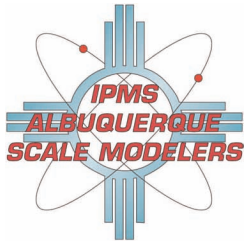


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/asmweb.htm>

August 2005

PRESIDENT'S CROSSHAIRS BRIAN PECK

Greetings all! We had a very good turnout for the Swap Meet last month, and it seemed almost everyone had a great time buying and selling. The August meeting highlight will be a workshop by James Guld on "scratchbuilding and rivets." James always puts on a great workshop so don't miss it.

We will also hear from several ASM members who attended the IPMS Nationals in Atlanta—from what I've seen and heard it was a fantastic show with 4000+ models on hand and countless top-

notch vendors to help make parting with your money a little easier.

Don't forget the IPMS Region 10 show, September 30 – October 1 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Several ASM members are planning to attend that show as well.

So keep building those models and have fun! I hope to see everyone August 5th.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS FRANK RANDALL

Boy, If you all get a chance, you should check out the pictures on the Nationals web site from the Georgia Nationals (see the *Contest Corner* article for the address). They are very inspiring. That's

what our hobby is about, building models that are wonderful and having fun. Sometimes I feel that we are just too serious and nitpicky for our own good—after all, it's just a hobby. So build and enjoy and relieve that stress.

Speaking of stress, I have two words for you all: Kidney Stone. I had one last week and it really took the steam out of my sails. The pain is just beyond my imagination.

But as they say this too shall pass, and did.

State Fair is coming up soon, and we will be



July meeting highlights, clockwise from above: Setup in full gear; for some members, the excitement just never ends; the Swap Meet.



looking for volunteers to help with the entries and categorizing. We after all are listed as the sponsors of that division.

Please go to <http://www.exponm.com> for information. Entries will be accepted September 1 – 3.

CONTEST CORNER

MIKE BLOHM

August Meeting and Contests

The August meeting will have two contest events including both a theme (points) contest (“Jets; and Prototype Aircraft / Vehicles / Ships”) and a Sponsored Contest (“Night Fighters” hosted by Patrick Dick and Jason Clevenger). The theme contest’s ROE is: Any jet subject; or any prototype airplane, ship or vehicle subject, military or civilian; all scales and eras. The Night Fighters contest ROE is: Any WWII or Korean War night fighter aircraft. Any scale. Entry must have night fighter markings. Award for Best Overall Entry and best entry in each division (Junior, Basic, Intermediate and Masters). There are lots of crossover possibilities between these two contests, so hopefully we’ll see a lot of entries. I also hope to see some F/A-22 “Raptor” entries previewed for my Best F/A-22 Raptor Sponsored Contest upcoming in November.

The awards for June’s “Southeast Asia—1941 to Present” will be presented at the August meeting. There will be a workshop by James Guld on “Scratchbuilding and Rivets.” We also hope to see lots of 2005 IPMS/USA National Convention winners’ plaques on display at the meeting. Pictures of the IPMS/USA models can be found online (http://www.ipmsusa.org/EventsGallery/05-07-15_Nat_Con/Models/2004_Exhibits.htm).

Upcoming Contests / Events of Interest

Aug 6: “**Stealth Blackbird SR-71 Classified Unveiled.**” Presentation by Gilbert Martinez, a former SR-71 crewmember. At 1:00 P.M. on August 6 at the NM Veterans’ Memorial, 1100 Louisiana Blvd SE. Call 256-2042 for further information.

Sep 1 – 3: **New Mexico State Fair & Expo New Mexico.** Model entries accepted on Thursday, September 1, and Friday, September 2, from

8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., and on Saturday, September 3, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Further information is available on the State Fair Website (<http://exponm.com/cms/index.php?id=22,71,0,0,1,0>).

Sep 9: **ASM Theme (Points) Contest: “Africa and Middle East—1914 to Present.”** Any subject from Africa or Middle East from 1914 to the present. All scales, nations. Includes African continent nations, with the Middle East defined as the current nations of: Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Yemen; or what had once been these nations from 1914. *Sponsored Contest: **Best P-38** (Stan Johnson)*

Sep 23 – 24: **The Gathering / SHOCON Annual Contest.** Davis Conference Center, Logan, Utah (<http://www.nusma.org>).

Sep 30 – Oct 1: **Region 10 2005 Regional Contest.** Fort Collins, Colorado. (<http://www.ipmshpm.org/2005Region>)

May 5 – 6, 2006: **Chile-Con 2006. Region 10 2006 Regional Convention and Contest** in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Information will be posted as it becomes available on the ASM website (http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/Region_10_Chile-Con_2006.htm).

Aug 6 – 9, 2006: **2006 IPMS/USA National Convention.** Crown Center Exhibition Hall, Kansas City, Missouri. (<http://www.ipmsusa2006.org>)

JIM’S SPRUES & REVIEWS

JAMES GULD

What’s on the table? Well, this month I’m working on the Dragon Valentine tank. This kit is actually a re-box of an older Marquette model I believe, since the sprues say “made in Russia.” I’ve done a few other eastern bloc models—Zveda and RPM—and they are a bit more challenging than say Dragon, Tamiya, or even Italeri. So let’s get to it!

The lower hulls for the tanks are usually in multi-parts and the fit is usually not that great. Well, I

Year 2005 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for
“Modeler of the Year” Points

- 7 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
- 4 Feb** **D-Day Presentation**—no contest.
- 4 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Gundams*
(John Kendrick)
ASM Swap Meet
- 1 Apr** **Bent-wing Birds/Cats/Animals**—
Any kit, any scale, any era.
- 6 May** **WWI**—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Micro-Modeling*
(ASM E-Board)
- 3 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: SOUTHEAST ASIA**
1941 - PRESENT
**Sponsored Contest: Best P-40*
Subject (Ken Liotta)
- 8 Jul** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 5 Aug** **Jets & Prototype Aircraft/Vehicles/**
Ships—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Night Fighters*
(Patrick Dick & Jason Clevenger)
- 9 Sep** **Africa/Middle East, 1914 - Present**
Any kit, any scale, any nation.
**Sponsored Contest: Best P-38*
(Stan Johnson)
- 7 Oct** **Battles of 1945**—Any subject/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: 1/35-scale German*
Armor (Rick Carver & Don Smith)
**Sponsored Contest: BabeFest*
(Larry Horyna)
- 5 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit, any scale.
Plus: **One-Hour Modeling Contest**
**Sponsored Contest: F/A-22 Raptors*
(Mike Blohm)
- 2 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
MODELING NEW MEXICO
Plus: **Model of the Year**

was pleasantly surprised with this kit. The fit is pretty darn good overall. The lower hull was one piece and the upper hull fit to it was good without any filling needed. The bogie units are the weak link of the kit. The large casting that would mount to the hull sides had large sinkholes to fill. Luckily these are mounted up high on the hull side and with the sand shields fitted, you won't really see the holes. I did fill them, though. The fit of the bogie units to the hull sides was also not great, and there was a small gap on some of the pieces but not on all. Again, since this is up under the skirts I didn't mess with it. The side skirts themselves are okay, but the left side skirt for the 2nd mount from the front isn't in the right location. It needs to line up

with the mount on the top of the hull. Also on the 2nd mount on the right side they didn't provide a hull top mount brace, so I made one from styrene. The other major problem with the side skirts is that on the kit they hang straight down. On the real tank they flared out slightly. I decided not to correct this as I would have had major surgery to do to the front and rear fender to make it work. Speaking of the fenders, the style depicted on the tank with side skirts is wrong. I filled the zigzag seam and added thin styrene and bolts at the seam of the front/rear fenders to the main hull. Other minor additions were missing bolts on the rear engine deck and the addition of wires for the front spot lights and for the rear lower tail light. I made up a new hinge for the right rear storage box on the hull side. I added new hatch handles for the lower hull made out of .020 brass. I dremeled out the exhaust end and added a couple of supports out of styrene. I fixed the wood block holder for the jack stand and made the new holder parts from styrene strips. The turret is in two halves and needs a little putty for the seam but nothing major. The top of the turret had a nice fit and didn't require any putty. Additions for the turret where the stops for the hatches, drilling out the machine gun and antennae mounts, adding bolts to the left and right side ports and cutting off the left side port and reversing it 180 degrees. The hinge is supposed to be to the front of the tank. I added new hatch handles made from .020 brass. I also added some bolt details to the mantle casting where the gun barrel protrudes.



The tracks are individual links and I haven't fitted them yet but they look good and don't seem to have any pin marks, so they should go together easily.

What will be the fun part of this tank is the paint

job. I'm going with what was known as Caunter camo. That is the diagonal disruptive scheme used by the British in the Middle East in 1940 to the end of 1941. There is a bit of controversy over this paint scheme as to how many colors were used and what they were. The official papers say three colors with the lightest being either portland stone or light stone. The middle color was silver gray and the darkest color was slate gray. One common mistake you'll see is the use of a pale blue color instead of the silver gray. It seems that this got started back in the late '50s when a book was published that had color profiles in it and they got the printing wrong. Well it seems to have been repeated over the years until recently when the official documents were found about what colors were used. There is also some speculation that maybe some units only used two colors on some tanks. It's hard to tell at best, since the silver gray and the sand colors are very close in tone in black and white photos. Add to that the poor quality of photos and just wear and tear of the vehicles and you can see how this is debatable. The other thing is that there is only one known picture so far of a Valentine tank in this paint scheme. So I decided

to go with the Caunter in three colors and I'm using the three official colors. I'll be using some of the kit decals along with dry transfers from Archer. So that's where it's at presently. Now get back to modeling!

CHILE CON



2006

2006 IPMS Region 10 Contest

May 5 - 6, 2006

**MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center
2020 Menaul NE, Albuquerque NM 87107**

Master

John Tate	1385
James Guld	943
Stan Harris	620
Dave Straub	335
Mike Blohm	276
Ken Liotta	247
Don MacBryde	230
Ken Piniak	174
Larry Horyna	125
Patrick Dick	118
Glenn Bingham	110
Brian Peck	2
Mike Mummey	2

Intermediate

Rick Carver	585
David Downs	472
David Boehning	460
Jeremy Connell	335
Hank Petitgirard	330
Brian Willard	300
Tom Redling	285
Frank Randall	235
Walter Schanwald	220
Cecil Severs	139

Basic

Don Smith	1029
John Kendrick	922
Don Blea	245
Matt Blohm	200

Junior

Hamish Connell	805
Jeannie Garriss	745
Logan Carbin	325
Taylor Liotta	225
Adam Martin	110
Bre Anna Camaco	100
Jimmy Letterhos	100
Nathan Shatto	100

ASM CONTEST POINTS

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ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. Submission deadline for each issue is the 20th of the prior month.