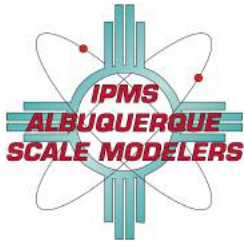


# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

June 2013

## THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

So June is upon us and it's time to break out the shorts and Hawaiian shirts again, despite the obvious risk to public health. Possibly even the summer/tropical Fez (the lightweight khaki one with the battery-operated cooling fan and fitted mosquito net, since you ask...). Of course, children will run away screaming, dogs will cower, and the police may even be called, but that's all part of the fun. Probably. Anyway, Spring has certainly sprung by now and winter is just a distant memory. The Easter bunny has been and gone, having induced another chocolate-fueled diabetic coma and as usual in Springtime, the thoughts of gentlemen turn to love. As in, "I'd love to get some bloody modeling done for change, instead of creosoting this damned fence..." Well, hopefully, now is your chance.

So what is this month going to bring us in terms of modeling? Well, if you're anything like me, it'll be spring-cleaning



the workshop. Many of you may also be banished to the garage for spray painting and airbrushing, like the proverbial red-headed stepchild... Well, it's pretty hard to do too much of that in the winter without chasing the penguins out first, scraping the ice from your bench, and defrosting your bottle of isopropyl. Spring is your chance to get rid of all the cobwebs, to wipe the dust from your airbrush, and to finally get to grips with that 47-color German WWI camo scheme that has been giving you nightmares since Christmas. A load of old Jackson Pollocks if you ask me...

Obviously it's a good time to be finishing up (or in Ken's case, thinking about starting) your builds for the Nationals in Colorado this August too. I believe we may have already mentioned that once or twice over the last few months? It's also a good time, during the brief New Mexico Spring, to get out and do some boots on the ground research at local and even nationwide museums before the summer sun returns and tries

May meeting highlights, below L - R: Mike Blohm and Brian Peck run clinics on rigging; and the business meeting in progress.



to bake us into submission once again. There's something magical about wandering around old museum aircraft, taking pictures, enjoying the ambience, imagining where, when, and by whom the exhibit was used, taking in the unique mixture of sights and smells, and then trying to sneak behind the rope, climb up and sit in the cockpit when the guards aren't looking. It's not just me that does that, is it? It really gets the creative juices flowing. Or something flowing, anyway, although that could of course have something to do with the green chile stew from the museum snack-bar...

If you are going on any museum visits during the course of this year, please do take as many pictures as you can and give us a report in the newsletter, ask Mike Blohm to put them on the web site, or even give us a slide show and "live" report at one of our club meetings if you feel so inclined. That we can all enjoy the fruits of your research, marvel at the historical sights, and laugh at your pale white legs and the shiny inch-thick layer of SPF3000 that coats your skin like bacon grease. Dear oh dear—that shorts and sandals combination... and white socks with those? Really? Or maybe that's just me again.

## B-17 VISIT TO ABQ

### MIKE BLOHM

The Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress "Sentimental Journey" made a visit to Albuquerque on May 24 – 27, 2013, and was parked at the Double Eagle Airport. This aircraft is from the Arizona Wing of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) and is based at the CAF Aviation Museum in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Tours of the aircraft cost \$5.00, and rides cost \$425 in the mid-section and \$825 in the nose section. I am not sure if they ever gave any rides—I did not see them flying over the city. My son Matt, his wife Laura, and I took the tour on Sunday, May 26. There were perhaps five to ten people there during our one-hour look around and through the B-17. Pictures of the exterior and interior are posted below. This B-17 served in the Pacific in 1944 – 45, and then at Eglin Field, Florida, as an air-sea rescue aircraft after the war. It was put into storage at Davis-Monthan AFB in 1959. It then became a borate bomber fire-fighting aircraft. It was donated to the Arizona Wing in 1978.

More info about the CAF Aviation Museum is available at



their web site (<http://www.azcaf.org/pages/rides.html>).

[Mike supplied several excellent quality photos of this aircraft, and Electronic subscribers can find them on the Bonus Pages. -JW]

## FIELD TRIP

### FRED FRANCESCHI

#### Hooters

Well, how often can someone from the Albuquerque Scale Modelers find an excuse to go to Hooters, and then write it

#### Year 2013 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 04 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)  
Sponsored Contest: "Rolls Royce" (Patrick Dick)
- 01 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 01 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Revell 1/48 Ventura" (E-Board)
- 05 Apr** **More Than One Radial Engine**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
**Famous Motorsports Vehicles**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Best Sci-Fi Spaceship" (Don Smith)
- 03 May** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**  
**SINGLE IN-LINE ENGINED AIRCRAFT**  
Sponsored Contest: "Revell 1/32 He-219" (Hobby Proz)
- 07 Jun** **Cold War**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
**Cherche la Femme**—Female-named subject, any kit/subject/scale.
- 12 Jul** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "North African Armor" (James Guld, Tony Humphries)
- 02 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 13 Sep** **On the Water**—Anything waterborne, any kit/subject/scale.  
**Beyond Babe Artwork**—Any subject with non-pinup nose art.  
Sponsored Contest: "TBA" (Gil De La Plain)
- 04 Oct** **Axis of WWII**—Any subject excluding Germany and Japan.  
**Go Figure**—Any humanoid figure.  
Sponsored Contest: "Big" (Brian Peck)
- 01 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Danny Roberts / Best P-38" (Mike Blohm, John Tate)
- 06 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**  
**JET POWER**  
Plus Model of the Year competition!

up as a “Field Trip?” It’s a tough job, but someone has to do it.

On May 5, the Hooters on Santa Monica Boulevard sponsored a car gathering, and the proceeds of the event went to a charity for fighting leukemia and lymphoma. The Roadrunner Convoy was invited to the event, and I drove my WC-24 Command Car there. Since I saw Frank Randall, and he was seriously taking pictures of (probably) just about everything, I decided to only take a few selected shots (very selected).

I took a photo of several cars, just to show that there were vehicles with other than olive drab paint on them. And there is a shot of a 1½-ton truck, which is really nice, although it has a non-standard winch mounted.

And then a couple shots of my WC-24. The first shot was in the morning, probably when Frank was in the area.

The other shot was taken after Frank left, but is the “most fun” photo of the day—for me, anyway.



I had a good day, and enjoyed meeting a variety of people.

[All four of Fred’s photos can be found on the Bonus Pages. -JW]

## FIELD TRIP MIKE BLOHM

### National Air and Space Museum

I was able to make a couple of quick visits to the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum (NASM) on the Mall in Washington, DC, during a business trip in early May 2013. I had missed a couple displays during an earlier visit and

## FRED’S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

### Missiles!

During 1958 and 1959 I was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, while I attended the M-33 Radar Repair School. The M-33 radar and its computer were used to control antiaircraft guns, determining where the aircraft were, where they would be, and where to point the 90mm guns to hit the aircraft. Unfortunately, this was just about the time that the targets could outmaneuver the bullets, and the guns and gun computers were already obsolete. However, the radars were the same as those used with the Nike Ajax guided missile system. This was all vacuum tube technology, before transistors were in use.

While I was there, an open house for manufacturers was held on the base, and I got my camera and took photos of these neat, next generation weapons systems. Then the MPs saw me wandering around taking these pictures. Lucky for me (and for you who are looking at these photos), when the MPs chased me away from all this neat stuff, they didn’t take my film.

Some of these are surface to surface missiles, there are air to air missiles, and there are photos of target drones. Remember, at this time many of these were in their development stages, so what you see may be different to what was used in the field.

Plastic kits were made of some of these, by Renwal if my memory serves correctly. It might be possible to find an old kit and build models of these.



A Nike Hercules surface to air missile. These were being developed to protect the large cities in this country from attacks by Soviet aircraft. They were preceded by the Nike Ajax.



The Hawk surface to air missile, a short-range, lower altitude missile than the Hercules.

[Editor’s note: All of Fred’s photos of these missiles (and more), larger and in full resolution, may be found in the Bonus Pages. -JW]



wanted to check those out. Some pictures of the displays are posted with this article. Additional pictures and a map of the museum's galleries are posted on the ASM Web Site.

My prime targets were the Jet Aviation, Great War in the Air (World War I) aviation, and Pioneers of Flight galleries. The Jets display has one of the Me-262A aircraft that was brought back to the US for testing, restored to its original markings. The display also includes the original XP-80 Shooting Star named "Lulu." These two jets are displayed in the center section of this gallery, with a wall-to-wall display of jet



engine types showing development from World War II through current day.

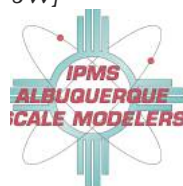
The Great War in the Air gallery has a lot of interesting aircraft, but my prime mission here was to get pictures of the SPAD XIII "Smith IV," which is depicted in the markings of US ace Ray Brooks. This aircraft is on my US Aces build list. Lots of rigging to be done here! Other aircraft of note are a Fokker D.VII, Albatross D.Va, and Sopwith Snipe. The Pioneers of Flight gallery includes the Wright EX "Vin Fiz"; Fokker T-2; Douglas World Cruiser "Chicago"; Curtiss R3C-2 Racer (Jimmy Doolittle); Lockheed 5B Vega (Amelia Earhart); Lockheed Sirius (Charles Lindberg); and the Gosamer Condor. The history behind all these aircraft is in the trip report posted on the ASM Web Site.



Two other areas that I visited were the World War II aviation and the Sea-Air Operations (Carrier Deck) galleries. The WWII gallery has a Spitfire HF VIIc, P-51D Mustang, A6M2 Zero, Bf 109G-6, Mc 202 Folgore, and the forward fuselage of the B-26B "Flak Bait," which flew over 200 combat missions in the ETO. Highlights in the Air-Sea Ops gallery were an FM-1 Wildcat, SBD-6 Dauntless, A-4C Skyhawk, F4B-4, and an eleven-foot-long model of the USS Enterprise (CVN-65) aircraft carrier in 1/100 scale. Now that was impressive. There are also some pretty good models in some other displays here.

The NASM is a must-see during a visit to Washington, DC. You will probably need a full day to see everything. Entry is free. For more info, check out the museum's web site (<http://airandspace.si.edu>).

[All of Mike's NASM photos can be found on the Bonus Pages. -JW]



## CONTACT INFO

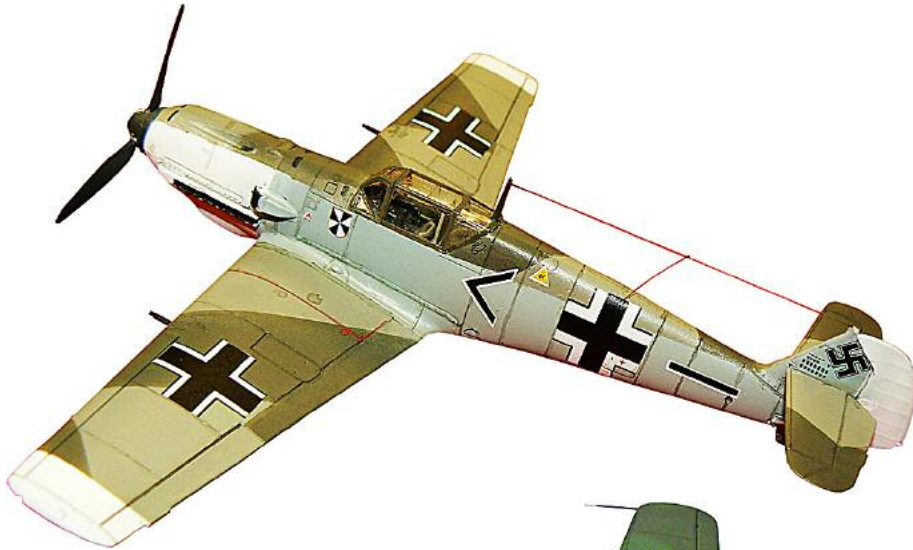
President:	Tony Humphries	764-0046	abkhumphries@gmail.com
Vice President:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	681-5158	fcr40@aol.com
Contest Director:	Ken Liotta	710-4287	theplasticmaster@comcast.net
Members Pro-Tem:	Gil De La Plain	275-1858	ggdelap@msn.com
	Adrian Montaño		amontano@keers.com
	John Tate	332-3928	jtlynwood@hotmail.com
Webmaster:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Newsletter Editor:	Joe Walters	821-3751	jwalters22@comcast.net

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!

## MAY BEST OF SHOW WINNERS

There were no Junior entries in May. Top to bottom: Frank Randall's Bf-109; Mike Franklin's FW-190; and Matt Blohm's Spitfire.



# BONUS PAGES! B-17 VISIT TO ABQ

MIKE BLOHM

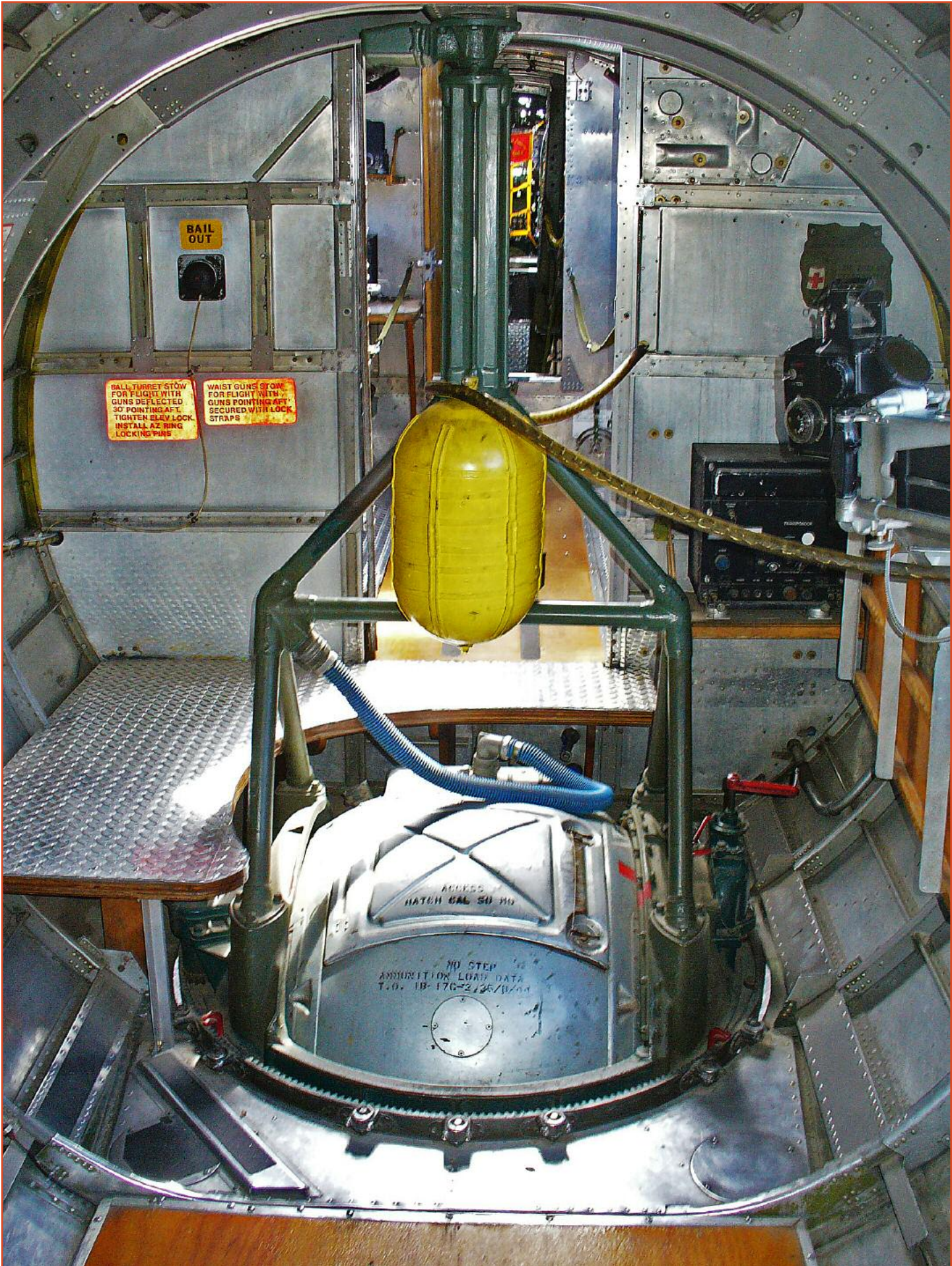












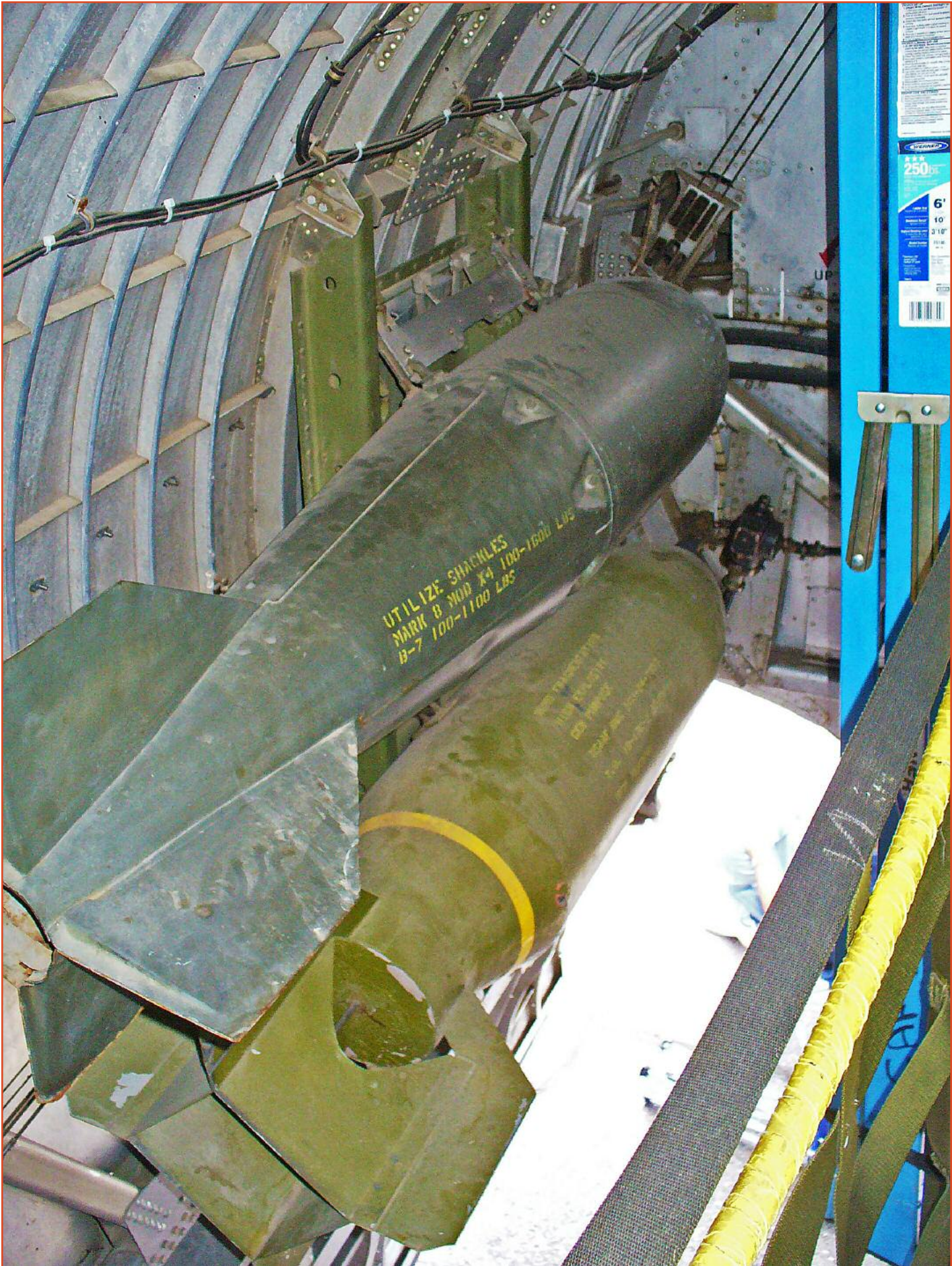
BAIL  
OUT

BALL TURRET STOP  
FOR FLIGHT WITH  
GUNS DEFLECTED  
30° POINTING AFT.  
TIGHTEN ELEV LOCK.  
INSTALL AZ RING  
LOCKING PINS.

WAIST GUNS STOP  
FOR FLIGHT WITH  
GUNS POINTING AFT.  
SECURED WITH LOCK  
STRAPS

ACCESS  
HATCH GAL 50 NO

NO STEP  
AMMUNITION LOAD DATA  
T.O. 1B-176-2/25/1/44



# BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

## Addendum to Last Issue

[In last issue's Foto File, Fred asked whether anyone could identify an odd little tank in German markings. Naturally, Jim Guld stepped up with the answer. -JW]



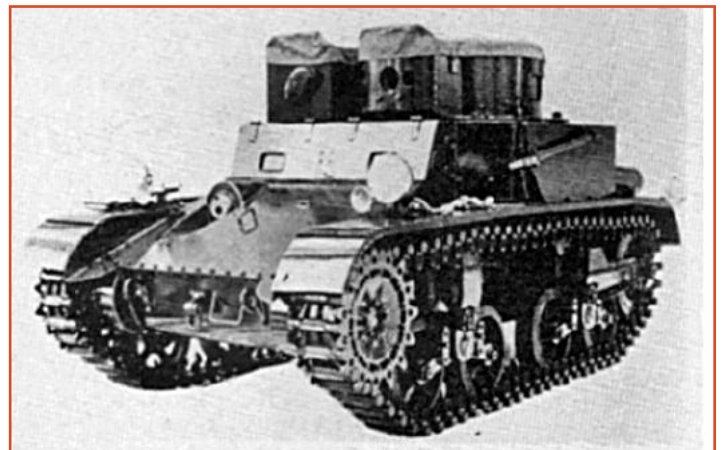
To answer Fred's question from last month's newsletter, the "German" tank in question is some sort of bastard child, probably a film job. Here are some scans of vehicles it is probably made up from. Sorry, but the [left] scan is in the book crease.

It looks to me that it was a T5 Combat car chassis with the Marmon-Herrington suspension from their CTL-3A.

Cheers,  
James Guld



228. CTL-3A: Built in 1938, this version was built but was equipped with strengthened armor. The front of the superstructure was bevelled to eliminate the centre ball mount.



214. COMBAT CAR T5  
Developed concurrently with Light Tank T2E1 with essential parts common to both machines, the T5 was fitted with twin turrets and vertical volute suspension. Built at Rock Island Arsenal during 1934 it was tested with a Guiberson diesel engine and became the T5E3. 9.7tons; crew 4; 3 MG; engine Continental radial 264hp, air-cooled; 36mph; 13ft 4in x 7ft 6in x 6ft 8in.

## Missiles!

During 1958 and 1959 I was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, while I attended the M-33 Radar Repair School. The M-33 radar and its computer were used to control anti-aircraft guns, determining where the aircraft were, where they would be, and where to point the 90mm guns to hit the aircraft. Unfortunately, this was just about the time that the targets could outmaneuver the bullets, and the guns and gun computers were already obsolete. However, the radars were the same as those used with the Nike Ajax guided missile system. This was all vacuum tube technology, before transistors were in use.

While I was there, an open house for manufacturers was held on the base, and I got my camera and took photos of these neat, next generation weapons systems. Then the MPs saw me wandering around taking these pictures. Lucky for me (and for you who are looking at these photos), when the MPs chased me away from all this neat stuff, they didn't take my film.

Some of these are surface to surface missiles, there are air to air missiles, and there are photos of target drones. Remember, at this time many of these were in their development stages, so what you see may be different to what was used in the field.

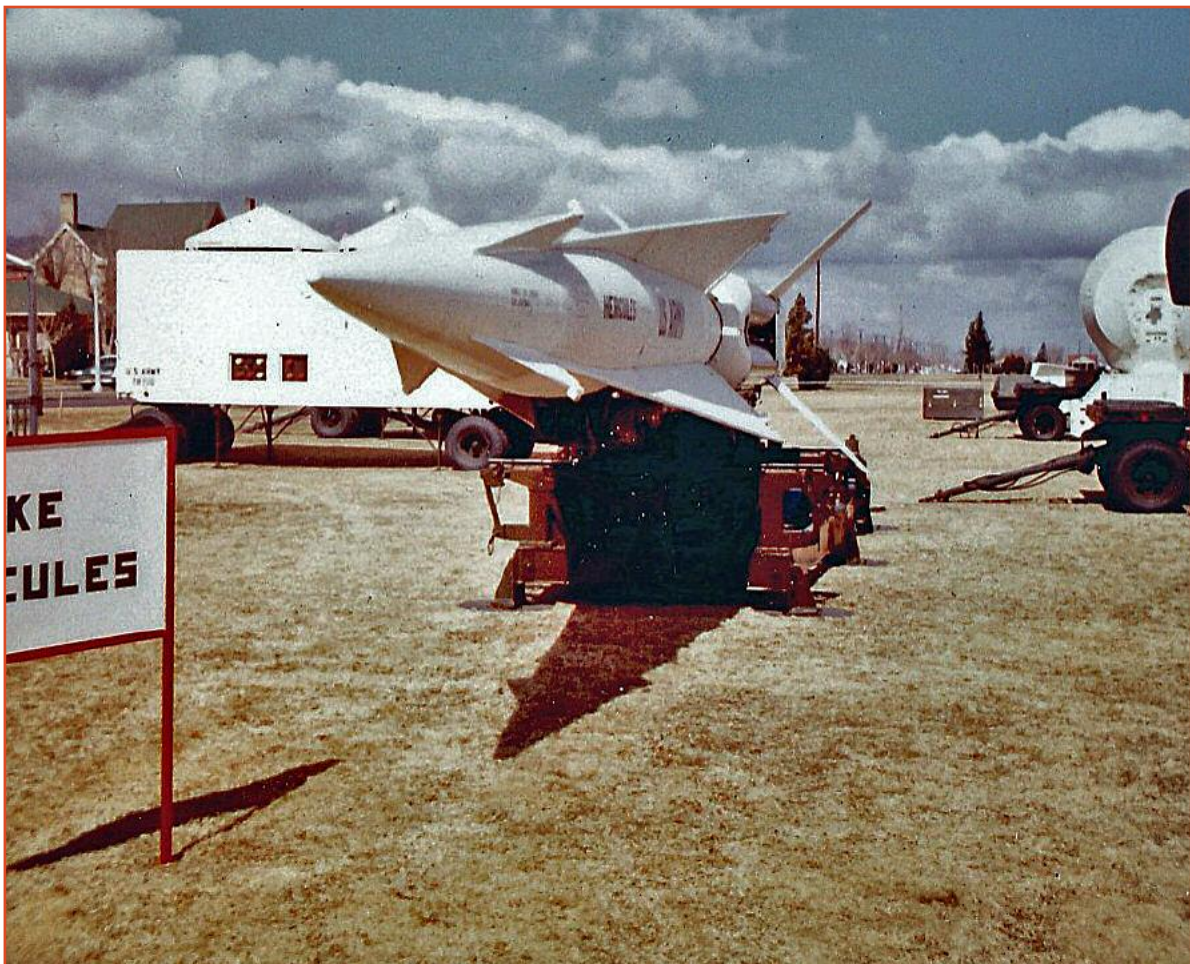
Plastic kits were made of some of these, by Renwal if my memory serves correctly. It might be possible to find an old kit and build models of these.



That's a surface to surface missile, maybe an Honest John. Its purpose would have been to protect West German forces from an attack by Soviet and East German ground forces.



The Hawk surface to air missile, a short-range, lower altitude missile than the Hercules.



A Nike Hercules surface to air missile. These were being developed to protect the large cities in this country from attacks by Soviet aircraft. They were preceded by the Nike Ajax.



That looks like another surface to surface missile.



The sign by the radar screen says (I think) "Pulse Acquisition Radar." That screen resembles the screen of the radar system that fed us information so we would know where our M-33 radars should look for targets.



The red thing is a target drone. It replaced the RCATs (Radio Controlled Aircraft, Targets) that we sometimes shot at with our 90mm guns. In the background is a generator, something I logged a lot of hours running early in my military career. Behind it may be trailers for transporting some kind of missiles.



The sign by this drone appears to say "SD2 Surveillance," so that may be the long ago predecessor of the craft we fly over our borders and some foreign countries.





Another photo of the items shown on the previous page. The white vans and the radar screen look like the M-33 radar hardware. Possibly an M-33 was used to track the red missile and drone. *[Is that a DC-3/C-47 flying by in the background? -JW]*



This is maybe an intercontinental ballistic missile.

# BONUS PAGES! FIELD TRIP

FRED FRANCESCHI

Hooters

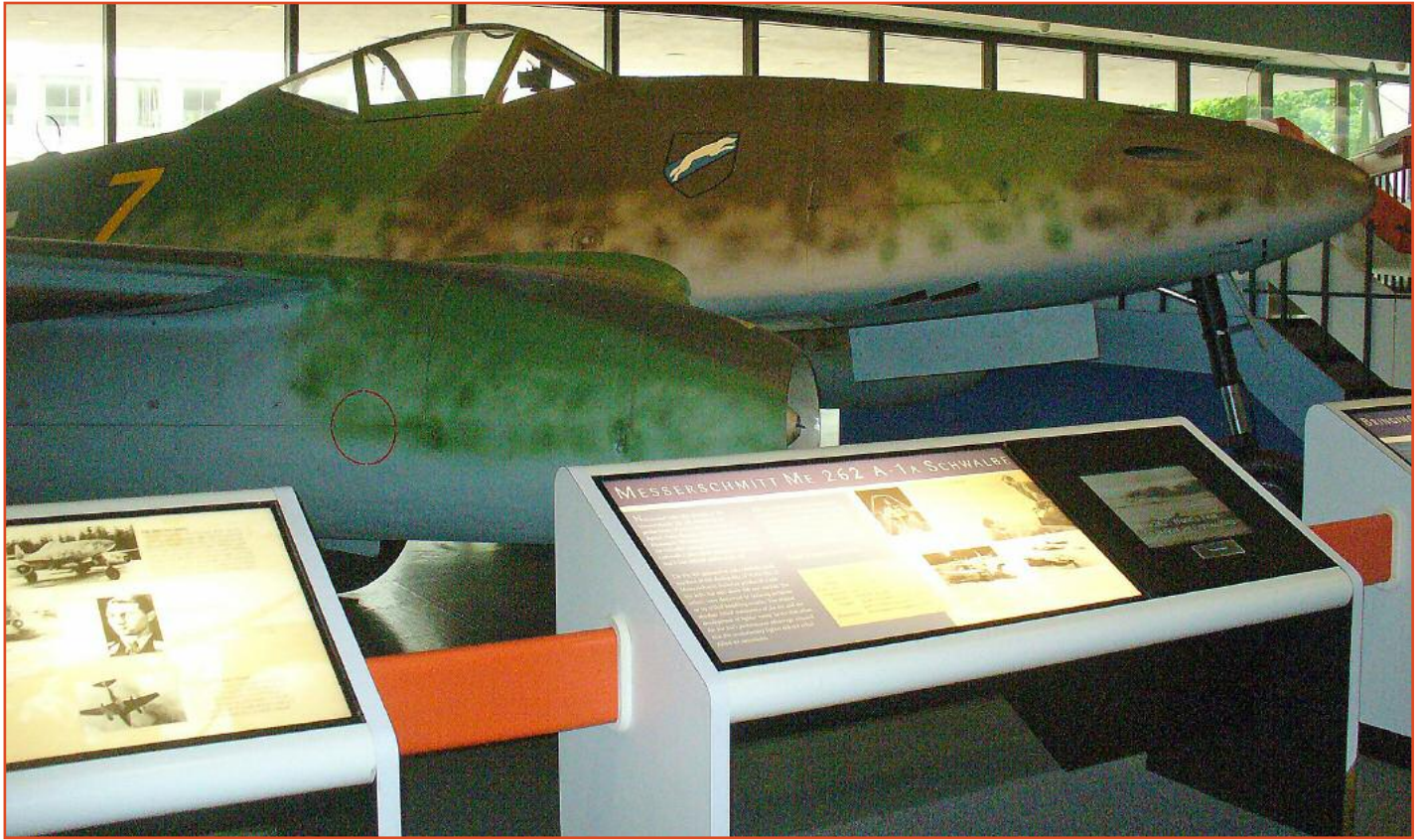


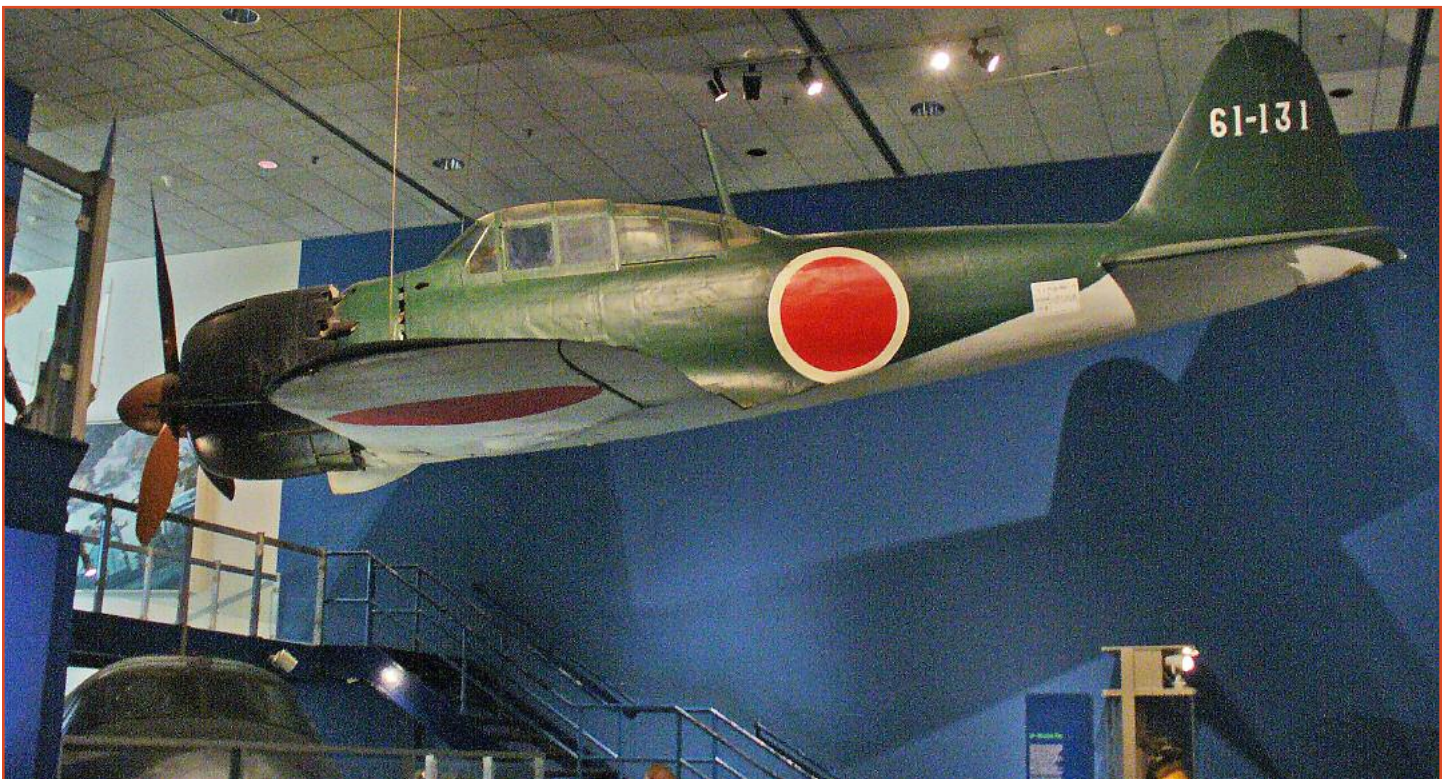
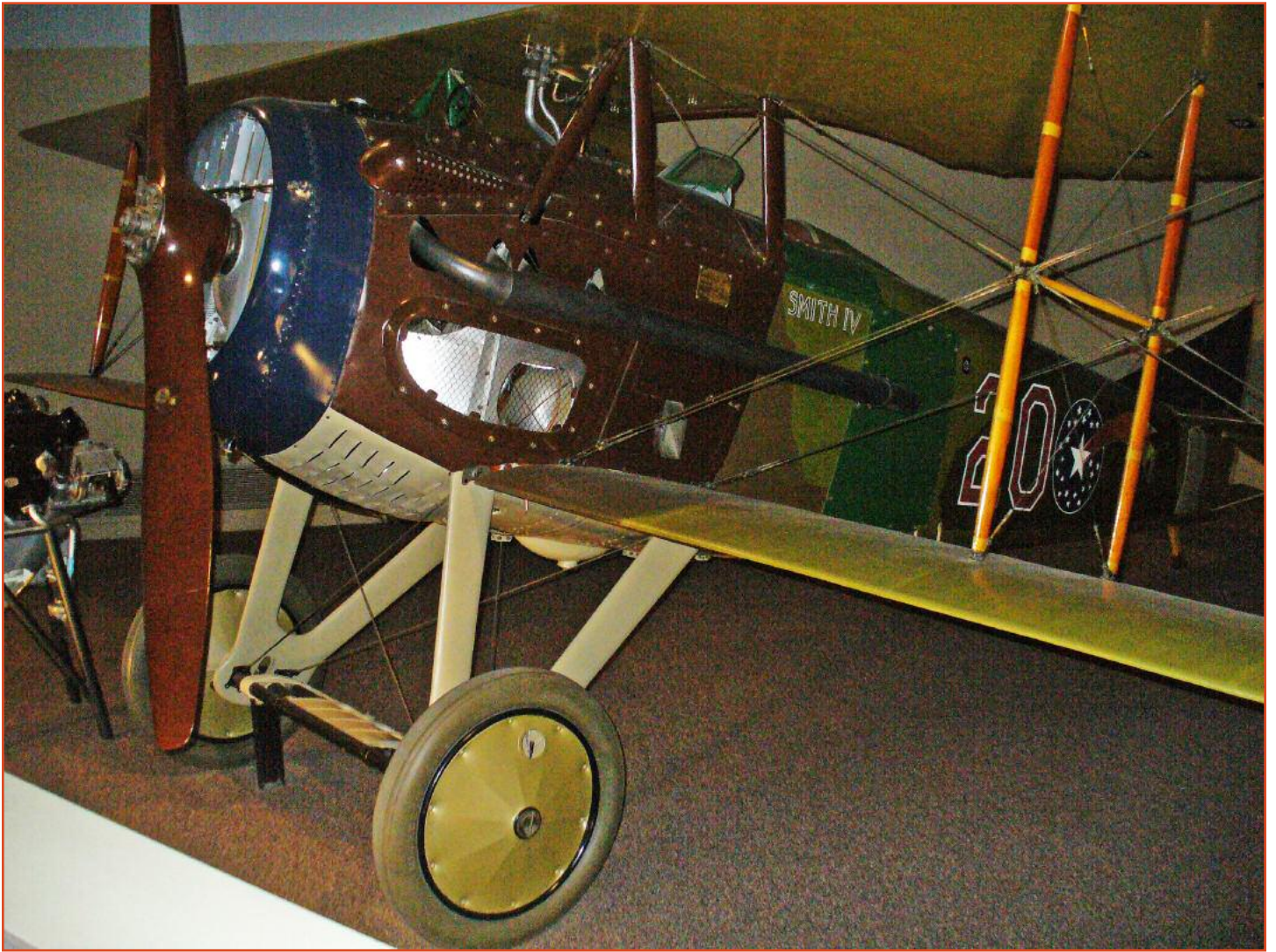


# BONUS PAGES! FIELD TRIP

MIKE BLOHM

National Air and Space Museum









USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65)

The USS Enterprise (CVN-65) is the only aircraft carrier in the world that has been in continuous service since her commissioning in 1961. She has served in the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the War in Afghanistan. She is currently assigned to the 7th Fleet and is based in Yokosuka, Japan.





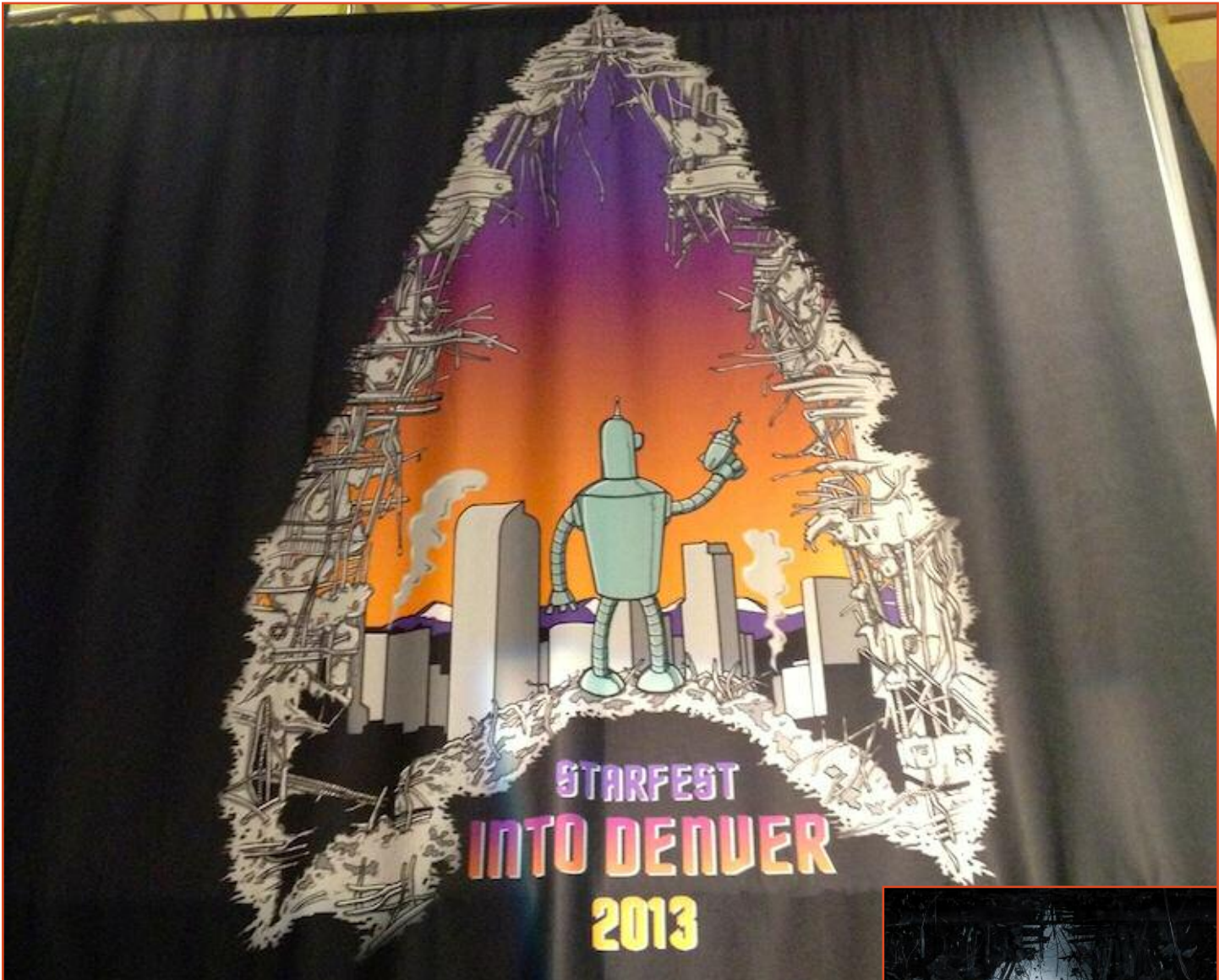




# BONUS PAGES! STARFEST 2013

JOE WALTERS

Back in April, my wife Linda and I attended the annual StarFest science-fiction convention in Denver, Colorado.



This is always a good time! It's run by a local outfit that has been doing this for quite a long time now, and they've got the process down. The convention has grown now to include several sub-conventions, including ComicFest, RoboFest, HorrorFest, DigiFest, and GameFest. Some of these take place in the same hotel as StarFest, and others take place in two neighboring hotels.

The show features guests, activities, a large and varied dealer room, panels, a world-class costume competition, various contests, and much much more.

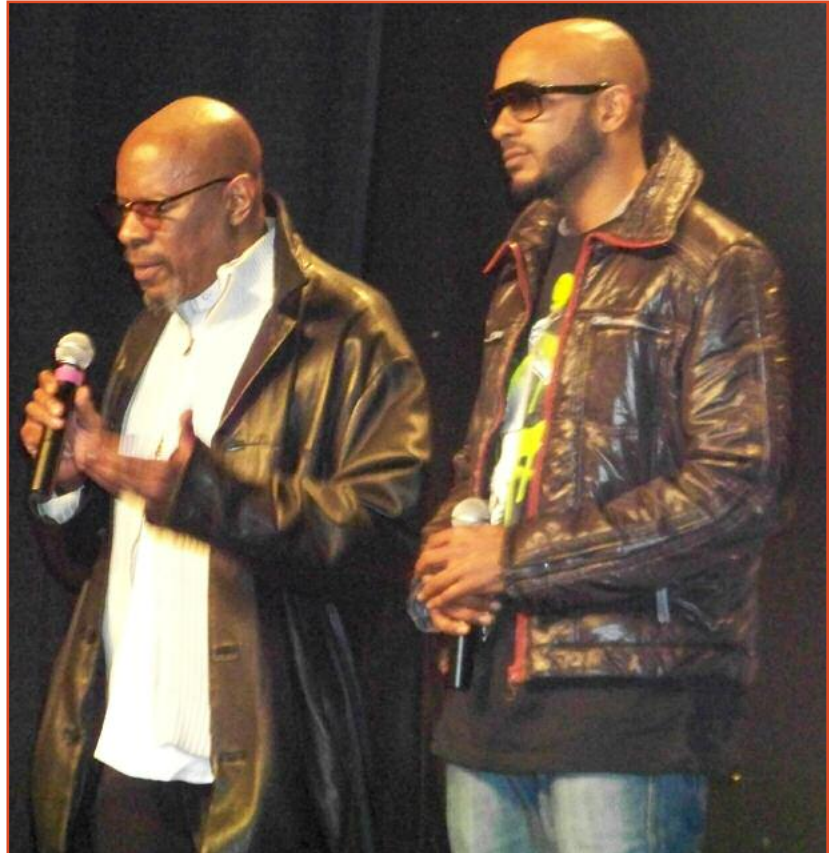
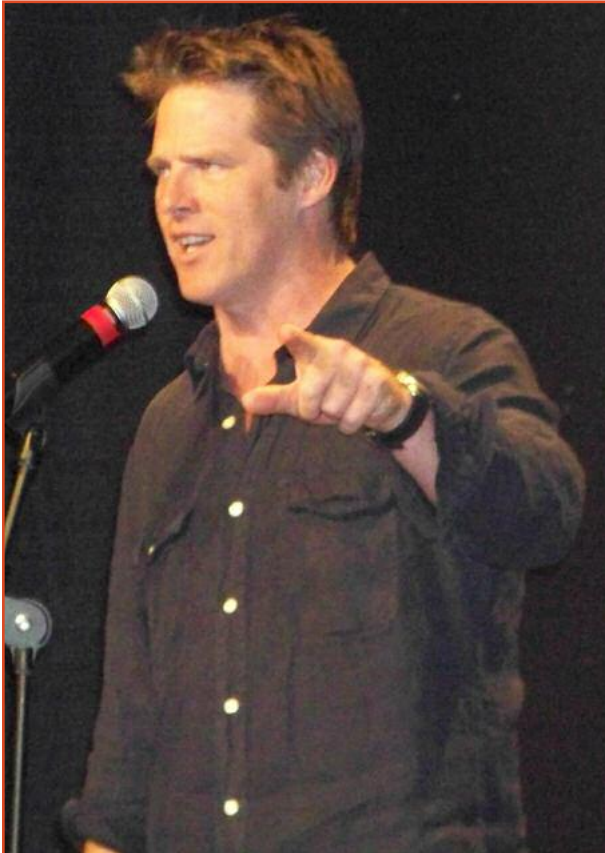
There is so much to do at these conventions that one of the first things we do upon arrival is to look at the schedule and determine which activities we *won't* be able to attend due to inevitable schedule conflicts...

Guests this year included Ben Browder (*Farscape*, *Stargate SG-1*), Avery Brooks (*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, *Spenser for Hire*), Nicole DeBoer (*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, *The Dead Zone*), Melissa McBride (Carol on *The Walking Dead*), Seth Gabel (*Fringe*, *Arrow*), Julie Caitlin Brown (*Star Trek: The Next Gen*).



Wonder where they got the idea for their symbol this year?

eration and *Deep Space Nine*, *Babylon 5*), Deep Roy (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Star Trek*, *Star Trek Into Darkness*), Cirroc Lofton (*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*), and many many more.



Left: Ben Browder of *Farscape* fame gave easily the most entertaining appearance we attended  
Right: Avery Brooks (Captain Sisko of *Deep Space Nine*) is joined by Cirroc Lofton, who played his son Jake on the series.

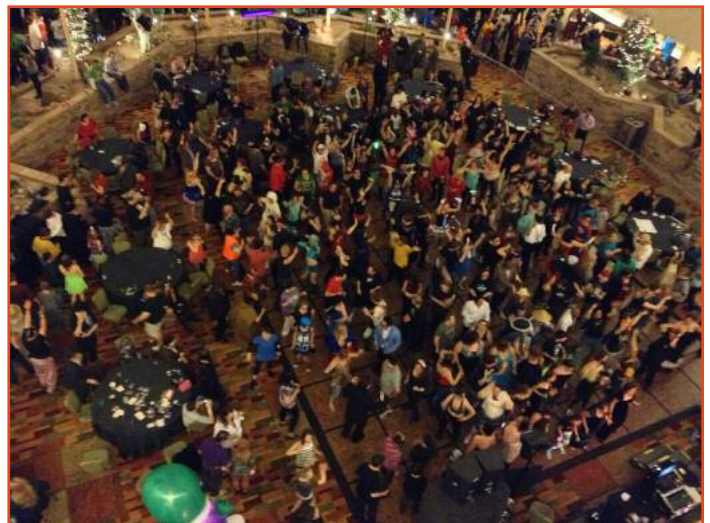
We particularly enjoyed Browder's story from when he was filming *Farscape* in Australia; the show was only on in the US, so no one in Australia was familiar with it at the time. His pre-school son was in Kindergarten one day when the teacher asked the students what their parents did for a living. "My dad's an astronaut!" was young Browder's reply. The teacher didn't buy it. "Now, we don't *have* a space program in Australia. I don't think he's really an astronaut." "He is too! I've seen his spaceship!" Next day, Mr. Browder gets a phone call. "It appears your son may be a bit delusional about your job. It seems he thinks you're an astronaut." "I **am** an astronaut!" Hey, can you expect a five-year-old to know the difference?

We attended quite a few presentations by the guests, and most were highly entertaining. Linda got an autograph from Mr. Browder; one of the nice things about StarFest is that it's actually possible to engage the guests in conversation, if briefly; sometimes you can swap a few sentences, sometimes you can have a prolonged conversation. If the line is a half-mile long, they'll hustle you along, but in general you can actually meet the guests.

There are continuous events, like the Dealers' Room, the Art Show, the Model Show, the Make & Take, and others. Scheduled events attract Harry Potter fans, Klingon enthusiasts, and more. If you like something in Sci-Fi, there's something there for you.

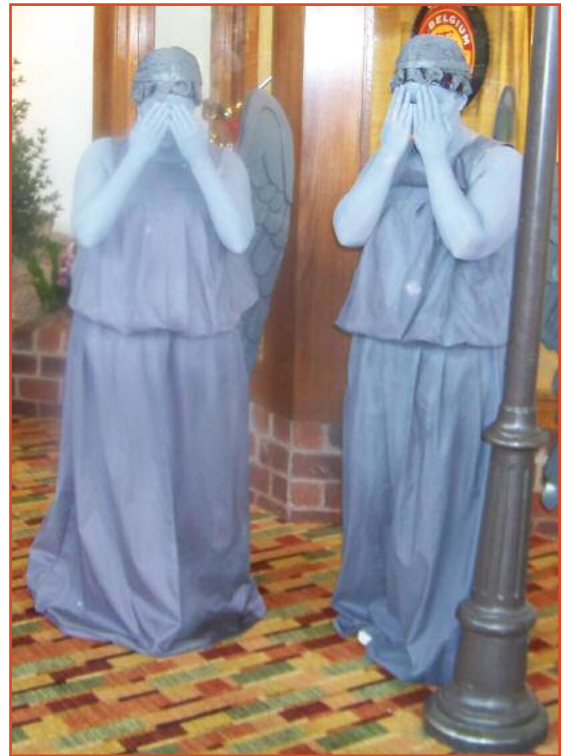
In the atrium section of the hotel, there is always a balcony decoration contest. This often yields amazing results; this year, we happened to get a room overlooking the atrium, so we were treated to loud late-night parties and singing (all in fun).

People are continuously walking about in costumes, often of incredibly high quality. A Superman who *looked*



The view from our balcony, as the Federation Ball was in full swing.

like Superman, a large yellow Minion from *Despicable Me*, and many more wandered the convention.



Left: It's always impressive to see costumes from a film that hasn't even opened yet!  
Right: Fans of *Doctor Who* know exactly what *not* to do when encountering these statues.

This being a model-based newsletter, let's look at model-related activities! There are three: A model show and contest, a Make & Take, and the Airbrush Experience. ASM friend Tom Grossman runs the latter two, and though I somehow was unable to find him this time around—I apparently visited the Make & Take during one of the rare moments he wasn't there—I did find this online photo of him at the event (left), talking with Vernon Clark (right), who runs the Model Show. As you can see, the Airbrush event was busy! Even when I stopped in on Sunday morning, there were quite a few people making and taking.





The Make & Take was this busy on Sunday morning! And if the venue looks a bit restaurant-like to you, that's because the Model Show, Make & Take, and Airbrush Experience take place in the single largest available room in the hotel, which was indeed a restaurant in the past.

ASM sci-fi modelers ought to pay attention to this event! It's a day's drive from Albuquerque (and it's held at the Marriott Denver Tech Center, at the very south end of Denver—so you don't have to spend half your trip transiting the city), and it's a heck of a lot of fun.

Here you can see some samples of the many models entered in the 2013 show; there are many more than I can fit even here! And it's an open competition just waiting for some ASM entries...

The model show/competition itself always brings in several dozen entries (and Vern always gives me hell if I don't bring one). Products of the Make & Take are often entered, resulting in interesting displays of, say, multiple Iron Man kits all painted different ways. Juniors enter this thing too, from Lego kits to full-blown dioramas, and overall qualities vary from beginner to master to downright unbelievable.

The prizes offered are excellent, and are always items appealing to modelers. This year, one particular category comported for the new Polar Lights original series starship Enterprise kit (the big one).



A table displaying the prizes for the various categories in the Model contest.





The EAS Protector from *Galaxy Quest*, and the Moonbus from 2001.



Left: Phaser rifle and tribble. I'm guessing the rifle was scratchbuilt. Tribbles, of course, build themselves.

Below: Eerie metallic blue Klingon battlecruiser.





Left: The rarely seen kits from David Lynch's *Dune*.







Above right: The Drej alien from *Titan A.E.*



Left: Ben Grimm expresses his feelings for a certain location.

Below: Ready to bullseye some womp rats in Beggar's Canyon!





Japanese Animation fans will recognize this vessel from *Robotech*. (I only know because it says "Robotech" on the card)

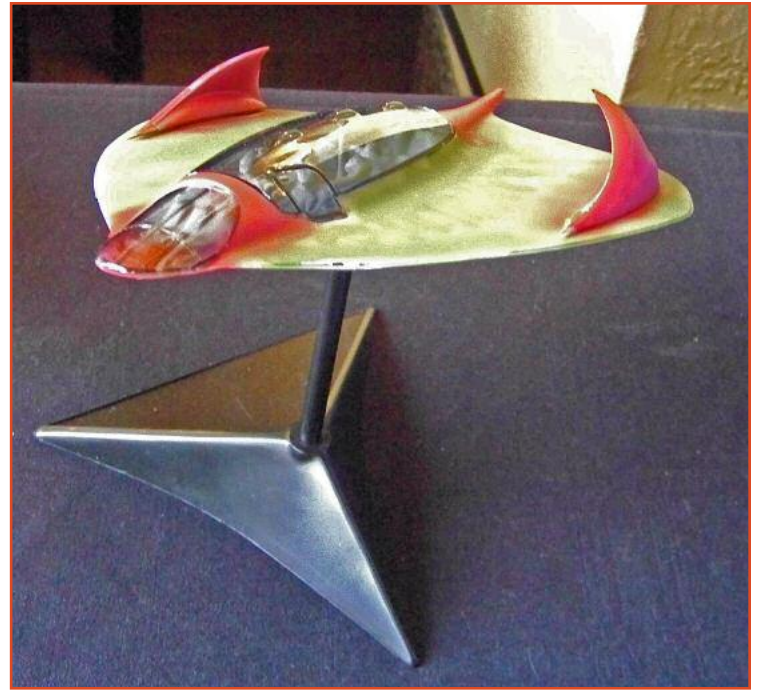


Nice build of the *Sulaco* from *Aliens*.

Six million dollars to rebuild him, and he just monkeys around...



Left: Hey, look in the background! It's those multicolored Iron Man figures mentioned in the article!



Above: An imaginative rendering of the Roswell UFO kit.

Left: A pair of Tardis builds, in two scales.

As the show has grown, parking has become an issue. By mid-day Friday, the Marriott lot is completely full. Offsite parking is not all that convenient, and can be quite costly. We have gotten into the habit of driving up Thursday, so as to get a decent spot! We take it easy, have a room service dinner, and arise Friday rested and ready to start the show! And as the convention lasts into Sunday evening, we drive back on Monday. Makes life easier.

Much information about the convention is, naturally, available on the web. As the next convention approaches, early next year, start monitoring <http://www.starland.com> for details as they become available. Check out some of the various activities that were offered at this show here (<http://starland.com/wp/starfest/activities>), and Facebook fans will find many photos and much discussion there (<https://www.facebook.com/Starfest.Convention>).

We already have our tickets for next year! And we have space for a couple of folks if any ASM members would like to ride along!