

WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER, 2017 NEW JERSEY IMPMS NEWSLETTER.

## The Iron Works

By Bill Schwarz, President



"From The Iron Works" Xmas 2017

Big Bill Schwarz, President

Hi all. This is a short and sweet version. I'm still at home with the pic line in but with any luck, it will be out Monday and I WILL HAVE SOME FREEDOM!!!!!! LOL!!!!!! Anyway the road has been pretty easy and with the help, all looks pretty good!

The only club related item I have for this month is the Xmas Party. Glenda Graciously volunteered her time again to do this. She is a real Gem! Maybe you guys can take a minute to thank her at the party. She does more then you know! A lot more!!!!!!!!!!!!

With that said, the party is on Friday the 8th. Time sure F%\$#^&G flies more and more every day I get older! That's life I guess!

BTW wives are and always were invited so feel free to bring yours. As far as model of the year, Jon will take care of that in his piece!!! If I don't see some of you at the meeting, do well, live long and have fun in life and the new year! Life's too short to not do any of the above !!!!!!!

Also, we have a list of guys that got the pilsner glasses! Whoever was not at the meeting, email me and you will get one. I have a few extras for purchase as well. Let me know. \$8.00 is a fair price but I only have a few!

Lastly, Buzz Lockwood was down, up, now down again as of recent. I for one hope he gets better and returns to us shortly. We have been exceptional friends for years now and he will always be a hero to me. He means a lot to me and a lot of you and I consider him a treasure and my hero. Do well my friend! See you soon! That's pretty much it this month.

See you Friday for open bar 700 to 900- beer soda and wine only- plus buffet ala chef Glenda and Grandiso catering!

Happy New Year and Merry Xmas!  
Best to you all. !!!!

BIG BILL

## From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio



Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving . The December meeting is here, that means a Christmas party with food and drink for all. This year has flown bye. Pretty soon Mcon 27 - can it be possible? I was talking to Martin Quinn about some military books we were reading and he mentioned the Trilogy written by Rick Atkinson; Martin has read all three. I read the first "Army at Dawn" when it first came out in 2006 (I think); the next book was delayed at least a year -"The Day Of Battle"- can't recall the year it came out and the final book "The Guns At Last Light".(2013)

I'm currently half way through the second book "The Day Of Battle". The first book covers the war as it was fought in North Africa- it starts with the attitude of this country before the war started when it was conclusive enough that we would be involved one

way or another. The Books don't cherry coat the war- they tell it like it was. Who were the bad commanders, and the mistakes that were made. The second book is the fighting in Italy starting, with the invasion of Sicily and on to the boot, main land Europe. The third book starts with the invasion on D-day June 7 , 1944, through to Germany's surrender. I highly recommend all the books! "Army at Dawn" won a Pulitzer Award.

Dr. Simon is making great progress on his knee as seen at the last meeting, good for you Doctor.

Buzz Lockwood is is having a tough time with his new Chemo therapy treatment. Buzz you are in our thoughts and prayers, hope you get better soon. We all miss you.



-Vince

## From the Vice President's Desk

By Joe Smith



I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and a safe and healthy Happy New Year!

Joe Smith

**I'm with Joe in wishing the very best for all of us and ours. Be like Snoopy and wear your Santa Hat to the meeting. Ed.**

Here are a few pix from the last meeting.



Contact Mike Pavlo, keeping....contact!



John Bucholz Space Battleship.



Jerry Rinaldi's very cool Frank Frazetta  
Inspired DEATH LORD.



Plenty of plastic on the table.

**SPEAKING OF MIKE PAAVLO, HIS PIECE IS UP NEXT.Ed.**

# The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP

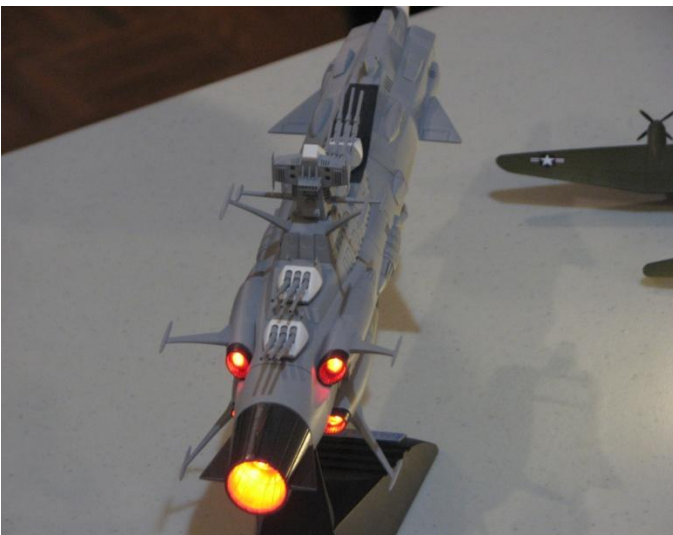


I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and got to spend time with family and friends. Amazingly, we are about to gather for our annual Holiday Party at the meeting. As always, it seems that the year has yet again flown by.

My lovely wife always asks what she can get me for Christmas. I never have many ideas to offer her, so she usually encourages me to obtain whatever modeling items I would want, which I happily oblige. Once they arrive, I give her the boxes and they find their way under the tree. I'm very lucky, I know! So over the past week or two I've been taking advantage of the big sales at Squadron and Sprue Brothers, as well as some great stuff from Roll Models. I guess many of us have been receiving models as gifts most of our lives. Growing up, I could always count on kits for Christmas and birthdays, but the subject matter was always a surprise. (except for Christmas 1975 when I asked for the new Monogram 1/48 B-17G). Does knowing the identity lessen the excitement value? Maybe a little, but it's as fun as always to get that kit you've been wanting. I'm hoping that we all get that special model or product we've been after.

I'm hoping that Simon V. and Buzz are each recovering from their health challenges, and I wish every member and their families a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy and healthy New Year.

Best Wishes, Mike P.



A better picture of John's spaceship,



Modern Armour- is this a Russian MPB?

AND NOW, THE PIECE WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR, JUDGE JON DESILVA HAS TALLIED THE VOTES AND HERE ARE THE FINALIST FOR MODEL OF THE YEAR!

## THE JUDGES TABLE



By Jon Da Silva

Alright gang, here it goes. As far as I have indexed, these are the members that need to bring models to the meeting this month for the model of the year contest for land & sea / air.

**January:** Marc Rocca - MIG 31 BM  
Mike Terre - Civil War Blockade Runner

**March:** Reuven Shapira - Stratocruiser  
Martin Quinn - USS Intrepid

**May:** Jerry Hughson - USS Missouri  
Marc Rocca - FW190D

**June:** Bill Connolly - TBD Coral Sea  
Mike O'Connor - USS Wichita

**July:** John Cunningham - Sherman Firefly  
Mike Terre - Gypsy Moth

**August:** John Tamasik - M2A1 Bradley  
Vince D'Alessio - P47D

**September:** Stan Stankewicz - Type 93 Willow  
Tom Vandermark - Heian Maru

**October:** Mike Terre - Anatra DS  
John Bucholz - KV1

**November:** Mike Terre - Supermarine Stranraer  
Eric Schroeter - SU76M

Please bring your models to the meeting for the annual Model of the Year contest! We'll also have a few other small prizes. It's been a great year and I can't wait to see everyone Friday.  
My best, Jon

Let's take a look at this months' "Terre-a-Gram"!

## The Ghosts of Christmas Past

I always said that my model "stash" is like a photo album, looking at a model brings back memories of where the model was purchased, who was with me, or if a gift, who gave it to me and the occasion. Recently I was rummaging through my stash looking for a new project. I thought there were no more surprises left in the stash until I came across this Hasagawa 1/72 scale Lockheed P-2H Neptune. Opening the box a gift tag fell out, it was a gift from my Dad for Christmas 1972 and I was immediately overwhelmed with memories. I went into the USAF in the early summer of 1972 and had finished training the first week in December but had to report to a base by the 15th of that month for overseas deployment. I managed to get back home for a few days for an early celebration of Christmas and my birthday which is on the 23rd of December. Little did I know that I would not be home for Christmas and my birthday for the next three years- but that's another story. My family had all served in the military, including my mother, so they understood and we had a nice "early" Christmas. Dad gave me the Neptune (purchased at Ever Ready Sport and Hobby in Bloomfield, New Jersey) along with a pocket knife which I still have. Looking at that model today brings back powerful memories of a Christmas forty five years ago. Where does the time go?



During my same sojourn in the stash, and looking for something other than a biplane to build, I came across the Revell model of the USS Mission Capistrano, a Navy T2-SE Oiler (kit #H-342:170). I've done a few ships before and this model interested me. I

remember my friend Dan Spera found this model for me on EBay about six years ago when I was building up a small ship collection. I opened the box and unfolded the instruction sheet, and a gift tag fell out...it was a Christmas gift for "Steve" from "The Lichts"! By this time I was sure that the Ghost of Christmas Past was hanging around and playing head games with me! You could see that the tag was carefully cut out and placed in the instruction sheet where it obviously had been for a long time.



This particular Revell Kit had been boxed in 1964 under "The Commander Series" of ship kits so I assumed this was the time period where it was gifted to Steve. This got me to wondering who Steve was and what was his story; or for that matter who were the Lichts and their relationship to Steve. They must have been family friends or perhaps neighbors or the tag would have said from "Uncle Joe" or "Grandpa" or something like that. I wondered why Steve never built the model, it was a quality kit in its day (and not too bad by today's standards either), not inexpensive in its day with a list price of \$1.70, it had been carefully stored, it was in near perfect condition, and why after all these years it had been sold on eBay? My guess is that Steve was a modeler and that this Revell Kit was part of his stash that had been sold. I hope that Steve was just thinning out his collection to make room for newer additions and not that he had departed to "The Big Hobby Shop in the Sky".

Well, for whatever reasons, Steve's Christmas memories are now part of my Christmas memories and are happily residing in my stash. Amazing how a paper box filled with plastic parts can bring back long forgotten memories! Maybe you should spend a little time with your stash this season, perhaps there are long forgotten memories, hopefully happy ones, waiting to be found. However beware of the **Ghosts of Christmas Past!**



Thanks for reading! I hope you and your families have a Blessed Christmas (and you get a bunch of models!) and a great New Year! See you at the club Christmas party!

Oh, and spend some time at your modeling bench, it helps reduce the stress associated with the holiday season! All the Best! Mike Terre



PS. My minions send their best!

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Wow! That is a great story. I'm getting a little choked up. Mike always writes so well, and to find the treasures again is a joy to hear about. **Ed.**

**Here's something Jerry Rinaldi sent that he found...interesting!**



**I am sure that there are some very colorful mottos associated with the story that Jerry sent. Hmmm...I think I'll leave the more pejorative responses to big Bill! I'm sure we all feel badly for Mr. Jackson, as curb's can be appallingly hazardous! Ed.**

**I was pleasantly surprised to receive a nice article from Sergeant-at-Arms Dan Spera! The SAG offers some very high-end modeling techniques as part of his travails against a ding in a kit.....just hours before our own MCon!**

**Lightning Fix by Dan Spera** - About 90% of the problems I have building models, I cause myself. Exhibit A: The trademark glue fingerprint I leave on just about every model I've ever built. There are many other exhibits in making the case for



*Figure 1 The beautiful Airfix Lightning Kit*

my ineptitude, but they are too many to list here. Maybe I'll explore some of them here in the future.

This article is about one such self-induced problem and my efforts to correct it – twice! Last year, I was building the very nice 1/48 scale Airfix English Electric Lightning F.2A/F.6 kit. I wanted to finish it in time for MosquitCon 26 on April 1, 2017. Since I had been building it for most of 2016, I arrogantly thought I would have no problem making the deadline. Maybe I would even start and finish another model in time for the show.

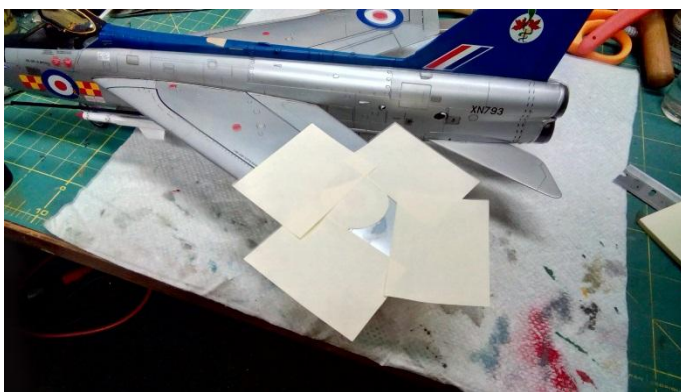
I stood back to look at the finished product in self-satisfied smugness when I saw it: A giant blob of superglue on the top of the left wing! Was that a thumbprint in the middle of it? Not sure; I typically notice when I glue myself to one of my models, but, nonetheless, there it was. Mocking me. No idea how it got there.

So, naturally, there I was at midnight on March 31 trying to finish the thing. I had just attached it to its dollar store mirror display base.

Fighting the urge to smash the model into a million pieces, I took stock of the situation. It really wasn't that bad. It was on the top of the wing, sure, but it didn't get on any decals and maybe I could remove it with the tip of an Xacto blade. Just pop it right off. A little sanding. A quick repaint. No problem.

Suffice it to say, it didn't go as smoothly as I had hoped. The blob didn't pop right off, so I decided to, ever-so-gently, scrape it off. That didn't go so well either. After much wailing and gnashing of teeth, I was left with kind of a .... divot. I sanded the divot. Not that good. Maybe it'll look better under some paint. Still not good.

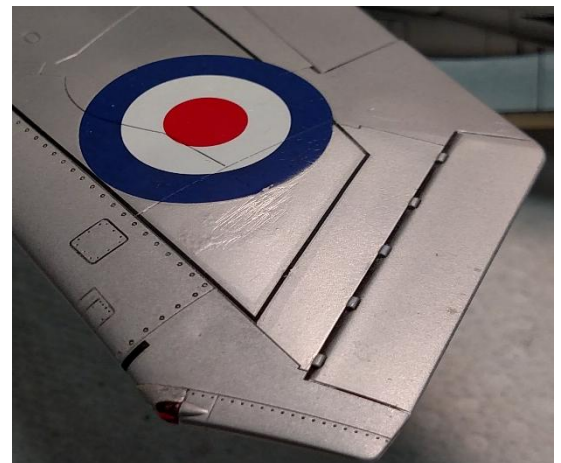
As can be seen in Figure 2, I used Post-It notes to mask around the repair hoping the low tack adhesive wouldn't damage



the decals. That actually worked, and Figure 3 shows the finished product. I wasn't happy with the result, but it was late, and I was out of time. It had to go as is.

Went to MosquitoCon the next day and it didn't

look too bad at a distance. I knew I had to put a better fix on it.



*Figure 3 Finished product. Not good but I'm out of time.*



Figure 4 On the table at MosquitoCon 26. The repair is visible as a small chip in the roundel. I could see it from across the room.

with free shipping from the UK. Go figure.

As I planned the permanent repair, I knew I was going to damage the roundel and wing walk decals so I was going to need replacements. Since I wanted a perfect match, especially for the roundel, I did what any other reasonable, level headed person modeler would do and purchased another kit. (Did I mention that this is beautiful kit? I don't mind having another in the stash. My wife might mind, so let's just keep that part between us, OK?) I ordered the kit from Amazon. Best price on the internet

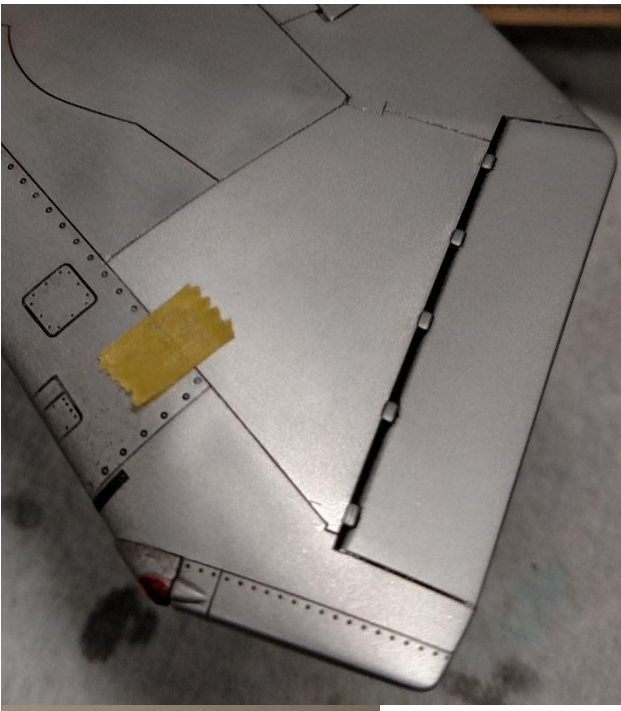


Figure 7 Done. Ready for decals. The tape would be used later for marking the end of the forward wing walk line.  
Figure 5 My weapons of choice.

With the new decals in hand, I started sanding. I began wet sanding with a Squadron orange/medium sanding stick and, after getting rid of most of the divot, moved on to the Squadron tri-grit sanding stick. When I was happy with the results, I filled the remaining depression with a puddle of thin super glue. I use thin because it fills in everything with no gaps and gets down into the finest like to filler, bare because and sands



Figure 6 Sanded and polished with a puddle of thin CA glue as filler. The pencil rectangle describes the limits of the divot.

waited the dry, hour or to sand the super

imperfections. I use super glue as a especially under a metal finish, it's non-porous and finishes beautifully. I several hours for puddle of glue to checking every so. It's important

glue as soon as it sets up completely because it continues to

harden as it cures.

Wait too long and it will be harder than the surrounding plastic and a pain to sand. I rarely use accelerator. Never had any luck with it. Once I had finished with the tri-grit sanding stick, I masked the area and put down a coat of decanted Tamiya AS-12 Bare Metal Silver with my trusty Badger Model 200. Once it had cured overnight, I wet sanded again with just the white (buffing) and gray (polishing) portions of the tri-grit. I re-masked and shot what I thought was going to be the final coat with Alclad Airframe Aluminum (ALC 119) which is what I had originally used for the wing center sections. The result was less than I had hoped. With all the sanding and polishing I had done in the area, it was now, by far, the

smoothest part of the model and the Alclad gleamed like, well, polished aluminum. Any other time this would be desirable, but it just didn't match the rest of the finish. In desperation, I misted some plain Alclad Aluminum (ALC 101) over the area and it knocked down the shine to an acceptable level. See Figure 7.

After a quick wash with Ultimate Dark Dirt, it was time for decals. I usually do the panel line wash *before* I decal. Just my thing. The Airfix kit decals are printed by Cartograph and are stunning. I applied the forward wing walk followed by the roundel and rear wing walk. I applied some Micro Sol to all the decals and they settled in. Because I can never leave well enough alone, I ran an Xacto blade through the panel lines in the roundel. I followed this with some more Micro Sol. There, that's better.

So, there you have it. Everything said and done about three hours work not including drying times and general aggravation. Not too bad.

Sometimes, when a real airplane gets damaged, a temporary repair is be applied, so it can get it to a place where permanent repairs can be made. Those temporary repairs aren't always pretty. Such was the case here. The quick fix got us through MosquitoCon, but the final repair is much more sound and looks a whole lot better. Thanks for reading. I hope you enjoyed it.



Figure 8 Finished product.

Great article, Dan! Thanks for sending it! Send more, and you can get a nickname and special artistic enhancements for your own column! We take cash, check, MO but no plastic! LOL.

Wait, we will take plastic....models!!!



That is that for this edition. See you all on Friday! Santa hats optional. Bill Schroeter, Ed.