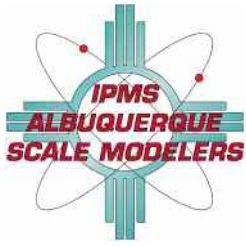


# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

December 2014

## THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

Reminder: We will be having two veterans of WWII as our guests at the December meeting, so please attend if you can. We don't get many chances to hear directly from the men of the greatest generation these days, so please don't miss out on the chance to hear about their experiences. It promises to be a fascinating evening. Also, in conjunction with their visit, we will be having a **special contest** for **Mustangs and Corsairs**. Any Allied markings will work, so please bring along any relevant builds that you have. Let's fill the tables and show these guys how we remember and honor their service.



Well—ho, ho, ho, and all of the usual seasonal malarkey to one and all. Cue all of the usual jokes about pulling a cracker, the frenzied shopping (although since they started selling Christmas stuff in July, you may already be done with that) the endless repetition of that mind-numbingly dreadful “Feliz Navidad” song and the traditional annual attempts to set fire to a couple of dozen sand-filled paper bags in the front yard

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November meeting highlights, left to right: A belated awarding of the “Best Junior Entry” plaque from Chile Con to Aleya Montañó; members looking over contest entries before the meeting; and the business meeting in progress.



with tea-light candles. In short, all of the things that make the Festive Season so much fun. Bah, humbug indeed.

Well another year has almost passed, lots of plastic has hopefully been built. Lots of kits have been purchased I expect and if you're anything like me, half of them are partially built and put back in the box until inspiration strikes again. I hope that the forthcoming year provides lots of opportunity to build new and fun stuff and that you are more successful at actually finishing things than I am.

I don't know whether you, the reader, are affected in the same way as me—it may just be my feckless (yes, there was an "e" in there...) nature—but one thing that I find with modeling is that my interest in subjects jumps around a lot and consequently things can sometimes be hard to finish. Two or three models from the same subject area (e.g., Vietnam, post D-Day Allied "softskins," the War of Jenkins' Ear, etc.) and I am forced to look for something new to retain my interest. I am not sure how the modeling for the forthcoming year is likely to go yet, of course, especially as we are likely to have at least two open contests and so there is no particular subject matter required there. Hopefully you are all more focused than I am anyway, although I guess we'll find out soon enough.

I am definitely going to challenge myself this year, though, and here's how: For every points contest this year I intend to submit a diorama entry. I am going to buy Tamiya's Livestock Set, and possibly some similar styrene and resin sets from Bronco and Mantis, as I have resolved that every diorama entry that I complete in 2015 will contain a 1/35-scale chicken somewhere. Yes, you read that right. A chicken. Why? Well, why not? It will help to keep me creative, hopefully help my work to be more imaginative and will hopefully also inject some fun into the process too. Besides, it's chicken. What's not to love?

So why not join me in making a similar modeling resolution? Not necessarily a chicken, of course, but a constant theme or running gag of some kind and if it is amusing, well so much the better. Not that there is anything inherently amusing about chickens I suppose, or indeed poultry in general, come to that. In fact chickens can be a serious business indeed. Just ask Colonel Sanders or Jose Luis Ochoa. Murder most fowl, perhaps?

One other thing I will definitely do as well is to complete at least one figure in a Fez; *i.e.*, the figure will be wearing a Fez, not me. My wearing a Fez while

## 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** **No meeting** due to Chile Con 3.
- 01 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no points contest.  
Sponsored Contest: "Best French Subject" (Tony Humphries)
- 05 Sep** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4**  
**SEAPLANES / AMPHIBIANS**  
Sponsored Contest: "Electronic Warfare" (Gil De La Plain)
- 03 Oct** **Speed Demons**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Assam Valley" (Don Smith)
- 07 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Russian Bombers" (Tim Wood)
- 05 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #5**  
**CORSAIRS AND MUSTANGS**  
Plus Model of the Year competition!

## Tentative 2015 Schedule—subject to change!

- 09 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: "Battle of the Bulge Plus 70" (ASM E-Board)  
Sponsored Contest: "Fanta-storical" (Josh Pals & Patrick Dick)  
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
- 06 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 06 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
[Tentative] Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries" (Mike & Matt Blohm)

**Note: A few 2015 items are now shown for planning purposes. The most up-to-date details on the contest rules, as always, are on the ASM Website:**

<http://tinyurl.com/asmsched>



modeling is a given, of course, and it is entirely appropriate (and should probably be a requirement) that I should complete such a figure, particularly given the title of this column. Again, it's something a little different and there are hopefully plenty of subjects out there that will qualify, although I haven't actually checked yet and so I could be really shooting myself in the foot here... Still, I guess there's one way to find out. Anyway, why not give something similar a try, or perhaps even sponsor a contest on your chosen theme next year? Hmm... a special contest for best Fez related subject? You may be hearing more about that shortly.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**MIKE BLOHM**

All ASM members are reminded that the December meeting includes the "ASM 2014 Model of the Year Showdown." Contending models include all the Best of Show winners from the 2014 Theme (Points) Contests and the Best Overall Winners from the 2014 Special Contests, in each of the four skill levels: Juniors, Basic, Intermediate, and Masters. You do not need to be present at the meeting, but your model does. So if you cannot attend please arrange to have someone else bring it.

The complete listing of all the eligible models is available on the *ASM Website* ([http://abqscalemodelers.com/asmcontenders\\_2014.htm](http://abqscalemodelers.com/asmcontenders_2014.htm)).

The December 5 ASM meeting will feature two guest speakers: Mr. John Perkins, a former Marine sergeant who served as an armorer with VMF-224 (F4U Corsairs) in the Pacific during WWII, and Mr. Bob Bryan, who served as a crew chief with the 357th FG (P-51D Mustangs) in Germany after WWII.

The presentation will be in a roundtable format with the guests answering questions from the audience, so please mull over what you would like them to talk about.

## FRED'S FOTO FILE

**FRED FRANCESCHI**

**Edwards AFB, 1960**

These photos were taken at Edwards Air Force Base (or is it Flight Test Center?) in May of 1960. I think I had some of these in pictures in previous Foto Files, but I've located the original slides and sorted my images by their development dates in an attempt to make their provenance more accurate.



A Douglas C-133 Cargomaster. Since this is at Edwards in 1960, it was probably the test aircraft for the C-133B. These were designed to transport strategic missiles.



A B-58 Hustler with a J-93 jet engine where the weapons pod would go. I bet this was a haulin' plane when everything was lit up. And it could make for a really interesting conversion for a modeler with a bit of scratchbuilding ambition.



A US Navy North American A-5 Vigilante. A really sleek-looking plane.

*[Editor's note: The full text of Fred's article and all of his photos from this Edwards AFB set (larger and in full resolution) are in the Bonus Pages. -JW]*

# CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE

## JOHN TATE

At the November 7 meeting there were two contests—an Open points contest, and Tim Wood’s “Russian Bombers” sponsored contest. As this was the last points contest of the year, there was a good turnout in all skill levels.

In Juniors, Aleya Montaña won a Gold, a Best of Show, and People’s Choice award for her 1/100 Gundam; and in Basic, Jeannie Garriss won a Gold, a Best of Show, and a People’s Choice for her 1/25 Fire Truck. In Intermediate, Adrian Montaña won a 1st Place, Best of Show, and People’s Choice for his striking “Thor Avengers” Sci-fi figure model. In Masters, Patrick Dick won a 1st Place, Best of Show, and People’s Choice for his 1/4105 *Battlestar Galactica* starship model.

Tim Wood split his “Russian Bombers” contest between pre- and post-1945 subjects; Larry Glenn won the pre-1945 award for his excellent 1/72 Tu-2 bomber and I picked up the post-1945 award for my 1/100 Il-28 Beagle.

The Modeler of the Year (MoY) points totals have been tallied for the November 7 Contest but the consensus of the E-Board was to hold off on public announcement of the Modeler of the Year winners until the December meeting; therefore, the final results will be published in the next newsletter. Congratulations, and thanks, to all ASM members who participated in our club contests this year.

**A reminder:** the December 5 meeting night will host two guest speakers: Bob Bryan, a USAAF vet; and John Perkins, a USMC vet—both of whom served in WWII and have agreed to appear at our club meeting to discuss their service. Mr. Bryan served as a crew chief with the 357th FG (P-51D Mustangs) in post-war Germany, and Mr. Perkins was an armorer with VMF-224, a F4U Corsair unit in the Pacific during WWII. In connection with the appearance of these gentlemen at our club meeting, there will be a club Special

Contest—Best Corsair/Best P-51 Mustang, open to any F4U Corsair or P-51 Mustang in WWII markings, with awards splits for scale and skill-level.

The previously scheduled Sponsored Contests for December—the E-Board’s contest commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge and Patrick Dick & Josh Pals’s “Fanta-Storical” contest—will be held at the January 9, 2015, club meeting, along with our club’s traditional “Moe Blalters” Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Real Space/Science special contest and Patrick Dick’s “Frickin’ Laser Beams” sponsored contest. Patrick’s “Lockheed Martin” sponsored contest will be moved to a later date in 2015, to be determined.

Please note that the 2014 “Model of the Year” contest remains scheduled for our December 5, 2014, meeting night, open to any Best of Show winner from an ASM points or Special Contest during the past calendar year.

It’s been a pleasure to serve as ASM’s Contest Director during 2014 and help judge the outstanding models placed on the club’s contest tables by our membership. With Jerry Little deciding to give this job a try, it was a good opportunity to voluntarily step aside and let a new hand take a turn running our club contests. New blood keeps our club healthy and I look forward to Jerry’s stewardship of our club contests in 2015. Remember, if you’re a new member and want to help run the club, give some thought to running for an E-Board spot in next year; all of us can benefit from your talent and new ideas.

## IN THE BONUS PAGES!

JOE WALTERS

In this month’s **Bonus Pages:**

- Photos of the winners of the November contests
- Mike Blohm’s Battleship Memorial Park Report Part 2
- All of Fred’s photos and the full text from his Edwards AFB Foto File

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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!

## NOVEMBER BEST OF SHOW WINNERS

Open Theme contest, Top to Bottom: Aleya Montaño's *Gundam* (Juniors), Jeannie Garriss's *Fire Truck* (Basic).



Judging consideration and evaluation priority:  
[http://absculmodellers.com/asm\\_model\\_entry\\_form.htm](http://absculmodellers.com/asm_model_entry_form.htm)



Top to Bottom: Adrian Montañó's *Thor* (Intermediate), Patrick Dick's *Battlestar Galactica* (Masters). These photos by Frank Randall.





Russian Bombers Sponsored Contest, Top to Bottom: Larry Glenn's Tupolev Tu-2 Bomber (pre-1945), and John Tate's Ilyushin Il-28 Beagle (Basic).



**BONUS PAGES!**  
**FRED'S FOTO FILE**  
**FRED FRANCESCHI**  
**Edwards AFB, 1960**

These photos were taken at Edwards Air Force Base (or is it Flight Test Center?) in May of 1960. I think I had some of these in pictures in previous Foto Files, but I've located the original slides and sorted my images by their development dates in an attempt to make their provenance more accurate.

On this page, a US Army C-7 Caribou utility transport, built by de Havilland Aircraft. The C-7 was later heavily used in Viet Nam.





Here we see a Douglas C-133 Cargomaster. Since this is at Edwards in 1960, it was probably the test aircraft for the C-133B. These were designed to transport strategic missiles.



Below, a Cessna T-37 "Tweet" Trainer. Cessna also made an A-37 attack version of the plane, but I don't see any underwing attachment points for ordnance in the photos.

*[Extremely Trivial Editor's Note: I flew the Tweet for four years and never saw one with that long red and white boom attached to the left wingtip of this one. However, in the late 1950s, Cessna developed the B-model of the T-37 to replace the existing T-37A in USAF service at the time. The small strakes on either side of the nose and the configuration of the empennage mark this as a T-37B, likely the plane used for testing this model. All remaining T-37As were upgraded to T-37B status from this time, so A-models are rare; I'm told one is on display at the USAF Academy in Colorado. -JW]*



A Convair F-102 “Delta Dagger,” the underperforming predecessor to the Dart. I lived in San Diego, where the F-102 and F-106 were made. My friends and I were very aware of the problems when the F-102 grossly underexceeded its design expectations. The discovery of how compressibility impacted the delta wing/fuselage section was a major news event. The engineer who discovered “area rule” and how to design around it was a hero to the many Convair employees who would otherwise have no longer been employed.



Below: Convair F-106 “Delta Dart” Fighter—Notice the “area rule” shape to the center fuselage, visible above the “U.S.” painted on the air ducts. It was called the “Coke Bottle shape” and was what changed the mediocre F-102 into a good airplane.





A US Navy North American A-5 Vigilante. A really sleek-looking plane.





A B-58 Hustler with a J-93 jet engine where the weapons pod would go. I bet this was a haulin' plane when everything was lit up. And it could make for a really interesting conversion for a modeler with a bit of scratchbuilding ambition.





# BONUS PAGES!

## FIELD TRIP

### MIKE BLOHM

#### Battleship Memorial Park - Part 2

This is part two of a multi-part trip report on a visit to Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile, Alabama, in October 2014. The park is located on the eastern edge of Mobile just off Interstate 10. This report covers the second largest attraction at the park—the submarine USS Drum.



Above: USS Drum photographed in July, 1945

Right: USS Drum's official badge

Below: The museum facility. This image is from the museum's website; USS Drum is visible at upper right. The image's tiny size implies it was placed there by someone still living in a previous century.



The USS Drum (SS-228) is a Gato-class submarine of the United States Navy, the first Navy ship named after the drum, any of various types of fish capable of making a drumming sound. She was laid down on 11 September 1940 at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine, and launched on 12 May 1941. Drum was the twelfth of the Gato class, but was the first completed and the first to enter combat in World War II. She is the oldest of her class still in

existence. She conducted thirteen patrols and received twelve battle stars, and is credited with sinking fifteen ships, a total of 80,580 tons of enemy shipping, eighth highest of all US submarines in total Japanese tonnage sunk. She was decommissioned on 16 February 1946. She went on display at Battleship Memorial Park in July 1969. She was initially moored in the waters behind the USS Alabama but was brought ashore in 1998 after being damaged by a hurricane storm surge.



The submarine is mounted on concrete blocks and you enter by climbing up a staircase near the stern to get to the deck. The self-guided tour starts by entering a hatch forward of the conning tower. The tour takes you through the various rooms from the forward torpedo room in the bow to the after torpedo room where you exit the sub in the stern—see pictures below. You can also climb up into the control room for a peek out the periscope. While you can walk around the deck below the conning tower and get a close-up look at the guns, you cannot climb up onto that area. The inside of USS Drum seems to be very well taken care of and in “shipshape.”



Plan on about an hour to tour the USS Drum section of the Park. The Park is open every day except Christmas Day, from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. in April – September and 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. in October – March. The final installment will cover the USS Alabama.

Check out the Park's website (<http://www.ussalabama.com>).

More information and photos of the USS Drum is available at:

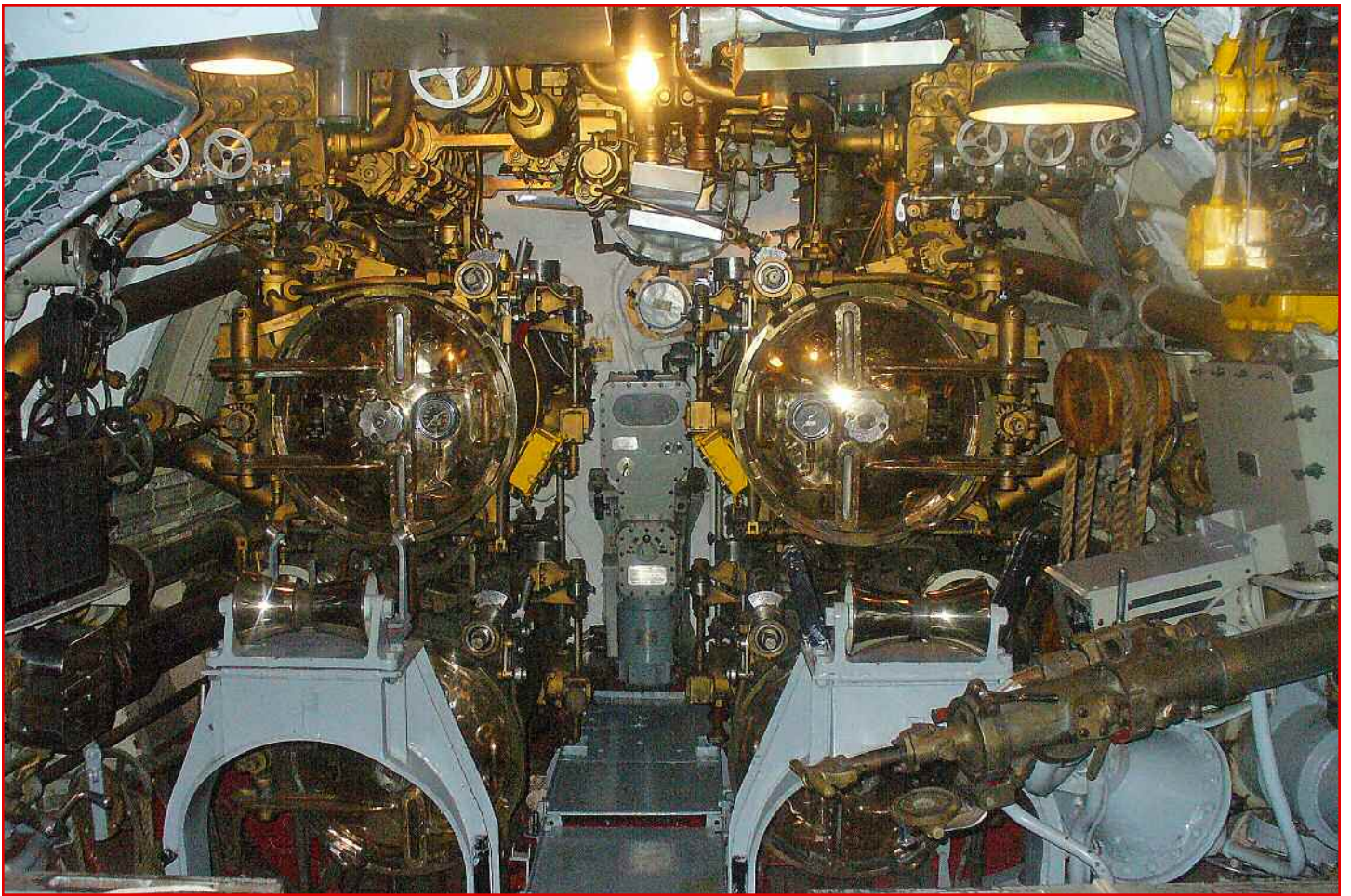
<http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/d6/drum.htm>

<http://www.navsourc.org/archives/08/08228.htm>

Photos below by Mike & Matt Blohm. More photos are available on the ASM Field Trips page of the ASM Website ([http://www.abqscalemodelers.com/asm\\_field\\_trips.htm](http://www.abqscalemodelers.com/asm_field_trips.htm)).







The Aft Torpedo Room







This page and next: Conning Tower Periscope





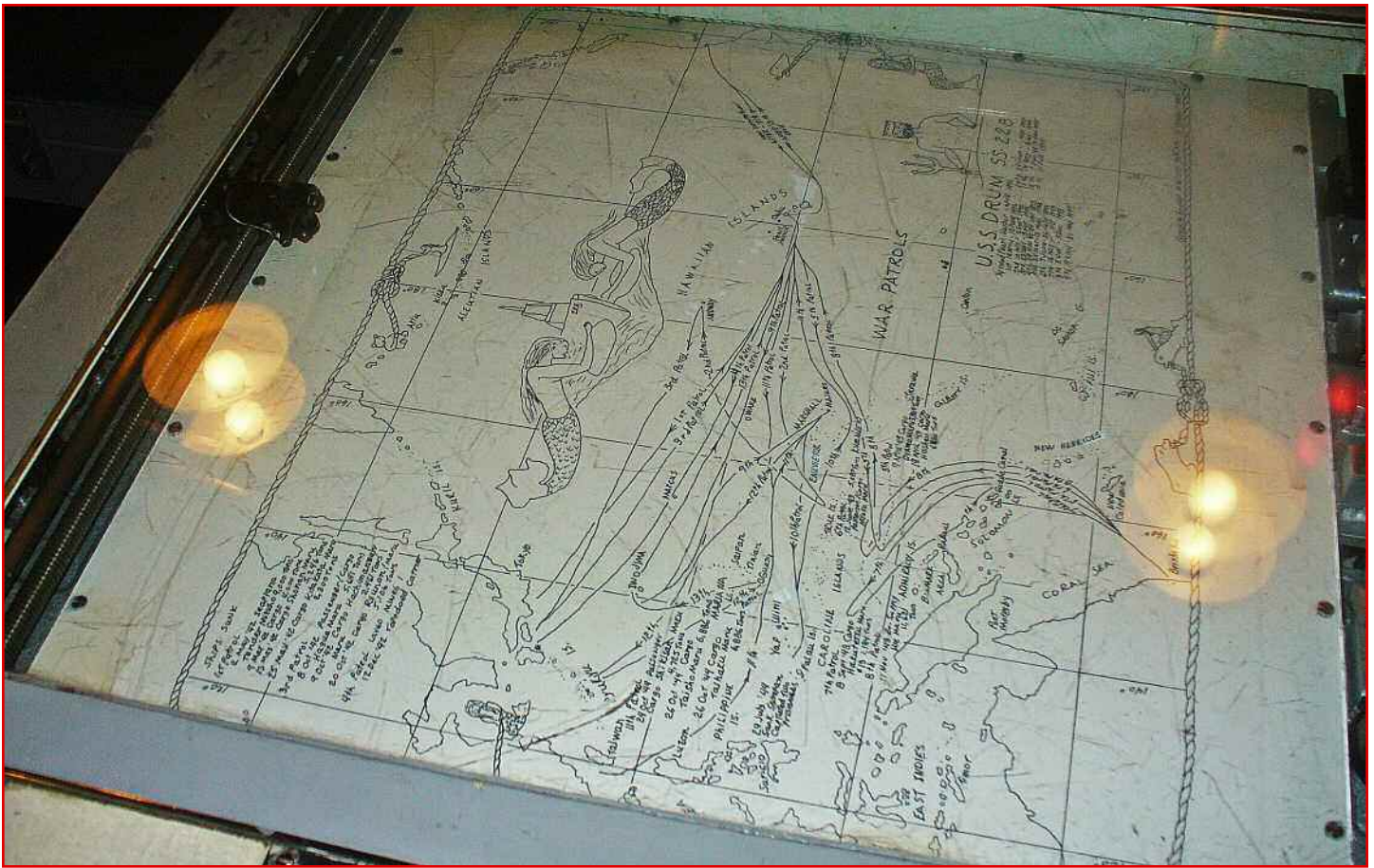


Right: Battle Banner and Flag

Below: Conning Tower Scorecard



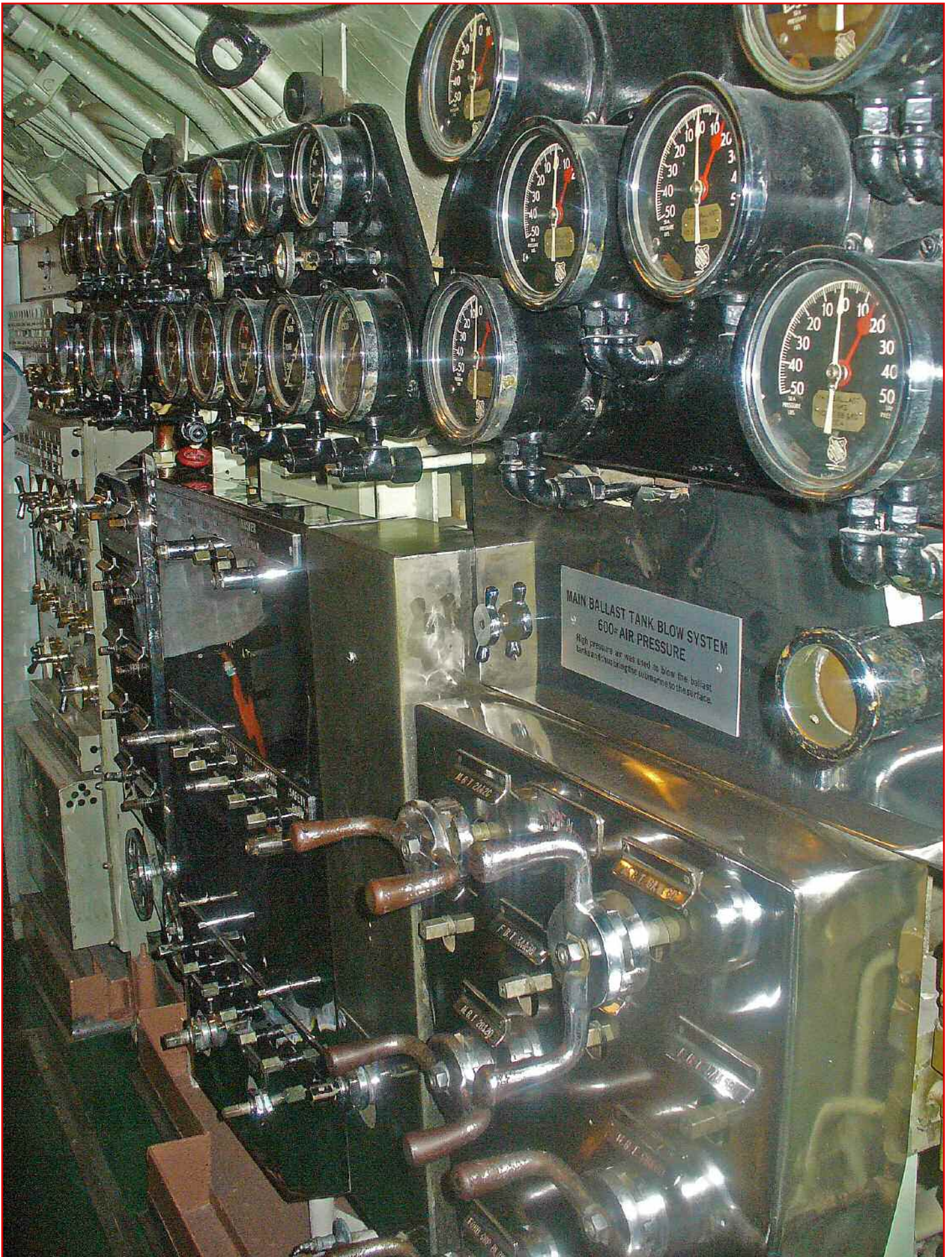




Above: Control Room Chart Table. Below and next page: Control Room.











Above: Crew Quarters. Below: Engine Room.







Above: Forward Torpedo Room. Below: Galley.







Officers' Mess.

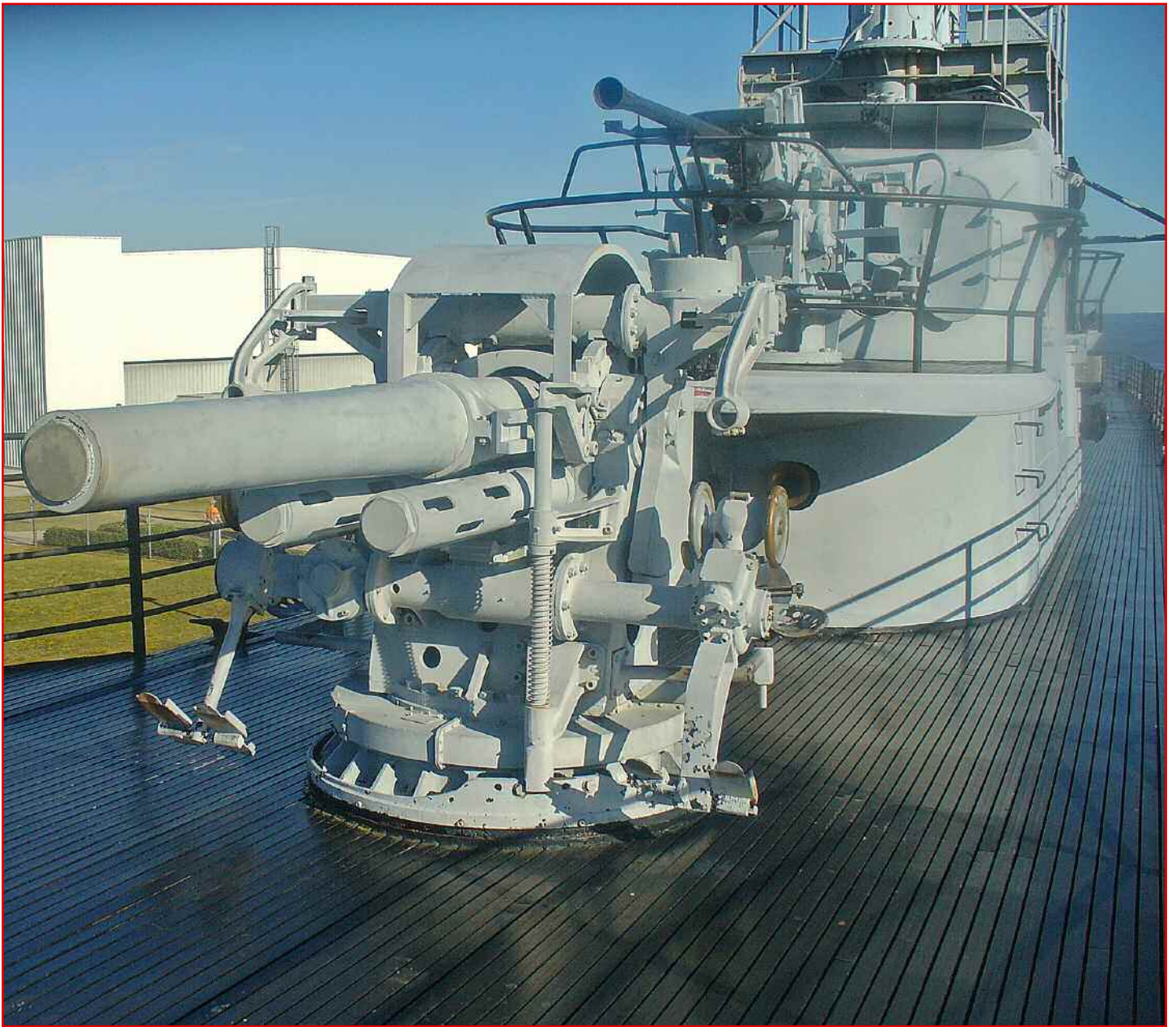




Officers' Quarters.



This page and next: USS Drum, Bow, looking aft at the Conning Tower, Bridge, and 5-inch Deck Gun.







**ENTRANCE**

START TOUR  
HERE





Above: 20mm cannon. Below: 40-mm cannon.







Aft 20mm cannons



Conning Tower and Bridge







Above: Rust repair work in progress.

Left: Upper deck, Bow looking aft.







Ship's Bell.



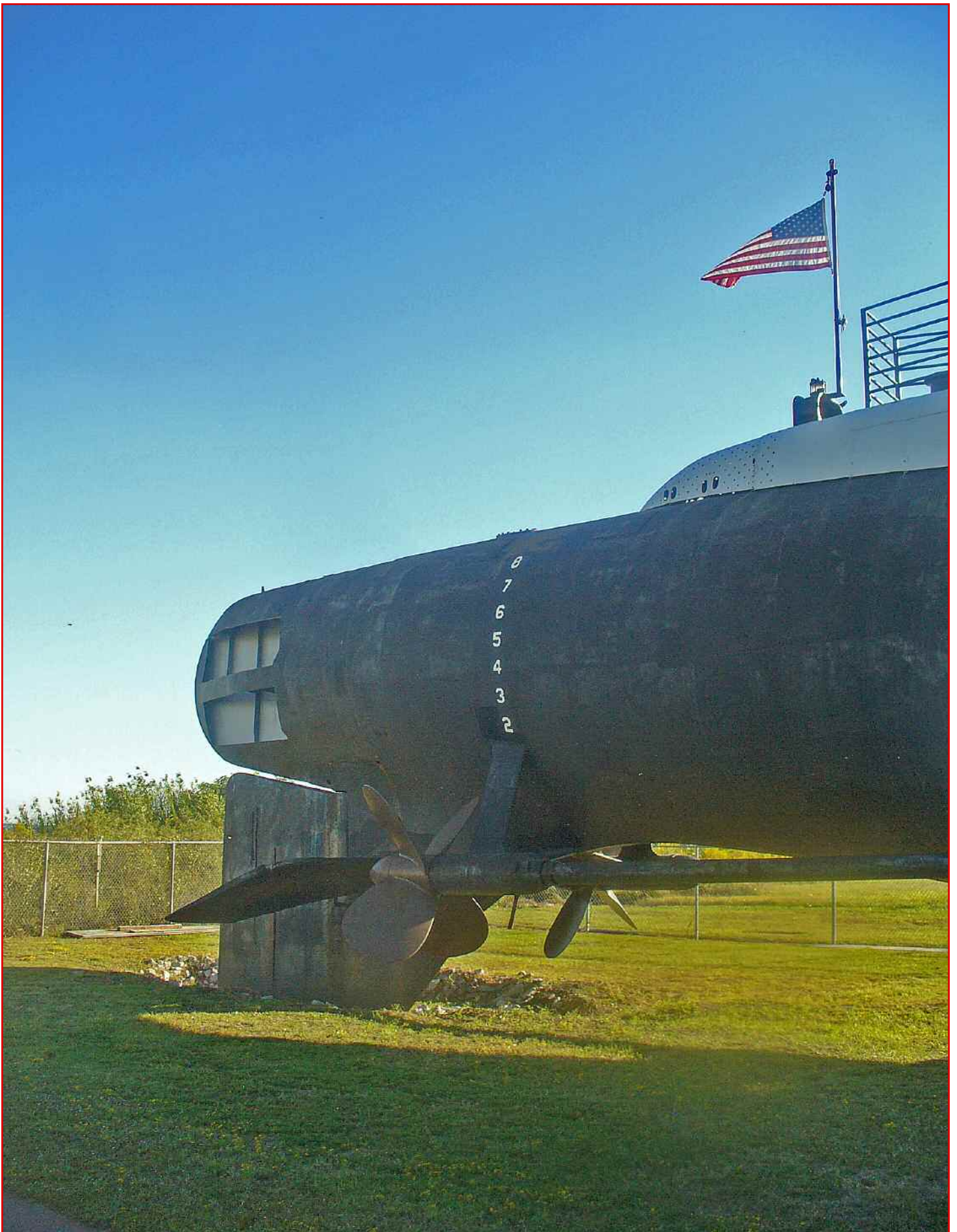


USS Drum, external views.





USS Drum, stern details









## 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](mailto:manager@ipmsusa.org)).



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