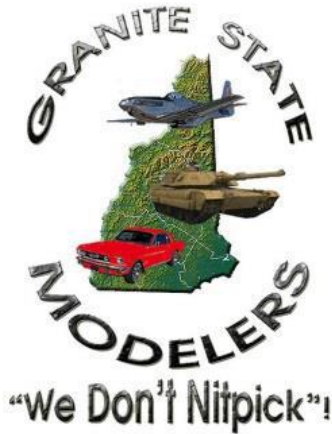




'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club Monthly Newsletter

Website: GraniteStateModelersClub.ORG

Email: GraniteStateModelers@Gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook: Granite State Modelers Club /
IPMS



Meeting Reminders: April 21, 2025, May 19, 2025, June 16, 2025

Weekly Zoom Build Sessions: Sunday, Monday and Wednesdays 6-9pm;
Saturday 1-4pm **Zoom Meeting Link – [GSMC Zoom Meeting](#)**

From My Bench

Hello Fellow Members

Well its show time again!!!!!! Our members have been busy at the first few shows. We as a collective, have seen some really nice work by our fellow modelers. At DowneastCon we had 12 members show up. Some just visited and others competed. I am very proud of the club and the models we put on the tables. We have some great talent among us. Others that don't partake in the shows are also equally talented in their craft but can't be penalized for doing their own thing.

We have CanAmCon coming up this weekend in Williston Vt. I know some of us are going to make the trip north, to also compete and support them as they come to our show.

On another note, I would like to mention that the monthly meeting Show and Tell is supposed to be about our OWN built models and not purchased, borrowed, or gifted built models from other sources. If somebody is sick and can't make it, then you may show theirs, if they desire.

We need some more contributors and articles for the news letter. We have had the usual backbone of authors providing content for a few years, now and it would be nice for a few others to jump in, even if it's just a short review, a building tip, modeling experience or weathering or painting advice. It all helps the cause and keeps us in the running for any award.

I hope some of you have gotten flyers out to some of the shops by now. We have gotten them to the shows for distribution, and that helps a lot!

For those armor fans, the new Miniart German RSO's are out. All new and they look really good. Check them out. Lyn and I have some on order.

So, keep building, and watch out for those pesky cuts.

President Mac

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.

March 2025 Meeting Notes By Pete Davis

- Meeting opened by President Mac Johnston, discussing three upcoming shows; DowneastCon, ValleyCon and the Hooksett Lions Club Model Train Show. Mac and Pete will participate in this one, anyone else that is interested please contact Mac.
- We had 17 member present, plus one online.
- There was no Vice President report as he was absent.
- Zoom Coordinator Bob Ferri reported the scheduled weekly Zoom sessions are mostly well attended. Impromptu sessions fill out most of the other days of the week, so check it out; there is someone on almost every day of the week. To get on the notification list on Whatsapp, reach out to John Rauscher to get added to the Whatsapp Zoom notification list.
- It was mentioned that the Heritage Museum has an original Pearl Harbor P40 on display, seen by those attending the monthly AMPS build session there.

- Secretary Rod Currier brought up the proposed educational seminars for the seniors at the Plaistow NH Senior Center. The available time slot is 9 am to 1 pm, anytime during the summer. He will follow up with them as we get closer.

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Social Media Coordinator

VP Jason Robidoux

- The IPMS Regional Zoom session is coming up. This is typically attended by Mac and/or Rod.

- Show fliers have been produced. Pete Davis offered to deliver some to Hobby Emporium. Jim Rondos is attending a car show and will provide some there. Bob Ingalls will deliver some to Doubleplay Hobbies.

- Treasurer Rich Filteau advised we deposited \$140.00 in our account and paid out \$4.04.

- It was stated that Ed Mele needs to contact the gentleman offering the Guillows kit to arrange a pickup when he returns to NH.

- President Mac Johnston reviewed the new car class for the show (any aftermarket parts that can be added within a two day period to real car). Tom Shanahan asked for and received a description of how that new class will work.

- John Rauscher was unavailable so there was no new information on the coin handouts.

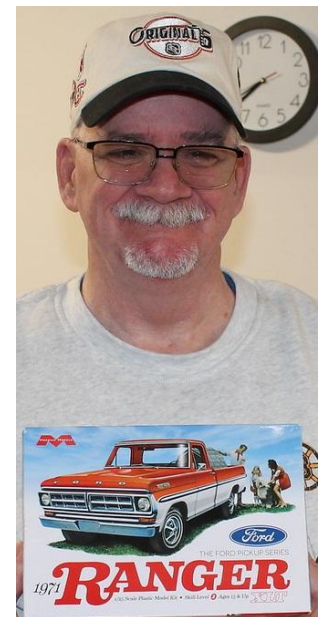
- President Mac Johnston supplied new car kits to the club raffle. He purchased them out of pocket and has donated them with the stipulation that the club reimburse him for the kit value when any of them are selected as a raffle prize, at \$20 per kit. If they don't get selected, he will take them back, after a reasonable time.

- It was suggested that we all look for kits at the shows that are reasonably priced to donate to the club kit raffle.

- President Mac Johnston bought the offered Roco and 1/72nd Airfix kits and builds, for \$50, and will pick them up shortly.
- President Mac Johnston polled the group to see if any of the Yankee Swap kits were being built and most reported they were working on their winnings.
- President Mac Johnston mentioned that Vargas Models has released a 1/35th scale resin Model T snowmobile kit.
- President Mac Johnston also mentioned the March Ponderings article as a great incentive to add detail to builds.
- Chuck Converse delivered a prepared statement about leaving the club due to differences in opinion on some issues. He feels he needs to leave the club as a result and is planning to concentrate on his flea market business. We wish he changes his mind as he is a club asset with his 29 years of club participations. He will be missed for his knowledge of model kit history and kit manufacturers as well.

March Meeting Raffle Winners!

Our meeting raffle winners were Bob Ingalls, Brett Morrison and Tom Shanahan! Congratulations!
Everyone wins! The smiles are getting better for the Best Raffle Winner Smile picture!



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.

North American P-51D Mustang 'Checkertail Clan' By Rich Filteau

During the summer of 2009 I had the pleasure of attending “The World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration” for the first time. Four days were spent at the EAA Airventure 2009 Convention immersed in all things aviation. One of the big attractions was the large collection of Warbirds present. I came home with hundreds of pictures of various aircraft types, B-17 Flying Fortresses, B-25 Mitchells, AT-6 Texans and images of 16 individual P-51 Mustangs.



One of these Mustangs stood out from the rest because of the “Checkertail” scheme applied to its tail surfaces. This highly polished airplane is a North American P-51D-30-NA Mustang. It was built with USAAF serial # 44-74446 and first served with the Royal Canadian Air Force as 9223. It served with the RCAF until the late ‘50s then going through several hands until the certificate was transferred to Nathan R Davis on July 16, 2001



In 2003 the aircraft was painted to represent a Mustang of the 325th Fighter Group which was known as the "Checkertail Clan". The Checkertail Clan was activated at Mitchell Field, New York on August 3, 1942. Training was completed using the Curtiss P-40 Warhawk. On April 17, 1943 the group joined the 12th Air Force in Tunisia. At this time they were flying Republic P-47 Thunderbolts which were their mounts until May of 1944 when they were re-equipped with North American P-51 Mustangs. The group finished the war fighting in the Italian Campaign.



The individual scheme chosen for this Mustang honors Major Herschel H. Green. Major Green, later Colonel Green, was the leading ace in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations with 18 kills in the air plus 10 more on the ground. He was an ace in both the Thunderbolt and the Mustang. He went on to fly 100 combat missions and retired from the Air Force in 1964. He published his memoirs in the book "Herky, The Memoirs of a Checkertail Ace".

To build my representation of "Checkertail Clan" I used Revell's 1/48th scale P-51D Mustang kit # 85-5241. The model was built mostly straight out of the box. I did add paper strips to the seat assembly to represent seat belts. I also removed the antenna mast and replaced it with a piece of .016" wire to more closely represent the current antenna. I also replaced the kit spinner and propeller with an Ultracast # 48136 "P-51 Mustang Hamilton Standard Cuffed 4-Blade Propeller & Spinner".



Once assembled, I still faced the painting and decaling of the model. I do not do a lot of bare metal finishing on my models, so there is and continues to be a learning curve. The real aircraft, like a lot of today's Warbirds, has an almost chrome finish. I wanted my model to have this same appearance so I consulted with my local hobby shop, The Hobby Emporium.



It was suggested that I use Rust-Oleum Specialty Metallic Silver. I was able to find this at Michael's Arts and Crafts. This paint is a lacquer. I discovered that lacquers should not be applied over enamels, so I was careful to paint the main portion of the model then mask off the areas that need to yellow or olive drab. When first painted the model did have the chrome look that I desired, but once I followed my usual method of applying Future before decals the chrome effect was not so visible.



The Checkertail decals were used from Eagle Strike Productions sheet #48-092 "Checkertail Clan". The kit decals were used for the National Insignia, walkways and various maintenance markings on the aircraft. The data blocks, FAA # NL1451D and the #11 were all custom made using Photoshop Elements, my inkjet printer and Clear Decal film purchased from Micro Mark. Once printed the decals were over sprayed with Microscale Liquid Decal Film. I first thinned the Decal Film with alcohol then it was applied in increasingly heavy coats.

Overall, the model is a fair representation of a beautiful P-51 Mustang. I do have to work on my technique for achieving the chrome finish of many of today's warbirds.



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.

The State Of The Zoom Update By Bob Ferri

I started the Zoom Build Sessions during the Covid days to connect with fellow club members when meetings were suspended. While I had been back into regular modeling for a few years, I was lacking in painting and weathering skills. I saw the Zoom building sessions as an opportunity to gather information and techniques from my fellow modelers to ultimately improve my skills. My ulterior motive became to “steal” everyone’s secrets!

Since then, the Zoom sessions have grown to as many as 13 people. We typically average 4 to 6 people, with Sunday evening being the best attended session of the week. At one point we utilized text messaging to find others interested in a Zoom session outside the normally scheduled sessions. What we found was there were limitations with text groups. I think it was John R. who found that the encrypted text application Whatsapp would allow us to build and modify groups. So that became our communications app for notifying others of a desire to Zoom.

We set up a list of our regular Zoomers and off we went. If Scotty or anyone else wanted to Zoom they could just send a Whatsapp group text out to see who was interested. We also use it to announce the start of sessions.

When members joined their first Zoom modeling session they often did not understand how it would work expecting the sessions to be dark, quiet and awkward. Once they experienced a session they found it to be quite different, very interactive, welcoming, almost like an online forum exchanging information and ideas.

Two of our members were quite new to modeling and they found the level of expertise on the sessions almost daunting, threatening to put on their “Mickey Mouse Ears” to feel in place. We nurtured these two individuals to the point that one of them brought his first ever tank build to our show and placed. This was a car guy with good skills and I think he surprised himself with the skill development and the results with a placed finish in his armor class.

So there are many benefits to the sessions beside the camaraderie and ability to show off your work in progress. Junior builders have greatly improved their skills through the sessions. An additional benefit is the access it gives to club members that can’t make regular meetings and shows. Scott Mallett is up in Bartlett NH, hours away. Scott also has mobility issues that limit his access to shows and meetings. Zoom has connected Scotty to all of us as well as our California member Derek. So the connections may benefit everyone in a different way.

So, what are you waiting for? This is a great opportunity to connect and get to know everyone outside of a meeting or show. If you are interested you can search Whatsapp for the “Granite State Zoom Builds” or contact John Rauscher to get on the notification list.

Now go sniff glue!

M1070/M1000 HET WIP Update By Bob Ferri

We started the M1070/M1000 Group build in February 2024. My progress has been at a slower pace than others due to the added detailing I have endeavored to include in this build. Why add all that detail to a great kit to begin with?

I found this kit on EBay maybe 10 years ago. The listing only included the kit but by studying the images I could see various aftermarket kits buried in there. I bid on it and won it for a good price, definitely not acknowledging the aftermarket components. Once I received it and did an inventory I realized it had all the aftermarket available at that time for the kit. It contained resin wheel sets, cab up armor kit, transmission and PE for the tractor. It also included the chain binding kit, MV lenses and a pre-painted interior cab PE kit including seat belts. The only significant item it did not have as the resin engine kit. I purchased the engine and a PE set for the trailer to round out the detail sets. As it was this was well over 1200 pieces!

Am I insane? Yes, but not related to this...

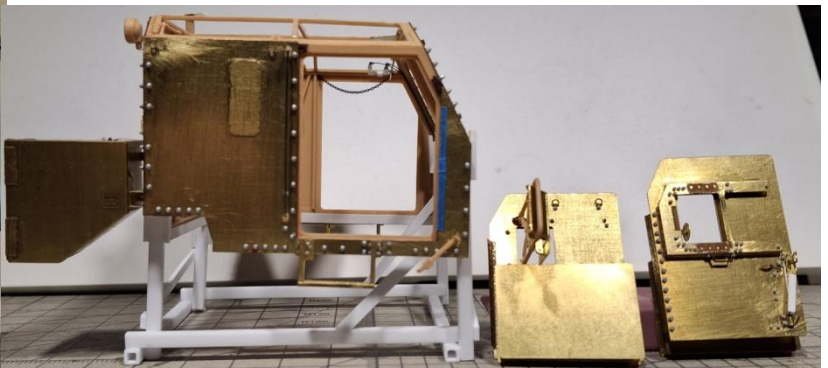
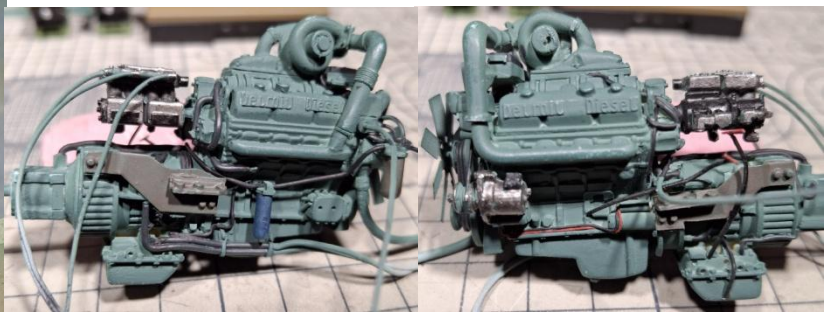
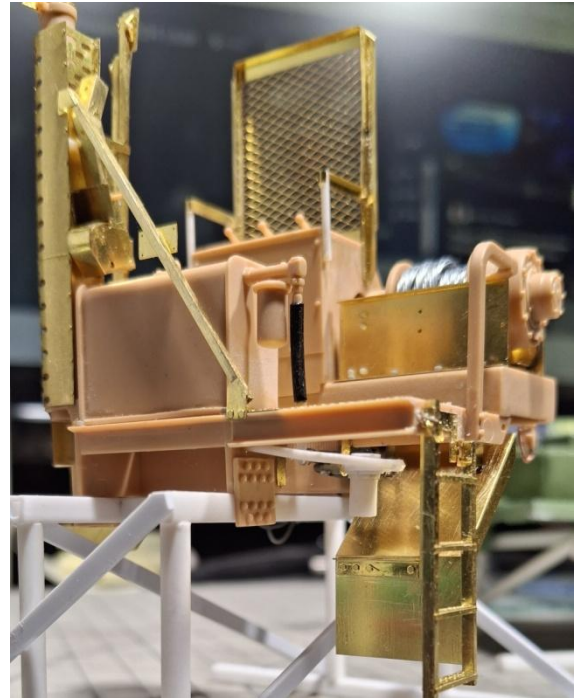
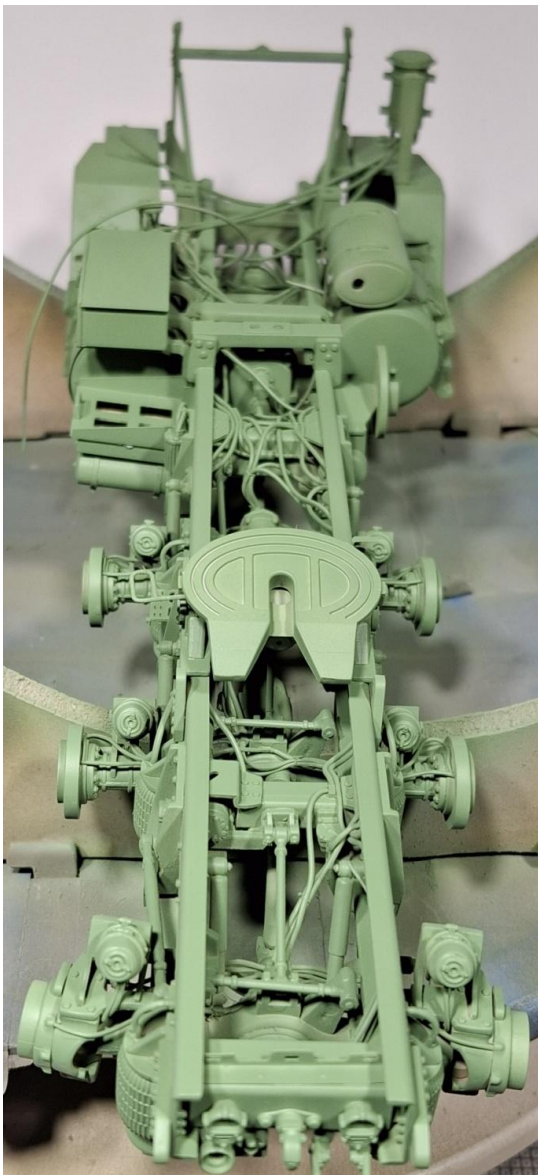
With such an extraordinary kit I felt I needed to add some obvious things you would normally see when viewing this vehicle in real life. That meant air lines for the brakes and hydraulic system hoses in the engine compartment, all of which sit within view. Into the tech manuals I did dive, coming up with all the information

on these systems. I employed rubber leg material from my fly tying realm to replicate hoses. These are made of rubber, are round, flexible, and available in a number of sizes.

At this stage the tractor components are mostly complete, with some of the hose connections waiting for the engine to be installed. I have primed and painted the chassis and sub assembled the cab base, cab shell, winch assembly and engine. Most are waiting time to devote to applying more paint. The cab base and shell must be painted before the interior can be finished, putting in the seats and belts and any crew accessories I decide to add prior to attaching the shell the base. The exterior will then be painted in desert sand prior to attaching to the frame. The frame assembly will need to be pre painted also, as it will be in Euro standard camo, reflected in many in-theater HET images.

Here are some images of my progress so far. Will it be finished by GraniteCon? I don't think so, the trailer is a big build in itself. It is very well detailed so I will only be adding some PE, not much else.

Build on!



PETE'S PONDERINGS *By Pete Davis*

Over the past few months, I have been building a number of pieces of armor, all of which require a lot of attention to detail. I have mostly been successful, until it comes to assembling tracks. It doesn't matter whether I am tackling link and length varieties, or individual links. I seem to be struggling with them, regardless of the type. I also seem to fight mounting grab handles and other tiny components to the tank hulls. My carpet monster has seen more of some of them than I have.

The tracks are really nothing more than a model-within-a-model, for the most part. I just haven't been able to wrap my head around getting them together successfully. However, for once, on my current tank, a Hobby Boss King Tiger, I decided to experiment, challenging myself to actually make a set of kit tracks workable, in spite of myself.

On some of my previous builds, I bought aftermarket AFV Club tracks and substituted them for the kit offerings, as they seemed to be a bit easier to handle. I still ended up turning them into link and length setups to make my assembly process easier. I had mixed results. The AFV Club tracks I used had a plastic that seemed to be resistant to my favorite adhesive, Tamiya Extra Thin, until I learned to give them enough time to set up.

On the Hobby Boss track links I am now building, I decided to take a different approach. As most of my issues on the previous assemblies seemed to mostly revolve around two specific concerns...impatience and lack of attention to the instructions...it seemed a good idea to step back and go at the current set with more focus.

To my surprise, not only are the kit tracks going together better than I expected, but the assembly process is yielding excellent results. These tracks consist of four parts...a tread section, a connecting section, and two guide horns which hold the whole works together. I have taken to being more attentive as to how the parts mate, spending more time on cleanup than I usually do, and reading the instructions more closely. I have also taken my time in making sure that my adhesive doesn't get on the hinge points of the guide horns. I put together ten sections and let them dry thoroughly before adding additional sections.

The end result is that my tracks all move like they are supposed to, for once!

I think the key element of my approach, that is helping most, is my allowing myself to be more patient and not rush the build. There is plenty of time to finish, and I am finding a lot of satisfaction in just letting the build proceed at its own pace. Patience is the key. Gotta remember that in future builds!

Zoom Session Etiquette Review

Please employ these best practices for an enjoyable Zoom session for all. Please mute under the following circumstances: Phone calls - Discussions with those in the background not involving the zoom audience - Loud tool usage, such as sanding, grinding, or filing. Vulgarity and cussing are not allowed, you never know who is in the background listening.

Coming Events of Interest

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

Show and Tell

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



Chuck Converse showed his 1/48 scale classic Aurora Nieuport 28. He had difficulty getting the decals to lay down, as they were old and thick and took a long time to release. He rigged the model to complete the build.



Pete Davis continued his exploration of unique subjects with the Xplus Models Machinenmensch (mechanical woman) from the Fritz Lang 1927 silver screen masterpiece “Metropolis”. This mechanical suit was originally a prop to be worn by the female actress as part of the plot. The model’s armor was designed to fit over a woman shaped armature. It did have issues which required modifications to the arms to allow the armor to fit correctly. It was painted with Mr. Surfacer black and covered with Tamiya gold.





Rod Currier provided a beautiful 1/48th AMT A20G Havoc he got as his Yankee Swap build. This kit needed a lot of TLC, sanding, and filling, to build into its current form. He reworked the paint twice. He added dental X-ray lead for weight. The landing gear was a challenge to assemble and mount. He used the Green Hornet markings from the 675th squadron, 417th bomb group in New Guinea.



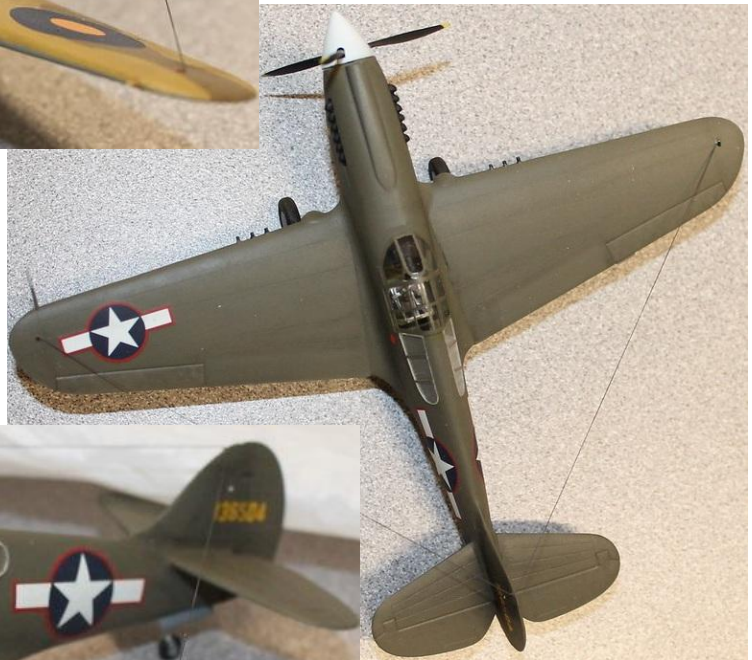
John Walker also showed his Hasagawa 1/72nd scale Kittyhawk MK1A, built out of the box. He added Vallejo Model Air paints and added kit decals from another kit. This aircraft served in North Africa in 1942.



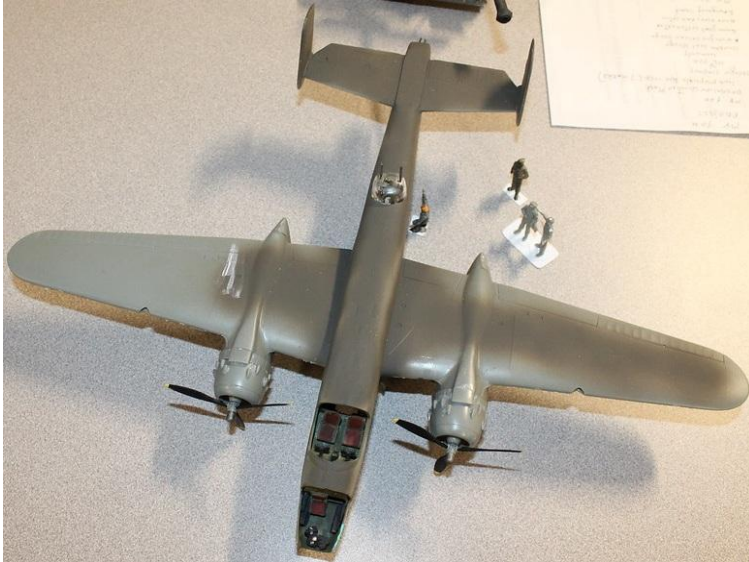
John Walker brought his KZ (Czechoslovakian) 1/72nd Kittyhawk Mark 3. He build this out of box, but added a fuel tank from Hasegawa. He used Vallejo Model Air paints and Aero Master decals. This aircraft served in North Africa in 1942 with the SAAF.



A 1/72th scale Hasegawa P40E with an added tail fillet was another John Walker creation. He added the tail fillet using .80 plastic card. He used Vallejo paints and added DK and Kitworld decals. This represents an aircraft used by the US in 1942/1943.



Frank Moore came with his Monogram Revell 1/48th scale B25B modified from a B25J kit, marked as the 'Ruptured Duck', to replicate a plane flown from the USS Hornet as part of the Doolittle raid,. This work in progress has a lot of changes, including modifying gun positions, and other attributes.



Frank Moore scratch built a unique turret to change a Monogram 1/35th scale M48 tank into a 'what if' YDH tank. He added wheels from a Tiger 1-E German tank, and various other parts came from his parts box. This vehicle never made it past the drawing boards in real life.



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
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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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