCD got kicked into full bloom. Success is great but it can breed earwigs of the mind and lead one into rabbit holes of deep and dark obsession. Ever since this, no model has been safely imagined to be a stand-alone build. I was able to finish a bust of a character from an obscure French graphic novel (Gareth, Pilot Apprentice), but he had already been started before the IPMS National of 2012. After Gareth, I planned to take a bit of a breather from complexity and build a stand-alone, mostly OOB car. Well as relaxing as a car can be. Instead it has morphed into a crazy project with a figure, food, homemade decals and a cobblestone road for a base; and it's not even meant to be a diorama!

Now nothing is safe and everything requires at least a figure and a base. I am sure it is a disease, a bloody disease I say! A disease inflicted upon me, a simple stand-alone model building lad, by Dirty Dave Kimbrell. Yes, DDK (not DAK) has done this to me and now my brain races uncontrollably with a terrible sense of impending complexity. Gone is the peace and serenity that I always experienced before, when life was about stand-alone model building. So now I am infested with the constant mania of planning and doing "the project" as now things are called. I don't build models anymore. I build "projects." Additionally, there is the obsession with buying all the stuff that goes with being able to do these "projects." This includes figures, ground cover, wood for bases, and all kinds of accessories. Oooohhh my friends it is the accessories that can really push my buttons and force me to flop around in bed all hours of the night fixated on what to buy, how to buy, when to buy; really a true disease of the mind destroying all semblance of peace and simplicity.

What an unconscionable thing to inflict upon a poor innocent, humble small town lad as I. Now DDK will say that he can't be blamed for my OCD behavior, well au contraire mes frères! This diseased state that I now find myself in is on him. He has cost me 1000s of dollars and 1000s of lost hours of sleep. Anticipating his rebuttal, I suspect he will say that the success of Dawn Departure at Loveland is due to him converting me to the Dark Side and that I am an ungrateful philistine. Who's to know, there may be credence in this rebuttal.

With all this said I wish to spend the rest of this diatribe discussing the figure aspect of my recently acquired obsession. In all actuality I would say that the obsession really got fueled with my first trip to the Tulsa Figure Show put on by the Historical Miniatures Society of Northeastern Oklahoma (HMSNEO) in June of 2012. I had finished my first figure in April of 2012. At that time I owned a scant 22 figures. As of this writing 22 months later I now own 100 figure kits which contain 208 figures in scales >1/72 and several hundred 1/72 scale figures! Can you say obsession? It really was in 2013 that most of the purchases happened with about 95% of these figures being purchased.

In May of 2013, to further fuel the obsession that he started, DDK asked me what figures did I want when he went to the Squadron Open House. I asked him to bring me 3 sets of Eduard RFC personnel and 3 French personnel in 1/48. He also came back with 5 other Verlinden figures from the American Revolution and WWI; they were dirt cheap and quite an unbelievable

bargain with some costing 10% of their original price. Meanwhile, Mike Davidson of the Hussar in Tulsa (<http://www.thehussar.com/>) who conspires with DDK to feed the figure obsession, told me that in August of 2012 JMD Miniatures would quit production and close-up shop. He would be doing one more order before they closed. Well I couldn't miss out on this and placed an order for 7 WWI 65mm figures. They are fabulous products and quite unique subjects. I already owned 4 and had built one just at this time, an Austrian Ski Trooper. Around this time I also learned that Eduard was discontinuing their RFC figures so I scoured the Internet and located 3 sets of 1/72 and 3 sets of 1/48 from Sprue Brothers. See how crazy it can get; more, more, more.... In Loveland at the IPMS National, of all the model bounty that I purchased only 2 were WWI planes and the rest were figures, lots of them.

In September soon after we returned, I placed an order with Wiener Modellbau Manufactur, an Online business located in Vienna, Austria (<http://www.wmm.at/index.php?index>). I had been looking at their WWI Austro-Hungarian submarines and figures for several years. Given JMD Miniatures recent unexpected closing and the numerous times that a swell WWI manufacturer had gone out of business before I was able to buy now and buy often, I decided I better not let that happen with Wiener Modelbau. I had been eyeballing their 1/48 AH figures and since I had about 100 1/48 WWI aircraft many of which could be done as AH, I needed to load up. In Loveland, Stephen Lawson had one figure with all of his 1/48 WWI planes. I liked the way they were presented and decided that I would try to do this in the future. I wanted to do a test order before I really loaded up. I had never seen these figures before and no one that I knew had either. My "small" order was for 8 packages with 12 figures included along with 2 plane refueling kits; just a small order, lol. The order had to be done old school style with my credit card info sent in two emails. This was a bit of a shock but I was not to be deterred. Besides I keep a debit card account with only several hundred dollars kept in it to be used solely for overseas modeling purchases. I ordered on 9/5 and the kits were here by 9/16. Great speed! The figures are either grey or tan/yellow resin. The ones molded of the later have better detail but all of them looked very nice. They will all make nice additions and be worthy members of future dioramas. Each figure is only about \$8.00 after shipping. I especially like the unique subjects of the women, workers and the professor. None of these have to be Austro-Hungarian. All the pilots look great and the refueling cart will be spectacular in an aircraft diorama.



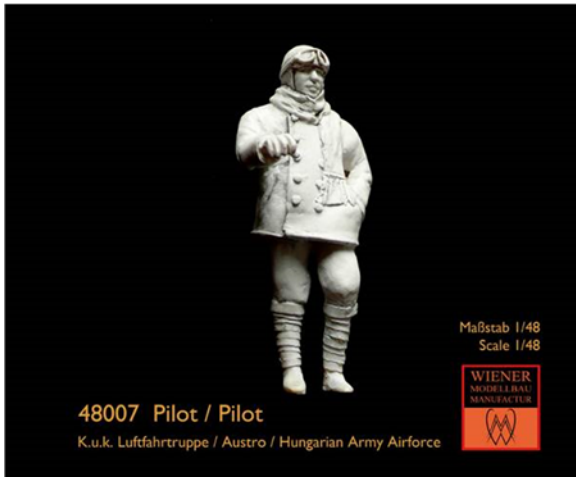
Austro-Hungarian Lady (1910-1915)



Austro-Hungarian Lady (1910-1918)



Austro-Hungarian Officer and Pilot (2 figures)

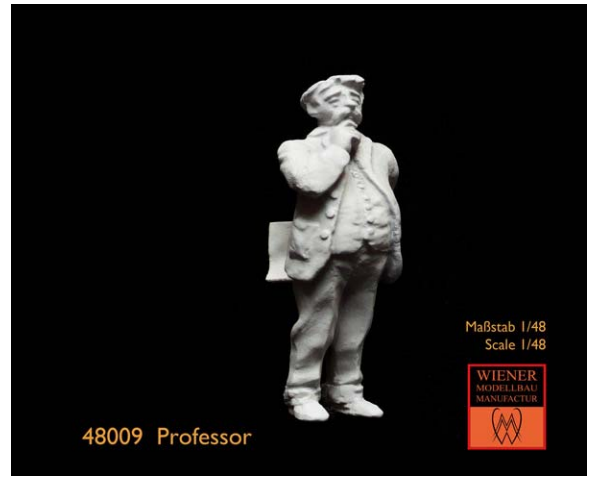


48007 Pilot / Pilot

K.u.k. Luftfahrtruppe / Austro / Hungarian Army Airforce

Maßstab 1/48
Scale 1/48

Austro-Hungarian Pilot



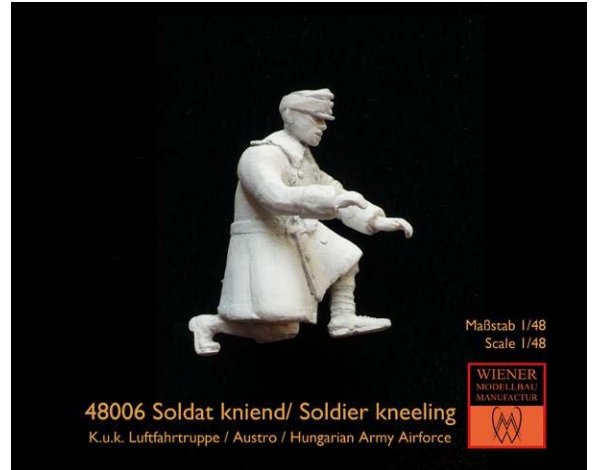
48009 Professor

Maßstab 1/48
Scale 1/48

Austro-Hungarian Professor



Austro-Hungarian Pilots (3 figures)

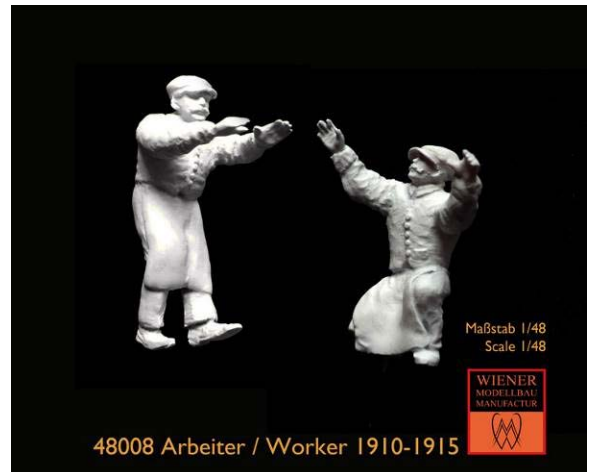


48006 Soldat kniend/ Soldier kneeling

K.u.k. Luftfahrtruppe / Austro / Hungarian Army Airforce

Maßstab 1/48
Scale 1/48

Austro-Hungarian Soldier



Austro-Hungarian Workers 1910-1915 (2 figures)



Austro-Hungarian Refueling Equipment

In September 2013, Meng released a 1/35 kit of the Renault FT-17 tank. Now I am not an armor builder but a new kit of a WWI tank was too much for even me to resist; again the fault of DDK. It is safe to say that Dave is our resident armor expert. He had one before they were even available in the States, instead acquiring his through Lucky Model. One day during one of our text sessions he said that he sure wish there was a decent figure of French WWI tanker. I vaguely remembered seeing such a figure and I looked through my stuff both hard copy and Online. I found two figures available from M-Models, a small company out of Poland (<http://www.m-model.pl/glownaeng.html>). They have about 28 figures and 3 kits in 1/35 and 54mm. I ordered 2 different tanker figures for me and Dave and added on a special bonus for myself, a WWI German Lancer mounted with him and his horse geared-up for a gas attack. These were most easily purchased off of eBay. The figures were \$14-17 each and the lancer and horse were \$36. The quality of the resin is superb and the figures show excellent detail and are crisp. I was a bit fooled by the kit of the Tankman and the turret as he came with no legs. However, if need be one can always cannibalized legs from another figure if you want to use

him outside the kit supplied turret. Or, this can be a stand-alone model if using the turret. I can highly recommend M-Models.



WWI French Tank Commander



WWI French Tankman with Turret



German Lancer 1914-1918

I continue my search for more figures for model “projects” that I have planned or will soon plan. Very soon it will be time to build the Wingnut Wings Sopwith Snipe that OHMS so graciously gave me while I was in the hospital. I plan to do the Russian markings that are supplied. Well.....we’ve got to have a Russian figure to go with it.

With the wonders of the Internet I found a set of 2 figures in 54mm of a famous WWI Russian pilot from Rest Models in the Ukraine (<http://restmodels.com/?l=en>). Most of their kits are figures but they also have an armor piece and a Polikarpov I-3 in 1/48. No one that I could find carries Rest Models so I had to order direct. Fortunately I was not waiting for my order for an immediate project for it took 76 days! Apparently they had a problem with one of the figures. I am not really sure which one but when the figures arrived they sent an extra set of 2 WWII figures as compensation for the wait. I am very impressed with the quality of these figures. They, too, are well sculpted and have crisp detail. I got the two 54 mm figures, a 1/24 WWI Russian pilot and a set of two 1/35 Peasant mother and daughter for a planned Russian Revolution project. Even though they took a great deal of time to get here, I would certainly order from them again.



Russian WWI Pilots (Ace A. Kozakov; 2 figs)



Russian Imperial Military Pilot



www.restmodels.com



“This Way” Russian Civilians WWII (2 figs)

Finally the latest stuff I got just before Christmas is part of a planned Russian Revolution figure diorama that seems a bit too esoteric even for DDK; c'est la vie. I picked up a Lenin Statue by Verlinden, a flat of Tsar Nicholas II by Mil-Mart and several figure sets and accessories produced by Master Box. I think all of this will come together well and be another very unique piece. Besides I will get a chance to paint several horses.



So there you go, just in time for the 100th year anniversary of the start of WWI, some great selections of WWI figures. You also have seen how far “into it” I have gotten, quite a diseased mind. I believe there is no turning back for once you get into groups there is no turning back to singles; or something like that. In all seriousness, I really have become passionate about doing figures and am very happy to have gotten in to doing them. I am far away from the quality of those experts from the HMSNEO but I am getting better with every figure and more importantly I am having a good time with them. Before I started, I studied and studied and researched methodology for well over a year before I ever painted one. As much as I want to harass DDK, I do very much enjoy the complete picture that doing a diorama fulfills. Even those models that only get a figure and a base now seem so much more complete. The thought of building an airplane to be presented all by itself with no figure or base seems ridiculous, naked and lonely.

So I have said it before and will likely again, if you are on the fence about this just jump in, join us on the broad highway. For years I listened to DDK drone on and on about: “put it on a base” and “add a figure to it”.....Yadi, Yadi, Yadi... Ok, now I am sold. Although my poor brain would honestly relish the idea of doing a stand-alone model build, I doubt that I could even do one now, nor do I want to. Perhaps some of the figures can be done alone but not the cars or planes, at least not for now. So shall I dare encourage you to join Dave and I and come over to the Dark Side. You really will enjoy yourself. So go figure hunting, buy now and buy often!

Steven Foster



The Gamer's Gambit

Wargames FACTORY

Once upon a time, the great David gave me a sheet of minis. The subject for these lovelies were the Zombie Vixens. Rather than being female fox zombies they are indeed young women who have been zombified and whom you might not want to kiss unless you felt the desire to have her eat your face. All the same I decided this time around to regale you with the story of the manufacturer for these delectable debutantes.



The maker of these ladies is called Wargames Factory and they have a rather different way of choosing their subjects. Certainly these beauties came from the minds of, not of the production department, but rather from the Liberty and Union League staffed by consumers (more on this later).

For now, let us focus on the history of this mighty giant in war game miniatures.



The history begins thus. Wargames Factory opened its doors for the first time in 2007 as a LLC and was managed by Anthony Reidy. The company decided to partner with Ghost Studio who is an injection molding company. The glory years of Massachusetts business war crushed taken over by its partner with a new manager, named George Sivy. On April 19, 2011 the MS LLC was dissolved and moved to CO. Hey, look, mountains and stuff!



In 2012, Wargames Factory was taking on new projects for several miniature gaming companies. Well, war gaming specifically. These included INMEdiaRes Productions, imprint Catalyst Game Labs boardgame Leviathans, as well as lines of minis for DreamForge-Games and Scarab Miniatures.



Now for the promised scoop on the Liberty and Union League. The name came from the protests of the early American colonists and the raising of the liberty poles. The way it works is that ideas are submitted by customers and they wait on approval by WF staff. If an idea is approved as being viable, it is listed on the Liberty and Union League, and on the WF message boards on the company's website. After being listed, people can then pre-order sprues of that idea for a miniature. Pre-orders are a gauge of interest in the sprue idea and if they reach a thousand the models are then put into production. What an innovative idea, no?

Most of the minis produced by WF are in the 28mm range but they produce 15mm as well. The media ranges from science fiction and fantasy all the way to historical.



For production, WF uses a "direct to digital" method that doesn't need an original physical sculpt. This is nifty to me as it is hard to imagine not needing one. The way they do this is using a software called Freeform from Sensable. Not sure how that works really. Probably all magical and stuff. Most plastic wargame figure

manufacturers apparently sculpt the figure at three times the eventual size and then digitally scan and reduce them for production. The three times scale is called a three-up by the by.

It used to be that WF was all environmentally conscious and would recycle the old plastic sprues that gamers no longer wanted and would even encourage this behavior with a raffle; however, they don't do this anymore. Instead, they encourage gamers to do it their own selves. Yay for moral parenting!

And there you go. As far as my personal opinion, thus far I am impressed with the detail of the minis and with the customization ability of each. They provide 3 sheets or so of copies and this means that you can attach any head to any of the bodies. You can attach any left arm, any right arm, any left leg, and any right leg to any torso. To me, this is great. I like my armies to be individuals and this is the way to do it! So go out there and support such an awesome little production company who has such unique ideas on production and conceptualization. That is all from me this time. Play well.

Ta.

Melyssa Smith



BATHTUB ADMIRALS

New Kits

It's been a while since I've done a listing of new kits, and quite a few have been released since that time. Rather than trying to cover the entire gap, this will be a selection of new and upcoming kits that interests *me*. Obviously, it won't have everything. So, here we go.

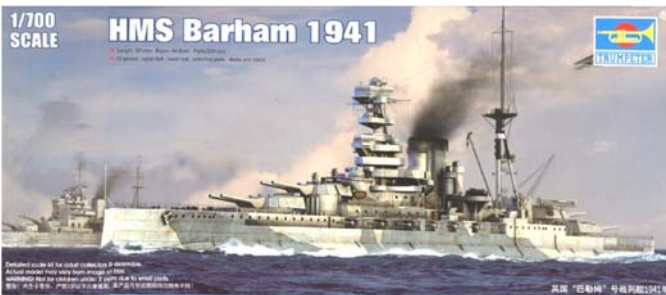
Trumpeter



This one is really off the wall. HMS *Roberts* in 1/350th is one of two monitors built in WW II. Her sister, *Abercrombie*, may be upcoming since the dimensions are very similar. Until now, the only other kit I am aware of is a White Ensign kit in resin. Estimated price from the HobbyLink website is \$68 retail, and it should be out in the Mar/Apr range.



HMS *Warspite* is another release of the *Queen Elizabeth* class which has proven extremely popular the last couple of years. WW II configurations have been seen in 1/350th and we've seen this class in 700th so far in the WW I outfit. Now we are seeing the WW II versions. Yes, this is in the Trumpeter section, but the only box art I could find was from the HobbyLink web site. Skywave has the distribution rights in Japan for the kits marketed by Trumpeter in the states.



HMS *Barham* has also just been released. Because this class was large, long-lived and always at the forefront of the British Navy, there are many opportunities for variants. She looks quite different than the other kits because the British staged the refits of the ships in the 1930's to keep the number of ships being refit at a minimum. She hadn't been refit in the way *Queen*

Elizabeth and *Warspite* had by the start of the war and was sunk in 1941 before it could occur. What we get is, essentially, an inter-war configuration.



The British Type 23 frigate sees another release to go along with the HMS *Kent*. This is a class of ships I am not too familiar with, so I don't know if there are some physical differences between the two ships/kits.

Dragon



Another release of the *Long Beach* in 700th. This one is a mid-life fit showing her from about 1978 to the 1980 listed on the box. The earlier kit released by Dragon can be built into versions from 1961 and 1967. The way the kits have been engineered, I would suspect that another version may be in the offing mounting Standard missile launchers as well as the boxed Tomahawk launchers as the ship had at the end of her career.

Hobby Boss



This is another release of a *Tribal* class British destroyer in 1/350th. The *Eskimo* was in 1941 fit while this one is dated 1944. I've seen two different versions of box art displayed, so I don't know if they are placeholders or multiple versions and, if multiple, what is the difference. The *Tribals* are a large and long-lived class, so there should be several more ships kits in the future.



Baku was the last of the *Kiev* class carriers produced by the Soviet Union, the ship was also named *Admiral Gorshkov* (not sure which was first) and has since been sold to India and renamed *Vikramaditya*. This is the original fit since it still has the massive missile suite at the bow which has since been replaced with a jump-jet ski bow by India.

Ark Models



In keeping with the philosophy that any kit will sell by simply making it bigger, we now have an uber-sized version of what Revell did in 1/72nd now in 1/48th. Ark has a spotty record of quality, but since this one will top in at around 55 inches (about the same size as the *Gato*), the model will draw interest.

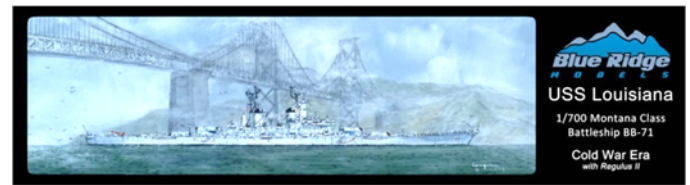
Blue Ridge Models



At Nationals in Colorado, FreeTime Hobbies had versions of all of the planned *Montana* class ships to be launched in the late 40's. You get a base WW II version in *Montana* and speculative versions in each of the other ship of the class. Want an 18 in. or 20 in. gun version?



How about a version looking like a refit from the 1950's?



Or a Desert Storm version?



Many, if not all, will be out in both 1/700th and 1/350th.



Blue Ridge has a history or re-releasing kits with enhanced parts and PE. I remember a *Ward*/midget sub kit with both packaged together before but the name escapes me at the moment (*Skywave* or *Pit Road* maybe). It was a good kit, so if this is the case, this one will be a good choice.

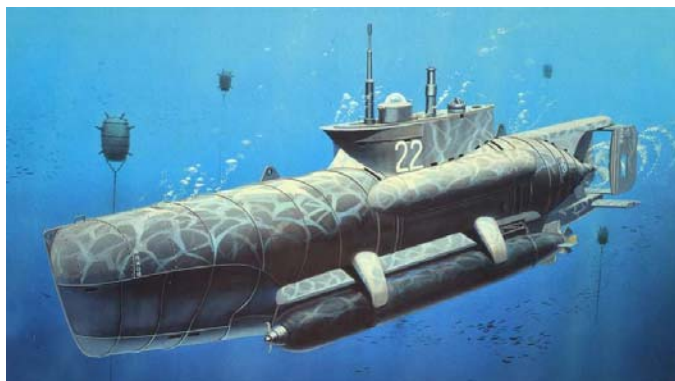


Blue Ridge is also releasing a *USS Texas* from 1945 and a *New York* from 1944. The kicker here is that these are PLASTIC kits, not resin. I think these dates are different from all previous releases in this scale as well. It also gives an ambitious person the chance to the *Texas* as she sits in Houston today.



Finally, they are also putting out 1/350th scale versions of both *Alaska* and *Guam*, the two battlecruisers launched by America in the latter half of WW II.

Revell



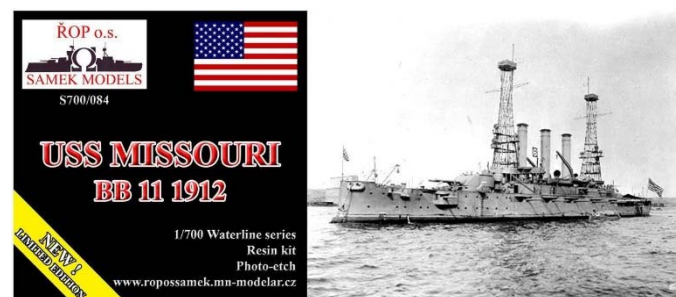
This is another subject that is getting a lot of players. Revell has this late version of the *Seehund* in 1/72nd scale.

Flyhawk



Flyhawk is well known as a manufacturer of aftermarket detail sets. They are now venturing into plastic kits with the last German battlecruiser class to see service in WW I. The kit photos look reasonably good, given the simple configuration of ships from the period. At around \$30, the price is attractive. There is also a 'commemorative' edition that includes brass barrels and a float plane.

Samek



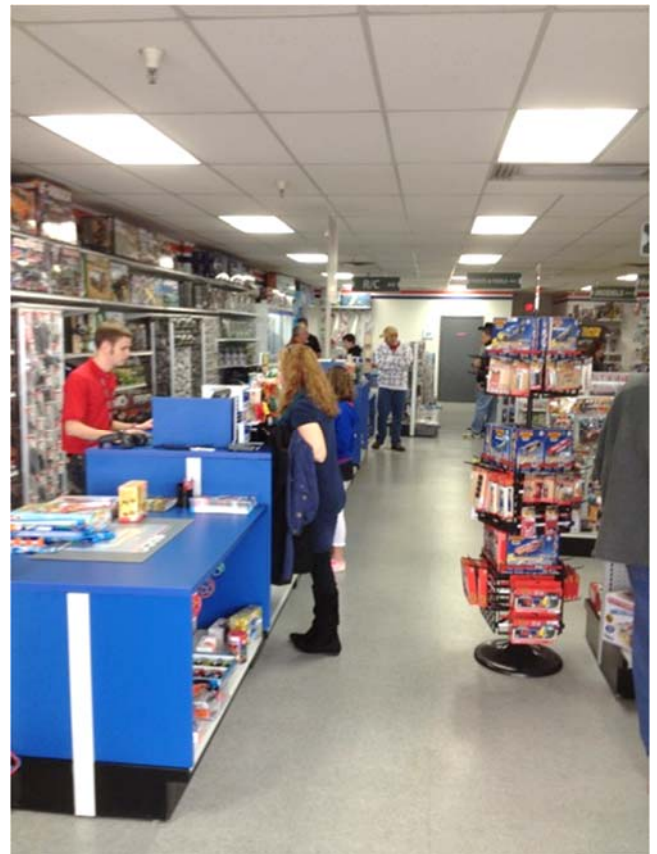
We've seen a glut of WW I and pre-WW I American battleships from Samek in the last year. Here are two of the latest. The casting quality is outstanding, so if you are willing to dive into 1700th scale resin with cage masts, (I know that is all of you) you could do worse.

THE NEW HOBBYTOWN

On or around December 7, 2013, a new HobbyTownUSA opened in the Metro area. The address is 813 W. Danforth Road, Edmond, Oklahoma. Phone:405-844-8697.

E-mail: hobbytown.edmond@gmail.com.

The store sets in a small strip mall on a corner. It is not as large as the store in Norman, but is well appointed and can get most anything the Norman store can get. At this time, they are primarily focused on R/C and railroad stuff. I am sure they will expand their model kits as they get more business related to it. If you are up that way, drop by and have a look. Here are some pictures of the store.



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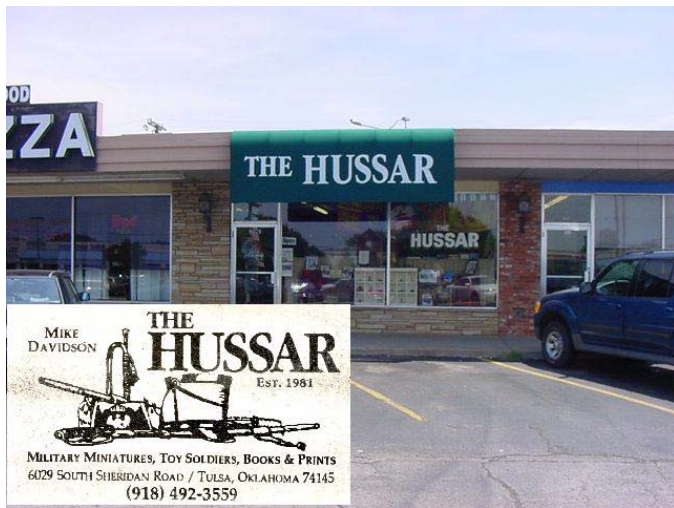
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OHMS EVENT CALENDAR

2014

February

- 7 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
- 15 ModelFiesta 33, IPMS Alamo Squadron, San Antonio. San Antonio Event Center
8111 Meadow Leaf Drive, [Kent Knebel](#) 210-481-2731
- 21 OHMS Meeting. Program Night. Slides from Turkey.

March

- 7 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
- 8 RiverCon III, Clairon Hotel, 1419 East 70th Street, Shreveport LA, IPMS/Red
River Modelers, contact [JACK CRUMBLISS](#) (318)-828-4597
- 8 IPMS MCMA Showdown 24, Dr. Pepper Center, 12700 N Stemmons Frwy,
Farmers Branch TX, Metroplex Car Modelers Association, [Len Woodruff](#) 972-
979-5722
- 21 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.
- 29 IPMS Flying Tigers Great South Tigerfest XXI, St. Jerome K.C. Hall, 3310
Florida Ave., Kenner LA. Contact [Richard Marriott](#) (504) 737-9514
- 29 IPMS Tulsa Modelers Forum model contest (not to be confused with the non-
IPMS figure contest in June), Bixby Community Center, 211 N. Cabaniss, contact
[David Horn](#) 918-810-1880

April

- 4 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 18 OHMS Meeting. Program night. Build Night
- 26 IPMS Houston Modelmania 2014--Stafford Center, 10505 Cash Road, Stafford,
TX 77477. Contact [Richard Kern](#) 713-320-3599

May

- 2 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 16-17 Region 6 Convention & Contest-- Marriott Hotel & Event Center
9100 Corporate Hills Drive, Wichita KS, IPMS/Air Capital Modelers. Contact
[Mark Vittorini](#) 757-440-6846
- 16 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.
- 31 Scalefest—IPMS/NCT— Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St. [Map](#)
IPMS-North Central Texas, Contact [Michael McMurtrey](#) 972 245-2545

June

- 6-7 Tulsa Figure Show and contest at the Wyndam Hotel in Tulsa
- 6 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest. Open theme
- 9-10 2012 Heartland Model Car Nationals. Overland Park Convention Center, 6000
College Blvd. IPMS KC Slammers Model Car Club Contact [Bill Barker](#) (913)
250-0906
- 20 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.
- 21 IPMS Metro OKC will host Soonercon at Crossings Community Center
2208 W. Hefner Road. Contact [Greg Rose](#) 405-590-7130

July

- 4 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 18 OHMS Meeting.--Program night. .Build Night.