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Mike's Memo

Mike Miodonski

Well gentlemen, as is the norm in Buffalo, we have bypassed spring and gone directly from winter to summer.

Summer typically is a slower time for modeling but not for us and especially for those of us on the E-Board. The plans for NOREASTCON 2009 are coming along nicely. Most of the major details concerning the site and the other related activities are well underway. We are less than 10 months away from the show and time will go faster than you think.

At this month's meeting, I'll be looking to put together small round table groups on judging for our major categories like armor, aircraft, automotive and so on. I may ask to borrow some of the models on the table to serve as test subjects, or better yet, bring a model that we can use.

This month's meeting will also be a build and bull so bring in something you're currently working on. The club question, courtesy of Bob Collignon, is "Given your choice, how much would you model"?

The next E-Board meeting will be at Tony G's house on Monday, June 23 at 7:00.

It was a short one this month, guys. See you at the meeting.

-Mike

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
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Notes From The May Meeting

Dick Schulenberg

President Mike Miodonski reported on the recent NOREASTCON in Schoharie, NY. It was held in a nice little Holiday Inn pretty much out in the country, which made for a pleasant ride and surroundings. It was an excellent, well run show with just under 400 entries and a well balanced selection of vendors. We had a great time. You should have been there.

Those of us who were there engaged in another building bet, the Traveling Tony's "I Am Not a Modeling Loser, Part DOH". There should be a copy of the agreement we drew up, under Tom Faith's expert guidance, in this issue of Dizpatch, explaining the how and why of what we're doing. We have until the August meeting to complete our selected kit and we'll be bringing them in each month to show the progress or lack thereof. Some of us brought in our selections tonight as described below.

As Mike mentioned in the last Dizpatch, we are low on judges for shows, so we'll be having judging seminars and coaching sessions starting later this year, closer to the beginning of the contest season. They will probably be in roundtable format based on general model groupings.

Dan Marafino reminded everyone about the upcoming club picnic. See his article in this issue.

Larry Osolkowski, our new Webmaster, has been uploading BuffCon photos on to our site. As a side benefit for us, he's put the BuffCon 2007 photos he and Mike Miodonski took on a CD for sale at \$3.00 with all proceeds going back to the club. Pick one up at the next meeting.

The club question was "What was the worst modeling disaster you've had, and what did you do about it?" As a group, we have had some pretty funny disasters, (of those we were willing to share, at least), from dissolved and melted models to sneaky cat attacks along with all kinds of innovative ways to crush models, including crushing by sleeping children.

We had a good number of models on the tables tonight. Sorry, there are no photos this month.

Tom Brown started us off with one of his G scale outdoor model train projects. He picked up one of those gaudy red-and-chrome battery powered Christmas toy trains and painted it in weathered shades of black. Looks much better.

Tony Bartoszek (a Traveling Tony) brought in his kit selection for the "I Am Not a Modeling Loser, Part DOH" bet, a 1/35 scale Dragon Panzer I that he will do up in Spanish Civil war markings. He has cleaned up a lot of the small parts and tacked some of the big parts together with white glue as a fit check. Looks to be a nice kit.

I also brought in my kit selection for the "Not a Loser" bet, a 1/72 scale Heller Dassault MD 450 Ouragan French jet fighter from the '50's. It's a neat, simple kit that should build up very well. Didn't make a start yet, but I at least have located some (old) aftermarket decals.

Tony Gliszczynki also brought in his kit selection. His model is a 1/25 Pro Stock Thunderbird in red and white. Tony's already made some good progress. No loser here!

Chuck Nichter brought in his "Not a Loser" kit selection too. He picked an interesting 1/76 scale Kiel Kraft (British) Foden steam wagon, kind of a steam powered pickup truck. The kit was intended as background scenery for model train layouts and is rather bare. continued...

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May Meeting...

Chuck's done a lot of detailing already, adding all the steering parts, seats, boiler (it IS steam powered) and engine, complete with crank and flywheel, all from Internet photos. Should be pretty neat when he's done. Chuck also plans to complete a second model for this bet. Good grief, man!

David Armitage showed up with an armload of models; a nice group of 54mm figures, an HO scale model of a dilapidated bait shop and two neat shadowboxes featuring Polar Lights reissues of the old Aurora Mummy and the Creature from the Black Lagoon. The shadowboxes are filled with Dave's patented "found" stuff like calendar pictures for backdrops, toy sharks and the like that all come together for a really interesting composition. Good stuff.

Andre Thierault came across a stack of '70 or '80's vintage airplane information cards with a nice black and white airplane photo on one side and interesting data on the other. Looks like world wide coverage. He's passing them on to interested parties.

Eric Hillebrand has been working on some interesting models lately. The Hobby Boss M4 High Speed Tractor caught his fancy and he's nearly got it completed. This appears to be a good, solid kit with no real surprises and makes up in to a very interesting vehicle. Got to get me one of these, now that I see it. Eric also brought in his nearly completed WWII Canadian HUP light van. This model is a resin conversion for the Italeri CWT truck by Real Models and is quite nice. Unfortunately, Eric made a lot of extra work for himself by using an Italeri Chevy Gun Tractor as a donor kit, only to find that the Gun Tractor tires were way too big. A set robbed from a German Steyr light truck solved that problem for a good looking result.

Tom Faith is also part of the "Not a Loser" bet and brought in parts of his project, a DML Panzer III. He's added casting texture to the surface of the turret using white glue stippled with a stiff brush. The glue technique allows for variations in texture depending on how firm the glue is when stippled and washes off if you screw up. Cool idea. Additions to this nice kit will be a Tank Workshop interior and CMK barrel and added armor.

Peter Gajowka showed us his new 1/48 Eduard Avia B-534 biplane fighter kit. The B-534 was one of the very last biplane fighters and fought in WWII. It's a very purposeful looking airplane. The molding is superb and it has all the goodies too. Love to see this one built up Peter.

Justen Hanna brought in a really flashy 1/48 Hasegawa Bf-109E, sporting the wide red and white recognition stripes the Swiss Air Force used in WWII. Noting the Swiss Messerschmitts were modified versions of the standard Luftwaffe issue, Justen made all the corrections. The masking required is quite extensive. Justen used Tamiya tape and found that it gave good results with no real headaches. Very nice paint job overall.

Ilya Grinberg brought in two of his 1/72 gems. First was an Academy Allison engined P-51A modified to the RAF Mustang I configuration. Lots of resin stuff, including deepened wheel wells that took a lot of grinding (to paper thin) to fit. As usual, the cockpit is fully detailed and Ilya added a Quickboost engine. The other model was a Spitfire late IX in Russian markings. Made from the Czech Models Resin kit, Ilya replaced some of the kit's photoetched cockpit parts with Aries resin bits left from a previous project. Ilya says this model feels like the real thing.

Brian McFee finished up a 1/48 Tamiya P-51D out of the box with Tamiya tape seat belts.
continued...

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May Meeting...

It's natural metal with the yellow nose and tail of the 351st Fighter Group. Brian sprayed Alclad directly on the plastic, no primer, no sealer. The Alclad and extensive yellow areas complicated masking but it came out fine. He used a wash to dull the finish a bit and blend in the decals. Very nice.

Dave Schwab also brought in his "Not a Loser" bet selection. He's building a 1/72 Sword F8F Bearcat as an air racer. This one will probably be in near stock condition depending on the decals Dave settles on. Looking forward to it.

Finally, new member Bob Dzimian brought in a couple of the stock cars he built previously. Nice models, but he says he's ready for something more ambitious now. He's started rebuilding an older kit of the famous "Hemi under Glass" show car, one of his favorites. He found that the kit is a bit mixed up, combining features of the car as it evolved over 3 years. He picked one year as his basis and started making modifications and improvements to match the pictures he found. It now has a whole new scratch built interior with aluminum gages, fire extinguisher, carpet and mats, all made as small as he could. Now he's starting the roll cage. Bob is obviously having a lot of fun with this project.

As you can see, there was lots of good stuff again this evening. The next meeting is on June 16th. It's a build session, but don't forget to bring in your completed projects, works in progress, new kits, or a model you'd like to show off. See you then.

The "BuffCon" Boys

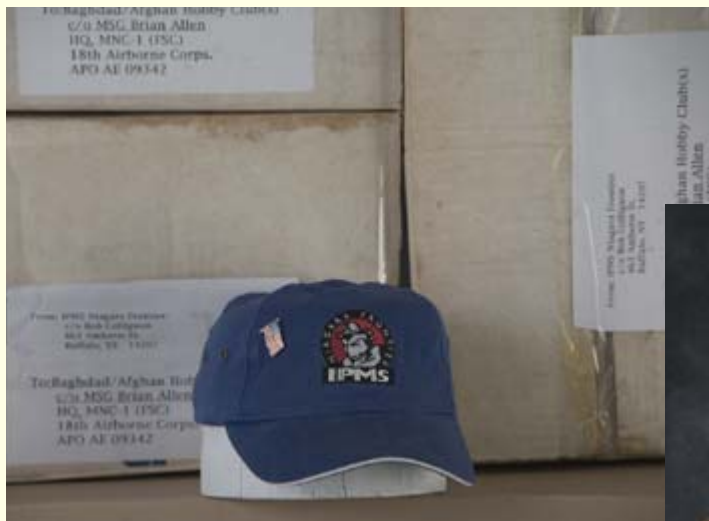
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Our Club donations to the troops went out this month!

Thanks guys, for all of your generosity!



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ADMISSIONS, REGISTRATION, SCHEDULE, and HOTEL DETAILS WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON!

MEMBER INFORMATION PAGE



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The Next Club Meeting:

The next meeting of the Niagara Frontier Chapter IPMS will be on Monday, June 16, 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:

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Attn: e-DIZPATCH

Digital files can be e-mailed to:

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