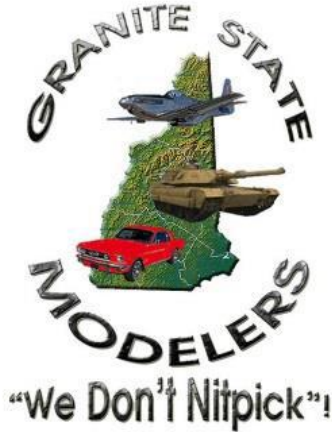




'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club Monthly Newsletter

Website: GraniteStateModelersClub.ORG

Email: GraniteStateModelers@Gmail.com

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IPMS



Meeting Reminders: January 27, 2025, February 24, 2025, March 17, 2025
Weekly Zoom Build Sessions: Sunday, *Monday (new)* and Wednesdays 6-9pm;
Saturday 1-4pm **Zoom Meeting Link – [GSMC Zoom Meeting](#)**

Letter to the Editor From Mark Natola

Hello Fellow GSMC Members,

I want to thank you all for your incredible support in sharing my link to my video “The Second Bomb” available on YouTube! To me, building models and working on a documentary share a common thread—they both require meticulous attention to detail and a deep desire to tell a story. Many of us are drawn to military subjects because of personal inspirations: a family member’s service, a book we couldn’t put down, or a television show that sparked our imagination as kids. Whatever the source of that spark, we pour our hearts into bringing our vision to life, hoping to inspire others in turn.

For many of us, the journey is as much about uncovering history as it is about creating something tangible. We dive into books, scour videos, and participate in online forums—all in pursuit of learning that one extra detail about our chosen subject.

I’ve been fortunate to meet fascinating individuals who’ve shared their personal stories with me, enriching my understanding of the past. In a way, model building initially inspired my passion for documentary filmmaking. Now, I feel like I’ve come full circle—combining both interests to honor history and share it in creative ways. You can access the show at: <https://youtu.be/UBTJCNR6QiU>

Thank you for being part of this journey!

Mark Natola

GSMC Merchandise Ordering Site Available!

The link below is available for everybody to order their GSMC logo clothing. You can coordinate with John Rauscher, he would be happy to pick your order up in Concord and bring it to a meeting or you can pay postage for shipping. <https://http-stitchesnh-com.printavo.com/merch/granitestatemodelers>

IPMS/GSMC meets for our general membership meeting on the third Monday night (4th Monday in January and February) of each month from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court Street Nashua, NH. Visitors are welcome; Show and Tell and a kit raffle are held at each meeting.

December 2024 Meeting Notes By Pete Davis

- We had 21 attendees plus one online for the meeting.
- President Mac Johnston donated two car kits from his collection to the raffle prize selections.
- John Rauscher reports he is still working on the poker chip awards and hoped to have samples to us soon.
- Zoom Admin Bob Ferri reported we have been doing around 6 nights a week with the Zoom build sessions. He is planning to add a 4th scheduled night on Mondays starting next week. Connect on Whatsapp to be in the loop for impromptu sessions and anyone can open the Zoom sessions.
- Treasurer Rich Filteau reported we had \$75.00 in deposits and \$495.05 in withdrawals during November.
- Secretary Rod Currier stated we were approached to host a NoreastCon event, but we prefer to stick with our own show at the school as they are more financially effective for us. Most clubs doing this event are only doing it as a one day event.
- Rod also asked that anyone with active IPMS/USA membership please notify the board. We need to keep our interaction with that organization at a specific level to allow us access to insurance and other show related services.
- Vice President Jason Robidoux has been working on our website and expects to have it updated sometime in January.

Club Officers:

President: *Mac Johnston*

(603)359-0595

macatflandersandpatch@hotmail.com

Vice President: *Jason Robidoux*

(603)674-4973

Jason.Robidoux30@gmail.com

Secretary: *Rodney Currier*

(603)726-3876

nickmatt2@roadrunner.com

Treasurer: *Rich Filteau*

(603)514-1604

r.filteau@comcast.net

Newsletter Team:

Content Editor - *Pete Davis*

(603)759-2173

granduck@aol.com

Contributor - *John Rauscher*

(603)315-0751

JVR@gsinet.net

Contributor/Distribution - *Rod Currier*

Content Layout - *Bob Ferri*

Zoom Administrator

Bob Ferri

(603)547-7456

ferri@gsinet.net

Social Media Coordinator

VP Jason Robidoux

- President Mac Johnston mentioned we have again been invited to participate in the Hooksett Lions Club model train show on April 27th, 2025. A couple of us did the show last year and had good interactions with show attendees. Pete volunteered to staff again this year. Mac will confirm our participation.
- Secretary Rod Currier advised our insurance for the 2025 GraniteCon is good to go (handled through IPMS/USA coverage).
- The theme for 2025 GraniteCon 32 was decided to be 'Animal Names'...things like Panther tanks, Strike Eagle aircraft, etc...anything with an animal described in its subject name.
- Rich Filteau took advantage of a \$25 gift certificate for Scale Hobbyist and, since they are local, was able to pick his purchase up at their location. He advised he had great interaction with them.
- Jim Rondos called out attention to the Virtual Model Show link previously discussed and advised there were a couple local builders who had models shown.
- Once again, we will mention Mark Natola's documentary on YouTube called "The Second Bomb". Those of us who have seen it have been very impressed.
- Our Yankee Swap had 18 participants. All are reminded that the final build presentation will be at the September 2025 meeting. There is a \$50 prize for the winner.

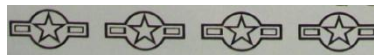
Yankee Swap Table



December Raffle Winners!

Our meeting raffle winners were Andy Rodriguez, Jason Robidoux, Icie Cook and Rod Currier!
. Congratulations!

It's a tie! We need to learn to smile better for the Best Raffle Winner Smile picture!



Coming Events of Interest

March 22, 2025 - RepLICon 32; Long Island Scale Model Society/IPMS; Freeport Recreation Center; Freeport, NY

March 30, 2025 – ValleyCon 34; Wings and Wheels Modelers/IPMS; Knights Of Columbus; Chicopee, MA

April 6, 2025 – BuffCon 40; IPMS/Niagara Frontier Chapter; The Knights Event Center; Cheektowaga, NY

April 6, 2025 – DowneastCon 2025; Southern Maine Scale Modelers; Sanford Memorial Gym; Sanford, ME

April 12, 2025 – CAN-AM Con 2025; IPMS/Champlain Valley; Williston Armory; Williston, VT

April 27, 2025 – Hooksett Train Show; Crawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH

May 15, 2025 – AMPS National, Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill PA

August 6, 2025 – IPMS/USA Nationals Hampton Roads, VA

September 28, 2025 – PatCon 2025 Hudson MA

October 3, 2025 – ArmorCon Southbury, CT

October 19, 2025 – GraniteCon 32; IPMS/Granite State Modelers; Weare Middle School; Weare, NH

October 25, 2025 – Hudson Valley Scale Model Show 2025; Hudson Valley Scale Modelers; Elks Club Hall; Poughkeepsie, NY

November 2, 2025 – BayCon 2025 Franklin, MA

Pete's Ponderings By Pete Davis

I am looking at my display shelves by my desk and have been thinking about the duration of time I should have my creations out for all to see. As it happens, I have boxes of kits in my attic that contain the remnants of models I have built previously, that have done their duty in my limited display space over the years and have been relegated to storage for the duration. I began to wonder what prompts me to keep a particular model on display over another and what triggers my moving older builds to the 'back lot'.

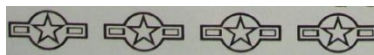
I have never really thought much about this before. In the past, I have just pulled things from the shelf to make room for new builds every so often. However, I have noticed that I have some models from way back when I really returned to model building forty years or so ago still out for viewing, even though they may not meet my current standards of construction. I also found that I have kept flawed results there that maybe should be relegated to obscurity, and am not sure why.

I think, on reflection, that some of these older models are there because I really enjoyed the process of building them and want to have them nearby as an inspiration. Many are still in place because they were unique in some aspect and represent a particular approach I took to create something different, or stretched my skill sets to improve them. A couple are prize winners that I like to keep out to remind me that I am good enough a builder to compete with the best in our area.

The flawed builds also remind me of the learning process I go through each time I tackle a new project. I have always been one to dwell on my failures, both on the bench and in life. This tends, I think, to reflect that self-critical part of my personality that is always just below the surface. 76 years of bad thinking are very hard to shake.

However, I think I may now look at culling the herd a bit and take a second glance at those not so great builds still remaining and pull them out. There is enough negativity currently to fill any day, that I really don't need my projects on display to carry that theme further.

I am going to select a few more of the models around me to move to storage shortly. I hope that will provide me with better examples on my shelves, more reflective of my desire to reinforce my positive approaches to model building. These are incentive builders and I need to have displayed kits that support my efforts rather than negate them.



The Instruction Sheet Needs You!

Members, we are constantly in need of newsletter content to keep our IPMS NE Region award winning newsletter going strong! We strive to put together an informative newsletter, with some content that will enhance your modeling experience, inspire you, inform you and make your modeling experience more enjoyable.

This is your newsletter and we need your contributions, large or small! Be it a kit or product review, build review, site visit or historical content, or even just a picture of your work or something you have seen of interest.

We are also looking for tips, tricks and hacks you use in your modeling that others may benefit from. These can be just a few lines of text and an image or two.

You can just provide the basic text and some images and we can create the layout and polish the content for you. Don't be shy, there is a writer in each of us, sometimes it takes a little effort for it to come out.

For those who choose to contribute. You can forgo any formatting, as that is done upon insertion into the newsletter layout. We would appreciate writers using Times New Roman for a font and there is no need to add indents or line spacing, bolds or any other font enhancements. Plain text is just fine.

Anyone in the club can submit to either Pete Davis or Bob Ferri for inclusion. They must be received 2 weeks prior to our monthly Monday meeting date to appear in that issue.

Thank you from the editorial team for ***The Instruction Sheet*** for your continued support.

Italian WW1 Obice 149G with Samaja bomb By Mac Johnston

The original 149G gun was designed by Ansaldo Company based in Italy. By the time World War I broke out, the original design was deemed obsolete. It was later known as the 149/23. In search of replacement guns, the military started taking guns from old forts, and that is where the original gun came from. They were used in a few earlier wars by the Italians and a couple of other countries.

At the breakout of the First World War there were plenty of field guns, but not that many heavy guns in service. Planes of the time didn't carry bombs capable of damaging trenches and fortresses, so the military tried to find anything that would fire a large shell or bomb that would incur large scale damage to these structures. With the use of these large caliber guns came the need to build specialized chassis for them.

This version used the Samaja bomb. It appears that it was more of an anti-personal bomb. I'm sure it was used on the trenches or groups of attacking soldiers.

The 149/23 was a short-barreled breech loading gun. The barrel was periodic as it was a steel and iron construction. The main munitions were almost five feet tall. The reason for its profile was that they were designed to sit behind a narrow parapet with just the barrel protruding.

The gun carriage design was never designed for any lengthy travel. If it had to be towed any distance, the wheels had a 12 pad, elastic belt grouser set up to help it stay above ground on soft soil. They were used on multiple chassis utilized by the Italian army. These were designed by a Major Crispino Bonagente.



The gun didn't have any recoil system. A set of ramps were used so that when it fired, it rolled back and up the ramps, and the weight of the gun sent it back to the ground. The gun also could not traverse side to side, as there was no means of adjusting it. Only elevation adjustments could be done. Each firing basically saw the gun being re-set and re-aimed.

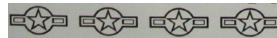
This kit is the Vargas 3D printed kit. The basic quality is decent, but there is a little cleanup required in areas that have some layer lines showing. They sand off pretty well, and I used SEM products high build primer to fill some of the layer line areas.

Construction is straight forward. Cleaning the parts after they leave the support is easy. There are about 4-5 illustrations for instructions. Some tools and equipment pieces are also with the kit. It also included plenty of extra projectiles if you wish to make a pile of shells go with it. Two Samaja bombs are also supplied. A few of the tool handles were

warped or over scaled, so I cut them off and replaced them with appropriately sized styrene rod.

I used Lifecolor paint over a pre-shaded coat of black. I sprayed the top sides with a little white to try and lighten the upper color. The wash was Raw Umber oil paint. I liked the Lifecolor paint but I had to strain it thru a tea bag paper as it appeared to have debris in it. Both bottles I bought are like that. Thanks to Bob Ferri for the tip.

I liked the kit and would recommend it to anyone. John Rauscher built the earlier, long barrel version and that looks amazing also.



Picture Of The Month

Corsairs' are a beautiful flying machine! This month's image comes from our own Rich Filteau. If you have an image of interest to the members please submit your image to us.



Boeing EA-18G Growler BuAer 166889 By Rich Filteau

100 Years of Naval Aviation

On January 18, 1911 Curtiss Aeroplane Company Exhibition pilot Eugene Ely made the first landing of a heavier than air craft aboard a naval vessel. Three months later on May 8, 1911 the purchase order for the US Navy's first aircraft, a Curtiss A-1 Triad, was signed. Naval Aviation was born.

100 years later as part of the year long anniversary celebration, the Heritage Paint Project was instituted. Front line Navy aircraft were repainted using camouflage schemes that represented earlier era's aircraft. One of these aircraft was an EA-18G Growler. For a short time during World War II, each carrier's air group was assigned a geometric design that was painted on both sides of the vertical stabilizer and the upper right wing. A lightning bolt was the symbol

for the USS Shangri-La's (CV38) Carrier Air Group 85 (CVG-85), this was chosen for the Growler. The Growler was painted in a historically appropriate three color scheme that was used for a good part of World War II.

I came across this aircraft at the annual Sun N' Fun airshow in 2012 and decided to add a model of it to my collection. Luckily Hasegawa had recently released a model of the Growler in 1/48th scale, kit # 07314 EA-18G Growler 'VAQ-132 Scorpions', and Fighertown Decal offered for sale decal package # 48056 "Navair Centennial



EA-18G 166899



Assigned to : VAQ-129, NAS
Whidbey Island

Mission of aircraft: E/A-18G
FRS

Where painted: NAS
Whidbey Island

Significance of Heritage Paint
Scheme: Circa late 1944,
three tone blue/blue/white.
Markings represent aircraft of
Air Group 85 aboard USS
Shangri-La (CV 34)



Eastern Aircraft TBM Avenger

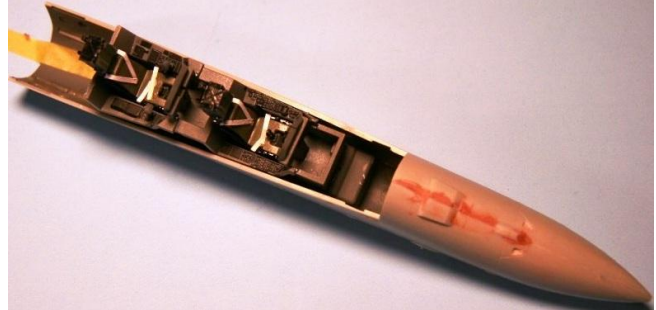
Tri-Tone Trifecta" which includes decals for 6 aircraft of the Heritage Paint Project including Growler 166889 (reference insert above).

Building Hasegawa EA-18G Growler 'VAQ-132 Scorpions', Kit # 07314

The kit consists of 14 grey plastic trees, 1 clear tree, 1 soft plastic tree and the detailed instruction sheet along with decals for two different paint schemes for the same aircraft.

Assembly begins with the cockpit, which consists of 16 parts. The individual parts were air brushed before assembly. Adding to the attraction of the kit were the many decals for all of the instrument panels. I added strips of paper to represent the seat belts.

The cockpit assembly then was assembled into the forward fuselage section. Be careful to pay attention to the special instructions printed on this part of the instruction sheet telling you to fill some holes and sand off some features.



The main fuselage is assembled next, beginning with the ducting for the two engines. These assemblies are then glued to the main fuselage along with several antennae and the main wing center sections. The main fuselage upper and lower halves are then joined and the fuselage nose section is added. A little puttying was required here.



Next, the spoilers and flaps were glued to the wing center sections. I then scanned the instructions for any other pieces that should be assembled before painting.

The landing gear and associated doors were painted while still on their trees. Once dry, they were cut off and any seam lines were cleaned up, assembled and a final coat of white was applied. I then sprayed a couple of coats of Micro Scale gloss on the assemblies and applied the decals to the landing gear.

I then masked off the cockpit area in preparation for painting. The real aircraft is painted to simulate the three color camouflage that was in use for the middle years of World War

Two. Instead of the original Non Specular Sea Blue FS35042, the Growler's upper surface area is painted with FS35052. The vertical surfaces of World War Two aircraft were painted using Intermediate Blue FS35164; on these areas of the Growler FS35240 was used. Finally, the bottom of WWII aircraft were painted white. The bottom of the Growler, along with several other areas, were painted the original color of other EA-18G's, Light Ghost Gray FS363275. The aircraft is a combination of masked off areas and straight line painting with a very fine air brush tip. The Fightertown Decal Instruction Sheet was very helpful in stating that "No direct bottling of FS35052 and FS35240 exist.

However almost perfect matches are found in Testor's square bottles Dark Blue and Flat Blue respectively". These two paint colors were what I used in painting my model. The colors do a great job of matching the colors of the photographs of the real aircraft.

Once the Paint had dried several coats of Microscale

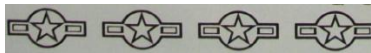


Gloss were applied to the aircraft, and the mixture of the kit and Fightertown Decals were applied. The models was then sprayed with Microscale Flat until the gloss sheen had disappeared.

I tried something new on this model. Usually when painting a aircraft's canopy, I just mask off the outside of the part. This time I masked both the inside and outside. I painted both Testor's Aircraft Interior Black and then painted the exterior color, Testors Dark Blue. I was very happy with the results.

Final assembly involved afixing the canopy using Testor's Clear Parts Cement, using super glue to place the landing gear and painting and attaching the boarding ladder.

This was a great kit to work with and I enjoyed building a scale model that celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Naval Aviation.



Show and Tell

Many higher resolution images can be found on the web site!

John Walker brought in his 1/72nd scale Academy PV-1 Ventura marked for VP8-133 on Iwo Jima in 1945. He built this out of the box, used kit decals and painted with Vallejo paints.





John Rauscher continued his kit bashed masterpieces with his 1/35th scale Wave Models Sturm Kafer assault crab. He added a SU25 3D printed cockpit set, wire antennas, 40 mm chain gun and other accessories. He also added hoses and wires, smoke grenades and miscellaneous other items from his parts box. He used a hairspray chipping technique and added decals from his collection.



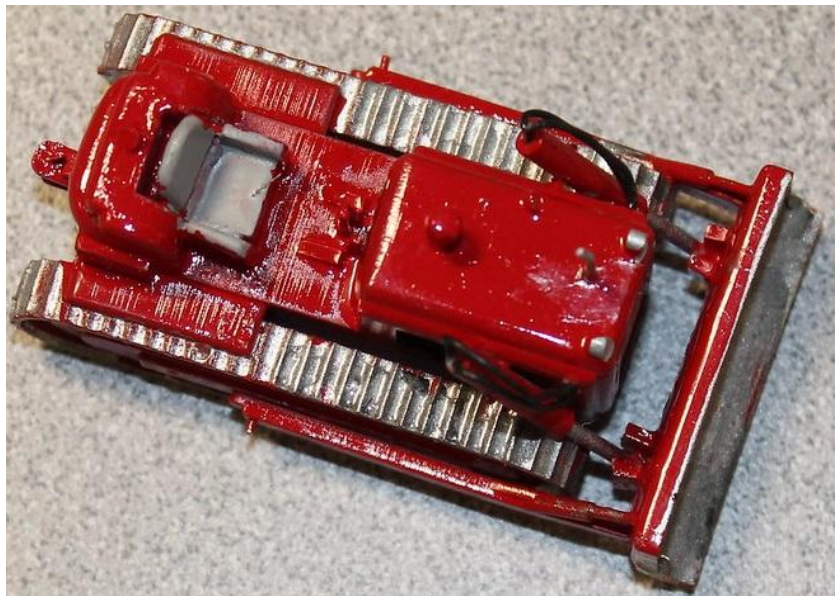
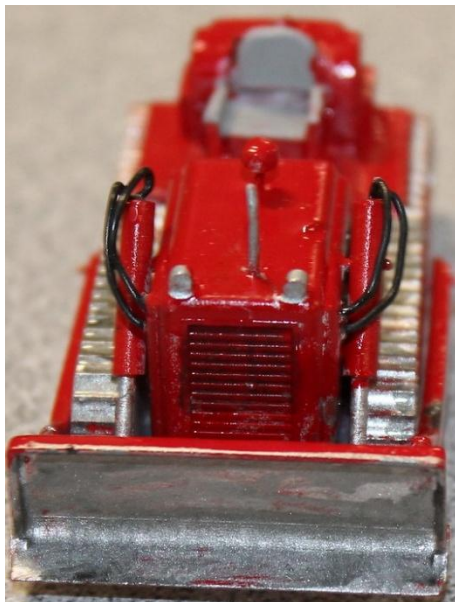
Paul LaBarge built a 1/35th scale Tamiya Flakpanzer Gepard, a West German anti-aircraft tank. He used a single color and is still learning to weather, but didn't apply any weathering to this model.





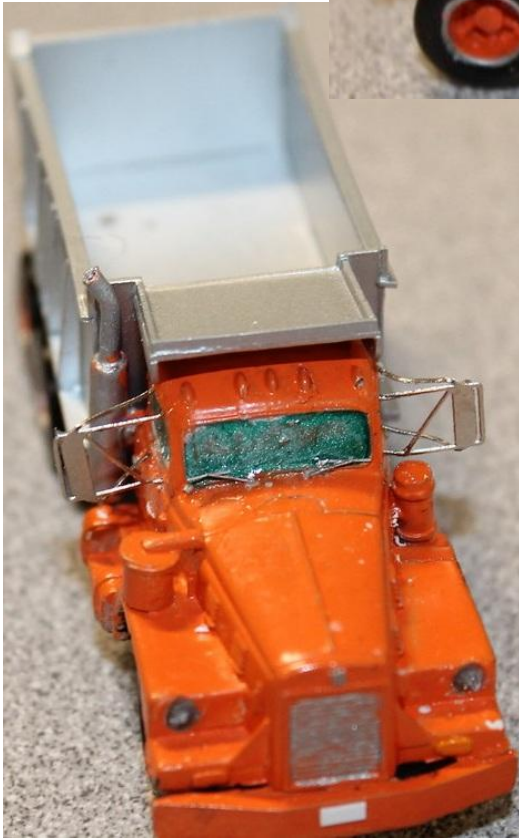
Rich Filteau has produced a 1/48th scale Dora Wings model of a Republic P47-C flown by the great uncle of someone he met through the New Hampshire Air Museum. The pilot crashed this plane in a collision over Mitchell Field. Rich had a copy of the article detailing the incident. He super detailed the model adding decals correct for the plane, including the accurate tail number 41-6553. He stated the amount of detail in this kit is amazing but mostly hidden when finished.

Paul Lessard stepped off in another direction by building a 1/87th scale Yelton Models International TD-14 bulldozer. This kit included a 3D printed tractor and blade, to which he added hydraulics, headlights, exhaust, air cleaner, and tow hitch.





Paul Lessard continued his 1/87th scale offerings with his Sheepscott Models 1961 International dump truck. He scratch built a frame and dump body for this vehicle.



A 1/87th scale Stoney Creek Models 194 Dodge dump truck was Paul Lessard's second offering. He used the kit cab and mated it to a scratch built frame and dump body.





Frank Moore showed us his 1/32nd scale M45 Howitzer Tank. He converted this from a Lindberg M46 tank kit.

A 1/35th scale Monogram "Littlejohn" tactical missile was Frank Moore's second offering. He called this kit a 'Glue Bomb'. He rebuilt the launch trailer and converted the missile from a 1/40th scale tactical missile by Revell.





John Walker also showed his 1/72nd scale Hobby Boss Messerschmitt BF109G-10. He marked it for the Hungarian 101/11 fighter squadron at Veszprem in October of 1944. Built out of the box, he used Aviation USK markings and painted with Vallejo paints.



John Walker's 1/72nd scale Special Hobby Spanish HA1112M-1-L version of the BF109 with a Merlin engine was based on one at Tenerife in the Canary Islands in 1958. He used kit decals and Vallejo Model Air RLM-25 paint. Felt the kit was over-engineered.



For I.P.M.S. membership, go to
MYIPMSUSA.org Membership page
for details and membership forms



Hobby Shop Directory

These are the hobby shops that support us and our efforts year after year. Most give our club members discounts. They support our club contests, and stock the supplies and new kits we crave. Please support them!

Hobbies With A Twist, LLC - 1 Depot St Concord, NH (603-223-0132)



Boomers Books & Empire Models & Molly Stark Bindery - 273 N Stark Hwy
Weare, NH 03281 (603-529-5644) - BoomersBooks.net

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Show And Tell Description Form

We have generated a form for meeting Show and Tell descriptions. This will give us the details needed to post in the newsletter along with images of your models. Ideally, you can print the page and cut out the form to use. We will also get it posted to the web site for download. Copies will be available at the meetings to fill out.

	Builder: _____
	Subject: _____
	Kit Mfg: _____
	Scale: _____
	Description:

GSMC Dues Payment Form

Member Names: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone # : _____

IPMS/USA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes - IPMS Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Dues Are \$20 Per Year For a Single Member And \$25 Per Year For A Family

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