

# ASMS



# SPRUE EXAMINER

Ben Morton reviews Platz' BMW M6 2018 Macau GP GT3



Ben Morton reviews ICM's new 1/48 Firebee KDA-1 (Q-2A)

austinsms.com



June 2021

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

*News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice • Humbug*

# CONTENTS

Page 3 The President's Soapbox

Page 4 House Cleaning

Page 5 ICM's 1/48 KDA-1 (Q-2A) Firebee: Ben Morton reviews

Page 10 Platz's BMW M6 2018 Macau GP GT3 Race Winner with

BMW M6 GT3 Upgrade Set: Ben Morton reviews and builds

Page 19 What's up? - by Flanged End Yoke

Page 26 Old Rumors and New Kits:

Page 26 New and In View- by Ron McCracken

Page 31 Shipping News - by Rick Herrington

Page 34 Tracked Topics by Panzer Lehr

Page 40 It Figures – by Michael Lamm

## ASMS Officers & Chairpersons

Ian Latham - President: [president@austinsms.org](mailto:president@austinsms.org)

Aaron Smischney - Vice-President: [vicepresident@austinsms.org](mailto:vicepresident@austinsms.org)

Mike Lamm - Finance Minister: [treasurer@austinsms.org](mailto:treasurer@austinsms.org)

Rick Herrington - Secretary: [secretary@austinsms.org](mailto:secretary@austinsms.org)

Rick Herrington - Newsletter Editor: [editor@austinsms.org](mailto:editor@austinsms.org)

Show Coordinator: [showcoordinator@austinsms.org](mailto:showcoordinator@austinsms.org)

Mike 'Hollywood' Gilsbach - Webmaster: [webmaster@austinsms.org](mailto:webmaster@austinsms.org)

Jeff Forster - IPMS/USA Coordinator: [chaptercontact@austinsms.org](mailto:chaptercontact@austinsms.org)

## Our Sponsors

Phil Brandt (in memorium)

Eric Choy Angela Forster

Jeff Forster Russ Holm

Rick Willaman Jack Johnston

Mike Krizan Rick Herrington

Aaron Smischney



[www.austinarmorbuilders.com](http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com)



[www.kingshobbyshop.com](http://www.kingshobbyshop.com)



[www.wmbros.com](http://www.wmbros.com)



[www.ctsms.org](http://www.ctsms.org)

## 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](mailto:www.models4troops@gmail.com)



[www.austinsms.org](http://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,

It's June, let the hellfire of Texas' summers begin!

I've recently found myself completing a circle of sorts in my modeling. My first kits that I started on when I renewed my passion for building was a single 1:144 jet (an F-15 I believe) and then there were 1:72 biplanes, lots of them. About 10 years ago I swore off 1:72 kits as rigging a biplane in that scale is mind numbing. I realized then that 1:48 and 1:32 scale was the way to go. I've enjoyed building many different models through the years and found that the larger the kit, the longer it takes to finish.

Fast forward through hundreds of kits until we come to this past month. I saw some of the members building some 1:144 jets during our weekly Zoom meeting and thought I'd pull out my single 1:144 kit and give it a chance. I had a great time! Fast and easy, and I accomplished a build (I have way too many half builds awaiting attention). The next kits I turned to were 1:72 jets. A perfect size for these behemoths. I'm now well into my second 1:72 kit and I'm having a blast actually finishing projects.

So, I've come full circle... for now. The satisfaction of a build is originally what got me itching for more, but the desire for fulfillment kept coming at a higher price and I was losing the childish joy of completing a build. For now, and for less \$\$, I've got that joy back again. Maybe it was being shut up for more than a year that helped the process along but I'm very much enjoying going through silver spray paint and propping up the little beauties in the display case or just zooming them around the room.

I encourage all of you to think about the original joy you found in modeling and look to your beginnings when the frustration or burnout sets in.

Stay cool everyone!

-Ian

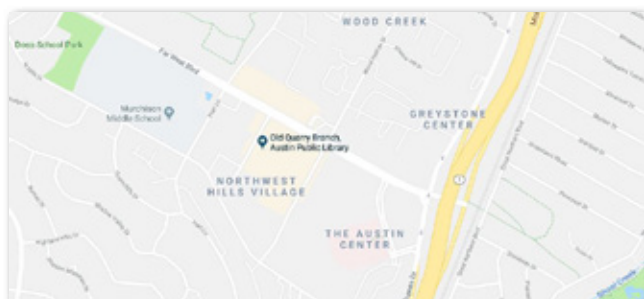




# HOUSE CLEANING



## 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](mailto: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.

### Club Quarterly Contests

Meetings  
Suspended

### Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Meetings  
Suspended



## ICM's 1/48th KDA-1 (Q-2A) Firebee

By Ben Morton



The Ryan Firebee is a series of target drones developed by the Ryan Aeronautical Company beginning in 1951. It was one of the first jet-propelled drones, and remains one of the most widely used target drones ever built.

The Firebee I was the result of a 1948 U.S. Air Force request and contract to Ryan for a jet-powered gunnery target. The first flight of the XQ-2 Firebee prototype took place in early 1951. The drone featured swept flight surfaces and a circular nose inlet. The initial models had distinctive "arrowhead" shaped end plates on the tailplane. The Firebee could be air-launched from a specially modified launch aircraft (Douglas A-26 Invader was first to be used for this), or ground-launched with a single RATO booster.

Following successful evaluation the target was ordered into production for the USAF as the Q-2A, powered by a Continental J69-T-19B turbojet engine with 1,060 pounds-force (4.7 kN) of thrust. The Air Force then obtained small numbers of a Q-2B with a more powerful engine for high-altitude performance.

The U.S. Navy bought the Firebee as the KDA-1 which was mostly similar to the Q-2A, differing mainly in its power plant: a Fairchild J44-R-20B turbojet with 1,000 lbf (4.4 kN) thrust. The KDA-1 and Q-2A could be distinguished by the KDA-1's protruding inlet center body and wider, steeply raked inlet. The U.S. Army also obtained a KDA-1 version designated the XM21 that differed only in minor details.

The Navy obtained several improved variants of the KDA-1, including the XKD-2 and XKD-3 which were not built in quantity, and the KDA-4, which was the main production version for the series. These variants were difficult to distinguish from the KDA-1, differing mainly in successively uprated J44 engines and other minor changes. [ Background information courtesy of Military Wiki.]

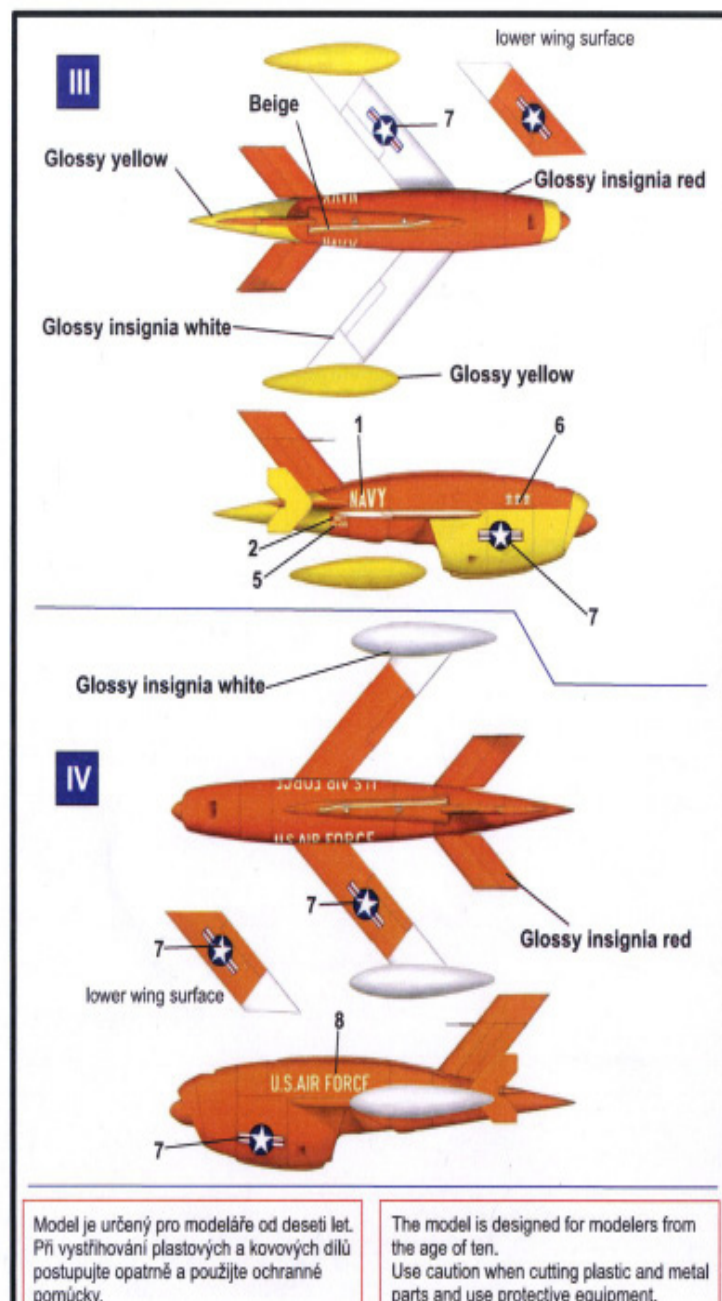
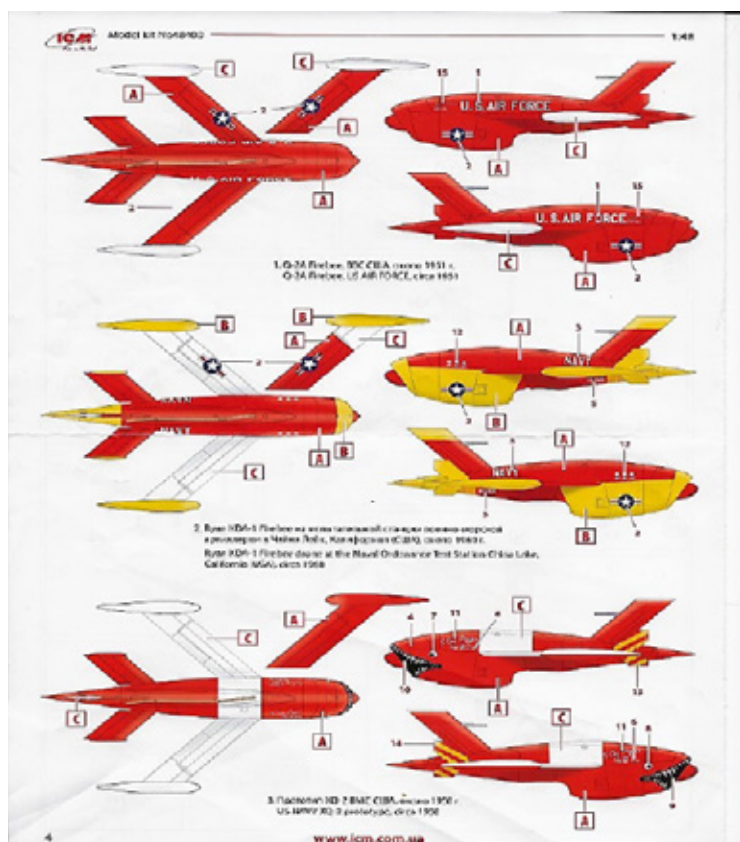
There are marking options for three different drones, one with the U.S. Air Force, the other two belonging to the Navy. One of the Navy drones sports a shark mouth and an appellation of "I Go Pogo VI". Owing to the date of operation for these drones( early fifties) I assume that that is a reference to the comic strip Pogo, by Walt Kelly. Walt Kelly coined the phrase "We have meet the enemy and he is us!"





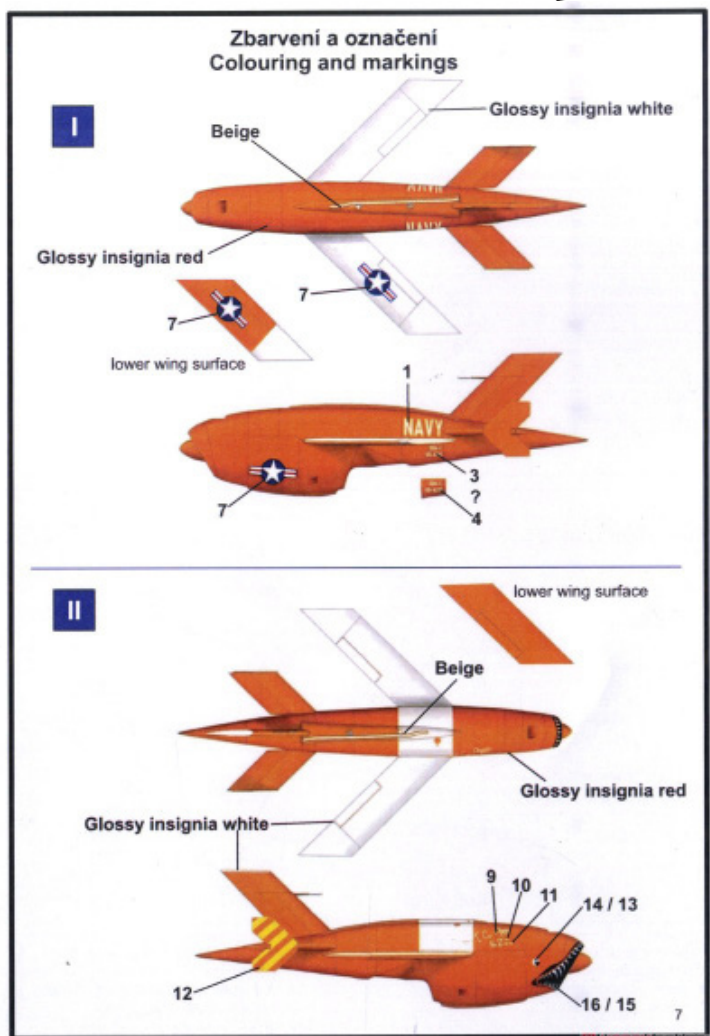
**Pogo** was a daily comic strip that was created by cartoonist Walt Kelly and syndicated to American newspapers from 1948 until 1975. Set in the Okefenokee Swamp in the southeastern United States, Pogo followed the adventures of its funny animal characters, including the title character, an opossum.

The strip was written for both children and adults, with layers of social and political satire targeted to the latter.' (via Wikipedia)



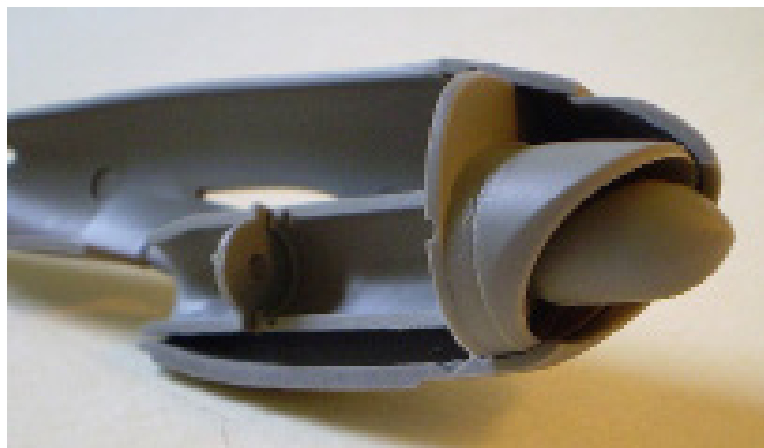
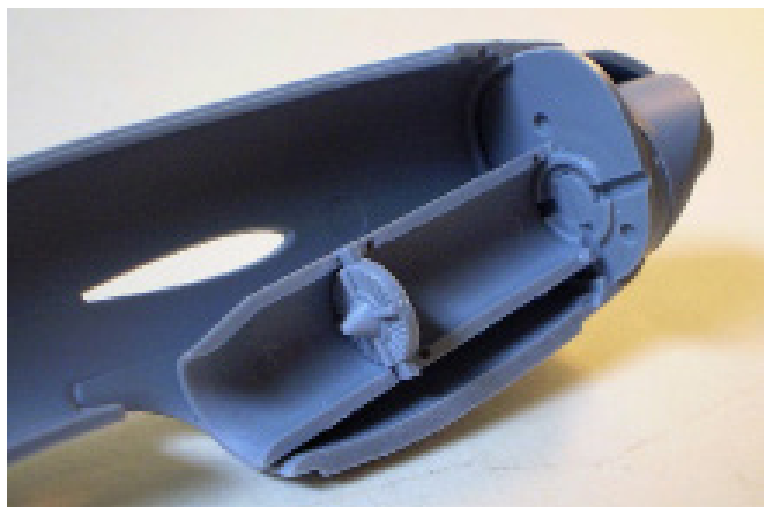
Assembly of the twenty-nine parts (six of which are for the trailer) begins with engine intake/exhaust trunk. ICM provides parts for the forward intake and would have you attach some of those parts (# A2 & A3) to the inside of each fuselage half. I found it easier to assembly those parts together and then place that assembly into the appropriate spot before closing up the two halves of the fuselage.



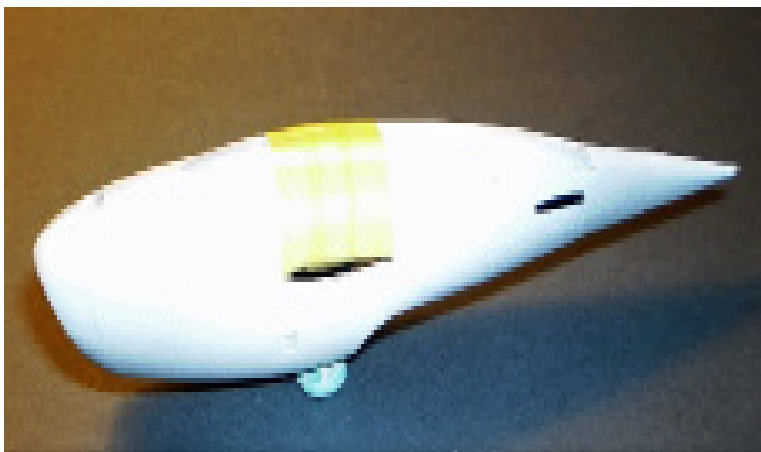


Although there are no suggestions for the interior of the intake/exhaust truck, there are color suggestions in the assembly instructions that are keyed to paints/finishes from ICM \*, Revell, and Tamiya. In ICM's defense you can't really see that much of the inside of the exhaust trunk anyway. It is an exhaust trunk, so go with some 'exhausty-type' © colors of choice.

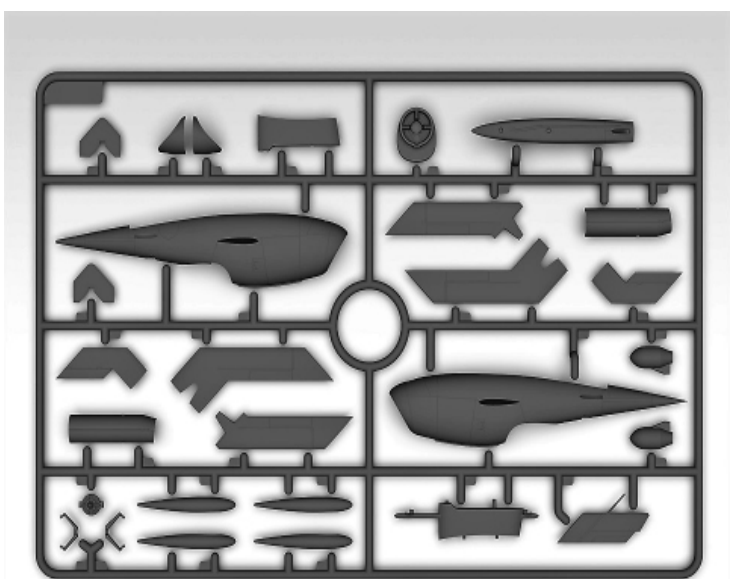
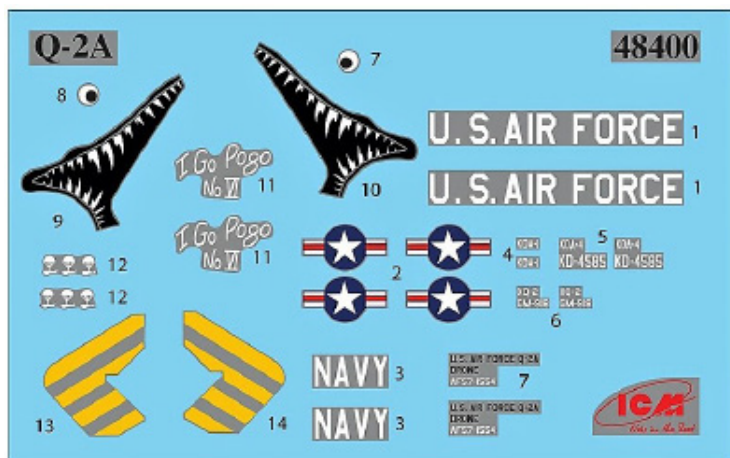
The two piece wings and single piece stabilizers are next and get inserted into the assembled main body of the drone. There is an additional part that shows molded on detail for the mounting fairing and telemetry umbilical on the upper fuselage. [Technical Note: telemetry umbilical is a cool name for the electrical cable that was attached to the launching aircraft so they could send it on its way.]



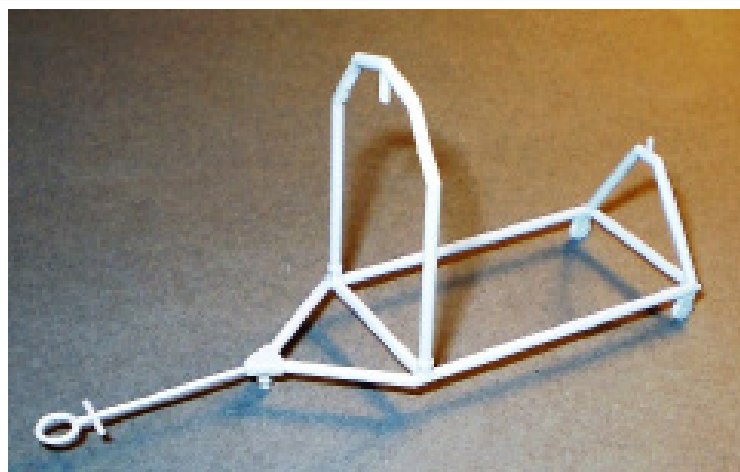
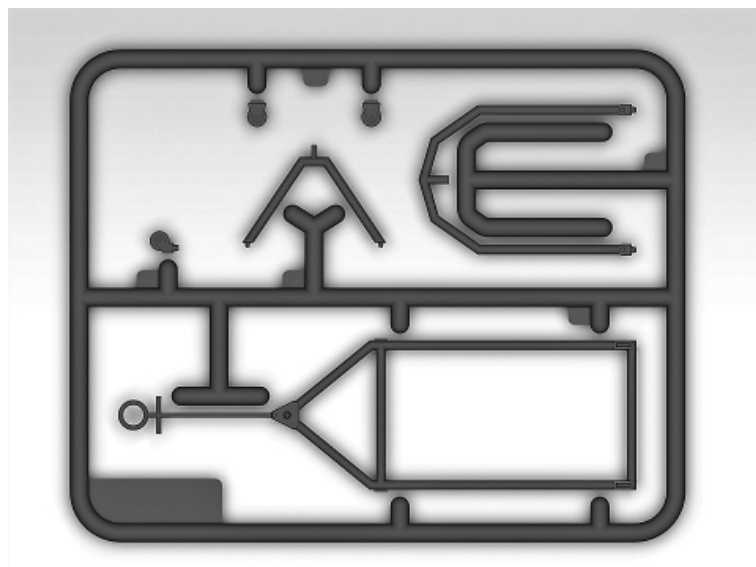
Wing tip fuel tanks are added next as well as the rudder and the small wing lets on the horizontal stabilizers. The tip tanks are molded in upper and lower halves. If you choose the "I Go Pogo" scheme that split will aid in painting as the upper portion of those tanks are white whereas the lower portion is red. The only 'difficulty' I encountered with building or painting this beast was the white saddle across the upper fuselage. That 'difficulty' only amounted to masking off that area and then breaking out the airbrush.



I did have a minor problem with one of the decals. The decals are beautifully printed on thin carrier film, which was the problem. One of the "I Go Pogo" decals kinda folded over on itself as I was applying it (mis-applying might be a better phrase) and I just couldn't get it to unfold.

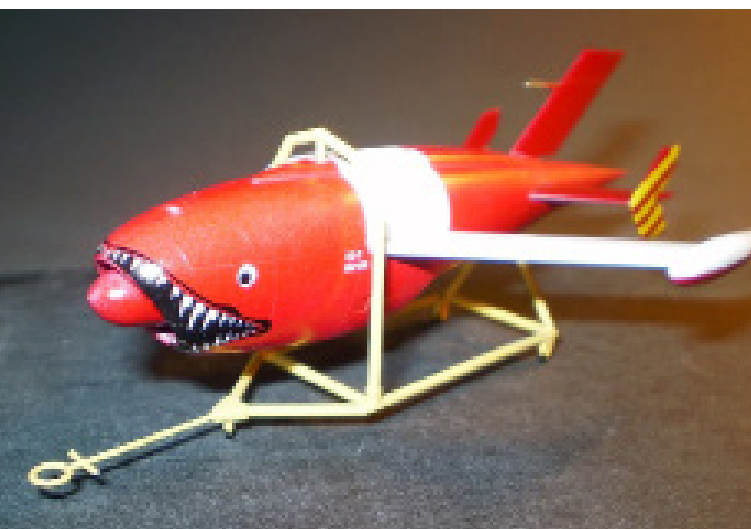


As noted earlier, the transport trailer consists of just six parts. All of which are easy to assemble, just make certain that the vertical support bits (part # B3 & # B4) are properly perpendicular to the main body of the trailer.



This KDA-1(Q-2A) Fire bee is a neat, little, off-the-wall kit that is fun to build and finish. The inclusion of the trailer makes it a breeze to display, adding to the its appeal. ICM does include an unused wing pylon with anti-sway braces for the drone. Which could give you the option of adding the drone to an existing aircraft already in your collection. Or, you can hold out for a pending release from ICM Holding of a 1/48th scale A-26 Invader launching aircraft with two Firebee drones to be included with that release.





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

### Support Your Local Hobby Shop

[\*ICM lists colors from their line of finishes but I couldn't locate any addition information about whether or not those are currently being marketed in the U.S.]

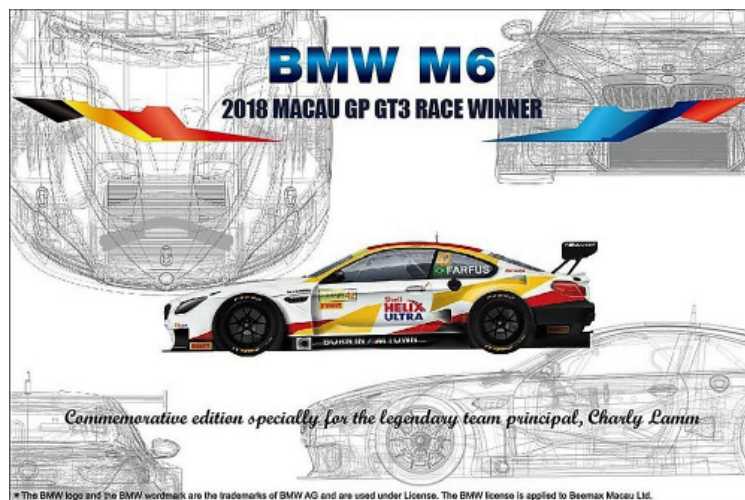
# Platz BMW M6 2018 Macau GP GT3 Race Winner with BMW M6 GT3 Upgrade Set By Ben Morton

Platz Models has a large and extensive line of plastic model kits: everything from small scale (1/144) aircraft to military ships. They do partner with smaller, niche manufacturers of plastic model kits. That symbiosis provides both Platz and those other kit manufacturers with market access and diversity of product. One of those relationships is with another Japanese manufacturer: Nu Nu Model kits.

Nu Nu Model kits is principally involved with manufacturing modern 1/24th scale racing cars, notably Grand Prix GT3 cars. For those that may be unfamiliar with sports car racing, click this Wikipedia link and you'll have more than enough information to join in any conversation about the sport.

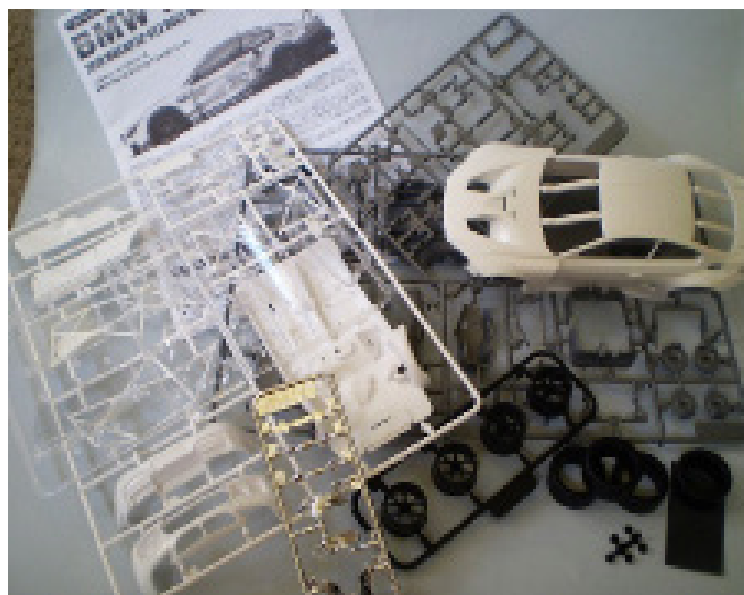
( [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sports\\_car\\_racing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sports_car_racing) )

One of Platz/ NuNu Model kits recent offerings is the BMW M6, 2018 Macau GP GT3 Race Winner. This is actually a re-release of a 2017 kit of the BMW M6 that features updated decals and new parts to faithfully reproduce the 2018 Macau race winner. The updated decals provide all the badges (sponsor logos, etc.) and the color panels featured on this car. Additionally, there is a decal for an on-car 'shout out' to long time team principal Charly Lamm.

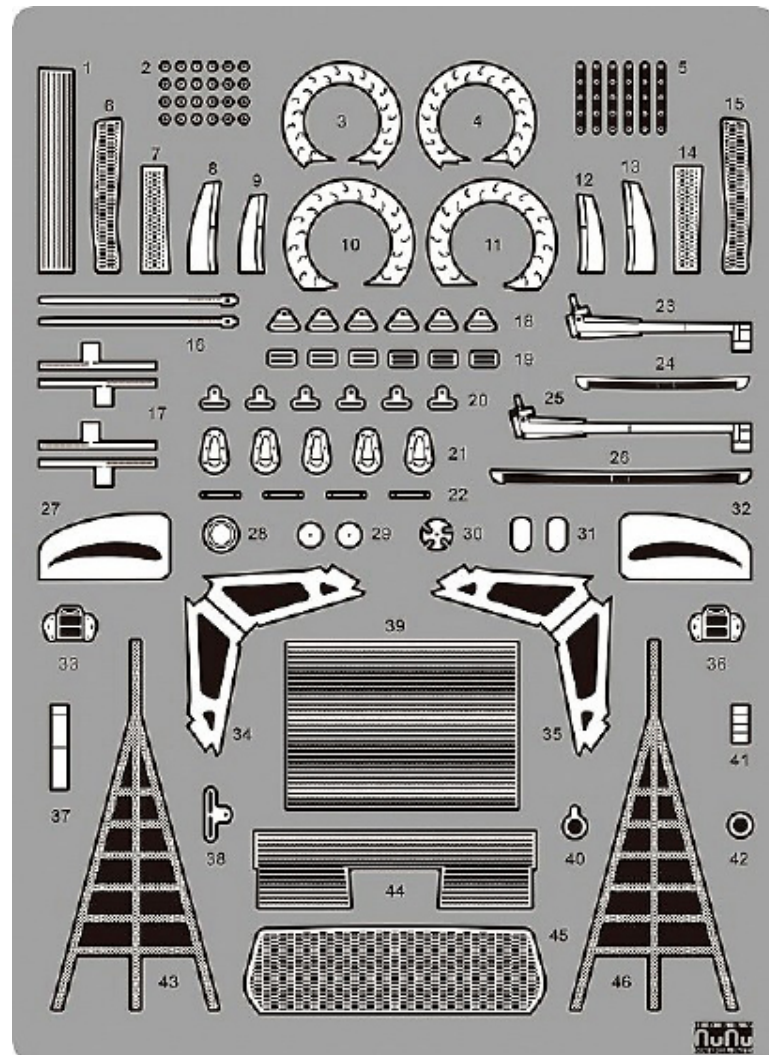


This is a curbside model and as such has no engine but there is a complete interior with all driver controls, detailed suspension bits, and a nicely molded safety/roll cage. This kit is molded in several colors (white, gray, black, clear bits, and some chrome plated parts) and I suppose you could build this kit without painting.

For the serious car modeler there is a companion up-grade set available, also from Platz /Nu Nu. The up-grade set has a fret of photo-etch that includes disc brake pads, mesh for some air intakes, safety netting for the roll cage, replacement uprights for the rear spoiler, replacement wind shield wipers and blades, and all the bits (buckles, latches, seat belt material) you'll need to fashion a realistic, five point safety harness.







There are also three, small sheets of carbon fiber decals for the lower chassis included with the up-grade set. There are more carbon fiber decals than are called for in the placement instructions so I just went with the obvious ones. Nevertheless, those decals go down nice 'n easy.

All of this may seem daunting to some but the provided instructions are well drawn which makes using this up-grade set simple and easy. The photo etch bits are either direct replacements for the kit part or simply overlay the existing part.



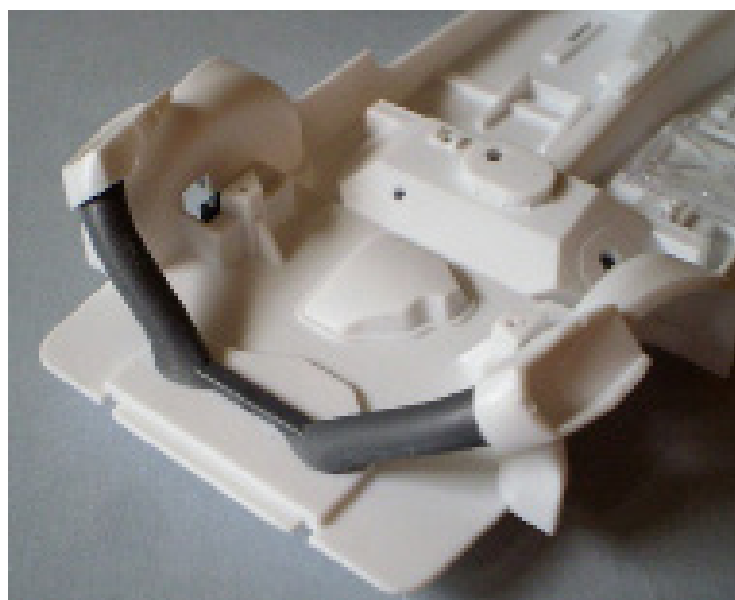
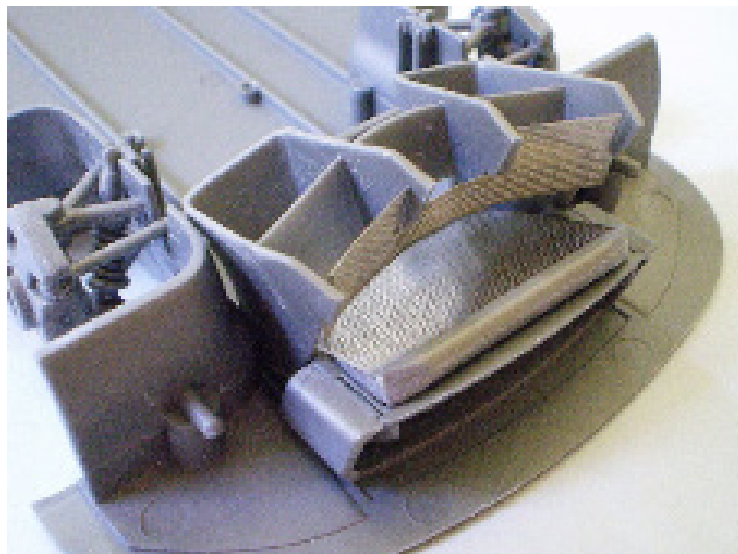


Assembly of the “Beamer” begins with the lower chassis to which are attached the front wheel spindles, brake/rotor assemblies, and portions of the exhaust system. Exercise some caution while assembling the front suspension as those bits are positionable.

Again, as this is a curbside model all you get are the exhaust outlets as opposed to the whole system. A word of caution: the exhaust tips protrude a tad from the car body and might cause some fit issues when you get to mating the car body assembly with the chassis. Might be prudent to leave those exhaust stubs off until after everything is buttoned up?



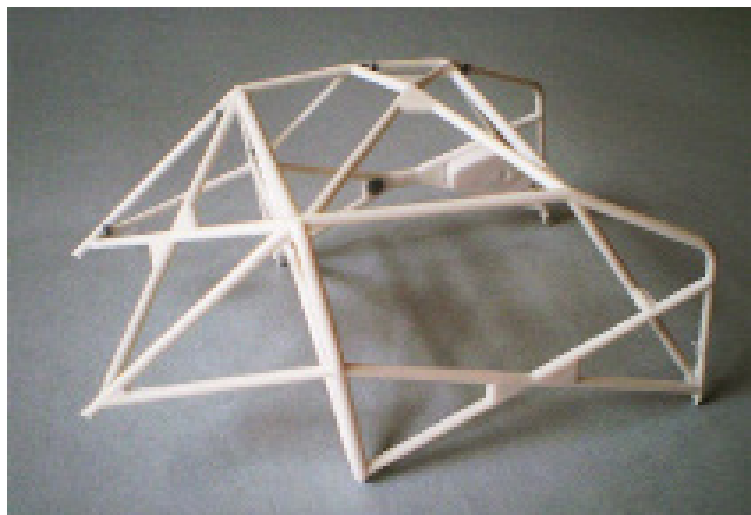
Rear suspension bits go on next as do the radiator and air outlet assemblies. Assembly graduates to the driver compartment with seat, foot pedals, and a detailed dash panel. This is the area of building where you get to put the roll/safety cage together. The roll/safety cage is quite visible. As such this area, with minor flash, mold seams, and visible ejector pin marks, really should be removed. Nothing horrendous but it will be noticeable if you don't deal with it. It should also be noted that after cleaning all those bits, the cage parts go together easily.



I used the roll cage locating holes, located on the driver's compartment (part # B14) as a jig to aid assembly.

The dash and instrument panel assembly gets added to the roll cage before both are attached to the driver's compartment. Don't concern yourself with gluing it (dash panel assembly) as there are pins on either side of the dash panel that fit into slots on the driver compartment side panels. Do concern yourself with attaching the photo etched safety webbing from the upgrade set at this stage. You will need to consult some references (search BMW M6 GT3 interior) to find the proper location for that webbing as the instructions are vague on the subject.





I added some spare bits to the ends of that webbing to represent the attachment buckles.

You can elect to replace the seat belt decal with a more realistic version using the upgrade set. That set has all the metal bits and strapping material that you will need. Curiously neither the kit nor the upgrade set provide a separate manufacturer's decal for the safety harness. The 'Sabelt' logo is printed on the decal version of the seat belt so I suppose you could do a bit of surgery and add it that way.

If you are new to after-market seat belts, you will need to check references for the attachment points on the chassis for the safety harness. Those attachment points are somewhat intuitive but the assembly instructions are void of that information.

I did find a short (5:14) 'How To' video on YouTube that you might find helpful if you're new to aftermarket safety belts:

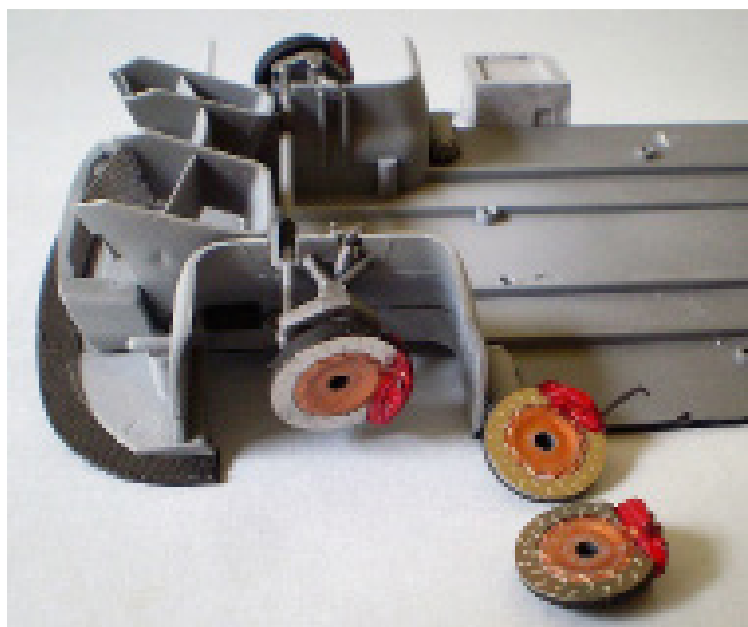
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3xcOjW-69k> .



There are some other driver compartment pieces that may require care when installing; particularly parts # A24/#B6/#B7. Those pieces represent portions of an air intake, cooling system on the prototype. Parts #B6 and #B7 (connecting flanges) attach to a large pipe that mates up with air inlet detentions on the body of the BMW. The engineering on the kit is such that that isn't a huge problem but it is something to be aware of as you assemble your own BMW M6. The roll cage gets attached to the lower chassis/driver compartment. Additional suspension (shock absorbers, etc.) bits go on next as do the wheel/tire assemblies. Tires and wheels are separate parts which will facilitate painting.



The vinyl tires are well molded but do have a pronounced taper. That taper doesn't affect the end look but seems to be an engineering 'trick' to aid sliding the tires onto the rims. Decals are provided for the tire labeling (Pirelli). The upgrade set includes fronts for the disc brakes that simply overlay the kit part.



Details (rear view mirrors, antenna, etc.) are the next items added to the car body. This step is more about the window glazing but windshield wiper assemblies are also in the mix. The wiper blade assemblies can be replaced with some photo etched version courtesy of the upgrade set.



I went with a hybrid approach with the wiper blades on my model. I used the plastic wiper arms and replaced the blades with the photo etched version.

Platz/NuNu provides decals for the weather stripping that surrounds the window components, saving you the need to mask and paint some difficult areas. [Fun Fact: The sheet with the weather stripping decals are identified with numbers, the assembly/placement instructions identifies them with letters. :) It isn't impossible (think jigsaw puzzle) to figure out which one goes where, just use the illustration (Step 14) in the instructions to identify the correct position of a particular decal.] But in their defense, the window parts do fit just so.





Before mating the body to the chassis you attach the headlamp/taillight bezels (chrome plated bits) as well as the glass that covers same. Several screens are replicated by cutting a piece of mesh, included with the kit, or you can use the handy metal replacement part from, you guessed it, the upgrade set. I'm beginning to think it would just be foolish to build this kit without it.

There is a feature on the real BMW M6. That is the darkened headlamp bezels. This aspect is faithfully reproduced by the kit manufacture and much appreciated. As with any model, your own expertise will dictate how you go about assembling this kit. I would advise leaving some of the fiddly bits (exhaust tips, wiper blade assemblies, rear spoiler, etc.) off until final assembly and decaling is all said and done.



Having mated the body to the chassis, the last step is placing all the decals on your BMW M6 GP racer. That step is made easier with the placement guide in the assembly instructions. Note that some of the larger color panels need to be placed before adding the smaller logos and such. Don't fret. Platz/ NuNu makes all this perfectly clear on the decal placement guide.

Something that I missed is that a portion of the rear car body needs to be painted black before you begin applying all those decals. It could just be a language problem (remember, I don't read or speak Japanese) but that step wasn't that obvious, to me, from the assembly instructions.

It might help you to note that the artwork (decals) follow the panel lines on the car. You might also find it helpful to view the finished model on Platz's website. This will give you a good idea how all the decals work in concert with one another on the car.

<http://www.platz-hobby.com/products/9617.html>





This BMW M6 GP G3 race winner from Platz/NuNu Model kits is a grand model. Assembly is not much of a chore. There is more mold line clean-up than what one would expect but nothing that approaches a deal breaker when it comes to getting one of these kits for your very own. Mating the body to the chassis can be fiddly. Begin that process at the rear and bringing the body down toward the front of the car worked best for me. And, maybe leave the tires/wheels off 'til the last.

This model will make a beautiful, colorful addition to your collection. Besides, having the model in your collection will help with imagining yourself in the car as you watch a short, on-board video of Augusto Farfus (a BMW team driver) taking a lap at Macau. Note the circuit map taped to the dash. I've watched this video clip several times and it's kinda fun to try and figure out where on the course the driver is in relationship to that map. (A copy of the map is included on the decal sheet). Besides watching it is also a good way to pick up some ideas should you wish to add more detail to the driver's compartment. Enjoy!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_VsJUsr-fORA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VsJUsr-fORA)

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

***Support Your Local Hobby Shop!***







*Jack Johnson is with us again this month with a few observations on Tamiya's new Mustang GT-4 in 1/24th scale.*

Tamiya has hit it out of the park again with this Mustang GT-4.

Extremely well engineered, the fit is excellent. Great details. A pleasure to build.

The interior plumbing and wiring was added and, I think, a necessity to liven that area up. I lost the little plastic nub of a roof antenna (carpet). I replaced it with a piece of brass tubing and guitar string.

The paint scheme is modeled after the 361st FG P-51 my father flew based in Little Walden, England in the spring of 1945. Still, it represents a GT-4 racer. (The Tamiya 1/48 P-51 in the photo was built for my dad by Bob King)

The main paints used except for the blue are Tamiya. The blue is Mr. Hobby. All are sprays right out of the can.

The decals are a combination of kit, Microscale, Walthers HO and parts box.

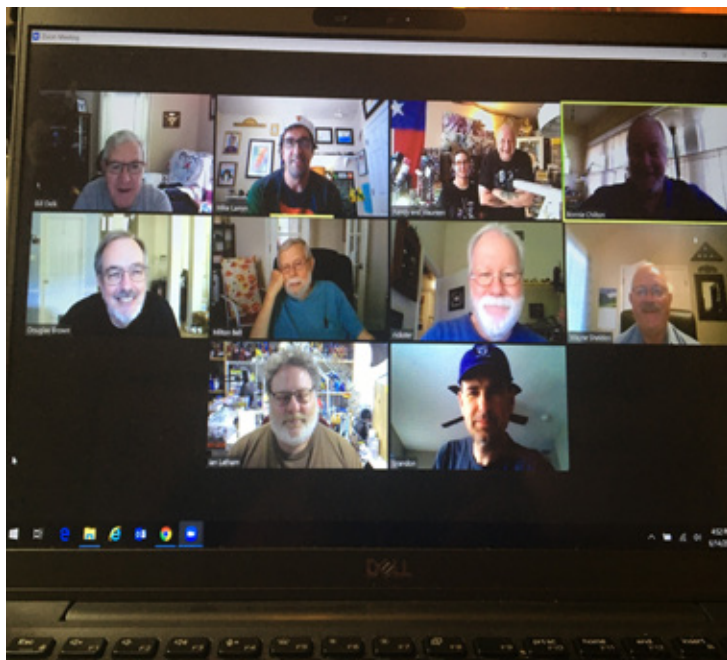
This is a great build.  
Even if car modeling is not your thing I highly recommend this one.







# 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.

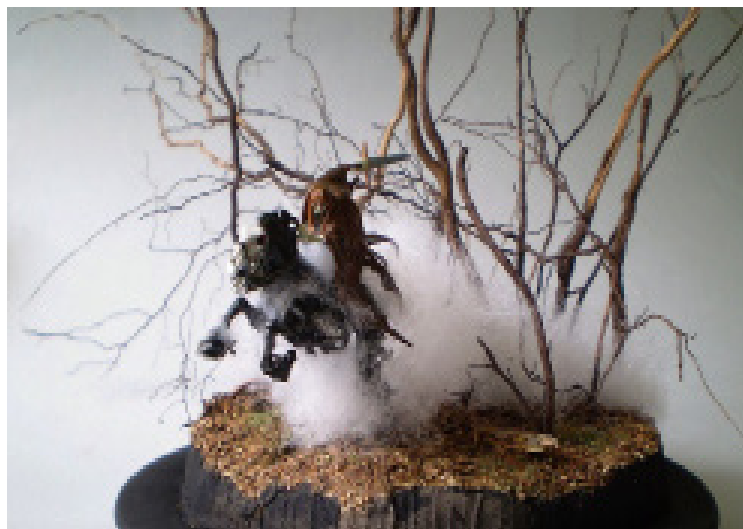
Contact Bill Delk to have him send you a link to be able to get into the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Not to many models to share this month. I guess everyone is catching up on pre-Covid activities now that most of the restrictions have been lifted and hopefully most folks are vaccinated. Ben Morton has three new finished ones to share. Let's start off with Ben's 1/72nd Ferdinand.



Ben finished up a highly creative vignette of a Warhammer Dreadblade in 1/60th scale.

*Freed from the bonds of fealty and subservience, there is nothing to stop a Dreadblade pursuing its own nightmarish desires, travelling from war zone to war zone to slake its lust for carnage, or hunting down and destroying all in the galaxy who have of-*

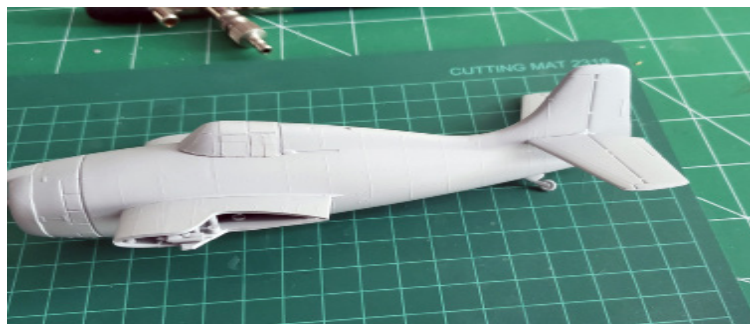




Ben also finished up a vignette with a 1/144th scale Me-109 in the desert.



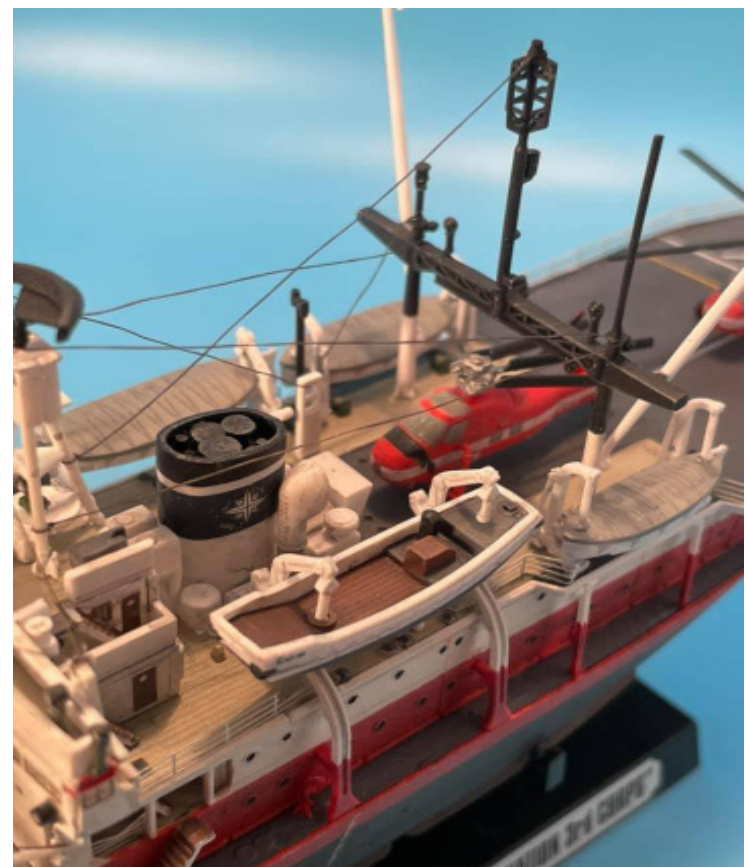
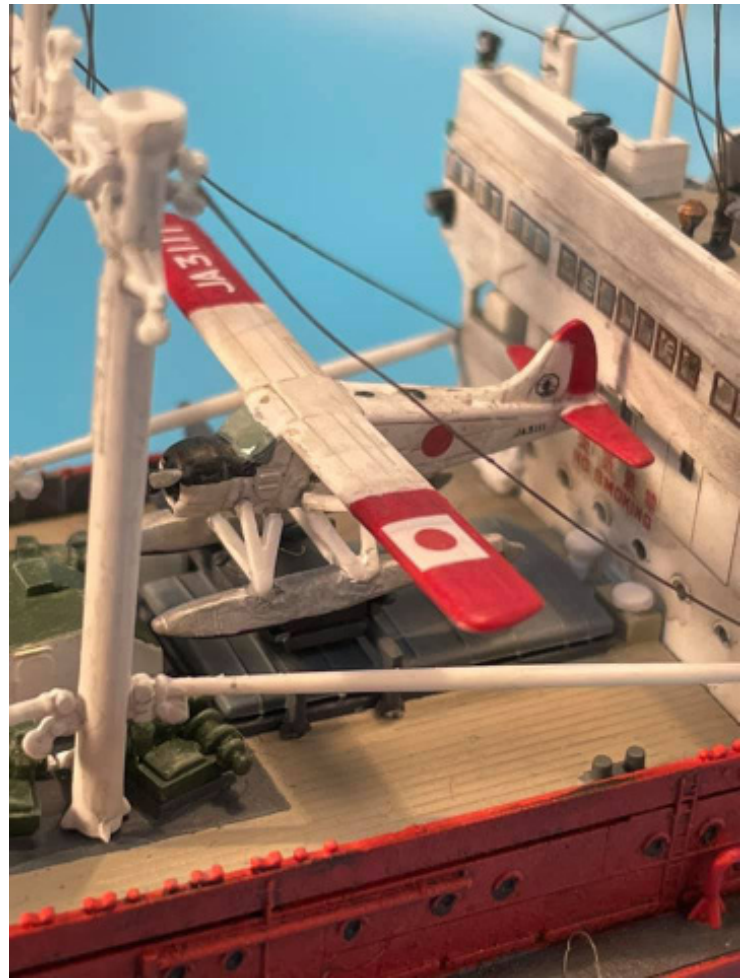
Randy Bumgardner sent in a picture of his in-progress Monogram F6-F



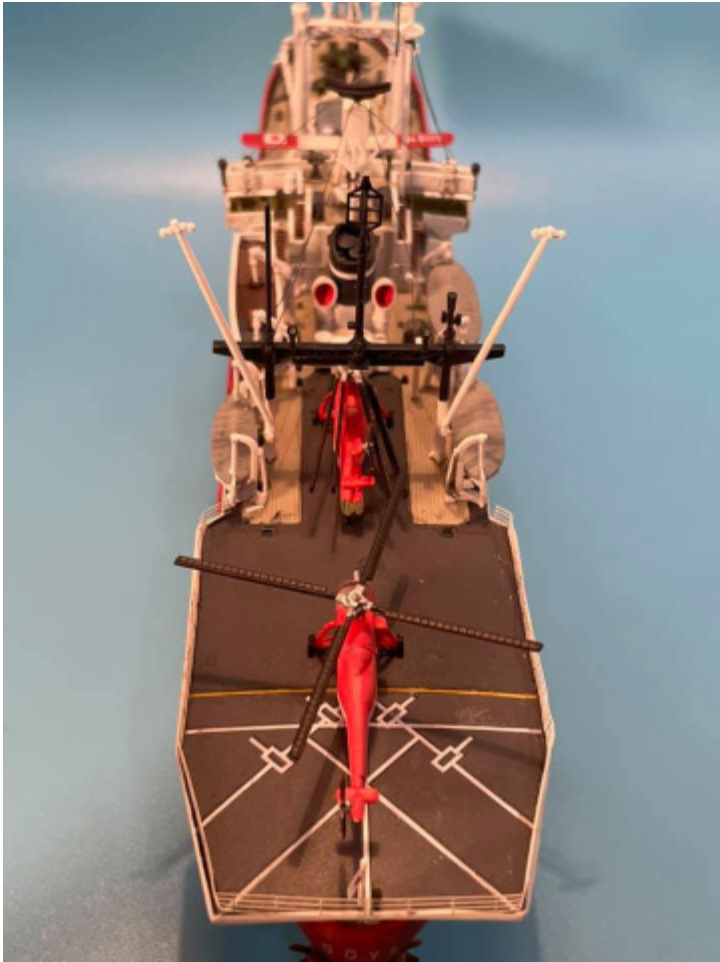




Mike Gilsbach tackled Aoshima's 1/350th Antarctica exployer Soya.







Rick Herrington finally finished his 1/35th Marder project.







Rick also finished up Hasegawa's 1/72nd Sdkfz 7/1 flak track.



Tim Robb shared some pictures of his Canadian CF-100 in 1/48th scale. The kit is a Hobbycraft offering.







Randy Bumgardner our West Coast representative sent in some pictures of his Monogram F4F. It's the 1967 Monogram F4F Wildcat. I built it as I would have when I was about 10 years old- tube glue, rattle can paint, and incomplete seam filling. The wing folds actually work, and the gaps are vintage Monogram. I used the original decals, and, as you can see, the registration is lacking and they were OLD.



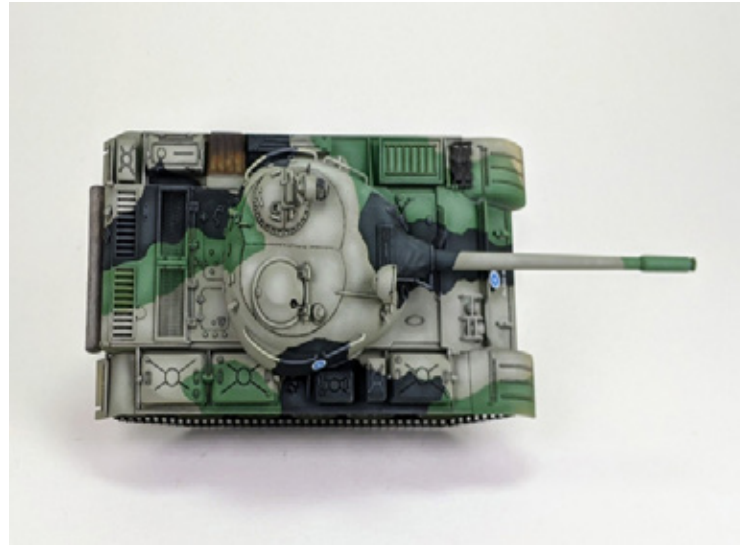
Ron McCracken shared with us a photo of his O-46A







Finally Eric Choy shared some photos of his completed Finnish T-55AM



That's all the models to share this month.  
Hope everyone is doing well. Until next month...  
Model on!



**Kitty Hawk / Panda  
are closing  
down.**

Sadly, it looks like another model manufacturer is closing down. The image above is from Kitty Hawk's Facebook page. If you are considering building one of Kitty Hawk's kits you might want to look into purchasing it now.

**FIFTY SHELVES  
OF GREY**

## Old Rumors and New Kits

### New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

June is an exciting month for large-scale fans, where new-tool kits of two popular subjects are due on the shelves. And, at the other end of the size continuum, a new kit of the later B-36 versions is in view.

I do have a question for the members: Some manufacturers (Hasegawa especially) produce multiple re-issues of the same basic kit each year, with no difference other than the decals. In this issue, I've reported these as "new", but my question is, do you want to hear about frequent re-releases of the same old kit with nothing different but the markings?

Something to discuss at our Sunday Zoom sessions.

#### 1/32nd Scale:

ICM leads off with three offerings:

First, a new-tool AH-1G Cobra (early production). As far as I can determine, this is the only new kit of this Cobra variant in this scale since the Revell and Monogram offerings in the 1970's.







They are re-releasing their CR.42 kit as a CR.42CN Night Fighter, with new parts/markings.



Finally, a re-release of their J-8 Gladiator in Swedish AF markings is coming, with new parts for ski-equipped landing gear.



Revell is re-releasing their Fi 103 V-1 "Buzz Bomb", this is apparently nothing more than a re-boxing of the 2018 kit.



Wrapping up the 1/32nd offerings, Roden has announced a new-tool SPAD XIII C, which is sure to delight fans of these large-scale WW I aircraft. If the kit lives up to Roden's reputation for detail, this should be a worthy successor to the much-lamented demise of Wingnut Wings.



### 1/48th Scale:

Starting with Academy, we have a rebox of Mauve's 1995-vintage P-40N Warhawk in 80th Fighter Group markings.





Next from Academy is a re-box of the Accurate Miniatures TBF-1C Avenger in "Battle of Leyte Gulf" markings.



Eduard has re-released their Bf 109G-10 in a Weekend Edition kit. The kit is focused on 109s produced by Erba Werke in Leipzig. The kit includes four decal options.



Eduard is also re-releasing their Spitfire Mk.IIb in a Profipack Edition with new decals.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their 1995-vintage F-4J Phantom II in the markings of "Showtime 100".



ICM is releasing a new-tool Q-2C (BQM-34A) Firebee w/trailer, adding to their portfolio of target drone models.



Kinetic is re-releasing their F-104G/S ASA/M Starfighter with new decals.







### 1/72nd Scale:

DML is re-releasing their YF-23 kit, notable mostly due to the fact it hasn't been available for quite some time.



DoraWings is re-releasing their recent MB.151 as a MB.152C.1 with some new parts and new decals.



Eduard is re-releasing their Fokker D.VII (OAW) as a Weekend Edition kit with new markings.



Eduard is also re-releasing their Tornado GR.1 in a "Desert Babes" Limited Edition with some new/updated parts.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their F/A-18F Super Hornet in VFA-103 75th Anniversary markings. No change other than the decals.



Hasegawa is also re-releasing their F-15DJ Eagle in Aggressor Blue/White markings. Again, no change other than decals.





Hasegawa is re-releasing their RF-4E Phantom II in 501SQ 1994 markings.



Revell is re-releasing its Eurofighter in Luftwaffe Demo 2020 markings, no changes other than the markings.



### 1/144th Scale:

Roden is releasing their 2020 B-36B kit as a B-36D/F/H/J, the difference being the addition of the jet engine pods that were introduced on the "D" model. So, this could legitimately be considered a "new" kit even though the major components are the same as last year's kit.



### Box Scale:

Our friends at Atlantis are at it again, with re-pops of two box-scale "oldies but goodies":

First is a Convair 990 in 1/135th scale. This is the 1961 Revell kit.



Next is a Boeing 707 Astrojet in 139th scale. This is the 1964 Revell kit.



That's a wrap for this month, a nice mix of the old and new. Happy modeling!

## Shipping News

by Rick Herrington

A good amount of 1/700 releases to get to this month so let's get started with Flyhawk's two new releases. First from them is HMS Hood. Not much needs to be said about this release and if they do as good a job on the Hood as they did on their Bismarck release this will be one to look forward to.



Next up from Flyhawk is a WW1 Battleship SMS Moltke. Moltke served with the Imperial German fleet through WW1 and like most of defeated Germany's fleet was scuttled in Scapa Flow.



Revell is issuing a commemorative model of Bismarck and HMS Hood at the Battle of Denmark Strait. The box lists the scale as 1/720 and 1/700. Not sure which ship is which scale.



Hasegawa is releasing the JMSDF Aegis escort ship Atago.



Pit Road has the next 5 releases starting off with another modern Japanese release the JMSDF DD-120 destroyer Shiranui.







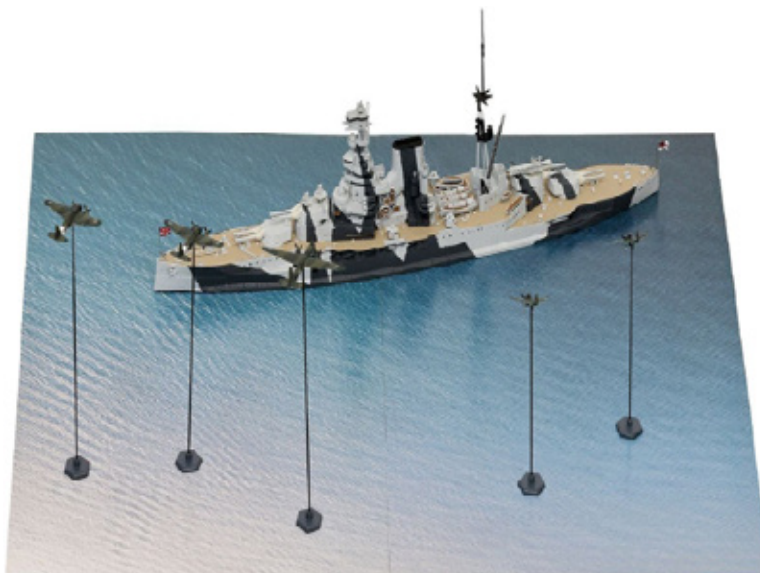
Another modern Japanese release from Pit Road is DDH-143 Shirane.



Next from Pit Road is the WW2 era USS Benson DD-421.



Pit Road has a release depicting HMS Barham under attack in the Mediterranean. by Luftwaffe aircraft. No He-177's were involved.



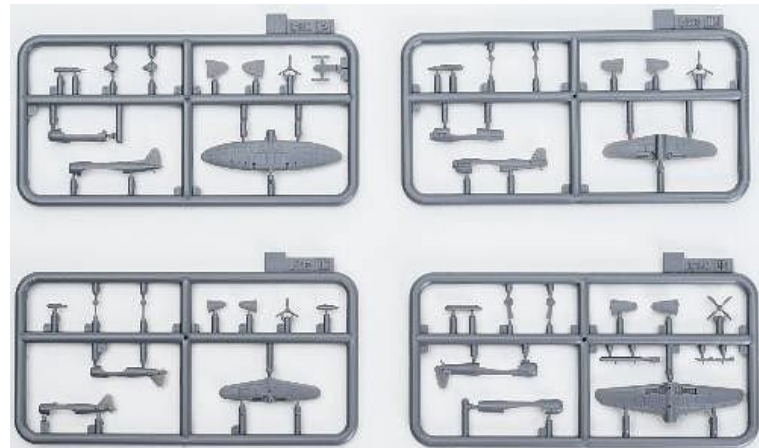
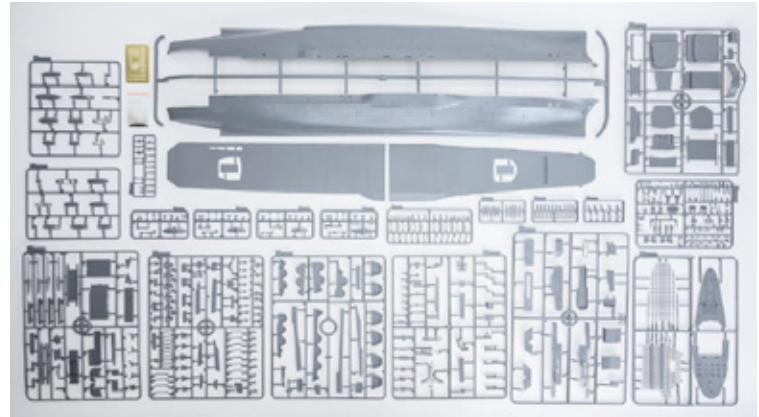
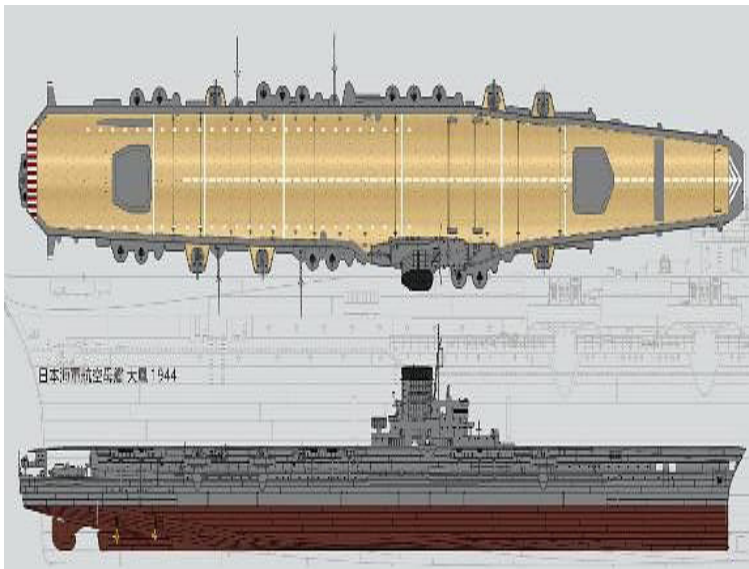
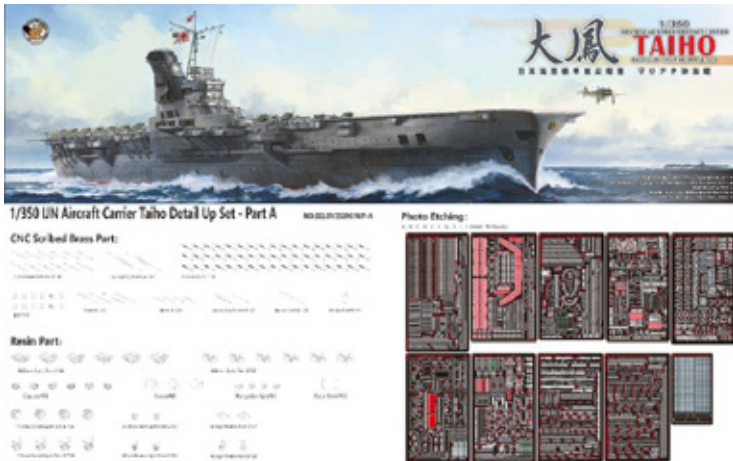


Last from Pit Road is US Army Vehicle and Simple Dormitory. This would be great for creating an air base diorama.

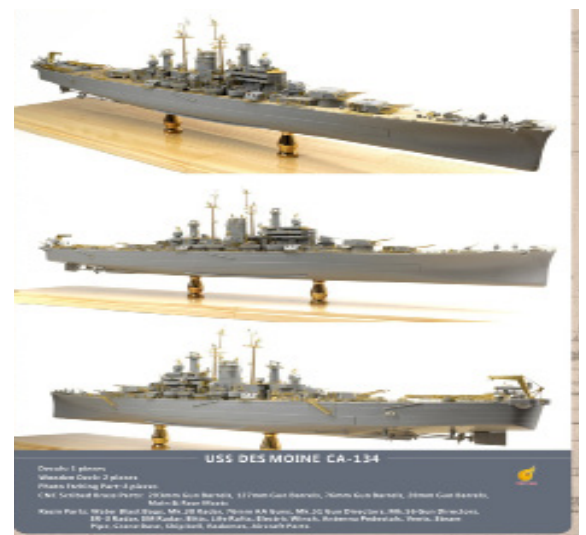
#### WWII アメリカ陸軍車両 & 簡易宿舎



Moving on to 1/350th scale just two releases, both from Veryfire. The first is the IJN carrier Taiho and she looked in the Mariana Offshore battle.

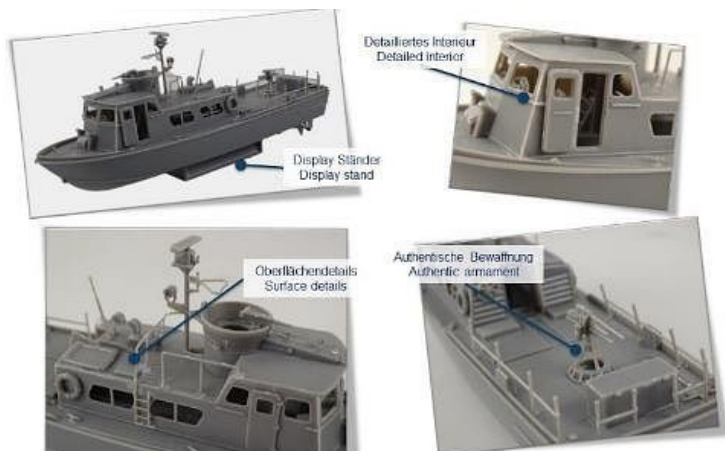


The second release from Veryfire is the heavy cruiser USS Des Moines. The DX version of this kit includes photo etch and a wooden deck.





Revell is releasing a Vietnam era US Navy Swift boat Mk 1.



Need a couple of anchors? Takom is going to fix you up with replicas of ones from the Yamato in 1/16th scale. . I know all things Yamato tend to sell but really?



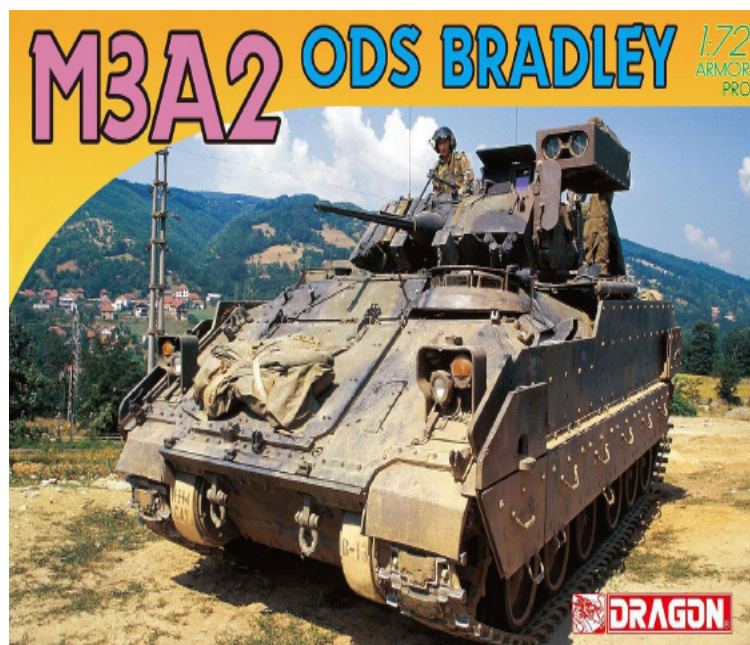
## Tracked Topics

By Panzer Lehr

starting off with 1/72nd scale let's get to it. Border Models is releasing a Leopard 2 A5/A6.



Dragon is up next with an Operation Desert Storm Bradley M3A2.







Revell is releasing a Russian BTR-50PK.



Vespid is releasing a Panther G.



On to 1/35th Scale. Dragon is first with two releases. The first is a T-34 76 1940 version.



Second from Dragon is a German SPG Marder 3H





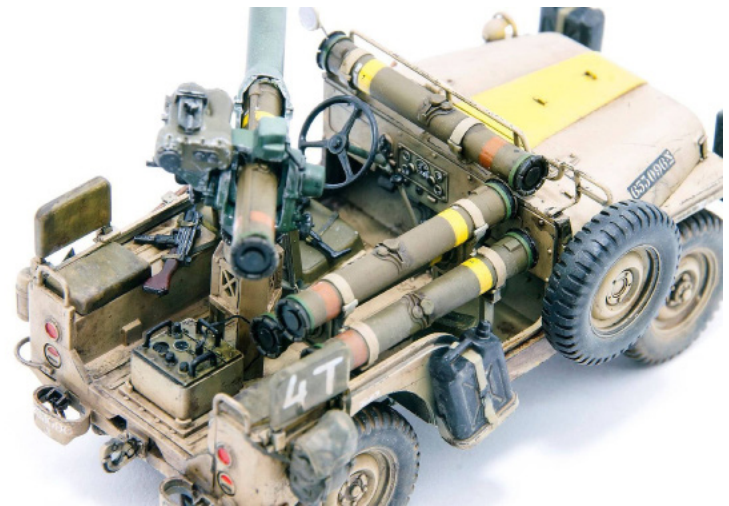


AFV has a cool IDF new release coming. It's an Israeli Orev M38A1/CJ-5. Basically a jeep with a TOW mounted on. It's nice to see AFV taking some risks with their releases.



**AFV CLUB**  
1/35 SCALE  
AF35S97

イスラエル国防軍  
1/4トン 4x4 M38A1 / CJ-5 オレブ TOWミサイル 搭載型



Gecko Models has an unusual release of their own. This one is a US Army M400 Small Skid Steer Loader Type 3.





Takom is taking its own risk by releasing a T3&Feldlumschlagger AT Fug 2.5T. It's nice to see something other than a Pzkw 4 or a Tiger 1.



Keeping with unusual releases IBG is releasing a Pzkw TKS. The TKS was a Polish tankette which was fast and very little. It enjoyed some success in the early campaigns of WW2.



MiniArt has two new releases this month. The first is an M3 Lee with a crew included.







Second from MiniArt is a late model Pzkwf 4 G-H circa May 1943.



Border Models has their own Pzkwf 4 J release upcoming.



ICM Has two coming up for us. The first is a German Marder 1 on FCM Base.





The second release from ICM is a welcome US Army Truck G7107.



ModelCollect has two paper panzers they are releasing. The first is an E-60A.



Next is an E-60D



Last from RPG is the modern Russian Typhoon Air Defense Variant.



Finally, last month I broke the bad news about Squadron's demise. This month I have good news about Squadron. It appears some folks have acquired Squadron and are bringing it back.



Hello fellow modelers!

We are excited to announce that [squadron.com](http://squadron.com) will be returning, under new ownership and management! Squadron will be back!!!

As most of you know, MMD-Squadron Holdings, LLC (The parent company of [squadron.com](http://squadron.com) and Military Model Distributors) filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy earlier this year. After 53 years of providing a place for modelers around the world to purchase their new and most favorite models and supplies, the end looked like it was upon us. This was a travesty we could not let happen!

Knot Models is a hobby merchandiser founded in 2016 that primarily does business in the Amazon Marketplace. Knot Models was founded by Chris Decker, a 20 year industry veteran who has built up and sold both hobby retailers and manufacturing companies over the years. Some of you might be familiar with Trident Hobbies, which became FreeTimeHobbies.com, and the model lines, Midship Models and Yankee Modelworks. Chris founded or was instrumental in bringing these lines to the marketplace.

In April of 2021, Knot Models purchased the business assets of MMD-Squadron holdings from the bankruptcy court in Texas. We have been working tirelessly since then to rebuild and replace the systems that [squadron.com](http://squadron.com) needs to operate. We have also been working to source inventory from manufacturers and distributors around the world. Our goal is to relaunch [squadron.com](http://squadron.com) in early June of 2021 with over 15,000 products available for you to purchase!

As we get closer to our launch date and have more details, we will be sending out more information. We are excited and eager to join you in this new chapter of Squadron.com!



Until then, Happy Modeling!

Chris Decker  
[www.squadron.com](http://www.squadron.com)



# It Figures

By Michael Lamm

Hello fellow modelers! Well, it's 100 degrees outside today, so I assume summer is here, regardless of the Solstice. Perfect weather to sit inside and work on some figures.

<http://www.mbltd.info/>

Masterbox kits are always nice to work on and their latest two kits look to continue that trend. First up is an early war set of Russian soldiers talking to a civilian. Masterbox kits are normally packaged as small vignettes and this one is called "About to be surrounded". Next up is a German mortar crew. They're intended to be an Afrika Korps crew, but I think they'd also pass for early war Heer crew. I like the poses of the Russian soldiers, very relaxed and realistic. The guy running with two cases of ammo boxes full of mortar shells, seems like a lot of weight to be hauling two like that, but either way, Masterbox plastic kits are normally well done.







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

I know I've liked most of Zvezda's 1/72 figures lately, but these last two look like duds. First up, a British command post, which includes every lame figure pose available. The only one missing is the green army man with the gun over his head, you know the one I'm talking about. Officer pointing? Check. Officer with binoculars? Check. Soldier saluting? Check. Guy getting a call about his car warranty expiring? Check.



Next up, is a Russian recon crew on a motorcycle with a side car. I've built the German version of this kit from Zvezda, and I hate the spokes and wheels. They look so bad, and aren't worth trying to fix. On top of that, Zvezda decided to give the driver a gun, but because of the limitations of the molding process, his gun extends out from his body.

Both of these are a hard pass.







<https://bravo6.diorama.ru/>

Bravo6 continues their excellent Vietnam figures. This time, a soldier carrying his injured buddy via a fireman carry. Both figures have great details and really look great.



Bravo Six is also releasing a set of Russian tankers either before or after action. Looks like their preparing dinner over a campfire.







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

From DEF model, we have a Korean War era Marine tanker. Anybody have a 1/35 Pershing in their stash? This is the perfect model to go with it. Nice resin figure with excellent details and looks to fit nearly perfectly once built.



Panzer Art is releasing a US Tanker Refueling.



Finally, Stalingrad is releasing a set of 13 tank riders. These guys are supposed to be circa 1945 vintage in Hungary.





That's all for this month. Stay cool!  
Go build a figure!

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!

## WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BUILDING

How did you built 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](mailto:ipms-q@ipmsusa.org)



Central Texas  
Scale Modeling Society







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

# Something for Everyone!



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](mailto: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





# LIONHEART

## — H O B B Y —



**5500 Jack C Hays Trail, Kyle, Texas 78640,**

**(512) 504-3404**

**10:00 am – 06:00 pm**





## 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