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RED, WHITE & SPRUE

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★ LISMS NEWSLETTER ★

March 2013

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Next meeting date:
Monday, March 18th
7:30 pm to 10 pm
Levittown Public Library
 1 Bluegrass Lane, Levittown, NY.

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Model: **PKA Ausf. K-1 Ketzer - 1/20**
 Scale by **Neil Stokes**
 Photo: **John Musolino**



IN THE PILOT SEAT

March came in like a lamb, and as I type this, a Nor'easter is giving us some wrath. I hope everyone ventured through it successfully. I'd like to thank Bob Cuce for giving us his time at the February meeting. He was quite informative about the use of the quad 50 in

Vietnam. Our next meeting will be back to the 3rd Monday every month. Fred will be giving a clinic on how to add highlights to your model. If anyone is going to celebrate Saint Patty's Day, please be safe and come to the meeting as sober as you can. LOL!!!

All is going well for our RepLIcon show. FEMA has left the building! We have use of the gym and floor plans are being mapped out. Please get our flyers out to public places. We need to reach the people. I will have more flyers available at the meeting. The economy is not any better than last year, not surprised, and from my communication with our hobby companies, they have tightened their belts even further on donations for our raffle. A few have indicated they have donated last year and have cut back this year. If you have anything you wish to donate into the raffle, it will be greatly appreciated.

Important news came across my desk that the Milford show in the fall will not be hosting this year and there are no plans in effect for future shows. It's a shame for they put on a nice one day show. Let's hope for their return in the future.

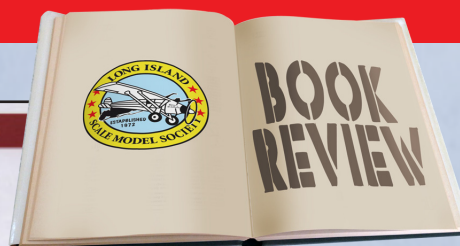
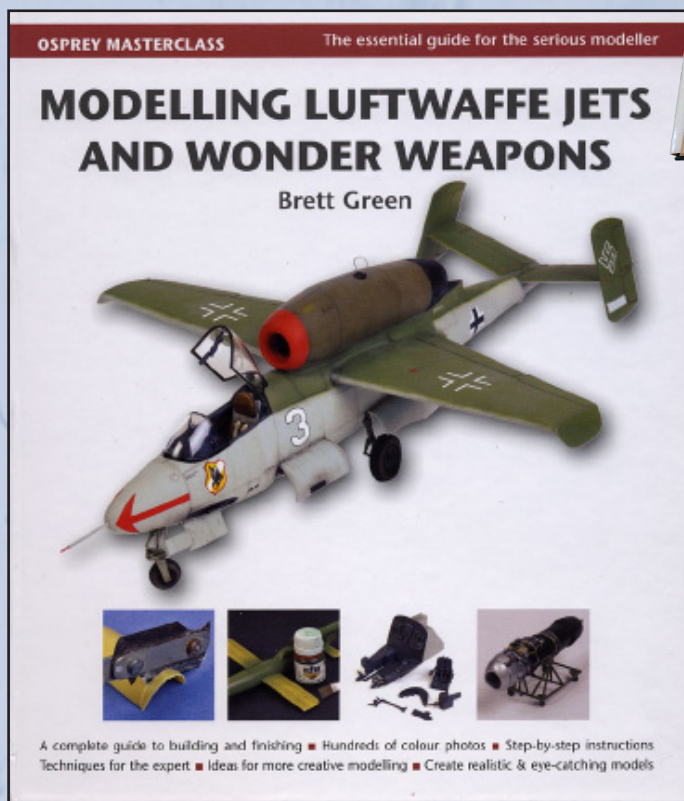
I don't know anyone who is making the trip to Noreastcon in Rochester this May. It's a good 6 hours from Long Island. It is not in my planner to make it this year. Info is available on their website.

Well, the modeling factories are pumping out those 1/32 scale models. The big boxes take up storage space and the built model takes up even more space! HK will be releasing the B-17G. Revell has joined the race with the P-39D after the release of the He-111P last year. Revell kits have been very nice and quite more affordable than the imports from China and Japan. Advance info for our show, a Revell representative will be at RepLIcon.

Keep building those models!

Bob





by Brett Green, Osprey Publishing,
2012, HB, 192 pages. \$39.95

Reviewed by Steve Muth

This book is a 50/50 mix of well captioned photographs and text discussing the actual aircraft and the model being featured/built. If you like "How to build" articles or books on Luftwaffe jets then this is the book for you. It is a compilation of builds on this subject by Brett Green.

Published on heavy stock in binder form with a hard cover wrap it is made to survive on your work bench. Aside from many color views of models in progress and finished it also has many photographs and text devoted to the real thing. There are 14 photographs of Me 262s, 7 photographs of Me 163Bs, 11 photographs of He 162s, 5 of the MXY7 Baka, 3 of the Ba 349 and 1 of the Ar 234.

In all there are eleven builds of the following: 1/48 Eduard He 280, 1/32 Trumpeter Me 262A-1a, 1/48 Tamiya

Me 262A-2a bomber, 1/48 Tamiya and CMK Me 262A-1a/U-3 Recce version, 1/32 Revell He 162A-2, 1/48 Dragon He 162A-2, 1/48 Tamiya He 162A-2, 1/48 Hasagawa and Cutting Edge resin Ar 234B and C, 1/32 Hasagawa Me 163B-1a, 1/48 Dragon Ba 349A, 1/35 Bronco Fi 103RE-4, 1/35 Scratch built Vidalwagon Trailer for the V-2 Rocket, 1/48 Planet Models P.1077 Julia and last but not least a 1/48 AM Tech/Tamiya Ta 183 Hucklebein.

There is also nice one page plus of selected book references and a three page listing of kits. If you are into Luftwaffe jets I highly recommend it. If not, I just recommend it. It is a nice book by a respected modeler and has a lot of information and tips. 🛩️

Lindberg Model Identification Cards

By Gary Weickart



Many of you are familiar with most of the old time trading cards (AKA gum cards) featuring aircraft of various eras. Some of you may recall the article I wrote focusing on the "Wings" cigarette cards of the immediate pre war era.

The 1954 set of 200 cards produced by the TOPPS card Company also titled "Wings" is a very colorful and attractive collection of cards featuring then current airplanes. As was the Topps follow-up 1957 set called "Planes".

While quite old these cards are not especially hard to find and are rather inexpensive when in less than perfect mint condition.

A more modern series of cards which is also inexpensive (but are much tougher to find even though they

were produced for about 10 years) is the Lindberg Model Company cards called "Identification Cards". These were not produced as a series of cards per se but rather

were the promotional type full color cards that one had to cut out of the bottom panel of a model kit box.

You may ask "What model kit box bottom was printed in full color?" as most boxes had a plain bottom. The Lindberg line boxes with the cards are one piece end opening types printed in full color on every panel. On the bottom of these boxes is an exact reproduction of the box top art with a one sentence description directly below. Bear in mind that said description was often wrong or incorrect.

On the example accompanying this article, which pictures the Mf 109, it states "750 were used by the Luftwaffe during World War Two". Obviously a misprint or the Lindberg art director didn't do his homework as many more than 750 Me 109s were produced.

Viewing the Piaggio P149 card we

are told that it is a "5 Place Military Training Plane" while the illustration shows clearly that it is a two place trainer. Oh well, mistakes aside, these cards are fun, colorful and very much part of the American culture back then.

While not common, Lindberg kits of the period 1957-1966 aren't expensive to acquire as they are not highly regarded by most serious modelers. As an example I purchased the F-84 and Piaggio P149 two in one kit for \$5.00 cut out the card, repaired the box and sold the kit for \$4.00. I BELIEVE THAT ALMOST ALL THE Lindberg Line from 1957 on had these ID cards on the box bottoms, at least on the 1 piece boxes. Around 1967 they seem to have done away with the cards, never to return.

Most if not all the artwork on the Lindberg box tops and the identical I.D. cards was done by the prolific Ray Gardke, a fine aviation artist.

As an aside, not all of these cards were of the same size and none were numbered. Thus, it is impossible to determine how many were produced what number it takes to complete a

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"set". My Curtiss Hawk P-6E card measures 4 1/4 " wide by 3 5/8 " tall. Of course these dimensions are dependant upon how close you trim the cards from the box bottom. Most cards I've seen have only 1 or 2 dotted lines to indicate where to cut.

Since I am first and foremost a model kit collector and a card collector second, I will not cut out the card from the bottom of a mint kit but only if I have a "double" of that kit. Therefore, I only have a few of these cool cards that accompanied the Lindberg line of

model kits. But the thrill of collecting is in the hunt.

If anyone reading this has any of these cards available, I'd love to hear from you. Thanks for reading and keep on building and collecting.

Gary Weickart



Seen on the Table

AT THE AUGUST 20TH 2012 MEETING

*All photos by Steve Muth
unless otherwise noted.*

Only 11 models were on the table this month of February but there were some nice ones. I guess no one wanted to compete with the speaker Bob Cuce. We had the usual mix of ship/fantasy, cars, armor, guns and aircraft. I must say we have a diverse group of modelers. It is always interesting to see what shows up. 🚗

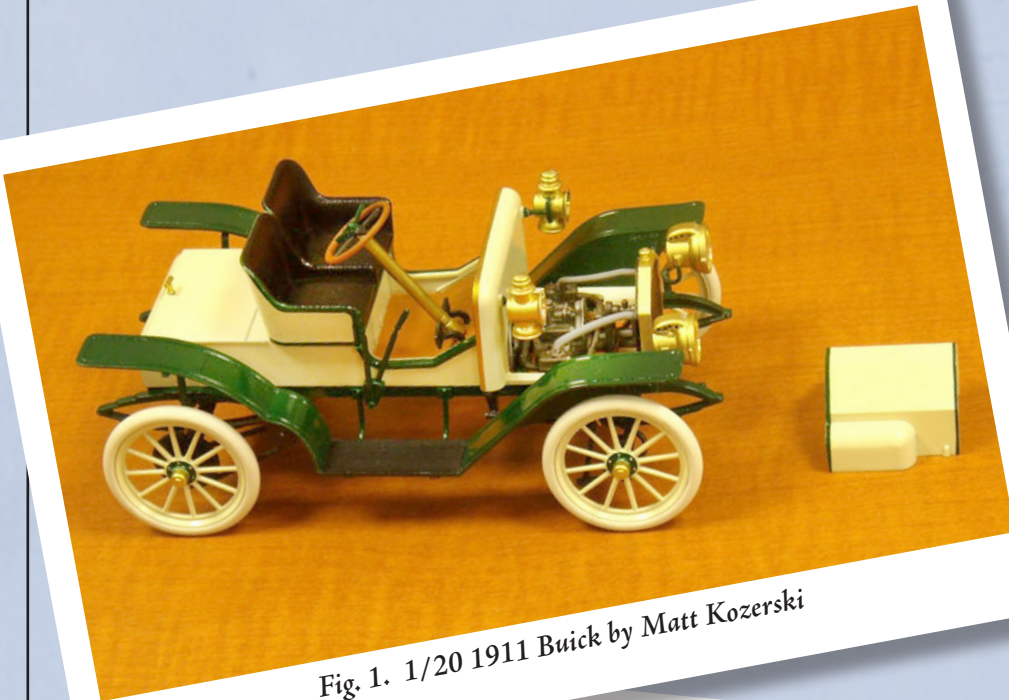


Fig. 1. 1/20 1911 Buick by Matt Kozerski



Fig. 2. 1/35 17-25 pounder gun by Steve Adriano

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Fig. 3. 1-48 D3A1 Val by Steve Martens



Fig. 4. 1-35 M41 Bulldog by Marshall Voizard



Fig. 5. 1-48 P-36 by Steve Martens

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Fig. 5. 1/72 Il-2 by Ray O'Neill



Fig. 6. 1/72 F4F Repainted ID model by Duane Yorke



Fig. 7. 1/72 AR-2 Russian bomber by Ray O'Neill



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Fig. 8. 1/72 Fw 190D-9 by Rich Marotta

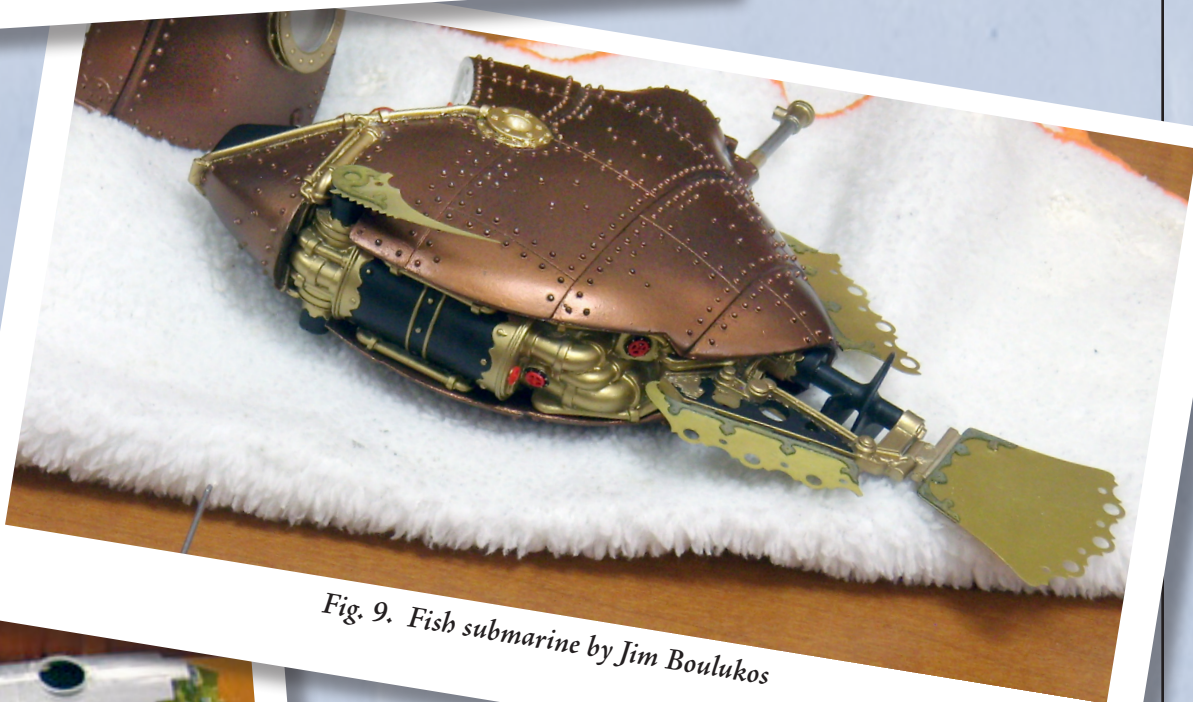


Fig. 9. Fish submarine by Jim Boulukos

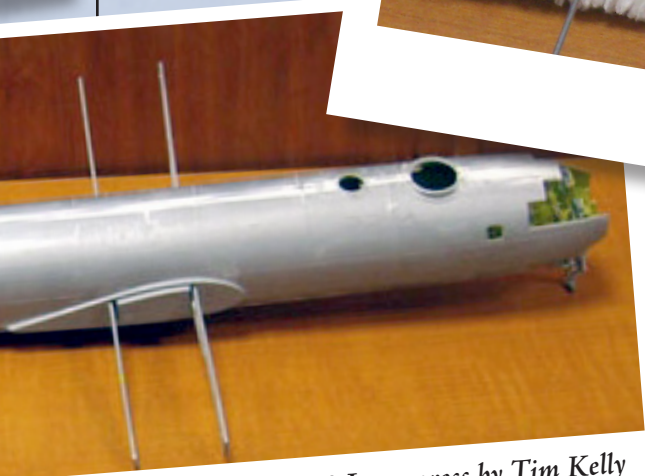


Fig. 10. 1/48 B-29 In progress by Tim Kelly



1/72

Brummbär

by Trumpeter

Kit No. 07212. Part One; History and Kit Review

Reviewed by Phil Trusinski

The German Brummbär was a weapon system designed to accompany and support infantry soldiers. The name "Brummbär" was given to the vehicle by the allies, and doesn't seem to have been used by the Germans at all. Interestingly, it is also called "Grizzly Bear" in the literature. However, my German-speaking friends tell me "grumbling bear" is a more accurate translation. More interesting still, those same friends tell me the phrase "grumbling bear" in German means about the same thing as "grouch" in English! So you have a few options on what you'd like to call the vehicle.

The Brummbär was designed between 1942 and 1943. Production began in 1943 and they were produced until the war ended in 1945. Both design and manufacture were accomplished by Alkett. They built the vehicles on existing Pz. IV chassis of various vintage. The design is basically a large armored box with a short 150mm howitzer mounted on the front plate.

Early versions did not have a machine gun hard-mounted under armor. The crews carried a variety of personal weapons within the vehicle, of course. Two small pistol ports were provided on either side of the vehicle. It appears they were too small to give a reasonable field of fire. To more effectively engage the enemy, the crew could also open the hatches and expose themselves. This was disastrous for the Brummbär crews. Many fell to Russian infantry who fearlessly attacked the vehicles at close range. Worse, with no way to keep the attacking infantry away, they frequently got close enough to destroy the vehicles with mines or explosives.

Later models were equipped with an armored machine-

gun on the bow plate for close defense. This was a fully-armored ball and socket design. It was used on almost all of Germany's late war vehicles. This kit, Trumpeter number 07212, depicts the later version. Trumpeter also offers the "mid production" version with their kit number 07211. This, among other differences, lacks the bow machine-



Photo 1. Early model Brummbär.



Photo 2. Late model Brummbär.

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First impression of the kit? Quite good. It has been a while since I've done anything in 1/72 scale. Lately I've been attracted to the higher level of detail with modern 1/35 scale kits. So the biggest pleasure of this 1/72 kit was the speed at which you see results! Sure; you lose a significant amount of detail. In a way it seems like a lot more fun, though. It isn't weeks of sanding, test-fitting, and gluing. This kit can be assembled in a few days or evenings...if you put your mind to it.

It isn't like the "old days" with the crude ESCI 1/72 kits of the 1970's. They had horrible tracks, the seams never matched, and the parts always seemed warped! This Trumpeter kit was well-molded, the parts fit perfectly, and it was a snap to assemble. The "rubber band" tracks? If it were a 1/35 kit, I'd much prefer individual track links. They are worth the effort, as the look so realistic. In 1/72? I don't think my eyes are up to the task. So the rubber band tracks were a relief. These can be glued with normal styrene cement. No more pins that had to be fused with a heated screwdriver. The provided tracks are also molded with a reasonable level of detail. There were some gaps in a few of the links. When painted and assembled, I'm hoping to hide these in a location

that isn't too obvious.

What's missing? There is very little in the way of pioneer tools. The few included are actually molded onto the body and fenders of the vehicle. The armored skirts factory-installed on almost all the Brumbär vehicles are not included in the kit.

Problems? If you look at the two pistol ports on each side of the vehicle, you see rectangular lumps beneath each round pistol port plug. These are not on the actual vehicle. Because of the way this upper hull is injection molded, they must have had problems removing the part from the tool. These rectangular ramps are a "cheat" to make the part eject more easily. They prevent "smearing" of the pistol port plugs when the part is ejected. I'll have to correct this before painting.

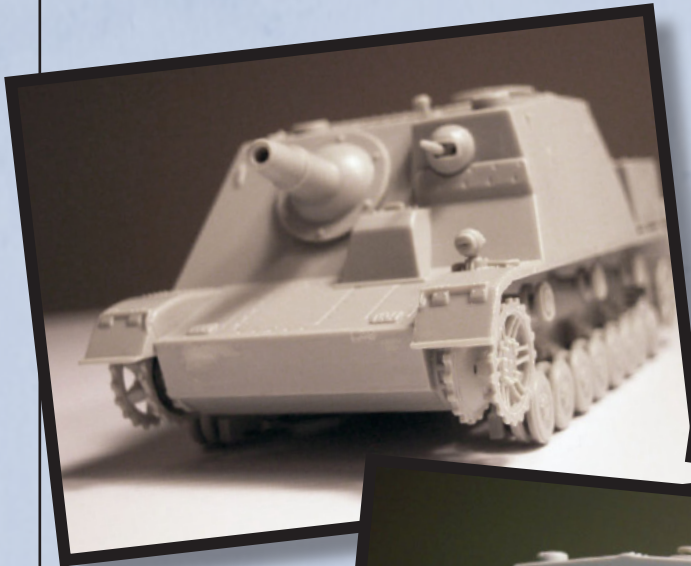
Painting? That's usually the fun part. I plan on trying a variation of the late-war German "ambush" scheme. The hard part will be the making small enough masks. After many months of doing 1/35 scale armor, I was finally able to depict the ambush scheme that I found reasonably realistic. We'll all soon see how well I do in 1/72 scale! 🐻

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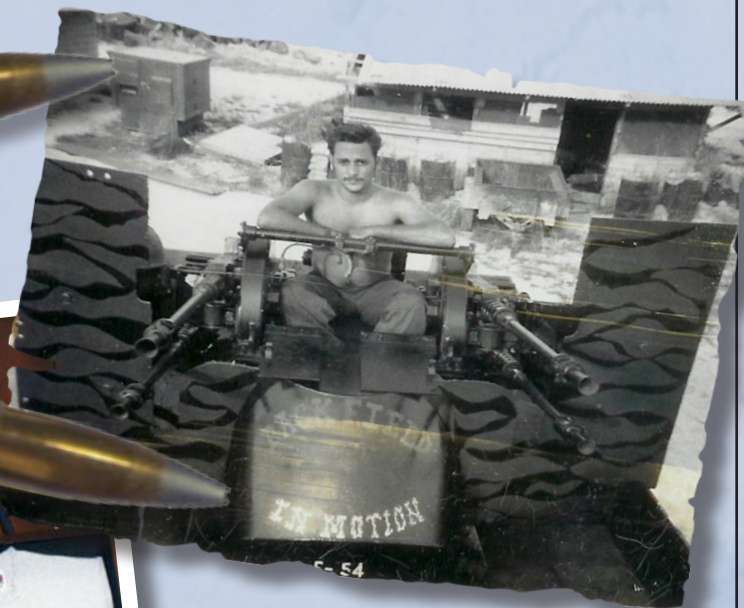
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IT HAPPENED AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING

If you missed the February 25th meeting you missed a very entertaining night. Bob Cuce spoke to the members of his experiences in Viet Nam as a gunner on a truck mounted quad .50 gun turret. It was a great evening. Topics ranged

from daily life to the extremes of combat in remote places. It was fascinating to learn about bullet trajectories when the barrels are worn out, how hot they got and how hard they were to get. Apparently, Bob was a first class 'scrounger' and some of his tales were interesting and entertaining although at the time I am sure they were anything but. I am sure anyone that has been in the military related to many of his experiences. Here are a few photos of him making his presentation. Enjoy! Oh, and by the way there was very little kibitzing going on while he was speaking. It was that good.



Show Calendar Listing for 2013

See Bob DeMaio for details

Date	Event & Location	Website	Day
April 6	NJIPMS Mosquitocon Wayne, NJ	http://njipms.org	Sat
April 13	RepLicon 26 130 Merrick Avenue Freeport, NY 11520	http://www.lisms-ipms.org	Sat
April 14	Buffcon 30 Knights of Columbus Club 2735 Union Rd Cheektowaga, NY	http://www.ipmsniagarafontier.com/	Sun
May 3-4	Noreastcon 42 Radisson Inn 175 Jefferson Rd. Rochester, NY	http://www.ipmsrochester.org	Fri-Sat
May 10 & 11	MFCA 71st Annual Show Valley Forge Convention Center King of Prussia, PA	www.MFCAShow.com	Fri-Sat
Aug. 7-10	IPMS 2013 National Convention Colorado	www.ipmsusa.org	Wed-Sat
Sept. TBA	AMPSEAST 2012 Crown Plaza Danbury	www.militarymodelers.org	Fri-Sat
Oct. TBA	Model Fest '11 Knights of Columbus Hall 625 Bridgeport Avenue Milford, CT 0646	http://www.ipmsstratford.org/	Sun
Oct. 19	HVHMG Elks Lodge 29 Overocker Road Poughkeepsie	www.hvhmg.com	Sat
Nov. TBA	LIARS Freeport, NY	http://www.wix.com/liarsmodelcarclub/liars	Sat
Nov. TBA	Long Island Figure Show Freeport Recreation Center Merrick Rd. Freeport,	http://www.longislandmodelsoldiers.com	Sat

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