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Mike's Memo

Mike Miodonski

Hi guys,

Cold enough for you? Despite the miserable weather, we have a lot going on and we're about to hit our busy season, so let me get right into it.

I) We're about half way through the Kid's Class. With 34 kids, it's one of the biggest we have had in years. Luckily we've had great parental participation so we have been OK from a volunteer stand point but

we could always use more help. Thanks to those of you who already have volunteered. Because the class is so large, we have pretty much have exhausted our supply of kits for next year's class. I will take any and all donations of new or like new skill appropriate kits. The last thing we want to do is find ourselves in a position where we have to buy kits because that would negate the discount on our rent that we get for doing the class. Keep it in mind.

- 2) BuffCon is in the wings and coming fast. We only have 2 more regular meetings until the actual event on April 13. At the next meeting I will have all the sign up sheets for various areas and as usual we will need a lot of help. Remember if you volunteer your registration for the show is free.
- 3) The IPMS Region 4 convention takes place just this side of Cleveland on April 18 & 19) and 1 week later is our own region's NOREASTCON, held just outside of Albany in Schoharie on April 25 & 26. As Bob Collignon has said repeatedly, with our own club running NOREASTCON next year, it's important that we support and attend as many shows as we can if we want to be supported in return. I know the hotel in Schoharie is filling up fast and from what I hear there is literally NOTHING for miles around this place, so if you're going get your reservations in now. ****IMPORTANT***** When you call for your reservation you need to tell the hotel that you are making a reservation for the model convention otherwise you may be told the hotel is full. I hope to see you there.
- 4) If you're interested in contributing to the Fort Niagara diorama please let Tom Faith or Bob Collignon know. I think we need to pay strong attention to this project for a couple of reasons;
- a) The opportunity for this type of modeling endeavor is rare in this area. Take advantage of the learning opportunity in terms of collaborative modeling and cross modeling experience.
- b) This type of opportunity goes along way to strengthening our image as a club because these types of exhibits tend to remand in place for years with our name attached to it.
- 5) Because we do have a lot of important events coming up, Tony G has graciously stepped up and organized the orders for new club shirts. You need to have cash in hand (no checks) for the shirts you want to order by this meeting. My suggestion is that you buy more than one if you can afford it because the shirts do not come in the colors of ketchup, mustard, and pizza sauce. As a side note I am still being persecuted because I didn't realize the color "Mango" was a joke......
- 6) I have been working hard to develop all the "remember when" photos but I have to admit the volume of correcting all of those scanned photos by this month was daunting. I also have photos from the E-Board trip to the 2009 NOREASTCON site so that everyone can see what a great location we have. However, I have been a bad president and haven't given our editor Bill sufficient time to process the photos so if they don't show up in this months article they will be in March's edition. That's on me guys, sorry... continued...

The "BuffCon" Boys

Mike's Memo

2008 Summer Picnic

Notes From The January Meeting

BuffCon 25

NoreastCon 2008

TorCan 2008

IPMS Niagara Frontier Member's Page

Please consider joining IPMS/USA

PAGE 1



www.ipmsniagarafrontier.com

Mike's Memo...

7) Lastly, this month's discussion point will be "Do you think Mango would have been a good color for the club shirts"..... Kidding, kidding. The real question comes courtesy of Paul Hines and is "What is your comfort zone with regard to scale and the size of the models you decide to build and why". Please be prepared to discuss your views.

Oops, that wasn't it. I heard a rumor that Three Guyz is having one of their crazy sales the first Saturday in March. I think we'll use the opportunity to do a couple of things at Bob's studio that day - we're going to begin discussions and planning for the Fort Niagara diorama, and we'll be collecting donations of new kits, and especially building supplies, to send to our guys over in Afghanistan. Three Guyz will be packing everything up for shipment that day. Watch for the flyer or see Bob Collignon for details...

That's all I have for this month guys, see you at the meeting..... Mike

YOUR 2008 DUES WERE DUE IN JANUARY

Your club dues for the 2008 calendar year were due at the January 2008 meeting. You'll remember that we changed back to an annual schedule in 2005 because of the difficulties we had tracking the dues schedule for members who received Dizpatch via e-mail.

If you receive a mailed Dizpatch, your renewal date is listed next to your name on the address label.

If you get Dizpatch by e-mail, your dues are probably due. Either check with Dave Schwab at the meeting, or e-mail him at davidsp51stang@aol.com if you're not sure.

Everyone is now on the January to January schedule. Regular memberships are still \$10.00 per year and Juniors (under 18) are still \$5.00.

You can pay the Treasurer Dave Schwab at the meetings or by mailing a check to Dave at 28 Wanda Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14211. Please make checks (or money orders) out to Niagara Frontier Chapter IPMS.

Make sure that you share any updated information like addresses and e-mail addresses with Dave as things change.

A REMINDER ABOUT THE 2008 SUMMER PICNIC Dan Marafino

Don't forget to mark Saturday August 16 on your calendars for the 2008 Club Picnic at the Lancaster House Shelter in Como Park.

The Club will provide the dogs, burgers and pop. We ask you to bring salads and desserts. We're asking \$5.00 per family to help cover our expenses

Any games or low or non-contact events are encouraged (bring your own medical kit): rubber horseshoes, darts, checkers, chess, cards, volleyball, etc.

The picnic is on rain or shine. The shelter is fully enclosed with electricity, a stove and refrigerator, and bathrooms.

See Dan Marafino if you have any questions.

This is a great, non-contest, fun event for all. Let's make it a good one. For \$5.00 you can't go wrong.

The "BuffCon" Boys

Mike's Memo

2008 Summer Picnic

Notes From The January Meeting

BuffCon 25

NoreastCon 2008

TorCan 2008

IPMS Niagara Frontier Member's Page

Please consider joining IPMS/USA

PAGE 2



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Notes From The January Meeting Dick Schulenberg

Lots of announcements for this first meeting of 2008. The Kids Class is something else this year. We have 34 6 to 12 year old kids registered and our attendance ratio has been very high for every session. Luckily, we also have a large number of parents and other adults coming regularly that really take the load off the 10 or so club members who have

been working as mentors. We've run out of donated kits, so we'll be

looking for new or nearly new age appropriate kits for next years class. We need simple 1/35 armor, 1/48 airplanes and simple 1/24 cars or other similar kits. The decals in older kits have become a problem due to deterioration from age and have somewhat detracted from the kids (and our) enjoyment of the class, so please, no real oldies.

As Prez Mike mentioned in his Memo, Tony G. has made arrangements to have new club shirts made, both "natural" colored polos and long sleeve denim button shirts, featuring the club logo. Polos are \$20.00 and the denims are \$25.00. Shirts will be ordered only on a cash-up-front basis. If you want a shirt, see Tony with your cash at the next meeting. We should be able to have them in time for BuffCon.

E-Board member Dan Marafino has made arrangements for a shelter in Como Park for our summer picnic. See Dan's write up for details.

Jerry Brubaker, curator of the Ft. Niagara museum, was in with club member Tom Faith to discuss the new Ft. Niagara diorama project. This will be a permanent exhibit on site to show what the fort looked like around the War of 1812 period. The diorama will be fairly large to emphasize the maritime aspect of the fort. Paul Kittle's scratchbuilt fleet has helped settle the scale to 1/350. We'll be talking more about this in future meetings.

Rich Bernecki came up with an interesting proposition. He has a number of kits to get rid of and, instead of trying to sell them, he's proposing to send them to our troops in Afghanistan or Iraq if the club will pay for postage. WE WILL! WE WILL! 3 Guyz Hobbies volunteered to handle the packaging and make the arrangements. If you want to get in on this, bring your stuff to the next meeting. Thanks, Rich.

The Around the Room Question was "How many kits did you buy last year and how many did you build" It looks like the average number bought was in the 20-30 range and the average built was "very few". Guess I'm right on track.

We had several tables full of models on display as well. Ernie Yuhnke started us off with a group of

54mm figures spanning the time frame from the Napoleonic

Wars to WWII. I always enjoy seeing Ernie's figures for their color and breadth of interest.

Paul Kittel brought in several more 1/350 scale 1812 era waterline ship and boat models for the Ft. Niagara diorama. Very nice work that sets a standard for the remainder of the diorama work.

continued...





Mike's Memo

2008 Summer Picnic

Notes From The January Meeting

BuffCon 25

NoreastCon 2008

TorCan 2008

IPMS Niagara Frontier Member's Page

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January Meeting...

Matt Keysa is deep into a reconstruction of a Tamiya Kubelwagen for a small Flakpanzer diorama. He's used the Tigerwerks recon conversion and scratchbuilt new seat frames from brass rod with springs for new seat cushions.

Larry Osolkowski brought in a 1/24 scale Fiat Abarth kit from Tamiya, I think. It looks like a Rally Race version of this cute little car. Larry says it's his BuffCon project and won't

be quite out of the box.

Tom Faith brought in two project builds. First was the M24 Chaffee he used for his oil pastel demo a while back. The model features a scratchbuilt interior and looks great on Fruil tracks. Tom's integrating it into a fair size Korean War diorama with some great, torn up groundwork. He also showed the Griffen 20mm Flak gun detailing set he's building up for an AMPS Boresite review. Decidedly intricate and difficult PE in that box.

Justen Hanna showed off his 1/48 scale Hasegawa P-40N with Black Box cockpit set. It's painted with

Tamiya colors,

weathered with oils and marked for the CBI Theater of WWII. Justen says that a lot of careful body work was needed to account for the engineering required so the kit could be used for several versions. He also showed his 1/48 scale Eduard Weekend Edition Kit for the I-16 Russian fighter. It's a nice simple model and you get a lot in the box.



Dave Armitage just had to build a new model for this meeting. He started a 1/35 Tamiya Steyr command car on Friday night and it was done for the Monday meeting. Fast work that looked good, too as did the Alan SiG 33 field gun Dave also brought in.

Tim Kastner brought in 4 new 1/25 car models this month. These cars are all current vehicles for street use but decked out as 80's style stock car racers, featuring lots of graphics. Tim adds spoiler and air dams and modern luxuries like XM Satellite radios to his cars.



Joe Villone showed 2 1/48 scale racing Bearcats flown by Darryl

Greenameyer at various times. The first #1 was modified from a Hawk kit over 20 years ago. It's got a tiny canopy and a simple white paint job with red

lettering. The later #1 is from a High Planes kit, with cropped wing tips and that tiny canopy. This one is also all white but with more complex green markings. continued...



Mike's Memo

2008 Summer Picnic

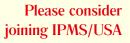
Notes From The January Meeting

BuffCon 25

NoreastCon 2008

TorCan 2008

IPMS Niagara Frontier Member's Page



E-DIZPATCH IPMS Niagara Frontier

February 2008



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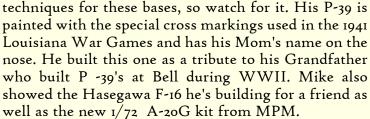
January Meeting...

Joe showed us how he drape forms new spinners over remodeled kit parts and new canopies over balsa molds. Old school but works just fine.



Speaking of old school, Dan Marafino brought in his 1/32 Special Hobby P-39D. Looks good in a well weathered South West Pacific scheme. The Cobra's a tail sitter now but Dan's planning to permanently mount it to a base.

Mike Butry also had a P-39D, but in 1/48 from the Hasegawa kit. It's out of the box and mounted on a really nice base. Mike's writing an article for FineScale Modeler about his



Andre Thierault showed us his progress on the 1/350 Enterprise nuclear aircraft carrier. The hull is now

complete and the huge deck is assembled and painted. All the markings are painted on. Very nice work.

Finally, Ilya Grinberg showed off his beautifully completed MiG-3 Russian fighter rebuilt from the 1/72 scale Easy Model plastic prebuild. Ilya found the basic shapes to be quite accurate and decided to disassemble and strip the toy then rebuild it into a really nice model with a very complete interior and some really fine detailing.





Remember that the next meeting is on February 25, one week later than usual because the Youth Center is closed on our regular night for the Presidents Day holiday. As always, bring in your completed projects, works in progress, new kits, or a model you'd like to show off.

The "BuffCon" Boys

Mike's Memo

2008 Summer Picnic

Notes From The January Meeting

BuffCon 25

NoreastCon 2008

TorCan 2008

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From the BuffCon" boys



SUNDAY APRIL 13, 2008

Knights of Columbus Club . 2735 Union Rd. at William St. Cheektowaga (Buffalo), NY



ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION OPEN AT 9:00 REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 2:00 **JUDGING FROM 2:00 TO 4:00 (VENDORS OPEN)** AWARDS AT 4:00

LOTS OF VENDORS! OVER 80 CATEGORIES INCLUDING JUNIORS AND BANTAMS, WITH MANY OUT-OF-THE-BOX **AWARDS**

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$4.00, UNDER 12 FREE (Admission FREE with entry!)

Senior Entries - 2/\$6.00, \$1.00 each additional Junior (Ages 11-17) - \$1.00 each entry

Bantam (Under 1 1) - Free

(Sales tax included with admission fee)



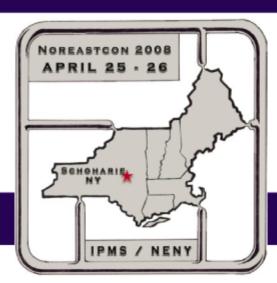
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NOREASTCON 2008

IPMS Region I Convention

Scale Modeler's Convention April 25-26, 2008

at the

Holiday Inn Express | Schoharie, NY

518-295-6088 or 800-272-9273

IPMS / NENY Website www.aloder.freeyellow.com or write: Bill Ellis, 50 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12203

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	Dan Marafino	684-0733	digbee45@aol.com
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The Next Club Meeting:

The next meeting of the Niagara Frontier Chapter IPMS will be on Monday, February 25, 2008 at the Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Road (near Main Street), Amherst, New York. We meet in the basement youth room from 7:00 P.M. to about 10:00 P.M. Please do not arrive before 6:45 P.M.

Important: All submissions to e-DIZPATCH

must be received by the Monday one week after our scheduled meeting night.

Printed articles and pictures can be mailed to:
JuJuLizard

25 Huetter Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14207

Attn: e-DIZPATCH

Digital files can be e-mailed to: ipmsediz@aol.com