



Greetings my fellow modelers and club members.

I hope that this edition of the "SPRUE" finds you in good health and up to your elbows in paint and plastic. I have changed up the layout here, and would really like to get some feedback from you guys on this. My plan was to make it easier for me to work on the newsletter without having to lug around my laptop as well as making it easier for the readers.

On to some more pressing matters. As most of you know, club dues need to be paid to Greg as soon as possible. The regular membership is \$25, and the associate membership is \$12. It's these dues help pay for us to sponsor trophies at other shows, newsletter costs, as well as other things for the club. So, let's get this taken care of.

if anybody could write up a kit review, book review, or anything of interest, please send it to me for the newsletter. Remember, I am always in need of articles.

Penny

#### **A Message From Our Prez...**

Guys, we're going public! Someone from WDBJ CH 7 will be paying us a visit at the June building meeting. More details to come at our May club meeting. Congrats to Bob Rohrback for taking 2nd place in 'ships sail and war' at Fairfax.!

Remember to bring some stuff for the auction, a regular feature now at our monthly get togethers.

All for now mi paionos

Devin

#### **THINGS TO REMEMBER**

- ✧ **May business meeting will be on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm. Rocky will provide refreshments during the meeting.**
- ✧ **June build meeting will be on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. There may be a possibility that WDBJ Channel 7 will be attending the meeting to do a write up about the club, so if you can attend the meeting, please do so.**
- ✧ **A slate of officers was presented at the business meeting and voted on. This years' club officers will be the same as last year. CONGRATS guys! You will find their names and email addresses on the next page.**
- ✧ **Michele will be doing a demo on special decals for the June build meeting.**
- ✧ **We will be having another Regional planning meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> at Bob Rohrback's house. Meeting will start at 10:30.**
- ✧ **If you haven't already paid this year's club dues, please get those in to Greg as soon as you can.**

**MEMBERS ATTEND NOVA SHOW SUBMITTED BY: ROCKY SINK**

On April 20 several members of the club headed up I-81 to attend the NOVA show held in Fairfax and hosted by the Northern Virginia IPMS. Of course, the first item of business is the Cracker Barrel stop for breakfast in Staunton. After a fill up of gravy, eggs, biscuits and all the other fix-ins it was on the road to the show. After arriving the members found that the vendors had increased in number this year and the model entries were a pretty good number as well. The show is held in the Fairfax High School hallways and cafeteria. The proceeds from the show go to the schools Choir. One member had a "run in" with a spectator that basically kept his entries from coming out of the container except for a couple. Look for more on this in a separate article in the future.

Congratulations to Bob Rohrback for winning a second place with one of his ships. Tim Ward presented the Mike Lyons Region 2 Award to Mike Naland and the award was accepted by his wife and son. This has always been a great show and this year was no exception. The members are already looking forward to next years show.

***Club Officers***

*President: Devin Bledsoe*  
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*Vice President: Jay Dennis*  
[jaysmr239@gmail.com](mailto:jaysmr239@gmail.com)

*Secretary: Rocky Sink*  
[snkchevcol@aol.com](mailto:snkchevcol@aol.com)

*Treasurer: Greg Clower*  
[gclower@aol.com](mailto:gclower@aol.com)

**IN-CLUB CONTEST RESULTS:**

- |                 |               |           |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Tom Shema     | Spitfire  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Bob Rohrback  | Richelieu |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | James Herndon | P-51B     |



# WARPED PLASTIC®

## Model News at the Speed of Light By Jay Dennis

Model building Then and Now

Growing up I was a kid of the Late 1970's and 1980's Pop culture TV and Movies were a big part of that time period and heavily influenced my adolescent brain with movies such as Star Wars and Back to the Future to name a few.

Most of the kits I built growing up were your average AMT and Revell offerings. They were mostly snap kits with a low parts count and the fit was less than optimal. BUT THEY WERE GREAT!!! Of course my favorites were the vehicles from my childhood, The Old AMT Starship Enterprise (also the best selling and longest produced injection model kit of all time) or that classic orange plastic General Lee, and of course everything Star Wars related.

Research was scarce growing up before the internet, before Wikipedia and Google we were limited to a few seconds of reference material from a fuzzy paused VCR image on a old analog tv screen. If your family was lucky enough to own one. I even joined a Knight Rider fan club to receive a 8 x 10 color photo of my favorite talking car, only to receive a 8 x 10 Black and White of David Hasselhoff leaning on a poorly built replica. Ugh you guys have it soooo easy now. Too bad the new generation spends most of this amazing resource on cat videos and facebook.

Once we finally obtained all of our research from the card catalog at our local library we were ready to build!

Now get this guys and girls,

NO PHOTO ETCH, NO RESIGN, NO CUSTOM DECALS, NO LIGHT KITS, NO CONVERSION SETS. For the most part these things just didn't exist yet or were very rare, very expensive and you had to know where to find it if there were any left. For the most part if we chose to detail our models, we were limited to those old classic square bottles of Testors paint and that tube of orange glue. In my experience that was pretty much it.

So you can imagine my disdain when I hear young people on social media complain about building models today, how the hobby is dying or that they don't make a lighting kit or detail part for such and such model. Yes there is still room for improvement but before complaining think about these 5 things and how you would build if you didn't have them.

1. There are more model manufacturers now than ever before. ( Polystyrene alone has over 120 companies as of 2019)
2. Quality of new kits both foreign and domestic has for the most part improved greatly. (see photos below)
3. More aftermarket parts and decals are available than ever before.
4. More companies are making Paint, tools and glues than ever before.
5. INTERNET RESEARCH AND PURCHASING!!! YouTube for Kit Reviews and How to.

Yes just like my father before me, I am now that old curmudgeon complaining about how these kids have it so easy

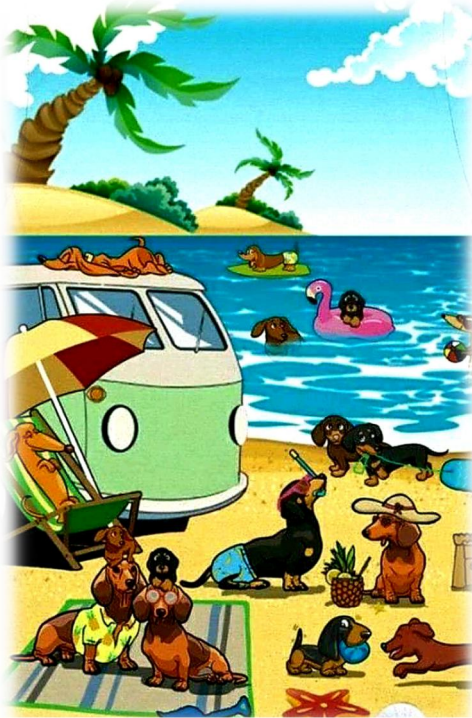




# Upcoming Shows and Events



June 15	ScottCon 2019 - Warner Robins, GA	Bill Paul <a href="mailto:wlpaul@cox.net">wlpaul@cox.net</a>
June 22	2019 SC Scale Model Mega Show - Columbia, SC	Ralph Nardone <a href="mailto:ina@gmail.com">ina@gmail.com</a>
July 20	D-Day Memorial Demo - Bedford, VA	Rocky Sink <a href="mailto:snkchevcol@aol.com">snkchevcol@aol.com</a>
Aug 7	IPMS National Convention - Chattanooga, TN	Michael Moore <a href="mailto:mmoore1132@gmail.com">mmoore1132@gmail.com</a>
Sept 14	IPMS Region 12 Convention - Simpsonville, SC	Eric Rosser <a href="mailto:erosser42@gmail.com">erosser42@gmail.com</a>
Sept 21	PennCon 2019 - Gettysburg, PA	Chester Mohn <a href="mailto:magus47@aol.com">magus47@aol.com</a>
March 7, 2020	MDA Model Car Contest - Roanoke, VA	Dennis Smith <a href="http://mdamodelcar.com">mdamodelcar.com</a>
Oct 16 & 17, 2020	IPMS R2 Convention - Salem, VA	Tim Ward <a href="mailto:twardf86@aol.com">twardf86@aol.com</a>



*Remember to check the websites and/or chapter contact for up to the date info and details on the contests.*