

FINISHING CARVED NOSE BLOCKS, COWLING, ETC.

By George White

In the “Gadgeteer” column of the May 2015 issue of the Flying Aces Club News, edited by Rich Weber, was an article concerning a better way to ensure beautifully smooth nose blocks, cowlings, or any other carved portions of a model.

While it is surely inconceivable that the reader of this rag would not be able to carve a finished product so smooth it would need only a little sanding sealer, Rich's article was obviously aimed at “the other guys.” I've always used Ace Hardware's lightweight spackling compound to fill imperfections, but I've sometimes had trouble having it stick adequately, especially any attempt to fill any but the smallest imperfection. Rich says his method cures that problem.

Rich uses equal parts Ace Vinyl Spackling Compound and Elmer's Carpenter's Wood Filler. He then adds a few drops of water to make it about the consistency of pancake batter. Before putting the filler compound on the wood, he brushes water on the wood surface to enhance the adhesion. He brushes the mixture on the wood and lets it dry. The spackling compound makes the stuff easy to sand. Sand it smooth and he says that after adding a couple of coats of sanding sealer it will be glassy smooth even though it may look mottled. You can use a mixture of dope and chalk, or if you can find it near you, Deft brand lacquer sanding sealer in a spray can works wonders.

The photos Rich supplied tell the story:



