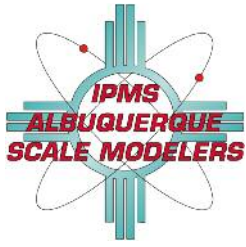


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

April 2014

CHILE CON 3 DATE CHANGE

In mid-March, the Chile Con committee was notified by the MCM Elegante—via email, no less—that they were exercising their “MCM reserves the right...” clause in their contract with us, and as a result we could either reschedule the con or basically hold the entire thing on the northeast corner of the porch area just outside the lobby.

An emergency meeting of the committee was held to consider what options were available and, as a result, Chile Con 3 is now scheduled for the weekend of **July 11 - 12**. The theme remains the same, room rates and registration costs are unaffected. The cutoff date for preregistration has moved to May 31.

We know this is going to inconvenience some of you, and we seriously do regret that, but this was not under our control—this was a change imposed upon us by the host hotel.

THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

This month I am going to talk about links with other clubs, travel to domestic and foreign climes, praise German beer, give you next week’s winning lottery numbers and take a cheap swipe at the French, in my usual (probably) inimitable fashion. So now that you know what expect, read on if you dare...

I had an interesting conversation with an old member at our last meeting in March concerning possible links with clubs overseas. It seems that this would be a good idea for us to pursue and would give us a chance to see how other clubs in other countries function and how they address the same challenges and opportunities that we face. It would certainly help to promote the hobby, which is one of the deciding factors in which chapters are awarded the Regional and National chapters of the year. I certainly feel that we do plenty to promote the hobby in any case and since we have won Region 10 Chapter of the Year a number of times in recent years, others obviously agree. Maybe we could learn a lot too and/or share the benefit of our own experiences though. So if anyone has any contacts with other clubs, particularly clubs outside the US,

March highlights, top to bottom: members looking over contest entries before the meeting; and the business meeting in progress.





please let me know and we'll see if we can set up formal contact with them. Maybe we could even do exchange visits at some point in the future? If so, I hereby volunteer to travel out and check out the local beer to ensure that it is of sufficient quality for your discerning and sophisticated palates. It's a tough job, I know, but someone will have to do it...

The gentleman that I spoke to in this regard was from Germany (no concerns about the quality of the beer there, although several days of additional taste-testing may be required to absolutely certain) and talked about their different approaches to the hobby compared to our own. They have certain restrictions placed on them that we don't face—for example, for historical reasons it is illegal to show the Swastika and/or to promote or depict anything which glorifies the Third Reich. A restriction that some modelers would do well to adopt voluntarily here, perhaps... The limits on imagery etc. can certainly make things harder for those who wish to be as accurate as possible in their work, since some symbols such as the Swastika were very prevalent throughout the German armed forces and indeed throughout civilian life also before and during WWII.

They also have a different idea to club competition. They have significantly less of it and any real competition is generally left to regional and national conventions—an approach which echoes that of the British IPMS chapter that I visited last summer and one that is certainly prevalent throughout IPMS chapters in the UK. In Europe they really do have a different emphasis and concentrate more on collaboration (especially the French... sorry—I couldn't resist that one) than competition. Presumably this is due to cultural differences. I can't really see any other reason for it. According to another member that I spoke to, we used to have links to a club in Ecuador as well but they disappeared off the radar at some point a few years ago. That's a shame as it would be interesting to know what challenges they face in their pursuit of the hobby. Quito for example (the capital city, as I'm sure you knew) is nearly 10,000 feet above sea level. I wonder how that affects their airbrushing? I'd have a hard enough time just breathing at that altitude, never mind getting a decent paint finish...

PS—The lottery numbers part was a lie I'm afraid. I just wanted to see if you were paying attention.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MIKE BLOHM

Here are some interesting statistics on ASM over the period April 2013 through March 2014 that were compiled as we put together our IPMS/USA Region 10 Chapter of the Year sub-

Year 2014 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 03 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
Sponsored Contest: "Best Ford-themed model" (Patrick Dick)
- 07 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 07 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 04 Apr** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**
FAMILY TIES
- 02 May** **Japan**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 13 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
WORLD WAR I
Sponsored Contest: "D-Day, June 1944" (ASM E-Board)
- 11 Jul** **Speed Demons**—Any it/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best French Subject" (Tony Humphries)
- 01 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 05 Sep** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4**
SEAPLANES / AMPHIBIANS
Sponsored Contest: "Electronic Warfare" (Gil De La Plain)
- 03 Oct** Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries" (Mike & Matt Blohm)
- 07 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Russian Bombers" (Tim Wood)
- 06 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #5**
BATTLE OF THE BULGE PLUS 70
Plus Model of the Year competition!

June, July and August contests and dates are under review, and may change due to the Chile Con rescheduling. Monitor the web site for news as it develops.

mission. ASM has a total of 81 members, including 8 Juniors. Thirty per cent of ASM members are also members of IPMS/USA. We gained nine new members during 2013. Five of those were gained during the timeframe of Albuquerque Comic Expo (ACE) 2013 and the 2013 New Mexico State Fair, so a big thank you to all who helped out in those efforts as our recruiting for this fun hobby does seem to work.

The 2013 NM State Fair entries count of 61 may have been a record number. The ASM display-only theme of "The Pacific Air War in World War II" at the State Fair had thirty 1/48-scale models. The "science-fiction, fantasy, anime, and real space" themed model at ACE 2013 had approximately 100 models. We look forward to those two events again in 2014. With two of ASM's 2014 contests being geared towards the State Fair display theme—"D-Day" and/or "World War I"—we have hopefully smoothed out putting that display together this year.

ASM members wrote and submitted eleven review articles and fourteen trip reports for the ASM Newsletter and ASM Website. That is probably a record number, and Joe Walters and I thank you for your efforts. Everyone loves to hear about

new kits and products, and museums or events that they would also like to attend. Two ASM members wrote or contributed to articles in the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society's Bore-sight magazine (Jim Guld) and FineScale Modeler magazine (Larry Glenn).

ASM had a great turnout at the IPMS/USA National Convention in 2013, with 17 members entering models and winning 26 total awards. Six ASM members helped with the judging at the Nationals, and Dave Straub represented ASM very well by winning the People's Choice Award for his USS Langley seaplane carrier.

While we did not have any Make & Takes in the April 2013 – March 2014 period, we have had contact with six groups that would like to have one later this year. So please step up to help when those get scheduled. We will have several Make & Takes during Chile Con 3.

Here are a couple calendar items of note.

Chile Con 3 moved to July 11 - 2

As you may already be aware of, CC3 has been moved to July 11 – 12 due to conflicts with the hotel scheduling. Please help get the word out about that change. The cutoff date for the CC3 hotel discount rate is now June 19. The cut-off date for the Early Registration discount rate is now May 31. The CC3 website has been updated, new flyers will be posted/sent out, and the local IPMS Chapters will all be notified. Speaking of the CC3 website, the contest rules, categories, pictures and status of trophy packages, and raffles & prizes information have all been posted. Please consider buying a trophy package. If you are interested in helping out at CC3, please see Jim Guld.

ACE 2014 is June 27 - 29

Albuquerque Comic Expo 2014 is just down the road. Information on ASM's participation in that event will hopefully be posted on the ASM website in the near future.

Best of the West XIX

This contest, sponsored by IPMS/Las Vegas, is being held on May 3 in Henderson, Nevada.

CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE

JOHN TATE

The March 7th Open Contest was ASM's first points contest of 2014, with a large turnout of excellent models in all categories and skill levels. There were three entries in Juniors, three in Basic, 19 in Intermediate and 14 in Masters with 23 works-in-progress entries. With numbers like this, it looks like we can expect some spirited competition for ASM's Modeler of the Year award as the contest year progresses.

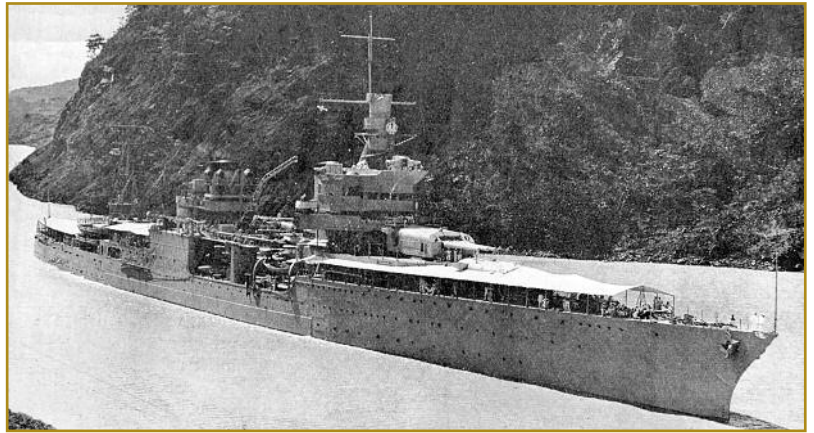
We are fortunate to have some exceptional modelers in our club, and these folks deserve recognition for their hard-won Gold and First Place awards: in Juniors, Aleya Montano won a Gold for her Lindberg $\frac{1}{8}$ Eagle, and in Basic, Jeannie Gar-

FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

Scrapbook

Well, here again are some photos from my father's scrapbook.



The USS Portland going through the Panama Canal. I think that my father was assigned to the USS Maryland, a sister ship, at this time.



Seaplanes of VP-10, probably taken during October, 1933. This was when the squadron flew from San Diego to Coco Solo, Canal Zone, a distance of 3000 miles, with only two intermediate stops. These aircraft flew at the amazing speed of over 90 miles per hour during the hazardous flight. [Editor's note: All of Fred's photos—and there are many more!—from his father's scrapbook, larger and in full resolution, may be found in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

riss won Golds for her *Jetsons Capsule Car* and '33 *Willys Gasser*. In Intermediate, Adrian Montano won Firsts for his *Klingon Bird of Prey*, MPC $\frac{1}{10}$ *Hulk Smash* and *USS New Mexico*; Jerry Little won a First with his $\frac{1}{32}$ *Hawker Tempest*, Gorham Smoker picked up a First for his *Pennzoil Dragster*, Don Smith won a First for his *WWII Russian Infantry Collection*, and newcomer Partap Davis won a First for his nicely-done $\frac{1}{35}$ *KV-2* tank. In Masters, Ken Liotta won a First for his $\frac{1}{700}$ *Chinese Submarine*, Larry Glenn grabbed a First for his beautiful $\frac{1}{72}$ *Ju88A-4* in Free French markings, Victor Maestas won a First for his $\frac{1}{35}$ *EOD* figure, and Jim Guld won Firsts for his *A30 Challenger* tank and "Winter's Blanket" diorama featuring a Churchill Crocodile flamethrower tank.

The cream of the crop was represented by Aleya Montano's Lindberg *Eagle*, which won Best of Show and People's Choice awards in Juniors, and in Basic, Jeannie Garriss's *Jetsons Capsule Car* won a People's Choice and her '33 *Willys Gasser* won Best of Show. In Intermediate, Adrian Montano's *Klingon Bird of Prey* won People's Choice and Partap Davis won Best of Show with his *KV-2*. In Master's, Larry Glenn won People's Choice for his *SBD-1 Dauntless* and Jim Guld

won Best of Show for his A30 Challenger tank.

ASM Vice President Mike Blohm kindly prepares awards for First Place, Peoples Choice and Best of Show entries, so make sure you stop by the next meeting to receive your award.

Unfortunately, not everyone with a model on the table was able to get proper credit after judging, because a few modelers took the entry sheets with them when they packed up their models; therefore, make sure you leave the entry sheet on the table when you leave. If you had a model on the table at the March meeting but did not get credit for it, let me know and I'll make sure you are awarded points for your entry.

It's a pleasure seeing the quality of model work by our membership; the current level of skill and output has seldom been equaled in our club's history. Keep building, as the scheduled Special Contest (non-points) for April is "Family Ties," a model subject connected to you or your family history, and an open-mike style Show-and-Tell to allow you to talk about your latest model project. And of course, our Chile Con 3 Regional Contest is coming up on July 11 - 12, so there's no time like the present to tackle your dream builds.

Just a reminder, the next points contest, "Japan" is coming up on May 2, and is open to any model subject, any era, with a connection to Japan. See everyone at the April 4 meeting.

IN THE BONUS PAGES! JOE WALTERS

In this month's Bonus Pages:

- Photos of March's Best-of-Show contest winners.
- Fred's photos from his father's scrapbook
- A kit review from Ken Piniak
- A field trip report from Mike Blohm



**CHILE
CON**

DATE CHANGE!

**2014 IPMS
Region 10 Contest
July 11 - 12, 2014**
Hosted by
ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS

D-DAY PLUS SEVENTY

Due to a change imposed upon us by the host hotel, we have been forced to reschedule Chile Con.

We know this will inconvenience some of you, and we *seriously do* regret that, but we have no control over this.

Chile Con 3 will still take place at:
MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center
2020 Menaul NE • Albuquerque, NM 87107
toll free (866) 650-4900 • fax (505) 881-4806
www.mcmelegantealbuquerque.com

Rooms \$81.00/Double Occupancy. Be sure to mention Albuquerque Scale Modelers and Chile Con 3 to get this rate!

IPMS members pre-registration:
\$18.00 through May 31, 2014; \$20.00 thereafter
Contest entry costs are for an unlimited number of entries.
Awards Banquet, Raffle, and Make & Takes to be offered.
For details as they develop, visit the ASM web sites
www.abqscalemodelers.com
<http://tinyurl.com/chilecon3>

Contact person: Contest Co-Chair James Guld
(505) 982-3089 • jamesguld@pngltd.com



Master

James Guld	402
Larry Glenn	304
Ken Liotta	231
Tony Humphries	175
Victor Maestas	150
Mike Blohm	106
Dave Miller	102
Glenn Bingham	75
Patrick Dick	8
James Strickland	4
Brian Peck	2

Intermediate

Adrian Montañó	427
Don Smith	312
Gorham Smoker	300
Partap Davis	275
Jack Garriss	150
Pete Armijo	125
Len Faulconer	125
Jerry Little	125
Frank Randall	106
Ken Piniak	8
Matt Blohm	2

Basic

Jeannie Garriss	550
Michel Wingard	2

Junior

Aleya Montañó	325
Marie Smith	200

MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS STANDINGS

CONTACT INFO

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Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	681-5158	fcr40@aol.com
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	Larry Glenn		l.glenn2@comcast.net
	Victor Maestas	771-0980	vmaestas@aol.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.

BONUS PAGES!

MARCH BEST OF SHOW WINNERS

This page: [Master] James Guld's *A-30 Challenger*, and [Basic] Jeannie Garriss's '33 Willys Gasser.





This page: [Junior] Aleya Montaño's *A-30 Challenger*, and [Intermediate] Partap Davis's *KV-2*.

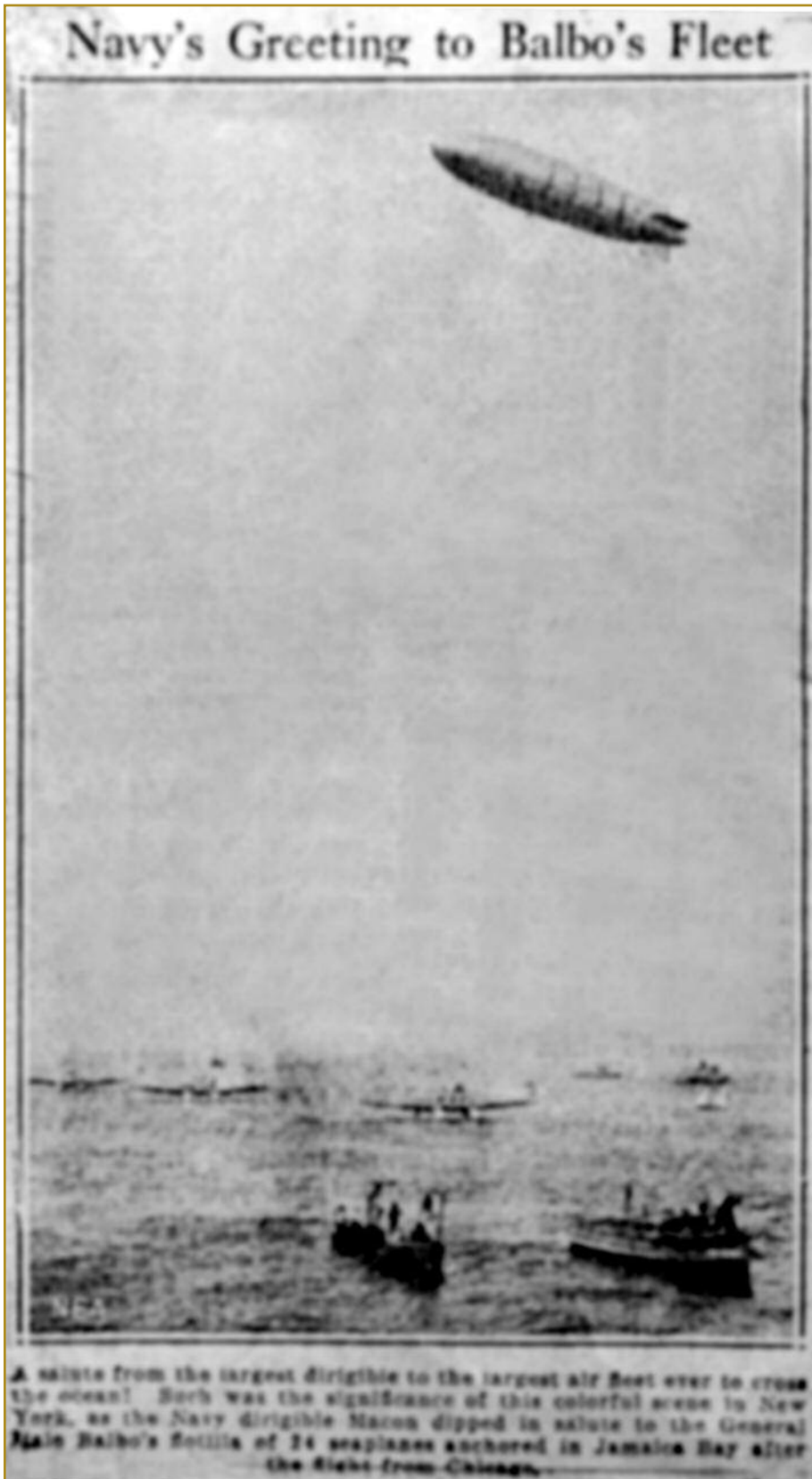


BONUS PAGES!

FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

Scrapbook



Well, here again are some photos from my father's scrapbook.

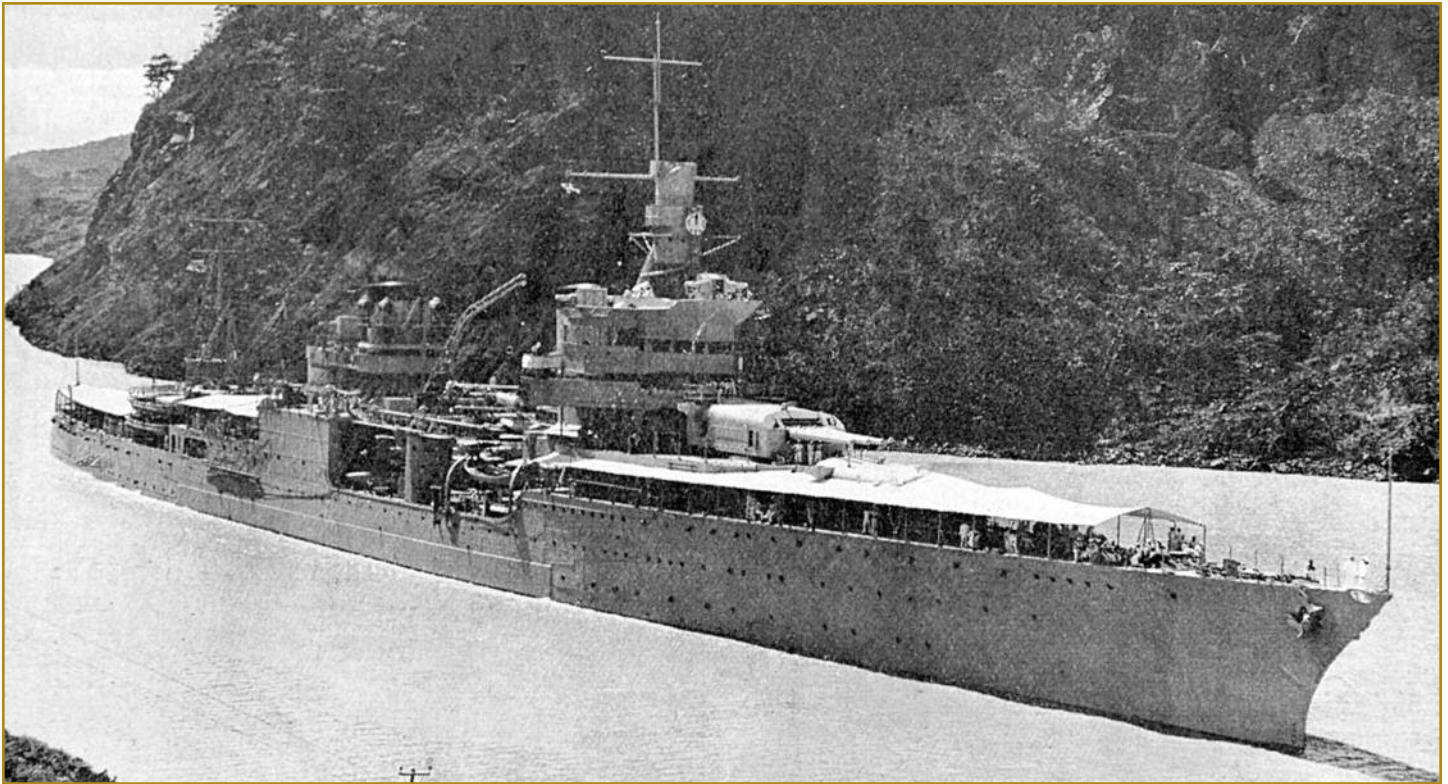
The printing under the photo says, "A salute from the largest dirigible to the largest air fleet ever to cross the ocean. Such was the significance of this colorful scene in New York, as the Navy dirigible Macon dipped in salute to the General Balbo's flotilla of 24 seaplanes anchored in Jamaica Bay after the flight from Chicago." Between the Great War and World War II, Italy was among the top countries in the development of aviation technology. I don't know the date of this photo, but a bit of internet research should determine when this happened.



The caption under this photo says "Martin Torpedo." And it was probably state of the art for torpedo bombers when the shot was taken.

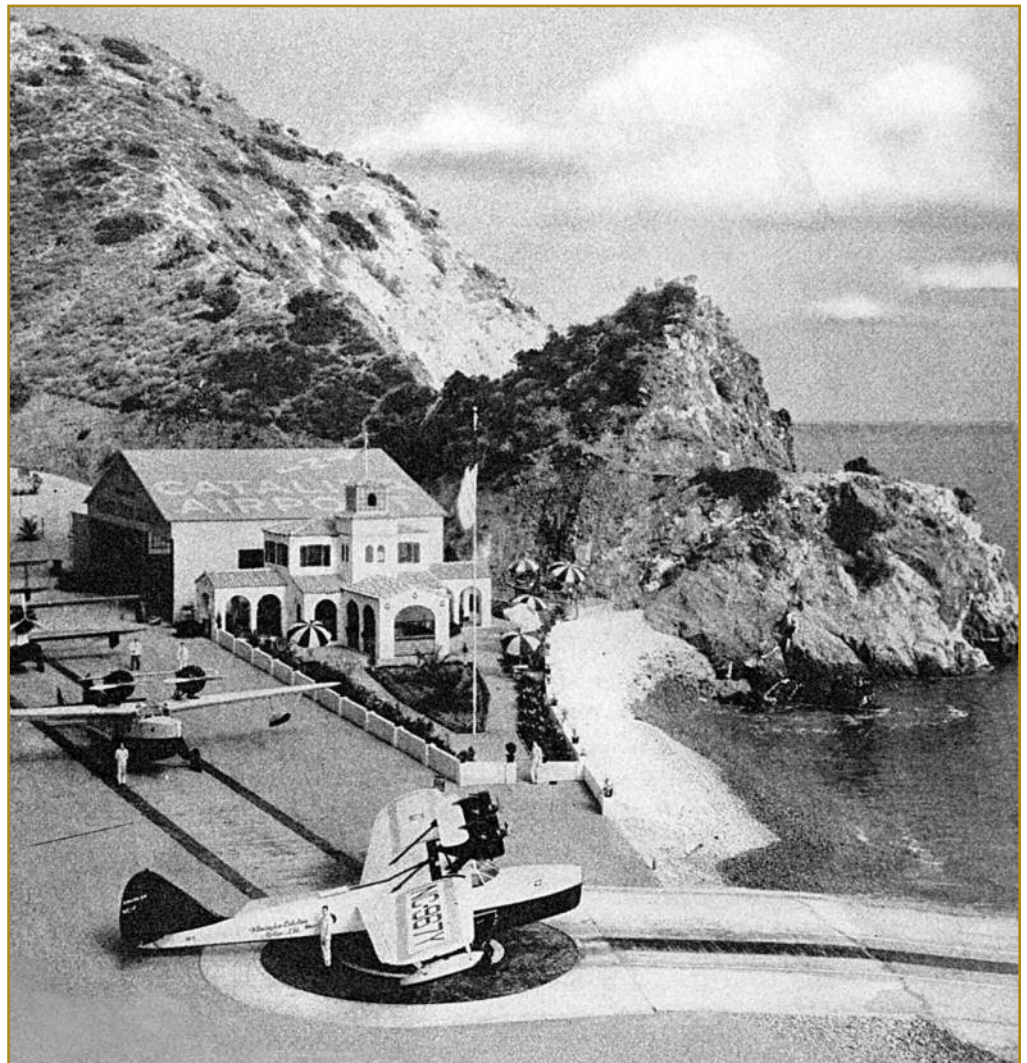


The caption here says "Army Douglas." Again, it was state of the art when this was taken. The technology has evolved a bit.



Above: The USS Portland going through the Panama Canal. I think that my father was assigned to the USS Maryland, a sister ship, at this time.

Right: A photo of the seaplanes at Avalon Airport.



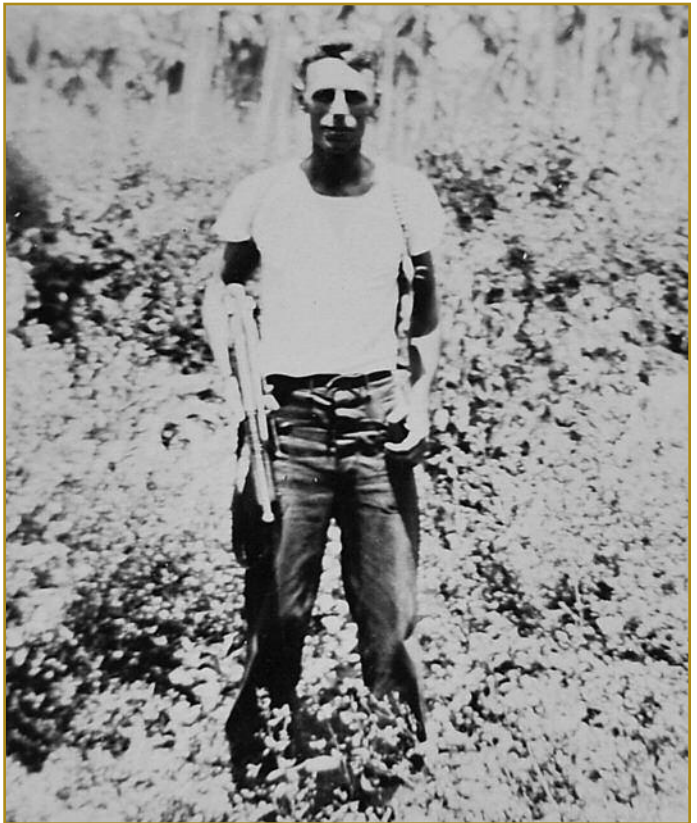
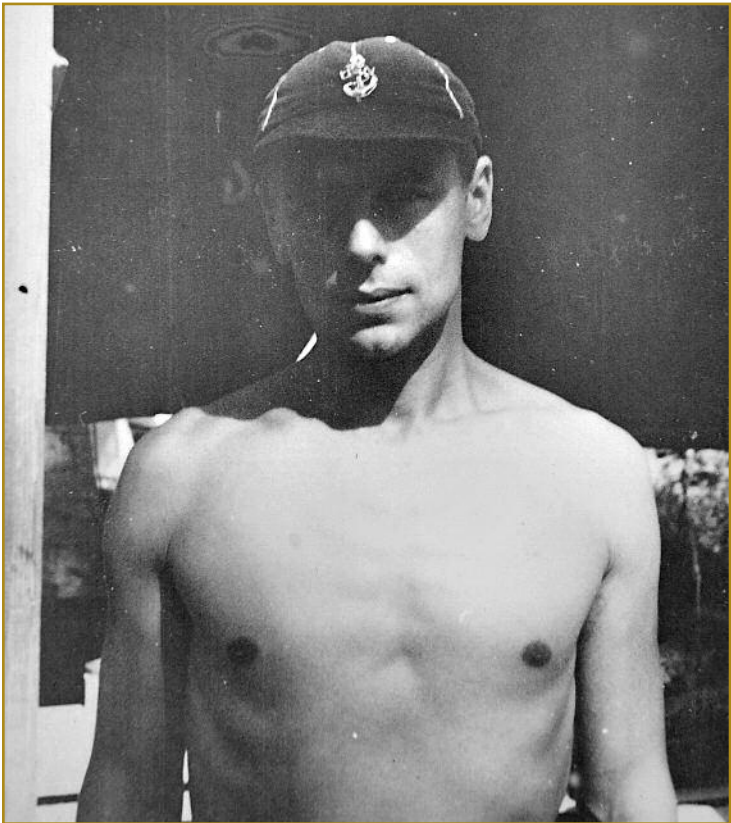


Seaplanes of VP-10, probably taken during October, 1933. This was when the squadron flew from San Diego to Coco Solo, Canal Zone, a distance of 3000 miles, with only two intermediate stops. These aircraft flew at the amazing speed of over 90 miles per hour during the hazardous flight.



And since the April theme is "Family Ties," here is a shot of my father at Guadalcanal with a friend, standing by the remains of an F4F Wildcat.

Below: Before and after photos of my father at Guadalcanal, showing what combat and malaria can do.



There was a story my father told me about the fighting at Henderson Field that I've never heard about or read anywhere else.

One day the Japanese flying from Rabaul dropped caltrops (a metal device with four spikes, that when dropped on the ground always has one spike pointing upward) on Henderson Field [an example of typical caltrops is shown at right -JW]. This prevented American aircraft from taking off or landing at the field. Some marine got a bright idea and made an electromagnet by wrapping copper wire around a piece of iron pipe, suspending the pipe from the front bumper of a truck, and connecting the wire to the truck's battery. The truck drove up and down the airfield collecting the caltrops on the magnet. Henderson Field was quickly cleared of the caltrops.

A few hours later, the caltrops were loaded on a SBD Dauntless and returned to the Japanese airfield at Rabaul.

The Japanese never used caltrops on Henderson Field again.



BONUS PAGES!

KIT REVIEW

KEN PINIAK

Moebius Battlestar Galactica

At long last, Moebius has released their version of the original Battlestar Galactica. Fans have been waiting for this since 1978. They will not be disappointed, and they can toss out their old Monogram kits.

This kit is listed as $\frac{1}{4105}$ -scale, and is approximately the same size as the old Monogram kit, but the accuracy issues have been eliminated, and it is packed full of detail. The folks at Moebius really did their homework; I have hundreds of photos of the original studio model (can you call something that is over six feet long miniature?) and I spent a couple of hours comparing the kit to those photos, everything was in place. According to the instructions, this kit has 89 parts; I think the old Monogram kit had about a dozen. Most of the parts on the new kit provide details the Monogram kit did not have. The main engine panel is four parts, the landing bays are five parts each, and all of the arms for the landing bays have separate tops, bottoms, and sides. The ship is broken down into sub-assemblies, with each sub-assembly built up from multiple pieces. These sub-assemblies are then joined to form the ship, unlike the Monogram kit where the main body of the ship was two parts—top and bottom.

While this kit is nearly perfect, I do have two complaints about it. The first one, which has been discussed online ever since Moebius released some test shots late last year, is that the engraved hull panel lines are *way* overdone. In the scale of this kit, you could drive a truck through these panel lines. My other complaint is that much of the rest of the detail is “soft” and underdone. Most of the detail is just molded on the various panels, and just does not seem to “stand out” as much as it should. But these complaints are minor, and overall this kit looks great. This is a must-have for any Battlestar Galactica fan.

[Below: promotional artwork from the Moebius Models website (<http://www.moebiusmodels.com>).]



BONUS PAGES! FIELD TRIP! MIKE BLOHM

Edwards AFB Display Aircraft

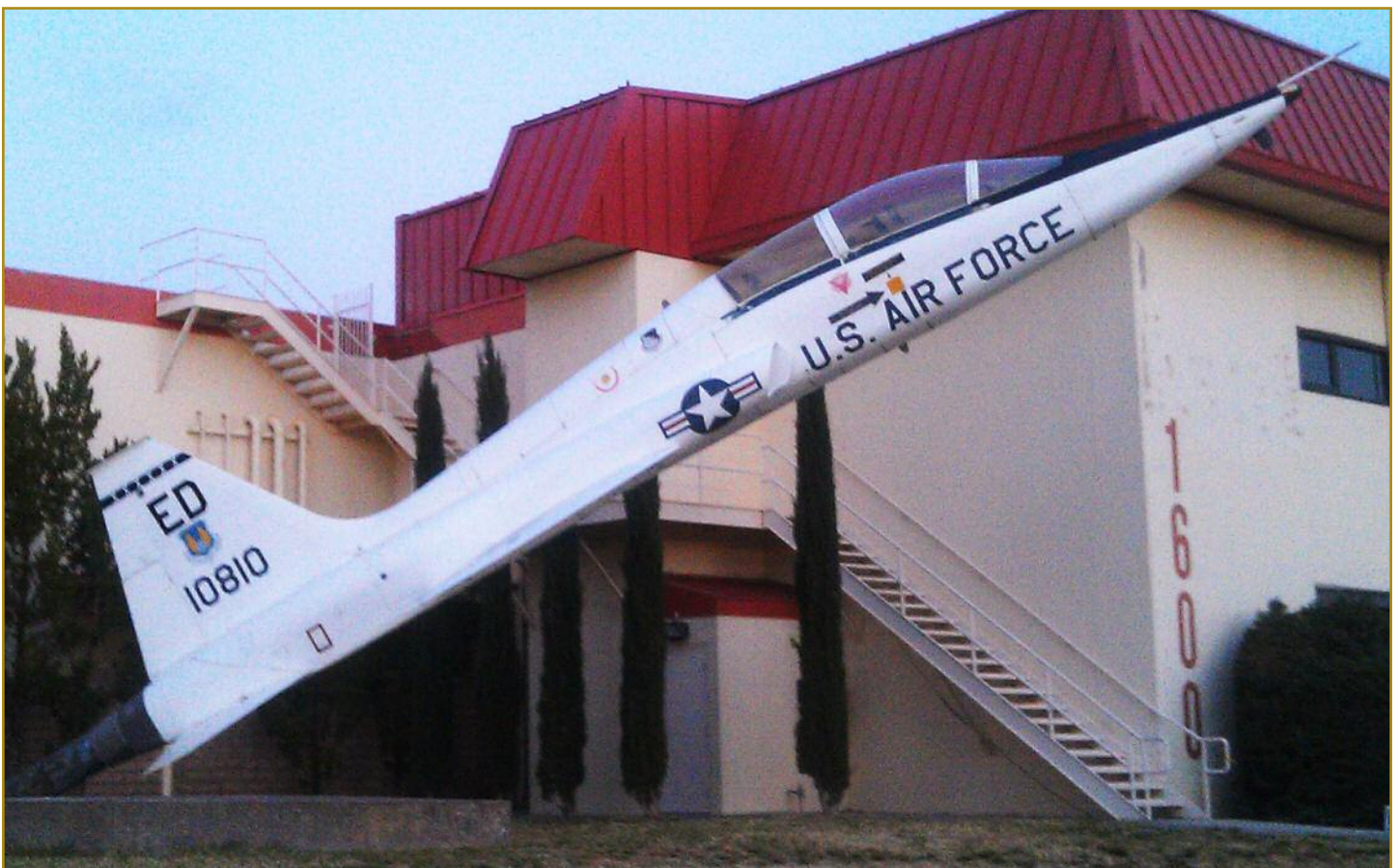
This report covers some of the aircraft that are on display at Edwards AFB, California, either mounted on display stands or parked on a concrete slab. There are two aircraft in front of the USAF Test Pilot School: One is a T-33 Shooting Star/T-Bird trainer; the other is an NF-104A Starfighter, one of three built with a supplementary rocket engine for high-altitude research and astronaut training. You might remember this aircraft from the movie *The Right Stuff*.







Additional aircraft on the base are an RF-4C Phantom II, a T-38 Talon (probably used as a chase aircraft), a P-59B Airacobra, a standard F-104 Starfighter, and an F-86 and F-16B in front of the 412th Test Wing Headquarters building.











Lastly, there is the oldest B-52B Stratofortress bomber, "Balls 8," at the North Gate to the base. This B-52 was converted to a drop test aircraft, and participated in supersonic testing from the X-15 through the Pegasus rocket tests until its retirement in 2004. There are several other test aircraft located near the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center (now renamed as the Neil Armstrong Flight Research Center) that will be covered in another trip report.





Join IPMS/USA!

The International Plastic Modelers' Society is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas, in 1964, there are now IPMS branches all over the world.

As part of your IPMS/USA membership, you will receive the IPMS Journal six times a year. In it you will find stories of interest on subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, and figures. You will also find listings of IPMS contests and swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews. Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA-sanctioned Regional Contests, as well as our world-famous National Convention, held each summer.

As a member, you'll also be able to access our online Members' Forum, where a wide variety of society and modeling topics are discussed. In addition, many hobby shops around the country offer discounts to IPMS/USA members. To join IPMS/USA, simply use the form below or join online (<http://www.ipmsusa.org>).

For any questions or problems regarding your membership application or renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Office Manager (manager@ipmsusa.org).



IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____
(leave blank) FIRST M. LAST

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

VISA/MasterCard _____ Account # _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Adult: \$25 Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: _____

Canada & Mexico: \$30 Other Foreign: \$32 Foreign Air Mail: \$55

Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: _____)

If recommended by an IPMS member,
list his/her name and member number _____ (name) _____ (IPMS#)

IPMS/USA

P.O. Box: 2475

North Canton, OH 44720-0475

Check out our web page: www.ipmsusa.org