



Sprue Bits

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Out Of The Box

By Mike Staworski, Vice-President IPMS/MOSS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Out Of The Box
February Meeting
- 2 March Meeting
- 3 April Meeting
- 4 Upcoming Region 5 Events
- 5 Rusty's Ramblin
- 6 The Final Piece

Welcome back to Sprue Bits. It's been way too long since the last issue was published, and for that I apologize. Since the last issue there have been quite a few things happening; three meetings, new vendors for the show in October, a few new kits in the stash, and some great ideas for the future of the newsletter.

Our own Rusty Hamblin has submitted an article for this issue. It's an honest, awesome, and hilarious look into the real world of model building and I think you'll enjoy it as much as I did.

And speaking of submitted articles, if anyone has ideas for an article, write it down or type it out and it can be put into the next issue of Sprue Bits. Sorry, but there's no cash involved, just my eternal gratitude for helping to make this newsletter better!

"Artistic talent is a gift from God and whoever discovers it in himself has a certain obligation: to know that he cannot waste this talent, but must develop it."

- Pope John Paul II

February 2013 Meeting

By Mike Staworski

February 24th was a special meeting for MOSS. We had the opportunity to meet at the Branson Veteran's Memorial Museum. It would be impossible to mention everything on display, and to omit something would be an injustice. The collection covers every U.S. military engagement since the Civil War.

*MOSS members
checking out the
collection at the Branson
Veteran's Memorial
Museum.*



March 2013 Meeting

The March 10, 2013 meeting was a chance for a little show-and tell. Gary brought a very nice collection of Studebakers that included a 1956 Hawk, a 1951 Commander by French kit company Provence Moulange, a 1962 Hawk GT, and a 1954 Land Cruiser. Mark showed his original issue 1/32 scale Revell P-40E. Mark said he is using this kit to model a shark's mouth onto the nose. Now, most of us are likely familiar with the shark's mouth painted on the nose of this aircraft, but will be sculpting it 3-D! That should get some attention. Mike Steenstra, who again allowed the use of his home for the meeting, showed his 1/35 scale Dragon King Tiger and StuG IV as well as his 101st Airborne figures bazooka. Mike also had his Trumpeter 1/32 scale P-40B with aftermarket metal landing gear from Scale Aircraft Conversions (SAC). As for me, I brought an in-progress Academy 1/144 scale F-4 Phantom in an in-flight pose.

April 2013 Meeting

Compiled from notes by Mike Steenstra

April 28th, 2013 meant the fourth meeting of the year for our chapter. This one was held at The White House Theater with Rusty, Don, Gary, and Mike Steenstra in attendance.

Gary brought a 1/32 scale Pyro 1930 Packard Sport Coupe and from what we could tell by looking at it; it is a 1965 kit and has the very rare "Made in the USA" on it. Gary also brought a 1/35 Testor - Italeri M47 Patton Tank Kit. Mike brought a 1/35 Verlinden building that he has been working on.

Gary has met a guy who runs an antique shop in the Osceola area who would like to get four vendor tables for our MOSS Con show. Gary has mentioned he has several model kits for sale in his store. I believe the store's name is "Moccasin Trails Antiques & Collectibles".

Rusty mentioned a model railroad show coming to Springfield but he did not remember the date. Checking with Google, it looks like it will be Saturday, September 28, 2013.

Rusty also told us about an idea in regards to the newsletter; when we get a new kit or open up one to start working on, write a review or give what our first impressions are of the kit; any problems, etc. We thought it was a good idea and I will try to do that. We also brought up that when we visit museums or other points of interest to try to write and send photos as well. *(Editor's note: I love these ideas. It gets everyone involved in the chapter and keeps the Ol' Gray Matter exercised. It even allows the reviewer to get some idea of what's ahead in the build. Bring 'em on!)*



Gary's M-47 Patton and Packard Sport Coupe Above and Mike's 1/35 Verlinden building Below.



Upcoming Region 5 Events

June 8&9, 2013

Overland Park, KS

Heartland Model Car Nationals 

Overland Park, KS / Overland Park Convention Center

6000 College Boulevard [Map](#)

KC Slammers

[Vern Lyon](#) 913-782-0996

July 13, 2013

Crystal Lake, IL

NIMCON 2 

McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

8900 U.S. 14 [Map](#)

IPMS LAKES REGION SCALE MODELERS

[PHIL PIGNATARO](#) 847-658-9920

August 4, 2013

Crystal Lake, IL

6th Annual GTR Summer NNL

Algonquin Township Building

3702 US Highway 14 [Map](#)

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

[Chuck Herrmann](#) 847-516-0211

August 14-17, 2013

Loveland CO

2013 IPMS/USA National Convention--The Thin-Air Nationals 

J Q Hammons Conference Center

4705 Clydesdale Parkway [Map](#)

IPMS Centennial

[Chuck Holte](#) 719-590-6270



"We're making it a small world!"

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Would YOU like to contribute to the M.O.S.S. E-Newsletter? Please do! E-mail me your tip, technique, idea, comments, questions, classified ad, ANYTHING!

This is YOUR newsletter!

I want YOUR input!

Rusty's Ramblin

By Rusty Hamblin

There I sat; 2:30 in the morning, the radio playing softly, and the excitement was building. All of the painting was finished and all I had left was final assembly of my latest and greatest masterpiece. Except... Why won't this V8 settle down into the chassis? Maybe if I test fit it with the driveshaft. Whoa! Why is the driveshaft too short? What is going on here?

There I sat with an engine that wasn't even close to fitting properly. Why? Could I have possibly...

My biggest discouragement when building is waiting for something to dry; glue, paint, etc. To remedy this as much as possible I often build several models at one time. Can you see it coming? Yep I looked at my homemade paint stand at the other Chevy V8 still stuck on the end of its toothpick. Oops! I had the right engine accessories on the wrong engine block/transmission. No wonder it won't fit. My excitement was gone.

This still wasn't my worst modeling struggle. That came a few months back. My project then was the comical Hasegawa F-16 eggplane. I had a hard time getting the fuselage glued together right off the bat. Not because of the kit, but because every time I looked at it I broke out giggling. Everything went together beautifully right up until I airbrushed a coat of metallizer paint on the fuselage. A couple of days later when I pulled it out of my drying box I saw that the paint was foggy looking. I was so upset I set it aside for several months. When I decided to have another go around I stripped the old paint and shot gray. It went on great as did the gloss coat. The decals laid down excellent. The dullcote looked great when I pulled it out of the drying box a week later. All that was left was to install the perfectly painted pilot and canopy. That was when I dropped it.

It took me thirty minutes to find all of the broken pieces. Out came the CA and the tedious job of reassembling it began. I had it back together and hopefully no one would ever be able to tell what

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Continued from Page 5

happened. I was almost done when... I dropped it again. I wish I was kidding. Nope, this time I didn't find all of the parts.

Discouraged yes, defeated no. I scratch-built my own replacement parts and though not even close to show worthy I display it proudly alongside my fleet of F-16's.

I hope your modeling goes smoother than mine but if it doesn't, laugh it off and keep building. After all, mistakes and accidents are excuses, not good excuses, but excuses none the less to work even more on or beloved models.

The Final Piece

So we've made it to the last page and some final thoughts. First, Mike Steenstra wants to invite anyone living in the Springfield/Nixa/Ozark area to join in carpooling to Branson for the meetings. If you be interested in carpooling, contact Mike at msteenstra1@yahoo.com. Mike also adds: We meet at the Mitchum's Jeweler's parking lot by the B&B Movie Theater at 5:15 in Ozark.

Next up, please e-mail any ideas for articles to publish in the newsletter. If you liked Rusty's Ramblin' keep the momentum going. Or just see if you're a more creative writer than Rusty!

Good news for the chapter; we are the proud sponsors of the **Hot Rods and Street Rods, 1948 and older body, 1/20 & smaller** class of the IPMS Nationals!

And finally, thank you to everyone for your support over the past month. For those who have not heard, I finally (after five years) had back surgery on April 12th. Recovery is going slower than I expected (and had hoped for), but I definitely feel better. Especially since the rash has gone! Who knew I was allergic to the surgical prep/antiseptic?

We'll see you on May 19th at The White House Theater for the next meeting!