

THE LONG ISLAND SCALE MODEL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

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October 2007

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LISMS Web site: [HTTP://longislandscalemodel.tripod.com](http://longislandscalemodel.tripod.com)

The Prez Sez - Howie Belkin

Thanks to **Lou, Jim** and all for running last month's club contest, and to all our winners including **Ray's** "Favorite Unfinished Model". Thanks too to **Bob DeMaio** for his clinic on masking canopies and camo schemes before painting and **John M** and **Matt** for video recording. Ditto to all who participated in making it another excellent meeting, from Show and Tell, the raffle, fresh donuts and coffee – it all adds up to you making it what it is.

This month's meeting is October 23rd, the 4th Tuesday as usual – don't be tricked by the extra Tuesday this month. We're featuring **Matt's** DVD production of our 2007 RepLIcon show, with a side trip to Mosquitocon, plus my (**Howie's**) 2007 IPMS National Convention shots and **John M's** professional photos of real a/c and models. Show and Tell, raffle, Iraq, coffee and donuts as usual of course. There will be a break in the slide show to announce raffle winners. I'll try to balance announcing winners late enough so we can sell some tickets, yet early enough so the winner is still there when we call his number! We're always collecting unbuilt complete models, model supplies (yes, glue, paint, paint brushes) **and** sundry CARE pkg. items for our troops in Iraq like toothbrushes, toothpaste, candy, Kool-Aid packets, etc. **Fred** just sent out a pkg – see him and throw in a prayer for his son's safe return too.

LISMS' **Nov 27th** meeting is our last formal meeting and contest of the year, featuring an extra theme award "It's not my kind of model" which is a kind of sneak preview to our Mar. 29, 2008 RepLIcon 'Triathlon' award. This will be for a type of model you don't usually build. In RepLIcon, enter 3 models as your 'triathlon' entry – each one is a different type of model, i.e. a ship, a plane, a tank, and that counts as one entry against other people's 'triathlon' entries. Supposedly at least one of your entries will be of a type of model you don't ordinarily model, which makes this very interesting! We also will hear **John Musolino** speak of his USAF service, complete with his excellent photos.

I promised if you participated in our museum displays you would get raffle tickets for a special raffle. At the end of this letter I'm listing and thanking all of you. If your name is missing please advise Bob D. to update it. Instead of a raffle ticket there will be a surprise for you at our annual Christmas/Kwanza/Non-Religious Holiday party. I have to say, your participation

here, and when we've asked for volunteers to help the AAP Museum has been commendable to say the least. You guys make me proud!

It's hard to keep track of all the fall shows but I congratulate all of you LISMSers who have attended and kicked butt at them! This is being written before the Poughkeepsie show but after AMPSEast and the IPMS Stratford, CT show where you took home a lot of awards. **Jim Boulukos** took the CT show by storm! They called out his name so many times that they pronounced it damn close to perfect by the end of the awards presentation! **Jim** took, among other things THE "Iron Man" award (similar to our triathlon), 1st in his category plus the special award for "Further, Faster, Higher" and "best Auto" for an awesome Porsche which went on to win "Judges Best in Show"! Not to mention other awards he won for his other models. The rest of LISMS did well too with **Seamus, Ronnie, Bob D., Joe P** and **Freddie** all doing well. Some how **Gautam** and **I** were overlooked! We'll show 'em next time! My apologies to whomever I missed. The CT guys made a point of announcing our and others' trophy sponsorships.

Freddie forgot to show us where the CT show's big hobby shop sale outside of its' show is (aka HQ Hobbies) but **Seamus, Ronnie, Bob** and **I** got there before closing (It's just down the road). They have a tent sale in front of the store and if they have something you want you'll save a bundle. They also had a BBQ and snacks for visitors! Inside, the store is primarily an Armor modeler's shop and although it's not that big, it has 'stuff' stuffed floor to ceiling that is easy to see and access. They offer a 10% discount, which is offset by CT's 6% tax. It sounds like the CT club members HQ is feuding with are no longer members of the club, so the feud goes on long after it needs to. HQ is a strong supporter sending shipments to Iraq.

Nov 10th is the LIARS Model Car Show; **Nov 17th** is the LI Figure Show (both at the Freeport Rec. Center), and **Dec 15th** is our sponsor Marx-Man's own "**New Yorker**" show at the Adria Hotel in Bayside just off the Cross Island.

If you're a member of IPMS (if not, check 'em out: ipmsusa.org) they're looking for more volunteers to do kit reviews. They have a guideline that simplifies the job, but they want you to build the model, not just review it in the box. Your review gets posted on the web site, which gets a zillion 'hits', and if you're lucky, occasionally gets published in the **Journal** as a review or possibly an article. They let you know what came in, you tell them what you are interested in, and they try to match you up. Kits vary from 1/144 to magnificent 1/32 and 1/35 scales. There's books, decals, accessories, etc. If you are a member, can devote some time to IPMS and interested, contact John Noack at jnoack@ipmsusa.org. If you are not a member, why aren't you?

I finally saw the **FLYBOYS** DVD (thanks **Bob**). Yeah I missed the impact of seeing the in-flight scenes on the big screen, and yeah they were awesome, even better than the great **DOG FIGHT** TV series. But it still bothers me that though they state outright that they're giving a fictitious story of the SPA 124 Lafayette Escadrille, I have to ask, why? You can't make up a better story than the REAL story of the Lafayette Escadrille. Why screw with history? In fact, most of these American volunteers *did* come from wealthy, privileged families, who certainly didn't have to serve. Their call was so strong that some even joined the French Foreign Legion to prove their salt. Commander Georges Thenault (who married an American woman after the war), Kiffen Rockwell, Victor Chapman, Norman Prince, Bert Hall, Charles Nordhoff, Jim McConnell, Texan Clyde Baisely, Bob Soubiran, Kenneth Marr, Edwin Parsons, Willis Haviland, Courtney Campbell ("the embodiment of the 'devil may care' Lafayette pilot"), William Thaw, Tom Hewitt Jr. ("unnerved" and transferred out) and Raoul Lufbery were just some of the 38 young men that made legend. They really had not one, but two lion cubs as mascots (Whiskey and Soda). For a time they *really* flew silver doped Nieuport 17, 21 and 24s (earlier 11 Bebes were camouflaged) with the Lakota Sioux Indian head insignia. Sorry though, it was French ace Nungesser's Nieuport that was marked with broad red/white/blue stripes not an American's (he flew for 2 weeks attached to SPA 124). Nor were any of the personal markings in the movie real, though character Rawling's personal insignia is a knock off of one used by 1st Lt Charles H. Dolan. BTW character Rawling's mentor ace's slogan 'Je Vois Tout' means "I see all". Real life Pilot Sgt Walter Lovell served as a major, as Chief Instructor after the war, ultimately became a successful businessman until his death in 1937 at home in Bay-shore. Hall and Nordhoff became a literary team editing a history of the LFC and writing many

major works including their most famous, *Mutiny on the Bounty*. What an insult that **FLYBOYS** ends with photos of fictitious characters captioned with fictitious endings of their lives.

I have the following members listed as having volunteered to help the museum displays: Sal, Jack Reisner, Marshall, J. Lam, Steve A., Steve M., Richie C., Dave W., T. Kelly, Duane Y., Rich M., George, Nick, Howie, Alan Del, Fred, Matt, Bob D., John M., Tony G., Hen, Lou,. Tell Bob if you belong (on this list).

Financials

by Bernie Vogelmann

Income:	Dues	\$50
	Coffee	18
	Raffle	<u>16</u>
	Total	84
Expenses:	Cradle of Aviation	109
	Coffee	21
	Raffle prize	<u>15</u>
	Total	145
Expenses over income		61

September Contest Results

Multi eng. aircraft, Advanced	1/72	1 st	Ki-57 Topsy	Ray O'Neill
Single eng., aircraft, Advanced	1/48	1 st	P-51A Mustang	Gautam Rao
Multi eng. Aircraft, Advanced	1/48	1 st	P-61 Black Widow	Bob DeMaio
Armor, Tracked, Advanced,	1/35	Gold	M36 Jackson	Roger Carrano
Armor, Tracked, Intermediate	1/35	Gold	Panzer	Marshall Voizard
Armor Wheeled, Advanced	1/35	Gold	Jeep w/trailer	Roger Carrano
Auto, Advanced	1/24	1 st	2004 Nissan Z	Jim Boulukos
Auto, Advanced	1/20	2 nd	7 UP Formula 1	Rich Caserma
Unfinished Theme	1/72	1 st	C-74 Globemaster	Ray O'Neill

On Line References:

B-17 web sites:

www.b17.org - features EAA's "Aluminum Overcast". Photos, videos, history, etc.

www.b17sam.com - 8th AF B-17 and B-24 pictures etc.

hhp://modelingmadness.com – Huge archive of kit reviews. Updated every month.

www.aerovintage.com/b17bits.htm - info and locator for surviving airframes.

Another Site worth looking at:

www.conniesurvivors.com - All about surviving Lockheed Constellations.

Calendar

October 23rd, LISMS Meeting at 8 pm at the Levittown Library. Matt's DVD presentation of our 2007 RepLICon show, MosquitoCon, John M's photos of real A/C and models plus Howie Belkin's IPMS Nat's photos.

November 4th, BayCon, IPMS Bay Colony, S. Attleboro, www.ipmsbaycolony.com.

November 10th in Freeport, NY LIARS Model Car Challenge Hosted by the Long Island Auto Replica Society at the Freeport Recreation Center, 130 East Merrick Rd. Contact Rich Argus at (516)579-3379 or e-mail him at r.argus@juno.com

November 17 LI Miniature Model Show by the LIHMCS LIHMCS@optonline.net Freeport

November 27th, 2007 LISMS Meeting 8 PM Levittown Library. Club contest. There will be an Extra theme award for "It's not my kind of model" and John M's USAF service.

December 15th the "New Yorker" Adria Hotel, 221-17 Northern Blvd, Bayside 718 418-9439

March 29th, 2008, RepLICon XXIII, LISMS, at the Freeport Recreation Center, 130 East Merrick Rd. Freeport, L.I. NY. Contact Bob DeMaio taurleo@optonline.net, or visit the club web site at [//longislandscalemodel.tripod.com](http://longislandscalemodel.tripod.com)

March 30, 2008, ValleyCon, IPMS Wings & Wheels, Chicopee, MA, www.wmodelclub.org

April 13th, 2008, BuffCon, IPMS Niagara Frontier, Buffalo, NY, www.ipmsniagarafrontier.com/

April 25th and 26th, Noreastcon, By IPMS North East New York at the Schoharie Holiday Inn Express, exit 23 off I-88 Schoharie, NY, www.aloder.freeyellow.com.

Old Kit Review

Airfix 1/76 Tiger Tank Sal Picataggio



"Push zat junk right out of ze vay". That was Robert Shaw's line as a Tiger tank commander in the movie "The Battle of the Bulge". The German Ardennes offensive in December, 1944 had just begun. Shaw, as Colonel Hessler, is leading in his Tiger and has just destroyed an American tank. What a movie! Unfortunately, as an eleven year old who knew what a Tiger tank looked like, I was puzzled. Why were the

Germans using M-47 Pattons? (To be answered in the future).

First introduced into combat in 1942, the Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger was the best tank of its day. It fought on all fronts, including Africa where some faced the Americans and British in Tunisia at the end of the fighting there. Heavy (56 tons), heavily armed (88 mm gun), and heavily armored (1 to 4 inches thick), the Tiger managed a respectable 25 mph. Along with the Panther, the Tiger tank was a major obstacle for the Allies.

Airfix decided to expand their line of model kits in the late 1950s. At the time, they produced aircraft, ships, autos, and some figures. By this time, they had also standardized on

1/72 scale (1 inch = 6 feet), while most American kit producers still went with box scale. Airfix chose Armored Fighting Vehicles (read: tanks), and went with 1/76 scale. Starting in the early 60s, they released such models as the M4 Sherman, M3 Grant/Lee, Panther, Panzer IV, and even modern subjects like the Sheridan and Chieftain.

First warning: I know it says "1/72" on the (current release) box top picture above. Not true. All Airfix tanks are 1/76 scale, a slight, but noticeable, difference. What you get is a nicely molded model of something over 60 parts. The count is up there because of all the road wheels. Also (and this is a nice touch), most of the vehicle doors/hatches are separate pieces, so they can be displayed open. The tracks are the 60s standard vinyl. No figures are included in the kit.

Typical of Airfix's construction, the model goes together easily and quickly. Follow the instructions carefully to avoid messing up the road wheel sequence. The only problem with this model (and it is really a sin of omission) is that the prominent box at the rear of the turret is missing. I have heard that Airfix replicated a very early production Tiger, which didn't have the box. This may be true, but either way, it ain't there. However, it shouldn't be too much of a problem to make one up and install it. Even I could do that!

Another (minor) problem is that the model shows no Zimmerit on its surfaces. This was the anti-magnetic paste applied to defeat hand-planted (or thrown!) magnetic mines. Not really a sin, as some Tigers (especially early ones) didn't have it. Another do-it-yourself thing (this is why modeling is so much fun!). There are two decal options: a sand colored Tiger from North Africa, 1942, or a sand and (I guess) mottled brown tank from Normandy, 1944. No unit information is supplied. That's it. A 1960s state of the art tank model which I feel can still hold up well today- after 40 years. Most of Airfix's 1/76 tanks are the same- not the best model of a particular subject, but a readily available, fairly inexpensive one which can be made up into a decent (or even an award winning- with some work) model.

In The Box Kit Review

DML Me 262B-1a Trainer, 1/48, #5512, \$36.00 by Steve Muth

1:48 MASTER SERIES

Me262B-1a w/Engine



Being a Me 262 nut I was very pleased when DML released the Me 262B-1a trainer variant. I was not disappointed. A quick comparison with their Me 262B-1a/U1 Night Fighter kit reveals that many of the sprues are common but the Trainer kit has very expanded P.E. frets, one of which is painted. And, of course, different decals. More on those later.

There seems to be enough detail for the cockpits and wheel wells to make after market resin and photo etch details unnecessary. The moldings are superb with very fine detail, just right scribing and no sink marks are visible in my kit. The wheel hubs require more praise. They are the equal of any resin ones I have seen. The fins and lug nuts (?) are very petite and suitably deep. Although all the control surfaces are integral with the wing and fuselage, a spare pair of rudders are provided (with subtle differences). They are presumably for a different variant. The PE frets deserve mention too. As near as I can tell, there are 117 PE parts. I am not enamored with PE, in fact I detest them, but there is enough here for the most avid detailer and I may even use some of them when I get around to building it.

My only quibble with this kit is the inclusion of rubber tires and no alternate plastic ones. I have had very bad luck with rubber tires. They look good but after several years on my shelf I had to literally chisel them off the glass. They just seem to decay/melt. Maybe it's a quality issue as the nose wheel, also rubber, was/is fine but both main tires of my Hasagawa 1/32 Me262A decayed. I will opt for after market wheels.

The decals look very good and are by Cartograf in Italy. Registration is good and there are a lot of stencils. There are markings for 3 aircraft, white S, Black A and Red 35. It is the Red 35 marking I have a problem with. The Red 35 numerals are outlined in white. As captured by the Allies it was a white outline only, no red. Where the confusion creeps in, I think, is when White 35 was restored by the Me 262 Project in Washington. Whoever painted the plane incorrectly filled the numbers with black. When it was returned to Willow Grove in Pennsylvania, they corrected the error and it is now correct with the camouflage filling in the white outline. Alternatively, The NJG 11 Me 262B night fighters were Red 2, 8, 9, 10, 11 etc these were red outlined in white. And perhaps the powers that be decided the trainer should also be red outlined in white. Anyway, that's the "rest of the story". Hopefully someone will come out with a white outline 35 for it.

All in all a very good kit, an excellent value and highly recommended.

By Steve Muth

Mini Kit Review:

Planet Models PLT 104,XP-40Q-2 Warhawk, 1/48, ~\$60



As an attempt to improve on the venerable P-40K, Curtiss built a bubble top variant with clipped wing tips and a water injected V-1710-121. Top speed increased to 422 at 20,500 ft. It was not an improvement on existing aircraft and was dropped.

What you get for all those dollars is very nice resin kit with a single piece wing, 2 fuselage halves, two vacu-form canopies, a bag with a lot of resin bits and pieces, a PE fret, a film instrument panel, a decal sheet for

full markings for one aircraft in two stages of its development and an excellent instruction

sheet with a parts map, decal placement 4 views, and pictorial type assembly instructions.

The decals have excellent registration and are for the original coloring of OD and neutral gray with a shark mouth and for the later natural metal of later testing. It would have been nice to include markings for the racer markings as seen in the 1947 Thompson Trophy Race. Oh well.

All in all a nice kit of a rare aircraft not likely to be kitted by anyone else in 1/48 scale.

Steve Muth

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We all buy mail order sometimes – we don't want to wait for an accessory or exotic kit only available overseas or direct from the manufacturer like Model Design Construction. BUT, we also like to have a place where we can see the product with our own eyes before laying out the cash. We also like to talk to others, like ourselves, and to knowledgeable shopkeepers.

The following Hobby Shops have supported us and are supporting us by paying for ad space here and on our web. Some have also donated raffle prizes for our meetings and our annual RepLicon. **We owe it to them to patronize their store** even if we could buy the item for a slightly lower price mail order or on the web. And don't forget to mention that you are a member of the LISMS and appreciate his or her support. Everybody likes a thank you.

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TO:

Our October meeting will be at the Levittown Library on October 23rd at 8:00PM. There will be a DVD presentation of our 2007 RepLIcon show, MosquitoCon, John M's photos of real A/C and models plus Howie Belkin's IPMS Nat's photos.

There will also be the usual coffee and doughnuts, show and tell, Raffle, etc.