

SPRUE



Official Newsletter of the Roanoke Valley IPMS Chapter

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November build meeting



New Newsletter Editor

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2011 Webmaster of the Year

From the Prez...

Well, did you get your spook on? Or have a ghoulishly-good time pretending to be a Transformers. I know Johnathon did. His Optimus Prime was right-on! Great job on the costume, Dad.

It's Turkey-time now and soon the old fat-man will be calling. No, not me, ...Santa! Man, the time flies! And that means that planning time is at a minimum as we get ready for the upcoming show season.

The 2012 *Old Dominion Open* is just around the corner in February and our own 2012 Virginia ShootOut is one month earlier this year on July 14th in order to not interfere with the IPMS Nationals in August in Orlando. Should be a lot of fun. Let your friendly RVIPMS travel coordinator know if you wish to travel down south to "Disney-land" and we'll make the necessary arrangements.

Don't forget we have the honor of hosting the 2013 Region 2 Convention. It will be held at the Roanoke Civic Center Exhibit Hall, October 04-05, 2013. Thanks to Jay for escorting me up to NJ to help bid on the Regional, keeping me straight in the casinos, and all-around helping me keep from losing my mind on the roads around the Garden State. Good Grief—do you think these people have learned of a new concept in motoring—namely the left turn! Anyway, RVIPMS has a lot of work to do between now and the end of 2013. Let's get busy and make the next 24 months a lot of fun.

Keep modeling!!!
Tim Ward



Visit www.rvipms.com for the latest info on shows, pictures, contacts and more.



From the Crow's Nest

By TimWard

Question: How do you keep a NASCAR driver from turning left? Send him to New Jersey! You can't turn left in the Garden State. And the tolls will kill ya'. Bright and early Friday, Oct. 21, Jay and I boarded the RVIPMS-mobile (Volvo V70—thanks Jeff and Enterprise) and headed up the I-95 corridor. Our destination, the Region 2 Convention for a weekend of styrene, steaks, and slots. After crossing the bridge from Maryland to Delaware we were immediately accosted by friendly but persistent tool-booth operators who proceeded to separate me from whatever money I may have wanted to spend in the Philadelphia/NJ area. By the time we got to Mt. Laurel, NJ, the site of the convention, I think I had \$3 to spend on raffle and trinkets. Fortunately the raffle ticket sales did not start until Saturday, so no outlay of additional funds was necessary.

The Convention was held in the Wyndham Hotel, on the other side of the street from our hotel, the Hampton Inn. This created quite a few hilarious moments of me trying to get turned around on those infernal cloverleaf left turn areas New Jersey is famous (infamous?) for. As Chris Carter on ESPN would say,

"C'mon man!" We made it back to our hotel. After checking in, we made a side trip to Atlantic City for sight-seeing and slot-playing. Even this has been ruined with the new type of slots that have not coins paid out and no thrill of the big cash pay-out. Now you just get a card with credits on it that must be put in an ATM machine to get your money. BORING! After a walk on the boardwalk and a "gourmet" meal we made our way back to the hotel for much needed sleep, but not before I got lost one more time on the NJ streets.

The next day we headed to the Convention for model time, raffle playing, and vendor schmoozing. Couldn't afford anything (see prior paragraph regarding tolls). Played the raffle a little bit, looked at completed models (NICE!), then made a side-trip to Philadelphia for some sight-seeing and a cheesesteak at Geno's. MMM—GOOD! Crossing the river we checked out the USS New Jersey, took some pics, and then got back in time for the awards presentation. Our own Jay Dennis was presented with the 2011 Webmaster of the Year award. Congrats, Jay, it's well-deserved! Another enjoyable night in the hotel with Sir Farts-a-lot and we headed back down south to the "cheaper" roads of VA. Good thing, too—my toll wallet had lint coming out of it.

Overall, a successful trip. We got the bid for the 2013 Region 2 Convention. Mark your calendars for Oct. 04-05, 2013! All IPMS members are welcome—no tolls!

• R&D Dept.



I was doing some research on Japanese Battleships when I ran across this really neat piece of history, enjoy. – Greg Clower

Of the battleships built before the 1930's, i.e. before the North Carolina, BB-55, only one survives afloat. That is the battleship Texas, BB-35, which is moored on public display at the San Jacinto Battlefield outside Houston, Texas. A ship like the Texas is shown on the reverse (at right) of the series 1918 Federal Reserve Bank Note \$2 bill. The note is consequently known as the "Battleship \$2 bill."

For many years, it was unknown

whether the ship was intended to be the Texas or its sister-ship, the New York. Recently the Bureau of Printing and Engraving announced that the ship was supposed to be the New York. Why it was necessary to wait more than 70 years to do this, is not clear. Nevertheless, the Texas is the only surviving battleship of its era that remains afloat anywhere in the world.



A great source of research and inspiration. Check out www.planeaday.com for, well, planes.



And www.wheelsaday.com for cars and such.



The Power of Scale Modeling!
This '55 Chevy was built by an inmate in prison. Constructed with available materials including paper and foil gum wrappers for chrome.



Ted "Chopper" Lear won "Best Steelies" award for his Predictaray. Chopper's build was inspired by a sketch pad article in Model Cars magazine.



Moebius's 1953 Hudson Hornet



Note the nose art on this rat rod. It's not just for aircraft.



Dennis presenting Andy Johnson with George Henry's "Hot Rods by George" award for best hot rod.



Both cars are built by Andy. The green one scooped the award.

— Reason's to Build Stuff —

Old Dominion Open
Feb. 25, 2012
Richmond, VA



The Virginia Shootout
July 14, 2012
Roanoke Civic Center
Roanoke, VA

MDA Model Car Contest
Theme: Bubble Tops
Mar. 3, 2012
Roanoke Civic Center
Roanoke, VA



NOVA Model Classic
May 12, 2012
Fairfax, VA



IPMS Region 2 Convection
Oct. 4 & 5, 2013
Theme: Nose Art
Roanoke Civic Center
Roanoke, VA



Always check websites for up to date info on shows and contests

— Club Officers —

President: Tim Ward
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Vice-President: Terry Eastman
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Treasurer: Greg Clower
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Merry Christmas!

December Christmas
party/meeting
Dec. 3, 2011
Mama Maria's Restaurant
2025 West Main St.
Salem
6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions about the club, meetings, or need directions, contact us at; www.rvipms.com or mail written correspondence to: Roanoke Valley IPMS P.O. Box 20841 Roanoke, VA. 24018

RVIPMS meetings are held at the Virginia Museum of Transportation.

How to get there;

From Salem Ave. turn onto 1 1/2 St. Drive the very short distance to Norfolk Ave. SW and turn left. Follow under the 2nd st. over-pass to the back of the museum. The fenced parking lot is behind the building as indicated in the picture. Enter through the rear door, (the main entrance will be locked) walk down the hallway and turn right. Meeting room is in right corner.

When to get there;

The club has two meetings per month, with a couple exceptions. Build meetings are the second Thursday each month. Business meetings are the fourth Thursday each month. All meetings start at 7 p.m. For further details visit our website. www.rvipms.com



Sprue is the official publication of the Roanoke Valley Chapter of the International Plastic Modelers Society. The content of Sprue does not necessarily represent the official views of, nor is it endorsed by IPMS/USA or IPMS/Roanoke Valley. Opinions expressed are those of the authors.