

# E. C. P. M.

Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers

July 21, 2021

Here is the official word. We have decided on a theme for our DownEastCon 2022 ... and what a theme it is!

ITALY! And even more than Italy, a show with the idea of Joseph Heller's magnificent novel of Love, Death, War, and Absurdity,

## Catch 22!

But actually, it's even more than that. For we want entries for the Italian campaign and Italian history itself.

I know it sounds wild and crazy and ... well, yes, IT IS! Categories will include anything that fought in Italy, anything made in Italy, anything from Italian history, dioramas from the Italian campaign, AND especially, from the movie CATCH-22, and a special classification, since the book was penned by Joseph Heller, best Heller build. So, get your Italian on and start planning your builds now.

We are already busy putting rules and concepts together and will post details as soon as we can.

We are also issuing a call for qualified judges for this event. Anyone who has an interest in participating in a judging class should contact us as we think this is an event not to be missed.

Our July meeting was productive and interesting. First the theme concept for CATCH '22, (see above), was proposed by Alan and Jeff and quickly accepted by the chapter. Chuck Colucci suggested a special raffle in addition to the normal multi kit raffle, where a significantly more expensive kit would be raffled off separately. Other organizational work was started which made those of us who worked on the previous DownEast-Con pleased for the early start.

The design for the promo poster was popular and the news that Atlantis models has given permission to use their art work and is onboard with support for the con was exciting.

Jim Herriot gave the treasurer's report and that concluded the business segment of the meeting.

Show and tell began with New Guy #1, Richard Adams who brought in an excellent Lindberg fishing trawler. It was well build and nicely brush painted and Richard had made his own decals so as to rename the vessel for his wife, *Ingrid Anna*.

Alan Welch followed with three builds, 2 complete and one a work in progress. In a 30's vein Alan showed a Monogram P-12 and a Heller SBC-4 Helldiver. His incomplete build is a rare Pegasus kit of a Curtiss F9c

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July 2021

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## Events

**Contact and meeting info on regional model building groups and info on upcoming cons and other events.**

### New Bern Maritime Modelers Guild.

Meets at the VFW hall, 3850 Butler Rd, New Bern, NC the second Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon.

For up to date info on their meeting: <https://www.facebook.com/nbmmgnc>

### Wilmington, NC Plastic Modelers

Check their facebook page for meeting info for meeting information, things are still in a state of flux <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117277425006833>

### Jacksonville NC Plastic Modelers

meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 pm at The Hobby Chest, 345 Western Blvd, Jacksonville, NC. The Hobby Chest carries a great selection of hobby kits and supplies and is a grand center for tabletop gaming activities. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1319666224752922>

### IPMS Eagle Squadron General

meeting 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at the American Legion Post 116 in Fuquay Varina and an Informal Build Night, Hangar 18 Hobbies in Cary the last

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# Events

(continued from page 1)

Wednesday of each month from 6pm-8pm.

<https://www.facebook.com/IPMSEagleSquadron>

## Carolina Maritime Model Society

Next meeting will be Saturday, January 2, 2:00 pm, at the North Carolina Maritime Museum, 315 Front St., Beaufort, NC. This group builds ships and boats and the museum is a great meeting space. <https://www.facebook.com/CMMSNC> ■

# Con Roundup

Information supplied with permission from the "Leading Edge" newsletter from IPMS Memphis Tn.

At this time, These are the Events that are being Planned by the various groups. As they get closer to actually happening we will give more info:

**August 18-21, 2021** IPMS-USA National Convention, IPMS Las Vegas Chapter, Rio Hotel Convention Center, 3700 Flamingo Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89103 Website: [natslv2021.com](http://natslv2021.com) Contact Chairperson Bob Lomasarro at [director.nats2021@aol.com](mailto:director.nats2021@aol.com)

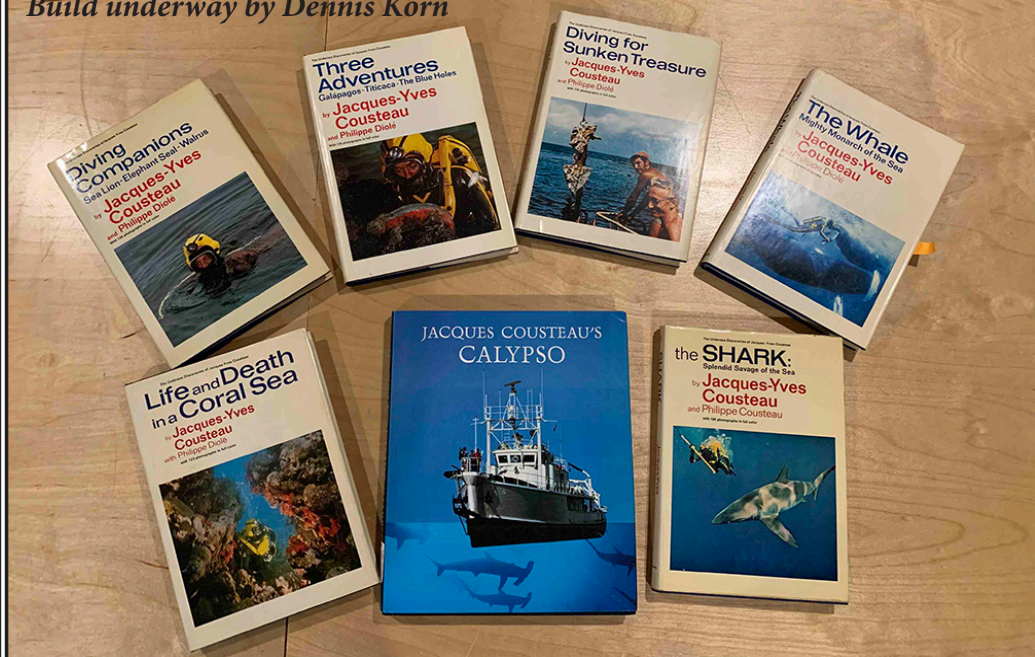
**August 28, 2021** 44th Annual Model Contest, IPMS Huntsville Plastic Modelers Society, Huntsville Jaycees Community Building, 2180 Airport Rd, Huntsville, AL Contact Thomas Clark at [hpmswebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:hpmswebmaster@gmail.com)

**Sept 11, 2021** Phantom Phurball 2021, IPMS Phantom Phlashers (Birmingham), Anniston City Meeting Center, 1615 Noble St, Anniston, AL Contact Trey Rush at (205) 478-4091 or [rushwal@gmail.com](mailto:rushwal@gmail.com) Multiple theme awards will be presented, with a carry-over of what would have been the 2020 themes for the contest not held last year. Please see the IPMS-USA website for details.

# Cousteau's Calypso

-by Dennis Korn

Build underway by Dennis Korn



(Above) Research is key in any endeavor and that is certainly true when building a historically relevant kit of any vehicle. Here Dennis shows us some of his references which aided him in not only building Calypso but also ascertaining the date of the version his build represents.

One of the first items on my to-do list when I retired and moved to North Carolina was to find and join a modeling group. I was so fortunate to find this group right off the bat and though we were in lock down for a time, we are going strong and getting stronger. In the time since I joined almost two years ago, I have built a Carronade from the HMS Victory, an Opel Blitz Tankwagen, the H.L. Hunley submarine, Nieuport 17, and a 1968 Lotus Turbine Indy car. Since all I had been building for decades was model railroad equipment, I wanted to branch out into other modeling areas after retirement. With this kind of variety in building subjects, the obvious question is what's next?

On the bench is the Revell Calypso – the famous ship of Jacques Cousteau. My father bought a series of books on Cousteau back when I was in high school and I read each one cover to cover and dreamed of going out on great adventures on the oceans of the

world. Well, that dream died when I discovered that Science and Math were not topics at the top of my academic wheelhouse. But here I have a chance to honor my love for the ocean and the role Jacques Cousteau played in setting that seed.

The Calypso started life as Minesweeper J-826, built in the United States in 1942 and served during the war in the British Navy. After the war, it was renamed the Calypso (water nymph) where it served as a coastal ferry in Malta until 1950. At this time Cousteau purchased the vessel and sent it immediately to a shipyard to be fitted out as an oceanographic vessel. Calypso went through many iterations during its long career and the Revell model appears to represent the vessel sometime after 1968.

I didn't even know a model of the Calypso existed until I saw a picture on one of many Facebook modeling groups I have joined. I did some  
(continued on page 3)



# Calypso

*(continued from page 2)*

searches on Ebay until I came up with one that was reasonably priced and in decent condition. The kit was initially released in 1976 (1:125) and went through a number of re-boxes during its life – with new decals added in 2010. My kit appears to be a 1980s re-box.









I started by cleaning up the hull halves and gluing them together. Then shot some primer to look for poor fit issues . . . these were minor and easily cleaned up. I then masked off the various color bands and laid down the upper white, the lower red and the middle black bands. My masking work was a bit lacking, so I have some clean-up work to do and some details that must be picked out with hand painting. The good news is that this kit has great detail, but the bad news is that most of the detail is cast into the main molded pieces, so there will be quite a bit of hand painting to get everything painted properly.

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*(Above) The box and kit arrived in good shape, always an incentive to start.*

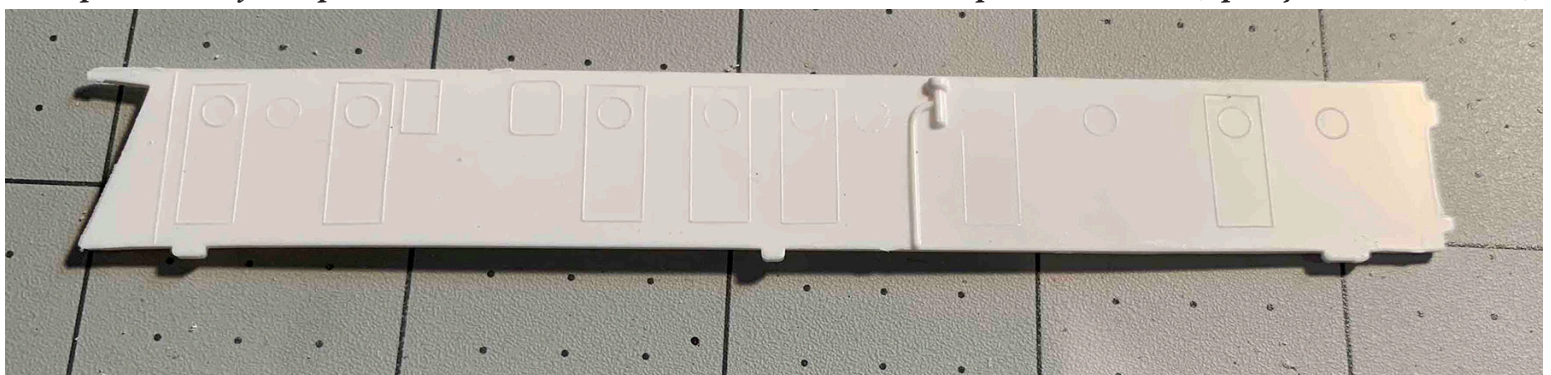
*(Below) The history of a kit is always fun to follow ala scalemates.com*

	1976	1980	198x	1991	199x		2010
Revell	 New tool		 New box	 Rebox	 New box	 New box	 New box
Revell/Lodela		 New box					
Revell/Kikoler				 New box			



*(Above) Basic hull painting is done and the first of the plastic removal well underway. Ports and scuppers are now opened, a major improvement.*

*(Below) Deck houses look to be a bit more work. Perhaps Dennis will share his technique of opening these larger windows and ports next issue. (- pushy newsletter editor)*





## Calypso

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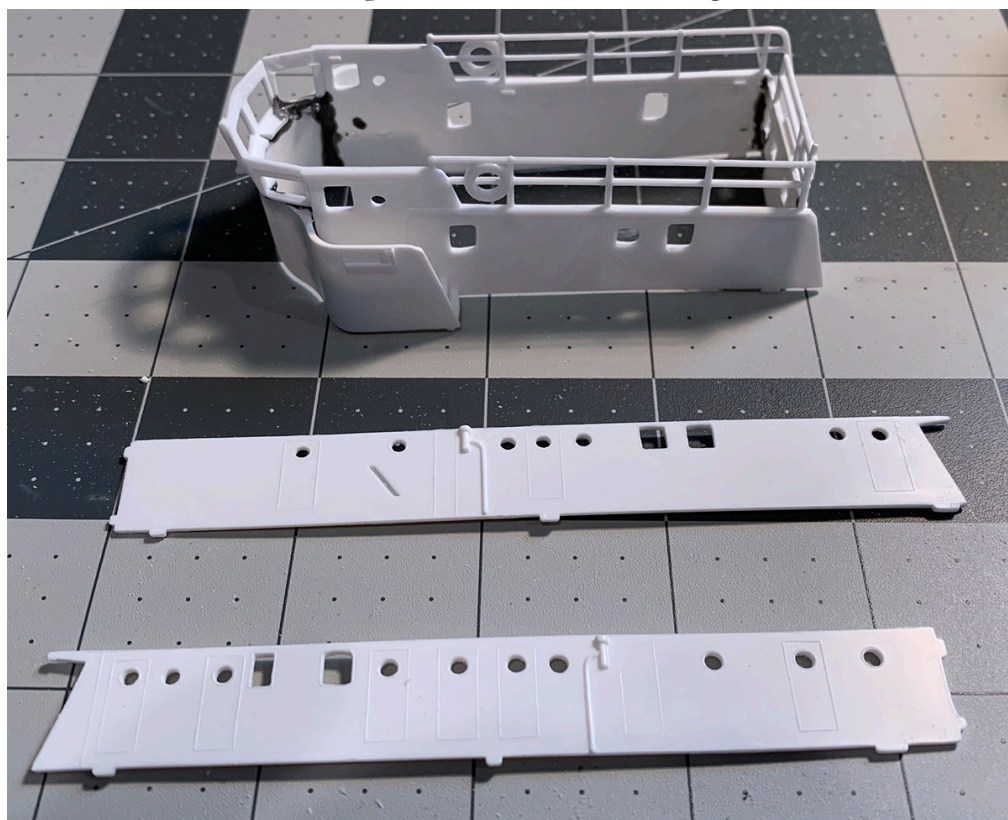
I also had to drill and file out a number of windows and port holes that were not pre-drilled. It just didn't look right without all the openings cleaned out . . . I will add either PVA glue (Krystal Kleer) or clear material for windows. This included the unique port holes on the lower underwater observation chamber.

I still have to clean up the decks and decide how I am going to paint the wood deck, but not paint all the details included on the deck. More hand painting in my future. That is my progress to this point . . . having our newsletter editor push you for updates keeps one motivated to carry on . . . so until next time . . . keep modeling! ■

*To be continued*  
*-Dennis Korn*



*(Above) Here's the deck house showing nice, but cast-in-place, detailing.*  
*(Below) With windows and ports cut out, she is starting to come alive.*



## Meeting

*(continued from page 1)*

Sparrowhawk, parasite fighter, all 3 builds are in 1/72 scale.

Next up was Jeff Maples with a rare build for him, a Coast Guard/Navy icebreaker. Originally a Revell kit dating back as far as the 50's Jeff had updated it and finished in Navy gray. The kit was a gift from Jay Roig and Jeff was inspired to finish the build for this month's meeting.

Chuck Colucci brought in two 1/35 tanks, one a Russian T-34/85, the upgunned version of the nemesis of the Wehrmacht as well as a post war Japanese T-61 of the JSDF. Both kits are older Tamiya models but still good builds.

John Wood, (New Guy #2), brought in a selection of unbuilt kits and die-cast vehicles for distribution. John, unfortunately, will not become new member John but wanted the kits to go to good homes which they did.

Jim Herriot reported on his Airfix C-47 build progress. He had run into a bit of difficulty so the build was not present, but Jim promises that it is progressing. Jim is looking ahead and brought in kits of a Miniarts Army bulldozer and Kitty Hawk's OV-10a to show us what is going onto the build bench next. Both are 1/32 scale events.

Mark Gray displayed his superlative sniper diorama for inspection. It was a impressive display of how well camouflage works. Marchall Smith joked he couldn't find the shooter.

We met New Guy #3, Neil Watts, who unfortunately was not able to bring any builds to show, nonetheless is busy working on a 1/200 scale Titanic, a Heller Richelieu and the CSS

*(continued on page 6)*



# F9C Sparrowhawk

*Build underway by Alan Welch*



*(Above) Period photo illustrating the F9C Sparrowhawk on the trapeze. There is a large USN rigid airship just above the top of the photograph. One of several very odd things the Navy did with their oversized toys*

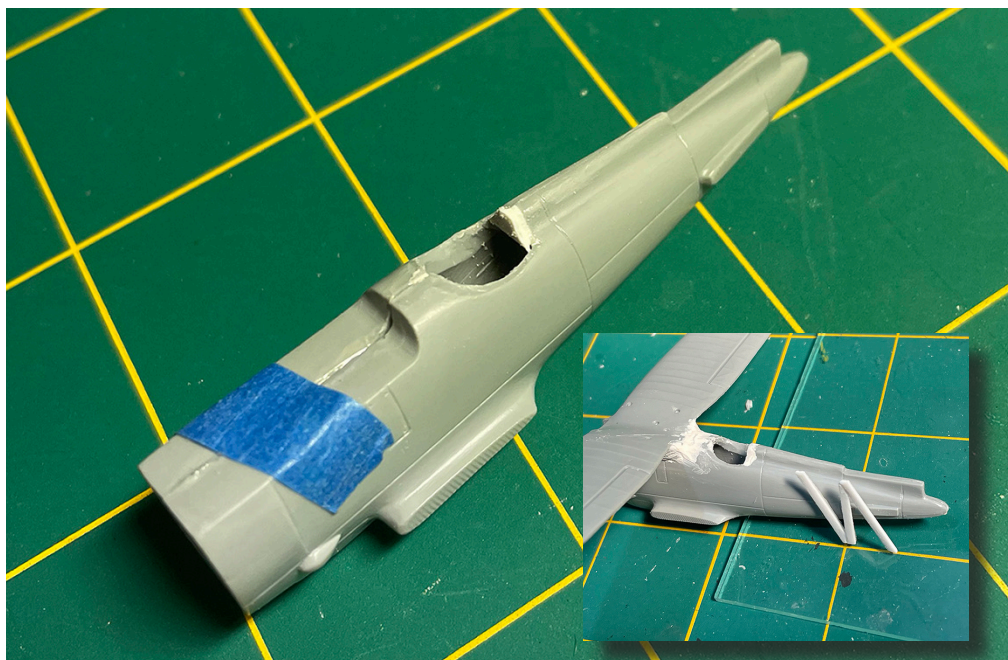
*(Below right) The start of the build with the mismatched headrest already worked on.*

*(Inset) More filling and one of the scratch built "N" struts*

First produced in the early 80's and re-issued periodically the Pegasus F9C Sparrowhawk is a build I have long wanted to finish for my collection. Looks like with any luck I may actually finish this one.

The Sparrowhawk stemmed from a U.S. Navy 1930 initiative to create a force of "aerial aircraft carriers" using the dirigibles Akron and Macon. The idea actually had some merit as it would increase the scouting range of the airships and also provide some measure of air defense for the large, rigid gasbags.

Unfortunately, the concept of the rigid airship finally proved to be flawed as both mother ships crashed at sea, one to very heavy loss of life.



The Sparrowhawk was intended as a "parasite fighter" able to attach and unhook from the larger vessel while in flight! Oft times the biplane would

be flown without its fixed landing gear which had the benefit of increasing both speed and range.

*(continued on page 6)*



# Sparrowhawk

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The Pegasus kit was/is sold bagged with mixed molded grey plastic and white metal parts and nice looking decals. It is intended for the advanced model builder and the kit is very basic so many detail parts, (and some which are somewhat more than a detail bit) must be scratch built to finish the project.

The fit is fair with some parts going together well and some such as the one piece top wing, leaving major gaps which must be filled. In addition, no alignment pins or tabs and no fitting slots or holes are provided. Everything is butt fitted which is somewhat daunting.

Also, detailing and molding are somewhat crude which left many parts needing adjusting. Some, such

as the left side headrest was shorter than the right side so it needed to be built up and sanded smooth. Others, like the cockpit opening, being of different shapes and contours, needed to be carved into shape to match.

The kit took some work to complete, the builder must first fabricate the interplane "N" struts, all exhaust pipes for the radial engine, the windscreen and gun sight, the arrester hook and the entire docking hook, that assembly protruding from the top wing which hooks onto the mother ship's docking trapeze.

Having done all this that brings us to the (nice looking) decals which, as old decals are prone to do, the first one completely disintegrated upon entry into the water. We'll try scanning and printing new ones next. ■

*Continued next month*

*-Alan Welch*



*Initial two-tone paint scheme on and first (replacement) decals on the top wing. We'll see how my plan to scan and print replacement markings will turn out. Tune in next month. The docking hook is looking pretty good finally.*

# Meeting

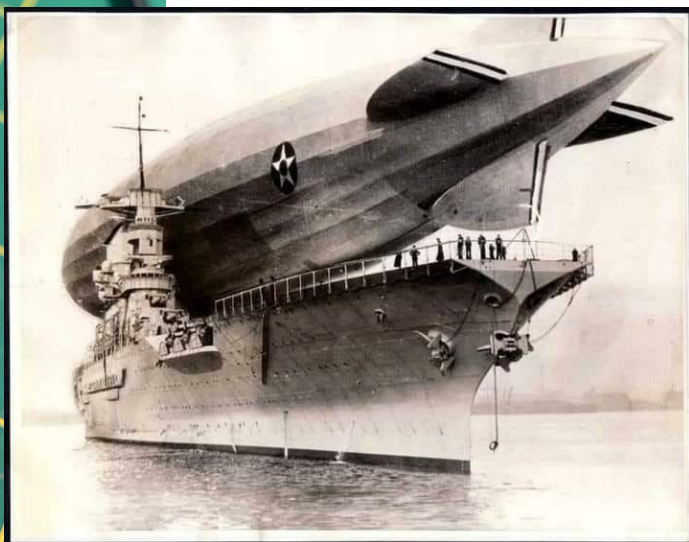
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Alabama. Nice to have another ship builder aboard, welcome sir.

Tim Jonas showed us his A-4e in 1/48 scale and Israeli markings. The build had an interesting history as it was started while Tim was active military and crossed the Pacific twice while under construction. All the traveling and hard work paid off though, in a beautiful finished product.

Before the meeting broke it was decided that we would return to the fire station in Fairfield that we met in last month. This decision came out of two decisions also made. First, next month's meeting will be a build meeting which we have not had for far too long. Also, several of the new member expressed a desire to learn air brush techniques which would be impossible in the activity center.

So, looking forward to the August meeting, a planning session for the DownEastCon 2022, a longed for group build, and an air brush clinic . . . sounds exciting!



*(Above) When I said the Navy did some odd things with their airships I was not kidding. The photo is from an "experiment", January 27, 1928, when the dirigible USS Los Angeles sat on the USS Saratoga!*



# “Look, this plane-guy is building a ship!”

– by Jeff Maples

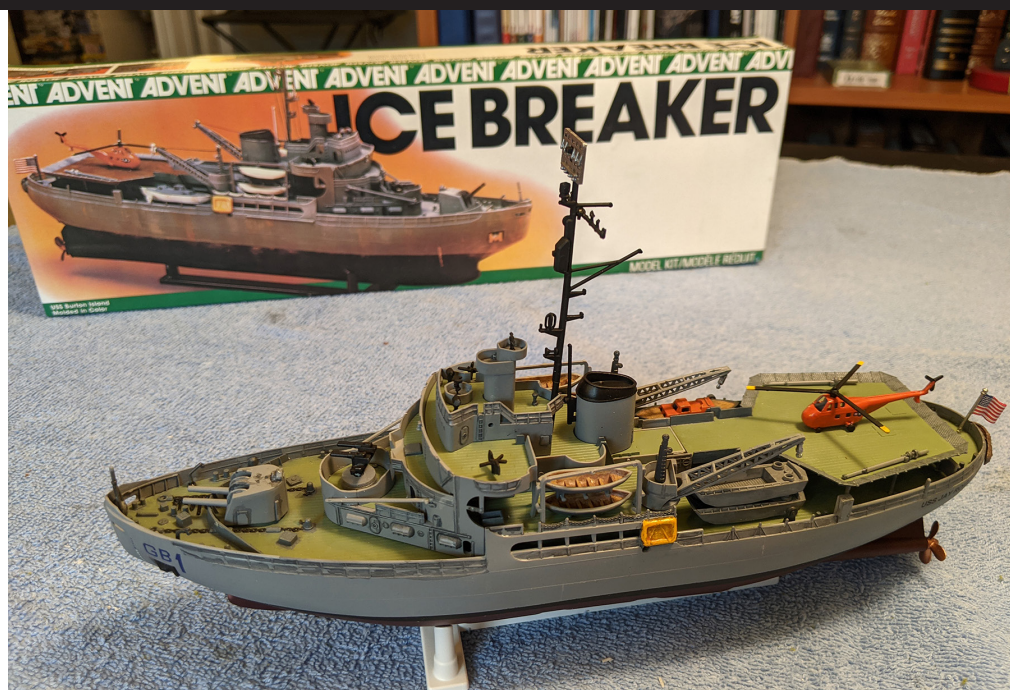
I would guess that about half of the models I have built are inspired by people in my life. Examples of this would be building planes my father flew, or my 1:8 scale Captain America, the favorite superhero of my 8-year-old nephew (once removed) who has it sitting on a shelf in his bedroom, or this model of an icebreaker given to me by our fellow ECPM member, Jay Roig.

Truth be told, Jay has given me a number of models over the years. Like many of us, we have that separate stash of models we will never build and this one was Jay's. He knew I was getting into building ships, and also knew I liked the oddball ones. Jay felt this icebreaker fit the bill. Jay, also, said something to me that stuck. His comment was, “No one ever builds the models I give them.” I feel ya' Jay and one day I swore to myself that I would build a J-model.

A few more meetings later, Mark Gray and I bring in our most recent builds which were planes. I'm trying to remember Mark's show-and-tell model but a good guess is a large 1:32 scale jet that used 3 bottles of grey paint. And me, a Beech Model 18 Twin 1:72 scale. As we set them on the table, the first words out of our fellow ECPM member, Jim Gower's mouth was, “We have to get you guys to build ships.” This also stuck with me.

So, on the way home, I put these 2 comments together in my brain and knew my next build would be a ship and, specifically, Jay's icebreaker.

For those of you interested in the model specs, they are as follows. It is an Advent 1979 re-boxing (#2505) of Revell's 1957 Icebreaker. It is a box



***Jeff's Ice Breaker with an orange Sikorsky HO4S-2G/3G “Horse”. and auxiliary boats. Not bad for a plane guy.***

scale of 1:285 and comes with decals for the Navy's USS Burton Island (Wind-class). Later the ship was recommissioned to the United States Coast Guard as USCGC Burton Island. I just simply called my model Richard (think about it).

For a 1957 molded model, it really was easy and fun to build. There was little to no flashing and a good number of parts. However, the detail was lacking but it was not expected. For example, the kit came with a cool HO4S-3G helicopter. It is very bulky and has no clear plastic for windshields, but here again, all good.

Unfortunately, I had a hard time finding color photos of the early Navy version. Even the black and white photos were not very clear and with a lot of contrast. I had to rely on other modelers posting the builds when it came to color. You can see I painted the deck green (Vallejo Model Air 71.126 IDF/IAF Green) because another modeler did. I asked Jay about that, and he said it was not uncommon for the Navy to do that

because when you are serving on an icebreaker the surrounding scenery colors are a lot of white and...well, more white. So, they would paint the deck green for a sense of earth/grass and for its calming effect.

This being my 2nd ship build ever I did not have a hull red paint available nor was it easy to find in Wilmington. I first thought I would mix the color myself, but Mr. Mark Gray came to the rescue having won 6 bottles each of every Tamiya color in a contest (ask him to tell you the story) and gave me 3 bottles of their hull red. Thanks, Mark!

The rest of the ship is a variation of different shades of Navy and Air Force gray. I'm sorry US Navy, but I need variety. I took all my gray Vallejo Model Air bottles, put them in a bag, shook it up, and then blindly pulled out a gray. Cool...now the rope winches are Ocean Gray.

Thanks, Vallejo!

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# Icebreaker

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When it comes to decals, this icebreaker isn't much different than other ship kits where there aren't many decals given or needed. There is the Navy bow marking of GB1, draft marks, US markings for the HO4S-3G, the American Flag, and Burton Island for the stern. It is here (the ship name) that I had a little fun with Jay.

If you look closely, the new name of the ship is the USS JAY ROIG. I had to prove to him that people do build the kits he gives them and I did. By the way, this was the first time I ever printed out my own decals. Granted, simple copy was easy to scan onto decal paper, but I was so happy it worked.

Lastly, I checked with Alan Welch as to the best final coat to spray on the icebreaker and we both agreed on a semi-gloss. I have so many final coat bottles that I have labeled semi-gloss, semi-semi-gloss, not-so-semi-gloss, gloss-gloss-semi-gloss (that doesn't have so much semi in it), and Satin. So, I went with the Satin because I had enough of it to cover the entire model without mixing more. Thanks, Alan!

My final thanks go to the man who saw something odd and different and thought of me. Thanks, Jay! ■

*-Jeff Maples*

*(Top Right) Port side to the ship. She is rather portly, not like a sleek Destroyer, but then she's built for a different purpose.*

*(Middle Right) Her flight deck and aft section. Between the boats and the helicopter it looks like she is equipped for anything.*

*(Right) Jeff's home-made decals which renamed the vessel.*





# Meeting Pictures



top right:  
fishing trawler by  
Richard Adams, left:  
Jeff Maples' grey ice breaker,  
center: Chuck Colucci's T-34 &  
Japanese T-61 tanks, lower left:  
Tim Janus' Israeli A-4, bottom rt.  
Alan Welch's SBC-4, P-12, and  
"in progress" Curtiss F9C  
Sparrowhawk.



Don't forget, next month's meeting will be Saturday, August 21, 12:00 noon till 2:00 at the Fairfield Harbor Fire Station. It will be a group build and air brush clinic so please bring some built and un-built kits.