

# VICE-PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS JAMES GULD

I only have a few items to discuss.

First off, we are getting low on models for the raffle. If you would like to donate please contact me either by EMail or at the meeting. We have enough to probably get us through April. Thanks.

We are also working on moving up the Mall Show at Cottonwood Mall to April. This would help promote the Chile Con in May. We are also planning on letting shoppers vote on the models making it a People's Choice award and awarding points to the winner just like we do for our regular contests.

I'm working on the idea of having either a Make-&-Take at Hobby Lobby here in Santa Fe or just a clinic. I would also like to do the same for the Hobby Lobbys in Albuquerque, but need some volunteers to do it. If you're interested please contact me.

### FROM THE JUDGE'S CHAMBERS KEN LIOTTA

Hello, my fellow model builders. Thank you for placing your trust in me to return as ASM's Contest Director. It is great to be back and I look forward to serving all of my fellow club members to the absolute best of my abilities. It has always been my desire to share with you the enjoyment we all get out of building, talking, trading, and admiring the plastic models that we build. Be it an F6F Hellcat, an SdKfz. 251/9, or an YZR-M1, I look forward to talking models with all of you. And serving on your E-board once again brings me that much closer to the ASM membership.

One significant aspect of ASM is our almost monthly contests. They have become an important feature of our organization. Unfortunately, too many modelers, both outside and inside of the club, have looked upon us as overly contest-driven. And that is not the case. ASM covers a lot of plastic model building ground, from clinics on applying decals, to guest speakers that have



January meeting highlights, L – R: the new E-board gets ready to start the meeting; the raffle table is set up and ready (no, the Millennium Falcon wasn't raffled!).



actually flown warbirds during World War II. We have swap meets, raffles, distressed kit auctions, mall shows, etc., etc., not to mention a fairly substantial website presence and a colorful and comprehensive monthly newsletter (by the way, many thanks and appreciations go to Joe Walters and Mike Blohm for putting in many hours of their own time to make these two such successes). But yes, we still do host model contests. We meet 12 times a year, and of those meetings we host ten monthly contests. I view my job as being responsible to all of you, the membership, to ensure that these contests are conducted in as smooth, complete, enjoyable and fair manner as absolutely possible—and to make sure the playing field is as evenly presented as possible.

A few years back, in my previous tenure as ASM's CD, I drew up what is now the club's current Contest Guidelines. They have had a few modifications since then and I am reviewing them once again to see if they need further revision to more closely reflect the way we conduct our monthly contests. These guidelines are a compilation of several years of contest evolution within ASM and I, as your representative, believe they are a fair representation of how we collectively would like our contests to be conducted. Once I have had a chance to

complete this task, I would like to invite all of you to review these guidelines on our website. And if you do not have Internet access, please, please feel comfortable enough to come up to me and ask if I can get a printed copy for you. I would like each and every one of our club members to be comfortable with how we conduct our monthly contests and feel even more confident that all of you receive equal and fair treatment as contest participants.

> It is imperative that the part about fair treatment be based upon fair and impartial judging. This is why I am committed to ensuring that experienced model builders with demonstrated ability to observe and judge with the utmost impartiality towards the model's builder assist with the judging duties. I firmly believe that a model entered in a contest must never be judged by who its builder is, but rather by how well it has been built and how it stands on its own merits, both good

and bad. And of course, prospective judges must also be able to recognize top quality craftsmanship in plastic model building. They must understand and recognize all of what are known as "the basics." If the knowledge needed to perform this task is not present, the member must be capable and willing to learn this. And I am happy to provide any needed instruction in this area. I welcome any member that feels they can fit these qualifications to step up and let me know they would like to participate in these duties.

#### January's Sci-Fi/Real Space/ Fantasy Contest

We had a total of nine models entered—two Juniors, four Intermediate and three Masters—a respectable number of models and all of which were very enjoyable to observe.

Hey, Basic model builders, "Heeeelllloooooooo!" We are in desperate need to know that you are all still alive. Please, bring models to the meetings.

New modeler Margaret Ornelar received the "Best Juniors Entry" and "People's Choice" awards for her fabulously painted Polar Lights Godzilla model. John Pattison's spectacular Garage Resin Kit "Aries" female fantasy figure rewarded him with both the "Best Intermediate" and "People's Choice" awards. And Mike Mc-Nichol earned the "Best Masters," "People's Choice," and "Best Overall" awards for his expertly rendered 25mm Dragon figure. Congratulations to these modelers for some excellent work in your classes. And thanks to all members that brought in models for entry *and* display.

### February—SWAP MEET Month (no contest)

This is our traditional "Swap Meet" month where all members have an opportunity to thin the herd, clean out the closet, or just "Git rid o' some models." While there will not be any contest, please remember that you are welcome to bring models in for display *and* for "Works In Progress" points. You can earn a total of six "Works In Progress" points (two for each model, maximum of three models) each month, Swap Meet months included!

#### March—Open Contest

This will be the first contest of the year that will award points for participation *and* especially for placing. It is an Open Contest theme, which means that *all* models that have *not placed* in a previous club points contest or last years IPMS/USA Nationals are eligible (Models that have only placed in a "Special" or "Sponsored" contest *are* still eligible for a points contest). We look forward to seeing all of your wonderful creations. So sling some glue and slap some paint on. Let's see that plastic!

### **Contest Schedule for 2006**

Note: All "Theme" contests are open to *all* entries. However only models that match the theme are eligible for the "Best of Show" awards in each skill level for that night, and will subsequently become eligible for the "Model of the Year" competition showdown in December.

- Jan 6 Special Contest #1 "Sci-Fi / Real Space / Fantasy." Any subject or scale in the realms of science fiction (Star Wars, Star Trek, etc.), actual (real) space exploration (Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Shuttle, etc.); or fantasy, including anime subjects (Gundams, Robotech, etc.) Non-Points
- Feb 3 ASM Swap Meet (No Contest).
- Mar 3 Theme: **"Open Contest #1."** All scales, subjects and eras. **Points Contest**
- Apr 7 Theme: "Best Kitai." Let's visit Japan's WWII Army Air Force. Looking for the best Ki aircraft. Ki-21, -48, -61, -109, etc. Points Contest
- Apr 28 Theme: **"Flying Boats, Amphibians, and Hulls."** PBYs, AMTRACs, and Tarawa class are examples of this theme. **Points Contest** *Workshop: Brush painting models (John Tate)*

- Jun 2 **Special Contest #2 "The Best Two-fer."** Any era, any scale, any manufacturer twinengine prop aircraft. **Non-Points** *Workshops: Photo-etching, Resin Casting (instructors TBA)*
- Jul 7 Theme: "Italian Wonders." Any era, any subject, any scale model of a subject designed, built or operated by Italy (G.50, M13/40, Ferrari F-40, Ducati 916, etc., applicable figures included). Points Contest Workshops: Weathering; Zimmeritt application (instructors TBA)
- Aug 4 ASM Swap Meet (No Contest).
- Sep 8 Theme: "Armies of the 1900s." The best tank, APC, jeep, artillery, forward observer, soldier, cavalry, or helicopter. If it fought for one of the world's Armies, build it! Points Contest Workshop: Figure painting
- Oct 6 Theme: **"Eastern Europe, 1950 1990."** Best aircraft, armor, or whatever; designed, built, or operated in Eastern Europe from 1950 to 1990. **Points Contest** Sponsored Contest: Babefest (Ken Liotta) Workshops Homemade Tools—Show & Tell; Attaching "itty-bitty" Pieces



MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center 2020 Menaul NE, Albuquerque NM 87107 Nov 3 Theme: **"Open Contest #2."** All scales, subjects and eras. **Points Contest** 

Sponsored Contest: "F-teen." The best: 1). F-14 (Keith Liotta); 2). F-15 (Ken Liotta); 3). F-16 (Frank Randall); and 4). F-18 (Brian Peck) Best model award for each aircraft.

Dec 1 **Special Contest #3**, **"Best Zero."** Looking for the best A6M or variant. Any scale and any manufacturer. **Non-Points** 

"Model of the Year" competition amongst the Best of Show winners at each skill level from all the 2006 Theme, Special, and Sponsored Contests.

## JIM'S SPRUES & REVIEWS JAMES GULD

This month I thought I would tell you about my Christmas booty.

I picked up the following over the holidays: "Conversion and Scratch Building of Model Figures" by Andrea Press. It covers how to convert figures along with a list of materials and tools commonly used. It also has a section on human anatomy and teaches you the basics of form. Looks like it will come in handy.

Now moving onto the armor books. I picked up the Tankograd book on the KV-1. This is part two on the late variants, which covers most of what Trumpeter, have released so far. It has 1/35-scale plans and interior and exterior photos. Highly recommended. The next two are from Kagero—one on the Hetzer (vol. 1) and one on the Sd. Kfz 234 armored cars. The Hetzer book has no scale drawings but does have interior and exterior photos of museum vehicles. The 234 book has scale drawings both in 1/72- and 1/35-scale but they don't give right side or bottom views. It also has interior and exterior photos. They each also came with a sheet of decals making them a pretty good value since I got them on sale. The last one is the Panzer Tracts book on the Jagdpanther. It has the usual excellent doc-

umentation you have come to expect from the Jentz & Doyle team and along with the six-sided views in 1/35-scale, there are also 1/10-scale drawings of detail items like road wheels, tool racks and other external fittings. Very nice indeed. So I filled in some holes this season in the reference library.

Now go build something!

Year 20	06 Contest Quick Reference Chart
	Titles in <b>blue</b> indicate contests for
	"Modeler of the Year" Points
6 Jan	Special Contest #1
	Sci-Fi/Science/Real Space/Fantasy
3 Feb	ASM Swap Meet—no contest.
3 Mar	<b>Open Contest</b> —Any kit/scale.
7 Apr	Best Kitai (WWII Japan air forces)
28 Apr	
- <u>r</u>	Hulls
	Workshop: Brush painting (John Tate)
2 Jun	SPECIAL CONTEST #2
	The Best Two-Fer
	Workshop: Photo-etch (TBA)
	Resin Casting (TBA)
7 Jul	Italian Wonders (any era/scale/sub-
	ject)
	Workshop: Weathering (TBA)
	Workshop: Zimmerit (TBA)
4 Aug	ASM Swap Meet—no contest
8 Sep	Armies of the 1900s
	Workshop: Figure painting (TBA)
6 Oct	Eastern Europe 1950 - 1990
	Sponsored Contest: Babefest (Ken
	Liotta)
	Workshop: Homemade tools (show &
	tell)
	Workshop: Attaching "itty-bitty" pieces
2 Nor	(TBA)
3 Nov	<b>Open Contest</b> —Any kit/scale. Sponsored Contest: "F-teen" (Ken
	Liotta, Keith Liotta, Brian Peck, Frank
	Randall)
1 Dec	Special Contest #3
I Dec	Best Zero
	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.