



SPRUE



EXAMINER



Vol 20 No. 12

December 2012

2011 IPMS/USA Website of
the Year

2009 IPMS/USA Newsletter
of the Year

2011 / 2009 IPMS/USA
Region 6
Webmaster of the Year

2010 / 2006 IPMS/USA
Region 6
Chapter of the Year



"Sometimes You Gotta Lay Out The Righteous Bucks"

**Phil 'Bondo' Brandt
1938-2012**

I attended the memorial service for Phil 'Bondo' Brandt on Sunday, December 2 in Austin at the Oak Hill United Methodist Church. This type of ceremony, for myself, tends to be one of reflection. From the mood at the services, I suspect that that is the case for many of us. The subject of death in our society tends to be shunted to the side and oft times ignored until we have no other choice.

When I first heard of Mr. Bondo's demise I was taken aback. I just saw him not that long ago! I had gotten word from Milton Bell that I subsequently forwarded to our group via e-mail. I received several replies to the news. All of them expressing their sadness and surprise that Mr. Bondo was no longer on this plane of existence.

If you are a follower of the website Hyperscale, Brett Green expressed his sympathies on Bondo's passing and noted his contributions to Hyperscale and to our hobby.

Floyd Werner was shocked and added that Bondo was a "great man, modeler and friend." Aaron Smischney wrote that while he didn't know Bondo that well, "the affection he earned from all of our members was a testament to his innate character."



Another also mentioned what a great guy he was and that they always looked forward

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Milton Bell	Jack Johnston
Phil Brandt	Mike Kachoris
Eric Choy	Dennis Price
Bill Delk	Pat Rourke
Jeff Forster	John Seaman
Mike Gilsbach	Ion Tesu
David Heno	Rick Willaman

Upcoming Events

Model Shows

- | | |
|--|---------|
| Calmex XXVII/ IPMS Swamp, Westlake (Lake Charles), Louisiana | 1.26.13 |
| www.ipmsswamp.com | |
| Model Fiesta 32, IPMS Alamo Squadron, San Antonio Event Ctr., San Antonio, Texas | 2.16.13 |
| alamosquadron.com | |
| MCMA 2013 Showdown, Metroplex Car Modelers, Farmers Branch, Texas | 3.9.13 |
| themcma.net | |

Local Club Meetings

- | | |
|--|----------|
| CenTex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, Texas | 12.20.12 |
| www.centextmodelers.com | |
| Austin Armor Modelers Society, Old Quarry Branch APL, Austin, Texas | 1.2.13 |
| www.austinarmorbuilders.com | |
| Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby, Austin, Texas | 1.3.13 |

IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter

Several IPMS members have since 2009 been managing the Warrior Family Support Center in San Antonio, Texas. The center is located at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

Troops are sent to BAMC for treatment and rehabilitation, some staying for up to 12 months. BAMC and the Center for the Intrepid are known as being among the elite medical facilities in the world for treatment and injuries received in combat zone.

Through the generosity of hundreds of IPMS members, IPMS chapters, and modelers the Warriors stationed at BAMC have received models, tools, books, movies and other hobby related items through the IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter.

Donations can be sent to IPMS Wounded Warriors Chapter contact person, Dick Montgomery,

dmontgomery8327@sbcglobal.net.

ASMS Officers & Chairpersons for 2012

Tim Robb, President
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Milton Bell, IPMS/USA Coordinator
454-2395, rmbell36@gmail.com

Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modeler's Society (IPMS/USA). ASMS meets on the second Thursday of each month. Annual dues for full membership are \$20 (individual) or \$25 (family).

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Message from the Prez**Tim Robb**

Hi Guys and Gals,

It was great to see so many of you at Bondo's Memorial Service. I'm sure that we made his family feel support. I'll bet all of you enjoyed meeting his brothers as much as I did. What great guys. But since they are related to Bondo, that is no surprise.

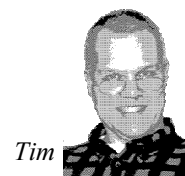
Please remember this year we have both a December meeting (Thursday, December 13) at our usual time and place, and a Christmas party (Saturday, December 15). We'll hold the white elephant contest at the meeting and have the annual white elephant gift exchange at the party.

Also please note, in January our meetings are moving from **second** Thursday to the **third** Thursday of the month. The venue stays the same. Thank you very much Milton for getting up and over to the library early on sign up day and securing our meeting place for another year.

We will hold elections for club officers at our January meeting. Officers are elected for two-year terms under the current by-laws. I have enjoyed my two years as president and it is now time for someone else to take a turn. I will have to miss the January meeting as work calls me to Galveston on that day.

Please don't elect me to any office in absentia. I need to re-charge before serving again.

Go Build a Model.

*Tim***Fiddly Bits**

First and foremost, if you have not R.S.V.P. for the club Christmas party on December 15, please do so now! Just send me a note at benmorton@grandecom.net and our hosts will be forever grateful. To those who have already done so, thanks!

As mentioned above, the day that our club meeting has changed. Instead of the **2nd Thursday**, it'll now be the **3rd Thursday** of each month. That change takes place for our **January 17, 2013** meeting. Please make a note! It's kind of like daylight savings time but with a lot less math!

If you recall the article from Mike Poole on *Opti-visors* and you are still searching for the perfect magnifying device, check out "LightSpecs." Foster Grant, www.fostergrant.com, manufactures glasses with a light source built into the frames of the glasses. I believe that you can get reading lenses as well as your prescription. Now you can build models and go around as a coal miner all at the same time! More importantly, build something and write it up for the newsletter.

Tim mentioned that we will be holding elections for new club officers at our January meeting. January is also the first month that dues are due. Our club dues are twenty dollars for an individual or twenty-five dollars for an entire family, per year. Please make your check payable to ASMS. You're most welcome to pay your dues at the club meeting or you can send a check to our treasurer. I suspect that Angela Forster will graciously consent to remain our treasurer. In which case the dues can be sent to her at the following address: Angela Forster, 1503 Cedar Cherry Drive, Cedar Park, Texas 78613. Remember, you don't wanna get "one of those looks." As always, your dues are much needed and appreciated.

Editor

to the next 'Road Less Traveled' project Bondo would come up with. Being among the group that didn't know Bondo that well, I was surprised and pleased to learn of his affection for 'pimpmobiles' and such. (He often rode around in a '72 Cadillac convertible).

Prior to the services, Bondo's wife Cindy came up to a group of us in the fellowship hall. She asked whether or not we were modelers. After acknowledging that we were, she thanked us for coming and said that she appreciated our being there. She also allowed that the only marching orders from Bondo she had about the disposition of his model collection were to dispose of it in an orderly and just fashion.



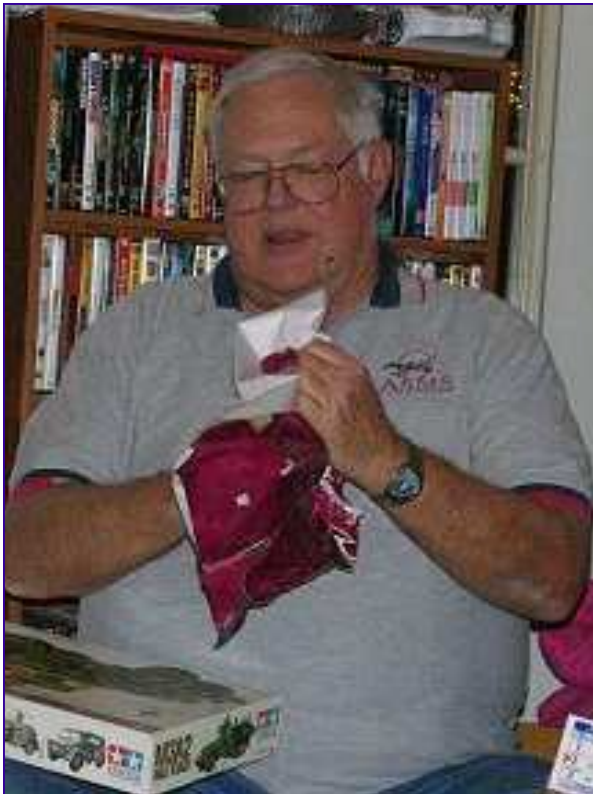
She thought, at the time, that the best method would be to hold a party for the members of our club and allow us to haul all of it away to nice homes. A most gracious and generous gesture. (More on that *if and when* time deems appropriate).

When Cindy left to greet some others, I thought to myself...how did she guess that we were modelers? The hunched posture from bending over a modeling surface, the ashen pallor of our skin from too little exposure to the sun, or perhaps the paint still on our hands?

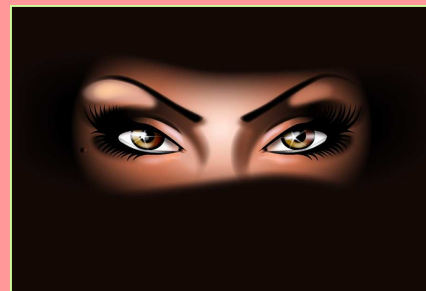
As was mentioned during Mr. Bondo's eulogy, he was many things. Husband and father. Brother and Air Force veteran, Steadfast friend and companion. Hot-rodder (in his misspent youth) and collector of select vintage cars. His magnetic giving personality permeated everything he did and affected all those to whom he came in contact.

The one particular thing he was for me, was a *MODELER*. It's an honor to be associated with a group that includes Phil 'Bondo' Brandt.

Editor



"I know you've been working on something!"



**Looking for
Newsletter Articles!**

Any Size, Shape or Subject

Submit your articles to
benmorton@grandecom.net
Assistance is available.

Messerschmitt Me-262 Production & Arado Ar-234 Final Operations

Written by David E. Brown, Tomas Poruba,
Jan Vldar

Reviewed by Floyd S. Werner, Jr.
IPMS# 26266

JaPo has been putting out some of the best researched books in recent memory. Their findings are without a doubt some of the best supported with data and logical conclusions. Their latest offering in the Luftwaffe over Czech Territory-1945 series deals with the Me-262, in particular the photo recon versions, and the Ar-234.

The softbound book contains 150 pages with over 220 photos and 15 color profiles. The high quality pages are filled with a plethora of information. The development of the Aufklärer version of the Me-262 is discussed. Not just the actual aircraft but the production centers and the various manufacturing facilities. Did you know there were two different versions of the photo recon variant? I didn't.

The photos included in the book are a combination of color and black and white. The quality of the photos is of the highest quality. The color photos include an Ar-234C, one that confirms the colors of 81/82, and a series of a crashed Aufklärer Me-262 that I've seen before but never so nicely rendered. The photos are impressive. Not only do you get the typical photos but the photos of the assembly plants and recovered remnants. All add to the value of this volume. Sure there are some Watson Wizard photos but the majority of the photos are before Watson's boys took over.



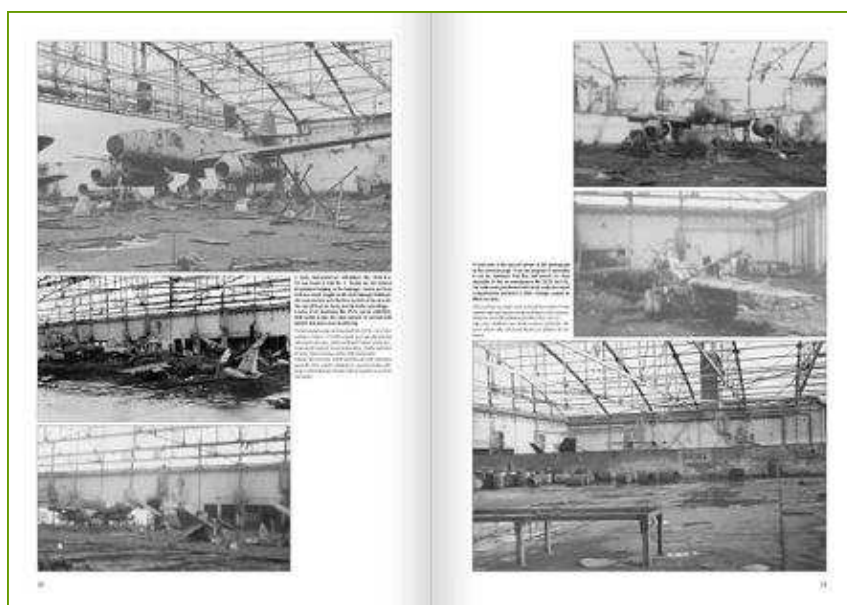
Here is a fact I did not know, the NASM Me-262 had a replacement nose when it was in storage. It had a photo recon nose fitted by the time the NASM got the aircraft. There are a bunch of photographs from this machine prior to restoration.

Besides the photo recon Me-262s and Ar-234s there are other aircraft included in the book. These aircraft are featured in the previous volumes. New information has come to light and the authors have updated the information with photos, drawings and color profiles. One is a Me-262 "Yellow 3" from JG7, the other is a Bf-109K-4 "Red 7" from JG27 and the Me-262V11. The aircraft are quite colorful and the profiles are beautifully executed.

The camouflage of the Aufklärer Me-262 is quite unique and the authors have included some splendid four view drawings of many of the aircraft included in the text. The removable nose section makes for some unique looking camouflage.

The Ar-234C-3 is discussed and the something I've never noticed is that there is a difference between the prototype and the production versions. You'll have to buy the book to find out what it is. There are plenty of new photos throughout the book not just in this section. There is a really nice little gem on the back cover from Kommando Beonow with the night fighting variant profile.

This latest offering from *JaPo* is everything that I've come to expect from them. The flawless research, informative read, beautiful photos, excellent profiles and historical significance all make this an excellent value.

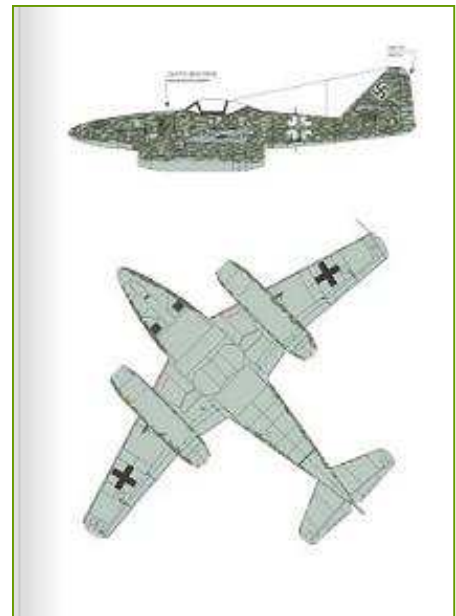
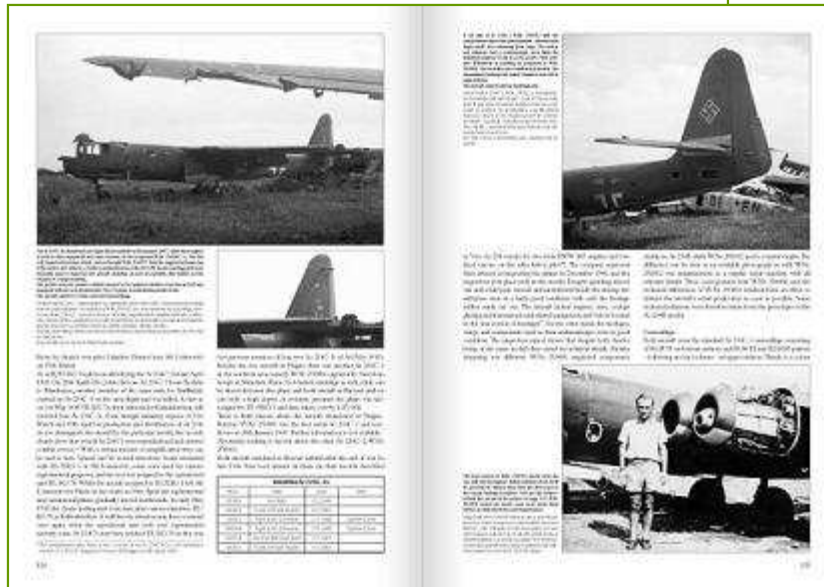


What more could you ask for out of a historical research project? Great job, *JaPo*. Highly recommended.

You can obtain your copy by contacting them at their website, www.japo.com.

Let them know you heard about it here.

Floyd



Quarterly Contest Schedule

by Ron McCracken
Vice-President

Our clubs quarterly contests are held on the last month of each calendar quarter. Here is the date and theme for the final contest of 2012.

Date	Theme
December	White Elephant Contest

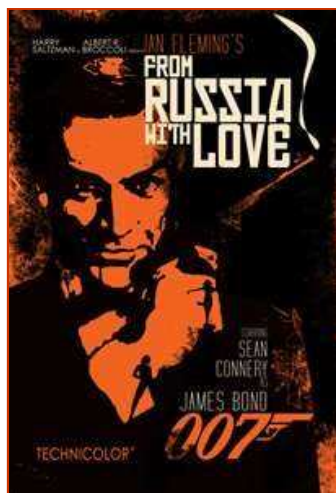
The Thin Air Nationals

The IPMS/USA National Convention will be held in Loveland, Colorado from August 14 thru August 17, 2013.



The convention website, www.ipmsusa2013.com, is up and running with all the details you could imagine about attending the 2013 National Convention.

From Russia, With Love



As you are undoubtedly aware, The Austin Scale Modelers Society (that's us) has been selected by IPMS/USA to host the 2013 Region Six Regional Model Contest.

The contest will be held at the Norris Convention Center in Austin on October 5, 2013. This contest will be in lieu of the Austin Scale Model Show normally held at that time.

Region Six encompasses Kansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. There are currently 26 chapters in our region. I would expect there to be a whole host of models to look over and appreciate. No doubt comprising every known subject on the planet. Although I don't believe there will be any plastic sushi or scale model furniture. Could be wrong?

I do hope that Jose Diaz from El Paso, Texas attends and has his paper model buses in tow. Of course, getting to meet the rest of the El Paso Club would be cool too!

There is also that group from down south, I believe, that might be worth the trip in and off itself: The George Armstrong Custer Gin Drinking and Model Building Society.

What could possibly go wrong with combining distilled spirits and model building? Although it might provide a golden opportunity for Bobbie Wilson to resurrect her club presentation: wrecked and ruined.

As with most model contests/shows the Region Six Regional Model Contest will have a theme award.



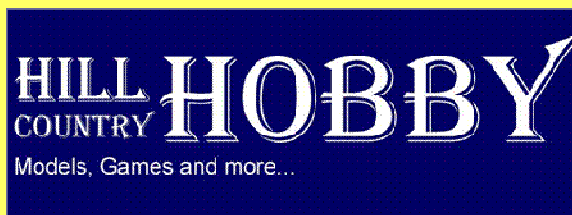
The theme chosen for the forthcoming contest will be "From Russia, With Love". This could be anything Russian or from the James Bond movie of the same name. Anything Russian is pretty easy, any Russian subject, from any era.

Anything from the James Bond movie might test your creativity a smidge. The chase scenes, one involving speed boats and another a helicopter, would both be worthy subjects.

So get your life in order, enjoy your friendships and loves, rent the movie, crack open a new bottle of gin and get to building!

Editor

Support Your Local Hobby Shop



Old Rumors/New Kits 2G

Aaron Smischney, Jeff Forster, Mike Poole,
Randy Bumgardner, Rick Herrington

Shipping News

This month we're going to go from the smallest to the largest scale.

Here are the upcoming releases most of which should be available this month (December).



In 1/700 scale comes an interesting release from *Cyber-Hobby*, USS Chicago GC-11 circa 1964. A guided missile cruiser

the Chicago was a WW II heavy cruiser that was re-configured into the one of the navies first missile cruisers.

Trumpeter is issuing HMS Warspite circa 1915 and *Fujimi* has the IJN Musashi (Yamato's sister ship) with Leyte sea base.

USMC LCAC (Landing Craft Air Cushion) from Hobby Boss. The Type 45 UK destroyer is being brought to us by our friends at *Airfix*. Both are 1/350th scale.

Moving on with the trend to bigger. Here are some of the larger boxes to stuff under the Christmas tree.

In 1/72nd scale is the Flower Class Corvette. This is re-release with photo-etch added from *Revell*.



1/35th scale comes PT-109 with photo etch. This is from *Italeri* including photo etch and the 37mm deck gun.

In box scale we have The Yellow Submarine w/Beatles display by *MPC*. This is the older kit, re-released. Rubber band not included.



That's it for this month. Have a great Christmas and happy building.

Rick

Automotive

Tamiya have announced the latest 1/12th motorcycle kit is the 1984 Honda NSR500. This is the first bike in the lineage of NSR racers that powered Honda to 10 championships from 1985 to 1997. Sorry, no oval pistons but it did have a "bundle of



"snakes" exhaust where the fuel tank would normally go and fuel storage under the sump for a lower dynamic center. This highly detailed kit is about \$40 with an optional machined aluminum fork up-grade set available for another \$20.

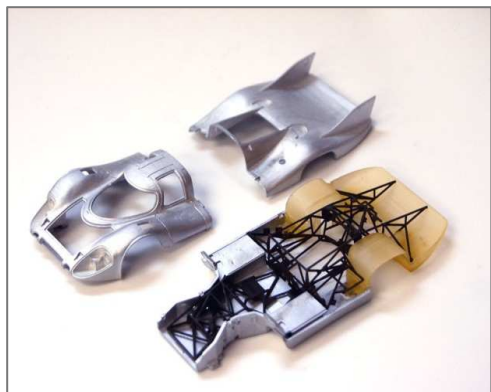
The Ukrainian company, *ICM* has announced a new 1/35th scale 1936 Packard 12 with four passenger figures. The sprue shots I saw show this to be a detailed model of about 150 parts.

It's a soviet special order so the passengers are Stalin, Molotov, Khrushchev, etc.

It's out now for about \$45. If you like passenger vehicles but prefer 1/35th ICM are planning several other war-related subjects from this era. Stay tuned.



Those crazy-smart folks at *Model Factory Hiro* have done it again. This time they are offering a 1/43rd scale version of their incredible Porsche 917 LH which competed in the 1970 Le Mans 24 Hours. The kit will feature an endless



assortment of resin, white metal, photo-etch, and list for \$175. Steep, but if you really want a detailed LH (and your eyes can handle this

scale) it's half the price of the 1/24th version at \$350! Look for versions of the #3 Martini "hippie car" and #25 Elford car this month.

Mike

Armor

Greetings armor fans and welcome to the armor curious. Lots of interesting stuff coming down the road!



First up we have an 'orange box' release from *Dragon* of a Tiger, early production. You may ask, so what? Don't we have a ton of Tigers from *Dragon*? Well this one is cool because it's almost a

re-boxing of the *Cyber-Hobby* Whitman Tiger which goes for \$100.00 to \$150.00 on eBay right now. Look for that market to collapse with this 'orange box' release! The price on this is reasonable at around \$40.00.

Next *MENG* Models has announced a brand new kit, the French AMX-30. This one has me super interested as it is a neat looking vehicle.



Also for you people who like to drag your tanks across the carpet



MENG is advertising it with "realistic and movable running gear so the model can realize travel actions."

I wouldn't recommend it but there you go. Look for this one late December or most likely early next year.

Also on deck from *Dragon* are some interesting items.



Kit # 6767 is a Japanese type 95 "Ha-Go". This one is pretty cool. All of the sprues are slide molded! If you're a fan of slide molding this is the slide-ist yet. Preorders are being taken at dragonusa.

Dragon is continuing its refinement of the Jeep kit. The first incarnation was a disappointing limited *Cyber-Hobby* re-release. Since then they have fixed some issues. Lets hope they have gotten all the problems sorted out with this new one. This is your classic SAS Jeep.



I'll be watching it closely! Kit# 6724 SAS 1/4 ton 4x4 Patrol Commander's Car.

Speaking of Jeep's, *Bronco* is also releasing a new kit hot on the heels of its debut Jeep kit. This one is interesting in that it also includes a first in plastic, a 37mm anti-tank gun.



Bronco's first Jeep kit I reported on is supposedly hitting shelves as we speak. The first rumblings are very good.

That's the highlights. See you next year!

Any problem caused by a tank can be solved by a tank.

Figurines

Just thought I'd drop this in to break up the usual odds and ends.

From *Master Box* comes this 1/35th scale set of Women of WWII. As you can tell there are four figures all in gray plastic. One of them is looking very coquettish. Or perhaps, she is just



admiring the 37mm?

Editor

Scary and Alien

Our correspondent is celebrating the Klingon month of *Huch Da Hulth*...no, that's 'lack of money'.

Maybe it's *Quch Da Hulth*. Anyway, they were unable to submit their usual fare for this month.

I imagine that we'll have a plethora of releases to read about in January.

Editor

Aircraft

Happy Holidays! I hope everyone's holiday season is well under way, and mostly stress free.

First up, *Academy's* brand spankin' new 1/48th F-4B Phantom II is on the shelves now. Well, at least on the cyberspace shelves. By the time you read this it may also be on King's Hobby shelves, as well. It's sure to be a hot seller this Christmas.

Aaron

From the reports I've heard, it outshines the old *Hasegawa* kit from years ago. Of course, no new kit release would be complete without a bit of controversy. So with this kit we have "schnoz-gate". Images and drawings have been flying around the World Wide Internets.

Some have stated the nose doesn't droop enough or is too bulbous, while others have stated it looks just fine. One guy, who actually has the plastic, had the nerve to post that the plastic actually matched the images and drawings that are flying around.

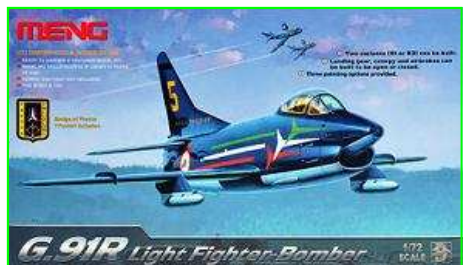
Another biggie to hit the shelves this season, and you should take that literally, is the new *Revell of Germany* 1/32nd



Heinkel He 219 "Uhu". Yes, you too can have a large box of cool bits of plastic that will essentially eliminate any room for other gifts.

The build ups online look very nice, and I haven't heard anything detrimental about the kit other than a significant lack of markings available. Hey, it was a night fighter, and there is not a lot of color variation!

Let's see, hot on the heels of their recent release of the 1/72nd F-102A, *Meng Models* has just released their 1/72nd Fiat G.91. The sprue shots I've seen looked very nice. It has very nice



detail and can be built as two versions, the G.91 R/1 or the G.91 R/3. Three sets of markings are provided in the kit, Italian (of course), West German, and marking for the

U.S. Army, ca. 1961 (Didn't see that coming.).

Meng also confirmed the imminent release of their 1/48th Messerschmitt Me 410B-2/U-4, which is a new tool kit and not a re-pop of the *Monogram* kit. I'm not sure when it will hit the shelves but from the sounds of it, very soon.



And, of course, *Wingnut Wings* have been busy little elves this holiday season. The Fokker D.VII has



been one of their anticipated releases. So, right around Thanksgiving, they released not one, but three versions of the Fokker D.VII (OAW, Albatross, and Fokker).

The modeling world went nuts and stretched the limits of worldwide shipping. And, as if that wasn't cool enough, they just announced the release of the Hannover C1.II. I wonder what else Santa (played by Sir Peter Jackson) and his New Zealand elves have in store for us.

HK Models, the company that brought us a nice big 1/32nd B-25J, and will be releasing a strafing version along with the B-25H in the near future, have something bigger in store for us. Cue the "Jaws" soundtrack...dun, dunt... duh, dunt... Their 1/32nd B-17G will be released in Q1/2013.

Now, no sprue shots have been revealed as of yet and a lot of modelers knew about their plans to produce this kit. However, now that *HK Models* have actually put a date on this upcoming release makes it a little bit more real.



But then again, I'm always a bit of an optimist, always scurrying through life with a smile on my face and a positive outlook. It saves me money on heartburn medication.

Last, and certainly not least, for the teeny-tiny aircraft enthusiasts in the crowd, *Great Wall Hobby* recently released a 1/144th Avro Vulcan B.2. Get it? Teeny-tiny, Avro Vulcan...alright, anyway, I remember seeing this huge aircraft at an air show in Milwaukee, Wisconsin when I was four of five years old (1969/1970).



It was huge and I got to touch it and climb up into it with the RAF crew. Things were a lot more fun then at air shows. It was an awesome sight to see it perform. There are markings for two planes, both carrying the grey/green wrap-around camo seen during the Falklands War. I think this would make a great stocking stuffer for yours truly.

'til next time...

Have a Happy Holiday Season and we'll see you next year!

Randy



In the latest issue of...
IPMS/USA Journal
 September-October 2012
 Volume 24, Number 5

- **Leaping Lizards!** Two models of Porsches racing in America in 1:24 scale, by Bill Bauer
- **The Ultimate Armadillo** - Traveling 12,000 years into the past with Paleocraft's 1:16 Glyptotherium Texanum, By Chris Bucholtz
- **Unsolved History** - The Mystery of the Curtiss XP-40Q, by Wayne E. Moyer
- **Black Panther Spitfire** - Building a very special Spitfire Mk VIII of 152 Sqdn. in 1:48, by Roy Sutherland
- **The Last Hawk's Last Flight** - Modeling the Final P-40Q, by Wayne E. Moyer
- **From Tamiya to Burning Man** - A miniscule model inspires the construction of a remarkable robot, by John Heck

Join IPMS/USA!

IPMS/USA is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas in 1964, there are now IPMS branches all over the world.

As part of your IPMS/USA membership, you will receive **The IPMS Journal** six times a year. In it you will find stories of interest on subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, and figures. You will also find listings of IPMS contests and swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews. Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA sanctioned Regional Contests, as well as our world-famous National Convention, held each summer. As a member, you'll also be able to access our online **Member's Forum** where a wide variety of society and modeling topics are discussed. In addition, many hobby shops around the country offer discounts to IPMS/USA members.

To join IPMS/USA, simply use the form below or go to www.ipmsusa.org and click **Join IPMS/USA!**

For any questions or problems regarding your membership application or renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager, Ms. M.J. Kinney manager@ipmsusa.org.

IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____
 (leave blank) FIRST M. LAST

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

VISA/MasterCard _____ Account # _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

☐ Adult: \$25 ☐ Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: _____

☐ Canada & Mexico: \$30 ☐ Other Foreign: \$32 ☐ Foreign Air Mail: \$55

☐ Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: _____)

☐ If recommended by an IPMS member,
 list his/her name and member number _____ (name) _____ (IPMS#)

IPMS/USA

Check out our web page: www.ipmsusa.org

P.O. Box: 2475

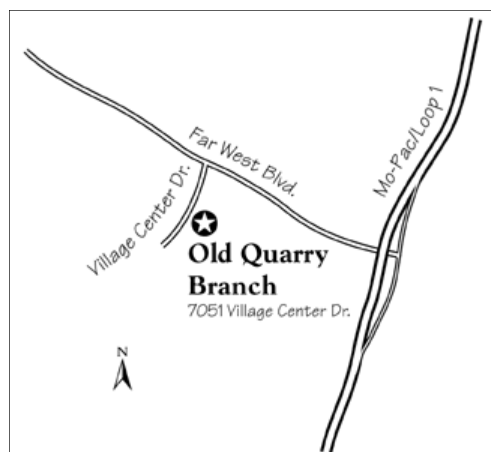
North Canton, OH 44720-0475



Austin Scale Modelers Society
c/o 1228 W. San Antonio Street
San Marcos, Texas 78666

www.austinsms.org

Next Meeting:
December 13, 2012
at
Austin Old Quarry Library
(7051 Village Center Drive)
7PM to 8:45PM



Santa Claus Is Coming!

Whether you been naughty or
nice have a wonderfully Merry
Christmas!

Don't forget the club Christmas party on December 15.

If you have misplaced your map or I failed to send you
one the first time please contact me.

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