

**IPMS FAME CITIES  
NEWSLETTER**

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# Scale Scribblings

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## March News

In old news for the March meeting, John Shimek reports that the website restart is still pending, with no news to report at this time. Due to unforeseen circumstances the demo scheduled for the March meeting on scribing and rescribing has been postponed to the April meeting. The April meeting also will see our first theme contest of 2010, Andy Miday's 'Floatplanes'.

A request for trophy package support from the 2010 Region 4 convention committee was approved, at a cost of \$85.00. Treasurer Joe Staudt could not be in attendance, but he will cut the check and send it along.

We welcomed two new members, Jim Shevchenko of Canfield, and Glenn Klieber of Poland (Ohio, not Europe). Good to have you with us.

Next meeting April 19

Cutler Real Estate

## president's

### notebook

Hi Guys! Welcome to Spring in Ohio. Well close enough. Snow one day, sunny and 65 degrees the next. Yeh, that's Ohio for you.

First off Congrats to all those that took home awards at BlizzardCon. However, I was a little surprised at the lack of attendance/entries from Fame Cities. No matter what your thoughts about judging and the bad lighting at the convention, we really should support any and all contests/shows that are in our area. If not, many will simply go away. Everyone has something they could have entered at BlizzardCon this year. Hopefully, everyone will enter the Region 4 show and contest.

Speaking of which, the Region 4 Convention will be held over two nights – April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. It's in Madison Heights, Michigan just off 13 Mile Road and I-75. It'll be a great time with lots of vendors and some great models to view and talk about. It's about 4 ½ hours from Canton so you'll have to leave around 7am to get there before the model room closes, which is at 12:30 Saturday. C'mon guys, let's show Region 4 what we're all about at Fame Cities.

By the way, there was a little blurb on one of the modeling sites recently, whereby a Region 4 member made the statement that "modelers that watch Fox News are not good modelers". Basically he says that if you're Conservative in your political thinking, then you build conservative models, i.e. not much in detailing and otherwise boring models. I found it rather interesting since the "conservatives" in our chapter have over 100 IPMS Nationals trophies with 'boring models'. And we don't bring our Nationals winners to local contests so we can pad our trophy cases.

Anyway, there are a few contests in the future that include the Northwest Ohio Spring Invitational on May 22d at the Sandusky Fairgrounds, and in the Fall we have the Air Zoo Contest in Kalamazoo, MI on September 11<sup>th</sup>, SvasmCon in Sharon, PA on September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Cincinnati Scale Modelers Fall Contest on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Cleveland returns to the Kirtland High School on November 7<sup>th</sup>. I have info on these and other contests – just ask.

April will see the first of our monthly contests with Andy Miday sponsoring Floatplanes and Amphibians. Should be interesting. Plus Bob Ulrich has rescheduled his demo on scribing panel lines for the same evening. See you there.

Larry Davis

## April Contest

**FLOATPLANES** sponsored by Andy Miday

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## March Models



Mark Gamble

(Top) Hasegawa 1/48 P-51D

(Bottom) Tamiya 1/48 P-51D



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*Revell 1/25 2008 Dodge Charger*



*Revell 1/25 Shelby Mustang*

Jack Norton



John Lesnicki

*Revell 1/25 '01 Dale Earnhardt Monte Carlo*



Andy Miday

*1/700 USS Enterprise kitbash*

*Work in Progress*

Czech Models 1/32 Scale

**Lockheed F-80C Shooting Star**

by Ed Kinney

The following is a collection of my observations during a most disheartening build of one of my personal favorite aircraft. I suppose one could consider this a review, but I will just hit the high spots of the kit.



- Multi media kit
  - Available through Squadron Mail Order
  - Molded in soft grey plastic, in need of polishing
  - Decals printed by Cartograf for 3 aircraft
- i) "Saggin Dragon", a 16<sup>th</sup> FIS F-80C, FT-560, blue nose, tail and tank stripes, from Suwon AB in May 1951
- ii) "Lil Dottie", an 80<sup>th</sup> FBS F-80C, FT-765, with yellow nose, tail sunburst and tank bands, Taegu AB, December 1950

iii) 8<sup>th</sup> FBG CO Col. Levi Chase's F-80C, FT-423, with red/blue/yellow stripes and sunburst, Suwon AB March 1952

- Instruction booklet nicely printed, but vague in parts placement
- Kit Options: Canopy open/closed, speed brakes open/closed, plastic/resin wheels, tip tank style, marking choices
- Sturdy box (tray and cover style), nice artwork
- All parts bagged (found 2 resin pieces broken in bag)
- Color photoetched instrument panel (sandwich style) – Gorgeous. (I used it in place of the Avionics instrument panel)
- Resin parts nicely mastered, excellent tread on tires, but no support for axle - ...in fact no axles at all !
- Good clear parts





## THE MODEL

- Fit issues: The intakes, with the cast resin louvers, took me over 30 hours to make acceptable (and are still far from contest quality). The piece joining the intakes together at the rear had to be removed. In fact, I used more Apoxie Sculpt and glazing putty on this aircraft than I had on the past 10 built. There has to be a better method than what's found here (GRRRRRR !!) This event made both intake and exhaust covers a must !
- Windscreen too far forward
- Stab to fuselage poor fit
- Wing bottom to fuselage fit poor
- No alignment pins, typical of this type of kit
- Tailpipe too short by 1/8", should extend beyond fuselage
- Model is extremely tail heavy, requiring massive amounts of ballast in the nose. The kit plastic gear is soft, weak and the nose gear fork is molded on the incorrect side. Further the main strut axles are no more than 1/16" long !?? This is ridiculous. The aftermarket gear by SAC is an absolute necessity, and even with these as replacements, the wheels (I used the resin ones) AND the metal axles had to be drilled and pinned to prevent collapse.
- A 1/8" block had to be used below the seat to elevate it to the proper height
- I converted this back to P-80B (minor surgery and addition of a vertical fin molded pitot tube, and an ADF sense antenna by drilling through the rear canopy)
- Markings chosen were 94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron prior to deployment to Alaska, 1947, these were custom crafted by Keith Davidson of Red Pegasus decals. The stencils are from the kit, as are the National Insignia, and are excellent.
- Korean vintage Powercart is from True Details
- Eduard EZ Masks were used for the canopy



## CONCLUSION

This is one of (if not THE) most annoying models I have built in years. I guess what is really annoying is that I was so looking forward to the T-33, but I question just how many TURD builds I have left in me at 72 years young !

Ed Kinney – IPMS # 2989



## IN BOX REVIEW

## Hasegawa 1/48 F-22 Raptor



This kit comes as something of a surprise, since there is already a pretty nice Academy kit in the same scale, and because the Raptor is apparently going to be produced and deployed in very limited numbers ( I will reluctantly refrain from political comment - if you know me you know how I feel) .

The large box features a really striking painting of a Raptor in flight. On opening it you are greeted with the one piece upper and lower fuselage halves, which include the wings. Surface detailing is a mix of raised and recessed features, which has become the big talking point of the kit. The

raised panels, especially on the under surfaces, look way too prominent for what is, after all, a stealth aircraft. How this will look under paint I cannot say, but trying to sand down the offending details would be a risky proposition and probably not worth the effort. The lower fuselage section features large open areas for the weapons bays and gear wells, and is frankly kind of flimsy as a result.

It is in the details that this kit really shines. The cockpit comprise sixteen pieces not counting the seat ( another six pieces) . The molding matches up almost perfectly with the photos in the Jay Miller book, with one exception. The F-22 has a side stick controller like an F-16, and like the F-16 there is an elbow rest on the starboard sidewall for the pilot's arm. For some reason Hasegawa left it out. It won't be hard to scratch build, but why do even the best kits from the best manufacturers always seem to leave out some simple thing? The seat, by the way, is very nice and needs only the harness to be complete.

Moving on the weapons bay, the huge main bay consists of 34 parts, not counting the doors! This bay is very busy and complex on the actual aircraft ( see the Miller book again, and the really AMS afflicted will want to add the hundred miles or so of wiring bundles and tubing, but the kit alone will give you a great start. The same can be said for the side mounted weapons bays ( 14 parts each) . These bays feature an array of electronics boxes that are quite visible on the ground with the doors open, and the kit provides each of these as a separate part. This should ease painting, especially since you also get decals for the markings.

Full intake trunking is provided, and reasonably deep exhaust sections. The complex vectoring exhausts are represented by a mix of plastic and photo etch parts that should look good. The gear wells and gears struts carry on the excellent detail found in the weapons bays ( even the disc brake actuator array is separate piece) .

No external stores are provided, but none would be present on a combat bird so that's no problem. Six AIM-120C and two AIM-9X missiles are provided to fit out the weapons bays.

Markings for four birds are provided, from Langley AFB, Elmendorf AFB, and Holloman AFB. You can have your Raptor in any color as long as its gray, gray or gray. Seriously, the odd stealthy paint on the real F-22 has given modelers fits, since it looks dull gray at one time and shiny metallic gray at another. Hasegawa provides mix ratios for their usual Gunze paint recommendations, but note that Gunze has announced two new metallic colors specifically for the Raptor. Anyway, good luck with that painting thing. The decal sheet provides extensive stencilling and complete missile markings.



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How you feel about this kit will be very personal. The Academy kit is nice, and the two kits are comparable in price. Hasegawa comes out way ahead on detailing. Since I am a sucker for details I will overlook the surface molding and build this one first.





