February 2014 Volume 14. Issue 02



IPMS/Ocala President: Joe Caputo





Our Fearless Leader and Secretary

It's All About Fun!

Random Thoughts & Musings

By Joe Caputo

Hi Guys and Gals,

It's time for February's edition of RT&M. A quick summary of January, our Eboard + newsletter editor, attended a meeting of the Gatormodelers, in Gainesville. We were well received and made to feel right at home. Their theme was "The Doolittle Raid", a program that was nicely handled by their President, Frank .Later in the month, we had a good meeting, a little down on models, an absorbing conversation on the skills of using photo-etch, and everyone seemed to have a nice time. JaxCon was held on Feb.1st, and about half our members attended. It was the usual well run affair which I'm sure you'll read about in more detail, later in this letter.

With February comes the Daytona 500, and the start of the racing season, and, coming up at our February meeting, will be our "Something Competitive" theme. There are a lot of ways to interpret that, so it should be interesting. I'm sure we'll see some of the JaxCon winners. Of course any and all models are welcome. We're also hoping to shanghai Rob (of Rob's Hobby World) to give us a little figure painting demo.

March 1st (6PM), just a couple days after our meeting, is our annual "Ladies Appreciation Night". This is the night we gather at the Olive Garden with our significant others for a social evening, and get to know each other (although most already do) Members are also welcome to come alone or bring a date, Dan Murtz has already taken a count of who will be there, and it looks like a record crowd ! It's always a fun night and a hit with the ladies.

There was an interesting question on Hyperscale a couple weeks ago. The response

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was extraordinary. The question was simply, do you remember your first hobby shop? Those of us who were lucky enough to have lived in that era (old guys) can recall the days of brick & mortar, real store, hobby shops. Surprisingly enough there were a couple guys whose first "hobby shop" was a Wal-Mart, or a Kmart, etc. I sort of felt sorry for them. That's almost as sorry as not knowing one at all. Sadly the number has diminished terribly. Chain stores put "Mom & Pop" out of business, and then mail order made it less profitable for chain stores to stock plastic than video games, etc. Coincidently, you don't see many toy stores either. Many of our kids and grandkids will never know anything outside TRU, and Wal-Mart, but that's getting away from the original question. It was really nice to read the comments made, about particular shops of days gone by, and the effect they had on people. A lot of guys virtually grew up in those stores. The store owners were like second fathers to some, very personal and touching in some instances. What do you remember?

In our last issue, Jake asked the question, what do you think your club president does. While I appreciate the sincere answers (thank you), I was surprised there weren't more comments. You missed a great opportunity to take a free swing at the presidential piñata'. Also in the last newsletter, Jake published an "article" from someone who calls himself "Hapless Harold". An interesting read, somewhat deep, but posing questions I'm afraid I can't answer (above my grade). At the risk of this becoming too "political", I have to wonder how many others have similar questions, or what else, if anything is on HH's mind, and why he chose our newsletter to expound in. For sure, Jake is keeping our newsletter interesting at all levels, and I have to applaud him for stirring up folk's interest enough to write such commentary. I understand there have been replies to HH's article. Time will tell, what will surface.

Our guys seemed to have such a good time together, at our monthly meetings, that we have decided to try to resurrect our "build night. That way, those who choose, can get together a second time each month. We would have it at the same location, and time (day, to be announced). There will be no "formal" meeting, just a few guys sitting around, building models, asking and answering questions, and pleasant conversation, in general. We tried this before, but due to the library location, our hours were too difficult for most people. It's been a few years since, and we'd like to give it another spin. We're only expecting 4-8 members, but all are welcome and we'll adjust. Just another excuse for another "boys night out"! Let us know if you're interested, and then pack up a few tools and something to work on.

We'll fill you in as we go, but it looks like November will be our yearly main library display. We'll begin Nov. 1 st and remove our display Nov.29th. Let us know if you have any ideas that will make it "special".

Last month, 9-10 of us selected an "Airfix" model for a small contest in May. There are still

plenty of kits available (although picked over) if you want to get on the bandwagon, or select a 2nd kit. As I said last month, the kit is free, unless you fail to have it built by May's meeting. Then it's \$5 to the club. I'm still hoping that most of you will return the finished model to our guest speaker/contest judge, Wayne Knowles, also the donor of the kits, and who has been a guest speaker several times. It should be another interesting evening.

For those who are into auctions, a quick reminder that our sister club to the North, The Gatormodelers, will be hosting their annual fund raiser March 22. .You should have received all the info via Duane, (our excellent CC) but if you missed it, ask any one of our dual members, or let me know. This is an RSVP deal, so if you want to attend, you should let someone know. (Our newsletter pages are available to any club that would like to pass on news of an event, etc.)

That's it for me this issue, but from what I understand, there should be a lot more interesting things that Jake has compiled for your enjoyment. Read on, you may even learn something you didn't already know. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Joe

We will be meeting at 402 S Pine Ave. this month

There's a Smell in the Air.

By Hapless Harold

I love the beach. I could spend hours at the beach every day. I have enjoyed some of my most memorable vacations at this beach or that. I bask in the sunshine, and am mesmerized by the waves. I thrill to see dolphins breach and pelicans glide in formation. I love the feel of sand between my toes and a gentle breeze across my face.

But there are times when the beach is no fun at all. **Red Tide** they call it – a killing algae bloom that saps the oxygen from the water suffocating the fish and poisoning the air. The acrid smell burns the eyes and evokes a gut wrenching cough. **Red Tide** . . . I hate it.

I sense a strange tide on the IPMS Ocean . . .

- ... a tide of hurt and injury;
- ... a tide of anger over injustices perpetrated against our own by our own;
- ... a tide of unrest and dissatisfaction;
- ... a tide of distrust and apathy.

I waited a long time to join IPMS. I had heard of them. I had seen the flyers tucked into domestic model kits. I had heard of their contests. I even met up with members when visiting local hobby shops, or when participating in local contests. The folks I met were of the surly, rivet-counting bunch that tore other people's work to shreds, while promoting their own. I didn't need that. Not in the least. I chose not to join.

Then I met a couple of fellows in my new town (at the hobby shop again) who spoke glowingly of their IPMS chapter where novice and master craftsmen rubbed shoulders in mutual respect. They invited me to a meeting. I arrived apprehensive. I was immediately accepted and applauded for my efforts (despite that fact as I now see that my work had lots of room for improvement!) I continue to be deliriously happy with my IPMS chapter (despite one respondent's musings from last month). My experience with this local chapter is fabulous.

But I continue to have difficulty fathoming IPMS on the greater forum. I hear of contests rigged so that only local members may win. I am told of members smashing other modeler's productions. I have witnessed officer's way too enamored with their titles. I have conversed with members apparently black balled because they asked questions that challenged the powers that be. I have suggested correctives and solutions, but they have fallen on deaf ears. I have invited to meet at the Nats, but was left waiting at the altar. This is the smell of death to a voluntary fraternity. This is the evidence of an organization that has lost its way. This is a cry for leadership.

IPMS is not what it once was. Was IPMS not once the preeminent hobby society in the country? Did we not once have periodicals that were industry standard? Did we not once have the trust of manufacturers? Is this where we are today? I think our glory days are bygone.

Mayhap we can recover our vision, and become appealing to more than a mere snippet off the hobby branch. Possibly we can become a force in the hobby industry as we once appeared to be. Maybe we can entice old hands and newcomers to try our craft; maybe, but only if our elected leaders will **lead**. Why not court suggestions? Why not encourage the membership? Why not risk forward thinking? Instead, we seem content to merely *manage*

the current situation. Does *anyone* know what we stand for or where we are going?

What say ye?

Love the beach; hate the *tide*

The Little Cruiser That Won Big

By Jacob Duryea

I set off to Jaxcon with my fellow modelers Mike Knowles and Walt Holder early in the morning. The trip up to Jacksonville was uneventful and the talk was mostly model related. Walt played Secretary on the way up filling in the compilation form for Mike. It seems Mike had a late night taking revenge out on a Japanese destroyer for Pearl Harbor. I will let Mike regale you all with the tale at the meeting. We arrived at the show a little after nine AM. As we arrived we saw a few people already exiting the show with their arms full of model booty liberated from the vendors. Walt and I helped Mike carry his charges into the show and like little boys as soon as our job was done we bee-lined it for the vendors.

As I entered the Show room I glanced over at the models in the contest and noticed that many of the entrants had yet to arrive. So I turned my attention to the models yet to be built for a contest. Now I like odd ball stuff, by that I mean the kits of aircraft or armor that people aren't that familiar with. So I began my hunt I quickly started to scan the almost endless stacks kits. On my first pass I spotted two sci-fi kits that I haggled on the price down to a lower than E-bay price plus I didn't have to pay shipping. I also found a Dornier Do-X from the same guy. There were two or three vendors there who had low prices. The other vendors... well let's say I saw the new Martin Mariner kit for \$75.00. My later acquisitions were another two sci-fi kits from the first Vendor whom was having a clearance SALE! I also found two armor kits and a Japanese aircraft carrier Unryu in 1/700 scale. I also won a kit in the raffle for five bucks. So even though I didn't have anything in the contest I think I won big.

Now onto the contest, I found the contest much more pleasing this time. Maybe it was because I knew what to expect or maybe some things had changed. I did notice an asking if anyone would like to be a judge as opposed to we need judges if you want to be a judge go to this area. It didn't seem as crazed as last time. Last year it was like they were begging for people to judge. Not this year, it seemed cool, calm, and professional. I even heard there was a national judge or two that judged the show. I looked around at the models that were competing and noticed that there were many categories that were empty. I remember last year there were some Dinosaur models that were done very beautifully and he was absent this year. There also seemed to be less sci-fi and diorama entries this year. I heard both the number of people and models was down this year at Jaxcon but we did have some very bad weather up North of Jacksonville a few days before the show so some people might have opted out of the drive or were snowed in.

Mike, Walt and I kept hunting for treasures, looking at the models, and chatting with fellow modelers. There was talk concerning IPMS but that is best kept for another article. We chatted and had a good old time Mike strangely hadn't found anything to buy from the vendors yet. We

retired to the tables outside the showroom with Mark Fiddler and Jack Mugan. We talked models and had a good old time. I looked over my aircraft carrier kit and noticed that the production quality was rather low. Well not the first time I have had to fix sinkholes. Walt was drooling over his latest Sherman purchase, and Mike... well was counting his cash. The three of us decided now was good time to have lunch so we hit the road and looked for a place to eat. We settled on Five Guys, had our lunch and headed back to the show.

When we got back we started to look again at the vendors. It was starting to dye down it was harder to find stuff. Most of the kits were newer and common armor and aircraft. It was when we got back from lunch that the one Vendor I bought most of my kits from started his clearance SALE! I was looking at two kits when it was announced. It was like moths to the flame. Within seconds it was mobbed I quickly grabbed the kits I was looking at and made a killer deal and just as quickly got out. I caught up with Mike and noticed he was still empty handed.

The show was starting to wind down and the judging was wrapping up. I must mention that I heard a few people comment on the fact that the head of the show seemed to be getting a bit snippy at people in the model area while they were judging. Well I can understand his being irritated especially after the third or fourth time telling people they shouldn't be in the model area. Maybe next year they should put up a rope or something to keep people out. I must say the judging seemed better this year. I saw them going back and forth on a few models. They even had to have a revote on the best of show. With the judging finish it was time for the awards. As usual second and third place medals were placed next to the winners and the first place would be announced. At this point Mike had already netted three third place medals for his Z-38, Tirpitz, and

Swedish S tank, and four second place medals for his Bulgarian He-280, F8F Bearcat, Nieuport 11, and G4M Betty with Ohka bomb.

Finally it became time for the first place medals to be awarded. Mike won first place with his 1/700 scale USS Lexington in small-scale carriers. He also won first in civilian ships with his 1/700 scale Colombo Express. Mike also took first with his little Chinese cruiser Chih Yuen. The Chih Yuen also took best in class ships, Best detailed all classes, and judges choice best in show. Mike was totally blown away that his little baby cruiser had out done his Roma and Dreadnought. A very nice haul for Mike Knowles, ten winning models out of the thirty one he entered. Mike finished collecting up his medals and awards and we headed to the car Walt and I with a load of kits and Mike with a load of awards. He never did find anything to buy. The trip home was pretty much the same as the trip up. A good show and congrats to Mike and all the winners.



We will be meeting at 402 S Pine Ave. this month

Show and Tell



Texan II by Jack Mugan



32 Ford Roadster by Jack Mugan



Fairey Swordfish by Joe Caputo



Blackburn Skua by Joe Caputo



67 Mustang by Bruce Lewerenz



1/32 Hellcat by Dan Murtz



62-63-64 Impala by Danny Mayer



Saturn V by Paul White

Jaguar XJR 9LM by Jack Mugan

We will be meeting at 402 S Pine Ave. this month

Newsletter Poll

February's Poll Question: Do you remember your first Hobby shop?

For years I never went into a "Hobby Shop". Back in the day every drug store and five and ten, almost anywhere, sold models. Remember Woolworths, and when K-mart was Kresckes (it's been so long I forget how it was spelled)? I even found a couple models on the Atlantic City Boardwalk in some of the little salt water taffy shops that are all gone now. The first real Hobby shop I went to was in The Berlin Farmers Market in Berlin, NJ. It was my first experience with a specialty shop. One of the people there was very helpful but the rest were very stand-off-ish. I went there until that person left. I then found A.I.R. Hobby Shop in Pemberton, NJ, run by Don Sperring. It was here that I finally met someone who really enjoyed the Hobby. His regular customers had a box in the back room where Don would put IPMS updates and anything he thought I might want. I never had to buy anything he put in but I don't think his choices ever missed the mark. I even worked part-time for him for a while. It was Don who introduced me to IPMS. It's all been downhill since then.

Ed Bonthron

Yes I do. It was in Benson, a suburb of west Omaha Nebraska. The hobby shop shared its space with a shoe repair shop, each occupying half of the space. The hobby shop had the left side of the small store front, and both shared the entrance. I remember that the hobby shop used their window to display a real elaborate HO train layout done on several levels, complete with fantastic scenery. I was truly amazing to me at the time. This hobby shop sold RC, free flight, U-control aircraft and hard wood models but no plastic, as they were not available yet. This shop sponsored a real large flying meet every year on an abandon golf course west of town. I used to buy my gliders there, the kind that cost ten cents, and occasionally splurged to purchase the fifty cent glider with the folding wings that snapped open after you launched it with a thick rubber band attached to a stick. I also used to buy the Firebaby, a rubber band powered glider that cost a whole dollar. Later I bought balsa wood sheets and sticks to build my own gliders from scratch, the kind you added clay to the nose for weight. I was able to indulge in my hobby because I worked in a grocery store making twenty-five cents an hour and later I had a paper route. Some years later the hobby shop bought the butcher shop's space two doors down and expanded their business, but I can still remember the smell of the shoe repair shop and the trains in the window to this day.

Jack Mugan

Hobby Shop? Oh yea, there used to be something called a hobby shop in the old days!! Now it's big box with nothing and mail order with delay and shipping!

My first hobby shop experience was Woody and Bud's Hobby Shop located at the Vero Beach, Florida Airport in one of the old NAS outbuildings.

Lots of fond memories especially since my dad is Bud!! I spent a lot of my weekends at the hobby shop with my dad when I was very young.

My second was Bergren's Toys and Hobbies where I worked during my sophomore and junior high school days. I was a stock boy there.

Ed Ingersol

We had to circle around several dinosaur feeding grounds, and other cave clans, to get to it. Models were made of stone and wood.....paid for with various animal skins. My favorite tool was my Exacto-arrowhead, and they were "glued" together with tar from the pits.....

Joe Caputo

The first true hobby shop I remember was in high school and it was Squadron Shop on Sligo Ave in Silver Springs, MD. It was really cool with models displayed on pegs face out from floor to ceiling! It also had free standing glass display cases with built models in front of the box it came from. I remember thinking "I can build this from that kit. Yeah, Baby!!!" Also of note was Heinz, an employee who happened to be a retired Luftwaffe paratrooper who would tell endless stories upon request -- Eben Emael, Crete, Battle of the Bulge. Wow. The third feature was the 4x8 foot clearance table with dead stock -- treasures which just happened to fit my budget. Too bad Squadron closed all their stores and went exclusively mail order. . . .

Actually I remember Colonial Hobbies in Orlando from elementary school, but I can't remember ever buying one single thing from them in the 50 years I've stopped in....

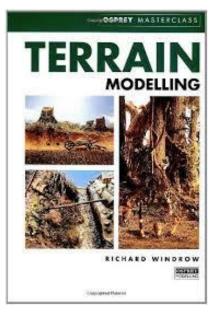
Mike Knowles

Yes, Lorris Hobby and Gun Shop in Urbana, Illinois. They are no longer in business.

John Sadler

Book of the Month

<u>Terrain Modelling</u> By: Richard Windrow



I got the Advanced Terrain Modelling book by Richard Windrow and while that book is great for taking you dioramas to the next level this book is a must if you are like me and just starting out. This book sounds like it is written the same as the Advanced Terrain book which means it should be an easy to follow step by step explanation with lots of pictures.

I have this book on order and can't wait to get it. Most of the reviews I have read all seem to have nothing but glowing remarks. It seems the author is well known for his 1/62 scale museum displays. 1/62 is an odd size so I'm sure almost everything would need to be made from scratch.

If you looking to do more than just display your models on a shelf or stand I would highly recommend this book and the Advanced Terrain book as well.

ISBN# 9781841760629

Bringing Our Hobby Out of the Shadows

By Jacob Duryea

Our hobby is unique in many ways. I have always thought of it as the first 3D puzzle. Our hobby incorporates several other hobbies. I guess you could say model builders are a Jack of all trades. We use building skills, painting, weathering, scratch building, metal working, and even electrical to name just a few. We pride ourselves on our ingenuity and craftsmanship. We take simple plastic that most people think of as trash and turn it into works of art, yes art. The definition of art is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power."

So what about the shadows I mentioned. That is true. Model builders all though history have never been the ones in the lime lite. Ours is a quite humble hobby or profession. We whittle and glue and bring our dreams to reality. More often than not we are the only ones to ever see them. We may display them but when asked "did you build that?" we reply yeah it's nothing or I just threw it together. For some reason modelers only connect and understand other modelers. Maybe it's because only other modelers understand the effort that goes into a model. Even if you see someone in the store buying a model and you ask them that question "Do you build?" often you are given a sheepish grin and a response along the lines of I tinker a little every now and then. It seems like we have this stigma about our hobby.

We all seem ok with our hobby but when asked about it by others we clam up and try to not make a big deal out of it, even though most of what we build is smaller scale then what the professionals build for the movies and T.V. it often has just as much detail. Maybe it's because in the back of our minds we feel silly putting so much effort into something and not getting paid for it. Maybe we are thinking back to the days when as kids your friends would come over and think you were some kind of mad scientist with a little tank, plane, or car half built and look on in wonder at what it was. Our president might have put it best when I asked him why he thought there wasn't as many Sci-fi models at shows. He said they don't want anyone to know they build space ships. Yes we are all nerds, I say that with pride not disdain.

I can see what he means by Sci-fi modelers don't want to be found out, but it seems that all modelers don't really want to be found out. As many of the club members point out there are many builders out there who do not belong to our clubs. There is no way that a store keeps models in stock for the 10 or 15 people in the local clubs. There are other people buying them. Now I'm not saying that everyone should be in our club but I think the decline in membership might be in part that our hobby is a solitary hobby and most people don't know that there are local clubs or a national organization. I'm sure the internet has brought more modelers out from the shadows, but we need to find some way to give our hobby a makeover.

The build night we will be starting up again I think is a great way to do this. I would love to see a build area at some of the shows. I think it would help lift the veil on what we do. Maybe offer some lectures or workshops. Another thing I don't see at the shows is an active drive to bring people into the hobby. I know we modelers are

not pushy, but the attitude that I see more often than not is a kind of field of dreams attitude "If you build it they will come". I don't see any real advertising for the shows. I didn't even know they had any till I joined the club. To be honest I never even heard of IPMS. I only found out about IPMS because I was looking for the local club. I think it is time to drag our hobby out of the shadows and into the light of day so all can see it.

Websites of Interest

http://www.ipmsusa.org/

http://www.scalemates.com/

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

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

<u>imodeler</u>

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 February 27th at The Ocala Police Station community room at 7:00 P.M.
- March's meeting will be the 27th at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 P.M.
- February's theme will be something competitive.
- The address of our meeting location is 402 S Pine Ave, Ocala, FL 34470

Letter from the Editor

Hello Again everyone.

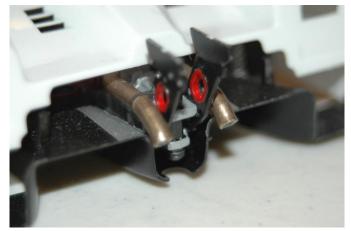
Well as I hope you have heard we will not be meeting at the church on 25th Ave. We will be meeting at the police station on Pine Ave. I hope everyone has been informed of the change. Next month we should be back at the church.

As you may have already read old Hap has sent me another article for the newsletter. I must say his writings have shocked me. I can tell you for a fact that if someone destroyed a model of mine, the devil himself would in shock at what I would do to that person. I'm thankful that our bunch of guys would never even think of such a thing.

Well I don't have much room left so I will end this with a note that next month you will see a few tips and hints that I have over heard and have given a try. So have worked some well have kind of worked. As always if you have something to add just drop me a line even if you think everyone already knows about it.

Details













2014 Meeting Themes for the Year

	Month	Theme	Program
•	January	ТВА	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
•	Мау	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!

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Newsletter Editor Jacob Duryea <u>OcalaIPMSnewsletter@gmail.com</u>

Store Discounts

Rob' Hobby World

8600 SW ST RD 200 Ocala, FL 34481 (352) 854-2799 www.robshobbyworld.com 10% discount

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 <u>www.anovelideabooks.com</u> 10% discount

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