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Preflight
Submitted by Bob Niemiec

On The Table
Show-and-Tell from the Last Meeting

As I write this, it's a couple of days after Christmas. All the grand and great-grand-kids made out like bandits. It is a holiday for them more than anything. I did get an aircraft recognition book from our great grandson, but most of the other stuff I bought myself. Who knows better than I what I want. I got the Red Sox World Series DVDs (2004, 2007 and 2013) and a couple of books from the Military Book Club. The one I'm reading now is about the Me 262 and the other covers the B-52. I'll bring them in to show them.

This will be a rather slim newsletter which is just as well since the holidays seem to take a lot of our time. Brad Wells submitted an article about the Half Moon, Interesting Links and On The Table are also present.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at the First Congregational Church in West Springfield, starting at 7 PM. Hope to see you there.

- **Dave Calhoun:** 1/25 scale 1962 Pontiac Catalina; cut roof; modified to build a 2-post sedan; vacuformed rear window; custom made logo decals; scratch built custom air cleaner.
- **Walt Damon:** 1/12 scale Polish Winged Hussar; box stock.
- **Walt Damon:** 1/48 scale Aurora Santa's Bi-wing; 35 years old; restored survivor from the 1975 BB Gun Wars.
- **Bill Kelly:** 28mm Privateer Press Thagresh; Layers of red wash and white paint; more detail work to be done; custom built base.
- **Bill Kelly:** 28mm Privateer Press Night Troll; wash and layering from black to blue-purple; work in progress.
- **Bill Kelly:** 28mm Privateer Press Rok; conversion of two models; base is a work in progress.
- **Bill Kelly:** 28mm Privateer Press Trollkin Kilt Lifter; mix of paint and wash; work in progress.
- **Al LaFleche:** 1/35 scale Shamrock Miniatures Leprechaun; kit mushrooms and log; modified Historex pitcher for pot; slices of 1mm Plastruct for gold; Silfor grass.

Meeting Notes
Submitted by Ed Potkai

Half Moon Part 2
Submitted by Brad Wells

Twenty members attended our December meeting including the first appearance by Carl Stoy in some time. We also had three visitors.

Business discussion was light. Al listed several items purchased at the Squadron Black Friday sale for our contest raffle.

The Long Island show was briefly reviewed. The attendees agreed it was a good show and made up for their disappointment with the recent MFCA event. The best news was that the area seems to be fully recovered from the destruction of Hurricane Sandy which caused last year's event to be cancelled.

Chuck Horner took a head count for the show January 19 at the New England Air Museum. At that time we will fill the display case which has been offered to us. The showcase has five shelves with a diameter of 24 inches. However, to be displayed a model will need to be able to fit through an opening of 11 inches.

Throughout the meeting we celebrated the holiday season by munching goodies. Non-perishable items were donated (through the church) to a local food bank. The meeting ended with the exchange of holiday wishes.

The Corel kit was purchased from Model Expo. The list price is about \$339 but with a lot of price checking I was able to find it at \$148. A quick look at the contents shows a box full of stuff. The construction manual was 40 pages long but when you eliminate the German, French and Spanish instructions it boiled down to 7 pages in English. There are plenty of plans and drawings showing every conceivable view you might need. One sheet is a full size drawing of every piece that comes in the box not including bulk planking, fittings etc. in case anything is broken during construction or is missing. There is even a base with a nice plaque (Continued on page 2)

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Half Moon Part 2 (Continued from page 1) piece. There seems to be plenty of everything here and more importantly it all seems usable. The rigging line looks to be of proper size to fit the blocks unlike the Bluenose 2 kit from Artisanía Latina. That kit had plenty of line in it but none of it came close to fitting any of the cheap wood blocks. Thankfully Model Expo has many different sizes and colors of line for sale. The wood types included in this kit are very impressive. We have poplar, mahogany, dark walnut, tanganyka, beech, and limewood. I was hoping the limewood would be green so I could tell which one it was. But noooo. There is no way to tell which wood is which. There are sizes in the directions so I will be using the sizes and the drawings to figure what to use where.

One thing to be expected when building a plank on bulkhead model for the first time, or in my case the second, is trying to understand the mind boggling terminology of all things nautical.

The kit directions are written for the terminology challenged, but still they are not completely useful at times. I have some books and magazines for help but even those can mesmerize. For example from one book, "Note the absence of the bumpkin and the gored fore course with the tack leading to the cathead, which did not come in to use before 1970. The reason for the built-in main tack fairlead block is obvious when looking at the main tack and chesstrees." Obvious. NOT!

I started by making a simple stand for holding the model during construction. It was a block of 2 by 4 with 2 rows of scrap pieces ½ by ½ to hold the keel. Construction started with the false keel and the bulkheads. After aligning the bulkheads fore and aft, side to side, they were fastened with carpenters glue. The false decks came next with some sanding needed for a close fit with the upper bulkhead pieces. Up next hull planking.

Interesting Links Various contributors

BIG BOY TOYS

A European gathering of Radio Controlled aircraft...

This was sent to me by my long time friend Kevin Suddarth. There is some spectacular model airplanes in this video especially the big Bf 109. And the Me 323 Gigant was a huge surprise.

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=zYPag3LuKlA

Descent into Queenstown, New Zealand.

Gotta have faith in your instruments and your proficiency to fly the approach. But the feeling of elation from doing well, what we're trained to do, is it's own reward. Or as my submariner friend used to tell me, "Don't know about your base pay, but you do earn your flight pay." ...as if descending into an undercast over mountainous terrain doesn't bother you too much.

<http://www.chonday.com/Videos/pilotnewzdaInd1>

The Navy's Unmanned Combat Air System Aircraft

Latest Navy unmanned, carries more armaments than a fighter and has a longer range.

www.youtube.com/embed/WC8U5_4lo2c?feature=player_embedded

Curtiss SOC Seagull

If you like the old Curtiss SOC Seagull, you'll want to hang onto these shots.

http://www.axis-and-allies-paintworks.com/e107_plugins/forum/forum_viewtopic.php?7700.post

USS Sable & Wolverine

This is a great series of pics of the sidewheel steamer training carriers the U.S.N. stationed on Lake Michigan to train Naval aviators on carrier landings and take offs. Over 15,000 Navy pilots were carrier qualified using these ships, including a great many Royal Air Force pilots, and one future U.S. President, George H. W. Bush

Hal

http://www.axis-and-allies-paintworks.com/e107_plugins/forum/forum_viewtopic.php?407

Interesting read about one of the unsung heroes of WW-II, an airplane mechanic, and what he did to help end the war.

<http://donmooreswartales.com/2012/04/20/richard-nolan/>

(Continued from [page 2](#)) Razorbacks of the 318thFG - Axis and Allies Paintworks

Superb pics of the Razorback P-47s of the 318th FG, 7th AF in the Pacific. A great series of them being embarked on an escort carrier for the invasion of Saipan, more swell shots of their carrier take offs, and a balance of the Jugs on the ground. You'll see ground maintenance equipment, fueling vehicles, and ordnance mounting, plus shots of the wonderful P&W R-2800 that made the P-47 the great fighter it was. Hal

http://www.axis-and-allies-paintworks.com/e107_plugins/forum/forum_viewtopic.php?365

A GIFT TO ARIZONA

I have a special place in my heart for the U.S.S. Arizona. Hal

It is very nice to see such things take place. I found the differences in the bases of those two barrels to be very interesting. I assume the one listed as being from the Missouri is a spare that could be used on any of the Iowa class ships and probably on any of the 16 inch mounts on earlier ships such as the South Dakota class. The 3 barrels from turret one on the Arizona are still there, but the other 9 were removed during salvage operations. Turrets 3 and 4 were planned to be built into two shore defense sites on the east and west end of Oahu. One was completed just as the war ended and was actually test fired.

Both were dismantled shortly after the war ended. Uncle Sam has been pretty tight lipped about what happened to the pieces and parts.

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT TOOK TO MACHINE THOSE SUCKERS?

World War II Memorial...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dFIZX_RXuU&feature=youtu.be

78th FG - Axis and Allies Paintworks

Great shots of the 8th Air Forces Checkernosed 78th FG. Note John D Landers' "Big Beautiful Doll", and Quince Brown with his "Okie"

http://www.axis-and-allies-paintworks.com/e107_plugins/forum/forum_viewtopic.php?361

Aviation Lake Party! Terrific!!! Too much FUN

Babes, Boats, Cars, Copters and Planes.....Fantastic!!.....

<http://www.airchallenge.com/video/best-o-2013>

10 Merlins Flying

Some terrific walk around stuff and interior shots of a Lancaster and a Mosquito, plus views from the cockpits in flight. I have had the privilege of visiting inside that particular Lanc. Hal

https://www.youtube.com/embed/ceuU1UQuwVU?f...ayer_detailpage

Chino Airshow

Everyone...If you like airplanes, you are going to love this one.

Take the time to open it on your computer/IPad...something large enough to adequately display the photographs. Don't bother looking at them on your telephone. It won't do the photos justice. This is the best collection of photographs taken at an aviation show that I have seen. Enjoy it.

<http://home.comcast.net/~bzee1b/Chino/Chino.html>

100th F-35

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGgaRaZP_w8&feature=em-subst_digest



Al LaFleche - Leprechaun



Bill Kelly - Rok



Bill Kelly - Night Troll



Bill Kelly - Thagresh



Bill Kelly - Trollkin Kilt Lifter



Dave Calhoun - 1962 Pontiac Catalina



Dave Caloun - 1962 Pontiac Catalina



Walt Damon - Polish Winged Hussar



Walt Damon - Santa's Bi-Wing