

### THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Well, we did it—after a year unlike any other, we survived the worst Mother Nature and Human Politics could throw at us and held a real, in-person club meeting at our old venue, the UNM Continuing Education Conference Center, on June 4, 2021. It was great to see a decent turnout of familiar club members and a few new faces, plus a healthy collection of excellent contest models. We were also lucky to enjoy some free extra room for our meeting courtesy of pandemic-averse UNM; hopefully that's one benefit of social distancing that stays with us for some time to come.

So down to business. When Tony Humphries stepped down from his position as club president at the end of his term last December, I became acting club president by virtue of my position as club vice president. There was no club election in 2020 due to pandemic, so the remaining E-Board agreed to stay in their positions until the club was able to meet again in person and vote. However, when we finally got a green light from UNM in May to return to meetings in June, the E-Board met and decided to hold their current positions until the next election cycle in October/November 2021, to spare the club two elections in four months. I put this idea to the membership at our club meeting and it was agreed to unanimously. So the current acting board will remain in their positions through the November election meeting. Which is a good reminder to the membership—if interested, start thinking now about standing for an E-Board position this fall.

Our next meeting, on July 9, will feature a guest speaker: author Doug Dildy, Col, USAF (Ret.), who

will give a talk on USAF air superiority during the Korean War. Doug's talks are always entertaining and informative and to support the evening's theme, bring some built Korean War models to the meeting, which will also provide a look ahead to our club's group display at the State Fair this year.

We also have a nearby IPMS Nationals happening this summer, in Las Vegas, Nevada, from August 18 to 21, 2021. Time, of course, is running short, so put in that bit of extra effort to finish any outstanding model projects. After a pandemic year, It would be a great achievement for the club if our members can bring some trophies back to ASM.

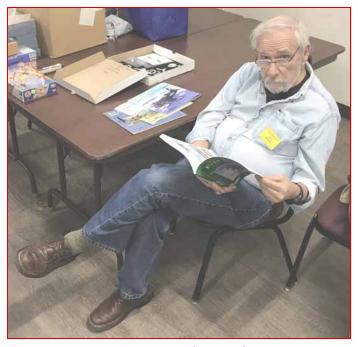
A final reminder—our meeting schedule has been adjusted at UNM's request, with meetings convening at 6:30 P.M. so we can clear out at 9:00 P.M.

I'm looking forward to a busy club meeting schedule this year even after our late start so, as ever, get building and share your work on the contest tables. And thanks to everyone for hanging in there and supporting the club during the most trying year in its history.

## JACK MORRIS PASSES JOHN TATE

Thanks to Frank Randall and Ken Liotta for their assistance in fact-gathering.

Jack Morris, a longtime ASM member and friend to many in the club, passed away on January 16, 2021, after a brief illness; he was 80 years old. Jack is survived by his daughter Amanda and his friend Dianne Fogel. Jack was a Colonel, USAF (Retired) and a Vietnam veteran who had a distinguished ca-



reer in the development of aircraft munitions and weaponry. Jack had resided in Santa Fe, New Mexico, since 1994.

Jack joined IPMS/USA back in the 1960s; he had a coveted, low membership number of 716 and was an experienced national contest judge. Our club membership records show him on the roster going back to 2000 but I recall first meeting him at a local scale modeling show in the late 1990s.

In retirement, Jack had a second career as a graphic artist, specifically producing aircraft profiles and decal sheets for the scale modeling hobby. He was well known in our club for the custom decal sheets he graciously produced for club members; a ½8 VNAF Criquet sheet he produced for me a decade ago is the most prized decal sheet in my collection.

Most of all, I remember Jack for his wit and comraderie, joining us at our after-meeting Village Inn diner gatherings and sharing a wealth of information about aircraft, the Vietnam War, scale modeling and IPMS. His passing is a real loss for the club. I once asked Jack what his favorite aircraft from the Vietnam War was, and without hesitation, he said it was the Phantom. I can't think of a better tribute from ASM members than building a Vietnam-era F-4 Phantom II jet model this year to honor his memory.

# JEFF FRICKSTAD PASSES BRIAN PECK

[From email, February 2] I just got notification that Jeff Frickstad suddenly passed away earlier this afternoon. If you could send out an email notification to the guys in the club and let them know, I will have more information later.



## CONTACT INFO

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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 now **ten days** prior to the next meeting (that's a Tuesday). Items I receive by Tuesday night will be in the newsletter, and items received after that will be in the following issue.

# BONUS PAGES! WE'RE BACK! JOE WALTERS

We have a newsletter again! The last issue of this thing was dated December 2020, so July becomes the date of the first issue of 2021. I could bore you all with tales of work conflicts, hospital visits, dental adventures, automotive surprises, computer maintenance issues, international viruses, alien invasions, and many other excuses, but who wants to hear all that? Not me!

I do want to thank the various members who have been contributing articles and items all along, and assure everyone that I still have them all and will use them in upcoming issues as quickly as I can.

Now that we're meeting in person again, I hope to continue to issue this publication on a monthly basis once more.

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With all the interest in the upcoming Nationals, I'd like to remind a certain subset of our membership of a bit of coincidental scheduling this time around:

As most of you know, the IPMS/USA National Competition takes place this year at the Rio Suites resort and convention center in Las Vegas, Nevada, August 18 – 21.

However, the world's largest annual\* Star Trek convention takes place **in the same building** August 11 - 15. After that convention ends on Sunday the 15th, they take down all the relevant displays and such, and start setting up for Nationals.

This is one of those two-for-one deals! You can attend both on a single trip! But what to do on those two intervening days, Monday and Tuesday August 16 - 17? Well, rumor has it that it is possible to find ways to while away extra time in Las Vegas. Look around and you'll probably find something to interest you.

Interested? Details are at this link: https://www.creationent.com/cal/cemission\_lv.html



[Also in that same building, magicians Penn & Teller have their theater and put on a great show (my wife and I have seen it twice). Dunno whether they're in town that week, but if so, that's one way of using up some of that time!]

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Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting this Friday. Remember the meetings now start at 6:30 P.M.!

(\*) "Annual" except when there are things like pandemics and such that screw up everyone's schedules. This convention did not take place in 2020, but they're well on track for 2021. I'll be there!

# BONUS PAGES! THE VICE PRESIDENT SPEAKS DAVID EPSTEIN

My fellow ASMers,

First and foremost, I hope and pray that this finds you and your families safe and well during this "Pandemic," and frankly hope this all comes to an end soon. I have been on a roller coaster of emotion with the virus, my health, constant pain, the state of the union, and on and on. I had my Pfizer vaccine injections and that makes me feel a bit better.

Down to business. I have been meaning to do an article about my newfound excitement regarding the newer release Airfix kits I have delved into. It started with the ¼8 Boulton Paul Defiant (to replace my Classic Airframes build of a few years ago, what a horrible kit!). From the start of the Airfix kit, I marveled at the crispness of the new tooling, and as the build progressed found myself very impressed with the overall engineering, planning, and fit of the parts from big to small—down to where to place the ejector pins, how to arrange the sprues, and where to place the runners for each part, especially the clear parts. There are, of course, very fine mold lines to address, and sometimes the instructions were a bit vague, which necessitated careful test fitting in some of the more complicated assembly steps. The Defiant now awaits paint.





I have also completed their Bf109E4 (in the markings of "Pipps Priller" during the Battle of Britain)



P-40B (my first with a shark mouth decal which I have had poor luck with in past endeavors)

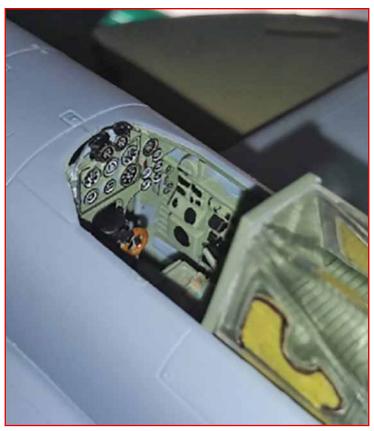


My first successful NMF P-51D

I also have a Spitfire Mk.IA, Korean conflict F-51D, and a Bristol Blenheim Mk.IF in the bullpen that I am looking forward to building.

If any of you have been pensive about trying a new Airfix kit, I highly recommend trying one out for size; I'm sure you will find them pleasantly enjoyable and affordable. Just be sure it is a new mold kit because they have reboxed some older kits in the new box style.

Oh, yes, and the instrument panel. This really stood out for me. The kits provide very nicely detailed instrument panels that you can paint if desired. Or, use the decals provided that are very precise and printed on a clear backing film, allowing the instrument panel to be the interior color while the instruments are black with white pointers and color highlights where applicable, giving a much more realistic look, as opposed to the black background and black instruments we have seen for years. Proper alignment and some patient applications of your preferred decal softener will result in a very accurate instrument panel. This is the Defiant instrument panel (yeah, I bunged up the side panel decal and this photo does not do it justice...).



I have been building mostly for fun and not for contests since the pandemic began, and have been hampered by my disabilities, but I hope more of you build and enter the "Virtual contests" we have been having as your time permits you. It has been fun judging the entries of those who have been. Please consult the club website for details on these contests their ROE (rules of engagement) and their entry deadlines.

Or, just build them and enjoy it, and try out a newer Airfix kit if you haven't already. I'm sure their other newer releases in other scales are just as well engineered.

Looking forward to our next meeting so we can all catch up! Stay well.

# Bonus Pages! Enter Your Models At the 2021 New Mexico State Fair





Each year ASM sponsors the "Models—Military, Science-Fiction, and Others" Model Contest in Creative Arts Division 13 at the New Mexico State Fair.

Information on the four Sections—Youth, Senior Youth, Adult, and Professional—and the 18 Classes (categories) of model entries is posted on the *ASM Website* (see link below). Handouts will be available at ASM meetings and at Hobby Proz.

#### Dates of note:

Model Entry dates are Friday and Saturday, 20-21 August, from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day There is an Entry Fee this year of \$5.00 per person that covers all Divisions in Creative Arts Model Judging date is TBD—it will be either Monday, 30 August or Tuesday 31 August The actual State Fair dates are September 9 to 19

Model Pick-up date is on Monday, September 20, from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

We will need ASM members to help with the entries (likely two shifts per day) and the judging. Please contact Josh Pals and Mike Blohm if you can help out.

The ASM Display-Only theme for 2021 is "The Korean War." Models desired for the display include all participating nations from 1950 to 1953—aircraft, helicopters, armor, vehicles, figures, carriers/ships, dioramas—any scale. They can be representative of the time period if color schemes are compatible. It does not have to be from a participating unit. For example, a Banshee from a West Coast USN unit would be workable if it has a Korea-type color scheme and period markings. A spreadsheet of Korean War models available from club members will be posted on the website. If you are willing to loan a model for the display and are not included on the list yet, please let me know. Please build new models per what we still need.

#### **Notes:**

- 1. Models in the State Fair display will be trapped there until Monday, 20 September, which will impact what is available for the displays at the Folds of Honor (September 10) and the Air Force Anniversary Ball (September 18). Both of these would typically include Korean War models.
- 2. The same is true for the September 10 ASM Model Contest "Pandemic Virtual Contest Entries"—so plan accordingly.
- 3. Models entered in the State Fair Model Competition and in the ASM Display do get points towards the Modeler of the Year competition (50 points each for contest entries, 25 points each for display models; 3 models max in total, any combination).
- 4. Models that fit our Korean War theme display can also compete in the Fair's Model Contest. We will move them into the ASM display case after judging occurs.
- 5. Display models can be delivered to the Fair on the entry days (20 21 August), or during the judging day (either 30 or 31 August). We will also do pick-ups at Hobby Proz during the morning of the entry days. Let us know what your plan is for dropping off your models.
- 6. If you are attending the IPMS/USA National Convention on August 18 21 and would like to enter models in the State Fair, we will try to arrange surrogate entries by other ASM members not attending.

We will set up an entry drop-off at Hobby Proz.

More information will be provided as we get closer to the State Fair dates.

Pictures from the 2019 State Fair Model Contest and ASM Theme Display ("1939—80th Anniversary of the Beginning of World War II" with 36 models) are included in this article. The 2020 Fair was canceled due to the pandemic.

NM State Fair webpage link below: Includes the entry categories and contest rules.

https://abqscalemodelers.com/ASM\_NM\_State\_Fair\_Model\_Contests.htm









# Bonus Pages! Miscellaneous

The item at right comes from Mike Blohm; all the rest were submitted by Ken Piniak. Thanks, guys!



Every Tank Commander knows the importance of keeping their machine serviced and well maintained,

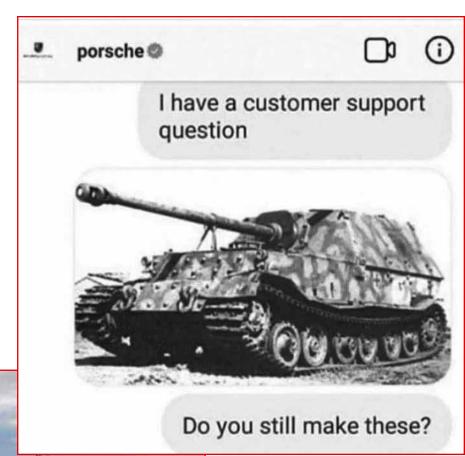


to avoid the embarrassment of getting caught with your Panzer down.





I don't curse. I speak fluent trucker with a sailor dialect and a construction accent.











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### Join IPMS/USA!

The International Plastic Modelers' Society is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. There are 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, 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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