



Alamo Squadron

April 2014

Kent Knebel

Modeler of the Year



The ModelFiesta Judging System

IPMS/USA

1998-1999 & 2004-2005 Chapter of the Year

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PREZ NOTES



By Jerry Escobedo

As I reflect on this great 2013-2014 year

in the club, I don't have anything other feeling than Thanksgiving.

The thing is that I am stepping down as president, as a new Executive Board is going to be elected in Thursday April 3rd.

And this is a good exercise, democracy in action. I hope... no, I'm sure the new E-Board will do wonders for the club in this upcoming 2014-2015 club period.

I also want to THANK all and everyone of you for your support , not to me, but to the club. Because the club is everyone of you, that month by month get together and share ideas, tips, and plain friendship.

I will continue working on the newsletter, along with Gary Emery, who has helped me in edition all these months, and hopefully continue doing so for

many more years.

I leave you with a note from Dick Montgomery who Facebooked (is there such a verb?) a note from our last meeting. Far from tweet my own horn, this is to show how amazing this Alamo Squadron club is. **Thank you EVERYONE!**

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MEETING MINUTES



By Le Forbes

1. President Jerry Escobedo opened meeting, acknowledged new ABC Class member Daniel Rodriguez and presented plaques to the winners of February open contest.

2. Vice President Tom Sprawls provided an interesting program by demonstrating an online program designed to help modelers catalog and maintain records on the type and number of kits they have in their personal collections. This led to a number of members confessing how many kits they had in their “stash” with numbers ranging from as few as 65 to in excess of 1,800. Doesn’t anyone build anymore? Also another member demonstrated several 3-D printed 1/700 scale Mk 37 Fire Direction components and available after market products and asked members to choose the one with the most fidelity. In that scale you can barely see them, but a majority of those who voted selected the best one by a large majority.

3. Treasurer Lee Forbes provided an oral monthly financial report and a detailed report on the profitability of ModelFiesta 33. The Club’s profit was nearly double that of ModelFiesta 32. He pointed out that the cost of hosting our show at the San Antonio Event Center was approaching nearly \$10,000 which puts our treasury at risk every year if we ever encountered bad weather conditions that precluded our regular attendance. He posed several options that we might want to consider to minimize such a loss. It was suggested that we might want to look at getting an insurance policy for the day of ModelFiesta to cover such a loss. Nothing definite was decided and this bears further discussion. Meanwhile, we are scheduled to host ModelFiesta 34 at the Event Center on February 21, 2015.

4. Jerry mentioned that our 2014-2015 E-Board election was scheduled for our April 3 meeting and he

asked for nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, and Treasurer. To be eligible members must have at completed at least one year’s membership as of the date of the election. After several nominations and declinations were made, Tom Sprawls agreed to be considered for President, Art Nicholson and John Kress will compete for Vice President, and Dick Montgomery agreed to fill out the ballot as Treasurer. Additional nominations can still be accepted at the April meeting as well. The newly elected E-Board will assume their new positions the April meeting.

5. Lee outlined a proposed change in meeting format mentioned in the March newsletter that he and Kent Knebel discussed following ModelFiesta 33. Simply put, the proposal would have two meetings in each quarter devoted to “fun” modeling activities like building models at the meeting, conducting open monthly contests or demos, etc. with the third meeting of the quarter devoted to some of the same activities plus a business meeting.

6. Tom Sprawls conducted the March Theme-Based Quarterly Contest. The Theme was “The 1960s” and there was two entries with both being car models. 1st Place went to **John Kress** for his 1969 Camaro Z28 and 2nd Place went to **Rick Stanley** for his 1966 Pontiac GTO Convertible. Congratulations guys!

7. Jerry conducted the “Show - N - Tell” portion of our program and took photos of the winning models.

8. At the conclusion of the meeting, Lee mentioned that he and Contest Director, Kent Knebel, had selected Jerry Escobedo, as the MF 33 “Most Valuable Player.” Jerry will receive a plaque at the April meeting.

9. The meeting was dismissed.



Monthly Contest



In the February meeting, this Spitfire Mk Vb with Malta markings, won First Place. Rob Booth added Master Model cannons, Barracuda cast fairings, Scale Aircraft Conversions landing gear and Grey Matter corrected prop.

2nd Place , Rick Warring, for his HMS Abercrombie from Combrig kit in 1/700. A very well protected model ship in its acrylic box!



B-26Marauder made by Michael Goolsbe in 1/48 scale, won the Third Place. The kit is a Monogram. Michael says that the model was built 24 years ago for his father, who did 50 missions as a tail gunner. A whole History behind this remarkable model!!





TREASURER'S NOTES



By Lee Forbes

1. I'm sorry to say that Dues collections for 2014 are really sluggish so far this year! Guys we need your help to support the Club. Dues are

currently the only source of income we have other than the proceeds we take in from ModelFiesta and we have to reserve a minimum of \$8,400 to host next year's Show to cover rent and our awards. That doesn't leave much to support our monthly recurring cost of operations other than dues collections. So please "man up" and pay your dues! They are only \$12.00 and I'm sure most of you can spare that amount to enjoy being a member of Alamo Squadron.

2. March is nearly over and we still have a number of members whose dues expired in February, and those whose dues will expire in March and April, and I've added May. For your information, the following members' dues have already expired, or will expire, in the next few of months.

FEBRUARY 2014 – DROP FROM ROLLS DATE, 1
JUNE, 2014

AS, 78070; GS, 78259; DF, 78240; GB, 78249 &
WM, 78254

MARCH 2014 – DROP FROM ROLLS DATE, 1 JULY,
2014

BM, 78248; CR, 78208 & SF, 78133

APRIL 2014 – DROP FROM ROLLS DATE, 1 AUGUST,
2014

OP, 78201 & RS, 78233

MAY 2014 – DROP FROM ROLLS DATE, 1
SEPTEMBER, 2014

ND, 78261

You can determine when your dues expire by looking for your initials, last name first and your local zip code. Please pay your dues with exact cash or check payable to Alamo Squadron at any of our regular meetings or mail your check to my mailing address: IPMS Alamo Squadron, 13539 Carlton Oaks, San Antonio, TX 78232.

3. This is my last Treasurer's Notes column as I step down as a member of Alamo Squadron's E-Board and I've enjoyed holding every leadership position available in the Club at least once, and several positions many times, and I've lost track of how many times I've been Treasurer. But all good things must come to an end and frankly I'm looking forward to just "fading away" and enjoying this great hobby of ours and maybe even building some models again. Thank you for your support all of the years I've been

a member of Alamo Squadron and I wish the new E-Board the very best in their coming term.



2014 Internal Contest Schedule II

by Mike Picard & Alamo Squadron members

January – Model of the Year

February – Open

March – Quarterly: The 1960s

April – Open

May – Open

June – Quarterly: Kitbash (Use parts from multiple kits to create something that never existed)

July – Open

August – Open

September – Quarterly: World War I, 1914-1918

October – Open, Select Theme for February Challenge

November – Quarterly: Winter Warfare (Anything done up in winter camo)

December – Christmas Party





The ModelFiesta Judging System: A Tried and True system of Judging built on A Strong Foundation

During some past meetings a brief dialogue took place regarding judging. A glance around the meeting room revealed few that have an in-depth historical perspective on the history of judging at ModelFiesta, and perhaps that is a topic that readers may find interesting and useful. It seems to be a very appropriate topic for the “IPMS News” column.

One of the toughest jobs at ModelFiesta each year, and one of the most impactful, is serving as a Judge. That comes as no surprise. Long after the event has concluded and long after everyone has packed up their recently purchased vendor items and contest entries, the results of the judging will be remembered. Not only will they be remembered but they are archived in pictures and in a Winner’s List.



While there are always a very small number of entrants who are not happy with the results of the judging, the vast majority of entrants at past ModelFiesta events are satisfied with the fairness, equity, and quality of the judging. Much of this success is a reflection of the quality of those who serve as a judge, and also the ability of the Chief Judge to organize and manage the judging and personnel who do the judging. It is the job of the Chief Judge to make sure that the judging will be fair, unbiased, and based, not on their personal attitude toward a judging system, or knowledge of specific subject matter, but built on a solid judging philosophy and practice that is supported by the host chapter.

In the case of ModelFiesta, the judging system has changed very little over 33 years and has, for the most part,

reflected the judging philosophy and procedure established by IPMS/USA. In fact, during some research conducted on judging systems used by IPMS chapters around the country (2009-2011) revealed that about 95% of the contests hosted by IPMS chapters were similar in philosophy and procedure to that put forward by IPMS/USA, adopted and adapted by clubs such as Alamo Squadron. We’re in good company.

IPMS/USA believes that modeling can be characterized as a hobby with “*individual achievement and significant artistic content.*” IPMS believes that, “*an IPMS contest, at any level, should be guided by the proposition that every entry is a modeler’s creative work of art.*” IPMS states that “*all judging is done within the framework of the biases, opinions and preferences of the human mind and since that framework varies from person to person, all judging, by definition, is subjective. For that reason we do not use a system of numbers to measure quality. Numbers are often*





used to create the appearance of objectivity, but the assignment of a 4 or 7 to an entry by a judge is essentially subjective as it is that judge's opinion."

These principles, in plain-speak; translate to a judging system that honors each entry, regardless of the quality of the entry. Each entry deserves respect and an objective review by the judges. It



means that the judges do not compare the models on the table with models not present, in other words, a "standard of excellence" to which an entry is compared. Rather, objectivity is based in how those judges are trained or oriented to the judging system being used, seen in the manner that judging teams are assembled, and by how the judges comport themselves when the judging teams are taking care of business. Again, translated into plain-speak, it is essential to seek out and invite out-of-towners to judge (deflects charges of home cooking), conduct an orientation system with

quality of the entry with appropriate language.

On an IPMS Judging team there is, of course, a team leader, but IPMS, and common sense, stresses that all members of a Judging team are an equal and valued component of that team. A Judging team should never be dominated by one judge. Every team member's thoughts and opinions

are important. All should realize that the best model in a category on any given day is just that, no more, no less. Judge what is on the table. Knowledge about the subject matter is not as important as the ability to see what techniques the modeler used and how well the modeler executed those techniques.

To summarize, Please consider serving as a judge. It is a service you can provide to the host chapter and also an

the judges and establish an oral contract of compliance with the system of judging being used by the host chapter, and instruct the judges to honor each modeler's effort by addressing the

excellent way to improve your own modeling.

Alamo Squadron uses the IPMS/USA Judging system because it is based on a foundation that honors the work of the modeler, and relies on observable measures of quality. The host of a contest needs to take the time to provide an orientation to familiarize the Judges with what is



expected of them. Judges should be asked to confirm agreement with these expectations via an oral agreement compliance at the end of the orientation.

This small article barely scratches the surface of the judging system used by Alamo Squadron, and in future articles we will go into more depth on some specific issues, but for now, we've laid down a solid foundation upon which to build.





Show and Tell



F-150 Pick-Up Truck by Rick Stanley, in 1/24 scale



Dick Montgomery's Concorde in 1/144 by Airfix. Dick added decals from several sources.



Henry Nunez painted these figures by hand with Vallejo acrylics. A nice set up of a mix of kits: Alpine figures with Hornet head warrior figures in 1/35 scale.



Boeing 737-300 Southwest Airlines, Lone Star One. Jerry built this paper model from Paper-Replika.com



Rob Booth brought this little gem to the club. IL-100 from ICM, and per Rob... "Ruff-Ruff!"



Show and Tell



Rob Booth brought this F-4E, with markings from the 924th TFG Bergstrom AFB, TX. He added Isracast Tiseo Camera, master model pitot & AOA Probe
Model Master enamels



USS Sumner in 1/700 built by Rick Warring. The kit is from Skywave. Very good details!



F9F-5 Panther from Monogram in 1/48. This model was started 20 years ago by Mike Goolsbee.
It seems Mike was doing some house cleaning, and found very good old models around!



Show and Tell



Jeff Alberthal is showing us an Academy F-4 C/D Phantom, in 1/48 scale, as a work in progress.



Rick Warring is seen here explaining about the MK 37 director addition to his USS Sumner model. The MK 37 was made using Carl's 3D Printing process.



Emilio Mayorga showed us the progress he's being doing on his Jak 5 model, which he plans to fly once finished... and only once, he says. Huge aircraft! I bet he will be able to fly a cat on it.



Monthly contest table. Decisions... decisions!!



Club Information

Club's E-Board 2013-2014

IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron: The Club was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members. Dues are normally \$12.00 a year, due when the Treasurer tells you.

The Alamo Squadron has been putting on ModelFiesta since 1981. Locations have included the Wonderland Mall, a Holiday Inn, the Seven Oaks Motel & Convention Center, the Live Oak Civic Center and the new location for 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.



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ARTICLES!! ARTICLES!!

We need your writing skills for
the newsletter!

All submission must be turned in
by the 20th of the month prior to
next month's meeting. Send your
input to Gary Emery at
gary@hillcountryhobby.com



Next meeting: 7:15 p.m. Thursday, April 3th,
at Northside Ford on 12300 San Pedro.

Upcoming Club Events

Cajun Modelfest 29

4-H Minifarm building on the LSU Campus
3810 West Lakeshore Drive (Main Office)
Baton Rouge Scale Modelers

Info at:

<http://www.brscscalemodelers.com/>

Modelmania 2014

Stafford Convention Center
10505 Cash Road
IPMS Houston

Info at:

<http://www.ipms-houston.org/>

PRARIE WIND 2014 REGION 6 CONVENTION-- THEME: "INVASION STRIPES"

Marriott Hotel & Event Center
9100 Corporate Hills Drive
Air Capital IPMS Modelers

Info at:

<http://www.aircapitalipms.org/>

ScaleFest 2014

Grapevine Convention Center
1209 S Main St
IPMS-North Central Texas

Info at:

<http://ipmsnct.net/>



Be prepared for this year's
50th Anniversary of IPMS
USA National Convention in
Hampton, Virginia!!
August 6-9, 2014



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The Alamo Squadron Newsletter is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, for the information and enjoyment of the members of the Alamo Squadron and its friends around the world. Articles, reviews, news items, ads to buy, sell or trade, and other contributions are very welcome. Send text file, photos and web sites to Gary Emery: gary@hillcountryhobby.com



Tom Sprawls giving a seminar on a software that can help us modelers – and kit hoarders alike – to keep track of our inventory.

IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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First Middle Last

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Signature (required by P.O.) _____

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Junior (Under 18 Years) \$12 Family, 1 Year: \$30 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____

Canada & Mexico: \$30 Other / Foreign: \$32 (Surface) Other / Foreign: \$55 (Air)

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