



SPRUE EXAMINER®

Newsletter of the Austin Scale Modeler's Society

January 2017

Gundam Universe by Ziggy Downs-Bumgardner

Most, if not all, modelers know a lot about the history of the tanks, airplanes, or other stuff that they build. But that's not what this is about. This article is about the something you might be unfamiliar with, the Gundam Universe. Per Wikipedia, Gundam is a science fiction media franchise that was created by Sunrise. It features giant robots (or "mecha") called "mobile suits", with titular mobile suits that carry the name "Gundam."

There are three main time spans in the Gundam Universe: Universal Century (UC), Cosmic Era, and Endless Waltz. The latter two periods are really spin-offs of Universal Century. I will only be talking about Universal Century or Uchū Seiki. Otherwise this might be a fifteen page article. I will be referring to it as UC and for sake of space, I'll be stopping at UC 0096.

The Gundam Universe begins in UC 0062 with Mobile Suit Gundam, the origin. Due to overcrowding (an estimated earth population of ten billion), the Earth Federation Space Force (EFSF) starts sending people (colonies) into space. These colonies are located around five gravitationally stable points in space or Lagrangian points. (A variation of a Lagrange point.) A colony or group of colonies occupying a common Lagrangian point is known as a Side.

A few years (UC 0064) into this colonization, the space colonies begin to assert their independence and start referring to themselves as the autonomous "Republic of Zeon. The spiritual and political leader of this independence movement is Zeon Zum Deikun. He is assassinated during one of his biggest independence rallies.

[continued on page four]



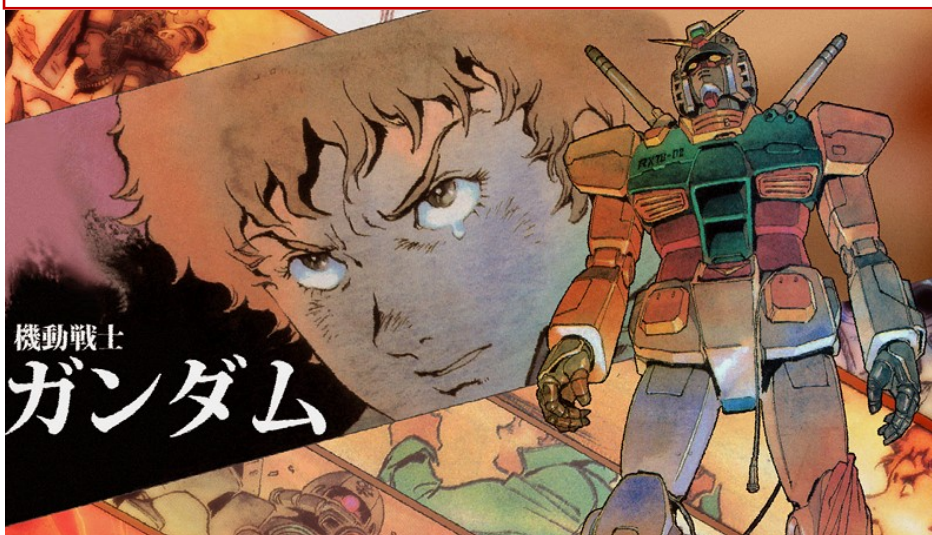
Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS/USA).

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



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Phil Brandt (in memorium)

Eric Choy Angela Forster

Jeff Forster Russ Holm

Rick Willaman Jack Johnston

Mike Krizan Mike Poole

Aaron Smischney

Rick Herrington

Upcoming Events

IPMS/USA Region VI Model Shows

Calmex XXXI, Westlake, Louisiana	1.28.17
http://ipmsswamp.com/calmex.html	
ModelFiesta, San Antonio, Texas	2.18.17
http://alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta.html	
RiverCon VI, Bossier City, Louisiana	3.11.17
http://www.ipmsredrivermodelers.org/	
AutumnCon 2017, Region 6 Regional Convention, Covington, La.	9.23.17
http://www.northshoremodelers.net/show.html	

Local Club Meetings

Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas	2.02.17
http://alamosquadron.com/meetings.html	
Austin Armor Builders Society, Austin, Texas	2.01.17
http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com	
Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	2.02.17
Centex Scale Modelers, Killeen, Texas	1.19.17
www.ctsms.org	
Hill Country Outlaws, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	2.11.17
Lone Star Military Miniatures Society, San Marcos, Texas	2.11.17
https://www.facebook.com/events/513518988858565/	

Other Events

Build N' Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	1.21.17
ASMS Bi-Monthly Model Contest, Austin, Texas	2.16.17

IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

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

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

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

www.models4troops@gmail.com

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Peanut Brittle

Randy Bungardner

Welcome to 2017, the new year on the block! I hope everyone had a festive and enjoyable holiday season. We are launching into our 248th(!?) year as Austin's premiere modeling club, and we've increased our cool club contests to a bi-monthly schedule. Beginning in February, and then every even numbered month thereafter, we're having a contest for bragging rights and special awards. The schedule of events is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. (See page nine.) As far as January is concerned, we've got a packed show for all of you. There is a lot to get done, so let's get on with it!

First up, we have elections this month. It's time for the members to perform their civic duty and cast their vote for the candidate of their choice. All of the existing board members are returning for another round of abuse and good-natured ribbing. However, *do not* take that as a sign not to run for office. If you want to run for a specific position, do it! We'll be doing things a bit differently this year, and our Master of Ceremonies assures me it won't take long.

Next, we have some awards to handout. Member of the Year is on the line, as is the Most Prolific Modeler. These two awards are newcomers to the ASMS lineup, and serve to recognize members for their contributions to the club. The third award, Model of the Year, wasn't decided at the December 2016 meeting due to miscommunication. To rectify that dire circumstance, we will hold the Model of the Year contest this month at our meeting. If you have won Model of the Month at one of the monthly meetings in 2016, bring that winner to this meeting. We will vote for Model of the Year, tally the votes, declare a winner, and conclude with handshakes all around. Oh, and you'll get a trophy as well.

Reminder: Bring your models that won Model of the Month in 2016.

We will also be picking our Procrastinator Projects for the Procrastinator Contest in June. To refresh everyone's memory, the Procrastinator Contest enables us to get those projects we've been delaying onto the bench. Not only onto the bench, but finished and proudly displayed.

The project does not have to be a started kit. It can be something we've always wanted to do, but never had the chance or the fortitude to undertake. During the January meeting, each participating member is to bring a list of two or three or six projects they have a desire to finish. Each participant exchanges that list with another participant. That person then will pick a project for the other to work on. The participants return the lists. They keep their list as proof that the project was chosen for them. In June, the participants bring their projects, list, and finished model to the June meeting for the contest. Those finished projects are voted on with the top three winners get prizes. The first place winner also wins Model of the Month. How simple is that? Easy peasy!

As if this action-packed month isn't full enough, we'll have our regularly scheduled Model of the Month contest to kick off 2017. Bring in those completed kits for this monthly tournament. Even if your models are incomplete, bring them in to show everyone what you've been working on.

Don't forget your dues that are due! If you pay before March 2017, you will receive a \$5 discount. So, you'll only pay \$20 for an individual, \$25 for a family instead of the regular \$25/\$30 fees after March 1st. In addition, when you pay your dues you will receive a 10% discount card to King's Hobby Shop. If they don't know you, they will ask for this card.

As always, go build something!

Randy



P.S. Bring your 2016 Model of the Month and your list of Procrastinator Projects.

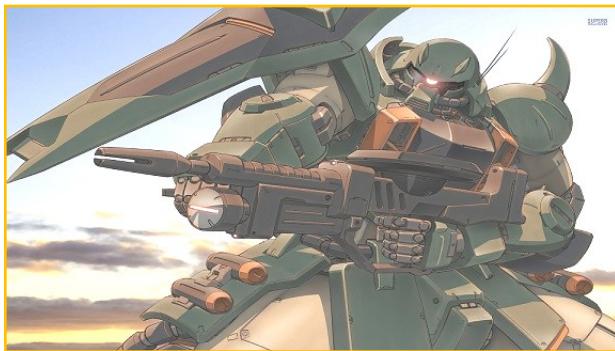
The Republic of Zeon, along with the principle antagonist of the series Char Aznable who snapped a year later in UC 0065. Char Aznable is also known as The Red Comet for the speed of his red Gundam and his affinity for wearing a red uniform.



The Republic of Zeon launched a revolutionary assault on earth. A few weeks into this One Year War, The Republic of Zeon dropped a colony into what today would be Russia, killing billions.

It's at this point that we get into what started it all, Mobile Suit Gundam. At this time, the war between Zeon and earth has been going on for a while, but as with all wars eventually Zeon and the federation call for a temporary truce.

During this lull, the federation engages in a last resort attempt to gain the upper hand with the production of the RX-78-2 Gundam. During the testing stages of the Gundam, a small recon group of five Zakus (mobile suits) enter Side Seven. When they see the parts and testing of the Federation's mobile suits, they immediately start an all out assault inside the colony.



While this is happening, on the other side of the colony, we are introduced to the main "hero" and soon-to-be-pilot of the Gundam, fifteen year-old Amuro Ray. Amuro Ray (affiliated with Earth forces) turns out to be Char Aznable's chief rival throughout this series.

He and his best friend Fraw Bow are rushed into service and the evacuation of Side Seven begins. On a side note; it is often difficult to keep track of these characters as their allegiance seemingly changes with each episode.

During the evacuation, a mobile suit carrier crashes right in front of the entrance to the spaceport. A Zaku bursts through the space port's entrance. This Zaku kills hundreds. Everyone rushes to get away, but Amuro stands there, frozen with terror, just staring at an empty mobile suit.

Federation efforts to stop the Zaku do nothing but aggravate its pilot. With one shot, this Zaku destroys the main missile launcher of the carrier. It's then that Amuro runs up to the Gundam suit and jumps into the cockpit.

He single-handedly defeats all five Zakus that had entered the colony. He and all the refugees leave on the Federation's new starship, White Base. White Base is a mobile suit assault carrier. Think of them (White Base, etc.) as space-based aircraft carriers.

Later, during the Battle of Luna II, Amuro and the Gundam encounter the most dangerous pilot of all, the legendary Char Aznable, the Red Comet. For you armor/aircraft folk, think of Char as either a Michael Wittman or Erich Hartman.

Amuro, being the cocky teenager that he is, ignores the Federation's warning to come back to White Base and engages Char. It's a long and close battle, but in the end the Red Comet wins. The Gundam sustained heavy damage.

A few weeks later, White Base went to Earth where they were met by the Zeon earth forces in what today would be North America. Then a few months of hiding later White Base goes back into space. Now we are at the end of the *One Year War*.

Back where it all started, Side Seven, the final battle with the Gundam and the Red Comet takes place. In the end, the Gundam win, and Zeon surrenders to the Federation.



After a few years of peace, in UC 0085, the Anti-Earth Union Group (A.E.U.G) was formed on Side Five. At Side Three, Neo Zeon is working on the creation of

new genetically enhanced humans and fighting units being formed. Both organizations launch an assault on the EFSF, with millions on all three sides dying within the first week of this new war.

To counter the new technology, The Federation started an elite task force called Titans. To counter that, AEUG started the production of the Zeta Gundam, a transformable mobile suit.



This war spanned four years, until UC 0089. Towards the end of the war the AEUG joins forces with The Federation to stop Neo Zeon. (Confused yet?) Toward the end of UC 0089, the beginning of UC 0090, there were many attempts at a treaty between these forces. In the end, the AEUG was disbanded and "merged" with The Federation.

A few years after the creation of psycho frames, The Federation and the Vist Foundation start to work on a new prototype mobile suit codenamed "Project Unicorn." Psycho frames represent a new technology that builds on the brainwave-to-machine interface. If you have seen the movie, *Pacific Rim*, its similar to 'the drift' portrayed in that film.

In UC 0092, a special section of The Federation at the Anaheim Electronics Industrial College is founded. This is where we are introduced to the main hero of this series (Mobile Suit Gundam Unicorn), Banagher Links.

Banagher, using a small maintenance Gundam is working as a janitor. He is a well meaning if somewhat naïve young man. His character cares more for the safety and well being of other people, regardless of who they're fighting for.

As this story line unfolds, a Neo Zeon ship owned by the Sleeve Family, comes into the port of Block Five (formally Side Three). Inside this ship is a passenger named Audrey Burne. Audrey is really Mineva Lao Zabi, the heir to the Principality of Zeon.

This ruse is used to hide her true identity in an attempt to seek the Vist Foundation's help in preventing a war between The Federation and Neo Zeon.

When Banagher finds her, he swears to not let anything happen to her until she gets to the Vist mansion. When they finally arrive at the mansion, Audrey immediately starts toward the library. This is where she and Banagher see a giant mural of people "worshipping" a Unicorn.

Banagher suddenly starts having mental flashbacks of seeing this mural as a little kid. Then Cardious Vist walks into the room. Cardious is the head of the Vist Foundation and exerts enormous influence over the government of the Earth Federation. Audrey Burne suddenly becomes a different person. She goes from a nice, cheerful person to a cold, cruel person, and immediately snaps at Banagher ordering him to leave. Banagher leaves the mansion and immediately hides and waits for Audrey and Cardious to leave, as well. As he waits, a Zulu (a new type of mobile suit built on the Zaku frame) attacks the mansion.

As Banagher makes his escape, he runs into the hangar of the Unicorn Gundam and finds Cardious messing with the console in the cockpit of the mobile suit. Banagher runs toward Cardious to get him out of the hangar but Cardious thrusts Banagher into the cockpit of the mobile suit. It's at this point that the mortally-wounded Cardious reveals himself to be Banagher's father. (Very Shakespearian).



Banagher, stunned, sits there figuring out what has just happened. Just prior to his death, Cardious has re-programmed the Unicorn Gundam to only be operable by Banagher.

When the Zulu pilot sees the Unicorn, he immediately calls for backup. When the Sleeves receive the distress call, they send in the monstrous NZ-666 Kshatriya Gundam.

After a long and hard battle, Banagher wins. After that battle he becomes the "owner" and main pilot to the Unicorn Gundam and the Sleeves are now an independent company. They start to develop a new type of Unicorn Gundam, the RX-0B Banshee. Banagher eventually convinces the Sleeves to leave Neo Zeon and become a part of The Federation.

At this time, Neo Zeon is also working on their new mobile armor, the Neo Zeon G, a mobile suit for mobile suits. (Confusing, I know.) The Federation was also working on a new, full armor version of the Unicorn Gundam.



When the Neo Zeon G was completed, Neo Zeon launched an assault on The Federation forces. Banagher and Full Frontal (the second coming of Char Aznable) and the pilot of the Neo Zeon G face each other at Block Five. This was the final battle between the Federation and Neo Zeon.

The Unicorn and the Neo Zeon G fought hard with Banagher and the Unicorn defeating Full Frontal's Monster. Thinking the war was over, The Federation relaxes their guard. Much to their surprise, Neo Zeon fires their new weapon, the hyper-cannon (a big laser gun) from their attack ship, The Musaira.

The target is Block Five, where the Federation is stationed. The Unicorn speeds in front of the blast to try and block the laser.

This blocking effort creates a psycho-field. This psycho-barrier is composed of pure energy. But the efforts of the Unicorn Gundam are insufficient to stop the blast. As the laser blast is about to strike Block Five, the Banshee Gundam jumps in front of the blast. This, in turn, creates a secondary psycho-field which is enough to stop the blast from hitting the colony.

This is really just a short history of Gundam. The anime series has now spanned almost forty years with story lines going off in almost any direction you'd wish.

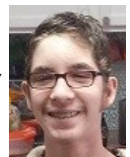
Characters, often on one side in a conflict, magically are fighting for the other side in the very next episode. Or even within the same episode. Often with contradictory motivations. Its tough keeping up.

If you have the time, you can spend countless days viewing episodes on Youtube or other streaming services.

Austin Scale Modelers Society, not affiliated with The Federation or Neo Zeon, will be sponsoring a Gundam/Macross model contest with prize money and everything in August as part of the club's bi-monthly model contests. (See page nine).

Get started working on your own Red Comet, Zaku, or Unicorn.

Ziggy



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

The first item up for bid this month comes via Ian Candler. This was mentioned on Ian's Facebook page and is notice of a new film by Christopher Nolan. *Dunkirk*, a British war film, is slated to be released in July of this year and looks to be amazing.

If you have been fortunate enough to catch *Rogue One* at an area IMAX theatre, then you saw the seven minute trailer for this film ahead of the feature screening.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-eMt3SrfFU>

In connection with things British and WWII, Milton Bell has supplied us with a link to a short film by Nick Ryan. *The German (2008)* a 9 minute, 43 second film about what happened after a British pilot shoots down an opponent and then is forced to land over neutral Ireland during WWII.

<https://vimeo.com/31202906>

Also included is a short on the magic of movie-making and how Nick Ryan went about making the aerial sequences.

<https://vimeo.com/5996453>

I noticed this next ditty on the ASMS Facebook page. It is a link to Last Calvary TV Historical Toys and Hobbies. This is a video blog by Dave Youngquist on modeling tips and techniques. This particular entry is on weathered wood efforts. It is very nicely done and includes a simply, albeit messy, painting technique.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qv5LkclX3g8>

From the Smithsonian Channel, "in 1860, aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe met with President Lincoln to discuss the possibility of using gas-filled balloons for military reconnaissance."

Lincoln's Air Force was born. This is a short video from the Smithsonian Channel.

<http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/videos/lincolns-air-force/20372>

Milton Bell sent in this item from Toy Man TV.

"In the 1960's, Mattel Toys sold a fun toy called the

Thingmaker, for kids 10 and up. With it you could cast Creepy Crawlers and other fun stuff! This was just one of a bunch of *fun* Mattel toys. They also offered the EZ Bake Oven, the Vacuum Former, the Wood Shop, and the Toymakers Injector Factory.

All ended up being pulled off the market due to safety concerns. They came out with the Thingmaker 2. In my mind, junk. But really not a bad toy, it's just that when you have used the "real thingmaker," it seems like a far cry. The Thingmaker used a light bulb for heating, so it still got good and hot, but nothing like the 350-400 degrees. One fun part, you could eat the bugs after making them as they were basically gummy bugs."

Toy Man TV also takes a quick look at the Mattel Vacu-form and a quick look at a commercial white metal casting machine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b66DQo9TZDw&feature=em-sub-digest>

Mike Burns, webmaster for Central Texas Scale Modelers Society (CenTex), our pals to the north, has alerted us to the fact that they now have a new website.

The older site is no more. Now all that is CenTex can be found at their new abode on the web. No more clunky photo bucket to mess with. The new site is also more mobile device and tablet friendly. And the address is shorter.

www.ctsms.org

Airfix Models has a relatively new line of kits geared to the beginning or younger modeler. These Quick-Build kits come with stickers instead of decals and really are quick builds.

Ben Morton brought their tank model (Challenger II) to the last club meeting and has begun finishing details on the "Lego tank." This short video (:39) is of the Airfix VW Bug but it will give you a good idea of what to expect with these kits.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-DjngCXeyM>

Jean-Michel



Hangar Queens by Rick Cotton

How many started but unfinished kits do you have in your collection? Sensitive subject? Three? Ten? You aren't sure? How dare I ask?

Let's talk for a moment about this insidious problem that affects so many otherwise skilled and competent styrene surgeons. The problem of...*Hangar Queens*.

For the benefit of the aviation-uneducated, in old-time Army Air Corps (and for that matter any flyboy) terminology, a "hangar queen" was an aircraft that, due to being constantly in a state of disrepair, could not leave the hangar and actually do what the taxpayer paid for it to do, fly.



It sucked up parts, time, and labor. It generated endless questions from brass hats, and never, ever, got done. In wartime, hangar queens got stashed in the back, and cannibalized for spare parts. Does that sound at all familiar?

We've all done it. We have all worked on a model that, for some reason, ended up back in the box. What some modelers bitterly and derisively refer to as the Shelf of Doom. It lived there, for years, like the Hangar Queens of old. But why? Why does this happen?

Sometimes, it's a simple case of CKF (Crappy Kit Frustration). That long-sought esoteric subject you got from Mach2, ICM, or Special Hobby that turned you from a jovial, happy-go-lucky modeler to a swearing, sweating, wild-eyed sanding and filling maniac.

Not a single %^\$#& part in this thing fits to another &*^%\$ part, and the ^&%\$#* decals exploded, and the ^&%\$#* resin doesn't fit inside until you sand it to where light shows through. At some point, nine weeks into a build you thought would last two, you say "the hell with it," slam it into the box, and move on to something from a real manufacturer.

Every time you look at that box, you feel like a cheated girlfriend who saw her boyfriend french-kissing her sister.

Sometimes it is, and we *hate* to admit this one, because we screwed up. Yes, I said it! It happens! Ten minutes after the glue has completely cured, we realize that we just put the wrong part on (guilty), put the right part on backwards (guilty), or put the wrong part on backwards. Or upside down (guilty and guilty).

That sucker is now glued and set for eternity and nothing short of a nuclear strike, or a Papal request for a miracle from Heaven could get that &*^%\$ part back off again.

We sit there in abject disgust and begin to realize that we have indeed had a romantic rendezvous with the pooch, and that *major surgery* will be needed to remove the offending mistake from the model.

We sadly calculate just how much time that will take, and then weigh said time against the model show schedule, other projects, and the football playoffs we have to watch. Not enough time. This thing goes back in the box.

Sometimes we outsmart ourselves. We take on a project that we decide must be *the project*. The one build that will forever cement our status as a Serious Modeler with our peers.

Some of us are crazy enough to write long-winded, multi-part articles about it. Like we think we were some sort of low-rent Shepherd Paine-type expert or some such. Hah!



We make massive plans, collect mass quantities of reference material, resin, and brass in advance. Sand stuff off of parts for which we just paid lots of money and dissect each and every subassembly. Cut, saw, and scrape.

Then, six weeks into it, we just get tired of it. We slow down, and start other projects on the side.

Gradually we spend more and more time on the side project, and less and less on *the project*. And then one day, it happens. The side project now takes up so much room, that more room has to be made for it. *The project* gets shoved out of the way. Every now and then, you will eye that box, grimace, and get a stomach ache.

There are many ways we can get into this situation, but how do we get out of said predicament? Have you ever said to yourself: "Self...let's pull something down off of the Shelf of Doom, and finish it!"

What do you say?

"Sure," you say to yourself. (If you can actually hear this conversation when you are having it, you're messed up. Please seek psychiatric help).

You pull the box down. You blow the dust off. You sneeze a few times. You open the lid. And the bad memories of why the beast ended up there in the first place come flooding back to you. The anger, frustration, swearing, and oaths against every eastern European and Chinese kit manufacturer you ever heard of come roaring back. Oh, it's not pretty, is it?

You slam the box back on the Shelf of Doom. Then, you think for a moment. You reason deeply, standing there in your quiet, little shop. You slowly reach for the shelf, and take it back down and then an idea hits you.

It's brilliant, simple, and foolproof! It is also *evil!* I'll just donate it to the club raffle. Fortunately, remorse comes over you. Just in time.

It had *better!* You keep that half-built, contemptible lump of plastic out of your club raffle! You put it back on the shelf, where it belongs, in *your* shop!

If you don't, we will find you. Oh, yes we will.

Don't do it. Just don't do it.

Rick



Bi-Monthly Model Contests

Moving forward, ASMS will hold six bi-monthly contests in 2017. The new, improved contest schedule will begin in February 2017.

The schedule/themes for the 2017 bi-monthly contests are as follows:

February 15



Open Contest

April 20



Pat Rourke Contest

June 15 (maybe)



Procrastinator's Contest

August 16



Gundam/Macross Contest

October 19



Bondo Special

December 21



White Elephant

A special thanks to King's Hobby Shop for their continuing support of our club.

Model O' The Month by Roy Lothbrok

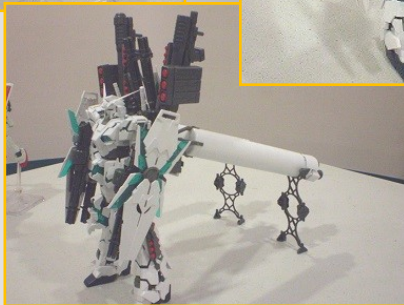
The December meeting of Austin Scale Modelers Society was the occasion of the last quarterly contest of 2016. Perhaps the last quarterly contest for the club. Going forward, ASMS will hold bi-monthly model contests in lieu of only once a quarter. Hopefully, these added contests will spur you on to enter that latest project and win some prize money, in the form of a gift certificate for your efforts. This past contest was not only for Model O' The Month but also our annual White Elephant contest. As you really should know by now, entry into the White Elephant contest is open to only those kits that were received during the gift exchange at the club's annual Christmas Party. With all themed contests, the first place winner is also afforded the title of Model O' The Month.

The Christmas Party/Gift Exchange was held at the new home of Martha and Milton Bell. Our thanks and appreciation to them both for allowing us to invade their new abode. From all the reports received, everyone had a good time. I can testify that good cheer and food abounded at the party. Bourbon balls and all. The only discordant note that I'm am aware of, was struck by several, unfortunate episodes involving the spillage of *someone's* liquid refreshment.

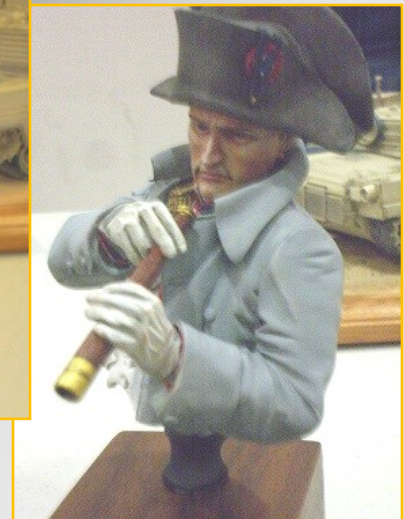
Roy



Ziggy Downs-Bumgardner continues to astound with his Gundam collection. Here we have a 1/144th RX-78/2 and an RX-0 full armor Unicorn Gundam in 1/100th scale. Both are Bandai kits and both are mentioned in Ziggy's article in this newsletter. Those pods on the back of the Unicorn Gundam are rocket boosters.



This 1/10th bust from Young Miniatures represents Napoleon at Austerlitz. Steve Hardin is the artist.





Alert readers will remember this Leopard II. Alex Gashev is finishing the 1/35th HobbyBoss kit as we speak. Alex seems to be less than pleased with the fit of this kit.



A contender for Model O' The Year, Mike Gilsbach was showing his Bandai Snow Speeder. This kit is in 1/48th scale and is built out-o-the-box.



Chuck 'Obiwan' Konefsky brought along a model that his then 13 year old son made for him. This Academy 1/35th scale M1A1/2 Abrams is done superbly, regardless of the modeler's age.



Ron McCracken decided to represent with a couple of completed kits. His White Elephant entry is this Pfatz DIII. This is the 1/48th scale Eduard kit. The rigging (flying) wires are doubled as on the prototype.



The other is the 1/72nd scale Trumpeter kit of the CH-47A.



Rick Herrington came to play with a 1/700th scale Fujimi kit of the Atragon. He used acrylic gel medium and cotton to fashion the repulsor jets for his flying sub. The Grumman F-4F-4 Wildcat is the latest 1/72nd scale Airfix kit.



Mike Lamm entered this Academy Type IX B U-boat in the White Elephant contest. The 1/350th scale kit can be built as either a static model or a submerging, battery powered nemesis of your bathtub. Not withstanding, he won third place in the White Elephant contest. Click the link to see the U-Boat in action. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CeCXFAXVZQ>



White Elephant Third Place

Tim Robb finished his 1/48th scale Accurate Miniatures P-51. He corrected the prop, noting that the kit prop is correct for a P-51A. The Northrop Gamma is the Williams Brothers kit in 1/72nd scale.





Starting off with Bob Bethea's 1/72nd scale mini-tank parade, we have two Dragon kits. An SU-85 with figures from Zvezda and an SU-100 (in snow). The snow for the SU-100 is a combination of baking soda and salt. The following two tanks are both from Flyhawk Models. The Panzer I F has some Caesar and Preiser figures while the figures on the Panzer II Luchs are from Pegasus. The bases for all four models are from Tiger.

The Academy 1/48th scale Me109 B is Bob's White Elephant entry. There are figures from ICM and Tamiya. The Ford truck rounds out this vignette of a Condor Legion scene. This last entry won second place in the White Elephant contest.



White Elephant Second Place





The 1/72nd scale Monogram P-36A is by Dave Edgerly. The Panamanian markings are from Starfighter decals. Dave back dated the kit to an 'A' model. The impressive deHavilland Mosquito is from Tamiya and in 1/32nd scale. Dave added Aviology decals, Master barrels, Mr. Color paints and an antenna (whisker) donated by his cat.



White Elephant First Place



Ben Morton managed to eke out a first place win in the White Elephant contest with this 1950 Olds from Revell. The 1/25th scale kit is adorned with markings from the winner of the first Pan-American Stock Car race (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carrera_Panamericana) held in 1950. Ben noted that the abandoned, dilapidated finish really owes more to his inability to do a shiny finish more than anything else. This is also the **Model O' the Month**. Congratulations, all!

Support Your Local Hobby Shop



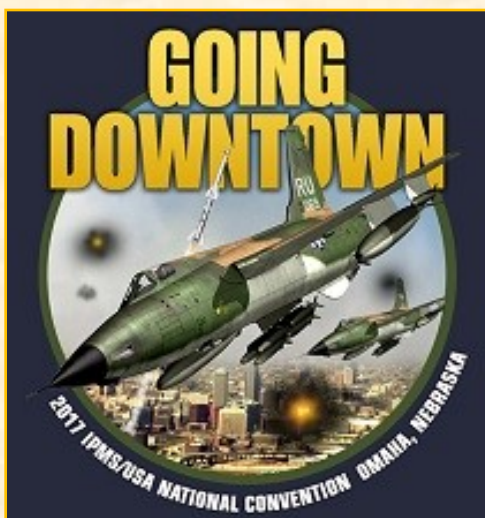
<http://www.kingshobbyshop.com/>



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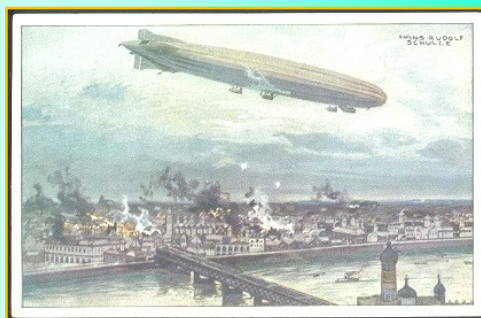
The convention website for the 2017 IPMS/USA National Convention is
"on the air."

<http://www.ipmsusa2017.com/>

Fred's Fun Facts January 19

On this date, in 1883, the first electric lighting system employing overhead wires was built by Edison & Company. It began service in Roselle, New Jersey.

German Zeppelins bombed the towns of Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in Great Britain in 1915. This was the first aerial bombardment of a civilian target.



In 1977, President Gerald Ford pardons Iva Toguri D'Aquino. She was better known as "Tokyo Rose."

Apple announces Apple *Lisa*. This is the first commercially available personal computer that has a graphic user-interface and computer mouse.



"Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary..."

January 19th is Edgar Allan Poe's birthday!



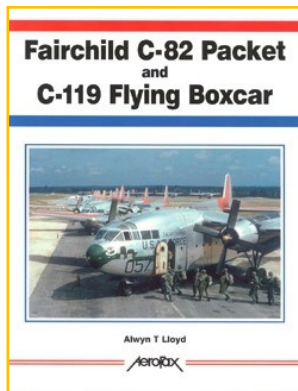
[Suggested by Fred Horky, Information by Wikipedia]

My Dollar Nineteen Days by Fred Horky



This picture is from Pope AFB sixty years ago showing "Airborne Stations Time" for a 778th Troop Carrier Squadron ("green nose"), 464th Troop Carrier Wing mission. Airborne station time was critical. All airborne troops had to be seated in the aircraft. You might have seen the picture on the cover of Al Lloyd's Aerofax C-119 book. He also used several other pictures of mine in the book. By the way, being out of print, it commands some really ridiculous prices on e-Bay. One of the lowest prices I found was \$78.93!

At the time, Al apologized profusely for the publisher having lost the above slide, but at least I have a good digital image and he sent a really nice large enlargement which I have framed in my man cave. Unfortunately, Al passed away in 2007, not long after the book was published.

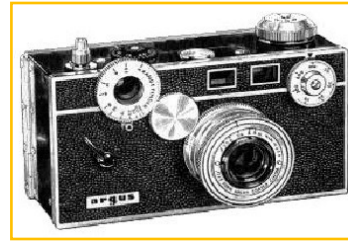


I recall that to get the picture, I first climbed out of the open astrodome (open in the summer to act as a chimney to ventilate the never-had air conditioning airplane.) I carefully tiptoed past a forest of antenna, vents, heater vents, etc.; walked *down* the inboard wing, took the long step over the boom, and walked out onto the wing to get this composition.

I was using an American-made camera, the old Argus C-3. Camera collectors today call it "the brick," for obvious reasons. The film was Kodak Kodachrome color film, ASA 12! The "olden days" were so long ago that just now Spell Check didn't recognize "Kodachrome!"

Hard to believe today that color imagery was ever that slow. Real Matthew Brady stuff!

Of course, through this process I was being careful to not slide off the wing.

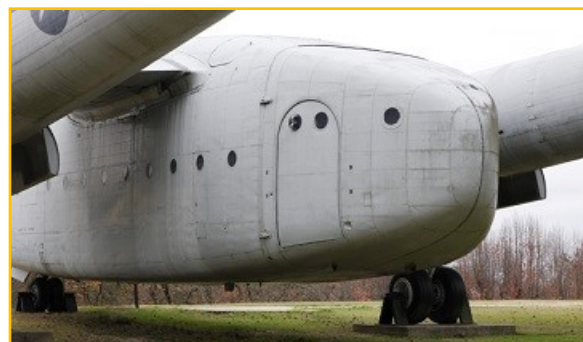


We had a "three-shipper" going from Pope AFB to Fort Campbell, Kentucky to drop a week-long jump school session. Each trainee had to get five jumps (pushes?) to complete the course and be a full-fledged paratrooper. Why I remember all this detail sixty years later probably explains why I can't remember what I had for lunch.

But I remember we were on airway V54 between Chattanooga and Nashville at about eight thousand feet when I went back to use the "relief tube" facility.



On the dollar-nineteen, the upper, business end of the relief tube (urinal) is attached to the center post on the left of the removable clamshell door in the back end of the airplane. For easy removal, the clamshells are rather loosely mounted on simple pin hinges, so that when you're "doing your business" at the relief tube, it felt like standing on the tail gate of a pickup truck going down a bumpy road. And in rough air, you had to hang on back there while doing your business. I recall once, while so engaged at the relief tube, idly staring out the rearmost windows in the clamshells. I noticed that, in rough air, the tail booms had an up and down wiggle, but not together. That gave the horizontal tail between them a noticeable "teeter-totter" motion.



On that cross-country flight to Fort Campbell, I had my same Argus camera with me. On an impulse, I opened the left troop door (it's part of the clamshell on either side) and, taking care so as not to fall out while standing in the door, motioned to Pete Austgen, flying on our left wing, to move in closer.

With no power boost on the controls, flying formation in the C119 was work. In rough air, it was *real* work. (A cross-country formation was usually flown pretty loose.)

This is the resulting shot.



Fred



[Editor's Note; Fred Horky is the point man for the IPMS/USA newsletter exchange program in the United States. This program collects IPMS/USA club newsletters from around the globe. Fred comments on the content of each newsletter and forwards them for distribution to each club's collective audience. The newsletter exchange program was begun by Dick Montgomery, but Fred has added his own twist. After Fred's *brief* discussion of the attached newsletter, he *may* include a comment or antidote that was sparked from reading the newsletter, which *may* in turn remind him of a story which *might* remind him of another tidbit that is worth sharing.

This was one such tidbit.]



[courtesy of Mike Burns]



IPMS/USA News

There is some fun stuff to report this month.

There is an interesting thread on the forum page of the IPMS/USA website. A requested was made to the reviewer corps folk that they include the scale (1/48th, 1/72nd, etc.) of whatever they were reviewing and that information be included in the title of the respective review.

Simple, right? Not so fast. Turns out you can't get there from here. At least, not without a six pack. Check out the entire thread for an amusing read.

<http://forum.ipmsusa3.org/index.php?topic/17549-a-request-of-the-reviewer-corps/>

Of a less strident nature, Mike Lamm has another model kit review posted. Click on the link for that review. Obviously, Mike is way too busy being a big shot reviewer corps person to submit anything to his own, local, club newsletter. No small town press for him. Not that I'm bitter....

<http://web.ipmsusa3.org/content/stuart-m3m3a1m3a3-stuart-light-tank>

The Executive board of IPMS/USA has been knocking around the idea of a lapel pin for IPMS/USA members. It would appear as if that item is getting closer to fruition. Although there seems to be precious little discussion about the artwork or the look of the pin.

http://www.ipmsusa.org/executive_board/minutes/2016/minutes_16_12.shtml

The 2017 IPMS/USA National Convention hasn't even happened yet but the logo for the 2018 convention is available now.

Looks pretty cool!

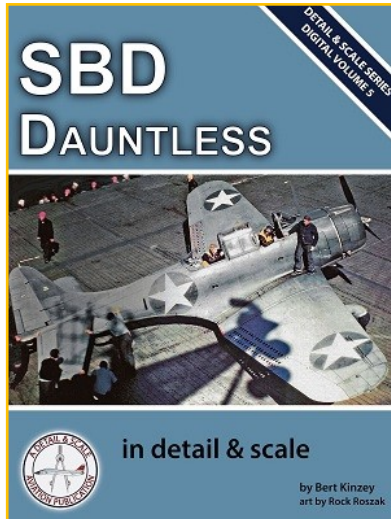


SBD Dauntless Detail & Scale Digital Volume 5 by Floyd S. Werner, Jr. IPMS #26266

The Detail & Scale series of books is a hallmark of any book collection. Author Bert Kinzey is a noted author and writes in a way that keeps the reader's attention. The artwork by Rock Roszak is some of the best out there.

But what do you do when you have so much information and the cost of printing the books becomes excessive? Well, if you are Bert and Rock, you embrace technology.

Available from the iBooks app on the iPad, these digital volumes are impressive in their scope and content.



Like a typical book, you can use the Table of Contents. You can access it in two ways. You can use the Table of Contents icon or you can 'pinch' the page. Once there you can navigate to any place in the book by going to a chapter, section, or page.

The benefit of the digital format is that you can tap on any picture and a high resolution photo will pop up. You can turn the iPad to get a full screen pic if the orientation is different than the photo. You can also enlarge a portion of the photo to highlight the details. You can go up to 200%.

With all of these benefits it's quite easy to see why the digital format works so well for these types of books. One other benefit is that Bert can use color anywhere without having to worry about the format of a printed page. This volume has 125 color detail photos.

The book itself is a plethora of information and pictures. The original SBD book was published in 1995. Typical of the Detail & Scale series, the book is broken down by aircraft version with history and photos.

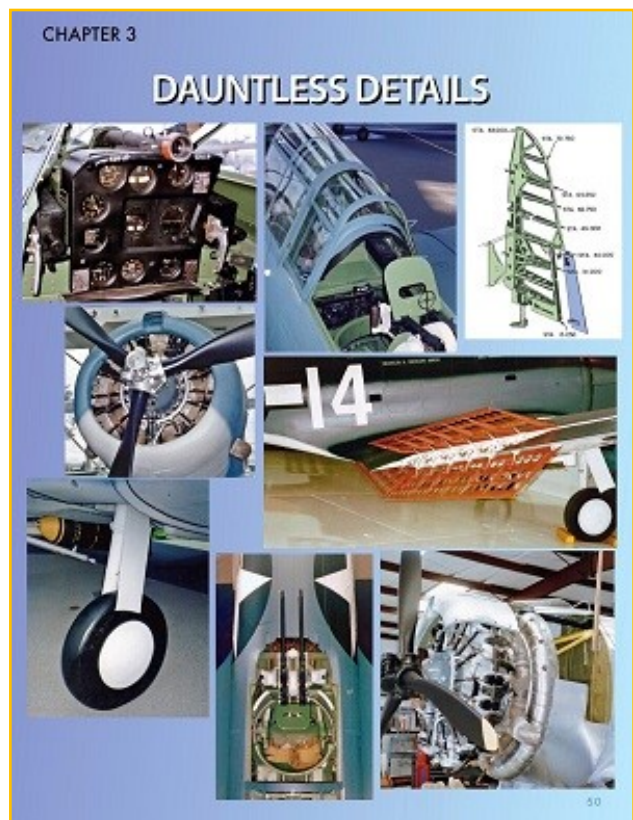
Chapter one is an historical summary of the development of the aircraft from the BT-1 through the SBD-6. This section contains the historical significance of this nearly obsolete aircraft. The Army version, the

A-24, is also included and researched. Despite the slow speed and near obsolescence, the SBD soldiered on throughout WWII and maintained the lowest loss rate for any American carrier-based aircraft.



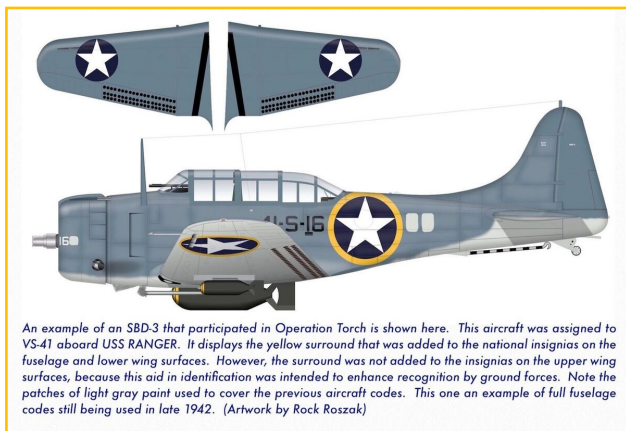
Chapter two starts to discuss the variants in detail. Everything from the beautiful yellow wings of the SBD-1 flown by the Marines to the SBD-6 are discussed.

The photos of the cockpit and systems will be invaluable to the modeler. Many drawings from the manuals are used when they are applicable. Line drawings are by Lloyd S. Jones and they are beautifully renderings.



Chapter three contains the details, the meat and potatoes, of the book. Using aircraft from museums around the U.S. this section is what the Detail & Scale series is known for. This chapter alone is worth the price of admission. This chapter has everything, including rivet patterns. The armament is discussed in detail, including the practice bomb dispensers. Literally, everything is covered from prop to tail, wingtip to wingtip.

The Dauntless colors are discussed in the next chapter. The evolution of the paint schemes starts out with the yellow/orange wings on the SBD-1, followed by the Non-Specular Light Grey. Even the experimental Dark Green paint scheme is shown. The famous Blue Grey over Light Grey is next up.



Included in each section is at least one aircraft that was historically significant for that paint scheme. For example: the Blue Grey over Light Grey is shown with the Battle of the Coral Sea and Midway markings. The evolution of the national insignia is also covered in this chapter. The tri-color paint scheme is covered as well as its variations. The two color Atlantic scheme are shown. The A-24 is also covered in this section as well.



Detail & Scale was one of the first books that was tailored to the scale modeler and had a modeling section. The digital format lends itself to this section, too.

Every scale is covered in detail. In addition to the models being covered, the aftermarket parts are included.

Compiled by Haagen Klaus, all the shortcomings and highlights of the kits are included in this section. You can make an informed decision on which model to buy and what to buy with it.

Another thing that can happen in the digital format is the addition of changes to keep the book up to date. This is particularly important in the modeling section. Unlike a printed book, this book will always be up to date.

You won't need any other reference on the SBD. You will not find another book with more up to date Information, detail, and at such a low price.

The ability to enlarge photos is extremely useful for the modeler and historian. If you have the Accurate Miniatures Dauntless or any of the other models on the market you *need* this book.

If you just like the SBD, this book is impressive in its scale and scope. The expertise of Bert and Rock makes this digital book something that every modeler should have on their workbench.

Oh yeah! And that's another thing! The digital book takes up very little room on your bench. This and the ability to enlarge the photos, make this an essential tool for the modeler.

This book not only keeps up the great tradition of the Detail & Scale series but it builds on it with the addition of technology.

Floyd



Thanks to Detail & Scale for the review copy. You can get your copy by checking on iBooks and downloading it there.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/sbd-dauntless-in-detail-scale/id1098065807?mt=11>

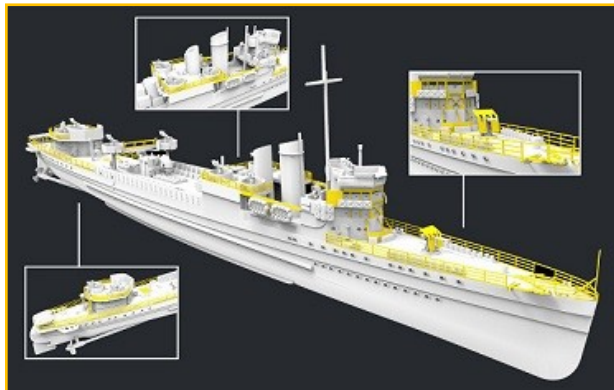
Old Rumors/ New Kits 2G

Aaron Smischney, Randy Bumgardner,
Rick Herrington, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

Here's the stuff.

Flyhawk Models has a new mold of the destroyer HMS Campbelton (1942). This is a dual release with both a regular and deluxe versions available. Each has the plastic for the ship and photo-etch sets to compliment the kit. The deluxe version has an additional fret of photo-etch. This ship model is in 1/700th scale.



Flyhawk has a new sub-division, Kajika Models, that will concentrate on IJN model kits. Their first release is the IJN dreadnaught-class battleship Kongo (1914) in 1/700th scale.



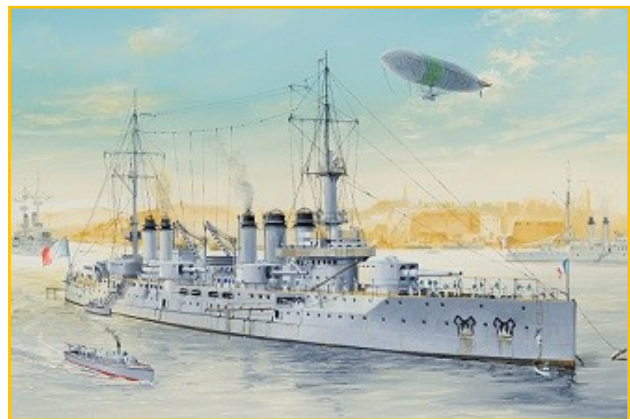
Pitroad has several new 1/700th scale sets of naval equipment for modern Japanese, American, and Soviet naval ships. These sets include gun turrets, torpedo launchers, antennae, and the odd auxiliary/ harbor craft.



Trumpeter has a new-tooled WWII DKM German aircraft carrier Graf Zeppelin coming soon. This 1/350th scale ship model has over 840 parts, photo-etch, and an anchor chain included in the kit. The kit also has detailed flight and hanger decks with naval versions of the Ar-195, Me109, Ju-87, and Fi-167 aircraft.

Trumpeter is also showing the Fiume and Gorizia. These were Italian Zara-class heavy cruisers from the 1930's. Both kits are in 1/350th scale.

HobbyBoss has the French dreadnaught-class battleship Voltaire (1911) coming soon. This 1/350th scale kit has over 470 parts and photo-etch details.



Hasegawa has released several 1/350th scale sets of plastic detail kits that include torpedo launchers, gun turrets, and associated items for WWII-era IJN ships.



That's it for this month. Pull a model out of the stash and build it.

Rick



Aircraft

The New Year is here! And with this new year, a slew of new stuff arrived with it. Some of it is just hitting the shelves and some of it is just hitting my computer screen. So, let's not dawdle. Let's get on with it.

First is a kit that hasn't had much fanfare, yet probably deserves some. Tamiya has just released a 1/48th scale Kawasaki Ki-61-1d Hien (Tony).



I haven't seen much about this particular kit, although if Tamiya decided to manufacture it, it's a good kit. It certainly didn't receive standing ovations like their F-14A, but it certainly is an under-represented aircraft in the modern, new-tooled world of Japanese aircraft.

Revell has continued its march through 1/32nd scale aircraft. Just releasing is the Messerschmitt Me 262B-1a/U-1 Schwalbe Nachtjaeger. It's a sure hit with detail and affordability the high notes of this release.

As shipped, the kit offers lowered flaps, positional ailerons, elevators, and rudder. The two markings options are Red 12 and Red 8. Both aircraft are from 10./NJG 11.

I've perused the kit instructions and they are the typical Revell pictograph series. Although these instructions are in color. Fancy. Sadly, the color call-outs are for Revell paints, and only Revell paints.

Revell of Germany has also announced their intention to produce newly tooled kits this year. The first is a 1/32nd scale North American P-51D Mustang.

I'm sure Mustang enthusiasts are both rolling their eyes and wide-eyed in anticipation. That's no small feat, as I've tried both at the same time and it's difficult.

My question is why not a "B"? We need a new-tool P-51B, not another "D" model.

They also have plans for a 1/32nd scale Beaufighter TF.X. The only other 1/32nd scale Beaufighter is the old (ancient?) Revell offering from several decades ago. While a viable kit, shape-wise, it lacks detail and is a scratch builders dream. This kit is not for the ADD, 24-hour news cycle model builder of today. But that's a subject for another day.



Airfix is next on our list of goodness. Although they had started generating excitement about their 2017 releases last year. They do have one trick up their sleeve.



Somehow they snuck a North American B-25C/D in there, in 1/72nd scale. I'm not sure about the release date, but it will be this year. The kit exemplifies the late model C/D with the single stack exhausts and the remote control turret on the underside of the aircraft. The CAD drawings look phenomenal. I'm sure the real model will look just as awesome.

Airfix also showed some test shots of their upcoming Messerschmitt Me 262A-1a. This is going to be one sweet, little kit. I normally don't build 1/72nd scale aircraft, unless it's a large aircraft. I might have to make an exception and get this kit, and then go to the eye doctor so I can see small things.



Next, we have Kitty Hawk who will be bringing out a brand new 1/48th scale Sukhoi Su-35 "Flanker-E" in February.

This is a "wait and see" kit as a lot of vocal modelers slag (rubbish) on KH. I'm on the fence about it. I'm not quite a "shut up and build it" modeler as I expect more of myself, and I'm not quite of a "this is shit for my money" builder either. You will have to make up your own mind and what type of a modeler you consider yourself to be.

Zoukei-Mura released a very nice 1/48th scale McDonald Douglas F-4J Phantom II last month. Some have examined the shape and found an error. Yes, I can see that error as well. However, it's still a very nice kit. I will be adding it to my stash and putting it on the top of the to-do pile. They are also releasing the F-4S. That isn't that far fetched as the real "S" version was a modernized "J" model.

Z-M is also on track with their Focke Wulf Fw 190A family in 1/32nd scale. It's exciting to see what they can do with the Wurger. I believe they have plans to do both Super Wing Series and basic models of each version.

Zoukei-Mura announced a couple of new, and surprising, kits in 1/32nd scale. Both of them are aircraft that haven't gotten their due by *Big Plastic* (the large, mainstream manufacturers). Sounds like a conspiracy to me.

The first is the Kawasaki Ki-45 Kai "Nick". The second is the Henschel Hs 129B.



Both kits will be released in their Super Wing Series line, which means that details will abound. Mock-ups were displayed at Telford last year and generated quite a buzz. I'm not sure when we'll see them, but they are slated for this year.

There is a new development in the Wingnut Wings world. Sprue Brothers will be the exclusive distributor in the United States for their products. No more sending your money to New Zealand. One of the first kits available domestically may be the forthcoming 1/32nd scale Sopwith F.1 Camel. This model is reportedly going to be available in six different versions with multiple markings for each.



Now go build something!

Randy



Tanks A Lot

Greetings armor fans and hello to all you armor curious out there!

Let's see what the new year has brought us in the realm of armoured fighting vehicles.

Do you like your tanks big and expensive? Then SOL Models has something for you: a new 1/16th scale Merkava 3!



It even comes with a crew of very nicely sculpted IDF tankers of the female persuasion.

Not only will this tank take up your entire desk, but it will drain your wallet of any Christmas cash you got from gam-gam. The kit has the princely sum of \$600 plus shipping.



For much less, you could buy this new release of Meng's M1A1 Abrams, this time with Gyrene (Marines) options!

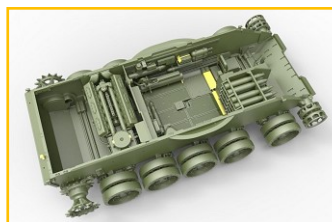


Here are some detail pics showing the air conditioner, smoke dischargers, etc..

Next up is MiniArt with a new variant of the T-54. We are marching closer and closer to a full blown T-55 from them.



This release has a full interior that looks very good.



Academy is continuing the re-releasing of their Sherman-based kits of old with new parts. This time it's the M36 "Battle of the Bulge."

These have had a few updates from their original releases. They may not be Asuka level quality but Academy knows how to give you a lot for your money.

For the more adventurous, you can *Frankenstein* Asuka/Dragon parts onto the Academy kits for a more detailed and accurate model.



This one is pretty nice on its own. Instead of doing all that kit bashing, I would just replace the running gear with the finer detailed Tasca/Asuka running gear and be done.

Those are the highlights. Until next time!

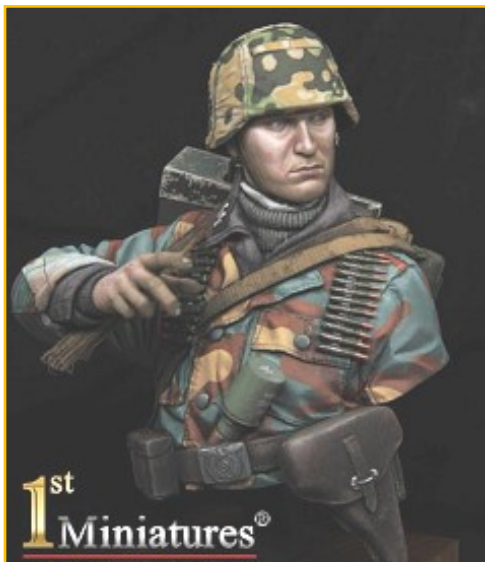
Aaron



It Figures

Hey everyone!

Let's take a look at the world of facsimiles of soft and squishy stuff as opposed to hard edged stuff like cars, planes, and tanks.



1st Miniatures has a wonderful new German bust (1/16th) from the Battle of Normandy. The figure represents a member of 12th SS panzer division.

The figure is sculpted by James Jeong. The box art is painted by one of the best painters in the world, Kirill Kanaeve.

There are a lot of interesting shapes, surfaces, and textures to play with on this guy. Depending on how you paint the eyes, they can be made to look either defiant/angry (as Kirill did) or looking more dejected/sad.

The biggest complaint I have is that there are no images of this bust unpainted. Kirill could paint a horse apple and make it look like a flower. He is hands down the master at painting textures. Because of this, it's always hard to tell if the sculpture really has all of the detail you see in the box art. I always try to hunt down bare resin shots or find out-of-box reviews before I purchase a figure or bust.

In this case, the volumes look good and if the subject strikes your fancy, it may be worth a look. If you want one, contact them at their email address:

1st_miniatures@hanmail.net

FeR Miniatures has a new 54mm (1/32) figure of the always fun and colorful Zouaves.



Mitches Military Models has a new 1/9th scale bust set from the Seven Years War. These look suspiciously like the cast from *The Last of the Mohicans*.

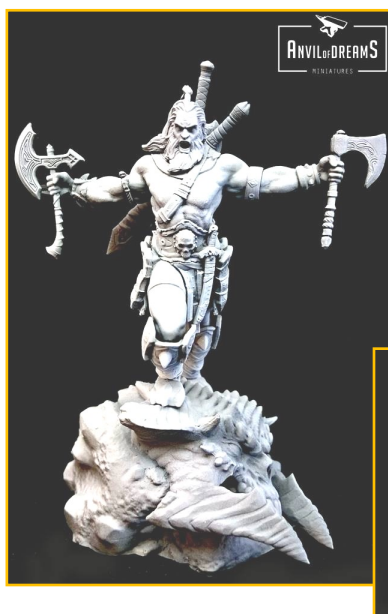


Mitches Military Models has some very cool busts from the movies. These look like more winners. I especially like the Huron warrior. He would make a superb piece for trying one's hands at Native American war paint. These busts are reasonably priced at £25 each. Or, buy the entire set of three for £60.

You can find these and more at:

<http://mitchesmilitarymodels.co.uk/>

Anvil of Dreams is a new Spanish company. Their first release is "The Barbarian." This is a 75mm resin figure that will be limited to 120 copies.



Now that is a brutal looking barbarian! I love the demon head he is standing on!



The company doesn't have a web site but you can email them if you want one of these bad boys.

anvilofdreams.pedidos@gmail.com

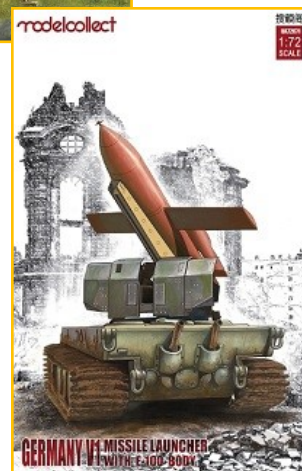
These are the highlights for this month. Until next time!

Aaron



Miscellaneous

Model Collect has been cranking out kits left and right. Some of the new ones coming to a retailer near you are a V1 missile launcher on an E-100 chassis and the V1 missile launch position with a complete launch ramp.



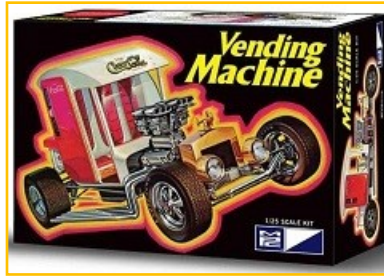
Tamiya is introducing a 1/48th scale Hayate with Kurogane (scout car) scenery set. This kit comes with a display base with realistic turf. You get four marking options and three figures (two pilots and a driver).



For fans of WWI aircraft, Taurus has some detailing sets. They are introducing timing gear, starter magneto's. etc., to detail the be-Jesus out of your next Wing Nut Wings kit.

<http://www.taurusmodels.pl/products.htm>

Round 2/MPC Models is re-introducing some of their older kits. Among them is a 1/25th scale Coca Cola show rod. You can also get a 1/6th scale figure of Stroker McGurk.



Sharkit has a 1/72nd scale resin kit of the French SNCASO Dever, a 1955 V-TOL interceptor project. This was a design concept based on the company's earlier Trident.



Our new Russian pals, Zvezda, have a 1/2700th scale Imperial Star Destroyer entering our airspace. The model is 60cm long and will be a mere £114.99. Click the link for a look at the instructions.

<https://www.scalemates.com/products/img/3/6/0/1015360-82-instructions.pdf>

Not to be outdone by Round2/MPC, Lindburg is bringing back their '59 Coronado speed boat model. This 1/25th scale kit hasn't seen the light of day since the early 1960's.



For something a bit different, Welsh Models has the Basler BT-67. Basler modified a DC-3 with turboprops and modified wings to produce this aircraft. Utilized by Ken Borek, the plane was used extensively in the Arctic. The 1/72nd scale resin kit has white metal landing gear and props.



ICM Models is still getting some good mileage out of their Model T kit. This time we have a Model T 1913 Roadster. This 1/24th scale release has three figures included.

Now for some fun stuff. Actually I'm surprised Aaron missed this one. Meng, in connection with Rogovan Studios and Lego, is releasing two armor models. These are from a forthcoming video game, *World War Toons*.

The kits are an M4A1 Sherman and a Tiger I. Based on the title of the game you can expect these to be somewhat cartoonish in nature. Lego will be supplying their unique figures to complement the release of the game. "There's no way we can lose!"



Hasegawa is releasing a 1/24th scale Volkswagen delivery van. The markings for this VW microbus are the Egg Girls 2015.

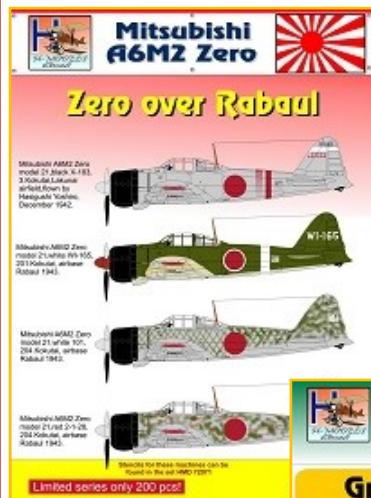


The Egg Girls are the caricatures that appear on Hasegawa's box art for their egg planes. The easy build kit comes molded in color with a one piece body and vinyl tires.



Masterbox is adding to its World of Fantasy line. This release is in 1/24th scale and depicts a Giant with a victim and warrior maiden.

H Model Decals has a rather complete line of decals for Japanese aircraft from WWII. This Czech Republic company will have these decals in either 1/72nd or 1/48th scales. They also expect to release a bunch of decal sets for WWII armor in 1/35th and 1/72nd scales.



If you are big fan of paint masks then Top Notch has you covered. They are releasing a plethora of new self-adhesive paint masks in 1/72nd, 1/48th, 1/32, and 1/24th scales. Happy viewing.

http://topnotch-success.net/index.php?rt=product/manufacturer&manufacturer_id=14

Some few months ago, I mentioned a rash of farm-type tractor kits coming onto the market. I missed one. The 1/24th scale Porsche Jr 10 will soon be available from Revell.



This tractor was developed by Porsche in the early 1950's and had an air-cooled, 822cc, single-cylinder diesel engine that produced 14 hp.

Go build that model!

Golzar





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

Applications using payment via Check or Money Order should be printed and mailed to:
IPMS/USA
PO Box 56023
St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023

For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager at manager@ipmsusa.org

Fiddly Bits

Frank Seibert

Barring unforeseen difficulties, the new venue for the 2017 ASMS Capital Classic will be the Travis County Expo Center. (<https://www.traviscountytx.gov/exposition-center>) The date is October 14, 2017.

The theme for this year's contest will be **Old Dogs/New Tricks**. There is a complete explanation of what that all means in the December 2016 issue of the Sprue Examiner. (see page twenty-one.) The newsletter is available via our website (<http://austinsms.org>). Your gonna have to read this thing, after all.

I wanted to let you folks know that I'm retiring from the staff of the *Sprue Examiner*. My leaving will happen together with that of our editor, Ben Morton. The last issue for both of us will be April's *Sprue Examiner*. The plan is for Rick Herrington to take over the duties of compiling articles and such. He will send all that to Ian Latham who will work his magic with the actual arrangement of that stuff on the pages of the newsletter. Their first issue will be in May. I haven't quite decided what I'm gonna do with all my free time but it'll be somethin' that's not this. Maybe, I'll buy a boat.

Frank



contact us

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Modelers Society
1228 W. San Antonio St.
San Marcos, Texas
78666**

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www.austinsms.org



MODELFIESTA 36



February 12, 2017
San Antonio, Texas

<http://alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta.html>

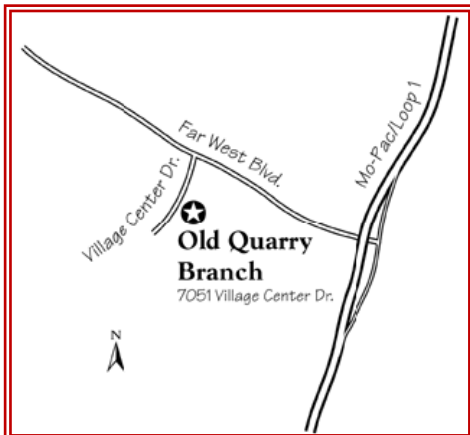


Theme: *Everything Is Bigger In Texas!*

Next Meeting:

January 19

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



ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

Annual ASMS club dues are \$25.00/individual or \$30.00/family.
There is a five dollar discount if you pay by March 1, 2017.
You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit same to
Eric Choy, 3213 Marrero Drive, Austin, TX., 78729.