



**IPMS SYRACUSE  
DECEMBER 2005  
NEWSLETTER**

**IPMS Syracuse Business meeting: 7 PM to 9 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.  
IPMS Syracuse Builders meeting: 7 PM to 9 PM 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month.**

**All at:**



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Syracuse, NY 13209  
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Fax: 315-451-8708

<http://www.walts-hobby.com/>

**Web site:** <http://www.ipmssyracuse.org>

**Yahoo Group Site:** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ipmssyracuseny>

**Postings:** [ipmssyracuseny@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ipmssyracuseny@yahoogroups.com)

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## Upcoming Events

- **December 8: Syracuse IPMS Meeting** at Walt's Hobby from 7-9 pm.  
**Our Annual Christmas Party!** Voting for Across the Pond Challenge!
- **December 22: Syracuse IPMS Builders Night** at Walt's Hobby 7-9 pm.

### Agenda for the December Meeting

Old Business  
New Business  
Show and Tell  
Voting for Across the Pond Challenge  
**Christmas Party!**

### Minutes for the November Meeting

- We had a short discussion about Syrcon 18. We had over 200 models entered, and about 160 people came through the doors in total. We were able to return a small profit on the show. The show went very well, and we had very good feedback from visitors.
- The Across the Pond Photos from England are here, and John Kesler will bring them to the December meeting. We will try to view them and come up with a winner.
- The MOST Museum (Museum of Science and Technology) in Syracuse has invited us to present a show in their facilities. It is an open invitation to put on a display and demos if we like and can be done separately or in conjunction with another event if we like. They are offering to do the advertising for us so it is a very generous offer. We can discuss possibilities at a future meeting.

### Show and Tell

We all met a potential new member at the meeting. Tony Casella came to the meeting and brought an ME 109 G10 that he finished. Tony is interested in all subjects, especially Sci-Fi robots. We welcome Tony to the group and hope he meets the rest of the gang at the Christmas Party.

Don Green brought in some 1/35 scale figures from Dragon. They included German Fallschirmjaeger 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division troops from Normandy with Donkeys! He also had troops from North Africa, the Deutsches Afrika Corps. The detail was excellent.

## Walt's Secret Santa Sale



***We had our annual display at Walt's for his Secret Santa Sale on November 19. We had a nice selection of models on display and met with the public all day. If you have not been to this sale before, make sure you come next year. Many hobby groups set up displays and show what they do with live demos, video displays and model displays. Walt has door prizes all day and snacks, and has all hobby supplies on sale all day. It's a great place to hang out for the day.***

***Thanks to all who gave their time to help out!***

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### **Across the Pond Challenge Winners!**

Mike Gossage and the members of the Birmingham, UK club have voted on our photos for the Across the Pond Challenge contest . Here is Michael's letter:

Here finally, at long last are the results for the USA end of the Trans-Atlantic Trophy!

Third place

Kevin Thomas with 2 x Mc 200's

Second place

John Goodacre with USS Guam

First Place

Charlie Walker with the F89 Scorpion

We would all like to record how impressed we were with the standard all of entries, thank everyone for entering.

We are all intent on making next year's event much slicker and producing much better photo's with better back drops.

It has been the Modelworld (UK) championship this weekend and we had an excellent turn out of models in nearly all of the classes. Seems to be more and more people building large scratch built aircraft we nearly ran out of allocated space for that section.

UK senior championship model came from that group with a scratch built 1/48 Shorts Stranerae flying boat with lots of shiny metal cladding and some heavy weathering.

I am hoping to have some photos to send shortly.

Best regards

Michael Gossage

IPMS Birmingham UK

## 2005 Across the Pond Challenge Winners!

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Charlie Walker's  
F-89 Scorpion



2<sup>nd</sup> Place:  
John Goodacre's U.S.S. Guam



3<sup>rd</sup> Place:  
Kevin Thomas  
Pair of Macchi  
200s

## Report from the Train Fair

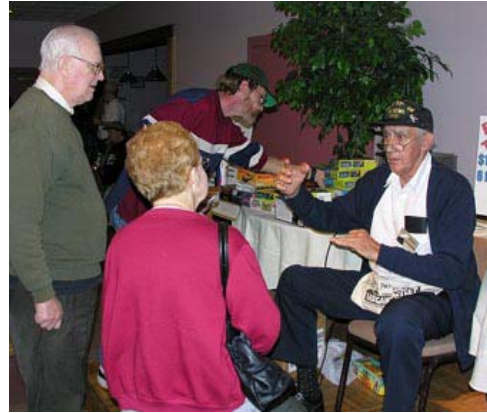
The club had a display at the Central New York Train Fair on November 5 and 6. We got to display our new banner at the show! Thanks again to John Goodacre and anyone else who had input on the banner. It looks excellent and really adds to the display. The show went very well and we had a terrific response from the public. The attendance was down some for the fair, probably due to gas prices, and the fact that it was a beautiful warm weekend, perhaps people were raking leaves? The only negative was packing up Sunday when the weather turned NASTY! The whole afternoon looked like a scene from Twister! Fortunately we were able to keep the models dry. Here are a few pictures from the show.



Jack Grosso and Chuck Jorgensen from Salt City Modelers added some beautiful cars to the show.



# A Few More Shots from Syrccon 18



Syrcon 18 continued...



Syrcon 18... and a few more.



# **Christmas Party Reminder**

December 8, 2005 at Walt's Hobby

**Don't forget about our Christmas Party at the December Meeting! Bring a wrapped present and you can participate in our Yankee Gift Swap tradition. Pizza will be provided. We will also be voting for winners in the Across the Pond Challenge. We hope to see everyone there!**

## **Quick Look Review: Focke-Wulf FW-190 A8, A8/R2 in 1/48 scale by Tamiya (Kit # 61095) *Reviewed by Chuck Wise***

I have to admit that this release snuck up on me. Up until this time, the only A8's in this scale have been the various incarnations of the Trimaster kit that was really something back 15 years or so when it was first released at a fairly ridiculous price (in excess of \$100) and that has been reissued at various times by Italarei and Dragon (with revisions to make it an all styrene kit and at a less stratospheric price) but still suffers from many fit problems and some annoying inconsistencies in detail which probably stem from Trimaster's original multi-media approach with styrene, white metal and photo-etched parts. The other alternative has been the dimensionally lacking release from the 70's by Otaki and later Aarii that was among their less desirable creations. This all makes the current release very welcome indeed.

I have always been a great fan of the FW-190. It was an airplane that the powers that were in the Luftwaffe did not really want, but since its choice of the BMW 801 engine did not interfere with production of other aircraft, its development was allowed to proceed. It turned out to be an extremely versatile aircraft, both as a fighter and a fighter-bomber and, in the end, had far more possibilities for further development than the much ballyhooed Messerschmitt Bf-109. The subject of this review, the A8 model, was the most produced version of the lot. The type was designed to deal with the lethal threat of American heavy bombers to German industry, the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator specifically, and it was heavily armed for that purpose. The standard A8 was armed with two 13 mm MG131 machine guns in the cowling and two pair of 20mm MG 151/20E cannon in the wings, one pair in the wing roots and the other pair on the outside of the landing gear. The A8/R2, which the kit under examination will also build, had the pair of cannon on the outside of the landing

gear replaced by an even harder hitting pair of 30 mm MK 108 cannon... formidable firepower indeed! Most A8/R2's also had extra armor installed to improve the pilot's possibility of survival as some pressed their attacks to the extreme of ramming the bomber they were attacking if all else failed. The extra armor was placed in the underside of the cowling and in appliqué panels alongside the cockpit. These planes were also often equipped with extra panels of armored glass on the sides of the canopy. These "bomber destroyers" were usually accompanied by less heavily armed and therefore more agile late mark Bf-109 G's and K's to intercept the escort Mustangs of the Eighth and Tenth Air Forces.

This kit would appear to be another home run by Tamiya with typical care given to engineering and excellent molding. There are two propeller blade types included and I might add that the props are one-piece and not the three-blade-glue-them-in-and-hope-you-get-them-lined-up-right-type. Bravo Tamiya! Both the standard and "blown" canopy hoods are provided and the armored glass side panels for the A8/R2 are provided in very clear and reasonably thin styrene. The interior parts are well done with the only fairly necessary replacements needed being the foot pedals (sorry boys, you really do need PE to pull these parts off convincingly) and seatbelts which are provided as decals. Both of these items are readily available from Eduard or any number of other aftermarket sources. The appliqué panels are provided as "stick-on's" to provide scale thickness. We'll have to reserve judgment on these until the kit is actually built and painted. Tamiya also provides masking for all of the clear parts, though this appears to be pre-printed but of the cut it yourself variety. As always, the instructions are clear and concise with many useful drawings and version differences and painting instructions called out at all stages of construction. While the decals look a bit thick on the sheet, they appear to be perfectly registered and include many useful stencils. Markings and painting diagrams are provided for five different aircraft with unit and pilot information provided. All in all this looks to be an excellent release which I certainly hope will be eventually followed by a FW-190 A5.

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**Remember, this is YOUR newsletter. You'll get more out of it when you put more into it. Everyone's contributions are important. Please send along your thoughts, photos, articles and opinions. Your friends are eager to hear from you.**

**Have a safe and happy Holiday season.**

**Joe Dillman and Chuck Wise**