



# The Monterey Bay Muddler



The International Plastic Modelers Society, Central Coast-Monterey Bay Chapter held its monthly meeting in the Monterey Public Library's Solarium on Sunday, August 6, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. Present were President Lester Tockerman, Vice-President Larry Marcum, Treasurer David Conneau and Secretary Lee Marcum. Also in attendance were Ramon Lomeli, son Oliver Lomeli, Evan Conneau, Tom Leutzinger.

From the President's desk....It seems that our 50th Anniversary celebrations will be at the Monterey County Fair over the Labor Day weekend. I asked Ramon if he could make 2 eye-catching signs announcing our Anniversary, to be put on our 2 display cabinets, and he said he would ( late minute update: David and Ramon have collaborated and produced two (2) 11x17 color IPMS/USA posters and fifty (50) handouts for the Fair). I will do my best to contact the Herald and one or two of the T.V. stations. Also, Bryan T. is creating a new Web page for us, and he is also recommending we give up the Face Book page. I have mixed feelings on this last part, and further discussions will continue at our next meeting. Ramon suggested that we might keep Face Book and just re-format it.

From our Treasurer.... \$60.00 was spent for IPMS/USA posters and flyers for display at the Monterey County Fair. As of August 25, 2017 we have a balance of \$228.89.

Other business:...David Conneau. informed us that this year the chapter is renting two (2) cases at the Monterey County Fair (August 31-September 4, 2017) . He will provide a brief history of plastic modeling. In keeping with the history of plastic models, David suggested that we could show the evolution of the craft by displaying the earliest examples right up to the present: i.e. kits from the 50's, 60's, 70's, etc. If anyone has any question about the origin of any particular kit, please check out Scalemates.com. where you will not only find the issue date of your kit but also the various re-boxings and labels of the companies that produced them.

Several months ago, we asked Eric Hasselfeldt to provide a short history of our club, Eric being the longest active club member. Lester Tockerman will e-mail him and reiterate the request. Oliver Lomeli would like to design a certificate to be presented to our Modeler -of- the -Month. There being no further business, it was time for...

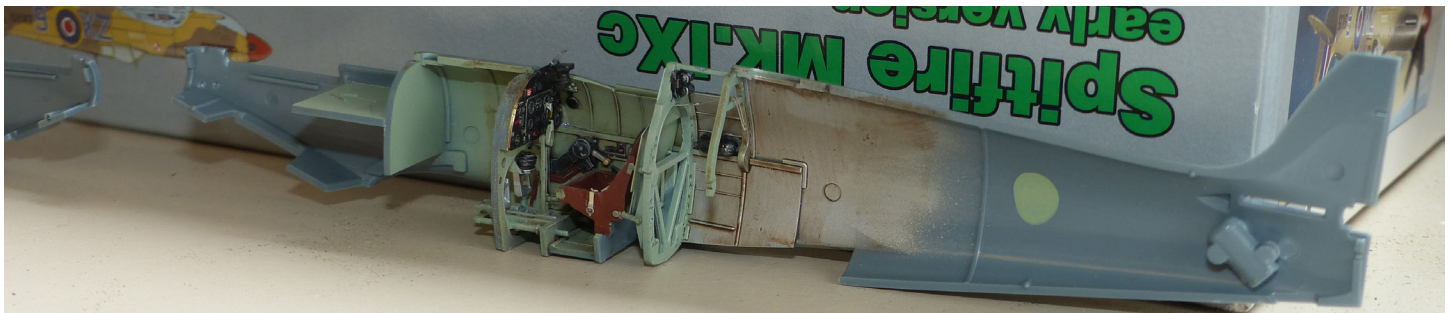
# SHOW AND TELL!!!



OLIVER LOMELI started things off with a 2009 Airfix 1/350th scale British Trafalgar Class Submarine, that his uncle served on. He also showed 2 Hasagawa birds: a 1/72nd scale Republic P-47D Thunderbolt in the 353rd FS markings of Major Glenn T. Eagleston (he stated the decals were a royal pain in the aft section!), and a 1/72nd Fairchild A-10A Thunderbolt II. Oliver also brought his P-40 diorama for a second review.



RAMON LOMELI showed us 4 examples of his latest endeavors. 2014 Airfix 1/48th scale Supermarine Spitfire VB finished in a temperate scheme of Dark Green/Dark Grey/Sky 'S'. Introduced into service in March 1941 to No. 92 Squadron, the Mk. V was the latest progression of up-rated engines (1,470hp) and increased armor protection that could be accommodated in the basic Spitfire Mk. 1 airframe. It would also be the last variant to have the asymmetrical under wing radiator-oil cooler arrangement. Another introduction was the "A" (eight .303-in. Brownings), "B" (two 20mm. Hispano cannon and four .303-in Brownings) and "C" or universal ("B" set-up or four 20mm. Hispano cannon, plus two 250lb or one 500lb bombs) wing(s). Fifteen Mk. VB's were deployed to Malta (March 1942) to become the first Spitfires to serve outside Europe. By August 1942, 3 Squadrons were in North Africa. Early 1943 saw Spits over Darwin and by October over Burma. Ramon's kit is the latest Airfix issue. Although the original kit dates back to 1983, Airfix was acquired by Hornby Hobbies Ltd in November 2006 and is committed to bringing the line up to world standards by issuing kits from new moulds in an attempt to breathe new life into its product line. Issued in November 2014, this is such a kit and Ramon has done it justice.



2013 Eduard 1/48th scale Supermarine Spitfire IXc. In response to the superior performance of the Messerschmitt Bf-109 and being totally outclassed by the Focke-Wulf Fw-190A, the installation of a 1,720hp Merlin into a Spitfire VC airframe produced the Spitfire Mk. IXc destined to be the most mass produced (5,665) version of the series. Ramon's kit is the long awaited Eduard Spitfire Mk IXc and state of the art that is coming from Czechoslovakia. A great deal of R&D was put into this kit so as to stand up against any competition. Now all this kit needs is for Ramon to work his magic.



The next entry is the 1978 Hasegawa 1/48th scale Lockheed F-104C Starfighter finished in Southeast Asia (Vietnam) camo. This was originally going to be finished in the colorful, gaudy natural metal finish of the fifties, but after a decal mishap Ramon decided to finish it as a bird deployed to Vietnam instead.



And speaking of Vietnam... who of us that lived through the experience will ever forget the wop-wop-wop- of the Hueys overhead alerting the VC of their impending arrivals? Well Ramon will bring that to life with his 2017 Kitty Hawk 1/48th scale Bell UH-1 Huey. The instructions are erroneous, but the moldings are superb. If anyone knows choppers, it's Ramon and we eagerly look forward to his finished specimen.



LESTER TOCKERMAN was next up with 6 busts...that's more busts than Picasso used to paint! The first is a Celt from Gaul, from the 3rd C. b.c.e. He's easy to I.D. as he is wearing a winged helmet. Next is a Dacian Warrior from the 2nd C. c.e. Dacia is just to the north-east of Macedonia. He is very noticeable by the huge shield on his back. 3rd in line is a Roman Draconius, from the 2nd C. c.e. He's easily I.D.'ed by the large Dragon standard he carries. Next is George Castriot, the Hero of Albania, also called Skanderberg, 1405-1468 c.e. He's I.D.'able by his bright red cape. After George comes a Spanish Conquistador, 1475 c.e. If the armor looks dull, it is, because the Spaniards would put their armor over a fire so the smoke would blacken it. This helped to prevent rust in the humid Central and South American climates. Last is a Landsknecht, 1475-1600 c.e. The Landsknechts were Germano-Swiss mercenaries, and were considered to be the most feared and highly paid mercenaries in Europe. They are easily I.D.'ed by their outrageously garish dress.



DAVID CONNEAU was up next. David reminded us that August 7, 2017 is the 75th anniversary of America's first offensive of World War II, the landing at Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands chain. In a place few people had ever heard of and even fewer could locate on a map, the ensuing campaign would rage from August 1942 to February 1943 with such ferocity and savagery that future historians would refer to it as 'the Stalingrad of the Pacific'. Daily bombings from Rabaul, nightly shelling by the Tokyo Express, morning pursuits by Cactus Dauntlesses, ruthless dog fights, banzai charges, a future president's PT Boat sliced in half by a Japanese destroyer, a future governor racking up enough kills to surpass Eddie Rickenbacker's 26, the loss of all 5 of the Sullivan Brothers, the sinkings of so many ships that Indispensable Strait became known as Iron Bottom Sound...all over a fetid airfield called Henderson. The US Navy's codename for the operation was "Cactus" and David displayed a collection of the primary aircraft employed by the Americans from Henderson Field and referred to as 'The Cactus Air Force':



A 2007 Hobby Boss 1/48th scale Grumman F4F-4 Wildcat of Marine Fighter Squadron 223 (VMF223) in the markings of Capt. Marion E. Carl (August 1942).

A 1959 Monogram 1/48th scale Douglas SBD-3 Dauntless of Scouting Squadron 71 (VS-71) from USS Wasp (CV-7) detailed to Henderson Field (September 1942).



A 1969 Monogram 1/48th scale Bell P-40 Airacobra of the 67th FS, 347th FG, Henderson Field (August 1942).



TOM LEUTZINGER completed our tour with two 1/20th scale Gran Prix WIP's: Studio 27 1/20th scale Tyrrell 0-12 Formula One. Designed by Maurice Philippe for the Tyrrell team, it was introduced for the 1983 season, and was subsequently used in 1984 and the first few races of 1985. It was the first chassis built by the team to be composed of mostly carbon fibre. Although the car was light and nimble, it was no match against the massively powerful turbo cars. RTN Models 1/20th scale Ensign N177 turbo Formula One, the car used by Jacky Ickx during the 1976 Dutch Formula One Gran Prix. Tom's models are gems and the accompanying ephemera brings his subjects to life as historical miniatures. Both are WIP's and will hopefully be finished in time for the next contest in Sept.



## PARTING THOUGHTS



It is with the greatest sadness that I have to tell you that our brother Adrian Garza died Tuesday night (August 22). If there are any consolations, they are these, he is now reunited with his beloved mother, and, he is without pain. He will always be remembered by us with love and admiration, and will always be a standard that many of us will try to live up to. God rest his soul in peace.

With great sadness,

Lester

We have lost a talented and gifted artist. I have no doubt that at his passing, Adrian went straight to Heaven, Why? Because God loves to surround Himself with good people such as Adrian. As a Heaven warming present, Adrian was issued his own personal F4 Phantom with unlimited ceiling and endless fuel. So if you hear a little sonic boom at dawn or spot contrails in the sunset, it's Adrian doing a fly over.

David Conneau

**President:** Lester Tockerman  
**Vice President:** Larry Marcum  
**Treasurer:** David Conneau  
**Secretary:** Lee Marcum  
**Layout Artist:** Ramon Lomeli