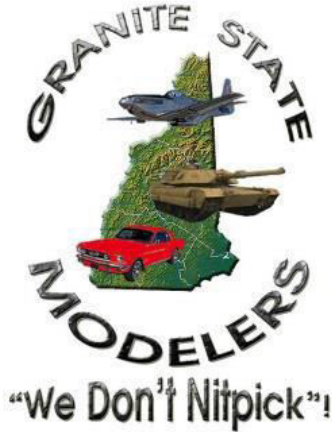




'The Instruction Sheet'

IPMS / Granite State Modelers Club Monthly Newsletter

Website: GraniteStateModelersClub.ORG

Email: GraniteStateModelers@Gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook: Granite State Modelers Club /
IPMS



Club Meeting Reminders: August 17, 2026, September 21, 2026, October 26, 2026

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

Saturday 1-4 pm; Zoom Meeting Link – [GSMC Zoom Meeting](#)

From My Bench

Hello Fellow Members!!

In my absence, I heard we had two new possible members. Great news!! I hope I get to meet them and find out if we as a club can give them any help and see what they want from the club. I'm hoping that the answer is longevity.

So, some of the members know I ventured South to compete in a regional show in North Carolina. I met some nice folks and saw a few things that we will never do. All in all, it was a decent show... possibly 300 entries. It's a smaller show due to the geography, as I'm told. I did pick up a few tips for us to try at our show. The weather was around 100 degrees, so that was a bit uncomfortable.

Let's keep in mind our picnic is coming up soon. An email will be sent out if it hasn't already to get some idea for the club and Bob of what folks will bring and a last-minute headcount. We also need to do an anti-rain dance. We've had great weather almost every time.

Raffle for the show is also a big deal. As most know, we look to the membership to supply that with some inactive kits or ones we don't have the hype for now. We appreciate the donations, as the raffle brings in a good portion of our income.

The next subject is old but very important. SELL TROPHY PACKS PLEASE!! We don't get them sold; we don't pay the bill. Each year I ask to do this, and we seem to get it done at the last minute. That's ok, but please try to help and not leave it to the same ones who sell a lot. Even one helps.

Well, I'll see you next meeting, so bring in a kit for show and tell. It can be built or in progress. We all appreciate seeing what we're all doing behind closed doors.

Lastly, this month we're going to start doing a little judging practice at the end of the meeting for those who are interested. Those who aren't may leave, as I'm not going to hold anyone hostage. It's not for everyone, but we need to be able to control the way we would like to be judged. Thank you, and get building!! Please ;=)

The Pres

IPMS/GSMC meets for our general membership meeting on the third Monday night (4th Monday in January, February, and October) 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 kit raffles are held at each meeting.

Pete's Ponderings by Pete Davis



One of the many things I am rediscovering, as my recovery from heart surgery progresses, is a newfound joy in building models I can finish with minimal effort. I am primarily focusing on some of the great anime kits that Bandai has on the market, for the moment. These provide a finished appearance without additional color treatments, and are designed to be sophisticated in assembly and articulation. They provide a simple platform on which to build a basic finished model, with the future capacity to be modified and painted, if you choose.

This means I can sit down at my bench for a couple hours at a stretch, and effortlessly put together a kit that will satisfy me, and offer me much entertainment value. I know many of you are already familiar with these conceptual kits. However, you may see them as just models that are directed toward kids who are familiar with the entire genre of anime. You may be discounting them as not worth a second look, as a result.

But, look at what they provide. The parts are mounted on standard-style sprue trees, but are molded in multiple colors on the same framework. That makes for a colorful series of components, which can be combined into functional sub-assemblies, with easily integrated colored parts. The engineering on these kits is beyond belief! The parts are designed to very tight tolerances, and fit together precisely. The assembly diagrams on some kits are multi-colored, so you can easily understand parts placement and function. In essence, they are trouble-free builds when complete.

There are even many Star Wars subjects available, both figures and starships, if you are inclined to lean in that direction. The list of kit titles is growing every day!

I know you are thinking that you know little about the various characters that thrive in an anime environment. If you look at videos of the various Comic Cons, it is mind-boggling as to the wide variety of people and creatures that inhabit the anime world! Frankly, I am just as 'anime ignorant' as most of you. I can't tell you anything about the backstories of any of the models I am building. That hasn't stopped me from taking on some of these projects, however. I may not know what a Gundam is, but I like how these kits become great three-dimensional representations of what are, essentially, two-dimensional animated drawings.

I think my biggest draw is the fun factor. These are no-pressure builds that are not intended for competitions (at least, not on my level). They go together easily enough that I don't need to put much thought or effort into them. They are great to knock together during our club Zoom build sessions, needing no adhesives to facilitate completion. It is really neat to see science fiction concepts appear on my bench and display on my shelves, alongside the tanks, planes, and other such more intricate and finished projects. These can definitely hold their own in such august company visually.

To be sure, I am still working on standard plastic modeling subjects. But these Bandai offerings are a great counterpoint to the intense attention needed to finish a tank or plane. I try now to keep at least one or two Bandai kits handy, should I need to alternate from waiting for paint to dry or glue to set up on more intense projects. It truly is a joy to work through one of these kits and see the final result.

Modelers Tip By Pete Davis

During our last meeting I mentioned using liquid weight to add balance to aircraft with tricycle gear. The actual name is Liquid Gravity, made by Deluxe Materials. It is very tiny ball bearings, smaller than BBs, and comes in a pour bottle. I get it from Amazon. It is easy to add to aircraft, and conforms to the inside, just the thing where space is limited.

Rod's Ramblings by Rod Currier

We have started to sell trophy packs for GraniteCon 33. Trophy packs are still \$25 each. We have twenty-seven still up for grabs. The “Special Awards” are \$35 each or 3 for \$100. The “Best in Show” is usually sponsored by NUCAR and goes for \$100. I have purchased both the “Dan Belcher” and “Jack Sutcliffe” awards to honor the memory of my departed friends. That leaves six “specials” still available. The quicker we sell these, the easier our planning becomes, because trophy sales and vendor table sales are how we finance our contest. I now have the trophies in my possession.

I went to Haverhill, MA last month to pick up some models that were donated to us for the raffle at GraniteCon by the son of the owner, who passed away. There is a selection of cars and ships. Some of the ships are Aurora kits and somewhat collectable. One of these is the USS Enterprise nuclear aircraft carrier, which I built as a youngster and sent on its final voyage down the Merrimack! Chuck told me he sold one for over \$100 a few years ago. If you want it, buy some tickets! I have gone through the open ones to make sure the parts are there. As expected, most of the parts were off the sprues, so I put them in plastic sandwich bags. I brought the kits that had been started to the July meeting, where they were scooped up by members.

Be sure to check your stashes for models to contribute to the GraniteCon raffle. They should be complete and buildable. If a kit lacks, let's say decals, please put a note on the box. No boxes of spare parts or kits missing parts, thank you. Reference books are also welcome, as are full aftermarket decal sheets, supplies, and tools. The better and bigger the raffle looks, the more tickets we sell, and the more we take in for the club!

Don't forget to get your Yankee Swap builds done for the September meeting. A random drawing will be held for a gift certificate. You have to bring in your completed model to qualify! Same goes for the Monogram B-17 display at GraniteCon. A random drawing for a gift certificate will be held to be awarded to someone who participates.

Last, but not least, don't forget the club cookout is scheduled for the day before the August meeting (August 16). Be sure to let Bob Ferri know what you are going to bring to share. Yes, I will bring some of my “moonshine” wine. Also remember that wives and significant others are welcome! This is a social event to show that we have other interests and don't bite! If the weather doesn't cooperate, the rain date is August 23rd.

Keep sniffing that glue! See you on August 17th, if not the day before at our outing!

The Secretary

My Modeling History by Rod Currier

My modeling history. Wow! I guess I can go way back to the early 1960s when I was 8 or 9. My older brother used to build cars. I am, and have always been, an airplane guy. But was I interested! I remember asking for a model airplane, and my parents gave me a vinyl toy jet. Boy, was I angry! I wanted to build a kit to play with, not a toy....

My first real memory of building a model was when I was “lucky” enough to have chickenpox on my birthday. My parents actually bought me a model Spitfire! I think it was the Monogram Mk IX kit. I may have been as sick as a dog, but I loved building that model!

Soon after, I took over my brother's paper route (I am really dating myself, eh) and had some pocket money. I remember going to Zyla's, Leavitt's department store, Woolworths dime store, and the holy grail at that time for models, NH Buyers Service; all in Manchester, NH, where I grew up. NH Buyers Service became “Toy City” after a few years, and got the newer releases. Yup, I remember the whole line of Monogram “working features” kits... an SBD that dropped the bomb, an Avenger that dropped the torpedo, etc. I remember the Aurora Zero in yellow, the Me-109 in purple, and the Fw-190 in black. As I got older, Monogram put out a P-38 that, if you left some glue off the struts and cut a notch in the wing, you could make the main gear retractable!

Soon, I put my electric train back in the box, and started using my plywood train table as my model-building workbench and display area. Down in the basement, of course. I was friends with Dan Belcher and Ken Morse,

and we all built. Almost all boys growing up in that time built models and played Little League baseball. My friends were also in my Boy Scout troop. Camping trips, merit badges, good times. I remember meeting up with Dan on Elm Street, buying a model, and rushing home (he lived a couple of blocks away) to see who could finish their model first.

Watching Twelve O'clock High, and exclaiming "look at that one go down" and being admonished by one of our dads who reminded us that "ten men just died in that airplane." But at the same time, they were both Air Corps veterans who understood our plane craziness. Ken's dad was younger and was in the Navy, stationed at South Weymouth Naval Air Station. He brought us to the base to see the Blue Angels a couple of times, and thinking back, it was probably vendors set up in the big balloon hangar selling models where I bought my first Neptune kit. The hangar had the nose of a Neptune mounted in it, and we all had to buy one! Since the Blues were flying Tigers at the time, we got those, too.



My brother-in-law at my bench 1965



My B-29 hanging at "606" circa 1980s

As many boys moved into high school and stopped building models, Dan and I never stopped. Due to other activities, we might have slowed down a bit, but we still built models. I know I didn't get into some of the trouble a couple of my other friends did...

During my college years, I didn't have time to build anymore. Between classes, working twenty-five to thirty hours a week, and extracurricular activities (social life), modeling slipped away. I think it was around my junior year that I noticed an issue of "Scale Modeler" on the magazine rack at a local bookstore. It had a model of a Me-110 on the cover, and I was intrigued. I bought that issue, and many more after.

My senior year, my girlfriend and I lived in an off-campus apartment, and I started building again. I sent away for what I believed was probably the first catalog that Spare Time Shop put out. Boy, reading that we "have everything" really got me interested. I was a bit disappointed when I got to the store with a long list and found out that most of the models I wanted were nowhere in sight. I got a few 1/32nd Hasegawa kits, but no Tomy Zero or other goodies I was hoping for. So much for having "everything made."

After doing the marriage thing for the first time, and only a job and not a job and school together, I had spare time and started building again. I became a regular at "606" in Manchester and actually had some of my models hanging from the lights there. I remember when "606" started carrying models from Otaki. I just had to have those 1/48th Japanese fighters they made. I put them all on layaway and took one or two home at a time. I got an airbrush for Christmas and started to make models that looked so much better than my old hand-brushed jobs. Remember those cans of air? I do! Didn't take too long to buy a cheap compressor.

Anyway, kids came along, and the modeling took a back seat to LIFE! One day, our store hired a new meat cutter, Jack Sutcliffe. We got to be really good friends fast, and one day he mentioned that he started building

models after he had had a heart attack. I showed him a few of my models, and he showed me some of his. We were talking models one day while we were getting a delivery from Associated Grocers. Turns out that the truck driver, Vincent Farruggio, Jr, also built models and belonged to an actual club! He invited us down to a club meeting, and our association with the Granite State Modelers Club began. We walked in about half an hour late, but were warmly greeted by Vincent, Tony D’Anjou, Ed Broderick, Frank Moore, and many others that night. Jack had mentioned that he bought many of his kits by mail order from Ideal Model Company in Epping, NH. We walked in, and there was my old buddy, Dan Belcher, who owned Ideal Model! Talk about fate. Dan became my new source for models, and always gave me a big discount. Thus, my stash...

Since Vincent got us to go to a GraniteCon at the hotel in Nashua, I figure it was around 1992. We became fairly active in the club soon after. I was then divorced with custody of three boys, and those Monday night meetings became my night out. After a few years, Vincent, who was secretary of the club after Dan Belcher, needed a volunteer to help with the newsletter. I volunteered, and when Vincent got a new job where he could no longer make meetings (around 2006), I took over the position and never looked back!

One of the big things about joining our club was that I started to become a better modeler. Things I never bothered worrying about (like seams) started to become important to me. Trying to get color schemes correct instead of making up my own, and actually masking canopies so they looked really good became second nature to me. I actually started to take home a few awards at contests! I was the secretary in the days when the secretary wrote the newsletter by himself, with an occasional article (in particular Pete’s Ponderings) offered up by another member. The newsletter at that time was snail-mailed to everyone. I usually had it ready for the print shop by Tuesday evening for printing on Wednesday, and spent Wednesday evening collating, folding, stuffing envelopes, addressing, and finally getting them in the mail first thing on Thursday so everyone got “The Instruction Sheet” by Friday the week before the meeting. Thank heavens Karolee helped! Needless to say, my modeling time suffered a bit. With Bob Ferri taking over as publisher, I only have to distribute and contribute articles each month. He and Pete Davis do the heavy lifting. The envelope stuffing is now down to three a month!

When I retired, I figured I would be pumping out at least a couple of models a month, instead of one every month or so. It started that way, but since my daughter and son-in-law moved in around four years ago with the grands, my output is back to one model every couple of months. Some weeks it seems that the only time I get to build is on the Saturday Zoom session! And sometimes I miss that due to family obligations. But I still plug away. I have three in the pipeline now. The grands are getting older and not as demanding of our time, so things are looking up for more time at the bench. I remember when Jack Surcliffe retired, he was finishing around three models a month. I hope for two! It sure helps when the wife supports me in my hobby. She enjoys helping out at GraniteCon, and never gets upset when I purchase a kit or supplies. Not like that first wife...

I enjoy building 1/32nd and 1/48th aircraft. When I was a lad, I built a little of everything. On Saturday afternoons when my parents went visiting relatives, I used to have battles in my living room. The model ships were arranged in battle formation on the floor, and I attacked them with my squadrons of aircraft. I still sometimes make engine and battle noises as I build. One of my “before I go” projects to build is a more detailed 1/48th B-29. I have built one in the past, but for the next one I have a lot of goodies to include. Corrected engines and exhaust, landing gear bays, corrected props, better wheels, etc. Three kits in case I muck something up. Soon, I promise myself!

Ask The Modelers by Bob Ferri

In this forum, we will reply to questions received from the membership so our fellow modelers can share their techniques and methods. Please send in your replies to the new questions below (when received before publication), including a paragraph or two of your opinions, techniques, or methods regarding the questions posed by our fellow members. I will print the questions and replies in the next issue of “The Instruction Sheet”. This is an opportunity for all members to participate and share the knowledge that helps others grow in our chosen hobby.

Question 1 – Bruce Tostevin asks - How do you mix paints in a jar, especially those that have been sitting for a while? They often need more than just a shake. I use the Badger paint stirrer, and it's OK, but I was curious how other members mix or stir up paints.

Pete Davis replied - I use wooden stir sticks I pick up at my local grocery store. I then use a syringe to pull paint from the jar and add it to my airbrush.

John Rauscher replied - I will put in the steel mixing balls and vigorously shake the bottle, then if the paint still is stuck, I will resort to a metal rod paint stirring stick. I use one from Gunze, but you can use anything. Once the paint is freed up from the bottom, then I use one of the mixers pictured below; they should work to thoroughly mix the paint. Both the conical test tube shaker and the flat lab mixer work the best; the latter uses metallic cylindrical “pills” that spin in the bottom. The conical one vibrates and shakes.



John Edge replied - I use either a piece of sprue or a piece of wooden stir stick. Stir it up, then put the cap back on and shake for about a minute.

Rod Currier replied - When mixing paints that have sat for a while, I usually add some thinner and stir with a piece of sprue long enough to give me good control over the bottle so I don't spill and make a mess. I add more thinner as needed.

John Cook replied – I use toothpicks to mix paint that has settled until nearly all the hard parts are stirred up well. Then I have a powered bottle shaker I use that works pretty well. It was originally battery powered, but it now runs on a little 12V supply I have.

G. “Zubie” Zeballos replied - I'm sure others have answered this, but washing the trees before you start to remove parts to remove any remaining release agent is a common piece of advice. The thing is, you can often get away with it when just getting started, but every once in a while, you will have paint that beads up or sometimes cement that won't hold.

Lyn Cushman replied – I also use a badger mixer, but for old paints that may need extra help, I have a bunch of bamboo skewers that I use to mix first, then finish off with the badger mixer.

Jim Moore replied – In the past, I had exclusively used Vallejo paints, which of course come in a dropper bottle. For mixing those, I bought a vortex mixer, which works great. Recently, however, I bought some Tamiya paints in the little mini jars. I wasn't sure if the mixer would create the vortex in them, so I emptied one, removed the label, and cleaned the inside. I then partially filled it with water mixed with a couple of drops of red paint and tried it. (You can't see the vortex with paint in the jar, because it coats the inside). I am happy to report that it did indeed create a vortex in the jar, although I am not sure about larger jars. I did find out that the vortex will only form if the container is no more than about two-thirds full. The one I use is made by Ayinlab, but a Google search will show there are many similar options available.

Question 2 – Sean O'Connell asks - I'm getting into model kits again. What are some tips to prepare the model for assembly and painting?

Lyn Cushman replied – I like to wipe the sprues down with rubbing alcohol

John Cook replied – Read the instructions first, all the way through, a couple of times at least. Sometimes putting things together in your own order is better, as you can paint sub-assemblies first that would be hard to reach, or would require a lot of masking. One tank I built, I painted most of the exterior tools and equipment separately, then just scraped paint from the joining surfaces to glue them. To prep for painting, I inspect very carefully under a bright light at an angle, looking for seams, bumps, or other problems. Then sometimes I apply a very thin wash of flat black everywhere, to highlight imperfections. Before painting, I clean very carefully with alcohol to remove finger oil, while wearing gloves when handling.

Rod Currier replied - I usually use enamels, so I don't get too many problems with paint application on plastic. If I am using acrylics, I wipe off the parts with 70% alcohol before painting.

John Edge replied - I wash with Dawn dish soap, sand through different grits to remove mold lines, then wash again and paint.

Pete Davis replied - It is a good idea to wash the sprues in soap and water to remove any leftover mold release agent, as this can foul up your painting result.

John Rauscher replied - Some people wash them in liquid detergent and let them dry thoroughly. I rarely do, but I do prime them with a decent primer that fills any seams and/or reduces the amount of work to paint. Then I'll scuff the model with 2000 grit abrasive.

Question 3 – Mac Johnston asks - If you win any awards, do you display them or tuck them away and just tell folks you won something?

John Rauscher replied – Almost all of mine are tucked away except for a couple in display cases with the models

Pete Davis replied - I would love to have a wall to display my plaques on, but I don't have the space. They are currently in storage in my attic. The medallions I have gotten are currently displayed on a doorknob on one kitchen cabinet.

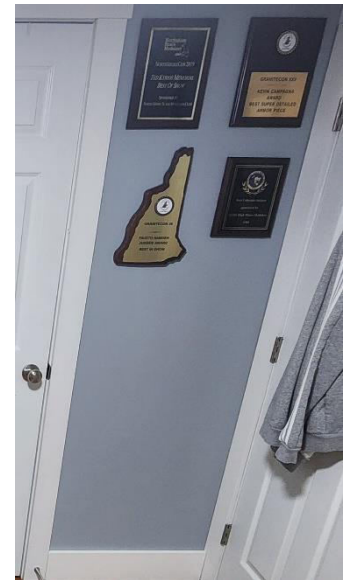
John Edge replied – I have most of my models in a case, and I have the award sitting with the model. I also put a note on the award stating what category it was in.

Lyn Cushman replied - I hang some awards around my work area and rotate them into bins in the closet as years pass. Bigger ones like plaques, I have a shelf for them until it gets too full.

Rod Currier replied - When I win awards at shows, I sometimes put the award next to the model in my display case, after showing them to the grandkids, who always ask me if I won anything. They like to wear the medals around their necks for a bit. But I have to admit, many of my awards are in a drawer next to my bench.

Jody Kelm replied - Unfortunately, I haven't had a place to put my models, such as a showcase. So, I just leave them in the travel box that I built for each one of them. Now, as for the awards themselves, Best Of awards will be on the wall; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places I just put in a box.

Scotty Mallett replied - In my view, if I win an award, I display it. I took the time - sometimes a lot of time - building and adding details and decals so that I have a model I can be proud of. I then enter it in a contest where I am judged by my peers who have also poured their blood, sweat, and tears into their own builds. To be recognized by my fellow modelers is truly something to be proud of. Why enter to win an award if you are not going to display it? It is an honor to be proud of in my opinion.



Question 4 – Jim Moone asks - How do you do antenna wires on WWII aircraft?

John Rauscher replied – Jim, if you mean the wire that runs from the tail to the post behind the cockpit, you can use stretched sprue, or Easy Line, a stretchable lyric thread.

Pete Davis replied - I have been using EZ Line, which comes in a variety of thicknesses, and fishing line.

Rod Currier replied - For antenna wires, I usually use tippet line from the fly-fishing section of Walmart. It is thin, dark gray, and attaches with super glue. In the past, I used stretched sprue, but it breaks very easily.

Lyn Cushman replied – For antenna wires, I use heavy black thread and a tiny amount of super glue.

Brent Morrison replied – You can use EZ Line (www.BerkshireJunction.com) which is an elastic polymer material that is used to simulate antenna wires and rigging. This stretchy elastic thread-like polymer bounces back when bumped instead of breaking. It is attached using small amounts of cyanoacrylate (CA/super glue) between points on the aircraft model. You can also find an alternative solution in a past Instruction Sheet newsletter about using Eloflex from Hobby Lobby.

Here is the only question for next month. Please send in more questions!

1 - Mark Natola asks - I am curious what those with limited space do with built-up kits. I do not have glass cases or any means of displaying built models, so they all end up in a box. Keeps the dust off, but I only see them if I dig the box out.

Don't forget to send in your questions and answers to “Ask the Modeler”. Even if you know the answer to your question, you may get other ideas you were not aware of. Everybody does things differently. We look forward to your questions and replies! Please send them to [**Ferri@gsinet.net!**](mailto:Ferri@gsinet.net)

Show and Tell

Many higher-resolution images can be found on the website!

Chuck Converse returned to the club with his 1/48th scale Tamiya Spitfire Mark 1. He got this for free. During the assembly, he had some issues with the canopy. The camouflage is hand-painted.

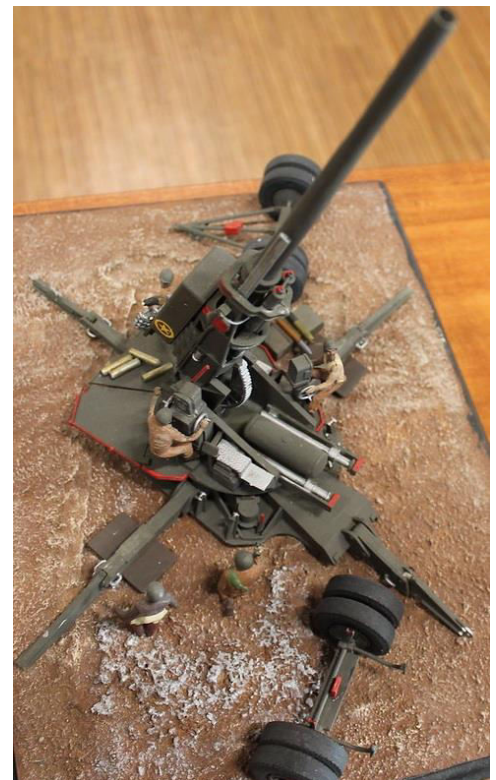




Mark Natola displayed his 1/48th scale Airfix P51-D Iwo Jima Redux. This has been completed since last month. He used rattle cans, but the surface proved so slick that he had difficulty getting weathering to stick. He used real Iwo Jima dust supplied by a friend. The base is Eduard PSP plating, which he mounted the plane to with music wire.



Frank Moore brought in a 1/40th scale Dave's (LifeLike) M1 120mm anti-aircraft gun. This was an old kit with many flaws. It had a 2-piece plastic barrel that was splayed outward at the end, which he scratch-built a replacement for. There was a lot of flash on the kit plastic that had to be dealt with. The kit dates back to the 1950s.



A 1/35th scale Tamiya and Marquette T34/76 Russian tank from 1942, was Frank Moore's second offering. This was 'kit bashed' using a Marquette turret and Tamiya hull, tracks, and extras. The driver came from his spares box.



John Walker showed us his 1/35th scale Takom M3A1 canal defense light. He modified the tank suspension to a late version. He used Tamiya paint and kit decals. He also modified the return rollers and added duckbills to the tracks. This is marked for the 738th Tank Battalion in Remagen, Germany, in March 1945.



John Walker provided his 1/72nd scale Airfix Supermarine Spitfire Mark 1. John built this out of the box and used kit decals. He painted with Vallejo paints. It is marked for the 92nd squadron in England, 1940.



A beautiful 1/72nd scale Italeri MH-53E Sea Dragon was shown by Bob Ferri. He added Eduard photo-etch for interior and exterior detail. The fuselage fit was poor and required clamping to assemble. He also added a Black Dog resin engine kit. He used Model Master paints, and mounted the helicopter to a carrier deck print on a wooden base for display. The decals were great!





Jim Moone brought his 1/72nd scale Hobby Boss F4U-4 Corsair in for review. He built this plane out of the box and painted it with Vallejo Model Air paints.



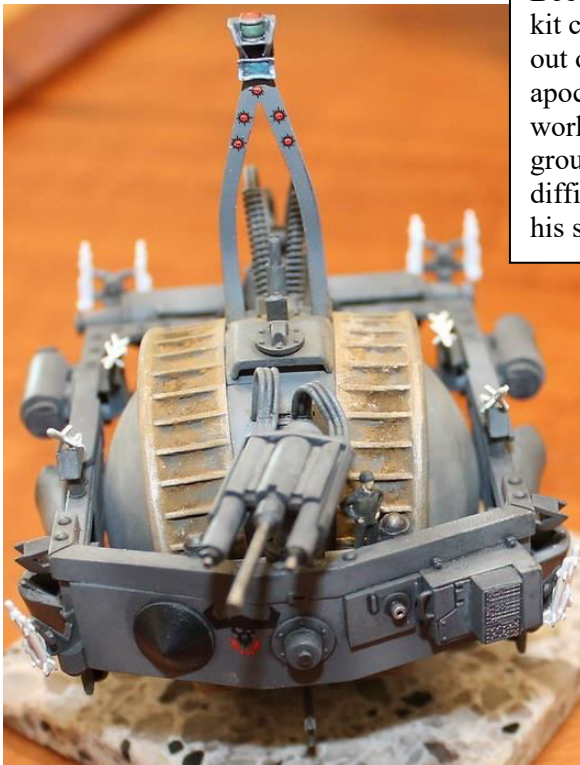
Jim Moone displayed his 1/72nd scale Hobby Boss P-38 Lightning. He painted with Vallejo Model Air metallic aluminum, light olive, and red. He weathered with white and gray oils. He found the weight needed in the nose was heavier than specified. The decals were great!





A 1/6th scale Bandai Yoda was Pete Davis's entry. This kit comes with many accessories, allowing you to build a variety of different versions of the character. Articulation allows the figure to be configured in many different action poses. The kit also includes a 1/12th non-articulated version of Yoda, as the original puppet from Star Wars Episode 5. It was an easy build, very relaxing to work on. Pete built it out of the box, but thinks it could be enhanced with detail painting and weathering.

Bob Ferri's second offering was the Das Werk Kugelpanzer. This kit comes with 2 of the 1/35th scale ball panzers. One was built out of the box, and the second Kugelpanzer was done as a post-apocalyptic creation in 1/200th scale. Both required much seam work, using pigment to hide the seam down the center of the ground contact surface. Due to the ribbing in this area, it was very difficult to eliminate the seam. He added miscellaneous parts from his spares box to dress it up and a 1/200 scale figure for scale.





Keeping with his usual railroad themes, Paul Lessard provided us with a Walther's 1/87th scale Boston and Maine PS1 40' box car to enjoy. He built this out of the box, but did add roller bearing trucks and cut levers. He heavily weathered the car to look like it endured hard service. He used Scalecoat and Tamiya paints, and added Hi-ball Graphics decals.



Paul Lessard had a 1/87th scale scratch-built 42' king-post covered bridge on the table. This has been 10 years in the making, but still has a way to go. It is built of brass and wooden strip. It replicates one that is in Rockingham VT, by the country store. This is a simple design, but he feels the wood on the roof is a bit undersized for the actual structure.



July 2026 Meeting Notes By Pete Davis

General Meeting Notes:

- We had 21 members in person and two online.
- We welcomed back long-time member Chuck Converse, who has been on hiatus for some time now.
- A head count of members and guests is needed for the annual club picnic to be held on August 16 (rain date August 23rd) at Bob Ferri's house in Weare, NH. A hand vote was taken on what meat to serve and the members chose Beef Brisket for Bob to smoke. In addition, Bob will prepare some Chicken and Sausage as well. Bob will send out an email this coming week to the membership to gather a head count and find out what people will be bringing. The club will provide beverages. The rain date is August 23rd.
- The Yankee Swap builds are due at the September meeting. The winner will be decided by lottery, rather than by vote.
- The remaining time at the August meeting will be devoted to a training class on judging. Those not interested can leave.
- Secretary Rod Currier stressed that we need to sell trophy packs. A regular award pack (Medals with ribbons) is \$25. Special awards (plaques) are \$35 each.

Club Officers

President

Mac Johnston
(603)359-0595

Macatflandersandpatch@hotmail.com

Vice President - Social Media Coordinator

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

Show Coordinator

John Rauscher
(603)315-0751

JVR@gsinet.net

Zoom Administrator

Bob Ferri
(603)547-7456

Ferri@gsinet.net

- We welcomed new member Andy Kitt, who models Sci Fi and a variety of other subjects.
- Newsletter Editor Pete Davis commented that the newsletter needs kit reviews, modeling tips, My Modeling History, My Modeling Space articles, and responses to Ask the Modeler Questions going forward. We need to keep up the quality of our award-winning newsletter.
- Member G. "Zubie" Zeballos recently made a trip up to see The Bay of Fundy and Hopewell Rocks, to view the tides there. He mentioned that they are the highest in the world, and are quite impressive.
- Member Chuck Converse mentioned the Operation Chastise movie about the Dam Busters attacks on the Ruhr dams, during WW2. There was discussion on how the aiming system for dropping the bombs worked. Chuck was perplexed at how any of the Lancaster crews could bail out through the tiny hatches to survive a crash.
- Member Paul Lessard mentioned a bit of local history from Manchester, NH, where during WWII a B-17 with an emergency with its landing gear could not land with the belly turret intact at the Manchester Airport. The B-17 crew flew over Lake Massabesic outside Manchester and jettisoned the belly turret into the lake to allow them to land at the airport. There is a project underway to locate and recover the belly turret for use in a museum.
- President Mac Johnston joined us online and advised he did well at the IPMS regional show he attended the previous week in North Carolina. He reported they had 300 entries and lots of vendors.

Board Meeting Notes:

- President Mac Johnston will get the web master information from Vice President Jason Robidoux to contact him to move forward on our website update. Bob Ferri has volunteered to assist Mac in this process.
- Secretary Rod Currier picked up donations from the family of a modeler who has passed. Most items will be placed in the GraniteCon raffle.
- After discussion about selling kits at meetings, it was revealed that no selling is allowed in the library building. If you wish to get rid of kits or supplies at a cost, it must be done outside the facility.
- Club picnic host Bob Ferri will send out an email this next week to members to gain a head count and create a list of what participants will be bringing.
- A suggestion of using wrist bands for GraniteCon entrants was discussed, along with putting the entrant's number on the band to assist in getting the correct information on the table forms.
- A discussion on limits to the number of single class entries per entrant was discussed. This is something that other clubs do to manage class sizes during shows. It was decided that we need to gather some data to support this effort for future shows.
- President Mac Johnston and Bob Ferri are working on the online entry forms and accompanying instructions for use. It is under consideration to add a phone number to the table forms to allow for better follow-up with judging questions or class placement during the show.
- After the loss of founding member Tony D'Anjou recently, Secretary Rod Currier suggested that we add a special award category to honor him. It was decided that we will be adding an award category in his honor to the 2027 GraniteCon show.
- Secretary Rod Currier reported that they are changing the medal colors, due to the manufacturer only offering them in one color this year.
- Treasurer Rich Filteau reported that we took in \$150.00 last month, and spent \$1853.90, in prep for the show.

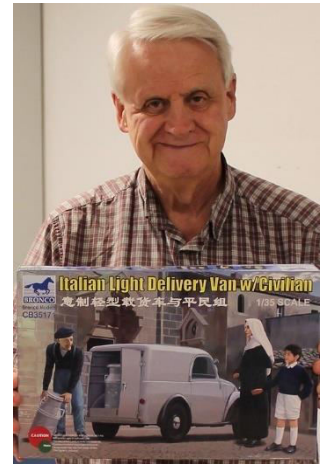
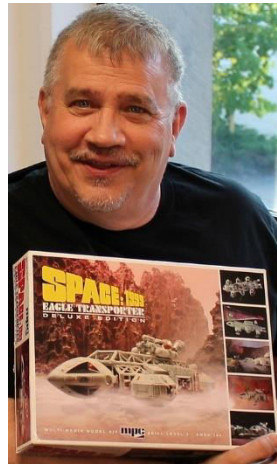
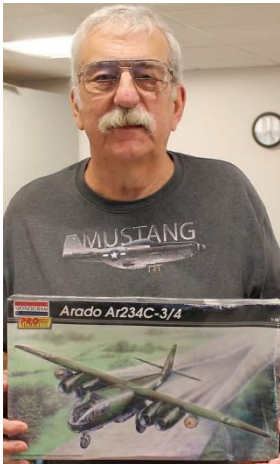
New Link for Club Apparel by John Rauscher

Here's the link to our online store provided by our supplier at Stitches NH. Most items were no longer available, so I picked out the best replacements they currently have to offer. Please let me know if you need any changes or want to add anything else.

Link: <https://http-stitchesnh-com.printavo.com/merch/granitestatemodelers>

June Meeting Raffle Winners!

Our meeting raffle winners were Rich Filteau, Andy Wade, Andy Kitt, and John Walker. Congratulations to all!



Coming Events of Interest

September 27, 2026 – PatCon 2026; IPMS Patriot Scale Modelers; American Heritage Museum; Hudson, MA

October 2, 2026 – ArmorCon 2026; NMMA (Northeast Military Modeling Association); Southbury, CT

October 18, 2026 – GraniteCon 33; IPMS/Granite State Modelers Club; Weare, NH

October 24, 2026 – Hudson Valley Scale Model Show; Hudson Valley Scale Modelers; Poughkeepsie, NY

November 1, 2026 – BAYCON 2026; Bay Colony Modelers Club; Franklin, MA

The Instruction Sheet Needs You!

Members, we are constantly in need of newsletter content to keep our 3-time 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 “Award Winning” newsletter, and we need your contributions, large or small! It can be a kit or product review, a build review, a site visit, 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.

Anyone in the club can submit their newsletter contribution to either Bob Ferri or Pete Davis for inclusion. *The next newsletter submissions for inclusion in the next issue are due by **September 2, 2026**.*

The Newsletter Team

Newsletter Team

Publisher

Bob Ferri

Content Editor

Pete Davis

granduck@aol.com

Content

Contributor/Distribution

Rod Currier

Content Contributors

John Rauscher

Rich Filteau

Mac Johnston

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!



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

NORTH EAST TRAINS

Specializing Lionel • American Flyer • Atlas
in . . . MTH • Williams • Weaver • K-Line

Bought • Sold • Repaired
N • HO • S • O • G Gauges



www.netrains.com
18 Main Street
Peabody, MA 01960

Don Stubbs
(978) 532-1615
fax (978) 532-2282

Why Grow Up?



MODEL KITS, TRAINS & ROCKETS, PUZZLES, AND PAINTS
& SUPPLIES

978.649.5055

440 Middlesex Rd Tyngsboro, MA 01879



Double Play Hobby
Consignments
479 Elm Street (101A)
Milford, NH 03055
M-F 12-6 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4

Bill Greenwood 603-582-4224
doubleplayhobby@yahoo.com
<http://doubleplayhobbyconsignments.com>

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 website 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

Make Checks Payable to: ***Granite State Modelers Club***

Please Return This Form With Your Dues Payment To:

Rodney Carrier
8 Strawberry Lane
Thornton, NH 03285

