



SPRUE EXAMINER®

Newsletter of the Austin Scale Modelers Society

July 2015

Farnborough International Airshow 2014 by G R Dennis Price

The biennial Farnborough International Airshow is really a tale of two shows: one is an international trade fair for modern aerospace Monday through Thursday, with a 2-3 hour flying display, a transitional day on Friday, and a public show with an emphasis on traditional and historic United Kingdom aviation with a five hour flying display over the final weekend.



I attended Monday and Tuesday of the trade show and Friday of the public days, with the sun shining on each day. The show saw record sales orders totaling \$201-billion: \$152 billion for over 1,100 aircraft, \$34.5 billion for aircraft engines, and \$14.5 billion for service contracts.

[continued on page four]



Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS/USA).

ASMS meets on the third Thursday of each month.

Annual dues for full membership are \$25 / individual or \$30 / family.

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the author. It is intended for educational purposes only. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.



Royal Air Force Red Arrows formation fly-by utilizing the BAE Systems Hawk T-1.

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Phil Brandt (in memorium)

- Eric Choy Angela Forster
- Jeff Forster Russ Holm
- Rick Willaman Jack Johnston
- Mike Krizan Mike Poole
- Aaron Smischney
- Rick Herrington

Upcoming Events

Model Shows

- IPMS/USA National Convention, Columbus, Ohio 7.22/25.15
<http://ipmsusa2015.com/>
- Houston Automotive Modeler's Society (HAMS), Houston, Texas 8.01.15
<http://www.ipms-hams.org/>
- Austin Armor Builders Society (AMPS), Georgetown, Texas, 9.26.15
<http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com/>
- Spurue-Doo 2015, Little Rock, Arkansas 9.26.15
<http://www.casmodels.org/>

Local Club Meetings

- Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas 8.06.15
www.alamosquadron.com/meetings.htm
- Austin Armor Builders Society, Austin, Texas 8.05.15
<http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com>
- Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas 8.06.15
- Centex Scale Modelers, Killeen, Texas 7.16.15
<http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/>
- Hill Country Outlaws Model Railroading, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas 8.08.15
- Lone Star Military Miniatures Society, San Marcos Library, San Marcos, TX 8.08.15

Other Events

- Build-N-Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas 7.18.15

IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

The IPMS/USA initiative was established to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones, recovering in hospitals, and rehabilitating in specialized facilities.

The program is expanding into other areas as well. Some local programs take place in USO facilities, some are centered around active duty personnel and are scattered across the country.

The IPMS/USA Support The Troops program is still going full-tilt. The national program director is Jon Emery. Jon is accepting any and all contributions and is sharing them with all of the active programs around the country.

www.models4troops@gmail.com

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- Frank Seibert**, Newsletter Contributor
 Coordinator and Provocateur

*Tree Gardner Clippings***Randy Bumgardner**

Welcome to July! I hope everyone had a fun holiday and survived with all of their fingers, or other extremities, intact. I honestly had no idea what I was going to write about in my little corner of the newsletter. Until last night that is, I received an email from an ASMS member who is traveling in my old stomping grounds. I mentioned several sights to see and a hobby shop he should look into. Names are not of great import, so we'll call him Chauncey.

Chauncey's vacation happened to coincide with the meeting night of one of the local clubs. He showed up at the appointed time, and even helped set up chairs for the meeting. During this and throughout the meeting, not one member of the local club introduced themselves, inquired about the "new guy," or even looked in his direction. The sole exception was one member of the local club who came up and asked Chauncey for the \$5 room fee. I was shocked. I know some of the members of that club and they are very nice and very friendly. I'm not sure exactly what happened.

Now, some of you may be thinking "Why didn't Chauncey just introduce himself?" Well, think about how you would react if you were by yourself in a room with 15 to 20 strangers who have their own social circles and norms. They are in their comfort zone and you are not. There aren't many people who take the bull by the horns and introduce themselves to a room full of strangers – especially in an introvert-centric hobby such as ours.

My long-winded point is that we should make every effort to introduce ourselves, our clubs, and our hobby to any newcomers at our events. ASMS is very good at making everyone feel comfortable and at home at our meetings and events. (I'm not just saying this because I'm herding the cats at this moment and we need a pat on the back.) We make a point of asking for and welcoming visitors and new members at the beginning of every meeting. Many of our members will go up to an unfamiliar face and introduce themselves. I've traveled to many meetings around the country and, in some, I felt the same snubbing that occurred to Chauncey. Club members will stick to their own cliques and not leave their comfort zone. They don't like change, however small. I don't think it is intentional - everyone thought that someone else would do it, and it did not get accomplished. I'm also a glass half-full kind of guy.

So, don't be "that guy." Introduce yourself, and your club, in the best light possible. They won't bite, really.

Randy

*Page Three Girl Returns...Sort Of***Frank Seibert**

Master Box Models has released a couple of figure sets recently that might merit some special mention. The first is a six-figure set of Pin-Up's. The poses are reminiscent of those that adorned many an allied aircraft during WWII. Maybe a little too late for this year's Fourth of July celebration but that should give you plenty of time to get things painted by next year. You will have to provide your own flag pole, however. Flag pole, what flag pole?



The other four-figure set is more in keeping with the latest Mad Max movie or any anticipated

apocalyptic diorama you have been mulling over. The Skull Clan/Death Angels set has some no-nonsense looking female figures that just might keep you awake at night. Both figure sets are 1/35th scale and should be available now.

Frank



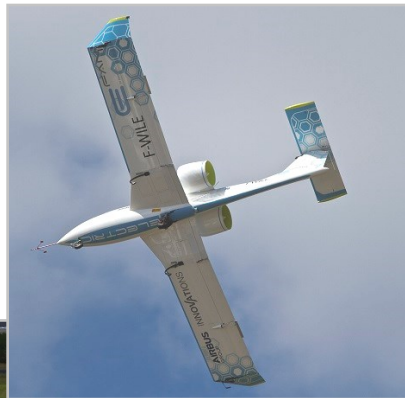
There were no announcements of major new aircraft projects; however, significant orders were placed for announced updates of existing types (e.g., for Boeing 777X and A330neo).

The main problem for manufacturers is fulfilling contracts for existing orders and then bridging the gap between completion of those orders and the start of production of the upgraded aircraft.



There were over 70 aircraft in the various manufacturers static parks during the trade days.

New aircraft types at the show included the Airbus A.350 -941 in hybrid Airbus and Qatar Airways colors, an Airbus/EADS electric-powered E-Fan , and a Textron



Scorpion light ground attack aircraft.



Exhibited for the first time at the show were the Boeing B.787-9 in a Boeing color scheme and a Boeing P-8A Poseidon (US Navy) of VX-1 sq and flown by a mainly RAF exchange crew.



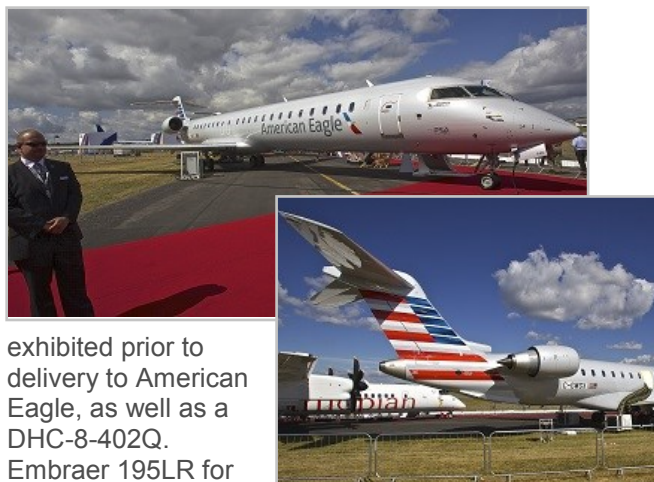
Also present, a Turkish Aerospace T-129. This is an updated Agusta A-129 Mangusta with the Turkish Army as well as a Turkish ANKA UAV.



Other airliners in static display included a Boeing B.787-8, an Airbus A.380 (the original prototype), an Airbus A.320-232, and an Airbus A.319-119. An ATR-72-600 was shown prior to delivery to Azul.



There were also a Bombardier CRJ-900/CL-600-2D24



exhibited prior to delivery to American Eagle, as well as a DHC-8-402Q.

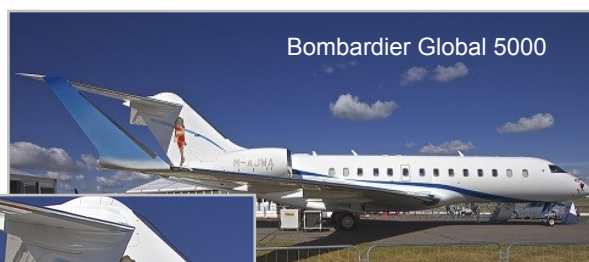
Embraer 195LR for Belavia. There were also a pair of Sukhoi SSJ-100 for Interjet and UTair on display.



A Viking Air Twin Otter DHC-6-400 for Air Seychelles.



Business aircraft included: Bombardier CL-350, CL-605, Global 5000, Global 6000, and Learjet 75.



Bombardier Global 5000



There were also a Dassault Falcon 7X and 2000LX, Embraer 135LR, Embraer 145BJ, and a Gulfstream 280.

Two Piaggio P.180's were on display prior to delivery to China.



Utility aircraft included a Cessna 208B and a Beech King Air B300 operated by the Norwegian Coastguard for pollution control. A Dornier Do.228-

Coastguard for pollution control. A Dornier Do.228-



Beech King Air B300

212NG was exhibited by RUAG and a Pilatus PC-12 which exhibited as well.. A Cessna 421C operated by the Meteorological Office was also present.



Pilatus PC-12

Agusta-Westland, a part of the Alenia group, exhibited helicopters that including a Agusta-Westland AW-101 Merlin 611 in Italian Air Force colors and an AW-109



Trekker. The AW-109 was displayed with both nose and rear fuselage mounted observation

turrets, rotor-less and unregistered. It was alternatively reported as a full-scale model and a real aircraft.

There was also an AW-149 in Italian Air Force colors.



This is a photo of the AW-159 Wildcat AH.1 of the UK Army Air Corps.

Also on display was an AW-189 in the colors of Weststar, Malaysia, and an NH-90.



AW-109



NH-90

The Textron compound showed the Bell 407GX , Bell 429 and full-scale models of Bell 505 Jet Ranger X and Bell 525.



Bell 525

RUAG exhibited a Eurocopter AS.332M of the Swiss Air Force and Sikorsky showed a UH-60A of the U S Army in the U.S. military compound.

The U.S. military compound was much reduced from previous shows, exhibiting only a Boeing F/A-18F of VFA-106 sq, U.S. Navy.



On hand were a pair of F-16CM of the 480 FS, 52 OG from the USAF base at Spangdahlem, an F-15E from Lakenheath of the 494 FS, 48 FW, an F-35B mock-up, and the aforementioned UH-60A.



A full-scale model of a Eurofighter Typhoon was outside the BAE exhibit area and a real one of the RAF was within the Thales marquee.





Beech T-6C

Military trainers included Textron Beech T-6C and AT-6C, BAE Hawk T.2, Pilatus PC-21, Grob 120TP, Alenia Aermacchi T-346A of the Italian RSV or Test Center,

and a full-scale model of the Alenia Aermacchi M345 in the colors of the Freccie Tricolori.



Aermacchi M345



Airbus A400M

Military transports were dominated by Airbus, with an A400M from the Portuguese Air Force. A Royal Air Force Voyager KC.3 was a visitor on Monday. An



Britten-Norman Defender

Alenia MC-27J of the Italian RSV and a Britten-Norman BN-2T Defender T.3 of 651 sq Army Air Corps. Observation/reconnaissance/surveillance platforms were on display in a lot of forms, both crewed and unpiloted (trying to be politically correct, there).

Omega Air DC-10 tanker was also present. Other military transports/utilities included

Crewed aircraft for large-scale radar search included the Bombardier/Boeing CL-604-MSA and SAAB 340MSA in addition to the previously mentioned Boeing P-8A.



SAAB 340MSA

At the smaller end of the range, and equipped with various FLIR and similar systems, were a Britten-Norman BN2T-4R, a Grob 520, and four Diamond DA.42Ms,



Grob 520

some of which were equipped for pilot-less flight. For purely visual observation, there was an Edgley Optica looking for a manufacturer to take up production.



Edgley Optica

Un-piloted systems ranged from the large Turkish Aerospace ANKA UAV previously mentioned and Piaggio P1HH "Hammerhead" present in a full-scale model to much smaller systems such as Airbus Real Atlante of the Spanish Air Force, Alenia Selex



Piaggio Hammerhead



Shadow M2

ES Falco and ES Falco EVO, Tekever AR5, and Textron Shadow M2 and Shadow V2.

General Aviation aircraft were poorly represented. Of major interest was the previously mentioned Airbus/EADS electric-powered E-Fan that will be shortly going into production with an anticipated endurance of two hours on a full charge.

The earlier electric aircraft, a Diamond DA.36 was also present. The only other serious exhibit was a Cirrus



Diamond DA 36



Cirrus SR22 T/GT

SR.22T/GT. Other general aviation exhibits, really aimed for the public days, included a

Tecnam P2002JF and MDM-1 Glider shown by Aerobility, an organization for physically impaired aviators, a pair of RANS S-6ES



RANS S-6ES

Coyote II constructed by high school students, and a Boeing Stearman B75N1 advertising an investment company.

“Heritage aircraft” were present during the trade days and included an Avro Vulcan B.2, Folland Gnat T.1



Folland Gnat

Coastal Guard painted as XS111 of the Red Arrows, as well as an active Grob 109B Vigilant T.1, of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets and a Harrier EAV-8B+ of the Spanish Navy. These were exhibited primarily for the public days.



Grob Vigilant

There were some Historic aircraft located inside a tea tent. There include a Blackburn B.2, a Bleriot XI replica,



Blackburn B.2

DH.60 Cirrus Moth, SE-5A replica, a



Bleriot XI

Sopwith Camel replica, and a non-flying 2/3-scale Wright Flyer. Parked across the runway, and in front of the framework of the old Balloon Shed, was Breitling’s Lockheed L.1049.



Finally, for the car enthusiasts there was a full-scale model of the proposed Mach1+ Bloodhound SSC.



The trade days flying display varied only slightly. The show was officially opened on Monday morning with a formation fly-by from the Red Arrows.

On Tuesday, there was a fly-by from a Piper PA-25-235 Pawnee towing a welcome banner as well as a demonstration from a Tekever AR4 UAV.



However, the real display was opened with demonstrations from Airbus A.350-941, Airbus A.380-841, Airbus A.400M, E-Fan, and DA.36 E-Star 2. All of these aircraft came from the static parks, as did demonstrations from Boeing B.787-9 and Boeing P-8A, and Turkish Aerospace T-129A.



Alenia presented a multi-ship display commencing with a Blackshape BS.100, Aermacchi M345 and Aermacchi M346A going into a close-formation two-ship and finishing with solos from the M345 and M346A. These aircraft came from a flight line hidden behind trees, as did the rest of the flying display aircraft. Major aerobatic performances came from Eurofighter Typhoon FGR.4 of 29sq RAF on Monday and a BX with a special color scheme on Tuesday and Boeing F/A-18F, on loan from VFA-106 sq.

Quieter performances were provided by a pair of Rotron Parajets and a Stolp Starduster.



Rotron Parajet

Both prior to, and following the display, were numerous arrivals/departures of



Stolp Starduster

business aircraft and helicopters carrying exhibitors and potential buyers as well as a few aircraft performing off-field demonstrations.

By Friday, many of the aircraft originally on static exhibit had either left or were departing (e.g., Airbus A.319-115, Airbus A.320-232, Airbus A.350-941, Airbus A.400M, Beech King Air B300, Boeing B787-8, Bombardier CL-605, Bombardier CRJ900, DHC-8-402Q, Embraer 195LR, Grob 120TP, Grob 520, Piaggio P.180, Blackshape BS.100, Aermacchi M.346, Sukhoi SSJ-100).

Replacing them were heritage and historic aircraft for the Saturday and Sunday public days (e.g., Avro Anson, Consolidated Catalina, DH.115 Vampire T.55,



Avro Anson

Douglas C-47A, Eclipse EA500, Embraer Phenom 300, English Electric Canberra PR.9, Gloster Meteor



T.7, Hawker Hunter PR.11, AT-16 Harvard, Reims Cessna F.406, Spartan 7W

Executive, Stinson V77, and two Supermarine Spitfire (TR.9).



The Friday flying display was initiated by the Great War Display Team comprising an RAF Be.2C replica, a Sopwith Triplane replica, three SE-5A replicas, two Fokker Dr.1 replicas, a pair of Bowers Fly Baby 1A posing as Junkers Cl.1.



RAF Be2C



Bowers Fly Baby 1A as a Junkers Cl.1



Sopwith Triplane



Fokker triplane

An Airbus A.380, A.350, and A.400M from the static park display also flew. However, Boeing did not participate in the flying displays out of respect for those that were lost in the shooting down of Malaysian Airways flight MH17.

Other aircraft in the flying display included: Avro Anson, Avro Vulcan B.2, (this year 2015) may be its last year of flying, Eclipse EA.500, Spanish Navy Harrier AV-8B+, the pair of school-built RANS S-6ES Coyote II, Supermarine Spitfire TR.9, and an almost full display from the Red Arrows in their BAE Hawk T.1 performing in their 50th year. Unfortunately one of the aircraft had a bird strike and had to land a little prematurely.



With all that it had to offer, the biennial Farnborough International Airshow 2014 was a great success.

Dennis

[All photos courtesy of GRD Price]



Monthly Program Schedule

Month	Presenter
July	General Wisian Texas Air National Guard
August	Rick Herrington
September	Quarterly Contest [Bondo Special+ any subject/ any era]
October	Milton Bell
November	Bob Bethea
December	White Elephant Contest

If you are interested in giving a presentation at one of our monthly club meetings please contact Aaron Smischney.

vicepresident@austinsms.org

Note: The September contest will feature a Bondo Special and an open segment. The Bondo Special is any kit received from the estate of Phil Brandt. The open category is any subject/ any era.



A special thanks to King's Hobby Shop for their monetary support of our quarterly model contests



Newsletter Articles
Any Size, Shape or Subject

Send all submissions to: editor@austinsms.org



IPMS/USA News

To all IPMS/USA members, the National Convention is approaching faster than you might think. Prior to the convention comes an important election for national officers. There are two candidates vying for president: Ron Bell and Bruce Drummond.

Their biographies and mission statements are to be included in the May + June issue of the IPMS/USA Journal along with your ballot. Be sure to read their respective narratives carefully and then vote for the candidate of your choice. You may also cast your ballot online. Voting deadline is August 31.

It is important that everyone vote, otherwise you have people like me making those decisions for you. And we all know how that can turn out!

To really keep abreast of events in your club, go to the news and events page on the IPMS/USA website and read the minutes from the executive board meetings.

<http://www.ipmsusa.org/whatsnew.shtml>

Web At Night: Rewind
compiled by Jean-Michel D'Aubigne

There have been several news reports about this first item. It would appear that an elderly gentleman in Germany had been collecting an assortment of WWII memorabilia: a Panther tank, a Flak 88mm anti-aircraft gun, and a torpedo. The man in question had been storing these items in his basement. Obviously, basements in German villas are much larger than corresponding basements in other parts of the world.

There is a related essay from Rick Cotton on the larger implications of this discovery elsewhere in this newsletter.

www.telegraph.co.uk

Milton Bell sent in this next item. The video involves some beautiful HD footage of a B-2 Stealth bomber approaching a refueling tanker.

http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=0bc_1428285879

I, for one, often have to be dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st century. So it was gratifying to see that I may not be the only one. Daniel Brett sent in a note that Williams Brothers Models *finally* has a Facebook page.

Williams Brothers Models has been manufacturing American-made, high quality plastic models since 1960. Their Facebook page will contain information on new releases, products, and more.

<https://www.facebook.com/wmbros?ref=hl>

Staying with the Facebook page theme for a moment longer...as mentioned in last month's Sprue Examiner, Dennis Price has a Facebook page. I mention it again by way of letting you know that there will be a lot more photos than are included in this month's article on Farnborough 2014 posted there.

Dennis has graciously offered to make a copy for fellow ASMS club members of those photos on a DVD. Just send Dennis a note at grdprice@yahoo.com and he'll burn one off for you.

[facebook.com/grdprice](https://www.facebook.com/grdprice)

Should you ever get to wondering if you may have spent too much money on your latest modeling project here's a link from Milton Bell that might help put things into their proper perspective.

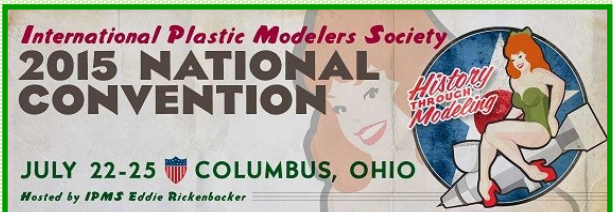
http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/naval_academy/ph-ac-cn-model-ship-0613-20150619-story.html

The story details efforts by Jerry Shaw in constructing a twelve-foot, brass model on the USS Forrestal. Weighing in at a mere 3,600 pounds, the model has everything from rotating radar to blinking lights. The model only took 30 years and 2.6 million dollars to complete.

Jean-Michel



**IPMS/USA 2015
National Convention**



The logo for the IPMS/USA 2015 National Convention. It features the text 'International Plastic Modelers Society' at the top, followed by '2015 NATIONAL CONVENTION' in large, bold letters. Below that, it says 'JULY 22-25 COLUMBUS, OHIO' and 'Hosted by IPMS Eddie Rickenbacker'. To the right of the text is a stylized illustration of a woman in a green dress sitting on a globe, with the text 'History Through Modeling' written in a cursive font.

**July 22-25, 2015
Columbus, Ohio**

The International Plastic Modeler's Society 2015 National Convention website is available to peruse. There is a lot of information there and more is being added as the actual event approaches. More information about the National Convention may be obtained at:

<http://ipmsusa2015.com/>

Wolfpack Models T-2C "Buckeye" in 1/72nd scale by Ron McCracken

At long last, and seemingly out of nowhere, comes a state-of-the-art kit of the T-2C "Buckeye." And it is worth the wait. I would rate overall fit and quality of finish as first-rate. I'll be watching for future releases from this company.

The kit is injection molded in light grey plastic, with a tree of injection molded clear parts which include the canopy (two



pieces), landing light, approach light cover, and tip tank navigation light covers. Surface detail includes medium to fine recessed panel lines.

The kit is engineered along fairly conventional lines. The port and starboard wings are molded separately with upper and lower halves. The upper halves of the tip tanks are cast onto the upper wing halves, thus assuring proper alignment.

Wing flaps are cast as separate parts which can optionally be built extended or retracted. All the landing gear wells are neatly and completely walled in, and even the rather complicated main gear door actuators are accurately represented. For the most part, assembly is straight forward with excellent fit of parts contributing to an easy build.

One unusual touch is the fuselage bottom, which is a separate part, apparently to allow the flat fuselage bottom to be, in fact, flat.

However, nothing's perfect and this kit is no exception to that rule. The wings attach in a butt joint to each side of the fuselage with only a very small, and loose-fitting, alignment tab. Although they join with no need for filing or filling, you'll have to pay close attention to getting the dihedral angle (approximately two degrees positive on the upper wing surface) correct and equal, as the mounting tabs don't provide sufficient support as the glue dries.

Happily, the assembled fuselage will sit level on the building table very nicely, so just attach the wings and prop them up so the wingtips are the same height above the table, and you won't go far wrong.



I also had to replace the approach light cover with one carved from clear sprue, after my attempts to file the part flush with the wing surface resulted in breaking through into the cavity for the assembly alignment pin.

The fuselage and vertical fin are cast in the usual halves along the vertical centerline. However, the vertical fin is cast mostly on the port half, with a stub section on the starboard half. This allows thin, seam-free leading and trailing edges, but in spite of the joint being done along a panel line, I found the use of some gap-filler CA to be necessary to make the seam look right.

A nice feature is that two sets of landing gear doors are provided: an "open" set with all the gear door segments cast as separate parts, and a "closed" set with all the segments for each gear well cast in one piece. All doors have well detailed interior sides. I did have an issue with the nose well doors, which had ejector pin marks at each end of each door.

The tandem cockpits are provided as a single "bathtub" with additional parts for the instrument panels, glare shields, control sticks, and ejection seats. Instrument panels and consoles are provided as well-detailed decals, and they look fairly convincing once in place, although you'll want to overcoat them with clear flat before closing things up.

Kudos to the manufacturer for one of the neatest fitting cockpit bathtubs I've ever seen. There are no gaps anywhere between the tub and fuselage, and sufficient mounting provisions exist to ensure perfect placement.



For the super detailers, you'll want to add throttles, landing gear and tailhook levers, and the canopy

jettison "T" handles, which are prominent features of the "real" cockpits, and totally missing on the kit. You'll also want to add seatbelts/shoulder harnesses and face curtain handles to the ejection seats.

You will need nose weight, and there isn't sufficient space in the nose to get by with just modeling clay, so plan on some good old-fashioned lead-up there to avoid having a tail-sitter.

A few words are in order about the color instructions. Contrary to what the instructions claim, the correct Navy trainer colors are FS 17875 insignia white and FS 12197 international orange (not "fluorescent orange"), both of which Testors markets in their Model-Master series.



The best painting sequence is an overall coat of white, then the orange trim, and finally flat black for the anti-glare panels.



Decals are provided for three different aircraft, and include extensive stenciling, with full-color illustrations showing decal

placement for all three. If you think you need more stenciling, I submit that what you really need is a lower magnification lens for your optivisor.

I had no difficulty with the decals, which are excellent, needing setting solution only where the larger ones crossed panel lines.

One note of caution, though: the national insignia on the wings overlaps the white/orange junction near the wingtips, and I suggest that you mask off the area that will be beneath the insignia when applying the orange color, to avoid having the orange show through the white of the insignia.



To sum it up, the high points are attention to detail and parts fit. The only real drawback is the wing attachment tabs, which fail to ensure proper dihedral alignment. If you have any interest in the subject, this kit is a "must buy."

Ron



McCoy's Announces New Delivery Vehicle

San Marcos, Texas – McCoy's Building Supply Stores have announced a new delivery vehicle for their company. McCoy's suffered numerous delivery failures and stuck vehicles during the course of 2015. The soggy ground and delivery failures from the incessant rains of 2015 prompted management to embark on a newly designed vehicle that should forestall any such concerns in the future.



The Tank in the Cellar by Rick Cotton

I spend my lunch hours eating at my desk, because
(1) I am too cheap to go out to eat all the time, and
(2) I like to search on the web for reference pictures.

I also like to catch up on the news once in a while, so that I do not become an uninformed provincial boob regarding world and national events. Uninformed Provincial boobs CREATE world and national events. I think that statement stands for itself. Just look at Washington, D.C.

At any rate, I am happily stuffing potato chips in my mouth and perusing Al Gore's Information Superhighway, when this headline pops up on Fox News: WWII Tank Found in Cellar. CLICK!

Seems the local authorities in a small town in northern Germany are all in a dither because a 78-year-old man has a PZKW V "Panther" tank stashed in his cellar, along with an 88mm AA gun (complete with carriage), a torpedo, and other assorted WWII relic-type goodies.

He's no loon, the stuff is all disarmed and inert, and the gun on the Panther is disabled. The neighbors insist that he was only "chugging that thing around" during the blizzard of 2008.

There is a lovely picture of the Teutonic Sherman-eater being prepped for its ride into administrative captivity, and as of yet, its final destination is unknown. There are no plans to either toss the old fellow into the clink on weapons charges, nor try him as a war criminal.

The stuff is inert, and he has no fascist ties. He is simply a history-related collector, and fancier of military items. I have to wonder....

What else is stashed out there, in the millions of garages, barns, warehouses, and cellars across our planet? How many other elderly (or nearly so) fanciers of military gear are there? Probably millions. The odds boggle the mind. Many of them HAVE to be collectors.

What else may pop out of a derelict barn in the coming years? Japanese dive bombers? Russian trucks and artillery? French fighter planes? The possibilities are endless, and the restoration fanatic facilities are just itching to get their hands on these things.

The Panther was running, at least as recently as 2008, and looks to be in very nice shape in the photo.

Too clean, though. I think it needs weathering. And maybe some photo etch.

But something else is also waiting to be discovered. Pictures. Grandpa's wartime photo album. Hundreds of millions of unpublished photos are out there, just waiting to be discovered by relatives and posted online. Let's hope so. Let's hope they get posted, instead of sold to MMD or someone else to be sold in a book.

I will never again buy a reference book. It's much too easy to find the stuff online for reference purposes, and I am much too tight to spend the cash. The pictures fascinate me. They are a tiny window into a time that is no more, but can be briefly seen, in a small way.

Some time back, I happened to find, in a pile of stuff tossed out of a renthouse, a photo album, bound in dark brown leather. Inside were the photos, telegrams, postcards, and hundreds of other paper mementos of a gentleman who was a US Army paratrooper in World War II.

All sorts of things were in the trove – playbills from London nightclubs, theater tickets, even two pieces of flimsy Luftwaffe stationary. Many, many photos of the fellow as a young soldier, from training all the way to duty in England and France. And some stupid goof just tossed it all in the trash!

I plan to copy some of the stuff for use with my model-building hobby. I'm thinking neat little base additions here and there. Nothing personal, that's not quite right. The album will then be offered to the Katy VFW Hall, who has a nice little museum in its building. It's free, and quite interesting, and is a worthwhile side trip for an hour or so.

That's where it belongs, to be displayed in honor, as a testament to the man who served and put it together. But so much more of this stuff is still out there, and as "Grandpa's stuff" comes to light, we are in for more fascinating collections being revealed to our hungry eyes. More relics of the past will again see the light of day, and hopefully, the care of restoration specialists and museum curators.

And it will all eventually pop up online! I have a computer. I have a printer. I have a lunch hour. As my good friend Ed Malewitz always says... "It's a great time to be a modeler!"

Rick



Model O' The Month by Roy Lothbrok

At the June meeting of ASMS the second quarterly model contest was held. This also coincided with the on-going model of the month contest. There were a number of entries as evidenced by the models on display. To encourage participation in our quarterly contests, ASMS along with the generous support of King's Hobby Shop, offers cash incentives (actually gift certificates) for the first, second, and third place winners. Congratulations to all! Although Chuck 'Obiwan' Konefsky is getting to be a bit tiresome with his uncanny ability to come in first...all the time! I suppose it might have something to do with his excellent model building skills.



Bob Bethea entered a 1/72nd scale Mirage kit of the M3 Grant. Bob noted that Mirage makes some excellent small scale armor kits.



Milton Bell offered up another model in his ever expanding collection of 1/72nd Airfix kits. This time a Hawker Hurricane. I'm beginning to think that Milton really likes this series of kits from Airfix.



Rick Herrington seems to have some time on his hands. This kit bashed WWII German aircraft carrier in 1/700th scale being a case in point. The German Z-25 is a Tamiya kit.



While Ziggy Bumgardner didn't fair particularly well at our contest with his Alien figure, it did, however, win first place in the junior division at a regional contest.



Ron McCracken showed a 1/72nd scale Wolfpack kit of the T2 Buckeye Navy trainer. Ron noted that there is a massive amount of decaling to do on this kit That process taking him over two hours to complete. His efforts were not in vain as he came in **third** at our contest!



Bill Delk came in **second** with his demon bust. Bill got this kit at a recent Wonderfest and stated that it is entirely brush painted.



Ben Morton offered up two models. An F-55 Feuerliebe from Extra TECH and an A4/V2 with trailer by Special Armor. Both kits are in 1/72nd scale.



Chuck 'Obiwan' Konefsky came in **first** with his 1/32nd scale Trumpeter kit of the Me262 night fighter. The kit represents the first night fighter delivered to the Luftwaffe. 'Obiwan' not only won model of the month but also won the quarterly contest! Congratulations, Chuck! .

Roy



[Photos courtesy of Milton Bell and Ben Morton]

Old Rumors / New Kits 2G

Randy Bumgardner, Rick Herrington, Mike Poole, Golzar Shahrzad, Aaron Smischney

Shipping News

Here's the stuff.

In the somewhat unusual scale of 1/100th is the Steam Ship Sirius from Zvezda.



Growing a bit bigger in scale at 1/125th is a re-issue from Revell of the U-47 with interior. This is the older molding that featured a hull cut out that reveals the submarines interior.

The interior detailing

on the older kit was somewhat Spartan, so some additional fiddly bits may be warranted.



Trumpeter's 1/350th scale USS Texas is almost here. The kit is slated for an August release. King's Hobby Shop is taking discounted pre-orders now.

There has been a trend of late with ship model manufacture's re-issuing some of their older kits with photo etch. Such is the case with Pit Road. They are re-releasing the 1939 Graf Spee and the 1945 Prinz Eugen. Both kits are in 1/700th scale and, as mentioned, will have photo-etch sets included.



Aoshima has the IJN supply ship Mamiya coming soon. This 1/700th scale kit would look great with a submarine off the port bow with the deck gun manned. A supply ship is a supply ship, right?

In 1/35 scale, Avis/Mikr Mir has the answer to your prayers for those of you who need spare torpedoes for your Italeri E-Boat. The kit is injected molded and features two G7A/T1 torpedoes.



That's it for this month. Grab a kit from your stash and build it!



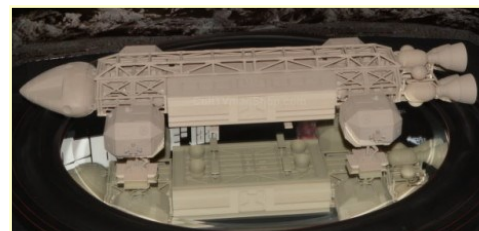
Rick

Miscellaneous

I wanted to begin with a ship model that I just know will make Rick cringe owing to the price. Model Factory Hiro has announced an ultimate kit of the IJN Musashi. The 1/700th scale kit will be in resin, white metal, photo etch, "and possibly other materials." At the paltry sum of ¥ 38000 you might want to get two. (That's over 300 dollars in real money). Order now!



Round2/MPC has announced a 1/48th scale Eagle from the Space:1999 television series. The injected molded kit is 22" long and will feature spring-loaded landing struts and two figures.



For something more diminutive, Mark I Models has announced a series of

1/144th scale Bristol Beaufighters. They plan on releasing three types: the Mk IF, Mk IC, and the Mk VI F/C.





Reaching back a few years, AMT is re-issuing the 1/48th Stinson Reliant SR-9. AMT is also bringing back their Hawker Tempest Mk.V.

CyberHobby/Dragon has a 1/200th scale XB-70 Valkyrie coming your way. This release will add to their series of large, important, military aircraft in an appropriate scale.



Of course, to counter that small scale thing, Trumpeter is adding to their line of giant armor stuff with a 1/16th scale PzKpfw IV, Ausf 3.

Pit Road will be offering some 1/1 scale cannon projectiles (soft vinyl) for your rumpus room. These 'kits' are from the *Girls und Panzer* anime TV series. *Girls und Panzer* is about some high school girls who engage in tank warfare as a sports competition. The projectiles are: an 88mm L/71, an 88mm L/56, a Japanese 57mm, a 75mm L/24, and a 75mm L43/48.



Airfix continues to add to the 1/72nd scale line. Coming to a hobby shop near you will be new toolings of an He111 P2 and an Avro Shackleton MR 2.



RS Models is bringing us a 1/72nd scale, injected molded Flettner FL 282-B-0. The Flettner was the first operational helicopter.

ARK models has two new 1/35th scale kits based on the WWII era Russian truck, the Zis-6. One kit is of the stock truck, the other features extra bits for the BM-13 rocket launcher version.



Tamiya has a couple of new items coming soon. In 1/12th scale a Kawasaki Ninja ZX-14. This kit is a special color edition.



For the suburban, off-road crowd; a Toyota Landcruiser 80 in 1/24th scale.

Attack Squadron has some resin bits to spiff up that

1/48th scale Teslor's C-130 almost everyone has in their stash. They will be offering some Lockheed C-130 engine nacelles.

For airliner fans, Karaya Models has a 1/144th scale DC-9 in Hughes Airwest markings. Karaya Models repackaged some Fly Models parts with some Lima Oscar decals, not unlike Encore or Eduard.



Bronco Models has a 1/35th scale 2.8cm sPz B41 on a steel-wheeled carriage. This injected molded kit also includes a transport trailer.



Golzar



Aircraft

It's July already, and there are only 166 shopping days until Christmas. So, get off your duff and build stuff so your family can buy you stuff. Our column this month is a short one, but it contains some big stuff.

Firstly, HK Models has released their 1/32nd de Havilland Mosquito B Mk. IV Series II and it should be in shops now ready for your perusal. The marvel of this kit is its single piece wing and single piece fuselage split into front and rear sections. This would be slide-molding technology at it's best!

Speaking of large Mosquitos (and I have a bunch in my backyard), Tamiya has also released their 1/32nd Mosquito FB Mk.VI. It's out in Canada, and I'm patiently awaiting my preorder to reach the shores of the U.S. It looks fantastic, based on the images I have seen on the interwebs.

If you like Cold War aircraft, and specifically experimental Cold War aircraft, then this next announcement will have you tingling all over. HpH have announced a new 1/48 bomber. This is not just any 1/48th scale bomber – this is the XB-70 Valkyrie.



Yep, clear out that living room and make way for a very large model. Similar to their 1/48 Concorde, I expect this kit to have a fiberglass fuselage and resin parts, and some white metal landing gear. You'll probably need a new truck to haul it to shows, and a call to the hosting club to reinforce a separate table just for your model.

Back to slightly more normal sized models, Kitty Hawk is on a roll and set to release their 1/48th scale P-39Q/N this month. I've seen some test shots built up, and it looks like a nice kit. The fuselage doesn't look short and fat, so that's a nice touch.

Avantgarde Models Kits, (AMK), posted an image of an F-14 on their Facebook page. Now, I don't know if that is a hint at a future project or they just like the F-14. I'm going to assume the former and state they will be making a new tool F-14. After all, this is the *New Rumors/Old Kits* section, right?



Pilot Replicas will be releasing a new tool SAAB J-21 this autumn.

I'm not familiar with Swedish aircraft, so Google was my best friend.

It's a twin boom pusher powered by a license-build DB 605B and first took to the air in 1943. It was designed as a fighter/attack aircraft, and served until 1947 when



it was fitted with a de Havilland Goblin turbojet and redesignated J-21R. This model is of the Daimler-Benz powered aircraft.

Until next month, go build a model!

Randy



Automotive

Greeting race fans, gearheads, and boulevard cruisers. There are some exciting new tools making their debut this season, so start your engines!

Arnaldo Pocher was a unique modeler that loved to create high detail models of unique subjects.

His Italian company began manufacturing big-scale kits (ok, HUGE scale kits) in 1/8 scale of classic



cars back in the 1960s. The company grew and prospered in the 1970s and 1980's with additional classics and even some modern subjects. Then they just disappeared into the ether. Classic Pocher kits contain thousands of parts and sell for big bucks now on Ebay.

Hornby International purchased the company a few years ago and has begun releasing new products starting with a Lamborghini Aventador in 1/8 scale last year.

Now comes word of a new Ducati Panigale S 1299 in 1/4 scale to debut in September. Details are sketchy but expect it to have over 500 parts and run about \$600 when it ships. Just think how much easier it will be to have a scale model instead of pushing that real one in and out of the living room when you want to look at it!

Tamiya continues to reissue their early big scale 1/12 offerings with the Lotus 49B as raced in 1968. This was the era when aerodynamic wing bodies were first employed. Those first attempts were usually attached directly to the wheel uprights adding maximum downforce right where needed without affecting the sprung mass.



Tamiya made some great big scale kits in the early days but honestly this tool is starting to show it's age. It's available now but I'd spend the money on the new 1/20th Ebbro version and spend what I had leftover on a nice set of aftermarket Gold Leaf sponsor decals.

Japanese model maker Aoshima continues to fill their Lamborghini lineup with the Sesto-Elemento in 1/24.



There's not much information about this one as it won't be available until September.

If this one holds true to their formula, expect excellent engine and interior detail, open doors and a very accurate shape.

Way back in 1953 the GM folks sensed a new market for a sportier car than the American family sedans on offer. Since those timid first steps there have been highs and lows over the years. Yet most agree that the new 2014 C7 generation marks a new high water mark for Corvette with crisp contemporary styling and a 455 hp, 6.2 liter V8 engine that gets 17/29 mpg thanks to a 7 speed manual overdrive.



Since the Corvette is an American icon and a perennial favorite among auto modelers, I was really looking forward to the new Revell Corvette tooling debut. But now I'm scratching my head at the product decision to make it a SnapTite kit with just 37 parts and no glue required, ages 8+. Sigh. It's available now if you want one.

This month is a little short but we'll be back on the road course next month with more reissues and undoubtedly some new offerings for the holidays.

Stop that sprue fondling and start building!

Mike



Armor

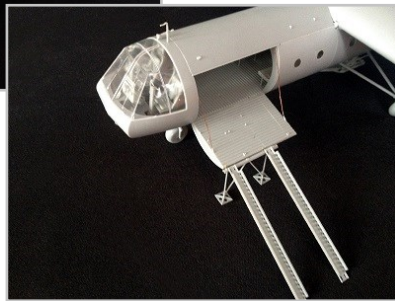
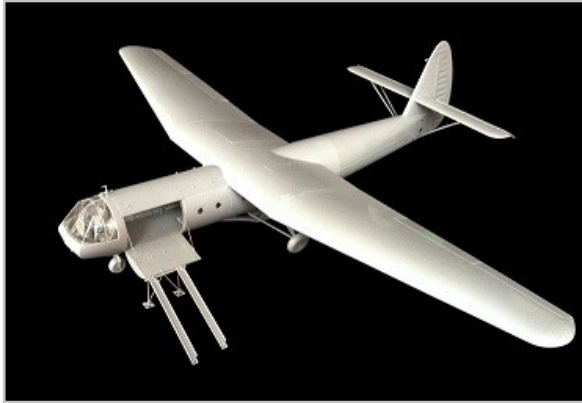
Greetings armor fans and hello to all y'all armor curious!

Seems a bit slow this month after all the excitement last month, but there *are* some new announcements, so let's take a look.

First up, Bronco Models has an update on their Horsa glider in 1/35th scale.

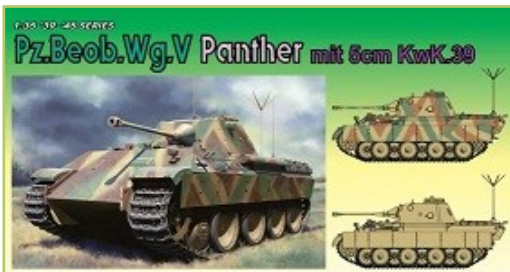


(Hey, I know it's a wing-thing but it *is* in our scale)! This will be released soon, so prepare a big space on your workbench!



Buy a Bronco Models jeep and display it being loaded!

Dragon Models has a few new models coming, including a new Panther and an Sd. Kfz 234/4 8-rad.



Trumpeter has announced a brand new Type-62. This is a Chinese copy of the Russian beast and was used by the Vietnamese as well as in conflicts in Africa.

AFV Club has announced the first variant for their well received M60, the weird, but neat looking M60A2 "starship."



Just a photo of the turret so far but hopefully this one will be released later this year.

These are the highlights. Until next time!

Aaron



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How To Mask Like A Lazy Person by Randy Bumgardner

As I am wont to do, I generally attempt to experiment with various processes associated with modeling. If I'm using a new product, a product not associated with modeling, or just messing around with different things, I tend to at least try it once and see if there is a chance it might work.

One tedious task I want to make easier and more fun is masking. Painting aircraft, in my opinion, is more fun than the prep work involved in getting things ready to paint. It's often the case that the masking takes longer than actually spraying the paint...much longer. So, in the quest for a more streamlined process, I opted to try something a bit different.

I was building a couple of 1/48 Tamiya Spitfires, and I was looking for an easy way to mask the hard-edged camouflage on the upper surfaces. In my 1/32nd scale builds, I typically use Blue-Tak, or Silly Putty if that's handy, and roll out little snakes and apply them to the upper surfaces in the curvy patterns required of an RAF aircraft. I'd then use either a stiff paper, or thin card stock, and trim it to shape and place it onto the Blue-Tak "snakes."

I finish the camouflage by holding the airbrush at a 90 degree angle to the surface I'm painting. With minimal overlap, this gives a hard-edged look with just a bit of feathering to the paint. However, in 1/48th scale, the feathering should be even tighter as the scale is smaller.

I didn't have any Blue-Tak or Silly Putty handy, so I chose to try modeling clay, but not the card stock as I wanted to minimize any feathering of the initial camouflage. I thought about masking the interior areas with tape, but I quickly threw the idea out of the window, perhaps because I'm cheap or maybe because I'm too lazy to cut all that tape!

I gazed upon my workbench and spotted something made solely for this purpose. Masking liquid. This stuff brushes on easily, dries fairly quickly, and (from my point of view) requires little to no work to do.

I tried three different types of masking fluid: Microscale Micro Mask, Vallejo Liquid Mask, and Mr. Hobby Mr. Masking Sol. I brushed each onto a different area of the airframe. The Micro Mask shrank as it dried, requiring multiple coats. It brushed on easily, but the multiple coats eliminated it from the competition.

The Vallejo product clumped up on the brush and didn't spread very easily. It was also difficult to remove from the surface of the model. Strike two.

I tried the Mr. Masking Sol and it went on easily, covered well, was easy to remove, and it has a built-in brush in the cap. We have a winner!



As you can see from the images, the model looks rather sloppy after the masking liquid is applied. I let it dry overnight – just to be sure, although it seemed ready after about an hour. I did lay it on fairly heavily in places, so the extra time was simply a precaution.



Once it was dry, I loaded up my airbrush and had some fun. By carefully regulating my pressure and spray pattern (and paying attention to what I was doing), I was able to get right up to the edge of the modeling clay without getting any paint onto the masking material. I guess my next test is to apply a thin

margin around the modeling clay snakes to protect the immediate area from over spray – heck, maybe not even use the masking liquid at all. But that's another story.

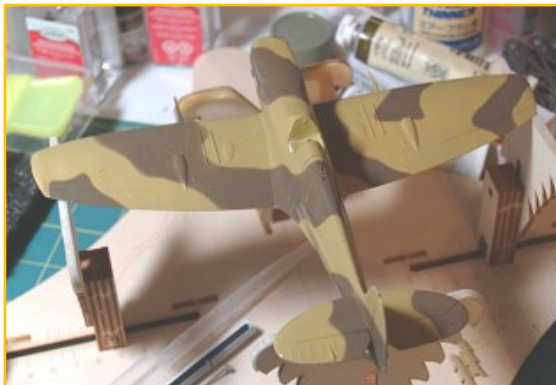
After the paint has dried, everything peels off easily – without taking up the underlying paint of the initial coat. If any modeling clay (or Blue-Tak, or Silly Putty) is acting stubbornly, just dab at it with the wad of stuff in your hand and it will evacuate the surface. Now, your model is ready for the next step in your build process.

You can see the residue of the Vallejo liquid mask which is simply unacceptable (so was the fight I had removing it from the surface of the model).



The nice, clean middle stone area is where the Mr. Masking Sol was applied. You can also see some leftover modeling clay I needed to clean up on the cannon blister.

Here is the first Spitfire I completed painting using the masking liquid. Some touch-ups are necessary, and sometimes it's inevitable.



Have fun, and try different things!

Randy



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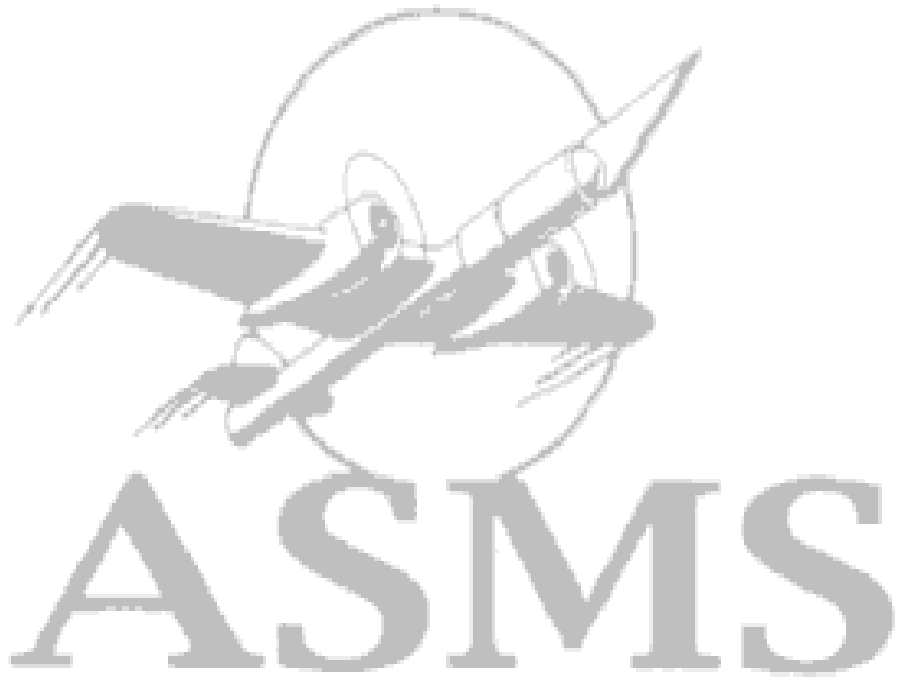
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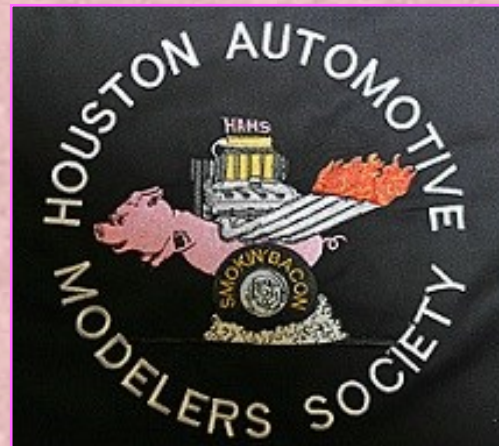
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7PM to 8:45PM**



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