



Sprue Bits

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Nate's Notes

By Nate Jones, President IPMS/MOSS

Welcome to the July 2013 issue of IPMS/Missouri Ozarks Scale Specialists' newsletter; this is my first newsletter since I've returned from my government-funded travels to Afghanistan, so I am getting back into the swing of things here stateside, at home, model building and with the Chapter. As I get back into the groove of civilian life, my thoughts turn to the upcoming events within the next few months.

On Saturday, October 19th, IPMS/MOSS will host our annual model show and competition--MOSS CON--at the White House Theater here in Branson. Last year, we had an excellent turn out and we were able to raise a good amount of money to donate to the IPMS/USA Support the Troops program. Shortly after we donated the money, I was told that our donation went toward sending a shipment of models overseas to military service members deployed to Bagram, Afghanistan.

One month later, in December 2012, I received orders for deployment to, of all places, Bagram. During my time there, I had the opportunity to telephone and e-mail the point of contact for the Bagram Model Club—Major Ken Fravor. Even though my job over there did not allow me to meet Major Fravor or go visit the Bagram Model Club, I was very excited to hear that the models were well received and that by March most of the models had been selected for use by the modelers stationed there! It was neat to be a part of raising the



funds through the IPMS/MOSS show proceeds, and also to “see” the benefit of the IPMS/USA Support the Troops program! As our Chapter motto notes, it definitely is a small world and small things do matter.

I look forward to what MOSS CON 2013 and the rest of 2013 holds in store for us all!

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



By Nate Jones

21 July: We met at the White House Theater and had a small gathering: mostly just catching up with each other. Rusty Hamblin brought in a tip that he brought over from the model railroading side of the house. Use foam to cradle and cushion your models; cut the foam to your desired size and shape, then hot glue the pieces together. This is handy not only for transporting models, but also resting your models on a work surface during the construction process. The foam doesn’t damage any cured painted surfaces either!



Don Holderman (Left) listens as Rusty Hamblin discusses the foam cradle tip.



Various sizes of foam cradles—handy for anything from HO train cars to aircraft carriers! (Italeri 1/720 USS America for those who are curious)

NEXT MEETING

25 August 2013 - 6pm, Sunday at White House Theatre (2255 Gretna Road), in the West Wing. Enter on the East side doors.

WHERE HAS YOUR SHIRT BEEN?

This month we continue to document the travels of club t-shirts!



Nate Jones and his IPMS/MOSS shirt toured the world courtesy of the US Army with stops in Germany, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, and Afghanistan.

If you would like to show your shirt traveling the country or the globe, please e-mail picture(s) of you wearing your club “colors” on your adventures to ipmsmoos@hotmail.com.

Rusty's Ramblin'

by Rusty Hamblin

Here is something that I've been thinking about for a while now. What is the definition of a model? Not the Webster definition but your definition. Is a model a molded polystyrene kit that requires assembly? Wouldn't a wooden kit of a sailing ship be a model? So what else would you call a model?

Does the builder of a static wooden aircraft have a model? I'll remind you that most major plastic model companies still around started out producing wood aircraft kits, not injection molded plastic. If someone cuts and glues each piece of balsa wood then covers it to look like an actual aircraft, isn't that a model?

At my place of work we carry a line of products called Matchitecture. They are matchstick kits allowing you to build cars, planes, ships, trains, and buildings. They have assembly instructions not very different than a plastic kit except that you build right on top of the instruction sheet. There is gluing involved as well as cutting and sanding and fitting.

Do model railroaders build models? They call themselves modelers right there in their title. Does the assembly of plastic and wood building kits constitute model building? There are assembly kits for locomotives and freight cars as well. They use all of the same modeling skills that we use including working with resin and photoetched parts. Plus they add in weathering scenery, and the moving elements of trains. Could it be considered an extra large diorama?

Then there are the scale remote control enthusiasts. These people build ships, vehicles, and aircraft to as exact scale representations as humanly possible. However they add the challenge of making their models move under their own power. Hiding all of that extra equipment is not easy. Few remote control products are considered true scale R/C because people simply take them out of the box and fly/drive/sail them. The true scale R/C person will spend hundreds of hours scratch building and painting details for their chosen R/C project.

Have you ever considered a dollhouse a model? They build piece by piece, usually with wood but other materials such as resin and polystyrene are common. They must test fit, adjust, sand, glue, paint, etc. There are extra details to make it more realistic.

Ever heard of paper modeling? Most are printed on thick cardstock or printed on thin paper and then glued to thicker cardstock. Once the basic shape of the piece is cut out there may be some folding involved before it is glued onto a larger assemble. Piece by piece, a three dimensional miniature takes shape out of nothing but flat paper.

Then there are the die cast modifiers. Do they build models if they take a pre-painted die cast car and customize it? If they scratch build parts or use parts never intended for that product, is it a model?

So where do you draw the line?

In the past five years I have done all of the above. Yes, I built a three story dollhouse as well as a wonderful paper model of the Brooklyn Bridge. I have two model railroads at home. I have static balsa wood airplanes, scale appearing remote control vehicles, and an 18-wheeler tractor built entirely out of matchsticks. From experience, I have noticed that there really isn't a lot of difference between any of these hobbies. The end result is always the hoped for great looking miniature reproduction of the real thing. In my opinion, the modeling hobby is a lot larger than most people realize.

Can you think of any other "odd" models that could be added to this list?



COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars with these upcoming events!

>>Please note: these dates are subject to change, but we will provide you with as much notice as possible. Thank you for understanding! <<

2013 Monthly MOSS Meetings

August 25

September 22

October 13 – week before MOSS CON 2013

November 17 – last 2013 meeting

- **October 19, 2013 –MOSS CON 2013!!** Held at The White House Theatre 2255 Gretna Road, Branson, MO 65616



SHOWS & CONTESTS

Here are some upcoming shows in the "local" area (IPMS Region 5 & some nearby Region 6) in case you'd like to attend!

9/14/2013	Missouri St Louis Region 5	Gateway to the West Contest and Swap Meet  Holiday Inn, Route 66 10709 Watson Road Map IPMS Gateway Doug Barton 636-332-9960
9/21/2013	Minnesota Fort Snelling Region 5	Nordi-Con 2013, Theme: THE NEED FOR SPEED  Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America Base Camp 201 Bloomington Rd Map IPMS Twin City Aero Historians Bob Maderich 612-423-2985
9/21/2013	Arkansas Benton Region 6	13th Annual Spoo-Doo Model Show  Arkansas Health Center 6701 Highway 67 Map Central Arkansas Scale Modelers Brianna Childres 501-269-9086
9/21/2013	Kansas Leavenworth Region 5	IPMS Prison City Model show  The Heritage Center 109 Delaware Street Map IPMS Prison City Modelers Shane Curtis 254-220-2750
10/3/2013 To 10/6/2013	Illinois Schaumburg Region 5	iHobby Expo  Schaumburg Convention Center Near Chicago Map IPMS USA Dick Christ 555-555-5555
10/12/2013	Kansas Wichita Region 6	ConAir 2013 Model Expo & Contest  Kansas Aviation Museum 3350 South George Washington Boulevard Map IPMS/Air Capital Modelers Mark Vittorini 316-440-6846
10/19/2013	Missouri Branson Region 5	MOSS CON 2013  White House Theatre 2255 Gretna Road Map IPMS Missouri Ozarks Scale Specialists Nate Jones 417-230-6220

10/19/2013	Wisconsin Wausau Region 5	Glue Crew 2013  Howard Johnson Inn & Conference Center 2101 North Mountain Road Map 5-36 The Glue Crew Joseph Drew 715-842-0173
11/9/2013	Missouri Columbia Region 5	TigerCon 2013  Hickman High School 1104 North Providence Road Map Central Missouri Scale Modelers Colin Smialek (573) 673-1110
11/9/2013	Illinois Downers Grove Region 5	31st Annual IPMS Butch O'Hare Chapter Open Model Contest  Lakeview Jr. High School 701 Planfield Road Map IPMS Butch O'Hare John Bishop (630)880-4905

We'll see you at the meeting on August 25th!

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!