ASMS SPRUE EXAMINER



What's UP? Old Rumors & New Kits Tracked Topics

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice •



March 2024

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Austin Scale Modelers Society (ASMS) is a chartered chapter of International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS/ USA). ASMS meets on the third Thursday of each month. Anual dues for full membership are \$25/individual or \$30/ family. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. It is intended for educational purposes only. ASMS does not endorse the contents of any article. **Our Sponsors**

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

www.models4troops@gmail.com



This month we have the first of three annual "Started by Milton" Challenges for our quarterly contest. I have enjoyed working on my model, marveling at

MILTON'S CRAFTSMANSHIP AS I WENT. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THESE STARTED BY MILTON MODELS.

WE WILL ALSO FINALIZE OUR SPECIAL AWARDS FOR THE 2024 CAPITOL CLASSIC. COME AND ENJOY A FUN MEETING!

Go Build a Model! Tim







Third Thursday each month 6:30 pm - 8:45 pm at Mr. Tramp's Sports Pub 8565 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78758

No Reservations Neccessary!

ASMS Club Dues Are Due!

Annual ASMS club dues are \$25.00/individual or \$30.00/family. You may bring your dues to a club meeting or remit same to ASMS, 1928 Dragonfly Loop, Bastrop, TX 78602.





March 23, 2024 – Showdown 2024

Location: Willowcreek Fellowship 1804 P Ave, Plano, TX Model car show 9am - 4pm Location: Willowcreek Fellowship, 1804 P Ave, Plano, TX 75074 POC: Terry Love Phone: 1-214-477-0345 E-mail: ylove_1999@yahoo.com

Club Quarterly Contests

Strted by Milton....Kits strted by Milton Bell

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Re-creating a Shep Paine diorama



Most armor builders remember the series of kits Monogram created with the help of master modeler Shep Paine. Recently I had the opportunity to participate in a contest where you had to build the kit and try to re-create the box art scene.

According to Scalemates the original kit was issued in 1974 and although I had built this kit before I had reservations about taking on a kit this old. Fortunately I was pleasantly surprised with the build and thorougly enjoyed the challenge of re-creating the desert scene.

Since this was an Afrika Korps scene I decided to use the hairspray technique to show the wear and tear of the desert on the armored car.



If you're not familiar with this technique it's fairly simple but can be scary when you see your paint job peeling away in sheets.

If you're a beginner it's best to try it out on a test peice of plastic first.

The key to the process is using an enamel base coat color (In this case Panzer Grey) a coat of hairspray (I use Tresemme) and an acrylic top coat (Your favorite Afrika Korps color).

Once all three coats are dry you attack the finish with warm water and a stiff brush. If you're doing it right you should see the top coat peeling away in patches revealing the grey underneath,







Although the kit is 50 years old the construction is straight forward. The box art on my kit according to Scalemates is the original.



The base is a hunk of insulatiing styrofoam .



The foam was covered with a mixture of white glue, construction sand and Sculpta Mold.



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One of the great features of the kit was a set of instructions that was produced with the assistance of Shep Paine. It was like having your own mini how to diorama book.

It discussed how to create a dorama with your kit. For most armor kit builders this was a giant leap forward discussing how to paint figures and models and placing them in a scene.



TIPS ON BUILDING DIORAMAS

The making of alcolarias has bacome a popular way to display models. Munching your whiles and figures for even whiteout figures) on a model that add teammonity to this internation model that add teammonity to this internation. The Monogram Kit represents a whitele in minit condition, as insued. Raffart these finish it will a factory fresh cost of paint as though it had jost come of the production line; why not try your hand at making a diotama for graster realism.

Reptir: Peterseaper IV crew in this disording program for a quick least active one enter carnutslager th which and the commensator standard the map. The triit a large most Braken developed on the ground as before of the same map.

one a common form of gardin most available in garden inter. Then same gland to be most worth where gland The most such hand official to be most worth where gland The most such hand official to be and instance of a colored road may would serve houry.

Diorema created by Sheperd Paine

PLANNING YOUR DIORAMA The first step, even before you begin the

The fold settle feet under you begin the actent bits of the velocity, is to plan your ariting. You can be under the under shown, or create your you. There are rearry lands, on the maket is combat. A good an area is not in the plant is combat. A good and make you are the plant been the smallest bloary in bloar to have histories of local contact divisions which are excellent source material. The protocols under the analytic of local contact divisions bloar to have the analytic of local contact. Source plants. The excellent source hardred.

Imagination is the larg impedient is any disrums. A good imaginative idea ideas not necessarily need a lick and professional looking execution to be successful, even the verage modeler can assive put it off. On the other hand, don't try anything for diaborate, epecally at first, Find out what your limitations as a ben early within them.

MONOGRAM MODELS, INC. Morton Grove, III. Copyright® 1973













Using the box art as a guide I re-created the desert scene with only an ddition of some Value Gear crates and boxes. and some model railroading palm trees. The finished scene took first place in the contest.







Build and Bull North by Rick Herrington.

Dragon's Lair welcomes ASMS to another Build and Bull North, Tim, Seth, Fred and Minh were present along with Charlie Hauptrief. Tim was working on a Land of the Giants vehicle, Charlie was working on a Kriegsmarine project and Rick was working on a BMD-3. Seth, Minh and Fred were all deep in Gunpla projects.





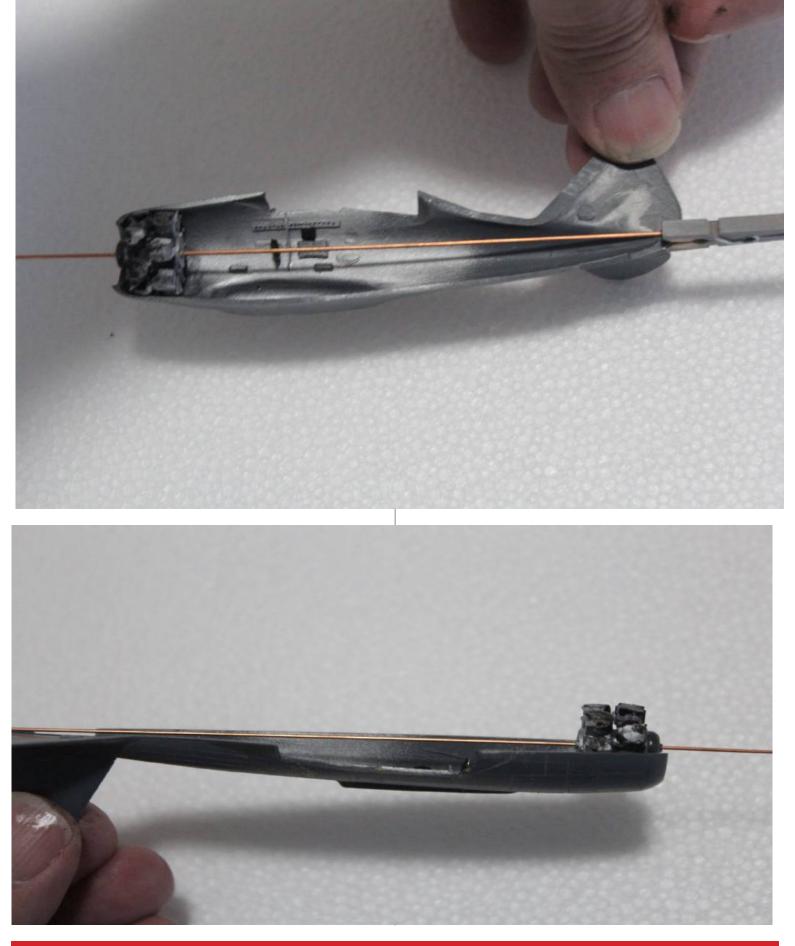
Keep 'em Spinning by Ron McCracken

From the very beginning of injection-molded styrene plastic airplane kits, propellers that would rotate were pretty much a standard feature. Being old-school, I like to preserve that feature. This article describes a technique for adapting substitute radial engines to a model, providing for a rotating propeller, and aligning the engine so the propeller plane of rotation is reasonably accurate. The kit used is the MPM 1/72nd scale P-35A, with a replacement engine adapted from an Italeri C-47 (both aircraft used a Pratt & Whitney R-1830 engine).

The first problem I had was the engine diameter. The P-35 had a very closely cowled engine and the Italeri part simply wouldn't fit due to the thickness of the cowling walls. I used a Dremel with a rotary file to thin out the cowling walls as much as practical. Still wouldn't fit, so I began removing material from the tops of the engine cylinders a little at a time until I had the diameter reduced enough to allow the fuselage halves to fit together.

The next problem was providing a propeller shaft that was free to rotate. I prefer to install what I call a "trapped" propeller shaft that is built into the model engine in such a way that it cannot fall out. This allows installation of the propeller to be delayed until the build is complete and the model painted.

The first step is to drill a shaft hole all the way through the engine from front to back. The tricky part is getting this hole parallel with the centerline of the engine, and it almost never comes out perfect. Even using a drill press for this operation doesn't always produce a perfect result.

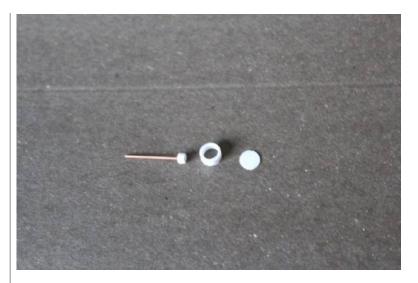


As for the size of the shaft hole, I drill it large enough to install a brass tubing sleeve to line the hole, then construct my propeller shaft from brass or plastic rod that fits loosely in the tubing. K&S produces a range of brass tubing sized so that smaller tubes slip easily into the next larger size, and they work nicely for this purpose. I especially recommend the sleeve if you are using an engine cast from resin. On more than one occasion I've had cast resin engines stick to the propeller shaft over time. A metal sleeve prevents this from happening. Once the hole is drilled, cement your sleeve, if used, into the hole.

Now we deal with alignment. Obtain a long enough piece of propeller shaft material to reach all the way from the engine to the aft end of the fuselage (or nacelle for multi-engine models). Place your engine approximately in its final position, insert the shaft through the engine and tape or clamp it to the side of the fuselage half, using the extended shaft as a guide to align the shaft centerline parallel to the aircraft center line, and perpendicular to the front of the cowling. Obviously, this step must precede the installation of the cockpit or other interior details. The photographs show both side and top views of an engine aligned using this technique. One caution – be sure not to distort the shaft

material, or your alignment will be off. With alignment accomplished, glue the engine in place.

Now make and install the propeller shaft. The shaft is a short piece of wire or plastic rod, with a slightly larger diameter collar cemented to the back end. This is inserted through the engine from the back. Then cut a short piece of plastic tubing (just a wee bit longer than the collar on the shaft) and cement it to the back of the engine surrounding the shaft collar. Finally, cut a disc of sheet plastic and cement it to the back side of the tubing. This traps the propeller shaft in place.





The middle photograph shows the components made for this project. The final photograph shows the engine cemented into place, with the propeller shaft trapped and ready for use.

At this point, you are ready to proceed with assembly and finishing of the model. Attachment of the propeller is done after the model is painted, by drilling a hole for the propeller shaft in the back of the hub. For a permanent attachment, put just a tiny bit of gap-filler CA in the hole in the back of the propeller, then slide it onto the shaft. This should prevent the cement from wicking itself along the shaft and into the sleeve, which would of course defeat the whole purpose you are trying to achieve.

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What's Up wid You?

ASMS/Bill Delk sponsors an on-line ZOOM meeting with whoever wants to join us to talk about models and life. It happens almost every Sunday at 4:00. Contact Bill Delk to have him send you a link to be able to get into the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Bill Delk`s e-mail address Falconfyredeuce@gmail.com.



Lots of great models to get to. Let's start off with our out of state contributor Dave Edgerly. Dave has been working on Zoukei Mura's 1/32 ME-109G14.







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Tim Robb shared an in progress Otaki F6F-5 conversion he's working on .



Sam Taylor shred his Polar Lights 1/1000 USS Enterprise with the group. Sam said the kit had as many decals as it did parts.



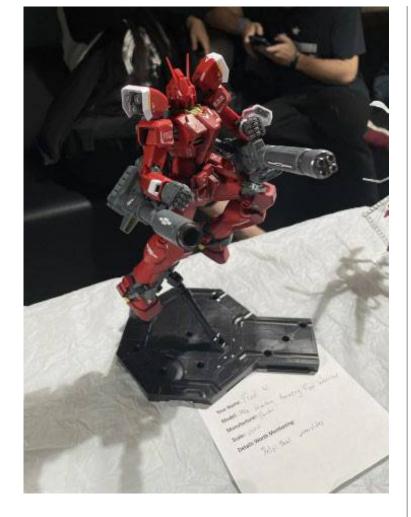
Aaron Snischney brought in an in progrss British Ram tank.



Fred Wang shared two projects, the first was a Fujimi Louisiana crayfish and the second was a Master Grade Amazing Red Warrior by Bandai.







Rick Herrington brought in his 1/35 Tamiya Leopard 1A1



Mike Gilsbach brought in Tamiya 1/35 Marder 3M.

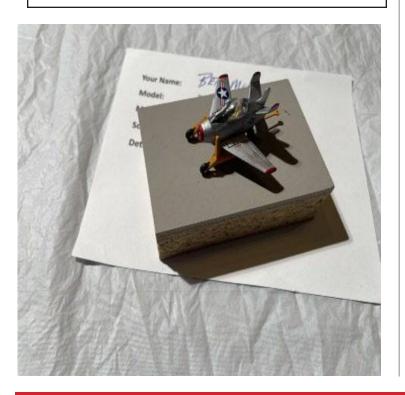


Mike also brought in a Monogram P-51D.

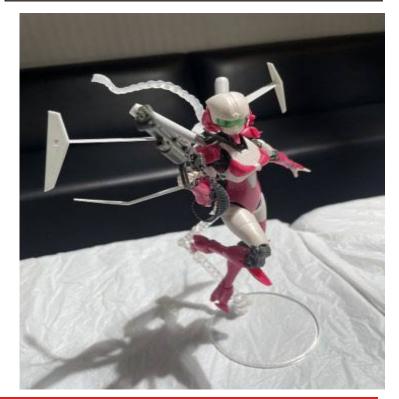




Ben Morton brought in a 1/144 scale Hobby Craft XF-85



Seth Souza brought in a Good Smile Company Moderoid Ariel with flight unit.



Matthew Brown brought in a Bandai Tyrannasaurus Rex,



Jorge Martins brought in a Hobby Craft H-75A4

Jackson Hunter brought in a Panzer/Gundam group of models all done up in Panzer Grey.





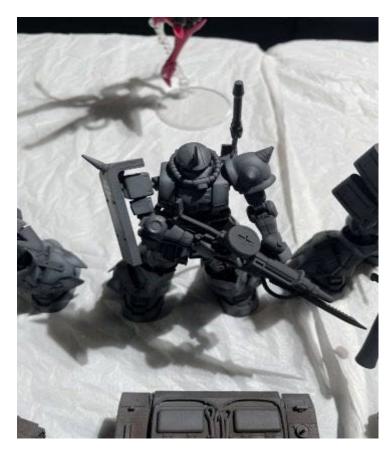
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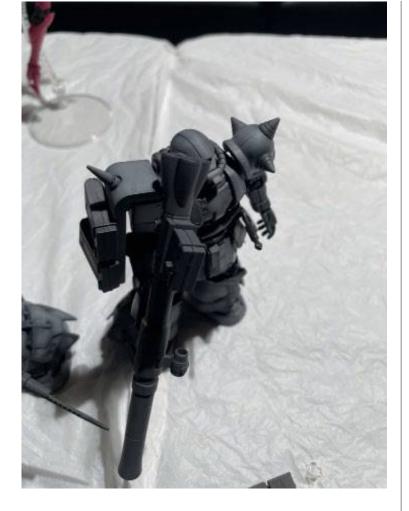








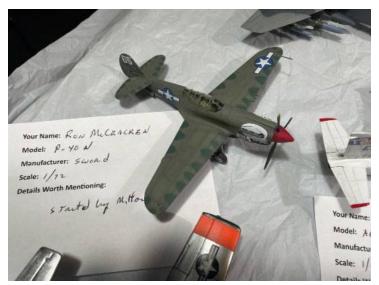
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Ron McCrackenbrought in several finished projects, the first was a Fujimi LTV Ya-7F in 1/72nd scale. This was a major conversion.



Next from Ron is a P-40N. This was a started by Milton kit.



Ron also brought in an Eduard Aero L-39C.



Next from Ron is an MPM Seversky P-35.



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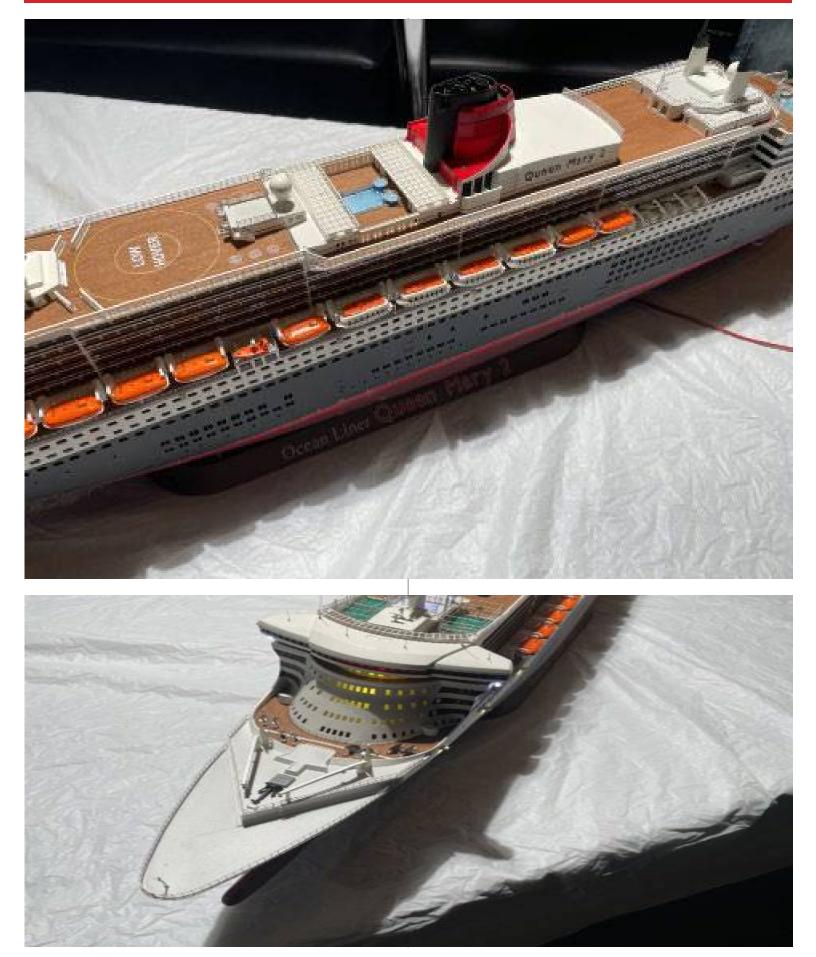
Finally from Ron is a T-28A from Heller which was converted from a T-28D

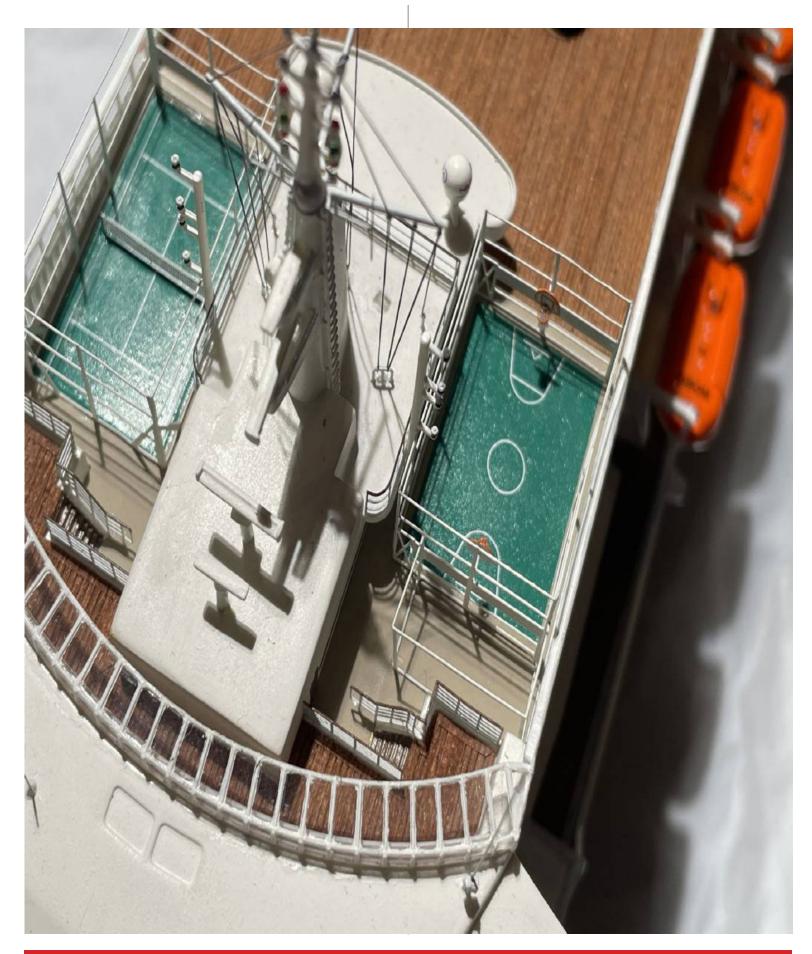




This month's winner was Gene Myers 1/400 Queen Mary 2 Platinum Edition by Revell. Gene added lighting to his Queen Mary, water in the pools and a basketball court.











Thanks to everyone thet shared their work with the group. See you at next month's meeting.

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Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

March is evidently a month reserved for re-pops, as that is all that is in view. Nevertheless, some of the re-releases include new parts that allow for previously-unavailable variants, so it is worth a review.

1/32nd Scale:

Revell is re-releasing their Alouette II, first released in 1996 and last updated around 2005.



1/48th Scale:

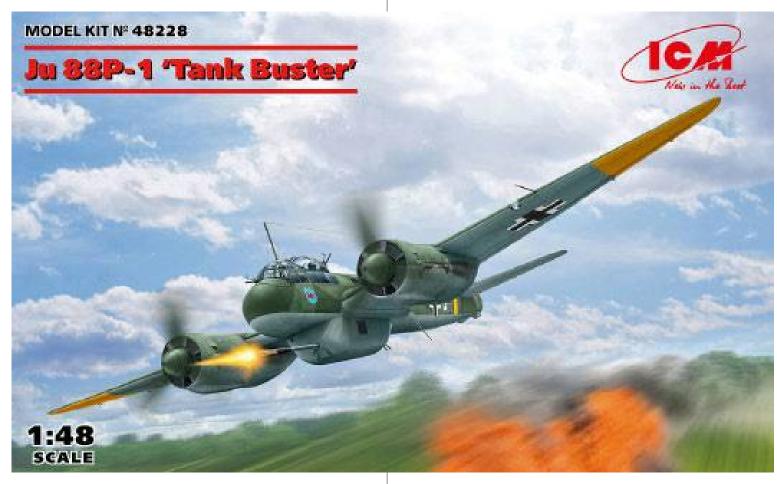
Eduard is re-releasing an F-5E Tiger II, based on the AFV Club kit, with some new parts.



Eduard is re-releasing their Fw 190A-5 in a Weekend Edition kit. Remember, the Weekend Edition kits generally lack the photo-etch, masks, etc. found in full Eduard kits.



ICM has released another variant of the Ju-88, this time the tank-killer Ju-88P-1 with the 75 MM gun under the fuselage.



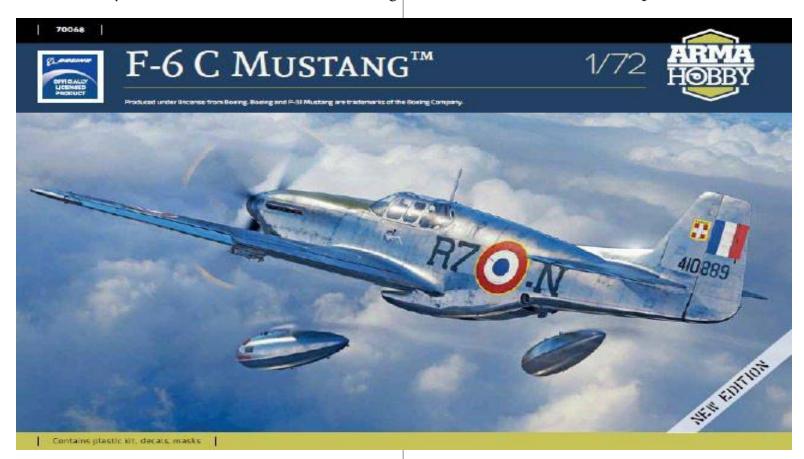
Italeri has re-released their F/A-18F Super Hornet with new decals.



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1/72nd Scale:

Arma Hobby has re-released their F-6C Mustang Photo-Recon variant with new parts.

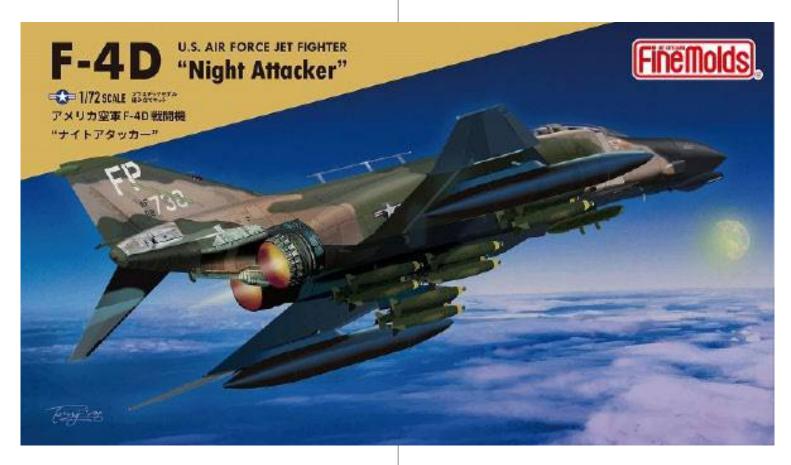


Eduard has re-released their Bf 109G-2 in a Profipack edition with six markings options.

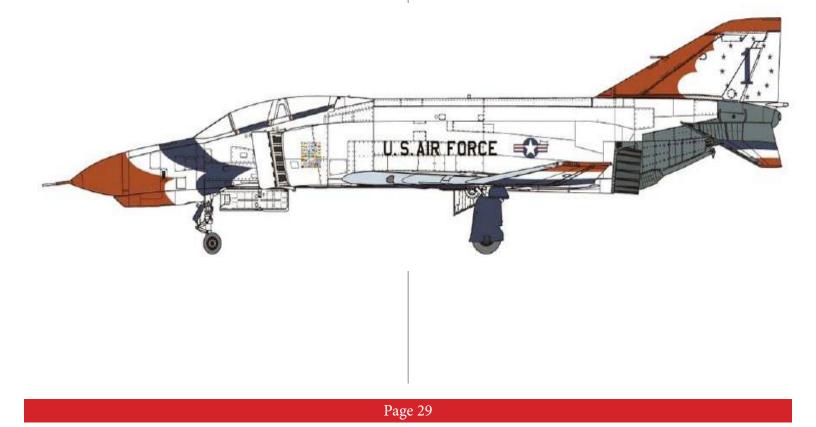


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Fine Molds has re-released an F-4D "Night Attacker" variant of the Phantom based on their earlier releases of the F-4.



Fine Molds has also re-released their F-4E kit in Thunderbirds markings.



Revell has re-released their 1998 Arado Ar 555 as a P-series variant.



1/144th Scale: Academy has re-released the Minicraft EC-121 Warning Star.



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And there you have it for March. Go build a model!

Shipping News by Rick Herrington

Ahoy mates! As in aircraft not many new releases to get to. Let's start off with 1/700 scale. Pit Road has three releases for us this month, the first is JMSDF Kirishima a Japanese guided missiloe destroyer,



Scale 1/100 Staty / WITER 海上自衛隊 イージス護衛艦 DDG-174 きりしま Defense Force Doct Staty / WITER

Next from Pit Road is another JMSDF release the Atago DDG-177



Lange Seale 1/709 海上自衛隊 護衛艦 DDG-177 あたご Seif-Defense Force DG-177 イオムの

Finally from Pit Road is a release of the IJN heavy cruiser Maya.



Aoshima had three new releases this month. The first is the IJN battleship Yamashiro.



Next from Aoshima is a Japanese naval repair ship.



Last from Aoshima is the IJN destroyer Fuyutsuki



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Vee Hobby is releasing the US light cruiser Worcester CL-144)



Flyhawk is releasing the HMS Victorious





Fujimi is the final in 1/700 with their release (re-release?) of the IJN Yamato.



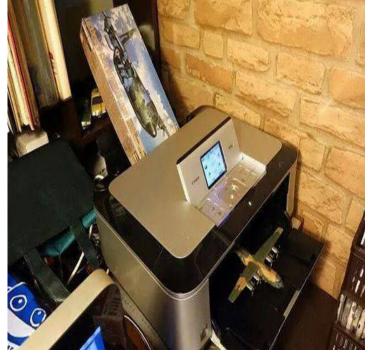
Just one release in 1/350 scale this month. Trumoeter is releasing CV-41 Midway.





That's all the wind in the sails for this month. See you at the meeting!







ASMS

Hello tread heads! New stuff for the armor builders! Let's start off with 1-72nd scale. Mini Art is releasing a Stug 3 Ausf G.



Moving on to 1/35 scale Das Werk is releasing an 88mm flak on a 9t Vomag chassis.





Border Models is jumping into the fray with a Tiger 1 initial production.

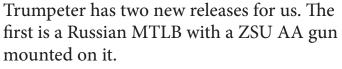


Border Models is also releasing a Merkava 2D.



Next up is Dragon with two re-releases, a Panther G with roof armor and a Tunisian Tiger 1.

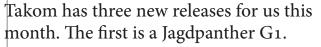






Next is a truck mounted flak gun









ICM Has two new releases for us. The first is a German Hanomag 251/18 with crew figures. The second is a WW1 US ammunition truck.







Last from Takom in 1/35th is a 2 in 1 Sturmhaubitze/Stug 3 with a stowage kit included.



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Tamiya has a new release for us this month, an early model Panzer 4G with a motorcycle included.



Last up in 1/35 is a 3cm flakvierling



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Looks like 1/16th scale is beginning to garner interest from the model makers. Das Werk has been the pioneer and Andy's Hobby has been a big promoter. Das Werk has a new line of 1/16 figures to go along with their releases. Dragon figure builders may recognize these figures from previously released 1/35 figure sets. First in the 1/16 figures is a German

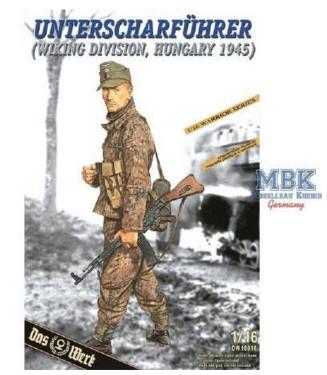
Schutze.



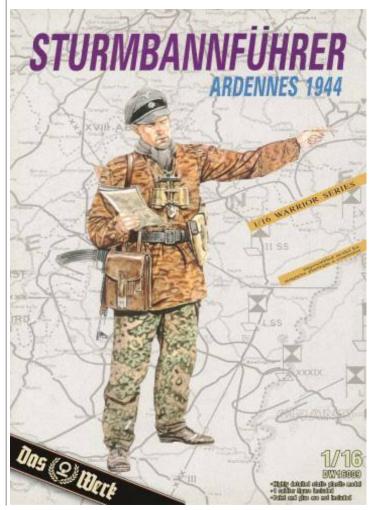
Next is an SS Sturmmann



Next is an Unterscharfuhrer.



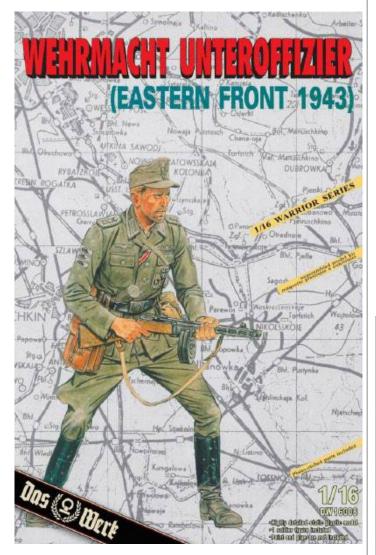
Next is a Sturmbnnfurhrer.



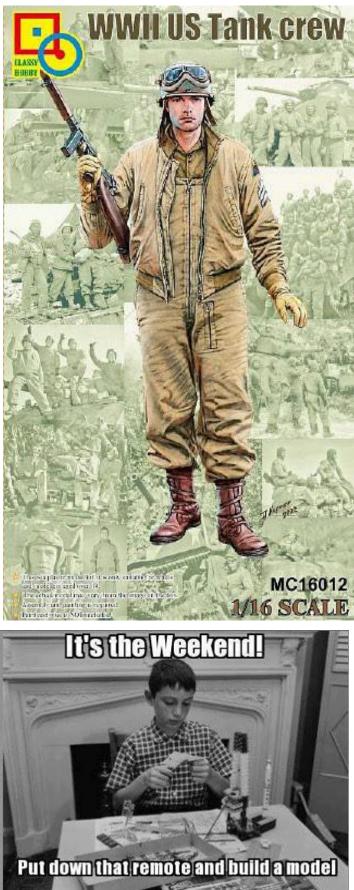
Next is a Florian Geyer cavalry officer.

CE CONTRACTOR DE LA CON

Next from Das Werk is Sgt Stryker from Cross of Iron.



Classy Hobby has a US Tanker for us.



Moving on to 1/16th vehicles Das Werk has two for us. The first is a German Puma armored car with tank crewman.







Das Werk also has a Hanomag 251/22 Pakwagen



Finally in the armor column Trumpeter is releasing a Tiger 1 in 1/16th.



That's it for this month. Go grab a kit from that stash and build it!



WEIRDCATS.COM

Teacher: Could you show me what cause and effect looks like?

Me:



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IPMS USA is soliciting articles. We've got some great modeller's in this area and you can help the mother organization to flourish by submitting an article to the Journal.

ARIE S

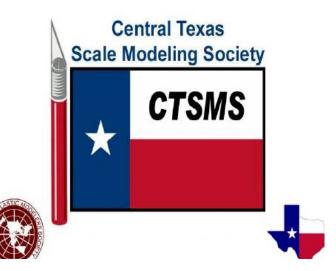
Maybe you build cars. Or jets. Or figures. Or tanks. Maybe you slap em' together. Maybe you count every rivet.

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BUILDING

How did you built it? What makes this particular subject interesting? Do you have any special tricks?

Any IPMS USA member can submit an article on any modeling related topic to the IPMS USA Journal The standard word count is 3000 and it should be well documented with high resolution photos Send inquires to: ipms-q@ipmsusa.org







http://www.kingshobbyshop.com



Join International Plastic Modeler's Society / USA

IPMS/USA is dedicated to the hobby (and fun) of Scale Modeling. It was started by Jim Sage, of Dallas, Texas, in 1964. There are now branches of IPMS all over the world. Our Local Regions and Chapters sponsor Model shows and contests every year, but you needn't be a member to visit the shows or attend the club meetings!

With IPMS/USA Membership, you will receive the outstanding IPMS/USA Journal six times a year - it includes features on all modeling subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, figures - you name it! You will also find listings of IPMS contests, swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews. Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA sanctioned contests, and particularly in our

World-famous National Convention, held each summer. As a member, you'll also be able to access our online Discussion Board, where a wide variety of modeling topics are discussed, and enjoy interaction with other serious modelers for help with questions about modeling techniques or the Society in general. Many Hobby Shops and Model Vendors around the USA offer discounts to IPMS/ USA Members.

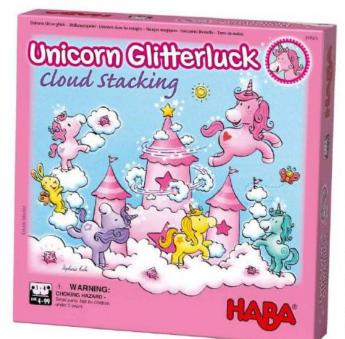
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For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Officer Manager at manager@ipmsusa.org

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