



The Monterey Bay Muddler



Watching the Show before we Show!

The International Plastic Modelers Society, Central Coast-Monterey Bay Chapter held its monthly meeting on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at President Lester Tockerman's home. Lester was a little under the weather but no one was a little underfed as we were all treated to linguisa on buns and tamales. Boy, that'll warm the cockles of your heart (nothing worse than cold cockles)! Present at this meeting were President Lester Tockerman, Vice-President Larry Marcum, Secretary Lee Marcum, Treasurer David Conneau and Members at Large, Ramon Lomeli, Oliver Lomeli and Ron Vandergrift.

During the luncheon we were treated to the 1942 Oscar winning documentary, 'The Battle of Midway' by Director John Ford. Ford, a Lieutenant Commander (USNR) shot the 16mm color short before, during (under fire when he was hit in the elbow and shoulder with shrapnel) and after the epic battle. It contains some of the best footage of SBD Dauntlesses, TBD Devastators, F4F-4 Wildcats, SB2U-3 Vindicators and PBY Catalina's. While filming the B-17 Flying Fortresses of the US 7th AAF, you can discern the voice-overs of Ford's Grapes of Wrath (1940) alumni, Henry Fonda and Jane Darwell. The story goes that at the end of the battle, Ford had an aide spirit the film footage back to the States before Naval Intelligence could confiscate it and thereafter made it into the Best Documentary of 1942, a nice follow-up to his 1941 Oscar winning documentary, December 7th. Ron Vandergrift was stationed on Midway Island during his time in the Navy and shared some interesting stories and anecdotes with us. After lunch we went into chapter business.

PRESIDENTS BUSINESS consisted of announcing the upcoming February 17th SilverCon in Sacramento for which there were no takers. Also he announced the March 31st Silicon Valley Classic V at the Napredak Hall in San Jose. More on that later.

TREASURERS REPORT: As of February 15th our Treasury balance stands at \$204.91.

NEW BUSINESS: A concept design for the Adrian Garza Memorial Modeler of the Year Award was submitted to SIGN ONE for development. It is tentively going to be a plaque with gold lettering. At the time of the design submission the shop was dealing with a serious backlog and would take up the project at a later date. David Conneau will follow up on its progress and report back.

Larry and Lee Marcum continue to inventory and catalogue Adrian Garza's model collection. At present they have finished 305 complete kits and around 85 incomplete kits. They estimate to have between 85 to 120 kits to go. Thereafter, they shall begin the task of going through the after-market extras. Brave souls!

Ramon Lomeli had some VERY GOOD NEWS! The Naval Postgraduate School of Monterey has agreed to take and display Adrian Garza's F-4 Phantom II and his F4U Corsair. We set about to complete the necessary paperwork relinquishing ownership to the USNPS.

That completed our chapter business and thus we moved on to...

SHOW AND TELL!!!

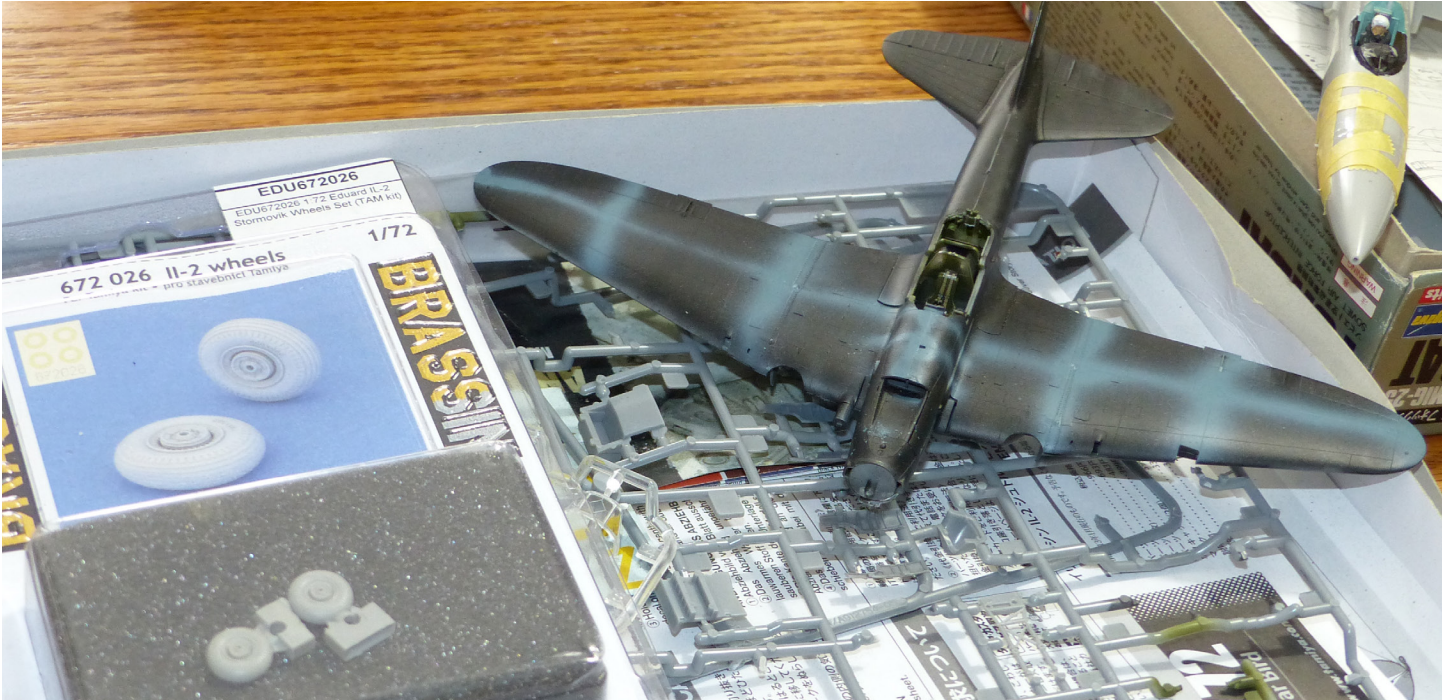
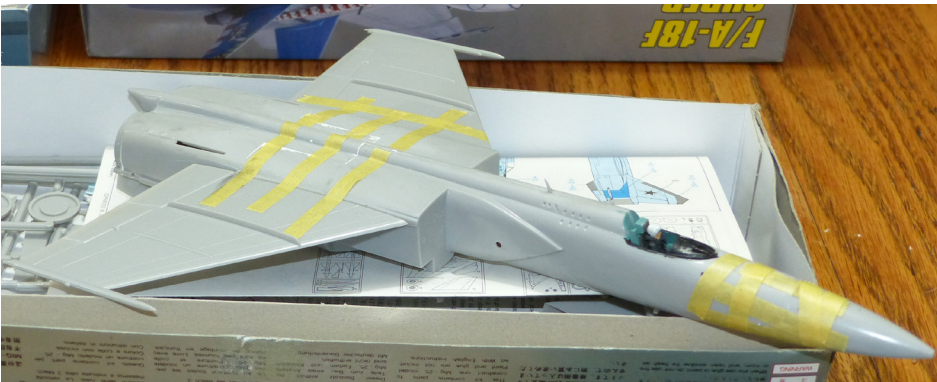


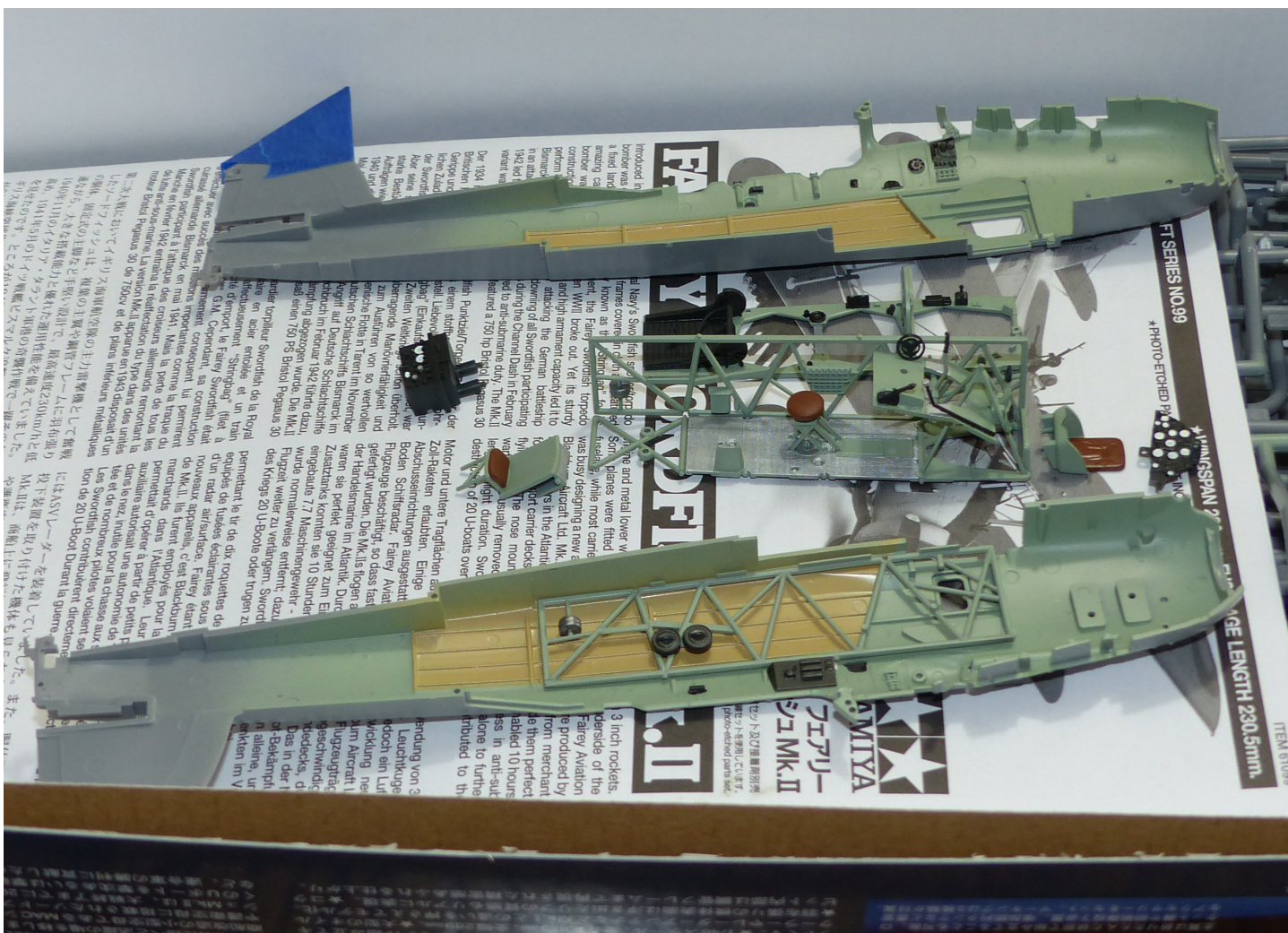
DAVID CONNEAU started off with his 2002 AMtech Curtiss P-40F Warhawk “Dammit” of the 33rd FG, 12th AAF, French Morocco, November 1942. Finished in the RAF Desert Scheme of Dark Earth/Middle-stone/Azure Blue, “Dammit” sports the yellow Operation Torch surrounds to the national insignia and the unusual addition of American flags on the fuselage sides and top right/ bottom left wings in an effort to dissuade Vichy French anti-aircraft gunners from shooting at the Yanks. Accompanying the model was a photo of similar long-tailed, Merlin powered P-40F’s launching from the auxiliary carrier USS Chenango.

As an avid collector of WWII ephemera, David also brought in a framed 1943 copy of As Time Goes By sheet music from the Warner Bros. film, *Casablanca*.



OLIVER LOMELI presented his very nicely executed Cobra attack helicopter. Adding to the overall effect is some excellent weathering that truly enhances its appearance. Now that's a hard-working chopper! Added to the mix were two 1/72nd WIP's; a MiG-25 and an IL-2 Sturmovik waiting in the wings.





RAMON LOMELI showed up with 3 WIP's. The Fairey Swordfish Mk II, a Boeing FA-18F Super Hornet and his Bell UH-1D Huey with its myriad seat belts, (painstakingly assembled and attached individually) all in 1/48th scale. We can't wait to see the finished and fully rigged "Stringbag", the iconic Fleet Air Arm's anachronistic biplane torpedo bomber that served His Majesty's Fleet from beginning to end. Carry on.





Before...

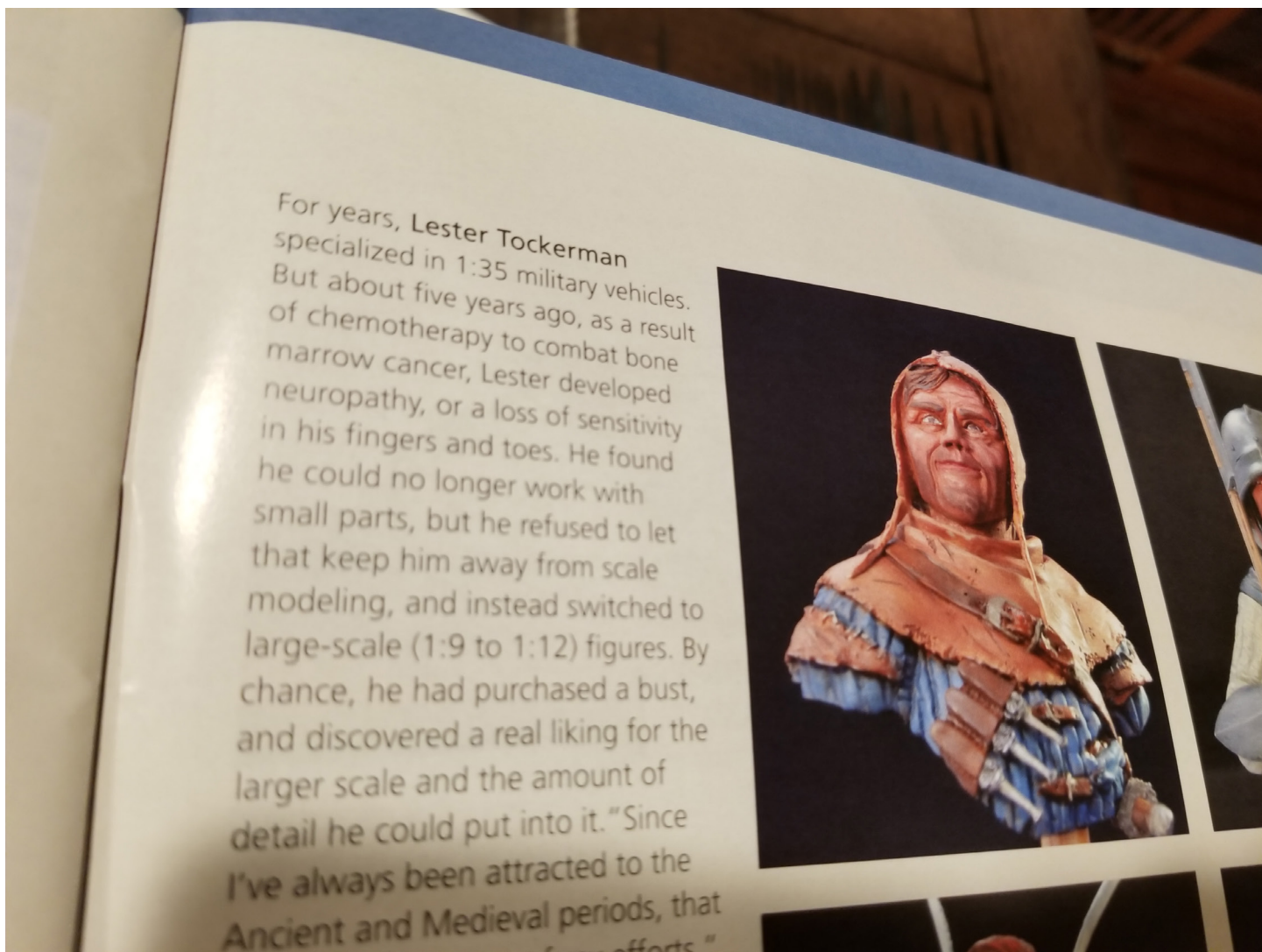


After!

LESTER TOCKERMAN held the clean-up position with several busts. While he normally centers on Ancients and the Medieval's, Lester has found himself lately fascinated by subjects of The Great Patriotic War. The comrade with the long sniper rifle is a Hero of the Soviet Union, none other than Vassili. The bearded Russian Cossack is probably from the Don River region. The Officer, wrapped in rope, served in Russia's Mountaineer Corps. This subject is still a WIP in that the ropes need to be detailed and the machine gun sling needs to be finished and attached.

Now the two Viking busts: a little background; Lester accidentally bought two of the same kit (as yet not a capital offense in this state)! He finished the original with a singled-bladed axe. Ingenuity then set in and Lester converted the second by changing the painting of the garments and altering the color of the hair (to which were added two braids) and beard. This Viking's weapon was changed to a short-handled two-bladed axe. Re-positioning the angles of the hands (the kit did not come with arms), Lester once again demonstrates his award-winning skill, speaking of which...

NEWS FLASH!



Check out the January-February 2018 issue of the IPMS/USA Journal, the one with Chris Burcholtz's Firefly on the cover. Turn to the Members' Gallery section (pgs. 66-68) and on page 67 is a nice spread on Lester's art work. Congratulations, Fearless Leader!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 1:30 in the afternoon, at the Monterey Public Library. See you there!

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