

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





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

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug

# **OSPRUE EXAMINER**

#### February 2021

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Ian Latham - President; president@austinsms.org Aaron Smischney - Vice-President; vicepresident@austinsms.org

Mike Lamm - Finance Minister; treasurer@austinsms.org Rick Herrington - Secretary; secretary@austinsms.org Rick Herrington - Newsletter Editor; editor@austinsms.org Eric Choy & Chris Chany- Show Coordinator; showcoordinator@austinsms.org

Mike 'Hollywood' Gilsbach - Webmaster: webmaster@ustinsms.org Jeff Forster - IPMS/USA Coordinator: chaptercontact@



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. Anual 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. **Our Sponsors** 

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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



/Dear members,

Welcome to the ASMS Sprue Examiner.

Wow! What a week we had here in the middle of February. Most of the state was trying not to freeze and wondering when they could take a shower but I'm sure some of us were more concerned about getting our Tamiya cans warm enough to spray.

We're a die-hard lot.

I actually had a camp light set up in my workroom and spent some chilly time sanding and painting. In the end I decided that light and heat really were necessary.

We are moving forward on our plans for the Capitol Classic in October. I will be sending out an e-mail with choices for the Theme soon, but until then if you have any suggestions, please send me an email with your thoughts and I'll add them to the list.

I'm also looking for volunteers to help coordinate the event, so if you find yourselves with a little extra time on your hands please contact me and we will find things to keep you busy.

It looks like we have another wonderful newsletter for you to enjoy, so turn the page and begin the adventure.

Cheers!



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ASMS

# 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.



Austin 2020 Capitol Classic 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 until further notice.

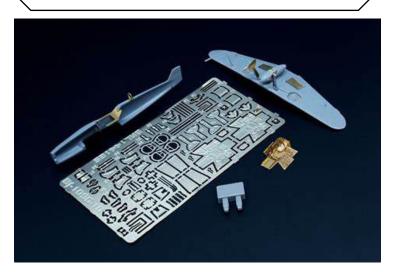
# Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Meetings Suspended until further notice.

# **Osprue examiner**

# Brengun's 1/144th BF-109 G-10 Update set a build and review by Ben Morton

Brengun has issued another delightful photo etched accessory set for small scale aircraft modelers. This particular set is designed for use with Mark One's offering of the German Bf-109, specifically the Bf-109G-10 model. [Note : There is a detail set for the K model of the 109, as well.]



Typically these small scale (1/144th) aircraft kits come with two complete models in the box and Mark One is no exception, nor are the offerings from either Armory or Sweet. Brengun provides detail bits for two kits. Those bits include photo etched pieces for the:

- cockpit tub
- two part seat
- rudder foot rests / stirrups
- seat belts (four pieces)
- instrument panel
- trim wheel
- control column
- throttle controls
- side console details
- floor details
- resin center console ( alas, w/o cup holder)

Additional items are provide for the:

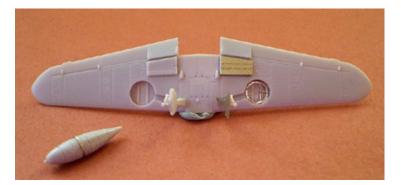
- pilots armored head guard
- pilots headrest
- cockpit surround detail
- under wing radiators (replaces kit parts)
- landing gear doors(replaces kit parts)
- wheel well detail
- oleo compression struts
- various antenna
- drop tank detail
- mass balances for the flaps

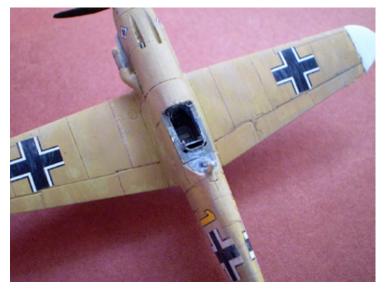
While this accessory set is designed for use with the Mark One kit I didn't have one of those in the stash. I did have the offering from Sweet. I would note that the most of the photo etched bits fit onto the Sweet kit without much in the way of fuss. In fact, the cockpit tub fit smoothly into the Sweet fuselage.



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There are a number of photo etched bits that you may wish to leave on the fret. For myself, those include the scissor struts on the landing gear and the mass balances for the flaps, among others. Just like armor after-market PE sets, just because its included doesn't mean you have to use it. Either way these after market bits from Brengun go on easier than you might expect even when you consider the small size of some of them. (Pilots headrest being a case in point.)





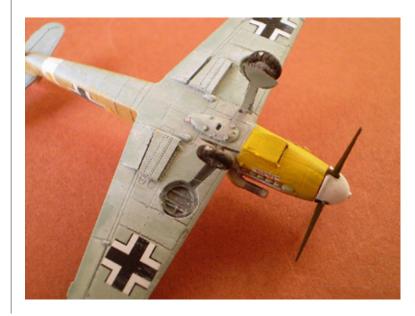


As I was adapting this set to an 'un-authorized' kit (not the recommended Mark One model) I did encounter a few fit issues. Namely the pilots armored headrest and the instrument panel.

Neither of those required major adaptation but it is something to bear in mind should you elect to use another manufacturers (Sweet/ Armory) kit.

Whichever kit you choose to apply them to, these in-scale details provided by Brengun should significantly enhance your small scale Bf-109 project.





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/ My thanks to Brengun and IPMS/USA for the review copy.

# Support Your Local Hobby Shop!



# Hataka paints: A review



As a modeler I am always looking for ways to do things simpler and with better results. Some of you may know I have recently been going through a "Tornado" phase. I am not referring to the whirlwind that causes so much damage when it pops out of the sky but the multi role combat aircraft the Tornado. Most modern color schemes for Tornados are grey on grey. Woo Hoo! How exciting and what a challenge to paint....NOT!



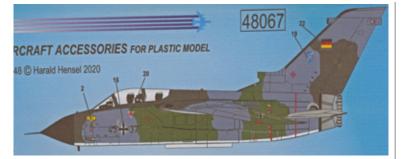
I did some researching on the interlink and found that the British were not the only ones that applied camouflage to their machines.

The modern German air force (Bundesluft) had a number of outstanding, unusual color schemes that I wanted to replicate.

Color schemes courtesy Harald Hensel.

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Identifying the colors I needed by translation of the RAL color codes I found that Hataka made several different modern Luftwaffe color sets with just the colors I need. King's was kind enough to order those for me and in a couple of days I had what I needed to start painting.





Trying a paint type that you are unfamiliar with is a daunting task.

Ok, I've got the paints now, which thinners will work best with it and what's the thinning ratio for each?

First off there are two different formulas to Hataka paints. They have a Red line and an Orange line. I bought several sets of each.

The Red line colors are acrylic and the Orange line is lacquer based. Each has its dedicated airbrush thinner. Since I wanted to give these paints a fair shake I used the dedicated airbrush thinners for each.



With the Orange Line I also tested the colors with Tamiya yellow cap lacquer thinner, Mr. Color Levelling thinner and AK High Compatibility thinner.

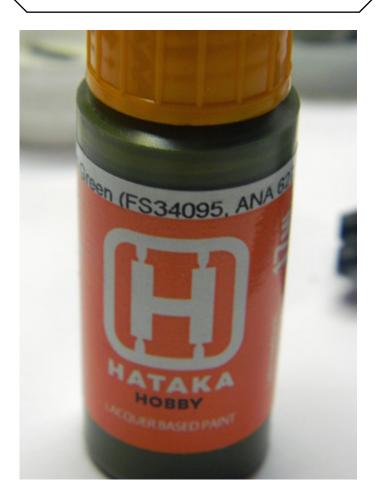
I tested the Red line with its dedicated thinner, and Tamiya yellow cap thinner.

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This is the test color I used. FS 34095 ANA 627 Field Green. The Orange cap on the color indicates it's lacquer based color.



Both the acrylic and the lacquer colors tend to separate so I added some buckshot to each bottle to help mix the color.

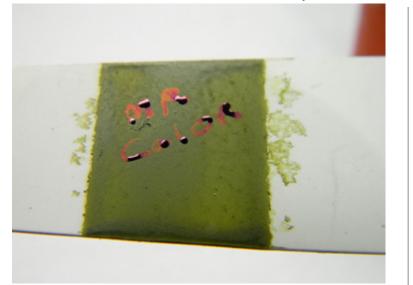
To test the color I took a piece of spare Evergreen styrene that had not been primed and sprayed test patches using each of the thinners I listed previously.



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The result with Mr Color Self Levelling thinner was less than spectacular. The paint tended to get watery and didn't cover well.

The paint sprayed and covered well using the Tamiya thinner. (First color patch photo)



The paint performed well with the AK High Compatibility thinner, covering well and airbrushing smoothly.

I used my normal 50-50 ratio of paint to color.

The paint actually performs better with a little more color in the cup than I normally use.

I found both the Red Line and the Orange Line colors lay on well with good coverage. I ended up preferring to use the Orange Line (lacquer based) line over the Red line with either Hataka's dedicated thinner of AK High Compatibility thinner.

After you let them dry for an hour or so I found the color is very durable.

What was a plus for me was that these colors were custom made for the kind of camouflage schemes I wanted to do.

The following pictures are some in progress pictures of my Revell 1/48th Tornado done up in the Norm 83 color scheme.





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Here's some pictures of the completed Bundesluft IDS strike aircraft.









I only discovered these colors because I'm a lazy modeler and don't want to work any harder than I need to.

What I'm referring to is that they have wide range of pre-mixed colors and I don't have to mix 50% of this, 2% of this, and 48% of this to get the color I need.

I recommend the colors and if you want to try them King's can oblige you.



# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

# Moving a Mace missile by the BACK roads to Grünstadt © By Fred Horky

In 1959, "C" Flight was the 3rd and last element of the first TM-76A "Mace" squadron to deploy the new missile from its training base at Orlando, Florida to its first operational base at Sembach Air Base, Germany. Being last, its assigned launch site was the farthest away, twenty miles east at an abandoned former Security Service intelligence listening post "up on the hill" overlooking the Rhine River valley behind Grünstadt.



Veft; Grünstadt (and the Launch Site) at the far right

The normal and easiest route to move missiles to and from Grünstadt was the A6 autobahn. But the considerable distance from home base also made it a potentially vulnerable route, so an alternative route was sought. Thus, very soon after my arrival in the summer of 1959, I was assigned the special project of proving the feasibility of moving a Mace via highway L395 through the villages of Enkenbach-Alsenborn, Ramsen, Eisenand Ebertsheim. At Mertesheim, the test route would turn, climb up through the village on the north side of Grunstadterberg and on up to the launch site. (Tiny Mertesheim is not shown on this first map of the entire route, it is on the second map.)

The test demonstrated that was it was possible, just barely, to move a Mace (much larger than the later GLCM ("ground launched cruise missiles") and its huge translauncher, all towed by a big MM1 prime mover truck to the site via those narrow old roads. To my knowledge, nobody ever did it again. The specialist MM1 was unique to the Mace missile system, never ever receiving a standard "M-series" designation. To get an idea of its size, the next picture shows two of the four for which I was responsible as part of a property account "owned" in my additional duty as site supply officer. They're parked on either side of my own Karmann-Ghia convertible.

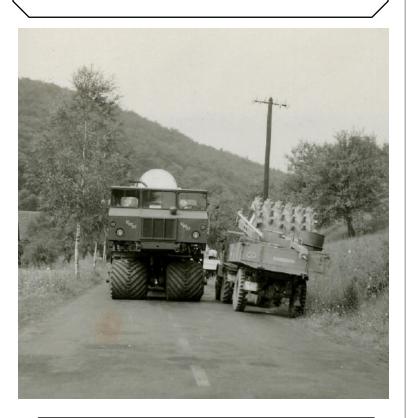


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(The "Ghia" was a wanna-be sports car: the ultimate "sheep in wolf's clothes". With a pretty sporty-car body designed by Ghia, the famous Italian carrozzieri auto design specialist, and built by German coach-builder, Karmann: the result was assembled onto the plain-vanilla chassis of the Volkswagen "Beetle" ....complete with the VW's anemic, air-cooled, four-banger engine ...and its reliability! While admittedly only "sporty-looking", the real advantage of the pretty little car over authentic sports cars of the era ....temperamental British MG's, Triumphs, etc., ...was that, like the Beetle it came from, the Ghia would just run and run and then run some more, with no problems!)

A base photographer had been sent with us to document difficult parts of the route, show "tight spots" and other item of interest on the route. Some were quite dramatic.



At many locations in those rural villages, old and very substantial houses were built to the very edge of both sides of very narrow streets. Nominally they were "two-way", but that was for Volkswagens, not MM1's! The convoy took the entire road, curb to curb!



Old memories tell me the above picture was taken in the town of Ramsen, in a place where the nominally two-lane highway narrowed so that the MM1, prime mover, trans-launcher, and missile absolutely filled the road from gutter to gutter; only inches away from the very substantial masonry houses on either side. Shown is a plump German hausfrau, doing her typically-German daily sweeping of her front steps, looking up to gape in amazement at Der Amerikaner Rakete bearing down on her....

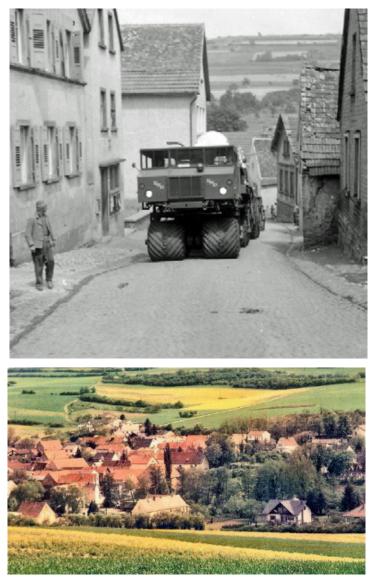
Fortunately, we did have a Landespolizei (German state police) unit helping us with traffic, not that I recall anyone contesting the right of way with the missile.



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At tiny Mertesheim (pop. 400, but now celebrating its 1,250th year!) we left the highway to climb Grunstadterberg (the hill) to the launch site. Shown next is the MM1 and the Mace on its transporter/launcher climbing up through the village main street: the steep gradient of the climb from the valley is evident.



Mertesheim is seen again above, viewed from the opposite side of the valley in an image scanned from a color postcard. Our launch site is out of sight at the top of the hill. In between, a railroad track was located immediately at the far (uphill) edge of the village; in the picture located along the horizontal line of hedges. Only unpaved farmer lanes went from there up to our launch site. Just at the upper end of Mertesheim's main street, a revered old Linden tree was in a position of honor in the middle of small "roundabout". I learned much later (from a G.I. who had married a German girl from Mertesheim!) that the tree was considered sort of a good luck talisman for the village. Traffic was supposed to go around the old tree, but the MM1, translauncher, and missile couldn't make that turn, so sort of went through the tree, as seen below. I don't think we made any friends in Mertesheim.





Looking at the picture today came with the shock of realization that the little German boy at far left leaning on the Linden tree and wearing the traditional lederhosen (literally, "leather pants") would today be well over sixty!

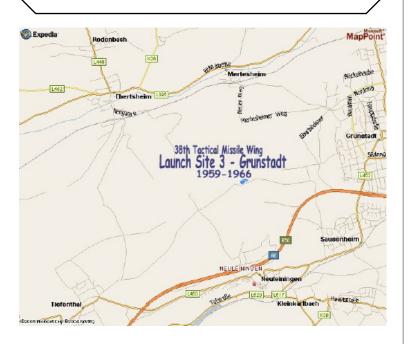
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The next picture below was taken at the same location; the same little boy (like all little boys), probably much closer than his mother would like.



Just beyond the tree we had to take a very sharp RIGHT turn to cross the railroad tracks ... they can be identified in the map below. Our destination, the 38th Tactical Missile Wing "Site 3", also called "the Grunstadt site", was now only about a half mile away. I've added it to the map as the tiny blue rectangle.





The MM1, translauncher, and missile next had to negotiate an IMMEDIATE and even tighter LEFT turn, because of the hillside seen in the image below. The rear ends of the missile and launcher are not yet all the way across the railroad tracks!



It took several minutes of the driver shifting back and forth (naturally, with everyone "helping" by shouting conflicting directions!) to finally get his rather large apparatus across the railroad tracks.

And sure enough, no sooner than it was across the tracks, a train came through!

After crossing the railroad, the trip up the hill on unpaved tractor lanes to the missile site was easy. Of course, that was just the sort of terrain the MM1 prime mover had been built for.

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In fact, it could have gone about anywhere cross-country, though I'd hate to have had to sort through the resulting damage claims from German farmers....

The missile having safely arrived at the Grunstadt site, its return was via the autobahn! After my report was written and submitted to the commander, the photographer gave me his negatives and extra prints, taken by his now very old fashioned, large format, black and white "Speed Graphic" professional camera. The best of those images, now digitized, have been retained for over sixty years!

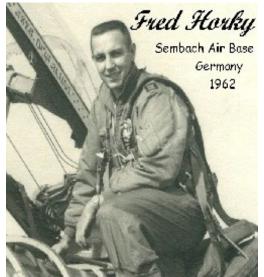


The present-day Google photo from space, below, shows the same general area today as the map above: the former launch site is in the exact center. The small grove of trees immediately north of the site is obvious; the outlines of the launch pads faintly visible.



That Google image can be compared to my aerial picture of the missile site in 1961, taken from the front seat of a T-33 jet that I was flying. The view is from about the same angle. ©







# SPRUE EXAMINER

# 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.

Let's start off with Eric Choy this month. Eric has just finished a Matchbox 1/72nd Austin Armored Car.

Let's start off with the host of our weekly Zoom meeting Bill Delk. Bill has been pretty busy since our last newsletter. First up is some pictures of Bill's finished up 1/35th Italeri Elco PT Boat.







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Bill has also been working on an Enterprise, no, not the floating one, the Starship one.







Bill`s also been working on a cyborg bust.





Ben Morton is up next. Ben has been working on an ICM 1/35th Soviet AC-40-137A fire truck.



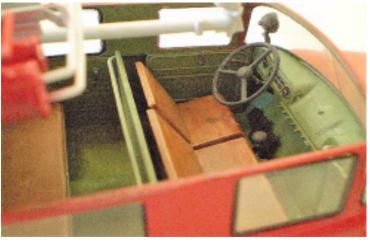
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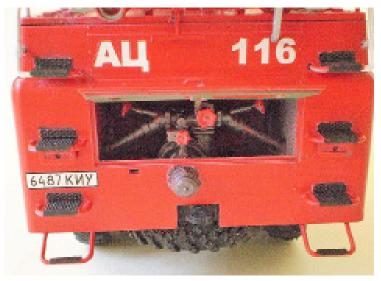












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Mike Gilsbach has been busy with a 1/35th Afrika Corps diorama. This was Mike's first use of the hairspray technique. Mike used Tamiya kits for the Panzer 2 and the 251 half track.









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Fred Horky shared with us a couple of his past builds. The first is a Hasegawa 1/72nd T-33.



The second is an Airfix 1/72nd Halifax.



Floyd Werner is joining this moth with his 1/48thHA-1109 conversion from SBS.









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Dave Edgerly sent in a picture of his in progress P-40B.



Doug Brown has been working on a Revell 1-144th Tiger Meet Eurofighter.









Rick Cotton shared with us a commission project the 1/350th IJN Akigumo from Hasegawa.



# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

Rick Herrington has a couple of in progress projects. Surprise, the first is an Airfix 1/48th Tornado GR-1. This one will be in a Marinefleiger color scheme.







Rick is also working on a 1/72nd scale Fujimi F-14A. Eventually this aircraft will be in Sundowner's colors.



Last up is Ziggy Downs Bumgardner. Ziggy has been busy with Gundams. The first is a High Grade Dijeh with a scratch built cannon.



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# Last up from Ziggy is a Master Grade Kyrios





That's it for this month. Thanks to everyone who took the time to share their work with the group. Hope everyone is safe and has power and water.



THE DEATH BUILD By Rick Cotton

We've all been to a show and heard this one: "I finished it up at 3am last night!" Life is not always kind to the scale model builder. Stuff, unimportant stuff, like work, kids, and our relationships get in the way of really vital things like model-building time. People have a habit of having things like birthdays and anniversaries on show dates, and it's a nuisance, isn't it? My ex-wife conveniently scheduled all our vacations precisely during the week of the Nationals, and always nowhere near the Nationals as well. Never been to one, but the NEW wife (God bless her!) says she wants to go to one with me. Just another reason she's the NEW wife.

But it isn't just the big events that get time taken from us – it's the little things, too. Important model time gets taken away by equally important football-watching time, or eating BBQ time, or sleeping on the couch in the afternoon time, and the like, and we suddenly find ourselves staring at our 95% complete 1/48 Flabbenschlapper the night before the BIG CONTEST, in horror. What will we do?

This results in the most dangerous, brave, and absolutely foolhardy thing the Serious Modeler can do – The DEATH BUILD.

Just as the French Foreign Legion used a simple motivational technique – "March or Die" - the impending contest tomorrow now forces you into a night-long battle against the odds. You'll finish that ^%\$#&, or die trying!

One has dinner, sends the kids off to bed, kisses the wife goodnight, then tells her you will be in bed soon, there are just "a few things" you need to finish up first. Actually, there are 187 things you need to finish up, and you have been cataloging them in your mind, which is why you haven't spoken to anyone all evening. Yes, she has noticed, and yes, you will hear about that later. So you sneak out to the workshop. Paints and airbrush...check. Water supply...check. Cold beer... check...hmm, maybe coffee is a better option... hmm. Maybe not, you don't want the shakes.

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Music? Yes, we need music, preferably something with a beat. I like Glenn Miller in this situation...if it made girls turn out real airplanes in a quick hurry in those war plants, it's good enough for me.

Into the build you go: parts begin to fly on. Paint flows, and spritzes and splatters...@#\$%^ you forgot to clean the nozzle again. Fix that. Then fix this. Then fix the stuff you broke off fixing that. Oh, my eyes are burning. They are getting heavy...why? That clock can't be right, no way its 2 am. Turn up Glenn Miller, louder! Spray that paint! OMG, where is the Gunship Gray!!! The heck with it, use the Panzer Gray! Squirt a little white in it, it's GRAY for cripesake, it's CLOSE ENOUGH! Huh? 3:30??? No way...where's the crazy glue? My fingers are stuck together! It STICKS THE SKIN, WHY WON'T IT STICK THE @#^&%\$# ANTENNA ON!!!! AAUUUUAGGH-HH!!!

"And, the Best of Show for the 2014 Podunk Modelers Festival goes to...the Flabbenschlapper by Serious Modeler! Congratulations, Mr. Serious Modeler! " You walk up the aisle to thunderous applause and envious looks, take that huge, golden trophy, lift it high over your head and....

You wake with a start. You have photoetch parts stuck to your forehead, and your right hand is glued to your right leg. You have been sleeping face-down at your workbench. It's 6 in the morning, and you have 250 miles to go to get to the show. Oh, #\$@^%&!!!

You race through the shower (I HOPE!!!), throw on a fresh t-shirt, load the Flabbenschlapper in the car, and roar off down the Interstate to Podunk at 90 miles an hour.

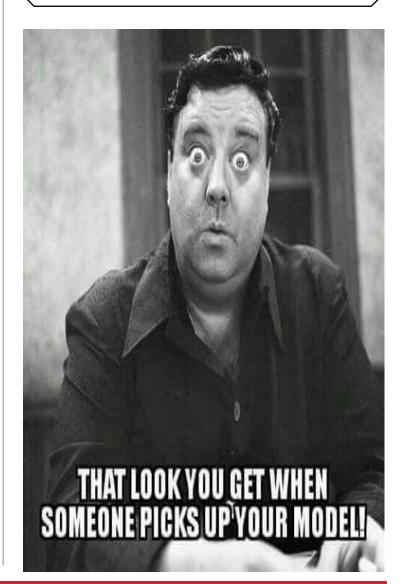
Need food. Need caffeine. Need jerky and mouth wash at Buccee's. How long did I sleep? Did I really dream that Sofia Vergara was sanding that wing seam for me? Wow!

So you come squealing into the parking lot of the Courtney Love Civic Center, snag a parking spot only a mile or so from the door, unload the Flabbenschlapper and get it to your table just in the nick of time. (Why is it the "nick of time", why not the "tick of time?")

Whew! You made it! You proudly place the Flabbenschlapper on the table, amongst the other Flabbenschlappers and Richtenschlicters and what all, and announce...in a desperately bonetired voice:

"I finished it up at 3am last night!" At least, you think it was three. Maybe it was four. Who cares, you're there. Other modelers who have suffered the same fate know exactly what you have endured, and you score brownie points with all of them.

You are a MAN. You survived....the Death Build.



# **Osprue examiner**

# Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

February has something for just about any aircraft enthusiast, in all the popular scales. In contrast with January, there are actually some genuinely new offerings coming out. It appears that Eduard has resolved their warehouse problems and are again shipping kits, which is good news.

# 1/32nd Scale

Hasegawa has re-released their J2M3 Raiden Type 21. As far as is known, this is purely a re-boxing with nothing new except possibly different decals.



Revell has apparently acquired the ICM molds for the Gladiator Mk.II and is issuing a rebox of this kit.



Revell is also re-releasing the Kinetic Hawk T2 in new boxing, and some sources indicate with the addition of some photo-etch parts.



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#### 1/35th Scale

Kitty Hawk is re-releasing their HH-60 series as an HH-60H Rescuehawk with new/revised parts and decals.



Kitty Hawk is also re-releasing their MH-60 series as an MH-60R Seahawk, again with new parts and decals.



# 1/48th Scale

Eduard is re-releasing a Do 17Z Kampfstift Limited Edition, with new parts and decals.



Eduard is also re-releasing a MiG-21bis Weekend edition. These are typically very basic kits, hence the claim they can be built in a weekend, but they contain the same sprues as the more



Eduard is re-releasing their Spitfire Mk.IIa in a Profipack edition, with new parts including color photo-etch, paint masks, and new decals.

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Eduard is also releasing a 1/48th limited edition called "The Sptifire Story". The kit includes enough parts to make two different versions of the Spitfire Mark 1.



Great Wall Hobby is re-releasing their P-61B Black Widow with new decals including some colorful nose art.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their J2M3 Raiden Type 21.



Hasegawa is also re-releasing their N1K2-J Shiden-Kai Late version, with revised parts/decals.



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Kitty Hawk has released an FJ-3 Fury, which according to a review this month in Cybermodeler is a good quality kit, designed to be posed (if desired) with the tail section removed to expose the aft portion of the engine.



Meng is releasing a new-tool F/A-18E Super Hornet which features alternate parts for different block numbers of the aircraft and "pluggable" external stores.



Zvezda has released a new-tool II-2 Shturmovik, and an in-the-box review I found at Model Paint Solutions gives it high marks for detail and accuracy.



Zvezda has re-released their Su-57 Felon, which was a new-tool release in 2020.



### /1/72nd Scale

DoraWings has released a new-tool Bloch MB.151, which based on other kits I've built from this manufacturer, should be well detailed.



# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

#### February 2021

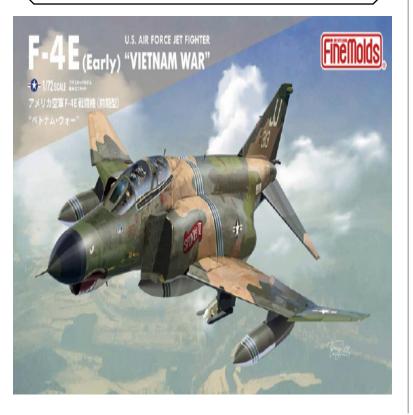
Eduard has re-released their Nieuport Ni-17 in a Weekend edition with updated parts and new decals. I have an earlier release of this kit in the 'ol stash, and it is a good one.



Nieuport Ni-17

scale 1/72

Fine Molds has released a reworking of their F-4EJ into an F-4E 'Vietnam War' USAF version. This kit has alternate parts for the gun muzzle and ECM fairings, plus USAF Vietnam-era markings. Based on descriptions found on-line it is a well detailed kit.



Next up from Fine Molds is an F-4EJ Kai '8th Squadron', a re-release with new decals.



Hasegawa has re-released what appears to be their 1970's vintage F-14A Tomcat in Atlantic squadron markings.



Hasegawa has re-released their F-15DJ Eagle in a new Aggressor Blue Scheme, continuing a line of Aggressor unit markings releases.



# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

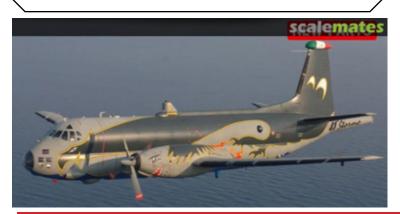
Hasegawa has re-released their F-2A/B kit, an F-16 look-alike built by Mitsubishi.



ICM has re-released a MiG-25PD Foxbat with new parts and decals.



Revell has re-released their Breguet Atlantic in new 'Italian Eagle' markings. The kit has been updated with some new/revised parts.



Revell is re-releasing an F-22 Raptor, not much else available concerning it.



Zvezda is re-releasing their Ju 87B-2/U4 Stuka on Skis, with new/updated parts.



1/144th Scale Revell is re-releasing a 747-8F 'Cargolux' with new decals



# **Osprue examiner**

#### February 2021

### 1/200th Scale

Hasegawa is re-releasing a 787-8 in ANA markings.



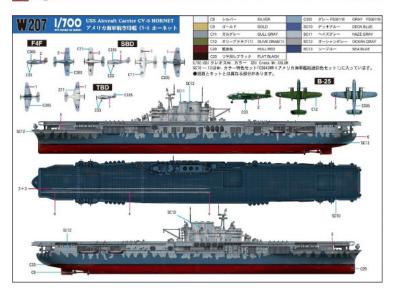


# Shipping News By Rick Herrington

Plenty to get to this month. Let's start off with 1/700th scale. Pit Road is up first with a new USS Hornet CV-8.



R SCALE 1/200 アメリカ海軍航空母艦 CV-8 ホーネット USS Aircraft Carrier



Veryfire is up next with the USS Salem CA-139 Heavy Cruiser.



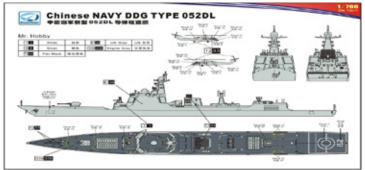
# **OSPRUE EXAMINER**

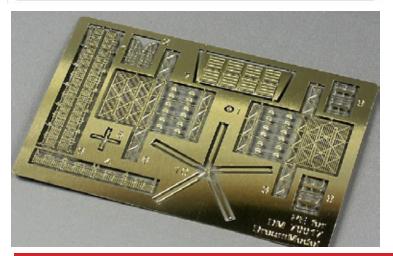
Yamashita Hobby is up next with an IJN Special Destroyer Type 2 the Amagiri (1943).



Dream Model is releasing a Peoples Liberation Navy (PLN) Type 052DL destroyer.







Trumpeter is up next with two new PLN releases. The first is a type 051C Chinese Destroyer followed up by a Type 055 PLN destroyer.





Moving on to 1/350th scale Mikro Mir has three new us Nuc lear submarines for us. The first is the attack submarine Tullibee.



# SPRUE EXAMINER

Second up from Mikro Mir is the SSBN-608 Ethan Allen



Last from Mikro Mir is the SSBN-611 John Marshall. John Marshall started off as a nuclear missile boat but in June of 1981 was converted into an attack boat.

Later on in September 1983 she once again took on a new role as a Special Forces Delivery system adding new features to be able to deliver Seal Team Swimmer Vehicles.





< Seal Swimmer Vehicles.

Last up in 1/350th scale is the US Navy light cruiser USS Birmingham.



/ That's it for this month. Grab a kit, hopefully a ship kit, from that stash and build it.

Got a good mix of small and large scales this month including some 1/16th scale stuff. Let's start our journey with the smallest stuff 1/144th and work our way up. Matuo Kasten has two releases this month. The first is a Merkava Mark 4.

Tracked Topics

By Panzer Lehr



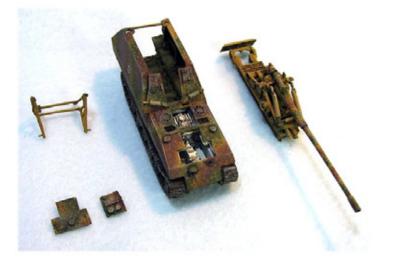
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# **SPRUE EXAMINER**



Second from Matuo Kasten is a German WW2 self-propelled gun, the Grille





Galaxy is our first 1/72nd scale release. They are releasing an M-1240 MATV that includes some extras in the kit.





Above are the extras that come with the kit including some Taliban fighters and some stowage.

Galaxy also has released the same kit armed with a CROWS.

# **Osprue examiner**



Fujimi has two new releases this month. The first is a Type 74 JGSDF Kai/G main battle tank.



The kit comes with a painted display base.

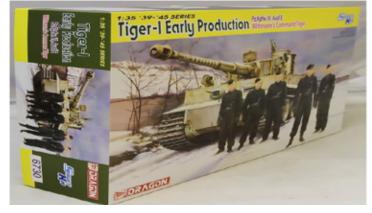


Next from Fujimi is a release which will fit right in with the JGSDF Type 74. This is a 1/2 ton truck.



Dragon has two new (?) releases this month. The first is Michael Wittman's command Tiger 1. Although the crew is shown on the box art I'm not sure if the kit comes with the figures. The kit was originally one of Dragon's myriad Tiger kits releases in 1/35th scale.





Original 1/35th release kit.

# SPRUE EXAMINER

#### February 2021



Next to be released from Dragon is an M1134 Styker with Anti Tank Guided Missiles.





Moving on to 1/35th scale Das Werk has a new Panther A model without an interior. If you're not familiar with Das Werk, the kits are scaled down versions of Takom's original releases with interiors. The price is scaled down also. If you're like me and not interested in painting and weathering parts that no one will see these kits are perfect.



Amusing Hobby is releasing a Centurion Mark 5 AVRE (Armored Vehicle Royal Engineers).. This vehicle was introduced in 1944 and was armed with an Ordnance 165mm gun.



## **OSPRUE EXAMINER**







Our friends at FineMolds are releasing a WW2 Imperial Japanese Army Chi HA.



Takom is releasing an M60A1.

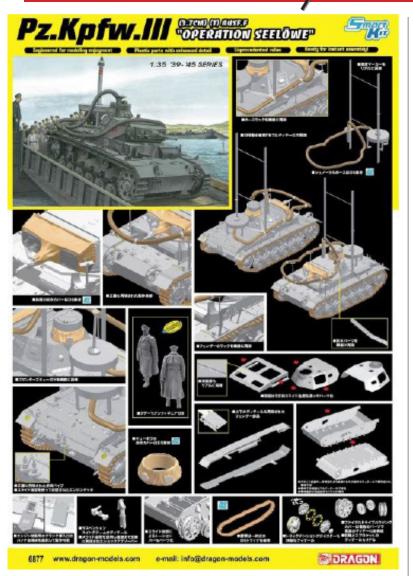


Dragon has 4 for us in 1/35th scale this month, and the best thing in that they are not all Pzkpfw 3's.

The first one is a...wait for it...a Pzkpfw 3 with wading equipment for operation SeeLowe which was the invasion of England.

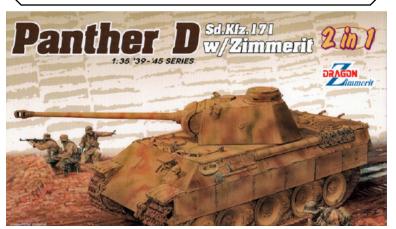


# **Osprue examiner**



The idea with these tanks was to have landing craft drop the tanks off in fairly shallow water and have them drive the rest of the way in to shore using the snorkel to supply air to the crew and engine.

Next up from Dragon is a Pzkpfw 5 D model Panther which includes zimmerit for the tank.



Next up is a Sturmgeschutz 3 C/D and includes a set of crew figures re-loading.



This kit is long in the tooth. Dragon has definitely recouped its investment in this mold. It has been re-boxed at least 10 times and according to the box it is the 30th anniversary of the kit.

Last in 1/35th is Dragon's M67A2 flame thower tank. This was basically an M48 that had its maingun replace with a flame thrower, mostly used in Viet Nam and nicknamed Zippo after the lighter.



## SPRUE EXAMINER

<image>

On to shelf-buster, cat chaser scale 1/16th. Three releases this month in this scale. The first is from Tamiya with a Pzkpfw 4 Ausf J.





Not to be left out Hobby Boss has a Tiger 1



Tamiya is re-releasing their 2014 vintage 1/16th scal JGSDF Type 10 main battle tank. Get ready to lay out some serious cash for this one as starting prices are right at \$400 plus.



That's it for this month tread heads. Hopefully you came through the great blizzrd of 2021 without any broken pipes and your power and water have been restored.

# Take care, stay safe and build a kit!

#### February 2021

## Øsprue examiner



Hello fellow modelers! Well, just when we thought we had put 2020 behind us, 2020.1 came along to remind us that we're not out of the woods yet! Regardless of how the calendar feels, the figure world is heating up and getting better than ever.

A new small producer in France, War & Peace miniatures, is releasing five resin WW1 figures. Sculpted by Benoît Cauchies and molded by Aurélien Diot from Deep Space Factory, they have the following figures: French stretcherbearer with dog in 65mm, British Officer 1915/16 in 65mm, French Chasseur Alpin 1915 in 65mm, and French Zouave 1914 in 75mm.

Brancardier 1915 . Sculpted by Benoit Cauchies -2020-For Wars & Peaces Miniatures . 65mm

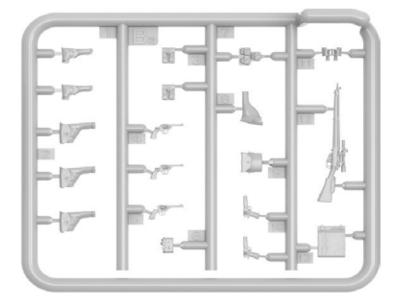


Chasseur alpin 1915. 65mm . Sculpté par Benoit Cauchies - .Wars & Peaces Miniatures -2018

Zouave oct.1914 . 75mm . Sculpted by Benoit Cauchies - 2019 For Wars & Peaces Miniatures



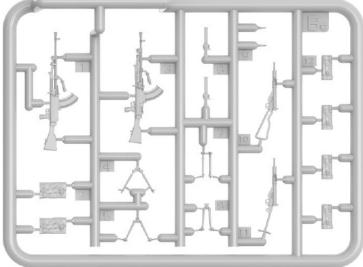
https://miniart-models.com/ Miniart has re-released their out-of-print British Tank Riders set, but it now includes the additional sprues from their set 35368 British Infantry Weapons. This means, in addition to the weapons on the tank rider sprues, you get five more sprues of British weapons and equipment. You'll have no trouble equipping a few squads of figures now.



# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

#### February 2021





I obviously spoke too soon last month, when I said Miniart had to be done with their series of German repairmen, because no they have two more sets coming out. Both feature a couple of repairmen working in a shop, plus the assorted tools and equipment necessary for a fully functional repair facility or field shop. I'm sure they'll be combining a bunch of these kits into a single package in the near future.

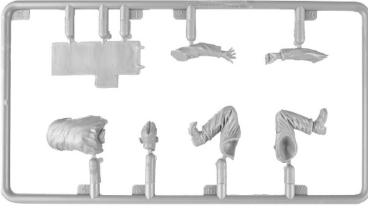


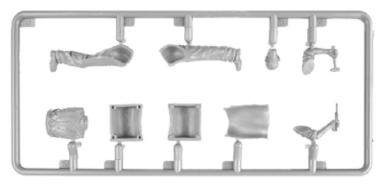


# **SPRUE EXAMINER**

February 2021







## https://www.royalmodel.eu/en/

Ever wanted to build a diorama from one of your favorite "Planet of the Apes" movies, but wondered where you could get figures? Well wonder no more, because Royal Model Miniatures has you covered with their new release of 1/35 ape heads and hands. Some minor surgery to your current selection of figures, and you're well on your way to having your own post-apocalyptic scene. They use a modern figure for their display, but I think I prefer the early 70's offerings a little more.





## **SPRUE EXAMINER**

Basic Military Advice Submitted by Gary Haars Re-printed from the IPMS Plastic Whittler-Chattanooga Scale Modelers.

The following directions and instructions were found in actual military briefings and training manuals:

"AIM TOWARDS THE ENEMY." - Instructions printed on US Rocket Launcher.

"WHEN THE PIN IS PULLED, MR. GRENADE IS NOT OUR FRIEND." - US Marine Corps.

"CLUSTER BOMBING FROM B-52s IS VERY, VERY AC-CURATE. THE BOMBS ARE GUARANTEED TO ALWAYS HIT THE GROUND." - U.S.A.F.

Ammo Troop. "IF THE ENEMY IS IN RANGE, SO ARE YOU." - Infantry Journal.

"A SLIPPING GEAR COULD LET YOUR M203 GRE-NADE LAUNCHER FIRE WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT. THAT WOULD MAKE YOU QUITE UNPOPULAR WITH WHAT'S LEFT OF YOUR UNIT." - Army's magazine of prevention maintenance.

"IT IS GENERALLY INADVISABLE TO EJECT DIRECT-LY OVER THE AREA YOU JUST BOMBED" - USA Air Force manual.

"TRY TO LOOK UNIMPORTANT; THE ENEMY MAY BE LOW ON AMMO" – Infantry Journal.

"TRACERS WORK BOTH WAYS." - U.S. Army Ordnance. "FIVE-SECOND FUSES ONLY LAST THREE SECONDS." - Infantry Journal.

"BRAVERY IS BEING THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS YOU'RE AFRAID." – Anonymous

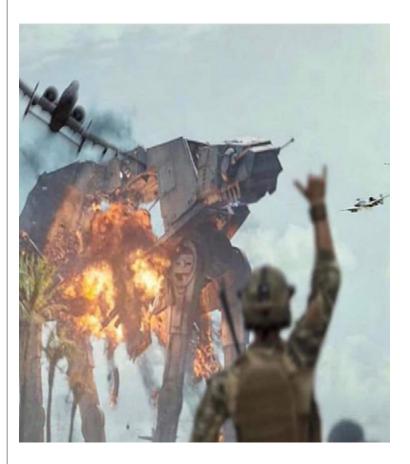
"IF YOUR ATTACK IS GOING TOO WELL, YOU'RE WALKING INTO AN AMBUSH." - Infantry Journal. / "NO COMBAT-READY UNIT HAS EVER PASSED INSPECTION." - Anonymous

"ANY SHIP CAN BE A MINESWEEPER....ONCE." – Anonymous

"NEVER TELL THE PLATOON SERGEANT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO." – Unknown Marine Recruit.

"DON'T DRAW FIRE; IT IRRITATES THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU." - Infantry Journal.

"IF YOU SEE A BOMB TECHNICIAN RUNNING, TRY TO KEEP UP WITH HIM." - U.S.A.F. Ammo Troop 18



## **SPRUE EXAMINER**

## 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.

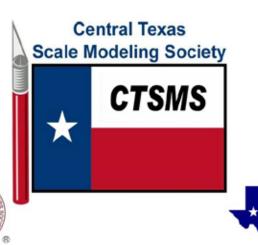
Check with your contest chairmen or the event page on the IPMS/USA website before you get in your car!

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

David Lockhart IPMS/USA Director of Local Chapters 678-620-8417 dlock3155@gmail.com







## **SPRUE EXAMINER**

February 2021













Warhammer 40K figures

# Come join us for your gaming and modeling shopping!

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#### February 2021

## **Øsprue examiner**



7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste E188, Austin, TX 78753 (512) 836-7388

Here's the new stuff for this week.



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

# Something for Everyone!



## SPRUE EXAMINER

To all the members of IPMS it is with a heavy heart that I must inform you of the passing of Ed Seay Jr. Ed passed last evening 2-19-2021. Ed was in a care facility in the last years of his life due to declining medical issues.

Ed was born in Dallas, Texas and spent his early years in Oklahoma while his father was working for the government at Hatbox Field.

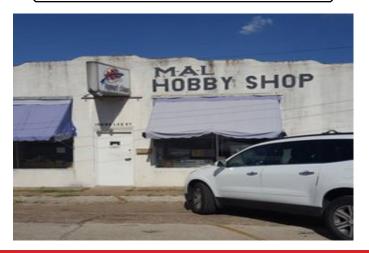
Ed returned to Texas in 1944 and lived near Field Airport until 1948 when the family moved to Irving and founded M.A.L. Hobby Shop. Ed attended schools in Irving, Texas and briefly attended Arlington State College (UTA). Ed along with his mother Mildred and father Ed Seay Sr. ran the hobby shop.

Ed was a member of IPMS /USA with the number 834. Ed was a fixture at many of the IPMS National conventions for many years.

At this time the services for Ed are pending and as so as the information is available we will inform you.

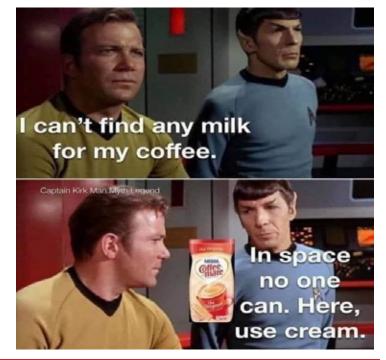
Randy Spurr President IPMS / NCT

Forwarded from: Sean Glaspell, IPMS/USA #40404 Region VI Coordinator



Overheard a lady saying she won't let her kid watch Peppa Pig because it encourages bad behaviour like "jumping in puddles". I watched Road Runner as a kid and haven't blown anyone up with dynamite - yet.





## **Øsprue examiner**



# 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

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