

# MosquitoGram

The Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of IPMS

March 2011

## THE IRON WORKS

By Bill Schwarz, President



Fellow members, this is the Iron Works before MosquitoCon! Yes, MosquitoCon! It is upon us and it seems each year it comes up just a little faster! I am looking forward to this one more than past events, much because it is a milestone for the club and MosquitoCon itself! 20 shows have passed our way since the 1st one, and each one was a good or great one! This year I hope it will be the biggest yet. The only thing that I see getting in the way will be stupidly high gasoline prices, and unemployment reaching up in the 9% range. I hope all the usuals prove me wrong when it comes to the show, though, and I do wish the show go'ers will come out in force! We will know in a few short weeks. Marty and I believe everything is in place. We are trying to think of any last minute things but we do believe we have everything covered. From food, to tables, to awards, to vendors, and so on and so on etc. Let's all hope it goes off without a hitch!

Dan will be running the security, Vince and Joe got the money thing taken care of, The O'Connors have the registration in hand. Tom V has a plan for admissions. All we need now is member support. If any of

you were offended by what I said at the meeting about those same certain individuals not doing their part, DONT BE! All we want is for all of you that can make it, be there and give a little of your time. The club belongs to all of us and no member is better then another for no reason at all. It is a level playing field for all; rich, poor, or anywhere in between. We want all members to be treated well, But we also expect all members to give some of your time back when you can! Nuff said on that topic!!!! Please be at the show early so we can get it all together so, all

Next Meeting:  
Friday, March  
11th

Upcoming  
Events:

March 2011:  
Empire Night

April 2011:  
Two of a Kind  
Night

April 2, 2011  
MosquitoCon XX

May 2011:  
Smaller than  
1/72

June 2011:  
Notte Italiano

July 2011:  
USA Night

October 2011:  
Russian Night

October 21-22,

Join us on the web, at the [New Jersey IPMS web group](#)

members during the course of the day will have time to enjoy some part of the show. It's difficult for me and Marty, but this year we both will!



There will be a Make-and-Take, as usual, but it was sponsored by IPMS Make-and-Take, and cost us NOTHING! We need some volunteers to help out because Von Stead can't make it this year. Usually Simon does it and Stan helps, but we need a few more guys. If you can help, let one of us know and I thank you in advance for your cooperation! Also with the contest end of it, Marc Rocca will be the New Head Judge. He will be learning the dynamics with Marty and will be taking over after that! Well Done Marc! Well done indeed! Also during the contest as you all know, we will be having the 50/50 and the raffle. We are getting some things in now thanks to Mike Pavlo's hard work, and I'm sure we will be getting stuff until show day! If any of you wish to donate new unused kits or things, please do so. We would greatly appreciate it! At the Last meeting, Dave Schwartz gave a 25 buck gift certificate to the Raffle! Thanks Dave! And on that note, I know you all heard me crab about this before but see if you can try to sell some sponsorships. It helps the club with everyone sold! That is all I have to say about that as well!

Next up is T shirts. I announced in the last Newsletter we would be doing commemorative MCON 20 shirts. There was absolutely no response from any member at any time during the meeting. Ed Minto and I kicked around a few ideas and as usual he came through with a winner! Nice, simple, and says it! We are ordering some for the eboard that wants them and I will address this with you guys just one more time. If you want one, Joe and Vince will have a signup list at the meeting. If you do not signup and pay for your shirt or shirts, they will not be offered again due to reprinting. Just let us know up front. (P/S you'll like these shirts). When Ed and I did the original MCON LOGO some 20 years ago I knew it would be very well known and believe me it is! I can never thank Ed enough for bringing it to life for me, and the countless other things he does and have done with none of you ever knowing! Well done ED! You Da F@#\$\$%^G Man!

Last up is the models. I will be bringing the Pegasus and the Monogram models to the meeting. Please pick them up. I have no room for these pieces. Also I am glad these group builds are working out. It



seems the guys have fun doing them. Joes 48th scale armor was a real good one, Next up will be an automotive theme, then on to



ARII/Otaki 48th scale aircraft! That one will be quite interesting! I already have mine! With that said, I will close by thanking all of you for being in the club, but I do want you to know just one more thing! I wish to especially thank the following guys for going above and beyond all the time to make this what I consider the very best club of its kind anywhere! Period! Marty Quinn, who has kept MosquitoCon going all these years; Joe Smith and Vince D'alessio, for their fantastic dedication to the treasury and keeping me in check; Mike Pavlo who has been a great chapter contact and keeps everything running for the club all the time; Devin Poore for the fantastic newsletter; Jimmy Pentifallo, for taking what little free time he

has and making sure the vendors are here, setup and ready to go; and Marc Rocca for stepping up as Head Judge; and to my friend Ed Minto, for making all the artwork and all the graphics I have written on Napkins and such, look so freakin' great! Mikey D, who tirelessly campaigns and advertises for us and gets the general word out to everyone!!! Jim Lincoln too for all the table and category settings! If I didn't mention your name, its because my brain is tired! LOL! I also thank the members for being there and helping to make a great club called NJIPMS. Well Done All of you! Well Done and Bravo Zulu!!!

~Big Bill



## Joe's VP Piece

By Joe Smith

Gentlemen, start your Tamiya kits! Thank you to everyone that has signed on, and have fun! As we speak I will soon have my 6x6 ready to be painted! I hope everyone is having as much fun as I am.

One of the reasons I proposed this idea was to expose people to a different segment of our hobby for those that have never tried a armor kit. Change can be good as you may find taking a break from your normal venue may result in you having more options and a rewarding experience!

A prime example is Marc Rocca, he was building aircraft, then tried a armor piece, and now builds them on a regular pace and loves it as well! Marc when will you start that Dragon Destroyer? I will be trying my hand at a Peterbilt 359 Truck, as I always loved those big Rigs!

Please volunteer your time and talents at MosquitoCon and make her a great success! Happy Modeling

~Joe Smith

3



Find us on the web at [www.njipms.org](http://www.njipms.org)  
or at  
<http://groups.google.com/group/njipms>



# IRISH DIPLOMACY

By Martin J Quinn

*Irish Diplomacy: The ability to tell a man to go to hell so that he looks forward to making the trip.*



So, apparently there is some consternation in NJ/IPMS land, due to the “Empire Night” clarification that was posted on the February Briefing Room on the club website. Some folks thought that “Empire Night” meant any Empire, and were building Japanese themed models for the contest. That, regrettably for those folks, is incorrect. “Empire Night” refers to the British Empire, of which, it was said, the sun never set on.

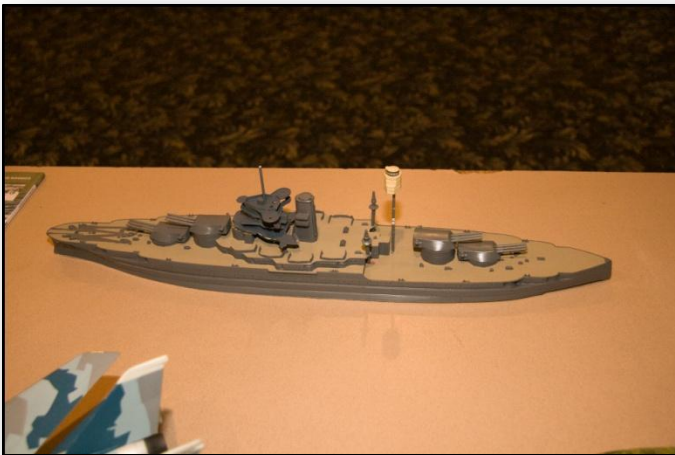
Being of Irish heritage and having a “hate/love” relationship with Britain, I always referred to the contest as “Empire Night”, even though it was meant for anything Irish, British, Scottish, Welsh, Canadian, Australian, etc. In fact, the contest was moved to March due to the St.

Patrick’s Day connection. Japanese subjects were reserved for Japanese Night, which was a usually a separate theme night, though there isn’t one this year.

So, Japan aside, there is still plenty of items to choose from: Armor, Figures, Aircraft and Ships. The possibilities are almost endless. Hopefully, there will be some great models on the table this year, which will make selecting the winner of the special prizes that much more difficult. There will be one prize for air and one for land/sea. As of this writing, there are still a few weeks left until the next meeting, so get busy!!

Looks like the idea of having a “build night” or a “build day” at the Knights was a popular one. The e-board will work to pick out a date that is amenable to everyone so we get the best turnout possible. Stay tuned for more.

The “Hall of Shame” (HoS) challenge was, by comparison, not such a big hit. I know I brought a resin 1/350 USS Arizona that has been languishing for many years, and Tom Reavley approached me after the business meeting to show Bill and I a 1/72 Ventura he is considering pulling out of his own “hall of shame” and working on again.



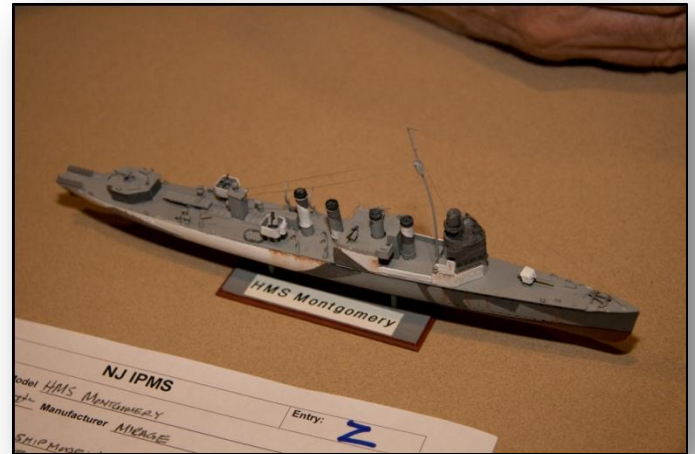
I got to the meeting late due to traffic, so I didn't have a chance to set up an area to display any HoS models – did anyone else bring anything? Or, were you all too ashamed? We'll try again this month – I'll try and get there a little earlier to set up a specific HoS table and see if we have anyone who wants to bring in their old unfinished kit or kits that they'll try and finish this year. As I said last month, if we can get some decent participation, I'll sponsor a raffle at the December meeting, and those who finish their HoS models will be eligible for gift certificate to Jimmy's store.

Speaking of Jimmy, a big thanks to him for getting the 1/48 Tamiya Armor Group Build models for the club. Joe Smith told me that at least 20 members are participating in the group build, which will culminate with a special contest during the August meeting. I selected a tank I've always wanted to build, the M-26 Pershing. I started working on it the day after the meeting and already have it about 50% complete. Aside from a little fit issue with the upper and lower turret halves, it's gone together really well, and I've had fun! Everyone is, of course, encouraged to bring their in progress builds to the meetings between now and August.

So what is going to be the next group build? Bill has spoken about maybe doing an automotive theme. That would be a radical departure for me – I don't think I've built a non-military automobile since I was 8 or 9 years old. A neighbor in Union NJ bought me what I believe was a 1950's era Cadillac, which I built at the kitchen table in an afternoon.

I'd like to suggest another group build – a 1/350 Dragon Destroyer Group Build. Dragon Models has released no less than 5 Benson/Gleaves class destroyers, 2 Gearing class and 1 German 1936 Mob class

destroyers, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> German DD having been announced. They run the gamut from pre-war (just announced) to late war, so



there are lots of different fits and paint schemes to choose from. If anyone has any suggestions for other group builds, please let anyone on the e-board know.

It's been great to see the participation in these builds – a lot of folks who normally don't have stuff on the table having been churning out models, which just happens to be the reason for our being. We are, after all, a scale modeling club.

That being said, I'll remind everyone to please FINISH the models that they receive from the club in a reasonable amount of time. My F-8 Crusader from the Monogram Raised Panel Line night is ready for decals and may be done for the March meeting.

That's it from here. Hope to see everyone at the March meeting, with the tables full of British Empire Night models! Happy St. Patrick's Day!

-COARTIN



# THE JUDGES TABLE

By Marc Rocca

And so it begins. The 2011 club contest series gets underway with a good showing. First up was Lend Lease night sponsored by Bill Anderson. Jerry Rinaldi and Stan Stankewicz took home the prizes for an M3 Stuart and a P-39 'Cobra, respectively. Both were represented in Russian livery.

The club membership made their choices in the voting for all models on the tables.

There were 3 entries in AIR this month and the 1<sup>st</sup> place ticket goes to Stan for his P-39. I got 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a P-40E in Brazilian markings and Bill Connolly took 3<sup>rd</sup> with his BAC Tornado Mk.4.

There were twice the numbers of models on the table in the LAND & SEA this month. I took 1<sup>st</sup> with a Marder III Ausf M. Tom VanDermark's IJN Yamato in 1/700 scale was hot on my heels coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> place race went back and forth with Mike O'Connor's German armored train just beating out Jerry's Stuart by 2 points. Considering how cold it looked in Russia that day, Jerry did have an extra 2 points on his tank. But those did not count in the vote. The field was rounded out with John's 1<sup>st</sup> ship model of the HMS Montgomery and a tug boat.... yes, I said tug boat... by Mike Terre. Seems Mike just refuses to build anything without at least a little bit of stretched sprue in there somewhere.

~Marc Rocca



# The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP

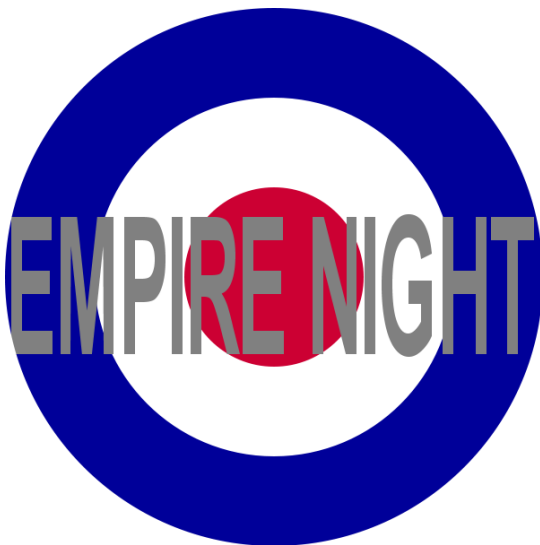
I'm sure that Prez Bill and the other E-Board members will have information about MCon XX in their updates, but since this is the last newsletter prior to the show, I just wanted to throw my two cents in also. The requests for raffle donations have all been sent and I've received some items, but I don't think we can expect the support we've seen before. If anyone has an unopened kit (or opened but complete modern kits) that you don't think you'll ever get to, please consider bringing them to the show as raffle donations.

Also, we've received several trophy sponsorships from other Chapters, for which we are very grateful, but we've not received nearly enough to offset the huge cost associated with the trophies. Due to input we've gotten, we have added numerous categories this year, which makes the trophy cost even more important. Bottom line – we need support for this critical area. Please consider sponsoring a package and/or getting support from others you know.

Last, but certainly not least, we'll need everyone's help on the day of the show. We

keep bringing this up because it is so critical. The show cannot continue to succeed unless everyone pitches in their support. There are many areas that still need staffing. Please review the sign-up sheet at the meeting and put your name down if you haven't already done so. When you pitch-in, you'll be surprised how much you'll get back.

~Mike P.



Don't forget the contest for  
March is Empire Night!



*Here's an excerpt from the Model Retailer Magazine website, concerning the Top 10 modeling stories of 2010. The entire piece can be read on [www.modelretailer.com](http://www.modelretailer.com)*

*Thank you to Jimmy Pentifallo for the head's up.*

## 10. Plastic models are still moving

Despite fluctuating oil prices, labor woes in China and inevitable price hikes, plastic models are still selling well.

During a time when hobbyists, like all consumers, are watching their wallets, modelers are still finding subjects that interest them and buying kits, whether they are 1:32 jets or 1:4105 starships.

Tooling has continued to get better, but companies have also started to pull back from the all-inclusive package that offers lots of photo-etched parts, sometimes resin upgrades, and an overabundance of decal choices all in one box. Limiting the extras helps keep kit costs down while still getting new products to market.

Despite some grumbling about increased prices, it looks as if modelers still haven't reached their cost threshold.

On the other hand, a trend is emerging with model companies in Europe and along the Pacific Rim selling high-quality kits direct to consumers via the Internet or exclusively through Internet dealers, bypassing the traditional three-tiered distribution apparatus. While good for consumers, it poses another challenge for the hobby industry in 2011 and beyond.



In the August 2010 MosquitoGram, I did an in-box review of the 1/32<sup>nd</sup> scale Colonial Viper, MK II, from Moebius models. I have since started construction on this kit. The build can be followed on my blog at:

[www.devinjpoore.com/blog](http://www.devinjpoore.com/blog)

~Devin





This month's meeting will be on:

Friday  
March 11th, 2011



Newsletter Editor:  
Devin Poore

Contact Info:  
me 'at' devinjpoore.com



# MOSQUITO CON XX

*"THE ROARING TWENTIES"*

**Our 20<sup>th</sup> Year**  
**April 2, 2011 | Wayne, New Jersey**

## IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(leave blank) FIRST M. LAST

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA/MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- Adult: \$25       Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Canada & Mexico: \$30     Other Foreign: \$32     Foreign Air Mail: \$55  
 Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 If recommended by an IPMS member,  
list his/her name and member number \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (IPMS#)

**IPMS/USA**

P.O. Box: 2475  
North Canton, OH 44720-0475

Check out our web page: [www.ipmsusa.org](http://www.ipmsusa.org)

