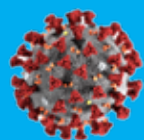


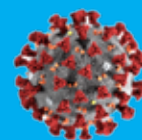
ASMS



SPRUE EXAMINER



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



**Rick Cotton does an
in-box review of ICM's
1/32nd Stearman PT-13
Kaydet**



**Mike Gilsbach's
15th Panzers in
North Africa 1941**

**Jack Johnston's
69 Camaro Z28**

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April 2021

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

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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



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.

ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.



PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

BY IAN LATHAM



Dear members,

'Allo members, welcome to April's Sprue Examiner.

Short and sweet this month, if you have not gotten your Covid shots yet then get out there and do it. I'm looking forward to getting out to some shows this year. Please do your part to make the gatherings safe for everyone.

Stay safe, healthy, and go build a kit!

Cheers,
-Ian

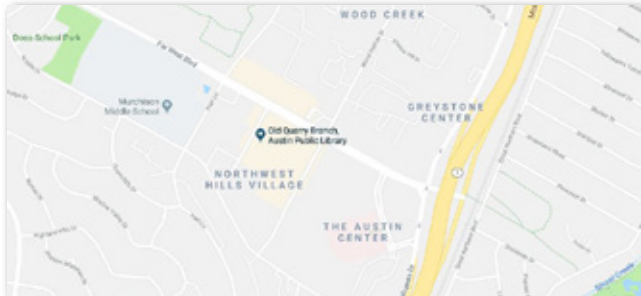




HOUSE CLEANING



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

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.

**Model Mania
May 8, 2021
Stafford Centre, Stafford, TX**

Club Quarterly Contests

Meetings
Suspended

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Meetings
Suspended

15th Panzers in North Africa 1941

by Mike Gilsbach



Like many modelers over the past 12 months, I have been making steady and rapid progress through my stash of unbuilt kits. So it was that I was finally down to the last two armor kits among my collection waiting to be built: A Panzer II F and a Hanomag 251 half-track. Both were Tamiya 1/35 scale kits. I had decided a long time ago to put them in some type of diorama together. They both came with a squad of soldiers in combat poses, they both came with markings for the 15th Panzer Division, Deutsches Afrika Korps, and I knew that the vehicles had both served concurrently in North Africa. Seemed like a great opportunity to do something interesting, but I also knew it would make for a more complex project, which is why they were still in my stash.



I hadn't really decided what else would be in the diorama, but I pressed ahead with building the two vehicles while I thought about that. Since they were both going to be painted the same, it made sense to build and paint them in parallel. I had never built two models at the same time like that, and it felt odd switching back and forth between them. It helped that they were molded in different colors so I could at least keep the parts separate.

The tank went together really quickly, and I rapidly had the hull, deck, turret and wheels ready to paint.

The Hanomag required a little more thought because the interior had to be painted and masked off first. I built pretty much the whole thing, leaving the wheels and tracks off to paint separately. I painted and weathered the interior as I went. Then I masked off the interior and was ready to paint the outside.





Many vehicles that served in North Africa, especially early on in the campaign, were originally painted grey for service in Europe before being transferred to Africa, where they were field-painted a tan or dark yellow. The harsh desert environment was tough on the new paint job and it seems it was common for the grey to be exposed as the tan color was blasted off over time. This presented an opportunity to try the hairspray technique I had heard about from fellow modelers but never tried before.

I started by painting all components of both vehicles German Grey. Then I sprayed them with a coat of some cheap hair spray I found under the bathroom counter – actually two different kinds when the first can ran out and I had to move on to another one. I just tried to get a good coverage without overdoing it. After letting that dry for a few hours, I sprayed the vehicles with Dark Yellow, slightly thinned and at lower pressure to keep some pre-shading from the grey.

I found that this was a little dark for my liking, so I dry brushed them with Deck Tan to lighten them up and give them more of a sandy color.

Once that was dry, I was ready for the fun part. I started out using a moist q-tip to rub the Dark Yellow off, but this proved unsatisfactory.

I found that the water got away from me and took off too much Yellow – in some cases it even took the grey off down to bare plastic. A bit of sponge gave me much better results. I was able to just daub on the model a bit, wait for the yellow to come off, then mop up any moisture to stop the effect. This also gave me the random, mottled look that I was trying for.





For areas where the moisture had gotten away from me and taken off too much grey, I found I could tone down the effect by dry brushing some Dark Yellow back on. Once that was complete, I painted the treads and finished assembling the vehicles.

I was a little concerned about applying the water slide decals. Would the water and decal solution activate the hairspray again and wipe off more of the grey? I waited a few days to let things dry thoroughly – I heard that after a few days the hairspray should be all set up. I had no issues at all. The decals went on fine. I did go back and chip up the decals a little to make them match the rest of the paint job.

I had been giving the rest of the diorama some thought. All the photos I was finding of the North African campaign showed vehicles rolling across open, brown terrain. Maybe you would see some rocks here and there. Not terribly interesting. I wanted some cool scenery to place this in.

I started looking at pictures of villages and towns in Tunisia and Libya and saw two things I decided to incorporate into my scene. First, a well. Second, I saw lots of building that were covered with a white-washed plaster and then had bright blue doors and trim. Seemed cool. I had also found some neat looking palm trees from JTT Scenery Products that I wanted to incorporate. I started playing around with some arrangement, using a cardboard base and paper to simulate my walls. I decided on the idea of two roads splitting at a well and a building and the vehicles and squads splitting up to go around it, ostensibly responding to fire from someplace beyond it.





The palm trees looked like plastic, so I painted them Medium Green and Flat Brown with some dry brushing of other colors to make them look more realistic.

Next, I started working on the figures. There were nine soldiers in total. (I opted not to use the tank commander as he didn't fit at all well in the open hatch of the Panzer. He also looked way too chill given the "run for cover" poses of the rest.) I sanded, assembled, primed, and got to painting them assembly line style. I played mix-and-match with uniform colors, equipment, and weapons – just going for some realistic balance.



Many of the figures were in poses that would not stand on their own, so for those I drilled a small hole in the bottom of the planted foot. I glued a bit of paper clip in the hole. My plan was to eventually drill a hole in the base to insert the pin to support the figure.



Finally, it was time to work on the scenery. Using my cardboard as a template, I cut a piece of oak plywood for the base. For the walls and rubble, I used half-inch thick sections of Styrofoam that I cut to size and hot glued together. I cut out the doorway and then built in a door frame and lintel using small bits of scrap wood. Next, I wanted to add some post beams sticking out of the walls. I cut pieces of wooden kitchen skewer and stuck a series of them through the Styrofoam along a line at intervals. The end on the outside was cut neatly. The end on the inside was ripped in a jagged way to simulate having been broken in the explosion that wrecked the place. I hot glued the walls to the base and then piled broken bits of Styrofoam and wood scraps inside and around the walls to simulate the wreckage from the broken walls and building.

Now we were ready for the Sculptamold. I mixed up a big batch of the stuff and covered the base, walls and rubble with it, constantly sculpting and smoothing where needed. Covering the vertical walls of Styrofoam was a messy job and took a bit of finesse, but I got it to stick and smoothed it out.



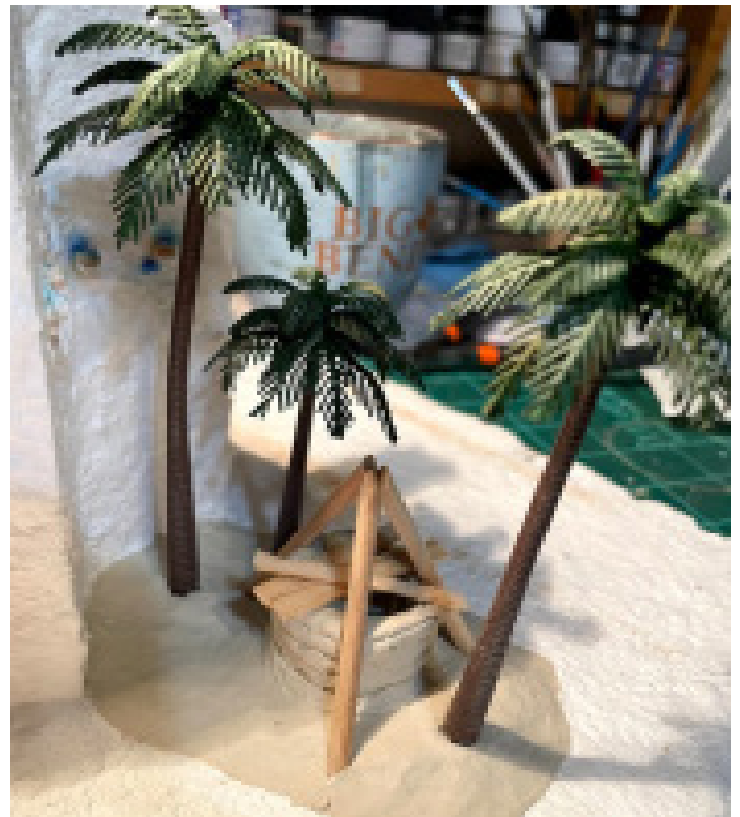


I used more skewers to create a tripod frame over the well and some scrap bits for boards on top to hide the fact that it had a solid bottom.



The final touch was to create some tracks in the still-damp ground material to simulate where the vehicles had driven. I didn't need them too deep, assuming the ground would be pretty hard and dry here. I pressed both vehicles into the stuff to make the tracks. In future, I will be a lot smarter and do this before I paint and attach the tracks. Oh well. It worked.

The next thing to create was the well. I wanted to create a raised area of ground next to the building with the well in the middle and the palm trees around it. I used a tub of Crayola Air-Dry Clay to sculpt some ground and the well itself. The trees had detachable stands which I embedded into the bottom of the clay with the hole open at the top so I could stick the trees in later. It was very easy stuff to work with. It dried in about 2-3 days. It did shrink and crack a little, so I had to glue it to the Sculptamold base. I



Now we were ready to paint! I first painted the walls and rubble flat white. Then I painted all the ground, including the clay portion and the well, flat Buff. I didn't worry about overspray at the base of the walls. In fact, I wanted some. I painted the door frame flat blue as well as the doors themselves, which I had started making out of scrap wood and stuff from the spares box. I carved some small wooden handles and made "hinges" from some spare PE bits.



To simulate explosion and fire damage to the inside of the building, I sprayed a light coat of flat black over everything. I also took a lighter and literally burned the ends of the skewer "beams" inside. Some added small rubble/gravel, pastels, and dry brushing completed the inside.





For the broken edges of the walls, I was trying to simulate a stone wall covered with white plaster. That meant the broken edges needed to look different. I started with a heavy wash of German Grey. I didn't mind if the wash leaked down the walls a little as it added to the effect. Then I applied several layers and colors of earth tone pastels to the edges until I thought they looked right.

For the rest of the ground, I added some small rocks and gravel, attempting to leave the tracks in the road clear. The gravel also helped mask the edges of the clay landscape. I airbrushed and dry brushed several other shades of brown and applied some pastels for even more variation.



As a final touch to the outside of the building, I added a geometric pattern similar to what I saw in some photos of the region. I used a brown felt-tip pen and a straight edge. I weathered the doors and well and applied a hint of brown pastel dust to the outside to break up the white just a little.

I hit all the wooden bits for the well with brown and grey washes and added some little plants around it. After gluing the well frame in place, I "tied" it together with some thread. For the final touch there, I got more clay and sculpted and painted some pottery to place around the well.



With the palm trees in place, it looked pretty good.

At this point I was almost ready to start placing the vehicles and figures. I just needed to add some "stuff" to the inside of the half-track, which was looking a bit empty. I added a bunch of spare gear from the figures, some tarps made from wine foil, and a "map" that I had drawn for another project a long time ago.



There was one last detail for the scenery. I made a small sign for the place, using the felt-tip pen to write the Arabic for "Café".

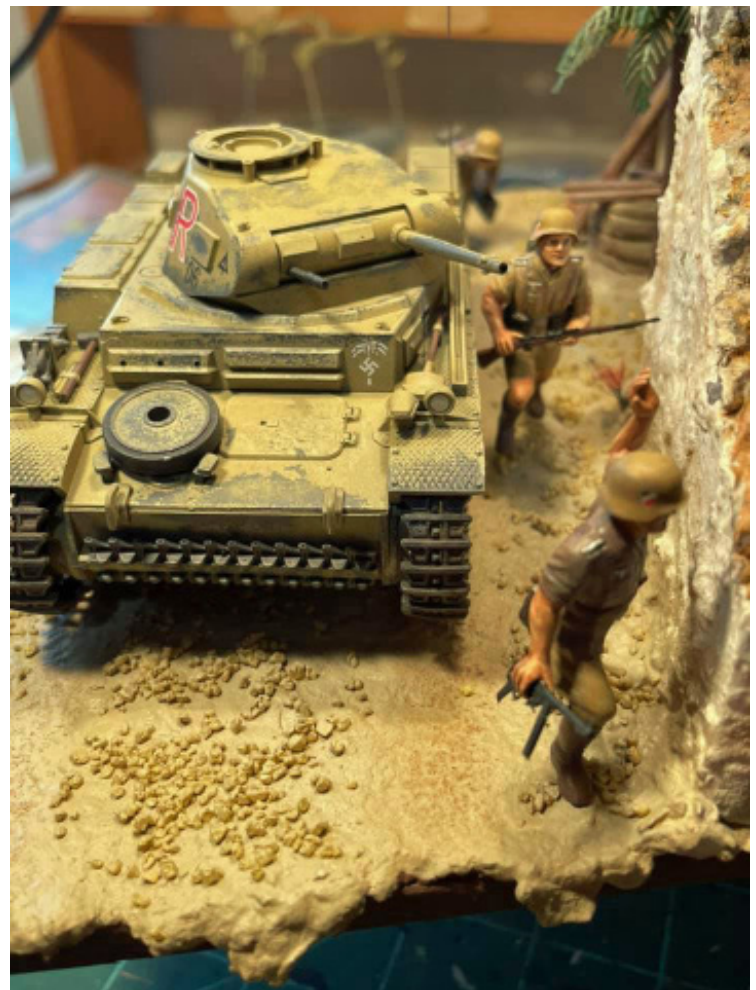




With that done, I glued the vehicles in place in their tracks. The figures went on well. I had no issues drilling the holes in the base and the pins worked really well to hold them in place.

This was a really interesting project that allowed me to try several new techniques and materials. Great fun all around.





An in Box Review of ICM's 1/32 ICM PT-13 STEARMAN "KAYDET" by Rick Cotton

There has just been a quick knock at my door. There is a lovely, large cardboard box on my doorstep, with the happy words "Freetime Hobbies" on the shipping label. Shipping was quick, even with the slow-motion lifers at the US Post Office getting involved. Joy fills my heart as I carefully slice the package open....

...and there it is.

ICM's brand-new 1/32 scale PT-13 'Kaydet' Stearman Trainer. Mmm.....I love the smell of brand-new styrene in the morning.



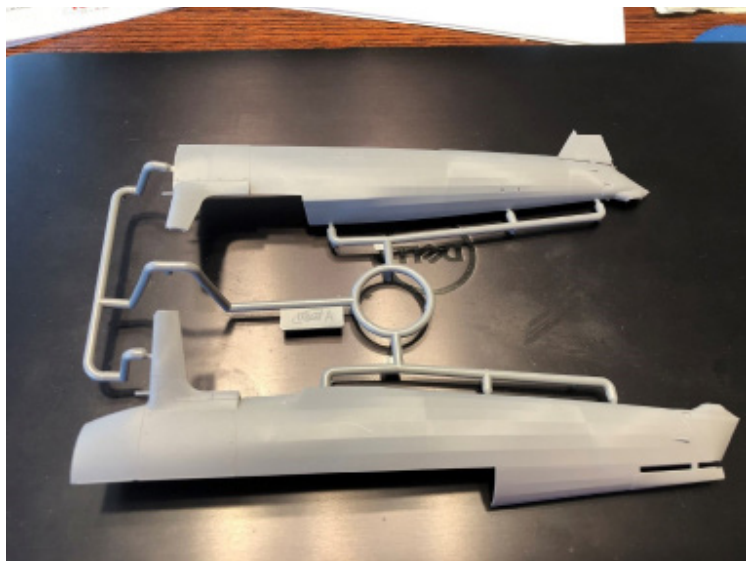
It's a great time to be a 1/32 scale modeler, as all sorts of new stuff is hitting the market, such as this little beauty. Over 10,000 of these trainers were built over the years, in various marks, due to various engines being installed. Used by the USAAF, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the US Navy, this aircraft trained thousands upon thousands of Allied airmen, and was a huge contributor to the Allied victory in WW2.

This particular issue features 3, count 'em 3 different paint options, a Navy bird and two US-AAF versions, but my eyes get no farther than that striking yellow USN paint scheme. This thing will need Tamiya white primer, and a lot of it. There will doubtless be lots and lots of aftermarket decal options for this model, but I am going with what's on the box. It's quite lovely, thank you.

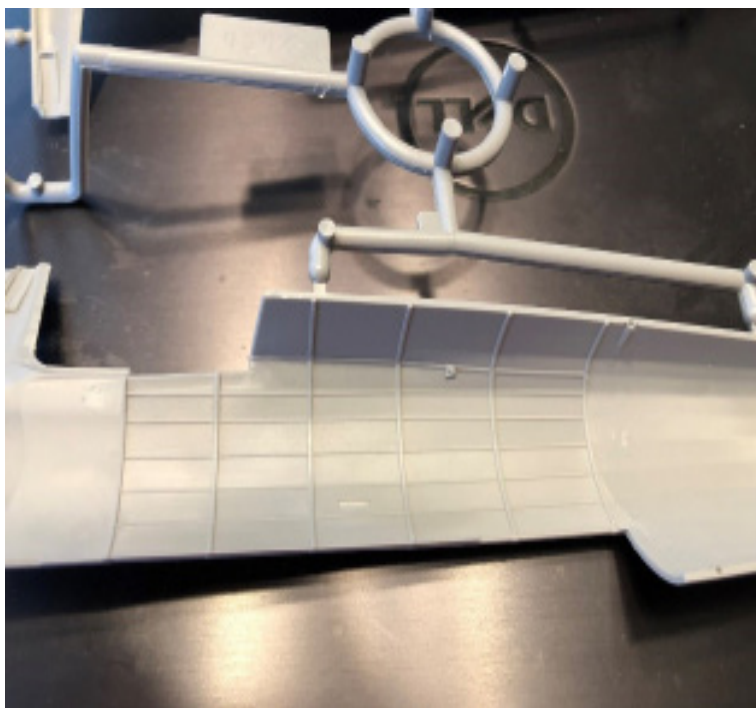


Many of you doubtless saw the failed attempt at the Roden(t) PT-17 build online, where the poor engineering of that kit turned a happy and competent modeler into a swearing, crying heap of blubber, despite his years of skill and the aid of a Hobby Zone USA AJ-01 biplane aircraft building jig. If he, armed with that, could not get it done, then that kit was crap.

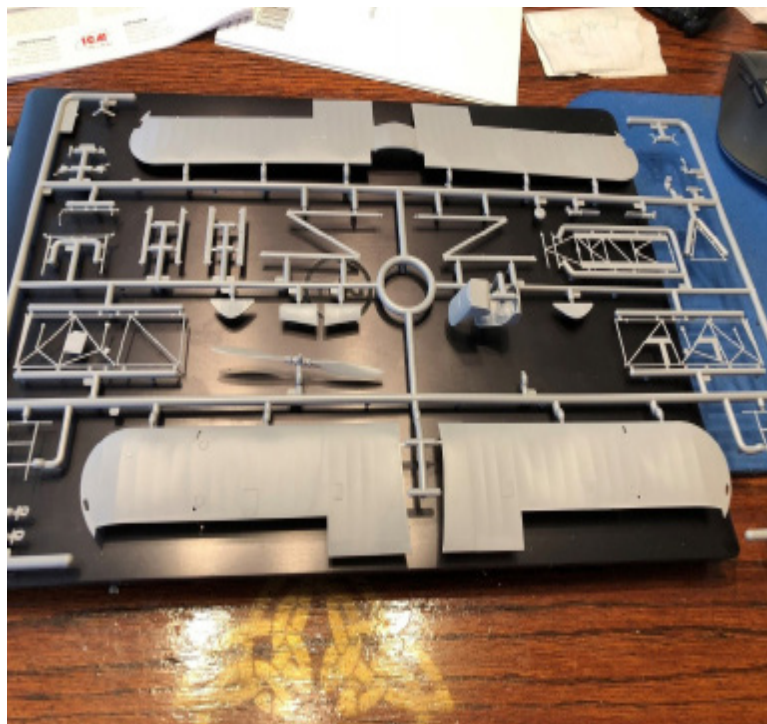
This appears to be a totally different animal. Kit parts look clean and straight, delicately detailed where needed, yet straight and strong where applicable. Warping appears to be minimal, if not nonexistent. Flash is very limited, and decals look to be in perfect register. ICM looks like they are stepping up their game, which is a fantastic thing, as all sorts of issues are starting to come from them. Not just aircraft, but interesting armor subjects, too. But for now, we will look at this little jewel, sprue by sprue.



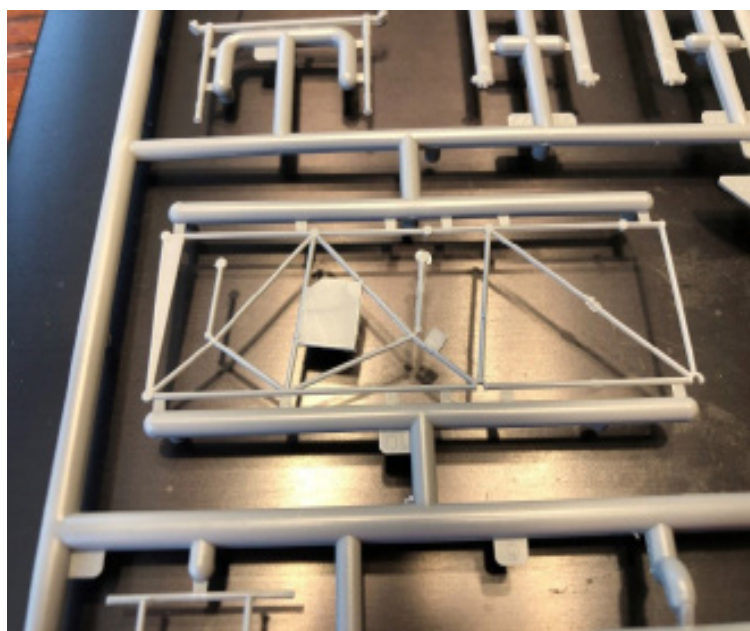
Fuselage parts – note the top metal section of the cockpit coaming is molded as a separate item, thus eliminating part of that annoying fuselage seam. Nicely thought out.



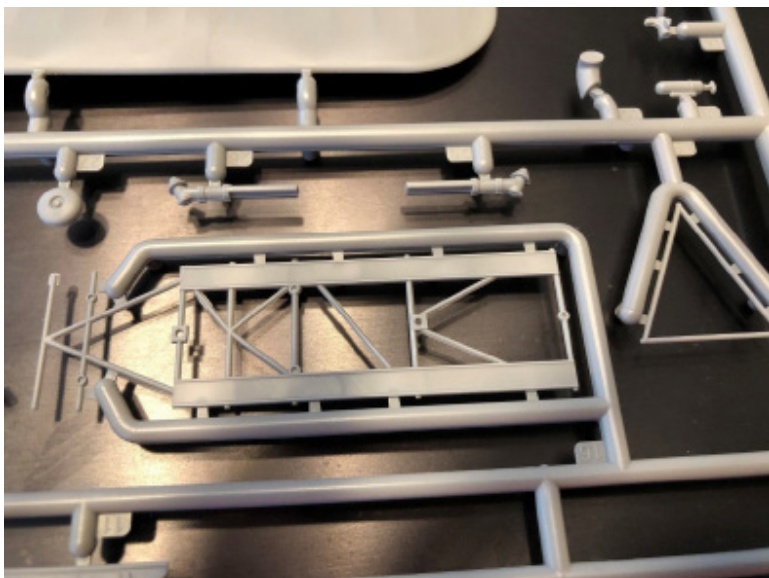
Interior ribbing – that's right, no ejector pin marks visible.



Lower half of the bottom wing is molded as one piece (thank you, ICM), and fabric surfacing is restrained yet well-done.



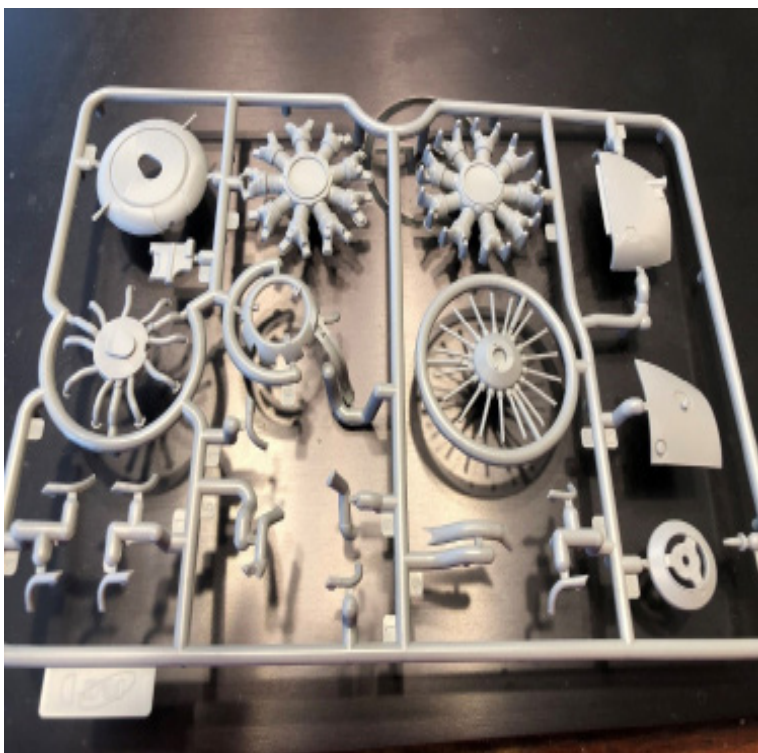
A little flash here – online builds of the -17 version of this kit mention that this interior framing often comes “pre-broken”. Not the case in my sample, but it does look like it will require patience and a sharp, brand-new razor saw to get it loose from the sprue. So be it.



Floor detail – again, patience and sharp, new blades. Take your time.



Drilling for spark plug wires will be required. Go for it. Make those judges ooh and ahh!!!



The engine will require a wiring harness, and the time spent will be fully on display, as the engine is prominent and uncovered in this aircraft. Parts look sharp, though.



Nice, clean details around the cockpit. Note, on this kit, the rigging holes are flashed over should you be sweating bullets about rigging the bird. I am not, so I will predrill all of them before assembly begins. Your mileage may vary. Note that there are a bazillion good photos of this aircraft online for reference, so do your homework.



Upper wing details – a little drilling out will be require here as well. Best to accomplish all your parts drilling before even thinking about spraying primer. That makes life much easier later.



Clear parts look good – no distortion. Very nice!

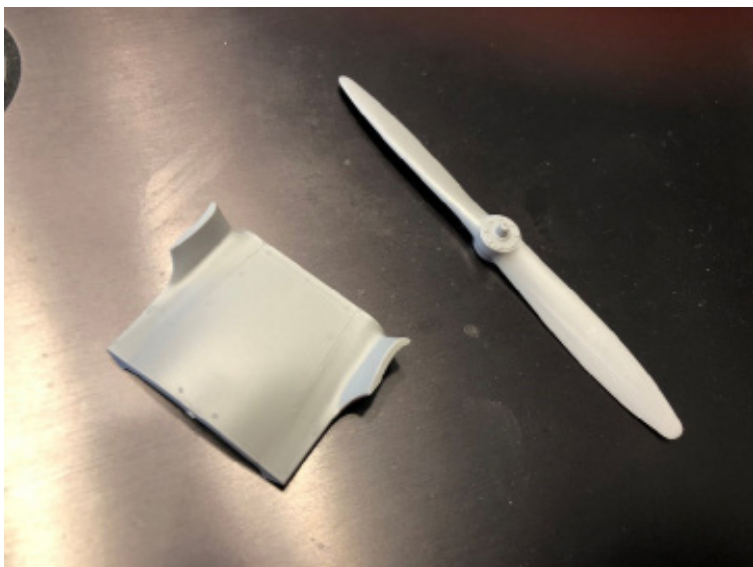


Wheels look pretty simple. I would bet on an aftermarket outfit coming out with replacements, if they have not already done so. I can live with this as is.

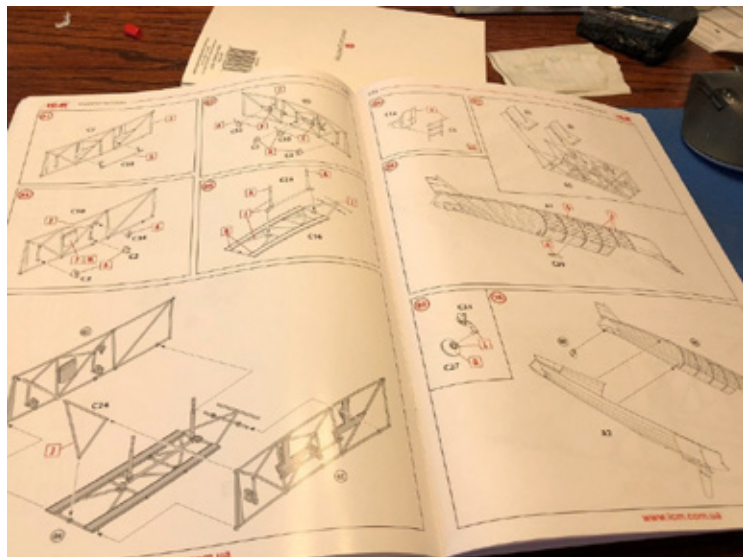


Not having to paint the tail stripes is a HUGE yes if you are doing the USAAF bird! The unused markings will go right in the spare decal file – they are quite nice, and will get used somewhere.





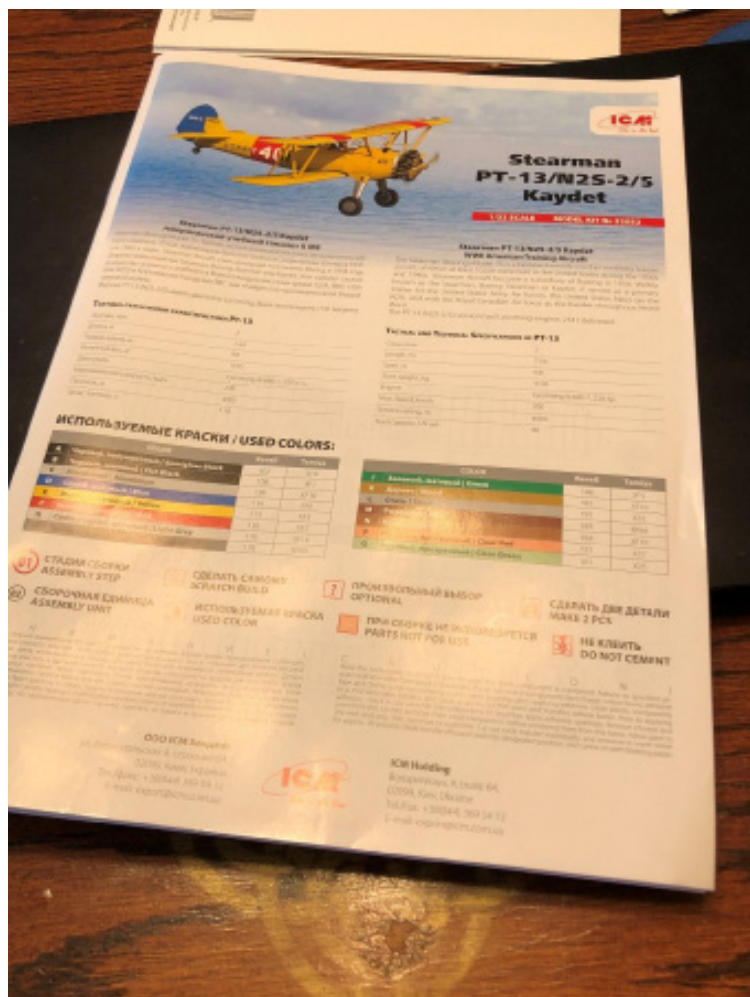
The kit supplies two props – the thinner metal Air Force version, and a thicker, wooden Navy version.



No DML-style North Korean nuclear reactor diagrams here – clear and easy to follow diagrams. Assuming one follows directions – I know a lot of us don't need no steenkin' directions!

No photoetch or other items in the kit, so I will need to source some seatbelts and add some wiring. Other than that, the simplicity of this aircraft is pretty much captured by the parts in the box.

I am greatly impressed. This kit shows ICM to be serious about gaining a greater market share, and willing to upgrade their kits all along the way. I cannot wait to start on this bad boy, and add a yellow-wing Navy trainer to my collection! Now.....let's see how it builds.



Instructions are clear, in English and Czech, with nicely done diagrams and callouts.

Oh look, a penny!





Jack Johnston's 1/24th Revell 69 Z/28 Camaro

Jack Johnston is joining us this month with a tale of his build of the Revell 1/24th 1969 Z/28 Camaro.

This is Revell's 1969 Camaro which is modeled after the car that I raced in the early 70's. The kit goes together fairly well. It's a bit dicey getting the body on the chassis.

I was waiting for the body to split in half as I spread it.

It is mostly kit parts but I hunted down parts from other kits, the parts box, photo etch and on-line as I needed.

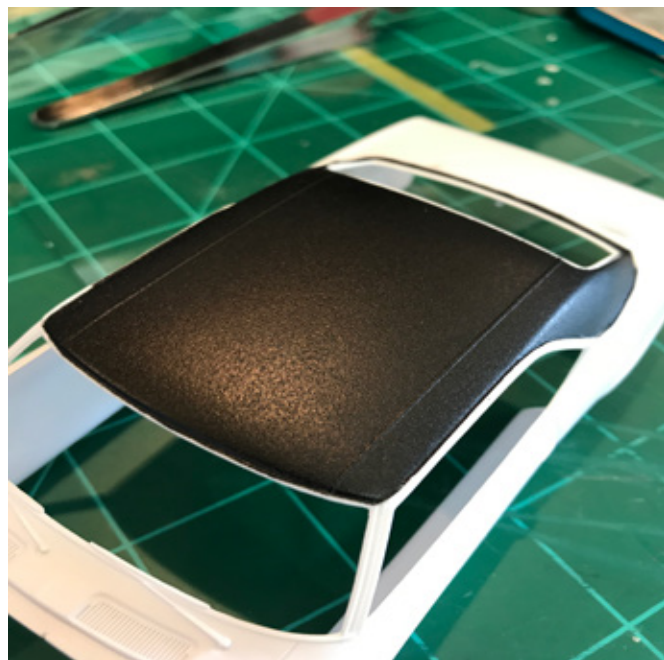


The black vinyl roof was created using references, plastic spacers and drafting dividers.



First, the trim was formed by using one continuous strip of Plastruct 15 thousandths rod. The seam for the '3 piece' vinyl was simulated with narrow strips of Tamiya tape.

Then the whole car was primed. Next the trim and the body were masked and the roof was painted using Rustoleum Black Textured paint.





Then that was masked and the red went on. The red is Color Shot paint I found at Home Depot. Figured I would give it a try and it worked pretty well.



Trim is Bare Metal Foil. I haven't gotten the glossy finish technique down very well yet. The capless rally wheels on the front are resin. Other rims and tires are parts box. Traction bars and alternator bracket are from a Revell Nova. Headlight doors, fender badges, fan and header flanges are Model Car Garage photo etch.





The flat hood is from an AMT 1968 Camaro sanded to fit.
The DX1 front end decals are from Keith Marx.
No kits include this style.
Fuel line cool can is scratch built with fuel line.
Plug wires added, in the correct firing order I might add. Battery cables and posts added.



8-track player console armrest is scratch built with Evergreen for shape, tape for arm padding and p.e. spares for the tape slot and buttons.
Interior p.e. badges.
Wood grain decals.
Tape seat belts with p.e. buckles.
Dashboard decals prototypical to 1:1 car.
Additional gauges added.
T-handle shifter as in the 1:1 car.





Radio antenna is a nut fitting and a drill bit.





What's Up 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.

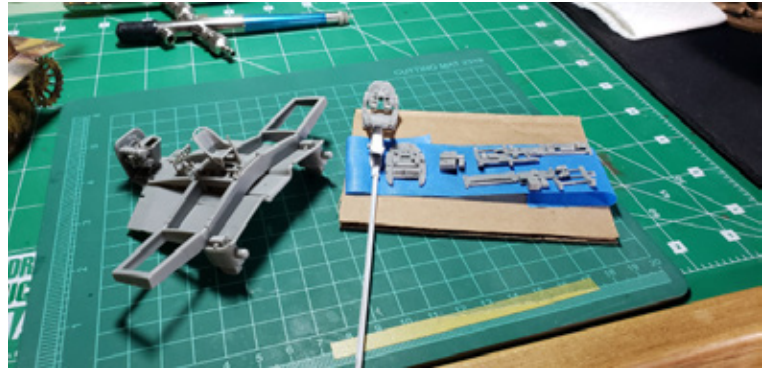
Contact Bill Delk to have him send you a link to be able to get into the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Milton Bell is up first this month with a desert scheme 1/48th Eduard FW-190A4.





Randy Bumgardner is up next with an Airfix 1/48th Stuka, a Tamiya 1/35th Tiger 1 and a Sea Hurricane.





Ziggy Downs-Bumgardner, our resident Gundam expert has a couple of projects in progress. The first is a High Grade 1-144th Dom R35.



Second from Ziggy is a Master Grade 1/100 Shin Matsunagas High Mobility Zaku.



Third from Ziggy is a kit bash of two Master Grade kits a Freedomland and a Duel.



Douglas Brown has been busy with a Pit Road 1/700th scale USN Destroyer Escort DE-224 USS Rudderow. The Pit Road ship kits are well detailed and the older ones come with two complete kits in the box.





Adam Coleman is up with three completed 1/72nd scale projects. The first is an Airfix Crusader.



Next in the same scale is Hasegawa's CCKW.



Last from Adam is a Matchbox Hungarian Leopard 2A4HU. Adam recently won a Best Paint award with this model.

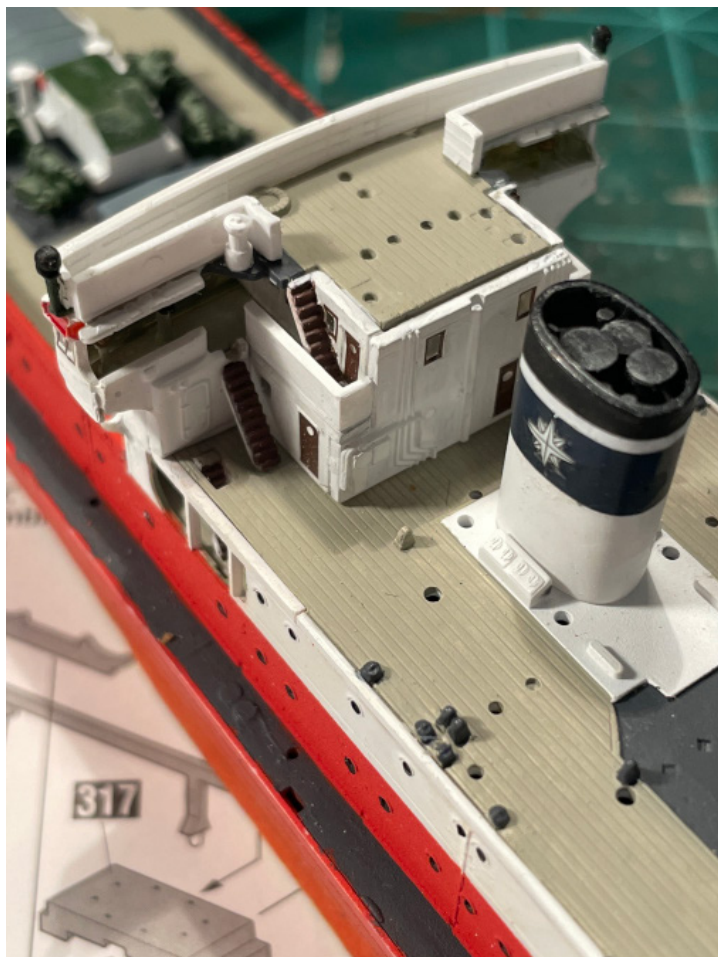


Rick Cotton shared a couple of pictures of his in-progress HMS Calcutta. This is a Trumpeter kit in 1/350th scale.





Mike Gilsbach has been working on his own 1/350th ship. The kit is Hasegawa's 1/350 scale Antarctica Observation Ship SOYA.



Ron McCracken has two finished projects to share with us. The first is a Northrop Gamma 2D conversion.



Ron's second project is a Special Hobby PT-22.

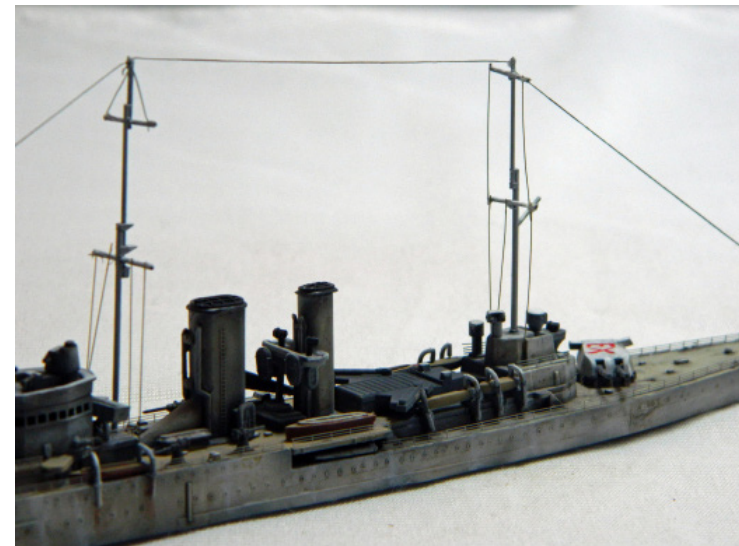
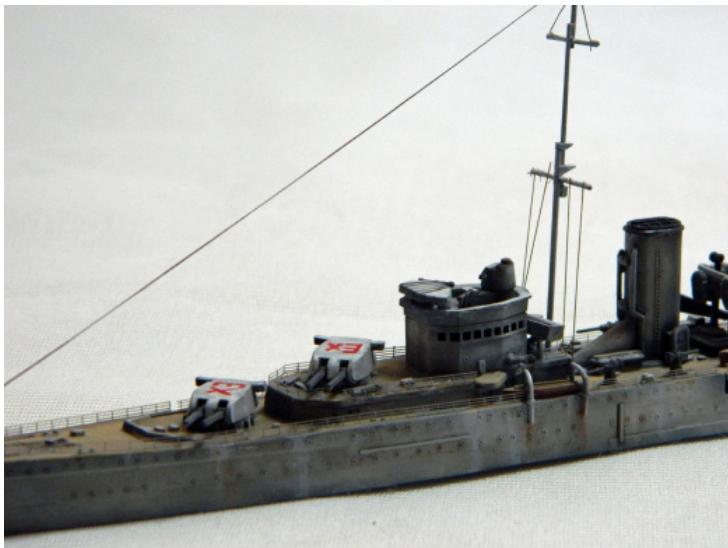


Rick Herrington took break from building Tornados to build a 1/700 Matchbox HMS Exeter. You may recognize it as the ship that got chewed up by the Graf Spee.





Last to share his work for this month is Tim Robb with his Piper J-3 in 1/48th scale.



Thanks to everyone that shared their work with us this month.





Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

April is mostly a month for re-pops, but there are a couple of interesting new-tool releases in 1/48th scale.

1/32nd Scale:

ICM is re-issuing their 2020 new-tool CR.42AS Fighter-Bomber with some new/revised parts and three decal options.



Roden is re-issuing their 2020 new-tool PT-17 Kaydet as a PT-13/N2S-2/N2S-5, which essentially means different decals and different engines. The PT-17 used a Continental R-670, which had valve pushrods at the rear of the cylinders. The PT-13 and the Navy variants used a Lycoming R-680, which had the pushrods at the front, and a front exhaust collector ring.

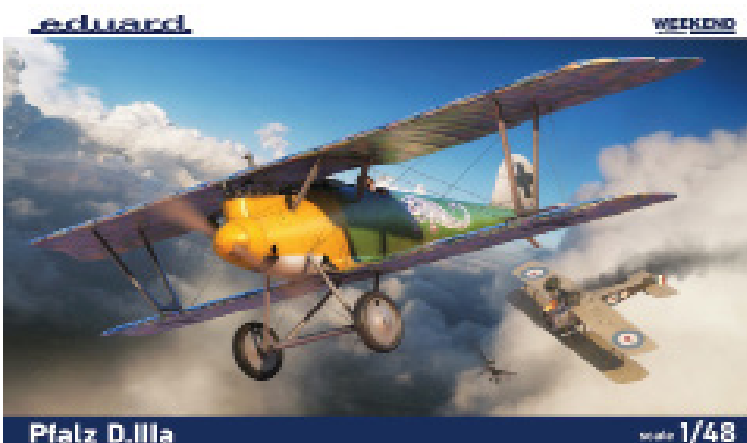


1/48th Scale:

Eduard is re-issuing their Bf 109G-6 in a Weekend Edition. As is usual for this kit format, it is pretty basic (no resin, no masks, etc.) and includes four decal options.



Eduard is re-issuing their Pfalz D.IIIa in a Weekend Edition with four decal options.





Eduard is re-issuing their Spitfire Mk.I in a Profipack Edition, which includes color photo etch parts, painting masks, and seven decal options.



HK Model is releasing a new-tool Lancaster B Mk.I. Reviews found online indicate this is better than the Tamiya kit (!!!) and has many of the subtle issues of HK's 1/32nd kit fixed. The 1/48th kit also has fewer parts, made possible by combining some subassemblies of the 1/32nd kit into single parts.



ICM is re-releasing its O-2A Skymaster as a "late production" example with updated parts.



ICM is releasing a new-tool Q-2A Firebee w/ trailer. This should be an interesting (and colorful) entry for the drone category in future contests.



Kinetic is re-releasing their F-16C Block 40 as an Israeli Barak variant w/GBU-15 and Python 4 missiles as external stores.





Kinetic is also re-releasing their Mirage 2000D w/GBU-12/22 external stores as new parts.



1/72nd Scale:

Eduard is re-releasing their MiG 21 kit as a MiG-21PF/PFM Dual Combo limited edition in Czechoslovak Air Force markings. The kit includes color photo-etch, decals, and masks.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their A-10C Thunderbolt II with two decal offerings and updated parts.



Hasegawa is also re-releasing their UH-60J Rescuehawk in JASDF sea camouflage markings, with some new/revised parts and decals.



ICM is re-releasing their Mig-25 kit as a MiG-25PU Foxbat C two seat trainer, with new parts and decals.



Revell is releasing a Sea Vixen FAW2 with new decals. According to Scalemates, this is a re-box of the 2013 Cyber Hobby kit.



1/144th Scale:

Roden has re-issued their He-111 kit as an He 111-16/20 with new parts and decals.



Trumpeter is re-releasing their 2009-vintage kit of the H-6K (Badger) Strategic Bomber.



Zvezda is re-releasing their Airbus A320 Neo with updated/new parts and decals.



And that's a wrap for April. Happy modelling!

Shipping News

By Rick Herrington

Let's start off with the small stuff. 1/700th - the king of ship scales. Pit Road is up first with a release of DD-792 USS Callaghan. Callaghan was a Fletcher class destroyer and had a distinguished career in the Pacific. She had the unfortunate honor of being the last kamikaze victim of WW2.



SCALE 1/700
PIT ROAD

アメリカ海軍
フレッチャー級駆逐艦 DD-792 キャラハン

US Navy
Destroyer
DD-792 "CALLAGHAN"



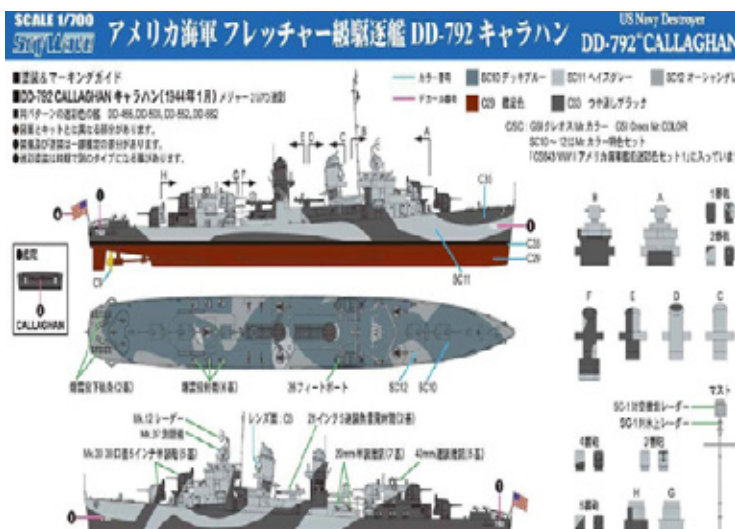
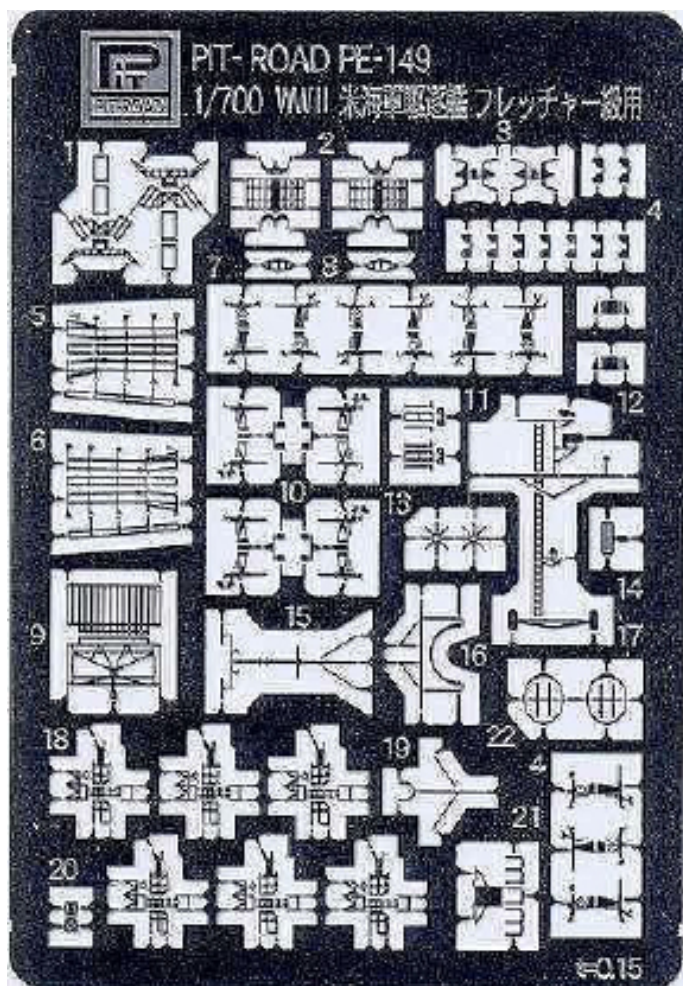
Trumpeter has a couple of new in releases in 1/700th this month. The first is the British battle-ship Renown.



1/700 Trumpeter
HMS
Battlecruiser
Renown 1942



Next from Trumpeter is a modern release the Royal Navy's Type 23 HMS Westminster.





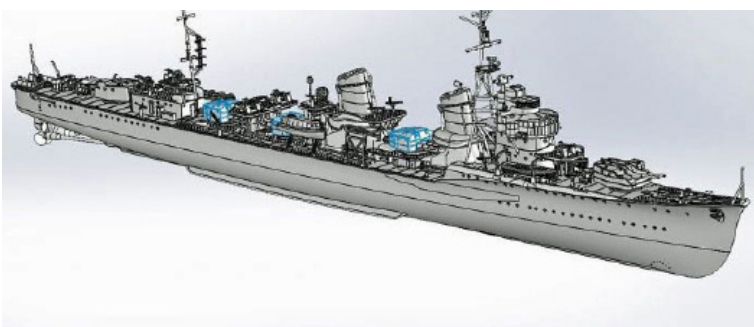
Yamashita is releasing the IJN destroyer Tachibana



Last up in 1/700th is Aoshima with an all new kit of HMS Exeter.



First up in 1/350th scale is Fine Molds with an IJN destroyer Ushio.



Trumpeter has a couple of new releases this month. The first is USS Alaska. Alaska was classified as a "Large Cruiser" and was armed with nine 12 inch guns.



Next from Trumpeter is the DKM Tirpitz.



Last from Trumpeter in the shelf busting scale of 1/200 is the DKM Scharnhorst.



Next up from Mikro-Mir in 1/35th scale is a Japanese Kaiten-10 human torpedo.





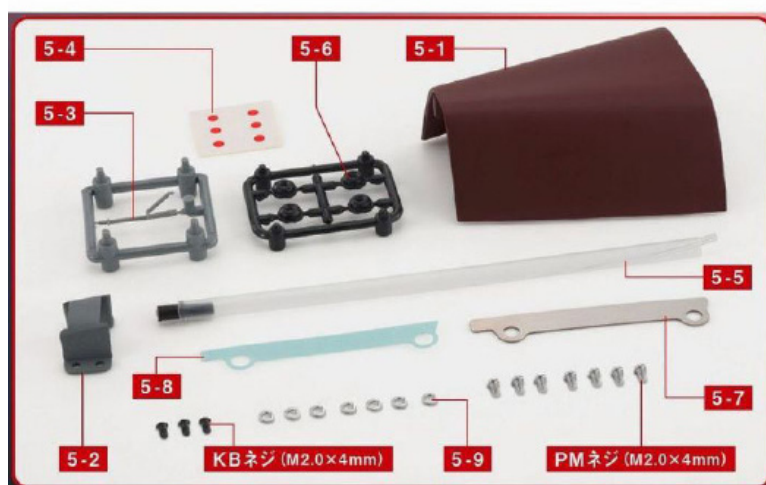
Finally how would you like to build a 1/250th scale model of the JMSDF Izumo in 108 installments at \$18-\$19.00 per installment? A company named Deagostino is marketing a kit of the Izumo in installments. Here's a description from Hobby Link Japan's web site.

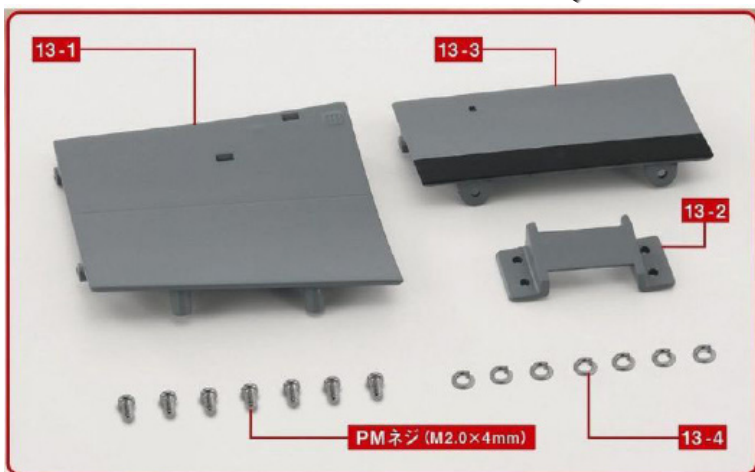
This is the Izumo kit you've always wanted! The giant escort ship DDH-183 Izumo of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Fleet is the subject of Deagostini's latest multiple-issue model-kit series! Each issue of this kit comes with more parts to build this impressive and massive model, as well as a magazine covering the ship and her history. Collect all the issues to build the complete ship, and you'll have a showpiece for your collection like no other!

This model features tons of gimmicks, such as lighting of the deck bridge, an elevator that goes up and down, sound reproduction, a rotating propeller and more! You'll also get a full complement of ship-based helicopters, work vehicles, Ospreys and other equipment. At a huge 1/250-scale, this model will be almost a meter long when completed, and its body frame and lower hull are made of die-cast metal!

108 part installments have been issued so far which would put the total cost at \$2026.08 if you bought all of them.

Here's a couple of the installments.





That's all the wind in the sails this month.
Grab a kit out of your stash and build it!

WHEN END OF 2020 IS APPROACHING
AND YOU HAVEN'T FINISHED
ANY OF THOSE 20 PROJECTS YOU STARTED



Tracked Topics

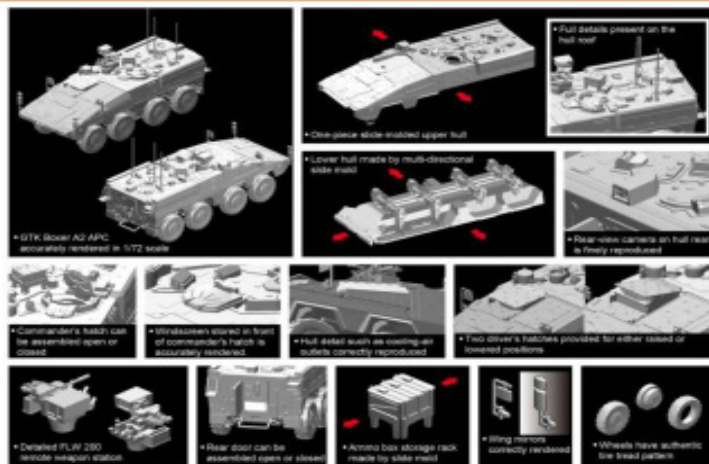
By Panzer Lehr

Greetings tread heads! Let's start off with the small stuff. First up from Ace is a Diana, a 76.2 cm mounted on a Sdkfz 6/3.

7,62cm FK.36 (R) auf mZgkw 5t SdKfz.6/3 **DIANA**



DML is releasing a GTK Boxer A2.



www.dragon-models.com

e-mail: info@dragon-models.com

7680

Hobby Boss is releasing an S-300 PMU SAM.



Last in small scale is from Trumpeter. They're releasing a PLA ZT2-99A



In even smaller scale 1/700 Bunker Studio is releasing a Flak Tower L.

第三帝国的巨型防空要塞

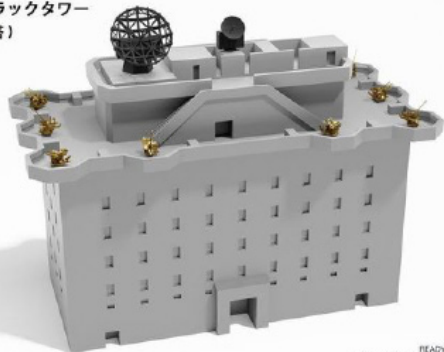
ドイツ防空要塞フラクタワー

圣灵广场指挥塔 (L塔)

1/700树脂模型套件

"埃摩拉行动"

战堡1943



武器与火控系统
• 37mm 高射炮发射器
• 37mm 高射炮发射器
• 40mm 高射炮发射器
• 40mm 高射炮发射器
• 40mm 高射炮发射器

BUNKER Studio

NO.7695

• 1/700 比例模型

• 1/700 比例模型

THIS IS NOT A TOY
READY TO ASSEMBLE PRECISION MODEL KIT
DETAILED SCALE MODEL. FORMERLY USED IN THE ARMY
MODEL MAY VARY FROM IMAGE ON BOX
CEMENT AND PAINT NOT INCLUDED

MADE IN CHINA

FLAK TOWER IV HEILIGENGESTFELD L TOWER

First up in 1/35th scale is a Dragon M1A Sep V3. This would be the latest and greatest version of the Army's M1.



MiniArt has three new releases for us this month. The first is a US Grant Mark 1.



Next from MiniArt is a Russian T-44 with interior.



The last release from MiniArt is a German D8506 tractor with trailer.



CAMS is releasing a Vickers 6 ton light tank.



Italaeri is releasing a T34-85 in North Korean markings.



Zvesda is releasing a T-34 76. Not a big surprise from a Russian company.



Hobby Boss is releasing a Canadian Leopard C2 Mexas with a mine roller.



Takom is releasing a T29 US Heavy tank.



Pit Road is releasing a JGSDF 155mm SPG.



Last in this month's column Tamiya is releasing a Panzer 4G with a Deutsche Afrika Korps crew.





That's it for this month's armor info. Go out and build something!

It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Hello fellow modelers! Hopefully everyone is enjoying Spring.

<https://en.zvezda.org.ru/>

First up is a new set of figures from Zvezda. A set of 1/72 Volkssturm, depicting some of the final defenders of Hitler's Reich. Basically, a group of old men, and children that fought a futile battle towards the end of the war. The figures look decent, other than some bland, overly simplified details, and what looks like a mold seam across one model's face.



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

Miniart has re-released 3 sets of out of print figure kits, each with the addition of new sprues of equipment or heads. First up is another set of out-of-print British Tank Riders. This time, wearing different uniforms more specific to the European theatre. Again, these "special addition" includes the additional sprues from their set 35368 British Infantry Weapons. This means, in addition to the weapons on the tank rider sprues, you get five more sprues of British weapons and equipment. You'll have no trouble equipping a few squads of figures now.



SPECIAL EDITION

WW II MILITARY MINIATURES SERIES

BRITISH TANK RIDERS

NW EUROPE

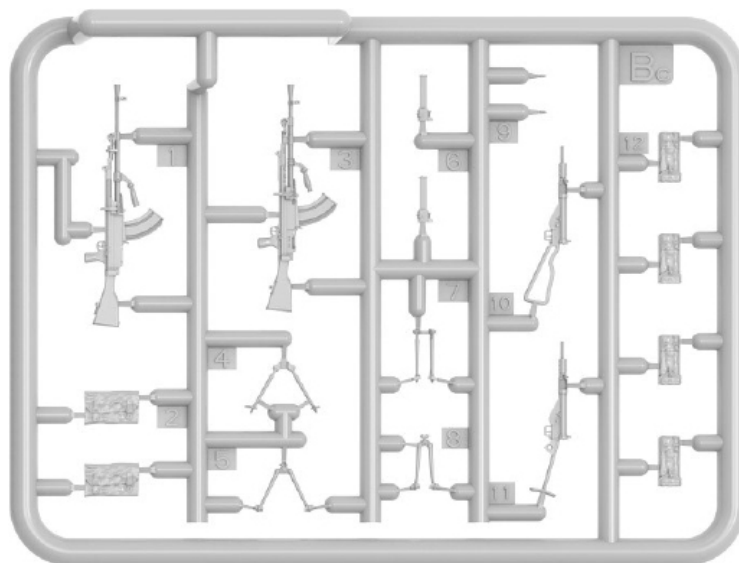
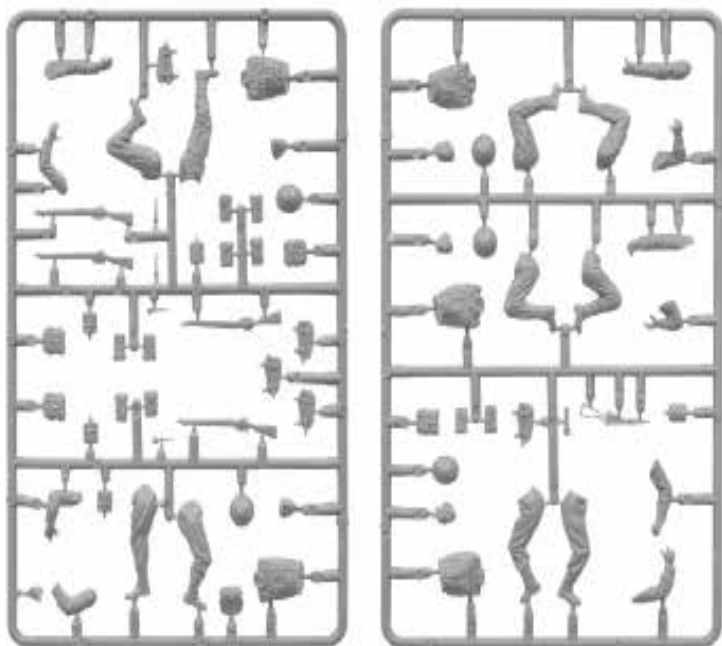


35312



UNASSEMBLED PLASTIC MODEL KIT
BOX CONTAINS MODELS OF 5 FIGURES
WITH WEAPONS & EQUIPMENT
THIS IS NOT A TOY

SCALE
1:35



The next set is a German tank crew in winter gear. This set includes the figure sprues included in the original release, but also the addition of four resin heads. The resin heads look very nice and will go well with the figures provided.

WW II MILITARY MINIATURES SERIES

GERMAN TANK CREW

KHARKOV 1943

Resin
Heads

UNASSEMBLED PLASTIC MODEL KIT
BOX CONTAINS MODELS OF FOUR FIGURES
WITH RESIN HEADS
THIS IS NOT A TOY



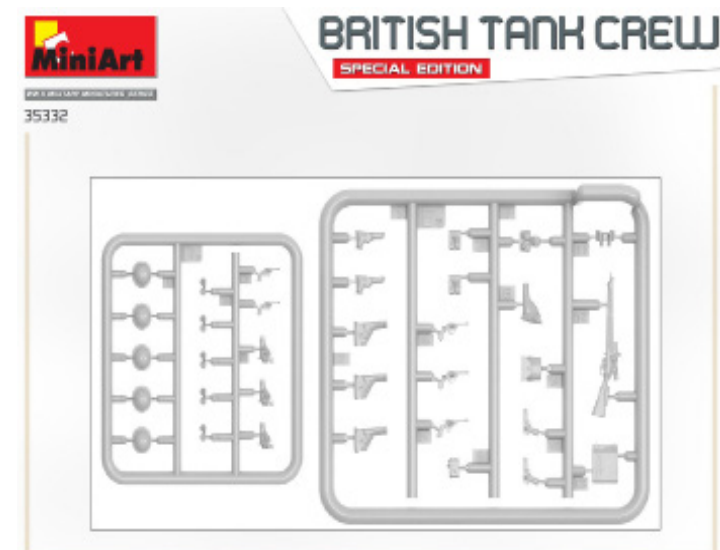
35354



SCALE
1:35



Finally, we have a set of British tankers. Just like the earlier British figure set, this re-boxing includes the original sprues, plus 2 additional sprues of equipment and weapons.



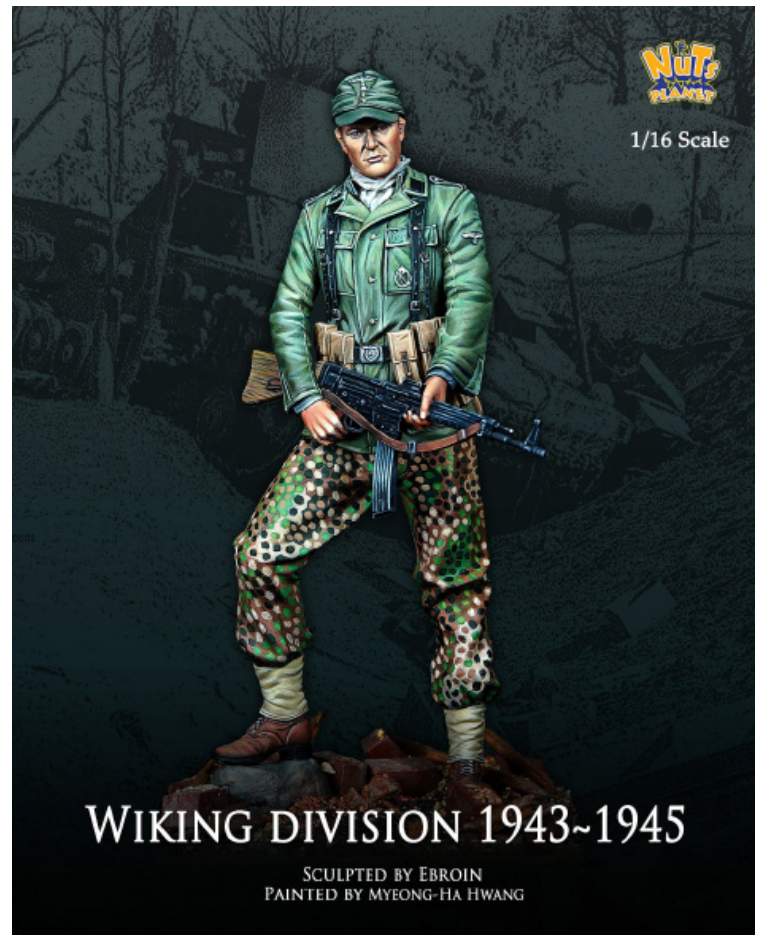
Also from MiniArt comes a Self propelled Gun Crew. These guys are a group re-loading their ammo in a Sturmgeschutz.





<http://nutsplanet.com/>

New from Nuts Planet is a 1/16th scale German soldier from the Wiking Division, aka the 5th SS Panzer Division.



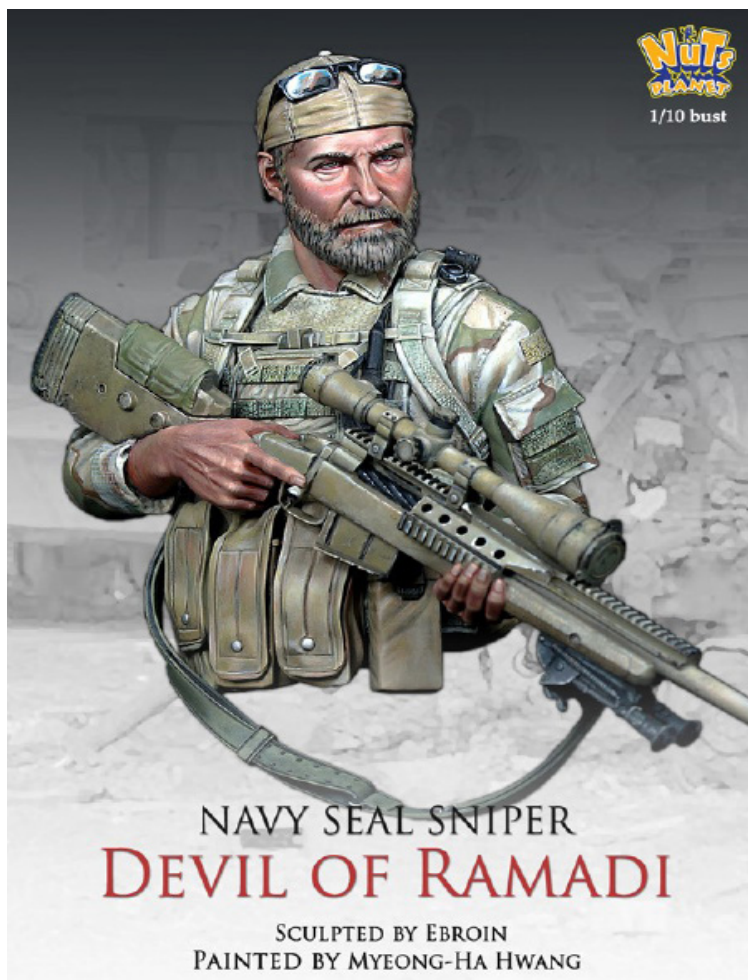
Nuts Planet also has a new bust available. A 1/10th bust of a "Navy Seal Sniper" that is obviously meant to depict Chris Kyle, aka The Devil of Ramadi. I tried to find photos of the bare resin for these two, but didn't have any luck. The painted versions sure look great.



GO ON! TELL ME ONE MORE TIME THAT I
USED THE WRONG SHADE OF OLIVE DRAB.
I DARE YOU!

Pinnacle Scale Models for Modeling Entertainment





If you're a fan of the Mandalorian Bandai is about to make you a happy camper. They are releasing a 1/12th scale Mandalorian in Beskar armor. The kit comes in two versions, one with unpainted armor and a chromed version of the armor.





Anyway, welcome to Spring, and as hope springs eternal, I hope we get to see each other eyeball to eyeball soon.

Take care and keep painting those figures!

IPMS USA is soliciting articles. We've got some great modeller's in this area and you can help the mother organization to flourish by submitting an article to the Journal.

ARTICLES WANTED!

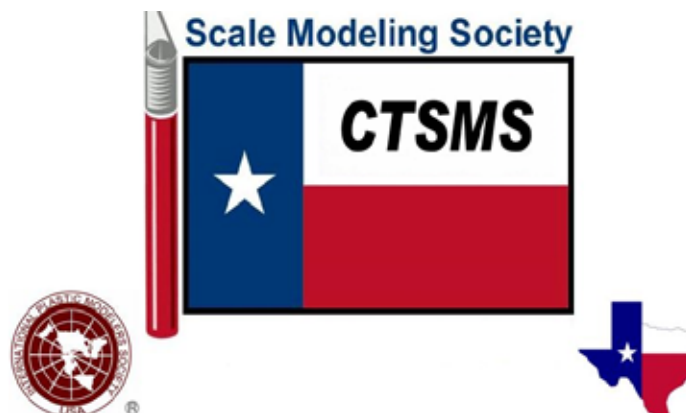
**Maybe you build cars.
Or jets. Or figures. Or tanks.
Maybe you slap em' together.
Maybe you count every rivet.**

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BUILDING

**How did you build it?
What makes this particular subject interesting?
Do you have any special tricks?**

**Any IPMS USA member can submit an article on any modeling related topic to the IPMS USA Journal.
The standard word count is 3000 and it should be well documented with high resolution photos.**

Send inquires to: ipms-q@ipmsusa.org





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



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



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#: _____

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

Adult One year \$30.00

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

☐ Local model club

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☐ 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



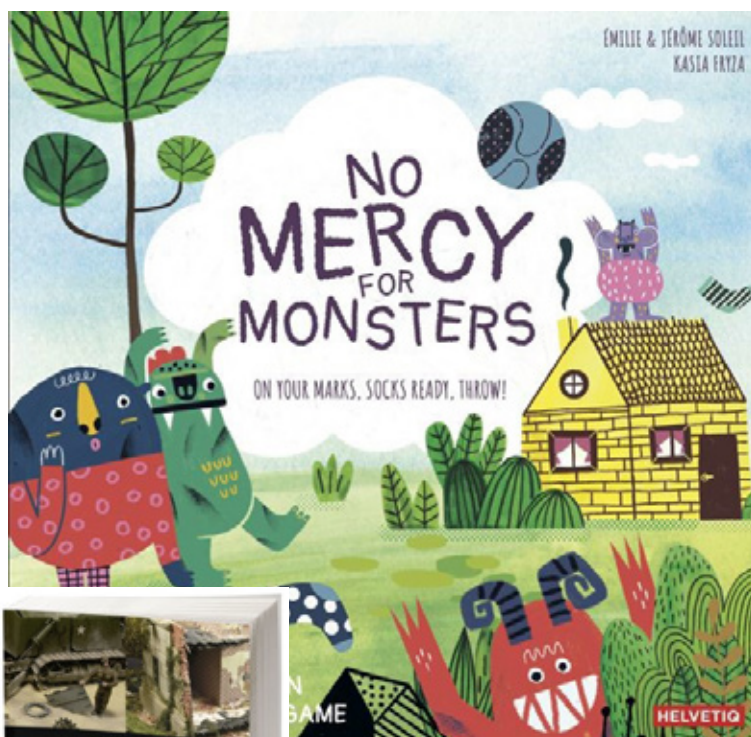
LIONHEART — H O B B Y —



5500 Jack C Hays Trail, Kyle, Texas 78640,

(512) 504-3404

10:00 am – 06:00 pm





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New ☐Renewal ☐

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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? _____

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