



SPRUE EXAMINER



Building Pegasus Models' Area 51 UFO

by
Bill Delk, IPMS # 35227

Pegasus Models is a relative newcomer to the hobby scene, but to their credit they have released some awesome models in a short time. The releases so far have included a "War of the Worlds" diorama, the Martian war machine, a retro NASA Apollo 27 rocket and the subject of this article, Area 51 UFO.

The model itself is fairly simple with only 21 parts, 14 in a grey plastic and another seven in a transparent green for the top dome and six windows around the top of the saucer (Pic 1). There are a top and bottom to the saucer, four landing legs, four open gear doors and four closed doors. There will not be much filling and sanding to do as the model fits together well and the bottom seam is inconspicuous. There are, however, some fairly small indentations on my model where some of the mounting pins appear on the underside of the saucer body, but they are easily filled and sanded flat.

As I planned to light the model, I sprayed the interior with black paint. Once it was dried, I

lined the interior with aluminum foil and Micro Foil Adhesive (Pic 2). Since the source for the lighting is to be a single 5mm tri-color self changing LED, I wanted to have some reflective surface on the interior to spread the light.

I tried several methods to light the model, but I was not satisfied with the results. The LED when mounted and operational is supposed to project circles of light on the dome. As the lens on the LED is fairly directional, it did not shine much light through the side windows. I needed to have some way to diffuse the light from the LED. I tried some fairly transparent white filter material, but it didn't work well. I burned a few more brain cells and remembered some plastic crystals I had purloined from an old chandelier that my niece was throwing away (Pic 3). They were somewhat diamond shaped and were a clear plastic. I cut off the top where it hung on the light fixture and filed the end flat. I placed the LED on the bottom and Hallelujah! there was a neat light effect from the various facets on the crystal!

To mount the LED, I drilled a pilot hole and continued with larger bits until I had the hole large enough to fit the LED into. I cut a circular piece of sheet styrene and drilled a hole in the

(continued on page 4)

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Upcoming Events

Model Shows

IPMS National Convention 2009, Columbus, OH	Aug 19-22
IPMS/Fort Worth, Supercon 2009, Arlington, TX	Sept 12
ASMS Austin Model Show, Austin, TX	Sept 26
IPMS/Metro OK City, Soonercon 2009, Oklahoma City, OK	Sept 26
IPMS/CASM, Sproo-Doo 2009 Region 6 Convention, Little Rock, AK	Oct 3
AMPS AABS Centex South Central Regional, Cedar Park, TX	Oct 24

Local Events

National Museum of the Pacific War (Nimitz Museum), Living History Program Fredericksburg, TX	Sept 12-13
FINA-CAF Airsho 2009, Midland, TX	Oct 10-11
Ft. Worth Alliance Airshow, Ft. Worth, TX	Oct 24-25
Wings Over Houston, Ellington Field, Houston, TX	Oct 31-Nov 1



Support Our Troops!

In support of the initiative to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones in Iraq, IPMS/USA has elected to have the following contact points for **The Iraq Model Network**. Any individual, IPMS chapter, or industry supporter who wishes to make a donation, please contact:

SFC Fleming, Leighton O.
leighton.fleming@us.army.mil

-or-

Michael DeWalt
michael.dewalt@iraq.centcom.mil

-or-

MWR
c/o G. Vickers
KBR/C-5, Unit 6012, APO AP 09378



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Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is affiliated with the International Plastic Modeler's Society (IPMS) as the Republic of Texas Chapter. ASMS meets the second Tuesday of each month except December. Dues for full membership are \$20 yearly. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Mike's Montage...

A few months ago I had to do my spousal duty and accompany the Mrs. to her favorite craft store. Well, to help pass the time until she finished shopping, I checked out what was in the modeling section of the store. The row was filled like candies in a candy store just waiting to be purchased. After looking at a few that tempted me, I looked at the prices, and I thought to myself: this can't be right. I checked the others, and they were the same. OMG! Even with a coupon, I thought it was still pricey.

So I did some price shopping at other stores and even looked in one of our favorite modeling magazines. All the prices were in the same ballpark area. I suppose with the ever rising price of oil, inflation, the cost of tooling and new designs, we are expected to see the high price tags on the kits.

Now being the resourceful bunch that we modelers are, there are certainly fine deals on the Internet, at model shows, and even at club auctions. But we cannot forget and ignore what has brought us here: your favorite local hobby stores (FLHS) like King's, HobbyTown, and gone but not forgotten Village Hobby. Your FLHS are more than places to purchase models and supplies. They are places to go to for advice, to meet fellow modelers, and to discuss upcoming products. They are like community centers that provide a place to hold workshops, modeling events and gaming meets.

So next time before you make a purchase on the Internet and smile to yourself on what a great deal you got and how much you have saved, check out and support your FLHS. You might be pleasantly surprised at what they have to offer. ✈️

Mike



2009-2010 Monthly Meeting Program Schedule

August	Bill Delk
September	Rick Herrington
October	Kathy Roady
November	Mike Kachoris
January	Eric Choy
February	Tim Robb

If your name is on the list and you know your program topic already, please notify your editor (**Eric Choy**) or webmaster (**Mike Gilsbach**) so it can be published in this newsletter and on our website. ✈️

Editor



Werner's Wings Latest Release: 1/48th M-261 Nineteen Shot Rocket Pods USD \$12 + shipping

Here is the latest release from Werner's Wings: 1/48th scale M-261 Pods for Monogram's AH-1F and Hasegawa's AH-64A + D. These pods can also be used on a UH-60 Blackhawk DAP.

Mastered by **Joseph Osborn** of **Fireball Modelworks**, you get all the detail he is known for. This pod is superior to the Hasegawa pods in the Apache kit, and it will add to the meanness of the Monogram Cobra with its undersized rocket pods. You only have to clean up the pour stub. No filling of seams is necessary. I hate filling seams. The face plate also has the holes for the umbilical cords for the DPSM rockets. The back has the igniter arms in the proper positions. There is also an indentation for where to mount them. All very simple, easy and effective.

You can get yours by visiting <http://www.wernerswings.com>.

They are available immediately, and I will have them at the IPMS/USA Nationals in Columbus, OH along with all the other Werner's Wings stuff, including the new AH-1F decals. I have them already, and they are beautiful. The instructions are being drawn up now. The accompanied "walk around" DVD should be in my hands by early next week. I will definitely have them by the Nets and hopefully a little before.

I hesitate to take pre-orders for them at this time because I haven't seen the finished instructions nor the DVD cover, but if you want them, I will accept pre-orders. Remember they are not ready yet. But as soon as they are, I will ship them. Check the website for pricing as I offer a couple of options.

While you're at the website, check out what else is new, Bf.109. Yeah I know—not a helicopter. LOL ✈️

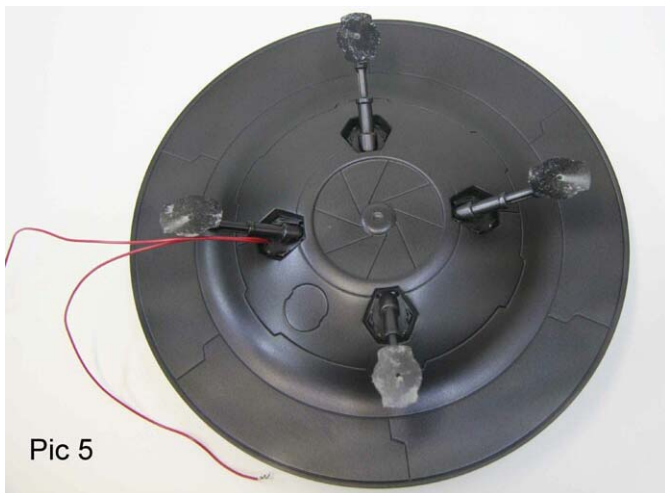
Floyd

(Building Pegasus Model's Area 51 UFO continued)

middle to fit the bottom of the crystal. I used a tube of clear silicon sealer and squirted a large blob around the hole and set the crystal into it. I used some scrap styrene to mount and glue a couple of braces around the crystal to hold it upright and straight.

Once the assembly was dry, I glued the styrene bracket to the backside of the mounting pins for the landing gear and centered the crystal in the center and below the upper dome. A small hole was drilled in one of the landing gear wells to run power to the LED (Pic 4).

The outside of the model was primed with Tamiya Light Gray Primer, and all the low spots on the top and bottom were filled with Tamiya putty and sanded and reprimed. Tamiya Black was sprayed on both the top and bottom hulls as an undercoat for Some Alclad metallics. Alclad Steel was sprayed first overall. The top hull was masked per the painting instructions and then sprayed with Dull Aluminum. I oversprayed the entire hull with the Alclad Sapphire to UV prismatic color lightly to give an alien look. Tamiya Clear Smoke acrylic was then airbrushed in streaks on the upper hull to simulate some atmosphere entry streaks. Once the paint had dried, the model was sprayed with several coats of future to give a gloss coat (Pic 5).



Pic 5

The base is made from an old plaque that was routed out at about a 1/4 inch. The interior was sprayed with a Minwax clear sealer



Pic 1



Pic 2



Pic 3



Pic 4

to waterproof the wood. The groundwork was prepared using Celluclay. I mixed up a batch of the celluclay using water and a bit of Elmer's glue to make the celluclay stick to the base better. The celluclay was spread out to the edges and left to dry (Pic 6).

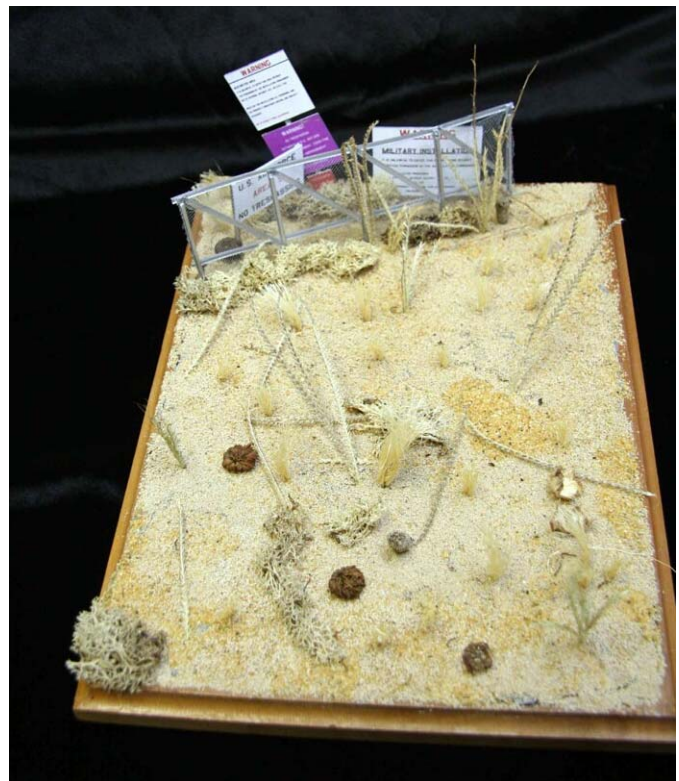


Pic 6

After drying a bit, I mixed up a runny blend of Elmers glue and water and brushed it all over the base. I then sprinkled some tan model railroad ballast and some decorative sand for some variety. I then poured the glue mixture into a spray bottle and gave the top of the base a good coating of spray. Once dried, the glue pretty much disappears. This is an old model railroad procedure for ballasting tracks, just expanded a bit for a desert scene.

I went looking at several hobby stores (Michaels, Hobby Lobby and Garden Ridge) for some exotic looking materials in the flower arranging section. Unfortunately, the pickings were rather slim. My next stop was my back yard and the drainage ditch behind my house, I found some interesting looking weeds and twigs and took them back into my workroom to see what could be done. Interestingly enough, when cut apart and glued to the base, they looked pretty good. I drilled some small holes and used some Elmer's to glue them in.

I also found some natural fiber twine in the garage. I cut some small lengths of that and glued them into some more holes I had drilled. When dried, the fibers were separated and the result looks like clumps of grass (Pic 7).



Pic 7

I looked up Area 51 on the Internet and found some pictures of warning signs. I made up some copies with the help of a graphics program called "The Print Shop 23." After printing them out, I glued them to some sheet styrene, squared them up and glued them to Plastruct I-beams. Then I drilled some more holes and mounted them.

I wanted to have a small run of chain link fence to define the restricted area so I used more of the I-beam and made a frame and then glued some Tulle material to the framework to simulate the chain link. Once dried, this was all painted a dull metallic silver (Pic 8).



I was having a difficult time deciding how to hide the wiring. I had initially decided to have the model sitting on the ground and run the wire out the hole I cut in the landing strut well. Instead I decided to show it hovering above the desert floor and use a length of brass tube to run the wires. There is a small circular indentation in the middle of the bottom hull, so I drilled that out and epoxied about a four inch length of brass tubing to the model. A hole was drilled in the base for the other end of the tube. Before I glued the tube in, I had to remove my crystal assembly.

While pondering my genius up to this point, since the ship was to be hovering, why not add some lighting under the model? So I drilled eight small holes in the ends of the shutter iris looking indentations on the bottom and ran some fiber optic strands up



into the hull (Pic 9). I used some Plastruct tubing to route the fiber optic strands to the outside inner rim of the lower hull. I then cut the strands to an equal length and used a butane lighter to flare the ends of the fiber optic to pick up more light. I had also done this to the other end to prevent them from coming out of the holes in the bottom hull. The strands were evened up and glued flush to the end of another piece of the plastic tubing.

Once dried, this assembly was slid into another larger piece of tubing in which I had glued another of the 5mm color changing LEDs (Pic 10). I checked the polarity of the LED and wired it into the leads for the crystal LED. I then covered the assembly with aluminum foil to prevent light leaks as the LEDs cycle in



a different cycle from each other.

I re-glued the crystal assembly to the bottom once again with five-minute epoxy. I held the assembly down until the glue set as the fiber optic strands had to be flattened down in order for the crystal assembly to sit properly. In a darkened environment, the lights from the fiber optics on the bottom shine on the groundwork giving a subtle lighting effect as if from the hovering effect.

I painted the brass tube a neutral tan color to blend in with the scenery and ran the wires and tube into the hole in the base. I had previously used my Dremel to route a small groove in the bottom of the base to run the wires to the power supply. The LED's require only three volts to power them, so a small two cell AAA battery pack was purchased from Radio Shack for this purpose. The tube was super glued to the base and the wiring hooked up to the power completing the model.



Lastly, I soldered a mini earphone plug to the battery box, and mounted a corresponding sized jack on a piece of sheet styrene and then screwed into the base edge (Pic 13). This allows a quick connect for the power or the static base can be displayed without the power connected.

Bill



Volunteer Modelers Needed for USS Lexington Museum Display

Recently, I had contact with Mr. Randy Barnes, an IPMS member out of the Corpus Christi area. He is working with the Lady Lex Museum On The Bay Association to redo the museum on USS Lexington. He is asking for volunteers to build and donate models for the museum's new display. Copies of information and criteria of what is acceptable will be available at the next meeting. If you cannot attend but are interested in taking part, please contact him directly via email at shspr@shsrockport.org.

Mr. Barnes will have a table at our upcoming show in September to answer any question in person.

Mike Kachoris

2009 Summer Picnic & Auction

We had a really nice turnout at our summer picnic and auction this year. Over 30 members and their families made the trip to our party central at Mountain City. Many thanks to the Kachoris family for being the perfect host, no one left our party hungry or empty-handed.

Editor



As a small token of our appreciation, our host Sally Kachoris received a bottle of fine wine this year.



At the ladies' table (left to right): Pat Delk, Angie Forster, Margarita Herrington, Sally Kachoris, Karen Ranney and Miriam Robb.



Sword fight!



Auction in action. Look at all the goodies on the pool table! It took us over three hours to auction off everything!



"You there! What's your name? Have you bid on anything yet?"



Old Kingsbury Air Fair and Pioneer Air Museum

by Milton Bell
IPMS #16702

The Old Kingsbury Aerodrome was the site of an Air Fair back in June. The Air Fair is a regular event for the folks at the Pioneer Air Museum but was delayed this year because of the weather. Despite the delay, there was a good crowd on hand and several pre-1939 aircraft flew in for the event.

The main attraction was to be a low-level flight demonstration, i.e., "dogfight," between the museum's own Fokker DR.1 *Drei Decker* (Triplane) and an "invading" visitor from Houston, a Nieuport 28 replica.



Unfortunately, weather again spoiled part of the show. A brisk cross wind cancelled the DR.1's flight since three short wings are a bit tricky in cross winds so the wise thing to do was set up the machine for a static display. They ran the engine for the crowd and parked the N.28 alongside.



The Nieuport 28 flew twice during the day. It's owned by Blake Thomas, a former Desert Storm F-15 pilot who has it painted in the colors of his old squadron which dates back to WWI. The primary departure from the original aircraft was substitution of a modern radial for the original rotary engine. Since it's a modern replica, the primary framework is aluminum and not wood. Still, it's a real beauty and looked great in the air.

The Pioneer Air Museum has several aircraft on display and many are in flying condition. They currently display a Bleriot XI, a Canuck, Fokker D.VII, Meyers OTW, Luscombe 8A, J3 Cub, Pietenpol Sky Scout, Rearwin Sportster, and a Thomas-Morse Scout. The Meyers OTW is a biplane that competed against the Stearman as a trainer. It flew many times during the show, usually with a passenger. The museum also maintains a number of WWI era vehicles and used them as "taxis" during the show.



Meyers OTW.

Several ASMS members made the trek to Kingsbury which is just east of Seguin. King's Hobby Shop was on hand and Tim Robb and I set up a display table for the club and worked on models during much of the show.



Check your calendars for next year's Air Fair. It's good family fun and it's free. Just make a donation that you think is reasonable and you're in.

Bill Walsh was co-event-coordinator of the show which drew a larger than expected crowd and many interesting airplanes. It was a good show and both the Bells had fun. ✈️

MB



The Stearman making a low pass for Marc Hobbs' video camera.



The Fokker D.VII did not fly, but it attracted a lot of attention.



Bleriot XI did not fly either due to the windy conditions.

Building A Simple Wet Palette Under \$10

by Eric Choy
IPMS #44323

We all love how fast acrylic paints dry compared to artist oils. But don't we all wish the paints would stay wet just a bit longer on our palettes? It's not just an economic matter of saving paints; sometimes we go to a lot of trouble to mix the right color and have to work against the clock so we can use it before it dries up on our palettes.

A week before **ReaperCon** this year, I had the opportunity to sit down with **Jérémie Bonamant Teboul** at the **Reaper Miniature** factory for a two-day painting seminar. One of the things I learned from him was the use of a wet palette. The idea is quite simple: keeping a water soaked absorbent material underneath a semi-permeable medium, the acrylic paints on the medium can stay wet for an extended period of time by drawing the moisture through osmosis. Jérémie helped me build my first wet palette with three household products: a foam dinner plate, a piece of parchment paper and a wet paper towel. I was so impressed with the result that I must say I'm a true believer on a wet palette now.

Although there is nothing wrong with building a wet palette the "budget" way Jérémie showed me, I believe there is room for improvement. So once I got home, I did some research and went down to my local hobby megastores to see what they had to offer as far as building a better palette. I did not want to spend a fortune on doing it, so I limited my budget to \$10. As luck would have it, ten bucks is exactly the right amount you will have to spend for this project.

The first thing I did was ditch the foam plate for something sturdier. We all have something in the household that will fit the bill, so there is no point of wasting money to buy yet another palette product. Size does not matter (in this case), and you can choose whatever you are comfortable with. The most important factor is it has enough depth to accommodate the expansion of the absorbent material when it is wet and yet shallow enough to be used as a palette.

After raiding my pantry, I came up with an old plastic butter dish. I also found in my hobby room plastic mailing tube end caps suitable for palettes as well. They are perfect for my travelling kit as they don't take up much space at all.



While paper towel is cheap and readily available, it dries out fairly fast. After 45 minutes or so of painting under the radiation

of a household 60W light bulb, you'll need to remoisten the paper towel to keep it wet. Adding water to a "live" palette with wet paint can be a tricky affair, so I set out to look for a better absorbent material that can retain the moisture longer.


The first product I encountered was **Winsor and Newton's Compact Acrylics Palette** at **Michael's**. The thin cardboard-like absorbent material looked promising, so I spent \$5 for the **Refill Pack**. It comes with three sheets of "reservoir paper" and 12 sheets of membrane paper. I cut one of each to the proper size of my butter dish and put them to a test. The membrane paper worked out just fine, but the reservoir paper did not stay moist any longer than the good old paper towel. I was somewhat disappointed with this brand name product. It's a good thing that I just bought the refill pack; the palette kit costs over \$25!



I had better luck with **Masterson's "Sta-Wet Super Pro Palette Sponge"** I found at **Hobby Lobby**. The 10"x14.5" yellow sheet also costs \$5, but it's much thicker and more sponge-like. A blob of **Reaper Master Series** paint straight from the bottle managed to stay wet over three hours, and thinned custom colors were good for an hour or so before drying up. I'm sure if I paint under fluorescent lights, the paints will stay wet even longer as my 60W light bulb did generate some heat around the table I was working on.

Masterson also makes its own brand of acrylic paper to go with the sponge. I DO NOT recommend getting it. According to instruction, you need to soak it in hot or boiling water for 15 minutes before use. As my mom would say, it's pure rubbish! The W&N membrane paper from my purchase earlier worked just fine, and plain parchment paper will also work just as well.

Whether you use paper towel or either one of the two mentioned commercial products, I believe you'll like painting with a wet palette. Not only can it help you minimize paint waste, it can save you the trouble of mixing multiple batches of the same custom color.

As far as most bang for your buck, I recommend Masterson's yellow sponge along with some regular parchment paper. Save your money for a better paintbrush or a figure. Ten bucks is all you'll need to spend on building a decent wet palette. 

Eric



Region VI Update

by
RC6 A. Sean Glaspell
IPMS #40404



Howdy, Hello, Shalom, Buenos Dias, Greetings!

Folks, if you missed the ScaleFest 2009, hosted by IPMS/North Central Texas, you missed a great show. A wide variety of vendors, guest speakers, Take'N'Make and a great turn out in the Junior categories helped make it a great show.

The hobby is doing well and holding steady in these challenging economic times. New kits, aftermarket, tools and other hobby items are still entering the market place. The secondary market, such as vendors at shows, eBay, etc. are healthy as well. Heck, you haven't heard of Testor's asking for bailout money, and they have two new large scale IJN submarine models coming out.

Congrats to our friends at King's Hobbies. Marc Hobbs and crew are coming up on their one year anniversary. Check them out in Austin!

Region VI Awards

It's that time again, and I'm not going to wait until the Regional in October since all of our chapter award winners were submitted for consideration at the IPMS/USA convention next month.

What are some of the criteria used? One is NOMINATING. The troops in your chapters that do the yeoman's work deserve to be recognized. The first step in the process happens at your own meetings. If you feel the workers in your chapters are doing a good job, it is YOUR responsibility to submit their nomination for recognition.

Other details that are considered: how well is communication handled? On the website: is there a link to the IPMS National site? Is the editor/web designer a current IPMS member?

**R6 Chapter of the Year:
IPMS SWAMP, Westlake, LA**

Matt LeBlanc, Lester Roberts and the crew are one happy crew of modelers. They have a good variety of modelers: Air, Armor, Auto, Ships, Figures... all of the major religions are represented. As RC6, one of the first responders when it comes to chapter renewal is IPMS SWAMP. As the western most outpost of the I-10 corridor, IPMS SWAMP can be counted on to be at the other Louisiana shows and even venturing into the Texas badlands as far as San Antonio, Houston and Fort Worth.

SWAMP's CALMEX is usually the first show in the region every year and sets the standard for others to follow. In a time of economic uneasiness, their time tested and proven formula for running their show has actually resulted in their show

growing from a small show to a medium show. Make plans to get thee to CALMEX XXIV and if you can get to town on Friday night, join the crew for all-you-can-eat cajun buffet at Holliers!

**R6 Webmaster of the Year:
Mike Gilsbach, ASMS, Austin, TX**

Mike has done excellent work on their site. Some of the items that sets their site above the rest are: has link back to IPMS/USA site; has link to IPMS/USA Discussion Forums; has search capability; has maps to meeting place & schedule of events; has photo gallery, and has back issues of newsletter.

**R6 Newsletter of the Year:
"The Glue" IPMS/El Paso, TX
Editor: Fabian Nevarez**

Fabian consistently produces a colorful, easy to read newsletter in a well laid out format. Users can access past issues of "The Glue" on the chapter website. One nice touch is the constant inclusion of photos of the models and the modelers in the club.

Again, congratulations to all the recipients.

IPMS/USA Elections

IPMS members may now vote on the IPMS/USA website rather than wait for the ballot (<http://ipmsusa.org/Elections/ElectionBallotForm.asp>). On this same page you can click on the candidates name for the individuals campaign statement.

Current unopposed candidates are:

- Dick Montgomery** (Office of the President)
- Ron Bell** (Second Vice President)
- Doug Hamilton** (Director Local Chapters)

The contested offices are:

- John Noak or Nat Richards** (First Vice President)
- Tim Darrah or James Corley** (Secretary)
- Jack Kennedy or James Woody** (Historian/Pub. Director)

There is an amendment that needs your vote as well! There are also some Q&A items you can access on the "Discussion Forum" (<http://www.ipmsusa2.org/Forum/index.php>).

Make your vote count! Vote early and vote often! Seriously, please push your membership to submit their vote!

That is all for now. Model on!! 

Sean
RC-6

Old Rumors & New Kits

Greetings to all you survivors of a Central Texas July! Now it's August and will likely get hotter, if that's possible. And then it will be September and our show. So... If you are still wondering what part you can play, be at the meeting and sign up. There are plenty of jobs to go around and we will need every one of you.

There aren't a lot of new kits to talk about and I don't know of many rumors. One rumor, that I can dispel, concerns Classic Airframes. The word was going around that CA was shutting down and going out of business. Not so. Jules Bringer, who owns the company, has decided to sell out all his existing stock—decals, parts, and kits—because of the current economic climate. It's just not a good time to warehouse your merchandise if you don't have to and there are no kits in the pipeline due for immediate delivery. When the economy improves, which it will, Jules will bring back CA and the next kit will be kit number 4131, a Fiat BR-20 twin engine bomber that will be offered in two versions; one Japanese and one Italian.

Now as to parts, if you have a kit that needs a part, you are most likely out of luck since everything has been sold. If you need something, check with a buddy. As for the kits still in the stores, what you see is ALL THERE IS! And yes, they are instant "collectibles."

Classic Airframes kits are not for the faint of heart or those allergic to styrene/resin "dust." Builders are accustomed to making kits fit through a lot of adjustment but they can be built into very fine models. Just be aware they aren't "shake-and-bake" kits.

I took a look at the new Zvezda La-5 Razorback. This is the early version of the type and shares many parts found in the La-5FN kit previously released. It tends to be over-engineered and builders should study the plans carefully to determine what they will include. The engine can be displayed or not as can the two 20mm cannon. It's your choice. Having built the La-5FN, I can say the fit is good, the details are sharp but it can benefit from the addition of an Eduard Zoom set.

One thing in passing, the instrument panel is NOT black. In fact, I doubt that any of the early Russian panels were but that's just because I keep finding photos of panels (MiG-3, LaGG-3, La-5) that were the same color as the rest of the interior, a medium gray with a hint of blue. Think Gull gray only cooler. And while I'm still on the subject of Zvezda kits, which once were not well thought of, there's a new 1/35th kit of the BMP-2D. Box art shows an interesting version of the Russian people mover and light armored vehicle.

AFV Club has a new 1/35th T-34/76 with a clear interior. That should be a challenge! The kit features a transparent turret and upper hull. The interior of the turret is fully detailed as is the driver's compartment and fighting compartment. Of course there is a full transmission and metal springs for the suspension.

A metal gun barrel with rifling is included. From the description, it's a pretty complete kit.

Tamiya's 1/35th Matilda should be in the shops next week. This is an all new tool and the finished kit looks very nice.

There are a bunch of new decals out for all those new 1/32nd aircraft kits. Just out are two new Super Scale sheets for the F-80C. There is a new P-40E sheet (23rd and 49th FG), as well as two new 1/48th sheets for the TA4-J kits from Hasegawa and CA. And speaking of larger kits, be on the lookout for the new Ki-44 *Shoki* (Tojo) from Hasegawa. It should be here next week.

For you ship modelers, be aware that Tamiya's new 1/350th kit of the *IJN Mikuma* heavy cruiser should be out next week. Also, Trumpeter has a 1/700th kit of *HMS Zulu*, Tribal Class destroyer, and a 1/350th kit of *HMS Repulse*. The *Zulu* will set you back about \$20 but the much larger *Repulse* will be about \$150.


Still new and interesting is the Osprey book on pusher aircraft of WWI. Look for *Pusher Aces of WWI*. If you are a fan of WWII aircraft, especially USN types, you will probably be interested in the Aircraft Monograph series from AJ Press on the F6F Hellcat. This hardback book looks like it covers the subject very well.

I read an announcement that Sword was doing new kits of the F-80, T-33 and the T-38 Talon in 1/48th and 1/72nd in that order. Well, I goofed! The kits are in 1/72nd and their new 1/48th kit is the T-38C Talon. OK, we needed a new Talon and I understand it's actually an improvement over their original kit, but I sure was wanting a new T-33 in MY scale!

Revell/Monogram will continue with their re-release of well established kits. Look for the 1/48th Ju.52 in civilian markings as well as a re-pop of the old box-scale Robert E. Lee Steamboat, the AT-6, F-84G, and F-14D.

Revell Germany is still busy cranking out bargains. Their new 1/32nd Piper Super Cub on floats is the most accurate to date since they finally got around to adding flaps to a civilian aircraft. Their original Cub had no flaps so is only correct for the military observation aircraft. They also have released a 1/72nd kit of the Do.228-212 LM patrol aircraft.

And don't forget Eduard. They continue with their Weekend Series. This time it's the Fokker E.V, a high-wing monoplane for those of you who hate rigging but love WWI aircraft. Eduard has just released their Me.110G2 in the ProfiPack edition. Their scheduled releases for late August are the Bf.108 in ProfiPack version and their Bristol F.2B Fighter as a Weekend Edition. All are 1/48th.

That wraps it up for the month of August. As always, get out there and build something and don't forget to volunteer for our upcoming show. Avoid the draft while you can. 



In the latest issue of...

IPMS Journal

May/June 2009
Volume 21, Issue 3

- **IPMS/USA Election Candidates** — The folks running for office get their say...

- **Broken Arrow** — Building a B-36B Peacemaker at the center of a mystery, by Stephen J. Bathy;

- **Clearing Up Canopy Problems** — Floor polish, meticulous preparation and other tips for transparencies, by Richard C. Engar;

- **Have Space Suit Will Travel** — Scratchbuilding a scene from Heinlein's 1958 sci-fi adventure, by Dan Thompson;

- **Formative Fortress** — Backdating Academy's B-17B into the pioneering Y1B-17, by Ben Guenther;

- **Uniquely-Armed U-Boat** — Converting Revell's 1/125th U-99 into the flak-filled U-84, by T. Garth Connelly and Bob Cicconi;

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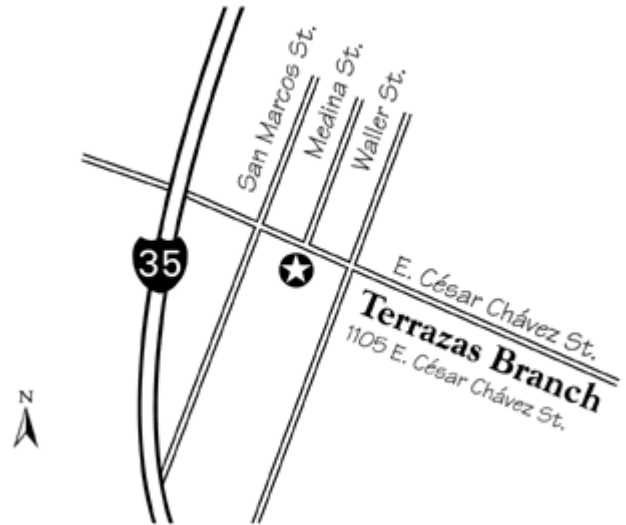
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Next Meeting:
August 11th, 2009
at
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Austin Scale Modelers Society
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