

# Newsletter



**Vince Buonfiglio**



**Mike Turco**



# Favorite FIVE

*Photos by Tommy Kortman*

**Bob Cicconi**



**Tommy Kortman**



**Matt Pritchett**



## Hello Fellow Styrene Junkies!

**I**would like to thank everyone who came out for the Holiday party. There was plenty of great food that was eagerly devoured by our festive crew.

**Well, the holidays are behind us** and the days are getting longer and nights are getting shorter. In a few short months Spring 2012 and the contest season will be here.

**I hope the Little Fat Guy** in the Red Suit was good to you and your family. I am ready to start the new year with model building. My new years resolution is to complete my '53 Ford pick up project that I have been working on for the last year (or two.)

**I would like to again thank**

Mike Napoleon for creating the great winner's plaques for the monthly theme contest.

**Remember that for 2012** we are having a club build and the theme is

Zombies/Zombie Killers. You have 12 months to build a model for this build because it will be judged at the Favorite Five Contest. Joe Leonetti brought his in process Zombie build to the December meeting. I cannot wait to see what the fertile (and sick) minds of our members will come up with for the build. *Bob Doebley*

## Now...Heeere'ss Tommy!

**T**hanks Bob. Ok boys and girls. 2011 is gone and 2012 is here. Time for a fresh start. Out with the old and in with the new. (OK, maybe not entirely; we are still keeping Bob.)

**Before we completely abandon** 2011 to our fond memories, let me first make a couple of final contest announcements. First; let me

congratulate our 2011 Favorite 5 winners. Bob Cicconi with another impeccably built ship. Mike Turco with his 1/12 scale F-1 car. Matt Pritchett for his twin cannon main battle tank, and Vince "Don Vincenzo" Buonfiglio for his wonderful mini diorama. The final lucky winner was myself. The vote tallies were as close as ever with only a single vote separating 4 of the 5 modelers. The quality of the models brought to the table seems to get better each year.

**I also want to officially** congratulate the 2011 Theme contest year long champion, Mr. Paul Kopczynski. Paul brought strong competition all year and consistently captured points. I'm sure Paul is

already planning his title defense.

With that being said, I want to remind everybody that the January theme is "Jolly Old England." Anything with ties to England is allowed. I

know there is a lot of subject material out there, so we should see a table full of great models.

**And, finally,** as Uncle Bobby previously mentioned, in 2012 we are having another club build. We will be building Zombie Killers. (Those of you with a soft spot for the undead can build Zombies. Wouldn't want to be prejudiced, now would we!) These models will be due in December 2012. Like we did with the halftracks, we will have a separate vote for the Zombie subjects. I encourage all of you to join in, and I hope you will bring in your projects while they are in progress.

**I think that's all for now.** So Long 2011...HELLO 2012! NOW LET'S GET BUILDING!!! and remember—this isn't just a hobby... ITS AN ADDICTION!! *Tommy Kortman* ■

## Monthly Theme Contests

Every month we will have an open contest for the monthly themes. Members will vote for the best Theme model of the month. A personalized award plaque will be made by Mike Napoleon and presented at the following meeting.

### JANUARY

Jolly Old England

### FEBRUARY

Delivery Service

### MARCH

Der Fatherland (Germany)

### APRIL

Go Topless

### MAY

Italy

### JUNE

Gold, Silver & Bronze Contest

### JULY

America

### AUGUST

Land of the Rising Sun (Japan)

### SEPTEMBER

Viva La France (France)

### OCTOBER:

? (Prototypes, Concepts and Fantasy Figures)

### NOVEMBER

The Tortise and the Hare (Double theme) [PICK ONE]

### DECEMBER

Fave 5 contest & Zombie/Zombie Killer club build due

NEXT MEETING  
**January 6**

- **Theme Contest...**  
**"JOLLY OLD ENGLAND"**

# December Highlights *Photos by Tommy Kortman*



*Rickshaw, 1/12(?), by John Stark*



*Mitsubishi A6M5 Zero, 1/48 Monogram by Brad James.*



*T34/85, 1/35 Dragon Models by Joe Volz*



*CH-46 Rescue, 1/48, by Charlie Lockard*



*1962 Valiant stock car, 1/25, by Ed Isnardi*



*XP-67 "Moonbat," 1/72 Anigrand Resin, by Howard Rifkin*

# December Highlights *Photos by Tommy Kortman*



*Kurtis Offy Midget, 1/25 Revell, by Joe Sander*



*1956 Olds 88 custom, 1/25 by John Dell'Osa.*



*Autoblinda AB-41, 1/48 Tamiya by Vince Buonfiglio*



*1942 Ford, 1/48, by Charlie Lockard*



*P-38J Lightning, 1/72 Academy in prog., by Mike Turco*



*Grumman XF5F, 1/72 Valom in prog., by Howard Rifkin*



*Mike's Favorite 5-winning Ferrari was also theme award winner at the July DVSM meeting before winning a silver award at PennCon and a second place at the JerseyCon IPMS Regional.*

## A 2012 FAVORITE FIVE WINNER: 1975 Ferrari 312T Formula 1 Car

*By Mike Turco • Photos by Tommy Kortman*

**B**efore I joined the DVSM, I had never built a model for show or contest, and then only aircraft and missiles. No cars, ships, armor, etc., and I built only for fun. Since becoming “re-enthused” about modeling over the past 12 years or so, model building was a solo affair sharing limited time with umpteen other hobbies. Eventually I chucked men’s senior league baseball (bad back), Phillies season tickets (too expensive), golf (too time consuming), crossword puzzles (ho hum) and some (not all) amateur astronomy, and decided to get more serious about modeling. I checked out the IPMS web site, which led me to the DVSM. I joined a year ago, and I’m real glad I did.

**It didn’t take long** to realize that our club has more “car guys” than “aircraft guys” so I thought I’d better expand my modeling horizons. I dove in with both feet and over the past 12 months built four big-scale F1 cars, three motorcycles, a couple of aircraft including my first all-

resin model, and a second 1959 Air Power kit. I also attended my first shows (MarauderCon, MosquitoCon, RepliCon, PennCon and JerseyCon II). Ironically, every model I entered except the aircraft took awards.

**The first car I built** was the Tamiya 1/12-scale 1977 Lotus JPS Mark III. I picked it up on Ebay from a guy who saw a built one in Mario Andretti’s house and bought the kit for himself. He opened the box and decided it was too much. I took it off his hands for 56 bucks, built it, learned a lot in the process, and got hooked. It won Best OOB and Third Place at MosquitoCon. That was enough incentive for me. Late last year I picked up a bunch of 1/12th scale OOP F1 kits on Ebay from resellers in California and Japan. I built the 1974 Brabham BT-44B, the Ferrari 312T and the Yardley McLaren M23.

**So far**, the Ferrari seems to most people’s favorite. After the July DVSM award it took silver at PennCon and second place (behind

Bob (the “Master”) Cicconi’s midget racer) at JerseyCon II. It is out of the box except for aftermarket seat belt hardware and velocity stack inlet screens. The 1/12 kits are not cheap, even though many are 25 – 35 years old, and the selection is limited. Yet I like the big scale in that the detail achieved by the kit is remarkable, and there are lots of aftermarket components available should you want to take the kit to a very high level. (Indycals, Best Balsa Kits (Geel, Belgium), M&S Hobbies and F1 Specialties are a few. Check their web sites.) Building one is like building a real car, with detailed engine components, suspensions, hoses and wiring, and chassis. I have a much better understanding and appreciation for the F1 cars now that I’ve built a few.

**In part I lucked out** with this particular build. I did not use any primer coat or clear finish coat on this model, not on purpose but because, at the time, I didn’t know better. The body parts were molded in the colors they were to be finished in, i.e., the red body parts were molded in red and the air box in white, so two or three coats of the lacquers looked okay sprayed on directly without an undercoat. I also did not use an airbrush on this model. The large scale allows one to get by with spray cans of paint, and Tamiya makes great lacquers for car finishes in cans. Italian Red and Pure White were the two primary body colors, with other colors like gloss, semi-gloss and flat black also used from spray cans (before removing from the sprues) or by brush using mainly acrylics. I feel it is easier to mask off sections of parts while still on the sprue and spray



*Aftermarket brass mesh intake screens add detail to the engine.*



*A seatbelt set from Acu-Stion provides realism and color in the cockpit.*



*Mike likes the high level of detail Tamiya's 1/12 scale kits offer "out-of-the-box."*

or brush paint at that stage rather than to paint after assembly. Touch up after assembly is easy since it is usually a small fix done with a brush. Another no-no was my use of Testors Gunmetal Buffing Metalizer brushed on some parts like the transmission body. These paints are meant to be sprayed on so you need to be judicious with the brush (and quick as the metalizers dry fast) but, once buffed, the result is very realistic for engines and transmission parts.

**I found out the hard way** not to expect decals to be usable on kits that date from the 1970s. My first car, the Lotus JPS Mk. III, had lots of pin striping. The long stripes just disintegrated during application. I needed aftermarket decals for that car. That's when I found Indycals. They have replacement decals for just about every big-scale Tamiya kit. Anticipating the need for same with the Ferrari 312T, I ordered them ahead of time. A few of the original decals were usable, like the car number on the air box, but some were not, like a lot of the white the pin striping. Lesson learned: always anticipate needing decals for old kits.

**The intake screens** were bought from a dealer in England via Ebay. They were shaped but needed to be cut to the proper round size for gluing to the velocity stacks. I've since bought sheets of brass screen of the proper mesh for the next car engine that needs it. Seat belt hardware is Acu-Stion (Japan) bought from Best Balsa Kits out of Belgium. I could not find this brand or any other belt hardware in stock from any US source. These come in colors of red, blue and black with hardware and brand decals. Each set has material enough for at least four or five models.

**Big scale F1 cars** in the box are the Ferrari 312B, -T4 and 641/2; Lotus 72D and Type 78; Tyrrell 003 and six-wheeler P34; Wolf WR1; Williams FW14B; Honda RA273; Texaco Marlboro McLaren M23; Renault RE20 Turbo; and the McLaren MP4/6 Honda. My problem is which to build next, but that's the kind of problem I like. ■

# Join IPMS/USA

**Why?** The International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA, of which Delaware Valley Scale Modelers is a chapter, finances the insurance required for our monthly meetings and for model contests around the country, and offers a make and take program for young modelers. Encourage the enjoyment of modeling in all its forms: aircraft, armor, cars, ships, fantasy, figures, military or civilian, beginner or advanced, join IPMS/USA! "By Modelers, For Modelers"

**What do I give?** Adult, 1 year: \$25. Adult, 2 years: \$49. Adult, 3 years: \$73. Junior (under 18 years), \$12. Family, 1 year: \$30 (adult + \$5).

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**How?** Clip and mail the coupon in the DVSM Newsletter or the IPMS/USA brochure, see our IPMS contact, Joe Vattilana, at the next DVSM meeting, or join online at ipmsusa.org. ■

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