



SPRUE



EXAMINER



Vol 22 No.2

40th Anniversary(1973-2013)

February 2014

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



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Steam Punk Coastal Submarine by David Goudie, IPMS/Canada #3542, IPMS/USA #6340

I saw this kit in its early stages when attending the 2013 IPMS/USA National Convention in Loveland, Colorado. The manufacturer is *Alliance Modelworks*™ and this appears to be their first complete kit to be released.

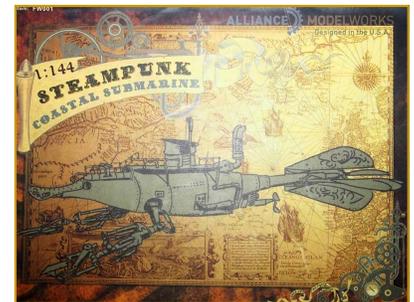
Steam Punk is best described as Victorian Era technology mixed with modern concepts. For example, I saw a film once which showed a steam powered airship which was controlled by the pilot moving levers and turning valves.

If you have an interest to delve further a quick search on the internet will get you loads of information. It's a fun subject for building models and figures of the genre.

The box itself is typical "Garage Kit" construction with a very nice art of the model superimposed over an old style map. The

artwork also has the obligatory gears, Victorian fonts and other stuff when doing anything "steam punk".

Opening the sturdy box you will be greeted by well-padded and packed parts.



The resin parts are in separate zip-lock bags. Detail on the castings is fine and extensive for the scale of the kit (1/144th). Most of the parts are what you would expect in a better quality resin set of castings.

The photoetch is also bagged and there are two frets. The larger of the pair is of a slightly thicker gauge.

(continued on page four)



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

Upcoming Events

Model Shows

- RiverCon III, Red River Modelers, 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
- Lone Star Figure Show, Fort Worth, Texas 3.20/22.14
www.lonestarfigureshow.com
- Great South Tigerfest XXI, IPMS/New Orleans, Kenner, Louisiana 3.29.14
www.wix.com/IPMSNewOrleans/Flying_Tiger

Local Club Meetings

- Hill Country Outlaws Model Railroading Club, King's Hobby, Austin, Texas 2.22.14
- Austin Armor Builders Society, Old Quarry Branch APL, Austin, Texas 3.4.14
<http://www.austinarmorbuilders.com>
- Austin Model Cars, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas 3.6.14
- CenTex Modelers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Copperas Cove, Texas 2.20.14
<http://www.centextmodelers.com>

Other Events

- Build 'N Bull Day, King's Hobby Shop, Austin, Texas 3.22.14

IPMS/USA Support the Troops Initiative

The IPMS/USA initiative was established to provide model kits, supplies and reference materials to our servicemen and women serving in combat zones, recovering in hospitals, and rehabilitating in specialized facilities.

The program is expanding into other areas as well. Some local programs take place in USO facilities, some are centered around active duty personnel and are scattered across the country.

The IPMS/USA Support The Troops program is still going full-tilt. The national program director is Jon Emery and his email address is: www.models4troops@gmail.co

Jon is accepting any and all contributions and is sharing them with all of the active programs around the country.

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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**

As you read this our neighbor chapter, Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, has closed the books on another great show. Since I'm writing this in advance of ModelFiesta 33, I'll predict that there were a swarm of ASMS attendees who bought too much, won a something or other, and a great time was had by all. This was our first official carpool meet-up and if popular, will be organized again for other neighboring shows.

I got positive feedback for streamlining the business portion of our meeting to 30 minutes last month so I will carry that format forward as much as possible. This naturally will free up more time for our "show and tell" period and allow longer guest speaker presentations.

Speaking of presentations, Bob King will be sharing his amazing Alclad II finishing secrets at the February meeting. A copy of his official handout has been set up in the articles section of our website for your pre-meeting perusal:

<http://www.austinsms.org/Alclad-Lacquer-Metal-Finishes.php>

There is a lot of information there and some uncommon techniques. As our presentations tend to go pretty fast I'd recommend giving the handout a glance before the meeting. I promise if you know what he's going to cover ahead of time you'll get a lot more out of the content.

We continue to build traffic on the ASMS Facebook page. Right now the car modelers are dominating the photo postings. It would be nice to see more planes and armor snapshots from your workbench (hint, hint). Follow the link here:

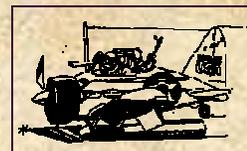
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/73766449568/>

Be sure and bring something model related to discuss at the meeting and I'll see you there.

Mike

**Fiddly Bits****Frank Seibert**

As noted, ModelFiesta has come and gone and congratulations to Bob Bethea, Mike Poole, Tim Robb and Ben Morton for their respective showings. Again, a great contest with always fierce competition. And a nice showing from other ASMS club members. As someone else put it, if you win in San Antonio, you desire it!



Of note was the increased presence of our modeling brethren from Mexico. The IPMS/ARME chapter in Monterrey has a contest slated for the 28/29 of June at the Four Seasons Hotel. The theme for this contest is: From Russia With Love. I seem to remember that from somewhere else? Check their Facebook page for more details:

IPMS/ARME. On a lighter note, a great Mexican eatery was discovered, not that unusual for San Antonio, but for us northerners a wonderful surprise.

KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES

If you haven't yet paid your annual club dues quite fiddling around and pay your club dues. Membership dues are \$20.00 dollars for an individual and \$25.00 dollars for a family. The price goes up \$5.00 per category come April Fool's Day. If you can't get to a meeting you may remit your dues to our treasurer: Jeff Forster, 1503 Cherry Creek, Cedar Park, Texas, 78613.

Owing to ModelFiesta falling on the scheduled day for Build 'n Bull day at King's Hobby Shop, the next build day will be in March. Please check for the date elsewhere in this newsletter.

Frank



You will also find a small decal sheet with U-boat style fish and numbers and such. The decals will add interest and colour.



A finely machined brass rod is included as an optional antenna

along with an optional star shaped array to top the rod.

One area where I feel that the kit falls down a little is the instruction sheets. There are four pages printed duplex on two sheets. For a garage kit they are really quite nice. The problem lies in the lack of information and some inaccuracies.

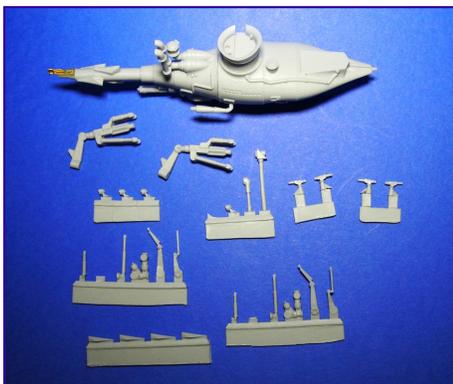
For example, the towing hook assembly shows a claw with a rotating grasp/locking “finger”. While the drawings show only one “finger” there are two supplied on the etch sheet and mechanically, one would make no sense. I put one on each side.

Another example is what appears to be a hatch of some sort starboard and forward of the conning tower. This consists of a resin hatch glued to a trunk projecting from the hull. So far, so good.

There are also three P.E. parts which are shown as optional attachments to the top of that hatch and they would just look weird if placed on top of the domed resin detail. No hint is given as to how they should look when glued and attached.

These parts are also given incorrect call outs indicating they are on P.E. sheet “A” when they are actually on sheet “B”. The positive thing about the inaccurate instruction sheets is that (at least in my kit) I got three sets of the same sheets. All the same. Go figure.

Here’s where the fun begins. It is the best of times and the worst of time. I have no problem with assembling a resin kit and my preferred adhesive for resin is two-part epoxy whenever possible.



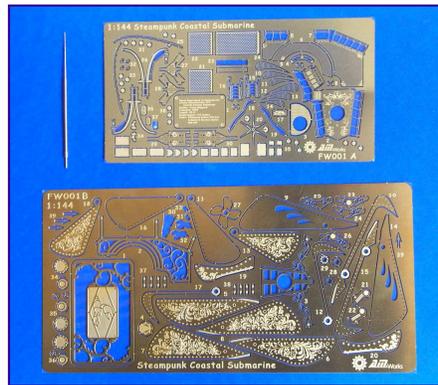
I think it gives a stronger and more satisfactory

bond. That is the best of times. CA on the other hand has always been my nemesis.



The most difficult part of the kit is the photoetch. The plus side of the etch parts is that they are beautifully and finely rendered. The negative side of the etch parts is that they are beautifully and finely rendered. At least, for my 10-thumbs.

I would recommend that the deck/rail integrated forward deck parts be left off until just prior to painting. I also recommend that the model be mounted on the supplied display stand or other choice as soon as possible in the assembly stage to prevent damage to the fine detail photoetch.



I am speaking mostly of the previously mentioned deck rails which will bend and flex if you just look at them. That is how fine they are. The salvage manipulating claws are also very delicate and

easily popped off. Mounting the entire model onto a plaque when close to the finish will go a great distance towards protecting the claws and fins from damage.

As an imaginary piece you can do about anything you want. I had considered going Alclad II® Chrome as a possibility but then went with a fish type theme.

Using various shades of grey on a dark grey base and moving out to a layer of lighter grey spots and stripes graduating to a green striping. I made the hull underside a light grey below the waterline. All paints used were Vallejo® acrylics.

When satisfied with my imaginary fish painting, I added several decals from the copious selection of decals and then used an orange brown colour to wash rust stains from the

ballast vents and various places I thought might be rust locations.



I epoxied my model to a plaque purchased at a local trophy shop and sat back to admire the first actual kit completed in several years.

By the way, the plaque purchased at the trophy shop was a reject. Cost me \$2.00 for an 8x10" finished walnut base. Just had to use some *Goo-Gone*[®] to remove tape residue. I did give the shop \$3.00 because I figured for what I got \$2.00 was not enough. It was fair and they guy will remember me.

To complete my display I added several decorative gears and stuff from a "bag-o'-gears" for Steam Punk projects over the internet.

It's an expensive kit (MSRP \$95.00) with excellent casting of resin parts; extremely high quality photoetch parts; highly original subject well executed.



The manufacturer did a great job on the photoetch but in being so good I had a minor nightmare dealing with the exceptionally fine detail and delicate parts. That is my situation and definitely not on the manufacturer.

Thanks for reading and I hope you find this useful.

David



Monthly Program Schedule by Ron McCracken, Vice-President

| Month | Presenter/Subject |
|-----------|---|
| February | Bob King/ Using Alclad II |
| March | Quarterly Contest/Open |
| April | Mike Poole/ Gloss Finishes |
| May | TBA |
| June | Quarterly Contest/Open |
| July | Bob Bethea/ Figure Painting Essentials |
| August | TBA |
| September | Quarterly Contest/ Bondo Special |
| October | TBA |
| November | TBA |
| December | Quarterly Contest/ White Elephant |

If you're interested in making a presentation at one of our club meetings contact

Ron McCracken at: ron_mccracken@att.net

Web At Night: Rewind compiled by Jean-Michel D'Aubigne

This month brings a varied assortment. From showcasing some nice modeling techniques to an amazing use of manila folders and to the downright sad.

We'll begin with the downright sad and get that out of the way. From Milton Bell comes a link to a You Tube video done by Remo Vegas chronicling his photo collection of retired WWII aircraft in-storage at Kingman, Arizona.

There are some great shots of nose art and the odd idea for a new way to finish the latest aircraft model. If you went to Model Fiesta, I refer you to the nice Me262 done as an abandoned aircraft. Don't forget a handkerchief.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TJk1jqzYU>

Dan Hickox sent in this next outstanding video link. If you have ever contemplating using a medium other than styrene for your modeling this should give you the desired inspiration. It is truly amazing work done with nothing but manila folders. And, I might add a great deal of skill.

<http://io9.com/this-meticulously-crafted-777-replica-is-made-of-manila-1504096998>

I chanced upon this next ditty whilst searching for something else. I forget now what it was that I was searching for, but...

This video link is a somewhat extended 'how to' on finishing a *Meng Models* Merkava. Granted it does have a bit more marketing embedded in it than one might care for but how much of what we see the internet isn't marketing.

Some interesting techniques are presented from applying a non-skid surface using aquarium sand to masking road wheels with a circle template to pre-shading.

I can only assume that the modeler has a goody supply of Lava hand soap (or similar product) at his disposal.

http://www.meng-model.com/index2_newphp?id=180

From the category of things you missed by not attending the monthly club meetings comes a tip from Bobbie Wilson.

If you need to increase the adhesive properties of masking

tape you can 'nuke' the stuff. By doing so you can minimize those pesky paint runs or if your needing to get an extra tight bond while replacing small clear parts with clear resin. Something else you missed.

http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/m/photos/0,,20711274_21350087,00.html

If you are still in a bit of a quandary about which project to begin I'd refer you to fellow club modelers Jake McKee's blog and a nice article that might solve that thorny issue for you.

Jake provides some food-for-thought utilizing a seemingly infinite list of things one can model using the 'Home Front' during WWII as a starting place. Everything from factory scenes and vehicles(Shepard Paine style dioramas) to women and minorities in the workforce to vintage Americana. Raise your pitchforks!

<http://buildtheworldwithme.com/>



Jean-Michel

Quarterly Contest Schedule



Our clubs quarterly contests are held on the last month of each quarter. Here are the dates and themes for 2014.

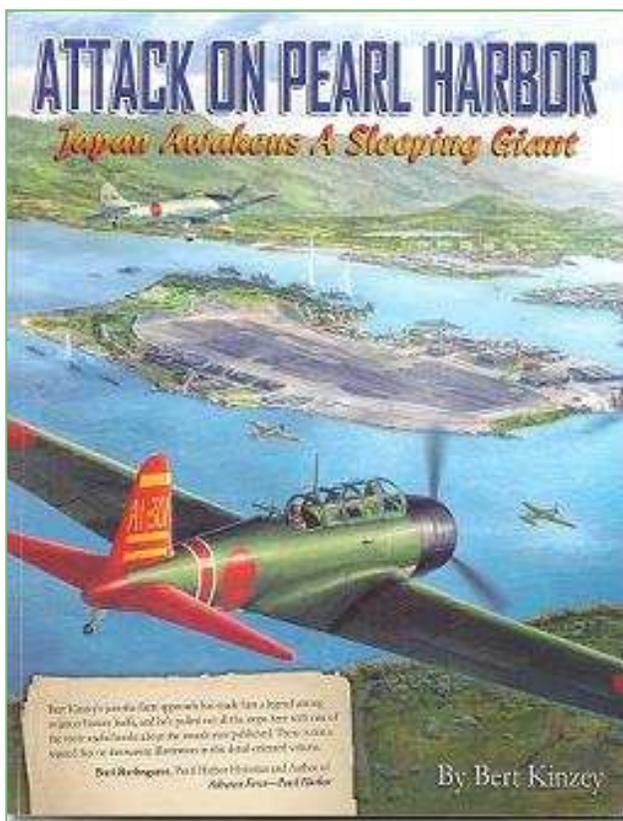
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Theme</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|
| March 20 | Open |
| June 19 | Open |
| September 18 | 'Bondo' Special |
| December 18 | White Elephant |

“Attack on Pearl Harbor”- Japan Awakens A Sleeping Giant

Author: Bert Kinzey

by Floyd S. Werner, Jr. IPMS/USA # 26266

Bert Kinzey has been writing the *Detail & Scale* series for many years now. If you've had the chance to read any of the volumes he has penned you will know that the information is always well researched and always the go to reference.



Bert has turned his passion for writing and research onto the opening battle of Pearl Harbor. He was tasked with writing the most informative booklet for the USS Arizona memorial and keeping the price under \$20.

This 80 page soft bound book is printed on high quality gloss paper. The writing is typical Bert, easy to read, even when presenting lots of information, but not wordy. The 46 illustrations are done by Rock Roszak and are superbly done, whether it is aircraft, ships, or submarines. Aspects of the attack are shown in six maps and eight tables.

The key to a book like this is that the information is presented in a form that allows it to be used. This book uses

tables, maps, illustrations, and text to convey its points. It is presented in an easy and natural manner.

The book starts out with the planning stage of Operation Z until the end of the battle and its aftermath. A map shows the timeline and the subsequent operations for the carrier groups until they returned to the home islands.

The order of battle is addressed in the Japanese Aircraft Carrier Divisions. The First, Second and Fifth Carrier Divisions all carried Zero, Vals and Kates. The individual markings for each carrier division is explained and illustrated. The command markings are explained as well.

The inclusion of the Jake recon planes, including markings and pilots, is just an example of how in depth this research is. One of the Jakes was the first plane over Pearl at 0530, confirming that the capital ships were there. Interesting is the fact that all but three ships that were 'destroyed' during the attack were put back into action during the war.

The aircraft illustrations are absolutely superb. It is interesting that there is a slight difference in the aircraft of paint schemes. This is addressed in the illustration and the text. The aircraft of the Hiryu and Soryu had a greenish-khaki color than the gray-green seen on the other aircraft.

All the US Navy ship and locations that were present are included. A map shows their position through out the inlets. Even the ships that weren't at Pearl are listed. These are also important to the rest of the war. About half of the Pacific Fleet was NOT at Pearl Harbor on 7 December.

The fight of the midget subs is presented with the latest information available. All five subs and their demises are discussed.

The Air Attack is obviously the thing that is remembered the most. The organization of the separate waves is addressed with all the commanders of the attack along with their ordnance loads. The torpedo run is illustrated with charts and photos. The horizontal ad dive bombers and their mission is given the same treatment.

Each aspect and target is discussed from the Navy Yard to the airfields. We all know about the B-17s coming into Pearl from the West Coast. The B-17s, P-40s and P-36s, but did you know that there were Navy planes there in the air as well? I didn't. I should have figured as much. Besides the Catalinas that were actually out training there were SBDs, TBD and Wildcats.

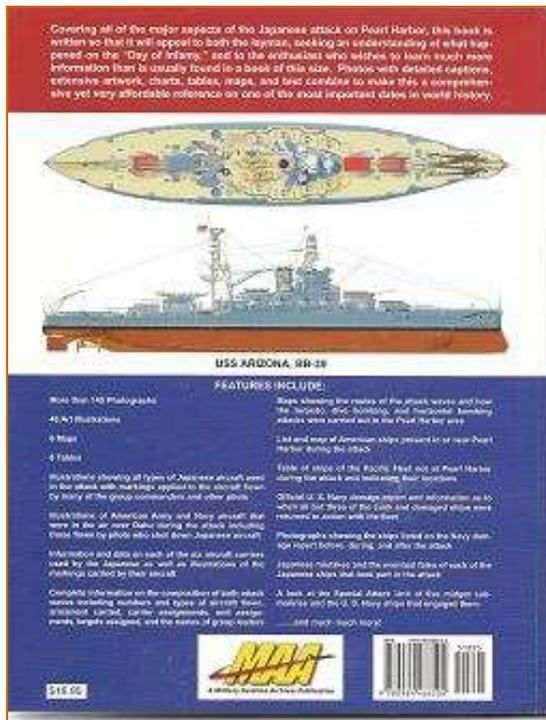
The Enterprise had launched aircraft and many of the aircraft came under fire by both the Japanese and the local AA

batteries. Despite the aircraft being in the air looking for the Japanese fleet they did not find anything and the anti-aircraft gunners were deadly in their friendly fire shooting.

The actual losses and damage to the ships and aircraft are summarized. Then in what may be a unique approach, each ship that was damaged or destroyed is discussed. Each ship is shown in photos with the information in the caption.

Japanese mistakes and losses are shown. The fate of the Japanese ships throughout the war wraps up the Japanese portion of the book.

Pearl Harbor today is the final chapter of the book. Explaining the tourist exhibit that is highlighted by the Arizona and the Missouri battleships finishes off the book.



If you were going to buy just one book on Pearl Harbor this is that book, especially if you are on a budget. It is that good.

There is more information con-

tained in its 80 pages than books with hundreds of pages more and costing much more. Bert Kinzey has done a fabulous job putting together all the information into a one stop reference at a very reasonable price. Is it any wonder that the Pearl Harbor National Park has decided to use this book in their gift shop?

Highly recommended. Thanks to Bert Kinzey for the review copy. You can obtain at: www.detailandscale.com.

Make sure you tell them you heard about it here.

Caption Contest by Ben Morton

Avid readers of the Sprue Examiner will recall a caption contest that ran in the January newsletter. Bill Delk sent in a cartoon he'd spotted on, I'm guessing, the interweb sans caption.

It was put to the assembled multitude to come up with some witty remarks to accompany same. Here now for your amusement is the winner of said contest. Whilst there weren't that many entries ALL that did send in an entry will receive a notation toward the newsletter contest.

This contest is pretty easy and the reward is quite significant. Well, maybe not quite significant but twenty/twenty-five dollars is twenty/twenty-five dollars. You send stuff to the newsletter for publication. Articles, links to websites, modeling tips or travails, kit/book reviews or in this case, cartoons. All submissions are welcome and you can't imagine how appreciated they are.

Whether the item is used or not, you are entered into the newsletter contest. The individual that sends in the most stuff over the course of 2014 will have their 2015 club dues paid for by our newsletter editor. Get to clacking on those keyboards!

Ben



Everyone agreed that the hardship duty pay didn't make up for being stationed at the lesser known 'Area 61'!

Floyd

Winning entry submitted by Mike Lamm.

Hey Buddy, Got A Match? by Tim Robb

Phil Warren, age 79, from the United Kingdom has spent 62 years building this incredible fleet of 432 ships and 1200 aircraft.



All are built entirely from wooden matchsticks and matchstick boxes. The collection includes 370 U.S. Navy and 601 British ships and their associated vessels.



Phil began his first boat model in 1948 when he was 17. He uses a razor blade, tweezers, sandpaper, and glue. He has used more than 650,000 matchsticks to create this amazing collection of 1/300th scale models.



Tim



Old Rumors/New Kits 2G

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

Automotive

Tamiya showed their latest tooling development for the 1/12 Ducati 1199 Panigale S at the Nuremburg Toy Fair recently catching everyone by surprise. It even has a kit number (14129) so I think it's safe to move this one past the rumor stage.



The real machine is an amazing bike and I'm sure *Tamiya* will do whatever it takes to make this another incredible kit in their impressive lineup. I happened to find an Austin COTA track demo of the Panigale R on youtube linked below. Austin has our own Formula 1 track by the way. How awesome is that!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hs5MvyO5dyU>

Aoshima have announced their latest polygon faceted monument to self-indulgence:

the Lamborghini Murcielago LP670-4 Super Veloce. Kidding aside, this model looks gorgeous. It will have opening scissor doors, full engine, complete interior and a sheet of photo-etch detail parts sold separately.



Revell will be releasing some notable 1/25th kits this month. If a Lambo isn't to your liking maybe you're interested in the civilian interpretation of the U.S. Army Humvee. For those who'd like to plant their carbon footprint firmly



might I suggest the Hummer H2. It can jump canyons, climb trees and move mountains in one outing. It comes decked out with a cool 90's tribal armband tattoo too!

The 2013 Mustang Boss 302 pumps out enough horsepower to drill your eyeballs into the back of your head. (I read a lot of car magazines in my youth.) With styling harkening back to the Mustang's late '60s heyday, what's not to like? Both are available now wherever fine automotive plastic is traded.



That's it for auto until next month. Stay out of the marbles.

Mike

Armor

Greetings armor fans and hello all you armor curious!

Let's start with the 'Big T' and see what Mr. *Tamiya* has in store for us. Let's see...it's a... Nashorn! And yes, all those figures come with it.



I know some people scratch their heads and wonder why *Tamiya* would come out with a model that has already been kitted several times, but I for one do not mind at all. The one thing you can almost guarantee is that a *Tamiya* build

will be a relaxing build and I am sure this will be up to their high standards. Look for this one soon.

Let's check in with *AFV Club*. Just recently they have announced an M601 Patton Medium tank. This is all we know so far, *AFV* seems to have a habit of showing pictures and then not releasing anything for *years*. Here is



hoping they don't do that and release it this year.

Let's skip over to *Dragon* and see what's going on with "The Black Label".

For those wondering what the black label is for, it seems it's for kits that are requested/ in-demand from the good folks playing *World of Tanks*. We always complain about video games taking over our hobby but here is one that's actually making modeler's.

A lot of people that play *World of Tanks* want to build the vehicles they play with. We should see what we can do to get them to come to a club meeting. Maybe make a special *World of Tanks* show flyer? I digress.

Here's what is new, something many of you probably thought would never be out in plastic: an M6A1!

The M6A1 never saw combat but it was built and used in war-bond drives. Well, that's the highlights. 'Til next time!



Aaron

Aircraft

Hello boys and girls, Happy New Year and welcome to another glorious year of models!

Since I missed the January column and the December column (I figured I'd throw that out there) I've got lots of news from around the modeling world, and especially from Nuremberg.

That's right, one of the most anticipated toy fairs, Spielwarenmesse 2014, just wrapped up and we've got lots of cool stuff coming our way. Of course, I'm only focusing on the aircraft but there is a whole bunch of stuff for everyone.

So, where do I start...? I think I'll break it down by manufacturer, in no particular order, starting with *Airfix*.



Well, we all know about that big 1/24th scale Hawker Typhoon that is due out this year. *Airfix* also announced a bevy of new tools kits for this, as well.

They are releasing a series of 1/48th scale Folland Gnats. These will appear in regular markings and special edition Red Arrows markings, as well. It's such a tiny, little airplane... also on tap, *Airfix* will be releasing a new tool Spitfire Mk.Vb in 1/48th scale.

Their new-ish tool Mk. XIX will now have a big brother. Very cool. I believe that is the first new tool Mk.Vb in a long time, so the Boffins will be lining up for this one, even me.

For those of you who have a penchant to challenge your eyesight, *Airfix* is releasing some tiny gems in 1/72nd scale too. The neat releases are the DC-3/C-47 series they are putting out this year. They are releasing a DC-3, a C-47A/D Skytrain, and a Dakota Mk.III with a Jeep (wow, a Jeep thrown in too). I just might have to build something in 1/72nd scale.

Also hitting the shelves this year in 1/72nd scale are a pair of Bristol Blenheims: a Mk.I and the Mk.IV, a Hawker Hurricane, a Supermarine Swift, and a pair of de Havilland DH.82a Tiger Moths. It's a veritable cornucopia of little scale fun and aircraft we haven't seen in a long time, if ever.

Next up is *Revell of Germany* with a new Messerschmitt to hit the scene. Arriving at retailers (King's Hobby Shop, etc.) right now is their Me109G-10 (Erla).

A brethren to their Me109G-6 released last year, this kit features the same engineering and breakdown of the earlier kit. If you peruse the Great Wide Interwebs, you have probably seen the hoopla about the kits shortcomings. However, I



think these kits provide a great big bang for your buck.

RoG is also releasing the 1/48th Panavia Tornado IDS. At first I

thought this kit was just a scaled down version of it's larger 1/32nd scale cousin. It's not. It's a newly tooled kit and it looks good. I haven't seen the markings for the kit yet, so I'm hoping they throw in some cool stuff not done before. How about some esoteric Tiger Meet markings, or one of those cool special schemes that the Luftwaffe likes to do?

Following up on the initial successes, and their future successes, with the 1/32nd scale AT-6 Texan, *Kitty Hawk* has announced another large scale kit.



They will be producing a 1/32nd scale OV-10A Bronco. Yep, that's right... So, get out your favorite Vietnam markings, or really go off the wall, load up on the white paint and do a fire fighter scheme. The CDF (California Department of Forestry) flies these things all of the time as spotters for the big tankers. I'm sure other westerly regions will also have them in their arsenal.

Moving along, *Roden* has plans to bring out something for the transport fans. Soon, you will start seeing the 1/72nd scale Fairchild C-123B

Provider at your local hobby vendor. I've seen some test shots and things are looking pretty good for this kit. Heck, just like those

DC-3 kits from *Airfix*, I may just have to have one for myself.



Looking west, across the Pacific Ocean, *Trumpeter* has an aggressive set of releases for this year. Judging from years gone by, I'd say we have a good chance to see some of them. For the large scale fans in the room, *Trumpeter* will be releasing a 1/32nd scale North American F-100F. Did I hear someone say "Misty"?

They are also releasing the rest of their P-40 family – namely the P-40E, P-40M, and the P-40N. Hopefully, they have fixed the cockpit issues and the rivets won't be too deep. Also on this list in the ever present Douglas TBD-1 Devastator – maybe this is the year...

For the quarter scale crowd, *Trumpeter* has a few notable British air frames on the list. First, scheduled for a May release, is the 1/48th scale Westland Whirlwind. Although it saw limited service during The Second World War, it is a very nice looking aircraft – aesthetically pleasing to the eye.

They also have the de Havilland Hornet, F.1 and F.3, as well as the de Havilland Sea Hornet NF.21 to deliver to waiting hobby shops around the globe. However, the 1/48th scale kits that really caught my attention were:

- Convair F-106A
- Convair F-106B
- A-37A Dragonfly
- A-37B Dragonfly
- T-38C Family (Talon, Talon II, NASA)

If we see those, my stash will grow even larger...

So, Czech this out from *Eduard*... get it? "Czech" this out... ah, nevermind.

So, *Eduard* has had some busy little elves in the workshop. This year they plan to release more of their nice 1/48th scale Me109 family. Now we're going to see the F's and G's.

Eduard revealed the box art for their new Me109G-6. No word yet on when it will be released, but rumor has it that the Gustav could be in our hands this summer.

Rumor also has it that *Eduard* will also release an F-2/F-4 later this year as well. This rumor guy is someone to know... although, 'Rumor' is a strange name – must be from California.

Something else that caught my eye from them is “The Ultimate Phantom.” They are going to re-box the new *Academy* F-4B Phantom II with all of their *Brassin* and PE sets. They have done this in the past with the *Academy* P-47D, the *Academy* MiG-29 and Su-27, and even the *Zvezda* La-5/La-5FN, among others. Now, *Eduard* is offering up that nice Phantom kit with all of the trimmings.

Rounding out my monthly round up in the plastic category, *Zoukei-Mura* is planning on releasing a couple of interesting kits this year.

First up is the 1/32nd scale Horton Ho 229. Yep, that's right... just let that sink in for a moment. *ZM* will be giving the 'ZM Treatment' to the jet powered flying wing. This could send Luft '46 viral – to borrow a phrase from those kids of today.



There are plenty of images on the Great Wide Web of this thing, and it looks pretty cool. It's definitely a niche aircraft. Also up for *ZM* is the 1/32nd Dornier Do 335.

Less “Luft '46” than the Horton, this kit is another first in this scale. No images or test shots of this one yet, but it's very exciting nonetheless.

Now, not to leave the resin crowd out in the cold, we have a couple of things. First, *Silver Wings*, from Poland, has announced it's potential 2014 lineup:

- 1/32 Boeing Stearman PT-13D/N2S-2
- 1/32 Fokker D.XXI

- 1/32 Curtiss P-6E Hawk
- 1/32 Yak 9
- 1/32 Reggiane 2000 Falco

That's a pretty aggressive release plan for this year, and there are some very exciting kits on that list... a 1/32nd scale Reggiane 2000? That's cool.



Yes, fezzes and bow ties are cool too.

Wrapping up this month's list of wonder (hopefully, it's not “I wonder where that kit went?”), *Attack Squadron* announced it's new 1/72nd scale Grumman F8F-1 Bearcat.

It's an all resin kit with a complete cockpit, engine, bombs, rockets and a center line drop tank. All control surfaces are



separate and there is internal wing detail. It also includes a PE set and decals for 2 French and 1 American aircraft. This kit is expected to hit the market in

March. Hey, that's just around the corner...

Well, that's it for this month. Hopefully, there is a little something for everyone... well, everyone that likes aircraft. Until next time... go build a model!

Cheers,

Randy

Miscellaneous

The first item up for bid is actually a re-issue of a re-issue. From *Revell* we have their 1/8th scale Jaguar E-Type.

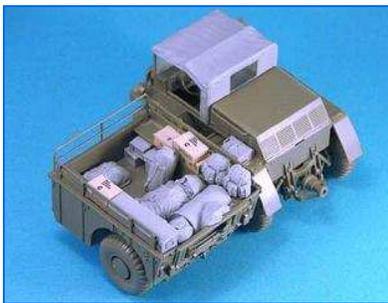
This car was *the* design at the time of its introduction and restored models still fetch a pretty penny. This edition looks to be molded in red plastic, instead of the yellow from before. I want to say that kit is actually an old *Esca*



kit from back in the day when they issued the kit in white. But having gotten that out of my system this 'limited edition' release is being marketed over the interweb: on Ebay and Toys2Day.

This surprised me but I did go to Toys2Day and did find some Revell space models that I'd assumed were only being released in Europe. It's a brave new world out there!

For those that have the Tamiya Gama Goat kit and are sorely disappointed that they didn't include a canvas top, Legend comes to the rescue. This aftermarket doodad is a canvas lid for the driver portion and lots of storage for the bed part of the vehicle. I suspect that someone, probably Legend, will soon have a canvas lid for the rear portion, as well. Or maybe a communication module.



AFV Club is introducing an anti-reflection coating for aircraft canopies. Marketed as Have Glass II (No word on what



happened to Have Glass I.) This is film applied to the inside of the kit supplied canopy.

Their first offerings are for specific manufactured F-16 and A-10 in 1/32nd scale and in 1/48th their offering anti-reflection

coatings for specific F/A-18, F-16, A-10 and F-117. Here's lookin' at you!

In the figure realm Matchbox LTD caught my eye with their 1/35th scale release of some Soviet Marines/German Infantry having a go at each other.

Matchbox has been



having a go doing quite a few figures kits of late and tend to release sets that have some interesting or unusual poses. All exhibit good sculpting for this scale.

Speaking of the unusual, Airfix continues to expand their kit offerings with neat stuff that no one expected.



For ATV fans and all things British comes a 1/48th scale Quad Runner

with trailer. Oh, and crew!

For those that just can't find the time to visit a hobby shop and do do all their shopping on-line, Scale Model Scenery has an offering that may be of interest. In 1/72nd scale a Vietnam Airbase revetment.

This is a download that you save and then print all you want for one low price.



Other cardstock/paper models are available on their website.

Golzar

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I Can't See A Thing by Mike Lamm

While researching P-47's, I found a description and pictures of this one. Thought others might be interested in photos and story.

The two pictures show a P-47 that the pilot was able to get back to base after being hit by enemy flak which severed the main oil line.



In December 1945, the pilot, 1st LT Edwin King, was flying a mission to attack a railroad marshalling yard near the town of Brescia, in Northern Italy.

The weather was overcast and rainy; however, upon reaching the area, his flight found an active rail yard and decided to try to knock out the anti-aircraft battery himself.

Due to the low cloud ceiling and weather, he instructed the rest of the planes to orbit out-of-range. While lining up a strafing run, his plane was hit in the engine. Immediately, heavy black oil started pouring out of the R-2800 engine from under the cowling, which covered the canopy and entire fuselage.

Despite losing all of its oil, the engine continued working and King was able to get the plane to a safe altitude in anticipation of having to bail out.

He notified his other flight members to return to base. Their base was 140 miles away, 120 of which was over enemy territory. He decided to stay with the plane for as long as the engine held out in the hope of getting to a friendlier location if he had to bail out.

He was directed to fly towards the coast, then turn south for his base in Pisa. He made it safely to the coast then turned south where enemy coastal anti-aircraft batteries began opening fire on him. Due to the condition of the plane, he

was unable to take evasive action, but fortunately none of the gunners scored a hit.

The closer he got to Pisa, the more King had to add throttle to hold altitude as the engine started feeling the effects of no oil. As the engine began seizing up, he decided that a long straight-in approach would not work, so a high downwind leg was entered with the throttle at almost full forward position.

Without being able to see out front of the canopy, King turned onto a close base leg, then dropped the gear and flaps. Upon reaching the "now or never point", he put the aircraft into a steep sideslip on the way down to runway level.

It was at this time that the engine completely seized and the propeller froze in an upright position. In spite of the odds against him, King made a safe touchdown about a quarter of the way down the runway and the aircraft coasted to the far end.

King was immediately taken to the dispensary to have the oil cleaned off his face, and out of his eyes.



Then he was taken back to the plane for these photos about an hour after the landing.

The mission was this Thunderbolt's 110th, and last, combat sortie. A true testament to the ruggedness of the plane, and the skill of the pilot. Not to mention, a little luck never hurts.

Mike



In the latest issue of...

IPMS/USA Journal
November-December
Volume 25, Number 06

- **The Nationals** - An Organizer's View, by Mark Persichetti
- **Rocky Mountain High** - Thin Air Nationals, by Dick Engar and Bill Engar
- **Juniors** - Category 00
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