# LBUQUERQUE ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS

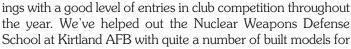
http://abgscalemodelers.com

December 2015

### THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

Well, Ho ho ho and all that. 'Tis the season to be jolly, apparently. As it is the end of the year, too, perhaps it's time to take stock, take a look around us, and see what has happened in the past year. As a club, we've had a great year. Everyone knows by now that we won Chapter of the Year at the Nationals this year, so I won't go on about that again, except to say that it is a real honor for us to have received it. We also had a successful involvement in the State Fair once again, ran our first Make & Take in a while over on the west side, have had several club day-trips, and held numerous successful meet-

November Meeting highlights, L – R: A dragon as a work in progress; members checking out the model entries; and the business meeting.



their display area, and also helped other clubs by sponsoring trophy packages at several shows including Modelzona, the Region 10 regional in Denver, and, of course, the Nationals. Thanks again to all of you who have made this possible.

Next year I hope that we can continue this and expand our meetings to include more presentations, trip reports etc. (any volunteers?) since we have now purchased our own projector to avoid having to borrow or hire one. We will also have more clinics next year and have given you the chance to vote on the competition categories that you want to see in the forthcoming year. So,

there's no excuse for not building for them now!

This year has also sadly seen some of the giants of the hobby, such as Shep Paine, pass on. He will be greatly missed I am sure. Having read all of the glowing tributes, I was think-



myself to a man like Shep. That would be colossal arrogance on my part, and he was clearly more talented than I could ever be, but it did get me thinking. I decided that when they come to bury me, I hope that:

- a) I'm actually dead at the time. Otherwise, things could get a little undignified and there may be some significant unpleasantness.
- b) Two members at the following club meeting will perform a modified version of Monty Python's "The Parrot Sketch" (i.e., "He is an ex-modeler, he has ceased to be. He has gone off to join the choir invisible..." etc.). That would be

quite fitting, I think. Although, for anyone who knows the sketch (and if you don't you should), I'd be surprised if anyone goes as far as complimenting me on my lovely plumage.



c) Not too many people are cursing my name or burning effigies of me in the parking lot. Remember, we have regular no-burn notices here in New Mexico and you wouldn't want to get arrested, I'm sure. Although if you haven't made any enemies, then you probably haven't actually done anything worthwhile, so at least a small amount of dancing on my grave is to be hoped for, really.

When reading other chapter newsletters, I often read about the passing of one of their members and they say things such as "he was at times difficult/gruff/whatever, but had a great sense of humor." This is obvious shorthand for "he was a grumpy old bastard." So please bear that in mind and don't be that bastard. We don't want to have to write faint damning praise about you when your turn comes! Let's be an open and friendly club at all times and leave good memories behind.

Talking of unnecessary grumpiness (but at least on a slightly more optimistic note), we now have a Facebook page of our own. There is little posted as yet but if you have anything that you'd like to be there, let me know and I will add it. Look for Albuquerque Scale Modelers and send the page a Friend Request if you want to be able to post things yourself too. Note that I will be keeping a close eye on postings on there, however, and only modeling and related topics will be tolerated. So, no politics, cat videos, or scantily clad women. Well, okay, I take that last one back, but none of the other stuff please...

We also have an official email address for the club now (abqscalemodelers@gmail.com).

So we have finally dragged ourselves into the second decade of the 21st Century. I'm sure there will be much rejoicing. Okay, now go forth and build for the coming year's competitions! Let there be styrene. And glue. And much more besides. Hurrah and Merry Christmas/Happy Holidays everyone!

# VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT MIKE BLOHM

December is the "Model of the Year Showdown" contest, so please be sure to bring your Best of Show winners in to

#### Year 2015 Contest Quick Reference Chart Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points 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. **O6 Mar** Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale. 03 Apr Special Contest #2: "April Fools" ■ **01 May** May Day—Any kit/subject/scale. **05 Jun** Rotary Wing—Any kit/subject/scale. Sponsored Contest: "Lockheed Martin" (Patrick Dick) 10 Jul Special Contest #3: 1945 Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries" (Mike & Matt Blohm) **07 Aug ASM Swap Meet**—no contest. **04 Sep** Trainers—Any kit/subject/scale. Sponsored Contest: "It's All Greek to Me" (Gil De La Plain) **02 Oct Nuclear Winters**—Any kit/subject/scale Sponsored Contest: "Hawker Aircraft" (John Tate) Sponsored Contest: "Nuclear Heritage Model Display" (Defense Nuclear Weapons School Museum) **06 Nov** Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale. Sponsored Contest: "Best Little Fokker" (Don Smith) **04 Dec** Sponsored Contest: "Steampunk" (Jerry Little) Plus Model of the Year competition! Note: The most complete and up-to-date details on the contests, as well as detailed rules, as always, are on the ASM Website: http://tinyurl.com/asmsched

compete. You don't have to be at the meeting, but your model does. So if you cannot attend, please arrange to have someone else bring your models to the meeting to participate in the competition. Check the *ASM Website*'s "Model of the Year" webpage for a listing of all the contenders in the four divisions of each contest during 2015 (http://tinyurl.com/asm1512a).

The January Contest is the annual "Moe Blalters Sci-Fi, Real Space, Science and Fantasy" Special Contest, so I hope you are building something cool for that. Joe and I will have some special awards for our "favorite entries." See picture of the 2015 awards. And to follow Just Staff tradition, these cool awards will be presented six months later when the Earth has traveled 180 degrees in its orbit from the position in which the contest occurred...

The entire 2016 ASM Contest Schedule is posted on the Website and published here in the Bonus Pages. Looks like



some pretty good contest topics that hit everybody's interests. Please note the 2016 New Mexico State Fair display theme of "Desert Storm." Folks should have model subjects that fit that category—any vehicle, aircraft, figure, ship, etc. that participated in that operation. If not, you have nine months to get building one.

# THE FINER POINTS JERRY LITTLE

Well, November was the final points contest for the year! Since November settled the points tally for Modeler of the Year, it's only fitting that in December, we'll have the opportunity to pick our Model of the Year from all of the year's Best of Show models. A quick trip over to the ASM Website and you can see all the models eligible for inclusion in the event. Everyone should remember that in order for the model to be considered as a "Model of the Year," it has to be present at the meeting on December 4. The model builder doesn't have to be there but the model does!

Having an Open contest in November always promises to bring a lot of models to the table. That was the case at the last club contest. Everyone was trying for those last few precious points to push their tally over the top. Everyone brought their A-game as well. In Basic, Kyle McIntyre brought a massive German Submarine in 1/2 scale that earned him a Best of Show and People's Choice in that category. This model was outstanding and demonstrated the effort and talent Kyle has started to acquire in building models. U-552 is a type VIIC U-boat that was the workhorse of the German "Wolf Pack" Kriegsmarine in WWII. It was built by Blohm & Voss in 1940 in Hamburg, Germany. U-552 had a nickname of the "Roter Teufel" or "Red Devil," based on the ship's mascot. Life in the U-boats was treacherous; however, U-552 lasted more than three years with at least 35 sunken ships to her credit to include the USS Reuben James (first US ship lost in WWII). Roter Teufel was scuttled in 1945 to prevent the boat from falling into enemy hands.

Another Best of Show winner represented by a submarine was John Tate's Delta III-class Soviet Navy submarine in the **Masters** division. Interest-

### FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

#### Steampunk

December is Steampunk month, and I recently stumbled onto a really good Steampunk television show on the Ovation channel. It's called *The Artful Detective*, and is produced in Canada. It takes place in about 1895-1905, and Detective Murdoch invents the 1890s versions of current objects to help him solve cases. His taser gun is about the size of an M-16, with wires all over the outsides. And instead of email dating, he solves a case where teletype operators at different stations are doing remote dating (you do know what a teletype is, I hope). If you like Steampunk and can get the Ovation channel, it's well worth watching.

If a gasoline or diesel locomotive was capable of being invented in the Steampunk era, it would look like the C-415. Boxy, ugly and clunky, it shows none of the grace and power of other diesel locos. Any other diesel locos. I took photos of one that operated at the Saugus train station with an F-7 in May, 1974. It was so ugly that I had to take pictures. The beauty of the F-7 it was coupled with makes the C-415 appear even uglier.



Above: The C-415 in all its glory.



The F-7 was sure a beautiful loco.

[Editor's note: The full text of Fred's article and several more rail-road photos (larger and in higher resolution) can be found in the Bonus Pages. -JW]

#### Year 2016 Contest Quick Reference Chart Subject to Change! Details in the **Bonus Pages** Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points **08 Jan** Special Contest #1: Sci-Fi/Science/Real Space/Fantasy Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick) **05 Feb ASM Swap Meet**—no contest. **04 Mar** Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale. **01 Apr** Rescue Me!—Any kit/subject/scale. **06 May Anniversaries**—Any kit/subject/scale. 03 Jun Special Contest #2: Presidents Sponsored Contest: "Northrup Grumman" (Patrick Dick) **08 Jul** Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale. **05** Aug ASM Swap Meet—no contest. **02 Sep Captured!**—Any kit/subject/scale. Sponsored Contest: "Gil's Pick" (Gil De La Plain) **07 Oct Empire of the Sun—Japan**—Any kit/subject/scale from the World Wars Sponsored Contest: "Hawker Aircraft" (John Tate) Sponsored Contest: "Nuclear Heritage Model Display" (Defense Nuclear Weapons School Museum) **04 Nov** Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale. Sponsored Contest: "Big 'Uns" (Tim Wood) **02 Dec** *Model of the Year* competition! Note: The most complete and up-to-date details on the contests, as well as detailed rules, as always, are on the ASM Website: http://tinyurl.com/asmsched

ingly enough, even though the Delta IIIs are an older submarine ('70s era), there appears to still be one in active service. That's one way to get a bang for your buck... albeit a rather large bang! Also in Masters, the People's Choice went to another ship, and that was Glenn Bingham's LSM-212. This ship was of the Landing Class-Medium variety that saw action in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and earned a battle star for action in WWII, most famously in the assault on Okinawa in 1945. This was the "Last Battle of WWII," also known as Operation Iceberg. LSM-212 was decommissioned in 1946, sold

off as a barge, and was sunk in 1963 while operating in Hawaii.

In the **Intermediate** division, Steve Brodeur earned a Best of Show and People's Choice for his version of the Revell ½s-scale Fokker D.VII. This kit came out in 1996 and had a somewhat dubious past. It joined the ranks of the three previous offerings from Revell: the DR.1, the Spad XIII, and the Sopwith Camel. By all accounts, the D.VII was the worst of the bunch losing, out to the 1950s era threesome. Why ½s??? Who knows, but the D.VII was the last of that breed. Steve did a phenomenal job on the kit for his well-earned awards!

So November was the last points contest of the year and it turned out to be a great one. The points were as close as the probably ever were and each and every model on the table contributed to a great example of what makes ASM a great club!

#### **The Final Point**

When we look back on what made our year so enjoyable as a club one of the things that stands out are the monthly contest. Part of what makes that great is the contribution everyone makes to make those contest work. It starts with a good schedule! Last meeting I asked everyone to vote on possible themes for next year and we had over 25 members cast their ballots. That is a great input for a couple of reasons; first, it means everyone gets a say in what we build and second, most of the club participates! We were even able to get a few votes from those who were at Modelzona in Phoenix. That said, the top vote-getters were "Captured!" and "Empire of the Rising Sun—Japan." These, along with the others will make for a great year in 2016.

## IN THE BONUS PAGES! JOE WALTERS

In this month's **Bonus Pages**:

- Contest themes for 2016 model contests
- Photos of the November contest winners
- The full text and photos of Fred's Foto File
- Larry Glenn's report on Modelzona



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# BONUS PAGES! 2016 CONTEST THEMES JERRY LITTLE

- Maximum of three entries per modeler at Points contests, excluding Works-in-Progress
- Three Works-In-Progress entries allowed at each meeting (2 points per WIP entry)
- Five entries allowed per modeler at Special Contests (Non-points)
- Number of entries in a Sponsored Contest is up to the contest host
- State Fair contest entries earn 50 points per model / 25 points for display; maximum of 3 models.
- All "Theme" contests are open to all entries

#### January 8: Special Contest—Real Space/Science/Sci-Fi/Fantasy (Non-Points).

Annual "Moe Blalters" special contest In honor of our longtime ASM Just Staff and Sci-Fi & Fantasy enthusiasts, Joe Walters and Mike Blohm, contest open to any subject, any scale, within theme. Examples include a Mercury space capsule, dinosaur, X-Wing fighter, or fantasy figure. Be creative!

Sponsored Contest: Frickin' Laser Beams (Patrick Dick). Any subject involving lasers!

February 5: ASM Swap Meet–No contest. Bring your surplus kits to sell or swap!

March 4: Points Contest #1. Open Contest. Open to any kit, any subject, any scale.

#### April 1: Points Contest #2. Rescue Me!

Open to any subject, any scale or any kit that depicts First Responders. This theme represents any subject that is the first in during a crisis. This could be Special Ops figures, Ambulances, Aerial Firefighters or even Armor recovery vehicles. This could include military or civilian subjects in all genres!

#### May 6: Points Contest #3. Anniversaries.

Open to any subject, any scale or any kit that represents the anniversaries of 2016. Subjects from the 100th, 75th, 50th or 25th years. That includes things like WWI (1916), WWII (1941), the Flower Power '60s (1966) or even the '90s (1991).

#### June 3: **Special Contest—Presidents** (Non-Points).

Open to any subject or any scale named after a US President. This also includes any vehicles used specifically by a President. This includes Air Force One, Marine Corp One, a Presidential Limo, or even a Presidential Yacht.

Sponsored Contest: Northrup Grumman (Patrick Dick). Any Northrup Grumman subject or scale.

#### July 8: Points Contest #4. Open Contest.

Open to any kit, any subject, any scale

August 5: Swap Meet and Clinic Round Table—No Contest. Surplus kit sale. Basic modeling clinic set up to allow members to move from table to table during the demonstrations.

#### September 2: Points Contest #5. Captured!

Any subject or any scale that is finished in markings other than that of the country that designed the item. These are machines that were captured or left behind and reused, tested or displayed.

Sponsored Contest: Gil's Pick (Gil De La Plain). Anything, subject or scale that Gil wants.

#### September 8 – 18: **2016** New Mexico State Fair. Theme: Desert Storm.

Any subject or scale that represents vehicle that participated in Operation Desert Storm.

#### October 7: Points Contest #6. Empire Of The Sun—Japan.

Any subject, scale or kit that represents Japan during the World Wars. These should be subjects that reflect the Japanese culture and their effort during the period leading up to and including World War II. The theme is open to anything Nippon to include military, civilian and shogun warriors.

#### November 4: Points Contest # 7. Open Contest.

Open to any kit, any subject, any scale.

Sponsored Contest: Big 'Uns (Tim Wood). Any subject or scale over 18 inches.

December 2: ASM 2016 MODEL OF THE YEAR CONTEST.

### A LITTLE PHOTOSHOP MAGIC JOE WALTERS

At the November meeting, Jerry Little was taking (and giving back) some razzing for his choice of shirts for the evening, evidently showing support for one side of an upcoming football contest which was not so supported by some members. I offered to Photoshop him into a Texas Longhorns shirt instead, which got a positive response. So here you go! The original is on the left; I took the Texas logo and text from an actual shirt design I found on Google Images. Took about five minutes.





# Bonus Pages! November Best-of-Show Winners

Top to bottom: Kyle McIntyre's *Type VIIC U-Boat* (Basic); Steve Brodeur's *Fokker D.VII* (Intermediate).





Top to Bottom: John Tate's *Delta III Submarine* (Masters); Victor Maestas's *Fokker Dr.I Triplane* (Best Little Fokker sponsored contest). Photos by Frank Randall.





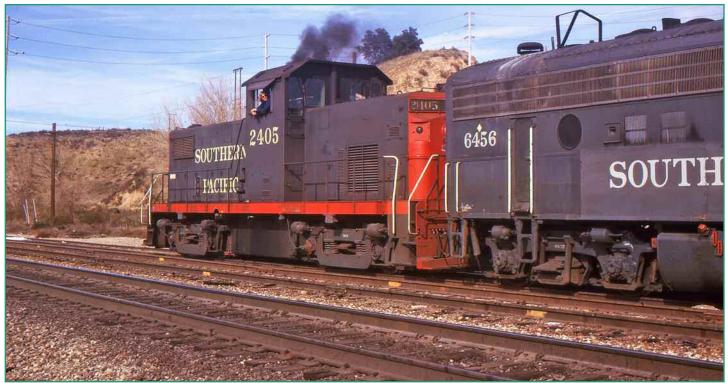
### BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE

### FRED FRANCESCHI

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The C-415 in all its glory.

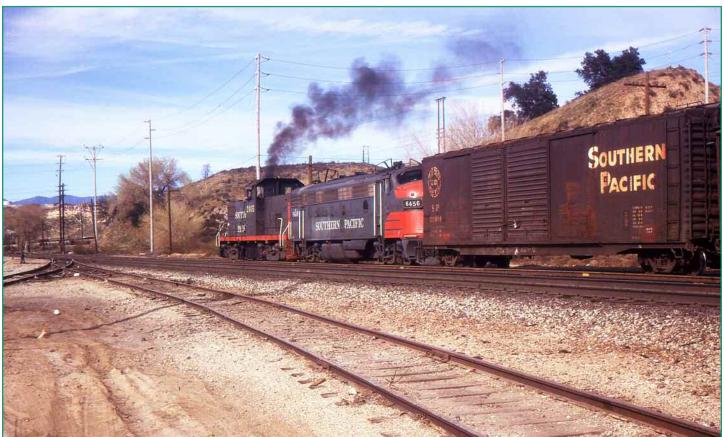
The F-7 was sure a beautiful loco.





Several more "together" shots.





For those among us who like locomotives, here is another photo of the F-7 from a different view.

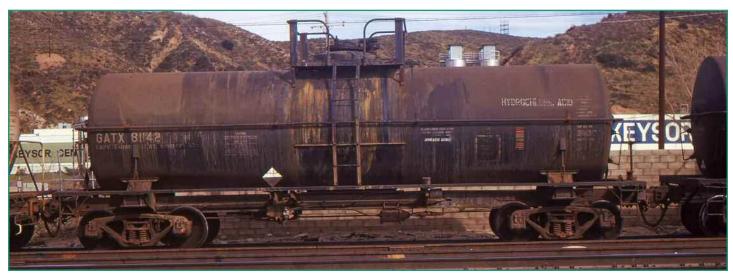


(Below) Here is the train with the caboose coupled, probably headed back to Los Angeles. Cabooses were the train crew's home and office away-from-home, but got eliminated in exchange for some other union benefit. It must have been sometime after these photos were taken.



These are some of the tank cars used at the local industrial site. That manufacturing facility produced the vinyl used for the vinyl records that were the sound recording medium at the time. When vinyl records ceased to exist, so did this company. Those of you who think that cassettes are an ancient recording medium "just don't know." Are vinyl records considered "Steampunk?"







#### ADDENDUM: COMMENTARY BY FRED HORKY

#### **Biplanes**

[Fred Horky operates a service whereby he receives PDF newsletters from IPMS chapters around the world, and forwards them to everyone on his mailing list. He almost always includes some commentary, which is quite entertaining. Along with his forward of our November newsletter, he included this commentary on Fred's Foto File on Biplanes. -JW]



I will have to correct Fred's I.D. on one picture, however. He identifies the trainer at left as a "Stearman." Actually, it's one of almost a thousand N3N trainers that the Navy built for itself at the Naval Aircraft Factory, which for many years was part of the Philadelphia Navy Yard (the first "N" translates as "trainer," the last as being built by the Navy, and the "3" as the third Navy design). The Navy purchased many Stearman trainers as well: as the 2nd Stearman trainer designed [was] purchased, it was designated the N2S. There are many structural and detail differences, but comparing vertical fin and rudder shapes is the easiest way to tell N3N from N2S.

According to historians the N3N (at right) was officially named the "Canary." But it has always been called the "Yellow Peril"—not because they were dangerous, but if a trainee "...could not solo in a specified amount of time he was in peril of not becoming an aviator." That's what the link said, anyway. I always thought it was because the student was a peril to himself and everybody else.

The N3N holds the distinction of being the last biplane flown in the US military, anywhere. They were also operated on floats, most especially at the Naval Academy for aviation orientation training. The one pictured here hangs in the NASM's Udvar-Hazy annex, near Washington's Dulles Airport in Virginia. N3Ns were retired from the Academy in 1961.

http://www.militaryaircrafthistorian.com/n3n.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval Aircraft Factory N3N





But I made a related identification mistake as well! In the brief scene showing Indiana Jones escaping pursuers in a float biplane at the beginning of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, I'd thought the plane was an N3N. Remember that scene—the little biplane where Jones had to share his open cockpit with the pilot's pet snake?

But the Indiana Jones Wikipedia (there's a Wiki for everything!) and the Internet Movie Plane Data Base quickly identified that Jones escape as being made in another old classic, the Waco UBF-2. I also learned that while the Waco's real registration was N13075, the fictitious "OB-CPO" registration was actually a movie-maker's tongue-in-cheek inside joke poking fun at the Star Wars franchise: "Obi-Wan" and "C3PO." I hadn't caught that one, either. And can it really be thirty-four years since that movie entertained us?

# BONUS PAGES! MODELZONA 2015 LARRY GLENN

#### Modelzona at the Commemorative Air Force Museum

On November 7, 2015, Jack Garriss and I attended Modelzona 2015 conducted by the IPMS Craig Hewitt Chapter, Phoenix, Arizona, at the Commemorative Air Force museum in Mesa, Arizona. The model show and contest was a one-day affair, roughly coinciding with the hours of the museum, 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The fees were the regular admission fee to the museum and a \$4.00 fee for registration of models for five models and \$1.00 for each model in excess of five models.

Online model registration forms assisted with the smooth and relatively quick registration upon the opening of the museum at 10:00, although it appeared that the museum and registration had begun earlier. I arrived at 9:45 and the museum was open and the tables were already full of models. The tables for the models were located in the display hangar of the museum. Registration was held until about 1:00 P.M. when the judging began.

The contestants had the museum displays and the Commemorative Air Force aircraft to occupy our time during the judging, including admission to a C-45 and B-17. I had never been through a B-17 and it was fascinating. I was struck by how small and cramped the interior was of such a large plane. I have more respect for the crews of those planes and the hardship they went through during the war.

Judging was completed about 4:00 and the awards (medals) were distributed to the winning models on the table. Special awards were announced with photographs displayed of the models winning the special awards. After a short time of inspecting and photographing the winning models, every thing was packed up and we were out of the museum by about 5:00.



The show was smoothly run (these guys have been doing this show for several years and have a Nationals under their belt, so they knew how to run a show) even though there was a record 555 models that were registered. Jack and I had a good time (I even managed to bring home a couple of medals which made the drive a little more palatable). The weather was great, warm enough for shorts but not too hot.

Photos of the model show and of some of the Commemorative Air Force aircraft are attached. By the way, many of the CAF aircraft are available for rides for a small fee. For ex-

ample, a ride in the nose of the B-17 is \$850, but a ride in the waist is only \$425. Rides are also available in a B-25; an SNJ; a PT-17 (they have six flying models, but only one is available for rides); a C-45; a C-47 (although the particular plane saw action during WWII, it was later sold and used as an executive transport by Hoover Vacuum Corp. The interior remains in the executive transport fittings.); and an L-16. The L-16 is the bargain for only \$95.

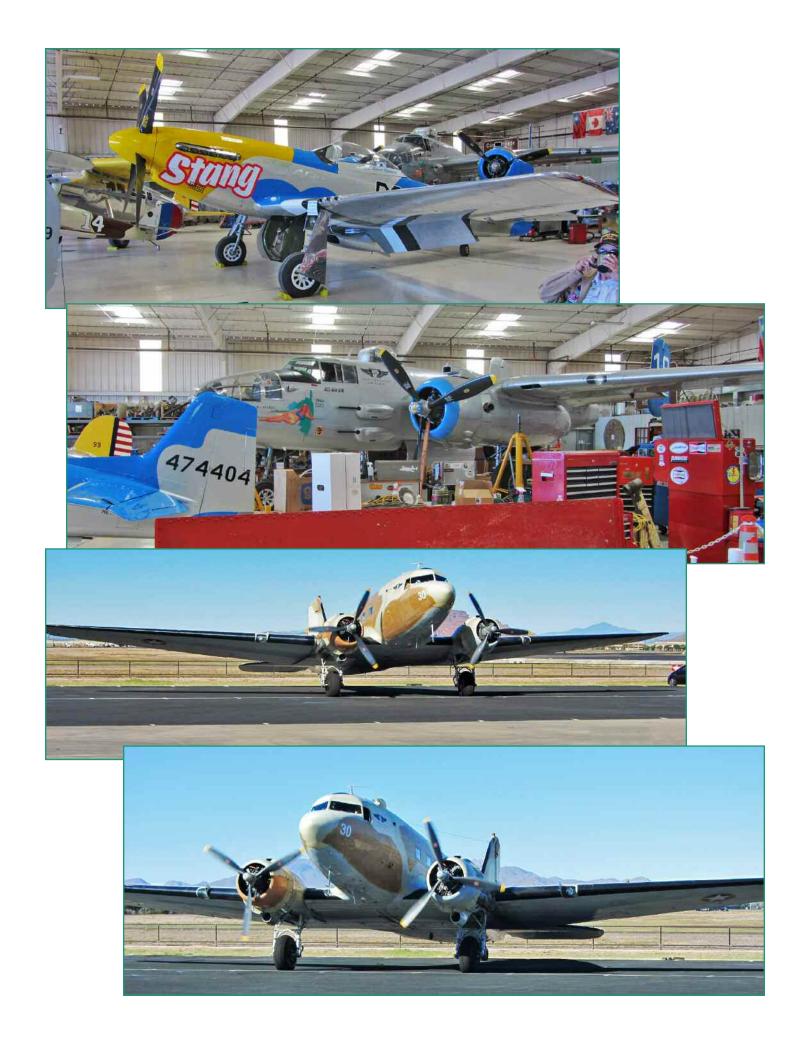






























Right: Category sponsored by Jack Garriss







Above: Category sponsored by Larry Glenn











Above: Category sponsored by Albuquerque Scale Modelers











### 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).

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