

The Aero Historian



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October 2004

Spraybooth Logic Back in the Day by Dave Pluth

I was listening to a couple of high school kids talking during the week last week. I overheard one say "back in the day we used to..." My first thought was "what day was that, Thursday?". I guess I just find it hard to believe that a sixteen year old had a day that they remembered, let alone talked fondly of that day as if it was 20 years ago.

This did however get me to thinking a bit. I hear some of these same conversations at club meetings. Now the context may be slightly different and it starts out with "I remember when..." or "back in the old days" (which is the old people version of back in the day) or "remember when we..."

Memories are really cool things, at least in most cases. Sometimes we look back just a bit too longingly and start to obsess about our favorite hobby shop or display. We drift back to a simpler time and try to recapture those moments. However, the problem is that things don't always work that way.

I remembered as a kid the best kit that I ever built was the old 48th scale Monogram Corsair. I have fond memories of this kit having a "GREAT" glossy sea blue over sky blue color scheme and the US insignias with the red bars on the side. It was beautiful hanging from the light in my room. (Yes I also do realize that this color scheme was also probably wrong!)

Well, 20 years later, when I got back into the hobby recapturing this fine moment was foremost on my mind. I went to the regional convention here in town and found a bunch of the kits that I built as a kid. I paid a bit too much for a couple of them, but I now had them and I was going to make contest winners out of them once again (like they would have been the first time!). My score

for the day 2-Monogram B-24's, a Monogram B-17, a Monogram Corsair and a Monogram P-38, what a great day!

At this point in my modeling comeback, I had only built maybe ten or so kits. Most of them turned out decent, mainly because they were some nicer Hasegawa or Tamiya kits. One of them was Hasegawa's F4U-4, which while a bit older is really a pretty nice kit.

Well, needless to say that I was pretty excited when I got home and cracked open those boxes. That excitement quickly waned as my terrific childhood memories began to swirl down the drain with my realization that these kits really weren't all that good. These kits were going to require a fair amount of work just to be decent. What the heck?

The final death blow to my younger years came when I found a bunch of my old Monogram 1/48th scale figures from the old B-17 kit. I remember doing a "GREAT" job on these as well as a kid, even to the point where my Dad complemented me on them. As I pulled the crew out of the bag they were found in, I pretty much realized that I really sucked as a figure painter, even back then.

So what happened to my memories? Were they really distorted by time? Were those kits really that good back then or was I really just a dumb kid that didn't know any better?

I think we all tend to look backwards fondly for reasons that are all our own. For some it was a pleasant time, for others it was the guys they hung out with or a true highlight of their life and for others the memories tie more closely to being "family" moments with one's Mom or Dad.

Is it worth trying to recapture and relive "back in the day"? Probably not. Times have changed and each

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Airline Chatter by Terry Love

Southwest Airlines will cut 88 flights in October to free up airplanes for more lucrative markets.

Tiges Airways, the low-cost airline of Singapore, began service in September.

Northwest Airlines will take delivery of a total of 10 Airbus A-330s this year - 7 Airbus A-330-300s and 3 Airbus A-330-200s. As of October 1, NWA had received three Airbus A-330-300s, and three Airbus A-330-200s.

Alitalia will lay off 1/3 of its employees or 7,000 people. They will also create a spin-off airline and transfer another 1/3 of 7,000 people to it.

Alitalia, the airline of Italy, operates 190 airliners consisting of Airbus A-319s/A-320s/A-321s and Boeing 767/777s out of its hubs of Rome and Milan. Alitalia flies over 220 million passengers yearly to 90 destinations. They have 22,000 employees.

Singapore Airways, with its largest aircraft order in history, ordered 31 Boeing 777-300ERs worth \$7.5 Billion.

Thai Airways will buy 6 Airbus A-380s at a cost of more than \$2 Billion.

Czech Airlines (Czechoslovakia - the Czech side) was founded in 1923, and flies to 70 destinations using Prague as its hub. They operate 40 aircraft including ATR-42/72s, Boeing 737s, and Airbus A-310s.

Cebu Air, the Philippine airline, ordered 12 new Airbus A-319s and 2 Airbus A-320s.

Indian Airlines ordered 5 Airbus A-320s and 11 Airbus A-319s.

Continental Airlines will lay off 425 employees this fall.

China Northern Airlines is merging with China Southern Airlines. The resulting airline will buy 23 Airbus

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TCAH This Month

The monthly meeting will be held Saturday October 9 at Fleming Field, South St. Paul, beginning at 1:30 PM. Socializing and vendor scavenging will begin about 12:30. So come early. This month TCAH salutes the United States Marine Corps. So we hope to see a lot of Corsairs and Phontom IIs, and maybe even an F3D Skyknight.

General Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2004
by John Dunphy

Ken Hornby called the meeting to order at 1:30pm. Guests & new members were welcomed.
Old Business -
P-40 Contest January 2005 - Johannes Allert reminded the members that the P-40 Contest is fast approaching. Models must be built this past year and can be any scale. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies will be presented at the January meeting.

Events in September - Ken Hornby ticked off a list of events that are occurring during the remaining days of September.

New Business -
Nordic Con 2005 - Johannes Allert & Steve Macey gave a brief pitch for holding the "Nordic Con 2005" next September 10th. Primary location for holding the event is the Flemming Terminal; however, they will look into alternative options that were given to them earlier in the week. The members voted to approve a Nordic Con 2005
Club Elections - November Elections are approaching. Each club officer as well as the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster gave a brief overview of their duties. Nominations were taken for club officers. With the exception of Club Secretary, the current officers wish to run again for next year. Johannes Allert threw his hat in the ring for Club Secretary for next year. No other nominations were taken at this time. Guest Speaker was Mr. Neil Wingert who served in the US Navy & US Navy Reserve in P-3 Orions. Raffle & Show and tell was held after the speaker.

TCAH Calendar

November - Club election & auction
No theme.

December - Campaign Theme - Eastern/Russian Front.

January '05 - P-40 Allert Challenge contest, plus other stuff TBD.

Business Meeting

September 11, 2004
By John Dunphy

Primary Discussion centered around the Nordic Con 2005, which was set for September 10. John Roll will notify IPMS of our date. Ken Hornby will notify the Airport Manager. Steve Macey will explore alternative venues at the Grand & Comfort Inn in Bloomington. A list of duties will be taken off the website and brought to the next meeting for members to sign up. By that time a venue will be determined and club can proceed with contest preparation.

Treasurer's Report September 2004 by Tom Norrbohm

Including Life Members, we had 15 renewals out of 87 members at the September meeting. I will not be at the October Meeting! I implore you the membership to mail your dues to me. This will make the meeting experience easier for me and you as it is easier for me to process the checks at home rather than at the meeting. To mail your checks, make your check payable to TCAH for \$20 (\$10 for Junior, Senior members 65 & older) and mail to my address in the left hand column.

We have a balance of \$5560.56.

Contest Calendar

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 10-9-04 | IPMS Des Moines Hawkeye I CON 04
Northwest Community Center
5110 Franklin Ave.
Des Moines IA
Contact: K. Long
kalong41@aol.com |
| 10-23-04 | IPMS Glue Crew
Park Inn Conference Center
2101 N. Mountain Road
Wausau, WI
Contact: Joe Drew
jdrew@dwave.net |
| 11-13-04 | IPMS Butch O'Hare
22nd Annual
Lakeview Junior High School
701 Plainfield Road
Darien, IL 60516
Contact: John Wendt
jwendtoo1@aol.com |

On The Show Table

September 2004

Aircraft	
Noel Allard	P-3A Orion
Frank Cuden	
LS 1/144	EP-3E Orion
LS 1/144	AEW&C Orion
Monogram 1/72	F-82H
Steve Hustad	
DML 1/72	He-219A2
Miike Ronnie	
	Ki-43 I Oscar
	Ki-43II Oscar
Rick Verner	
Monogram 1/48	F-16A
Monogram 1/48	F-16C
Fletcher Warren	
Hasegawa 1/72	SBD-6
Neil Wingert	P-3B Orion
Armor	
John Dunphy	
Tamiya 1/35	M-1A2 Abrams
Fletcher Warren	
1/72	Lee/Grant
Luther Warren	
1/72	M-1 Abrams
Ships	
Gary Andreson	
Revell 1/426	USS Arizona
Revell 1/72	PT 109

(Spraybooth Continued from page 1)
of us has changed with them. We've come to expect better kits, better decals and better bits. Most of us have a good time building a nice model, but struggle through building those old lousy models like that old Monogram F4U.

As to all those old kits that you have sitting on your shelf of doom that you hope to re-capture your youth with, sell them, give them to a kid and allow him to have some memories to look back on or blow them up with a firecracker. Spend your time with some higher quality kits that give you a shot at finishing a nice model and making some new memories.

Now, shut up and build and quit daydreaming about the thrilling days of yesteryear!

Editor's Note

Sorry for the short issue guys. But this was what we had this month. Atlas shrugged and the little red ehnd didn't do any baking.

From the President

by Ken Hornby

Well, it's official. After a one-year hiatus, NordiCon will be back in 2005, albeit in a smaller form than it has taken in previous years. A formal vote taken at last month's meeting showed the club overwhelmingly supportive of next year's event. It will be held on September 10, 2005, in lieu of our meeting that day. At the time of this writing a venue is still to be determined. Initially the Contest Co-Chairs checked several major hotels in the area and found TCAH priced out of the market. We then found that TCAH could have use of the terminal building at Fleming Field at no cost. Since several members questioned the usefulness of this location the Co-Chairs have been persuaded to look into secondary locations around town and that process is ongoing. I can tell you that the reports I've received so far have shown that the venues available have been either unavailable, too small, in less-than-desirable locations, or still priced too high, and we are therefore leaning heavily toward the Fleming Field location. Personally, for a number of reasons, (not the least of which is its free), I think it's a good choice for a one day event such as we envision. We can't make a final decision until all the locations have been scouted, but we should know by this month's meeting where NordiCon 2005 will be held. I would like to encourage everyone to go to our TCAH website and click on the "NordiCon" button and from there the "Show Chairman Responsibilities" link. We will be looking for volunteers to help out with some of these responsibilities, so be prepared.

Speaking of responsibilities, we still need nominations for club office. So far, Tom Norrbohm has indicated he will run again for Treasurer, and Johann Allert has put himself up for Secretary. Any paid member is eligible for club office. It's a great way to see the inner workings of the club and to meet other members. As I've said before, if I can do this anyone can,

so please consider running. Elections will be held in November.

Also coming in November is our club auction. You can donate almost anything as long as it is hobby or aviation related, and in reasonably good condition. Each year this gives us the opportunity to raise money for TCAH and have fun doing it. Look through your collection and see if you can't part with something.

Finally, we will have a business meeting immediately after the general meeting to further discuss NordiCon plans. Concerning business meetings – we meet after the general meetings purely as a convenience. Having the business meetings on the same day relieves members of having to make arrangements to attend a second meeting at a later date and has also made it easier for members to attend that might not normally do so. As many of you know, in the past, members opened their homes on a Friday night or Saturday afternoon for business meetings. These meetings let people see other members hobby spaces, and "works in progress", and usually deteriorated into "bull sessions" lasting late into the night - which was a good thing. Unfortunately, over the past several years we saw a dramatic decline in attendance and opted for the same-day business meetings we have now as a matter of expediency. But, if anyone wishes to host a business meeting in their home, they are welcome to do so as long as they give advance notice of at least a month at a general meeting.

(Airline Continued from page 1)

A-320s at update the old combined fleet.

Etihad Airways of the UAE ordered 5 Boeing 777-300ERs for \$1.09 Billion.

U S Airways filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy for the second time on September 12. Embraer, the Brazilian aircraft manufacturer, has suspended deliveries to U S Airways. Iraqi Airways resumed flights on Saturday, September 18 after an absence of 14 years

Directions to the Club Meeting Location

Where: South St. Paul Municipal Airport, a.k.a. Fleming Field, located on the southern extremity of South St. Paul, south of I-494, west of Concord Street and East of Highway 52.

If coming from the western Twin Cities going east on 494:

- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn right (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left there will be a McDonald's; to your right front there will be a Walgreen's.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .6 miles. Along the way you will encounter three more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2

miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building.

If coming from east Twin Cities on westbound 494:

- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn left (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left front there will be a small strip mall; to your right there will be an Amoco station.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .4 miles. Along the way you will encounter two more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2 miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building.

The terminal is on the right with parking available.



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The Aero Historian is published monthly by the Twin City Aero Historians, Inc., a joint chapter of the American Aviation Historical Society and International Plastic Modelers Society/USA, for members and readers as part of their annual dues or fees.

The group is open to aviation enthusiasts from teenagers on up who are interested in aviation modeling, photography, collecting, art and writing. For more information contact Ken Hornby at 651-552-0888

The Twin Cities Aero Historians (TCAH) meet the second Saturday of every month at 1:30pm.

See above for the new meeting locations and directions.

Mail Newsletter material and address changes to the treasurer.