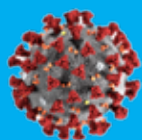


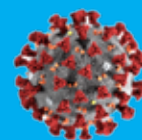
ASMS



SPRUE EXAMINER



**Life in the time of Covid-19
The Social Distancing Issue**



1/48th P51-H Model Kits - A history by Boyd Waechter



**Clipped not stirred:
Eric Choy builds AFV's 1/144th
Fleet Air Arm Corsair**

austinsms.com



July 2020

The Cotton Report • What's UP? • Old Rumors & New Kits

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug

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www.austinsms.org

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.

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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



PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

BY IAN LATHAM



Well, hey ho me hearties!

Welcome to the July 2020 issue of the impeccable 'ASMS Sprue Examiner'. I again raise my glass to our 'Editor at Large' for his sheer determination to punt out another compendium of misdeeds and offerings for you to disseminate and digest. I salute you Rick Herrington!

As the country continues to ride the Covid rollercoaster I hope all of you are safe and well at home working away feverishly on your stash piles. We we never thought we'd get the chance!

The past several issues have forgone the long lost joys of the meeting competition in favor of submitted projects from our members. I urge you all to take the time and photograph your builds and submit a synopsis of your kit to Rick for future publications.

I for one have been missing the wonders and marvels that the monthly meetings revealed and it's been wonderful to catch up on some of it in the newsletter.

As I'm sure most of you have heard by now the 2020 Nationals have been cancelled for this year due to concern for our members and the restrictions put in place in Texas.

San Antonio has resubmitted the request and we are looking at 2023 as the new hosting date for the IPMS Nationals in Texas. It has been a mighty effort on behalf of IPMS and local chapters in negotiating an amicable resolution to the situation and it's wonderful to know that our club is in such responsible hands. Thanks guys!

Finally, once again I urge all our members to check out the weekly Zoom meeting hosted by Bill Delk (falconfyre@austin.rr.com) every Sunday at 4:00 PM. It's great fun to catch up and chat with familiar faces as well as find out what amazing anomalies we can create with resin and plastic.

I hope to see you all soon.

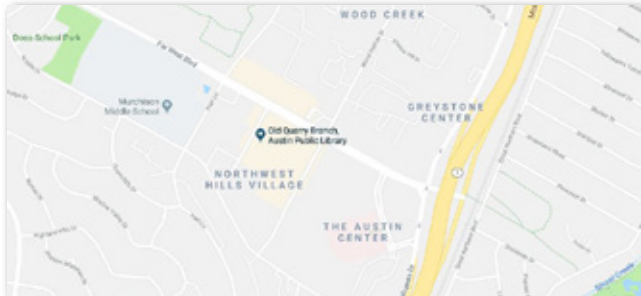
-Ian



HOUSE CLEANING



ASMS MEETING



**Third Thursday each month
7:00 pm - 8:45 pm
at the
Old Quarry Branch Library
7051 Village Center Dr.**

Meetings suspended due to Covid-19

No Reservations Neccessary!



***Break the ice at parties!
Don't miss out on the new name
badges for dues paying members.
Contact latham.ian@yahoo.com for
more information.***



Events

**IPMS Nationals -Come and Make It
July 29 thru August 1 2020**

Cancelled due to Covid-19

ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

Annual ASMS club dues are \$25.00/individual
or \$30.00/family.

You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit
same to ASMS, 111620 Via Grande Drive, Austin, TX
78739.

Club Quarterly Contests

Meetings
Suspended

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Meetings
Suspended

A History of 1/48th P-51-H model kits

By: Boyd Waechter

The sleek, sexy, killer look of the P-51D Mustang went out the window when North American Aviation's designers came up with its replacement, the P-51H.

To me, it's always looked like a pregnant P-51D with its enlarged fuselage and taller tail assembly. The P-51H was the final aircraft built in a series of "Light Weight Mustangs" that included the XP-51F, XP-51G, XP-51J, and finally the P-51H. These came about via a set of Royal Air Force specs which called for an aircraft that could roll with the Focke-Wulf 190 and also take on the Mitsubishi Zero in the Pacific, as well as an extended range Mustang. But, by the time the P-51H went into production (1946), the war was over and the RAF had no interest in the airplane.

A single example was allocated to the RAF (serial no. KN987) and rumored to have been painted in Olive Drab and Dark Green over Neutral Gray, but records show that it never went overseas and the airplane was eventually flown to MacDill Field in Florida to await its disposition. There is currently a P-51H warbird painted in similar markings, but I believe these markings were conceptualized and not actually applied to the single airplane the RAF purchased.

The P-51H had a vastly improved Merlin engine, so it was faster and its climb rate was much superior to that of the P-51D, but it still did not have the range needed because no fuselage internal fuel tanks were incorporated in the design. 2000 P-51Hs were initially ordered, to be made up of 555 NA-126s and 1445 NA-129s with minor differences. All of these planes were to be built at North American's Inglewood factory. An additional 1629 examples were ordered from NAAs Dallas plant under the charging number of NA-124,

By the end of its production run, only the 555 P-51H NA-126 models were produced used by the USAF, Air National Guard, SAC, All-Weather Flying Service, and two airframes ended up with the USN doing work with the Grumman F10F-1 Jaguar testing program and carrier qualification tests.

The last P-51H rolled off the production line in 1946. No P-51M's were ever produced. Currently, there are four known survivors, two in flyable condition and two are on static display in museums, one of which is at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, though in pretty poor shape after being outside in the weather for the past 50 years.

Per Scalemates, the first 1/48th scale P-51H ever produced was by Premier Model Company, an all plastic kit, though John Burn's book has it listed as 1/49th scale.



It was produced in 1958-1959 era and a very crude kit, only slightly resembling a P-51H Mustang.

This kit was one of 6 or 7 1/48th to 1/54th scale aircraft kits this company made.

Premier also made a few car kits and I have been told they were very crude as well. There was speculation that Aurora based their kit from these molds, but this



The next 1/48th scale P-51H I could find information on was done by Hawk, also produced in the mid to late 1950's. It too is an all plastic kit with decals, but that is all I know about it.

This model is not to be confused with their popular P-51D Mustang kit that was first released in 1962 as an all new tool and which was rereleased multiple times by Hawk and Testors over the years.



Probably the most well known kit is the Aurora 1/48th P-51H which was marketed only as a P-51 Mustang, though the box top had it shooting down a Focke-Wulf 190 seemingly to represent a P-51D. It was first released in 1958 in very thick, hard, silver plastic with the markings imprinted into the plastic. It could also double as a hand axe. Although not very well detailed, it was fairly accurate in basic shape and the best of those produced in the late 1950's. I always thought the box art was pretty cool, especially for a 11 or 12 year old and it was the first Mustang model I ever built.

This kit originally came out in 1957, but was released three times, in 1958, 1965, and 1968, each one having different box art and labeling. The one shown is the 1968 release.

We'll now fast forward a few years and in the late 1970's, a vacuform company named Eagles Talon produced a 1/48th kit of the P-51H Mustang, limited run and distributed via mail order only. Eagles Talon was eventually absorbed into Wings 48th owned by Don Bennett of Don's Model Works, a company that produced a large line of very high quality 1/48th scale vacuforms.

After Mr. Bennett died in 2011, the company fell into the hands of his son, Chuck Bennett, who elected to close the business. A post on Hyperscale indicates that Don Bennett did not rerelease the P-51H under the Wings 48th label which he may have been retooling upon his death.

Editor's note: After a diligent search for an image of Eagles Talon and Wings 48th P-51H your editor came up with NADA. Even Scalemates which is my goto when I can't find an image doesn't have one.





The next 1/48th scale P-51H seems to be a bit more progressive produced by Historic Plastic Models (kit 48-005), more commonly known simply as HiPM. The kit comes on three trees of dark grey plastic, with two injection-molded canopies - one open, one closed - a fret of photo-etch brass for detail parts, and Propagteam decals for two aircraft of the 67th Fighter Group in Alaska in 1946-47, and two aircraft of the Massachusetts Air National Guard, one from the "Irish" and one from the "Polish squadrons. By today's standards, this kit was pretty crude and has a very thin wing cord that is totally unacceptable. It would take a great deal of work to finish this kit in a form which somewhat looks like a P-51H.

Definitely not recommended.

HiPM is a Czech Republic company and this kit was primarily sold in Europe, though it could be found in some specialty shops that imported kits like this to unsuspecting U.S. customers.



In 1996, Collect-Aire produced a 1/48th scale resin kit of the F-51H whose masters may have been done by LF Models and cast here in the U.S. by Loon Models. It was not a bad kit and the shape was fairly accurate, but it had a lot of fit problems, more than it should have for the price (about \$75 in 1996).

I tried to build this kit and it almost drove

It was my first attempt at building full resin kit and the whole experience was not good. I ended up keeping the nice decal sheet that came in the kit and throwing the rest of it away. Three months of time and energy down the tubes.

It now resides somewhere in one of Fort Bend County's land fill's, probably doing more good there than in my stash of Mustang kits.



In 1994, Classic Airframes Resin was born and one of their first full plastic kits was a 1/48th scale P-51H released in the late 90's. It was probably the first, really decent kit of this airplane in this scale. It came with a resin cockpit which was highly detailed and may have had a resin wheel well, I can't remember.

I built this kit about 2005 without too much difficulty, though the fit of the parts was pretty bad. I think they either used resin or copper molds, because there was a lot of trash on the surface of the parts, all were given a good wet sanding prior to painting. I elected to build a P-51H from the 111th Fighter Intercept Squadron (FIS) that had been stationed at Ellington Field in the mid-50's. This model now resides in the U.S.S. Lexington Model Museum in Corpus Christi.



The decal sheet has markings for four aircraft, three Air National Guard airplanes (Texas, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts) and a RAF camouflaged P-51H, KN987, that was purchased by the U.K. but never delivered. This kit has a complete and very well detailed cockpit and set of wheel wells, a set of underwing auxiliary fuel tanks and rockets, and separated ailerons, main flaps, control surfaces, and rudder. Overall, this is a truly excellent P-51H Mustang kit. I might mention that Caracal Decals has just released a 1/48th scale sheet of decals for the P-51H, evidentially as a result of how popular the Modelsvit kit has become.



Modelsvit has also announced an all new 1/48th F-82 Twin Mustang for release in 2020 or 2021. If it is as good as the P-51H, then it should be an outstanding kit.

Now we fast forward to 2019 when a Ukrainian model company, Modelsvit, announces and then releases an all new, state of the art, P-51H Mustang. Imported by Sprue Brothers (\$48), their first shipment of these kits sold out in less than a day. It wasn't until February 2020 that I was able to finally obtain one via Freetime Hobbies. To say I was immediately impressed would have been an understatement. It has nine trees of medium gray parts, very fine surface detail, inscribed panel lines, and every bit as good as the new Eduard P-51D Mustangs. It also has a tree of clear parts containing a two part open canopy and a one part closed canopy, your choice. Also included is a small fret of photo etched parts and a clear parts mask set.



The decal sheet has markings for four aircraft, three Air National Guard airplanes (Texas, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts) and a RAF camouflaged P-51H, KN987, that was purchased by the U.K. but never delivered. This kit has a complete and very well detailed cockpit and set of wheel wells, a set of underwing auxiliary fuel tanks and rockets, and separated ailerons, main flaps, control surfaces, and rudder. Overall, this is a truly excellent P-51H Mustang kit.



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**CARACAL MODELS CD48167
F-51H MUSTANG**



Although not a 1/48th scale plastic kit, I wanted to make mention of another very early P-51H (3/8" scale) produced by Jetco Models in the very early 50's, a wooden control line model. In this ad, it appears that one of these models won a series of

national championships in the mid-50's. I wonder why Jetco decided to base their kit on the P-51H and not the P-51D which would have been as well known and a much better looking Mustang?



In summary, it appears that there have now been eight 1/48th P-51H Mustang kits produced in plastic, far more than I would have realized when I set out to write this review.

Boyd Waechter
Katy, Texas





Clipped, not Stirred How I survived building AFV Club's 1/144th Fleet Air Arm F4U Corsair

By Eric Choy

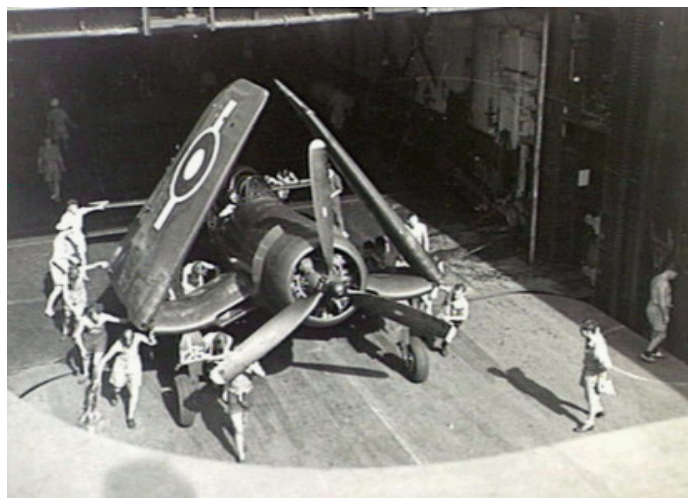


Even though by and large I am an armor modeler these days, from time to time I still build kits with propellers. Fleet Air Arm (FAA) subjects fascinate me ever since my first trip to their museum at Yeovilton over a decade ago. When AFV Club brought out their 1/144th scale F4U series of kits in 2018 I knew I had

in FAA livery. The kit I purchased was #14408 which was the second in the series. Aside from the decal markings, the only difference between the earlier release (#14406) and mine is the wing fold option. As I like all things folded on my naval aircraft models, getting this version was a no brainer.

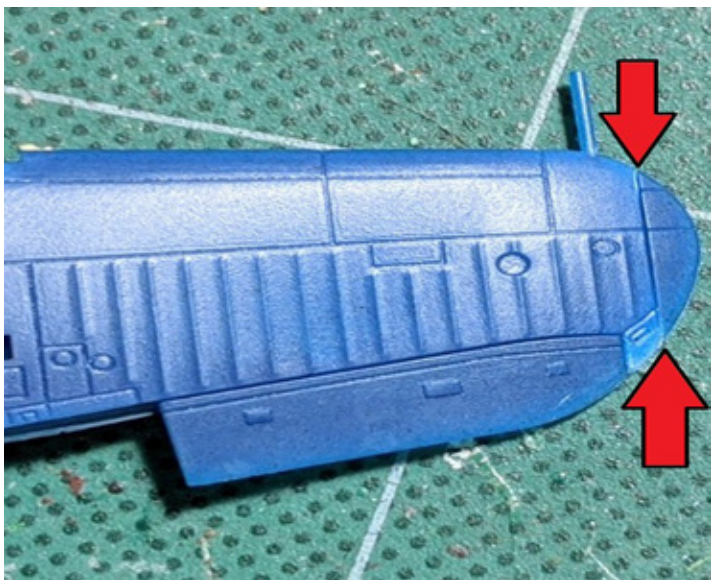
Building the Kit

Since most, if not all, WWII Royal Navy carriers had a lower clearance in the hangar decks (possibly due to the fact their flight decks were armored), it was necessary to reduce the wing span of a standard Corsair by eight inches in order to clear the deckhead. As a result, the clipped wings became a distinctive feature of FAA Corsairs.



The clipping of the kit's wing tips was simple and easy: just cut along the panel lines where the red arrows are pointing.





Be sure to fill the clipped interior with

The rest of the model was put together according to instructions. Aside from a hairline gap between the wing root and the fuselage that needed filling, the fit everywhere else was good. Anglicized Corsairs were used solely for combat air patrol missions, so neither rocket nor bomb is applicable to my model. Just for fun, I installed an instrument decal and seatbelts inside the cockpit before I realized none of them can be seen after the canopy is installed!



Oh well. At least I know they are there in case of a surprise inspection by the quartermaster...

By the way, AFV Club grossly simplifies the wing fold mechanism to the point that they are beyond erroneous and almost fictitious. I might be tempted to rebuild all that if I were ten years younger, but with my declining eyesight and aging cardiac muscles, there is no way I can pull it off in this scale and live to tell another day!

However, should you want to give it a go, I recommend replicating Tamiya's simple yet elegant way of depicting the wing fold in its 1/48th Corsair kit.

In order to make painting easier, I left off the installation of the wings. I also scratch built two holding rods to keep the folded wings in place. Each rod (7.6mm in length) was made from 0.8mm aluminum tubing with a slightly longer 0.5mm brass wire inside bended at an angle on one end.



They were scaled down versions of part B1 found inside Tamiya's 1/48th Corsair kit.

MODEL AIRPLANE BUILDERS



What my friends think I do



What my mom thinks I do



What my wife thinks I do



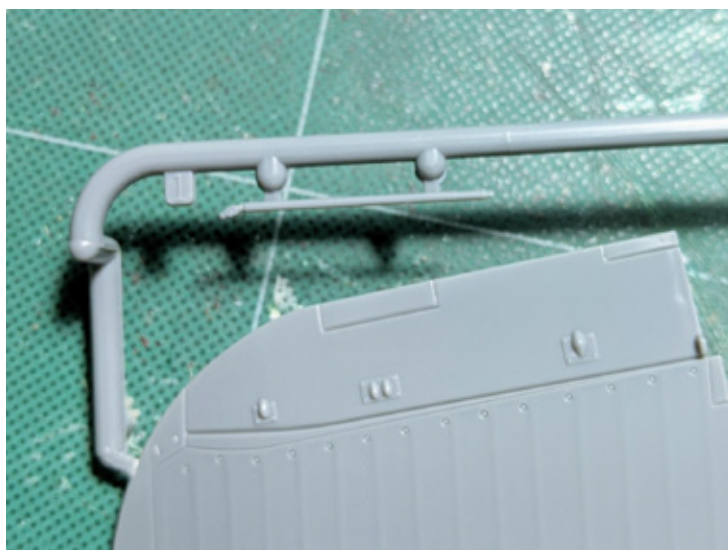
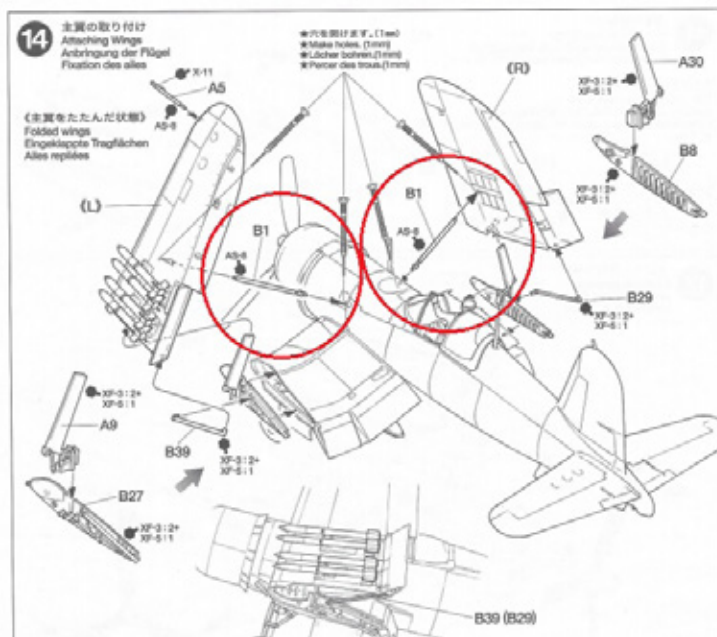
What my co-workers think I do



What I think I do



What I actually do



I was surprised AFV Club did not provide them. Honestly, I cannot fathom how the wings can stay upright in their folded positions without the support of these rods.

Painting, Decaling, and Pin Wash

Prior to the summer of 1945, all carrier based Corsairs in the British Pacific Fleet were painted the two-tone camo scheme of Olive Drab (some say Dark Slate Gray) and Extra Dark Sea Gray in disruptive pattern on top and Sky undersides.

Since all the aircraft colors that I own are by Gunze, I used H78 for Olive Drab, H333 for Extra Dark Sea Gray and H74 for Sky. Masking was done with Silly Putty.



The rest of the painting was done by hand with either Reaper or Scale75 acrylic paints. Again I found Tamiya's 1/48 Corsair kit most helpful; its painting instructions are far superior (not to mention more accurate) than AFV Club's.

After a heavy coat of Future, I was ready for decaling. Finding SEAC roundels with bars in 1/144th scale was more difficult than I thought.

Eventually I was able to locate a set from a Spitfire sheet (144-018) by Print Scale. They were very thin but reacted well with Solvaset. Using what was available on that sheet, I made my model look like one of 1834 SQN's Corsairs operating aboard HMS Victorious. The Hamilton Standard logos on the propeller blades came from AFV Club's decal sheet. In this scale they may look fine from a distance, but under 2x magnification I noticed all of them were printed out of





After I sprayed on another coat of Future to protect the decals, it was time to do some pin washing.

Instead of using my trusted artist oils, I experimented with two of Tamiya's Panel Line Accent Color products. I used Gray over Sky and Black over the camo colors.

I came to realize these Panel Line washes are nothing but thinned down enamel paints. While easy to use (each bottle cap has a build-in brush just like Extra Thin Cement), you have to shake the bottles frequently in order to get a consistent amount of paint on the brush or else, the pigment will sink to the bottom, and you'll be applying nothing but thinner on your model.

The solvent Tamiya uses as thinner in these washes is unusually "hot." Without a strong acrylic based gloss coat (use Tamiya X-22 or Future to protect the base coat, the thinner will eat through the paint underneath and create a mess!

One must use these Tamiya washes with extreme care. In my opinion, artist oils are still the best and safest for pin washing.

Wings Installation

Once I finished the pin wash, I applied a coat of Flat Clear (XF-86) over everything and began installing the folded wings. My advice to everyone is to take a couple of aspirins beforehand in case of any heart attack during the process! I damn near had two; the first time when the glue failed to keep the left wing attached, and the second time when I realized the holding rod on the right was 1mm too short!

After much tweaking and brute gluing, I managed to get the wings on tight. Not exactly my best work but it'll do. Phew!

The Base

The base was a wooden block I found in the discount aisle at one of the chain arts-and-crafts stores.

I sprayed it Flat Black and glued a portion of 1/144th HMS Glory Deck (by Noy's Miniatures) on top. Easy peasy!

Onward!

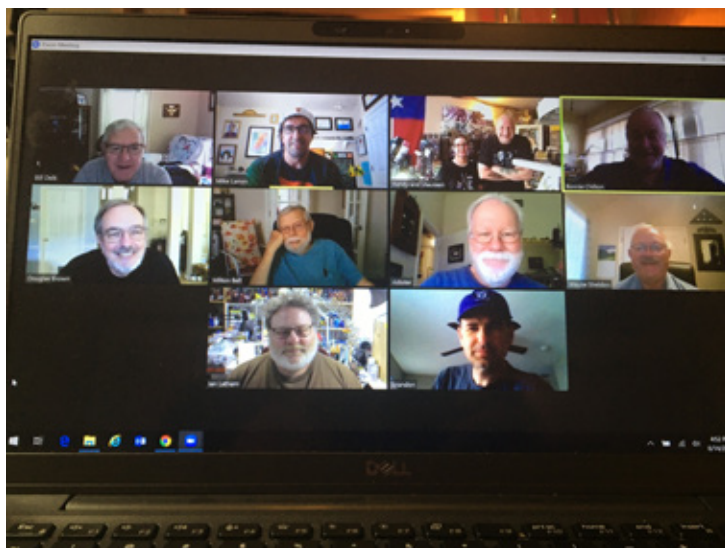
It's been a while I built an aircraft model, and I'm quite happy with the turn out of my tiny FAA Corsair.





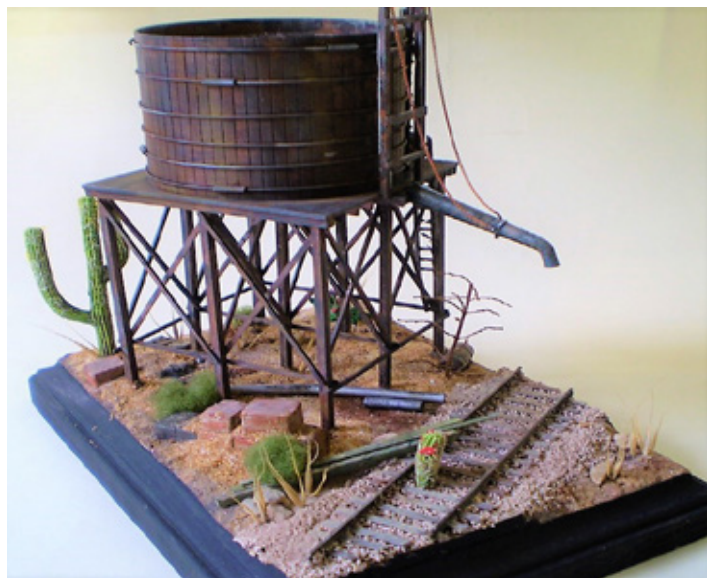
Now back to building and painting things with tracks, wheels, and legs!

What's Zip wid You?



ASMS/Bill Delk sponsors an on-line ZOOM meeting with whoever wants to join us to talk about models and life. It happens almost every Sunday at 4:00.

Contact Bill Delk to have him send you a link to be able to get into the meeting. Everyone is welcome.



Ben Morton's Latest masterpieces...

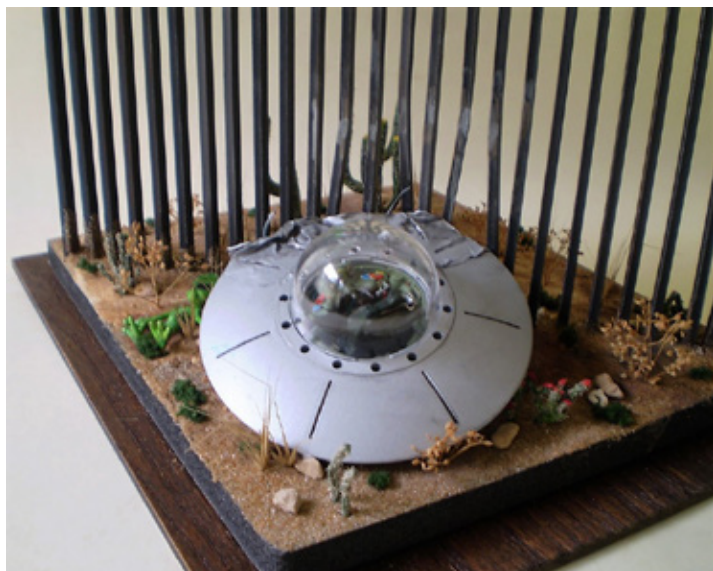
This is an HO scale, old timey water tank from a forgotten manufacturer. Bits and bobs from the spares box. The cacti are from Woodland Scenics.

Scale wood was added to the interior of the tank and I replaced the metal straps and turnbuckles around the exterior. Most of the dead foliage is from my yard. I'm still short some civilians for the 'right side' of the border wall but they will just have to wait.

The 1/35th scale wall is made from Ever-green stock. The topography is a combination of pre-mixed grout, craft sand, pastel shading, Woodland Scenics stuff and some dried plants from the yard. The space craft and alien are from the 1/32nd scale Pegasus kit: Alpha Centauri U.F.O.'s.

I detailed the wrecked front-end of the space ship with some extra bits from the spares box.





About those missing civilians...I plan to have two guys standing on the other side, away from the wreck, with one commenting to the other; "I told you border wall would keep the aliens out!"



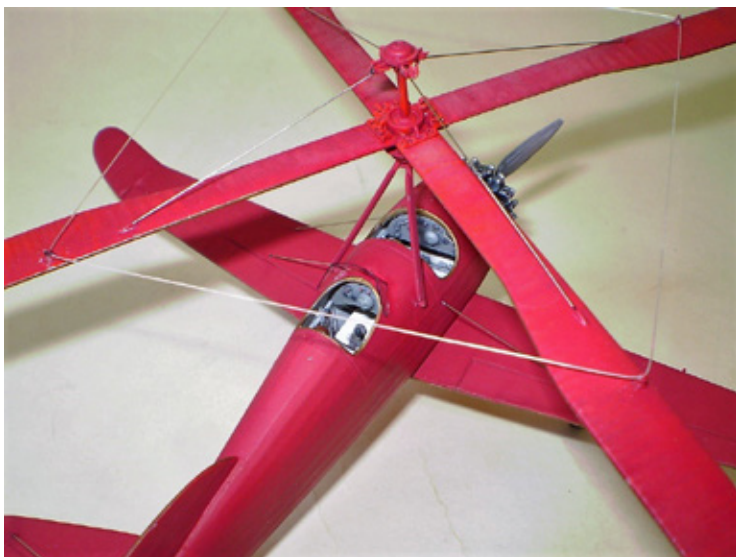
Williams Brothers AutoGiro
I've only had this kit since 2009. So, a new one....
This is the 1/48th scale PCA-2 AutoGiro from Williams Brothers. I added details to the cockpits and reworked the rotor hub area. The rigging is steel or brass wire.





Tim Robb

Here's something different. Folks in my neighborhood have taken to painting rocks and leaving them along the walking trails. Here's mine!





Randy Bumgardner has been busy . Here's a couple of shots of his 1/32nd scale P-40.



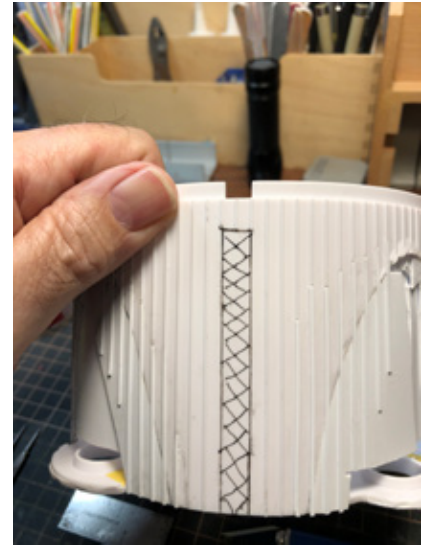
Dave Edgerly

Here ya go, My first Gundam kit. Same scale as the LEGO Saturn V Apollo 11. And quite the operatic star tenor.





Dave also just finished up Tamiya's new 1/35th KV-1 kit and the work on the Saturn 5 kit continues.





Ian's Cinders been trying to escape the heat with a 1/11th Cyberpunk bust..



Rick Herrington is still diligently working on his RFM Challenger 2 and finished up the Airfix Gulf War Buccaneer.





We have a couple of finished projects from Milton Bell,, a Yak 3 and a P-51H.



We haven't heard from Bob Bethea in a couple of months but that doesn't mean he hasn't been busy. Let's start off with his Panzer 1 Breda in 1/16th scale by Ammo of Mig.





Up next from Bob is a Rye Feild Models Egyptian T-34/122.



Last up from Bob is Tamiya's 1/35th Matilda done in Russian livery.



I brow beat Douglas Brown into sending in some pictures of his \$3.00 Airfix 1/72nd Harrier GR3 in snow camouflage.





El Presidente

Ian our presidente has a very nice Sky Ray this month.

Tamiya 1/72 Douglas F4D Skyray. This nice little kit from Tamiya goes together fairly well and offers no real problems during building. However, as with most Tamiya aircraft kits, the decals are difficult to apply due to the thickness and poor dimensional wrapping design. I've always loved the shape of the Skyray and it's nice to have a completed one in the case. Now it's time to tackle the 1/48 scale version!



That's all the models that will fit. Thanks to everyone that shared their photos /work with the club.

**BUYING EVERY AVAILABLE ACCESSORY
FOR MY MODEL EVEN IF IT MEANS
SPENDING 3 TIMES OF ORIGINAL MODEL ON THEM**



by Rick Cotton



I have since fixed the “* & *\$-up”, and sent him a picture, thanking him profusely for pointing out my ineptitude with Czech roundels to the entire known world. I hope he’s happy now.

I have many “cyberfriends”, from far-away, exotic foreign countries like Turkey, France, and New Jersey.

Their English ranges from “iffy” (Russia, New Jersey) to better than mine (Czech Republic), but they all speak fluent Modeler, and they all have the same trials and tribulations as we do.

They are a source of constant friendship, even though we have never met face-to-face. I have been able to send much-needed parts to them, and they in return to me.

Ain’t it just amazing what Al Gore hath wrought in this here internet? We can be a world-citizen-modeler! People in Upper Slobbovia will know our names!!!!

OK, NOW I’m inspired again! I can go out to the shop, and get back to work on the USS Indigestion!

That’s right, lights on! Music on! Compressor on! Wahoo! I’m back in the game!!!



July 14 In History

What Happened on July 14?

Calendar Important Events

1789 Bastille Day - the French Revolution begins with the fall of the Bastille Prison

1798 US Sedition Act prohibits “false, scandalous & malicious” writing against government

1850 1st public demonstration of ice made by refrigeration by Florida physician John Gorrie

1933 All non-Nazi parties are banned in Germany

1941 6,000 Lithuanian Jews are exterminated at Viszalsyan Camp

1992 386BSD is released by Lynne Jolitz and William Jolitz, starting the open source operating system revolution.
Linus Torvalds release “Linux” soon afterwards



Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

July offers mostly re-pops, with a couple of truly new kits. But even some of the re-releases haven't been widely available for a while and are therefore welcome.

Several are kits whose tooling appears to have changed hands, e.g. the "new" Revell Tempest V, which used to be offered by Special Hobby. Anyway, enjoy browsing what's on the horizon, and happy modeling.

1/32nd Scale:

Revell has announced a Tempest V based on the Special Hobby kit, which based on the reviews I've found was a good one. Apparently other than a new box and decals, it is unchanged from Special Hobby's last release about two years ago. What I don't know is whether it contains the photo-etch and resin parts that went with the upgraded SH kit.



1/48th Scale:

DoraWings has announced a new-tool Republic P-43 Lancer. Photos of the test build are on the web, and it looks very nice. It is reported to include decals for USAAF, Chinese, and RAF markings. The test build photos showed a bare-metal, prewar color scheme.

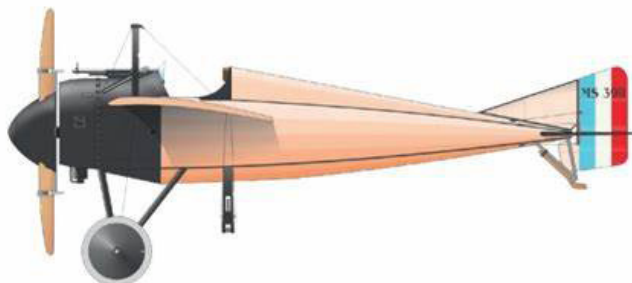


Eduard is re-releasing their Bf 109G in a Limited Edition "Wilde Sau" night fighter scheme with some new parts.

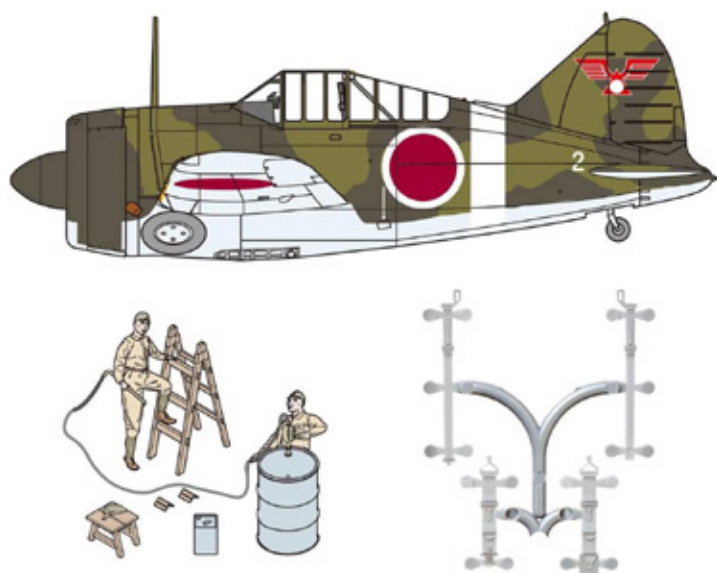




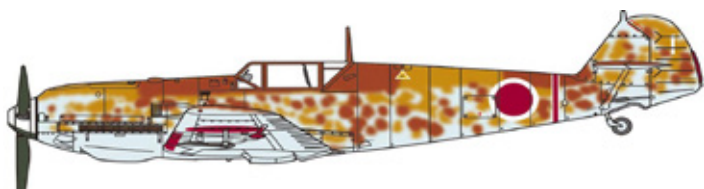
Eduard is also re-releasing their 2004 Morane Saulnier Type N in a Profipack edition with new decals. Kit reviews of the original release indicate a well detailed kit but a challenging build.



Fine Molds is releasing a B-399 Buffalo IJA w/Maintenance Scene. This depicts a captured "Buffalo" in Japanese markings. The aircraft kit is Tamiya, with Nano Aviation Series mechanics, fuel drums, and maintenance stand.



In like manner, Fine Molds has announced a Bf 109E-7 IJA w/Maintenance Scene, again based on the Tamiya kit, with Nano Aviation Series mechanics, maintenance bench, and so on.



ICM has announced a B-26C-50 Invader in Korean War markings with some new parts. This adds one more to a series of kits representing variants of this famous aircraft.



Italeri is re-releasing their H-34A Pirate/UH-34D USMC with new decals. Last released in 2016, this is a timely re-pop.





Kinetic is re-releasing an Israeli AF Neshar combo kit with new parts and decals. Either the single or two seat variant can be built.



Kitty Hawk has announced a new-tool Su-27 Flanker B, which is the initial production version of this aircraft. This one's so new I couldn't find any reviews of it at all. Indications on the web are that this is the lead aircraft of a three-version series. More on that in future issues.



Modelsvit has announced a new-parts re-release of their 2015 Yak-9 as a Yak-9TD.



Revell has announced a re-release of their 2018 Beaufighter as a Mk.1F Nightfighter, with some new parts and new decals.



1/72nd Scale

Amodel is re-releasing the BPK kit of the Challenger CL-600 executive jet, with new decals. Reviews of the BPK kit were positive, and it includes a full interior, which is unusual for transport-type jets of this size.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their vintage B-47E Stratofortress in the markings of the '1000th' production aircraft.

This kit was last released in 2016. It is a bit dated, with raised panel lines and minimal inaccurate cockpit detail under that big bubble canopy. But it is still the only game in town in this scale.



ICM has announced a MiG-25RU Foxbat two-seat trainer version based on their earlier MiG-25 BM kit. So, although not an entirely new-tool model, it does provide parts for a previously unavailable variant of the aircraft.



Italeri is re-releasing their Fiat CR.42 Falco, which first appeared in 2006 and has been released a couple of times since then, but the last release was a number of years ago.



Modelsvit is re-releasing their P1.HH Hammerhead UAV, first released about 2018. This is an interesting Italian-made UAV for those interested in this subject area.



1/144th Scale:

Eduard has announced a P-47D Bubbletop Thunderbolt based on Platz plastic, with five marking options.

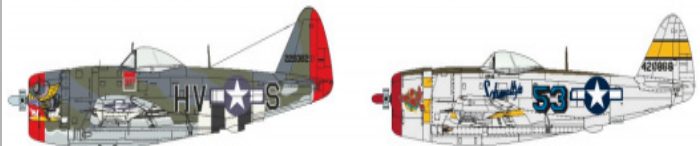
P-47D Bubbletop 1/144

Cat.No. 4464



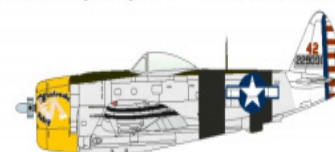
P-47D-26-RA, s/n 42-28382, flown by Lt. James R. Hopkins, 509th FS, 405th FG, 9th AF, Ophoven, Belgium, March 1945

P-47D-27-RE, s/n 42-26785, flown by Lt. Raymond L. Knight, 348th FS, 350th FG, 12th AF, Pisa, Italy, 1945



P-47D-28-RA, s/n 42-28382, flown by Capt. Donavon F. Smith, CO of 611th FS, 58th FG, 8th AF, Boxed, United Kingdom, August 1944

P-47D-30-RA, s/n 44-20686, flown by Lt. Frank J. Middleton, 65th FS, 57th FG, 12th AF, Corsica, Summer 1944

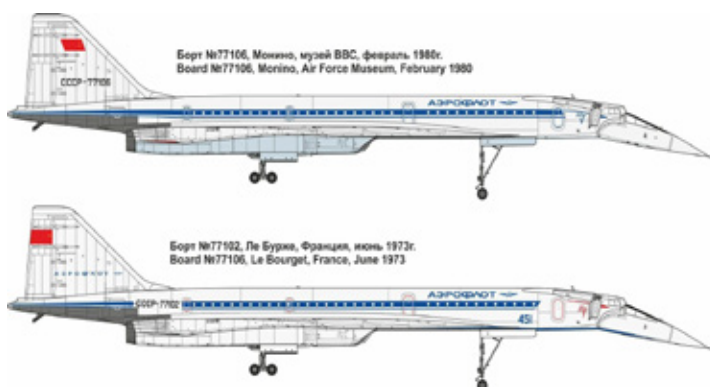


P-47D-28-RA, s/n 42-28382, flown by Lt. Ralph Barnes, 310th FS, 58th FG, 5th AF, Machinato Airfield, Okinawa, 1945

Eduard - Model Accessories, Mírová 170, 435 21 Obrnice, Czech Republic

WWW.EDUARD.COM

Hasegawa is re-releasing its 2011-vintage Tu-144S Charger with new parts and new decals.



Shipping News

By Rick Harrington

Lots to get to this month so let's get started with 1/700th scale. Aoshima is up first with a couple of IJN battleships. The first is the Fuso as she looked in 1944.



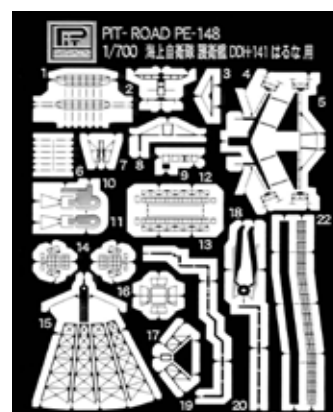
Aoshima's second release is the battleship Mutsu as she looked in 1942. Both of these kits come with metal barrels. Mutsu didn't see much action in WW2 and spent most of her career as a training ship. She was sunk in harbor when a disgruntled crew member caused the detonation of her aft magazines, with the loss of 1,121 crewmen.



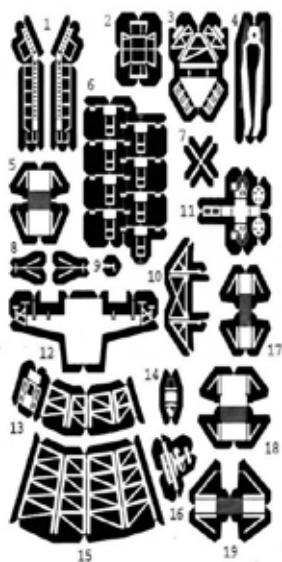
Pit Road has several new releases both WW2 and modern. The first is a USN destroyer DD-692 Allen M Sumner.



Second up from Pit Road is a modern JMSDF destroyer, the Hauna DDH-141. The kit comes with a fret of Photo etch.



Another modern JMSDF release from Pit Road which includes a fret of photo etch is DD-144 Kurama.



Pit Road has another release coming down the pike the USN light cruiser Miami. Miami participated in the Marianas and Leyte Gulf. Miami survived the war and served on until 1961.



Orange Hobby is releasing an Italian battleship the Caio Duilio as she looked in 1941.



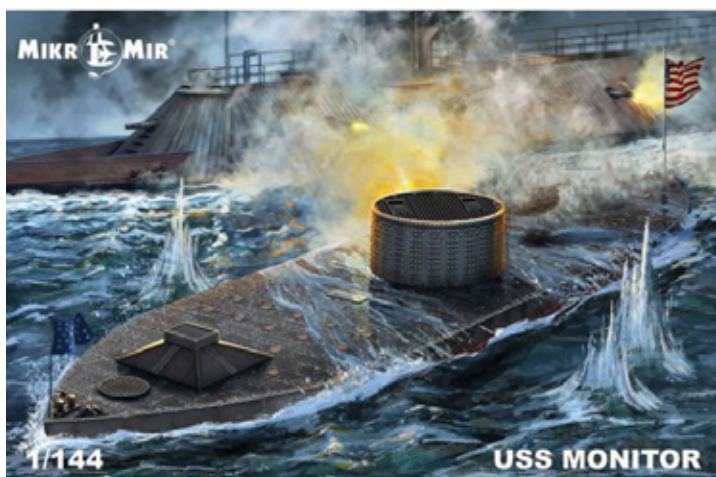
Last in 1/700th scale, 5 Star is releasing the IJN Escort Carrier Shimane Maru. The two escort carriers in the class were converted from oil tankers and performed the same function as US escort carriers in that they escorted convoys and protected them from submarines.



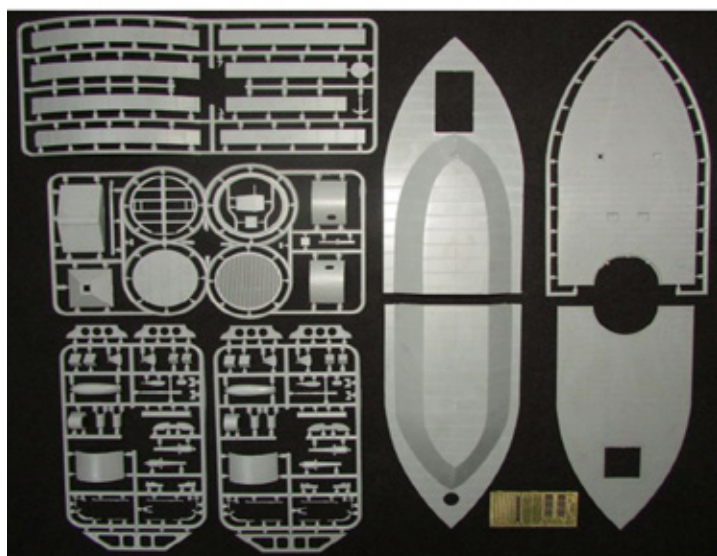
Only one upcoming release in 1/350th scale. This one's from Black Cat Models and is the US Coast Guard Cutter Bertholf WMSL-750. Bertholf has the distinction of being the first to detect and fire on a narco submarine smuggling drugs into the US.



One release in 1/144th scale coming up. This is from Mikro Mir and is the USS Monitor.



I don't often mention books in my column mostly because they're books, but if you're interested in the DKM Scharnhorst and know of the battle in which she was sunk this book might pique your interest. It's called the Battle of North Cape by Karos publishing. Karos publishers is a company that allows an author to pay for publishing his/her own book.



I think everyone is familiar with Meng's line of Egg shaped armor, airplanes and ships. Their latest release cries out for a ship diorama creation. The subject of the release is the RMS Titanic.

Can you imagine this little model with an ice berg at the bow and lifeboats surrounding it? What fun!



That's it for this month. Grab a kit out of that stash, preferably a ship kit and build it. No excuses about not having time!

'Til next Month
Rick



Tracked Topics

By Panzer Lehr

A good amount of 1/72nd scale stuff this month so let's start off with them. Ace is up first with a Super Snipe Saloon British Staff Car



Armory Models Group is releasing a modern Russian 4X4 Military Cargo truck



1/72 Russian Modern Army Truck mod. 4350 w/ cargo body

Ace has their own 2 Ton military truck the U1300L Unimog.



Border Models known for their fine 1/35th work has a new release in 1/72nd scale, a PLA main battle tank ZTZ 96B.



Armory Models Group is up again with a German Paper Panzer the VK 36.01 (H)



1/72



AR722110
VK 36.01 (H)
German WWII experimental heavy tank
plastic injected kit w/ PE parts

Last in 1/72nd scale is a combo kit from Takom. The kit includes two vehicles, an FV432 infantry carrier and a Chieftain Mark 5. If this is a scaled down version of their 1/35th Chieftain this kit will be a winner.

FV 432 MK.2/1 CHIEFTAIN MK.5 1+1

- A. TRACK ASSEMBLY IS AIDS WITH THE USE OF A JO
- A. DETAILED STATIC DISPLAY PLASTIC MODEL
- A. LINK & LENGTH STYLE TRACKS INCLUDED
- A. 4 TYPES OF HATCHES
- A. PE PARTS INCLUDED



On to 1/35th scale. Fist of War is up first with a couple of German Paper Panzers. First is an E-50.



The second release is an E-75.



Takom has a couple of new releases coming our way. The first is a Pzkw 3N.



The second release from Takom is a Merkava 2D.



MiniArt known for their billion part kits is releasing a T34-85 Czech production early type





RPG Model is releasing a Russian version of their T-80U.



Rye Field Models has two upcoming releases. the first is a T34 85 Model 1944 No 174 factory.



The second release is a Pzkw 4 Ausf H early production.



Last in 1/35th scale is Meng's exciting upcoming release of a modern Warrior armored infantry fighting vehicle. The last time we saw a version of this vehicle in plastic was from Academy in 2004. Meng's version is the latest and greatest of the Warriors. The kit comes with a metal barrel and individual track links.



BRITISH FV510 WARRIOR TES(H) AIFV
英国FV510“武士”TES(H)步兵战车
55-017





It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Hello fellow modelers! As we continue to keep our distance, and stay safe at home, as best as possible, I hope this issue of It Figures finds you well, and healthy. It's been nice to see club members on the Sunday Zoom meetings, when I've been able to attend. Thanks to Bill Delk for setting that up! These hotter months, mean even more time inside to focus on our figure painting skills, so here's some new offerings to get you started.

<https://scale75usa.com/>

Starting with an epic fantasy figure, we have Scale75s "The Revenge - Last Blood". This resin 1/24th scale bust features a dragon enjoying one last hurrah before our heroine ends its reign. It really looks like a nice figure and would really stand out on the display shelf, or contest table.



<https://blackarmymodells.com/>

From Black Army Models, we have some new 1/72 tankers. This time, a few Hungarian tankers. This set of resin figures includes 2 full sized figures, and one half-figure for the driver. Although Hungary entered World War II on the side of the Axis, I think the tanker uniforms are generic enough that they would work as Hungarian, German, or Soviet tankers. Coveralls were pretty ubiquitous with tank crews in WWII.



As someone who builds mostly 1/72 armor, the addition of nice figures in this scale, is always welcome.

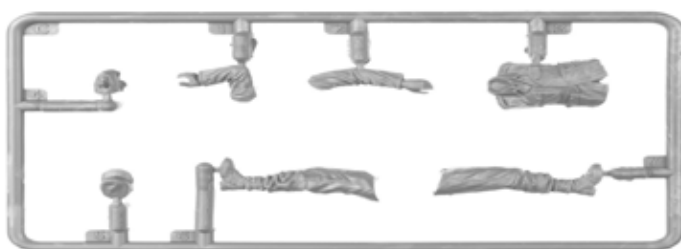
<https://miniart-models.com/>

Miniart continues to crank out figure sets. It seems like they have added 2 or 3 new sets a month since the start of the year. This month, we have 2 new sets. First up, we have a pair of welders. The nice thing about these figures is that they come with all of the welding gear, including their torches, masks, and cylinders. These guys will look just as good in a diorama of an auto shop, as they would working on repairs to any country's tank. I really appreciate it when model company provide good generic figures, that can be used across different types of models.



The next set of figures is 2 German soldiers with a mess of Jerry cans. These two figures are posed doing the mundane work of refilling Jerry cans, as well as refilling the fuel on their vehicle. The set also comes with 10 Jerry cans, including a couple of the triangular oil cans. Jerry cans always make a nice, and easy addition to any vehicle build, and these can be used for oil, fuel, or water. Each of the Jerry cans include some photo-etch for the handles and caps too.

GERMAN SOLDIERS WITH JERRY CANS





<https://www.andreaeurope.com/en/>

Lastly, from Andrea miniatures, they continue their series on the Old West. This time with a beautiful Native American on horseback. His headdress, pose, and the horse figure, Andrea really does have nice horse figures, are really fantastic looking and someone with some actual skill, not me, could really make this figure stand out. It comes on a scenic base in 90mm and is made with resin and metal. As a bonus, if you order it before the end of August, it will include the painting manual as a bonus!



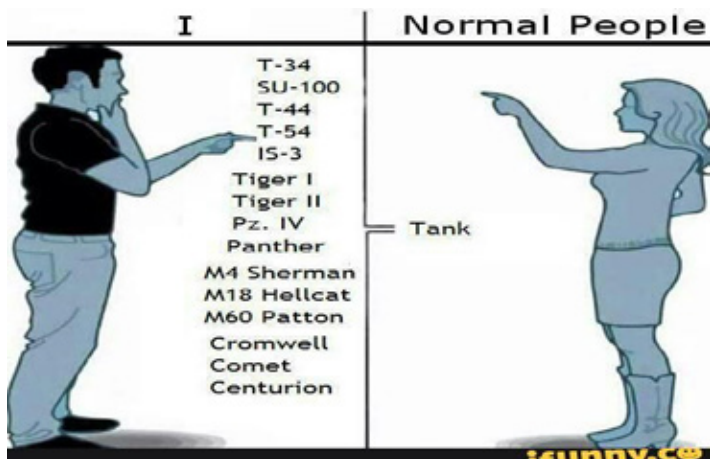
That's it for this month.

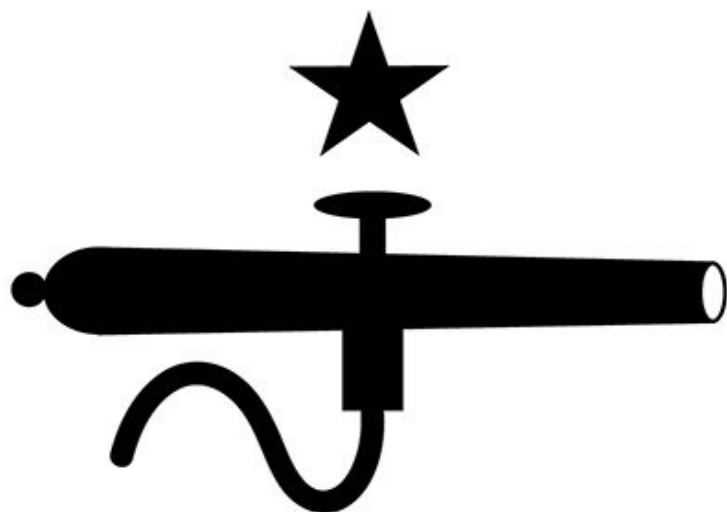
So, let's all stay safe, stay home and spend some time working on our figure skills. With that Andrea painting guide, how can we go wrong!

I still hear those voices



telling me : BUY ANOTHER
MODEL KIT !!!!!





COME AND MAKE IT IPMS/USA NATIONAL CONVENTION SAN MARCOS, TEXAS JUL 29 - AUG 1, 2020

The following is a joint announcement from the San Marcos 2020 Convention Leadership team and the IPMS USA Executive Board.

We jointly appreciate all the feedback we received regarding this year's convention. We've taken your comments and concerns into careful consideration, while maintaining an ongoing dialogue and negotiation with the Embassy Suites convention center in San Marcos. These negotiations have been proceeding carefully due to the significant financial exposure that IPMS would be subject to if we simply decided to cancel the convention unilaterally.

We are now prepared to announce that the 2020 National Convention is officially canceled. While this may disappoint many, including your authors, we believe it is the prudent, safe and sensible thing to do.

On a more positive note, we have been successful in negotiating the use of the Embassy Suites San Marcos location for the 2023 convention. Therefore, the rotation for the next three years, circumstances permitting, will be Las Vegas in 2021, Omaha in 2022, and San Marcos in 2023.

Tentative dates for the 2023 convention will be August 2nd through the 5th. We are currently finalizing details of the contract with Embassy Suites and expect a finalized version within a week.

For those who have registered already for the convention, we will be processing your refunds. For those who have booked hotel reservations at one of the convention center hotels, it will be up to you to cancel those on your own. Vendors will be refunded their money for tables as well through our vendor coordinator, Craig Gregory. Chapters and individuals who have sponsored contest categories may also receive refunds for their sponsorships.

Again, we want to thank you all for your patience and support during these trying times, and hope that you recognize we have made the best possible decision for all under the circumstances.

For any questions please contact John Noack at: IPMSPresident@ipmsusa.org

Or Len Pilhofer at: director:nats2020@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted,

Len Pilhofer, 2020 Convention Chairman

John Noack IPMS USA President
Best Regards,
Len Pilhofer – IPMS# 49932
Director, IPMS/USA National Convention 2020
www.nats2020.com



To all fellow modelers,

As the current COVID-19 pandemic continues (it hasn't peaked yet), we request that you follow state & local requests to not meet in any groups and to self-quarantine if possible. This means no monthly meetings or shows.

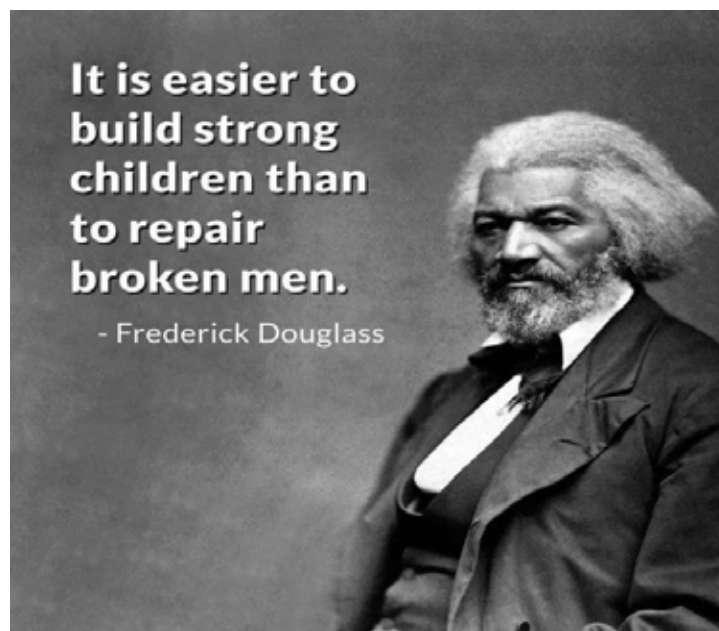
With limited testing available and no vaccines, it's not worth the risk. Between smart phones, email, Facebook, etc., you should be able to stay in contact with your fellow modelers.

Check with your contest chairmen or the event page on the IPMS/USA website before you get in your car!

Dust off your stash and build some models. As the country music artist Gary Allan sings, "Every storm runs out of rain".

Stay healthy & safe. Happy modeling

Dave





7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste B169, Austin, TX
78753
(512) 836-7388

Hello All,

King's is Moving one More Time....Just a Short Distance!!

By August 1, 2020 King's Hobby will move a few doors over to building E #188 [Directly Across Parking Lot From Current Location]. We had always hoped since moving to this address that a larger space would become available, and it did!

We will have an attached warehouse and enough space that we are planning to revive our modeling/gaming table space as well. We are looking forward to the new and more spacious digs!!

Updated Message Re: COVID-19: It has been wonderful to see all the old and new customers who continue to support King's Hobby. As you may have heard, numbers of positive cases and hospitalizations are continuing to rise in Austin. We want to ensure our customers' safety and our own health during the pandemic and so we thank you for continuing to respect the rules:

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

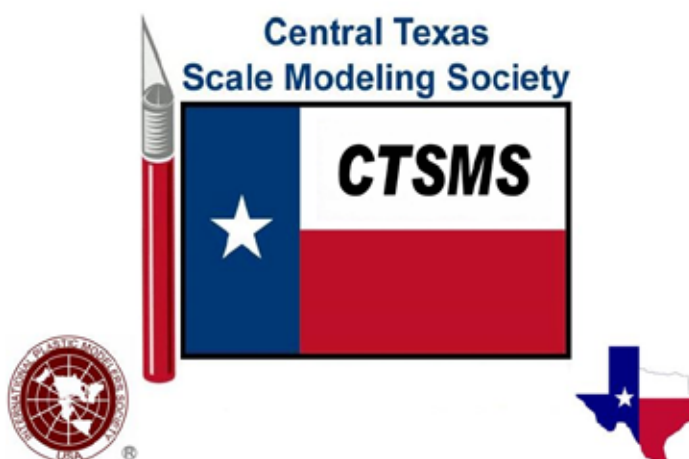
Something for Everyone!

Only 2-3 customers in the store at a time, and you **MUST** be wearing a mask when you enter. We want everyone to stay healthy so we can continue to provide you with all your fun hobby needs. Thank you so much for teaming with us in this effort!

Just as before, King's Hobby Shop will be shipping product every day and is happy to mail your orders to you during this time if you prefer. We will split all USPS postage costs and will carefully clean your items and disinfect packing material in the process. Thank you, everyone, for your calls and emails to place orders over the last three months. It has been a pleasure to witness our community respecting their duty to work together toward responsible social distancing while at the same time supporting local businesses in many ways. It's also been a pleasure for us to be a part of fun things for our customers to do during a time of quarantine.:]

It is our greatest hope that you and yours remain safe and healthy. Anything we can do to help, please let us know.

- King's Hobby Shop Staff





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.

Visit us at: <http://www.ipmsusa.org/>
Join up online at: <http://www.shopipmsusa.org/category-s/100.htm>

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

International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA

Membership Application / Renewal Form

New Renewal IPMS#: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Chapter Affiliation, if any: _____

Junior (17 years or younger) \$17.00 Date of Birth _____

Adult One year \$30.00

Two years \$58.00

Three years \$86.00

Canada & Mexico \$35.00

Foreign Surface \$38.00

Family Adult fee + \$5.00

of cards? ____

Your Signature: _____

If recommended by an IPMS member, please provide his/her:

Name: _____ IPMS #: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Cash Amount: _____

Check Check #: _____ Amount: _____

Where did you hear about IPMS/USA? Please check all that apply:

☐ Local model club

☐ Friend

☐ Ad in IPMS Journal

☐ Facebook

☐ Ad in other magazine

☐ Internet search

☐ IPMS web site

☐ I'm a former member rejoining

☐ Other _____

Applications should be printed and mailed to:

IPMS/USA

P.O. Box 1411

Riverview, FL 33568-1411



International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA Membership Application / Renewal Form

New ☐Renewal ☐

IPMS #:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Chapter Affiliation, if any: _____

Junior (17 years or younger) \$17.00 _____ Date of Birth: _____**Adult** One year \$30.00 _____

Two years \$58.00 _____

Three years \$86.00 _____

Canada & Mexico \$35.00 _____**Foreign** Surface \$38.00 _____**Family** (1 set of Journals) _____ ← Adult fee + \$5.00 # of cards? _____

Your Signature: _____

If recommended by an IPMS member, please provide his/her:

Name: _____ IPMS #: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:Cash ☐ Amount: _____Check ☐ Check #: _____ Amount: _____

Billing Address, if different than above -

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Applications should be printed and mailed to: IPMS/USA, PO Box 1411, Riverview, FL 33568-1411