



SPRUE



EXAMINER



Vol.19 No.6

June 2011

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Old But Not Forgotten

by Oscar Perez

I like building old model kits. They are inexpensive and a lot of fun. They might not come with all the latest bells and whistles, but at least you can get the gluing done in a day or two instead of weeks. A decent paint job can make an old kit look just as good as the high dollar mega-part offering from Tamiya, DML, or Trumpeter.

In the case of this *Panzerkampfwagen II Ausf.D* in 1/35th scale, it is the old Alan Hobbies product I acquired from a while back. I have built several of these Russian kits before, and they are generally not too bad. This kit is no exception.



I built this model basically straight out of the box. The only part foreign to the kit is the jack on the left fender. I had to replace the badly molded kit jack with one from my spare parts box. I also used my Dremel to rough up the turret surfaces to simulate the casting texture on the real thing. Weld seams were added by laying down small lines of putty along the joints of the armor plates. The cable on top of the engine covers was a simple nylon thread glued to the kit supplied end loops.

I chose a typical (and easy) *schwarzgrau* paint scheme for my Polish Campaign Panzer II. I ran a wash for the shadows and drybrushed light gray to the edges to create highlights. All the chippings were done by “sponge” method with rust colored paint. The kit’s decals were okay, but they needed a lot of Microsol to conform to the raised hatches on the sides of the turret.

(Continued on page 4)

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Upcoming Events

Model Shows

IPMS/Metro OKC, SOONERCON 2011, Moore, OK	June 18
Squadron EagleQuest XX, Grapevine, TX	June 23-25
2011 IPMS/USA National Convention, Omaha, NE	Aug 3-6
IPMS/HAMS, Fifth Annual Model Car Show & Contest, Spring, TX	Aug 20

Local Club Meetings

Lone Star Military Miniatures Society, Shady Hollow Community Center	June 11
Centex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, TX	June 16
Austin Armor Builders Society, APL Old Quarry Branch	July 6

Other Events

Pacific Combat Living History Reenactment, NMPW (Nimitz Museum)	June 18-19
Denton Air Fair and Airshow, Denton, TX	June 18



Support Our Troops!

The Iraq Model Network is an initiative for providing model kits, supplies, and reference materials to our service men and women serving in the combat zones of Iraq.

Any individual, chapter, or industry supporter who wishes to make a donation, please visit the IPMS/USA website (www.ipmsusa.org) and click on the Support The Troops page link.

ASMS Officers & Chairpersons for 2011-12

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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 except for December. 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
President**

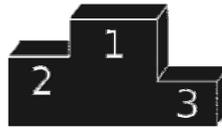
It's June so the Car Contest is upon us! Thank you to all who built a car for the contest. I hope you have enjoyed the modeling change of pace as I have. And I hope we'll see all your model cars entered in our show this September. Do you remember that it was the dearth of cars in our last show that prompted this? A very special thank you to Mike Poole for the two outstanding lessons on car modeling. Now it's time to see how our cars stack up next to his.

See you at the meeting. Bring a model and bring a friend.



**Quarterly Contest
Schedule**

by Ron McCracken,
Vice-President



Just a reminder our club's quarterly contests will be held on the last months of each calendar quarter. Here are the dates and themes for the rest of 2011:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Theme</i>
June 9	Car Model
September 8	None
December ? (TBA)	White Elephant



♥♥♥ **Page Three Girl** ♥♥♥



This is a bust of Scarlett and Rhett from the movie *Gone With The Wind* **Bob Bethea** painted for a friend. It may not be the right Page Three Girl material that we're looking for, but frankly, my dear, we don't give a damn! This 200mm Scarlett is hot! ✍️



EagleQuest XX
Thursday June 23, thru Saturday June 25, 2011

www.squadron.com

Newsletter Articles Needed!

by **Ben Morton**, Editor-in-training, or
Bob Bethea might characterize it... "sucker!"

Modeling articles, kit or decal reviews, modeling DVD's and assorted sundry are always needed for the newsletter. If you would like to submit something for consideration, please forward that item to either Eric Choy (asmsnews@gmail.com) or Ben Morton (benmorton@grandecom.net).

If I can do it, so can you! ✍️



Ben

(Continued from page 1)



The link-to-link tracks went on the model just fine. In talking to my friend Eric (editor: yours truly), I realize I may be the sole modeler who paints tank tracks exclusively with artist oils. I start with Raw Umber and let the tracks dry for at least two days. Next I apply a Burnt Umber wash for my first highlight. I then add my final highlight with a heavily diluted Burnt Sienna. Once dried, I come back with a mixture of Silver and Burnt Sienna for the track wear.



The idea of painting the tracks this way came from my observation of the heavy machineries at a road construction site near my apartment. For two days I hung out near the site at different hours to check out the color variations of the tracks. I suppose my repeat appearances finally made the construction crew nervous, and they thought I was up to no good. A short conversation with the foreman ended my "research," and I was told to stay the heck away!

I constructed a base to depict a simple street corner scene. The lamp post came from Tamiya's old Road Sign set. I broke the upper part by accident while putting the base together. During a trip to Hobby Lobby, I found a cheap

pearl bead that looked like a good replacement. After I painted it up, I think the lamp post now look kinda-sorta more European than Tamiya's boxstock offering.



Modeling is not about accumulating kits but building them. Many times have I seen older kits like this one being overlooked or trash-talked at the club's auction. I don't think that is right. They too deserve to be built just like any other kit. 🛩️

Oscar



2011 Scalefest Recap

by Eric Choy, IPMS #44323

Only a handful of ASMS members made it to IPMS/NCT's Scalefest this year. My entourage included **Rod Bell**, **Pat Rourke**, **Russ Holm**, and **Rick Herrington**. Being the smallest guy in the group, I was the "meat" of a sandwich formation in the backseat during the entire trip (no sex jokes please)! Upon arrival we saw **Bruce Burden** already there working up a sweat, and we also ran into **John Seaman** and son at the contest tables. **Mike Krizan** stayed long enough to shop at the vendor tables before heading home early. **Milton Bell** and "Bondo" **Phil Brandt** arrived together but late due to a "flameout" incident; Bondo's Cadillac was struck by Interstate debris, and one of his tires had gone flat. Two hours later the vehicle was back on the road but not without setback; the new tire cost Bondo \$260!

After bouncing around various venues for a few years, NCT returned to the Mesquite Rodeo Center for Scalefest this year. It was a nice facility with plenty of floor space. The only drawback was its location out in the sticks of the Metroplex. It took us half an hour to travel from Mesquite to Squadron's HQ in Carrollton. But then again Squadron offered free lunches to calm our growling stomachs, so we had no complaints.

Squadron Open House (SOH) sale was somewhat disappointing this go around. Not too many bargains were on the tables, and kit prices have all gone mental lately due to high fuel costs. Rick, being the most luxurious shopper in our group, only made a \$52 donation to Squadron's coffer while Russ broke all records by spending less than \$10 for a few magazines and a figure kit. The days of racking up your plastics at SOH are definitely over.

Back at the Rodeo Center, I noticed the total number of entrants and entries appeared lower than last year. After the winners were announced, I was aghast with some of the results. In particular, the judging of Armor and Artillery categories, in my opinion, were way too subjective. I believe the official IPMS competing standards were not strictly adhered to in some cases. As a result, some of our members' fine works were either overlooked or too critically examined.

What I saw at Scalefest prompted me to realize how crucial a fair and square contest is. It can make or break a show. **Bob Bethea** is right about the quality of the contest is only as good as the judges recruited. I shall bear that in mind in preparation for our own show come this fall. 🐉

Eric



1/12th Ducati 900SS, the only entry in the Motorcycle category.



1/24th Cobra Sprint Car.



Nicely finished 1/16th 1913 Texaco Ford Model T Van.



Old Monogram 1/48th Typhoon IB still holds up well despite its age.



Nicely weathered 1/35th Panzer IV G.



Best Armor went to this 1/35th Tiger I by James Sharp of McKinney, TX.



Most excellent 1/20th Maschinen Krieger Kröte PaK with a King Tiger barrel.



WTC complex built by two girls took home the Best Junior Model trophy.



Time Is On My Side: Part Deux

by Ben Morton

When last heard from, our intrepid hero was busily defending himself from all manner of wild beasties whilst attempting to paint the F-104G in a lizard camouflage scheme. Not an easy task!

I went ahead and sprayed the entire model with dark green and hand-painted the camo scheme with Vallejo bronze green and gray black acrylics. Additional painting was done to the wheel wells, cockpit, and assorted small parts (wheels, wheel-well covers, and that dreaded white nose cone) that would be added to the model later. The whole affair timed out at about 4 hours and 41 minutes. (Note: The stop watch I was using ran out of battery juice, so I was forced to rely on a trusted time piece - the clock on the wall.)

From this point forward, all that was left to do was add some stickers (decals) and on to final assembly. This decaling part lasted about one hour, five minutes and 52 seconds. Now you're probably thinking that I got the stop watch going again but you'd be mistaken. I found a better, more accurate method for timing myself than approximating with the ole clock on the wall.

But that's another story and shall have to wait for now!

Now that I had invested about eight or so hours in this fool project (I mean model), it was on to final assembly and the odd touch up here and there. I attached all the hanging bits: wing tanks, wheel well covers, canopy, and such. That particular exercise consumed another hour, 48 minutes and 38 seconds.

I gave the model a wash of artist oils to—what is the expression?—accentuate the panel lines and stuff. I attached the model to a wooden base that was a “gimmie” from our President Tim Robb, who got it from a vender, who got it from a manufacturer, who got it from a lumber mill that got it from a forest, who...well you get the idea.

Just a short thank you to Tim for the base.

As mentioned earlier in this series, I won't be timing myself again for any number of reasons. I believe that the best way that I can convey the entire experience is to relate part of a conversation I had with my wife. Shortly after finishing up I told her how much time I spent on completing said project. When I told her that I had invested such and so time doing this, she asked: “Is that good?” I didn't have an answer!

I do have one last thought before I journey onward; I was very impressed with the level of detail that Revell provided with this kit. Piping and junction boxes in the wheel well, strakes on the wing tanks, arresting hook, brake lines molded to the main gear strut, and the cockpit detailing, etc. make for a lovely model. Not only is Revell doing fine work but Sweet, Platz, Dragon, and Eduard, just to name a few, all manufacture small scale kits with the detail and finesse of fit that rival the "big boys." You should give one a try. After all... size does matter! 🐛

Ben

p.s. Total time for the build was approximately 12 hours, 20 minutes and .4496 seconds.



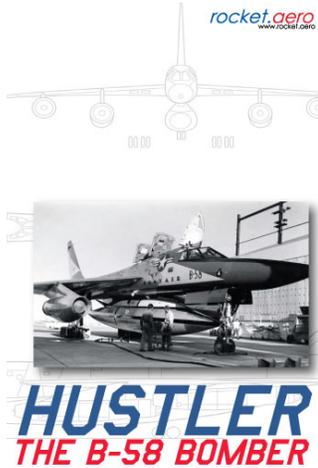
rocket.aero

Hustler: The B-58 Bomber DVD

Product # RA008, USD \$19.95 + Shipping
Available at www.rocket.aero

Reviewed by Bob Bethea

The Rocket Aero company generously provided a set of their video products to the club with the requirement that we review them in our newsletter. I selected the video on the B-58 Hustler. It is a long video with about four hour in all. It is all in color, and most of the time the color is vibrant and usable for reference. It is split into four sections: First flights, Testing, Capabilities and Promotion. First flights itself is split into genesis, development flight testing and operation.



The B-58 was designed in the 1950s to deliver strategic weapons for the Cold War. It had Mach 2 speed and won all the worlds speed trophies at the time. It was designed with a delta wing for stability at low levels, a wasp waist and jettisonable external fuel and weapon pod for aerodynamics, and composite construction of aluminum, steel and fiberglass for strength with light weight. It had a three man crew seated in line with the pilot in front, the bombardier/navigator behind him, and the defensive systems operator behind him. The defensive systems operator handled the Gatling gun in the tail and managed the fuel flow.

The first B-58 flew from Carswell AFB in fort Worth in 1956. Only two wings were operational, the 43rd Bombardment Wing at Carswell (and later Little Rock AFB) and the 305th Bombardment Wing in Indiana. They operated between 1960 and 1970. Only 116 were produced, with 86 of them operational with the Wings. Close to a quarter (26) of them were lost due in a large part to the complexity of their systems.

The videos go through a lot of takeoffs and landings including the initial flights. They show construction of the trainer version and the bomber versions. They discuss the various speed trophy successes. One nice touch is that they offer the playing of the introduction with an introductory audio, or an alternate version with modeler's notes.

The photography runs from beautiful to interesting, but the real jewel is towards the end. They have a promotional film hosted by actor and USAF brigadier general Jimmy Stewart which has a virtual walkaround of the bomber, with super details of the landing gear and factory shots of the engine nacelles without the cover plates. The best part is a COLOR tour of the cockpit with a verbal explanation of most of the instruments as they are touched by the pilot.

The B-58 has always been one of my favorite airplanes despite being a tank guy all my life. I saw some at Little Rock AFB in the 1970s and was hooked by the streamlined silver dart with wings. This video does it great credit and may be the largest accumulation of film data on the B-58 that I have seen to date. It has lots to offer the historian, the modeler and persons with just a general interest. There are lots of interesting color schemes with lots of shots validating them.

Many thanks to James Duffy, owner of Rocket Aero, for providing this DVD to the club. I look forward to viewing others of his videos. 🛩️

Bob



Latest News

Saturday, June 4, 2011

We are setting up affordable transportation to get folks from the airport to the hotel. If you need transportation from the airport, please drop me an email at

chairman@ipmsusa2011.org. I need your arrival and departure times along with your airline. Looks like it will be a combination of hiring a service for peak times and volunteers.

Previews of the decal sheet is up on **Zone Five** (<http://zone-five.net/showthread.php?t=15152>). The **Afterburner** folks have done a great job with the sheet *Six Yankee Station MiG Killers* in 1/48th and 1/72nd. **Sprue Brothers** is our sponsor, and we really appreciate all Gordon's support.

Look forward to seeing everyone in Omaha. 🛩️

Old Rumors & New Kits

Milton Bell
IPMS #16702

Here it is, Sunday before the meeting and I still have to put the finishing touches on my car model. Sound familiar? Well, I'm afraid it's an all too common lament. We start a project with a lot of enthusiasm and then watch as it ebbs away.

I guess that's why we/I have so many unfinished models lying about. Perhaps we should start a new category for our shows: "The Unfinished Works of ___". Well, you get the picture.

If the manufacturers and decal makes would just slow down and give us a break, we might get a few things finished. Ooops; what am I saying. That's heresy.

To tell the truth, this summer the suppliers seem to be giving us a break. There are some good new kits out there but there seems to be a lag between announcing a new kit and actually getting it to the stores. Yes, I know that some are delayed, like that BIG 1/32nd He-111, but there seems to be a drought in the business as well as the weather.

A number of us intrepid show seekers made the trip to Mesquite for the annual NCT model show and the near compulsory side trip to Squadron Mail Order across town in Carrollton. This time the trip was more exciting than the show or SMO. "Bondo" Phil and I were going up in his Caddie when an errant piece of sheet metal found its way onto the interstate and sliced his right front so that a very flat tire quickly ensued. We made it off the freeway quickly enough, but it was obvious that new tire was in the works. An hour-plus later we were back on the trail north.

All this meant that we barely got there in time to enter our models and had scant time to check out the entries. It's the first show I've been to where I never set foot in the vendor's area because both Bondo and I decided to go to SMO instead. We found a few bargains but many of the good deals had been found by the early shoppers the day before. Still, it was good to see some old friends and marvel at a warehouse with little boxes of styrene stacked to the rafters.

As for the show, it was an OK affair but attendance seemed to be down a bit. I was the last entrant and was given the number 74. So, allowing about five models per entrant, there were probably under 400 models on the tables. Just a few years ago, the NCT (Dallas) show would have broken the 600 mark and there would have been manufacturer reps as well as lots of vendors.

Roden's Staggerwing Beech seems to have attracted some good reviews. I have the kit and it seems to be pretty well

done. I'm still wondering if they will do an early version. What I'm really waiting for is their announced but unseen T-28B Trojan! All I can get is that it will be a "future" release.

Tamiya's P-51D Mustang has been trotted out for a hands-on look and seems to have made a mostly favorable impression. Those mightily feared rivets on the wing have proven to be less than serious and the extras, such as tail options and elevator options, have taken the sting out. The main stinger will be the price but there are a lot of modelers who will still jump at having the "best" 1/32nd Mustang. Until, of course, the next one comes along.

It should be released in or by August, 2011.



In time to meet the challenge Trumpeter has released a new Bf.109G-6 (Early) in 1/32nd. In case you aren't familiar with the type, this version has those big curvy bumps on the

cowling made to accommodate the feed mechanism for the two large cal. nose guns. The price seems to be right; you can buy two for what the new Mustang will probably bring! Frankly, I'd rather have the 'Stang!

Zoukei-Mura was still showing a proposed P-51D but no date was given. They are showing their big (and in 1/32nd, it will be BIG) A-1H Skyraider for release in the third quarter or sometime in the next three months plus a few days.

That big He.111 from Revell AG has an August release date as does the Hasegawa 1/32nd J2M3 Raiden or "Jack."

And before I forget, Dragon appears to be the first to market a stealth helicopter from Operation *Geronimo*. The 1/144th scale kit appears to be based on the remains left behind in Pakistan plus previously published "images" of the stealth UH-60. The model is small but it appears there



are two in the box. And no, there is no resin figure of a deceased OBL! That's just rumor.

Eduard's MiG-21 has been met with good reviews and many say it's the best 1/48th kit yet of the type.



Hobby Boss has been reported to be about to release a 1/48th scale kit of the F3H-2 Demon. They are also showing a new F8F Bearcat kit due in September and a Yak 38 Forger for July. Those aren't bad expectations.

Dragon has released a nice little 1/72nd kit of the IJA Type 95 *Ha-Gō* Light Tank from WWII. Hobby Boss has a 1/35th Merkava Mk. IV as well as an "Admiral" German staff car.



AFV Club has a couple of field gun kits; an M2A1 Howitzer Late model and an M2A1 Early model. Both are in 1/35th, naturally.



Italeri has released a 1/72nd scale Semovente 75/18 M40-M41 kit, but as far as I know it's not yet available locally. If you are into Italian armor, keep watch for it.

That's all I have for this month. I hope to see a LOT of model CARS at the meeting Thursday as well as a lot of modelers. Good luck on your projects, whatever they are.



LSMMS Modeling Day from Bob Bethea

The next Lone Star Military Miniatures Society (LSMMS) Modeling Day is set for Saturday **June 11th** from **10AM** until **4:45PM**. It will be held at the **Shady Hollow Community Center** on Doe Run off of Slaughter Lane in South Austin.

We would love to have anyone interested in ANY kind of modeling to show up. There are plenty of tables, chairs, and room. Bring along your own extra lighting if the fluorescents aren't enough for you. We have a refrigerator and a microwave available. You're welcome to bring any food item for yourself or others to share. However, we traditionally order pizza for lunch. Everyone throws in some money so we don't have to leave to eat.

DIRECTIONS:

From MoPac: Take MoPac (Loop 1) south and exit on to Slaughter Lane. Go LEFT (east) for about 1.5 miles, and at the Brodie Lane traffic light, turn RIGHT onto Brodie. Go down into the Shady Hollow Subdivision to Doe Run and turn LEFT. Go two blocks down Doe Run and the Community Center is on the right.

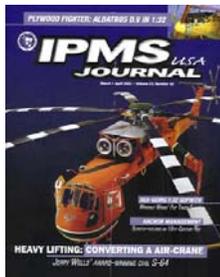
From Interstate 35: From either direction take the Slaughter Lane Exit off of I-35. Go EAST on Slaughter Lane (left if you're coming from San Antonio or right if

you're coming from Austin) and go about 5.5 miles to Brodie Lane. At the traffic light, turn LEFT (south) onto Brodie. Go down into the Shady Hollow Subdivision to Doe Run and turn LEFT. Go two blocks down Doe Run and the Community Center is on the right.

Parking is available on the side and behind the community center. Give me a call at (512) 784-7002 if you get lost.

Bob





In the latest issue of...

IPMS/USA Journal
 March/April 2011
 Volume 23, Issue 2

- **Fun With the Hun In the Sun** — Discovering the joys of Wingnut Wings' 1/32nd Albatros D.Va, by Charles Landrum;
- **A Hoy Matey!** — Scratchbuilding an 18th Century Anchor Hoy, by Dan Thompson;
- **Elevating A Heavy-Lifter** — Superdetailing an S-64E Erickson Air-Crane in 1/72nd scale, by Jerry Wells;
- **Seagoing Sopwith** — Wingnut Wings' 1/32nd Pup puts to sea, by Jerry Wells

And much, much more!



Join IPMS/USA!

IPMS/USA is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas as a local chapter of IPMS/UK 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 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!**

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

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

Check out our web page: www.ipmsusa.org



Austin Scale Modelers Society
13213 Marrero Drive
Austin, TX 78729
www.austinsms.org



Next Meeting:
June 9th, 2011

at

Austin Old Quarry Library
(7051 Village Center Drive)

7PM to 8:45PM



**IPMS METRO Oklahoma City
&
SOONER AMPS**

Present

SOONERCON 2011

Saturday, June 18th, 2011 8AM-5PM
Moore Community Center, Moore OK

**SoonerCon Theme:
1941 / The World at War**