

# MosquitoGram

The Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of IPMS

## The Iron Works

By Bill Schwarz, President



September's theme is Primary Colors Night!



Welcome to the September, 2017 NJIPMS Newsletter

By Big Bill Schwarz., President

Hi all. I'll make this brief because I am busy tonight. I start this NL off with another member tragedy. Ronnie D passed on, and it's sad that we have lost another long-time member. Do well in your next life old warrior, and God Speed! That's makes 3 in 3 years boys! Someone said at a recent meeting that in 10 years more than half of us will be gone and I actually believe it now, where I didn't before. My only wise words to all of you is "Bury all hatchets you have now. Do the best to make the coming years (However Many Are Left) as good as you can because like I keep saying "YOU NEVER KNOW!!!!!! 'Nuff said on this.

I apologize for not making the meeting last month. I had some medical issues with my leg that was infected and the docs seem to have a handle on it with the new meds and I'm ok so far. 'Nuff said on that. I hear that Mike Terre's Del Marva Marvels are doing well too and I am happy for them. Best of luck Boys. When some of the other guys in the boonies, like my bud Mike Witkowski, find out a club is starting, I'm sure there will be a shit load of guys waiting to join!!!!!! Best of Luck again!

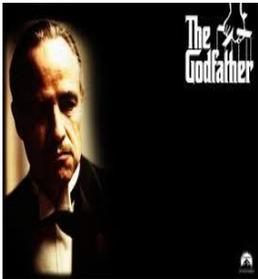
Next up, support the upcoming shows! Be it JerseyFest, AMPS Poughkeepsie or Carlisle.

Do your best to try and support the clubs and guys that have been supporting us all these years. They helped to make MCON what it is today. As for MCON I've started with the show stuff I do earlier this year, with hopes for a sellout. I'm sure as always it will be very well attended. Well, I think that's it for me for now. Enjoy Life and Friends and Have a F&^%\$\*G Ball every day because You Never Know!!

Best to all, Regards/Friendship, Big Bill

## From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio



September, amazing what happened to August, Hope all is well with you guys. There is really nothing going on except what I'm currently building, which is the Tamiya JS-2 heavy tank. I always wondered in my early years how exactly were the Nazi's defeated. The schools I went to taught history but never even mentioned that Russia even fought in World War Two. I remember we were taught the Americans and a few British invaded France on D -Day June 7 1944, fought their way to Germany and the Germans surrendered. Wow that was neat and clean. Then one day in my late teens I bought a copy of ' The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich" by William Shirer and found out that the Russians really won WW 2. Amazing what you don't learn in our education system.

Exactly what did the Russians use to win the war, a lot of dead Russians, approximately 28 million give or take a few million and the development of some fine weapons including tanks such as the T-34 light(25 ton) and the JS-2 heavy tank (42 tons) with a 122 mm gun. This tank could kill a German Tiger tank one on one, something an allied tank could not do on it's own.





The kit is what you come to expect from Tamiya, good instructions and fine moldings on all parts, the dark green parts also have no flash and no filler needed anywhere, The kit has 2 possible options for tracks one, rubber bands and the other is plastic-some individual and some longer lengths of tracks.

I did not use either, I instead went with my Fruil Models metal tracks, better than sliced bread as far as I'm concerned, and they look great and have the necessary give where needed..

I used narrow Archer resin weld molds which adds a distinct realistic look to the kits 2 piece turret.

I also used the kit decals and added white stripping decals to the top of the turret.

Tamiya has nailed the wheel assembly and alignment with their black wheel bushings, all the road wheels fit tighter than Martin Quinn's wallet and straighter than Joe Smith's 1970 Chargers fenders (I think because he never brought it to a meeting).

I highly recommend this kit and hope you have as much fun as I had with building it.( still not finished)

I have been told by Mike D that Buzz Lockwood is doing much better even doing some driving , we all hope to see Buzz soon.

Stay Happy and stay modeling

Vince.

## From the Vice President's Desk

By Joe Smith



I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable Holiday and hopefully a long weekend as well. Let us not forget the devastation that Texas has suffered and The great job are Police, EMS, Firefighters and our Military has done by saving so many lives!

Joe Smith

# THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



Hey guys,

Important to note about this month that the Primary and Secondary colors night won't be happening due to Devin not being able to attend the meeting. We're going to have to postpone it to a later date, in all likelihood early next year. In other news, is anyone attending Jerseyfest this weekend? The website for the show looks really good and it's been a very good show in the past. I may try to make the Saturday show if I get out of work early enough. The new schedule is hectic! It's always good to attend shows where you can learn different techniques and abilities. Even though I'm primarily a ship and sci-fi model builder, I've taken a lot of techniques for weathering from armor and aircraft builders, and then there are some skills that traverse all types of model building.

In other news, I finally was able to track down a 1/350 Lusitania model that I plan on building as Mauretania. Many of you may not know, but since March of this year I have been working as a research assistant on Ellis Island in the Family History Center, helping people track down the ship manifest for their family member that immigrated to, or visited the New York harbor between 1892-1957. I've actually had the opportunity to repair several of the ship models on the Island as I'm one of the few with the ability to do so. I plan on building the Mauretania to donate to the museum to put on display (somewhere). It's a very interesting job, where someone like any one of us would thrive. I think most in the club have a general love of history, particularly the late 19th and early 20th century. It's amazing to me how many people come in and say that their relative is from Poland in 1914 when most of us know it wasn't a country until after WWI. I think one of the great parts of being a model builder is really getting into the history of the subjects we work on and understanding the time period and conditions in the world when they were actually being used. I've found all that I've learned studying WWI ships and vehicles to be indispensable.

At any rate, I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting. I'll be a year older the next time I see you as I've just turned a whopping 29 at the time of my writing this (9-5).

Ciao,  
Jon

*Editor's note: I'm not real sure about the theme, as I have a recent e-mail from Devin that he **will** be at the meeting. I am without a cellphone for the time being, having lost mine on a trail somewhere in the Redwoods. So if anyone can reach Devin or John prior to the meeting, please let me know and I can send the up-to-date info ASAP.*

*It seems to me that Primary Colors Night is a go. To quote Devin "The requirement is to use a primary or secondary shade as the predominate color in the scheme. You can do a firebomber, an air racer, a figure, a sci-fi kit, a car or truck, a ferry boat, fire truck." Needless to say, I am confused.*

# The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP



As I write this, it's the last day of August. Can anyone explain why the summer months fly by so quickly? I see all the back to school stuff in the stores and I still get chills down my spine, even though I haven't had to go back to school in a very long time. Oh well, that's the way things go I guess.

There are several shows coming up that should be interesting. ArmorCon up in Danbury CT is always fun and in a few weeks it's PennCon out in Carlisle PA. It's always great to attend a local show, and a great way to check out kits and supplies in person. That's something that's getting harder to do since most of the local hobby shops are gone now.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and got to do some fun things with family and friends.

Best always,

Mike P.

*Editor's Note: To Terre or not to Terre, and which Terre to tear? I'll save Mike's send from August, and include this most recent one, as it applies to **PRIMARY COLORS NIGHT**.*

In support of Septembers "Primary and Secondary Colors Night" I'd like to offer this recent build of the RS Models 1/72 scale Tachikawa Ki-9 trainer in very colorful Manchoukuo (now Manchuria) Air Force markings.

First, here's your history lesson for the week. Manchoukuo was a group of northern Chinese provinces that were annexed by the Imperial Japanese government in the mid 1930's and formed into a puppet government fully supportive of Japanese ambitions in Asia. Manchoukuo's small armed forces were equipped exclusively with Japanese weapons. After the war this area was generally known as Manchuria.

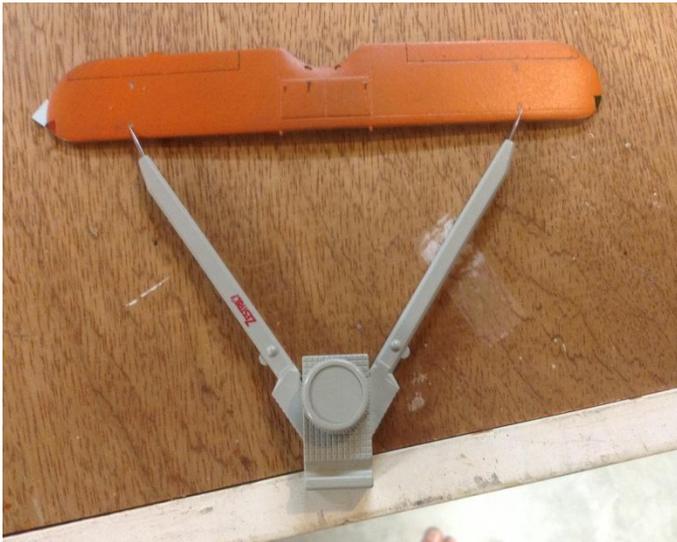
The RS Models kit of the Ki-9 was a delight to build. It comprised of twenty eight parts on one sprue of dark gray plastic, two incredibly thin and clear plastic windshields, and a great decal sheet offering four different marking schemes. Also included was one fret of photo etched parts which included instrument panels with printed and colored backs, as well as colored seat belts, with throttle quadrants, engine wiring harness and exterior grab handles thrown in for good measure. I'm not a real fan of photo etch parts but in this case they were easy to work with and greatly enhanced the model, the engine wiring harness and valve guides being particularly well done.



The raised surface detail was very well done and care had to be taken not to damage it during assembly. The build was straight forward, beginning with the cockpit. This kit has very delicate cockpit sidewall and floor parts that are assembled as a unit and then enclosed in the fuselage halves. The sidewall detail was painted in Tamiya XF-66 Light Gray. The floor boards were first painted Tamiya XF-78 Wooden Deck Tan then streaked with Tamiya XF-9 Hull Red followed by a final coat of Tamiya X-26 Clear Orange for a wood effect. I also used this same procedure for the wooden propeller. The cockpit area was lightly weathered with Rub-N-Buff silver and black pastel.

The model was finished in old Polly "S" 410030 Reefer Orange, a railroad color. I've used this color for other Japanese training aircraft and think it accurately represents the correct scheme, however there is a great Internet discussion on use of this color. I used Tamiya XF-64 Red Brown for the brown areas behind the engine and for the landing gear struts. Tamiya XF-69 NATO Black was used for the cowling. The engine was also finished with XF-69 NATO Black with Tamiya XF-66 Gray used for the crankcase followed by the attachment of the photo etched wiring harness and valve guides. The tires were finished in Tamiya XF-85 Rubber Black which really gives a nice realistic appearance.

The parts fit was exceptional and no problems were encountered, which is something to say for a limited run kit. The one piece lower wing greatly eased the assembly process. One problem however was the upper wing attachment as there were no locating holes in the wings for the interplane (wing to wing) struts, only lightly highlighted areas indicating the attachment points. Naturally the struts themselves had no locating pins, only butt joints. To further complicate the problem the interplane struts were set at an angle. However after a little thought I came up with a simple procedure which worked great. First I glued the interplane struts to the lower wings, using Testors plastic cement which cures slowly. Then using a pair of dividers given to me by Mike Pavlo some years ago I measured the distance between the upper wing strut attachment and then adjusted the interplane strut spacing accordingly. This was easily accomplished as the glue was slowly curing and the struts would hold the angle they were set to. After allowing the glue to cure overnight the top wing was attached with no problem. With proper wing spacing accomplished the cabane struts (wing to fuselage) were secured into place using a drop of Elmer's white glue. I like using Elmer's white glue for this type work as it's tacky which aids in strut positioning, and can easily be cleaned off in case a mistake is made. The wings were then rigged using stretched sprue.



The decals on this kit were a pure joy to work with, being thin but yet strong enough to be easily handled during positioning. I used Micro Set and Micro Sol with no problems encountered. The decals are printed by Rising Decals, a Czech company, which also produce after market decals as well. You might want to Google the Rising Decals website as they offer many offbeat and colorful marking schemes.

The model was finished off with a coating of Tamiya TS-79 Semi-Gloss Clear with a mixture of Rub-N-Buff silver, gray and black pastels for weathering. I like using the TS-79 Semi-Gloss as its gives a good representation of the fabric covering used on aircraft. The flight controls and some panel areas were highlighted using a Faber Castell SX artists pen.

Overall this was a two week fun build of a colorful aircraft and for bonus points figured out an easy way to deal with angled interplane struts! Thanks for reading, hope to see you all at the September meeting. Now get down to your bench and build, or at least look at, that beast that's been sitting there.

Mike Terre

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*Editor's note: Another fine-looking build from Mr. Terre. Hope we see the kit on Friday?*

*Next up is an article by Mike Dobrzelecki about one of the founders of the USS Intrepid Museum, who recently passed away.*

### **FROM THE EAGLE'S NEST**

By Mike Dobrzelecki

#### **The Passing of my Brother, Ron**

I wish to express my gratitude to the membership of NJIPMS for warm words of sympathy you extended to me over the passing of my brother, Ron.



He was interred with full military honors, including an honor guard escort, firing detail, flag- folding and presentation ceremony, and the playing of taps, by USAF personnel at the South Florida National Ceremony on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

He would have loved it.



## Larry Sowinski – Former Director of the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum Passed Away

(Note: This post is adapted from a post on Hyperscale and is supplemented by my own personal thoughts that follow it.

From Frank Desisto:

Most of you may have heard of Mr. Sowinski and why his passing has relevance on this web-site. If you will indulge me, I will elaborate.

Larry was an author, artist and master ship modeler. As a young man, he served on destroyers in the US Navy. But, he should be remembered most for his pivotal role in the founding of the USS Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York City. Larry was the Executive Director of the museum; I had the pleasure of working for him from 1987 to 1997. He was a man of honor and integrity who also became a dear friend and mentor.

Larry's multiple talents were utilized during his tenure at the Floating Dry-dock, a nautical publishing house, and a noted source of information for ship modelers. Among other titles, he co-authored a two volume "bible" on US Navy ship colors and camouflage from 1937 to 1945, entitled "US Navy Camouflage of the World War Two Era" (1976) and "US Navy Camouflage of the World War Two Era, Vol. 2, Fleet Carriers" (1977).

Larry's remarkable collection of hundreds of completely scratch-built ship models were the center-piece of a number of exhibits, including the Bi-Centennial celebration in Philadelphia in 1976. They later wound-up on display at the Intrepid Museum, where such epic sea battles as Leyte Gulf were depicted in an extremely dynamic fashion. Working in a scale derived from the 1950's era "box scale" plastic ship model kits from Revell, his ship models were made of common household materials such as wood, wire and paper. Where appropriate, his ships could have one or two aircraft (a battleship or a cruiser) or a full deck-load on an aircraft carrier model. I have held and photographed these models and can attest to the fact that they are indeed remarkable works of art.

Larry knew the value of scale models and how they could enhance museum displays. He knew the value of the modelers whose enthusiasm for the museum and its mission enabled the Intrepid to mount far more educational and detailed exhibits. During his tenure, various modeler's organizations worked closely with the museum, to include IPMS chapters from New York and New Jersey, area AMPS members and un-affiliated modelers. Some of these model-builders were and still are, world-renowned. The only model contest and convention held at the museum, Intrepid-Con 1996, had his full support.

My employment at the Intrepid lasted ten years. I came to know Larry and his lovely wife Maria extremely well; their infant son Zak soon "joined" the museum. I worked directly for the both of the Sowinskys in the museum's exhibits department as Curator of Photography. We all wore many hats at the museum and worked long hours to tell the story of our nation's warriors. However hard we worked and however many "hats" we wore, Larry did more. He understood leadership and could inspire the rest of us purely by his example. We did

“more with less” under his guidance, as the Intrepid Museum became, for a time, the largest non-government collection of warships and boats on the planet. The museum exhibited aircraft, missiles and aerial weaponry, as was AFVs, military vehicles and ordnance.

Under Larry’s direction, the museum mounted relevant and thoughtful exhibits detailing such things as African-Americans in the US Navy and a six-year series of exhibits detailing aspects of the Second World War. “Living” exhibits such as “Vietnam: The Helicopter War”, where operational military helicopters landed on the flight deck for static display were very popular. In 1992, the museum hosted replica ships to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Columbus’s voyages of discovery.

Larry was a mentor who not only allowed the staff members to grow, but would support us to the fullest. I became a fair writer under his tutelage and the opportunities presented to me as a photographer inspired me to become better at my craft. He was personally kind to both myself and my family; his door was always open to me and any staff member.

A memorial is planned and details will be posted as they are available.

Please join me in praying for his family and in wishing Larry “fair winds and following seas” on his final journey.

Frank V. De Sisto

Former Curator of Photography



USS Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum

From Mike Dobrzelecki:

The well-written tribute by Frank Desisto captures the essence of the great person Larry was, and what he accomplished in his life.

Larry recruited me back in 1981 (months before the museum opened in the summer of 1982) to help coordinate the model exhibits aboard the Intrepid. He was a mentor and inspiration for all who came to work with him aboard the museum ship. He was a true leader in every sense of the word, who had a knack for delegating responsibility to individuals, and letting them shine and succeed. Their success - my success - was

all based on this example of leadership. He opened up doors for me that took my humble hobby to places it could not have gone, had it not been for the opportunities he unselfishly laid at my feet. Because of him, I was fortunate enough to meet scores of historical figures, including Medal of Honor recipients, famous aces, heads of state and countless other veterans. Without Larry, I would not have been able to forge my connections to the Polish Air Force Veterans Association, the Polish Army Veterans Association, the Museum of Polish Military Heritage in New York, and all that came, and continues to come, from those relationships. The model local clubs in the area worked on over 20 major exhibits and events between 1981 and 2004 for the Intrepid. Every one of them was a joy. I was once counted over 784 models contributed by IPMS chapters and other local model clubs to the Intrepid's exhibits. That's quite an accomplishment in any book.

I remember that on the night of January 17, 1991, when the Coalition's Desert Storm air war had just commenced against Iraq, Larry called me up and said that the Intrepid wanted to do an exhibit on the Gulf War on a "fast track" basis, and he asked me to contact the NJIPMS membership and see if they had any models of the type of aircraft and vehicles used by both sides already sitting on our shelves. After a couple of phone calls, I realized that the members were so jazzed about the exhibit that we all wanted to do purpose-built models in correct markings for the Intrepid's Gulf War exhibit. I kept one eye on the TV watching the events unfold in real time, while working on a model and coordinating the rest of the NJIPMS's members. Colonel Dick Cole, an IPMS member down in Virginia, was a public relations officer in the Pentagon at the time. Cole kept feeding me boxes and boxes of 35mm slides taken of the Coalition aircraft and equipment. The modelers burnt a hell of a lot of midnight oil building in a frenzy to complete their projects. The exhibit opened the day the ground war ended. It was a gala affair attended by leading figures from the Coalition New York City Embassies, Consulates, and their representatives from the UN. I delivered the last models for the exhibit that morning, including my Kuwaiti A-4KU Skyhawk, which I worked on all that previous night. The Kuwaiti Ambassador to the UN even provided me with Arabic graffiti to put on the CBUs on the Skyhawk's MERs. That's the kind of effort that Larry inspired. Our Gulf War exhibit was featured in an article written by Frank Desisto for Fine Scale Modeler.

Larry's deep residing love of country, respect for the military - both our veterans and those of our allies - were all part of the reasons that underlay his commitment to his work. Like all of us this site, he loved history, too, and wanted to express these elements of his personality in a creative way.

And Larry made it all fun. I was fortunate to call him a friend.

Larry was one of the most organized modelers I ever met. He had all of his scratch-built ship models and their parts in a large cabinet similar to type used for storing unfolded large format engineering drawings. It had wide and long drawers that were just deep enough to fit the height of the parts. The drawers were compartmentalized with turrets in one slot, guns and radar in others, and so forth. It was like looking at a ship model assembly line staging project.

And his scratch-built ship models were incredible. He strictly adhered to the Smithsonian's requirement that non-acidic materials be used in constructing models, which would ensure their ability to last for a very long time, without deteriorating due chemical reactions over time. One example was that he used acid free bond

paper quite a bit, for the delicate gun tub shields and other parts of his ship models, eschewing the use of any plastic.

Larry was an all-around unpretentious nice guy, too. He met his wife, Maria, at the Intrepid. Their son, Zachary Sowinski, was named after Zachary Fisher, the New York real estate mogul that put his fortune behind making the Intrepid Museum a reality.

After his tenure at the Intrepid ended, he became the Director of the Palm Springs Air Museum in California and then the Director of the Knights of Columbus Museum in Connecticut, the latter of which he retired from a couple of years ago.

I stayed in contact with him all those years, and had my most recent conversation with him a couple of months ago. Even though in failing health, he was looking forward to getting back into modeling. It was not to be, however.

I mourn his passing and shall miss him terribly.

Mike

Former Volunteer Project Supervisor for Scale Models  
Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum

*Editor's Note: We all grieve for the loved ones who pass away. Maybe there exists a special type of sadness that accompanies the soul of an airman/ warrior who takes the final flight. RIP.*

*Simon Vichnevetsky brought in that huge Russian aircraft last month...here's the story behind it.*

And if it doesn't look right ... Actually, this all-metal 1931 vintage monstrosity DID fly, but was felled by a phenomenon in rigid structures known as resonance. Vibrations from its seven engines at certain regimes set off an escalating vibration which cased the airframe to shake apart in midair, with loss of most of its crew. Its creator, Konstantin Kalinin had priorly designed the K5, a useful single engine liner which was built in large numbers. He was eventually caught up in the wave of arrests that occurred in the Soviet Union in the late 30's and executed, apparently NOT because of the failure of his K7 project.



When I saw that Anigrand had produced a Kalinin K7 I told myself 'No, too weird'. Then I bought it ..... And when I opened the box I told myself 'No, I've already got too many projects going'. Then I built it. Construction was actually pretty painless in spite of this subject's rather complex layout. As is usually the case with Anigrand, the moldings are solid though not super detailed, engineering is good and bubbles in the resin few. I did not work this one very hard, and left some fits such as the front fuselage's junction with the wing less-than-perfect.

A basic cabin interior with crew was built up since I planned to display this turkey in a flying mode. The only added on details I made are tiny position lights, and a pitot tube made from fine metal wire below the nose.

I was going to spray paint this baby but chickened out because of some small but scary masking issues. The paint scheme, applied by brush is simplicity itself: a silvery gray of my own concoction. Kit decals were simple but adequate and of good quality.

Anigrand supplies transparencies cast in clear, CA glue- safe resin with typically well defined framing. The Kalinin 7 had an extensive and complex set of transparencies in the fuselage. Framing was picked out with a brush, overruns were corrected using a toothpick, and the window panels were highlighted with Tamiya 'smoke'; this was also used to highlight the multiple, well-moulded windows in the wings, which in the actual plane were about 8 feet thick!

I've had a lot of time on my hands for the past three months because of a series of Orthopedic issues. I've also been on a bit of an Anigrand kick, with a Belfast, a Xian y 20 and an xb28 in the works. Needless to say, I've been sanding a lot of resin. Lately I noticed that I've picked up this dry, hacking cough. Now, what were those warnings again about not breathing in that PUR sanding dust?

Going back to that Kalinin K7, I decided to show it in flight, in a case made by a guy called Ron Baluch; he builds a quality oak-and-acrylic case at a very fair price, and I'd be happy to give you his specifics.

I also added two 3D printed Polikarpov I 15 fighters from shapeways, also in flight, to give some scale to that huge K 7.

Finally I'd like to give the nod to Vallejo's decaler. It really does the job preventing silvering even if applying decals on very flat, dark paint.

Well, that's it for today. Do remember to wear respirators when sanding those resin models!

Simon V.

*Editor's Note: I just noticed at the bottom left of my screen that there are 14 pages in this newsletter. So I am just pasting a few notices and then am done. See you Friday.*



*Show is at the Marriot Hotel and their FB page says there will be shuttle buses running to and from the hotel to the parking areas.*

Jerseyfest Model Kit & Statue fair is a 3 day event being held from 8th September to 10th September 2017 at the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott in Newark, United States Of America. This event showcases products like vintage and new resin, vinyl and plastic model kits, hobby supplies, statues, replica props, and fine art and many more related products etc. in the Sporting Goods, Toys & Games industry.

*Check the web for more info and details.*



The Northeast Military Modelers Association is proud to announce  
ARMORCON 2017.

ARMORCON is the largest armor model show in the Northeast now covering two days, featuring 80 vendor tables, 6 seminars, and our famous monster raffle along with the ARMORCON model show and contest!

The 2017 show theme is 'The Yanks are Comin!' - American Expeditionary Forces'

The show will be held Friday September 22nd and Saturday, September 23rd, 2017, at the [Crowne Plaza Danbury](#), 18 Old Ridgebury Rd., Danbury CT.

### Admission

Adult General Admission:	\$8.00
Kids General Admission (7 to 17):	\$3.00 w/ Paying Adult
Kids General Admission (under 7):	Free w/ Paying Adult
Adult Contest Registration - includes General Admission:	\$25.00 for up to 3 models, \$3.00 each additional model
Juniors (17 & Under) - includes General Admission:	\$10.00 for up to 3 models, \$2.00 each additional model