



# SPRUE EXAMINER®

Newsletter of the Austin Scale Modeler's Society

August 2016

## It's Hot by Rick Cotton

It's Hot! Not just *hot*, but Houston, Texas *HOT!* The 100% humidity, 100-plus degree days sap one's strength, ambition, and interest in anything that is not an air-conditioned activity. There is a name for it: *The Summer Doldrums*.

The last shows of late spring are over. It's time for the long, hot summer, and unless you went to Nationals, there isn't much going on model-wise. Houston Automotive Modelers held their contest on the 1st of August, and you might have scared up a car or something like it.

Last year I went, just because there wasn't a darned thing else to do. This year, I have a truck I can enter, and I will, because...because there isn't a darned thing else to do! Last year's trophies looked like little gas pumps, Very cool, and I'd love to get one, but that would just be gravy.

How do you spend the doldrums, my fellow modeler? Do you continue working feverishly, cranking out kit, after kit, after kit regardless of day, season, or conditions? Or, do you take a break and reassess your state of the hobby?

[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 authors. It is intended for educational purposes only. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.*

[www.austinsms.org](http://www.austinsms.org)



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<http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/>



**Phil Brandt (in memorium)**

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Eric Choy</b>       | <b>Angela Forster</b> |
| <b>Jeff Forster</b>    | <b>Russ Holm</b>      |
| <b>Rick Willaman</b>   | <b>Jack Johnston</b>  |
| <b>Mike Krizan</b>     | <b>Mike Poole</b>     |
| <b>Aaron Smischney</b> |                       |
| <b>Rick Herrington</b> |                       |

# Upcoming Events

## IPMS/USA Region 6 Model Shows

SuperCon 2016, Fort Worth, Texas	9.10.16
<a href="http://fortworthscalemodelers.org/SuperCon.html">http://fortworthscalemodelers.org/SuperCon.html</a>	
Sproo-Doo Model Show-Region VI Regional, Little Rock, Arkansas	9.24.16
<a href="http://www.casmodels.org/">http://www.casmodels.org/</a>	
Capital Classic, Austin, Texas	9.24.16
<a href="http://www.austinsms.org/contest.php">http://www.austinsms.org/contest.php</a>	
AutumnCon 2016, Covington, Louisiana	10.15.16
<a href="http://www.northshoremodelers.net/show.html">http://www.northshoremodelers.net/show.html</a>	
Lone Star Figure Show/ReaperCon 2016, Lewisville, Texas	10.20-23.16
<a href="https://reapercon.com/">https://reapercon.com/</a>	

## Local Club Meetings

Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas	9.01.16
<a href="http://alamosquadron.com/meetings.html">http://alamosquadron.com/meetings.html</a>	
Austin Armor Builders Society, Austin, Texas	9.07.16
<a href="http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com">http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com</a>	
Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	9.07.16
Centex Scale Modelers, Killeen, Texas	8.18.16
<a href="http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/">http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/</a>	
Hill Country Outlaws, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	9.03.16
Lone Star Military Miniatures Society, San Marcos Library, San Marcos, Texas	9.10.16

### 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](mailto:www.models4troops@gmail.com)

### ASMS Officers & Chairpersons

- Randy Bumgardner**, President  
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**Aaron Smischney**, Vice-President  
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**Chris Chany**, Rumpus and Hokum  
 Abatement Director

## Peanut Brittle

*Randy Bumgardner*

August is here. We are one month closer to our annual Big Show, the Capitol Classic. Think about how you want to help us out this year. We are always looking for sponsors and volunteers. I'll bring the volunteer sign up sheets to the meeting this week.

While I was out of town, I heard that San Antonio didn't get the nod for the 2018 National Convention. That's too bad. I think a Texas Nationals would have been a great thing. It's been awhile since the Nationals were in Texas. Hopefully another attempt will be made for the 2020 convention. The San Antonio/Houston team worked hard on the proposal, and deserve a big congratulations for a job well done.

I'm keeping this missive short this month. I literally just stepped off the plane from our return from Japan. I hope to see everyone at the meeting on Thursday with a project to share.

Now go build a model. Or get some sleep if you're jet-lagged.

Randy



## Fiddly Bits

*Frank Seibert*

Our annual model contest, The Capital Classic, is approaching faster than the law allows. Volunteers will be needed for judging, registration, setting-up tables (Friday evening), judging, vendor set-up (Saturday morning), judging, manning the raffle table, judging, and clean-up duty after the show. There are some other areas that need volunteers, so volunteer. Sign-up sheets will be available at the meeting this Thursday and again prior to the actual event (September 24). Time to come to the aid of *your* model club.

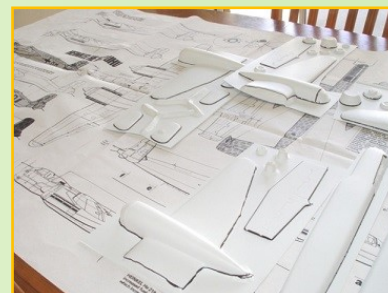
**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**



Speaking of which, if you are sponsoring a trophy (Best Star Trek, Best 1950's Interceptor, etc.) or trophy package (first, second, third) now would be the time to pay for it. Contact either Randy or the finance minister, Eric Choy, for your damages.

The annual BBQ/Model Auction was an event not to be missed. But if you did, you missed out. Oodles of neat models to be had, some BBQ from Rudy's, and above all else stellar company.

Ben Morton reports that he acquired a Combat Models vacuform kit of the He219 after a fierce bidding war for \$2.00 dollars. The kit was donated to the auction by one of our pals from Centex Modelers in Killeen. The original Squadron Mail Order invoice was still in the box. The original price was \$7.98. If Ben doesn't get around to starting it between now and the annual Christmas party, you might wind up with a nice White Elephant kit. Be sure to look for the large box under the tree. And hope that you don't go last!



Frank



Maybe it's time for a workshop renovation. If your in-the-house workshop is already bright, neat and organized. Keep building. If you are not so organized, (like me), your workshop is in the garage, and maybe that renovation includes adding an air conditioner.

That means you might just be able to *stand* your workshop in August. Adding an A/C unit was the second-smartest thing I ever did.



Maybe that renovation includes a thorough, top-to-bottom cleaning of said workshop. Get rid of the trash, beer bottles, empty paint containers, wadded up instructions, dog-eared copies of Penthouse, and whatnot. Wow! There *is* a bench under all that stuff!

Maybe it's time for a new chair. Or new lighting. Or a new lit magnifying device. Or new tools.

Or, maybe it's time, as you have been promising yourself for the past twenty years, to actually go through the spare parts box and organize it. Yeah, now there's a project! And, even better, it can be done inside, in the air conditioning, while your wife is watching *Dancing With the Moderately-Well Known Has-Beens* on television. My parts box began back when I had all my hair and still liked my first wife...sort of. That's was a *long* time ago.

It has parts stacked in it all the way to the top, some loose, some on sprues, some in chunks of sub-assemblies pulled from wrecks.

Much of my personal modelling history is in that box. Digging through all that stuff will take time because as I unearth stuff, I will inevitably stop and wander down model-building Memory Lane. Oh, yeah! I remember that kit! It was a piece of junk! And this one! The ex threw it at me! That's why it's here, or at least part of it is here.

Organization. That's the key! I need a whole bunch of other, smaller boxes.

Tires in here, props in there, bombs and rockets here, turrets and mast parts in that one. Decal scraps, piles of them, line the bottom of the box. Put them all in plastic baggies.

But above all, I must scrutinize each and every part, and think to myself: Do I really need to keep this? Really? Think long and hard, Amigo.

Chances are, this part is on here, because you thought it stunk as a kit part, and you replaced it with a fancy, pricey, resin part. And it's one of *hundreds*. Maybe if you have two or three hundred 1/72nd scale wheels, you can get rid of a few. Maybe you, like me, really don't need three different Mustang bubble-top canopies. Maybe you don't need the top half of the wing to a P-38. Or the nose cone from a Tornado. Or the landing gear strut from a...what the heck is this from? If you have to go to Google to figure out what that part came from, you can probably get rid of it.



But don't toss the rejects in the trash. Put them in a box. Bring them to the next club meeting, and stick a sign on the box that says "*free parts*." Then you get to watch with unbridled joy (does anyone ever have "bridled" joy?) as your fellow modelers dig in the box like kids at Christmas:

"Ooo...I can use this!" "On what?, I don't know...but I can use it!"

"What is it? I don't know...but I can use it!"

"Use it for what? I don't know...but I can use it!"

And so on. Stuff that's clogging up your modeling life goes out the door. You make others happy, and clog up their modeling lives at the same time. What a nice gesture!

So this summer, when the birds are panting, dogs are chasing cats and they are both walking, fight the doldrums. Do something. Clean out something. Move something.

It's too hot to do real work!

Rick

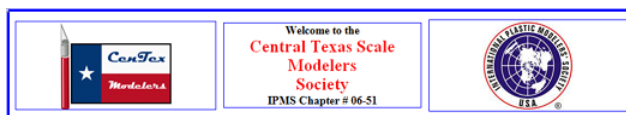


## **Web At Night: Rewind compiled by Jean-Michel D'Aubigne**

Many who have been building scale models have collected a vast assortment of tools and modeling aids to help them on their way. After a while the modeler will wander into a drug store to get a few sundries for the home and stumbles upon the aisle with all the girl stuff. Mascara, eyeliner, lash curlers, emery boards...wait...emery boards? Is that the same thing as a sanding stick? Yes, it is.

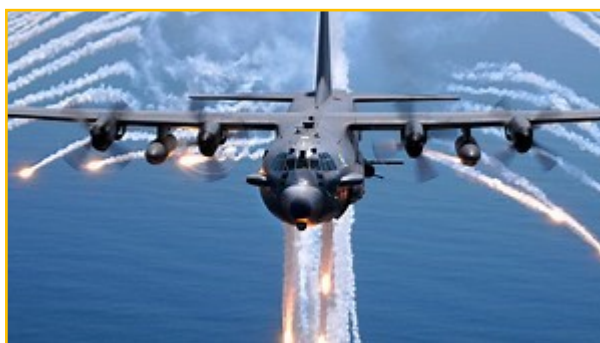
Our pals at Model Railroad Academy have put together a short video on the efficacy of shopping for modeling supplies in the beauty section of your local apothecary.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cUwxTKtW1j0>



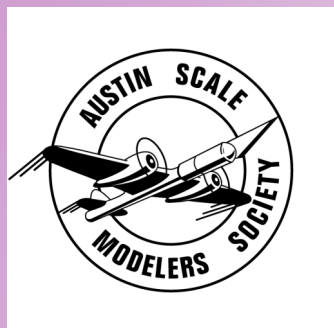
Mike Burns of CenTex Scale Modelers, our modeling pals to the north, has updated their website. A lot. Oodles of cool photos of members work, some helpful links, and other associated modeling stuff.

<http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/>



Milton Bell has sent in a link of a cool video about what goes on inside an AC-130 gunship. There are some sequences of loading ammunition, engine start, taxiing, and what goes on inside during a live fire exercise.

<http://www.chonday.com/Videos/acinsbrut4>



### ASMS Quarterly Contest Schedule

September 15



Bondo Special  
Contest

December 15



White Elephant  
Contest

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



<http://kingshobbyshop.com/>

After I watched that video, I was curious to know what it might be like to be on the receiving end of all that firepower. Thanks to the internet, we can get an idea. Special Ops Squadron has created an AC-130 Gunship simulation. This simulation imagines an attack on an enemy convoy.

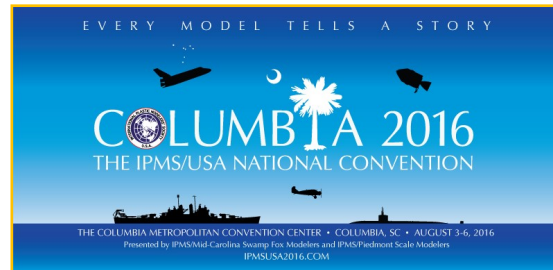
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIL9yZSbcE0>

Model Rectifier Corporation has acquired JTT & Partners. JTT & Partners have been among the leading makers of microscale scale (HO or 1/87th) scenery products.

The company makes everything from potted plants and grassland mats to trees and turf. The item that really caught my eye was a kit of a section of grassland mat with all the plants and shrubs you would need for a complete scene. Just add figures or a model.

There is also a line of street furniture. The street furniture thing threw me for minute. I have come to find out that street furniture means lamp posts and utility poles. Never even thought to call them that. JTT & Partners also have an interesting looking moon and/or water crater mat.

<http://www.jttmicroscale.com/>



The 2016 version of the IPMS/USA National Convention is in the bag. Now its on to Tennessee and Arizona with a stop in Nebraska for the 2017 convention.

Which is not to say that things are completely over. Mark Aldrich and his minions were furiously photographing all the entries during the convention.

These photos have been posted on the IPMS/USA website for your viewing pleasure. Be sure and allow plenty of time as there are gobs of wonderfully done models to peruse.

<http://svsm.org/gallery/columbia2016>

This item is courtesy of Milton Bell.



For the first time since 1956, a B-29 named *Doc* roared into the sky celebrating a successful first flight Sunday, July 17, 2016. The flight lasted about seven minutes and the crew reported an overall successful flight. *Doc* took off from McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kansas and returned to the same runway.

*Doc* is joined in the air by *FiFi*. There are now two flying B-29's! *Doc* is a very fine looking restored Super Fortress and this is a link to the site that has several videos.

<http://www.b-29doc.com/2016/07/18/video-first-flight-success/>

As long as we are on the subject of restoration projects, Chuck "Obiwan" Konefsky sent in this link. It's a short film showing the process of the detail paint work on the conservation of the original U.S.S. Enterprise miniature.



This miniature was used in all seventy-nine episodes of the original *Star Trek* television series. The detail paint work was done between the 11th and the 23rd of April, 2016 at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia.

The model is now on display in the Boeing Milestones of Flight Hall at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, District of Columbia.

<https://vimeo.com/176999007>

Jean-Michel



### Fred's Fun Facts: August 18

In 1903, Karl Jatho, a German engineer, allegedly flies a powered airplane four months before the Wright Brothers.

The 19th amendment of the U.S. Constitution is ratified in 1920. This guaranteed women's suffrage.

*The Hardest Day* is fought on this day in 1940. Part of the Battle of Britain, this is the largest aerial battle to date with heavy losses on both sides.

[suggested by Fred Horky, information by Wikipedia]

## Support Your Local Hobby Shop



<http://www.kingshobbyshop.com/>



<http://www.hillcountryhobby.com/index.html>



<http://www.hobbytown.com/>



Blame Keith Townsend, if you must.

## Texas Air Museum, San Antonio by G. R. Dennis Price



The Texas Air Museum, San Antonio Branch, is located at Stinson Municipal Airport.

<http://www.texasairmuseum.org/>

Stinson Municipal Airport is the second oldest, continually operated, general aviation airport in the United States. It was established in 1915 by the Stinson family. It was used by the USAAF as a training base during World War II, but was then turned over to the City of San Antonio for general aviation use.



1911 Curtiss Model D replica, used in Mexican Civil War and flew against a Christofferson Biplane in the first aerial dogfight in the Americas.



Christofferson Biplane replica, used in Mexican Civil War in the early 1900's.



Boeing P-26 mock up



1924 Ford Model T Ambulance



1979 Pietenpol Air Camper, RN1, with a five-cylinder Lambert radial engine.



1910 Avro Triplane, 80% replica.





1946 Ercoupe 415-C



1968 Spinks Acromaster



1929 Waco GXE. Usually pronounced 'wah-co', it was designed and built by the **Weaver Aircraft Company of Ohio**.



1942 Howard DGA15P



1940 Piper J3C-65

The airport is on the route of the San Antonio Missions Trail.

<https://www.nps.gov/saan/index.htm>



WWII Fieseler Fi.103 replica.



1940 Eichmann Aerobat



1946 Funk B85-C. Designed and built by the Funk Brothers, the Akron Aircraft Company built only 380 aircraft.

If you tire of the crowds and noise at the Alamo and the River Walk, stop by the Texas Air Museum on your way between the quieter San Antonio Missions, or just visit the museum.

The Texas Air Museum has a collection of early aircraft replicas, general aviation aircraft, and a few warbirds. It also houses a good assortment of engines and training aids, models, and uniforms.

Dennis



[All photos by G.R. Dennis Price]

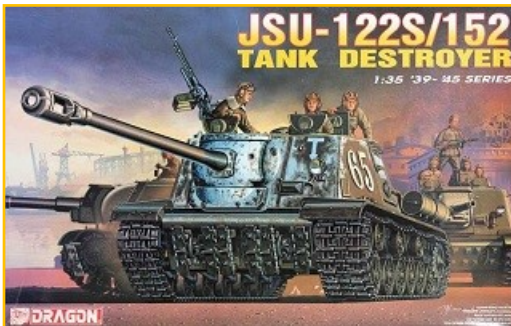
## I've Put It Off Long Enough by Mike Lamm



The procrastination build seemed like a good idea for an ASMS quarterly model contest...at the time.

Pick three to five kits from your stash that you've wanted to build, but for whatever reason, haven't. Give those choices to a randomly selected club member. That member then *assigns* you the kit you need to build for the quarterly model contest.

**January 21:** Seems simple enough, and it's a great way to finish one of the models that may have been hanging around your stash for a while. So, at the January meeting of ASMS, I showed up with my list, and was paired with Dave Edgerly.

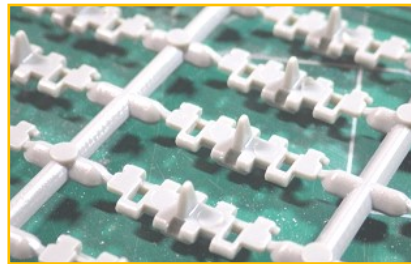


Dave managed to pick one of the older kits in my stash, Dragon's 1/35th scale ISU-122/152 for my build subject. Honestly, I can say that I was excited to get started on this kit. However, since this was a procrastination build, I waited a couple weeks to get started.

**February 10:** Once I did start the build, I began to see some of the challenges that lay ahead. This was definitely not going to build like a Tamiya armor kit.



To begin with, just about every piece had seam lines, and flash that was going to need to be cleaned up.



Some of the worst offenders were the individual track links, with two ejector pin marks, and a nice seam line on each piece.



This was also going to be the first 1/35th scale Dragon kit I had ever built.

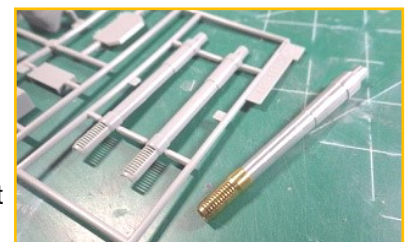
Around the beginning of my build, Bob Bethea gave a presentation on displaying finished models. As I sat enthralled with his presentation, I thought "you know what? I should do that with my tank!"

I also decided I was going to do more than just build a model. I planned on trying to display it properly, and even try my hand at adding some figures.



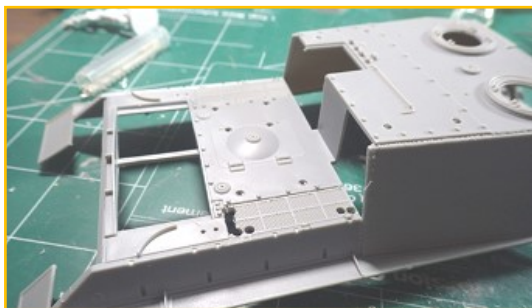
This meant getting some figures to work with, and I ended up choosing some Verlinden, Tamiya, and Italeri Soviets for the job. I also picked up a tooled metal barrel to replace the kit part for the JSU-122's 152mm howitzer.

I was beginning to get really excited about this build, but not excited enough to spend any amount of time working on it.



After cleaning about 40 out of 188 track links, my excitement started to wane. I also had a small photo-etch set to replace some of the grills, and tool

brackets. I worked on removing some plastic, and started on some of the figures. *Anything*, other than those track links.



I also spent some time thinking about how I wanted to display the finished product. With an old plaque as a base, and some plaster wall pieces, I began to look at display options.

**March 21:** These trial displays happened the week of March 21st, so there was still plenty of time to get this one done.



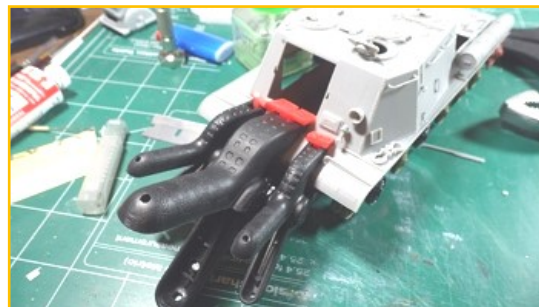
Ultimately, I was just putting off actually working on the model (procrastinating a little maybe?) because the more time I spent working on it, the more I found

wrong with the fit. I'm not sure if it was user error, or the kit, but more than likely it was a combination of both.

The rear deck of the hull didn't match up with the hull. Maybe one of the parts had warped over time, or maybe it was just made this way. Either way, it was a mess. In the end, I broke off a fender and decided to cut off the other side so I had matching missing pieces. Then both fenders were replaced with bits from a Coke can.



**May 15:** Once the rear deck was completed, it took a little more effort than I expected to connect the hull with the chassis. Luckily, I had enough clamps and was able to get it sealed up and ready for priming by the week of May 15th. Still plenty of time to finish it up.



Needless to say, all this cutting, clamping, and general manhandling, caused more than a few losses of hatches, brackets, and other dodads hanging off the tank. Miraculously, all lost pieces were found!

**June 16:** Also, miraculously, it was about this time we got an announcement that the procrastination build contest had been moved back a month. Now, instead of trying to kill myself to finish it by June 16th, I had until July 21st! In other words, an infinite amount of time.



The kit sat primed, with less than half the tracks finished, maybe one figure ready, and nothing started on the base.

**July 4:** Next thing I knew, it was the Fourth of July so, I started working on markings. I also had a business trip, and tucked the rest of the tank's track links into my bag to complete in some distant hotel room.



**July 9:** When I got home, I managed to get the tank painted and the build completed by July 9th. At a minimum, I would have something to enter in the procrastinator's contest. With fewer than 14 days until the contest, I had an eternity to finish.



Still, I wanted to have a base to display it on, and I wanted some half-decent figures to display with it. I pressed on to finish.

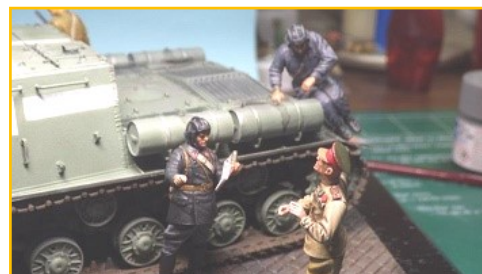
About a week later, I was still unsure what I wanted to do with the figures, and how I wanted to display the tank. I had the figures completed, and just needed to finish the street scene.



**July 15:** With fewer than 3 days left until the actual contest, the tank was completed, the figures were ready, and I had a plan for the display. So, there was no reason to rush this one.

The tank's markings were for a vehicle that participated in the Battle of Berlin (May 1945), so I planned on attempting a street scene as the fighting in Germany was coming to an end.

**The morning of July 21:** With little to no fanfare, I managed to get it all completed with more than a few hours left before the contest. In other words, finished in plenty of time.



When it was all said and done, I was happy with Dave's choice for me, and it did give me an opportunity to work on displaying models in a more interesting way. I happily voted for continuing this contest next year, but I think I'll put some easier to complete models on my procrastination list next time.

Mike



[All photos by Mike Lamm]

## Model O' The Month by Roy Lothbrok

Austin Scale Modelers Society has a monthly contest at each of our meetings. Many of these contests are just whatever the modeler wishes to bring. The only proviso being that it be a completed model in order to be eligible for entry.

Four times each year, the club holds a quarterly contest. These are usually themed events with the participating modelers required to bring a completed, specific kit. The ASMS quarterly contests have an added incentive for participation. There is some money on the line. Austin Scale Modelers Society has partnered with King's Hobby Shop to offer gift certificates for first, second, and third places at each of these quarterly contests. The first place recipient of our quarterly contests also has bestowed on them the Model O' the Month honorific. Which affords the opportunity to return at the end of the year and participate in Model O The Year honors.

The theme for the July quarterly contest was a Procrastinator Contest. The genesis for this contest is lost to the sands of time. Simply put, the idea was for each member to list three to five models they really would like to complete but for one reason or another they just haven't gotten around to building. That list was exchanged with another member and they, in turn, selected which one the procrastinator was to build. Armed with some new enthusiasm each member went off to complete their assigned kit. This quarterly contest was originally scheduled for our June meeting. But, owing to the nature of the contest it was postponed until July. Who saw that coming?



The Phantom Mustang from Monogram is one of those kits that many have built or, at least, wanted to build. Bill Delk brought out his finished version (after seven years), still with dropping bombs, retracting landing gear, and rotating prop.



Angela Forster has been futzing with Nathan Bedford Forest for some time. The 1/35th scale Legend kit required some extensive carving work. The lower torso came as a solid block and Angela gouged, scrapped, and sculpted the legs.

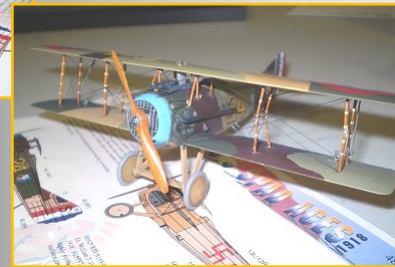




Mike Krizan's chosen kit is this 1/24th scale M-B GA from ICM. Mike notes that there really isn't anything worth noting about the kit. Although he did mention that the tires were warped.



This 1/48th scale SPAD XIII from Eduard has been vanquishing, unbuilt, for over five years. It began life as a tribute to his wife's grandfather "Wild Bill Ponder." As you can be noted, there were some issues with the struts, among other things. According to Ian, not one of Eduard's better offerings.



What is a poor boy to do with a kit that has a fiddly suspension and some ill-fitting parts? If you're Ron McCracken, you replace the tracks, open up the hatches, and scratch-build an interior. All for a 1/72nd scale T26-E3 from Trumpeter.

Tim Robb added clear Plexiglas wingtip lights to his otherwise OOB 1/48th scale Hobbycraft Hawker Sea Fury. The decal for the spinner began as one piece. It was eventually cut into five in order to get it to lie down properly.

Tim's efforts garnered **third** place in the Procrastinator Contest.



**Third Place**





Seven years ago, in a deserted shack on the outskirts of town, Dave Edgerly began Revell's Pine Island Sea Plane Tender.

Dave corrected the radar and fire direction controls and scratch built the life boat davits. The gun turrets were replaced with some from a 1/350th scale Fletcher-class destroyer. The 1/350th scale tug is an Iron Shipwrights resin kit. He also added some sailors from Eduard.



This 1/35th scale ISU-152 is from Dragon. It also represents Mike Lamm's first foray into armor building. Maybe not the best place to start? For all the details, flip back a couple of pages and read his article on building the kit.



You know, I think I *do* see a squirrel!



[Editor's Note: If you want get in on the fun and understand the cryptic remarks in the newsletter, you need to attend the club meetings.]



Ben Morton showed up with a 1/6th scale resin kit from Industria Mechanica of a Drone Sniper.

The cape was fashioned from a surgical-grade cellulose swab. Or, it may have just been a paper towel? The flare shield on the rifle was fabricated from heat-shrink electrical tubing. Definitely *not* surgical-grade.



**Second Place**



Ian Candler may not have gotten the note about the postponement of the Procrastinator Contest, as his entry was completed on the originally scheduled date. Nevertheless he showed a 1/35th scale A-39 Tortoise from Meng and won **second** place. Ian noted that the suspension, how shall I put this, lacks something to be desired. The base is made from a picture frame acquired at a local hobby emporium. Or, it could have been from a Target.



**First Place**



Rick Herrington's eloquence knows no bounds as he described Kinetic's 1/35th scale MRAP as a *dog*. Crummy instructions, ejector pin marks in the oddest of places, sink marks in the moldings and all around poor fit of the parts. Other than that, a wonderful build. (Anyone else notice a pattern with these procrastinator kits?)

Rick replaced the machine gun with one from LiveResin and added a figure from Masterbox. Rick was awarded **first** place for a superb job despite the kit's best efforts.

Roy





## Old Rumors / New Kits 2G

Randy Bumgardner, Rick Herrington,  
Golzar Shahrzad, Aaron Smischney

### It Figures

The big news in figures is the return of Latorre Models. For those who do not know, Raul Garcia Latorre is one of the best sculptors around with a keen eye for posing. He used to have his own company but closed down a while ago.

Even though the miniatures are old, they are still top notch with superb detail. I am very happy about this latest news as the Latorre figures are notably hard to find and on those rare occasions when they are found, command exorbitant prices.

Over the coming months, he will be re-issuing his Id. line. Not only are the older figures being re-issued but new ones are on the way! Coming soon is a bust and 75mm figure of "Little John" of Robin Hood fame. It looks like its going to be another classic!



To find out more information go here:

<http://www.mproyec.com/#latorre-home/cpbn>

Model Cellar Productions has some new 1/32nd scale figures for your Great War winged thingies, or as a stand alone figure diorama.

Among the new releases are an RAF mechanic and pilot. These are sculpted by another legendary artist in the figure world, Mike Good.



Next up is a personal favorite of mine. A new announcement from Black Crow Miniatures. A bust sculpted by the incredibly talented Lucas Pina. Just look at that awesome iguana on his back.

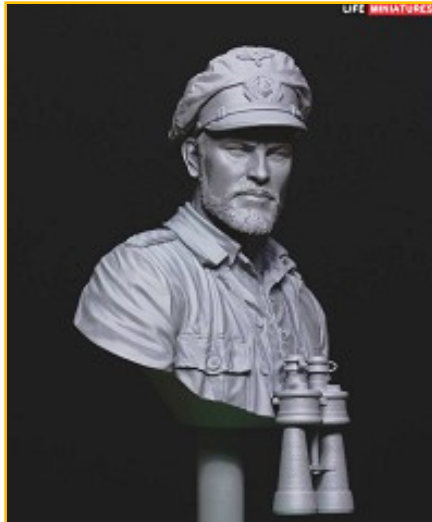


Here is the link to their website:

<http://www.blackcrowminiatures.com/shop/>

[F.Y.I. Their online ordering system will not accept a U.S.A. address. Just contact them directly and ask for a PayPal invoice for the United States. They will send you an invoice sans VAT with the correct shipping charges. I have ordered from them this way and didn't have any problems.]

Life Miniatures has another superb bust on the way, this one of a German U-boat commander.



This one is already making its way into the shop, and looks like another outstanding addition to the Life Miniatures line-up

Those are my highlights. Until next time!

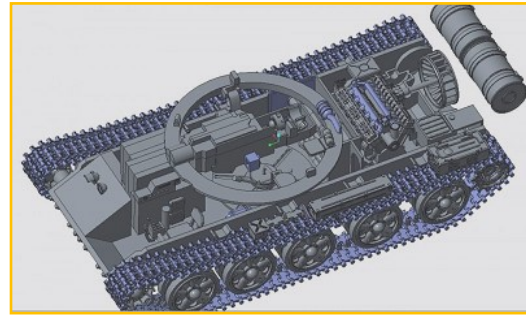
Aaron



### Tanks A Lot

Greetings armor fans, and hello armor curious!

Let's start this month off in braille scale for something really neat, Modelcollect has announced a 1/72 scale T-62 with full interior! Yes that's right, a braille scale tank with an interior! Get those optivisors out!

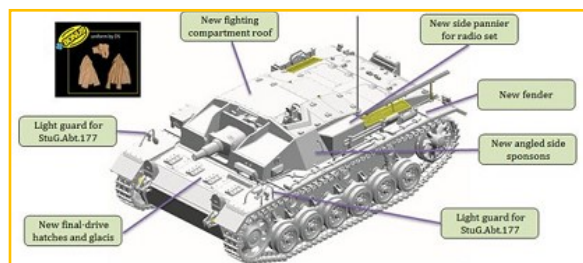
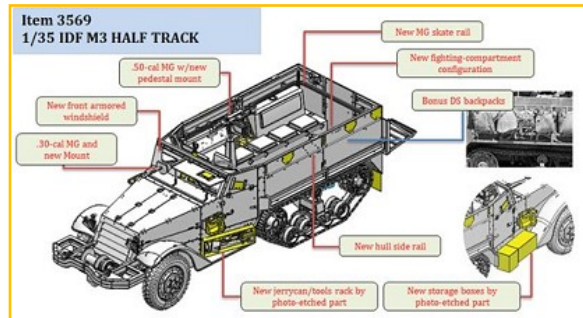


This will be a boon for people wanting to display a knocked out tank, or as a show-stopping surprise for the judges (Make sure you leave a magnifier glass on the table). What is really interesting about this release is that there isn't even a 1/35th scale version with interior out there!

Another fascinating announcement is a T-80UM. Only one of these was ever made but it's still a neat tank.



From Dragon is the IDF variant of the M3 half-track. This is a very important vehicle for any IDF fan and should make some of them very happy.



Dragon has also announced a new STUG variant, this time the short barreled Stug3 Ausf C/D.

Those are the highlights. Until next time!

Aaron



## Shipping News

Here's the stuff.

Fujimi and Aoshima are both coming out with a model of the IJN Ryuho aircraft carrier. Fujimi's will include a wooden deck. Aoshima is going to depict her as she looked at the Battle of Easter Solomons with no extra goodies included. Both kits are in 1/700th scale.



Aoshima is also releasing the IJN Cruiser Oi Kai torpedo cruiser in this same scale.

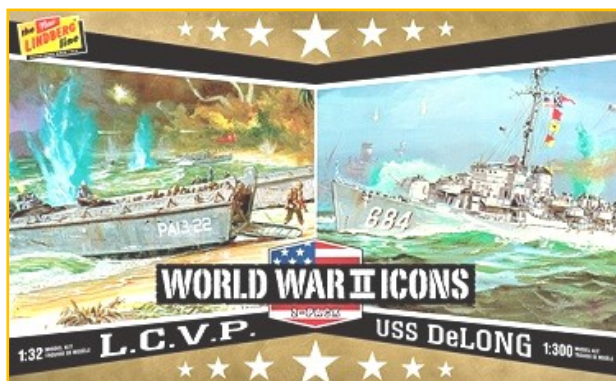
Five Star Models has a couple of update kits coming soon. First, the WWII Royal Navy O Class destroyer followed by the WWII IJN Shiratsuyu destroyer (late type). FStar is also coming forth with an update set for the WWII IJN Aijn Asashio (early type). All of these are in 1/700th scale.



Combrig Models has the Sovetsky Soyuz Battleship Project 23 headed our way. The WW II-era battleship project is similar in design to the United States Missouri-class fast battleship class. The vessel was never built.

The Lindberg Line continues its renaissance with a 1/240th scale re-issue of the USS Olympia. I built this kit in high school and she succumbed to my BB-gun in a local lake. The USS Olympia was the flagship of Admiral Dewey during the Spanish American War.

Lindberg also offers a dual boxing of their 1/32nd scale LCVP coupled with the USS DeLong destroyer escort which is in 1/300th scale.



For you folks that bought the 1/200th scale HMS Hood kit from Trumpeter, MK 1 has come out with several update sets for that kit.

The Hood Value-Pack detail set includes a wooden deck, an anchor, seven sets of photo-etch, and brass gun barrels for the armament. All for a paltry sum of \$237.00. There is also a mast and radar set for around \$70.00.



For a complete showing of what you get for your money, follow this link:

<http://www.model-dockyard.com/acatalog/info-MD20015.html>

That's it for this month. Since it was my birthday this month I set a goal to finish my Trumpeter 1/350th scale Graf Spee before my next birthday. Set a goal for yourself to finish a kit from your stash this month!

Rick



### Miscellaneous

There are a number of kit manufacturers that produce Egg planes. True aficionados of this genre refer to these kits as either distorted or deformed models.



While most depict aircraft, Fujimi has a line of deformed ship models. The latest is from the Chibi-Maru fleet and includes the IJN Ryu. The kit gives you a choice between a wooden flight deck or the gray colored linoleum deck common to this type. There is also a photo-etch set available as a separate kit.

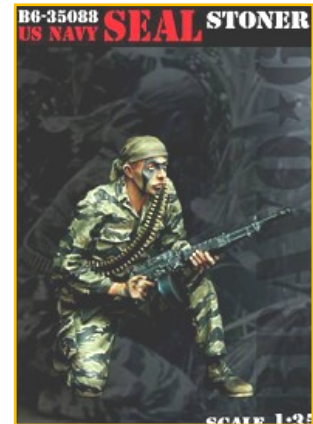
For die-hard video gamers, WAVE has a 1/12th scale construction kit of a blue Viewlix Blazblue Central Fiction arcade cabinet. The model is molded in color and comes with stickers for various screens.



J's Work from China has been producing 1/35th scale scenery and paint masks for some time, They now have some 1/35th scale accessories for your next diorama: a refrigerator and a washing machine.



Bravo 6 has an extensive line of 1/35th scale figures. Most of these are G.I.'s from the Vietnam-era. One of their latest is U.S. Navy Seal, Stoner. I'm not sure if the title refers to this figure carrying a Stoner 63 squad weapon or if it is referring to being in Vietnam with easy access to some killer pipe weed.



One of the joys of doing this column is the discovery of new (to me) kit manufacturers. One such wonder is Love Love Garden. This Japanese company produces Mashinen Krieger kits and the newest is the 1/20th scale P.K.A. Kangaroo. The kit is resin with some clear bits, decals, and a pilot figure.

For truly small scale fans, Anigrand has five new releases for your enjoyment. These are all in 1/144th scale and cast in resin. The models are the Lockheed R6V-1, the Nakjima B4N-1, the Northrop YC-125B, the Boeing YC-14, and the McDonnell YC-15. The YC-14 and YC-15 were offered as a replacement for the Lockheed C-130 but neither made it into production.



This next item is not particularly new but I thought it interesting. And maybe a true test of one's decaling skills. A 1/144th scale caution data sheet for the F-4 Phantom. This test of courage is brought to you by MYK Design. Note: All these decals go on a model that is three or four inches long.



Metallic Details has embarked on a new venture in the world of update sets. This time they are offering engines and superchargers for the 1/48th scale B-24 from Monogram. With a meager part count of 148, in resin and photo-etch, it shouldn't take too much time to complete.



Revell/Germany is taking orders for a limited run of Star Wars themed kits. In 1/72nd scale is the Millennium Falcon. In 1/48th scale, they are offering the X-Wing and the TIE fighters.

The Force doesn't come cheap. The Millennium Falcon with 400 parts is going for an MSRP of \$349.99. The X-Wing, (141 parts), is selling for \$99.99 while the TIE fighter (43 parts) is the cheapest at \$79.99. But you do get a pilot figure with the fighter kits so maybe not so expensive after all.



If you are in the mood to model every variant of a particular aircraft, R. V. Aircraft has you covered. Previously they kitted every known variant of the Mig-21, even doing a target drone version. They now have embarked on doing the same for the Mirage III E. This 1/72nd scale kit has marking options for six different aircraft. It is injected molded with resin bits for the cockpit and exhaust.

If you ever wanted to own a 1966 Porsche but just couldn't bring yourself to blow that much money, Franzis de has come to your rescue. They are offering the next best thing. A 1/4th scale Porsche 1966 flat-six Boxer engine. At \$200.00 each you may want several. The kits comes with moving parts and sound.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aml2NyzzcHU>

Go build the your model.

Golzar





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With IPMS/USA Membership, you will receive the outstanding IPMS/USA Journal six times a year - it includes features on all modeling subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, figures - you name it! You will also find listings of IPMS contests, swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews.

Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA sanctioned contests, and particularly in our World-famous National Convention, held each summer. As a member, you'll also be able to access our online Discussion Board, where a wide variety of modeling topics are discussed, and enjoy interaction with other serious modelers for help with questions about modeling techniques or the Society in general. Many Hobby Shops and Model Vendors around the USA offer discounts to IPMS/USA Members.

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### ***In the latest Issue:***

#### ***IPMS/USA Journal July + August 2016***



- Steampunk Spy Plane - Industria Mechanika's Dragonfly Odonopter Type One, by Dave Edgerly
- Wonder Weapon Wing - Piecing Together Zoukei-Mura's 1:48 Horton Ho 229, by Doug Reed
- Salty Shape-Shifter - Adding Character to Star Trek's First Monster, the Salt Creature of Planet M113, by Mark McGovern
- The Latest Abrams on the Throne - Working Through Academy's New M1A2 Abrams TUSK II, by Eric Christianson
- Sleek, Silver and Still Super - Putting the polish on the classic Monogram B-29 Superfortress, by Rod Lees
- The World's Getting Smaller Every Day - A Visual Guide to Creating 1:72 Dioramas and Vignette, by Mike Fleckenstein

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# Austin Scale Modeler's Society



**September 24, 2016**

**Norris Conference Center  
Austin, Texas**

**Theme:**  
*Failures and Defeats*

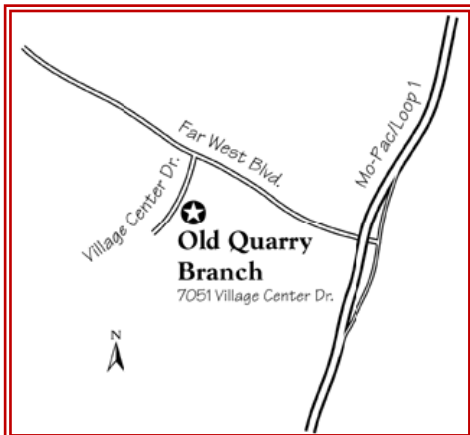
**For complete details:**

[http://austinsms.org/  
contest.php](http://austinsms.org/contest.php)

**Next Meeting:**

**August 18**

**Austin Old Quarry Library**  
7051 Village Center Drive  
Austin, Texas  
7PM to 8:45PM



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Presented by Ft. Worth Scale Modelers

**September 10, 2016**

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