



SPRUE



EXAMINER



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40th Anniversary(1973-2013)

October 2013

2011 IPMS/USA Website of the Year

2009 IPMS/USA Newsletter of the Year

2010 IPMS/USA Webmaster of the Year

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

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



In this issue:

Underwater Demo	1
Message From The Prez	3
Fiddly Bits	3
Know Thy Fellow Modeler	7
Web At Night:Rewind	8
Sword's Seastar: Kit Review	9
From Russia, With Love	10
LifeLike Fokker: Decal Review	12
Old Rumors/ New Kits	13
Bondo Special	17

Revell's 1/32 U.D.T. Boat with figures by Ben Morton

As best my memory serves *Monogram* released this kit originally in the late 1950's. It has been re-issued before under various guises.



I remember building one when I was nine or ten while living in Fort Worth, Texas.

The thing that got me to buy one was the window display at the local hobby shop. *Monogram* sent the kit out as a built-up model with a cardboard backdrop that allowed the retailer to display the model 'in action' with the frogman waiting 'on the line' for pick-up. That was just too cool and I had to have one. I spent my entire allowance on the \$3.49 kit.

Actually, I don't know what the price was that I paid but \$3.49 sounds right! It was all my saved allowance, that part I do remember. I took it home glued it together, fingerprints and

all. I even went so far as to paint some of the parts. I painted the ships bell brass using some of my oldest brother's paints. (I suspect without his expressed written consent).



I got everything squared away and glued the engine cover holding the ships bell backwards. For the life of me I could not fathom why the part wasn't fitting properly until I noticed the instruction sheet sitting there with a diagram of how that part should be placed. That was my first real lesson in reading the instructions and then reading them again!

The reissued kit contains 44+ parts and comes with a twelve page instruction booklet. There is a brief history of the boat (I do mean brief).

(continued on page four)



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Phil Brandt (in memorium)	Rick Willaman
Eric Choy	Jack Johnston
Angie/Jeff Forster	Mike Kizin
Russ Holm	Mike Poole
	Aaron Smischney

Upcoming Events

Model Shows

CalMex XXVII, IPMS Swamp Modeler's, Lake Charles, Louisiana	1.25.14
http://ipmsswamp.com/calnex.html	
ModelFiesta 33, IPMS Alamo Squadron, San Antonio, Texas	2.15.14
http://www.alamosquadron.com	
RiverCon III, Red River Modeler's, Shreveport, Louisiana	3.8.14
http://www.ipmsredriver.org	
MCMA 2014 Showdown, Metroplex Car Modeler's Assc., Farmers Branch, Texas	3.8.14
http://www.themcma.net/Club_Contests.html	

Local Club Meetings

Hill Country Outlaws Model Railroading Club, King's Hobby, Austin, Texas	10.26.13
Austin Armor Builders Society, Old Quarry Branch APL, Austin, Texas	11.6.13
http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com	
Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	11.7.13
CenTex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, Texas	10.17.13
http://www.centexmodelers.com	

Other Events

Fall Fly-In, Pioneer Flight Museum, Kingsbury, Texas	11.9.13
http://pioneerflightmuseum.org	
Build 'N Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas	10.19.13

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.

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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 third 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 author (s). It is intended for educational purposes *only*. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article.

Message from the Prez...**Mike Poole**

Well, here it is mid-October and another successful Austin Show is behind us. Over the coming days we'll have a chance to parse the numbers, discuss what worked, and where we might improve. But for now I just want to congratulate everyone that participated for doing a super job. It was the smoothest running event in my memory and we have much to be proud of. We'll have more discussion at the October meeting so bring your ideas for 2014.

I seized a rare calm spell recently to dust off the bench and start a new build. While elbow deep in sprues and cement it occurred to me how many useful techniques I've learned from a genre I've never built in. I've picked up metallic finishes from jet folks, new washes from figures and armor guys, new adhesives from RC, even soldering and metalwork from the train hobby. The thing is, if I hadn't been exposed to people expert in these areas I probably never would have learned these things.

I think it's great that Austin Scale Model Society is such a diverse and eclectic bunch of folks that I have all this knowledge just an email, phone call or Build-n-Bull session away. Our modeling diversity also makes many of our meetings amazingly interesting. I've discovered subjects I didn't know existed and had some very interesting conversations. While some clubs concentrate on one specific type of modeling our diversity gives us broad appeal, large membership and interesting get-togethers. Let's all try to keep that diversity going. Personally, I can't wait to see some of the oddball stuff our newest members introduce us to.

Speaking of diversity, Jack Johnston's rocketry neighbors will be giving a presentation on a recent competition they participated in at our October 17th meeting. Now that should be interesting.

Now, go build something!

Mike

Fiddly Bits**Frank Seibert**

Madam Librarian...I mean...Mister Librarian, Jeff Forster reports that new titles will soon be added to ASMS's lending library. Selected volumes coming soon are from The Victory At Sea series, Aero Research and photo collections of both U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps aircraft. Check the lending library tab on our website for availability.

The newsletter contest is winding down but there is still oodles of time for you to make a submission or twelve to the newsletter. For the uninitiated, this contest is for any and all to submit articles, website information, modeling tidbits and tips, goofy cartoons, etc to the newsletter for publication. The one who submits the most will have their yearly club dues paid for by our erstwhile editor. Your submissions need not be published to qualify. Submissions are being accepted now at: benmorton@grandecom.net.

Congratulations(?) to Randy Bumgardner. Randy has graciously agreed to accept the appointed position of show coordinator for our annual model contest held each October. Randy will be succeeding our show coordinator emeritus, Eric Choy. Eric has chosen to step down from the position to be able to "spend more time with his family." I don't really know why but I suspect it may have something to do with just wanting to be able to breathe once in a while or maybe have a life. Never having coordinated a model show, I can only guess at all the details that have to be attended to in order to put one on successfully. Eric has successfully guided our annual contest over the past several years and has more than earned our appreciation and gratitude. Eric, I hope I didn't muck this up too badly...fei chang gan shie!

There is a complete list of winners posted on our website from this past Region 6 Regional Convention. Milton Bell is diligently sorting photos of the entries from that contest and those should be available in the not too distant future. Congratulations to all the winners.

Frank

Two pages of the instruction are taken up with part identification and there is small sheet of decals with some basic ship markings.

The parts identifier (probably included with the original instructions) is somewhat of a throwback to the good ole days when most kit manufactures listed all the parts and their function.

There isn't much information to be had on the interweb on these Underwater Demolition Teams (U.D.T.) Landing Craft/Personnel (LCP) boats and their use during WWII. There is some reference to subsequent boats and teams but little on this particular type of vessel.

From what little I was able to gather, this represents an early model of a 36 foot Higgins boat manufactured by Andrew Higgins and Company in Louisiana prior to and during WWII. Some sources suggest that originally these boats were meant to be rum runners but I find that hard to believe being as how the manufacturer was from Louisiana.

Later models of this boat (LCVP-Landing Craft Vehicle/Personnel) did away with the crawl space/ramp at the prow of the boat. With a wider drop ramp troops were able to egress from the craft much faster. Initially troops disembarked by jumping over the sides. Additionally the defensive weapons at the prow were often re-located toward the stern. That design is more reminiscent of the troop landing craft employed on the Normandy beaches.

As mentioned there isn't a lot of information on this particular boat. Most, well actually all, my information about markings, fittings and general configuration comes from the Fox War Classics film *The Frogmen* with Richard Widmark and Dana Andrews.

The Frogmen were the precursors of today's SEALs. There is some discussion, on the web, about this being Richard Widmark's best performance but my money is on his role as the commander of the destroyer U.S.S. Bedford from *The Bedford Incident*. I think it is a better film as well. But that's just me! Because I took almost all my detailing cues from the movie this model most likely represents a post-war configuration. At least that's what I'm going with.

Some of the information that I gleaned from the movie seems to indicate that these craft almost always operated from a tender. They never stayed in the water so the bottom of the hulls were not always painted with anti-fouling paints. Consequently, I chose to paint my U.D.T. boat dark sea gray. Got to love single over-all colors. To tell the truth, after I primed everything with *Tamiya* gray primer I thought that that was close enough and just left it primer gray.

In the film, there was a manned radio stationed adjacent to the engine housing. These radio stations appear to be pretty exposed and the boats were almost always 'wet.' (Water-proofing must have been state-of-the-art at the time.) For this area I added a part from a 1/87th scale M60 that I had lying about to represent the radio. I also fashioned a handset and earphone from parts I scrounged from a figure set from *Dragon*. I added some cables made from black thread and it's "Roger, Wilco" all around!



There are some other details I included during construction. Starting with the in-board railings below the gunwales. I



replicated these with strips of basswood attached with some white glue. The bilge pumps, forward of the engine were augmented with the addition of some spare smoke candle launchers I

had left over from an armor kit. I added some additional piping in that area, as well.

In the film, the manned weapons stations were covered so I fashioned a cover with hold down latches on one side and added the machine gun position to the other. I left the running lights off as they weren't represented in the film either. I couldn't find any good photos of these gun positions for detailing so I just added some detail to the machine gun/shield as seemed appropriate.

There is a kit part labeled 'raft support'. This supports, wait for it, the raft and seems to serve no other purpose.



The kit part includes some netting above the support and what little discussion I could find, it probably represented some form of warning/pick-up signal for the swimmers. I don't really know. One gentleman on line suggested it might have been used for volley ball!. There isn't any photographic evidence of it in the film so I left it off too.

I fashioned the tie-down ropes for the raft in such as to give the appearance that the raft appears to be skimming over the water. That raft was the method employed to get the frogmen off an on the boat. Deploying the U.D.T. crews involved one man flopping into the raft and at a signal from a boat crew member rolling off into the waves.

After performing their reconnaissance or other assigned duty the frogmen would get "on-line. This involved getting lined up in the water at intervals and as the U.D.T. boat approached, a pick-up man in the raft would extend a rope catch loop. The frogmen would grab this catch loop and be flung up into the raft. Somewhat abruptly, to say the least, but tres efficient.

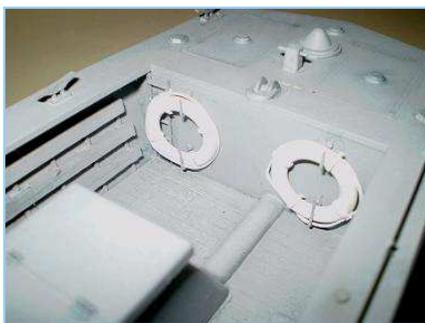
I detailed the raft as I thought necessary with ropes and various grab handles. The life preservers near the rear deck were also given a bit of detail with some gossamer ship rigging thread held

down with some thin strips of *Tamiya* masking tape.

The life preserver shackles were fashioned from some HO scale brass stirrups. I have no idea how I



wound up with them but they did come in handy. One of the cool things about doing something like this is that a lot of the fittings were not standardized so just about any level of detail would be correct. Yea for artistic license! I also intend to replace the molded catch loop with one made from some twine and thread I have about.



There is one fitting shown in the movie that seems to be peculiar to this type of craft which would seem to help in the recovery of frogmen. There is a hand rail running down the port side that would be more than helpful in aiding those men getting into and out of the boat. I made the hand rail from some HO scale eyelets and a length of brass wire. I also added scuppers to the sides of the craft by simply drilling a hole. Which reminds me of a long gone restaurant in Houston called the Rusty Scupper but that's another story.



In addition to the scuppers, there was a small crew ladder aft on the starboard side that allowed access to the rear deck. The raft was generally stored here when not in use.

Other details I added were some instruments, a compass housing around the pilot's position and I re-positioned the throttle lever.

Using some of my stash of HO scale spare parts provided the necessary detail. I'm tellin' you, you should think about taking up small scale modeling if for no other reason then the multitude of spare parts.

Next up was some in-board plating that I added amidships from plastic card stock. I have no idea what purpose it served other than to help stabilize and strengthen the whole structure. I can only guess that these boats needed all they could get due to the area of the sea in which they operated.

From the movie it appears as if these boats operated close to shore and just seaward of any wave action.



The bulkheads provided are more than adequate but do have numerous ejector pin marks that need to be dealt with. In some cases, I disguised some of the errant marks with a fiddly bits instead of filling it in with putty and sanding.

Some additional detail was added for and aft on the bulkhead in the crawl space. It seemed to me that there might have been some sort of locking mechanism on it so in went the odd part. This bulkhead was added after initial production to aid in not shipping quite so much water and flooding the already wet crew area.

The mooring bitts were drilled out and lengths of floral wire added and trimmed to 'eyeball' scale. The rear lifting shackle was OK but I did add some lifting rings forward from some spare parts.

I want to add some rope bumpers to the kit but I'm waiting on a book I ordered. It is suppose to have all these different nautical knots so I can tie my own. How hard can it be?



The decals provided with the kit seem over-sized. From re-peated scanning of the film I couldn't find any evidence that postwar boats even had markings. I decided to add some anyway but at what I feel is a more appropriate size.

Apart from some minor weathering and the odd bit of pastel chalk I left the boat as it might have been if well maintained. It is suppose to depict a post-war vessel after all. The rest of the kit goes together with little muss or fuss.

I have chosen not to include any of the frogmen or crew figures at this time. I'm screwing up my courage to take on figure painting. The figures provided seem to be in two different scales. The boat crew being 1/32 while the frogmen are smaller and seem closer to 1/35 scale. Maybe the teams members were of smaller stature or those lift vests the boat crew members are wearing bulk them up something fierce?



I hope to add them at a later date.

This is one of those kits that I've wanted for some time. Actually, ever since I built that first one back in the day.

It delights me on several levels when a kit manufacturer re-releases some of the older kits. One is that it's back among the living and I get to relive my misspent youth. The other is that it kind of sticks it to the folks who *seem* to have been gouging the price on EBay.

There have been several articles of late about the joys of building older kits. The consensus seems to be that they provide an opportunity to test your skills and see just what it is you can come up with to improve an older kit.

In my case, I got the opportunity to simply put the engine cover on correctly. In point of fact and based on photographic evidence from *The Frogmen* the ship's bell was often placed close to the pilot's station, which makes sense as he's the guy who would probably be clanging away on it. Go



Go build the your model!

Ben



Monthly Program Schedule
by Ron McCracken, Vice President

<u>Month</u>	<u>Presenter/Subject</u>
October	'Rocketeers'
November	TBA
December	Quarterly Contest/ White Elephant

If you are interested in making a presentation at our club meetings contact Ron McCracken at:

rmccrack@austin.rr.com

Know Thy Fellow Modeler By Milton Bell

Your name (include modeling nicknames) *Milton Bell*

Your birthday (year is optional) *Jan. 15, 1936*

Your day job: *Building models, napping, eating, watching TV, movies, reading, watching cats play, etc. Retired.*

Years spent building models: *40 and counting.*

Are you a: "reborn" modeler - one who returns to this hobby after some 15 years of hiatus

Primary area of modeling interest: *Aircraft*
(e.g. airplane, armor, ship, figure, sci-fi)

Favorite era of your primary modeling interest (e.g. WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam): *WWII*

The number one reason why you like to build models: *I find it relaxing.*

What other hobbies do you have other than building models? *Photography, Cooking, Gardening.*

Who influenced or inspired you to build models? *Over the years, many people have influenced me but Jim Curd got me into plastic modeling.*

Who is your favorite "master" modeler? *Dr. Frank Mitchell.*

Do you consider yourself a
 model builder
 model collector both

Size of your unbuilt model collection
 100 or less 501-1000
 101-250 1001-2000
 251-500 2001 or more

Does your family (especially your spouse) have any negative opinion on the size and/or storage of your model collection?
 No Yes

Best and worst excuse you told your spouse (or mother) for buying yet another model kit: *Haven't needed an excuse in years. I have a great wife!*

What is the plan for your unbuilt collection when you die or give up this hobby? *My wife will probably sell them. I haven't decided lately.*

First model you ever completed (include year you completed it). *I built flying models for years, long before I ever saw a plastic kit. It was 1943 and I was in the 3rd grade. The model was a stick and paper, rubber powered, Aeronca. It cost me a dime!*

The longest time it took to complete a model (include model name and make): *Don't know yet; I have several not quite finished.*

Best model you built so far. *In my opinion it was the Spirit of St. Louis, 1/48 scale from Revell.*

Worst model ever built/attempted to build. *Ryan VTOL in 1/72 from Mach 2, only one I enjoyed pitching.*

Modeling project(s) you are working on: *A couple of Typhoons, Spitfire I, Kingfisher, Hudson, Ki-100, SBC-3, RF4-C, He-111, etc.*

Dumbest thing you ever did (to your model or yourself) while building a model: *Decided to build several models at the same time.*

Worst thing you did to your model to express your anger and frustration: *That's what a bottle of Scotch is for.*

Modeling story or experience you like to share with your peers: *Can't think of any at the moment.*

Milton



Web At Night: Rewind

by Jean-Michel D'Aubigne

This particular submission is in line with the program/presentation at our next club meeting (October 17).

As you may be aware, Jack Johnston has some neighbors that are and continue to be active in 4-H. Those neighbors have developed an interest in model rocketry and have taken that passion to new heights. (Insert groan here.) Actually, 750 feet!

What you may not realize is that 4-H has been in existence for many years. It began under the auspices of the agricultural department and was intended to inform and educate rural student populations in the art of farming and its associated permutations.

While a youth in rural Oklahoma I participated in 4-H programs. Notably, a course on how to dress properly (most of which I have forgotten) and a class on how to select the best cut of meat at the market. The 4-H program has expanded over the years and now encompasses everything from animal husbandry and science to...well, model rocketry.

Mark Janecka, brother Matthew Janecka, and Daniel Kelton participated in a rocketry competition in the United States this past year. These gentlemen succeeded in winning not only their regional competition but went on to win the U.S. competition. After their U.S. win they attracted the attention of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Raytheon and were subsequently invited to attend the International Rocket Competition at the Paris Air Show this past summer.

As you may have already guessed, they won the International Rocket Competition to the accolades of the International community. More importantly, that win also afforded them the privilege of meeting with the president of the French Republic, François Hollande.

As Marion Blakey of the American Institutes of Aeronautics noted... "The innovation demonstrated by these students is a terrific indication that the future of our industry is in good hands."

Mark, Matthew and Daniel will be the program presenters at our next club meeting. Please make an effort to attend as their program should be one to remember.

To help peak your interest, please check out the following:
http://www.raytheoncompany.com/newsroom/feature/rtn13_paris-rocketry

Jean-Michel



Quarterly Contest Schedule

Our club's quarterly contests are held on the last month of each calendar quarter. Here are the dates and themes for 2013.

Date	Theme
December 19	White Elephant

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HobbyTown



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Sword's 1/72 T2V-1 Seastar by Ron McCracken

The kit consists of 48 injection-molded parts on two sprues, a two-part clear injection-molded canopy, resin ejection seats, and a fret of color photo-etched parts. The quality of molding is quite nice, with minimal flash and well polished surfaces.



Decals are provided for three different aircraft - two 1960's vintage with the orange-and-white trainer color scheme, one from MCAS El Toro, the other from NAS Memphis. The third is a 1970 all-gray scheme.

The instructions specify the early trainer color scheme as white and "signal red". According to Ginter's book on the T2V, and an old IPMS Quarterly article on the T2J, the correct Navy trainer colors are FS 17875 insignia white and FS 12197 international orange, both of which *Testors* markets in their *ModelMaster* series.

The decals are very thin, and therein lies a challenge. A white background is printed around most of the tail numbers, etc. Unfortunately, the white is nearly translucent, so in



painting you'll have to mask off the white areas when adding the orange to the nose, wings, and tail. Otherwise, the white area of the decal takes on an orange cast.

This also applies to the national insignia, don't forget! One other note, the white is slightly off-register, so for the national insignia on the wings, be sure to trim the decal precisely on the color line, or you'll have a decidedly annoying white border along the blue where the decal overlies the orange part of the wing.

The painting procedure I recommend is as follows: First, prime the model with white primer. You can find a good one made by *Boyd's* at Kings, in the auto paint section. If you pre-shade panel lines, do so now, but use a fairly light shading color, such as a medium grey. Otherwise, your top coat will have to be overly thick.

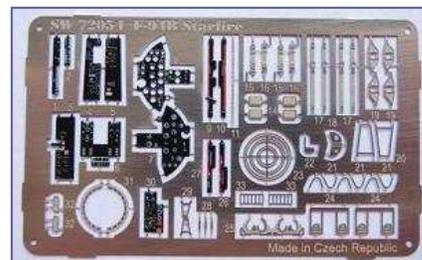
Next, paint the entire model gloss insignia white. Let this dry a couple of days so you don't get fingerprints in the paint. Now, cut the decals having a white background free from the sheet, (don't forget the national insignia and intake warnings) keeping as close to the decal edges as possible. Use the decals, still on the backing paper, as patterns to make tape masks. Then, apply these masks where the corresponding decals go, and finish masking the areas to be painted orange. Then paint the orange areas.

From the standpoint of display configuration, *Sword* elected to mold the airbrakes and main gear inner doors closed. Most (not all, fortunately) photos of T2V's on the flight line show the aircraft parked with the speed brakes (four) all open, so duplicating this configuration could be a significant challenge. On the other hand, leaving them closed makes for an easy to assemble and detail model. That is the approach I took.

The kit cockpit tubs were engineered to be issued either with, or without, the color photo-etch. So, to use the photo-etch parts you have to remove some slightly raised detail on the instrument consoles, and the representations of the rudder pedals. Then the color photo-etch can be applied.

I offer one note of caution. Either the instructions are in error, or I misinterpreted them. Be sure the photo-etched instrument panel parts match closely the size and outline of the plastic panel parts - if they don't, you have them reversed!

Otherwise, the photo-etch parts go in place quite nicely and result in a well detailed cockpit.



Resin ejection seats are included, along with color photo-etch seat belts, to finish off the cockpits. The only addition required is a throttle lever on each cockpit's port side panel.

The nose gear well is a built-up assembly of five separate plastic parts, plus a couple bits of photo-etch for the gear door actuators. Only the truly obsessive detailist will need to add anything more than is provided.

An exhaust pipe is provided, but it is molded in halves, so you have to glue it together, then work with a round file and sandpaper to clean up the joint before adding the engine rear face and cementing it into the fuselage. No alignment aids are provided, so a bit of care is needed to get the tube properly aligned with the centerline.

Before you glue the fuselage halves together, you will need nose weight to avoid having a "tail-sitter". A few bits of lead embedded in modeling clay up in the nose will solve the problem easily.

The only real assembly difficulty I encountered was in getting the fuselage halves cleanly joined, because of the tight fit of the cockpit tubs. I ended up needing a bit of gap-filler CA along the top fuselage seam.

Some cleanup of large ejector pin marks on the interior surfaces was required to get the wing halves to join cleanly.

I found a bit of cut-and-fit necessary to get the drop tanks installed on the wing tips, and a light touch of the file along the adjoining surfaces was needed to fit the wing to the bottom of the fuselage.



Probably the worst fitting parts are the fronts of the jet engine air intakes. These were a bit too large and took some filler putty to blend into the fuselage properly.

The glare shield over and in front of the front cockpit instrument panel also needed a touch of the file to achieve a clean fit of the windshield.

In general, the kit goes together without too much trouble and results in a striking model, with its white and orange paint scheme. This is a limited run kit that I can recommend, and it certainly fills a long-standing void in the available kits of Navy trainers.

As an aside, a number of people have asked if a T-33 could be kit-bashed into a passable T2V. Sadly the answer is no. The wings, tip tanks, and perhaps horizontal stabilizers could be used, but the fuselage would be a complete scratch effort.

Ron



Region 6 Regional Convention by Roy Lothbrok

The Region 6 Regional Model Convention is in the bag for 2013. With Eric Choy at the helm things seemed to move along without a moments hesitation. For that, he is to be congratulated for a job well done. As mentioned elsewhere, coordinating a model show *can* have it's problems.

The only discordant note that this correspondent heard centered around the lack of entries in a couple of specific categories(motorcycles and large scale jets) and the thinness of support from several genres of our hobby, notable cars/automobiles. Maybe I should breakout one of the motorcycle kits I have and build the darn thing!



The caliber of the modeling was first rate. A view expressed by more than one attendee. Rafael Gomez posted on Face book that he enjoyed “all the attention, I commend you for the contest and (will) see you (at the) next event!”



I feel that I can speak with some certainty that Masahiko Nakasone of Shizuoka, Japan enjoyed the show, as

well. He won in his category with an Aston Martin DBD. He (or his model) may also get the award for longest travel to get to the contest.



year old grandson and he really enjoyed seeing all the contest models. We could not leave without getting something from the vendors though. Afterward, we sat on the grass outside and enjoyed talking and watching the people leave with their models and were amazed at the amount that some people could get into their vehicles. Love the show and its makes my year, ever year. Thanks for having them. It inspires me to keep building and better myself.”

Roy

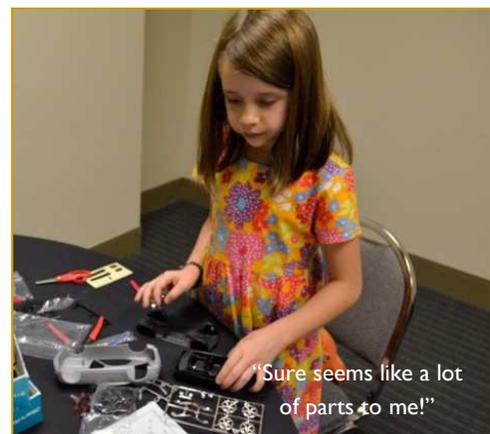


Happy campers, everywhere!



There were representatives from almost all of Central Texas as well as some notable modelers from Tampico and Monterey, Mexico. Modelers from the Houston area, the San Antonio region and parts in between that were here to *represent*. There was even a guy from the “prettiest town, I ever seen”.

As Carroll Mixson noted in his missive from ASMS’s Face book page...“Enjoyed the show on Saturday. I took my 9



Lifelike Decals 1/32 Fokker D.VII- Part 1 by Floyd S. Werner, Jr. IPMS # 26266

MSRP: \$16.25

Wingnut Wings has single handedly sparked a resurgence in WWI large scale kits. Their quality and engineering have set a standard by which all other model kits, regardless of scale or era, are judged. Sometimes the biggest problem is what markings to apply or is it how many kits to buy? Well *Lifelike* can help you with one of those problems and hinder the other.

Lifelike has consistently put out first rate decals for a variety of aircraft. This time they have turned their attention to the latest from *Wingnut Wings*, the Fokker D.VII.

WNW has produced no less than four different versions of the greatest WWI fighter plane. Those produced by Fokker, OAW, Albatross, and the Fokker F. Well you will need some marking help.

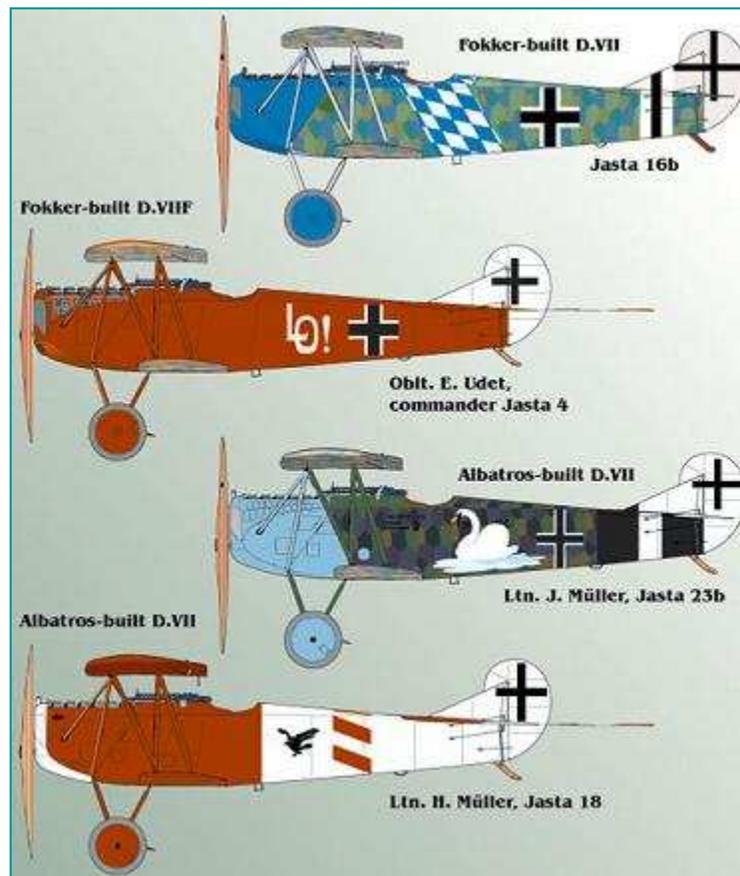
The instructions are printed on two single sided A4 pages in full color. The thing I like the most about *Lifelike* is that they aren't afraid to tell you when they know something or when they've had to make educated guesses. This means a lot to me. You don't have to take their word as gospel.

The decals themselves are exceptional. There are two large sheets with the stripes and national markings that are printed by *Microscale*. There is a third smaller sheet that contains a beautiful swan with beautiful blending. This sheet is printed by *Cartograf*. Decals by *Microscale* and *Cartograf* indicate the level of quality of the decals. You know they will both react well with the *Microscale* system.

The first aircraft is a beautiful machine with the Bavarian

white and blue checkers on it. It is an early Fokker built aircraft from Jasta 16b in June 1918. The beautiful blue cowling and wheels adds just the right amount of color. The tail has a black and white stripe on it for just a little more color over the four color lozenge pattern.

The second aircraft is from Ernst Udet. His all red aircraft sports "LO" on the sides. This aircraft is not the "Du doch nichts" machine. This aircraft is a BMW powered Fokker 'F' that he flew in Sept 1918 with Jasta 4. This aircraft is so popular that *WNW* did include this aircraft in their D.VII F boxing.



An Albatross built machine is next from Jasta 23b, flown by Lt. Josef Mueller. It sports a five color lozenge design with a beautiful swan on both sides of the aircraft.

With a black and white tail surface and light blue nose and wheels this aircraft is quite unique and colorful.

The final aircraft is an Albatross built aircraft with Jasta 18 in the summer of 1918. It is red and white, period. It is quite unique and fun looking aircraft with barber pole tail surfaces. It does have a raven on the side of the fuselage sides.

World class decals printed by the two great decal manufacturers along with excellent re-

search is all that you can ask for with decals. Now you have four new aircraft that you can model. That doesn't help you with how many to buy but at least they will look great with these decals.

Highly recommended. Thanks to *Lifelike Decals* for the review copy.

You can obtain your copy by contacting them at:

<http://www16.ocn.ne.jp/~lifelike/>

Floyd

Old Rumors/New Kits 2G

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

Shipping News

Here's the latest. These kits are slated for release in November-December of this year.

Aoshima leads the pack with the most new kits. In 1/700th scale they are showing the I-401 IJN submarine. They also have a couple of IJN Heavy Cruiser's, the Takao and the Maya.



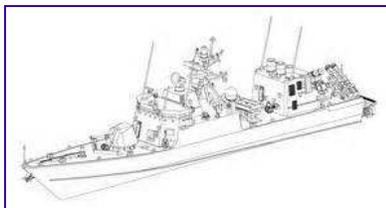
For those of you who may prefer your model ships in a bigger scale, *Aoshima* also has made available in 1/350th scale, the IJN Heavy Cruiser Maya (1944).



Getting back to the more diminutive scale of 1/700, *HobbyBoss* is issuing

the US Navy Forrest Sherman DDG-98 guided missile destroyer.

Pit Road, an offshoot of Sky Wave, is showing the JMSDF Hayabusa Class Missile Patrol Boat in 1/350th scale. (Not to be confused with Suzuki's motorcycle.)



From *Merit International* and in 1/72nd scale is the Russian Osa Class missile boat, Osa-1. This kit is R/C adaptable.

For those with a preference for the Atlantic Ocean comes *Revell's* German sub Type 9C also in 1/72nd.

This U- Boot was similar to the Type IX-B but with increase fuel capacity and twin periscopes.



Rick

Aircraft

Hello once again fellow model builders! It's October, so you know what that means...Halloween is just around the corner. Each year I still hope that someone will have a stack of models and put one in my bag of candy that I can't eat... Oh well, I boy can dream.

Anyway, back to reality. First up, if you're a fan of the Golden Age, is *Silver Wings* new 1/32 Bristol Bulldog. It's a limited edition resin kit and if their previous kits are any indication it's



sure to be nicely detailed. With 160 parts and two markings options this kit is sure to please those of the bi-wing persuasion. Since 2009, this Polish firm has a knack for putting out quality kits of between the wars aircraft.

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Next on our list this month is *Academy's* latest version of their McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II series. They are bringing out an F-4C, in the



markings of the late Colonel Robin Olds (Ret.).

Unfortunately, they didn't "officially" include any extra parts to cover the F-4D. However, "unofficially" I've heard that the parts are there, they are just marked and not used.

So, if you are just itching to build that F-4D in your favorite marking, you don't have to wait. And, if you don't want to build Colonel Olds' aircraft, (what are you a Commie?), then you will have to go elsewhere for those markings. I hear *Caracal* is coming out with a couple of very nice sheets for F-4Cs of the ANG variety.

Ah, *Kitty Hawk*... the darlings of the new kit realm. Well, listen to this. In addition to their 1/32 Texan, and the 1/48 F-101A Voodoo, they have just announced a new 1/48 McDonnell F2H-3/4 Banshee.



Yes, a "Big Banjo" in 1/48 scale. Wow! I know... *Collect Aire* did one once upon a time, but this is an injection molded kit and it's not out of production.

If that isn't enough, they've also announced a new 1/48 Grumman F9F-8T Cougar – well a "Twogar". Wow, now we can get one that's not 1/32nd scale and not in resin.

Hopefully, *Kitty Hawk* will do the whole family – that would be cool, especially for anyone who likes Navy jets, or Cold War aircraft, or aircraft of the Korean War, or... well, you get my drift.



Airfix, that British icon of model manufacturing, has just released their latest. It hasn't reached the shores of this country yet and

I'm still waiting.

It's the 1/48 Gloster Javelin FAW.9/9R, and it's big. Big and cool, that's what it is. From the reviews posted on it, it is certainly a bar-raiser for *Airfix*. Keep an eye out at your LHS – King's in our neck of the woods – for its arrival.

Great Wall Hobby is back with another new kit. A 1/48 McDonnell Douglas F-15B/D is in the works. A two-seater Eagle, perhaps they will sneak in some parts for an Israeli version. That would make for a nice model that's not gray.



Okay, it's a short one for this month. I've got to head out to lobby my neighbors to do their part to prevent cavities. By handing out models, they can help their local dentists prevent tooth decay, and get some younger blood into the hobby. Hey, it can't hurt to try!

'til next month...

Randy

Miscellaneous

A couple of items are headed your way (if not already here) from *Revell/Monogram*. For fans of x-planes and prototype aircraft comes a 1/144th scale Space Ship 2 and White Knight 2. This is one of the aircraft(?) that some hope will usher in civilian space flight.



Under the *Monogram* label is a re-issue of the 1/16th scale Kenworth W-900 semi-truck. This was originally released in the 80's along with a Peterbuilt 359 Conventional and a flatbed trailer in the same scale. No word, as yet, about those last two items reappearing.

Just in time to augment your *Meng* D9R armored bulldozer *Voyager* has three photo-etch sets available.

One is the 'standard' up-armor set and the other has the slat armor that surrounds the cab to protect from RPG rounds.

Or, you can get the combo kit which has both sets.



Staying with what looks like a newish trend in aftermarket photo-etch, *Pontos Model* has several companion photo-etch/resin sets to go along with *Academy's* 1/350th USS Oliver Hazard Perry Class FFG.

There is an advanced set, an advanced 'p' set, a detail plus set and a dumb ole detail set. These aftermarket items start at about \$70.00 and run to \$130.00 depending on which one you go for. As might be expected, the expensive one has 73 scribed brass pieces (gun barrels, etc.), 3 photo-etch sheets (railings, ladders, portholes, etc.) and 28 resin parts.



It is interesting to note that both *Voyager* and *Pontos Model* seem to allow the modeler to decide how much detail, and by extension money, to add to a kit.

Golzar

Automotive

What happens when two model manufacturing companies hate one another? Total war! That's the only conclusion I can draw from the *Fujimi* vs. *Aoshima* battle taking place over their new McLaren F1 kits.

Last month I mentioned *Aoshima* would release a long tail Le Mans version of the car in order to create some daylight

between themselves and the new *Fujimi* road car. Well, surprise! *Fujimi* suddenly has decided they plan to do one too. Hey thanks *Fujimi*, more choices for us. But you guys are still in this business to make money, right? Look for the new kit in November priced around \$35.



Hasegawa is nipping at *Tamiya's* dominant position with some new 1/12 scale motorcycle offerings. Both the 1989 Yamaha YZR500 and 2002 Honda NSR 250 will be out in December priced around \$35. I don't think *Tamiya* has anything to worry about.



Revell-Monogram have some noteworthy re-pops coming out this month. The first is possibly their biggest car kit ever made: the 1/25th Peterbilt 359 Wrecker containing 650 pieces.

No, that's not a misprint. Don't expect to slap this one together over a couple of weekends. Look for it out now for a bargain price of \$100.



The other kit from *Revell-Monogram* worth a mention is the 1/24th 1978 Corvette Indy Pace Car.

I usually don't go for advertisements on the doors of passenger cars but have always liked the look of this one with a two-tone silver and black paint scheme.

I understand the kit has a complete complement of accurate decals. Sporting a slightly less ambitious 70 pieces, this classic Corvette can be found now for about \$25.



That's all we have room for in the car column this time.

Check in next month for more exciting news!

Mike

Armor

Greetings armor fans and hello to all you the armor curious!

Well, I have not disguised my fandom for *Meng Models* and now isn't the time to stop, because they have a new model coming! A Leopard IA3/A4. This is very welcome news for modern armor fans.



Let's hope *Meng*

follows it up with a Gepard.



OK, let's check in with *Dragon* to see what's new. *Dragon* is bringing out the last of the U.S. heavy tanks, the M103A1.

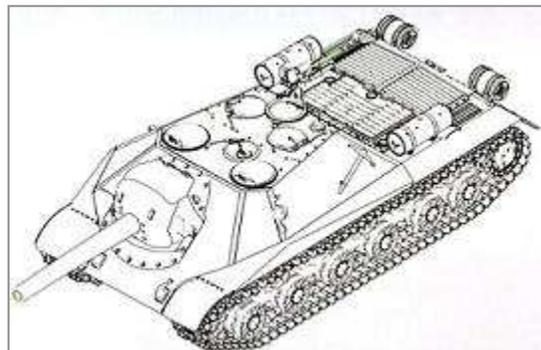


This looks pretty good, but once again no mantle cover?

I can already hear the after-market guys sculpting away to fix that. :)



Trumpeter is releasing a pretty darned cool subject, the Soviet 'Object 704'. This was the JS-3 in tank hunter mode.



Here is a test shot of the upper hull.



This is absolutely on my list. I saw a scratch-built one on the net a while ago and was very impressed with the angles on this thing. Very cool!

HobbyBoss is answering one of my wish list items, as well. They are releasing an R-35!. The French tanks are woefully under-represented.



No pics of R-35 as yet, but here is one of the German panzerjager R-35. Also available from *HobbyBoss*.

Well, those are the highlights. 'til next time.

Aaron

Quarterly Contest: Bondo Special by Roy Lothbrok

ASMS held its quarterly model contest at the club's September meeting. This contest was one that featured kits that members obtained from the estate of Phil 'Bondo' Brandt.

'Bondo' was fond of the oddball aircraft and the more esoteric the better. The entries for this contest reflected that passion.

Pat Rourke finished third with a V-2 kit from SpaceMonkey Models. While not his usual forte, it did give him the opportunity to try something different.

Our VP, Ron McCracken came in second with Mach2 kit of the venerable PBM. Anyone who has ever built a Mach2 kit gets points for just making the attempt. Not that there is anything wrong with their kits, its just that they can have some unique challenges.



First prize went to Milton Bell for his Hawker Typhoon in 1/48th scale. (Bondo didn't do small scale stuff.) Milton was featured in the newsletter not that long ago with his Airfix 1/72nd scale Typhoon. One can only assume that a 1/32nd scale Typhoon is soon to come off his work bench.



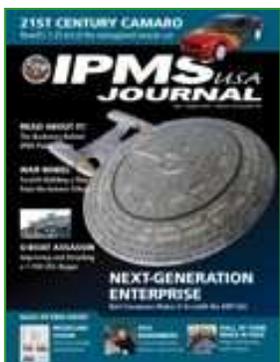
A special thanks to Kings' Hobby Shop for providing the prizes for our quarterly contests and their continuing support of our club. You do have your discount card from King's, I trust?



Our next quarterly contest is be at the December meeting and will feature a kit received at the club's annual Christmas party.

Roy

[All photos courtesy of Milton Bell]



In the latest issue of...

IPMS/USA Journal

July-August
Volume 25, Number 04

- **The Evolution of IPMS/USA Publications** - The 50-year journey from the IPMS magazine to the Journal, by Ralph R. Forehand
- **Building a Better Bogue** - Improving the Flight Deck and Camouflaging Sky Wave's 1:700 Escort Carrier, by Bert McDowell
- **Wow! I Can See Again!** - How lenses and lights can change your modeling experience, by H. Davis Gandeas
- **To Boldly Go...** A Three-Year Mission to Complete a Detailed 1:1400 AMT Enterprise D, by Bart Cusamano
- **Bitchin' Camaros** - Putting A Great Finish on the Next-Generation Chevy from Revell's New kit, by Wolfgang Meindl
- **From Cover Art to Starship** - Building ASNS Discovery from the Antares Trilogy from scratch, by Dan Thompson

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