

June 2014

# Newsletter



The  
Winners  
Circle



## “Waxing Nostalgic!”

VINTAGE KIT: AMT '59 Thunderbird by John Goschke

PHOTO BY JOHN GOSCHKE

by Tommy Kortman & John Goschke

**N**ostalgic. That pretty much describes just about all of us in this club. In this instance we were specifically speaking about model kits that were originally produced over 25 years ago. Well, last month's theme contest did not disappoint. The table was full of wonderful candidates and examples of vintage styrene. And last month's winner probably has more vintage plastic floating around in his collection than most. John Goschke is well known in DVSM for building some ancient plastic. John must have the patience of a Saint, because he can build kits that most of us would deem un-buildable. Luckily for me, John is also our newsletter editor and a pretty fair scribe as well so this is another month that yours truly gets a break.

**John, tell us** about your fantastic “Watson” '59 T-bird...

### Thanks, Tommy...

**Yeah, I do love my vintage plastic.** While I often purchase new kits, especially if they're of a subject not previously available, when I pick something off the shelf to build it'll be a kit that was released before 1965. This was largely true when I returned to modeling aircraft in 1988, and when I started building cars again in 2005 or so. So I can pretty much pick most anything off my display shelves for a contest

for kits over 25 years old. The first choice for this contest, had to be this AMT '59 T-bird, a kit that I'd wanted to build for a long time, in paint inspired by the personal '58 Thunderbird owned by the late, great Southern California custom painter, Larry Watson.

**Having learned his technique** watching famed pin-striper Von Dutch work on cars outside George Barris's shop, Larry started his career at 16 in 1955, pinstripping and lettering cars in the driveway of his parent's house. He became so successful that he opened for business in his own shop in North Long Beach soon after graduating from high school. In addition to hand striping cars, he used his sense of design and color to develop new techniques to paint cars in striking schemes of flames, scallops, and panel outlines using transparent “candy” colors, pearls, and metallics.

**The first of Larry's** personal cars to get national attention in the car magazines was his custom '50 Chevy, which

*continued on page 10*

### NEXT MEETING June 6

- Gold-Silver-Bronze Contest
- Armor Weathering with Jim Rosado (see page 9 for details)

## Hello Fellow Styrene Junkies!

**S**upposedly summer is here? May was a busy month for me and I did not get much time at the bench building. June is going to be another busy month for me, so I hope to start building again in July.



**While I was in St Maarten** on vacation last week, I stopped by Sunset beach where the Airport runway ends at the water. It was awesome listening to the tower give permission for the planes to land. Only one twin engine prop plane took off and there was not much back wash on take-off. Needless to say, I was a little disappointed. I was really looking forward to watching a large jet land..or takeoff. If you ever get to St Maarten, make sure you take the cab ride over to the airport. It is a must see location.

**Remember June** is our annual Gold, Silver and Bronze contest. You are allowed to enter three models in the contest.

**That's all for now...**

## Hereeee's Tommy!

**W**ow, thanks again for the oh so brief column. OK boys and girls as our esteemed and ephemeral leader pointed out, summer is un-officially here. (It doesn't actually start until June 21st with the summer solstice) And that usually means that our model building production goes down the tubes because there is so much to do outside. Hopefully some of you will be attending the odd car show, air show, or re-enactment. If you do, please consider taking photos and writing up a small report so we can include it in the news letters.

**As Uncle Bobby also** eloquently pointed out, it is June, and that does mean it's time for the annual Gold, Silver, Bronze contest. Or GSB for short. If you are new to Del-Val, then allow me to explain a bit about our contest. The GSB

is one of 2 scheduled contests which DVSM holds throughout the year (monthly theme contest notwithstanding) and the GSB is the judged version of the two. The Favorite 5 is a people's choice contest held in December.

**Anyway, for the GSB,** club members are allowed to enter up to 3 models to be judged. As Contest chairman, I will be selecting a team of members to act as judges. Since I usually use the same folks every year, you already know who you are. AND Don't try to hide! I WILL FIND YOU! These judges will look over and evaluate each model against a standard of judging. That means that there will NOT be only one winner. Since we use a points system, any model that garners the pre-requisite points will be awarded the appropriate award for those points. The points are tallied from an aggregate score from the 3 judges looking over those models. Any discrepancies will be adjudicated by the contest chairman.

**Folks, please try** to remember that this is a hobby, and we are here to have fun. It is not a matter of life and death. I think sometimes, a few people tend to lose sight of this fact.

**Now, just to remind you,** since this month is the GSB contest, there is NO theme contest this month. And while we are on the subject, since the first Friday of July falls on July 4th, there will be NO July DVSM meeting, the scheduled theme for July (Japan) will simply go back into the rotation for use another month. Probably next year (2015). This means that the next theme contest will be August. The theme will be "End of Summer". I had originally intended this theme to be for the "Last" of any series of models like the Ausf G Panther, or the final version of the Phantom, etc. But I now think that I will expand the theme in an effort to increase the model count. So we will also accept models that relate to beautiful weather so to speak. This means that gear heads can bring convertibles, you stick and rudder boys can bring any open cockpit aircraft, treadheads can bring out any open top armor. (This includes jeeps and HumVees) Seadogs can put small craft on the table such as PT boats, PBRs and the like. Sci-fi and figures...hmmm, this is a tough one. Oh, I know...you folks can bring out any subject with a tropical...or jungle theme. (I hope to see a Creature from the Black Lagoon on the table....PLeeeese) OK, I think that about covers it. Make sure you check out last month's theme winner, John Goschke's T-Bird, in this month's Winner's Circle column.

**As a special treat,** since we are approaching the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Uncle Bobby has submitted a small column about his connection to WWII. Please take the time to read this wonderful item.

**That is all for now.** As you were. ■

# My Personal Link to WWII

by Bob Doebley

**June 6<sup>th</sup> 2014** is the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. It was one of the most brutal days in modern warfare. It took a lot of brave people to make it a success. Allied Casualties were at least 12,000 with 4,414 confirmed killed. Their sacrifices should never be forgotten. I was born 3 ½ years after D-Day, but growing up in the fifties, I had access to firsthand knowledge of WWII from my 10 Uncles, who all served this country in the Army with pride.

**My father** and Uncle Gene were the only two of the family who were in the infantry and who were wounded in combat. My Father was a BAR carrier in the famous 69th Irish Infantry Brigade. He was with the landing forces that landed on Saipan. He was wounded in a mortar attack. My father, till the day he died, claimed it was his fault he got wounded. He was a proud American who served his country. After he passed away we found a book he used on the hospital ship after he got wounded. He had received shrapnel in the left side of his face and lost his jaw. He could not speak so he communicated with the note book. What we found out was, the three people who were with him, had died in the attack. He took this information with to his grave. I remember when I was three years old in 1950 he had his last operation on his jaw. If would have meet my father you would never know he was severely wounded. But it took six years for him to have a normal face. We used to go to Hunting Park in the summer time to spend Sunday afternoon riding the Carousal with his friend and his family. He was wounded and lost half his face. They could not recreate it because of the severity of his wounds. When they were together they just enjoyed life even though all they gave up for their country. One thing my Father gave me is my love of models. He had me building WWII aircraft when I was around five years old. "Thanks Dad"

**My Uncle Gene** was wounded in Borneo I do not know what unit he was in. He lost an eye and index finger in a grenade attack. To this day at 95 years old he still has Shrapnel in his head which can dislodge and kill him. His Doctors are amazed that he is still alive. The only thing he ever said about the incident is that all he remembers was a flash. The only

thing he complained about was that the Doctors would keep poking into his eye socket. He told them he thought they were experimenting on him and that they must stop doing that to him. My cousins and I have been trying to get our family history from the last two remaining brothers, so we got the together to ask about our family history, which they also talked



*Soldiers of the 27th Infantry Division on Saipan, 1944. – Army Pictorial Service Photo, Fold3.com.*

very little about with us. Uncle Gene never talked about his war experience until his was 90 years old and we were having drinks at a family get-together. We were totally stunned by this because none of the brothers who saw combat in WWII would ever talk about their experiences in the military.

**I fondly remember** how we celebrated Memorial Day in the fifties. In the morning we would go to the local American Legion Post, the lawn would be covered with white crosses and flags to honor the Fallen Heroes. It was a very solemn ceremony complete with a 21 gun salute. We would decorate our bikes with red, white and blue paper. After the ceremony we would have hot dogs and soda while our parents had beer. We got to listen to stories from Legion members. One lesson I have learned is never forget the past. It was an honor to know these Heroes – almost are all gone to a better place. But they will never be forgotten, because I keep their memory alive in my heart and in my thoughts.

**I believe** that anyone who served. Whether it was from the Revolution war to the war in Afghanistan War are true American Heroes. ■

# May Display Highlights

Photos by Tommy Kortman



Model 95 Ha-Go Light Tank, 1/72, by Bob Cicconi



Type VIIB U-boat, 1/700, by Bob Cicconi



Packard Cable Special, 1/25, by Bob Cicconi



1962 Chevy Fleetside pickup, 1/25, by Rod Rakos



Yak-9D, 1/72, by Paul Tomczak



Henschel HS-129B, 1/72, by Paul Tomczak

# May Display Highlights

Photos by Tommy Kortman



*Fiat Topolino Altered-class Drag Car & '65 Chevelle Push Car, 1/25, by Bob Doebley*



*'67 Ford Galaxie 500 XL, 1/25, by Greg Hogg*



*Convair Atlas Space Station, 1/100, by Mike Turco*



*Convair XF2Y Sea Dart, 1/72, by Howard Rifkin*



*Boeing XF8B-1, 1/72, by Howard Rifkin*

# May Display Highlights

Photos by Tommy Kortman



*Bloch MB-152, 1/72, by Paul Tomczak*



*'66 Chevy El Camino, 1/25, by Nick Sandone*



*'66 Galaxie 500XL, '57 Dodge Dodge Coronet, 1/25, by Greg Hogg*



*Subaru Dragster & Toyota Transporter, 1/24, by Frank Tiewski*



*'70 Pontiac GTO, 1/25, by Butch Haas*



*Hummer Ambulance, 1/72, by Tom Gill*

# May Display Highlights

Photos by Tommy Kortman



Monogram F-105F Thunderchief, 1/48, by Mike Turco



Strombecker Martin M130 Clipper, 1/130, by Dave Anderson



Monogram 1930 Model A Ford, 1/24, by Keith Jones



Monogram Apollo Lunar Lander, 1/72, by Joe Leonetti



MPC Gigantic Tarantula, 1/87(?), by Tommy Kortman



Johan 1966 Cadillac Ambulance, 1/25, by Tom Gill

# May Display Highlights

Photos by Tommy Kortman



Eldon "Pink Panther" Show Car, 1/25, by Don Senner



Johan Bf-109F, 1/72, by Paul Tomczak



Hasegawa F9F-8 Cougar, 1/72, by Howard Rifkin



'61 Oldsmobile F-85 Station Wagon, 1/25, by Keith Jones



Chance-Vought F7U-1 Cutlass, 1/72, by Howard Rifkin



White Half-track, 1/72, by "The Unknown Modeler"



## Online Report: Miniature Figure Collectors of America Show

by Tony Wootson

[www.sciffantmodmadrealm.com/MFCA73rdAnnual2014Show-1.html](http://www.sciffantmodmadrealm.com/MFCA73rdAnnual2014Show-1.html)

## Armor Weathering Workshop Series with Jim Rosado



**A**t the June meeting on Friday, the 6th, Jim Rosado will be doing the second session of his ongoing monthly Armor Weathering Clinic Series. This month's workshop will cover stains, more washes, dust, rust and grime. Jim's weathering clinics have always been very informative and the techniques learned may be applied to any modeling genre.

**Jim also strongly encourages** other modelers to bring any in-progress models that they have and apply these same techniques at the time of the clinic. In doing so, there will be live, in-progress feedback should anyone have any questions.

### To be covered at the June workshop:

- Chipping, scuffing, mapping

### Materials Needed:

Oil Paints in the following colors;

- Lamp black
- Raw Sienna
- Burnt Sienna
- Burnt Umber
- Van Dyke Brown
- Titanium White
- Model Master Enamel Gloss
- AK INTERACTIVE Dark Washes
- Fuel and Oil Stain
- Fine point brushes and 1/4"-3/8" brushes
- Odorless Thinner

**If you have any questions** email Jim at [gallerynoir@icloud.com](mailto:gallerynoir@icloud.com)

## Monthly Theme Contests 2014

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

cancelled

### FEBRUARY: Winner - Tom Gill

"Stone Cold" (*subjects with a winter or snow theme*)

### MARCH: Winner - John Goschke

"Going Green" (*green in color*)

### APRIL - Joe Volz

"Big Hair & Parachute Pants: Back to the 80's"

### MAY - John Goschke

"Nostalgic" (*the kit must be over 25 years old - straight re-issues ok too*)

### JUNE

Gold, Silver & Bronze Contest

### JULY (CANCELLED)

Japan (cancelled)

### AUGUST

"End of Summer"

### SEPTEMBER

"You're an Animal" (*animal names*)

### OCTOBER

"Let's Go Out to the Lobby" (*TV and Movie subjects*)

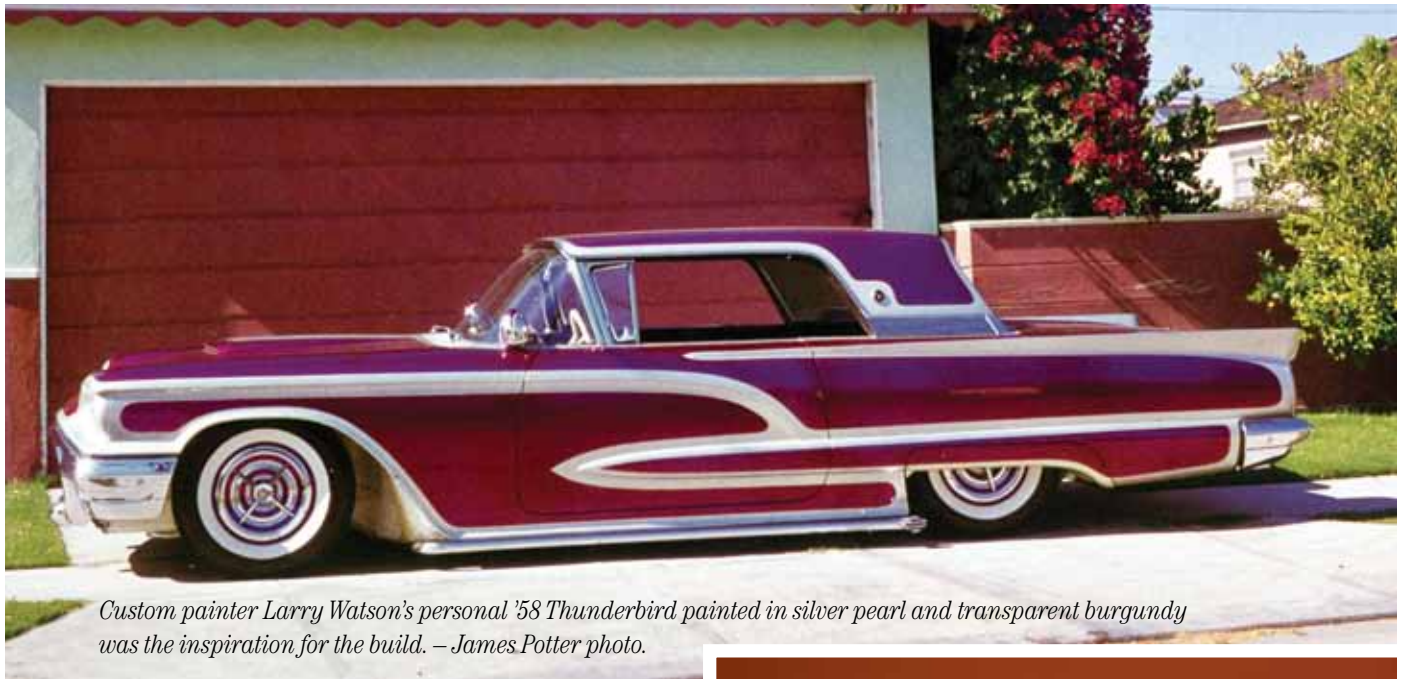
### NOVEMBER

"Team Mates" (*yup, another 2 model event*)

### DECEMBER

Favorite Five contest

## Winner's Circle: '59 Thunderbird *Continued from page 1*



*Custom painter Larry Watson's personal '58 Thunderbird painted in silver pearl and transparent burgundy was the inspiration for the build. – James Potter photo.*

became known as the “Grapevine” for its striking paint scheme of swirling scallops of contrasting lavender metallics. As he became more successful, Larry sold the Chevy and soon purchased a new canvas for his talents – a brand new, pink, stick shift, '58 Thunderbird hardtop.

**Larry took the car to his shop** and three weeks later the “Vino Paisano” emerged to become one of the iconic customs of the late '50s.

**The T-bird** had very few body modifications, just emblem removal from hood and trunk, and door trim and front fender ornament removal. The door handles were removed and replaced by hidden electric buttons. The car was then painted overall in silver pearl after which the major panels were outline masked and sprayed with a rich transparent burgundy red-violet lacquer. The burgundy panels were then outlined with a fine white pinstripe as a finishing touch. The car caused such an impact that it was named one of the “Top 10 Customs” by Custom Cars Annual magazine. Larry went on to paint a number of '58-'60 “Squarebirds” in similar paint schemes for his customers into the early '60s.

**This was the car I wanted** to build when I acquired a nice restorable AMT Thunderbird from an original 1959 annual 3-in-1 customizing kit. Then Danbury Mint released their oddly-proportioned 1/24th scale die-cast in the “Vino Paisano's” color scheme, and I sure didn't want to follow them! So, luckily, as it turned out, I was free to develop my own scheme. I'm glad I did – it's not very often I can say a finished model is everything I hoped it would be, but this is it!

**For more information** on the custom cars of Larry Watson, visit; <http://www.customcarchronicle.com/category/larry-watson-personal-collection/> and; <http://www.jalopy-journal.com/forum/threads/larry-watsons-personal-photo-collection.573932/> ■



*Early mockup assembly showing final wheel/tire combo of '59 Dodge wheelcovers and Monogram '59 Impala tires. Though not highly detailed, AMT's 1/25th '59 and '60 T-bird kits capture the character of the real car more accurately than Monogram's 1/24th kit of the '58. AMT did not produce a kit of the '58, but did produce promotional and friction-powered models in acetate.*



*The original one-piece chassis was detail-painted to look somewhat more realistic. Some styrene tubing represents glass-pack mufflers under the center of the car. The stock mufflers and tailpipes were replaced with polished aluminum tube. Unpainted areas visible inside the body and bumpers would be painted flat black before final assembly. More photos on following page...*

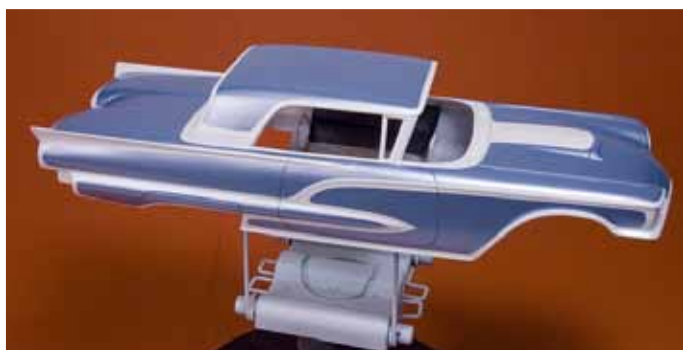
# Winner's Circle: '59 Thunderbird Continued from page 8



After the body was primed with Tamiya White Surface Primer it was painted Tamiya Pearl White. After several days drying time 3M black Photographic Tape was cut in very thin (1/32") strips to outline the panels that would be painted blue.



After the panels were outlined the area to remain Pearl White was covered with larger pieces of photo and Tamiya tape. Then Tamiya Pearl Blue was decanted from a spray can and airbrushed onto the body. Care was taken to avoid saturating the tape edge to prevent bleeding and heavy edge buildup. As soon as full coverage was achieved no more coats were applied. A minute or two later the masking was removed.



The body shortly after the tape was removed. Later the blue edges were lightly sanded to reduce buildup and a similar masking process was undertaken to spray the Tamiya Gold panel outlines. Tamiya Gloss Clear was applied over the color coats and polished out.



Baremetal Foil was applied to chrome and stainless trim before final assembly. Final detail parts included scratchbuilt radio antenna and windshield wipers. For more photos from the build process, visit <http://public.fotki.com/Froghawk/59-thunderbird/>

## 2014 Theme Contest Point Standings to Date

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Totals
Gill, Tom		5	3	2	1					11	
Leonetti, Joe		4	4	1	1					10	
Goschke, John			5		5					10	
Kopczynski, Paul		2	3	4						9	
Volz, Joe			3	5						8	
Rakos, Rod		3	4		1					8	
Tomczak, Paul		3	3		1					7	
Anderson, Dave		2		3	2					7	
Kortman, Tommy			4		3					7	
Turco, Mike		1	2	1	3					7	
Sandone, Nick		1	2		4					7	
Hogg, Greg		1	3		1					5	
Tiewski, Frank		1	2	1	1					5	
Pritchett, Matt			4							4	
Vattilana, Joe			3							3	
Lockard, Charlie			2							2	
Haas, Butch		1			1					2	
Rifkin, Howard				1	1					2	
Scheidmantle, Dennis		1								1	
Senner, Don					1					1	
Jones, Keith					1					1	

Monthly points are awarded as such: Each person who enters a model into the theme receives 1 pt. 1st place = 4+1, 2nd = 3+1, 3rd = 2+1

# 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"

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