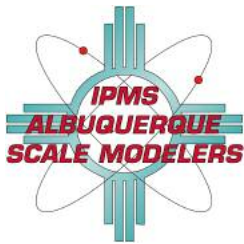


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

April 2009

JIM'S ARMOR CORNER JAMES GULD

This month I thought I would discuss a couple of builds that I have going; both are from Bronco Models.

First up is the CV-33 tankette. This is a real small vehicle, only about 3.5" long and 1.625" wide. Now, crammed into that you get a full interior for the fighting compartment and the engine. The level of detail is great and down the road I see that they plan to release a 1/16-scale version. The hull tub comes as panels that you assemble. The fit was okay but I did have a few minor seams to fill on the rear panel. Now if you're into fiddly little builds, then this is right up your alley. At just about every step you have to make up a subassembly, usually out of four or more parts, and then add it to the model. The bogie units were the toughest to assemble, and keeping the wheels straight was a minor miracle. The problem is that the wheels themselves have just tiny recesses on both sides that the front and rear side backing plates attach to. I think it would have been a better design to have holes in the wheels and have the front backing plate include a shaft to go through the wheel and into the rear backing plate. It would have made the units stronger and kept the wheels aligned. After a kit like this you can really appreciate how a Tamiya kit is engineered. Right now I have the interior all built up along with the engine and radiators awaiting paint. I should also mention that the radiators on the real vehicle were made up of four units basically forming a circle. For the kit each of these units is made up of eight parts and then there is the top and bottom connector for the radiators. The top is another six parts and the bottom four parts. I think you're getting the idea. I'm all for detail as long as it can be seen. A great deal of the interior won't be seen even with all the hatches open. Oh well...

The other kit I started on this past week is the Staghound Mk1 armored car. This kit is also available from Italeri, but the reviews I've seen give the Bronco kit higher marks for details but give Italeri the upper hand for ease of build. This kit has a really poor instruction sheet. The entire lower hull unit is again a series of panels that you assemble and in the instructions they tell you to add all the details to the panels

and then to glue them all together. Well, that just isn't happening. I glued the lower hull together except for the front bow panels, which have some interior pieces that I have to paint first and then will assemble. The fit was really good except for the top hull plate, which the turret sits on, had a slight bow to it. I was able to just bend it slightly back to shape and after gluing it in it looks fine. Again the level of small detail parts is tremendous and along the way a few parts took tweezers shots, never to be found. A bit of Evergreen styrene came to the rescue and all is well again. The kit comes with a small fret of photoetch for items like the front light guards, which have a plastic bending jig to help form them. Other little goodies include the straps that secure the sidesaddle tanks, and this involves bending the ends over and using a small piece of wire to act as a hinge pin. Off the ends of these straps are a "T" hook at the bottom and a small round loop with a post at the top. You insert the hinge pin through the strap and it holds these pieces in place. I thought it was going to be tough to get everything to align, but it all went together without any cursing or yelling. That's always nice! Right now I have most of the lower hull together along with all the fittings for the suspension. I still have to do a little research and see how the brake lines were fitted. I haven't started in on the turret yet, but it has some gun details along with the Number 19 radio set, which has a nice photoetch guard for the set.

Bronco has released a number of Staghound kits, so if you're looking for something to build for our armored car contest, this might not be a bad idea.

SHOW YOUR STRIPES DON SMITH

I wanted to remind everyone about the "Show Your Stripes" sponsored contest for June. The contest is for any Allied fighter or fighter-bomber in D-Day stripes. I also wanted to bring your attention to an internet site I enjoy:

<http://aeroscale.kitmaker.net> and <http://armorama.com>; both are sites on the <http://kitmaker.net> site.

As many of you know I moved from the Land of Enchantment to Pagosa Springs, Colorado, this past year. My modeling trips to the hobby shop and conversations with my modeling friends are now very limited but I can still enjoy modeling and this site is great for guys like us.

One of the features I like is the "Campaigns." Someone sponsors a Campaign with a certain topic and everyone who "enlists" can post their builds on the site and earn "campaign ribbons." I recently completed a "build" for the (what else) Minimize II campaign for *small-scale* figures. I am currently in a P-47 group build, the "Butcher Birds" Fw-190, "Mighty 88," and "Get the Job Done Again" campaigns. The cool thing about the campaigns is you could match them up to the ASM contests and get twice the credit.

For example, my 1/48 Tamiya Fw-190 A8 could be in the Aeroscale "Butcher Birds" campaign *and* the ASM "1/48 Single Engine Props" contest. You could build an F6F-5(N) for the "Night Stalkers" or "Airedale Navy" campaign and enter it into the sponsored "Best Hellcat" contest. There's a "La Marseillaise" campaign if you wanted to build a Mirage for the "Best Mirage" sponsored contest. Best of all, there is a P-47 group build and a "Stripes in the Sky" contest if you wanted to build a model for the "Show Your Stripes" contest. There are rules of engagement about when you can start your build, pictures must be posted to earn ribbons, deadlines, etc.

Check this out for twice the fun! I hope to see some ASM modelers on the site soon—it's for Wing Nuts and Tread Heads plus more.

Very Abbreviated Year 2009 Contest Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for Points

- 3 Apr** **3 or More Engines**—any kit/subject/scale/era.
Sponsored Contest: Tank Destroyers of WWII (James Guld & John Tate)
- 1 May** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**
THIRD WORLD—Army, Navy, Air Force, etc. No Warsaw Pact, no NATO.
Sponsored Contest: Battle of the Bulge (Fred Franceschi)
- 12 Jun** **Italiano**—Any kit/scale/subject/era built or operated in or from Italy.
Sponsored Contest: Show Your Stripes!—Best invasion-striped WWII D-Day aircraft (Don Smith)
- 10 Jul** **Armored Cars**—Any scale, era, etc.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Panzer IV & Variants" (ASM E-Board)
- 7 Aug** **1/48 Single-engine Props**—Any kit/scale/subject/era
- 11 Sep** **Sharkmouths**—Plane, Tank, Car, Truck, etc. Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Hellcat F6F" (Frank Randall)
- 2 Oct** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
BEST COMPETITION RACER/ATHLETE FIG.)
Sponsored Contest: "Best Porsche" (Patrick Dick)
- 6 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Vietnam Subject '64 - '75" (Tim Wood)

Master

Dave Miller	275
Victor Maestas	156
Brian Peck	127
Mike McNichols.	125
James Guld.	102
Glenn Bingham	100
Mike Blohm	31
Don McBryde	25
Ken Liotta.	8
Patrick Dick	4
Keith Liotta	2

Intermediate

Ken Piniak	325
Tony Humphries	225
Adrian Montaño	225
Frank Randall	200
Gil Johnson	175
Rick Carver.	150
Josh Pals	133
Don Smith	6
Danny Williamson	4
Jeff Frickstad.	2

Basic

Gregg Hayes.	325
Jeannie Garriss	100
Gordon Pegue.	2

Junior

Chelsea Perea	325
-------------------------	-----

ASM 2009 MODELER-OF-THE-YEAR POINTS

CONTACT INFO

President:	James Guld	982-3089	jamesguld@pngltd.com
Vice President:	Tom Perea	897-4778	tkperea@comcast.net
Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	299-3760	fcr40@aol.com
Contest Director:	Ken Liotta	323-7614	ThePlasticMaster@comcast.net
Members Pro-Tem:	Victor Maestas	771-0980	vmaestas@aol.com
	Josh Pals	699-8737	
	Tim Wood	897-1889	planedreamin@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.