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In Memoriam:

Michael L. Wenig,
Branson Hobby Center owner, friend and
supporter of IPMS/MOSS

August 25, 1932 – September 29, 2017

Michael “Mike” Wenig was born in Los Angeles, California and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He returned to California to attend college before being drafted into the US Navy during the Korean War, where he served on the *USS Toledo*.

After the war, he had a 35 year career with the American Broadcasting Company as a video tape engineer. He traveled the world covering the Olympic games, the Indianapolis 500, the Daytona 500, NFL and college football, the Rose Bowl parade, PGA golf tournaments, and 16 years at the Academy Awards. Mike won seven Emmy awards for his hard work in the television industry.

In 1967, Mike married Patricia Meyers in Las Vega, Nevada. They enjoyed 47 years together before her passing in March 2015.

In 1992, Mike started Branson Hobby Center (formerly known as TPA Hobby Center) in Hollister, Missouri. Sadly, Mike passed away just seven days before his beloved hobby shop reached its 25th anniversary.

Mike was a premier supporter of and excellent friend to IPMS/MOSS, he will be greatly missed.



22 October: 13 members, 5 guests, and 4 spouses joined us for dinner and the meeting at Godfather’s Pizza. After the club business portion of the meeting, we started the show and tell portion with two guest speakers. **Israel and Nicos Pina**, friends of MOSS member Les MacLaren, who are also into 3D printing. The brothers own a 3D printer, and gave a short presentation showing some of the capabilities of the printer.



Mark Mahy brought in a recently purchased Tamiya 1:48 US Army Staff Car kit. Despite some misadventures in the online ordering and purchasing process which resulted in Mark accidentally purchasing a Tamiya 1:48 Volkswagen, he was finally able to purchase this out of production Model 1942 Staff Car kit!



Mike Mangan brought in his in-progress Studebaker kit, Heller tractor (not pictured), and an Otaki 1:48 F-4U Corsair that he built about 20 years ago. The Heller tractor continues to give problems as the build process



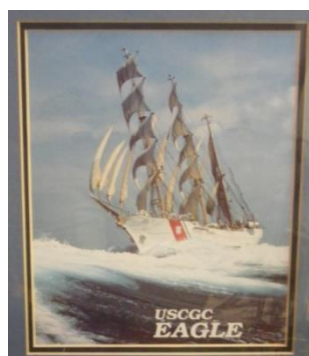
goes along as there are no locator pins for many of the parts, and the instructions are vague on parts placement. This has caused some corrections to be made after parts have already been assembled. Mike's Corsair features photo-etch aftermarket details in the cockpit.



John Long brought in three in-progress figures. The first figure is the ICM 1:24 Henry Ford figure that fellow MOSS member, Mark Mahy commissioned him to finish. The second figure is a nearly complete 1:35 British Chindit. Chindits, known more officially as Long Range Penetration Groups, were special operations Soldiers from the British and Indian armies who saw action in the Burma theater of operations during WWII. And the third figure is an in-progress custom sculpted Missouri Bushwhacker.



Bob Grenier brought in his wooden model of the US Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) *Eagle*; one of the only two commissioned sailing vessels in the United States Military (the other being the USS Constitution). One of Bob's sons attended the Coast Guard Academy, and as part of a class project actually sailed to Australia as a crew member on the *Eagle* years ago. Bob gave a little history lesson about the origins of the cutter, which to many is surprising. Originally constructed in Germany during 1936, and commissioned as the *Horst Wessel* in September 1936, the 295 foot long sailing ship became a *Kriegsmarine* training ship. On August 21, 1938, Adolf Hitler visited the ship and sailed aboard for a



short time. Decommissioned in 1939, and later recommissioned in 1942. The *Horst Wessel* continued to serve as a training vessel with the German Navy. In April 1945, the ship surrendered to the British, and, following the end of WWII, the *Horst Wessel*, along with the other three remaining German sailing vessels were distributed as war reparations to the Allied countries. The *Horst Wessel* ended up as property of the United States, and was requested by the US Coast Guard Academy's Superintendent. On May 15, 1946, the *Horst Wessel* was commissioned in to the US Coast Guard as the USCGC *Eagle*, and has continued on active service ever since.



Darren Gloyd brought in his in-progress 1:25 Revell 1941 "2 in 1" Chevy Pickup. Darren is building this model for MOSS CON 2018, and is finishing it in an authentic 1941 color: Forest Green. The kit came with decal white walls for the tires, and

Darren applied them, stating that the decals went on very well with not much trouble or effort.





Michael Steenstra brought in his 1:35 Takom King Tiger kit, which he purchased relatively recently. The level of detail is amazing in this kit, as the model comes with a complete interior, and the armor is molded in scale thickness! Michael said that he is thinking about the possibility of building this model as a cutaway.

New MOSS member, **Brian Lloyd**, comes to us from the Central Missouri Scale Modelers Club. Brian brought in his diorama based on a scene from one of the *Terminator* movies. The merry-go-round, the chain link fence, and the swing set are just a few of the items in this diorama that are scratch built! Brian added a light kit to his diorama for an excellent effect, especially at night! He used fine tile grout for the nuclear fallout ash that covers the scene. Well done!



Paul Drinkall brought in his recently finished 1:48 Aurora XF-90 model. After years of searching online for an affordable offering of this kit, Paul finally found and purchased one last year off eBay. It was an already started kit. The kit was originally produced in 1950 and had raised details for where the decals should rest, but the previous owner of

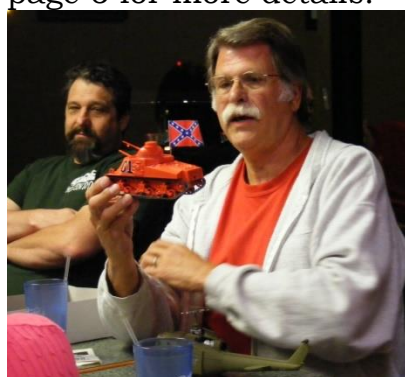


this kit had already sanded most of those off, making Paul's job much easier! The previous owner had also already added a modern era

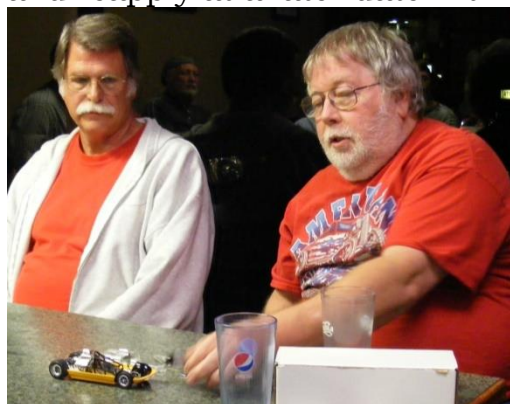
pilot figure to the pilot's seat, but that didn't matter to Paul either. The age of the kit's engineering ensured the requirement for quite a bit of sanding and body putty, but Paul finished it out, and finished it with lacquer car paint. Paul recalls building this same model as a kid, and he enjoyed reliving those childhood memories by building this kit again; only this time at a much higher price!



Gary Sanders brought in two recently finished models and one in progress model. Meng Models' World War Toons M4A1 Sherman Egg tank, and his 1:35 "not-so-politically correct" General Lee tank! The Meng Sherman egg tank went together fairly easily and quickly, but was distinctly missing the .50 caliber machine gun mounted atop by the Commander's cupola. The box art shows the machine gun in place, but sadly there is no machine gun provided in the kit parts. Gary added the missing weapon with one acquired from one of his other die cast models. As seen and described in the September issue of *Sprue Bits*, Gary finished his snap version of the 1:35 M3 Lee tank in General Lee colors as a joke and jab at society's current level of political correctness. It turned out very well, and definitely got a few chuckles! Gary also brought in his in-progress 1:32 Revell UH-1D Huey. See the "Work In Progress" section on page 6 for more details.



Guest **Robin Crotser** brought in his 1960 version of the AMT Piranha with clear body. While building his model, Robin applied Future Floor Wax to the clear body portion, but the ambient temperatures did not agree and the Future wax turned white. Thankfully, Robin was able to easily strip the wax off and reapply at a later date with better results!



Guest **Rick Crites** brought in a model that he built 20 years ago to show a modeling tip that he used. The acrylic filler used for artificial (acrylic) finger nails can be used as a great filler on models too! The nail filler can be applied to the model, and it dries with minimal shrinkage and no chipping. Once dry, it can easily be sanded and takes a coat of paint very well! Rick used this technique on the front bumper of his NASCAR Miller Lite #2 car. Rick also brought in his custom made pulley system



for a model car engine he is building. Rick placed a styrene rod into a 3/8" drill press, essentially making a home-made lathe. He used an old hacksaw blade as a cutter and created his very own custom scale double pulleys.



Go to www.ipmsmoss.com and check out the Gallery for more pictures!

Announcing
MOSS CON 2018
IPMS Region 5 Regional Show
 Saturday, May 19, 2018
 8:30 am – 5 pm
 Branson, Missouri






Revell 1:32 UH-1D by Gary Sanders

While watching the Ken Burns' PBS Documentary *The Vietnam War*, Gary noted that almost every scene had the distinctive sound of the Huey in the background audio. Thinking back to his tour of duty in Vietnam as a turret mechanic on M48 tanks, Gary remembered that there always seemed to be helicopters in the air, and their distinctive sound was ever-present. On a few occasions, Gary was flown out to the field to work on a tank. Inspired, he took a trip to Hobby Lobby and used the 40% off coupon to purchase the Revell 1:32 UH-1D kit. Gary decided to build the kit out of the box. He started work on his Huey on September 27th and finished it up on November 12th. This kit is the first helicopter model that Gary has ever built. Gary finished his Huey using some the kit decals for the aircraft MAJ Bruce Crandall flew in November of 1965 (in the Battle for the Ia Drang Valley, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor). Gary also wanted to pay tribute to his time in Vietnam



with the 5th Mechanized Infantry, whose patch is the red diamond. So Gary used some left over kit decals from the rescue version of the Huey, and cut a red diamond applying it to the nose of the bird.



Gary used a dinner plate to help hold the fuselage halves together while the glue set! It worked pretty well too!



Gary's finished Huey with his custom 5th Mechanized Infantry patch on the nose!

***Sprue Bits* is always looking for new articles, pictures, comics, tips and techniques! If you have an article or work in progress build that you would like included in *Sprue Bits*, please e-mail it to ipmsmoss@hotmail.com.**

NEXT MEETING

26 November 2017 - Sunday at 6pm – Location To Be Determined; check the website for more details. Bring a model, a tip or technique to share, and bring a friend! See you there!

We'll see you at the meeting on November 26th!

Happy Modeling!



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