The BUZZ – of The Fremont Hornets V.1

Issue 101



January 28 2023





Welcome

IN THIS ISSUE – You will find: (basically in the listed order, tho a stream of consciousness device)

LATEST BUZZ (Issue's Editorial, bearing no relation to the picture on the right)
AND YET MORE BUZZ (Issue warranted a SECOND EDITORIAL go read and figure)
CATCHUP with our last meet of 2022, LOOK AT UPCOMING YEAR EVENTS





CERTIFIABLY ANCIENT PRODUCTION

(well, maybe just the Editor)



Q M S



Reminder: http://fremonthornets.yolasite.com/ Just three little pages.

Not a lot to dig through, + Events Calendar web page 3, ALWAYS

THE Latest BUZZ (as of January 28 2023 0159 AM)

(a Short Take On Present Buzz) by Mick Burton, Buzz Editor

YES! Now # 102 In case you are a new reader, the Issue number is off by one always, since # 0 was outset of this lark. That clarified or muddied, let's get to some actual important business!

"It's Our Chance to Re-Define C3i With the New Year, If You Like"

Being in mid muse trying to find my footing for decent 1st editorial, having drove myself into second Buzz of this issue with what began as late review of December Hornet's Nest, found a pleasing path through C3i...

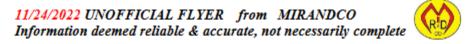
The "C" here I mean as in specifically "Contest, ie Club Contest" but also branched in and out from there. Which is how the "C3i" redefinition came to be. In long time military parlance this means the big umbrella of "Command, Control, Communications and intelligence". My premised editorial here wants to speak to the question of "Competition, Camaraderie, Community & intelligence", at what should events/clubs/goals aim?

Thanks again to yet another splendid repeat of the NNL West show (which has now passed 38th year of run) I again have a reinforcement of my instinct, that aim for ALL, find you can indeed have it all and then some.

This helps coalesce disparate elements coming at me from within my community (and yours) comprised of why not have Club Contests that span or somehow interleave with other than originating club? How can we have a more inclusive social modelling experience? While still maintaining the respected, revered, expected aspects of many of our many clubs offerings over the many years, all that make membership & community? What can be done intelligently without infuriating or incensing the base of all the individual elements that actually comprise the community at large, and increase over time the size of it for all to enjoy fruits of?

Well, while having long nurtured hopes and dreams of having an NNL style event for our Region Niners to be proudly part of, again right here, right now, I have to leave that possibility to others to spearhead if at all. But thanks to luck of the early year draw, I have now TWO complete "Club Contests Deux" to offer already that achieve my version of C3i for us. Thanks to all of you and I hope you participate at some point -mb

THIS IMMINENT EVENT that would be a shame to miss – FIRST OF THE YEAR FUN!



COMING UP -SATURDAY FEBRUARY 04 2023



FUNDRAISER MODEL AUCTION

Hosted by IPMS/SANTA ROSA
At PETALUMA COMMUNITY CENTER
320 North McDowell Blvd
Petaluma CA

6PM Kit Viewing 7PM Auction Begins

Donations of unstarted kits gratefully accepted Cash, Check and Card accepted forms of payment

Contact: Randy Bumgardner

Contact: Dev Sodagar (Chapter President)

ipmssantarosa@gmail.com

Website for updated info https://www.ipmssantarosa.org/

NOW THAT YOU ARE ALL GATHERED HERE, IT's Time for President to BUZZ

A Review of The Free Hornets gathering at Hobbies Unlimited for DECEMBER 2022 will be following this 2nd Editorial ©







THANK YOU AGAIN NOW, AL!

Why, Who, WHAT, some say?

Okay, some of you may recall, we didn't have ANY meeting place at all formally, for a horrific spell. It is clear here in these pictures that a meeting in a Hobby Shop does a Model club body some good.

What isn't so clear to some is that if it weren't for the stalwart man who calls this haven his business, we Free Hornets and quite likely a few other less formally set up but nonetheless "sharing a bond here" groups, may not have made it to the other side of the Pan(ic)demic

Oh, the folks who comprise them would have and for most part as well as I can know, did in fact. I am sure, but that intangible, "right stuff" that makes whole of a "community", not so sure.

Having been part of in a directly applicable case, an informal but very strong in its own right as having a history, traditions, (NO NEWSLETTER BURTON, GOT IT...OR YOU'RE KICKED OUT OF THE NONEXISTENT CLUB...still in my ears) and the folks who were part of it, "clan" who had a Hobby Shop to meet in, faithfully for several decades...Thursday nights.., Then, they and it were no more...very clear root cause in part being traceable to the demise not long after of the shop that once seemed "be always here for ever, for us ". I know "Al's Place" has a magic that includes life support for more than some see.

The Free Hornets have discussed at the Nests which were originally resumed in semi private dining/meet rooms at the Newark Round Table, only a short year plus ago, the pluses and minuses of having now settled in for the duration at Hobbies Unlimited since September 2022. While the second Friday evening meetings anywhere in the "Tech triad" are not easily gotten to anytime and much worse on nerves nowadays with traffic patterns more closely aligned with "normal and customary" of past 25 years, a gentle reminder from this Editor and President, who usually gets to these Nests via "mass transit" from Sunnvale or Southeast of SJ now, that we could be still adrift and at risk of just "becoming part of history" instead of continuing to model it anew. We have had much smaller regular attendance than we had in recent years, at our resumed monthly meets, regardless of where. Our unflappable 2nd VP & Treasurer, Dave Parks, took it upon himself to research, devise, write and publish a very thorough, thought out treatise that detailed and clearly gave the most likely options for us to choose as meeting locales. He followed that with quiet diligence to gain a consensus of some kind, for what choice was to be, and we did in fact end up at Round Table and had during one "unscheduled interrupt" on the fly have to try out one of his previously rejected options, The IHOP of Newark.

That which some may not realize is, that while he'd did this by email, text, and "social media" means, he also has a part time post at Hobbies Unlimited these last few years, where he along with many of us, has enjoyed the "informal" meets on Saturdays and an odd holiday period here and there of what I call The ECBMS. Some of whom are also members of the Fremont Hornets.

I know that half at least of the final pinning down of the decision where to meet



when we were trying to resume "normal operation" was taking place "on the fairways" at Hobbies Unlimited...not through the "social media" means. Except that is exactly how it was done, in the real social media/medium. The one that really, truly counts.



While many of us (including me when realms of smartphone texting, of course "old school" E-mail, Website production/support are the means) use or even mostly rely on technology means above the print media and phone networks of much of our past, for "getting the word out & back" it still proves out time and again that face to face, person to person live meetings get the job done better, quicker, more accurately when doing them right. "Hanging Out" or "Dropping In At The Old Shop" regular can build and maintain groups and their vital communications better, I have lived it long enough to know it in my bones as well as do others.

Support your local hobby shop, bookstore, model club. Welcome new folk into them. Be open to trying out new things and also be tolerant of



what others may try, even if you're not asked or expected to otherwise be any part. Especially if it's something that supports the whole of us.

Right now, we haven't anyone running out our ways with red carpets and dying to host us, most

especially for bargain rate we have now (free!). We also had to implement as of first of year, annual dues (60 dollars, \$5 x 12 months pro rata) as again, we aren't able to sustain operations on a catch as catch can basis. With not having any feasible means to reliably conduct an auction or other fund raising mechanism, I for one am extremely appreciative of having this stable state situation offered us. Certainly also understand it's a long haul for many, especially from measure of our old environs. Having gone completely without and as the restaurant options didn't seem to result in any distinct benefit in comparison by far, only ask unless someone literally is ready to shoulder the responsibility, has an alternative to solidly offer, accept hand we're dealt -mb

NOW LET'S TAKE DOWN DECEMBER NEST, Our FOURTH Success meeting at Shop

The Free Hornets gathering at Hobbies Unlimited for DECEMBER 2022 broke with past and turned up quite a lively meeting



Candid shot taken at December 2023 Hornet's Nest, just as Treasurer/2nd VP **Dave Parks** has opened Pandora's Box...



As it were, no tremendous drive to get anyone to set up a "traditional" Holiday Meeting Pizza Party made itself known. As this would have had to been arranged for an offsite locale, had no funding, and generally left only one or two folk who were already busy enough with more headaches to put this together with no evidence it was incredibly warranted, we broke tradition as seen.

After business discussions, **Ron Darcy** got us underway with welcome Model Talk, with an intriguing group of relatives here. I call them relatives, Ron didn't. I do that as I have read enough to consider it solid intel, that C.L. "Kelly" Johnson designed the Lockheed F-104 in part based on interviews with Korean War US pilots, many of them F-86 drivers, about pros, cons of planes they flew and those they flew against. In any case, very nice array collected here and I hope you saw earlier shots in the editorial



This is a 1/48th scale F-104G, yes in USAF markings even though "G" suffix is for Germany version of the Starfighter.

The markings were commonly seen on the US based F-104G aircraft located at Luke AFB, where they were training the West German AF pilots on the type.

This is a Hasegawa kitting that Ron used, I believe although can't swear to it.

Now next to Ron's F-104G, are some intriguing other projects of his, one which is finished being F-86 Sabre Jet with the cool wing stripes.

HOWEVER, if you look closer, you may realize this isn't an F-86 you can just buy and build for yourself, in $1/48^{th}$ scale. Yes there are some number of fine quarter scale Sabres out there, but they aren't the type of Ron's here. This is an early Korean War F-86 "ALPHA" (A) Sabrejet



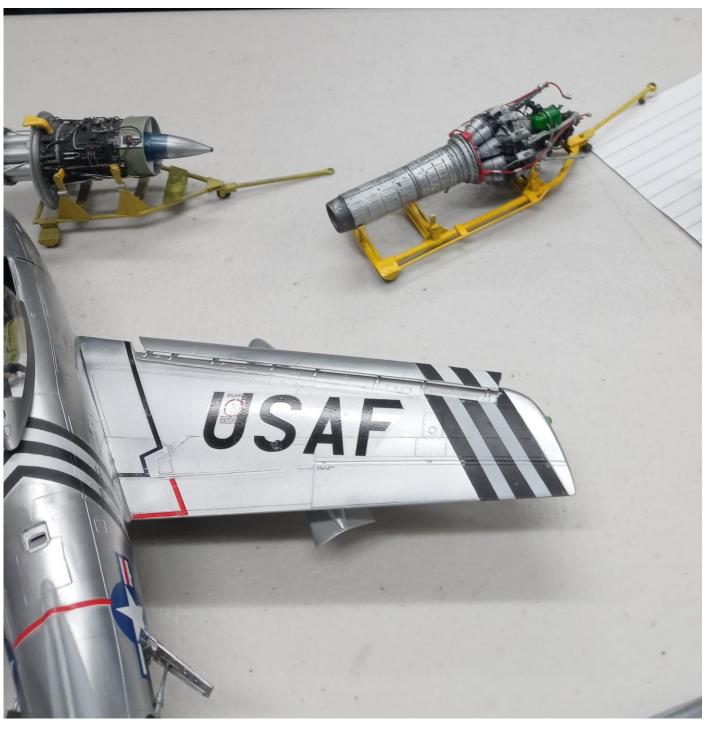


Similarly, you'd be challenged aplenty as Ron has been, trying to duplicate this unfinished Starfighter. It's closely related to the Kelly Johnson comment...



But first, take another gander at the F-86A below. Look at the windscreen, see if you can discern why most F-86s you see very much differ. Also, take an appreciation in of how much improved Ron's engine/exhaust assembly is for this same aircraft.





Ron vacformed a new windscreen for his F-86 among other modification items to backdate his kit.

As he demonstrated to us, the resulting curved product is a very accurate rendering also nearly scale in thickness so is too fragile to be believed!

He also kit bashed the wings to get the lovely slatted ones you see here.

I sadly did not note the make of the base kit or the sources of his bashes...

The two engines on stands are also Korean War opponents, a not so obvious fact on sight.

As noted, the axial flow for F-86 is the one with the nose And the other is centrifugal flow, but not a British Nene. Instead it's a Klimov, that's the Soviet rendering from a tenderly offered set of engines gifted to Stalin's regime by the Labor Party of Britain since they were such great Allies...

The MiG-15 sure liked them.

So, for now, Ron has asked Louis here to do some enlightenment on his table items, so that the Editor won't rant too much for a spell. We will return to Ron's Starfighters, Sabres and Klimovs soon, for now we're off to Koster's Junkers yard with Louis.



Over here on bottom left, preview of Gabriel Lee's table offerings, and overhead view of aforesaid gent. Thanks, Mr G Lee For those of you who are perhaps new readers, **Louis Orselli** is the man in the mask and next to him is Christopher J. Bucholz

Here in another angle, look back (Louis still has cap on) so you see Gabriel, Dave Parks, Pete Long, New Member, Bob Meyers







Here she is, glorious in WIP finery, Bill Koster's vacuform 1/48th Junkers Ju-88 model by Louis G. He's working it up as a Night Fighter by the looks of it, what with the wicked four stalk radar array...

Some may question why bother with this vacform when you can get an inject mold kit of the JU-88?

Well, I for one am with Louis on this (and I have 2 of damn inject kits). It is a lovely, accurate kitting made with passionate attention to details by one Bill Koster. Another reason? *Because he can and will do so*. Not that others can't, they just won't.

It would be a great kit for some who are are ever shy of doing vacs, but alas, fewer than ever are even willing to give vac a try.



What ? Looks as if pretty Junkers was chilled, trying to get into woolen cap for warmth! Okay, we'll move on to Gabriel's WIP

Gabriel Lee solidly soldiers on with his 1/350th scale "Movie Sub" and his 1/72nd " Movie Hornet Aircraft" as seen below





That's his "Hunt for Red October" submarine coming along nicely. The F-18 is the Top Gun Maverick Hornet movie plane.





Our **New Member** (well he did state more than once his intent to come back and wasn't deterred by prospect of dues being levied in near future) had a WW2 Wermacht diorama under a faux glass case alongside a bust which I didn't get a closer picture of to describe. While I can't say for sure he was also responsible for these 1/35th figures, I took the picture about same time as

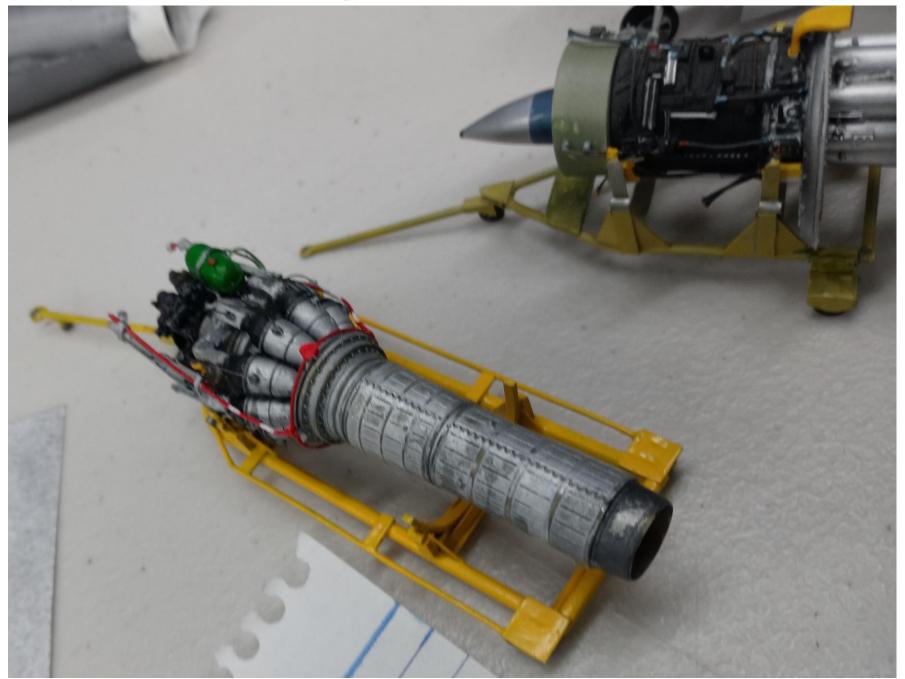
him so here you go!

Next up is a Sherman, later model WW2 or Korean era, again my absence of notes and memory take their toll.

For editorial purposes we are calling this lovely armored contribution the December work of **Bob Meyers**. He was sporting enough to take my assignment to him last issue, of 1/48th F-15 WIP, which he politely informed me wasn't his. So if this also isn't his, then alas another "ghost ship" Now, we shall return to review rest of Ron Darcy's items



Here we go, an improved model of the Klimov VK-1, itself an improved Soviet design of the British Nene, courtesy of Her Majesty's government (The answer to Stalin's question, "what fool would sell us his secrets?" when Soviets sought jets...)





So, after acquiring these 25 engines from UK via Mr Stanford Cripps, in an agreement "to not employ them in any military purposes", after assuring Stalin this was no trick, Soviet design teams went forward with reverse of engineering to make their own Nene copies. Then, improved them to be the Klimov VK-1, which powered the MiG-15, second fighter jet Mikoyan produced. Just in time to make the Korean War more difficult, as they were credited with ruining any use of B-29 in daytime bomb raids over North Korea, due to sustained losses.

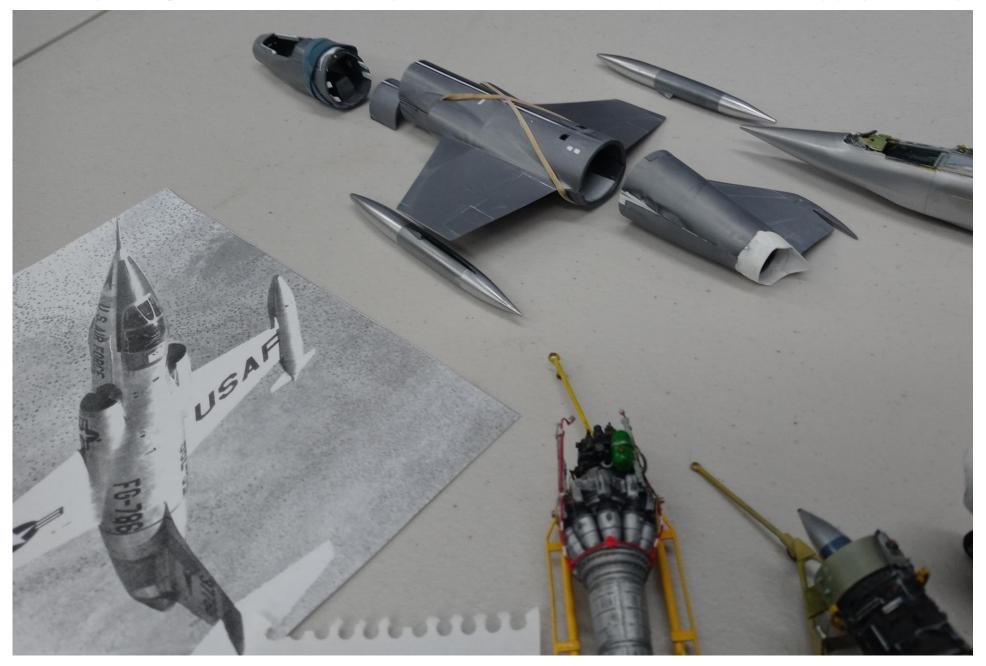
Although F-80 Shooting Stars did in fact score first UN jet kill of MiG-15, ending up with 6 to their credit, they weren't really good in escort mission for B-29. They stood in until arrival of F-86A Sabres, as primary USAF fighter and then finished their role in Korea as ground pounder & recon. They too were using centrifugal flow engine like VK-1 but the swept wings made all difference, which was how F-86 leveled the field.

Take a close look lower right, there's Ron's F-86A with the distinctive "A" curved windscreen. Now, on to next step from that formidable to another.

With the knowledge gain, hopes and dreams of the American fighter pilots in his mind, Clarence L. "Kelly" Johnson came up with the prototype bird you seen underway below, ala Ron Darcy. That is his first mostly done 1/48th scale XF-104, glory be!



Accompanied by of course, Ron's SECOND go at this iconic prototype. The wing tip tanks seen off wing of the "sectional" are likely going to end up on the #2 build, but I no longer recall from the discussion. In any case, I am utterly enjoying his building.





On the right, Ron is giving a comparison of rear ends, Build # 1 vs Build #2.

On the left, Build # 2 in the middle section.

The production F-104 had a longer fuselage (increased fuel) forward retract nose gear (better for downward ejection seat originally for use), added undertail fin (roll stability) a fuel pipe duct on spine, and a J79 engine (for Mach 2!)



Those are major highlights

of what Ron has to go through to reverse existing kits into XF-104 status, but not all of them. One of the most key features of this bird vs all other Starfighters? There are NO SHOCK CONES on the intakes. The two XFs used J65 engines, the first one started out life without afterburner even, so was subsonic in level flight! Ben Rich (Kelly's successor) designed these intakes.



Although the two XF-104s no longer exist in 1/1 scale, the package that Kelly came up with help of his Skunk Works team (that's right, F-104 is a Skunk Works bird, even if not "black", same with C-130!) hit the mark even as the XFs met the ground during their service tests

The USAF began orders for the "Y" versions from firm commitment that the X planes proved it was an exciting and solid design. The 1st one crashed during chase duties for F-104A development due to fin flutter (a known problem) which tore off tail, forcing ejection. # 2 (the afterburner and armament bird) during gun tests at 50,000 feet, lost the underfuselage eject hatch, blinding pilot due to pressure suit inflation. Based on his best info at the time, pilot ejected. C'est la vie

You can perhaps see Ron's vacform building skills spill into his major conversion work here, with the "joiners" on the cockpit tub above and other sections in other pictures. Below, you see the white filler styrene which "flatten" the dorsal, where he's removed the "fuel transit" from fuselage halves. Those incredible "straight" wings were angled 10 degrees down for stability.



The horizontal flying tail had a big span, and could induce a "Dutch roll", anhedral helped dampen that. Adds "excitement" too which helps make "the missile with a man in it " catchphrase. Well, until Ron finishes these, that's all I can ramble on here.



Looking forward to seeing these pivotal prototypes in "done" form. So there you go, December 2022 Hornets Nest wrapped up for you. Editor is happy here to be nearly caught back up, so with "102" in my own Century series we BUZZ onward: -mick fini

EVER BEEN TO A MODEL CONTEST HELD IN A HUGE HOBBY SHOP ??**

11/24/2022 UNOFFICIAL FLYER from MIRANDCO Information deemed reliable & accurate, not necessarily complete



COMING UP - SATURDAY MAY 20 2023



Hosted by IPMS/SANTA ROSA

At FUNDEMONIUM, from 9AM to 4PM Expressway Center, 579 Rohnert Park Expressway Rohnert Park CA

Contact: Dev Sodagar (Chapter President)

ipmssantarosa@gmail.com

LOTS to DO and SEE

Website for updated info https://www.ipmssantarosa.org/

AND NOT LONG AFTER THIS, SOMETIME IN JUNE 2023 WE KNOW THAT MUCH FOR SURE

11/30/2022 UNOFFICIAL FLYER from MIRANDCO Information deemed reliable and accurate but not necessarily complete





REVISED 2023 edition

SATURDAY

JUNE 17 (Provisional)*

At TOWN & COUNTRY LUTHERAN CHURCH 4049 MARCONI AVE SACRAMENTO, CA 95821

CONTACT: RUSSELL NILES (r niles1@juno.com)

subject to possible change, will not be getting lock confirmation on date from rented locale until after January, so be advised*

WE WILL POST CONFIRMED DATE WHEN IT COMES ...

THEN WE HAVE OF COURSE – IPMS USA NATS

AUGUST 2 thru 5, 2023 in San Marcos TX

**GO TO THE ABOVE, YOU CAN SAY YOU HAVE !!

THEN RIGHT AFTER ALL THE FUN IN SAN MARCOS TEXAS...YOU CAN COUNT ON FUN NEARER BY

01-10-2023 UNOFFICIAL FLYER

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GET UPDATES and ADDITIONAL INFO at their address ipmslv@aol.com Or IPMSLV.com



With more good fun ahead in Early October, Thanks Doug & Crew



RENO HIGH ROLLERS

Host

Their 22nd Show & Contest

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 07 <u>2023</u> - 9AM TO 4PM RENO ELKS LODGE, 593 KUMLE LANE, Reno NV 89509

TENTATIVE THEME is "THE SWINGING '60s'

CONTACT - President Doug Summers GHPLD@att.net





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GET UPDATES and ADDITIONAL INFO at their address

RENOHIGHROLLERS.com





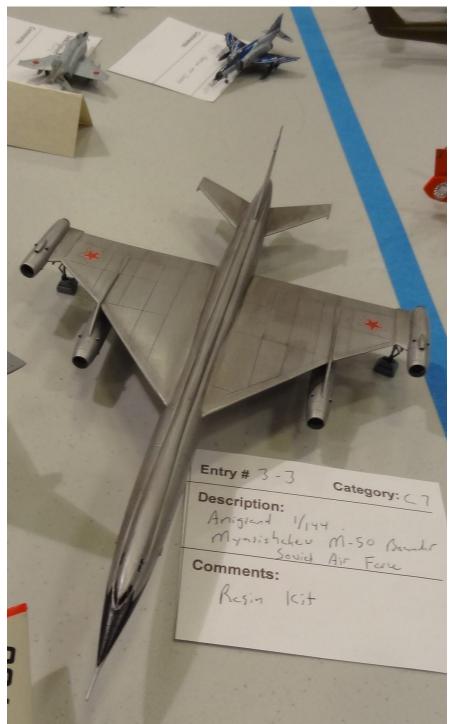
Thank You Dragon Lady for All

November 12 2022 was wrap up of Region Nine Event year

The friendly welcoming folks of the IPMS Dragon Lady club who had only just returned to the event circuit after 5 years in hiatus, with their 2021 event, again closed out our year for us.

With a theme of "From The Ground Up", celebrating the art of scratchbuilding, they offered again a challenging, positive and bold outlook for art of scale modelling to all, entrant & viewer.

Thanks to the generosity of Free Hornet Gabriel Lee, willing to change his own plans literally only hours before this show to be making room for me to join in travel, I was able to be part of the 2nd Yuba City show in a row. We also saw to it Hornet William Ferrante got his 1/48th F-6A Mustang back safely, left behind at TriCity 14 the week before. Here's a quick look back for now.





Incontrovertible proof that Gabriel Lee was there competitively on the tables of Hope Point Church in Yuba City, that's his Stoli MiG!

On the left, in the 1/144 aircraft category this year, another special heartthrob of the Editor in finished 3-dimensional scale form. The Myasischev M-50 "Bounder" supersonic nuclear bomber, in resin. For an aircraft that only flew 19 times and totaled two airframes, she had an intriguing impact in the Cold War rivalry, joy to see one



Okay, not trying to be jarring here, merely including something else that made me smile at the show. This was in the Junior Diorama category, "Father, Daughter, Horse" and it filled the bill for its requisites. A straightforward 3 dimensional tale in scale

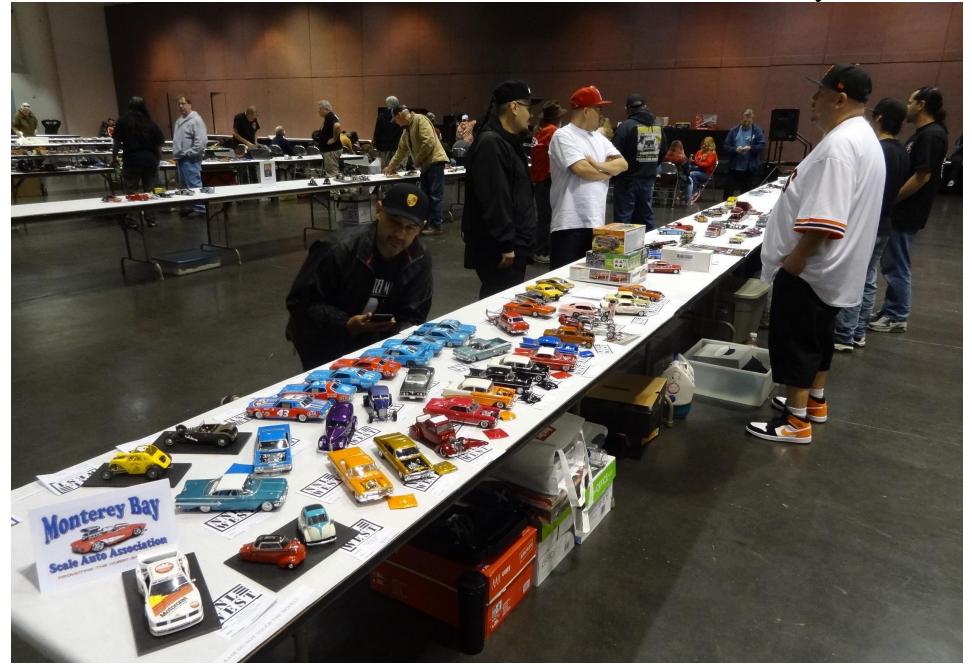


There were not a lot of Junior/Youth entries, but good variety in what was there. I hope to share more in a future article



For now, I will wrap up here on a winning note for me. Took a 2nd place with my SNECMA. Got a third for my 1/144 E-2C!

FORGE AHEAD to 2024! Hats off to NNL West for 38th year Show







Just giving a quick snapshot of some of the great displays

Andy Kellock's "Collection of the King" is not done, he wanted to share what he's finished so far of Petty mobiles

The "Red Bull Baja Bug" was winner of People's Choice which really threw a curve at the builder, she said this was only her fourth model car build. Thinking she be back ...



IF YOU LIKE US TO TRY HAVING SOME CLUB CONTESTS NOW AND THEN, GOOD. BECAUSE HERE COMES OUR MID YEAR LINE UP ALREADY!

JUNE 09 2023 Free Hornet Member's Club Contest Theme

" The D-Day Club Contest"

The short and sweet of it? If your chosen entry vehicle or figure or what have you has "D" finite linkage in its Designation then it is ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE

Examples include:

Douglas or Dassault aircraft, Daimler or Dodge automobiles, DUKW amphibs, any subject that clearly relates directly to June 6 1944, but don't be shy.

I barely touched the range of possible Destroyers of concept that this theme is difficult to find range in. Don't get me started on Dr Dornier or Doolittle...

BONUS FEATURE – The following Friday there is a Club Contest At SVSM meeting, "D-Day Deux". Check this link for details: https://www.mickbmodeler.com/august-2022-svsm.php

CORVETTE SUMMER (for you)

Is JULY Free Hornets ClubCon

And part Deux will be at next Month on Third Friday SVSM

Simple rules: Your entry must be a Corvette, any period, style, etc.

Lest you think this is only for Chevrolet fans, let me refresh you:

Corvette noun corvette kor-'vet

a warship ranking in the old sailing navies next below a frigate

a highly maneuverable armed escort ship that is smaller than a destroyer

SO, there you have it, a grand experiment if you will, please try to at least give it a chance. CASH PRIZES on offer, from the Editor

Coming Up NEXT MONTH

The Next Hornets Nest Night Is FRIDAY FEBRUARY 09 2023

REMINDER – Al Gerace has generously offered us the use of Hobbies Unlimited shop space After Hours to hold our meeting! Treasurer/VP Dave Parks has generously been willing to provide the chairs and transport to/from of these, as well as be in charge of attendance and access for the meeting at the Hobby Shop. Be Respectful of all that

" WOW ANOTHER YEAR WE MADE IT. " AND WHO KNEW EDITOR WOULD STILL ALSO BE PRESIDING?

<u>PLUS IN A FUTURE NEXT EDITION</u>

WE FINALLY AGAIN RETURN TO CONTINUING A LOOK IN DETAIL AT FREE HORNETS

WAAAAAAYYYYYYY

BACK WHEN



And possibly, some explore in more detail of FREE HORNETS TRICITY 14 event occurrence...