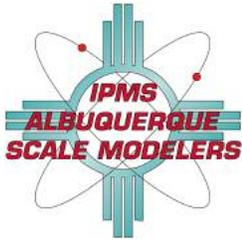


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

May 2009

CONGRATULATIONS ASM! KEN LIOTTA

Albuquerque Scale Modelers can hold their heads up high once again! For the third year in a row, ASM has been named **Region 10 Chapter of the Year!** You guys have turned in an outstanding performance in promoting the hobby, promoting IPMS, and continuing to keep in touch with the community to help spread the wonders and joys of the plastic modeling hobby. This dedication to the hobby and to the community has led to the awarding of this honor by the Regional Coordinator of Region X, Don Kehrer, out of the 16 chapters that are chartered. The decision for the awarding was announced at this year's Region X contest hosted by Centennial IPMS.

The Regional contest was held Jun 5 & 6 at the Radisson Hotel in beautiful Colorado Springs. Modelers were met with enthusiastic smiles at registration where the paperwork process ran smoothly. Once signed up, the contestants could walk through the large display hall to place their models on the tables with clearly marked category signage. The tables used were not your typical rectangle type but instead were round and were quite effective. Registration started Friday morning and by Friday afternoon, it became apparent that this year's Regional was going to be huge and the hosts found that they had to add another ten or so tables to accommodate all of the model entries.

Once we had our models placed, walking around to check out the competition, we found that the hall lighting was very good in most locations but still did have a few dark spots. On Saturday, when the tables were filling up and the viewing public



ASM President James Guld accepts the 2008 Region 10 Chapter of the Year award at this year's Regional Contest

started to gather, the room began to look smaller with each minute. But these should be viewed as signs that the event was a huge success, where 112 modelers entered 717 entries.

As things wound down on Friday, the hosts had arranged for any and all attendees to join the staff of the host chapter at the Airplane Restaurant in the parking lot of the Radisson for the Friday Night Social Hour. Participants were treated to *hors d'oeuvres* (barbeque meatballs, chicken tenders, fruit salad, beverages, etc.) in between



May meeting highlights, top to bottom: members eye a large collection of kits for sale; the business meeting in progress.





Best of Show winners from May, left to right: Tim Wood's *MiG-21* (India), and Ken Liotta's *Beaver* (Yemen). There were no Junior or Basic entries. The "Battle of the Bulge" contest (sponsored by Fred Franceschi) was won by Dave Miller's *Sturmgeschutz*.



all of the model storytelling about the "plaque that got away!" Wink, wink, nudge, nudge. To spice things up, an auction was held for all that wished to participate for top-notch plastic model products, including a selection of plain brown paper wrapped "Mystery Models." No one that won these were let down either, and all that jostled for the goodies had tons of fun.

Come Saturday, registration continued to flow smoothly and the tables filled to capacity. The staff made a decision to extend the registration cutoff from 12 noon to about 1:30 due to an unforeseen emergency development with one of the main highways leading to the event. Once registration closed, those IPMS members who volunteered for judging duties met at the "Judges' Meeting," where we were all treated to sub sandwiches, a variety of chips, and an equally varying selection of sodas. The meeting was short and to the point, we got our assignments and completed the judging tasks almost on schedule, even with the delay from the earlier registration extension. Centennial used the popular "1st, 2nd, and 3rd" style judging system. They had also designed unique awards as decorative glass display pieces with the category name and placing trapped in between the two glass pieces. The Head Judge, folks I judged with, and all those around me worked together without any hassles in a mature and professional manner.

Oh, I guess I forgot to mention that the vendors' room was a-hopping with some of the most recent releases and the most exquisite plastic candy a modeler could ask for. While the vendors had a high concentration of Armor selections, aircraft and automotive fans could still find plenty to spend their bills on. And if that didn't

fill your modeling needs, the hosts had a four-way raffle going on, where attendees could buy \$1, \$3, and \$5 tickets for appropriately-loaded raffle tables. They also had a one piece biggie raffle for the latest Trumpeter 1/32-scale BAe Lightning release. Sorry to say, ASM did not win it. Our brothers over in Arizona were the lucky dogs this time around.



The awards banquet meal was a delicious choice of buffet-style lemon sauce broiled chicken or gravy smothered roast beef with all the veggie and mashed potato fixin's. That was topped off with an equally delicious selection of desserts (baklava, fudge brownies, cheese cake, and more). While all of this was being readied, the host played a looped screen presentation announcement of the modelers that placed in each category. Perhaps one of the shortfalls was the lack of model name next to the modeler's name that placed in each category. They had already placed the actual awards next to the models and those that did not attend the banquet were allowed to enter the display hall to view the results. The only way to learn

ASM Award Winners at the Region X contest:

Mike Blohm

2nd	1/72 Aircraft, Axis	1/72	Ki-84
3rd	1/72 Biplanes	1/72	Nieuport 17
3rd	Real Spacecraft	1/200	Mercury/Redstone
3rd	Artillery	1/72	V-2
3rd	Collections	1/72	Hellcat Aces of WWII

Rick Carver

3rd	54mm Figures, Dismounted		Green Knight
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Mike Franklin

1st	1/48 Single Eng Prop, Pre 45 Axis	1/48	Fw-190D
1st	1/48 Jet, Pre 45, Large	1/48	Me-262A

James Guld

	Best Armor	1/35	WC-51 truck
	Best Armor Finish—Sponsor: Testors		
1st	AFV Soft skin	1/35	WC-51 truck
3rd	Military Dioramas	1/35	"Whadda Catch"
3rd	AFV Open Top	1/35	SdKfz.251/16

Keith Liotta

3rd	1/32 Jet	1/32	F-16A
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Ken Liotta

2nd	1/48 Single Engine Jet	1/48	Ta-183A
2nd	Submarines	1/700	Soviet Sierra
3rd	1/72 Single Engine Prop, Post WWII	1/72	DHC-2 Beaver
3rd	1/48 Single Engine Prop, Post WWII	1/48	F4U-5N

Dave Miller

	Best Ship	1/700	U-2511 U-boat
1st	Submarines, pre 1945	1/700	U-2511 U-boat
1st	Artillery	1/35	Pak 43/41
1st	AFV Open Top, Pre 45, Axis	1/35	Panzerjager I
2nd	Military Conversions	1/35	M5 Recovery vehicle

Brian Peck

1st	1/32 Prop	1/32	P-47D
2nd	1/32 Jet	1/32	F-15C

Frank Randall

1st	1/72 Single Eng Prop, Pre 45, Axis	1/72	Ju-87G
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which model placed required a trip into the display hall to see for yourself. Once the meal had neared its completion, the hosts ran through the official announcements of all of the Best of... awards, the sponsored awards, and then the granddaddy awards.



ASM turned in an outstanding performance in attendance and participation. Ten ASM members entered 79 entries and won 27 awards. Adding to this, our two adoptive ASM members, Dick and Bill Engar, were in attendance and one of our lost sheep, Mike Ronnau, was also present to enjoy the event itself but to also help promote the upcoming Modelzona Contest in November and also next year's National Convention scheduled for Phoenix with our brothers in Craig Hewitt as host.

Of the many awards that ASMs earned, the top recipients were David Miller's Best Ship award for his $\frac{1}{600}$ U-2511 U-boat and James Guld's Best Armor award for his $\frac{1}{35}$ WC-51 truck and his Best Armor Finish, Sponsored by Testors, for his M4A1 Marine Sherman.

Note: Additional photos of the event (courtesy Ken Liotta) are in the Bonus Pages, for those of you who receive the electronic edition of this newsletter! All of Ken's photos will likely be made available on the web site as well. -JW

THE OBI JOE PROJECT RICK CARVER

It is understood that this thing, whatever it is, will finally be shown this Friday, starting at 6:55 in the UNM Continuing Ed auditorium.

KIT REPORT VICTOR MAESTAS

Cutting Edge F4H-1 conversion of Phantom II kit

This is a buildup report on the Cutting Edge F4H-1 Phantom II conversion in 1/48 scale. I built this kit for the "Phabulous Phantom Phiftyth Anniversary" special contest in May of 2008. I built the plane in the first flight configuration.

The conversion set is a multimedia set to convert the Hasegawa F-4J kit to the early airframes used in flight testing. The set includes resin parts for the small nose, "S" intakes, early thin wheels, replacement upper wings and unslotted stabilators as well as various scoops and fairings used on the early test planes. The original "flat-style" canopy is provided in clear resin in both one piece and split to display opened up. There is a small set of photoetched parts to represent the perforated spoilers on the upper wings. The markings included in the set cover the first 18 airframes built. Decals are provided for specific markings and stencils. Masks are provided to paint all of the Day-Glo Orange markings on the planes. The aircraft markings in the set include first flight, altitude record flight, and low altitude speed record flight, as well as other flight test schemes.

The instructions give a basic history of the subject aircraft as well

Year 2009 Contest Quick Reference Chart

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

- 9 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
- 6 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 6 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 3 Apr** **3 or More Engines**—any kit/subject/scale/era.
Sponsored Contest: Tank Destroyers of WWII (James Guld & John Tate)
- 1 May** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**
THIRD WORLD—Army, Navy, Air Force, etc. No Warsaw Pact, no NATO.
Sponsored Contest: Battle of the Bulge (Fred Franceschi)
- 12 Jun** **Italiano**—Any kit/scale/subject/era built or operated in or from Italy.
Sponsored Contest: Show Your Stripes!—Best invasion-striped WWII D-Day aircraft (Don Smith)
- 10 Jul** **Armored Cars**—Any scale, era, manufacturer.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Panzer IV & Variants" (ASM E-Board)
- 7 Aug** **1/48 Single-engine Props**—Any kit/scale/subject/era
- 11 Sep** **Sharkmouths**—Plane, Tank, Car, Truck, etc. Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Hellcat F6F" (Frank Randall)
- 2 Oct** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
BEST COMPETITION RACER OR ATHLETE FIGURE)
Sponsored Contest: "Best Porsche" (Patrick Dick)
- 6 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Vietnam Subject '64 - '75" (Tim Wood)
- 4 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4**
XYZ PROTOTYPES
Sponsored Contest: Best Mirage III, IV, V, 2000 or Variant (Rick Carver)
Plus Model of the Year competition!

as suggested starter kits. The conversion instructions have detailed written instructions on where to modify the existing kit and where all the conversion parts go. There are color pictures of the conversion in progress in to illustrate the steps needed.

After doing some research, there were a few items that were not included in the kit that would need some attention. These included the ejection seat, the back cockpit, and engine nozzles. The first few airframes used an in-house ejection seat before going with Martin-Baker units. The kit ejection seat was modified to make it look like a McDonnell seat. The headbox and backpan were reshaped to match pictures found on the internet and the upper ejection pulls were made from wire to represent the ones on the McDonnell seat.

On the first flight of the Phantom II, the back seat was omitted from the aft cockpit and the space used for instrumentation. As I could not find pictures of the inside of the cockpit, I made some

orange “instrumentation looking” boxes with handles out of styrene and wire to put on the floor of the aft cockpit. The kit engine nozzles were for the standard J79-GE-10 engines and the first flight aircraft had the earlier J79-GE-2 engines with shorter nozzles. I used a set of shorter nozzles from Cobra Company to replace the kit ones.



The kit was built using both the kit instructions and the conversion instructions to get all of the new parts installed on the kit. Modifications to the donor kit were described and shown in the instructions and construction was straightforward. The conversion parts generally fit well, but needed some amount of dry fitting and trimming to get everything to mate up cleanly.



For the finish, the canopies were masked and the underside and upper flaps were painted in white. This was then masked using blue painting tape as well as Plasti-Tac rolled into sausages to get the wavy demarcation between the upper and lower fuselage. The upper fuselage was then painted in Flat Gull Grey. After this had dried, the grey was masked using tape to paint the black anti-glare



on the upper nose. The supplied masks were then used to paint all of the Day-Glo Orange markings. The last painting step was to paint the natural metal parts on the leading edges of the intakes and wings, the aft fuselage around the engines, inboard stabilator panels, and the engine nozzles. Model Master Metalizer Stainless Steel, Titanium, and Magnesium color paints were used on these areas.

After the paint had dried, I applied a couple coats of Future floor polish to get a smooth surface for the decals. The markings supplied in the conversion went on smoothly and settled down around all the contours and in the engraved panel lines. The kit national insignia were used as they are not included in the conversion set.

A coat of Dull-Cote gave the plane a satin finish over the gloss. I didn't weather the finish, as it was to show the aircraft on the day of its first flight.

Overall, the conversion requires more work and time than a standard kit, but it's worth the extra effort to get a unique configuration of a very familiar and significant airplane.

Note: Additional photos of this build and of printed materials are in the Bonus Pages, for those of you who receive the electronic edition of this newsletter! -JW

Master

Victor Maestas	416
James Guld	281
Dave Miller	275
Brian Peck	252
Mike McNichols	125
Glenn Bingham	100
Mike Blohm	31
Don McBryde	25
Ken Liotta	8
Patrick Dick	4
Keith Liotta	2

Intermediate

Frank Randall	485
Adrian Montaño	472
Tony Humphries	410
Ken Piniak	325
Rick Carver	275
Gil Johnson	275
Josh Pals	139
Don Smith	6
Tom Perea	4
Danny Williamson	4
Jeff Frickstad	2

Basic

Gregg Hayes	650
Jeannie Garriss	100
Gordon Pegue	2

Junior

Sean Gregg	325
Chelsea Perea	325

ASM 2009 MODELER-OF-THE-YEAR POINTS

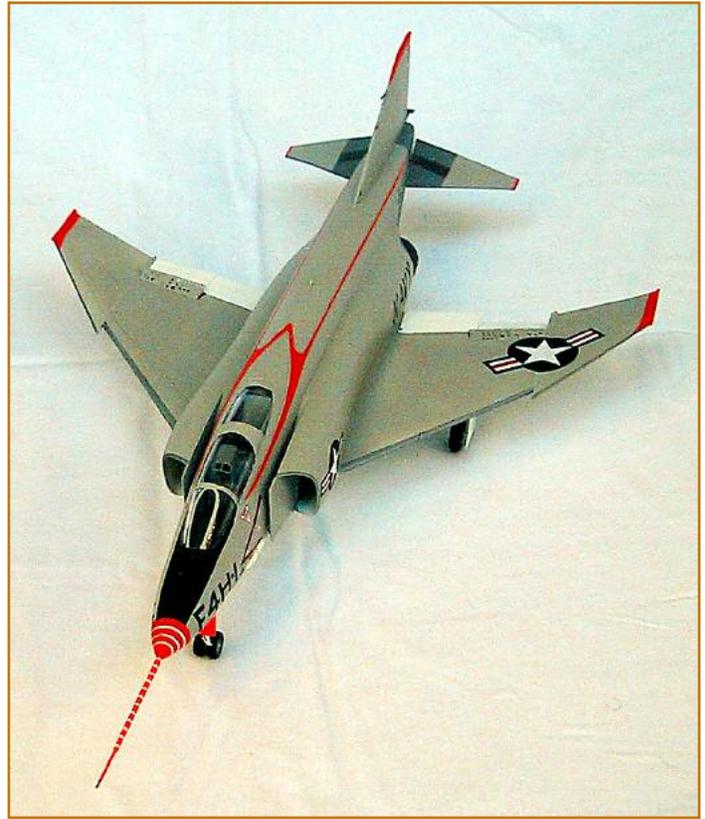
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ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. Submission deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month.

BONUS PAGES PART 1!

Additional images of Victor Maestas's F4H-1 build.



BONUS PAGES PART 2!

Additional imgs from the Regional, taken by Ken Liotta. Additional and higher-resolution images can be found on the ASM Web Site.

