

Antenna

Vol 28 No 6

February 2008
Newsletter of
the Regina Scale
Modellers



**“Model Building is being able to hold history in
your hands”**

Leonardo da Vinci



Mk IV CF-100 Canuck built by Dave Schmidt
Photo by Colin Kunkel

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RSM Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/sk2/scalemodeling>

Optional Parts

As we are now into the New Year, the weather is too cold to do anything but stay indoors, watch Discovery Channel documentaries, and crouch over our latest additions to our miniature plastic worlds.

Some members have voiced concern about losing long time members, attracting and retaining younger new members, and that failing to do so could be the end of our club. Yes, it is always nice to see new members and young kids being around to make our meetings that much more enjoyable. We must, of course, face reality; we live in a world where instant gratification is expected, such as provided by video games, iPods, satellite TV and the internet. Spending hours, days, or weeks on a project is a concept unimaginable by a lot of our youth, hence the free-falling sales of board games, jigsaw puzzles, and model kits. Unfortunately, young model builders, too soon, turn into young men, and their interests turn to girls, cars, computers and the above mentioned video games. All is not lost, however. Many of our club members, myself included, tell the same story how they got into the hobby in childhood, gave it up in the teen years and picked it up, again, once they were well into the bitter reality of adulthood. Presumably, the same thing will happen with today's youth.

Other concerns have been raised over the format of our club meetings. I will admit that the business portion of our last meeting went a bit long, and people were eager to get building. I prefer, and I think most would agree, to conduct the club's business in an open and democratic forum where free exchange is encouraged. In this way, all are kept informed, major decisions are made by the wishes of the majority, and all members are free to submit ideas and objections as they see fit. The alternative is to have the club executive make all decisions behind closed doors and dictate those decisions to the membership with no opportunity for debate. You think we have problems retaining members as it is? This way would certainly kill us. At future meetings, especially build nights, we will try to keep the business portion short and if members want to debate issues further, we can carry it on at the post meeting debrief.

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RSM Club Executive (Sept 2007-Aug 2008)

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Meetings
Time: 7:30pm
Date: First Friday of every month
(Meeting held on second Friday if first Friday falls on a long weekend. No July Meeting)
Place: South Leisure Center
170 Sunset Drive
(Albert Park), Regina, SK

Memberships
Regular \$24.00/year
Junior (under 16) \$8.00/year
**Subscription \$14.00/year
**The Subscription rate is available for those living outside the City of Regina, and wishing to be a club member, but are unable to attend regular meetings.

The RSM Modeling year runs from Sept 1 to Aug 31. All membership dues are due on or before the start of the modeling year. Any new member joining after the year has started will have their first years fees pro-rated.

Article Submissions

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Coming up at our next meeting will be Ladies Night. That is any subject with anything to do with a female - ohhhhh the possibilities. How about a WWII bomber with some soft porn nose art? How about a Mercedes-Benz (Mercedes being the name of a company board member's daughter), a Matilda tank or Minerva AFV, or any of a number of WWII Japanese aircraft such as Betty, Val, Dinah etc? The other theme will be foreign autos. This is wide open - anything not built in North America. Also, in attendance and not to be missed will be former club member Jay Moffat, who will do a presentation on painting figures. Anyone who knew Jay in the past knows the amazing quality of his work.

It's a great hobby. Enjoy the building and the fellowship of our meetings. That we all talk the same language is one big advantage and the reason for our club's existence.

Michael Evans
Club President
Regina Scale Modellers

A Few Important Reminders From Your Executive

With the passing of September 1st, please remember that your 2008 RSM Membership dues are due in to Al Magnus ASAP.

Paid members will be receiving the following with your 2008 Membership:

-Continued subscription of the "Antenna"
-RSM Club Pen
-Reference CD containing back issues of the "Antenna", SMAS newsletters, as well as numerous "how-to" articles, tips, photos, and so much more!!!

The Regina Scale Modellers will once again be displaying kits for the public at the Sherwood Village Branch Library from Sunday March 2 to Sunday March 30.

Set up for the display will commence once the library opens at 1:30 P.M. Sunday March 2. We are looking for a good mix of model subjects, so please bring out what you can. Models can be picked up from the library Sunday March 30 starting at 1:30 P.M. For more details, please contact a member of the RSM Executive.

RSM Upcoming Events

February 1

Ladies Nite (anything female, A/C nose art, vehicles with women's names, etc.)
Foreign Cars (non-North American)

Figure Painting Demo **Jay Moffett**

March 7

Bring and Build Night
Bring a kit to build at the meeting!!

April 4

Bare Metal Finishes
Utility Armour and Support
Vehicles (jeeps, tank
transporters, recovery vehicles,
etc)
Chevy's

May 2

Bring and Build Night
Bring a kit to build at the meeting!!

June 6

Club Elections
Modeller of the Year Award

Bring and Build Night
Bring a kit to build at the meeting!!





LOOKING INTO THE BOX

Handley Page Hampden

Fonderie Miniature Kit No. 6056 1/48 scale

When describing the contents of this kit, my good friend and hobby shop owner, Duane Lowe, quoted one of his other customers as having referred to the Fonderie Miniature kits as being “a bit of a challenge to say the least.” And, I would have to agree with him.

Glancing into the box of the 1/48 scale Handley Page Hampden, my first impression was that there surely is a lot of s---, c---, j---, or whatever other four letter words that might come to mind, to describe what is in the box. And, I mean that. The six sprues of injection-moulded gray parts are crudely formed, as are the resin and metal bits, and, likewise with the not-so-clear vacuformed clear pieces, that are loosely wrapped in a small piece of coarse paper towel. And, the decals appear to be of somewhat inferior quality, although they are in register. It will take the skills of a master model-builder to successfully complete this project.

Upon measuring the kit mock-up of the basic airframe, it appears that the fuselage is 5/8” too short and 3/16” too narrow in the wingspan. Although, it appears to be the shape of the Handley Page Hampden, it is really difficult to tell how accurate this rough-looking kit will be once it is built.

All things being evaluated, this is the only Handley Page Hampden in this scale. So, until another kit manufacturer decides to craft a better example of this aircraft, we intrepid model-builders will have to struggle with this one. It is an expensive kit, so one should get one’s money’s worth in hours of building “pleasure” with this model. I give this kit a firm 2.5 on a rating scale of 10.

Reviewed by: Patrick Elkington

January 2008 General Meeting Photos
Photos by Colin Kunkel



Italeri 1/35 Chevrolet 15 CWT Truck-Ted McPherson



Tamiya 1/35 Type 97 Chitla Tank-Brian Izumi



Revell 1/25 Firebird Funny Car-Dave Kapp



AMT 1/25 Buick Grand National-Curfew James



AMT 1/48 P-40E Warhawk-Neil Hill



1/35 Academy UH-1C "Huey Hog"-Michael Evans

Curtiss P-40E, Hasegawa, 1/72 scale, kit number: #AT9 (02509)

by Al Magnus



The kit:

Pros:

1. Recessed panel lines
2. Gear bays are blanked off
3. Nicely represented wing tips, which are very accurate looking in their front and top profiles. This is an area that is usually not represented well by model kit producers.

Cons:

1. Though the panel lines are recessed, they are a bit indistinct, and all but disappear, in some places.
2. A couple of very small sink marks in the wing undersides near the wing tips.
3. The exhaust manifolds are moulded into the fuselage halves. I would prefer to see them separate.

General Comments on kit, decals and instructions:

The kit consists of 39 parts, on 4 sprues, in Hasegawa's familiar medium gray coloured plastic.

The decal options are for two aircraft. The first option is for a P-40 Kittyhawk of 250 Sqn. RAF flown by Squadron Leader M.T. Judd. It is in the RAF dark earth/sand/blue desert scheme, coded LD-B, and highlighted by a red arrow surrounding each exhaust manifold. The second decal option is for P-40E #245914 of the 23rd F.S. flown by Colonel Robert L. Scott, featuring the typical USAAF olive drab over neutral gray with the shark's teeth and eye markings on the nose of the aircraft.

The decals are of the typical Hasegawa quality, a bit thick, with good register, and the white not being a bright white, but their typical off-white colour. I did not use them, but I expect they will respond well to decal setting solutions as they usually do.

References:

The aircraft is modelled after the P-40E that George Preddy flew while he was attached to the 49th F.S. in the Southwest Pacific. Photographs of the aircraft can be found in **Aces of the Southwest Pacific**, Gene B. Stafford, Squadron/Signal Publications, Carrollton, TX 1977 ISBN: 0-89747-063-X and in 49th Fighter Group, Ernest R. McDowell, Squadron/Signal Publications, Carrollton, TX 1989 ISBN: 0-89747-221-7.

The aircraft is the basic USAAF olive drab over neutral gray. There are USAAF white stars on blue disks in the standard four positions, white numeral 85 on the tail and under the nose, and a personal marking of "TARHEEL" on both sides of the nose of the aircraft.

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High and low points during the building of the kit:

1. The fit of the parts is generally good. I had problems with the radiator/oil cooler parts (part numbers 22 and 23) that fit inside the nose section. I could not get the part to sit flush with the portion of the nose beneath and behind the spinner. Outside of that problem, the kit went together very nicely, with no areas that require any special skills.

2. The carburetor intake on the top of the fuselage needs to be blanked off, or you will be able to see into the cockpit.

3. The small sink marks found in the wing under surfaces, near the wing tips, were lightly sanded and basically disappear following painting. And, as a bonus, one of them was covered by the star decal.

4. The cockpit cover is a bit of a tight fit, and needs just a wee bit of plastic trimming to allow it to fit easily over the opening.

5. Paints used were Aeromaster olive drab (9040) and neutral gray (9043). Testors Interior Green (1715) was used for wheel wells and cockpit interior, Testors flat black (1749) for the wheels, guns and props, and Testors yellow (1708) for the prop tips. Decals were from the Superscale set 72-675. This decal sheet was in perfect register and opaque enough that the white portions did not darken when applied over the olive green fuselage - much better than what often comes from Superscale.

Conclusion:

Easy to construct, the Hasegawa P-40E will make a nice addition to anyone's collection. It captures the belly-hanging look of the P-40 series, very nicely.



WORKSHOP - Heat Smashing Canopy Demo

- Neil Hill



- Photos by Colin Kunkel

