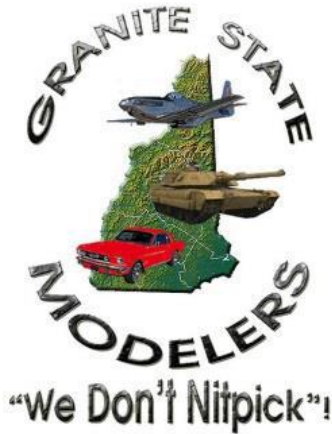




'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club Monthly Newsletter

Website: GraniteStateModelersClub.ORG

Email: GraniteStateModelers@Gmail.com

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IPMS



Meeting Reminders: March 17, 2025, April 15, 2025, May 20, 2025

Weekly Zoom Build Sessions: Sunday, Monday and Wednesdays 6-9pm;

Saturday 1-4pm

Zoom Meeting Link – [GSMC Zoom Meeting](#)

Rod's Ramblings By Rod Currier

It's that time again! Dues are due for the year 2025. We provide a nice membership enrollment form in the newsletter every month. It is easiest for me if you fill that out and give it to me with your payment. That way I get all of the address and e-mail changes that need to be made to the membership list. I will print up new membership cards and bring them with me to this month's meeting. Dues are \$20 per member, or \$25 for the family. Please make your checks out to "Granite State Modelers Club."

I have been working on my kit from the Christmas Yankee Swap. As it turned out, I ended up with the kit I brought and always wanted to build, the 1/48th AMT A-20G Havoc. I guess that is why I originally purchased it! That is the "golden rule" of a Yankee Swap, always bring something that you wouldn't be disappointed to take back home!

It's That Time Of Year!

Dues must be received by July 1, 2025 or your membership will be dropped from the member register and will no longer receive our club newsletter. Only one newsletter will be sent per household, membership form is on the last page of this newsletter.

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.

February 2025 Meeting Notes By Pete Davis

- Meeting opened with 18 members present and two following online.
- We gained two visitors...Mark Bailey, a new arrival in our area, and Mark Levalliere, a neighbor of our members in Weare.
- This is a reminder that **Dues for 2025 are due no later than March 2025**. Dues are still \$20.00 per member and \$25 per family per year. You can use the form included with this newsletter to accompany your renewal fee.
- Secretary Rod Currier reviewed the list of special awards we provide for GraniteCon. These have been renumbered in our category list to facilitate easier handling at awards time. He advised we have also added a new category this year, Day Two Customized, which is to cover models made with any features that could be added to a vehicle over a weekend, such as aftermarket bolt-on parts, and the like.
- President Mac Johnston interjected that we already have a broad spectrum of awards, but have the capacity to be able to expand into more categories with heavier volume of entries, if needed.
- Secretary Rod Currier has been approached by the Plaistow Senior Center for us to do a

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presentation to their seniors on model building as a potential hobby. This is part of their effort to get seniors into more activities beyond the standard options currently available. Mac called for potential volunteers to help with this project and will get a more refined timeline on when they might want us to present this.

- Rod reported that our Gmail account needs to be reset since we currently do not have a recovery option as it is linked to the previous email setup managed by Vincent. This was agreed upon by membership.

- Vice President and Media Coordinator Jason Robidoux has a friend who is redoing our online presence. He is getting close to having it completed. He suggested we also look at creating a new email address so we have a recovery option available.

- Per Treasurer Rich Filteau, the new business cards are finished and were made available to members at the meeting. This is for those who would like to carry some to hand out, should any member run across a person interested in researching us. (Post meeting, Pete Davis advised he had handed out the first card to a guy who saw some of the models we were carrying out at the end of the meeting, right in the library parking lot, and who wanted to know more about the club)

- Treasurer Rich Filteau also read off the deposits for the last period, adding in \$82.00 and paying out \$5.05 for newsletter postage.

- Chuck Converse felt we should have a phone number included on the business cards to enable easier contact with us. Discussion determined that it would be too invasive to member's private numbers, with all the spam calls currently in play. It was decided to continue with the email address and web info for now.

- Newsletter Content Editor Pete Davis again called for submissions to help keep our newsletter relevant and interesting to the membership. These can be emailed to him at granduck@aol.com for review and inclusion in future issues. Any article would need to be submitted two weeks prior to the monthly meeting to be included in that issue.
- Zoom Coordinator Bob Ferri advised that we are now officially doing build sessions four times a week: 6 to 9 PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Sunday, and 1 to 4 pm on Saturday. All are welcome to join in.
- President Mac Johnston advised that he and Pete were planning to work the Hooksett Lions Club annual Train Show in April, as they did last year. He also reminded members that DowneastCon and Wings and Wheels shows are coming up shortly (see the list of shows listed later in this newsletter for details).
- John Rauscher is currently stalled on developing the coins, due to personal commitments.
- President Mac Johnston, who also acts as head judge for GraniteCon, advised he would like to do a judging class prior to our show, to improve our ability to objectively review model entries. The date of the class will be announced, when decided.
- Mac attended the Thornton Antique Groomers Show. There were 60 different machines on display, including snow capable Model T's and snowmobiles. This is the largest turnout they have ever had for this event. Mac advised he did get to ride in a couple of the entries and had fun!
- We congratulate John Cook, whose article on his Cursed Star Fury was published in the latest IPMS/USA Journal. This was the same article as presented in our newsletter a couple months ago.
- Mac and Rod will coordinate trophy packs supported by us for upcoming shows.
- Member Lyn Cushman was in North Carolina on vacation recently, when he ran across a variety of static display aircraft at the Havlock Welcome Center. The planes included an A-6, an F-4 Phantom, and a CH-46 Sea Knight. The center also had detailed interior exhibits on other aircraft and Marine subjects.

February Raffle Winners!

Our meeting raffle winners were Mike Bailey, Ed Mele and Bob Ferri! Congratulations!
Everyone wins! The smiles are getting 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

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.

Monogram's B-17 G Turns 50 By Russell Gosselin

1975 was an extraordinary year. Saigon fell to the Communists, ending a decades long military conflict that left the United States questioning its military might. Bill Gates founded Microsoft. Everyone danced to the Time Warp from the Rocky Horror Picture Show. And speaking of movies, a little-known film maker named Steven Spielberg released a movie about a big fish. And his friend, George Lucas was preparing to take film goes to a galaxy far away with the founding of Industrial Light & Magic. In the music world, a young Canadian rock band named Rush had big dreams of becoming a major headliner as they toured North America with their second album Fly By Night. And of course, the author of this article was born.



Speaking of big dreams, the folks at Monogram were taking a gamble with the release of a quarter scale B-17 Flying Fortress. With a wingspan of twenty-six inches, it was going to be a big kit. But that had never stopped monogram before. Their B-52 had been a success. That being said, a model kit company is like any other business. How does one keep production costs down while still producing a product that attracts buyers? Well who could refuse a Flying Fortress? The B-17 is famous the world over for helping win the Second World War. And every teenager and young adult had seen Gregory Peck in Twelve O'clock High.

Still, the model kit had to be simple enough to build for a teenager and accurate for the serious model builder. The design team at Monogram was in for a challenge. The first task was to get as much information about the actual aircraft as possible. Much to Monogram's surprise, Boeing was more than willing to lend a hand. The story of Boeing's research contribution for the kit has become the stuff of legend in the modeling community. According to Thomas Graham Boeing sent Monogram "the company's illustrated parts breakdown book, the erection and maintenance manual, and the pilot's manual. Plus, a four-inch-thick stack of photos. Plus, a one-quarter scale drawing of the interior. . . ." (Monogram Models, 2006). The task was going to be both exciting and daunting for sure.

Monogram's arrows certainly hit the target. They were able to produce a very accurate model of the B-17 G with a total parts count of just seventy-four. The kit was scheduled to hit the shelves for the Holidays of 1975 with a retail price of \$8.50! Just imagine the look on all those kids faces when they opened the box Christmas morning.

Moreover, Monogram was fortunate enough to have hired a phenomenal model builder named Shep Paine who was changing the modeling world with a level of realism to model making with superb dramatic effect with regards to dioramas. Not only would customers be buying a remarkable model kit of a B-17, but they would also be getting Shep's diorama pamphlet featuring *In The Pink*. A diorama featuring a crashed landed B-17. The



pamphlet did wonders to the imagination. It allowed the modeler to think beyond the box and instruction sheet. It was inspirational and instructional all at the same time. To this day, people collect the kit inserts; some have even been lucky enough to have them signed by the man himself.

Apart from a sleazy (some would call illegal) direct copy of the B-17G by Revell, the Monogram B-17 G had practically no competition from other manufacturers for decades to come. This fueled the aftermarket industry to produce accessories to the monogram kit in the form of photo-etch, brass, and resin parts to make one's B-17 even more detailed. Decal sheets were abundant featuring some of the well-known Fortresses of the war: Nine O' Nine, Little Miss Mischief, American Beauty, and Shoo Shoo Baby just to name a few.

To ask how many un-built kits are still in circulation is to ask how many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop. Who knows? A lot. It is still available at retail stores though I have been lucky enough to find a vintage one at a flea market. But the greatest honor is to acquire one at a model show full of goodies yet to be opened. With the release of HK models' version in 2019, the price of the Monogram B-17G has gone down. But the great debate as to whose kit is better will keep the Monogram kit in competition for years to come.

At 50 years of age, I too have big dreams of finishing all my Monogram B-17G kits. It is my hope that in this Golden Jubilee year of this fantastic kit, model clubs and groups around the world may jump into their individual stashes and start cutting sprue.



Another great image from the Rich Filteau Collection! Thank you Rich!

PETE’S PONDERINGS *By Pete Davis*

One thing I like about winter is that it is a great time to actually be outside and observe details of the topography where ever I happen to be. I started doing this years ago, when I was an active model railroader, looking to understand how railroads fit into the landscape. I could drive around and look for old roadbeds that were not easily seen when summer foliage blocked their view. I could locate railroad cars and observe how they were weathered and grimed, to give myself the basis for replication in my model building. I could also easily see abandoned structures and rail not usually visible otherwise.

If you think about it, though, this process really isn’t limited to model railroaders. Everywhere we go, there are structures and equipment that can be used as examples to model to. Some of the more obvious subjects are related to how roads are designed into a landscape, and how the land was changed to allow for drainage and additional use. How about vehicles that have been abandoned for a while and are being devoured by nature? These are excellent sources of how dirt and rust form over time.

A few less obvious ideas relate to how water flows over a surface and how it carries sediments down the sides of a building or vehicle (also viable for the side of a tank or aircraft). What paths do fluids follow when cascading down a building? Most structures are deliberately constructed to allow for efficient movement of rain away them. Even windows have different visual presentations contingent on the incidence of light striking them at different times of the day. And, how is the topography around the structure graded to allow for additional removal of liquids?

Take a look at your car or truck and see how the dirt and grime released on the tires looks when muddy, or just normally used. What does road dirt do the underside and lower vertical surfaces of your vehicle? How does snow build up around a stationary machine, a tank, for example? This can be extrapolated from how it builds up around your personal vehicle. What elements do you need to include in your model’s presentation to represent winter use or summer swelter? And, don’t forget to look for the various colors of different types of mud.

You can look at old metal buildings and see great examples of how rust forms over the course of time. There are really many variations of color in rust that develop as the metal degrades. Look at concrete and stone structures and see how the surfaces crack and crumble with age. Look for realistic examples of how grasses and weeds surround buildings and curbsides, and how they are really not a uniform green color. See how the surface dirt is blown and splashed up the siding on any vertical surface and how it settles and weathers in.

Want to develop a realistic looking automotive shine? Check out how light forms reflections on the shiny exteriors of cars and trucks, and how the paint fades over time, and replicate it. Look at how oil and grime stain areas of driveways where older autos are routinely parked.

In summer, see how foliage reaches all the way to the ground on the edges of forest areas and how the interior areas are mostly devoid of growth, due to the lack of access to sunlight. Watch how people will interact with the environment, and how weather impacts dirt collecting on their clothing.

These are just a few of the observations you can make as you move through your daily activities. There are way more. They can very directly impact how you represent your subjects when developing your finished build. and are well worth looking into.

Show and Tell

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



A 1/35th scale Ammo by MIG King Tiger is Jason's second work in progress. He has been having issues with the deck being warped, and has found the kit to be very frustrating. This is also out of box.



Jason Robidoux brought in works in progress, the first of which was his 1/35th scale AFV Club M18 Hellcat tank destroyer, based on one at the Heritage Museum in Hudson MA. He is building this out of the box. He found issues with the mounting holes for the side baskets.



John Rauscher displayed his 1/35th scale Ryefield Models Tiger One number 131, to update his progress. He has installed the transmission and engine, fans, and battery cables. He added ammo stencils and scratch built ammo bin covers from brass. His ammo racks on the sponsons are done with Evergreen Plastic.



Mac Johnston has completed his 1/35th scale Vargas Christie 8” Self Propelled Gun. He added a shifter, shuttle clutch, and made spindle arm and tie rod end/shafts, all per blueprints of the actual vehicle. He also changed the suspension for accuracy. He had an issue with having to repair one side after he dropped the model, but it came out okay.



Pete Davis brought in his 1/35th scale Takom Tiger One, Mid Production. He felt this was overly engineered. He replaced the kit tracks with AFV Club and added a Dragon figure. He experimented with creating a very faded looking tank with a heavy dusting of Tamiya Buff and Monroe weathering powders. He added a splash of color with a red rag in the kit's bucket. Paints are Tamiya and Model Color.

Rich Filteau has been working on a 1/48th scale Revell F-86 Sabre jet. He built it out of the box and added MicroScale decals over Tamiya paints to finish it.



Chuck Converse showed off his 1/77th scale Monogram Ford Trimotor. He built and painted it as a World War Two Australian air ambulance in use on New Guinea. The red crosses were hand painted.





A 1/72nd scale Heller BF1089G-14 was John Walker's first display of the evening. Released in 1977, it came as a BF109-K, which he modified. He replaced the machine gun bulges with Academy equals and pulled the drop tank hardware from his spares box. Paints are Polly Scale and Vallejo, decals from Hobby Boss and his spares box. The plane was surrendered by Josif Crkovic in April 1945 in Italy.



John Walker's second offering was his 1/72nd Hasegawa P40D, which he converted from a P40E by eliminating one gun in each wing. The cockpit was Airwaves. He painted with Vallejo and used Airfix decals.



Paul Lessard modified an 1/87th scale Con-Cor 1930 Mack AC Highway Tractor modified from a box van vehicle. He added a winch, license plates, windshield wiper and mirror.



Paul Lessard showed off his 1/87th scale Hauler (Czech Republic) Indian Motorcycle with side car, a very tiny model. He built this out of box.





Frank Moore has added a variety of figures in various vignette poses to a series of small bases. All are 1/35th scale and are ESCI and Italeri. The figures were both done by Frank and other individuals. Subjects are Japanese Infantry, British army and Commonwealth, DAK, and European. Frank spent a great deal of time repairing, touching up, and repainting many of the figures prior to mounting.

Images continued on next page.





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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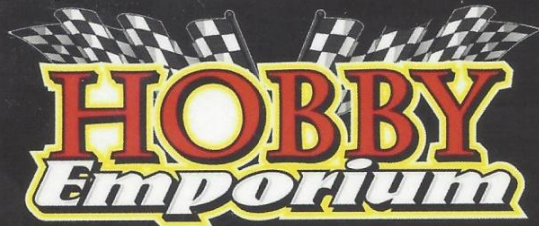
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Show And Tell Description Form

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: _____

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IPMS/USA Member?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes - IPMS Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

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