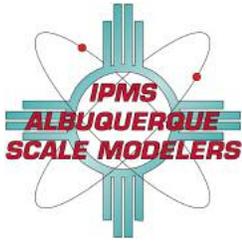


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

January 2011

PRESIDENTIAL INKLINGS VICTOR MAESTAS

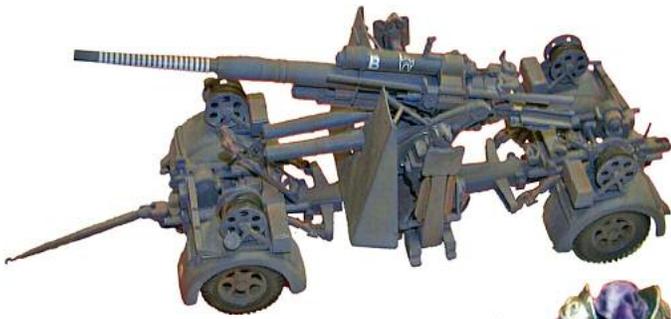
As incoming president of ASM, my first order of business is to thank the outgoing E-Board for their efforts and accomplishments for 2010. It was a successful year as our membership is continuing to grow, we have a top-notch meeting location, and we have had some informative clinics and interesting speakers and some great kits on the tables at the monthly contests. When you run into these guys, please thank them for their work: Tom Perea, 2010 President; Tim Wood, Vice President,

Frank Randall, Secretary/Treasurer (returning this year); John Tate, Contest Director (returning this year as pro-tem); and Pro-Tem members Patrick Dick (also returning), Tony Humphries, Danny Williamson, and the other nameless staff that make things happen behind the scenes (Mike Blohm and Joe Walters, of course).

The 2011 E-board includes some newer members as well as some longtime members. We are working on finalizing the schedule for next year including points contests, special contests, sponsored contests, clinics, etc. If there are any sugges-

December meeting highlights, L - R: Members checking out models, some holiday snacks for our enjoyment, and the business meeting in progress.





Model of the Year winners from 2010, left to right: Kent Weeks's *8mm Flak 37 Gun*, Josh Pals's *Beelphegor—The Soul Reaper*, and Jim Guld's *"Golden Shower" diorama*.



tions for anything that you would like to see more of, or less of, please let one of us know.

Well, as the year 2010 is winding down, I am looking forward to a new start to the modeling year. One of the big items upcoming is Chile-Con II to prepare for in May. James Guld and Tom Perea are the co-chairmen for this event, so if you have questions, or want to volunteer to help, speak up. Even a little effort can make a big difference in the event's turnout.

Motivation

I have noticed that a lot of modelers, including myself, build to specific personal themes. Some of these are very general and some are very specific. The reasons for these may be obvious, and some may be deeply rooted in that person's background or upbringing. Some themes I've heard people talking about include "floatplanes" or "aircraft with kill markings" or "WWII German armor" or



"ground attack aircraft" or "hot rods" or "spaceships from TV shows or movies" or "planes of aces," etc. This is one of the ways to keep moti-

vated and keep the interest up in the hobby.

As a hardware engineer at a simulation company, one of my personal themes (among many others) is to build a model of the vehicles and devices I have worked to simulate, preferably in $\frac{1}{48}$ scale. I currently have 21 aircraft and one locomotive on my list. Of these, I have actually completed seven of them. Whenever I get ready to start a project, I consider the list and see if something from my "theme" strikes my fancy. Sometimes I luck out and the monthly club contest theme and my personal theme coincide—bonus! Sometimes the original theme desires cannot be met. Needed kits, kit availability, appropriate markings, and conversions may be available only through eBay or blind luck at a swap meet. Some of the aircraft on my list will have to be in $\frac{1}{72}$ scale, unless anyone knows of a KC-135 or KC-10 in $\frac{1}{48}$? I have been ticking off models from this list for over five years now and it may never get finished, but I am enjoying the process, and it adds another level to the hobby.

As some of these themes are very long-term and they may evolve over time, they may not be obvious to others what the scope of the theme is. If you have a long term theme you are working on, let me know what it is and why you are doing it. Corner me at the next meeting or drop me an Email. I'm interested to hear the various themes and especially the motivation behind them.

VICE PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR'S REPORT

JAMES GULD

I would like to welcome our new members and all returning members to ASM to what looks to be a great modeling year. I know a lot of people start out the year with a resolution list of kits or projects they want to tackle and hopefully you will tackle them. Good Luck. As far as the club goes we will be having Chile Con II on May 20 – 21. For those of you whom might have missed Chile Con in 2006, it was a great two-day Regional and this one will also be great. We are using the same facility, the MCM Elegante Hotel, but will have a larger vendor room this time and hopefully more vendors. Please visit our web site for updates on the show.

One of the group builds that the club is doing for IPMS Nationals next summer is the Matilda Build. We are using the new Tamiya Matilda kit released last year along with conversions from aftermarket resin companies. We will be portraying the Matilda as it was used by the various nations throughout the war. I have completed one build so far and it is a lovely kit to build. If you're interested in participating, please contact me by Email or get ahold of me at one of our meetings. So far we have 17 tanks covered; that is up from last year's Char B bis build.

One area I hope to see strengthened is the newsletter. We need more articles for the newsletter. This past year it was kind of thin except for John's updates about the contests. This is a challenge to all the members. Get out there and write up a kit review or a post-project build review. Tell us the strength or weakness of a particular kit. You can go into as much detail as you like. The same goes for book reviews.

Now get out there and build and have fun doing it. I hear at times that people are somewhat intimidated by what they see on the Masters table. All I can say to that is *don't be*. We have a number of excellent modelers in the club and all are willing to share their expe-

rience with others. This is why we put on clinics throughout the year and this year we will be doing it again. So check the web site out for the upcoming schedule and if there is something you would like to see demonstrated that isn't on the list, bring it up and maybe we can add it in. This hobby takes many forms. Some people like to just crack open a kit and build it as is... others like to do research and make corrections to the kits. Both are fine. Now get out there and build something, as long as it's armor-related. Just kidding...

TRIP REPORT

MIKE BLOHM

Air Force Flight Test Center Museum *The Inside Look*

This trip report provides an "inside look" at the Air Force Flight Test Center Museum located at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The previously-published trip report covered only the museum's outside displays. Several pictures are included with this article; more can be seen on ASM's web site (http://abqscalemodelers.com/asm_field_trips.htm).

The inside displays include display cases with the history of Muroc Air Base and how it was later renamed Edwards AFB after Glen Edwards, a test pilot lost in the crash of the YB-49 Flying Wing. Displays cover testing from World War II through the present. An item of interest to modelers is the "First Flights" display which features 1/12-scale models of aircraft which either had their first takeoff or landing, or both, at Edwards AFB. There are multiple display cases with models of the aircraft tested at Edwards.





Aircraft on display include the first YF-22A prototype, an AT-37, and three aircraft suspended from the ceiling: a full size replica of the Bell X-1 (think this was from “The Right Stuff” movie), a Bensen X-25B (B-8) gyrocopter, and an AQM-34 Firebee reconnaissance drone. Other items include



a B-58 ejection-seat capsule, a Boeing AGM-69 Short-Range Attack Missile (SRAM), AGM-136A Tacit Rainbow mockup, Boeing X-36 Air Vehicle #2, several general purpose bombs, and various large aircraft models. Rocket engines on display

include the XLR99 from the North American X-15, an LR121 used on the Lockheed NF-104A Starfighter, and an XLR-8-RM used on the Douglas D-558-2 Skyrocket.

A worthwhile visit if you are in the southern California area. Plan on about half a day if you want to see both the inside and outside displays. Visitors without access to the base (military or retired military) will need to contact Edwards AFB Public Affairs to get on a tour. Information about how to get on a base tour, plus other information on the museum, is available on their web site at (<http://www.aftcmuseum.org>). Additional trip reports will cover the other aircraft that can be seen on Edwards AFB.

Year 2011 Contest Quick Reference Chart

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

- 07 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
- 04 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 04 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 01 Apr** *Super Clinic Night*—no contest.
- 06 May** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2:**
SHINY SHOW RODS
- 03 Jun** **1941**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 08 Jul** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
MORE OR LESS (THAN FOUR WHEELS)
Sponsored Contest: Post-Apocalyptic (Josh Pals)
- 05 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
Nationals Debrief Night—Bring Models & Trophies!
- 02 Sep** **Mediterranean**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 07 Oct** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4**
COMMON KITS (KITS TBA)
- 04 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
change→ *Sponsored Contest: P-39 (Don Smith)*
- 02 Dec** *Sponsored Contest: BMW (Patrick Dick)*
Plus *Model of the Year* competition!

CONTACT INFO

President:	Victor Maestas	771-0980	vmaestas@aol.com
Vice President:	James Guld	982-3089	jamesguld@pngltd.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	299-3760	fcr40@aol.com
Contest Director:	Josh Pals	473-1909	slapdaddy@rocketmail.com
Members Pro-Tem:	Patrick Dick	890-4368	mclanahandick@worldnet.att.com
	Ken Liotta	323-7614	theplasticMaster@comcast.net
	John Tate		jjtlynwood@hotmail.com
Webmaster:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Newsletter Editor:	Joe Walters	821-3751	jwalters22@comcast.net

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 preceding month.