



NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY KEVIN CALLAHAN

JUNE 1994

IPMS-Seattle Modellers Survey

How many times have you wondered how modellers as a group felt about hobby-related issues? Have you ever tried to guess how many modellers out there enjoy the same branch of modelling or time period that you do? If so, you might be interested in this month's project, the First Annual IPMS-Seattle Modellers Survey.

There seems to be little hard data on what modellers think; most opinions are chalked up to conventional wisdom. I thought it might be interesting to pass out a questionnaire to the membership and see if any conclusions could be drawn from the resulting numbers.

The survey is included with this month's newsletter. Please fill it out and either return it to the next meeting or mail it to the dropbox address on the back page. No names, please; this is all confidential information. We will be collecting the surveys at the June, July and August meetings, with results likely to be published in the October newsletter.

The first section (questions 1 through 3) asks for details on your *primary* area of modelling interest (subject, scale, and time period). On questions 2 and 3, you are asked to *rank*

the choices, choice #1 being best. If you do not work in a given scale or era at all, just leave the box blank.

The next section (questions 4 through 7) asks for the same details on your *secondary* area of modelling interest. If you only do one type of modelling (such as cars) you would leave this entire area blank.

Otherwise, fill it out as you did the first section. Question 8 asks about any other modelling interests that were not covered above.

Questions 9 through 17 are designed to determine the building speed of this group of modellers. For each type of model, you are asked how many models you have actually completed in the last 10 years, and in the last year.

The next group (questions 18 through 21) is looking for how many items modellers have accumulated, as well as the subject's buying patterns.

Questions 22 through 36 give you a chance to express your opinions on the manufacturers of kits, decals, books, and even magazines. If you don't work in a given medium (such as resin kits), just leave the question blank.

Questions 37 and 38 open up the always raw debate about what kits should be considered by the injection-molded kit manufacturers. Question 37 specifically asks for which families should be considered. By families, I mean groups of variants on one basic kit, like the F-4 families from Hasegawa and Fujimi, the F-86 group from Fujimi, or the F-111 family from Hasegawa.

Question 38 gives you a shot at asking for 10 specific models you think should be considered by the major kitmakers. No holds barred on this one. You can select a prototype that has never been modelled before (such as the McDonnell-Douglas KC-10) or one that has been done before but you believe should be released in current state of the art technique (such as the Avro Lancaster). But, please, no extra points for weirdness -- do try to avoid playing "stump the survey compiler" and list a bunch of types that no one has ever heard of before. Still, if that's what you really want, go for it.

Next, three essay questions: the greatest strength and greatest potential problems that the hobby of plastic modelling face. And I'm sure most of you have asked

yourself #41 at one time or another.

The final questions (42 through 46) are purely for demographics. You're not required to answer any of them (for that matter, you're not required to fill out the form in the first place) but it will help me get a better statistical feel for the makeup of the group of modellers that do actually complete the questionnaire.

If you are a member of IPMS-Seattle, please indicate that on question 46. Since we exchange newsletters with a number of other IPMS clubs, some of the responses may come from outside of our immediate group. That's fine -- in fact, I would encourage that, since the statistics have more value if the database is as large as possible -- but I would like to have numbers for just the IPMS-Seattle members as well.

If there are multiple modellers in your household, feel free to copy the survey and distribute it to all interested parties. My only request is that each person fill out one questionnaire, and *one only*. No ballot stuffing allowed.

Individual ballots will remain confidential and will not be

available for review by anyone outside of the Exec Committee of IPMS-Seattle, and myself.

As an interesting side note, I put together the survey in late April. As I was laying it all out, up popped the latest *Military Model Preview* magazine with the results of their own first survey. Results is maybe too positive a word; they only listed the rankings for four questions out of a four-page survey form, and that took them a year to compile. Hopefully, we can pull some more concrete data out of this questionnaire, and at a higher rate of speed. The database for our group is smaller than MMP's.

So kick back, pop open a soda of choice, and have some fun with the survey. Remember that we're not looking for the cancer cure here, just compiling some entertaining statistics on a hobby we all enjoy.

I have placed a copy of the June 18 Yakima Model Makers First Annual Exhibition in the newsletter. The Yakima guys made a strong turnout at our Recon, so it would be nice if we could show the flag there as well.

Speaking of Yakima, I hope that some of you had a chance to see the Yakima Airshow on May 21 and 22. Though the rumoured P-38 didn't make it, there was more than enough in attendance to get the warbird enthusiast's heart pumping. And just about all of them were in the air by 1.00pm. Imagine flybys of five T-6s, two P-51s, a P-47, a PV-2 Harpoon, a C-45, a Bearcat, a B-25, and my personal favorite, a Hawker Hurricane. The usual current military hardware was in attendance as well. The show was not crowded (no Blue Angels and Snowbirds this year) and well worth the trip over the mountains.

Also, the "next issue" box on the last page of the July Fine Scale Modeler promises an article on airbrushing soft-edged camouflage by IPMS-Canada modeller Geoff McDonell. Geoff is also represented in the May Scale Aircraft Modelling, doing a CP Air version of the Transport Wings DC-8-63.

Kevin Callahan

Huma DFS 228

BY KEVIN CALLAHAN

Those of you who like the more unusual byways of aviation history -- especially as

it relates to Germany -- will already have heard of Huma Models. They are a small German company that has a range of almost thirty 1:72

short-run injected plastic models. Most of their subjects come from the 1930-1946 timeframe, and all are of German aircraft. Their subject

matter is quite eclectic, ranging from sport planes (Me-35, Klemm 35, and Fieseler Fi-5) to advanced Nazi prototypes (Me-1101, Heinkel He-132, and Lippisch DM-1). But the best thing about them is their high level of quality for a short-run manufacturer.

No one is going to confuse a Huma kit with high-class Hasegawa. But most Huma kits are quite buildable, with a minimum of the sort of wrangling you might expect from a Pegasus kit or one of the new Russian imports.

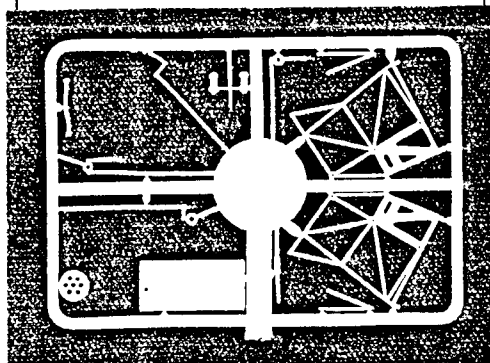
Generally, models are released in pairs about three times per year. The last pair, a DFS 228 recon glider and a Messerschmitt Me-328, were in boxes, as opposed to the usual clear plastic bags. While I have never gotten a damaged Huma kit in the past, the colour boxes definitely move Huma up a notch in terms of professional presentation.

But there is something else in the box this time that caught my attention as well. The kit I

bought was the DFS 228, and it contains a small sprue of what appear to be plastic parts of great delicacy. They really look like etched metal (in terms of thinness) but are definitely injected parts. One person I showed them to thought the material might be nylon, but nowhere on the instructions is any sort of alternate adhesive (such as superglue) mentioned, implying that the parts can be attached using regular styrene cement.

I have reproduced a photocopy of the sprue below.

This is a 1:1 scale reproduction, so you can see the fineness of the parts.



I next built up the cockpit section of the DFS 228, which is where most of these parts are used. You have to be very careful to go sparingly on the plastic cement, but I didn't have any pieces come apart during construction. There are some areas where more conventional plastic parts are fixed to these thin ones (such as the oxygen cans that attach to the cockpit wall framing) but there was no distortion.

All in all, I would say the experiment was a success, and encourage you to pick up one of the two newest Huma kits and give these parts a try. The Me-328 also has a fret of small parts, but it is less extensive than that in the DFS 228.

This all begs the obvious question: if a small manufacturer like Huma can produce a fret of wonderfully delicate plastic parts like this, why can't the big fellows like Hasegawa or Tamiya? It should be interesting to see how this situation develops over the next couple of years.

Yakima Model Makers First Annual Exhibition

Hosted by

Larson Gallery, Yakima, WA
Located on the Yakima Valley Community College Campus
(See Map on Back)

SATURDAY JUNE 18, 1994

Registration from 10a.m. - 12 Noon
Show & Judging for Popular & Participant's Best of Show
12 Noon - 5p.m.

This is an exhibit not a contest. Models will be displayed as works of Art. All participants are urged to bring old & new work. Models that have won previous contest awards may be displayed with their awards.
MORE ENTRANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SHOW THEIR WORK WITH AWARDS, (RIBBONS, TROPHYS, ETC.)
AWARD PRESENTATION 4:30 P.M.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Willett (509) 837-4435 6pm - 10pm
OR
Mark Frailey (509) 882-1728 1pm - 10pm

ADMISSION \$1.00
(Participants & Visitors)

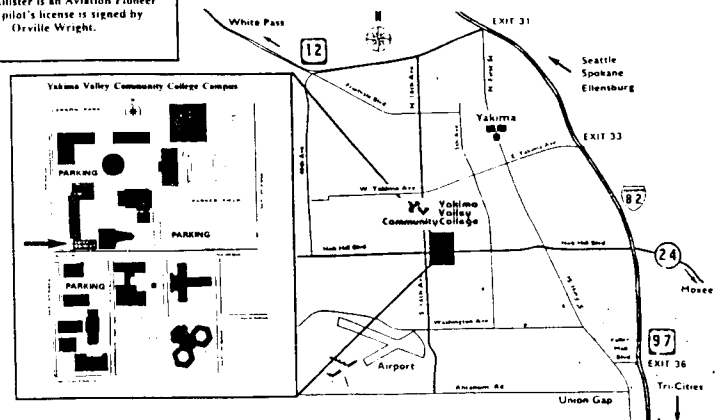
ENTRANTS LIMITED TO 5 MODELS. PLEASE NO MODELS REMOVED BEFORE 5:00pm
Please call for size limitations if you have large pieces or special requirements.

Planned Additional Attractions

Tour of
Bravo Company's
Captured Iraqi T-2 Tank

Tour of
McAllister Flight School
Mr. McAllister is an Aviation Pioneer
whose pilot's license is signed by
Orville Wright.

THE GALLERY WALLS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO DISPLAY
MEMORABILIA, PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS, ETC., RELATED
TO MODELING. REGISTRATION FOR ALL WALL HANGINGS WILL BE FROM
9 - 10am. ALL CATEGORIES OF MODELS WELCOME.



1994 IPMS-Seattle Modellers Survey

1. What is your PRIMARY subject area of interest?

- Aircraft Cars Figures Space/Science Fiction
 Armor Ships Dioramas Other _____

2. For your PRIMARY subject interest, rank the following scales in order of preference. If you do not work at all in a given scale, please leave it blank.

- 1:72 1:144 1:24/25 1:35 1:350 1:32
 1:48 1:200 1:43 1:76 1:700 Other _____

3. For your PRIMARY subject interest, rank the following time periods in order of preference (#1 would be the era you are most interested in, #2 your second favorite era, etc). If you do not work at all in a given era, please leave it BLANK.

- 1980 - current 1945 - 1950 1919 - 1929 Nineteenth century
 1960 - 1979 1940 - 1945 1914 - 1918 Eighteenth century or before
 1950 - 1959 1930 - 1939 1900 - 1913

4. Do you have a SECONDARY subject area of interest?

- Yes No

5. What is your SECONDARY subject area of interest?

- Aircraft Cars Figures Space/Science Fiction
 Armor Ships Dioramas Other _____

6. For your SECONDARY subject interest, rank the following scales in order of preference. If you do not work at all in a given scale, please leave it blank.

- 1:72 1:144 1:24/25 1:35 1:350 1:32
 1:48 1:200 1:43 1:76 1:700 Other _____

7. For your SECONDARY subject interest, rank the following time periods in order of preference (#1 would be the era you are most interested in, #2 your second favorite era, etc). If you do not work at all in a given era, please leave it BLANK.

- 1981 - current 1945 - 1950 1919 - 1929 Nineteenth century
 1961 - 1980 1940 - 1945 1914 - 1918 Eighteenth century or before
 1951 - 1960 1930 - 1939 1900 - 1913

8. List any other modelling interests.

9. How many injection-molded plastic models have you completed (in the last 10 years)?

10. How many injection-molded plastic models have you completed (in the last YEAR)?

11. How many vacuforms have you completed (in the last 10 years)?

12. How many vacuforms have you completed (in the last YEAR)?

13. How many resin models have you completed (in the last 10 years)?

14. How many resin models have you completed (in the last YEAR)?

15. How many conversions (such as to a different variant) to a basic kit have you completed (in the last 10 years)?

16. How many conversions (such as to a different variant) to a basic kit have you completed (in the last YEAR)?

17. How many kits do you own that HAVE NOT been completed?

18. How many books are in your reference library?

19. How many magazines are in your reference library?

20. In the average month, how many of the following do you buy:

Kits Books Decals Magazines

21. Which single kit do you own the MOST COPIES of (completed or not)?

22. Who do you consider to be the overall BEST kitmaker?

23. Who do you consider to be the overall WORST kitmaker?

24. Which kitmaker do you feel gives best value for money?

25. Which kitmaker do you feel has improved most since 1990?

26. Who do you consider to be the overall BEST vacuform kitmaker?

27. Who do you consider to be the overall BEST resin kitmaker?

28. Who do you consider to be the overall BEST short-run injected kitmaker?

29. Which kitmaker do you feel does the best of the following:

Surface detailing

Instructions

Decals

Packaging (box art)

30. Which book publisher do you feel is best serving the needs of modellers?

31. Name a recent book you feel was excellent. _____

32. Who do you consider to be the overall BEST decal maker?

33. Who do you consider to be the overall WORST decal maker?

34. Which decal maker do you feel has improved most since 1990?

35. What is your favorite modelling magazine?

36. Are there any other magazines you think deserve honorable mention?

37. Name three FAMILIES of kits you think should be considered by kitmakers (such as Spitfires, Phantoms, etc).

38. In DESCENDING order (most important first), name the 10 individual models you think one of the major kitmakers should produce.

#1
#2
#3
#4
#5
#6
#7
#8
#9
#10

39. Briefly, what do you consider to be the greatest strength of the modelling hobby? Attach additional pages, if needed.

40. Briefly, what do you consider to be the greatest problem facing the modelling hobby in the next few years? Attach additional pages, if needed.

41. Briefly, why do you think so many modellers buy far more kits than they can ever possibly build?

42. How old are you?

- 16 or under 26 - 35 46 - 55 65 or over
 17 - 25 36 - 45 56 - 65

43. How would you characterize your profession?

- Manager Engineer Admin support, clerical Other _____
 Technical Pilot Programmer, sys analyst
 Service Military Retired

44. What sector is your employer in?

- Aerospace Transportation Retired
 Manufacturing Information/data Other _____
 Financial Research
 Services Government

45. What is your approximate annual household income?

- Under \$20k \$41k - \$50k \$71k - \$80k Over \$100k
 \$21k - \$30k \$51k - \$60k \$81k - \$90k
 \$31k - \$40k \$61k - \$70k \$91k - \$100k

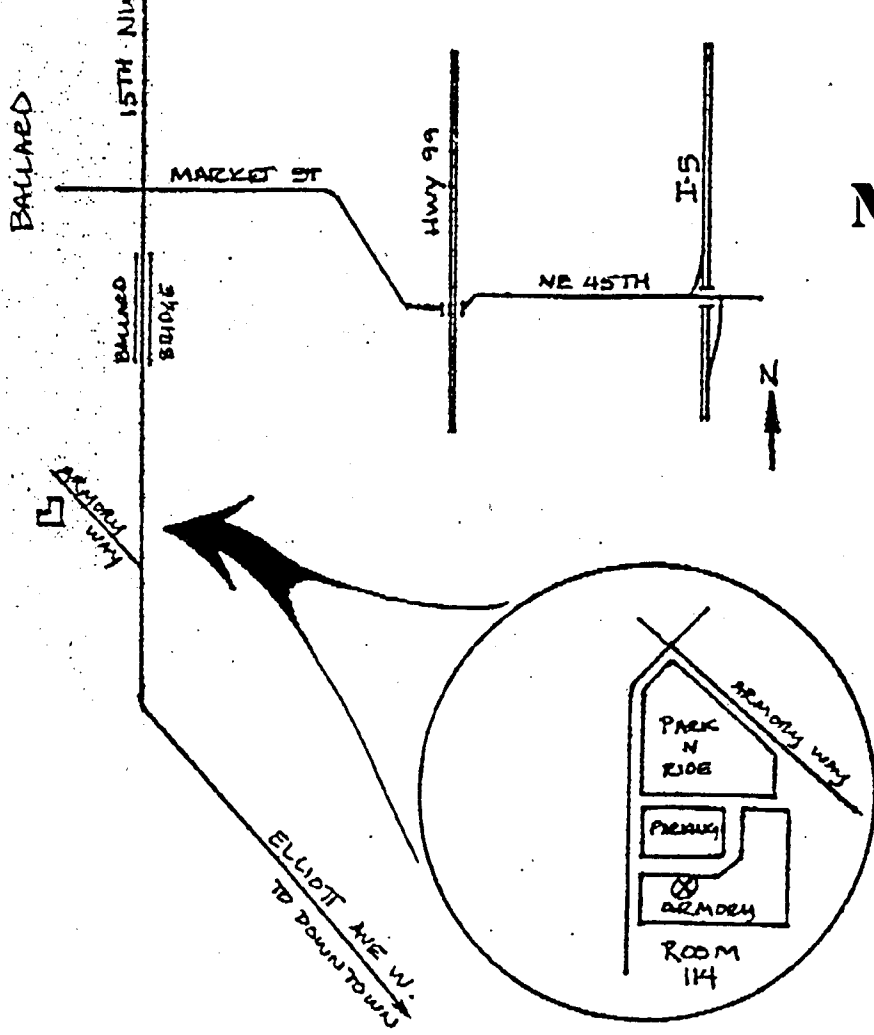
46. Are you a member of any of the following organizations:

- IPMS-Seattle Other IPMS outside of Region 7 Not a member of any club
 Other IPMS club in Region 7 Other modelling club

Thanks for taking the time to complete the 1994 IPMS-Seattle Modellers' Survey. The results will be tallied and presented at one of our upcoming group meetings. The results will also be published in the newsletter as soon as possible. Feel free to photocopy the results and give it to other modellers. However, please fill out ONLY ONE survey yourself. No ballot-stuffing allowed!!

If you cannot drop the survey off at one of the group meetings, please mail it to the following address:

IPMS-SEATTLE
31849 Pacific Hwy S
Box 243
Federal Way, WA 98003



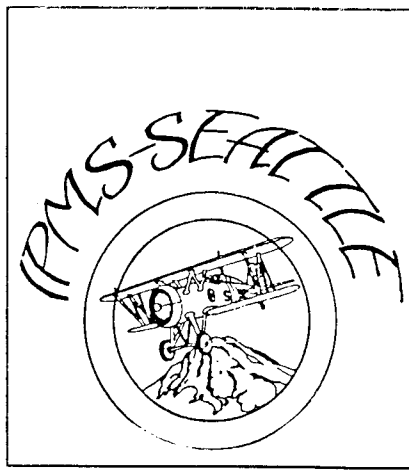
NEXT MEETING!!

SATURDAY, JUNE 11 at 10.00am

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
 Room 114
 1601 W. Armory Way
 Seattle, WA

From north- or southbound I-5, take the NE 45th st exit. Drive west on 45th under Highway 99 (Aurora Ave) to Market Street. Continue west on Market St to 15th Ave NW. Turn left and drive south on 15th Ave NW across the Ballard Bridge to Armory Way. Watch for signs!

If you are coming from south Seattle, take Highway 99 onto the Alaska Way viaduct to Western Ave. Follow Western north to Elliott. Continue north on Elliott to Armory Way. Watch for signs! There is plenty of parking in the Metro Park and Ride lot.



Membership information:
 Andrew Birkbeck
 3209 NE 98th St.
 Seattle, WA 98115

Newsletter comments or submissions:
 Kevin Callahan
 31849 Pacific Highway S
 Box 243
 Federal Way, WA 98003



NEXT MEETING: Saturday, June 11 at 10.00am
 See the above map for meeting location.

William Holowchuk
 19627 133rd Dr SE
 Snohomish, WA 98290