

Pelikan Model Club

Newsletter

May 2003



Inside This Issue:

<i>Shirts</i>	2
<i>Pelikan Master Award</i>	2
<i>Dave's Museum Review</i>	3

Reminders:

- Theme of the month – Desert War
- Next month's theme – D-Day

BACK TO BASICS

At the recent show in Orlando, and after the show, I have heard a number of people who competed, and even some who did not, ask, "How did they make that model look so good?" and "Why did this model win instead of this other model?"

I think there are many modelers in our club who have the answers to these questions. We have in our midst some of the very best model builders in the region and it seems that there is a lot they could teach us, given the opportunity.

I would like to create the opportunity. We have reached a point in our monthly meetings where we seem to have extra time after show and tell and the raffle. I would like to propose a way to use that time to make our meetings more interesting and more informative for those who may be just learning the techniques or would like to get ideas for how to improve the way they currently do things.

I would like to propose that we spend the last 15 – 20 minutes of our meetings holding a modeling techniques clinic. We can form a break out session for all those interested and let the folks who are not interested just visit as they do now.

At our May meeting, I would like to get together with all those who would be interested in sharing your skills with the rest of us. We can put together a list of topics to cover and a schedule for when we will cover each one.

I think this could be fun and interesting for many of us. I know we only have a limited time in our meetings, but I think we can fit this in and make the meetings even better than they are now.

I know there are many experts around here, so how about sharing with us?

-Robert

Shirts

It has been quite a while since we have gotten new club shirts. We have several new members who have expressed an interest in obtaining a club shirt and many of us who already have shirts could use a new one. We will pass around a list to see how many people are interested. Of course the cost of the shirts will depend on how many we purchase.

Something else to consider is updating the logo on the shirts. Robert Marquinez has created a very cool new logo for the club. Copies of the logo design will be at the meeting. Check it out. Change can be good!

Pelikan Master Award

Some time ago we discussed the idea of the Pelikan Master Award. Since we are going to do the John Crown Spirit award at the end of the year, it is a good time to start planning for this award. We will need to decide which month we want to have everyone bring in entries. We also need to obtain the trophy. Any suggestions for a trophy design should be discussed so we can find a place to have it made.

The idea is for everyone to bring in their best work, regardless of subject, and popular vote will decide the winner for the year.

This should be fun, and should bring out the best for everyone to see. Start looking over your collections and deciding what model represents your best work.

Dave's Museum Reviews

Samaur

by Dave Fenwick

Coming in the next issue:

Another museum review from Dave

In May '98, I attended a conference in Paris. After it was completed, I rented a car and drove south about 150km to the French city of Samaur on the Loire River. This is the traditional home of the French cavalry. With the invention of the tank, or "blindes" in French, it became the tank-training center and retains this function today. It is also home to one of the best armor museums in the world.

After WW II, most vehicles in the French countryside were scrapped to help get the manufacturing industry going again. As I understand the story, one individual began dragging certain pieces of artillery, vehicles and even tanks onto his private property where they remained there from many years. At some point in the 1960's, a group of Frenchmen decided to form a WW II vehicle museum. They contacted this individual who gladly donated whatever equipment he had. I have never seen a list of his collection but I understand it was quite extensive. This formed the core of the collection at the "Armie Blindes Mesuee du Samaur".

The museum has a wonderful collection: I'll start of with the German set. Most impressive is a row of heavy armor, beginning with a Tiger II, followed by Tiger I, Jagdpanther, Panther, Bergepanther, Grizzly (150mm short), Mobelwagan AA (37mm) and Hummel (150mm long). Moving around the corner is a Panzerwerfer 42 with 150mm Nebelwerfer which is beautifully restored in 3-color camo. Next is a Stug IV(V), still retaining battle damage. There are at least 4 shell penetrations on the top left side. At least one probably knocked the tank out, but others may have been "knocking on the door" rounds to see if the tank was still active. A photo of this tank with the same damage is in a Concord book but I can't remember which one. This tank was the neatest item in the collection.

Next we have a Stug IV, Stug III F, Stug III G with skirts, Wespe (105mm), Pzkw 739r with 105mm (mounted on Renault 39 chasiss), Pzkw 735r 105mm (mounted on Lorraine tractor chassis), Marder III aufs M, Marder III on Pnzs 38t, Pnzs IV aufs E, Pnzs II aufs L, Sdkfz 251/7 engineer, Sdkfz 11, Sdkfz 250/9 recce, horse drawn wagon, Trippel amphib car, Hanomag truck-tractor(same as which pulled V-2 trailer)

For contributions to the newsletter, questions, or comments, contact Robert Raver

Email: rraver@tampabay.rr.com

Italian set: M13 tank, M-13/40 assault gun (nicely done and displayed)

US Set: several Shermans, M7 Priest, M36 Jackson, halftracks
British set: Valentine, Cromwell, Churchill, Coventer AA.

French set: FCM, H35, H39, Char B1, UE tractor and trailer, several Souma halftracks. The French set also included many post WW II vehicles used by the French Army but I did not take photos as I only had one 36 shot roll with me.

There was also an extensive model collection on both 1/35 and 1/76. Naturally, I focused on 1/76. Many rare pieces from Cromwell and FSM. Good diorama of Berge-Pzkw III using spade to retrieve a tank. A really neat 280KE(5) (Hasegawa 1/72 Anzio Anne) gun mounted on two Fujimi 1/76 Tiger II chassis. This was a plan under discussion in 1943-44 to give the gun off-rail mobility, but I am not sure if any conversions were ever completed. Makes a neat display, though.