

Pelikan Model Club

Newsletter

March 2003



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MODELPALOOZA

Reminders:

- Theme of the month – Rhine River Crossing. Bring out you WWII West Front subjects to show the history of that final push into the heartland of Germany, which lead to Allied victory.
- Don't forget to make your plans for the IPMS Regional in Orlando – Modelpalooza 2003 March 29th and 30th.

The IPMS Region 11 show, Modelpalooza, is this month. You should still be able to get a special rate at the Holiday Inn Select, where the show is being held. If you have not already made plans to attend, you should make your plans soon.

It sounds like this is shaping up to be a great show. All the vendor tables have been sold and the room quota at the hotel has been met. It should be a fun weekend in Orlando. Don't just build a model and put it on a shelf in you house – bring out to the show and put it on the contest table!

Our club always has a strong showing and it is always nice to see the parade of red shirts receiving awards for their great work. Even if you don't plan to compete, come out and see the excellent work from modelers throughout Florida.

The IPMS Orlando club has also asked for help with judging at the show. For all those who are going to be at the show, please consider helping out. Finding enough judges is always a challenge at any show. Lets help make the show a success and volunteer. Please let Robert or Robert know if you are going to judge at the show, so we can get together a list and let IPMS Orlando know how many people from our club will be helping.

Show & Tell

As we discussed at our last meeting, we will not limit what can be brought in for show and tell but we are requesting members keep in mind the following:

- Come up to the front and let us put a face with the model. This is a great way for us to get to know everyone.
- Limit the amount of time you spend on your presentation to only a few minutes. This will let us get through show and tell more quickly so we can do other things.
- Give the presenter the respect that you would want when you present your work.

With just these few things, we should be able to make show and tell more fun and interesting for everyone. Remember, we don't all like the same things, but variety allows everyone to find something interesting in our club. We have the strongest club in Florida – lets keep it that way!

Club Awards

The club is going to sponsor two separate club awards. The first will be the Pelikan Master Modeler Award and the second will be the John Crown Spirit Award.

The Pelikan Master Modeler Award will be presented in July. Club members should bring in their very best work to the June meeting. Popular vote will decide who receives the award at the July meeting.

This award will be given only once to any single member. So each year we will have a new Master Modeler.

The John Crown Spirit award will be given to the person who best exemplifies the spirit of the club. This will be a person who supports the club and hobby and whose contributions and overall spirit and enthusiasm for the hobby and the club make them stand out.

This award is not necessarily for the best builder, but is intended to recognize the person who best displays the spirit of John Crown.

The award will be determined by popular vote and will be presented at the Christmas dinner.

Coming in the next issue:

Another museum review from Dave

Dave's Museum Reviews

A new contribution from our very own Dave Fenwick. In Dave's extensive travels, he has had the opportunity to visit many of the military history museums throughout the country and the world. Starting this month, the newsletter will contain a museum review by Dave. This should prove to be very interesting and useful for those of us who might be planning a trip to any of the locations Dave has been. Dave has been to a lot of museums, so this column should be ongoing for quite some time. So for this month, here is Dave's review of the D-Day Memorial Museum in New Orleans.

The D-Day Memorial Museum by Dave Fenwick

I recently (Nov 2001) had the opportunity to travel to New Orleans, Louisiana to visit the D-D Memorial Museum that has been established by Stephen Ambrose (Author, Historian, Saving Private Ryan) and Tom Hanks (Actor, director Saving Private Ryan). The location seems a bit curious at first; why New Orleans? Because the city was the location of the Higgins Boat Building Company, and they produced most of the landing craft such as the LCVP, LCP, etc used in almost every landing conducted by the Allied forces. The museum itself is located in a restored warehouse building in downtown New Orleans. It was a little bit difficult

finding it, but I have found many museums scattered across Western Europe, so I knew I would find this one as well.

Most of the items on display were photographs of the action along with audio descriptions of soldier's actions. While the quality of the work is great, it was really little more than what I can find in Time-Life books on WW II. Most of the photos used were simply reproductions in a large scale.

I was hoping for more diorama displays, such as in 1/1(real equipment) scale as well as in the various scales of models, as I believe there is no better way to depict a scene than with models. The one full size display was of a Waco glider with both wings broken (to be able to fit in the available space) with a jeep in the fuselage. A display of models of various small scales of the landing craft approaching the beach with scores of aircraft overhead was adept at demonstrating how awesome the movement of so many ships and planes was, but the quality of the models was not real great. The last model was of the 5-story artillery observation bunker at Riva Bella. This was in about 1/35 scale and was open from the rear. I found it unusual that this model would be displayed when so many other bunkers such as at Point due Hoc played a much greater role in the

<p>For contributions to the newsletter, questions, or comments, contact Robert Raver</p> <p>Email: rraver@tampabay.rr.com</p>	<p>battle. Regardless, this was my favorite part of the museum.</p> <p>Considering that it is the "D-Day Museum", I was a little taken back by the fact that at least 30% of the displays covered areas other than D-Day. I understand the intent is to give those not familiar with the war a broader perspective; perhaps it should then be named the "U.S. in WW II Museum".</p>	<p>Vehicles on display included a M-4A4, M-3 halftrack, Jeep, LTV-4 Amtrac, a Higgins boat, a Mercedes Benz 170 staff car, an Opel Cadet staff car, and a BMW motorcycle. Aircraft included a L-4 Grasshopper, a Spitfire Mk V in invasion colors, and a TBM Avenger, all three hung from the ceiling.</p> <p>Overall, I was a bit disappointed. A week after my visit, a new section covering the war in the Pacific opened (Dec 7, 2001). I don't have any plans for a return visit.</p>
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