

The Reporter



The Official Newsletter of IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers www.lakesregionmodelers.com

March 2019

Meeting Musings - March 2019

By Tom Reese

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Larry Johnson memorial auction at out March meeting. Thanks to your generosity we raised nearly \$1700.00 for Cindy.

There are a number of other club members I'd like to thank because without your help we could not have pulled this off on such short notice. First thanks to Neil Butler, Robert Raver, Matt Stowell, Walt Fink and Phil Pignataro for making the trip to Janesville to pick up the kits. Thank you to John Graham for making storage space available at his hanger. Many thanks to Phil for all his research in pricing the kits which was invaluable in determining a fair price to start the bidding at. Lastly thank you to John and Robert for volunteering to be our auctioneers. They kept the pace quick enabling us to sell a large number of kits in a short time. My apologies in advance if I missed anyone. Please know that your contributions were appreciated.

That said, we still have a large number of kits from Larry's collection to dispose of. As we all know collecting is as much a part of the hobby as building is and Larry was a prolific collector. So stay tuned for details on future auctions.

We had some nice models on the display table for the Cold War theme as you'll see in the show and tell. Glad to see our members are busy building.

Our next meeting is a build night, so more opportunities to whittle away at our stashes. Until next time, happy modeling!



Above - just a small fraction of Larry Johnson's collection. At right - Our auctioneers. I promise they were much more lively than they look!



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President's Message

March 2019 President's Message for Newsletter Well Worth the Effort!

"It is better to give than to receive" – such a quote rings true in life, unless you're a six-yearold child on Christmas Day! There is such a feeling of gratitude when a little effort can make a difference in someone's life. Such was the case at the February LRSM general club meeting. As a group we came together to support the family of a member who passed away much too soon. Larry Johnson was a long-time LRSM member and quite a talented and prolific modeler whose interests leaned toward Sci-Fi, autos and large-scale aircraft – and his large collection of kits certainly supported this. His imagination in modelling was quite unique and we shall have a special *Imagination in Modeling* award in his honor at this year's NIMCON show. His passing a few months ago made us all reflect in our own ways and set our sights on how we may help Larry's family in our own way.

I wanted to begin this month's newsletter with a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you who attended and supported the sale of the kits from the late Larry Johnson's stash. We raised \$1,700 for Cindy and family and more to come. Like most of us, Larry had an expansive collection of kits and we only made a small dent in the pile! We are working to get the rest of the kits out of Cindy's home and into the storage hangar. Current estimates are Larry had approximately 800 kits in total – and most of them were of high quality! Once we have more news on how we are going to sell the remainder announcements will be made. Nice job to all who helped...well worth the effort!

I also had the opportunity to make the annual pilgrimage up to Madison, WI in the dead of winter to attend the Mad City show on March 2. This was also the IPMS Region 5 contest for 2019. The weather was cold, but the hotel made up for it by not having enough parking... but it was also well worth the effort. I was able to spend a nice day with my wife (let's just say she does not share my overabundant enthusiasm for the hobby!) and with several members of the club. And LRSM was well represented. Our club sponsored a "Best of" award and were publicly acknowledged for our contribution. Yours truly took home a third place in the Vignette category and I was low man on the totem pole! Among our club's winners were Art Giovannoni, Neil Butler, Logan Hungerford, Robert Raver (1st place for his 1/16 Tiger tank plus one other) and Tom Reese (two first places for aircraft and a "Best of" award). My apologies if I forgot anyone or anyone's award(s) – this is all from memory – I will take notes next year.

The Mad City show was a success as they had many of their club members volunteering at the show. It is truly the volunteers that make shows go. We cannot afford to hire any staff for NIMCON as the "profits" are low to begin with and are reinvested into the club to allow us to do another show the following year. **Please volunteer this year at the NIMCON show.** We need judges and raffle ticket salespeople and Jacks and Jills of all trades. No job is too small and even an hour of your time will be much appreciated. The planning for NIMCON continues to gain momentum and the call to volunteers is still going out! Please consider contacting Tom Reese or Robert Raver to volunteer.

2019 continues to be a productive year at my bench. Three figures done and several more projects on the bench. Feel free to bring in your work-in-process models for a show and tell – it doesn't have to be the theme of the night. We would all love to see your work. The

general meetings are also a great time to bring in a project underway and ask for tips, tricks or advice. It is a great way to learn. I hope you are all getting some good bench time during this winter wonderland and see you at the next meeting.

The March meeting is a build night so let's all bring something on which to work. The theme is "Creature Feature" which means any model that has a creature in it, a creature or beast in its name or anything else you can think of that qualifies! See you on Friday, March 22 at The Fountains. Model on.



THE BRIEFING ROOM

BY TOM REESE

2019 Membership Dues

Thanks to all who paid your due by the December meeting. We hope you are sporting that new club t-shirt! There are a handful of folks who still need to renew. The deadline is by our March meeting. If you cannot attend the meetings but want to renew your membership you can contact me at tlbjreese@att.net and I'll let you know where to mail you payment. Hope to hear from you.

Club Auction

Friday April 26th is the annual club auction. This is one of our main fund raising events so please take a look through your stash to see what you can donate. We all need to make room to buy each others kits, lol!

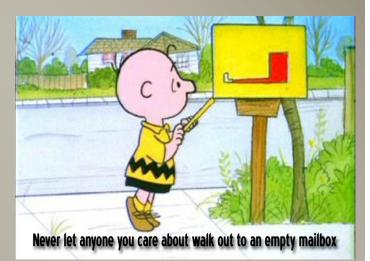
Newsletter Articles Needed

That looks like Charlie Brown but it is really your newsletter editor, Iol. I had to raid the archives this month to fill space as some of you might notice when you read Kevin Stover's build article of Moebius's 1/32 Scale Viper Mk II.

So I'm casting my net for more newsletter content. It doesn't have to be a polished document. Just something simple with a few pictures. I am happy to do the polishing for you! If I may be so bold I'd like to suggest how to articles. We all have our little tricks and tips for accomplishing modeling tasks. Share your expertise!

Please don't leave me with this forlorn look on my face.

As always your input is greatly appreciated!



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Show & Tell - Cold War

Photos & captions curtsey of Tom Reese

Steve Jahnke: A WIP of a '69 Boss 302 Mustang. Due to the carb layout Steve is trying to decide whether or not to punch a hole in the hood.



Robert Raver: Robert usually finishes 1 or 2 models a year but brought in two in 1 month! His 1/72 Eduard La-7 included lots of PE and scratch building.





1 Ken Kellner: This B-58 Hustler is a 15 year WIP. Ken was inspired to finish an aircraft model after flying a B-17 last fall.



Robert Raver: A cut up Tiger 1 serves as a back drop for three figures on this vignette. Robert employed some new figure painting techniques learned from Dan Tisonsik.

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Show & Tell - Cold War

Photos & captions courtesy of Tom Reese.



1 Ned Ricks: Ned's H-34 was in theme. He replaced the HobbyBoss JDF decals with aftermarket USAF decals. This build was an exercise in trying new NMF techniques.



1 Matt Stowell: Matt added lights to the Billiken Ultraman vinyl kit to pay homage to the TV show he watched in his youth.

■ Ned Ricks: Ned used tips on creating gray tones he found on a website to finish this Abe Lincoln bust.



Matt Stowell: This 1/48 Tamiya P-51B was built OOB for a Facebook group build.



Show & Tell - Cold War

Photos & captions courtesy of Tom Reese.



1 Art Giovannoni: Another Cold War themed model was Art's naval version of the T-33. This is the 1/72 Minicraft / Hasegawa kit. ↓ Phil Pignataro: Another Cold War warrior was the Tu-95 Bear bomber. Phil built the 1/144 Trumpeter recon version.





- Don Norton: This is a flat figure from the Artist Preservation Group. The great thing about painting uniforms from this period in history according to Don is you can't paint it wrong!

Show & Tell - Cold War

Photos & captions courtesy of Tom Reese.

→ Mike Marchese: Mike had a future build with his 1/48 Taniya Mig 15. He recently found the misplaced directions online so he is ready to build.



→ John Graham: This German infantryman circa the Holy Roman Empire is a WIP. The instruction manual is 60 pages long and divided into beginner and advance modeling techniques.

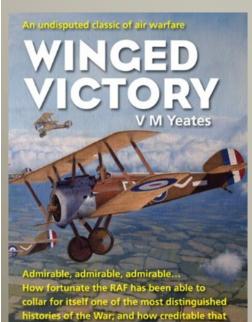


- John Graham: This is a 1/32 1914 German airmail pilot. This was an exercise in improving his figure painting skills and it was also his first attempt doing snow on a base.



A Look at Three Titles by Ned Ricks

- Winged Victory (novel) by V. M. Yeates acclaimed as the best of novel its kind by WWI contemporaries, including T.E. Lawrence.
- Open Cockpit : A Pilot of the Royal Flying Corps (memoir) by Arthur Gould Lee, MC, who become an Air Vice Marshal
- Winged Warfare: Life During World War I of a Canadian Flying Ace (memoir) by William "Billy" Bishop, VC, CB, DSO & Bar, MC, DFC



deserves it. T E Lawrence

One of these books popped up as a suggested reading from Amazon, and as the eBook version as only 99¢, I gave it a try. It was surprisingly readable and interesting to me. One caused me to get the next and the next, just the way any bookseller hopes it will.

What follows are some observations from these books, rather than a real "review." First of all, I noticed that the memoirs had very little of the anguish one sees in films such as *Dawn Patrol* (1938) with Errol Flynn or *Wings* winner of the Best Picture Oscar (first ever?) in 1927. *Winged Victory's* lead character, Tom, muses on the fatigues of war, loss of friends and the futility of war, but he climbs back into the cockpit and does his mission. He even flies on his off duty days, behind Allied lines, for fun including when he says he has a head cold. The novel is widely held to be semiautobiographical of Yeates who was invalided from active service by what we would now call stress disability.

Many references made in these books to drinking, and not just bingeing at night. (So much for the FAA rules about lots of hours between "Bottle and Throttle," at least in this war.) When someone was reassigned back to England after six months combat, referred to as being sent to "Home Establishment duty," or promoted and reassigned in France, there is a party with much drinking involved. Only those with the early job at dawn would slack up on the partying.

In each of these books, the primary combat aircraft used is the Camel. It has a "Rotary Engine" in which the engine rotated along with the prop, or "airscrew." This created a lot of torque making the plane difficult to keep steady. If a pilot flew into a cloud, he could easily lose control of his aircraft lacking visual references. The rotary engine used castor oil, and pilots came back with clothing stinking of it. THE REPORTER

Fledgling aviators graduated from dual control, old ships to newer models. The flight training was rudimentary with solos after a few hours and dispatch to combat squadrons with around twenty hours. The "advanced" instruction in single place planes seems to have been directions given on the ground before take off and "Good Luck." Billy Bishop, VC, credited his success to the fact that he could not get into pilot training at first. He had a tour of duty in France as an observer and then moved up, but had gained valuable experience. Then-Lieutenant (later AVM) Gould Lee was stuck in several schools in England before going to France and accumulated more than the usual hours of stick time that served him well.

Combat fighter aircraft were "Scouts," and they flew very high, even to 20,000 feet if narratives to be believed. Many references are made to the various layers of clothing against the cold. Whale grease for protection of the



face...yuck. Two seater aircraft were used for artillery spotting, reconnaissance and aerial photography. Scouts sought out the Hun two seaters to block their missions and protected their own, sometimes in layered defense.

The eastern side of the Front in France was called "Hunland" in all three books. Missions were called "jobs." "PBI" meant "Poor Bloody Infantry," and there several tales of forced landings away from the aerodrome and spending time in the trenches before a pilot could get back to his unit. All agreed they did not want to be in the PBI. Least favorite jobs among scout pilots were balloon busting and strafing the ground. "Too many machineguns are in range' when near the ground.



The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was made up of officers from other regiments "seconded," or temporary assigned, to the RFC. Some had served in other capacities before aviation. Lee was originally with the Sherwood Foresters Regiment, Bishop was a cavalry officer in the 7th Canadian Mounted Rifles. Many of the later pilots were new to the military altogether and came directly to aviation.

In 1918, Royal Air Force (RAF) is formed with new ranks and new uniforms. A major was now squadron leader, for instance. Officers' uniforms were usually tailor made for them. As there was no uniform allowance for officers to buy the new kit, they just continued on with their old, preferred regimentals with wings on the breast to designate their flying status.

Camel pilots had a hammer or mallet with which to bash a jammed machinegun charging handle. Routinely, there were stoppages and the pilot had to cope with these in action. As planes flew higher, the pilots would, from time to time, shoot a few rounds from their machinegun(s) to keep them from freezing up.

Some more terminology: "Planes" were the airfoils. "Machines" or "busses" were the actual aircraft. "Archie" is anti aircraft artillery. The Hun Archie burst black or gray and the Allied burst white. Your side would sometimes burst shells to warn one side or the other of approaching enemy machines. Other times, especially on windy days, your own Archie would burst shells to help you navigate back to your own side. What we would refer to as the "air speed indicator," they called the "pitot." Now, we say the ASI gets it readings from the pitot tube. Sub-unit leaders, flight leaders and deputy leaders, had pennants or streamers that trailed from their airframes to mark them.

In all three books, the pilots knew the limitations of their machines and the capabilities of the Hun machines, which could out turn the other, out dive the other, out climb the other. The pilots eagerly awaited the arrival of newer, more advanced aircraft such as the Snipe and the SE5a. Each author comments on a common tactic of diving away to break off the fight or to return to your own base. This did not seem to imply lack of courage, except when the Brits wanted to fight out numbered or out classed Germans.

With a modern perspective, it is odd that there are few mentions of fighters (scouts) attacking opposing airfields. Night bomber raids, usually ineffective, are mentioned, but no strafing of parked air planes.

With the World War I armistice centenary in our recent consciousness, you may find these three books both educational and entertaining. I did.



RAFFLE PREVIEW



1/72 Eduard Spitfire Mk. VIII ProfiPACK



1/48 HobbyBoss A-4M Skyhawk



1/72 Monogram-Revell F-82G Twin Mustang



1/35 Dragon Pz.Kpfw.VI Ausf. E Tiger



1/24 Tamiya Porsche 959



1/700 Tamiya German Battlecruiser Scharnhorst

JANUARY 2019	FEBURARY 22nd 2019	MARCH 22nd 2019
No Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting
Holiday Party & Club Contest Saturday January 26th at The Golf Club of Illinois	Theme - Cold War 1960- 1990; any subject used dur- ing the Cold War	Theme - Creature Feature; any model that has an ani- mal or beastly name
	Program - Larry Johnson Me- morial Auction to help the Johnson family	Program - Build Night
APRIL 26th 2019	MAY 28th 2019	JUNE 28th 2019
Annual Club Auction	Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting
	Theme - The Italians are	Theme - D-Day models
	Coming!; anything Italian	Program - Build Night
	Program - Basics of judging – in advance of NIMCON	
JULY 26th 2019	AUGUST 23rd 2019	SEPTEMBER 25th 2019
Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting
Theme - Real space salute to Apollo 11 / first man on the moon 50th Program - Colorado Railroad Museum Visit by Phil Pignata- ro	Theme - Models inspired by movie or a book Program - Decals Decoded by Walt Fink	Theme - Bring in your current WIP for build night Show and Tell Program - Build Night
OCTOBER 18th 2019	NOVEMBER 22nd 2019	December 27th 2019
Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting	Monthly Meeting
Theme - Inspirations; any model built after being in- spired by the real thing or someone Program - Churchill Under- ground War Bunker by John Graham	Theme - Extreme aftermar- ket / scratch built models Program - Oil Dot Filter Weathering by Robert Raver	Theme - Sci-Fi rules – in hon- or of Star Wars Episode IX premiere Program - Build Night





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