

# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

December 2012

## PRESIDENT'S SPIEL JAMES GULD

So this is my last spiel as your president. I'll still contribute newsletter and web site articles, so don't start jonesing for armor-related news. I look forward to next year's schedule and to working on the display for the Matilda Group Build. Along with that I'm also planning on what to take to IPMS Nationals in Loveland, Colorado. That's always a fun process and I have one major diorama to finish up between now and then.

Spoiler alert! We will have a cake at the meeting, so make sure you leave room for dessert.

On the armor front, there are a number of new books and magazines coming out soon. One is from Mike Rinaldi. He will be doing a series of books on armor building and finishing. His first one will focus on German armor and is set for release at the end of November (<http://www.rinaldistudiopress.com>).

We have a new magazine which is now getting ready to hit the market any day now. It's called Scale Model Addict Mag-

azine (<http://magazine.scalemodeladdict.com>). They are going to offer it as both hard copy and online.

On the kit front there are a number of new kits for fans of British softskins from a new maker, Mirror Models (<http://www.mirror-models.com>). They are multimedia kits and from the looks of them they should be very nice.

Another new company I came across recently is called Armor Farm (<http://armorfarm.com>). They make diorama accessories.

Dragon should be releasing their new Sexton Mk II in December. From the looks of what I've seen it should be pretty nice. I know it will find its way into my closet. There are pictures on the PMMS web site (<http://tinyurl.com/apo1212a>).

Well, that is about all I have. I hope everyone has a good holiday season and gets lots of goodies.

Model On.

November meeting highlights, below L – R: Members gather for the meeting; James Guld gives a clinic; and the business meeting in progress.





November's Best-of-Show winners, left to right: Matt Blohm's *MiG-15*, Dave Miller's *Rheinmetal 128mm Pak*, and Tony Humphries's *Chieftain Mk5*. There were no Junior entries.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT MIKE BLOHM

### A Report on ASM in 2012

I would like to thank the members of ASM for the support they gave to our major club projects during 2012. These include two Make & Takes with local Cub Scout packs in March and October, conducting a great model show at the 2012 Albuquerque Comic Expo in June, and sponsoring and judging the New Mexico State Fair Model Contest in September (which included a great ASM display-only Mustangs! model exhibit). ASM also supported the New Mexico State Centennial by building ship models and model bases for the Cavalcade of Wings' New Mexico Named Ships project. We have approximately 70 club members and normally have about 40 attendees at the monthly meetings with a pretty good number of models on the tables, too. We had two great presentations by noted aviation authors on the Dambusters Raid and the Century Series of USAF fighters in September and October, and we had two "Super-Clinic Nights." Additionally, ASM won the IPMS/USA Region 10 Chapter of the Year and Region 10 Webmaster of the Year Awards for 2011 – 2012, and also the IPMS/USA Webmaster of the Year Award for 2011 – 2012. So all in all, I think ASM had a pretty good year. Thanks again for supporting the club, and let's all strive to continue to have fun building models, and promoting the hobby in 2013.

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## MODEL OF THE YEAR SHOWDOWN

MIKE BLOHM

The December 7 ASM meeting is the ASM 2012 Model of the Year Showdown amongst the Best of Show and Best Entries at each division from all the Theme (Points) and Special (Non-Points) contests. Your model has to be at the December 7 meeting to compete, but the builder does not. If you cannot attend, please arrange for your model(s) to be there. Let's fill up the tables!

A listing of contending models is on the ASM web site ([http://abqscalemodelers.com/asmcontenders\\_2012.htm](http://abqscalemodelers.com/asmcontenders_2012.htm)).

## CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE VICTOR MAESTAS

For the November contest, the theme was "Big Guns." There were fifteen entries with seven of those in theme. There were no Junior level entries, but in Basic, Matt Blohm took People's Choice and Best of Show with his MiG-15. In Intermediate, Gil de la Plain earned the People's Choice Award with his C6 Corvette. Best of Show was earned by Tony Humphries's PAK 43/3. In Masters, Glenn Bingham's Aggressor F-5E earned the People's Choice award and Best of Show went to Dave Miller's 128mm K44L/55 PAK gun.

There were no boundary pushers for this contest and that was the last one of the year. I want to thank all that participated during the year; there were some very creative and unusual approaches to pushing the boundaries that went way beyond just the "what if" questions. Models were built and put on the tables just for the sake of pushing the theme limits. Every month I looked forward to seeing how far things would go and who would be pushing them.

There will be no points contest in December, but the Special Contest has a theme of "Pearl Harbor." Remember that the rules are a little different for Special Contests with a maximum of five entries per person and all entrants need to be ASM club members. Also in December will be Josh Pals's Sponsored Contest with "From a Movie/TV Show" theme.

The annual Model of the Year Showdown will also be taking place at the December meeting. All Best of Show and best overall from the Special Contests are eligible. There is no limit to the number of entries for this one. If the model is eligible, enter it. All eligible models are shown on the Model of Year page on the web site.

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## CORRECTION! JOE WALTERS

Sometimes when you use "copy and paste" to update info from one newsletter to the next, something out of date will creep in. On the cover of the November issue, the photo caption at the bottom of the page incorrectly identified our guest speaker as Doug Dildy; Mr. Dildy had done his "Dambusters"



presentation the month before, and the speaker in the photo, giving his Century Series presentation, was Ted Spitzmiller. Apologies to Mr. Spitzmiller! We'll watch that in the future...

## FIELD TRIP REPORT MIKE BLOHM

### National Naval Air Museum

I had the opportunity to visit the National Naval Air Museum in Pensacola, Florida, in October 2012. It's a wonderful museum and well worth the visit. It has two large buildings full of aircraft and displays, plus a flight line area of parked aircraft that is also worth seeing via a narrated bus tour. According to the museum's web site, there are about 175 aircraft, helicopters, and airships



on display in the museum buildings and on the flight line. Several pictures of the aircraft and displays are included here. A more detailed trip report, with more pictures and museum maps, is available on the ASM Web Site's Field Trips page.

The main building has displays from the inception of US Navy aviation through the early Cold War arranged by periods of time. There is a great display of aircraft carrier models right as you come in the entrance doors in the "Quarter Deck" area, so be sure to spend some time viewing those. I recommend starting in the "South Wing" with World War I, Early Aircraft, and Early Cold War displays, and then working your way through that to the "West Wing" that has World War II and additional Early Cold War displays. There is a "sec-



ond deck" balcony in this building which provides for good shots of the aircraft on the "main deck" area, but there are also displays tucked away in a few areas on the second floor that are easy to miss. Aircraft of note in the main building include

## FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

### Ft. Knox, Kentucky Part 2!

This is a shot of the rear of a medical vehicle on the M-60 firing range at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. It looks pretty empty; I hope that the medics have their bandages and tourniquets in their on-person kits. I don't have the darndest idea why I took the photo.

Middle: Bradley Fighting Vehicles (probably the M2) during a demonstration at Ft. Knox. This



was in 1980 or 1981, when they were just being introduced. We were not permitted to enter the BFVs or the M1 tanks; the "insides" were still classified and we were only security qualified for the M60s.

Bottom: An M1 Abrams tank during the demonstration with the Bradleys. This was in the M1's early days, when the engine was still having problems and detractors were saying that the



engine should have been a diesel. The army made the correct decision,



but there was still some debugging to be done. We students at the Armor Advanced School were actually briefed about the engine and its problems during our training.

*[Editor's note: All of Fred's Ft. Knox*

*photos, including multiple shots of the above examples, detailed close-ups, and many others, may be found in the Bonus Pages! -JW]*

the Curtiss NC-4 that was the first aircraft to fly across the Atlantic Ocean in May 1919, the D-558-1 Skystreak, Sopwith F.1 Camel, P-40B Warhawk in American Volunteer Group markings, an SDB-2 Dauntless that participated in the Battle of Midway, the whole Grumman "Cat" series of fighters, Sky-lab Command Module, and a four-ship of Blue Angel A-4E Skyhawks suspended in formation in the "Atrium" area. There are also captured/foreign aircraft including an A6M Zero, NiK2-J George, Me 262B and MiG-15.



The second building (Hangar Bay One) has aircraft and displays from Vietnam through present time, presidential support and Coast Guard aircraft, plus a few large aircraft that would not fit in the main building. Aircraft of note include the P2V-1 Neptune "Truculent Turtle" that set an un-refueled long-distance flight record of 11,235 miles over 55 hours and 17 minutes of flight in September 1946 (note: this was finally broken by a B-52H in 1962), a huge SP-5B Marlin flying boat, and aircraft that flew in Vietnam (A-1, A-4, A-6, A-7, F-4, F-8, O-1) and Desert Storm (F-14, EA-6, F-18). The F-14D "Bombcat" on display flew the last operational F-14 combat mission.

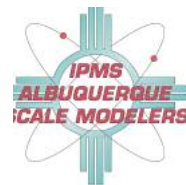
Highly recommended for a visit. Plan on spending almost a full day at the museum if you want to see everything. I spent five hours there and probably could have used two more. There is a souvenir shop that I did not have time to browse through and also an IMAX theater. The museum hours are 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily, and admission is free.

More information is available on the museum's web site (<http://www.navalaviationmuseum.org>).

### Year 2012 Contest Quick Reference Chart

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

- 06 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: *Lasers*  
(Patrick Dick)
- 03 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 02 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: *SF Spaceship*  
(Don Smith)
- 06 Apr** **Large Scale**—Aircraft 1/35 and up,  
Armor 1/25 and up, Auto 1/18 and up,  
Ships 1/44 and up  
Sponsored Contest: *Best Tamiya 1/32 P-51D Mustang* (Hobby Proz)
- 04 May** **Super Clinic Night**—no contest.
- 01 Jun** **British Steel**—Any kit/subject/scale,  
operated or built in England.
- 13 Jul** **2012: 70-, 50-year anniversaries**—  
Any subject from 1942, 1962 (100 year  
anniv of NM statehood)
- 03 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 07 Sep** **New Mexico Centennial of State-  
hood**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 05 Oct** **Century Series**—Any subject with 1xx  
in name or designation
- 02 Nov** **More Than a Handful**—Any subject  
with large weapons  
Sponsored Contest: *Stealth*  
(Mike Blohm)
- 07 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**  
**PEARL HARBOR**  
Sponsored Contest: *Rolls Royce*  
(Patrick Dick)  
Sponsored Contest: *From a Movie or  
TV show per IMDB* (Josh Pals)  
Plus Model of the Year competition!



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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.



# BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

## **Ft. Knox, Kentucky: Part 2!**

This is a shot of the rear of a medical vehicle on the M-60 firing range at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. It looks pretty empty; I hope that the medics have bandages and tourniquets in their on-person kits. I don't have the darndest idea why I took the photo.





Bradley Fighting Vehicles (probably the M2) during a demonstration at Ft. Knox. This was in 1980 or 1981, when they were just being introduced. We were not permitted to enter the BFVs or the M1 tanks; the "insides" were still classified and we were only security qualified for the M60s.





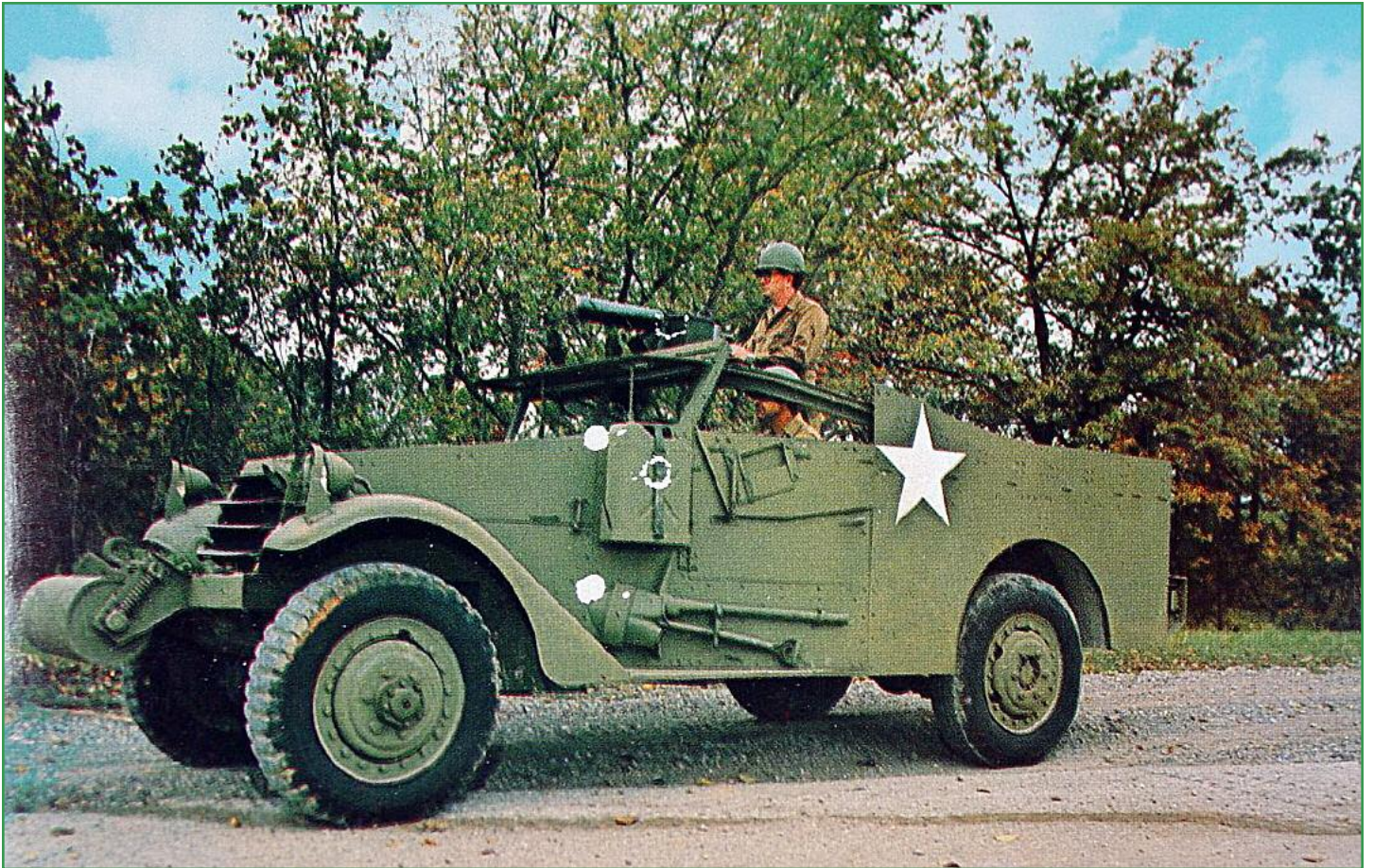




Postcards sold at the Patton Museum on Ft. Knox. There was one day each year (Probably July 4) when the World War II armored vehicles were taken from storage and driven for the public. I was not there when the vehicles were driven, but sure would have enjoyed seeing them.

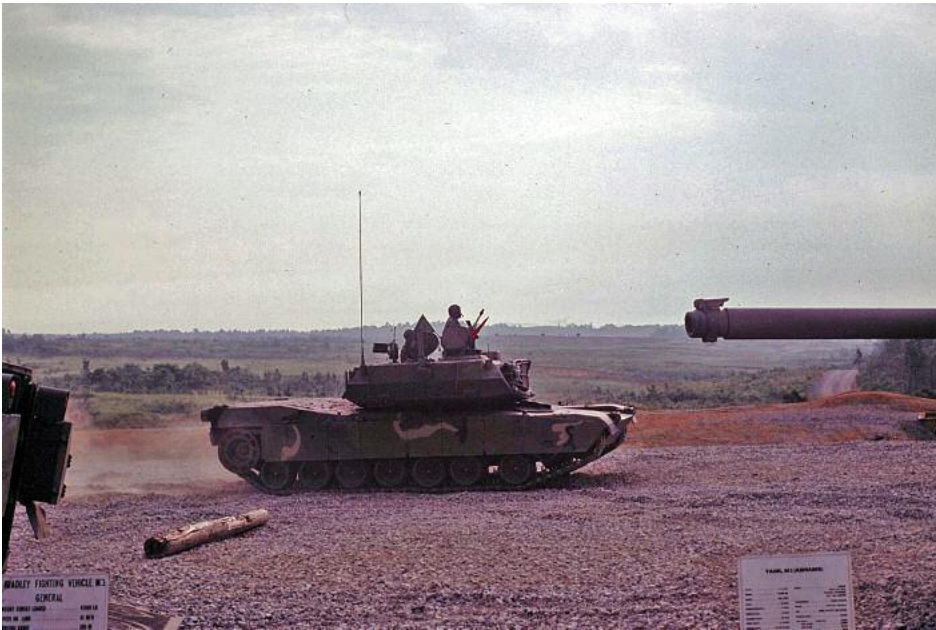








An M1 Abrams tank during the demonstration with the Bradleys. This was in the M1's early days, when the engine was still having problems and detractors were saying that the engine should have been a diesel. The army made the correct decision, but there was still some debugging to be done. We students at the Armor Advanced School were actually briefed about the engine and its problems during our training.





M60 tanks at Ft. Knox. These were probably some of the tanks we used for our training.



I think that this is another photo of the tank preceding the M60 that I had photos of in the last "Foto File." It was a prototype and would have been prohibitively expensive to manufacture. But some of its ideas were used in the Abrams.





# BONUS PAGES! FIELD TRIP REPORT

MIKE BLOHM

## National Naval Air Museum

Here are all the photos Mike supplied for the trip report. More images are available on the *ASM Web Site*, and are in higher resolution.





































