

ASMS

SPRUE EXAMINER



**A Tale of Two
Challengers**
by Rick Herrington

Rivercon XIV 2025
by Tim Robb

austinsms.com



March 2025

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

News • Articles • Features • Opinions • Advice •

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Ben Morton - IPMS/USA Coordinator; chaptercontact@austinsms.org



www.austinsms.org

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. Annual 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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Dragon's Lair comics and fantasy



www.austinarmorbuilders.com



www.kingshobbyshop.com



www.wmbros.com



www.ctsms.org

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

PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

BY TIM ROBB



Hello Modelers.

We have a good meeting lined up for this month. Our presentation will be from Jeff Erp on gunship aircraft.

At this meeting please bring your short list of kits on the shelf of doom area of your workbench for our Procrastinator Challenge selection. Put your name on your card and we will pass the cards around. Someone will select for you the kit you are to finish for the Challenge and pass your card back to you. The Procrastinator Challenge quarterly contest will be held at our September 27 meeting so that is the target date to finish your model.

Our March meeting will see our second of the three year series of Started by Milton Challenge quarterly contests, so please have one of your started by Milton kits finished for the March 22 meeting. We will later display these models to honor Milton at our Nov. 9 Capitol Classic Model Contest. Quarterly contest 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners receive gift cards from Lionheart Hobby and Games. This meeting will also include the judging of the Bandai Jesta Discord group build. Chris Chany will be discussing the Capitol Classic special Awards.





HOUSE CLEANING



ASMS MEETING

Fourth Saturday each month
at 11:00 AM

No Reservations Necessary!

Austin Northwest Recreation Center
2913 Northland Drive
Austin, TX

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.



Events

Route 66 Model Expo
Tulsa Oklahoma,
10600 E 96th St S,
Tulsa, OK 74133
April 5, 2025

Club Quarterly Contests

Procrastinator Challenge -bring your short list
of kits on the shelf of doom area of your work-
bench for our Procrastinator Challenge selec-
tion. Put your name on your card and we will
pass the cards around. Someone will select for
you the kit you are to finish for the Challenge
and pass your card back to you. The Procrasti-
nator Challenge quarterly contest will be held at
our September 27 meeting

Monthly Meeting Presentations:

Ian Latham will give a presentation

A Tale of Two Challengers

by Rick Herrington



1/72nd scale is rewarding to work with if you're an armor builder. The kits are usually half of the price you'd pay for a 1/35th scale kit and have far less fiddly bits than their 1/35th brothers.

In the middle of building a Tamiya 1/35 Challenger 2 Desertised I had an extended stay in the hospital. After I returned home I was not up to picking up where I left off with the 1/35th kit but I was still interested in completing a Challenger. Searching through my stash I came up with a one and a half kits of a Challenger 2 by Dragon and a Revell Challenger 1.



CHALLENGER' 1 KFOR

1:72
 Plastik-Modellbausatz
 Plastic model kit
 Modèle réduit
 Modelbouwdoos
 ↔ 15,5 cm



Panzer-Illustration,
 Tank-illustration,
 Illustration diune char,
 Pantser-illustratie:
 Enzo Maio

03120



While perusing the web found a newly released Academy 1/72 Challenger 1 which I promptly ordered along with a Dragon KFOR Challenger with a dozer blade.



Academy's "New tool"
1/72 Desert Storm
Challenger 1 kit.
On the hull there is a
manufacturing stamp from
Ace models.

No matter who manufac-
tured it the kit still builds
up well.

CHALLENGER 2 w/DOZER BLADE



Builds on all these kits are straight forward. I built the Academy kit as an Operation Granby machine, The Dragon Challenger 2 with dozer was built up as a vehicle participating in the Kosovo (KFOR) action.

I added some extras in the way of stowage made from Epoxe putty and sheet styrene. The orange air identification panel was made with Magic Sculpt. (epoxe putty).



The Dragon instructions on the dozer blade assembly are a little rough so I assembled it as I thought it should be. I did find some web images that helped out in the assembly.



These kits were a lot of fun for me, so much so that I went out and bought a Trumpeter Challenger 2 with dozer blade in 1/35th scale. I'm not a big fan of Trumpeter's armor kits but it did have the dozer blade assembly in the kit and I can add that to the RFM or Tamiya kit which I plan to do.

Rivercon XIV 2025..a trip to visit our Louisiana neighbors

by Tim Robb

It was a Saturday in March. The day dawned chilly and clear after a light overnight rain. The promise of great models to see, vendors to visit, and fellow modelers to meet held Tim in keen anticipation.....oh wait, this isn't a novel.

OK. I made the trip to Shreveport for my first RiverCon and had a good time at a very well run event. The location was the University Center building on the LSU Shreveport campus, and it's a great venue. Lots of nearby parking and there are 7-8 rooms available upstairs for model display, a ballroom, auditorium with theater seating, and dining room with "The Port" snack bar downstairs.



Beandon Parker and wife.

The vendors were spread about the wide lobby and hallways downstairs. I was told the ballroom had been used as the vendor room at previous events but this year's floorplan came about by vendor consensus request. It worked well, modelers were in the vendor area almost immediately upon entering the building.



Brandon's Cobra and tank transporter.





Brandon Porter of Alamo Squadron won best armor with a 1/72nd piece and also the “Call of the Wild” Theme award and best aircraft with a 1/32 scale AH-1G Cobra helicopter. Best Figure went to a Scottish highlander. I didn’t get all the best ofs and winners recorded, however, they will be posted soon on the Red River Scale Modelers Facebook page.



The competition was judged using standard IPMS rules with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals awarded for each category. There were 84 entrants for a total of 518 models. The largest categories were Aircraft (125), Armor (109), Automotive (102). Entrants came from Louisiana 38, Texas 25, Arkansas 5, Oklahoma 3, and one each from Alabama and Tennessee. Richard Kern entered 64.



. Mike Lamar of ASMS took 1st and 2nd in 1/48 single engine Axis with a pair of FW-190s, and 1st and 2nd in 1/72 single engine Axis with a pair of Ki-84s, and perhaps more I didn't get recorded. Beautiful models Mike.



Best Figure



Award ceremony



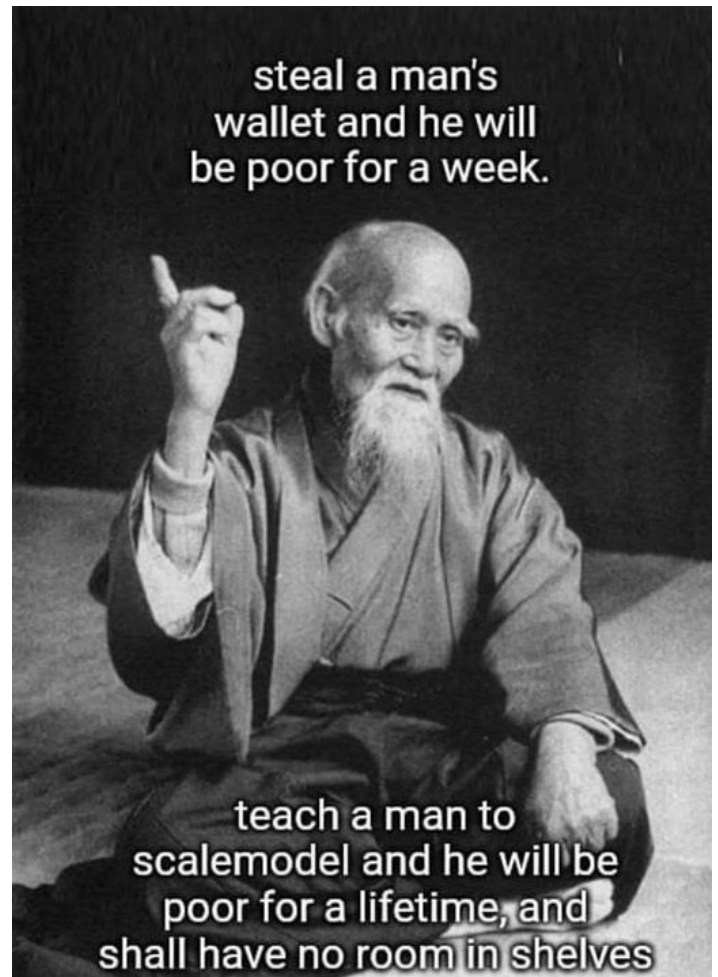
Bud Lindemann's re-purposed automotive Special award.

Andy Bloom, Red River Modelers president, re-purposed his Cub Scout Pinewood Derby trophy for use as the Bud Lindemann Award which went to Darrell Thrasher of Red River Modelers. Very cool Andy!

Congratulations to Andy and the whole Red River club on a great, well run show. Let's see if we can get a few more of our club down to Shreveport next year.



Darrell Thrasher.





Just wanted to give everyone an update on what is going on out at ABIA. For those of you who were at the January meeting, the club voted to purchase the missing aircraft for the display that were identified by Ron.

If I recall the count is close to a dozen aircraft that will need to be acquired and built. Ron has already noted that he is not going build all of them so we will need volunteers to build these once they become available.

Talking about volunteers, there are some other needs for this project. I have setup dates for the rest of the year for conservator trips to the airport and wanted to share them in hopes of getting folks to raise their hands and come out for one of these.

These dates are all on Friday afternoons with a start time of around 1pm and typically lasts about two hours. Parking at the airport will be taken care of if you bring in your parking ticket. Looking for at least one, maybe two individuals per date. Any more than that and we will be stepping on each other.

Here are the dates for this year: 5/2, 6/13, 7/25, 9/12, 10/24, 12/12

Another thing that could use a hand is doing some research. The current thought is that all these aircraft might possibly have a page on the US Air Force Museum website. We have talked about collecting these links and then providing airport visitors with a barcode that can be scanned so that they can learn more about the aircraft.

The last project is the conservatorship aspect. The airport staff would like us to create some kind of documentation/log for each model. For the existing some of the details may be non-existent, but for the new ones capture details right down to who built it for the history.

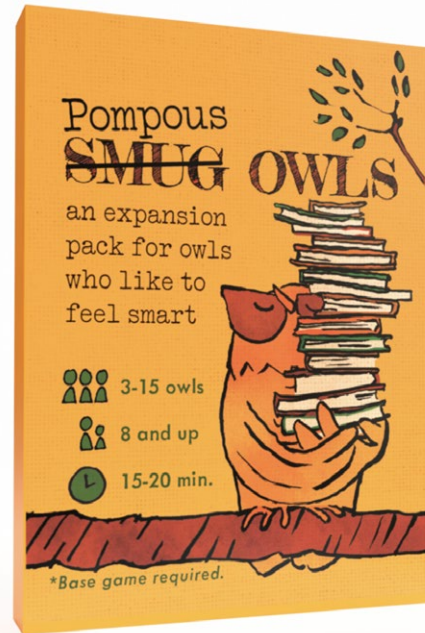
If anyone is interested in helping out with this project, please see me at a meeting or contact me via email at williamzych@gmail.com.

LIONHEART

— H O B B Y —

Here's this month's featured products from Lion Heart.

Pompous Owls Expansion Pack



1/110 Jupiter-C Rocket w/ Gantry Tower & Crew

5500 Jack C Hays Trail, Kyle, Texas
78640,

(512) 504-3404

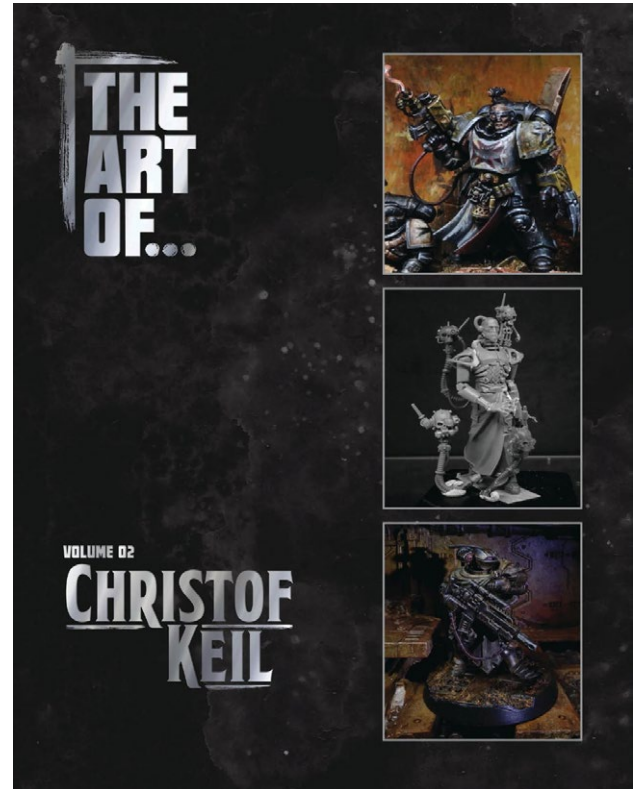
10:00 am – 06:00 pm



LIONHEART

— H O B B Y —

The Art of Christof Keil Bandai



1/144 Gundam EG Strike Rouge "Gundam Seed"



What's Up wid You?

On our last meeting date Austin was experiencing some extremely (at least for us) cold weather. As a result our meeting place was taken over to provide a safe warm space for those who needed it.

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.

A WARGAMERS SCORE CARD....



**Cutting yourself
with your knife
2 pts**



**Spilling your wash
1 pt**



**Cleaning your brush
in your drink
1 pt**



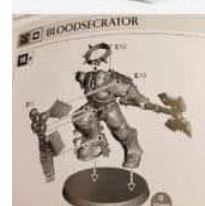
**Drinking your paint
water
2pts**



**Supergluing body parts
together
3pts**



**Dropping your
(Or another persons)
Minis
2pts (10 if a Titan)**



**Clipping part of the
model you thought was
sprue
2 pts**



Old Rumors and New Kits

New and In View Aircraft by Ron McCracken

March is a month of re-pops. Of particular interest this month are a couple of new (to me, at least) outfits who've re-released a slew of variants of some popular subjects. The first of these is Wingsy Kits, a Ukrainian company founded in 2016. They specialize in the ever-popular 1/48th scale. For the teeny-scale fans, FoxOne is re-popping a number of 1/144th kits, including variants of the T-6 Texan II.

1/35th Scale:

Trumpeter has re-released their CH-47A kit as an ACH-47A Armored Chinook with new parts.



1/48th Scale:

Hasegawa is re-releasing their B7A2 in Ryusei-Kai 752 Flying Group markings.



Hasegawa is also re-releasing their F-22 Raptor in a “Keen Sword 25 Detail Up Version” with new parts.



Now we come to Wingsy. They are re-releasing virtually their entire product line, which consists of multiple variants of three airframes, the Japanese A5M Claude, the Ki-51 Sonia, and the German Bf 109E, for a total of 12 kits:

A5M2b Claude IJN Type 96

A5M2b Claude IJN Type 96

A5M4 Claude IJN Type 96

Ki-51 Sonia IJA Type 99

Ki-51 Sonia IJA Type 99

Ki-51 Sonia IJA Type 99

Bf 109E-1 'Emil'

Bf 109E-1/3 Legion Condor

Bf 109E-3 'Emil'

Bf 109E-3a Swiss AF

Bf 109E-4 Emil

Bf 109E-7 Emil



Swiss Air Force fighter MESSERSCHMITT
Bf 109 E-3a «Emil»

wingsy kits

scale 1/48

Ready to assemble scale model kit

www.wingsykits.com



1/72nd Scale:

Arma is re-releasing their TS-11 Iskra bis DF.



Hasegawa is re-releasing their F-35B Lightning II in VX-23 markings.



HOBBY SEARCH

Hasegawa is also re-releasing their UH-60J Rescue Hawk in Chitose Air Rescue 70th Anniversary markings.



Fine Molds is releasing new variants of their F-4J kits with new parts, specifically an F-4B Phantom II in VF-84 markings, and an F-4N Phantom II in VMFA-531 markings.



Sword is re-releasing their F3D-2 Skyknight in Korean War markings.



Sword is also re-releasing their Lightning T.4/T.5



Sword is re-releasing their TAV-8B Harrier II.



An outfit called Waltersons has acquired molds for the Forces of Valor F4U-1D Corsair and P-51D Mustang and is re-issuing them.



1/144th Scale:

Mark I Models is re-releasing their HS.748 as an SRS.2B variant with new parts.



FoxOne is re-releasing their C-2A Greyhound.



FoxOne is re-releasing their Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XIV.



FoxOne is re-releasing their T-2C Buckeye.



FoxOne is re-releasing three variants of their T-6 trainer kit; a T-6A Texan II USAF, a T-6A Texan II USN, and a T-6B Texan II.



T-6A TEXAN II

USAF 47FTW/85FTS "PANTHERS"



USAF 47FTW/85FTS "TIGERS"



USAF 14FTW



FoxOne is re-releasing their F-16E and F-16F Fighting Falcon kits.



FoxOne is re-releasing their Ta 183 Huckerbein.



And last but not least, Revell is re-releasing their F-14A Tomcat.



1/200th Scale:

Hasegawa is re-releasing two variants of their 777-200, one in ANA markings, the other in JAL markings.



And that's it for March. Get out there and build a model!

Shipping News

by Rick Herrington

Ahoy mates! A fair amount of re-pops and a new 1/200 scale to get to so let's get started with 1/700 scale. Dragon is up first with a couple of battle wagons for us. The first is the USS Arizona as she looked on December 7, 1941. The kit also includes a Type 97 Kate.

1:700 SCALE MODERN SEA POWER SERIES

"Pearl Harbor Attack" 7 December 1941 U.S.S. Arizona BB-39 + IJN Type 97 "Kate" Carrier Bomber



Next up from Dragon is the USS Pennsylvania as she appeared in 1944.

1:700 SCALE MODERN SEA POWER SERIES

U.S.S. PENNSYLVANIA BB-38 1944



Next from Dragon is a Baltimore class cruiser converted to a missile cruiser, the USS Chicago CG 11,



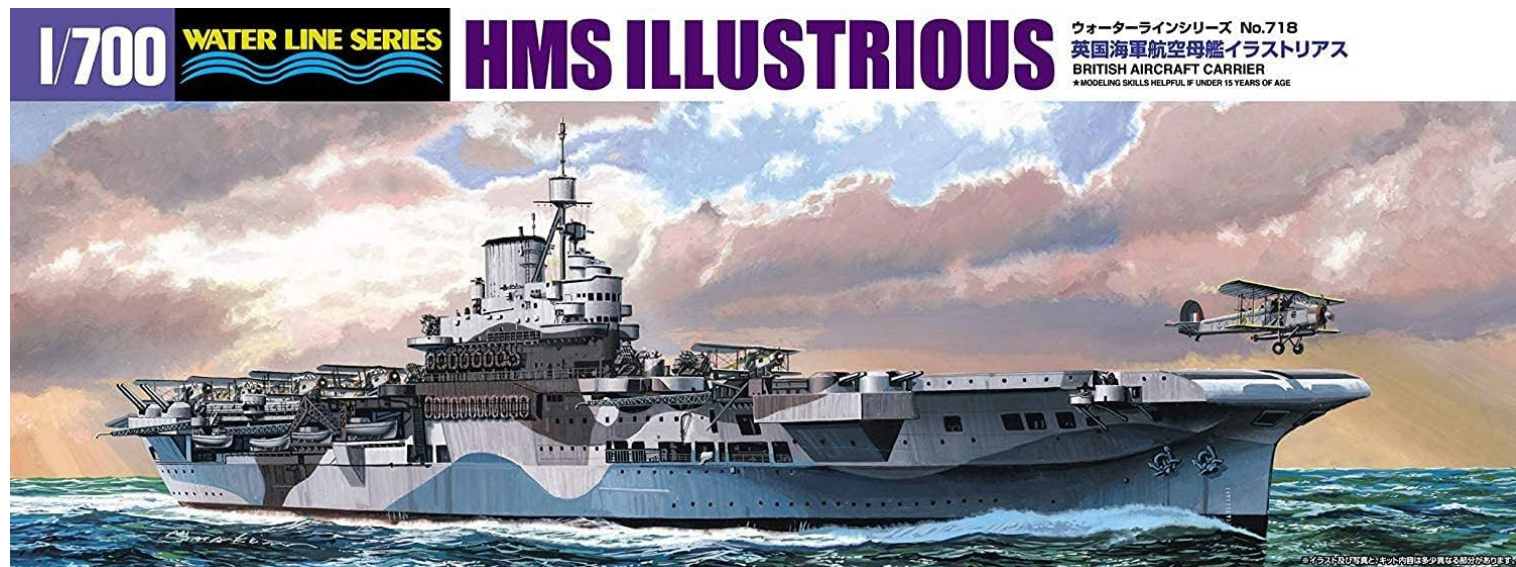
Magic Factory is releasing the PLAN Carrier Fujan Type 003.



Pit Road is up next with a Coast Guard vessel PLH-33



Aoshima is up next with their release of HMS Illustrious.



Next from Aoshima is the IJN battleship Nagato as she looked in 1927.



Aoshima is also releasing the IJN destroyer Nenohi.



Last from Aoshima is the Japanese Army Landing Ship.



As if we needed another Yamato Pit Road is providing one for us. This kit depicts her as she looked in 1945.



IJN Battleship "YAMATO 1945"

日本海軍 戦艦 大和 最終時 1945

1/700 日本海軍 戦艦 大和 最終時 1945

W275

■塗装 マーキングガイド Painting & Marking — カラー番号 — デカール番号

日本海軍の運用術教科書四之巻により、今まで軍艦色とされていた錨鎖甲板等の部分を、亜鉛メッキで塗装指示しています。

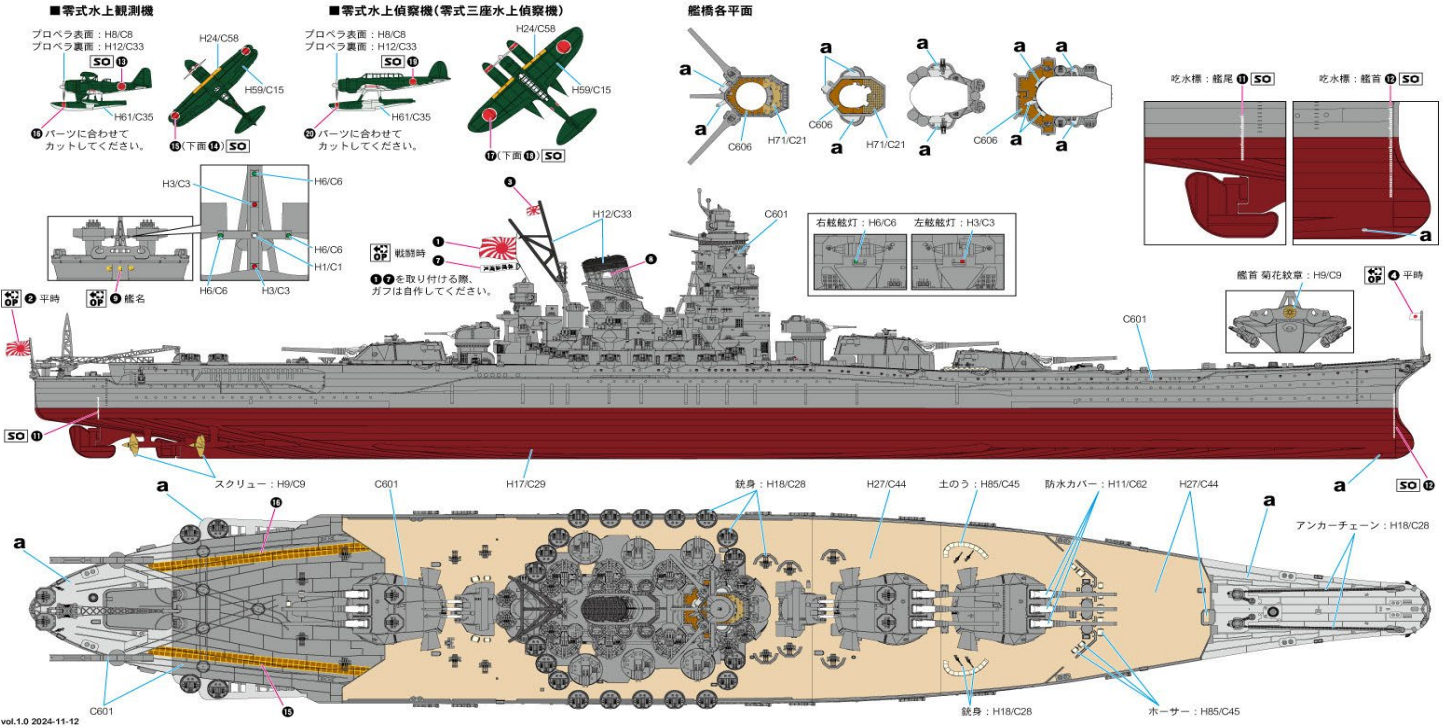
船体: C601 甲板: H27/C44 a 甲板メッキ部分: H28/C78(50%) + H8/C8(50%)

デカール ①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧⑨⑩⑪⑫⑬⑭⑮⑯⑰⑱⑲⑳㉑㉒㉓㉔㉕㉖㉗㉘㉙㉚㉛㉜㉝㉞㉟㊱㊲㊳㊴㊵㊶㊷㊸㊹㊺㊻㊼㊽㊾㊿は使用しません。

● 回面とキットとは異なる部分があります。
● 各航空機のキャノピー ガラス部分はブラック シルバー等塗装してください。

■使用カラー

H1	C1	ホワイト	WHITE	H24	C58	黄褐色	ORANGE YELLOW
H3	C3	レッド	RED	H27	C44	タン	TAN
H6	C6	グリーン	GREEN	H28	C78	メタルブラック	METALLIC BLACK
H8	C8	シルバー	SILVER	H59	C15	緑緑色	LN GREEN
H9	C9	ゴールド	GOLD	H61	C35	明灰白色	LN GRAY
H11	C62	つや消しホワイト	FLAT WHITE	H71	C21	ミドルストーン	MIDDLE STONE
H12	C33	つや消しブラック	FLAT BLACK	H85	C45	セイルカラー	SAIL COLOR
H17	C29	艦底色	HULL RED	C601		呉海軍工廠標準色	LN HULL COLOR/KURE
H18	C28	黒鉄色	STEEL	C606		リノリウム色	LN LINOLEUM DECK COLOR
H:		GSIクレオス 水性ホビーカラー		GSI Creos AQUEOUS HOBBY COLOR			
C:		GSIクレオス Mr.カラー		GSI Creos Mr.COLOR			



Pit Road is also releasing th JMSDF escort ship FFM-1 Mogami.



SCALE 1/700 SKYWAVE PIT-ROAD

海上自衛隊 護衛艦 FFM-1 もがみ

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force FFM-1 "MOGAMI"

Moving on to 1/350th scale Trumpeter is releasing the USS Montana BB-68



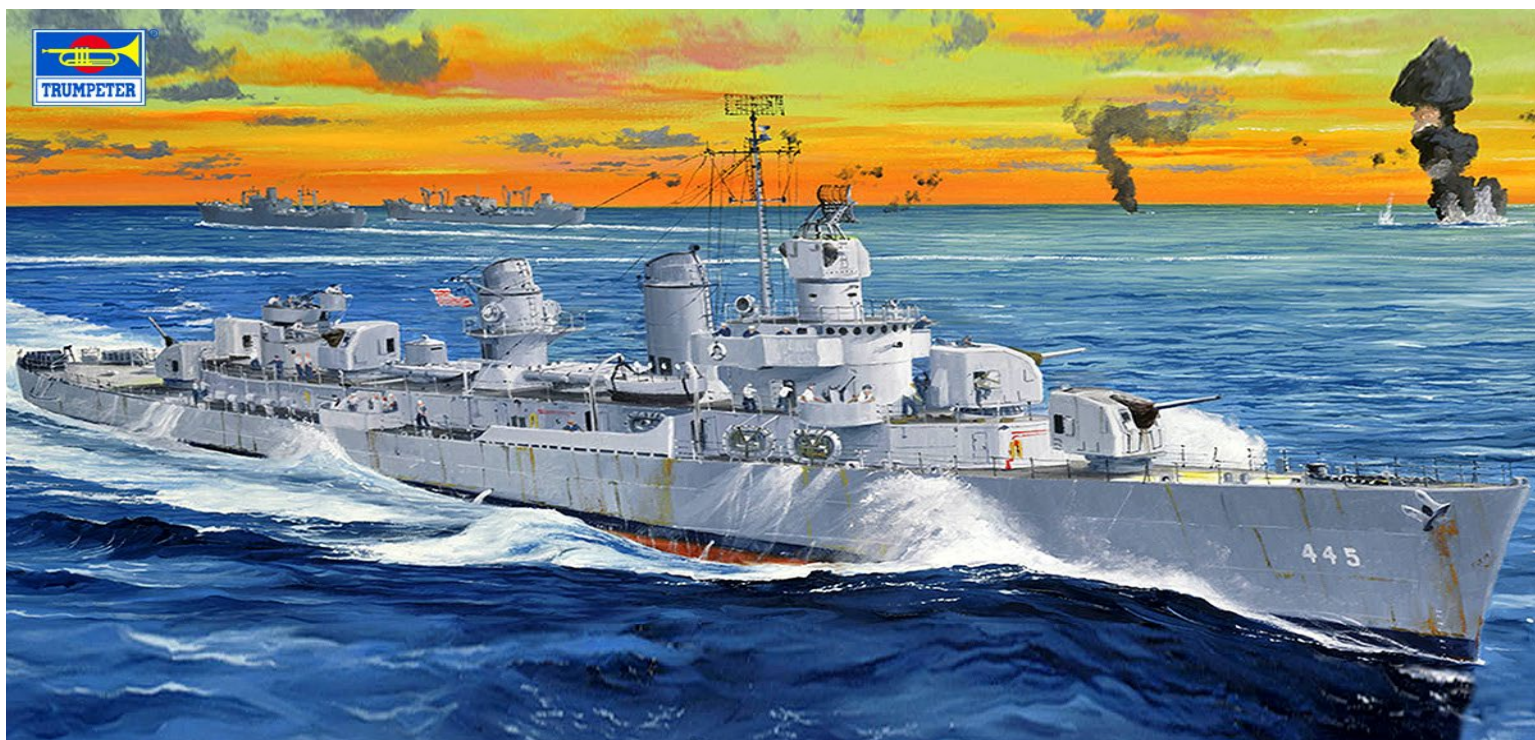
Next from Trumpeter is the French helicopter carrier Jean D'Arc.



Last from Trumpeter in 1/350th is HMS Argonaut a British light cruiser.



On to shelf buster scale 1/200 is Trumpeter with a release of a Fletcher class destroyer.



That's all the wind in the sails for this month. Go build a model!

Tracked Topics

By Panzer Lehr

Howdy tread heads! Some great ne releases to get to this month. Let's start off with 1/72 scale. MiniArt is releasing a Sturmgeschutz G model.

STUG III AUSF. G LAST ALKETT PROD

PLASTIC MODEL KIT THIS IS NOT A TOY
BOX CONTAINS MODEL OF SELF-PROPELLED GUN
PE PARTS ARE INCLUDED
6 DECAL OPTIONS



MILITARY VEHICLES SERIES

72110



9th Panzer Division "Hohenstaufen", Hungary, Balaton Area, Spring 1945

SCALE
1:72

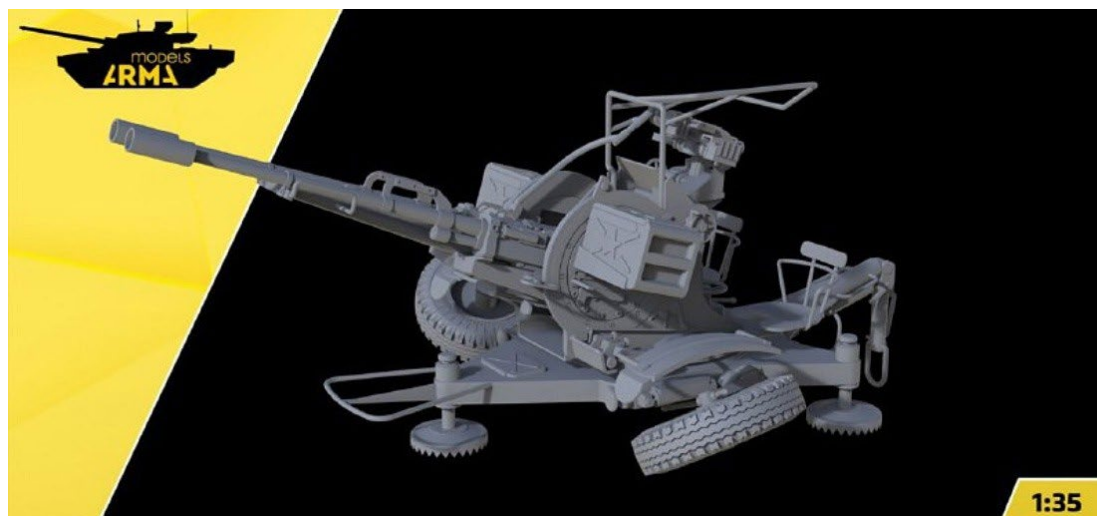
Moving on to 1/35th scale RFM is up first with a 234/3



Academy has a new BMP-3 IFV.



Arma is releasing a ZSU-23-2



Amusing Hobby has two cutting edge Leopards for us, a Leopard 2A8 and a Leopard 2A-RC 3.0



拼装后效果

实际效果视制作水平而异

实际效果视制作水平而异



The Leopard 2 ARC 3.0 has an unmanned turret, a crew of three and an automatic loader. The gun is upgradeable to a 130mm or a 140mm.

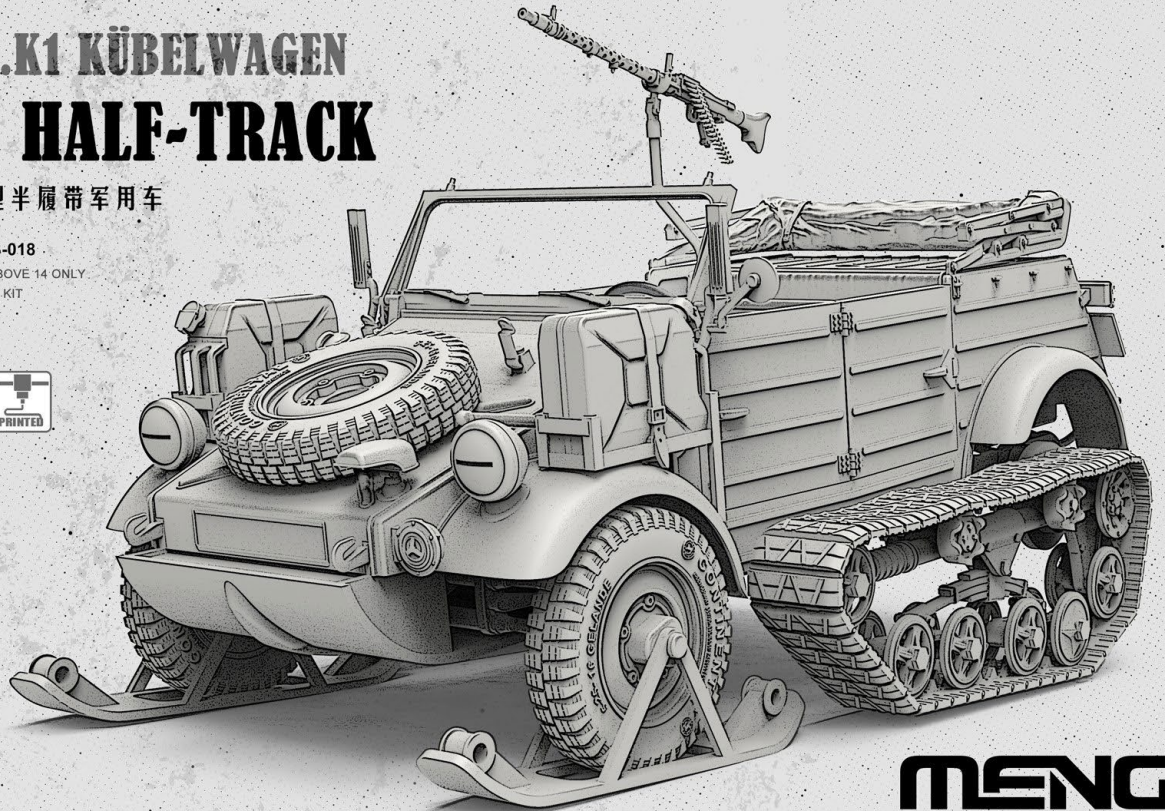
Meng has a new tool Type 155 Kubelwagen half track.

GERMAN Pkw.K1 KÜBELWAGEN TYPE 155 HALF-TRACK

德国 Pkw.K1 TYPE 155型半履带军用车

- 1/35 VELOCIRAPTOR SERIES VS-018
- m THIS PRODUCT IS FOR USERS AGED ABOVE 14 ONLY
- m READY TO ASSEMBLE PRECISE MODEL KIT
- m CEMENT AND PAINT NOT INCLUDED
- m THIS IS NOT A TOY

1/35
SCALE



MENG
WWW.MENG-MODEL.COM

MiniArt is releasing a Rauoenschlepper Ost.

WW II MILITARY MINIATURES SERIES

RAUPENSCHLEPPER OST RSO/01

EARLY PROD

PLASTIC MODEL KIT
KIT CONTAINS MODEL OF TRACTOR
PE PARTS ARE INCLUDED
4 DECAL OPTIONS
THIS IS NOT A TOY

BOOTH24

35478

SCALE
1:35

MiniArt is also releasing a Sdkfz 234 with an MG151 drilling turret.



Snowman is releasing a Hanomag 251D



RFM has an upgraded version of their King Tiger.



SD.KFZ.182 PANZERKAMPFWAGEN VI TIGER AUSF.B

GERMAN KING TIGER ARDENNES 1944

3D Printed Jack/ Drive Wheels/ Anti-Aircraft Gun/ Muzzle Brake/ Headlights/ Cable Eyes/ Fire Extinguisher

Disassembled Drive Wheels w/4 types Teeth Plate

Gg26/800/300 Workable Tracks

Movable Interior set of Artillery

MAYBACH HL230 P30 ENGINE

Disassembled Side Skirts

Photo Etched Clamps

Movable Torsion Bar

Metal Gun Barrel

RFM
RYEFIELD MODEL®**UPGRADE
VERSION****RM-5138**

Disassembled Drive Wheels w/4 types Teeth Plate

Gg26/800/300 Workable Tracks

Movable Interior set of Artillery

Disassembled Side Skirts

3D Printed Muzzle Brake

Movable Torsion Bar

Metal Gun Barrel

**STANDARD
VERSION****RM-5137**

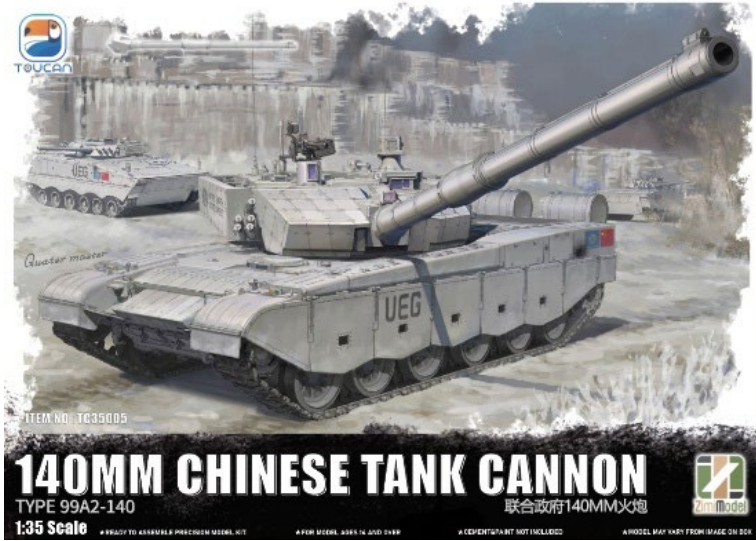
Takom is releasing a Panther G late production.



Trumpeter is releasing a Stryker Command Vehicle.



Zimi Model is releasing a ZTZ-99A 140mm



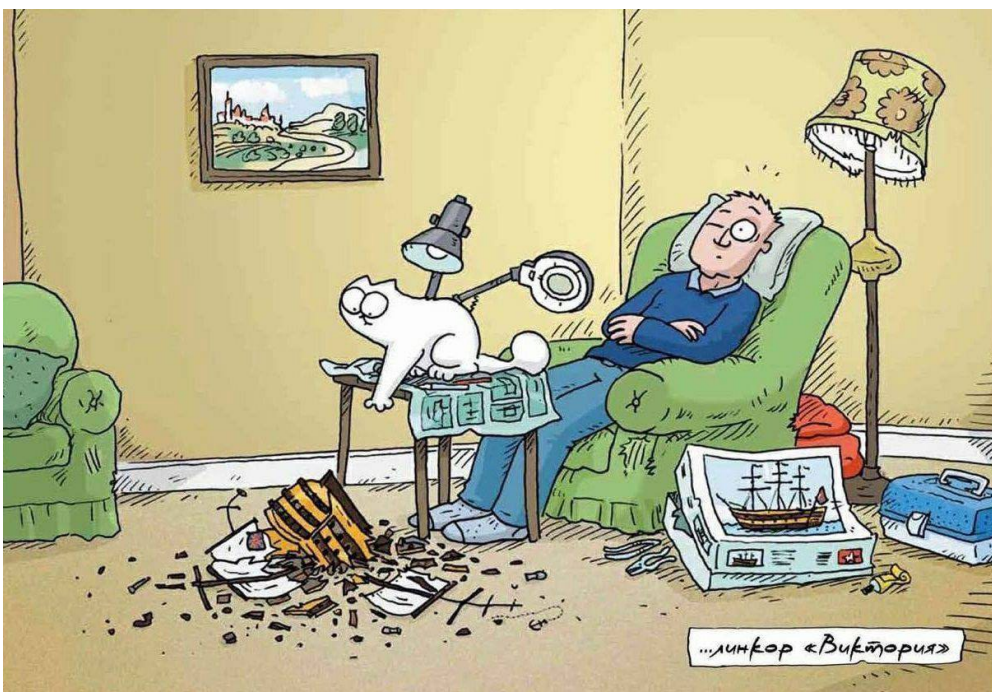
One release in 1/48 scale from Tamiya, an M5A1



Moving on to 1/16 scale Andy's is up first with Tiger 1 early production.



Trumpeter is releasing a 1/16th scale Hummel.



That is it for this month tread heads. Grab a model from that stash and build it!

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.

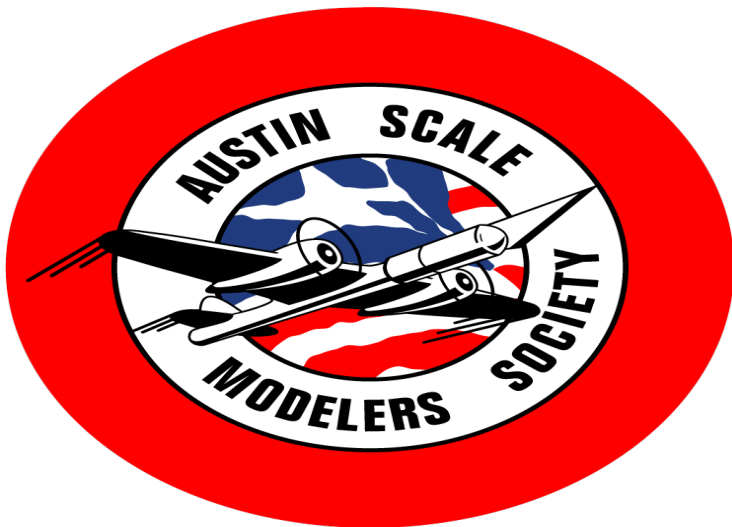
ARTICLES WANTED!

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



Central Texas
Scale Modeling Society



Something for Everyone!



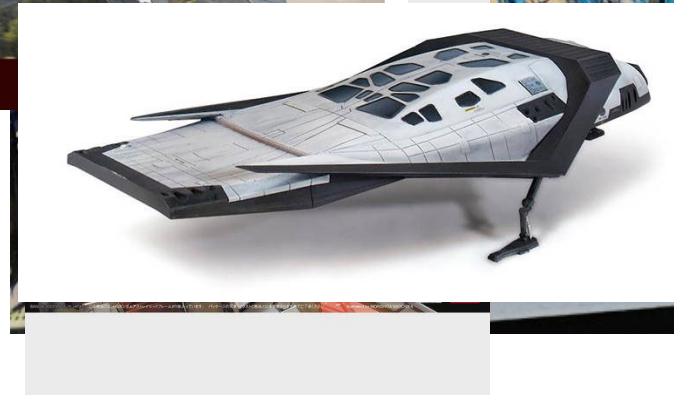
King's Hobby

**Modeling With You
Since 1973**

7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste B169,
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 836-7388



Mig-29 in Ukrainian Air Force



kinginfo@kingshobbyshop.com

<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.

Visit us at: <http://www.ipmsusa.org/>
Join up online at: <http://www.shopipmsusa.org/category-s/100.htm>

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

International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA

Membership Application / Renewal Form

New Renewal IPMS#: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Chapter Affiliation, if any: _____

Junior (17 years or younger) \$17.00 Date of Birth _____

Adult One year \$30.00

Two years \$58.00

Three years \$86.00

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Your Signature: _____

If recommended by an IPMS member, please provide his/her:

Name: _____ IPMS #: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Cash Amount: _____

Check Check #: _____ Amount: _____

Where did you hear about IPMS/USA? Please check all that apply:

Local model club

Friend

Ad in IPMS Journal

Facebook

Ad in other magazine

Internet search

IPMS web site

I'm a former member rejoining

Other _____

Applications should be printed and mailed to:

IPMS/USA

P.O. Box 1411

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