



# THE STYRENE SHEET

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## Last Eyes on Handley Page's Suitcase



**Concluding the Building of Airfix's Handley-Page Hampden (part 2)** (see last month's issue for part 1)  
By Mark Schynert

I now primed the assemblies, using Tamiya rattlecan primers—gray for the wing and tail tops, and white for everything else. My color scheme of choice was an RAF Coastal Command scheme of Extra Dark Sea Grey topside, with sides and underside of white, thus the different primers.

Next there were some fiddly bits that had to be attended to. I painted three Lewis guns in gun-metal. One I mounted on the nose as a free gun. Two more were mounted on a movable bar for the dorsal position, which had to be slipped into its guides just before the fuselage was closed up.

Next up, I closed the fuselage. The initial dry fit showed three huge problems. First, the right-side fit between the bomb bay doors and the fuselage had a big gap. Most of this could be resolved with another Evergreen shim, but I was fiddling with the residue right up to the end of the build. Second, the piece that comprised the front of the ventral gunner's position had an unsightly gap into the bomb bay; I had to cut a curved piece of plastic to fill that and faired it in, though I continued to have problems with gaps around the gunner's (continued page 3)

*Editor's Ravings* – this month's editor, Mick Burton



Yes, you're right, I got my Thanksgiving wish early this year and was eerily transformed into a well done scale figure of a USAAF pilot. One who's getting his editorial focus from a very large armored piece with a bit wary tilt of head.

OH YEAH! He thought I should explain briefly for those who don't recall or don't know, the current rules of engagement for this holiday Theft Gift Event. I Told him I'd like to fit some notes about the grand entries in pictures below for the "Sports Night" club contest, ones that didn't win but were winners in my book nonetheless. Since "Mr G" was bigger than me then and now, he won out on this.

### **" RULES OF ENGAGEMENT " : GIFT "THEFT" EXCHANGE SVSM 2011**

1. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN. So show up on time to register
2. MAXIMUM TWO Gifts may be put in play by any and all guests.
3. MINIMUM RETAIL VALUE EACH GIFT must be 20 US dollars.
4. GIFTS IN ORDER TO PLAY must be reasonably pre wrapped, and not too outrageously "disguised" or otherwise camouflaged so as to not take a person all night (we don't have) to unwrap and continue our game.
5. GIFT TO BE OFFERED IN PLAY should be model oriented, and likely to be generally perceived of as something some several of those present WOULD WANT TO STEAL. Bring something you're mad for, others likely will be.
6. ONCE UNWRAPPED, ALL GIFTS CONSIDERED "IN PLAY" UNTIL "DEAD" NO TRADES ALLOWED IF IN PLAY ITEMS INVOLVED. Feel free to manage what you like with yours and others "dead"
7. UNWRAPPED GIFT IS "IN PLAY" UNTIL STOLEN THREE TIMES THEN IT IS DECLARED "DEAD" Any and disputes for this declaration are resolved by the Club Secretary or his designee, are final and binding. Just ask Chris B.
8. PLAY ENDS when time to leave comes or all items are stolen to the dead point or the last one is unwrapped to its fate.
9. AT LEAST ONE UNBUILT MODEL SHIP KIT MUST BE PRESENT IN THE GIFT PILE. Or you're all in trouble.
10. THIS MAY NOT BE COMPLETE RULES. LISTEN AT THE MEETING FOR ANY ADDENDA. Thank you.



Oh just enough space to thank Shervin Shembayati, Joe Fleming and Richard Linder for these 3 entries that were in play for "Sports Night" Shervin : The Bulls, Joe : The Tigers, Rich: Hawks  
-mick

### **EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME FEBRUARY 2012 " SM all Hot Rod Fords "**

My birthday month, my traditional twisted thematics. Eligible subjects: FINISHED, any scale, F4D Skyray (aka "Ford"), A-4 Skyhawk (Heinemann's Hot Rod), or Ford Hot Rods. SM? Ref to Santa Monica, home of Douglas.

### **SVSM EDITOR' s CONTEST THEME MAY 2012 " MAY DRONE ON & ON "**

Which is one way to say entrants are open to submit any manner of unmanned aerial vehicles of any scale, FINISHED, as long as they are air breathing and guided however rudimentarily. Kettering's "Bug", B-24s of Project Aphrodite, Crossroads Hellcats, along with Snarks, BQM Firebees and QF-80s all suffice alongside the expected RQ-1 Predators for entry. Don't forget, one can wreak Vengeance in this competitive category...

If sufficient completed subjects show up then, goal is to coordinate an effort to have as a possible "club entry" into Collections at several upcoming contests.



***LAST COVERAGE Of MARK's HP SUITCASE (continued from page 1)***

position right through to the end. Third, the fuselage didn't close up very well from mid-fuselage forward. I clamped it as tight as it would go, then filled gaps with CA (*CA= CyanoAcrylate aka Super Glue, adhesive/filler – editor*). Subsequent sanding eliminated a lot of rivets across the top. That didn't bother me, since the top of the fuselage was pretty busy, what with windows, antennae, and other things. But again, there were complications. I now did a lot of masking and painting to get the Extra Dark Sea grey applied, then counter-masked to put a white overcoat on the primer, of course including main gear doors and some other small bits in the latter case.

The fuselage-sealing issue came to the fore as I tried to fit the transparencies. I ended up using mostly the kit parts instead of the Falcon transparencies, since the latter either was not better (top window), was going to be a lot more trouble to fit (nose glazing), or I damaged the pieces coming out of the sheet (windscreen, dorsal gun position). I cut the windscreen for the kit piece of the pilot's canopy, but used the sliding glazing from the Falcon set. The former proved to go better with a PE (*PE= Photo Etch or Photo Etched, usually ref to parts or a process - editor*) piece that fit the back of the frame with a rear-view mirror and handholds, while the thin sliding Falcon piece melded well with PE framing and canopy guide tracks. But the windscreen and the nose glazing both didn't fit that well, since the fuselage was a tiny bit wider than it should have been due to its failure to close tightly enough. I used some Jewel-It (a heavy white glue) to fill the disparity, but it was only a partial solution. The tail assembly went on next. It didn't fit well, so a fair amount of sanding, puttying and repainting was necessary to get it to meld. The tail wheel, already painted in detail, went on now.

Painting framing is one of the banes of my existence, so I try to finesse the problem in any way I can. In this case, the white framing was accomplished with white line stock; working it around curves took short pieces and patience, but it came out pretty well. The EDSG (*EDSG= Extra Dark Sea Grey, a common British RAAF colour-editor*) wasn't so easy, because one cannot get EDSG decal line stock. So I tried making my own, spraying the same paint directly onto decal paper. I then cut strips with a new X-Acto blade and applied them to the windscreen and a few places on the nose glazing. The strips sort of worked, but the decals were really nothing more than a thin layer of acrylic paint, so they were very fragile and hard to work with. Next time, I'll try over-coating the decals with decal film and see if that works better. In any event, I got that out of the way.



Next up on the fun parade was getting the engines in place. Aeroclub provided two sets of white metal cowling flaps (painted in Humbrol Aluminum), resin engine/cowling main bodies (painted EDSG and White, with black, and a silver wash for the internals), white metal cowling rings, flame dampers and propellers with spinners. The props were primed in white, then the front tips sprayed yellow, then masked off so the rest of the propeller could be painted black. The cowling rings represented the Pegasus engine exhaust manifolds. These are a tricky color to duplicate. Typically it's represented as copper, but in fact it is heat-discolored steel, and the various tones can't be duplicated in a model this small. My solution was to take three Vallejo paints: brass, steel and black, and mix them by brush in about a 3:3:1 ratio. The result was not so starkly coppery as most

models I've seen. I decided against using the flame dampers; they seemed too heavy to stay in place with the minimal gluing surface available for such relatively heavy pieces, so I went with the short stacks offered by the kit, and painted them with the same mixture after drilling out the ends.

For assembly, I started by mounting the cowl flaps. It took a lot of sanding, prodding and dry fitting to get them to slide into position over the recessed nacelle faces, but I eventually got them to go. Next the engines went on the cowlings. Again I had to sand the inset bases of the engines to get them inside the cowling rings, though this was easier, as holding the separate engines for sanding was not so hard as holding the entire airframe. The cowling rings, by contrast, fit neatly and firmly one the first try in both cases. The props and exhaust pipes went on without any trauma.

I thought the main landing gear was going to be a huge headache, but it was mechanically elegant in the way it went together. It, as well as the interior, had been painted in British Interior Grey Green at an earlier stage, with the oleos silver.

The kit decals were completely useless for scheme I had in mind. Still there was nothing terribly complicated. I cut the tail flashes from some stock tail flash decals, plus I found top and side roundels in my large stash of decals. One oddity of the scheme is that there were no underside roundels. The serials were easily represented by stock 8" black numbers and letters -they were supposed to be EDSG, but I wasn't about to get that crazy. A single red 'E' on each side completed the picture.

The last big headache was attaching the ventral transparency. It was another Falcon piece, accommodated by cutting away part of the fuselage on each side long before assembly began, and it didn't fit well at all. Filling, painting, and the liberal use of white decals, eventually rendered it almost good enough. I'm happy it's barely visible

Finally, a bunch of fiddly bits went on: aileron balance weights, two topside vents on the cowlings, DF bulb, antenna, gun interrupter plate for the dorsal guns, landing light, pitot, fixed nose gun, ventral bar antenna, and venturi. The last was my final challenge. The kit piece had vanished by now, and I had nothing resembling a venturi in spares. So, I chucked an 1/8" piece of styrene rod into my Dremel and used it like a lathe, using riffler files and sanding sticks to create a double cone-shaped bit. It looked like the kit piece once in place, and that was good enough for me.

In fact, the whole thing was an exercise in good enough. There are brilliant modelers out there who could have taken the same ingredients and created a show stopper. However, I'm quite satisfied that I did justice to this old soldier, and I will proceed now to something much easier. – *fini Mark*





**November 2011 SVSM MEETING** *Minutes not available at publication. These are Editor's best recall from my photos.)*

Our meeting started off on the right footing with "Sarge" Frank Beltran as El Presidente back in our midst, reporting his auto accident wasn't going to slow him down. One of his welcome back surprises was the brilliant yellow and black sturdy banner proudly on display proclaiming us "Silicon Valley Scale Modelers IPMS /USA". This was a gift to the club thanks to efforts of recent past Prez Eric McClure. Many many thanks from all of us as well as Frank, to you Eric, it's pure gold.



We had a review of the recent Desert Classic 15 contest put on by our compatriots down Mojave way in Antelope Valley. "Arch Rivals" was their creative theme this year, with First Place going to opposing pair of US/Soviet "Stealth Fighters". This was category with several very hard competitors, so hats off to the Hypotheticals for taking home top. Although lightly attended this year by our own neck of the woods, we had member Jim Priete take home several awards from this show, big news being his third time win of the "X-Planes Prize" with his X-15A.

Another bit of news from another afar down south model club came to us from VP David Balderamma, he literally had just got off plane and came to meeting ! Dave promised me an article (guaranteed now in January issue) on how his first time visit of SMJ/ IPMS (Guadalajara, Mexico) came to pass. Suffice to say for now he returned with a lovely resin model gift and a great way to be expressing the true brotherhood of our modeling community. Lastly on the modelling afar front was John Ferdico's being at our meeting for likely the last in awhile, John generously selling a huge amount of models from his collection so he can get moved to Hawaii in a reasonable time and inventory. Best wishes to him we keep him in Region Nine but not nearly as fun.



*(my apologies ahead, as I said, these merely my notes of meeting not formal complete minutes, so if I missed your work or misspelt your name, sorry - Editor)* November's Model Talk was full of the usual and unusual. Chris Bucholtz stealthily kept his passion for Prehistoric Mammals a secret from me all these years but no more! Here we see his Glyptodont in resin, chatting to the like scale figure how he hopes his finish at least equals that of the Airman's. I pray we'll see more of this sort from Chris in the future, mayhaps a Macrauchenia or a Epigaulus, perhaps? (clue: one was a nose horned gopher bigger than your cat...)

We found John Heck moving his blast from the past project car project along, much more work than first appears to make a stock model car, just ask him.



Another, John Carr, may concur on this. His 1964 SJPD Police Car begins with two Lindberg kits, a Dodge 330 Super Sport and '64 Plymouth Belvedere. It demands much more than just making a four door out this model though. Having seen the wonderful work John's done in ships, armor and figures, no doubt we'll see him magic sculpt in his own manner this one.



Kent McClure showed his own magic underway with steamboats and a steamed front loader washer model. Ben 1/48 Pada shared how his Great Models P-61 is progressing. Ken Miller brought his "Pacific Islands" rendering of Monogram DC-3 box scale kit along with an award from Portland 2011 Airliners Int'l show in their model contest for it. He won three there! Joe Fleming's Czech "TATRA" armored rail car in 1/72 was a finished sight to see! David Balderrama has a 144th YF-23, 1/72 M2F2 underway, some contrast as YF is as big as MF tho half its scale. Much else to note but alas, I don't have them.

Model of the Month November went to a creative well crafted model work in process, John Carr's 1964 SJPD special. The Last Model of the Month for 2011 went to Cliff Kranz's 1/48 U-2R Senior Span, congratulations to you both!

Editors contest "Sports Night" : All winners and pictures are shown separately in an article elsewhere in this issue. -mick



**CONGRATULATIONS**

**John Carr**

**FOR WINNING November MODEL OF THE MONTH**





## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 12-16-11

**Friday, December 16 2011**

**IPMS/ Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting. Theme is Steal this Gift. Round Table Pizza Locale.

**Saturday, February 11 2012**

**IPMS/Santa Rosa & Friends** host "Hobby Expo 2012", Petaluma Community Ctr ( just off McDowell Blvd, take Washington Exit off Hwy 101) in Petaluma CA. Theme "Good Old Fun" . Excellent show, fine raffle, a signature 1 hour contest challenge called "Speed Build", lots to see and do. This year features a very special award called "Retroward" , see this link for details <http://www.ipmssantarosa.org/uploads/Retroward.pdf>

**Saturday, February 11 2012**

**NNL West** host "NNL Western Nats 2012", Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA. Theme is "V-12" and "Dead Cars". V-12 of course is anything to do with those marvelous engines including of course the Allison rendering of the famous Merlin motor, which also powered some racing vehicles. "Dead Cars" are those whose Marque is now "no longer in production". More well known oldies in this frame : Studebaker, Kaiser, Hudson. Add to that some more modern names: Pontiac, Oldsmobile, American Motors, etc. You get the idea.

**Friday, February 17 2012**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting, Editor's contest theme " SM All Hot Rod Fords "

**Saturday, March 24 2012**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** host KOC 18. Santa Clara Convention Center in Hall ' A ', 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara CA. Theme is "Viva La Revolucion", inciting participants to fearlessly rebel and revel in wide scope of entries. Obvious avenues include : American Revolution, American Civil War, The Spanish Civil War, 1917 Russian Revolution, Cuban 1958 Revolt. That's figures, field pieces, floating and flying things all encompassed by the way. Not so obvious but clearly qualifying are items tied to Hungary 1956 uprising, Prague Spring 1968, Texas Rebellion, Mexican Revolution, Congo Rebellion, etc.

**Saturday, April 7 2012**

**IPMS/Seattle's** Spring Show & R-7 Regional, Renton Community Ctr, 1715 Maple Valley Hwy, Renton WA

**Friday, May 16 2011**

**IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** monthly meeting, Editor's Contest Theme " May Drone On & On " All sort of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, as long as they are Air Breathing AND FINISHED, qualify. Aah, Vengeance!

**Sunday, May 27 2012**

**IPMS/Fresno Scale Modelers** host R-9 Regional with theme of " Desert Warfare " Location is a hangar on the grounds of Castle AirPort, 4139 Tanker Circle Dr. Atwater CA. It's OPEN COCKPIT DAY also, a bonus !

**Saturday, July 21 2012**

**IPMS/ Dragon Lady** host "Aggressive Behavior" Model Contest and show, First United Methodist Church 3101 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City CA. Theme includes all sort of Aggressor aircraft subjects.

**Wednesday thru Saturday, August 8-11 2012**

**IPMS/USA Nationals hosted by Pelikan Model Club**, at the Fantasia Ballroom of Disney Contemporary Resort Convention Center, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Not to say any of our models are Mickey Mouse...



**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Cliff Kranz**

**FOR WINNING The Last MODEL OF THE MONTH for 2011**



**HERE'S ALL OF THOSE MODEL OF THE MONTH WINNERS for 2011**





**AN ATHLETIC RESPONSE TO THEME OF NOVEMBER' s CLUB CONTEST !**

SVSM Editor's Contest November 2011 : " Sports Night ". Wide open possibilities for "Team oriented" turnout, looking to get a blowout for last meeting for year with models on table. A striking showing, even if not on goal. Late arrival below took a Second away.



Above, early look at Field of Battle. Not yet arrived, NBA (OKC Thunder) entries from Benjamin "PTO" Pada



Ben's 1/48 PTO P-47D earned him a 2<sup>nd</sup>, his F-84G was a worthy contender as well, in 1/48 In 1/72, Mick Burton's NBA in play same way

Win for First place was awesome Armor entry "Carolina Panthers" by Joe Fleming for NFL . His DML "faux M-10" definitely scored with Judges Chris Bucholtz, Shervin Shembayati.



Jim Priete managed to run off with 10 bucks of Editor's scarce monies with his stunning use of Univ of Arizona Wildcats team via this F4F-3 .



Some NHL action (Buffalo SABRES) along with North Aussie footballers (KANGAROOS) and a Houston WNBA team (COMETs) from Burton on the left. On the right, Kent McClure teamed up some of his fine efforts to insure the pugilistic side of modeling was covered. Thanks to all -mick



**7:00 PM**

**FRIDAY**

**DECEMBER 16**

**ROUND TABLE PIZZA PARLOR**

**4400 Stevens Creek Blvd**

**(between Woodhams and Kiely)**

**San Jose, CA**

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