



IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron

IPMS/USA 1998-9 & 2004-5 Chapter of the Year

Squadron News



December 2012

Next Club Events

**Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 6,
at HEB Central Market, 4821 Broadway.**

**Next Club Build Night: 6:30 p.m. Thursday,
December 20, at HobbyTown USA, 2501 NW
Loop 410.**

Upcoming Area Events

**South West Area Modelers of Plastic
Calcasieu Model Contest and Exposition**

CALMEX

Saturday, January 26, 2013

Managan Center

Westlake, Louisiana

Info at: www.ipmsswamp.com

IPMS Alamo Squadron

ModelFiesta 32

The International Contest of Texas

Saturday, February 16, 2013

San Antonio Event Center

8111 Meadow Leaf Drive,

San Antonio, Texas

Info at: www.alamosquadron.com

Prez Notes

By Kent Knebel

Holiday Party

It's that time of the year when we begin thinking more of family and friends and what we want Santa to leave in our stocking on Christmas morning.

To kick off those thoughts, we once again announce that the December meeting will be our Holiday Party. No meeting or contest/show and tell this month.

Club members wanting to participate in the famous/infamous White Elephant gift exchange

should bring a wrapped present to the club meeting. The usual rules apply: bring a complete model kit (one that you no longer want or need) or a modeling related item such as books, supplies, etc. Each member will be given a number and when called, the member has a choice of selecting a gift or stealing a previously opened gift. A gift may be "stolen" three times before it is locked to the current holder.

The club will provide food and drinks so come out and enjoy the festivities.

Build Night

My thanks to Lee Forbes, Matt Neerman, Mike Broker, Phillip Plant, Keith Klabon and John Kress who attended November's build night at HobbyTown USA (see Matt Neerman's report below-ed.). General opinion seems to prefer this location however, the two-hour time has limited our time building and conversing. We do have the option to rotate back to the VFW as well as holding build nights on weekends if the club membership would like to explore that option.

Model Fiesta

Everything is on track for the upcoming Model Fiesta. Be thinking about where you would like to support the club. A sign-up roster will be presented at the January meeting to get things wrapped up.

- Kent

Treasurer's Notes

By Lee Forbes

Hi Everybody, Well, I'm finally "cleared in hot" to function as your Treasurer for the remainder of Brian Smith's term of office through April of 2013.

Assuming the Position

It isn't as simple as it might seem to just change "signature cards" at the Bank of America and to

assume custodianship of our Public Storage facility. The former took several days until Kent Knebel and I could get together when the Bank was “open”... that gave new meaning to “bankers hours.”

The transfer of custodianship of our Storage Facility was more involved and took several forms, signed by Kent, and Brian Smith, and myself. We even had to send forms back and forth from San Antonio to Brian at his new address in Colorado Springs, but it’s all squared away now.

Having said that as a back drop, I intend to use this column from time to time to comment on matters of interest to the Club involving policy on expenditures or clarification of such expenditures, etc.

Membership Roster Update

I recently audited our Club Membership Roster and updated the dates of expiration for everyone through 2013 and beyond as approved at our March 2012 meeting. Due to our profitability with recent ModelFiestas we’ve done this now for the past three years, and hopefully we’ll be able to continue to do so in the future.

In the process of my audit I deleted a number of names from our active membership roster who have not attended any Club meetings for at least a year and in some cases several years. At the time of this writing we now have 70 active Club members.

For those individuals who were deleted that have an e-mail account we will continue to send them our monthly newsletter electronically. Any of these individuals may rejoin the Club in good standing at any time by paying for the current year’s dues of \$12.00. Payment of arrears dues will not be collected.

Carpool Mileage Allowance

In 2011, the E-Board authorized the reimbursement of a “fuel allowance“ of \$50.00 to any Club member driving to any model contest in the South Texas Region (there were no restrictions on the type of contest attended) and transporting one or more Club members to that contest. We

defined a “Club Car Pool” as a driver and at least one passenger.

The purpose of this policy was to encourage more Alamo Squadron members to attend and participate in these contests. After all, we want modelers from other Clubs to come to our ModelFiestas, so it’s considered good form for Alamo Squadron members to go to other contests in return. This practice has continued throughout 2012.

Effective in 2013, the E-Board has agreed to continue the policy of reimbursing a ”fuel allowance” to Club Car Pool drivers to encourage Alamo Squadron members to participate in other club contests subject to the following:

Club Car Pool drivers will provide to the Treasurer on the first regularly scheduled Club meeting, or as soon thereafter as practical, following the contest attended, a gasoline receipt depicting the amount of “fill up”, the date and name of the contest attended, and the name(s) of passenger Club members attending the subject contest. Reimbursement will not exceed \$50.00 if the “fill up” exceeds that amount. In all other cases where the “fill up” is less than \$50.00 the reimbursement will be limited to the actual amount of the “fill up.”

- Lee

Editor’s Notes

Monthly Contest Results

Alamo Squadron members were involved in a lot of activities last month! From a Veterans Day celebration to a vintage airshow, our guys showed our club colors. More importantly (well, at least from my point of view) they wrote about their activities so I didn’t have to.

But first, let’s start with the club contest results. There were a lot of great models entered in November’s Open contest, but airplanes swept the awards last month.

December 2012

Jeff Faucett took top honors with his Sukhoi Su-17 (or was it a 22?) Either way, it looked appropriately mean in that Evil Empire, agricultural way that only the Soviets could pull off.

Jeff Faucett's first-place Sukhoi looks like it can still kick some NATO butt...



Port Aransas, Texas' own Randy Barnes scored a second with his neat 1/72 Grumman Albatross.

This Albatross in the seldom-modeled blue scheme earned Randy Barnes a Second in November:



Third Place went to Rob Booth's nice (in more ways than one) 1/48 P-39 Airacobra.

Rob Booth's third-place P-39 was a real "Airacutie."



Build Night

Matt Neerman has this report from last month:

"November's Build Night was held again at HobbyTown USA. Six of us made the trek, including Lee Forbes, myself, Keith Klabon, Phil Plant, John Kress and Mike Broker."

"The store closes at 8 PM, but the crew lets us stay until 8:30 while they tidy up and get the store closed down. Lee was airbrushing a Hawker Tempest prototype while Keith was getting ready to start a Hobby Boss F-105 Thunderchief."

"Phil was working away on a Hasegawa F-15 Eagle and I was (still!) slaving away on my Aggressor F-14. Mike spent his time doing some masking on a P-51 Mustang. John brought in a Camaro he was working on, too."

"George, one of the Store Cats at HobbyTown, came into the room to see what we were all doing!"

- Matt Neerman

Hmmm – what exactly is George the HobbyTown cat doing in that box? Besides supervising Mike Broker's P-51 project at November's build night, that is...



Veteran's Day Celebration

Matt's not done yet. It seems that he was our sole representative at this year's Dolph Briscoe Middle School Veteran's Day Celebration. Here's his report:

"IPMS Alamo Squadron was invited to participate in Dolph Briscoe Middle School's annual Veteran's Day celebration on November 9. Every year, the school puts on a parade and ceremony to remember and honor those who have served in this country's Armed Forces.

"Alamo Squadron brings models of American military subjects to display in a room off the school library. Students tour the exhibit during their English classes to look at the models and ask questions.

"Usually we can get anywhere from three to five club members to participate, but this year I was the only club member able to make the trip, show off the models and talk with the students, faculty, visiting veterans and serving members of the Armed Forces.

"It was very much a fun day for me, getting to meet and talk with everyone, and the school was quite happy to have the displays set up. I think I talked to every student at the school!

"Lee Forbes worked with me to get about 30 planes from our Aces Collection from storage, Mike Picard loaned me 4 of his Sherman tanks (which garnered much of the compliments) plus his Vietnam War-era M42 Duster AAA gun. I toted along about 20 kits of my own.

"Hopefully, Alamo Squadron can have more club member participation in this activity in the future".

- Matt Neerman

Kingsbury Airdrome Model Display

Lee Forbes has a report from the Club's trip to Kingsbury for their Fall Fly-In:

"Once again Alamo Squadron was invited to participate in the 2012 Pioneer Flight Museum Fall Picnic and Fly-In at the Old Kingsbury, Aerodrome on Saturday, November 10.

"The only difference this year from last, was that the new event coordinator, Tom Gaylord, told us that we had to provide our own tables and chairs for our display. The tables were borrowed without

charge from the VFW Post 8541 the day before and returned the day of the event.

"Several Alamo Squadron members stepped forward to help out with the setup and manning the display throughout the day. They included Frank Dus, Dave Herron, Phil Sanders and yours truly. Later on Jim Elliott, Gary Emery and Tom Sprawls dropped by to check us out. We were also joined by members of the Austin Scale Modelers who also had a display of their handicraft.

Phil Sanders keeps a watchful eye as a member of the Kaiser's air arm attempts to obtain secret information on Allied aircraft...



"This year's event was much larger than the one in 2011. We probably had over 200 people come by and ask about our models. One individual was a 92-year young P-47 pilot who didn't get to see combat because he was in the Flying Training Command training young pilots how to fly the P-47 throughout the war. Another was a B-29 crewman who naturally wanted to see a B-29 among our collection. And of course the kids wanted to know if the models were for sale.

“I’ll take that one!” A young admirer points to her favorite model. No Lee, it’s not a Spitfire (and yes, she’s my granddaughter – ed.)



“The only thing that was similar to the 2011 event was the wind! This year it gusted even stronger than last year and none of the vintage airplanes could fly, but we did get to see and hear an engine run-up of their Fokker Dr1.

What a sight – and sound. The Pioneer Flight Museum’s Fokker DR1 triplane in full song...



“As you might suspect our models got covered with a very fine coat of dust, ugh!

“One of the highlights of the day was a Model T Club that arrived under their own power for the event. There were at least 30-plus models in various configurations and I think they were all painted in ever shade of “Black” known to Henry Ford!

“There were also a lot of 1950s and 60s antique cars on display. I recall a 1955 red and white Cadillac Hardtop that was in impeccable condition. The owner said that it was worth over \$30,000 now. Another was a beautiful 1957 Chevrolet 4-door sedan in which the owner and his wife had just finished a 3,500 mile road trip across the Southwest USA.

“One thing we learned this year, was that all of the food and beverages available were “free” unless you wanted to make some kind of voluntary “donation” of your choosing. I noticed that some of the hamburgers cost some people only \$1.00 and others paid as much as \$5.00 or \$10.00. Mine cost \$7.50!

“All in all it was a good Club outing and of course we’re invited back again next year for both the Spring and Fall Fly-ins. Thanks to all of our Club members who helped set up and man the display, and a special thanks to Dave Herron who donated his pickup truck to haul the tables and chairs and large display items we used for the event.

“When I got home I had to dust and wash all of the models before returning them to our storage facility. A few also needed minor repairs, but that’s the cost of putting any of our models on display, but it’s worth it to promote Alamo Squadron.”

- Lee Forbes

Thanks for the reports, Lee and Matt.

New Kit News

There are plenty of new kits coming soon, but who cares what else is arriving after this bombshell:

Hasegawa:

1/12 Office Desk and Chair



1/12 Meeting Room Desk and Chairs



Now you can escape your work life by building a copy of your work life! Annoying coworkers and overbearing boss not included. Both kits are to be released this month.

Upcoming Contest Themes

December – None, Holiday Party

January – Club Challenge

See you at the meeting.

- Gary

Classified Ads

An HO scale slot racing club is now forming in San Antonio. If you're interested in miniature road course or drag racing, get those old Tyco and Thunderjet cars out of the attic and call Chris Lenahan at (210) 823-1805.

Club Information

IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron: The Club was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members. Dues are normally \$12.00 a year, due when the Treasurer tells you.

The Alamo Squadron has been putting on ModelFiesta since 1981. Locations have included the Wonderland Mall, a Holiday Inn, the Seven Oaks Motel & Convention Center, the Live Oak Civic Center and the new location for 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.

2012-2013 Club Officers

President: Kent Knebel

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Vice President: Tom Sprawls

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Treasurer: Brian Smith

bsmith0501@gmail.com

Club Webmaster: Bob Carr

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Point of contact for the Adult Building Class is:

Lee Forbes

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Club Meetings

The Club normally meets the first Thursday of each month in the Community Room of the HEB Central Market at 4821 Broadway in San Antonio, located near the University of the Incarnate Word, north of Hildebrand Avenue and south of Austin Highway.

The Squadron News is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, for the information and enjoyment of the members of the Alamo Squadron and its friends. Articles, reviews, news items, ads to buy, sell or trade, and other contributions are very welcome. Submissions in MS Word are much preferred.

Editor: Gary Emery

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