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May 2018

ASMS

AUSTIN SCALE MODELERS SOCIETY



SPRUE EXAMINER



1/144 scale Plastic Model Kit

AT-AT

AT-AT

plus

- ASMS BBQ & Auction
- On The Table
- The Cotton Report
- Old Rumors and New Kits



Werner Wings FLIR
Ball & Mount

also:

RESEARCH



Green Monkey
'Thumbs-Up'
sign of approval

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug



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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.

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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



El Presidente

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings Austin IPMS!

As your interim president I want to first give a heartfelt thanks to Randy for all that he has done in in our club since he showed up at our doorstep. He has been a jolly steward of our club as well as a gracious host for many club events. Not only are we going to miss Randy but also his son Ziggy, who has been a constant reminder of just how fast time flies. I swear I missed one meeting and the next time I saw him he had a mustache and sideburns!

Happy trails to the Bumgardners. Don't forget to keep us posted on your endeavors!

This relates to something I have been thinking a lot about recently. Why do we model? Some will say they like the history, others will prefer the competition of shows or like exploring history. I love the hobby because of the people. Yes, I know that our hobby is viewed by many to be a solitary hobby, and there is certainly a lot of "alone time" when building models. But what we sometimes forget is how much fellowship our hobby has brought to us. From our little club in Central Texas we have connections regionally, nationally, and even internationally. If you are reading this article or come to our meetings you are part of our community. We all share in this fascination with building miniature facsimiles. In a modern world where everything seems to be pushing us to be divided and insular we choose to set aside our differences and come together to sniff glue and be merry. I have met and befriended so many people through this hobby that I would have never had contact with otherwise. I have gotten to hear points of view that I may not agree with but I can listen to and know that even if I think you're a touch crazy I am a bit crazy with you and gosh darn it that's a fine model. I hope we can all remember that for whatever differences we may have in the "real world" we can set that all aside and build and bull together.

I'll see y'all at the next meeting!

Aaron





Imperial Walkers on the North Ridge!

By Mike Gilsbach



One of the most memorable scenes from *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* was the Imperial attack against the Rebel Alliance Echo Base on the ice planet Hoth. The attack featured the infamous Imperial Walkers, or AT-ATs. According to Wookieepedia:

“The All Terrain Armored Transport (AT-AT) was a four-legged combat walker used by the ground forces of the Galactic Empire. With the Imperial-class Star Destroyer and the TIE fighter, it was one of the most famous symbols of the Empire’s military might.”



Having already built several of the Bandai Star Wars kits, I was excited when I received the 1/144 scale AT-AT kit as a Christmas gift. Every one of the Bandai kits I had worked on was excellent and I expected the same of this one. This was also a subject I had wanted to build a model of for a very long time. I dove right into it at the first chance I got.



Since the whole thing was one color – grey – the obvious path seemed to be to build first and paint later. The major components were the four legs, the head and neck, the upper body and then the belly, which fits into the bottom of the upper body. The belly is recessed a good bit into the upper armor body, so it is definitely easier to paint the two components separately.

Assembly of the entire kit went smoothly. As with the previous Bandai kits I worked on, there was very minimal cleanup required on the parts and they fit together very snugly – it was practically a

snap kit. The attention to detail is excellent. I love the fact that they even molded in the Jerry cans on the belly, presumably a function of the fact that the Lucasfilm model builders cannibalized hundreds of model kits for their on-screen creations.



Be careful about what parts you glue. The head and neck are movable to get the position you want and the guns on the bottom of the head can be positioned to simulate the recoil they produce when firing. The legs and feet are also completely articulated, which is very useful for getting them positioned properly on the base.

There is not much in the way of options for this kit. It does come with a rudimentary cockpit and crew figures but unlike the AT-ST kit, there is no way to see them once the head is assembled so I did not bother with them. If you are really into accuracy, each leg comes with differently positioned actuator parts that are supposed to be in different positions depending on where the leg is in its range of motion. You can use whichever ones you like as

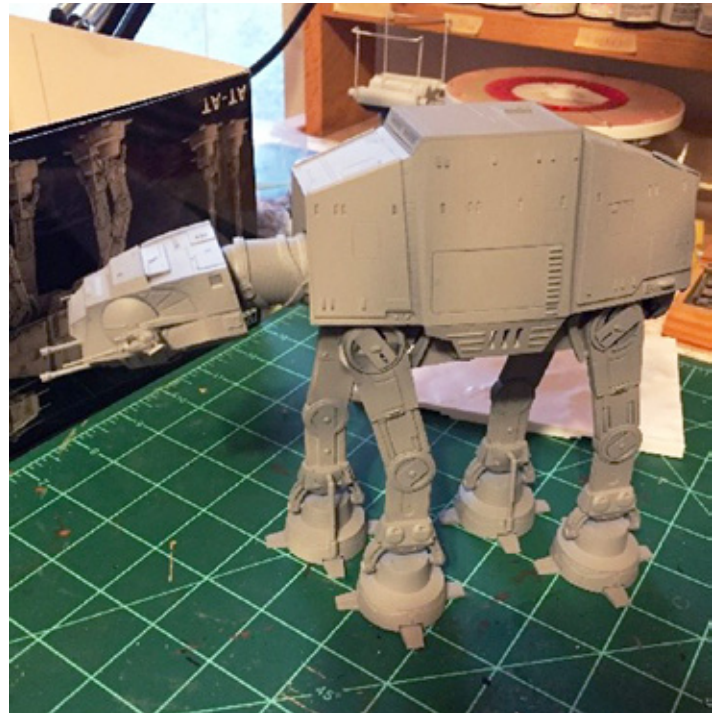


they have no actual impact on how the legs are positioned. I just picked some at random to give some variation.



As with any monochromatic subject, I wanted to get some color variation. I started with some pre-shading. I sprayed all the assembled components with flat white primer. Then I accented some areas with flat black.

Once that was done, I sprayed on neutral grey, thinned and at a lower pressure in the airbrush to avoid wiping out the white and black undertones.



With the basic colors done, I assembled the components and then shot it with a coat of Future so I had a gloss finish for the oil wash and other weathering. I dotted the model all around with burnt umber oil paint and then pulled through it with a brush dipped in Turpenoid, always pulling down to get the elemental streaking effect I was after and wiping away any excess.





I also hit some spots with a darker grey acrylic wash. I added some pastels to a few areas to simulate wear and burn marks. Finally, I did some selective dry brushing in some areas, especially to get some streaks of flat white on the upper armor to match what I saw in reference shots from the film. No decals on this one, so I shot it with a couple coats of acrylic flat and was basically done.



I now turned my attention to the base that it came with, which is mostly flat but has snow drifts molded on it. The base that came with the AT-ST had indentations molded in for the feet. The AT-AT base doesn't have that, presumably so that you can position the articulated legs however you like.



However, that presents a problem. The feet just sit on top of the drifts and don't look right at all. This thing is heavy, it needs to be sunk into the snow. I solved

this by covering the base with Sculpt-a-mold and then sinking the AT-AT feet into it while it was still wet. It was already white, so no painting required. I



had intended to trim the excess off the edges of the base, but once it dried I thought it actually looked kind of cool hanging off the edges so I left it alone.



The whole project went fairly quick. Definitely another Bandai winner that met my expectations from previous kits and a lot of fun to build.



Mike



06/02/2018 **ScaleFest 2018**
Grapevine Convention Center
1209 South Main Street Grapevine, Tx 76061
Show Theme – “Between the Wars” [WWI 1919-1939 WWII]
www.ipmsnct.net/Scalefest.htm

06/09/2018 **SoonerCon 2018**
Council Road Baptist Church 7903 NW 30th Bethany
Ok 73008
Show Themes – “The Phabulos 50’s”; “The Great War”
www.facebook.com/IPMSMETROOKLACITY/

CLUB QUARTERLY CONTESTS:

June

Procrastinator Contest (maybe July)

September

Bondo Contest

December

White Elephant Contest





Research

by Randy Bumgardner

*I*ntroduction

Research, we all do it in some shape or form. It can be the inspiration that leads us down the rabbit hole, or simply a glance at some markings on a sheet of decals. From esoteric subjects, such as a paper panzer, to more ubiquitous items, such as Glamorous Glennis™ (I think I can still say that, right?), some level of digging is required. It can be as easy as using the kit instructions and decals, or generating a larger collection of books, articles, and images on a specific subject. I seem to be in the latter category, to the detriment of the space in my office. I often overhear, or am asked directly, “How much research do you do?” Of course, the answer varies depending on the subject, how interested I am in it, and how I’m approaching the build (“quick-ish” build or involved project). What I’ve discovered as I sit here writing this, the answer is “Constantly.”

I’m always reading books, magazine or journal articles, or perusing the Great Wide Interweb. Even if I’m not building a particular subject at the time, I’m learning about other subjects and following discourses online. For example, I once consumed myself for two weeks learning the intricacies of the supercharger on the P-47. I was reading technical documentation, examining any images I could find, and flipping it around in my head. Why? I guess I’m crazy that way. There wasn’t even a P-47 on my bench at the time. The point being, we are learning all the time, regardless of how trivial we may think it is at the time.

My goal here is not to convince people to do it my way, there is no “correct” approach, just as there is no singular approach to modeling. That being said, a bit of critical thinking and analysis does go a long way. Instead, I want to cover the mediums we can use in our research processes. Specifically, the mediums I use in my process. Hopefully, everyone can learn something, or, better yet, add feedback to enhance what myself and others can accomplish.

I am, by no means, an accomplished researcher – I leave that to others who are better than I. I simply give my best effort to learn as I go, picking up hints, tips, and tricks from various sources. The process of doing research is one of constant learning and questioning. Learning how to perform the task at hand, learning about the subject under scrutiny, as well as learning to question what we think we already know.

So, let’s take a look at where we get our information. There are many sources of information and data that will help us get a better picture of our subject.

*B*ooks

When the word research is uttered, the first image that most people think of is a dusty library, filled to overflow with large volumes. Even though I don’t hang out in those kinds of libraries, my allergies wouldn’t allow it, I do hit the books as a first step. I’ve been collecting books at a rate that probably exceeds the rate I collect kits (and generally start them). I’ve learned the value of printed material from my parents, and I’ve continued that passion throughout my existence. It can be a 300-page tome concerning the technical details of the Focke Wulf Fw 190A series, or a simple 20-page photo-journal on the F-86, or anything in between. It’s not just the words forming descriptions, it’s images contained within as well. Each book carries its own value for the task at hand. If a scratch building task requires a specific image or description, then certain books will be more germane than others. If you are looking for accurate colors and markings, then that book won’t be as relevant as a book on colors and markings.

The set of relevant books isn’t limited to simply technical volumes or guides on colors. Books on unit histories, or focusing on specific battles or eras, can be enlightening about details overlooked in a general reading of the account. In the case of aircraft, data can be gleaned on the specific type of aircraft and when it saw operation, as well as hints on the colors and camouflage. Interpreting the



details and separating the trees from the forest is something everyone learns over time. Of course, the converse is also necessary: seeing the forest for the trees – not overly focusing on the details to the exclusion of the overall picture. Balance is required, and with practice, can be achieved in the long run. It's the forming of the habit through practice and repetition.

One caveat that should be considered is the provenance of the information you're reading, and this applies to other mediums as well. The information and data gleaned from our books should be cross-referenced for veracity. Many inaccuracies have been printed years, even decades, ago and have been printed and re-printed in the ensuing years. This enhances the likelihood of those inaccuracies being accepted as fact. Even in light of new data coming to light, the old myths tend to get republished. This is where the questioning and critical thinking I was referring to earlier comes to play. Try to cross-check as much as possible, be it other books, magazine articles, or images.

If you are working from a single, grainy image, this may not be possible. So, use common sense and your best judgment.

Magazines and Journals

Many of us subscribe to modeling magazines of one type or another. There are magazines published about every genre of modeling. Magazines which cover modeling in general, such as *Fine Scale Modeling* or *Tamiya Model Magazine*, down to specific magazines covering aircraft, armor, or automotive, such as *Scale Aircraft Modelling* or *Scale Auto*. Contained in each are great builds of models which various tips and techniques can be learned. However, there are other types of articles contained in those pages that are useful. These are the articles about the historical significance of a subject, its design, its use, and, of course, its colors and markings. Some of those articles can be esoteric bits of trivia, of interest to only a few, but others can be quite broad in scope and provide

details not found elsewhere. A good article will provide references for the reader to dig deeper into the subject if they feel motivated.

Modeling magazines aren't the only source of information available to us. Publications such as *Flight Journal*, *Aviation History*, and *World War II Magazine* provide historical context to the reader. These articles, similar to the general history books mentioned above, provide details about units, campaigns, as well as types and markings of the subjects involved. These, obviously, are smaller, condensed versions of the information given in the books, providing a subset of information. This subset can be more detailed, and target a specific piece of information.

Because we are a global community, there are magazines published all over the world, in many different languages. I collect and look for articles from them, regardless of whether I can read them or not. For example, one of my favorites is *Luftwaffe Im Focus*, a German publication that focuses on the Luftwaffe during World War II. This publication is printed in English and German, side by side in columnar format. So, I can practice my German at the same time! Another publication is *Model Art* from Japan. I have no idea how to read Japanese (Kanji, I believe), but I can still figure out the context. These magazines contain images that may not appear in English-only titles. So, for that alone, I'll pick them up as I run across them.

Another source I use in this category are journals from various societies. For instance, I'm a member of the American Aviation Historical Society. The society publishes a quarterly journal which covers all of American aviation, from its inception through today. The topics covered are all types of aviation – civilian and military – and range from specific engineering designs to sweeping histories of specific airlines. There are many such societies out there covering The Great War to IPMS, and they each have their own journals. Membership in the society of choice is usually recommended, although back issues can be purchased from the society. Or, if you regularly scour the vendor tables at model shows, older journals can be had for good prices.



The Internet

Of course, one of the most obvious choices is right at our fingertips, literally. Many of us have visited online modeling sites like Hyperscale, Large Scale Planes, or Modeling Madness. Each contains volumes of information regarding the latest products and services from around the globe. Each also contains discussion forums which allow users to interact with each other, discussing models, techniques, and, of course, data on a particular subject.

The forums can be a trove of information from the collective intellect of all involved. Many modelers have images relevant to a specific subject that can be useful to most of us. I scan a few discussion forums on a daily basis – not looking for anything in particular, just seeing what’s out there. More often than not, useful information can be gained from the various threads. If I find something that I find interesting, I’ll cut-and-paste it into a text file and keep it for future use. I have a specific drive on my computer for all of this information, organized by subject and/or type, and further subdivided by variant if necessary.

In addition, members also post images to support, or refute, various assertions made in the discussion thread. This is what I find of supreme value. I have thousands of images I’ve saved throughout the years that I can use for reference. A picture speaks a thousand words, and learning to discern what you are looking is a valuable tool. It takes some time, but it’s a worthwhile endeavor. In the process of examining the images, you are able to get a good grasp of picking out the details. You can pick up what field modifications are present, what colors are present, and even where the image was photographed. As far as colors and markings, beware of colorized images. I’m not saying they are all incorrect. However, you may not get the accurate representation of the specific colors. Discerning the colors themselves can be a hornet’s nest in some cases. With corroborating documentation, you can estimate, with a fair amount of certainty, what colors are present in the image – even black and white images. Of course,

you cannot know with 100% certainty, but you can get a good representation.

A word of caution, though. We’ve all heard the tongue-in-cheek comment, “I read it on the internet, so it must be true!” There is a reason for this, as anyone can post anything for all to read. That, in and of itself, does not make the author an expert, or what was written true. As with the other mediums above, inaccuracies can propagate year after year. So, cross-check the information you find.

Summary

In conclusion, my intent was to provide the tools and sources I regularly use when performing research on a topic. I would estimate I spend about 60% of my project time, when I’m researching a specific subject, on this process. And, I’m just that kind of person – crazy and pedantic, or crazily pedantic.

This isn’t to say you have to do this. Everybody derives their enjoyment via their own process. Hopefully, I’ve presented one or two tools that somebody can use going forward. If you do, be sure to cross-check what you find. Testing the veracity of a claim is just as important and finding that bit of information. Remember, it’s about having fun.

Randy





FLIR Ball and Mount

for the Kitty Hawk AH-6J or MH-6J

by Floyd Werner



Werner's Wings is pleased announce the release of Stock# 35-15 AH-6J FLIR and Mount. This set is designed for the Kitty Hawk AH-6J or MH-6J.

The set provides you with three parts, the mount, FLIR ball and CLEAR disk to represent the glass. You may want the glass tinted or clear so we left that up to the modeler.

The set was designed by Joe Szczygiel, or Mother as he is more commonly known.

The parts are unpainted.



The set represents ONE of the three types of mounts for the FLIR that were used on the Little Bird. In addition to the three mounts there were no less than FOUR FLIRs operationally fitted to the AH-6J and MH-6J. This set represents one type, the Hughes AN/AAQ-16 Night Vision System.



The FLIR ball is not always fitted. In Somalia, only AH-6J Barber 51 had the FLIR mounted. The others had the mount but no actual FLIR. This mount was also used on early AH/MH-6M aircraft but with a different FLIR ball.



While designed to fit the Kitty AH-6J/ MH-6J this set can be easily used on the Dragon AH-6J kit.

Additional Werner's Wings Products for the Kitty Hawk AH-6J/ MH-6J

Check out the Werner's Wings Stock# 35-16 AH-6J/ MJ-6J Downturned Exhaust as used on the AH-6Js in Somalia.

Coming soon Stock# 35-17 AH-6J/ MH-6J Update set.

Also look for new decals for the Task Force: 'Irene'- TF 160th in Somalia shortly.

Floyd



The Cotton Report: Too many Mind

By Rick Cotton

In the cool of the morning mist, the garden is quiet, and the peace that fills it is nearly a living thing. From the distance, the deep, full sound of the temple bell resonates through the trees, and the sound flows gently in, like a peaceful stream. It surrounds me. All is well here, and the world outside does not exist. There is peaceful nothingness...the "Zanshin" spoken of by the masters of old. It is bottomless and has no limits. It is Zen.

No, I have neither joined a Buddhist monastery, nor have I been watching too many reruns of Kung Fu. I have been working with Sweetie to install our Japanese Garden in the back corner of our yard. We have been moving dirt (40lb bags of it), stones (60lbs), shoveling grass and dirt, "shaving" grass (nothing like it sounds), and generally sweating like the fat boy I am. Well, a little less fat today, thank you.

"Why on earth are you doing this?," you may ask. You should know, if you have been a regular reader of my rants, that I am greatly interested in Japanese subjects –samurai history, wood block printing and art, the Nihon Kaigun in glorious 1/350th scale. Anything from the Land of the Rising Sun interests me.

And, we had an ugly corner of the back yard. So, I am undertaking this project to create the little corner of peace that I have always wanted. Japanese gardens are not places to smell flowers or pick tomatoes... they are places to contemplate. To think. Or... in many cases... to NOT think.

There is a Zen concept, well-known to martial artists who study the sword, called Zanshin. It literally means "empty mind" or "no mind". The idea here is, the subject shuts off all outside influences, and stops...thinking too much...and attains the inner quiet needed to defeat an opponent. No thinking... just reacting. You all saw it in the film "Last Samurai", when Tom Cruise was getting his brains



beat in by Hiroyuki Sanada in a practice session with wooden swords. The young son of the samurai lord speaks a few words to Cruise:

“Mind on sword. Mind on people...too many mind. NO mind!”

Cruise, as we all know, suddenly “gets it”, then goes to sword-sling Sanada to a draw, creating amazement in all who are sitting around watching the match.

Do you “Zen” model? Do you shut off all outside influences, and lock yourself in your man cave to build? Do you get alone, and quiet, and peaceful before wrestling with that &^%\$ styrene opponent? If you see that model as an opponent...you have already lost the match.

Get to your “Zanshin” place first. Close that door, turn on that peaceful music...or whatever you listen to. Breathe deeply for a minute or two, eyes closed, while you sit there at the worktable, before even touching anything. Say to yourself, “it will be a good session. I will not accomplish it all. I will accomplish a little. And LOTS of “littles” make something large.”

For, indeed they do. A great model is truly composed of several... or many... small models. There is no deadline (unless the show is tomorrow). There is no production schedule (unless you are Vince Barrale). There is no quota (unless you are Richard Kern). There is no need to get it done “right freak-ing now”.

It will be done, when it is done.

I found myself struggling this weekend (when I was not lugging sacks of dirt) with a Special Hobby kit, in this case, a Yak-3. Those of you who have tackled items from this company know what you are getting in to. It’s just this side of a vacuform when it comes to fit.

I was fighting and fighting the stupid thing, and it just would not FIT. Sand, trim, cut, swear, repeat. I finally put the thing down in disgust, and went

outside with Sweetie to push a shovel and pull grass roots for a while. We chatted and sweated there in the late afternoon, under the limited shade of a crepe myrtle tree. Work, work, work, pulling grass, moving rocks. The evening finally came, we knocked off, and I went in for a cool shower and change of clothes. Dinner, a little TV, and then I was back out in the shop again.

Slower this time. Stop fighting it. Breathe slowly, deeply, feel the air going in and out, all the way down. Gently ease things into place. Not fitting? Pull it out and sand it. Breathe and sand...Zen moment. One with the sanding stick. Nothing else exists but this.

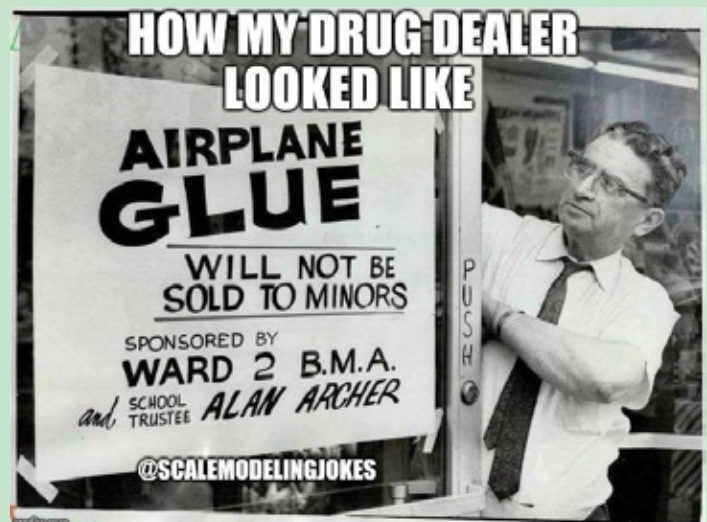
Holy cow, it finally fits! How did a half hour go by?

One day very soon, the garden will be complete. I will be out there contemplating why Special Hobby and Tamiya are so different. It becomes very obvious – Tamiya and Hasegawa do things the Japanese way... Special Hobby, Trumpeter, and Mach 2 do not. The results clearly show.

I will hear my temple bell sound (I should find one on Ebay by then), and I will clear... and empty my mind before I try and fit that wing and fuselage together. They will go together... I simply have to allow them to do so.... and stop thinking so much.

Too many mind.

Rick

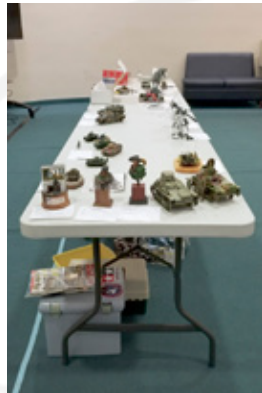




On The TABLE

By **Flanged End Yoke**

The tables were full again with member's project both completed and in progress. It's always nice to see the in progress stuff because when it's done the members know what kind of work went into it. This was Randy Bumgardner's last meeting as El Presidente. Thanks for being our main man!



Ben also brought in a 1/144th Minicraft B24D. This one is in progress.



Bradley Becker wowed us with a couple of impressive models. The first was a Terminator Gun Truck based on Meng's 1/35th F-350 kit. Bradley added the smoke dischargers, weapons and sighting systems to the kit.



Ben Morton brought in his Tamiya 1/20th scale Ferrari SF70H. This is the one from last month's newsletter. Impressive to see it in person.



Bradley also brought in a 1/35th Takom T-55.





Alex Gashev brought in his 1/35th Hobby Boss SU-18 project.



Rick Herrington brought in a Tamiya 1/35th T34-76 in snow camouflage.



Dave Edgerly brought in his completed M151 Mutt with Radio Intercept equipment.



Mike Lamm brought in several small scale models including a Panther, two Stuart's, a Revell T-80 with Hauler photo etch, a Russian BT-5 and a 1/700th scale Dutch submarine.



Ron McCracken brought in his in progress Coronado.





Ziggy Downs-Bumgardner brought in two nice Bandai Gundams. The first was a 1/100 scale Zaku II "White Wolf". The second was a Bandai 1/144th Bande Dessinee Unicorn.



Aaron Smischney shared an in progress Tamiya 1/35 Russian Matilda.



Two new visitors to the meeting brought in their work. Barbara Owens brought in her Meng Toon Tank Sherman.



The other project was a Pegasus T-Rex in 1/24th scale. Unfortunately I didn't get the gentleman's name that brought it in.



Finally, Bob Bethea brought in his usual plethora of projects and garnered Model of the Month with his Through the Looking Glass. The scene depicts Lewis Carroll and Alice in Wonderland.





The Looter is an Andrea 1/9th scale bust.



Bob also brought in a 1/9th scale Serebyakov Viking Bust.



Bob shared with us his in progress 1/16th scale soon to be released Takom Type 94 Japanese tankettes.



Finally Bob shared with us his 1/72nd scale Pacific War scene of a Sherman with a Type 94 tankette on

the engine deck. The scene is based on a real war time photograph. Bob used a Dragon and ab IBG kits as well as miscellaneous figures.

That's it for this month. Thanks everyone for bringing in such interesting and varied subjects.



Flanged

* Additional photos by A.W.DeLeon

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

June Jeff Forester

July Bob Bethea

August Dave Edgerly

September Ian Candler

October Milton Bell

November Rick Herrington

December Ian Latham





ASMS BBQ Auction

By Randy Bumgardner



The Auction Table

On May 5, the Austin Scale Modeler's Society held their annual Auction/BBQ fundraiser. Perpetually billed as "For The Children", its purpose is to add to the club's coffers to fund our various expenses throughout the year, not the least of which is our world-famous Capitol Classic. And, it's a great excuse to assemble the masses and have some fun.

This year's date was advanced into early May, rather than the July-August period, to accommodate El Presidente Emeritus Randy Bumgardner, who is gathering the covered wagons and pressing westward in the not so distant future. About



Chris and Jack tending to their duties

20 ASMS members showed up for the festivities that afternoon. The BBQ was supplied by our local Rudy's BBQ and Gas station, and was as good as always. With party-goers supplying sides and desserts, there wasn't a shortage of good food. If you left hungry, that's your own fault.

Once the rush for the food died down, we got down to the other half of the event – the auction. Officiated by Master of Ceremonies, and very part-time comedian, Randy Bumgardner (keep your day job) the bidding got underway. There was a very nice assortment of kits up for grabs, thanks to the generosity of the membership and kits donated to the club. One of the highlights was the bidding war that broke out over the Ban-Dai 1/48th X-Wing Fighter with lights and moving wings. Our M.C. only had to



Randy - "Remember, 'It's for the Children!'"

dole out our motto, "It's for the Children!", a handful of times as the bidding was quite brisk.

In the end, the club generated a nice bump to the coffers, everyone enjoyed themselves, and camaraderie was the rule of the day.

Randy



OLD RUMORS/NEW KITS

Rick Herrington, Randy Bumgardner, Aaron Smischney, Golzar Shahrzad

Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

This month is light on new releases unless you're a 1/700th destroyer fan.

1/700

First up this month is a Fujimi release of the IJN light cruiser Noshiro. Included in the kit are a full hull and parts for a display stand.



Four new destroyer releases in 1/700th scale. The first is by Pit Road. DD-429 USS Livermore.



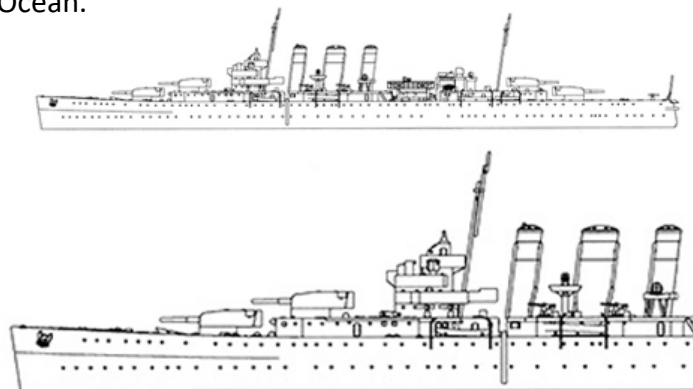
The second is by Fujimi, IJN Yugumo class destroyer with photo etch. This kit has two complete destroyer models in the kit.



The third and fourth are Hasegawa releases. One is the IJN destroyer Kasumi and the other is the Asashimo.



Aoshima is releasing a much welcomed HMS Dorsetshire. This was the British cruiser the torpedoed the Bismarck. The model depicts her prior to her sinking by Japanese aircraft in the Indian Ocean.



Last in 1/700th Trumpeter is releasing the British battleship HMS Nelson.





1/350

One new release in 1/350th scale. Very Fire is releasing the USN battleship Iowa BB-61



1/72

Last up Special Navy is releasing a Type 1A U-boat in 1/72nd scale. This will go great next to that Revell Type 7 you have on the shelf.



Japan
www.hlj.com

A special note to Jeff Forester. I expect to see that Admiral Hipper built up in the next six months. The clock is ticking.



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

Rick



ASMS MEETING

Third Thursday each month

7:00pm - 8:45pm

at the

Old Quarry Branch Library

7051 Village Center Dr.

Next meeting June 21st, 2018

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You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit same to Eric Choy, 13213 Marrero Drive, Austin, TX., 78729.



The Air Report

By Randy Baumgardner

Welcome to May! Apparently, you guys can't get rid of me that quickly. Chuck "Obiwan" Konefsky had to attend to a family emergency, so I'm pinch-hitting for him this month. All is well, and he'll make his debut next month. So let's jump in and get to it.

First up is the Shizuoka Toy Fair, out in Shizuoka City, Japan. This is one of the two largest hobby conventions in the world, the other being Nuremburg. As I type this the show has not yet started, so I don't have any news to report. That will have to wait until next month. Even though, I have heard rumblings about a new 1/48 Tamiya F-14D on the horizon. Perhaps Tamiya have something else up their sleeve?

Editor's note: As we go to press a bit of news from the Shizuoka Hobby show. Revell is releasing a 1/48th scale Bristol Beaufighter TF.X.



Eduard has re-released their 1/48 Heinkel He 280 in the ubiquitous Profipack boxing. This aircraft has the distinction of the first turbojet-powered aircraft to take flight – in April 1941. The aircraft never proceeded past the prototype stage, as engine issues troubled the design throughout the project. This boxing of the kit comes with the usual Profipack accompaniments of masks, colored photoetch, and resin. The resin bits include parts for both engines fitted to the airframe, the Henschel HeS 8a and the Junkers Jumo 004. Eduard also released an overtrees

set for this kit, modelers have a less expensive path to do both versions.



HpH Models, never one to disappoint with their subject choices (or size), is going to release another kit to the large scale masses. Actually, they are releasing two kits: a 1/32 DC-3 and a 1/32 C-47. Both kits are getting the "Catalina" treatment with a full interior with lots of resin bits, and fiberglass fuselage and wings. The DC-3 will ship with livery for Continental Airlines, and you can probably guess what the C-47 will look like. I'm not sure about the release date as there is none listed on the HpH website.





Continuing their line of He 111s, ICM has released a 1/48th scale rendition of the Heinkel He 111H-6. The He 111H was the most widely produced and used variant of this aircraft. The 'H' was created by



marrying the Jumo 211 to the He 111P airframe. The He 111H-6 was the version of the 'H' that had upgraded engines, the Jumo 211F-1, and upgraded defensive armament. It was also fitted with provisions to carry two torpedoes. While not used in the Battle of Britain, it was used extensively on the other fronts, so there are many choices for markings. This kit is not the Revellogram kit in a new box. This is a newly tooled kit from ICM. And, given the quality of ICM kits lately, I'm sure it's a high quality kit.

although it can't be too much longer as we're now seeing test shots from the molds. The kit looks nice, certainly a step up from the AMT B-52G. I still wish someone would bring out a tall tailed early B-52, any version will do... please?

Finally HK models (Hong Kong models) is releasing a 1/32nd scale Lancaster MK 1 for right around \$330.00.

Time to break your, your son's and your daughter's piggy banks for this one.



Well, it's short and sweet – isn't that what a pinch-hitter is supposed to do? We now return you to your regular programming. Oh, that's right, go build something!

Randy



ModelCollect, from our modeling pals in China, have released images of the test shots of their forthcoming 1/72 Boeing B-52G. No release date has been given,





It Figures

By Aaron Smischney

VIETNAM!

It's always a good day when Bravo 6 announces new Vietnam figure kits! They are some of the best



figures on the market with awesome sculpts and superb casting.

These are two sets called "Round the Corner" and would make a superb Hue (or any battle really) vignette.



Bravo 6 is definitely known for their Vietnam kits but they also do some WW2 (and other) subject figures

"Morning Spam"



and "French Toast" are a set of three figures making breakfast. I really like the guy with a sausage on a stick!

They also have WW2 vintage German cameraman, in cold weather gear.



D-Day miniatures has a WW1 subject that is certainly unique!

A set of Belgians using man's best friend to haul a machine gun!





You can get the guys in a set or individually. The dog and cart go together



- 35103 - WWI Belgian Carabinier, 1914-1915
- 35104 - WWI Belgian Infantryman, 1914-1915
- 35106 - WWI Dog-drawn cart with Hotchkiss Machine Gun

Armor 35 has some interesting girl figures. First up is "Tank Girl" which depicts a WW2 female tanker with her machine gun.



The next one is more interesting, a "Stalker" girl. Stalker refers to a game set in post-apocalyptic Chernobyl.



She could be re-used in all sorts of settings, from a zombie apocalypse to a typical Texas weekend. Both of these kits are available in 1/35 or 1/16.

Model Cellar has a new figure from the talented Mike Good "Francesco Baracca". Francesco was a WW1 Italian ace.





Mitches' Military Models has a new bust set out called "American Frontier" but they are obviously from the new "True Grit" movie.



Rooster is great but the mountain man is the real gem in my opinion. LaBoeuf is ok.



Speaking of mountain men,



Galapagos has a mountain man bust called "Oikeus 'The Righteous'" that looks amaze-balls!



Just look at the snow shoes! The Axe, Gun! Be still my beating heart!

I can't top that one and I'm having trouble keeping my wallet shut so I should probably stop!

Till next tim

Aaron





Tracked Topics

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings armor fans and hello to all of you armor curious!

Hobby boss has a new 1/35 armored train from the Russians, the MBV-2.



It looks kinda sleek... for a train.

They also have the 9K79 Tochka which looks to be a mobile missile launcher which also looks



kinda sleek... for a big missile carrier.

The missile carrier is poseable for all your sandbox play!

Both are expected in June.

Takom is releasing a Bergepanther Ausf D with full interior in MAY (yes thats this month)

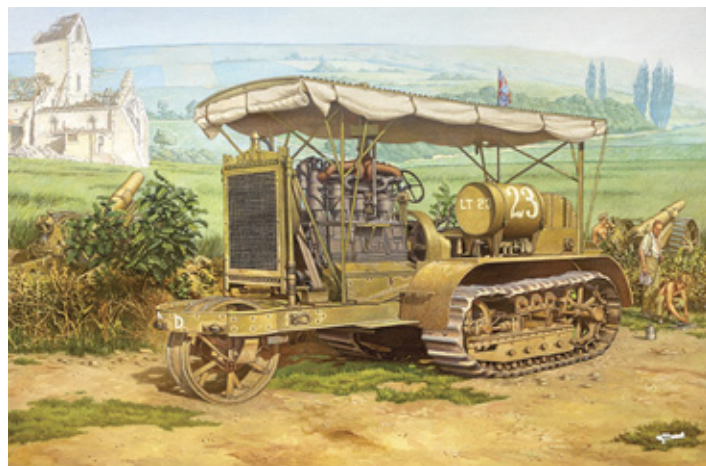


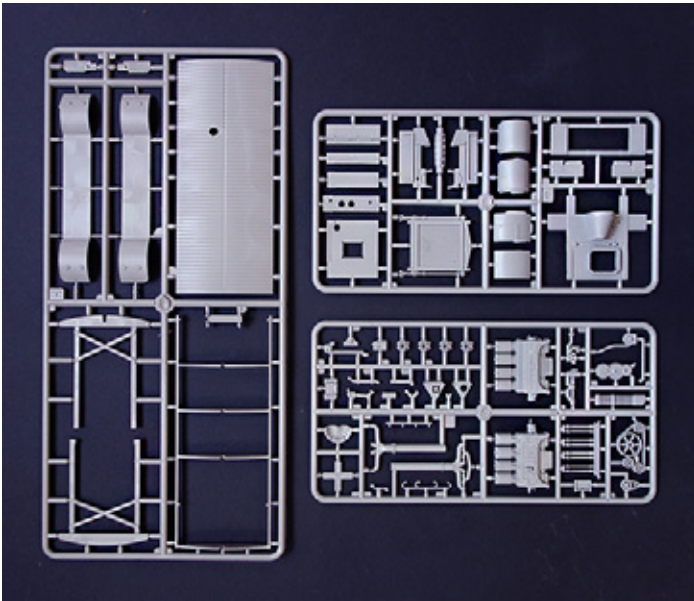
It also looks like MENG is doing an Bergepanther A. When it rains it pours fellas.



No word on a release date for the Meng kit.

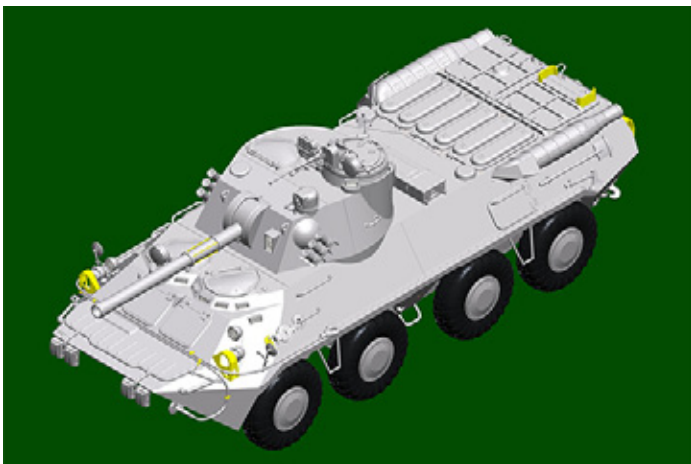
Roden is doing a Holt 75 tractor that certainly looks interesting



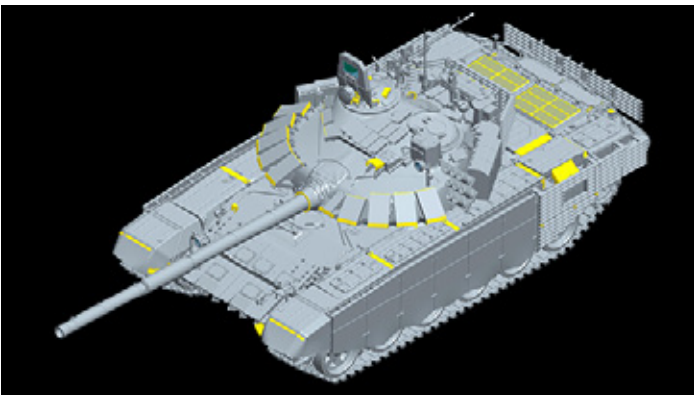


Roden has released pictures of the sprues so it should be coming soon.

Trumpeter has a variety of things coming down the pipe
First is an 2S23 Self-propelled Howitzer.



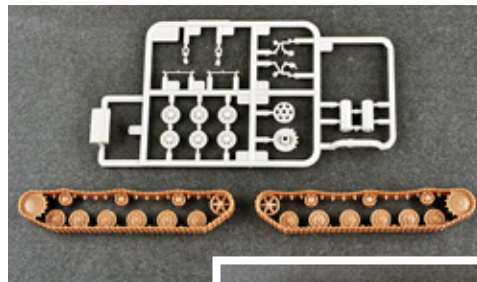
Second is a T-72b3 that looks pretty neat.



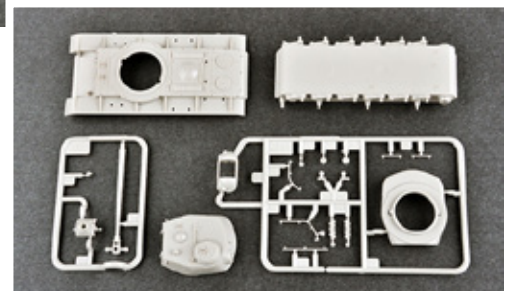
Next up is a HEMTT to drag your cargo containers around.



Let's finish off with a new model kit for fans of 1/72 scale armor. Trumpeter released a KV-122 in 1/35 a few years back and they put it through a shrink-ray.



I'm a big fan of ugly giant Russian armor and the KV-122 certainly fits



that!
Also a big fan of the tracks with integrated wheels, they make assembly much faster and the detail is usually great. In this case they even have some great track sag! If you want to build a tank in a weekend this would fit the bill.

Till next time!

Aaron





Sundries

By Golzar Shahrzàd

For fans of the old television show Space:1999 your prayers have been answered. At least the one about re-issuing the Hawk IX. The Hawk model was originally released in 1977 and was a sleeker, militarized version of the Eagle transporter. This injected molded kit is in 1/72nd scale from MPC. Epic space battles await.



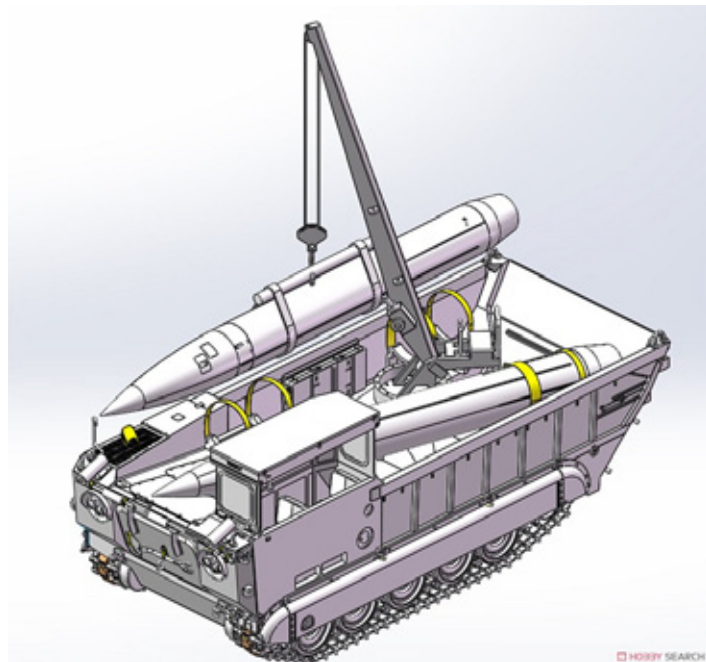
Kitty Hawk has announced that the two-seat version of one of my favorite aircraft that will soon be gracing the shelves of a hobby shop near you, an F-101B/RF Voodoo. The injected molded kit in 1/48th scale will feature some photo-etch and five separate marking options. You could expect Caracal Decals or one of the other 'decal people' to be cranking out some alternative versions in conjunction with this release pretty soon.



There have been a number of new kits of the Hawk missile system of late with Dragon and AFV Club seeming to compete with each other in that regard. Keeping the momentum going this time is AFV Club/Hobby Fan with the 1/35th scale M501 HAWK missile carrier. The M501 was a small, tracked carrier and has been available before in kit form but suffered from...how shall I put this...a lack of molded detail and finesse of fit. This new version from AFV Club should be much better. This is a resin kit and will set you back about \$200.00 USD.



Not to be outdone, Dragon Models is adding to its line of Lance missile stuff with the M688 loader/transporter vehicle. This 1/35th scale kit is based on a modified M113 chassis and features many of the same parts from their earlier M752 kit. This model features two Lance missiles as well as a nicely





detailed crane for the loading and transporting of the Lance missiles. Add some figures and you would have a neat-o diorama.

Model Collect has a new 1/72nd scale kit of the V-1 for your amusement.

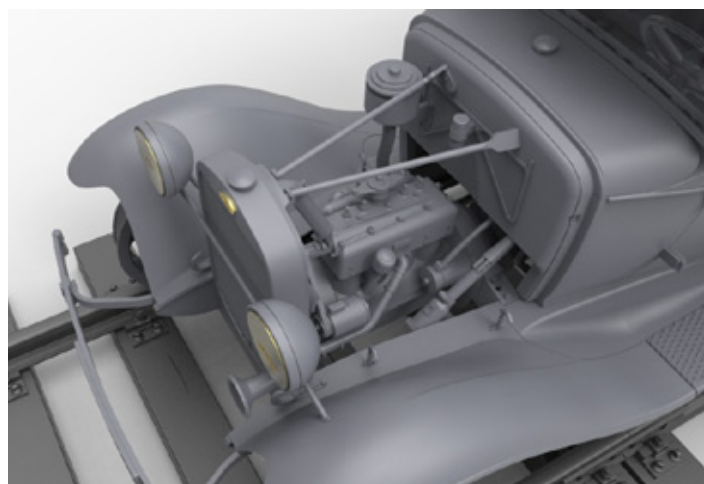


This kit features the V-1 in launch position on, what looks to be, a truncated launch ramp. A full length, in-scale, launch rail would be about two feet long, Model Collect may have chosen to provide just a portion of the launch apparatus with the V1 ready for launch. If that is indeed the case there is no reason why you couldn't get several kits and fashion a full-length launch rail on your own.



Next item up for bid is an unusual and welcome item from Mini Art. They will soon have a 1/35th scale, 1.5 ton railroad truck. This is the anti-aircraft truck version that features a detailed engine with positionable doors, engine hood, and fighting platform boards. Along with some photo-etch, you'll get decals for six variants of this vehicle as well as a section of railroad track for display

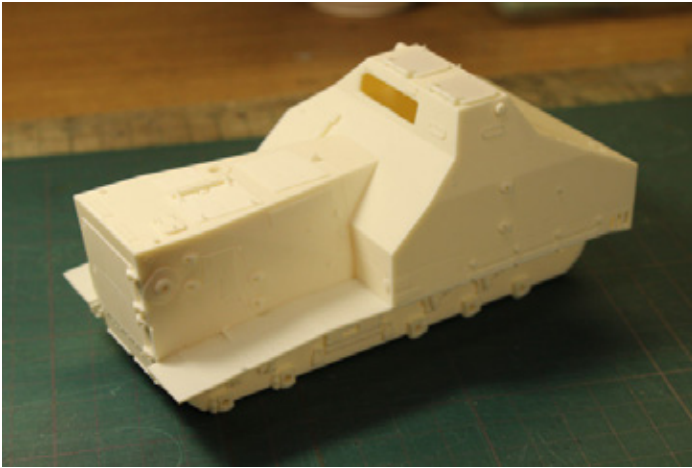
purposes. This being Mini Art one could expect to see some servants (crew figures) in the not too distant future. Stay tuned.



There have been any number of bulldozer type tractor models of late as well as several versions of what is called an armored bulldozer. Meng and Takom come readily to mind. We now have the latest and greatest version of this type of vehicle



from Etokin Models/Passion Models, a 1/35th scale JGSDF Type 75 armored dozer. This is an all resin kit.



Going back to Meng for a moment, they are adding to their Warship Builder line with a German U-Boot, Type VII. This ubiquitous craft was the bane of existence for many sailors and merchant seamen plying the waters of the North Atlantic during WWII. I haven't discovered the official name for these types of models so we'll go with egg-ship until I'm corrected. No word on after-market photo-etch or wooden decks, as yet!



Ebbro Model may be better known for their extensive line of die-cast car models. Recently they have introduced a line of scale model car kits. The newest is a 1/24th injected molded model of the French Citroen DS21. The Citroen DS21 was and still is the epitome of cool. Designed by Italian sculptor and industrial designer Flaminio Bertoni with the

French aeronautical engineer Andre Lefebvre styling and engineered the car. One of the really cool features of this car was the hydro pneumatic self-leveling suspension. The Citroen DS21 was also the first production car equipped with disc brakes. You can get a real Citroen DS21 for about \$50,000.00 USD or this kit for considerable less.





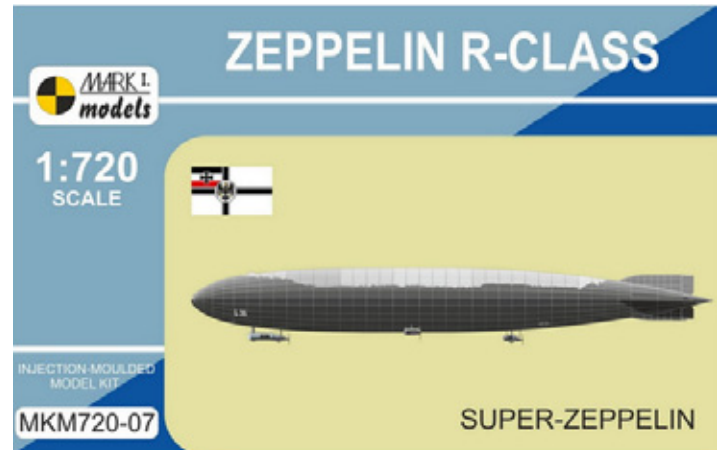
From the new-to-me department, is ETA Diorama Accessories. This is a Greek company that is producing all manner of printed paper diorama accessories in 1/35th scale. The offerings are extensive and best viewed on your own via the



company's website: <http://www.eta-diorama.com/>
One of the newer items that caught my eye was some garbage: soft drink cartons, detergent, and food boxes that even feature some Honey



Grahams boxes. No Cheezits, however. Also of interest might be the British trench signs from during WWI and some Old West wanted posters. Some cutting, folding, and pasting is required but the woman featured on their web page is way cute! Tea anyone?



One maker of small scale model kits Mark I. They have produced a number of 1/720th scale models of German WWI Zeppelin's. I haven't checked but it seems that you could build one of each variant of Zeppelin employed by the Germans during WWI with Mark I kits. At any rate, each of these new items is of the Z-Class and R-Class Super Zeppelin's. There are two complete models in the separate boxing that also includes a display stand and markings options for four craft.



For fans of late WWII/ early fifties aircraft, Valom has a new offering to slake your thirst. Originally a North American aviation design, the NA-145 Navion was later built by Ryan Aviation. Ryan envisioned the airplane filling a need, after WWII, for civilian



planes that never materialized. This injected 1/72nd scale, molded kit comes in separate boxings with either markings for the US Coast Guard/USAF machine or one with a shark mouth.



Sweet has a new 1/144th scale model aeroplane kit. The injected molded A5M4 type 90 carrier fighter contains decals (by Cartograf) for six aircraft assigned to the Akagi's fighter group. This is a two-in-one kit with parts for two complete models. Sweet produces excellent small scale aircraft kits with plenty of detail, even in this diminutive size.



Go build the your model!

Golzar



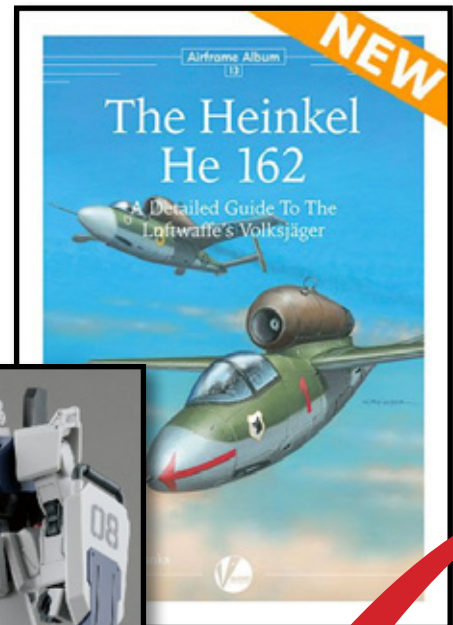
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