



SPRUE



EXAMINER



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April 2012

2011 IPMS/USA Website of the Year

2010 IPMS/USA Region 6 Chapter of the Year

2009 IPMS/USA Newsletter of the Year

2009 IPMS/USA Region 6 Website of the Year

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Pegasus "WAR OF THE WORLDS" Tripod Walker

by Bill Delk
IPMS# 35227

As a producer of plastic kits Pegasus is a relative newcomer to the hobby. Their first kits have been quite impressive. The latest is the Tripod Walker from the 2005 movie "War of the Worlds", starring Tom Cruise. Not having seen the movie when it was released I obtained a copy to see if I could gain any details in order

to enhance the Pegasus model. From what I can see the model is pretty much spot on. No extra external detail would be needed, but I thought that internal lighting would make the model "come to life" so to speak. Having recently read H. G. Wells original story and remembering the old movie with Gene Barry, the model embodies elements from both the story (originally set in England) and the older movie.



The model is fairly straight forward in construction if you're building just a static model with no lighting. Since I was going to light the model I was going to have to figure out how to accomplish this without doing too much external damage to the kit. I went over the kit instructions several times to try and map out the construction process and where I could modify the kit to accept lighting. I had initially thought I wanted to light the disintegrator arms but that was not going to be an easy task and would have taken way more time than I wanted to spend. Putting the electronics in the base was out of the question as I would have to run about 12 wires up the model legs to hook up the LED's (Light Emitting Diodes). I finally decided the upper carapace would be where the electronics would go and most of the wiring. The next problem was how to get power to the electronics. The only problem was that some kind of external wire was going to be needed and it couldn't detract from the overall look of the model. Most wire is much too large and would have been easily seen on the model, but I discovered some wire at Radio Shack used for wire wrapping. This is a technique for making connections without soldering them. This wire is very thin and has an insulating coating. I used this wire for the connection to power up the model. I drilled two small holes in the rearmost of the 3 rear leg footpads (part 79)

(Continued on page 4)

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Jeff Forster	John Seaman
Mike Gilsbach	Ion Tesu
David Heno	Rick Willaman

Upcoming Events

Model Shows

Cajun Model Fest XXVII, LSU, Baton Rouge, Louisiana	4/14/12
Model Mania, Stafford Center, Stafford, Texas	4/28/12

Local Club Meetings

CenTex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, Texas	4/19/12
Austin Armor Modelers Society, Old Quarry Branch APL, Austin, Texas	5/2/12

Other Events

Wings Over South Texas, NAS Kingsville, Texas	4/14/12
American Heroes Air Show, Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas	4/21/12
Biplane Fly-In, San Marcos Airport, San Marcos, Texas	4/28/12
Spring Air Fair, Pioneer Flight Museum, Kingsbury, Texas	4/28/12

Editor's note: You can now follow IPMS on twitter - <http://www.ipmsusa.org> ,
also Kings Hobby Shop has a blog - <http://www.kinghobbyshop.blogspot.com/>

IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter

Several IPMS members have since 2009 been managing the Warrior Family Support Center in San Antonio, Texas. The center is located at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

Troops are sent to BAMC for treatment and rehabilitation, some staying for up to 12 months. BAMC and the Center for the Intrepid are known as being among the elite medical facilities in the world for treatment and injuries received in combat zone.

Through the generosity of hundreds of IPMS members, IPMS chapters, and modelers the Warriors stationed at BAMC have received models, tools, books, movies and other hobby related items through the IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter.

Donations can be sent to IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter contact person, Dick Montgomery,
(dmontgomery8327@sbcglobal.net).

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Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society (IPMS/USA). ASMS meets on the second Thursday of each month. Annual dues for full membership are \$20 (individual) or \$25 (family).

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Message from the Prez...

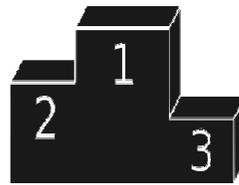
Tim Robb

The last few days I have been thinking about growing the hobby. More specifically I have been thinking about adult scale modeling classes. We all love the hobby and want it to survive. We want the shops and manufacturers to live long and prosper. We want to be the droids they are looking for. And we want our numbers to grow so the shows will be ever larger and more fun.

These things won't happen if we all take a passive approach. Therefore it is up to us to bring more people into the hobby to join in our fun. Please consider what you can do to promote scale modeling and share those ideas at our meeting.

Let's do some things to grow the hobby!

Tim

**Quarterly Contest****Schedule**

by Ron McCracken
Vice-President

Just a reminder our clubs quarterly contests are held on the last month of each calendar quarter. Here are the dates and themes for the remainder of 2012.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Theme</i>
June	<i>Hypothetical: spurious markings, etc.</i>
September	<i>Dragon: any Dragon kit or dragon model</i>
December	<i>White Elephant/ gift exchange</i>

Page Three Girl

Eric Choy

I took this photo of Jason Cichon's stunning 1/10th Marie Antionette (EVD Miniatures) at the Lone Star Figure Show last month.

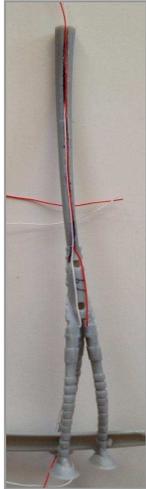
Jason did the majority of her flesh with an airbrush. He earned a well deserved Gold Medal.

Cake, anyone?

Eric



and ran the wires up the side of the leg and super glued them there.



Once painted they are virtually undetectable. I had to groove the front of the leg behind part 66 to center the wire on the middle of the leg. Since the bottom of each leg is a solid piece of plastic, it had to be grooved deep enough to accept both wires. This was done and the wires super glued into the groove. The rest was filled in with putty and sanded smooth. After the first joint, the legs are mostly hollow and running the wires up the remainder of the back leg was fairly simple. It did require the drilling of several holes in each end of the joint and gluing

the pieces around the wire.

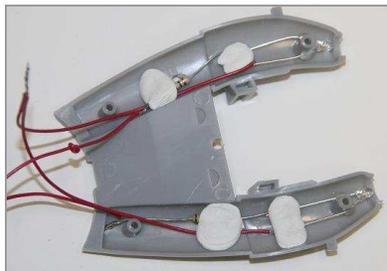
The leg pieces are matched at the joints so it takes a bit of thought as to where to place the holes from one joint to the next. Once the leg was completed it was dry fitted into the hip assembly (part 19) and then a hole was drilled through the back of the ball socket and ball joint in and also through (part 18) to gain access to the neck (parts 13,14)



I finished the model construction up to the neck and went to work on the head assembly. The three leg assembly

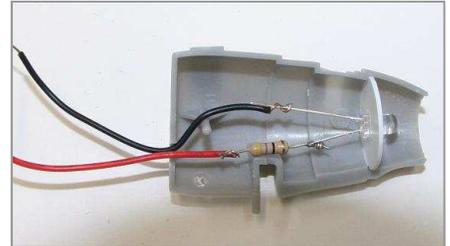
looks flimsy during construction but after gluing the feet to a base it becomes quite sturdy.

The movie model had three fairly bright "headlights" shining forward (purpose unknown). Here I used several High brightness LED's from Superbrightleds.com, two 3 MM LED's for the left and right pods and a 5 mm for the center pod. Some



drilling and filing will have to be done on the front of each pod and on parts 36, 37, 39 and 40 to open them up for the lights.

You will have to cut the front mounting pin from the front of part 12. Use a piece of sheet styrene cut to fit inside the first indentation of both parts 11&12.



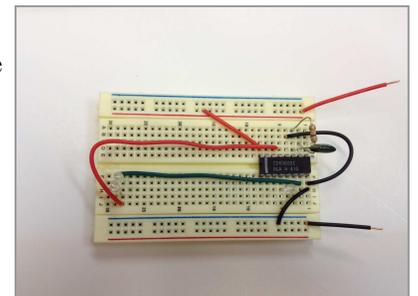
A hole will have to be drilled in the center of the styrene bulkhead to fit the LED.

The other two LED's leads were positioned around the pin in the front part of the left and right pods and epoxied into place. Holes were drilled into the back of each pod to feed the wires through. These three LED's will be hooked up directly to the 6 volt power supply. A resistor was added to the positive (long) lead of each LED to keep them from burning out. I used an approximately 47 ohm resistor for the 5 mm LED super bright led (RL5-W18030) and a 100 ohm resistor for the 3mm(RL3-W3030) Once installed the LED's generate no heat and last virtually forever. If you use more voltage these resistor values would have to be recalculated. You can also use a battery pack to supply the correct voltage. The leads for these LED's were soldered together and into the circuit board where the power for the blinking circuit is tied.

To add a little animation to the model, I added some blinking lights. Any white or colored LED's can be used here. I used some information from the website starshipmodeler.com. The specific reference is Das Uberblinker:lighting effects with 4060chips and LED's.

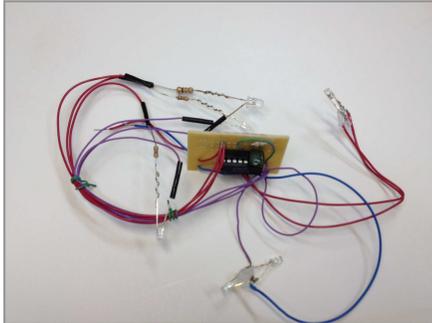
This is a fairly simple circuit, using only three components: a resistor, a capacitor and the 4060 chip. This configuration

will blink a multitude of LED's simultaneously. One of the interesting things I discovered playing around with the circuit is that it will light two LED's alternately, if the leads are hooked to the same two pins of the circuit.



I also purchased an IC socket and a small printed circuit board from Radio Shack to make the wire hookups a bit easier to solder. Once everything was connected and checked for proper operation the circuit board was cut down slightly to fit under the top shell. There about 10 pins on the IC to choose from with different rates of blinking and duration and it is best to experiment to find your best option. I recommend purchasing a small breadboard testing device and plugging everything in there to see how it works. You can swap pins and LED's just by plugging them into available holes before soldering everything together. Radio Shack also sells a package of single strand copper wire that can be used for your test leads to the different pins of the integrated circuit. This is not rocket science and if you can follow a diagram from one pin to another everything is fairly simple. Any white light LED's can be used for the blinking lights and require no resistor on the positive lead. I actually scrounged mine from an old strand of Christmas lights that we weren't using any more. I recommend using some fine stranded wire for your hookups as it is flexible and easy to position inside the model.

Here is a picture of the completed electronics.



The model was painted with

Tamiya semi-gloss black overall and then over sprayed with Alclad steel. Part 38 was painted black and then over sprayed with Alclad prismatic green/gold to give it an insect eye look and installed as a final step. All the windows around the top of the model were taped over, prior to painting.

The base was made from some scrap 1/4 inch plywood and quarter round molding. It was finished with Sculptamold



after the model was epoxied to the base. The Sculptamold after drying was painted with an oil paint wash of burnt umber and black. After that was dry, static grass was added to finish it off. Finally I soldered a battery connection to the wires run-

ning into the model under the base for the power. Any power supply providing proper voltage can be used. I find old cell phone chargers to be perfect for the job and are smaller than most commercial devices.

Parts list:

Radio Shack 276-003 2 1/8 inch modular breadboard (used for testing , not necessary for construction).

Radio Shack 276-1998 16 pin IC socket (use 1 of 2)

Radio Shack 276-159 Dual printed circuit board (use 1/2)

Radio Shack 272-1065 .01 uf polyester-film capacitor 470k ohm resistor 1/4 watts

Radio Shack 278-1222 [75-Ft. UL-Recognized Hookup Wire \(20AWG\)](#)

Superbrightleds.com RL3-W3030 super white LED 3000 mcd 30 degree 2 each

Superbrightleds.com RL5-W18030 super white LED 18000 mcd 30 degree 1 each

Digi-Key part # [296-2060-5-ND](#) CD4060BE IC BINARY COUNTER/DIV/OSC 16-DIP

Monthly Program Schedule

Month	Who/Subject
April	Eric Choy/ painting small scale figures
May	Bob Bethea/ Figure related Issues
June	Milton Bell/ scribing



2012 Lone Star Figure Show Report

By Eric Choy

I seldom have a chance to attend a show devoted exclusively to figure modeling, so when *Lone Star Military Miniatures Society* announced their first extravaganza to be held in Dallas, I couldn't wait to jump into the wagon to find out what a real figure show is like.

For this road trip my entourage included Rod Bell, Rick Herrington, and Russ Holm. We left on Friday to spend the night at the show venue Renaissance Dallas Hotel. Rod and Russ went straight there while Rick and I made a detour to Reaper Miniatures in Denton. As I was busy shopping for figures, Rick received a guided tour of the factory floor and saw how spin casting is used to make white metal figures. We drove up to the hotel just in time for the opening of the hospitality suite (graciously hosted by the owner of Hobbytown USA Colleyville). Laughs, model talks, and free booze filled the room for the rest of the evening. No doubt Russ had the most fun among us all.

Most of the vendors showed up on Friday afternoon.



There were not that many of them, and stuff on their tables was mostly figures and figure modeling related products. I spent the rest of my purchase budget on

nothing but figure bases. On Saturday morning we were surprised to see the two Pflugerville Daves (Edgerly and Orlof) there selling bi-plane models to raise money for the Pioneer Flight Museum. They sat next to Reaper's Make & Take area, and I suppose they couldn't resist the temptation of all the fun around them. Before long they were both painting figures!



The contest entry fee was a bargain: \$20 for unlimited entries. Encouraged by Bob Bethea to help fill the tables, I brought along ten models (half of those were figures), and Russ took 14. Over 90% of the entries were registered Friday evening, and by noon Saturday there were around 450 entries on the tables. About 75% of the figures were in the historical category. The rest were fantasy. The number of entries in the Ordnance category was about the same as Fantasy, and armor models dominated the category. The figure competition was extremely tough. To my untrained eye many entries could have easily scored first or gold in any IPMS or AMPS style contest, not to mention contenders for Best of Show awards.

At the end of the day, all four of us came home with something: Rod received a Certificate of Merit for his 75mm PaK40, Rick got a Bronze medal for his Land Rover Defender Wolf, and Russ took home a Gold for his Japanese 75mm Field Gun. I was fortunate to score silver medals with my 28mm girls.

There were a few surprises on the special awards front. The Spirit of Texas award went to a junior modeler who brought his collection of Texas related models to the show. The Best Ordnance award was given to a 1/48th A-1 Skyraider (yes, an aircraft), and the Best of Show went to Alex De Leon's motorcycle (yes again, automotive) collection. There was no prejudice towards different modeling genres here. All good models received the recognition and awards they all deserved.



The show was a huge success. I heard nothing but praises from those who were there. I thoroughly enjoyed all the work that I saw and the people that I met. What impressed me most was how figure modelers earn each other's respect by their finished work. It is not by yet another acquisition in one's model collection or how many photo-

happened to the brotherly support from fellow clubs? What's wrong with spending a few hours on the road with your friends to see some wonderful models? Attending a show shouldn't be about shopping or winning. It's our chance to support fellow modelers, clubs, and ultimately

the hobby. It's too bad for those who missed this fantastic gathering just because they may have thought there were no bargains to find or trophies to hunt!

Eric



1



2



3



4

1. 54mm Buccaneer 1650s (Andrea Miniatures) by Julio Cabos. 2. 54mm US Special Force in Afghanistan (Knight Models) by Scott Primeau. 3. 75mm French Nobleman (Castle Miniatures) by Jason Green. 4. Defeat at Majuba by James Rice.



5



6



7



8

5. 54mm 8th Bersagliere (scratchbuilt) by Bill Horan. 6. Wolfen Champion (Rackham) by Anne Forester. 7. 90mm Zulu Warrior (Miniature Alliance) by Kevin Delashmit. 8. Dr. Doom (Knight Models) by Bruce Kaluza.



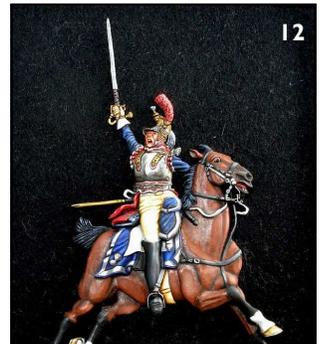
9



10



11



12

9. 1110 Crusader (Young Miniatures) by Mike Davidson. 10. Red Wolf (Reaper Miniatures) by Lyn Stahl. 11. "Little Sister" flat (Mil Mart) by Bill Ottinger. 12. French 1st Cuirassiers Regiment Officer flat (Metal Models) by Tom Williams

How much is too much? by Ben Morton

As I was muddling through another afternoon gazing longingly at the latest mail-order model catalog it occurred to me that some of these kits would be fun to have if they didn't cost a bazillion dollars or over 40-45 dollars at any rate. It got me to thinking that some of the rest of us may suffer from the same perplexing quandaries. So, out went the question to the assembled multitude: How much is too much to pay for a model kit?

Before I forget, let me thank all who were generous enough with their thoughts and ideas to forward them to me. It does make for some interesting reading. I might also mention that those thought were responsible for this article. Like the sign says: Articles Wanted-any and all on any modeling subject.

The short answer to the question seems to be: Depends? It would appear that we all have a range or dollar figure that was comfortable with when it comes to purchasing a new kit. From the missives I received that range generally varies from \$15 to \$100. The odd exception for something that one really wants to have. A particular make model or mark that hasn't been kitted before.

There is a lot of calculus that appears to go into the thought process that individual modelers use when making the determination as whether or not to purchase a model kit. Has it been kitted before, is it a formerly domestic kit or of foreign manufacture(we might be making allowances for monetary exchange rates), is it resin or injected molded or a wooden ship model, can I find it cheaper somewhere else. One contributor alluded to the nature of modelers as being notoriously frugal...(insert mild exploitative here). There seem to be two distinct considerations at work as well. Is it a kit I like to have or is it a kit I really like to have. The consensus seems to be that when it's a kit we really like to have the comfort level generally doubles. That is if a particular modeler is willing to pay say twenty bucks for a kit, if it something they really want that figure jumps to forty! It was suggested by more than one contributor that they had paid upwards of \$200 to \$400 dollars for a kit.

There was a particular comment that struck a cord with me. Not only from the standpoint of a window into the psyche but as an affirmation that I am not alone in this particular affliction. An individual had mentioned that they had paid \$64 dollars for a Monogram kit in the mid 80's, started it but has yet to finish said kit. Which begs the

question for one to ponder: What is the longest you've owned a kit that you started but have yet to complete?

This was fun and when the muse strikes off will go and new query.

Happy Trails and Happy Modeling!

Ben

P.S. Maybe we could have a contest for the longest running project?

P.P.S. After having completed the main article I received a comment that may be the best answer to the question posed. A kit is too much "when you have to buy a replacement kit because you lost too many fiddly bits."

Dues are past due!

If you don't wanna get "one of those looks" please bring yourself and your dues money to the next meeting.

You can pay in person (\$20 for an individual or \$25 for your entire family) or send a check made payable to ASMS to our treasurer:

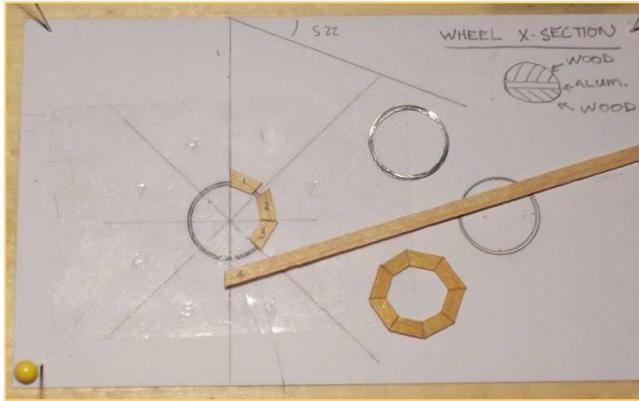
Angie Forster
1503 Black Cherry Drive
Cedar Park, Texas 78613

Your dues are much needed and appreciated.

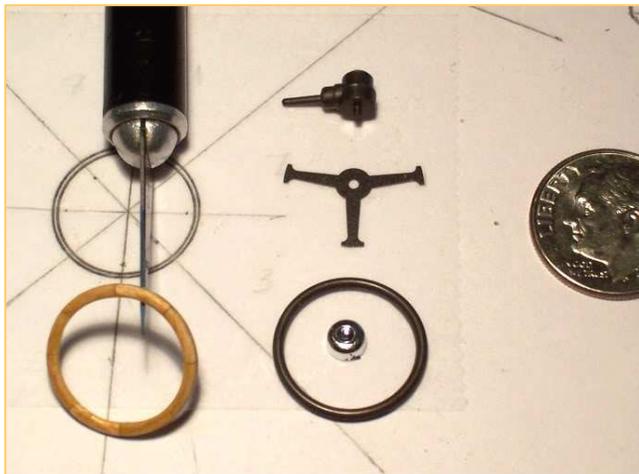


Enrico Magnifico by Mike Poole

Old Ferrari interiors seem to all look alike. But one dominant feature is the composite wooden steering wheels made by a famous company called Nardi. Founded by Enrico Nardi in the 1950's the company made performance parts as well as handcrafted steering wheels. They just seem to embody the artisan craftsmanship of that lost era. I've been thinking of a way to replicate a Nardi steering wheel in miniature for a while. Here is my recount of a recent attempt.

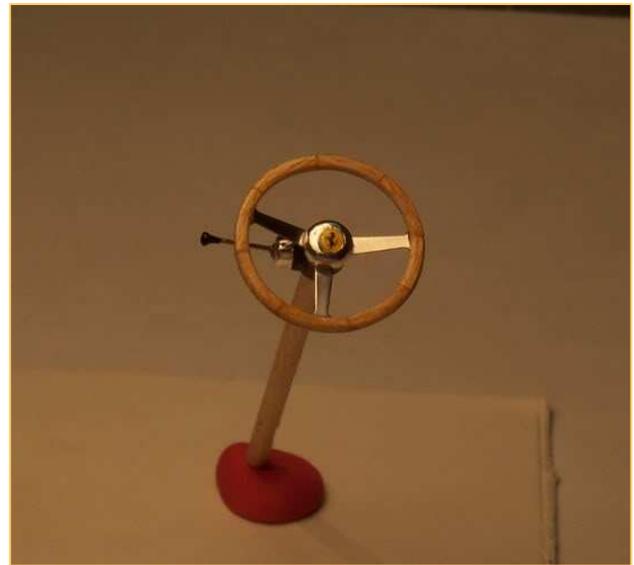


I first drew a graphical depiction of the steering wheel made up of 8 pie wedges on each side, then made a 1mm aluminum ring from an aluminum soda can. The wood I used was 1/8" x 1/32" lime wood strip I swiped from an old ship model. The strip was cut into 8 segments per side and then glued together over the pattern to cover the circumference of each rim. I discovered along the way that saturating the wood with thin CA made it stronger and less prone to splitting.



The part was so *tiny*! Forming the circumference, keeping the shape round as I slowly sanded away 90% of the wood and even some of the aluminum ring was the toughest challenge. I sanded the inside first, periodically comparing it to the pattern to maintain roundness. Once the inside was shaped I just kept sanding and sanding and sanding the outside circumference by eye until it looked uniform and close to scale. The black plastic kit part to the right of my wooden rim in the picture is the thickness I was shooting for. Although the structure is remarkably strong I did manage to fold it up into a taco at one point. Much to my relief, it straightened out without too much trouble. But I realized, the thinner it got, the higher the odds were that I was going to "stuff it" bad. I stopped just short of the plastic part thickness but I'm happy with the result.

The project began merely as a "what if" experiment but after about 4 hours of sanding this tiny part began showing some promise. Later, I soaked in a bit more thin CA to strengthen it and just a touch of stain thinned down. The photo etch spokes and horn button from the kit were cut down a bit closer to scale and pressed into service for the final result shown below. The turn signal arm was made from a straight pin and a dab of black paint.

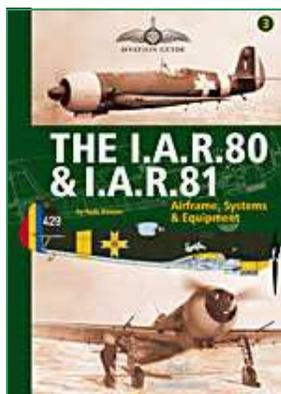


Mike

Editor's note: I was curious as to how Mike fabricated the aluminum ring for the steering wheel. He noted that this project is several years old and he thinks he made the ring from a soda can by drawing two concentric circles on the aluminum. Then just a matter of tracing the lines with an #11 blade until it cut through. Nothing too it!

**The IAR-80 & IAR-81
Airframe, Systems, & Equipment
written by Radu Brinzan
by Floyd S. Werner, Jr. IPMS# 26266**

I've always loved the looks of the I.A.R.80 since the LTD model came out. There is something about the look of the airplane that makes it look like the Hughes racer. It is sleek and sexy and relatively unknown in the western world.

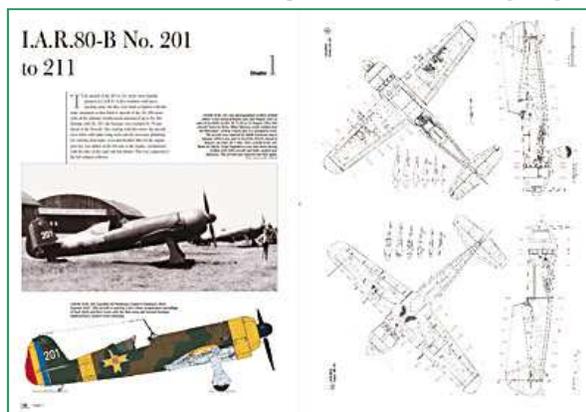


Prior to this book there have been very few references available on the I.A.R.80. There was a book published in Rumanian, and later French, I.A.R.80-The History of an Unknown Fighter, that is very good. I have a copy and the photos make it worth the price of admission, however, I can't read it. This book by noted Rumanian aviation historian, Radu Brinzan fixes that.

This soft bound book contains 128 pages of high quality paper.

The photos are mostly black and white with a two page color section. The photos are high quality and will prove very helpful to the modeler. There are 57 high quality side profiles which covers the evolution of camouflage and unit markings. There are drawings for four view drawings for nearly every configuration along with cross section views. Everything a model manufacturer and modeler could possibly want.

The prototype took to the air in April 1939 and by the time hostilities broke out in Europe the I.A.R.80 was going into



production. There were so many changes during the construction that without this book it is difficult to determine the version. The whole production run is covered and

the chapters are broken down as the aircraft changes. This makes it easy to find out what version you're looking at with the serial number. It is interesting to see the camouflage changes along with the change of the national markings.

Following the version chapters comes a chapter that summarizes the evolution. Then comes the really important chapters for the modeler. Each section of the aircraft is broken down in drawings and photos. The level of detail contained here is phenomenal. The differences between the instrument panels are just indicative of the research. Even the smallest



detail does not go unnoticed, such as the difference in headrests. This section alone makes this book worth the purchase price.

Painting and camouflage are contained in a chapter including the effects of weathering. The different schemes show the development of camouflage from the three tone, to the single color and the post war Russian colors. The evolution of the markings again shows the level of detail that the author puts into all his work. Finally the theater markings and stencils are covered. What more could a modeler or manufacturer need to make one of these beautiful airplanes?

Without a doubt, this is *the* English language book for the I.A.R.80/81. If you are only going to buy one book on the I.A.R.80/81 then this is that book. I can't tell you how much information is crammed into here. My hat is off to Radu for authoring such a definitive publication. It is written with the modeler in mind and in that it succeeds perfectly. Perfect drawings, excellent side profiles, and awesome detail photos there is nothing else you need. This is a one stop shop.

Thanks to SAM Publications for the review copy. You can obtain your copy by contacting them at their website: <http://www.sampublications.com/sampubs.htm>. Please let them know you read about it here.

Floyd

Old Rumors & New Kits

Milton Bell
IPMS # 16702

Winter left in a big hurry. Never heard of Spring chasing off the opposition but that's about what we saw this time. The San Antonio Show is history and later on this month, we can enjoy the going's-on with our friends to the east. I'm already getting a lot of pre-show emails for Houston's ModelMania. In case you hadn't heard, it's set for April 28th, back in the same nice building in Stafford.

Their theme for this year is "Under A Foreign Flag" which includes anything captured, bought, stolen that was used by a country other than the one that made it. Sounds like a good excuse to search for those "special" markings.

So far, April has been a good month for aircraft releases and there are many more models just waiting. First off is the Roden 1/48 T-28B Trojan. This aircraft served as a trainer for most of our services and was pressed into the counter insurgency role, especially in Viet Nam. This version released by Roden comes with markings for two Navy and one Marine Corps airplanes. All are pretty flashy but I particularly like the USMC bird that has a lot of bright red over the white airframe.

So, how does the Roden kit stack up against the venerable Monogram kit? First of all the Roden is quite a bit more expensive but that old Monogram kit is not sitting out there on your LHS shelf. It has been out of production for some time even though it was reissued a couple of times. And probably will be again.

Quality shows that the Roden is more up-to-date and you don't need as much help with the interior and other details. However, there were a lot of resin details made expressly for the Monogram kit and it's still available. The detail of the Roden kit is clean but is a bit soft. My biggest complaint is the presence of ejector pin marks in areas that are hard to correct, particularly in the wheel wells. I'm sure some new resin is on the way to fix this but that will just add more expense. I plan to work with what I have.



Sword is one of those European companies that seems to get better with each release. I picked up \

their new 1/72 J2M3 Raiden Ty. 21 "Jack" a few days ago and am really impressed with the quality of the molding and general detail. The kit has some very well cast resin details for the cockpit. If you're a purist, you may be offended by the absence of an engine. It's not a problem for me since the opening is small (there is a fan and a big spinner) an engine would be virtually invisible.

In addition to the Jack, Sword has released a very nice Aichi Val in 1/72. That seems to be their favorite scale since they have also produced a series of Seafires, the shipboard version of the Spitfire. These should be showing up at you LHS soon. They include a Mk. III, XV early, XV late, and an XVII.

Tamiya's latest 1/72 scale kit, the A6M5 Zero, has finally found its way to our LHS! This is basically a reduced version of their 1/48 kit which is a knockout! I will be working on this new Zero by meeting time! You can see a finished model at Kings, courtesy of John Seaman.



Tamiya has also brought back, in slightly different configurations, two of it's most popular model kits. Now you can get the Lancaster bomber, 1/48 of course, as a Grand Slam/Dambuster bomber and as a Lancaster B Mk.I/III. Their Betty bomber is available as a G4M1 Model 11.

There are plenty of good armor subjects just released as well. Bronco has a very impressive looking 1/35 kit of the Buffalo 6X6 MPCV. I understand the kit does one of two

versions of the vehicle. It's a big angular 6X6 with a remote controlled arm and a very thick windshield.





Going back in time, Moebius has released the old 1955 Chrysler 300. This is a new tool of an classic car that a lot of car modelers will be happy to see. It features a well detailed chassis and Hemi-V-8 engine. It's in 1/25th scale.

AMT has a nice kit of the AMC Gremlin. I don't recall seeing another kit of the Gremlin. This one can be built as a competition car.

Tamiya has a couple of Soviet T-55 kits. One has a load of Aber metal—barrel and PE details—and a price tag to match. The other is the T-55 Enigma, Iraq's version of the tank with a lot of reactive armor. Both have detailed interiors.

Dragon has a couple of interesting Wermacht subjects beginning with a 1/72 Tiger I Late version and follows with a Neubau-Fahrzeug, Nr.1. This was the prototype of a multi-turret Heavy Tank from about 1938.

In addition to the models, there are some interesting books recently on the market. Ampersand publishing has a couple of new titles; Allied-Axis #27 and The Churchill Tank Part 2.

Allied-Axis is a journal of World War 2 photographs of various types. There are 96 pages. This volume includes the Marder III M, USMC Rockets, the International Harvester M2-4, 1-Ton 4x4 Truck, and the Flak 38, 2cm, anti-aircraft gun.

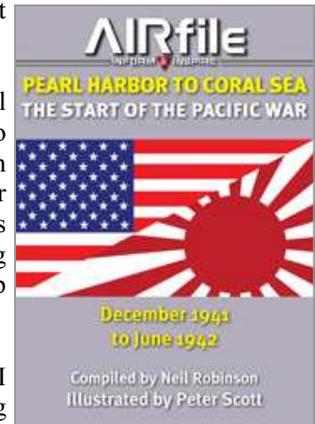
The Churchill Tank is a visual history of the British Army's heavy infantry tank and contains 120 pages. Sounds like a good reference for modelers working on the Churchill.

One of the best of the new publications is an Airfile produced soft-cover; Pearl Harbor to Coral Sea, the First Six Months of the Pacific War. It's 96 pages contain profiles and descriptions of most of the aircraft present in

those days in the Southwest Pacific.

I have had a request from Phil Fridell for car modelers to participate in a display in Blanco to go along with their annual car show. There seems to be some interest in doing so and you may want to help out.

That's all for this month. I hope you are taking advantage of this fine weather to squeeze in a little modeling.



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- **Retro Rocket** - Taking a stroll down memory lane with the Glencoe Retriever Rocket, by Bill Dye
- **Beginning Batmobile** - Building the Caped Crusader's 1940 ride using Lindberg's Ford Coupe, by Dan Thompson
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Next Meeting:
April 12, 2012
at
Austin Old Quarry Library
(7051 Village Center Drive)
7PM to 8:45PM

