



March 2012

### Next Club Events

**Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 1,**  
at HEB Central Market, 4821 Broadway.

**Next Club Build Night: Thursday, March 14,**  
at VFW post 8541 on Austin Highway.

**Adult Building Class 2012A, Monday nights at**  
VFW Post 8541, 7:00 - 10:00 P.M., beginning  
May 7.

**Adult Building Class 2012B, Monday nights at**  
VFW Post 8541, 7:00 - 10:00 P.M., beginning  
Oct 1.

**For more information on the Alamo Squadron,**  
please look to the end of the newsletter.

### Upcoming Area Events

**Lone Star Figure Show**  
March 30-31, 2012

**Renaissance Dallas Hotel. Info at:**  
[www.lonestarfigureshow.com](http://www.lonestarfigureshow.com)

**IPMS Houston ModelMania**  
Saturday, April 28, 2012  
Stafford Centre, 10505 Cash Road,  
Stafford, Texas. Info at:  
[www.ipms-houston.org](http://www.ipms-houston.org)

### Prez Notes

By Dick Compton

### Monthly Contest Results

Kicking off the 2012 monthly winners, Rob Booth captured first place for his 1/32 Hasegawa/Planet

FW-190CV-18 (I think I got all the letters and numbers there).

*Rob Booth's exotic and immaculate FW-190CV-18 prototype took first in the February contest:*



Mike Picard, not content with all the wood he subsequently won at ModelFiesta, took second with a 1/20 Nitto PKAG "Gustav."

*Hey, Mike Picard built something out of the ordinary! What are the odds...? His futuristic Gustav Armored Suit was good for second in February:*



And Pete Ortensie crossed the finish line third on his 1/9 Revell 2005 Yamaha YZR-M1. Congrats to all.

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*Pete Ortensie's well-done model of Valentino Rossi's world champion MotoGP ride. Looks fast just sitting there...*



### ModelFiesta Notes

As you are aware, we had a damp but very successful ModelFiesta 31. You've probably seen Dick Montgomery's great write up by now on the IPMS site, but if not, it's reprinted below. Matt Neerman and Pete Ortensie's fine photos of this outstanding event are also on the IPMS site.

I'd like to add my thanks to everyone involved in making this one of the best MFs I've experienced. Thanks particularly to Dick Montgomery for single-handedly elevating all the contest tables Friday afternoon; to Lee Forbes for all the preparatory work in procuring awards among many other things; to Dee Jacobs for her great work with the 50-plus vendors; Matt Oldham for the smooth and efficient registration process; Rob Booth for quick and efficient judging; and to everyone else who contributed much time and effort. We should have a complete wrap up at the March meeting.

We'll be taking nominations for the election of new board members at the March meeting. If you're interested in serving or nominating someone who is interested in serving, by all means throw their or your hat in the ring.

### Upcoming Contest Themes

The upcoming monthly and quarterly themes are:  
March: Moldy Oldie - any kit originally issued prior to 1985 or reissued in its original form. (*as explained in an earlier newsletter, "moldy oldie" refers to the model, not the modeler - ed.*)  
April & May: Open.

June: Down in the Dumps -anything in less than pristine condition. (*once again, we're talking about the model, not the builder - ed.*)

July & August: Open.

See you all at the meeting!

## **ModelFiesta Report**

### **By Dick Montgomery**

IPMS Alamo Squadron hosted ModelFiesta XXXI on Saturday, Feb 18, 2012. By all measures this year's event was a resounding success.

Vendor tables were at 100% occupancy (150+). Models and modeling supplies were stacked high and deep and if you couldn't find what you were looking for then you just didn't look long enough! Notable among the vendors were Hill Country Hobby (San Antonio) and King's Hobbies (Austin, Tx). Also, Grex was present and there was always a good crowd at the Grex table, with passers-by handling the airbrush rig and "practicing" on a demo board that Grex sets up. Rareplane Detective was present, having traveled across state lines.

The facility is always well maintained, with clean and provisioned restrooms, excellent lighting, and wide isles in the vendor area and model display area. The burgers at the snack bar were less expensive and far better than those served by the closest "restaurant" just down the street. The folks at the Civic Center are to be commended for the excellent service they provide, both before and during the event.

First, here are the numbers as reported by the Event Director and the Head Judge:

- 156 contestants
- 549 models ( a collection is counted as a single entry, otherwise the total number of models on the table would be inflated beyond 600. The "549" is about average for ModelFiesta and has hovered in that area regardless of external factors that might affect attendance at the event.)
- 614 general admission tickets sold (does not include children)
- 745 raffle tickets sold
- 63 vendors in attendance (100% occupancy consuming the 150+ tables)

“Best of Show” was a mounted historical figure of a Napoleonic-era horseman from Category #755 – Vignettes, completely scratch built by Jim Rice of San Antonio and labeled, “Capturing the Eagle - Waterloo, 1815”. Jim was also presented the “Robert Beebe Award” from the Lone Star Armor Brigade, a “local” Armor club, for Exemplary All-around Modeling Excellence.

*Jim Rice’s jaw-dropping hand-sculpted Napoleonic horseman garnered a well-deserved “Best of Show” at ModelFiesta XXXI...*



(Jim Coatney photo)

The weather was cool and damp most of Friday and Saturday, with temperatures between 53 and 58 degrees, and with an intermittent rain falling. While some would consider such weather an annoyance and a hindrance, here in central Texas it is considered a very much welcomed occurrence. The state has suffered through the worst drought on record and any rain is considered good fortune.

Other than causing drivers to slow down a bit the rain was considered a positive factor by the “locals” who know it is desperately needed. The Event Director, Dick Compton, deserves much praise for his leadership and supervision of the event, a responsibility that begins at the conclusion of the previous year’s show. Also, thanks to photographers Matt Neerman and Peter Ortensie, for providing the images you can view at the IPMS website in the “Gallery” section.

Upon arrival, whether it is Friday evening or Saturday morning, vendors are met at the loading dock by volunteers. These volunteers load the vendor’s gear onto large flatbed carts and transfer the goodies to the vendor’s assigned table. While the volunteers are unloading the vehicle the Vendor checks in with Dee Jacobs, the Vendor coordinator, who has the floor plan for the vendor area laid out on a map, showing the vendor their designated spot, and finalizing any last minute details. Vendors always express their appreciation for the highly organized manner in which the check-in process is accomplished, and always thank the volunteers who move the vendor’s goods from truck to table.

Participant entry and model registration begin at 9am. Under the guidance of Matt Oldham, the Head Registrar, the registration line moves rapidly, getting the modelers and their entries into the model display area as quickly and efficiently as possible. All of the forms are available on line and many entrants arrive with their forms ready for processing. The participant travelling the greatest distance was a gentleman from southern Holland, Adriaan Brouwer, who usually attends the IPMS Belgium event held about this same time of year, but he found this to be the perfect time to visit San Antonio and attend the show.

Throughout the day, Lee Forbes, the Presentation Coordinator, had a number of people that visitors could meet, speak with, and enjoy. Several Aces and Aviation Notables are on hand to provide autographs, pose for pictures, and to shake hands with. The Tuskegee Airmen have a well-supplied booth set up. Fans can meet and greet the Airmen as well as pick up some souvenirs. Throughout the day, various guest speakers conduct presentations

and seminars. This wide ranging list of topics provides the participant an opportunity to sit and relax, and also “learn from an expert”.

Alamo Squadron always provides a space for IPMS-USA to set up a table. John Dinsmore, (my Co-Coach at the Wounded Warrior facility) and I took turns manning the IPMS station. We use that table to establish an IPMS presence, recruiting new members, helping current members to renew or extend their memberships, and also to set up a Donation Station, in which goodies for the Wounded Warriors are collected. This year, the IPMS Table set two new Region 6 records. John and I processed 31 membership transactions and also received one of the largest donations of modeling items ever received for the Support the Troops program.

Sienna Properties of Austin, Tx. donated a huge supply of models to the program. An accurate count will be conducted over the next few days and weeks. The donation was as stunning as it was unexpected.

During the course of the day many vendors and participants also donated models to the Support the Troops program and each and every donation is gratefully accepted. Also donating items were Chuck Adams (CMTToys), IPMS Alamo Squadron, IPMS North Central Texas, IPMS Ft. Worth, Gary Gerrachi, Bryan Studley and family, “Doc” Webber, and a large number of other individuals who chose to remain anonymous.

Judging, under Rob Booth, Head Judge, was well organized, smoothly executed, completed prior to the stated time, and allowed for a smooth and enjoyable award presentation. Judges come from Austin, Ft. Worth, Dallas, Houston, Louisiana, and many other cities, with some local San Antonio volunteers sprinkled among the judging teams to fill them out. Without the effort put forward by these volunteers the contest would, indeed, be difficult to complete, and it is to these individuals we say “thanks” for being neutral and honest in the judging process.

- Dick Montgomery

## 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, and the current one, the Live Oak Civic Center.

## 2011-2012 Club Officers

President: Dick Compton  
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Vice President: Bill Gates  
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Club Webmaster: Bob Carr  
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The point of contact for the Adult Building Class is Lee Forbes, [lforbes1@satx.rr.com](mailto:lforbes1@satx.rr.com),

## 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.

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