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TONY'S TIDBITS

Tony Gliszczynski

Well, ladies and gents, this Monday will be last meeting before our first show for this year: "Buffcon 26." As you all know, we are going to need lots of help, so I will have signup sheets at the March meeting for the jobs which we are going to address. Please review them and sign up for a job, even if it's only for a couple of hours, 'cuz there's a lot to do at both the Buffcon and Noreastcon shows.

At our last meeting we had a judging seminar, and boy was it great; a lot of excellent information came out of it. When I looked around the room, almost all the members were still there, asking good questions and getting the answers they were looking for. I'd like to see more meetings like this, so throw some ideas out there so we can try to provide them.

Some of us "Traveling Tonys" went to a couple of shows north of the border. One was Heritagecon, at the Canadian Warplane Museum, and the other was Wellcom, in Guelph, Ontario — two very good shows. I told myself that I could only spend "X" amount of money, but that didn't work out so well. I overspent, as always, but never mind me — the shows themselves were great. We had a good time, with no trouble crossing the bridges.

Our April meeting is on the 20th at the Youth Center. Our April E-Board meeting is early, on April 13, at Bob's Studio, 463 Amherst St., Buffalo. As always, everyone is welcome.

Your Prez.
Tony G.

Your 2009 Dues Are Overdue!

For most club members, your dues for the 2009 calendar year were due at the January 2009 meeting. 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.

**The
"BuffCon"
Boys**

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Notes From The February Meeting

Dick Schulenberg

President Tony Gliszczynski started off the meeting with a reminder that we will need a lot of hands on help setting up, moving vendors in and out and security for both BuffCon on April 5 and NOREASTCON on April 24 & 25. Sign up at the March meeting!

The 1/300 Fort Niagara diorama project continues to progress well. Carving of the foam terrain is quite far along. The thousands of pickets are made and mostly

planted. Ships, stumps and cannons are ready. Most of the major fort buildings are also finished. Paul Kittel's larger scale HMS Ontario is quite far along and all torted up, in Paul's words. A small group has been working on the diorama at Bob Collignon's studio on the Monday evenings when the club or E-Board is not meeting. Come on down.

Bob Conshafter gave a review of this years six week long Amherst Youth Board Kids Model Building Class. We had on average 25 - 28 kids each week, with a lot of parent participation. Usually, we had 7-9 volunteer mentors who managed both the kids and their parents and had a good time doing it. Many thanks to Bob Conshafter for coordinating the event with the Youth Board and keeping the supplies (and us) in order. Not an easy job.

NOREASTCON Show Chairman Bob Collignon announced that things are progressing well. The club's website www.noreastcon2009.com is constantly updated to contain the latest info. Flyers are out with inserts containing new and updated info on events at the show. We are nudging closer to having all the awards sponsored and our national advertising is out there. Tony G reported that the kits for the kids Make & Take are in. We are right down to the nitty gritty now.

Several of us went up to HeritageCon at the Canadian Warplane Museum at the Hamilton, Ontario airport. This model show is put on by IPMS Hamilton right in the museum. It's an excellent venue with a lot of modeling inspiration in the air. How many Sea Furies and Lancaster bombers have you seen up close? There were a great selection of vendors and a whole bunch of really interesting model entries. There's even a nice gift shop with some surprising books, kits and videos for sale. You should have been there!

Dan Marafino mentioned that the E-Board is considering combining the annual summer picnic and one of the summer meetings. It's an interesting idea that needs to be coordinated now if we're interested in it. Let Dan or anyone else on the E-Board know what you think.

Tonight we spent the remaining time in talking about how contest judging is done and what judges look for in a winning entry. I'll cover this seminar separately.

There were lots of models on the display tables, many brought in for the seminar. In no particular order:

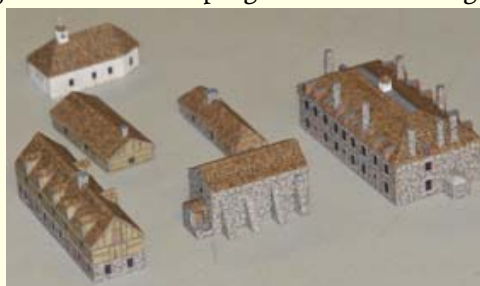


Larry Osolkowski - completely stripped, rebuilt and detailed die cast BMW

Eric Hillebrand - 1/35 militarized Model T as used by the British Army in the Western Desert

Brian McFee - 1/48 Hasegawa P-47M in dark blue/alclad, 61st Fighter Squadron, 56th Fighter Group

continued...



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February Meeting...



Steve Weller - excellent new DML 1/350 kit of the USS Buchanan, an early WWII destroyer.

Paul Hines - "Mare Nostrom" North Atlantic fishing trawler, a plank on frame wood model

Frank Blonski - 57 Chevy custom pickup in progress and a bunch of stuff that he found on the way in; a big Frankenstein, an M4 Sherman and a Hooters #7 NASCAR racer.

Dave Armitage - the very old Lindberg 1/16 scale Civil War Union horse drawn cannon on a dusty road base in a nice case; diorama featuring a Palmer Civil War 12 pounder cannon and Verlinden figure leaning on a stone wall

Matt Keysa - A 1/35 vignette of an 82nd Airborne bazooka team; 1/700 WWII Essex aircraft carrier and aircraft; Mi

Abrams with mine plow

Bob Raithel - 1/72 Ki45 Dinah twin engined WWII Japanese heavy fighter

Tom Faith - A couple of Maquette kits in progress, a Dingo armored car and a small Russian fuel trailer

Chuck Nichter - a couple of nice Jaguars, previous award winners

Alan Gryfe - HO scale brick building

Tony Bartoszek - Tamiya M3 Lee and a General Sherman bust

Bob Conshafter - Panzer II Lynx light tank

Tony G - Vietnam Era M551 Sheridan tank, an award winning T-Bird and another T-Bird in progress.

Thanks to everyone who brought in a model for the seminar

The next meeting is Monday, March 16. We will be discussing the final preparations for our upcoming shows. Please note that we can no longer use the basement door we've used forever. The

Youth Center is keeping it locked for security purposes. Please use the door nearest the parking lot, take the elevator to the basement and turn right down the corridor. The room is on the right. The alternate is the door farthest from the parking lot. It's marked "Youth Center" and leads directly into the pool table part of our meeting room.

See you Monday.



The "BuffCon" Boys

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Judging Seminar

Dick Schulenberg

Every year or so, we talk about what judges look for in model contest entries in hopes of coming up with some new judges for the shows we run and to identify the pitfalls for those of us who present our models for judging. This year we tried a "Gather around the table" approach rather than our typical lectures. Everyone could see the specific models (and their problems). Most everyone participated and became involved in the discussions for a really enjoyable session.



Chief Judge Tony Bartoszek described the IPMS National judging philosophy, right from the on-line handbook and then each judging Category Coordinator talked about the specifics for the major kinds of models. We each tried to make the point that judges don't need to be experts in the specifics and nuances of their category to be fair and impartial to contest entrants.

Here's a recap of the seminar.

Good judging is not subjective, and it's not primarily influenced by the model's historical accuracy, the judges' technical knowledge or some set of arbitrary preferences. The primary basis for contest judgments is the assessment of the application of basic modeling skills (the fit and finish) to the entry in front of you. This basis applies regardless of what kind of model it is. Here are some examples of the defects related to the basic modeling skills that we're looking at:

Open or partially filled seams	Missing surface detail at seams
Surface sinkholes not filled	Mold seams not all removed
Visible glue marks	Ill fitting or missing parts
Misaligned components	Lack of symmetry
Component alignment in all three directions	Rough paint application, ragged edges
Decal application, misalignment, no bubbles, raised edges or silvering	

These defects weed out an awful lot of models from contention. After that, detailing and presentation come into play, separating the very good from the best. Opened up panels and added details present their own problems because their presence provides more opportunities to screw up on fit and finish. So does weathering and metallic paint finishes. However, done right, all of these get you closer to picking the first place entry.

Each category of models presents its own special basic modeling skills traps to look for. Here are some of the things the Category Coordinators identified:

Aircraft: Symmetry when viewed from the front; fit of the canopy and windows; canopy and window framing; painting of the tires and wheels; rigging - is it there in biplanes and is it neat (no glue blobs), tight and symmetrical?; gun barrels not drilled out

Armor: Bent gun barrels; stowage with no visible means of support; bottoms of turret sponsons not closed up; non-circular barrel bores; tracks not firmly in contact with the ground and engaged with drive wheels and rollers; drive wheels, rollers and tracks not all in line

Autos: Windows not well fit or glue marked; all tires not on ground; seams on vinyl tires; sloppy engine wiring; poor door fit; orange peel in gloss paint; rough edges to chrome foil trim

continued...

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Judging Seminar...

Figures: Seams between body sections; clothing folds not aligned; flesh tones; "deer in the headlights" eyes; both eyes not looking in the same direction; awkward pose, the "hang" of equipment

Ships: Wobbly railings; gaps between railings and decks, wavy waterlines; seams between deck sections and hull; rough paint edges between horizontal and vertical corners; thick, rough edges at camouflage breaks; masts in line when viewed from the front; rigging — is it there and is it neat (no glue blobs) and symmetrical?; gun barrels not drilled out

Bantams: Different view entirely. Everyone gets a medal, so judges look more at overall impressions.

Notice what you don't see on the list of the basics:

- Accuracy of outlines and details, including rigging and stowage configurations
- Paint scheme accuracy
- Level and quantity of detail
- Working features

These are the things that separate out the best of the best, once the basic modeling skills are evaluated. Every one of these requires some familiarity with the general category and a review of what the modeler has written on the entry sheet. This is where the wild color schemes and anything really out of the ordinary should be identified. There will be an experienced judge on the team who can help clarify what you are looking at.

What is not part of our judging process: snap or dismissive judgments; opinions like "insert whoever you want here" would never do that"; discussions of "accurate" colors; personal preferences or generally derogatory comments about specific models. Every one who enters a model deserves the chance to have their model judged fairly against the rest of the models on the table using a consistent set of criteria.

So, hopefully you now feel more comfortable volunteering to be a judge. You'll be working as part of a team with at least one experienced judge. Each team needs input from all its members, because we all see things a little differently.

Now, even if you don't choose to become a judge or enter your model in a contest, you can apply all of these things to your model building as your own personal guide for evaluating your progress as a model builder. Concentrate on the basics described above, practice painting and your stuff will get better and better.

I hope we didn't scare anyone off with this whole discussion. Model building is fun, or at least it should be, and you should feel free to build your models any way that satisfies you. You all know the diversity we have within this club. We would love to see your models at our meetings. We're willing to offer advice and constructive criticism but only if you ask. Bring 'em in!

A Reminder — NorEastCon 2009 Dinner tickets can be purchased from Paul Hines at the next club meeting. Time is running out and there is a limited number of tickets, so please — GET THEM IN ADVANCE! The cost is \$30 per person. Thanks!

Paul Hines

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International Plastic Modelers Society
www.ipmsniagarafrontier.com

From
the
"BuffCon"
boys

BUFF CON 26

SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2009

Knights of Columbus Club

2735 Union Rd. at William St.

Cheektowaga (Buffalo), NY



ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION OPEN AT 9:00

REGISTRATION CLOSSES AT 2:00

JUDGING FROM 2:00 TO 4:00 (VENDORS OPEN)

AWARDS AT 4:00



LOTS OF VENDORS!

OVER 60 CATEGORIES INCLUDING JUNIORS AND
BANTAMS, WITH MANY OUT-OF-THE-BOX
AWARDS

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$5.00, UNDER 12 FREE

(Admission FREE with entry!)

Senior Entries - 2/\$8.00, \$2.00 each additional

Junior (Ages 11-17) - \$1.00 each entry

Bantam (Under 11) - Free

(Sales tax included with admission fee)



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Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14211
716-896-8720

E-DIZPATCH

IPMS Niagara Frontier

March 2009



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Dear Modeling Friends and Families,

My name is Bob Collignon and I'm the Show Chairman of the IPMS Region I Convention, **NOREASTCON 2009**. I'm writing to tell everyone about the great show that we, IPMS Niagara Frontier, is planning that we really want YOU, your family and friends to attend! IPMS Niagara Frontier is hoping to see faces from our own Region 1 and from our good friends in Region 2 and 4 plus our great modeling buddies from the North-Oh Canada !!!

Our show includes some great guests and seminars, a "Make and Take" for our Junior modelers, a "Blind Build" team competition during Happy Hour on Friday (many of us remember the hilarity of our 2003 "Blind Build"), hourly raffles starting Friday, a packed vendor room, lots of room for models, great looking awards and a family style NOREASTCON banquet! Don't miss it! We've added two additional special aspects of the show; a special "entrant only" raffle for a \$50 gift certificate to Niagara Hobby and Craft Mart and, most important, we will have donation bins, for new kits, modeling supplies or cash, for our Service Men and Women in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Please go to our constantly updated web site at www.noreastcon2009.com. Lots of detailed info is on the web site including photos of the show location.

As all you experienced show planners surely know, a large model show needs lots of sponsorships and we still have some available. IPMS Niagara Frontier and the NOREASTCON 2009 show committee would appreciate all sponsorships that you and/or your club might be able to do! Sponsorship information is on the web site, as is a list of current Sponsors and available categories. A "hearty HUZZAH!!!" to all those clubs and individual members who have already sent us your generous sponsorship support!

Any questions please write me at cjltd@roadrunner.com or bobdave@bobdave.com or phone (d) 716-875-0234 or (n) 716-837-2204.

I hope to see lots of old friends and lots of soon to be friends at NOREASTCON 2009!

My Best Regards to All,

Bob Collignon

NOREASTCON 2009 Show Chairman,
IPMS Niagara Frontier, Chapter Contact

Ps. don't forget a new model or modeling supply for our troops. God bless them all!

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NOREASTCON 2009

Born in 1999

Stellar in the Sequel in 2003

Completing The Trilogy



SCALE MODELER

OVER 60 MODEL CATEGORIES

SUPER

60+ VENDOR TABLES

SHOW III

RETURN OF THE CYANOACRYLATE.

From
the
"BuffCon"
boys



NOR EAST CON 2009

Show Chairman:
Bob Collignon
403 Huntington Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14214
716-837-2204
cjlttd@adelphia.net

APRIL 24 TO APRIL 25, 2009

McKINLEY'S / CLARION HOTEL
SOUTH-3950 McKINLEY PARKWAY
BLADELL, NY 14219
(716) 648-5700

<http://www.noreastcon2009.com>
<http://www.ipmsniagarafrontier.com>

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MEMBER INFORMATION PAGE



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Chapter Contact	Bob Collignon	837-2204	cjltd@adelphia.net

The Next Club Meeting:

The next meeting of the Niagara Frontier Chapter IPMS will be on Monday, March 16, 2009 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