

DIMENSIONS

IPMS/Ocala
President: Joe Caputo



Pegasus 1:48 E-Z Snapz P-51B by: Joe Caputo

It's All About Fun

Random Thoughts & Musings

By Joe Caputo

Hi Guys and Gals, We're into May, and starting to feel like modeling again, after last month's tragedy. I guess it's the "normal" course of things when we lose someone close to us. A slow, healing process, but a healing process nonetheless. It's what we all need, and what Mike would have wanted. If anything "good" has come out of this, it's the closer bonding of our group. Another thing we share.

While last month's meeting was slow to get started, with the addition of our Gatormodeler guests, we had a nice turnout. Circumstances, unforeseen, kept a few of our guys from attending, but most let us know that they would be back this month. Once the meeting got rolling, we got back to "business". There were plenty of models to talk about (and more coming this month).

This month's theme is something "fictitious". We also have the \$1 club "contest" and our "Airfix build". Hopefully Mike's dad, Wayne Knowles, will be our guest speaker, and judge the Airfix build. These little inner-club contests are mainly for fun and "one-upsmanship". Let's see what you've got!

There's been a lot of talk on the internet, etc., about Make N Take, and the limit of models, per club, etc. First off, I'd like to congratulate the South Florida Scale Model Consortium for the job they did representing IPMS at their county fair. Their M&T's lasted 17 days, over three weekends, more than most clubs do in a year. Unbelievable! Rafael and his guys should be definitely in the running for Regional Chapter of the Year for that feat alone! I can't imagine the work, and logistics involved. I'm proud that we're part of an organization that is made up of groups like this!

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As far as the limit of models at a M&T goes, I'm sure IPMS has its financial limits, but there are circumstances, as described above, that warrant going over "limits" on rare occasions. We'll have to keep an eye on what transpires. As for us, we have no immediate plans for a M&T, but you never know when an opportunity will arise.

We'll be taking a show of hands on a second meeting per month, a build night. As soon as we find out how many are interested, we'll find a place/date. We're going to put a different twist on it this time around. We will invite the public to join us. These will be very casual "meetings", just hanging out with guys, building and talking models. Perhaps people will take enough interest in what we do and how we do it, to join in, and after they find out we don't bite, join our group. It's not been tried before, that I know of, so let's see where it takes us.

The Spacecoast Regional contest is history. Those of us that attended had a great time. For me, it was meeting old friends again. Don Patrie, Jack Freeburger, Ralph Webber, and Jorge Moreyra are some of my favorite guys in this hobby. Jorge came all the way down from NC to join us. It was also a time for making new friends, as members of IPMS Ocala, joined with the

Gatormodelers in meeting the guys from the South Florida Scale Model Consortium, The Mafia Car Club, and Flight 19. Getting to put faces with names, to me, was just as exciting as the contest and vendors. While the contests are interesting, and always fun to view, they tend to be just an excuse to get together, because the bottom line is, it's all about people, people who enjoy the same pastime. I've known the guys I mentioned 25+ years, having met most at contests. We've remained friends long after our "competitive" days. On the other hand, I've "met" the younger generation, the next wave of modelers, on line (the internet). By the time I got to meet them face to face, at a contest, I already knew they were all nice guys and really into their clubs and modeling, times change.

Back to the contest itself; I don't know the "numbers", and I left about 2:30 PM, but it looked like the number of entries was light. Either that or the tables were a lot bigger than I thought. There seemed to be a lot of "white" (space) between models/classes. I hope I'm wrong. Some say attendance and the number of entries, has a lot to do with the economy. Folks just can't afford the luxury of spending a weekend at a contest. It just may be a lot more serious than that. The sad fact is, we're all getting older. A lot of us that used to attend these events find it a real chore. It's not just the expense as much as the "long" drive, the weekend away from familiar surroundings, etc., perhaps little or no interest in competing.

IPMS is celebrating its 50th year. Our club has been in it for 30 years. Overall, the age of the membership is increasing. How long will it be before our national contest goes the same route, more "white" on the tables? We need to come up with programs that attract younger people, not necessarily the children, but people of the age to maintain the momentum we need to continue.

Our region, luckily, is the best. We have the guys that are still willing to put on such shows. We need to continue to support them as much as we can, not only when it's convenient, for as long as we can. Our clubs need to share ideas on how to attract more members. (Not necessarily younger, but MORE) Everyone wants the same thing, to share the pleasure of our hobby. It will take communication and cooperation. It all starts at "home".

Enough soapbox! See you all at the next meeting. You know it will be one you don't want to miss.

Building Model Planes According to "GOD"

By Simon Whitney

This is how you should build model planes according to GOD. This can also be applied to over genre as well.

First, research your build thoroughly, this means 100`s of hours poring over manuals, walk rounds and the internet. You need to know all the information and be able to repeat it parrot fashion. Nothing else will do.

Once you have done your research then select which company's model you are going to build. This means a trawl through hundreds of model magazines, reading up on the reviews, this is very important. Failure will lose you kudos when you go to present it at the competition or forums. Also you should take a lot of time to

select the right After Market parts, both resin and photo etched as well as decals and masks, remember nothing but the very best will do. So now you have gathered all the parts and kit but you still need to make sure that you have the correct colors in your paint box. A nearly will not do, it must be federal standard, that means having each and every paint spectrally check against the datum's laid down by the authorities.

AHA! You have also got to make sure that you have the scale plans. Reference is all too important, every nut and bolt, panel line and rivet must be there. You have got your verniers and micrometer ready, right now start checking each and every part for accuracy.

Once you have done all the above then it is time to start building.

Now you can start, each part shall be inspected to said plans, this should take at least 30 minutes for every item, you must be certain!!!

When building the cockpit and surrounding area your research will pay off. All dials and switches are to be the right colors and in the correct position; you cannot have anything out of place, i.e. the undercarriage lever/switch showing up when the wheels are down. This will not do. Also the dials must show the right readings, no altimeter reading 20,000 ft. when parked up either.

Skid marks and urine stains on the seat must be the correct shade comparable with what the pilot had for breakfast that morning. And also no fluffy dice either.

Engines must have the right spark plugs fitted with the correct plug caps to go with them. Oil stains around the plane and engine should match

the correct colors and sheen as well. The undercarriage should show the wear and tear of use, this means the correct dust or dirt applied to the tires (which of course should be at the right pressure). This does mean checking out the conditions of where the plane was being used at the time and come to that the weather conditions on that date as well. Remember it is all in the research.

When it comes to the guns and bombs (if any) they must be as detailed as possible. The correct rifling in the barrels is of upmost importance, as for the bombs/missiles, all marking should be of the correct size and legible under the microscope. This also goes for the stenciling on inspection panels (which should have their fastenings in the correct position). Once the build is done, the wings and tailplane check for the correct dihedral. With that done and all panel lines and rivets accounted for you can proceed to the final stages.

You may then commence painting. This of course should be done using the correct primers, base coats and top coats. Camouflage if any should be accurate to the point of being spot on. A millimeter out will not do.

Now to the decals, these must be placed exactly as shown on the pictures and diagrams you have studied, not a fraction out, again this will not do.

Once completed, your model plane should be photographed from every angle possible and downloaded onto your computer so that it can be scrutinized for any blemishes.

If that is ok then you write up a 2000 word description of what you have used and the techniques used, as well as a list of every single After Market bit you have added.

Here ends the lesson.

I Could Not Believe MY Eyes

By Rafael Hernandez

I could not believe my eyes this afternoon when I was reading that UK printed magazine Scale Military Modeler International, march issue Vol#44_516, in the IPMS USA column written by Larry Randell, his random topics came to as to why IPMS has implemented a restriction on how many make & take models any club can request in a year 50 for and event 75 total for year, then clubs can go to Revell and pay full price for the kits.

The reason he says the board came to that is this, Larry's words.

Next subject is also financially related. At the Jan. e-board meeting we approved new limits on the numbers of models IPMS will provide to IPMS clubs and individuals' running make & takes. The new limit is fifty models per event and seventy five models for an entire year. This was primarily in response to the slippery slope we had gone down where in December and January we approved two separate events in Florida that were far larger than usual. Both requestors insisted they needed IPMS support for their large multi-day events , but after seeing the program bleeding money to pay for such orders ,the e-board had to put more stringent limits on events for the rest of 2014.

These are still Larry's words.

In that vein, if a club wants more than their limit in models they can either go directly to Revell and pay full price for the models, or can pay IPMS the full price for the models and we will order the additional models thru Revell. I really hate to go to this extreme, but the days when IPMS can

afford to write blank checks to every club to run make and takes are now over.....

Ok here's My Question. Is it not the reason for the make and take events, the sole being, to introduce kids, teens and adult to the hobby of model making/building? As for the clubs he's talking about I take pride in the club in which I'm president, South Florida Scale Model Consortium, along with club members in introducing 300 kids and their parents to the hobby of modeling, during 3 weekends of last January/February.

If in addition if either Randell...IPMS...Revell think that we used those kits for anything other than it's intended purpose I will provide them with pages and pages of people registered to build the kits, along with pictures to boost our claim and reputation. Also, as a result of the fair event we have welcomed to the club five or more members that have never been in a club...plus a few more youths modelers also. And when they built the kits at the fair, myself and other members encouraged the kids and parents so when they get home, they could take it apart, paint, finish and detail then put them together to their liking, since I believe in the phrase...(do as I say and not as I do).the models that we built and put on display for all to see what they looked like built.

Also as a result of the fair, I have received requests to do make and takes for 3 different Boy Scout troops and couple of middle and high school Art teachers, but I have informed them of the current restrictions obtaining kits for all future events and that I would let them know as soon as possible.

As a good will ambassador for IPMSUSA and the country's modeling enthusiasts I will gladly answer any questions, email me.

Rafael Hernandez President, South Florida Scale Model Consortium

The Merit 1:48 Scale Late War Eighty-foot Elco PT Boat

By T. Garth Connelly

Earlier this year, I heard that a company, Merit International, was going to be releasing two 1:48 scale kits of the eighty-foot Elco PT boat. One kit is of the eighty-foot Elco as a new-built boat would look in 1945. The other kit is of the first production series (PT-103 to PT-196), or simply put, the series of which PT-109 was an unit.

I saw comments on some of the internet scale modeling sites which stated that these two kits were nothing more than scale-downed "re-pops" of the now out-of-production 1:35 scale Italeri PT-596 and the newer 1:35 scale PT-109 kits. I did not put much stock in those comments, nor did I particularly think they had any validity.

That was because I did not think that a "giant" such as Italeri would stand for someone doing something like that, especially since the PT-109 is still in production and is still, for some reason, popular.

Those comments were the last words I saw about these kits until this past week. Last Wednesday evening, I received an email from Tony Chin of Merit International. The email stated this:

Dear Mr Connelly

My name is Tony Chin and our company, Merit International is about to release 1/48 scale series of Torpedo Boats from different countries.

I came up with the idea a few years back because PT Boats models are either too small in 1/72 scale or in my opinion, too big in 1/35 scale granted they are great model kits. I must admit that I had been using your great web site as reference during our research. While our first model kit will definitely have mistakes, we hope that we have minimized the mistakes to an acceptable level. Like Italeri, we have chosen the Elao 80', late type as our first release because it is laden with so much weapons and lots of conversion possibilities. The 1/48 scale model still measures 20 inches and has more than 500 parts

I have attached a copy of our paint guide for your reference. Advance review sample without box is available if you are interested. If interested, kindly provide a shipping address.

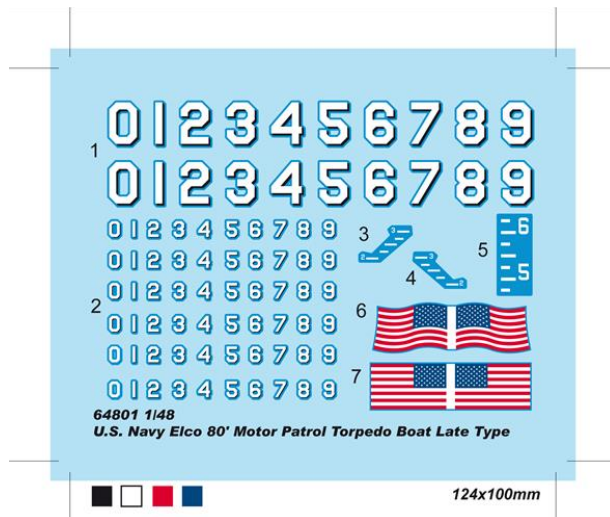
We look forward for your reply.

All the best

Tony

I have to say, I was shocked and honored to receive that email. I have never had a model manufacturer reach out to me and ask for my assistance. I responded that I would be glad to help them, as much as I could. True to his word, Mr. Chin sent me a review sample of the kit. It was just the deck, hull and the sprue-trees without the decals and a small fret of photo-etched parts.

Mr. Chin did send me an email with a 'proto-type' of the decal sheet and here it is:



A modeler can easily finish the kit as any of the PT-565 to PT-624 production series of the Elco eighty-foot PT boat design. Of course, only the boats of Squadron 40 (PT-589 to PT-600) in 1945 was placed into service and sent to the Philippines. However, the war ended before this squadron saw action against the Japanese. The rest of the production series were not completed placed in commission and were doing a shake-down cruise when the war ended or cancelled.

The kit arrived and I poured over the sprue trees, one by one and I have to say that impressed does not begin to describe my opinion of this kit. There is absolutely no flash on any of the trees, no injection marks or anything of the kind.

What impressed me the most about what I saw was the amount of detail incorporated into the kit's parts. I realize that this is the 21-st century and anything is possible and doable, and OK, I am in my mid-fifties and I tend to be amazed by technological advancements that

remind me of what I saw on Star Trek, but still....

The detail is incredible!

I can debunk the claim that this kit is just a scaled down re-pop of the 1:35 scale *PT-596* kit. How can I make such a statement? Simple, the Italeri kit had the after, port machine gun turret molded as part of the dayroom kit. This kit does not. The turret is a separate piece which is meant to be attached to the dayroom cabin.

Another thing which impressed me was the way how the .50-caliber machine guns and the Bofors 40mm M3 would go together. The same thing can be said about the 20mm would go together. I was a little skeptical about that mount because of what I saw in a sample of the proposed box-art. In the painting, the 20mm on the foredeck appears to be on a Mark IV mount instead of the correct Mark X mount.



Mr. Chin sent me the kit instructions and what I saw in them relieved me. The 20mm from the kit is on the correct mount. It is also very accurate as well.

The Future of IPMS???

By Jacob Duryea

The "Spacecoast" show was my first time there and I must say, not a bad show not as big as Jacksonville but not as small as Venice. They had Mobius Models there doing a presentation on how models are made I missed it but I hope they will do it again. As Joe said there did seem to be a lack of entries in the show. I don't know if it's because it was a three day show or because it was so close to Memorial day and people had other plans. Even a two day trip with gas, food, and hotel can add up, add to that a Memorial day trip with the family the next weekend and it can really hit you in the wallet.

I agree with Joe there does seem to be a drop in show attendance. Why this is, who knows? I do know that with the passing of Mike I have started to look around at my fellow modelers. IPMS is turning 50 this year and that means that many IPMS members are at the least sixty years or older. I don't know the numbers but it is only logical that if you had a great influx of members join that were all about the same age there will come a time when you will see a great decline in numbers as those members pass away. Maybe this is what troubles us about the hobby. There was such a large influx in builders because of the baby boom and after that there has only been decline. We think there should be constant growth but that is just not the case.

I don't think the hobby is dying neither do I think IPMS is dying. I think the old guard, the founders, and pioneers of our hobby are dying. Like the veterans from WWI and WWII. The time will come when the great number of builders that were there when model building was in its "Golden age" are gone. There is hope for the future. I still

see young kids at hobby shops and model shows looking wide eyed and slack jawed at models. I do think that kids are the future but maybe not the future we I mean IPMS should focus on.

Kids jump from one thing to another it's always what's popular at the time. What we should focus on is the adults the thirty plus bunch. When you're a kid you do or like whatever is popular at the time, as a teen you're into girls' cars, and school, after you get out of school you have to work your butt off to support your family. It's not till your 30's that things start to calm down. Now I don't think we should not try to get kids interested in model building because it's often in your thirties that you look back to your childhood and remember the things you use to do as a child. Maybe this is because your children are doing things you remember doing at their age. This gets you thinking of the great things you had built in the past, plus it's a hobby that really doesn't cost a lot of money to get into when compared to other hobbies. It's also really cool when your kids and their friends see your models and their faces light up and they are amazed that you built that. They look up to at that moment because you have created something mystical, a miniature copy of a huge aircraft or car that they have only seen in pictures or maybe in a museum.

More than likely they will want to try and build one. The results will be far below their dreams and some will give up other will keep trying in the end most kids stop building and it's not till later in life that they pick up the x-acto knife

again. Ask yourself and your fellow club members how many of them never took a break from modeling. I see people in hobby stores all the time and they usually say the same things I built when I was a kid and I am getting back into it now, or I build off and on. These adults that build or are returning to the hobby are the ones we should focus on. They will get their kids interested and keep the cycle going.

Another thing to think about as far as IPMS and the number of members is how much has the world changed in the past 50 years? I am in my early thirties and I can get on the internet and join "online" usually for free many model groups from all over the world. I can talk to people in Japan or Europe and see what they have built. I don't need to belong to my local club to be in contact with modelers. I can do it online over the internet. I choose to belong to my local club because I like to talk face to face. Something's must be seen to understand how they are done. You can read all kinds of books on building models but until you actually do it you never really understand. There is a great wealth of knowledge in our club and that is why I joined. I stay because of the friends I have in the club. This is what IPMS needs to focus on, not contests, not Make N Takes, not models. IPMS need's to focus on the modelers. I think they did this very well in the past but now there are other venues that are better at it, and the one thing they have held onto is the National contest, for fear that if they did let go they would disappear.

There is one truth that has always been true since the beginning of time. It holds true in war, it holds true in business, and it holds true in life. You either adapt or die. I think IPMS has reached a point where it needs to adapt to the new technological world we live in or it will die. The hobby will go on but the organization that is IPMS USA will fade away. Can we pull back from the

brink or are we to far gone is yet to be seen. We need young blood and brown hair in our organization if it is to survive. How do we go about doing that? Well that is the million dollar question. I think we should look back to the past. What was it that made IPMS great before? What brought modelers to our doors? In this day and age with the internet and global communication what can IPMS offer modelers that they can't get anywhere else. I sure hope the answer isn't insurance and a place to meet because I could get together with guys I know on the internet at McDonald any time. I hope the answer isn't a National contest because I don't want to stress out over my "hobby". I think we need to ask ourselves what we want IPMS to be. The only problem I see is I don't think we know what we want to be.

Newsletter Poll

This month's poll question: The club is kicking around the idea of a build night. Would you be interested in participating and what day would you be able to take part? Do you have any ideas for the build night?

Mark Box

Jake, I am in two other clubs besides this one. I am stretched as far out there as I am able to be. I doubt I would ever be able to participate much, in a build night so whatever y'all decide on, I will participate when I can.

Don Briggs

Any night except the fourth Thursday of the month.

Some Pictures from Spacecoast





Club Important Dates

- Next meeting is May 22nd at Trinity Lutheran church at 7:00 P.M.
- May's theme will be something fictitious. We will also have our \$1.00 model contest and the Airfix build.
- June's meeting will be the 26th at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 P.M.

Websites of Interest

[IPMS USA](#)

[scalemates.com](#)

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

[HyperScale – An Online Magazine for Aircraft and Armour Modellers](#)

[Imodeler](#)

[Tony Matteliano's Scale Model Index](#)

[Swanny's Models](#)

[Primeportal.net](#)

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

Letter from the Editor

Hello Again everyone.

As I am sure you noticed this issue is extremely skimpy. It seems that I had a malfunction with my camera and all the pictures from the meet that were there when I left just vanished off of my camera, lost forever to the ether of the digital world. I asked for replacement but I didn't get a response from many in the club. I think it might be a good idea to have someone be a backup camera person to take pictures of the show n tell models.

Another thing is I have been overly busy these past few weeks and just simply didn't have time to write anything for the newsletter. I have been trying to get the "Airfix" build done in time along with my daily life which has lately been putting the squeeze on me. Add to that that Joe keeps calling me all the time for advice and flags I have been GO GOGO. The "spacecoast" show was yet another event that had me running this past month. I still think we are in recover mode after Mike's passing and even though it seems like things are back to normal they aren't. I still can't work on my Unryu but maybe after the Airfix build I can tackle that finally.

I hope this upcoming month things will calm down some and I can start writing the featured manufacture articles again. I also think "Hapless Harold" is back from his trip abroad, so I'm sure we will be getting an ear full about the current MNT limits as well as other IPMS topics. Again if anyone has anything they want to submit to the newsletter please do.

As a last minute addition it seems that John Sadler is having issues. He is OK and they are running some tests, but please remember to keep him and his family in your prayers.

2014 Meeting Themes for the Year

Month	Theme	Program
• January	TBA	TBA
• February	TBA	TBA
• March	TBA	TBA
• April	TBA	TBA
• May	something fictitious (Airfix group build contest from Dec.)	TBA
• June	open	Swap N'Sell
• July	summer/hot related	TBA
• August	wop-wop-wop (use your imagination)	TBA
• September	"what FLOATS your boat"	TBA
• 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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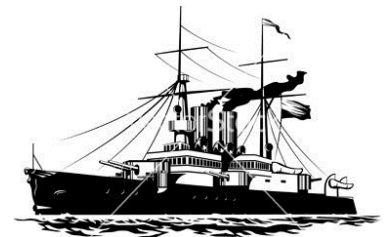
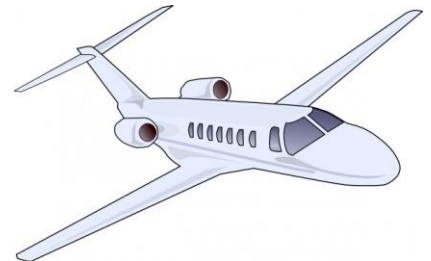
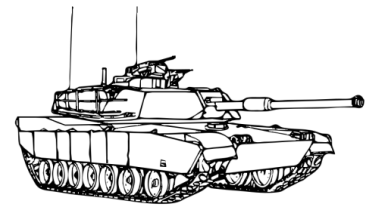
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<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18 years): \$12 <input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 year: \$30 (only 1 Journal) How Many Cards? _____ (Write family member names on back)	
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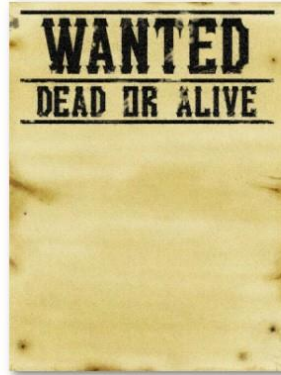


**MARK'S VINTAGE PLASTIC
JUNKYARD**

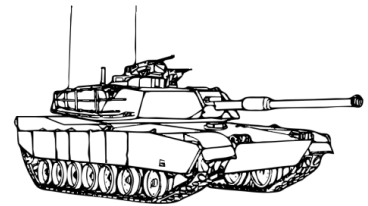
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I'm looking for a 48th scale Ta152-H1. I think it has been offered by Tri-master, Dragon and Italeri (kit 861) over the years.



If you have one or know where to get one contact Jack Mugan at

ibm007@mac.com

