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PRESIDENTIAL INKLINGS VICTOR MAESTAS

Museum Model Displays

[Editor's Note: Victor's article included quite a few photos, and the version posted on the web site has them all. -JWl

Every time I go out of town to a different city, I first look up the local model shops and then I always find out what interesting museums are around. One of the things I look for when I'm in museums is model displays. These can be used to showcase a large collection or tell a story without having to build a whole new wing. The good displays are ones that not only have high quality models, but also have the background information clearly presented to explain the display and engage the audience to want to learn more about the subject being shown.

ASM has a presence in local museums and public displays with a display in the old National Atomic Museum as well as current displays in the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial and Museum and the Cavalcade of Wings display at the Albuquerque Sunport.

Museum of Flight in Seattle

There is always something new at The Museum of Flight every time I go through it. This time there was a new display showing vehicles and equipment used in space travel including a Soyuz capsule, Mercury capsule, a laboratory module of the ISS that was used as a ground simulator, and a moon rover.

The very impressive model display at this museum was a collection of aircraft of WWII in 72nd scale in the WWII fighter wing of the museum. There were over 400 models all from a single builder. Each country that was involved in WWII had planes represented.

The builder was Dr. H. Logan Holtgrewe and he built the models over a seven-year stretch. The models were of very high build quality and were housed in custom display cases. Most were built from kits, but when there





was no kit some of the models were made from balsa wood. This is the type of display that shows that with vision and a lot of perseverance, a very complete and impressive collection can be built. It's great that this collection made it to a museum for us to see instead of taking up space in his attic.

45th Infantry Division Museum in Oklahoma City

This museum showcases the history of the 45th Infantry Division through WWII and Korea. It has an impressive display of vehicles out on the grounds. Displays inside the museum show the actions of the Thunderbirds through their campaigns in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany.

The museum had a wall dedicated to Medal of Honor recipients from the 45th Infantry Division. The division had eight recipients and each one was memorialized with a copy of the citation as well as a model diorama showing a snapshot of the events leading to earning their awards.

Each diorama was built to the same scale and looked like the same builder (or group of builders) built them all. They were consistent in scale and level of detail.



These displays complimented the MOH citations to get a good visual picture of the action that took place. The impression I got from reading the citations and then looking over the dioramas was the stark nature of the battlefields. There was no embellishment to the story. Some of the dioramas were painfully simple involving only a desert landscape and some foxholes. It made the reality and gravity of battle really sink in.



Museum of Naval Aviation at Pax River

I visited this museum many years ago. This museum has a large collection of test/evaluation aircraft in the typical white/orange markings for test aircraft outside near the entrance to the base. Some of the highlights include the X-35 and X-32 evaluation aircraft parked across from each other.

The display inside included an impressive model of the aircraft carrier USS Hancock in \(^{1}\)48 scale! It was huge, about twenty feet long and took up an entire hallway, so much so that it was hard to take pictures of it. It was shown in its 1950s configuration and had a lot of detail including guns, stairs, rigging, etc. It had about twenty aircraft on deck including F7U Cutlasses,

F9F Cougars, and others.

Models getting the chance to be on display in a museum are like professional athletes or rock stars. There are hundreds of thousands of worthy applicants out there, but only a select few get to go to the big show. Some of the models and collections are there by luck or because they are so impressive in their own right. I like to go out and see what the next amazing display will have to show.

VP's Musings JAMES GULD

Man, has this summer flown by! IPMS Nationals are just about two weeks away and I'm trying to finish one

more piece to bring, my French Zimmeritted Sherman. It will be a close call if it makes it or not. No rushing it, it gets done when it gets done. I have plenty of finished pieces to bring, eleven total, including two dioramas. Plus this year John Tate and I are driving up together, so we should have one pretty stuffed Subaru. In fact, I picked up a luggage bag for the roof. This way we have plenty of room for all the goodies from the vendors' room and hopefully some wood.

The best improvement I did this year for the modeling room was to add an air conditioner. It sure makes modeling much more pleasant. No more stopping and having to wipe my brow from the Optivisor. Pure modeling bliss. Ahhh...

So I'll see you all in a few weeks with hopefully some wood from Nats and a somewhat inflated MasterCard bill. Model On!

WEB SITE REVIEW GLENN BINGHAM

For the airplane dudes: Anyone who has been on HyperScale recently may have noticed two illustrations of art work by Jerry

Boucher. The latest was of an Me 262 flaming a Russian P-39, noted as the last Luftwaffe kill of WWII. Jerry's web site (http://www.the-vaw.com) is filled with 81 fantastic CGI illustrations... really beautiful stuff. Many of his illustrations are available to download free as wallpaper; many are available for purchase as posters and prints. Subjects range from WWI into the current jet age, and are historically significant. Most of his illustrations were commissioned for aviation publication covers or plastic model boxtops. Got any Classic Airframe kits? If so, you've seen Jerry's work. His web site is well worth a look.

P.S.—The current wallpaper I have on my computer is of a Mitsubishi F1M2 "Pete" attacking a Dornier 24 seaplane of the Dutch Air Force near Malaya on 17 December 1941.

FRED'S CORNER FRED FRANCESCHI

Five-Engine B-17

Editor's Note: Here we begin a new feature which I hope will run for a very long time! Our own Fred Franceschi has a collection of amazing photographs of historic and modeling interest, and we will showcase one or two in each issue, with commentary from Fred where applicable.

We start with something topical! In last month's issue, we featured a story by Victor Maestas about the crash of the Liberty Belle, a restored B-17 that was touring the country. The article mentioned that after the war, the plane was used by Pratt & Whitney as a testbed for new engines, including a prototype turboprop engine that was grafted onto the nose as a fifth engine.

As it happens, Fred took this photo during an airshow at Edwards Air Force Base circa 1956. Clearly this is the exact same airplane! Note the man in uniform, possibly the plane's pilot or a company spokesman, standing under the nose, and the woman and child taking cover from the heat in the shade under the wing.



2011 NM STATE FAIR MIKE BLOHM

Entry dates for the ASM-sponsored model contest at the 2011 New Mexico State Fair are September 2 and 3, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day. Please contact Josh Pals or Mike Blohm if you can help with the model check-in or judging.

Information on entry classes and the rules is available on the ASM web site (http://abqscalemodelers.com/asm_articles.htm#New_Mexico_State_Fair_2011_Mod el_Contest).

IPMS DAY AT THE MUSEUM MIKE BLOHM

IPMS Legacy is sponsoring an IPMS Region 10 Day on September 17 at the Pueblo Weisbod Aircraft Museum in Pueblo, Colorado. Events include a Swap Meet and Barbecue.

Additional information on this event is available on the ASM web site (http://abqscalemodelers.com/asm_articles.htm#IPMS_Region_10_Day)



Year 2	011 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.			
	Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale.			
	Super Clinic Night—no contest.			
	SPECIAL CONTEST #2:			
	SHINY SHOW RODS			
03 Jun	1941 —Any kit/subject/scale.			
	SPECIAL CONTEST #3			
	More or Less (than four wheels)			
	Sponsored Contest: Post-Apocalyptic			
:	(Josh Pals)			
12 Aug	ASM Swap Meet—no contest.			
I	Nationals Debrief Night—Bring			
I .	Models & Trophies!			
09 Sep	Mediterranean—Any kit/subject/scale.			
	SPECIAL CONTEST #4			
ı	COMMON KITS (SEE WEB SITE)			
04 Nov	Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale.			
1	Sponsored Contest: P-39 (Don Smith)			
02 Dec	Sponsored Contest: BMW			
	(Patrick Dick)			
	Plus Model of the Year competition!			

Master	Intermediate	Ken Piniak 2
Victor Maestas 789	Larry Glenn 782	Tim Wood 2
James Guld568	Tony Humphries 659	Basic
Paul Kirchner 495	Don Smith 341	Gorham Smoker 595
Mike Blohm 464	Frank Randall 214	Logan Carbin 379
Glenn Bingham 256	Adrian Montaño 145	_
John Tate	Steve Brodeur	Jeannie Garriss 275
Ray Ayles 75	Don Blea 100	Junior
Don McBride 35	Jack Garriss	(No entries yet)
Ken Liotta 10	Blaine Couch	ACM 2011 Manuary
Dave Miller 4	Ken Barry4	ASM 2011 Modeler-
	Kyle Garber2	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.