



O.H.M.S.

Oklahoma Historical Modelers' Society

NEWSLETTER



Volume 48, Issue 5

May 2018

Coming Events

May 3-5-- AMPS 2018 International Convention, Hope Hotel and Conference Center, 10823 Chidlaw Rd, Dayton, OH
May 4--OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
May 18-- OHMS Meeting. Program Night. Painting Figures
June 1--OHMS Meeting. MOM contest. Budget Build contest.
June 1-2--Tulsa Figure Show and contest at the Wyndam Hotel in Tulsa
June 2--Scalefest—IPMS/NCT— Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St. [Map](#) IPMS-North Central Texas
June 9--IPMS Metro OKC will host Soonercon at Council Road Baptist Church, 2900 North Council Road, Bethany, Oklahoma. Contact [Richard R. Fisher](#) 918-724-8929
June 15-- OHMS Meeting. Program Night.

Meeting Reports

Business Meeting—April 6

Don Douglas has requested that he step down as the Chapter Contact for the club. Don has been doing this for years and time has finally caught up with him. Many thanks to Don for doing this job for the club. Replacing him will be Steven Foster.

The officers have developed a plan for adding IPMS members. Since the treasury is flush, we will have a no-cost raffle of three memberships paid for by the club for OHMS members not currently in IPMS. All that is required is that you get a ticket when the raffle happens (which means you have to be present to win). This should start with the next meeting and, I am assuming, will be a one-per-month event.

Model of the Month— April 6



Flettner Fl-282 "Kolibri"

Dave Kimbrell



Camaro

Luke Paxton



Ferdinand 150100

Dave Kimbrell



"The Dreaded Eighty Eight"

James Staley



Mig-19

David Paxton



Oscar II

PatrickHagelstein

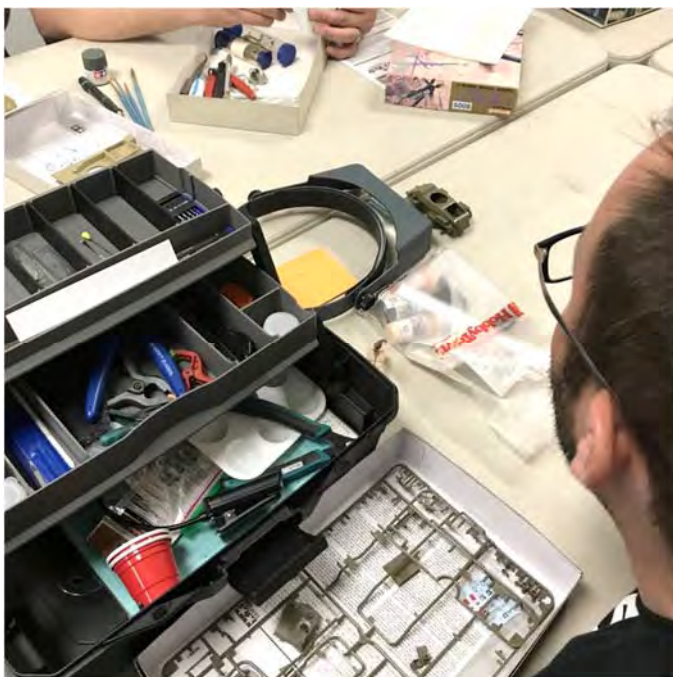
Dave won the MOM for this month with his Hummingbird. (Thanks to the guys for covering for me and producing pictures while I was away.)

Program Night—April 20

Another of our quarterly build nights.







A few thoughts from the Head Chicken...

A Failure to Communicate



When new people come into the club meetings, they are understandably nervous about meeting new people and displaying their models. Many of these new people are also novice builders, but not all.

While we try to be inclusive and helpful, long time members tend to be wary because they are not sure how new people will take any comments about their models. If they are effusive with praise, they run the risk of the builder believing he has nothing to learn and later

becoming disillusioned. *(Everyone says my stuff is really great, but I never win anything.)* Or, if the newcomer has an excessive ego, they may become insulted with helpful suggestions or comments. Some, in the past, became disappointed simply because their model was not *ooohed* and *aaahed* over to their satisfaction.

Newcomers may also be unaware of the club's customs and etiquette *(don't pick up a model without permission, for example)*. Or those in IPMS....and by extension....OHMS look at models based strongly on craftsmanship. This has been the result of decades work to find the fairest way to judge models for contests. *Seams, mold release marks, glue spots, parts out of alignment, finger prints, poor paint, poor decal work, and overall consistency are the basis used. Historical/technical accuracy and personal appeal are way down the line.*

We also *assume* people are there to learn and try to improve their workmanship. That works best if the novice asks questions. Some people are quite happy with their skill level, which is fine, as long as they understand many members make their MOM picks strongly based on the craftsmanship.....most of the time.

The OHMS Model of the Month was designed to get people to bring in models to the meetings. It is a secret ballot popularity contest. Often new and interesting things win, even though they may have multiple craftsmanship flaws. (A papier-mache ALIEN egg with K-Y jelly for slime, once won.)

And then there is subject matter. Though we ARE an eclectic group with all sorts of interests, not every subject gets seen or talked about at each meeting. Often general interest is inspired by the repeated display of subject matter. There was little talk of WWI aircraft until Steve Foster kept bringing in his model planes. Cars picked up when James, Ron, and Daniel started bringing in more models. Those who only come once or twice and decide we have no interest in their subject and leave, are self-defeating. Persistency means a lot.

Model building is a creative activity and people tend to be sensitive about something they created. Not everyone gets the attention they want at every meeting. Those who keep coming grow into a part of the group; those who do not, just fade away.

To quote Strother Martin, "What we have here is a failure to communicate." Hopefully, we can improve that, in the future.

Dave Kimbrell

The Dark Side

Come to the Dark Side.....the stones in your path can be a bridge or a wall.

REAL STEEL

Back in 2007, I started working on the **DML/Cyber Hobby** kit of Ferdinand 150100. This was the last Ferdinand completed before the Kursk battles. As such it was covered with good luck graffiti by the factory workers. The kit provides most of the markings, but sadly, not all. I find it interesting this vehicle was completed two years to the day before the surrender of Germany.



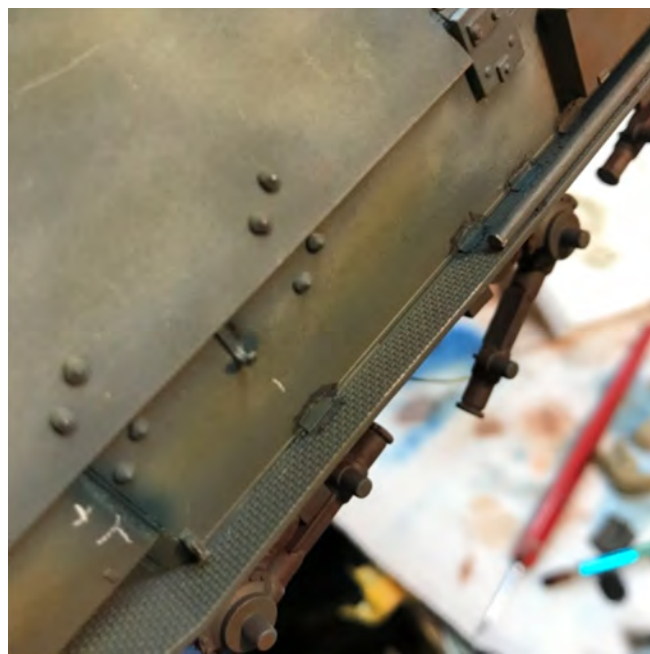
Conventional wisdom shows this vehicle in a rusty or red primer scheme under the graffiti. However, as I studied the photographs, I became aware of obvious welding points. To me, this suggested most of the structure was unpainted steel. *The gun barrel, road wheels and drive sprockets were clearly painted panzer yellow.* This makes sense because this was the period when they changed from Panzer grey to Panzer yellow.

I decided to go with the unpainted metal look instead of primer red brown. To avoid confusion with aircraft painting, instead of natural metal, I call the scheme *real steel*. It is quite a different look from the bare metal seen on airplanes.

The first step was to paint the hull a dark grey. The particular shade is up to you, but I chose **Model Master Euro Grey**. Some might think a metallic might be appropriate, but it really isn't.

To Preserve the Past for the Future

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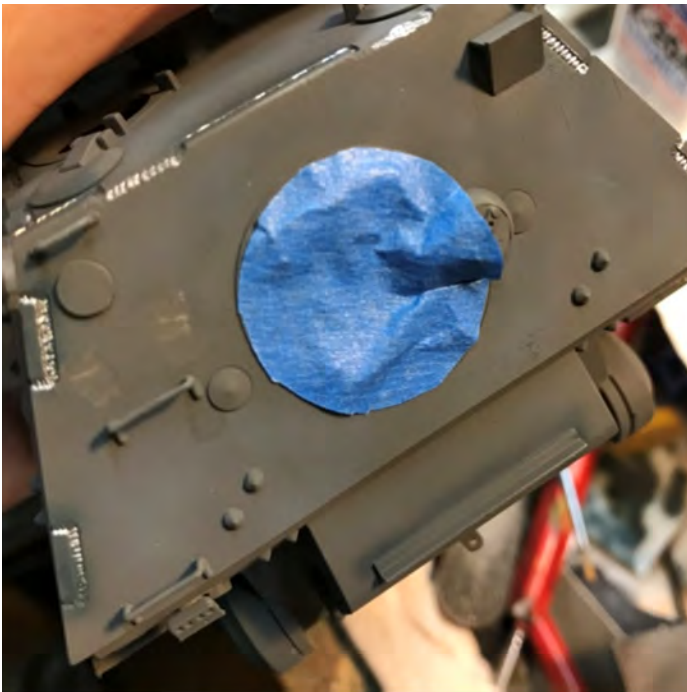
The weld seams were next. In the photos, I could see some shine in spots and have seen such welds be very shiny. I used the 1mm **Molotow** Liquid Chrome pen and it worked extremely well. Then thinned **Tamiya** Clear Blue was airbrushed over the weld marks. This muted the chrome and added the heating effect. (Medieval armor was heated in an oven to color the plate steel blue for decoration.) The Clear Blue was also sprayed around on small welded fittings.

Next, I used **Tamiya** Light sea grey (XF-25) heavily thinned to mist over the grey creating a patina effect. A little Medium Blue (XF-18) was also used the same way to create contrast although it is hard to see in the images.



Now for some rust. I masked off the rear hatch and then using a diluted **AK Interactive** Light Rust to mist over the hull to create an additional patina effect.





Now, I wanted some greater contrast. Using **AK Interactive** Old Rust....again diluted....I went over the rear hatch, gun mantlet collar, tool box, bogie units and hatches. When dry, I applied the same shade of pastel dust to the mantlet collar and the bogies, getting around in spots I could not reach with the airbrush. Had I been building this the way it ended up, from the start, I would have painted the bogie units separately before putting them on the hull.



with no problem. Once the decals were in place, I gloss coated it again. When I hit it with acrylic flat, the paint crazed! Don't know why. But I spent a couple hours scraping off the crazed paint and camouflaging the other areas with the **AK Interactive** light rust. In the end, I went over the whole thing with **Model Master** flat lacquer using the airbrush, with no ill effects. FYI, clear coats work well to seal most pastels, except white. For some reason, white tends to disappear in the clear coat.

The tracks were painted a homemade mixture of enamels, then rubbed with graphite. As this was a new vehicle sitting on concrete inside a building, no other weathering was done. Using an artist blending stick, graphite was also applied to various point like the conical bolt heads.



The final touch was to stain the metal in spots. Metal stored with other metal gets such spots. To create this effect, I placed a piece of plastic on the model and then a drop of diluted light rust letting the capillary action take effect. The crescents were done the same way using a piece of aluminum tubing. Scorch marks were made with black pastels. Various construction marks were made with a white artist pencil.



At this point, I clear gloss coated the model preparing for the decals. I used **Humbrol** acrylic in a rattle can. The can ran out and I used the enamel gloss to finish



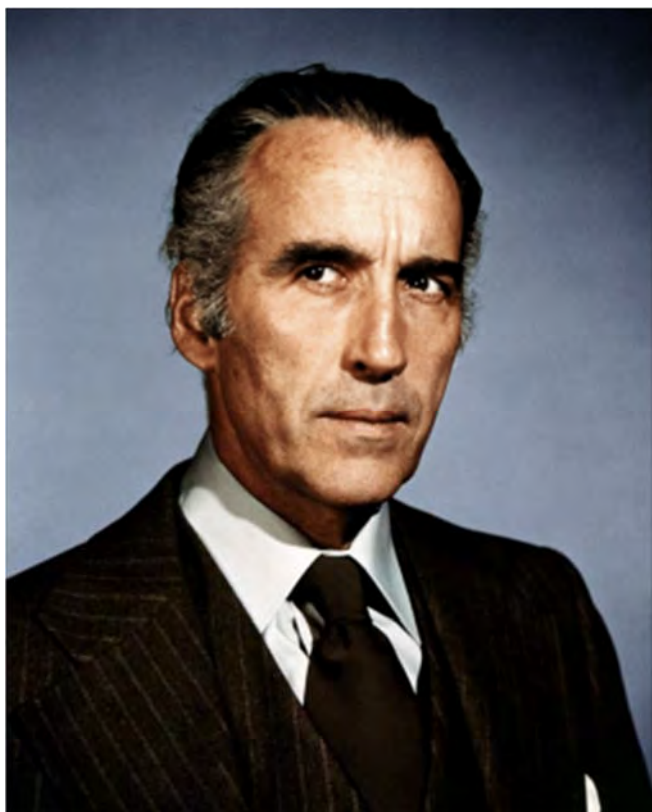
There are not many occasions to use the *real steel* look. Unlike aircraft, you mostly see vehicles burned and rusty when in the unpainted state. But it is an interesting experiment and many of the techniques can be applied to other subjects.

General Knowledge and Private Information

Christopher Lee, LRDG/SAS/actor



The final picture converted to black and white shows how closely it looks like the images of the real thing.



Born May 22, 1922, Lee would briefly serve in the Winter War in Finland. He then joined the RAF, but due to an eye problem, was not made a pilot. As a RAF intelligence officer, Lee served through North Africa, and Italy. At some point, he was attached to the Long Range Desert Group and Special Air Service units, although the missions are still classified. After the war, he was having lunch with his cousin Nicolo Carandini, who was then the Italian ambassador to Great Britain, when his cousin suggested he go into acting. His first movie was in 1947.

While filming a scene for *Lord of the Rings*, his character Saruman was stabbed in the back. Peter Jackson wanted him to scream. Lee explained that from personal experience, he knew people killed this way did not scream. They shot the scene a Lee suggested. Although cut from the first release, the scene can be seen in the director's cut. Lee also had a singing career involving opera and heavy metal albums.

Lee died June 7, 2015 at the age of 93.

Now go build something!

Dave Kimbrell





BATHTUB ADMIRALS

Japanese Naval AA Weapons

About a year ago I did an article on the American AA weapons in WW II. Since I've also been building a group of Japanese destroyers, I thought a look at their AA weapons would be in order. I think the results are interesting. Japan started the war with the best naval air force in the world. As such, you would think that they also would have, with all of that knowledge available to them, also developed the best air defense weapons.

Much like the United States, the IJN had a three-layer approach to AA.



The long range weapon was the 127mm/50. This is almost identical to the US 5-inch but it is a 50 caliber weapon instead of 38 caliber. It was developed in 1914 and by the start of the war it had been placed as an AA weapon on all of the capital ships and had been on destroyers since 1927. At 75 degrees elevation, it could reach up to 40,000 feet. Like the American 5-inch, this gun was placed on almost two dozen different types of mounts.



The intermediate weapon was the 25mm Type 96. It was developed from the French Hotchkiss weapon and started entering the fleet in the late 1930's. It could be found in single, twin triple and even quad mounts. 25mm is slightly smaller than the contemporary American 1.1-inch weapon. The effective ceiling was just under 10,000 feet.



The smallest weapon was the 13mm/76 Type 93. It, too, was derived from a Hotchkiss weapon. It was very similar to the .50 caliber machine gun used as the light weapon in the pre-war US Navy. All of these weapons has shortcomings, whether it was in rate of fire or reliability.

So, the USN and IJN started at almost the same spot just before WW II when it came to AA weapons. The Americans graduated to the Bofors 40mm and the intermediate weapon. For the smallest they used the 20mm Oerlikon. Both were substantial improvements. Why, then, did the Japanese end up in such a woeful

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position by the end of the war using exactly the same weapons? I think there were several factors—some well documented and others speculative.

The first is access. While both Sweden and Switzerland were neutral, they still had commercial bones and had no love for Germany. The Allies were able to get access to the designs before the war began and started mass-producing them. Germany had home-grown designs that were every bit as good, so they would only have been interested in denying such access to the enemy. Japan was left with neither access nor home-grown technology to develop a larger weapon internally.

Why they never pressed Germany to share their designs is the question and passes into the realm of speculation.

Japanese aircraft were developed with an offensive philosophy that mirrored their ship-building concepts. It was all about pushing the offensive envelope. This martial attitude eschewed defense and protecting the individual as an asset. The Zero was the poster child of this path. Later designs that eventually made it into combat also reflect this attitude. American designs continued to add features to protect the pilot and bring him back alive. While offensively limited, the Wildcat reflected this policy. Armor, self-sealing tanks and greater firepower were added to future designs and made each larger and more rugged.

Thus, I believe, both sides looked at the planes that **they** were building and used it as a blueprint for developing weapons to stop the other side. Japanese weapons could stop Japanese planes, so no evolution was required. America saw that bigger weapons were needed to stop tougher planes. By the time Japan saw their mistake, they had no recourse but to live with what they had and simply add more barrels to their ships.

Modeling Options

AA weapons, Japanese or otherwise, in kits from the earlier years (pre-1980) were limited to what was in the box and it was usually bad. Now, you can't swing a dead cat and not find aftermarket options available. Many are just as intricate as the kit themselves.

The Skywave started producing kits in 1/700th scale and in them was the 'weapons sprue' with a general selection of weapons. You would use the ones appropriate for the model you were building and put the rest in the parts box.

They then had the brilliant idea of selling the weapons sprue as an individual item and the rest, as they say, is

history. Modelers would stock up on them and replace the kit parts with the Skywave pieces and vastly improve the look of the model. They have produced them in several iterations, re-boxing them many times and newer ones have come out with more finely rendered components. Multiple sets would be released with different combinations of pieces.



This is probably the start of the detailing set as we know it. Other companies have imitated Skywave with their own sets. Sets for other countries were also produced and modern subjects have been covered as well.





Rick Jackson

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The subjects haven't been limited to guns either. Deck equipment have been produced as well as items that can be used to create diorama scenes.



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OHMS EVENT CALENDAR

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- 15 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.

July

- 6 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 20 OHMS Meeting.—Program night. Build Night.
- 21 HAMS 12th Annual Model Car Show and Contest. Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Annex Building Gym, 6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring TX. IPMS Houston Automotive Modelers Society (HAMS)

August

- 1-4 **2018 IPMS/USA National Convention & Contest Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3rd St, Phoenix, AZ** <http://www.ipmsusanationals2018.com/>
- 3 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 17 OHMS Meeting. Program night.

September

- 3 Cajun Modelfest XXXI at LSU MiniFarm 4-H Building BLDG 338, Baton Rouge Scale Modelers
- 7 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest. Budget Build contest. **OFFICER ELECTIONS.**
- 8 **SuperCon 2018**, Bob Duncan Community Center - Vandergriff Park, 2800 S. Center Street, Arlington TX, IPMS - Fort Worth Scale Modelers, Dave Hibscher hurricaneyankee52@yahoo.com
- 21 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.

October

- 6 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 16 Austin Scale Modelers Society hosts the ASMS Capitol Classic at the Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Lane, Austin, TX. Ian Latham - graphicsdog@gmail.com
- 20 OHMS Meeting. – Program night. Build Night.

November

- 2 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
- 16 OHMS Meeting. Annual Club Auction