

# Newsletter



Joe Leonetti • M110 Howitzer



Keith Jones • "Nautilus"

# FAVORITE FIVE 2017

*Photos by Paul Tomczak*



John Goschke • '58 Impala



Dave Anderson • F-86 Sabre



Glenn Hoover • Vought Kingfisher & Scratch Catapult (1/32)

**H**appy New Year and welcome to 2018! Hope you had a wonderful Holiday season. We have a great year lined up with some awesome monthly theme builds, a new 2018 club build and we have some changes in the club leadership. There is a lot to go through so I am going to jump right in.

**First off, I would like to welcome Joe Leonetti** as our new club VP. I

### NEXT MEETING January 5

#### • Theme Contest ‘In the Thousands’

am excited to have him join the team. Joe is a long-time club member and builds a lot of different models. Frankly I don't know whether he should be sitting on the car modeler or airplane modeler side. Since his shelf of Doom build was actually a Mercury capsule, the answer is probably neither

side. Thanks for accepting the VP nomination, Joe! You know the VP always supplies all the beers for our meetings, right?

**In another bit of news, Richard Turner has volunteered to take on the role of club president.** Richard is new to the club, but has already made a big splash with two monthly theme wins in 2017 and some expert level builds. As many of you know I have taken on a new role at my company and will be travelling a lot in 2018. In January alone I will be in Virginia, Portugal and India – travelling for 3 weeks of the month! I want to make sure our club meetings stay on track and we have a good leader in place. I will enter Richards name for nomination in January and put it to a club vote. I will continue on as the club webmaster and continue to photograph our meetings when I am around. I really appreciated my role as president and enjoyed getting to know each of you over my 3 years as president (yup I had to look it up – I wrote my first Prez article in January of 2015!).

**Congratulations to our Favorite Five winners and congratulations to Rod Rakos on his Shelf of Doom win for 2017.** His '55 Chevy Extended Cab conversion really knocked it out of the park. Our Holiday party was another success with the only thing missing – we had plenty of Holiday cheer, food and raffle prizes – was paper plates! Got to remember those for next year. Thanks to everyone who supplied the great food and I hope you enjoyed the extra gift certificates in the raffle.

**Our themes are finalized for next year** and I am very excited to get going on those builds. I mentioned I would try to get a car model like a Gremlin for the 70's build in March. I wish somebody had told me how expensive they are! Yeah you can get a hot rod version fairly cheap but \$50-\$70 for a classic Gremlin kit on Ebay – Yikes! I wouldn't pay that for a real one! But I did find a nice '78 Black Trans AM for \$20 including shipping. Now if I play my cards right I can use that for the 70's theme, the all black theme and the as seen on TV theme if I build it as the Bandit's car from "Smokey and the Bandit".

**As Buford T. Justice said:** "What we're dealing with here is a complete lack of respect for the law... and an overuse of a single model in too many themes."

**Finally, I wanted to remind everyone** about our proposed Pearl Harbor club build. Next year our Holiday Party will fall on December 7th, 2018 – Pearl Harbor day. During the Holiday party we proposed and voted on this club build. I will work with Mike to finalize the details and like our Shelf of Doom builds, they will be due in December and voted on at the Holiday Party. Look for details in next month's newsletter.

**So once again Happy New Year and see you in January.**

**Happy Modelling... ■**

### January "In the Thousands"

Model of something that was mass-produced in large numbers for its type.

### February "The Seventies"

Model of a subject from the years 1970 -79.

### March "The Vietnam War Era"

Model of a subject from the war or the period of the overt U.S. action during the war, i.e., 1964 -1975.

### April "What If?"

Model must be an original kit-bashed idea, or e.g., WWII 1946, Steampunk, or something designed but never built.

### May "Watch and Listen"

Model of anything related to a TV show, movie or song.

### June No theme (Gold/Silver/Bronze Contest)

### July "Black as Night"

Model of a subject all black, e.g., black car with black interior, P-61 in night fighter mode.

### August "Weather Related"

Model of a subject with a weather-related name, e.g., Hawker Hurricane, Typhoon, GM Cyclone, any Republic "Thunder" aircraft. Olds Toronado is acceptable.

### September "Failures & Disasters"

Model of a subject that was a poor performer or a failure at its purpose, e.g., Brewster Buffalo, DeLorean, Edsel.

### October "Best & Fastest"

Model of a speed-record setting plane, car, ship, rocket, tank, motorcycle, etc.

### November "Rivals"

Two models of subjects that fought or competed, e.g., F-86A and MiG-15; Ford Mustang and Chevy Camaro, etc. (Two models, double points)

**QUESTIONS** about DVSM's Contests should be directed to **Mike Turco at MATurco@aol.com**

# 1955 Chevy Cameo Extended-Cab Dually Pickup *by Rod Rakos*

**T**his model was inspired by an article in an old Car Modeler magazine from the 90's. This '55 dually was built with a Shawn Carpenter GMC model conversion kit pulling a 5th wheel trailer by Galaxies Ltd. I always thought that duallys were cool & this model would make a neat race team theme. The GMC model conversion kit & the trailer were both out of my price range at the time, but I started it anyway.

**Thinking** that the stock drive train wouldn't handle the trailer, I decided to adapt a 90's Chevy chassis & drive train. The model actually required 6 kits to build: A AMT '55 Chevy Cameo & 2 '55 Chevy Stepsides, a 90's Shortbed & a regular cab AMT Chevy kit. Also needed was a AMT Chevy extend cab model for reference.

**The one thing** that I didn't like about the model was the way the stepside fenders were attached to the Cameo fenders. The builder had attached them below the body line which didn't look right. To get the right look, I not only had to widen the fenders but extend them down to get the contour right. Hence the 2 Stepside kits were required!

**It was a while ago**, but I believe I built the chassis first then extended the cab to fit it. I noticed that the rear track was a bit narrower than the Cameo box, another problem that would have to be dealt with. I used AMT Dodge 1-ton tires & wheels (from their dually kit) to make sure I had enough clearance. I widened & extended the Stepside fenders but didn't attach them yet. I extended the interior, fit a rear seat & made drawings for the side panels. This is where the work stopped.

**Flash forward to 2017.** I've moved 3 times, got married & bought



a house. I'm sure that I looked at the model, even did a bit of work on the fenders & tried to adapt some late model type door handles at one time to it, but that was it.

**The club's "Shelf of Doom"** build for 2017 inspired me to get it out & finish it.

**The stepside fenders** were molded to the Cameo fenders, the door handles previously added were removed ( and replaced with photo etch items). I added wheel tubs made from pill bottles to deal with the narrower rear track & the body was made ready for paint. I found some Chevy 8-lug 1-ton wheels on eBay that fit the tires perfectly. I did, however, have to widen the rear rims for the dually tires. The original plan for color was white with Orange flames & wheels. I mixed up a rust color for the interior panels & liked it so much I used it for the flames & wheels.

**I wanted to use** a Shawn Carpenter GMC conversion when finishing it, but they are no longer available except at astronomical prices on eBay (Which I still can't afford!). I did however find a Galaxie Ltd. fifth

wheel trailer at a reasonable price during the build & may add it to the Cameo at a future date.

**The paint** is all Createx Wicked colors over Tamiya primer. The flames were done with a mask from the lazy Modeler. The paint is my wife Debbie's favorite flame job!

**Other modifications** include opening up the grill by sanding the back & scratch building part of the exhaust system with solder.

**The model was displayed** at the 2017 NNL in Wayne NJ. It was photographed by Scale Auto magazine & appeared in the August 2017 issue. At that time it was only a curbside, as the drive train and exhaust system wasn't done yet. That was finished for the Shelf of Doom Display in December.

**I mentioned to my wife** Debbie that I still love to have a real dually pickup, however impracticable. She said that did I have one, though it's not a Chevy/GMC pickup. My Ford E-350 class C motor home has dual rear wheels! (The model of that was my 2016 Shelf of Doom plan; maybe it will be complete by 2020!) ■

# Eduard Brassin F14A Cockpit

by Richard Turner



**I** have maintained the opinion for a number of years, that Eduard lead the market in aircraft kit production. Attention to detail, crisp, clean parts that fall together with the shake of a box remains unmatched by most if not all other manufacturers. No need to shop around for kit plus aftermarket resin, etch or masks it's all available out of the box just pick your entry level, weekend, profi-pack or limited.

**Don't get me wrong,** I think that other manufacturers such as Tamiya, Trumpeter, Academy, Hasegawa and the like all produce some excellent kits however when I find myself ordering resin and brass before even opening the box I start to think.....

**So, where did this article start?** After hearing from club members in the UK that the new Tamiya F14A was the best kit they had built I had to take a look. Better than the Eduard Spitfires, surely not? After watching some online reviews, it didn't take long to work out that the rivet counters were all over this kit with copious amounts of bovine coprolite in the air, so I had no choice other than taking a look for myself.

**For a change,** I resisted the temptation to reach for the resin catalogue until I had a least looked inside the box, however good intentions didn't last and I ordered Eduard Brassin F14A Cockpit sets to compliment the "few" ordered Tamiya F14A's.

**A kit within a kit** – the cockpits arrived first and when I opened the box it's just as well. The box is crammed with three bags of resin, two sheets of PE, decal sheet plus three pages of instructions. On close inspection the resin is

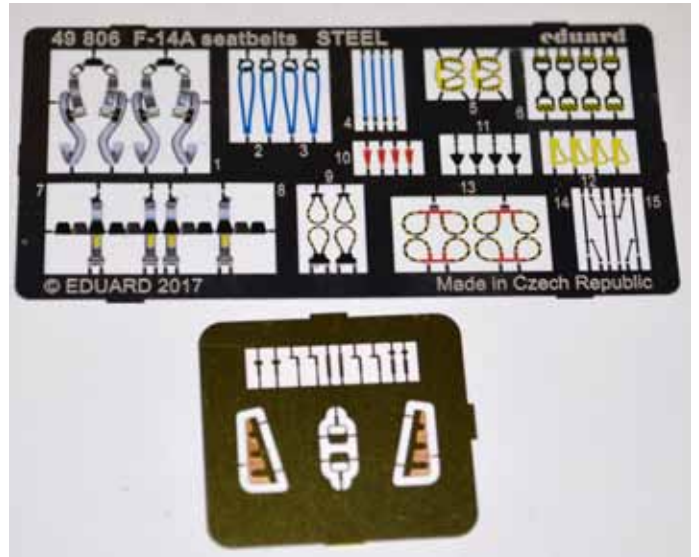


# F14A Cockpit *continued*

quite simply outstanding. The detail is insane and looking at prototype pictures I haven't yet found any missing detail that I would want to or could add. The quality of the casting is second to none, the resin is not too soft or too hard, not like the yellow stuff that many manufacturers insist on using. After initial inspection and clean-up of parts, which involved cutting off the casting sprues, all of which are hidden from any surface seen after construction ensure that the parts fit perfectly with the exception of the pilot instrument panel which required two passes of the file before fitting perfectly. Aires always led the way in resin but now Eduard Brassin claim to be the best brass resin in town and I have to agree.

**Apart from base colour painting** I haven't started detail painting all the parts prior to assembly, which I think will be an investment in time, to do justice to the detail. For this I will again reach for my custom Tamiya paint mixes with the aid of photo's.

**This aftermarket addition** deserves more than just a cursory glance and comment in a build list. This is a beautiful kit in its own right and I definitely plan to build



and finish one complete cockpit without the attached aircraft just because I want to.

**I'll include the finished cockpit** in a future article, maybe attached to an aircraft. ■

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# “Shelf of Doom” Highlights

Photos by Paul Tomczak



Caudron C714, 1/48, by Mark Webb



PaK-40, 1/35, by Logan Brown



Chevyn Van Camper, 1/25, by Rod Rakos

# “Favorite Five” Highlights

Photos by Paul Tomczak



P-3 Orion, 1/72, by Glenn Hoover



F-16C Fighting Falcon, 1/144, by Mike Turco

# “Favorite Five” Highlights

Photos by Paul Tomczak



*“The Piper’s Touch” by Joe Vattilana*



*Grumman E-2C Hawkeye, 1/72, by Howard Rifkin*



*Brewster F-2A Buffalo, 1/72, by Paul Tomczak*



*Mansyu Ki-98, 1/72, by Mark Webb*



*Chevy Corvair Yenko Stinger, 1/25, by Rod Rakos*



*Lockheed Starfighter, 1/72, by Richard Turner*

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