



2009 IPMS/USA Newsletter of the Year
2009 IPMS Region VI Website of the Year



Vol. 18, No. 1

Newsletter of the Austin Scale Modelers Society

January 2010

SPRUE EXAMINER



New Date & Location for 2010 Meetings

Extra! Extra! Extra! ASMS monthly meetings in 2010 are now on a new date at a new (actually rather old) location.

We now meet on the **third Thursday of each month** back at the **Austin Yarborough Branch Library** (2200 Hancock Drive). So mark your new calendar and be sure to show up on the right day at the right place! 🛩️

Editor



Monogram's 1/48th B-25J A Vintage Kit From 1981

by Milton Bell, IPMS #16702

I remember the first "Up to Date and Accurate" B-25 from Monogram. It was the B-25H with the snout of a 75 mm gun showing through a gun port below the pilot. I was impressed!

I didn't buy the kit, but Greg Springer built it and it looked good. By the time I got around to getting one, it was out of production. A little later Monogram brought out the Glass Nose B-25J with a big "Pancho" decal on the nose.

That one I bought but never built. From time to time I would take it down and look it over. I had built Monogram's B-26 and enjoyed the build but hated the raised detail that I removed trying to get the fuselage seam to disappear. I expected the same from the B-25 so I hesitated. At the time I had not tried rescribing so the kit languished in my closet until a friend offered me some really neat markings from a new company. All I had to do to try them was build a 1/48th B-25J!

I agreed to try the decals and write a quick review of them so out came the old kit. By this

(continued on page 4)

ASMS is on the Internet

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Upcoming Events**Model Shows**

IPMS/SWAMP, CALMEX XXIV, Westlake, LA	Jan 30
IPMS/Alamo Squadron, Modelfiesta 29, Live Oak, TX	Feb 20
IPMS/MCMA, Showdown #20 2010, Irving, TX	Mar 13

Local Club Meetings

Austin Armor Builders Society, Austin Public Library Yarborough Branch	Feb 3
Lone Star Military Miniature Society, San Marcos Public Library	Feb 13
Central Texas Scale Modeling Society, Harker Heights Activities Center	Feb 18

**Support Our Troops!**

In support of the initiative to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones in Iraq, IPMS/USA has elected to have the following contact points for **The Iraq Model Network**. Any individual, IPMS chapter, or industry supporter who wishes to make a donation, please contact:

SFC Fleming, Leighton O.
leighton.fleming@us.army.mil

-or-

Michael DeWalt
michael.dewalt@iraq.centcom.mil

-or-

MWR
c/o G. Vickers
KBR/C-5, Unit 6012, APO AP 09378

**ASMS Officers & Chairpersons for 2009-10**

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Kathy Roady vendor liason, asmsvendors@swbell.net	260-2907
Milton Bell IPMS/USA coordinator, mbell6@austin.rr.com	454-2395

Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is affiliated with the International Plastic Modeler's Society (IPMS) as the Republic of Texas Chapter. ASMS meets the second Tuesday of each month except December. Dues for full membership are \$20 yearly. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Mike's Montage...

As other prez's have written in the past about the New Year, I'll not be the one to break the tradition. Well folks, another year has come and gone, past resolutions made in hopes of bettering oneself maybe still in place or broken.

For me, some resolutions lasted, and some just didn't make it. But that's what is so great about a new year. You have the chance to start over whether it's your work, personal life or the hobby you love. Last year I did volunteer more and get involved in the other clubs shows, but the pledge I made to build models did not materialize as well as I would have expected. A modeling friend said to me just the other day: getting started is the first step, and start with 15 minutes a day working on your craft. As your skills and confidence grow, you will see a difference in your work, and the joy and satisfaction of turning out something will give you pleasure.

His words of advice not only work for your hobby but also in everyday life. Try starting out with 15 minutes a day on something that you would like to pursue. Whether tackling a new model subject, exercising to better oneself, or making new friends, it maybe a life-changing path for you.

Good luck and Happy New Year. 

Mike

got dues?

ASMS needs your dues more than your body needs milk! Bring your dues (\$20 for individual, \$25 for family) to the next meeting. You can also write a check payable to ASMS and mail it to our treasurer:

Angie Forster
1503 Black Cherry Drive
Cedar Park, TX 78613

2010 Monthly Meeting Program Schedule

January Presentation by **Russ Holm**
February Presentation by **Tim Robb**

Program presenters for the rest of the year will be determined in our January meeting. 

Werner's Wings ROTOWASH Walk Around DVDs

by Floyd S. Werner, Jr.
IPMS #26266

Here are the preview cover photos for the new Werner's Wings Rotorwash Walk Around DVDs:



Vol.1 UH-1 Short Bodied Hueys Vol.2 UH-1 Long Bodied Hueys

If you like Ray Wilhite's (a.k.a. ROTORWASH) photos on ARC (www.aircraftresourcecenter.com), then you have seen the quality and quantity. Even so you haven't seen all of them or nowhere near. Ray has traveled around the U.S. taking photos at museums and flying aircraft and has allowed me to share them with you.

Specifically designed with the modeler in mind, EVERYTHING you could possible want to know on Hueys is included. Contained on each DVD are over 1,500 photos. You can search for specific items that you are modeling by using the Windows search engine, i.e. type in "UH-1D Main Rotor" will return all the photos of the UH-1D Main Rotor system on the DVD. These DVDs are a one stop shop for your modeling needs.

Both videos are available for immediate delivery. The cost is USD \$12 plus shipping for each volume. For more info on how to order, please visit www.wernerswings.com.

Thanks to Ray for providing the hard work. What would we like to see next? 

Floyd

(Monogram's B-25J continued)

time there was a bit of warping evident on part of the fuselage and the wings. No matter, I was convinced that I could resolve the warpage problem and rescribe the fuselage and wing tops.



Rescribing was not difficult, but I went through several lengths of Dymo labeling tape. The best scribing tool I had was from Bare Metal Foil and I had to resharpen it several times. The tape was my straight-edge, and the model kit was molded in silver styrene and that helped. If you didn't know, kits molded in silver retain an image of detail even if it gets sanded off.

Since the B-25 had a high wing, most of the maintenance and inspection hatches were on the bottom, leaving the wing top relatively smooth except for areas around the nacelles and the fueling ports. So, I decided to rescribe the top and forget the bottom—it's not readily seen anyway and has a lot of intricate detail that I did not want to lose.

The fuselage was rescribed as far as possible before the halves were glued together. Same was true for the wings. When the fuselage was assembled and the seam sanded and filled, I scribed the missing panel lines. The horizontal stabilizer's detail was pretty straightforward and it was all rescribed. No sweat.

Since the cockpit is pretty much buttoned up and little can be seen, very little effort was made for super detailing. Belts were added from lead foil with no buckles added. Sidewall detail was painted but not added to with PE or resin. The only detail addition was a drop of CA added to each instrument face. The cockpit interior was painted Dull Dark Green. The real thing was possibly Bronze Green but a viewer of the model can't really tell. The remainder of the fuselage interior was painted Yellow Zing Chromate. Seat cushions were painted dark tan. Everything inside was given a good coat of Future and then washed with burnt umber. A wipe-down left just enough of the dirty brown oil paint to define the details and structure.



The wings were assembled, and I discovered one of the main faults of the kit; the nacelle to wing bottom fit is really bad. Take a look at the photo. That's a gap of almost a 1/16th of an inch



around the nacelle. My best bet was to align the nacelle top to bottom and then tack glue it to the wing bottom. The gap was filled with Milliput (Standard) which I rolled into several small "snakes." These were pressed into the gap with a small flat piece of wood. When the gap was filled, I smoothed the joint down with a wet finger tip. Next day, the filler was dry and hard as rock! I spent quite a while sanding it all down. Needless to say, I lost a lot of detail around the nacelles.

One of the challenges of doing twin engine bombers of the period that sit on tricycle gear is keeping the nose down. Kits usually suggest building in props that conveniently fit as accessories to hold the tail up. I really prefer not to carry a bunch of props around and have to assemble them in order to display the model.

Fortunately, there is room to hide weight even with the clear nose. The area opposite the nose gear well can be packed with lead shot, sinkers, or whatever. Also the bombardier's crawl space can be packed with weight. I even formed a "pack" from lead putty and placed it in the front office after painting it OD. Weight needs to be added as far forward as possible. If you need more, you can wrap lead wire or solder just behind the engines. I recommend leaving the cowlings off until the very last just in case.

The wings are guided onto the fuselage by a couple of spar-like extensions from two formers. This simplifies getting the dihedral reasonably correct. I found that using rubber bands around the nacelles and across the fuselage held the wings in place until the glue had set. I also found that a small amount of filler was needed around each joint but very little detail was affected.



I hate to add landing gear struts at an early stage of building. Unfortunately, the B-25's nose gear has to be added before the fuselage halves are glued together. Luckily, I broke mine only once. A brass pin strengthened the strut and gave me a little more confidence. The main gear struts were left off until the very end. They can be added easily with no modification but you should always check the model to be sure.

The same thing applies to guns. I found that I could add the tail guns after most painting was done and the waist guns were attached to the clear parts with white glue and then the clear parts were attached. The nose gun was done in a similar manner but here I had to prefit the clear nose cap. When I was sure it would fit, I fixed the gun in place with white glue and then added the clear cap.



Most of the warpage I encountered was in the nose but since it was probably unique to my very old kit, I'll not go into dealing with it. If you need to know, just ask.

Now a word (or two) about colors. Bombshell includes photos of the subject which I find to be a great help. All this series of B-25J's were based on Corsica. The one I modelled was named "Stuff" and was from the 445th Bomb Squadron. If you have read Joseph Heller's *Catch 22* or seen the movie, this is one of the groups he wrote about.

Most, if not all, of the B-25Js assigned to Corsica were supplied in natural metal finish (NMF). They remained so until a surprise visit from the *Luftwaffe*, and several planes were damaged or destroyed. From then on, they were given a coat of camouflage color on the top side. This color depended on the availability of paint. Some were painted in British Dark Green, and some were done in USAAF Olive Drab. Stuff's photo sure looks like OD, so that's what I used.



These aircraft were used hard, so I chose to dirty mine up some. Extra black was sprayed around the engines, top and bottom to suggest oil and exhaust that was blown back by the prop wash and tracked around by maintenance personnel.

Bombshell's decals came off the backing sheet quickly and cleanly and responded well to MicroSol red label decal solution. The colors are opaque and bright. Since the markings looked almost too new, I chose to dull them down by painting over them with my Burnt Umber wash and then rubbing off most of the stain.



If you choose to do a B-25J, be aware that the top turret did not have painted bands over or across it. Other than metal shields in the slits that allowed the guns to elevate, all the parts were clear. What appear to be bands are overlapping parts of the clear sections of the turret cover.

That's about all I can say for this older kit. I notice that it has been reissued in a Revell Box. It's not bad for its age, and if you want to do a B-25J, you don't have much choice. Those Accurate Miniatures B-25 kits are all earlier versions.

If you want a late B-25, just buy it and build it and enjoy it. Have fun! 

MB





14 Years Ago (January 1994) ...

• **Lori Eichelberger**, was elected President, the first (and only so far) woman ever to head ASMS. **Tim Robb** received the job of Veep. The job of the treasurer stayed with **Roger Williams**, and a freshly retired **Milton Bell** remained as the Secretary.

• Peculiar (but perhaps familiar to some of us) notice filed under the title "**Anxious In Austin**" in the newsletter by then editor **Milton Bell**:

At last month's meeting, Skip Perrine brought in a 1/72 scale model of a Hawker Tempest. Since Skip isn't accustomed to picking up aircraft models, he walked out without the Tempest. The tough part is, it wasn't his. So if you have it or know who was last to leave, give Skip a call.



South West Area Modelers of Plastic
Proudly Present

CALMEX

XXIV

January 30, 2010

78 Categories in 14 Divisions
Additional Special Awards

Fees:
Adult (18 & Over) \$10.00
for 1st entry, \$1 for each addtl
entry

Junior (13 to 17) - \$5.00
for up to 5 entries

Preteen (under 13) - Free

Vendors Tables - \$15 ea.

Homemade Gumbo

Vendor Area Open - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Registration - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Judging - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Awards Presentation - 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Managan Center - 1000 McKinley St., Westlake, LA

New Modeling Tools from the Orient

by Eric Choy, IPMS #44323

Here are some new products I encountered while vacationing in the Far East during last Christmas:



Tamiya XF81 RAF Dark Green 2

Tamiya XF82 RAF Ocean Gray 2

Tamiya XF83 RAF Medium Sea Gray 2

Aircraft modelers rejoice! Three new acrylic RAF colors in 10cc bottles.



Tamiya Limonene Cement (87113)

What? First cotton swabs, now citrus scent liquid cement! No doubt this is manufactured to counter a certain state's stringent import requirements.

The 40ml bottle comes with a brush in the cap. Price in the U.S. TBA.

GSI Creos Mr. Line Chisel (GT65)

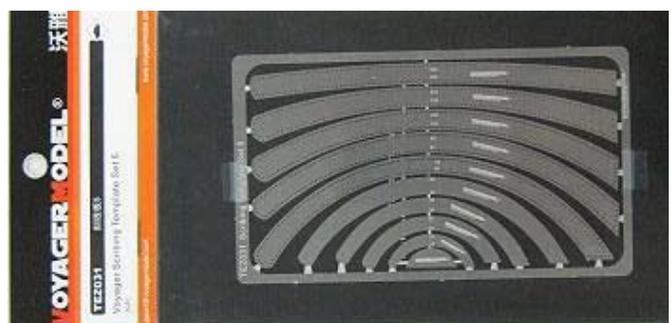
Micro chisel with detachable tip from Gunze's Mr. Hobby. A 0.3mm chisel bit is included. Price ¥2,200 (about USD \$24.23).

The stock number for the replacement bit is GT65A, and a 0.2mm (GT65B) chisel bit is also available. Both are priced at ¥800 (about USD \$8.81) each.



Voyager Model Scribing Template Set 5 (031)

This latest set contains ten photo-etched templates in different curvatures. Price in the U.S. TBA.



Old Rumors & New Kits

It's great to start off a brand new year of news and rumors about modeling. Scale modeling that is. I once filled out a form and said I was interested in model photography and got several queries from young ladies who aspired to be models. And no, I didn't.

On a personal note, I recently had cataract surgery. I had the first eye done in December and my left eye just last week. I have to say if any of you need it or have a friend or family member who is afraid of the procedure, it's a snap and the results are great! The procedure is painless, takes only about fifteen minutes and then you get to go home. You can take the eye patch off the next day and you can see so much better. Will my model building improve? Probably not but I'll be seeing my mistakes clearer!

Presently I'm working on the Cessna Bobcat from Czech Models and it's coming along pretty well. There are a lot of good so-called "limited run" models that aren't main stream and so don't always have all the detail or engineering the top shelf kits have. It takes a bit more experience but after doing a few ordinary kits most modelers should be up to the task. I recommend trying one or two.

The most impressive list of new kits comes from Revell of Germany. This time the good aircraft kits are 1/32nd scale since that seems to be the new 1/48th. RoG lists three that really stand out. First is an Arado Ar.196A followed by a BaE Hawk T-1 Red Arrows. Then there is the first injected 1/32nd He.111P. That's right. I suppose that since the Ju.88 was met with considerable enthusiasm and success, they decided that an He.111—which is only slightly larger—would be a good idea. Certainly sounds good to me! Just don't get in a hurry for any of these. All three are slated for a fourth quarter release. Maybe Santa will bring you one!

If you want a nice 1/32nd helo, you can get the EC-145 MedStar Eurocopter in April. This should be an ideal subject for 1/32nd scale. Plenty of doodads and fiddly bits to work with.

For us fans of 1/48th, RoG is bringing back some of the former Monogram goodies from days gone by. The Do.335 is back on the shelves as is the A-10 Thunderbolt II, one of the best Warthog kits produced IMHO.

Revell-Monogram will bring back the Monogram B-26 Marauder, the He.111H-22 with buzz-bomb, the F4C Phantom, all 1/48th, and the 1/72nd F-82 Twin Mustang. They also list a MiG 25 Foxbat which is likely the old Revell kit. Look for them the first and second quarters.

It appears that R-M has dusted off a bunch of older tools so don't be surprised to see some interesting re-pops of oldie kits, such as the Creature From the Black Lagoon, the Black Knight of Nurnberg, Corporal Missile with Transporter, USS Chicago,

'67 Dodge Charger, and the list goes on. Just keep watching those LHS shelves and this space.

I just picked up one of the two new 1/72nd Airfix Canberra kits, the B(I)8 and discovered it to be a really nice kit. No idea how it fits but it's from a new tool and has markings for three versions. I'll be doing a SAAF bird that should be a very colorful model.

Airfix also released a new 1/72nd Spitfire kit, a Mk.IXc I believe, and I hear it's a good kit as well. Airfix has several more new kits to deliver this year including a Spitfire Mk XII, Bf.109E, BaE Hawk T1, Bf.109E Trop, and a couple of Westland Lynx kits—army and navy versions—and all in 1/48th.

There are quite a few new subjects for ship modelers for 2010. Revell is showing a 1/700th *Tirpitz* and *Bismarck* set for a Summer release. Airfix has a 1/350th scale Trafalgar class submarine.

Fine Molds has a really good looking 1/72nd IJN A-Target Type A Midget Submarine kit. That was the type used at Pearl Harbor. AFV Club has a 1/350th scale IJN I-58 Submarine, late type. Pit Road also lists an IJN I-58 in the same scale but at a slightly higher price. Pit Road also has a 1/350th 2nd. Class Cargo Ship with PE as well. Could be that PE makes up the price difference.

For armor builders, Revell of Germany lists as new a Wiesel 2 Le Fla Sys (*Waffentrager Ozelot*) in 1/35th that's set for a fourth quarter release. They will also release an 8.8cm Flak 36 and Sd.Anh. 202 in 1/72nd, probably in September.

AFV Club has a number of new releases on the way, most due in February. These include a 1/35th M35A2 "deuce-and-a-half" Cargo Truck and a Swedish Army Ikv-91 Tank. AFV also has some figure sets for those armor diorama or vignette builders. Among these are an M5A1 Light Tank Crew, an Operation Iraqi Freedom PKO Figure, and an Operation Iraqi Freedom Sniper Team. Again, these are slated for a February release.

A few months ago, Tamiya released a 1/48th kit of the Austin Light Utility Truck. I believe it could be built in two or three versions, RAF and USAAF, since they were used around the air fields during WWII. Now it appears that a company called SKP Model has brought out the same vehicle in 1/35th scale and in either RAF or USAAF markings. No word on the price but again, look for it in either February or March.

And speaking of Tamiya, their next release for 1/48th is a German *Hanomag* Sd.Kfz.251/1 Ausf.D "*Stuka Zu Fuss*" with rocket launcher. That should be a good subject for the scale. I may want one.

That's all for this month. See you at the meeting Thursday. Be sure to bring a model, finished or in progress .



In the latest issue of...

IPMS Journal

November/December 2009
Volume 21, Issue 6

- **Nationals Remote Reporting** — Reporting on the Nationals without being there, by Dick Engar with Don Alberts;

- **Anrzej Ziober's Lancaster** — How a Polish modeler took high honors at Columbus, by Mike Dobrzelecki;

- **Nationals Winner Gallery** — Juniors, Aircraft, Military Vehicles, Figures, Ships, Automotive, Space & Sci-fi, Dioramas, Miscellaneous, and Special Awards;

And much, much more!

By Modelers
— For Modelers®



Join IPMS/USA!

IPMS/USA is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage, of Dallas, Texas, in 1963, there are now branches of IPMS 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 county 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!** Payment may be made via personal check, money order, or credit card. Applications using Check or Money Order should be printed upon completion of the registration process and mailed to:

IPMS/USA
Dept. H, P.O. Box 2475
North Canton, OH 44720-0475

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

IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

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(leave blank) FIRST M. LAST

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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

P.O. Box: 2475
North Canton, OH 44720-0475

Check out our web page: www.ipmsusa.org

Next Meeting:
January 21th, 2010
at
Austin Yarborough Library
(2200 Hancock Drive)



Austin Scale Modelers Society
Eric Choy
13213 Marero Drive
Austin, TX 78729

