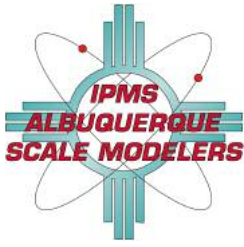


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

October 2008

SUPER RAFFLE!

The next ASM "Super Raffle" takes place at the October meeting! The winner takes home:

- Hobby Boss 1/35-scale M4 High Speed Tractor kit
- AFV Club 1/35-scale Long Tom 155mm Cannon kit
- Tankograd reference book on U.S. WW II M4, M5 & M6 High Speed Tractors
- Photoetch and Resin Detail Sets

See Frank Randall for raffle tickets at the October meeting; \$3.00 per ticket or two for \$5.00!

ASM WORKSHOP

BRIAN PECK

Greetings, fellow ASMs! At the October meeting, we will be having another modeling workshop.

For this one, I would like to do a "hands on" version. This means you should bring in your projects that you might be having problems with, or for which you are looking for a different idea on how to do something.

I'd like to get several people to bring their stuff in for this, because watching someone do it is only half as good as actually doing it!

Hope to see you all there at the meeting!



September meeting highlights, counterclockwise from left: The crowd milling about early; the business meeting in progress; Mike Blohm teaches us about modeling weaponry





August Best of Show winners, Clockwise from above: Gil Johnson's *Japanese Type 1 75mm Self-Propelled Gun*, Dave Miller's *M4A1 75mm Pack Howitzer*, and Victor Maestas's *SSN-21 USS Sea Wolf*. There were no Junior entries.



JIM'S SPRUES & REVIEWS

JAMES GULD

What's hot in the world of armor, you ask? It seems that with fall, a bunch of new releases are coming out—that's if you still have a house to build models in.

Some of the releases have been talked about before, but a couple are out of the blue.

From Tristar we have a Panzer 38t ausf. B with full interior and British paratroopers with Welbikes.

Formations has some new resin goodies for us: a set of wheels for the M-6 Dodge and a British vision cupola with adaptor for use on a Sherman.

AFV Club has the Stryker M1128 MGS coming out in September and the Churchill MkIII is still slated for October.

In the reference world we have new releases from The Factory Publishing and from Capricorn Publications. The Factory Publishing has "Panzers of Kasserine" and Capricorn Publications has a detail book out on the Studebaker US-6.

Now, after you've built that model you'll need markings, right? Well, Archer Transfers has some new releases for you. They have markings for Marine M4A3 flame tanks and M4A2s on Iwo Jima, along with some new crate markings for US 105mm ammo. They also have new UN Flags, more surface details, and British Paratrooper uniform badges.

For you photoetch fans, Aber has some new items. They include items for the Dragon E-100, Geschutzwagen Tiger, Soviet Infantry belts, etc., a barrel for the Dragon Panzer IV G, a 105mm barrel for the Tamiya howitzer kit, and some German tapered antennas.

Resicast has a T-16 Universal Carrier coming out in September.

Trumpeter has a new Stryker M1127 recon version and for those of you liking 1/16 scale, they have a KT with full interior and an M16 halftrack. The KT is listed as a limited run and due out in October.

Tamiya has some re-pops out of Italian armor with some

updates to them such as new plastic track and figures. They are the old Italeri kits. They do have listed as new an early version JagdTiger. These are 1/35 kits. They also have some new stuff in 1/48, including a new Marder III with the Russian 76mm gun, and re-pops of a Sdkfz. 222 armored car and AB41 armored car.

But by far the biggest surprise is from Tasca: an M4A1 DV Sherman in British service. The sprue shots look great. This is set for a mid October release. They will also be releasing the suspension set as a separate kit.

Bronco models also has their A13 Cruiser tank out and a 1/35 scale V1 Buzz bomb. I hadn't heard of that one.

Dragon has some new announcements: a Panzerjager I, a 1942 version T-34 with Hex turret, a Premium Edition kit of the 250/8 German halftrack, a Panzer III J and Borgward combo kit, and a Stug III with the Flussigass tanks on the rear deck.

Well, there are the highlights. As always go to the PMMS web site for your armor modeling updates.

KIT REVIEW REPORT

KEN LIOTTA

Accurate Miniatures 1/48-Scale F3F-1

The kit consists of 61 pieces molded on four light grey sprues with an additional four pieces molded on one clear sprue. Two frets of 17 Photoetched pieces are included, along with a comprehensive decal sheet that allows you to build nearly every F3F-1 that flew. The kit is packaged in what has become typical AM boxing: Top and bottom with an added false bottom that usually holds the decals, PE, and clear sprue. The box top is covered with a beautiful painting

of the F3F-1 and the sides include all the data and multilingual description of the model. The box bottom includes a photo of the completed model in the kit primary markings.

The instruction booklet is well illustrated throughout 16 steps and includes several exploded views. They begin with a brief history of the F3F-1 and lead into significant directions on how to build the model accurately. Color callouts are included in these directions and also accompany each assembly step. While you are working on the model itself, you have the option to paint it in a variety of aircraft based on the Lexington to the Saratoga and more.

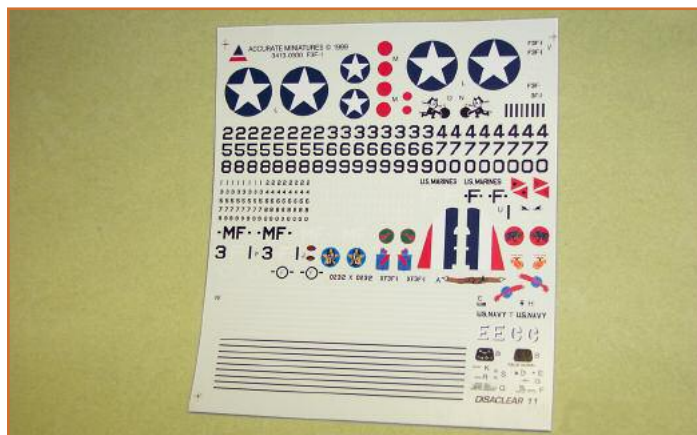
The parts include some exquisite scribed details and crisp molding that are virtually flash free. Cleanup of seams took very little time and the majority of the parts fit together exceptionally well.

The assembly sequence laid out in the instructions is quite typical; Cockpit/interior subassemblies, fuselage, engine, tail planes, wings, and details. The 7-color decal sheet that covers most all of the F3F-1s is approximately 5½ x 6½ inches and includes two variations of decals for the instrument panel, which is molded in clear styrene.

Once I started trimming the main component parts it became apparent that there was a significant problem with the upper and lower wings. The upper wing had a series of scalping dips along the leading edge while the perpendicular details along the top were wavy and not straight. The bottom wings had a similar wavy condition, but not as pronounced. The best solution that I came up with was to layer super glue into the low spots on the leading edge and once I was satisfied that it had cured sufficiently, I used a sanding block and wet/dry paper along the edge to even it out. While doing this, I also restored the aerodynamic shape of the edge and back over to the top.

I made an effort to correct the wavy perpendicular detail lines by strategically applying super glue and, once cured, sanded and rescribed the detail. Besides the dipped leading edge and wavy detail lines, the wings had a swirled injection pattern in the plastic that didn't appear deep enough to be a concern once they were painted.

All three of these anomalies appear to be the result of either a cold injection or removal from the molds too soon or both. I have looked at two other kits and have seen traces of the same anomalies, but they were not as pronounced as this kit's. After repairing the wings, they were assembled following the assembly steps, paying particular attention to their



Year 2008 Contest Quick Reference Chart

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

Items in **green** were added since last printing

- 4 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
- 1 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 7 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 4 Apr** **Heroes & The Good Guys**—men, women, or machines, any kit/subject/scale/era.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Corsair" (Don Smith)
- 2 May** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**
PHABULOUS PHANTOM'S PHIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
Sponsored Contest: "American MiG Killers" (Brian Peck)
- 6 Jun** **Eastern Front**—Aircraft, Armor, Figures (any kit/scale/subject).
Sponsored Contest: "Best D-Day Subject" (ASM E-Board)
- 11 Jul** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 1 Aug** **The Zoo**—Mustangs, Panthers, Cougars, etc.; any kit/subject/scale.
- 5 Sep** **The Pacific**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best P-40" (Patrick Dick)
- 3 Oct** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
ASM's BEST P-47, 10TH ANNIVERSARY
Sponsored Contest: "Allan Goodman Memorial—Best of Any Subject" (ASM E-Board)
- 7 Nov** **World War I, 90 Years**—Any WWI kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "WWI Aces" (Mike Blohm)
- 5 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4**
TAG-TEAM MODEL
Plus *Model of the Year* competition!
Sponsored Contest: "Captured" (ASM E-Board)
Sponsored Contest: "Something Completely Different" (Tom Grossman)

alignment. While gluing the lower wings on I took advantage of the join lines and worked them into natural looking panel detail.

Before gluing on the horizontal tail planes, I drilled out the fuselage details that would be behind them and then positioned the planes to give the appearance of having been trimmed or adjusted as seen in numerous photographs. The remainder of the assembly was straightforward with no further problems encountered. In fact, the fit of the majority of the pieces could rival many of the big-name manufactures.

Painting began with the doped finish aluminum color, where I used Alclad Basic Aluminum over an enamel primer gray (MM FS 36440). The red is Testors Flat Red, the green is MM FS 34187, and the wing top Orange-Yellow is Polly



Scale acrylic. Except for the Polly Scale and Alclad, all paints are enamel. I used a Paasche Type H single-action airbrush driven by a Badger Silent 1 set at about 25 psi. Most all of the assembly was done with Plastic Zap super glue, but several areas were glued using Tenax 7R solvent glue.

Before the PE rigging wires were glued in, I coated the model with Future floor polish through the Paasche. Once that had dried, I applied the decals without any difficulties. Another light coating of the Future was applied and, once dry, I applied a gentle oil paint wash that was thinned with Turpenoid. Since these aircraft were kept in relatively pristine condition, I didn't apply too much. I also didn't hit the model with any paint chipping effects.

Once I was satisfied with the decals and wash, I applied another coating of Future on the wings to replicate the doped gloss finish. Conversely, after careful masking of the

wings, I applied a coating of Testors Dullcote to the remainder of the aircraft to replicate its less than glossy appearance. The remaining details (prop, wheels, bombs, canopy, etc.) had been getting painted while the main construction had been going on and they were now added to the model, along with antennas and the PE rigging. Since the rigging wires are provided in stainless steel, these were left as they were to more closely replicate the real wires. Navigation lights were first painted MM Chrome Silver and when dry were over-coated with several layers of Tamiya acrylic clear red and green.

In conclusion, looking past the anomalies on the molded wings, the rest of the kit fell together quite easily and was an absolute blast to build. For the latter reasons, I can comfortably recommend this kit to modelers with average experience to build.



Master

John Tate	2746
James Guld	2484
Mike Blohm	734
Dave Miller	495
Mike Franklin	420
Patrick Dick	216
Keith Liotta	212
Ken Liotta	187
Mike McNichols	170
Brian Peck	158
Glenn Bingham	85

Intermediate

Victor Maestas	1539
Josh Pals	1275
Rick Carver	830
Frank Randall	700
Tom Perea	613
Adrian Montaño	355
Tim Wood	327
Wayne Sprong	305
Kyle Garber	164
Don Blea	125
Tony Humphries	110
Don Smith	103
Danny Williamson	102

Jeff Frickstad	75
Jack Garriss	25

Basic

Gil Johnson	1940
Jeannie Garriss	260
Kent Weeks	175
John Tribou	125
Matt Blohm	125

Junior

Chelsea Perea	460
Alyssa Perea	125

ASM 2008 MODELER-OF-THE-YEAR 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 preceding month.