



# SPRUE EXAMINER®

Newsletter of the Austin Scale Modeler's Society

June 2016

## Fallout 4 Raiders by Ben Morton

It isn't often that one gets to combine two or more of their pastimes, but occasionally you do. Such is the case with this next tale.

I enjoy console video games and have progressively upgraded my gaming system as the new consoles have come out. From a PlayStation 2 to the PlayStation 4. This latest iteration of PlayStation included a new version of an older game, FallOut 4.

According to Wikipedia, "Fallout 4 is a post-apocalyptic role-playing game, or RPG. It is the fifth major installment in the series. The player is the sole survivor of Vault 111 (a combination bomb shelter and cryogenic storage facility), who emerges 210 years to the day and time after the Great War.

As revealed in the trailer, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GE2BkLqMef4>) the setting takes place in Boston, Massachusetts. Famous local landmarks like the Paul Revere Monument, the USS Constitution, as well as the Massachusetts State House are included in the game world. Other notable present-day locations that make an appearance in the game are Scollay Square, Bunker Hill Memorial, and Fenway Park, which is renamed Diamond City. The events of Fallout 4 occur in 2287.

[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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**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

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| EagleQuest 2016, Grapevine, Texas   | 6.16-18.16 |
| <a href="http://www.squadroneaglequest.com/">http://www.squadroneaglequest.com/</a>                               |            |
| SoonerCon 2016, Bethany, Oklahoma   | 6.18.16    |
| <a href="http://www.ipmsmetrookc.com/soonercon-2016.html">http://www.ipmsmetrookc.com/soonercon-2016.html</a>     |            |
| Moonlight Car Show & Street Party, Wichita, Kansas  | 7.09.16    |
| <a href="http://www.automobiliausa.com/events.html#carshow">http://www.automobiliausa.com/events.html#carshow</a> |            |
| Houston Automotive Modeler's Society, Spring, Texas   | 7.30.16    |
| <a href="http://www.ipms-hams.org/annual-contest/">http://www.ipms-hams.org/annual-contest/</a>                   |            |
| IPMS/USA National Convention, Columbia, South Carolina  | 8.3-6.16   |
| <a href="http://www.ipmsusa2016.com/">http://www.ipmsusa2016.com/</a>   |            |

### Local Club Meetings

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas  | 7.07.16 |
| <a href="http://alamosquadron.com/meetings.html">http://alamosquadron.com/meetings.html</a> |         |
| Austin Armor Builders Society, Austin, Texas  | 7.06.16 |
| <a href="http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com">http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com</a>         |         |
| Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas   | 7.07.16 |
| Centex Scale Modelers, Killeen, Texas   | 6.16.16 |
| <a href="http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/">http://www.centexscalemodelers.org/</a>       |         |
| Hill Country Outlaws, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas                                      | 7.02.16 |
| Lone Star Military Miniatures Society,<br>San Marcos Library, San Marcos, Texas             | 7.09.16 |

### Other Events

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| Build-N-Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas | 6.18.16 |
|--|---------|

### 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

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**Chris Chany**, Rumpus and Hokum Abatement Director



## Peanut Brittle

*Randy Bumgardner*

Greetings fellow modelers!

Welcome to the month of June. We are almost at the mid-point of another journey around the sun. Hopefully, this missive finds you happily working on projects of your choice, or, perhaps, happily working on projects of someone else's choice. Either way, you should be having fun.

This month brings a very special guest to our June meeting – Alejandra Fernandez. Alejandra is with Andrea Depot USA, the official US distributor of Andrea Miniatures. They have just completed their move to Cedar Park. Alejandra Fernandez will be at our meeting for a presentation and Q&A session. It's a good thing we've procrastinated on the Procrastinators Contest – more time for the presentation this month!



<http://www.andreadepotusa.com/en/1/andrea-miniatures.html>

We will also be hearing the latest on the site selection for next year's Capitol Classic. I want to pin down a site and get a date in place. We can have a (brief) discussion about it at this month's meeting.

For those that haven't heard yet, Jack Johnston and his lovely wife Lisa have agreed to open their house, yet again, for our 437th Annual Austin Scale Modeler's Society Barbecue and Model Auction. It will occur on July 23rd beginning about eleven AM. The usual rules apply: bring a side dish to pass around, bring your own drinks, bring your own chair, and bring lots of money. No fisticuffs, or any other cuffs. Bidding wars are encouraged. We will discuss and vote on the main courses at the meeting.

Another topic of note is that Camp Mabry has opened up a display area and have invited ASMS to participate in populating it. Tim Robb forwarded me an email from Major Mike Torres. Major Torres asked if we would be interested in supplying some models for the display area.

The display area is split between the main HQ building and the General's primary office. He didn't mention any scale restrictions, although I think we should limit it to 1/72nd and 1/48th. Subjects should be military in keeping with the venue. It is Camp Mabry, after all. Major Torres' primary interest is in Air Force subjects, although adversaries are welcome. Obviously, Texas Air National Guard subjects are highly welcome.



And last but not least, we are being asked to provide a resolution of support for IPMS/USA-Alamo Squadron's bid for a National Convention in the San Antonio area. I will draw up the initial wording and we can discuss and edit it at the meeting. It will be clear and concise, stating our support and best wishes in their endeavor. It will also clearly state that ASMS will not provide members, nor monies, toward the operation of the Convention. It will be the decision of each member whether they want to get involved.

See you at the meeting!

Randy

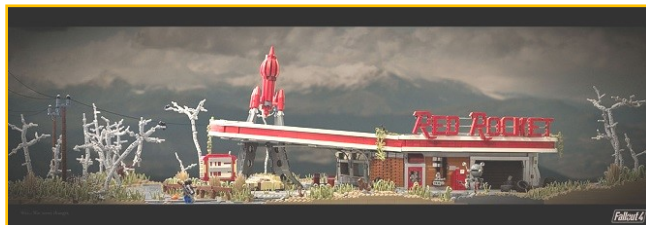


Fallout 4's gameplay is similar to that of the previous entries in the series, however this latest instalment in the series, introduces new features including a layered armor system, base-building, a dynamic dialogue system featuring 111,000 lines of dialogue, an in-depth crafting system which implements every loot-able object in the game, and much more."

Enemies such as mole rats (giant, carnivorous, mutated rats), raiders, super-mutants, deathclaws, and feral ghouls return in Fallout 4. The super-mutants and feral ghouls were once human but have mutated from the nuclear radiation of the Great War. All of these creatures are out to get you as you progress though the game. Players have the ability to roam anywhere on the map, and leave a conversation at any time. Of all the enemies that the player encounters during gameplay, the raiders were the one that caught my eye.

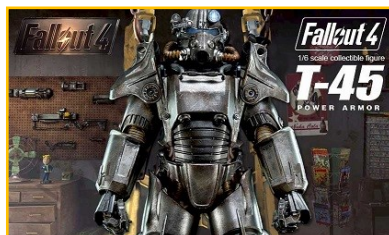
Raiders, one of several different factions in the game, are best described as mercenaries and, as such, have a rather loose and flexible sense of societal norms. In other words, in the game, they'll kill you with little to no compunction.

As an enthusiastic player, I thought it would be cool to have a raider figure from the game. After searching the appropriate web sites, it became clear that the entire toy industry was only willing to invest in some posable action figures of the central character and the odd key chain or coffee mug.



I did manage to locate some other modelers' attempts to build versions of some of the central structures from the game. One company, ThreeZero, has released a 1/6th scale figure of the central character in a power suit but the MSRP is in the neighborhood of \$300.00. I don't like the game *that* much.

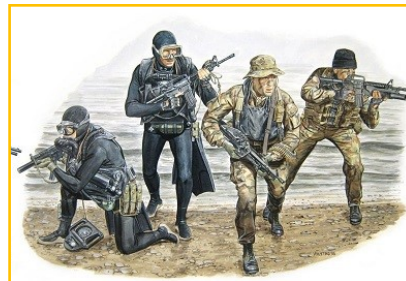
It became apparent that I would need to make my own raider if I really wanted one. Even with my limited skill set I didn't envision it being that difficult to kit-bash some pre-existing 1/35th scale figure sets and construct my very own raider from Fallout 4.



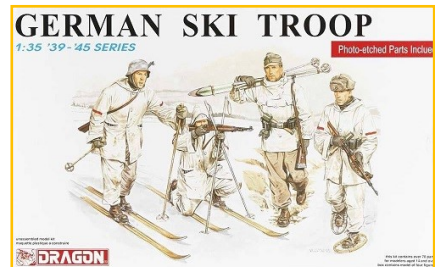
From some of the artwork used to develop Fallout 4, you can tell that the raiders used just about anything and everything as applique armor that they found lying about. This rudimentary body armor was scavenged from whatever debris had been left behind after the Great War. Bits of metal plate, chain, elaborate (and not so elaborate) protective head gear, and all manner of dress.



Off I went to scrounge through my kit stash to see what, if anything, might work. What I discovered were some older 1/35th scale figure sets from Dragon that just might do the trick. Notably, a German Ski Troop set and a four figure set of a Navy SEAL team.



What drew me to kit bashing a figure this way was that by combining the head (with face mask) from a Navy SEAL with the body of a German Ski troop,



I could avoid one of my thorny issues when it comes to painting figures: realistic faces. With a couple of dots of paint for the pupils, a mask filled with clear acrylic glue, and a face guard made from leftover photo-etch ship railing, the problem of painting a realistic face was solved.



Viewing the artwork from the game, you can tell Fallout 4 raiders wear all manner of things on and over their faces and heads, some even donning a WWI-era gas mask. A gas mask really would solve some of those not uncommon face painting concerns.



Generally, Dragon figure sets come with bits to make four figures with their accompanying weapons and any extra gear. Dragon usually molds their figure sets with torso, arms, legs, and head as separate pieces.

This makes kit-bashing these types of figure sets much easier, as you can combine arms from one with the torso of another and add whatever legs make the figure look the most realistic. A little filler here and there, some judicious sanding, and *voilà!* You have your basic figure in hand.

That was the case with the raider figure with the yellow head gear. It was simply a matter of substituting the head from a SEAL that was posed as if emerging from the water with the leg and torso of the figure posed as if standing guard. (The one on the far right in the cover art for the Navy SEAL team). I grafted the arms of the other on-shore SEAL to this figure.



This all seemed too easy. And it was, as the second raider (the one with the blue headgear) I constructed

was a bit more of a fuss. But with the basic figure in hand, it was a simple matter to add any additional bits desired.

As these are fictional characters from a video game, artistic license is your best friend. What really helped with accessorizing my raiders was a weapons set from ICM that has all manner of weapons from WWI. Most, if not all, weapons encountered in the Fallout 4 game were cobbled together from bits of pipe or left over technology from before the Great War.

In the game, there is everything from a 45 caliber pistol to a pump-action shotgun to a Thompson sub-machine gun. There are even some alien and laser weapons that become available to your character as you progress through the game. So, just about any type of weapon or gear you choose will work and be accurate within the context of Fallout 4.

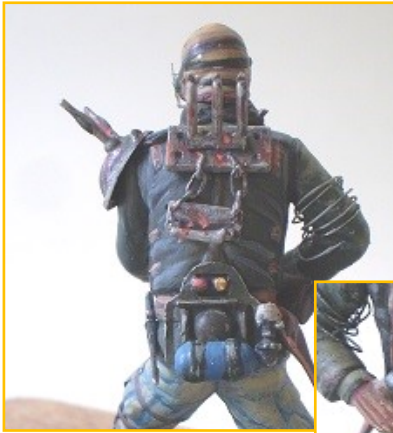


However, many of the weapons looked similar to what I found in the weapons set from ICM, so that was where I went for armaments and accessories (ammo belt, knives, hand grenades, etc.).

The supplemental armor added to the Fallout 4 figure was really a simple matter of raiding bits from my spare parts box. The left shoulder armor on the yellow guy is a fuselage bulge from an old Me109 kit with the addition of some whip antenna mounts from an even older armor kit.



On this figure's back is the top plate for a pallet of 155mm shells from an HO scale armaments set. The spikes behind his head mounted to this plate are just the grab handle from a 1/35th scale Jerry can. This came from a more recent armor kit. The bit on this Fallout 4 raider's rear hip is an accessory item from the Navy SEAL figure set.



I added some additional leg armor made from aluminum foil and attached it all to the figure with strips of Tamiya masking tape.



There is even some creative cobbler work with duct tape patching holes in the raider's boots. That detail actually shows up in the game.



The kerchief added to this Fallout 4 raider's neck is tissue paper and has the added benefit of hiding the seam between the torso and the neck on the base of the figure. There is some wire wrapped around this raider's right arm representing barbed wire. The last bit added was the face guard which is some leftover 1/700th scale photo-etch ship railing, bent to shape.

Of course, to make all this effort worthwhile, you need to paint your figure. As mentioned earlier, painting figures is not one of my strong suits. However, with the expert assistance of Bob Bethea, the whole Fallout 4 figure was brought to life.

Actually, I went to Bob's house to photograph an armor piece for this newsletter and brought the completed figure along for some advice. It turns out that another ASMS member was there for some figure painting advice as well. I had already done some of the basic painting stuff like the uniform and some of the smaller bits but had gotten stuck on how to bring the details to life.

I don't know about the other guy, but I was enthralled just watching Bob bring my figure to life with his expertise. In the course of just a couple of hours, Bob tried to explain basic figure painting to a novice.

He took my Fallout 4 raider figure to demonstrate a point and just started getting into the process of painting the thing. I was a tiny bit miffed as Bob seemed to be painting the whole thing and I thought I might have to snatch it out of his hands. But when the master is working, you let the master work. Besides, he did seem to be enjoying himself so why get in the way?

Bob enthusiasm with the Fallout 4 figure goes to one of his favorite points about figure painting. Choose a figure that really interests you, otherwise you'll lose interest and set it aside. Bob did yeoman's duty on most, if not all, of the detail painting on this one figure. I did feel kinda guilty pawing off his work as mine, but I got over it.

The Fallout 4 raider (with the blue head gear) was my second effort. Using another frogman head from the Navy SEAL set and grafting that onto a figure from the German ski trooper set, I had another raider ready for accessorizing.

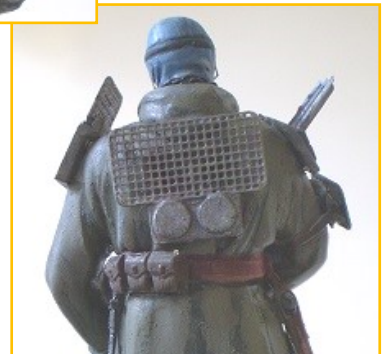
I was a bit disappointed with how this figure turned out overall. I had already used up most of the cool fiddly bits in my spare parts box.



The body armor on the right shoulder is composed of the blast shield from a 1/144th scale anti-aircraft gun with my now standard Jerry can handle serving as spikes with

the addition of a small screen below that.

All the armor (mesh screens) on this figure are left over photo-etch from a 1/72nd scale Tiger I kit. On this Fallout 4 figure's left shoulder, the screen is attached to a small scale landing gear door. Where that door came from originally, I don't know. It was just in the spare parts box.



With the addition of some foil armor on the upper thighs, some more Tamiya masking tape straps, and photo-etch ship railing for a face guard, it was off to the paint shop.



Armed with Bob Bethea's tutelage, I commenced with painting my raider. Needless to say, my efforts pale in comparison, but this one is all mine.

The base for both figures began life as some unfinished wood bits from a local hobby emporium. Adding some ground cover (Woodland scenic turf, etc.) and some more of those leftover spare part bits (some HO scale junk), I fashioned an appropriate context for these Fallout 4 raiders.

Both Fallout 4 raiders were fun to do. I got to marry two of my pastimes and learned a great deal about figure painting from someone who knows from that which he speaks.

With the number of figure manufacturers out there, both old and new, and a little modeling know how, you can kit-bash any fantasy/video game figure that strikes your fancy.

Ben



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The individual that sends in the most items will win this car. This contest is open to all and will run through 2016. But don't wait. Your chance of winning is in direct proportion to how much stuff you send in for publication in this newsletter.

***Don't Delay...Enter Now!***

Please send all entries to:  
[editor@austinsms.org](mailto:editor@austinsms.org)

[Actual prize may not be a car. Winning contestant must provide their own sorority girls. Some restrictions apply. All contestants must meet eligibility requirements.]  
[\* apologies to Steve Dallas]

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

Milton Bell is ensconced in his new digs and has had some time to find a few ditties for your amusement this month. First, an offering that highlights actual combat footage during an eighty-minute Kamikaze attack on the USS Laffey in 1945.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4zkp7hvrghcd7gd/D-qPNsG9ym?preview=Laffey+Enhanced+vo+3.wmv>

The second offering from Milton is one of those stranger than fiction stories. It highlights the exploits of Moe Berg, allegedly a spy for the United States, prior to and during WWII. It would appear that Mr. Berg was in Tokyo on a baseball tour with Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Somehow he got to the tallest building in Tokyo and shoot some footage of the surrounding city. That footage was later used to plan bombing raids on Tokyo early in the war. Truth or fiction? You decide.

<http://sabr.org/bioproj/person/e1e65b3b>

There is mention elsewhere, in this newsletter, about the exploits of the United States Air Force's latest spaceplane: the X-37B. The X-37 has been doing classified testing for some few years and is very hush hush.



That is, except for the 11,372 news stories I managed to find on the web. I could be wrong about the number of stories but there are a lot of them. Either way, it doesn't seem to be quite so secret after all. Although no one seems to have a clue what the air force actually plans to do with their newest toy.

<http://www.airspacemag.com/space/spaceplane-x-37-180957777/>

If you didn't know, Austin Scale Modeler's Society has a Facebook group. If you behave yourself and act properly, the administrator, Mike Gilsbach, will let you join. Which is not a bad idea. A number of fellow ASMS members regularly post images of their latest projects.

One such contributor is Keith Townsend. He recently added a link to a report on the worst operational airplane of World War II. It is well worth reading. Oh, the airplane in question is the Breda Ba-88.



There are several kits available if you'd like to add this beauty to your collection. One is a 1/72nd scale kit by MPM and another in 1/48th scale is from Warrior.

[https://www.warhistoryonline.com/military-vehicle-news/breda-ba-88-lince.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=postplanner&utm\\_source=facebook.com](https://www.warhistoryonline.com/military-vehicle-news/breda-ba-88-lince.html?utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=postplanner&utm_source=facebook.com)

Like all good Frenchmen, I watched the 2016 Monaco Grand Prix which was held on 29 May 2016. This is one of the premier auto races in the world and always holds some surprises. This year's first place winner was Lewis Hamilton who earns a paltry £20.9 million a year for his efforts. That's \$31 million dollars in real money and he gets performance bonuses on top of that. And, believe it or not, he's not the highest paid driver there!



This video, produced by F1, is a nice overview of the Grand Prix in Monaco. Keep in mind that these drivers are toolin' around town at an average speed of 100 miles per hour.

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

Jean-Michel





## Master Box 1/35th scale German Paratroopers. WWII Era. by Mike Lamm

Master Box LTD is a Ukrainian company specializing primarily in 1/24th, 1/32nd, and 1/35th scale military and historical figures. They also produce some fantasy subjects, and a line of 1/72nd scale WWI AFVs, and 1/35th scale vehicles.

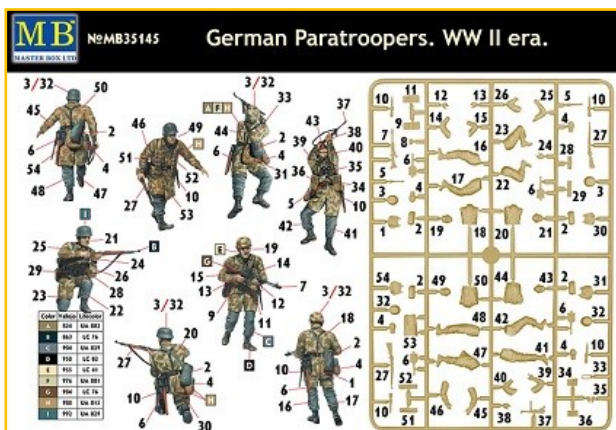
The company tends to package figures in groups to support a stand-alone vignette or diorama.



German Paratroopers. WW II era. No. MB35145

This kit features four figures from one of Germany's elite infantry units during World War II, the German paratroopers, or Fallschirmjäger. Unlike other countries during World War II, the Fallschirmjäger were part of the Luftwaffe, as opposed to the regular army, and as such, had some notable differences in their uniforms and equipment. Master Box captures these differences perfectly.

The four figures and their equipment are molded in light grey styrene on a single sprue. Each figure is comprised of six pieces, with the legs, arms, head, and torso all being separate.

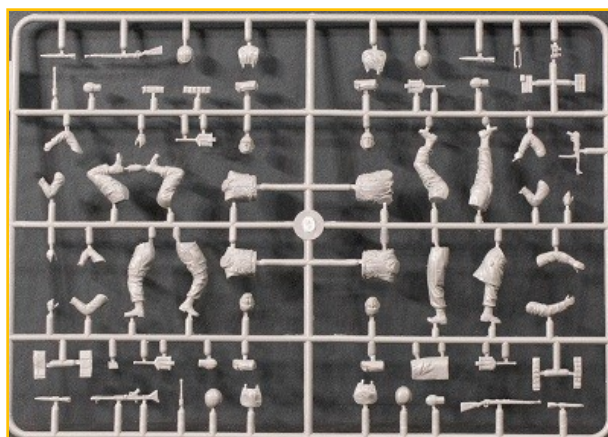


One figure is in a prone position armed with an MP-40, another is kneeling armed with a Mauser, one is standing/advancing armed with an FG-42, and the last is standing/advancing armed with a Mauser.

Each figure comes with the same standard equipment consisting of a bread bag, shovel, ammunition, gas mask, knife, paratrooper's helmet, and canteen. One figure has a German stick grenade included in his equipment.

All of the equipment is molded separately from the body, which allows the modeler to add as much equipment as they prefer, while creating a nicer level of depth to the items when compared to having the equipment molded directly on the figure's body.

The molds are nicely done with almost no flash, requiring little to no cleanup once you've taken care of the normal sprue gate marks and seam lines.



Construction was simple and each figure comes with a separately detailed head and face to create distinct differences. Each face is different with nice expressions.

Construction and painting instructions for the figures are detailed on the back of the box, with paint colors provided in both Vallejo and Lifecolor.

For the price (around \$15) you get a nice set of quality figures. The moldings are excellent and while I question how useful a prone figure is, the other three figures can be used in a variety of scenes, dioramas, or vignettes. The construction is quick and straightforward, and the end result is a set of four very nice figures.

Mike





### ASMS Quarterly Contest Schedule

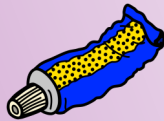
July 21

~~June 16~~



Procrastinator Contest

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/>

## The Gray Lady by Rick Cotton

A while back, I offered a short list and description of some of the cooler museums a styrene junkie can go to in the Texas/Louisiana area.

There are many, but I left a big one out – reason being, it deserves an article all its own. It's that big, spectacular, and worthwhile: The USS Lexington Museum on the Bay at Corpus Christi, Texas.



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

It's worth a weekend trip, believe me! You go aboard on the starboard elevator, pay your admission, which seems hefty until you realize exactly how much there is to see. It's a whole freaking 35,000-ton Essex-class aircraft carrier, for goodness sake!

You'll be there for a good amount of time. Take your walking shoes.

The ship is crisscrossed with numerous self-guided walking tours, through all sorts of cool diesel-and-paint-smelling passageways, from way down in the engine rooms to the Captain's seat up on the bridge. Mmmm, I love that old ship smell!

There are a lot of stairs. I said a lot. As in, more than you ever thought possible. You might want to do a lap or two around the neighborhood every night for a few weeks before going. There is now an elevator from the hangar deck to the flight deck, but that's it.

Be prepared.

The ship is filled with displays about everyday life aboard a carrier – postoffice, galley areas, medical department, officer country, all staffed by appropriately uniformed mannequins.

There are also good displays about Pearl Harbor, other ships including the first Lexington, both cruisers named Houston, and the Independence-class light carriers. Large ship models are in these spaces, and will attract both the kiddies and the model junky's camera.



You can take a seat in a pilot's ready room and imagine getting the word about oncoming kamikazes or IJN carriers.

But by far, for the hard-core model-builder, the best display just *has* to be the "Warbirds and Warships" model exhibit. Randy Barnes and crew spent years wheeling models away from us builders at various model shows...he got to me quite a bit...and they have been safely, lovingly and spectacularly displayed in this exhibit, under good lighting and finger-poking denying Plexiglas.



Hundreds and hundreds of ships and planes, from the Thirties on, in many scales, from every corner of aviation and shipbuilding, grace this display. You can spend at least an hour here alone. It's the kind of display you hope your models go to when you croak, be enjoyed by thousands of visitors every year.

When you finally get tired of looking at the scale airplanes, you can then go look at the real ones. Lex houses, among others, a TBF Avenger, an SBD Dauntless, a N3N Yellow Peril trainer, an A4 Skyhawk, an A3D Skywarrior, an A6 Intruder, and several trainers and helicopters.

There is also a paint booth on the hangar deck – when we were last there, an F4J Phantom was getting a new paint job. One to one scale modeling!

There is a theater forward, near where the old elevator well would have been, and interesting films are shown there, all included in the admission price.

A small snack bar sits at the aft end of the hangar deck, for those of you who get the munchies, and you will after traipsing all over the ship. There is also, of course, the mandatory gift shop. It is pretty extensive, with all sorts of souvenirs with such as models, coffee mugs, pens, hats, keychains, and t-shirts.

A few caveats: besides the many stairs, the ship is a *real, ex-military vessel*. That means some passageways are tight, there are things to trip over and slip on here and there, and not everywhere is air-conditioned, as of yet. You will notice this last point, if it happens to be, say, August. Dress appropriately.

But it is, after all, Corpus Christi. It's on the bay, meaning beaches and stuff nearby when you are done. Not to mention an excellent Mexican restaurant, Pepito's, on the next island north from Padre. Do get the Portobello mushroom enchiladas. You will thank me.

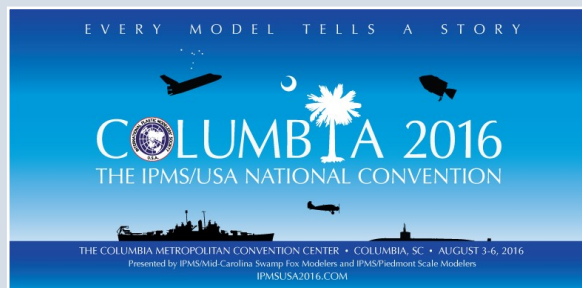
So get off your can and go see the Gray Lady in Corpus. Smell the paint, walk where Mitscher and Halsey walked. Plan a weekend, have a great time, and remember those who served aboard her, and ships like her.

Happy trails, fellow modeler!

Rick



## Columbia 2016 IPMS/USA National Convention



The 2016 IPMS/USA National Convention will be held in Columbia, South Carolina August 3-6, 2016.

Complete details on the convention is available at:  
<http://www.ipmsusa2016.com/>

## Fiddly Bits

*Frank Seibert*

Friend of the newsletter and bon vivant, David Goudie, has gone and done your newsletter a great service. David noticed that the IPMS logo in the disclaimer announcement (that's the thing with the IPMS logo and stuff above the table of contents) on the front page was a tad on the shabby side and much too pixelated for his taste. He worked his digital magic, cleaned up the image, and sent it forth. You can view his handy work by returning to the front page of this newsletter. My thanks to David.

Lest you forget, the procrastinator contest, originally scheduled for June, has been deferred until our monthly meeting in July. Who saw that coming? It would appear from initial reports that everyone has gotten pretty far along with their assigned kit. Further postponements would seem to be unlikely, but you never know.

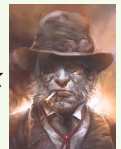
The date for the annual ASMS BBQ/Model Auction (fundraiser) has been announced and will be on July 23. Details on time and location are soon to follow. You might just as well start going through your model stash to find those treasures (kits) that you'll never get around to building. Donate them to the club, enjoy some BBQ, and bid on someone else's buried gem. As you go through your stash, make certain that all the parts for the kit are still in the box. You know, open the box...look in the box.

While maybe not quite as bon vivant as David but still very cool, Mike Lamm has joined the ranks of the reviewer corp for IPMS/USA. When queried, Mike noted that "on the IPMS/USA reviews page, they have the details and an explanation of what they are looking for in the reviews and generally, how long you have to get the reviews done (usually a couple months). To join, you just need to send an email to Dave Morrisette, who I think is in Ohio, saying you're interested in being a reviewer. He'll send you the details and how to request kits. Once you give him your information (address, IPMS/USA #, etc.), he adds you to the list and notifies Dick Montgomery. Dick manages which kits are available.

You request a kit, he mails it to you, and then it's up to you. So far, I've only requested small things. I don't want to feel overwhelmed with an overly large or complex build. I certainly don't want a looming deadline for something I do as a hobby. I've only done three reviews, but I've really enjoyed it. The list of stuff available is pretty varied and includes some really obscure stuff."

Most, if not all, of Mike's current product reviews are on the IPMS/USA website. Check under *New Reviews*. Mike noted that you get to keep the kits/review item. Hmm!

Frank



### Fred's Fun Facts

On June 16, 2012, The USAF robotic X-37B spaceplane returned to the earth after a classified 469-day mission.

In 1967, The Monterey Pop Festival begins with The Who, Jimi Hendrix, Big Brother and the Holding Company, among others.

In 2010, Bhutan becomes the first country to totally ban tobacco.

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln gives his *House Divided* speech in Springfield, Illinois.

[suggested by Fred Horky, information by Wikipedia]





## Model O' The Month by Roy Lothbrok

It was a dark and stormy night when suddenly a shot rang out...wait! Sorry, wrong publication.

This past May, ASMS held another of our Model O' The Month competitions. Amongst the assembled multitude at the meeting there was a varied and vast assortment of completed models vying for the coveted title of Model O' The Month. All past monthly winners will reconvene at the club's December meeting. All those present will select a Model O' The Year from the monthly winners. The recipient of this august award will not only receive the accolades of his peers, but some model spending money (in the form of a gift certificate to a local hobby shop) as well as an appropriate trophy to boot.



Aaron Smischney was overjoyed to show us some of the things he does at work.

These company, in-house trophies were 3D printed using colored sandstone. That one still looks like the main character from *Iron Giant*.

The 1:16th scale Supa Mutant bust is from Fernando Ruiz Miniatures (FeR). The toxic waste drum was scratch-built.



Roy



Rick Herrington must, by now, have all the Star Wars vehicles and droids that one could want. This 1:12th scale Bandai kit of R2 D2 was painted with Alclad metallics.

I can't decide whether R2 is slippin' someone some skin or shufflin' off to Buffalo.





Russ Holm continues to amaze us all with his realistic painting techniques. This 1:35th scale Skoda 42cm howitzer from Takom is one more example of his artistry. Russ notes that the kit doesn't exactly fall together. It needs a bit of coaxing to fit just right. From the newsletter archives, a short article (page six) on how Russ achieves a metalizing effect on plastic.

<http://austinsms.org/news/2004/September2004.pdf>



Mike Lamm whittles down his stash with the introduction to the completed pile with a 1:72nd scale P-51A from FROG.

I was delighted to see that Mike has joined IPMS/USA's reviewer's corp. Now he'll have some kits manufactured in this century!



New guy, Alex Gashev, decided that four kits were just as good as one. Beginning with the Trumpeter GAZ 'Vodnik' we move onto the Italeri SdKfz 234 Puma. Next to the Puma is a Tamiya T34/76 and next to that is the Zvezda kit of the Tiger I. Alex gave a noticeable shudder as he was describing the Zvezda kit, so I'm thinking it might be one of those less-than-stellar fitting kits. All these models are in 1:35th scale.





Bob Bethea has taken a break from figure painting and showed a couple of 1:35th scale kits. One of the Ford GPA floating jeep, by Tamiya. The floaty jeep has some Blast and Eduard after-market bits on it. The other is an AMX 13-90 from Takom, built straight from the box.



Ian Candler had a 1:35th scale Tamiya Stug III on display. The figures are from Bravo 6 and the kit was painted using the Zenithal painting technique.

The other kit is a very British Aerosan. This is the 1:35th Trumpeter kit with CMK figures, Hornet heads, and stowage from a Harley-Davidson kit.

The base is a pencil holder Ian found at Target. I wonder how long it takes him to do the shopping? Anyway, this is the

**Model O' The Month.**



## Shipping News

For fans of Gurls und Panzers, we now have *Fleet Girls*. From Aoshima and in 1/700th scale the Bismarck Drei Kanmusu 30. This kit comes with a female figure and is issued in conjunction with a web browser game only available in Japan.



Fujimi has loads of stuff slipping the ways. Among them is the IJN aircraft carrier Hiyo 1944 which was a converted steamship liner. The IJN cruiser Yahagi (1945) and the IJN aircraft carriers Zuikaku and Akagi. Both of these ships were Pearl Harbor attack carriers.

Two manufacturers have decided to come out with the ill-fated WWII version of the aircraft carrier HMS Hermes. The HMS Hermes was sunk by Japanese planes in the Indian Ocean in 1942.



You have your choice of either a kit from Flyhawk Models or Aoshima. But not scale, as both kits are in 1/700th.



Hasegawa has a 1/700th version of the IJN Mikasa (Battle of Tsushima). The Mikasa was a pre-dreadnought battleship and the only one in its class.

Zvezda has their own 1/700th scale version of the RMS Titanic in transit to a hobby shop near you.

Trumpeter will soon have available a 1/350th scale kit of the DKM Heavy Cruiser Blücher.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHg65TmNfPw>

This was the sister ship to the DKM Prinz Eugen and was sunk during the German invasion of Norway.

Trumpeter also will have a 1/350th scale USS Constellation CV-64 aircraft carrier.

A new company, Veterans Models, has been releasing 3D printed after-market accessories for 1/350th scale ships. They have accessories ranging from a Phalanx CIWS to a Flak-Vierling AA from a WWII-era German ship. United States Navy and Imperial Japanese Navy are the main focus of their resin and photo-etch kits, and they are reasonably priced.



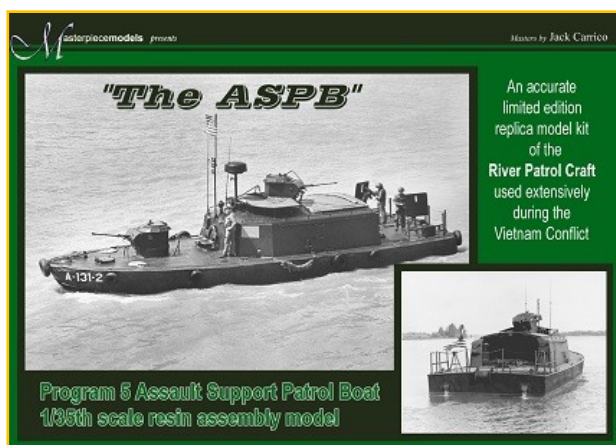
Trumpeter's 1:200th scale HMS Hood is now available at a favorite retailer near you.

Last, but not least, Masterpiece Models has decided to release a group of Vietnam Riverine (Brown Water Navy) boats. They include a Program 5 Zippo flamethrower equipped LCM, a Program 5 Tango Armored Troop Carrier LCM, a Patrol Air Cushion Vehicle (PACV), a Program 5 MK-49 Monitor River Boat, and a Program 5 Assault Support Patrol Boat.

These are all 1/35th scale multi-media kits and are priced accordingly, ranging from \$150.00 to \$300.00 for each kit. This Vancouver, Washington company is the same one that brought you the *Time Machine* model and multi-media kits of both "Fat Man" and "Little Boy" WWII atomic bombs.



Masterpiece Models are manufactured one at a time so there is a bit of a wait until it arrives at your door.



That's it for this month. Take a kit from that stash and build it!

Rick



## Support Your Local Hobby Shop



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



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



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

## Aircraft

It's June and this year is almost half finished.

Whether you are a glass half-full or glass half-empty kind of person, we've got some new models coming out that will make you smile. Let's have a peek.



First out of the gate, let's look at Eduard. Hot on the heels of their newer-tool Me 109G-6 release, they have just released a 1/48th scale Me 109G-5. This release also features an "over trees" option for purchase. The over trees are only available for the month of June, so get them while you can.

The only difference between the two kits are the decals. Yep, the G-6 released a couple of months ago contains all of the parts for a few versions of this ubiquitous Luftwaffe aircraft, including the G-5.

So, if you get the G-5 kit and a set of over trees, you can easily – and cheaply – increase your stash of this Messerschmitt in G-5/6/14 flavors. And it's a very nice Messerschmitt!



Sword is releasing a gaggle of Mk.XIV Spitfires in 1/72nd scale. These Griffon-engined beauties are set to release this month. So by the time you read this, the kits may already be on the shelves at your favorite plastic supplier. The Spitfires set to go are the Spitfire Mk.XIVc/e, Mk.XIVc/e bubbletop, and a FR Mk.XIVe. Each kit provides options for standard or clipped wings.

For all of us X-Planes fans out there, Fisher Model and Pattern, known around the world for their fine resin models, have announced the release of a 1/32nd scale Bell X-1A/B.



These are the versions of the airframe with the regular canopy, not the greenhouse glass of the original X-1 airframes. Each built for a specific set of testing tasks, built to explore phenomena at Mach 2+ and at high altitude, these airframes were larger than the original X-1. The X-1B also has a different wing plane form than the X-1A. I hope Paul captures that detail in the kit.

This is one of their Hi-Tech kits, so it contains all of the resin and photoetch bits for the cockpit and wheel wells. Let's see how it stacks up to the Pacific Coast Models offering from a couple of years ago.

It was short and sweet this month, and still loaded with goodness. Until next month, go build an airplane!

Randy



### Tanks A Lot

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

Let's start out with something big. And by big, I really do mean *big!* Trumpeter has announced a 1/16th scale Jagdtiger!



Moving right along, HK Models is set to release another monster model upon us. Either this month or the next, prepare yourself for the release of a 1/32nd scale Boeing B-17E/F Flying Fortress. Now, in your best Liam Neeson voice, say it with me, "Release the Boe-ing!"



Aside from what looks to be a full interior, no further information is available. But as this is one of the biggest and heaviest tanks ever fielded, the model will be pretty darn large!

And, this just in, Special Hobby is shipping it's new-tool 1/32nd scale Hawker Tempest. After a long wait, the kit is on it's way!

Next up, is something a bit odd from Amusing Hobby, the German Rheintochter missile. This 1:35th scale surface-to-air missile never saw combat but was tested. This multi-stage, solid fueled rocket was another marker in rocket technology.







Here is the real thing. The wings/guide vanes were made of plywood!

Since we are on the subject of missiles here is another in 1:35th scale from Bronco, the Rheinbote RH.Z.61/9. The Rheinbote was a short range ballistic missile designed to replace or augment large caliber artillery.



Asuka (formerly Tasca) is releasing re-boxed kits in 1:35th scale. No complaints here as Tasca Shermans are still the gold standard in armor modeling. They are including value gear resin stowage which is an excellent addition.



The French kit "Romilly" comes with the superb hedge row cutter set. The kit might just be worth having for the hedge row cutter as they were getting hard to find.

It doesn't look like Asuka plans on releasing anything new, just re-boxing and shuffling sprues. While that's a bit disappointing, it's good to see that the molds are

still active and the prices competitive. For a brief time, when Tasca went out of business, the kits were going up in price and finding them was getting to be a bit nuts.



We will wrap up this month with something a bit strange and neat: the Schienenwolf (rail wolf) in 1:72nd scale.

This weird contraption was towed behind the retreating German trains and tore up the sleepers (railroad ties), rendering the track unusable.



This sure would make a superb diorama!

Those are the highlights. Until next time!

Aaron



## It Figures

Hello everyone!

Let's take a look at the news in figures this month!

Tommy's War has two new figures coming out. Tommy's War makes some of the finest 54mm figures around, mostly focusing on World War I.

First is a Rifleman from the 10th Gurkha Rifles, Gully Ravine, 1915.



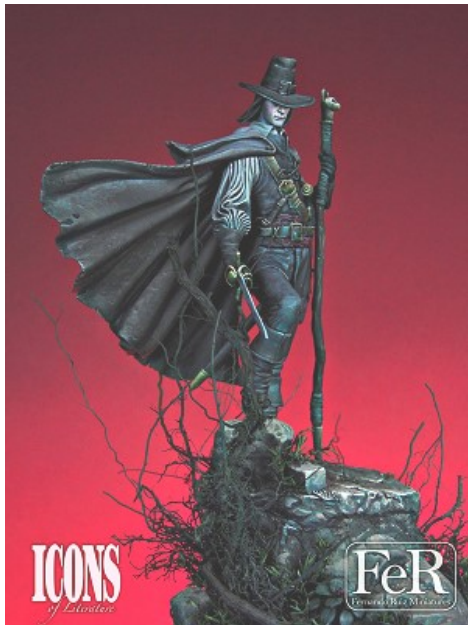


Then there is a Private of the First Battalion, Wellington Infantry Regiment - Chunuk Bair, 1915. The figure comes with three different head options!



From Armor 35 is a nice looking pin-up figure. This is a female VDV (Russian airborne troops) girl available in both 1/16th and 1/35th scales.

FeR Miniatures has a few new releases this month. They are developing a new line of figures based on literary works.



The first is Solomon Kane. Kane was a Puritan bad guy roaming the countryside fighting evil. The character was developed by Robert E. Howard. You may remember him from a film by the same name with James Purefoy in the title role. This one is in 75mm and looks like an outstanding piece!

Next up (also in 75mm) is a Knight of Cardona, 1325. His dress is typical for a 14th century warrior.



Finally, a bust from the always entertaining Raffaele Picca. This pirate has something a bit different on his shoulder. Instead of the usual monkey or parrot we get a ferret! Their names are Thornley and Ratch. This one comes with an optional hat.

To wrap things up, a new piece from La Meridiana Miniatures, a 54mm vignette of a Plains Indian stalking its prey. While I question the veracity of a predator dressing up as another predator, I can argue that the sculpture is superb.

The bison is a beauty for sure!



Those are the highlights. Until next time!

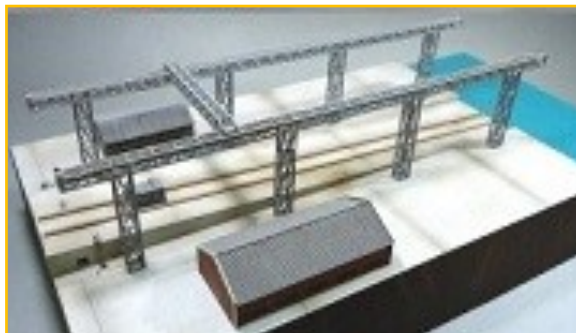
Aaron





## Miscellaneous

Model ship builders usually have two options for displaying their work: either on pedestals mounted to a base or in the water. WAKO Model Creative has given you another. This building berth is a multi-media (MDF, composite, Kent paper) kit in 1:700th scale.



Hasegawa has more EggPlanes coming your way. This offering is a two-for-one thingy (two kits in the box) of an F 2 and a T-4. The markings are for the 60th anniversary of the JASDF.

If EggPlanes are too big for you, Hasegawa is also offering a 1:200th scale Lockheed KC-130H. There are two kits in this box, too, and it comes with markings for the JASDF.



Platz is releasing a pre-painted, snap kit of the JASDF Blue Impulse T-4. This 1:144th scale model is of Japan's flight demonstration aircraft.

For the serious small scale aircraft modeler, Fox One is doing a 1:144th scale A-7E Corsair. This 3D-printed model is made from acrylic resin and has 32 parts, decals, canopy masks, plus a pilot figure. I say serious small scale modeler as the kit retails for about \$65.00.



Something a bit cheaper is a 1:144th scale Curtiss P-40 M/N. This injected molded kit is from AFV Club.

Rubicon Models has a series of new armor kits for the wargamer in you. These 1:56th scale (28mm) kits are made of hard plastic and have additional parts (main

gun, road wheels, etc.) for different variants of each vehicle. Some of the releases are the M8, M5A1 Stuart, M4AB Sherman, and an SdKfz 251/1 Ausf D.



Fujimi is releasing a German 88mm Flak 1 in 1:76th scale. The model comes with six crew members that are molded in hard vinyl on bases.

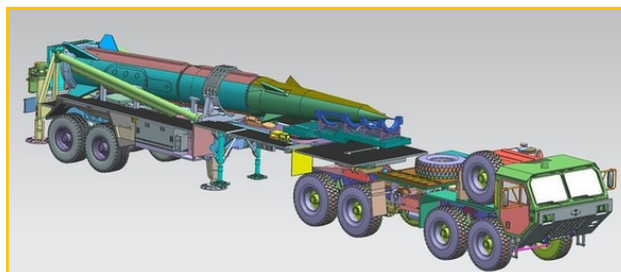


Small scale aircraft people will love Trumpeter's latest, a MiG-29SMT Fulcrum E in 1:72nd scale. No more taking up *all* your display space.



Revell is adding to it's line of motorcycle kits. This time it's a 1:12th scale Custom Chopper.

ModelCollect is showing an M983 tractor with a Pershing II missile. These kits have lots of detail and are said to be at least a step up from Revell's small scale armor kits.

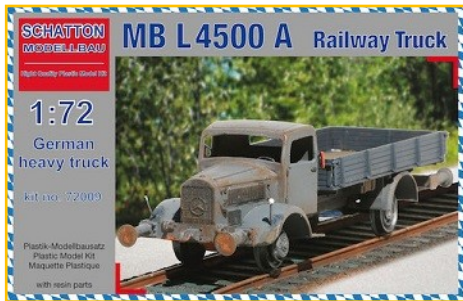


This CAD drawing does give me an idea for a paint scheme.

Czech Master Resin is offering a Curtiss A-12 Shrike. This 1:72nd scale kit is the one with a radial engine and has options for either skis or traditional landing gear. This very well could be a re-boxing as this kit has an "amended color scheme and new decals."



Maybe to go along with Aaron's rail wolf, Schattan Modellbau has a 1:72nd scale Mercedes L4500 railway truck. Schattan Modellbau's previous claim to fame is as a maker of after-market brass and metal gun barrels.



For the truly detail oriented, ARK Models has a 1:35th scale IS-7 rolling down the pike. This injected molded Soviet Heavy tank also has some resin and photo-etch bits.

At a paltry ¥18,700, you may want to get several.



Meng is adding to their automotive line with a 1:24th scale Hummer H1. This is the cool one that Arnold drove around in. The kit has a detailed interior with open-able doors, open-able engine hood and engine, and the front wheels are steerable.

There is also an update set with brush guard, roof rack, and light bar for a small, additional fee.

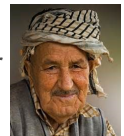


Wave has something for all of you that hung out at the arcade when you were younger. A 1:12th scale Classic Arcade videogame cabinet.

This snap-kit has stickers for the game banner and screen. There is one cabinet per box with stickers for Virtua Fighter, Fighting Vipers and Die Hard Arcade. Sorry, no Centipede or Asteroids. Drat!



Golzar



Join us at our next meeting, June 16 beginning at 7PM at the Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library.

Map and directions:

<http://austinsms.org/meetings.php>





## ***Join International Plastic Modeler's Society / USA***

IPMS/USA is dedicated to the hobby (and fun) of Scale Modeling. It was started by Jim Sage, of Dallas, Texas, in 1964. There are now branches of IPMS all over the world. Our Local Regions and Chapters sponsor Model shows and contests every year, but you needn't be a member to visit the shows or attend the club meetings!

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.

[http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms\\_application\\_form\\_2016.pdf](http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms_application_form_2016.pdf)

Applications using payment via Check or Money Order should be printed and mailed to:  
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For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager at [manager@ipmsusa.org](mailto:manager@ipmsusa.org)

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

#### ***IPMS/USA Journal March + April 2016***



- Dam Brudders - Carpetbaggers? Not Us!, by Bill and Richard Engar
- From Flushdecker to Fruit Freighter - Scratch-building a destroyer-turned-banana carrier in 1:700 scale, by Vladimir Yakubov
- Layers of Armor - A quick way to achieve depth in your figure's armor, by Gino Dykstra
- Just Drop It! - Taming Pegasus' kit of the F9C-2 Sparrowhawk to build the world's only dirigible fighter, by Chris Bucholtz
- A Darker Ride for the Dark Knight - Scratch-building a Subdued 1970s era Batmobile, by Dan Thompson
- You Dirty Rat - er, Hunchback! - Converting Lon Chaney into James Cagney, by Mark McGovern
- Spitfire? It might be an MJ-100! - Creating a Replica of a Replica, by Jordan Ross
- Dream Team - Creating a Tribute to the Colorado ANG's Display Team in 1:72, by Paul Kinney

**contact us**

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



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:**

**June 16**

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



**Tenth Annual HAMS Model Car  
Show and Contest**

**July 30, 2016**

**Cypress Creek Christian Community Center**  
Spring, Texas

**Contest Theme: "100th Running of the Indy 500"**

Full details at:

<http://www.ipms-hams.org/annual-contest/>