

IPMS NIAGARA FRONTIER DIZPATCH FOR AUGUST, 2008

This is a substitute for the regular format. Please bear with us.

MIKE'S MEMO

Mike Miodonski

Hello gentlemen,

Over the past few months we have accrued some new members as well as a significant number of members who have joined us in the past few years or so who never been given a formal overview of the purpose for our club. In light of this I think it would be a good time to review the structure of The US branch of the International Plastic Modelers Society or IPMS-USA, on a national, regional, and local level and how this all works together to benefit our hobby.

First and most prominently IPMS-USA exists on a national level. The national level sets policy for all the member clubs, establishes relationships with manufacturers, provides the framework for the annual national convention, and works to promote the hobby all over the country. Our club is an IPMS-USA sanctioned club. A major benefit of our membership in the national organization is national group liability insurance that covers us for all of our meetings and shows. Insurance like this is prohibitively expensive for individual clubs. I'm not exaggerating when I say without this support our club would not exist in its current form. Being a sanctioned national club does not mean that the individual members are national members automatically. Individual national membership is recommended but not mandatory except for the officers of sanctioned clubs. The dues for national membership are \$25.00 annually and do not cover your local dues. The national application is always printed on the back side of the Dizpatch mailing cover. Our club has a rebate program for first time IPMS-USA National memberships where we give back \$5.00 when you show us your fresh national membership card. National dues for our officers and E-board members are compensated by the club treasury. So, what's the benefit for belonging to the national organization for you? Quite a bit, actually. They put out a slick bi-monthly Journal and you have access to a multitude of resources on their website at www.ipmsusa.org. If you have never been to an IPMS national convention you need to go. The 2009 convention is in Columbus, OH. I've been to several and these show's are the "super bowls" of model contests. You will never see a greater quantity of superior models in one place at one time.

The next level of IPMS-USA is regional. There are 13 geographical regions. We are part of Region 1 which comprises a large part of the northeastern U.S. Each region has a Coordinator (the RC) who is responsible for coordinating and approving all local shows to make sure they don't conflict with each other or with national events, and who ensures we stay within national guidelines. They also are responsible for dissemination of info from the national organization to the local level and vice-versa. Our Regional coordinator is Doug Hamilton, AKA "Hamy". Doug, who lives near the Hudson River, has been a great friend to this club over the years and has a considerable role in our success. When you see Doug at a show, be sure to introduce yourself and make sure he is fed a steady diet of candy bars and Jack Daniels. He deserves to be kept happy.

The last level is local or Chapter level, which is us, the Niagara Frontier Chapter of IPMS-USA. We are one of the largest local clubs in the Region. The local club is run by annually elected officers and Executive Board (E-board) members who are responsible for the day to day running of the club, the creation of club policy for general membership approval, planning and execution of club events and making sure our constitution is adhered to. All members are encouraged to participate in E-board activities as fresh ideas are always welcome and it gives the existing

members a chance to take a break. In addition to putting on our own shows we also support other Region 1 shows both financially by award sponsorships and by helping with contest judging. This support is often reciprocated. The annual dues for our club are currently \$10.00 (\$15.00 for the first time to cover your name tag). These dues don't cover national dues.

There you have it. It's a good structure that has stood the test of time. Why not sign up for national membership?

OK, on to the club business. The August meeting is a "Build and Bull" session and flea market. I'd love to see more building. We will also have a soldering demonstration. There won't be an around the room question but this month will bring to a conclusion the "I Am Not a Modeling Loser Part Doh" contest. At NOREASTCON 2008, those of us in attendance all agreed that we would accept the responsibility to complete a model we bought at the show for the August meeting. In an effort to show our commitment, Tom Faith drew up an imposing contract that we all signed and had witnessed by my wife at the NOREASTCON banquet. As I sit here writing this on Sunday night, I realize that was probably the highlight of this contest for me because I'm going to be one of those guys with an "L" on his forehead. I hope somebody else finished something. By the time we meet the club picnic will have come and gone so we will have a review of that.

We are also coming back into the show season and there are several coming up that a strong Niagara Frontier presence at will help us with our own 2009 BuffCon and NOREASTCON. We are also steadily moving along with preparations for NOREASTCON and we will be reviewing that.

That's all for now guys. See you at the meeting. —Mike

NOTES FROM THE JULY MEETING

Dick Schulenberg

2nd Vice President Tony Gliszczynski started off the meeting with a reminder about the annual picnic on Saturday, Aug. 16. It will all be over by the time you read this. Hope it didn't rain!

The work on the Ft. Niagara diorama continues, with some basic construction done and lots of decisions ahead. Paul Kittle is working on an independent project to build a large scale model of HMS Ontario for permanent display at the Fort.

NOREASTCON Show Chairman Bob Collignon announced that Justen Hanna has stepped up to the task of Award Sponsor Coordinator. It's a big job that requires a lot of stick-to-it-tivness. He's got sponsorship letters and forms all ready and has begun making contacts. You can help with this by developing sources you may know about, like your employers and local businesses. See Justen for the stuff you need when you ask for a sponsorship.

Tom Brown shared some insights from his recent family vacation to the Gettysburg battleground, including his impressions of the very large HO scale model of the whole battlefield with the armies all arrayed in battle. Tom also checked out the Harley Davidson Museum there.

We had a couple of visitors too. Phil Wright, a familiar friend from Rochester, was on a shopping trip to Ace and Niagara Hobby and stretched his day to visit us. Jeff Belling's friend Frank (sorry I didn't get Frank's last name) also stopped in. Frank builds both balsa and plastic airplane models and is looking to advance his skills. Good to see both Phil and Frank. Come on back, guys.

The club question was "What have you done to stretch your modeling skills?". Answers ranged from using the newer materials like resins; improving fitting skills; using photoetch for the first

time; new tools; trying out the newest painting and weathering methods, some from Europe and even trying out a different scale or genre. Some good ideas there.

We had a good number of models on the tables tonight. I'm writing this at the last minute as usual, so I'll just list the models and stuff.

Dave Armitage – A 1937 Russian ANT-25 long range single engine monoplane from a crude 1/72 Russian kit; a model of the White House from the very old Glencoe kit, mounted on a scenic base, with Monica Lewinsky on the balcony; a 1908 Buick from the ancient 1/48 Revell Highway Pioneer kit; a WWI Whippet tank from the 1/35 Emhar kit.

John Zachritz – A SPAD VII assembled from a screw together kit found at K&B Toys. John assembled the companion Sopwith Camel during the meeting.

Chuck Nichter – his finished entries for the “I Am Not a Modeling Loser” uncontest, including a Pyro 1906 Renault runabout (a 41 year old kit) with the original vinyl tires and a 1/76 scale Foden Type C steam wagon (small truck) detailed up from a '60's vintage Keilkraft kit.

Paul Hines – “Pride of Baltimore” clipper ship model, 24” long, double planked, 6 months so far and looking real good.

Tom Mooney – Tiger II on Tank Workshop flatcar, with crew. Nicely weathered, metal track links. This one goes in a planned diorama setting. Going to be big.

Larry Osolkowski – Instant gratification models, a \$10 prepainted 1/12 street racing bike and a similar 1/9 bright yellow Yamaha racing bike.

Dick Schulenberg – Nearly done 1/72 Heller MD450 Ouragan fighter for the “I Am Not a Modeling Loser” uncontest.

Justen Hanna – A Dragon “Smart Kit” STUG III almost done with nice painting and weathering.

Brian McFee – Just about finished up his ANG A7D in the gray scheme. Very neat.

Bob Collignon – His Fokker EIII WWI German fighter for the “I Am Not a Modeling Loser” uncontest has somehow morphed into a French Laffley antitank carrier with a 47mm gun. Shame on you Bob. No substitutions and no Tim Hortens for you! Bob also showed some Weston WWI toy soldiers and a Tadpole tank in about 1/35 scale.

Dave Schwab – 1/72 Sword F8F Bearcat for the “I Am Not a Modeling Loser” uncontest. Will be a post-war racer.

Just a reminder. Larry Osolkowski, our Webmaster, has been uploading photos and information into the new NOREASTCON website. You can access it at www.noreastcon2009.com so take a look.

Larry also has CD's with these photos for sale for \$3.00 with all proceeds going to the club treasury. See him at the meeting.

The next meeting is Monday, August 18th. It will be a Build and Bull session and flea market. We won't have a round the room question this month, but we will have a soldering demonstration and the results of the “I Am Not a Modeling Loser” uncontest. Bring your stuff to sell, new kits and projects to show, or just yourself. See you Monday.

IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____ FIRST _____ M. _____ LAST _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ email: _____
 VISA/MasterCard _____ Account # _____
 Exp. Date: _____
 Signature: _____

☐ Adult: \$25 ☐ Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: _____
☐ Canada & Mexico: \$30 ☐ Other Foreign: \$32 ☐ Foreign Air Mail: \$55
☐ Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: _____)
☐ If recommended by an IPMS member,
 list his/her name and member number _____

Check out our web page: www.ipmsusa.org

IPMS/USA
 P.O. Box: 2475
 North Canton, OH 44720-0475

IPMS Niagara Frontier / DIZPATCH
 463 Amherst Street
 Buffalo, NY 14207

FIRST CLASS

