



An I.P.M.S./ M.O.S.S. Publication

January 2014
Volume 6 Issue 1

IPMS/Missouri Ozarks Scale Specialists
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Nate's Notes

By Nate Jones, President IPMS/MOSS

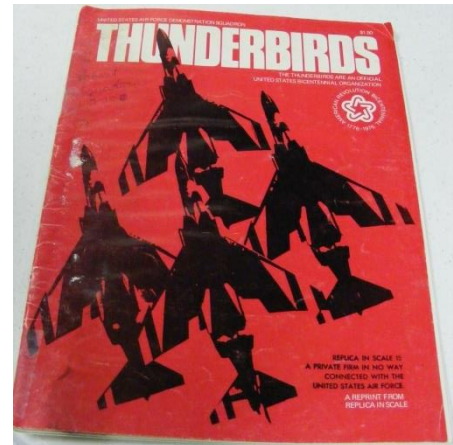
Ever heard of writer's block? Well, for the past couple of months, I have experienced builder's block. I have the desire – a very strong desire –to build, but when I sit down to actually work on my models...something happens...I get stuck. Most of the time, a good portion of my hesitation is because I am about to delve into a rather lengthy portion of my build (such as sculpting arms for a 1/35 figure—which is new to me; or scratch building a large destroyed wine cask from balsa) and usually by the time I sit down to work on my models it's about 10 pm. The part of me that drives me to complete the part I am working on before I turn in for the night, keeps me from getting started. I think that the busy-ness of the holiday season, family events, work- and other distractions in life are some additional causes for my builder's block. It is frustrating, but I am determined to get over or through it any way I can! Even if I have to shelf the projects that I have going and start a different one, I will build again!

“We’re making it a small world, because small things matter!”



26 January: We met at a room in the East side of the White House Theater (my sincerest apologies for failing to update our final location). We had a great turnout – almost every MOSS member was present; it was good to catch up after two months. Rusty Hamblin brought in a newly-completed Revell Custom Cougar car, a

UM Models 1/72 DB 41 Russian Self-propelled rail gun and a 1976 issue of the USAF Thunderbirds Replica in Scale magazine.



Richard Carroll brought in three model cars that have been in his collection for a few years: a 1961 Ranchero (that has been rebuilt a few times), a 1954 Chevy, and a 1957 Chevy (along with a small notebook of related sketches that were doodled while Richard was in USAF tech school).

Mark Mahy brought in two models he built back in the '80's: a motorized 1/35 Tamiya M10 Tank Destroyer and a Testor's/Italeri Hetzer.





Paul Drinkall brought in his Revell 1/25 1957 Ford. He used an aftermarket resin hood and finished the car with airbrushed orange fingernail polish and “rattle can” white.



After our discussion and show-and-tell time, we had a Swap/Sell meet! A few of us went home with more models than we came to the meeting...and a lighter wallet too, but it was fun nonetheless! However, in all the looking through stacks and tubs of models, we forgot to talk about our Group Build idea, so we will wait until the February meeting to discuss that topic!





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



Great Wall Hobby 1/48th scale P-61B *Lady in the Dark*, Part 4 by Michael Praetorius



This is the fourth and final installment of my “work in-progress” for the P-61B Black Widow from Great Wall.

In the previous writing I had left the decals and the glass to complete. My disappointment with the decals

continues and there is nothing for it but to complete the application. I have looked in to vendors advertising “Lady in the Dark” decals in the 1:48 scale format but when I explored the web pages, they were either sold out or discontinued. There are any number of reliable P-61B Black Widow decals to be had with a wide variety of planes from Cutting Edge and others. But my fascination has always been with the nose art and history of my chosen aircraft.



The red night fighter lines were presented in a peculiar way. It may have been better (for me) to have provided a series of red lines, as Revell had, and have me cut them to size from there. As it is, the length and angles are laid out different than most references I have seen. It was still manageable and I proceeded to lay

them down. I experienced a number of tearing instances requiring patience in piecing them back together.



As I had mentioned before, the decals are thick and look like they were printed on scotch tape. No amount of Micro Sol or over coating of Pledge (by brush) could remedy this problem. The stencils are accurate and appear to be the correct scale. The assembly and instruction callouts are easy to read and thorough.



My conclusions on the build are Great Wall has an exceptionally well-engineered model with exquisitely engraved panel lines, rivets, caps, and covers. The interior cockpit, crew areas, and flight deck have an amazing amount of detail. The included photo etched metal fret, although thicker than its Eduard counterpart,



provides detail for the engines, seat belts, dive brakes, and access hatch ladder that puts it over the top in my opinion. The instruction sheets are well illustrated and easy to follow and I found only one or two incorrect callouts. The canopy and cockpit masks are left wanting but certainly better than none. I did not investigate the availability of

alternatives. The fit of the parts as I stated in previous writings rivals Hasegawa or Tamiya.

Finally, I would, in good conscience, recommend this model with the caveat of purchasing after-market decals with which to finish. I recommend for moderately experienced builders. – *Michael Praetorius*

Thanks, Michael for this excellent Work-In-Progress write up! Great job on your historic Black Widow! ~editor



by Rusty Hamblin

I used to love to shop. As a guy that is a hard statement to make public. No, not clothes shopping or grocery shopping; I loved to shop via catalogs. Now before you start thinking my desk or coffee table is littered with *Lane Bryant*, *LL Bean*, *Things You Didn't Know Existed* catalogs I want you to know I shopped guy catalogs such as *Lefthander Chassis*, *Snap-On Tools*, *Revell*, etc. I could spend hours just browsing through the *Enco* catalog. I always kept a paper and pen handy so I could jot down items and page numbers so I could find them again when I was ready to buy. I was the king of Wish Lists, and nine times out of ten those Wish Lists became orders.

Was? Yep, you see retailers and manufacturers, with all of their know-nothing MBA's have decided that catalogs are too expensive to print anymore. They don't need them since they have the savior of humanity, the Internet. Post your products on this marvel of technology and the people of the world will swarm to you. But they won't shop. Do not confuse buying with shopping, because they are different.

If you are thinking your counter argument is that you can still shop on the internet? No, you can't. Not without a whole lot of difficulty. In the past I have gone through such gigantic catalogs as *MCS Industrial Supply* page-by-page and found wondrous things I had no idea existed and hence, I wanted. That was something like 2500 pages. I dare you to sit down at your computer and browse the *MSC* website page-by-page until you have seen every item they have listed. You see their website is set up for you to make a specific search for each item. If you don't know it exists, how can you search for it?

Yes, I'm pissed off at the decline of printed catalogs. Some companies still produce them, I shop with them, and I buy from them. I do sometimes buy from companies that have forgone the print catalog, but not like I used to. I spend less with these companies now and I can prove that.

Funny thing happened as I was writing this. I had a gentleman come in the store looking for *Woodland Scenics* "water undercoat." I had no idea what he was talking about, but he claimed he saw it on an Internet video so he knew it was out

there. The second time he asked for it, I simply tossed the latest edition *Woodland Scenics* catalog on the counter and told him to find it and point it out to me. He couldn't. I knew what they had used on the video was called "earth undercoat." It took him several minutes of looking and then comparing before he too realized that indeed it was earth undercoat they used, not water undercoat, even though it was used under clear resin. Catalog 1; Internet 0.

Okay, thanks for letting me rant. I'm stepping off my soapbox now.

Perfume



I want my husband to pay more attention to me. Do you have any perfume that smells like model glue?

COMING
SPRING 2014

A poster for the Missouri Ozarks Scale Specialists (MOSS) Convention 2014. The poster features a central white background with a black vertical stripe. On the left, there is a green-tinted image of a military aircraft. On the right, there is a map of Normandy with the text "INVASION BEGINS LAND IN FRANCE". The central text reads: "MOSS CON 2014 MODEL SHOW AND COMPETITION", "D-DAY: 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION OVERLORD JUNE 1944". At the bottom, there is a blue-tinted image of a model ship. The MOSS logo is at the top center, and the International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS) logo is at the top left.

MORE DETAILS
COMING SOON!

Check out www.ipmsmoss.com for more details.

NEXT MEETING

16 February 2014 - 6pm, Sunday at the White House Theater.

Bring a model, bring a friend, bring your Group Build idea! See you there!

History In A Box

Never Surrender: The Last Holdouts of an Empire
Shoichi Yokoi ~ Hiroo Onoda ~ Teruo Nakamura



Earlier this month, there was a brief snippet in the news media about the death of Hiroo Onoda – “the last Japanese soldier to surrender after WWII.” In fact there were three long-lasting holdout Japanese soldiers: Sergeant Shoichi Yokoi (almost 27 years on Guam), 2nd Lieutenant Hiroo Onoda (almost 29 years on Lubang Island, Philippines) and Private Teruo Nakamura (almost 30 years on Morotai Island, Indonesia).

All three men hid in the jungles along with a few small bands of other Japanese soldiers following the end of the hostilities in 1945; some even continuing their fight against the Allies via guerilla warfare. Despite great efforts to convince the remaining Japanese soldiers the war was over, these men remained in hiding and continued to survive. Through the years, their fellow soldiers died, were killed or surrendered, leaving only these three men—each alone on their respective islands where they had been stationed between 1943 and 1945.

On January 24, 1972, Shoichi Yokoi was discovered and captured by two men checking their shrimp traps. On February 20, 1974, Hiroo Onoda was found by Norio Suzuki (who was traveling the world in search of “Lieutenant Onoda, a panda, and the Abominable Snowman, in that order”) and on March 9, 1974 Hiroo Onoda was ordered by his former commanding officer, Major Yoshimi Taniguchi, to surrender. On 18 December 1974, Teruo Nakamura (also known as Attun Palalin) was arrested by Indonesian soldiers who had mounted a search for him after a pilot had observed Nakamura’s hut from the air in mid-1974.

Yokoi died in 1997 of a heart attack at the age of 82, and was buried at a Nagoya cemetery, under a gravestone that had originally been commissioned by his mother in 1955, after Yokoi had been officially declared dead. Onoda became disenchanted with his perception of the decline of Japanese values, so he moved to Brazil and became a cattle rancher. In 1984 he returned to Japan to start the Onoda Nature School – an educational camp for young people, held at various locations in Japan, which taught survival skills to youth. Originally from Taiwan, Nakamura decided to be repatriated straight to Taiwan, bypassing Japan, and died there of lung cancer five years later in 1979.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shoichi_Yokoi
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiroo_Onoda
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teruo_Nakamura

SHOWS & CONTESTS

Here are some upcoming shows in the “local” area (IPMS Region 5 & some “close” Region 6) in case you’d like to attend!

2/1/2014	Minnesota Rochester Region 5	17th Annual Hope It Don't Snow Show  Ramada Hotel & Convention Center 1517 16th St. SW Map Zumbro Valley Scale Modelers Chris Krco 507-254-4646
3/8/2014	Wisconsin Cottage Grove Region 5	Mad City Modelers Annual Show Double Days 4586 Baxter RD Map Mad City Modelers Rob Teubert 608-295-9258
3/15/2014	Missouri Kansas City Region 5	KC CON 2014  Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene 11811 State Line Road Map IPMS Great Plains Stuart Malone 816.560.8282
4/12/2014	Iowa Des Moines Region 5	Surgicon 20  The Euclid Room 2540 E Euclid Avenue Map IPMS Plastic Surgeons Aimee Wright 515-291-3395
4/26/2014	Iowa Cedar Rapids Region 5	Fleacon 10  Landmark Aviation; Eastern Iowa Airport 3411 Beech Way Map Alexander Lippisch Charles Kucera 319-389-0877
5/16/2014 To 5/17/2014	Kansas Wichita Region 6	PRARIE WIND 2014 REGION 6 CONVENTION-- THEME: "INVASION STRIPES"  Marriott Hotel & Event Center 9100 Corporate Hills Drive Map Air Capital IPMS Modelers Mark Vittorini 316-440-6846

7/12/2014	Illinois Crystal Lake Region 5	NIMCON 3  McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE 8900 U.S. 14 Map IPMS LAKES REGION SCALE MODELERS PHIL PIGNATARO 847-658-9920
10/18/2014	Missouri Kansas City Region 5	2014 Region 5 Regional Convention  AmeriStar Casino & Hotel 3200 N. Ameristar Drive Map IPMS/West Central Missouri Justin Carlson 816-256-1310

We'll see you at the meeting on February 16th!

Take care, be safe and Happy Modeling!



"We're making it a small world!"

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I WANT YOUR INPUT



Would YOU like to contribute to *Sprue Bits*? Please do! E-mail me your tip, technique, classified ad, ANYTHING! This is YOUR newsletter! I want YOUR input!