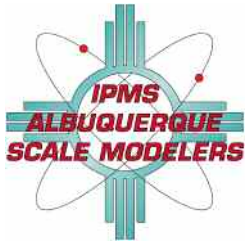


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

June 2015

THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

With the Region 10 competition days away now, I hope that you are all finishing up your builds and packing your bags ready to depart. One of the things that I really like about shows like this is the vendor room. There will doubtless be some great stuff on offer although some of it will likely come at premium prices. I know I've harped on about this before, but when shopping for new kits I find that Tamiya pricing in particular leaves a great deal to be desired these days and it's even worse when the kits they are selling are 1970s "Classic" molds or re-boxed Italeri kits that we

could pick up for about \$10 each on eBay, at a club swap-meet or in the vendor room at a show. Having built a couple of DML kits recently, however, I have to say that I appreciate the build-ability of Tamiya kits. I just don't like their prices. Maybe that's my Scottish blood coming to the fore... As

everyone knows by now, Tamiya kits do fit together (for the most part) without any major hassles and their instructions are really well written too, neither of which you can generally say for DML. I've noticed too that the mold lines are as bad (if not worse) on new DML armor kits as they are on the old 1970s Tamiya stuff, which I find both annoying and unnecessary in 2015. Cleanup of these kits takes an absolute dog's age. Their kits are massively overengineered too, with twenty parts where two would suffice. DML instructions are presumably run through an Enigma

machine first before being released to the public as well, if the ones for their M7 Priest are anything to go by... Old news, I



April Meeting highlights, L – R: Members checking out the model entries; Mike Foust runs a clinic; and the business meeting in progress.



know, but worth repeating in case Mr. DML is out there and listening. You never know. By the way, you won't be seeing a review on that M7 kit as most of it would be unprintable in a family-friendly newsletter.

Tamiya kits are of course often a good base kit to accurize further, but I often wonder—how important is accuracy in competitions like the IPMS Nationals? I'm not a qualified judge myself so I don't know, but I am sure I saw builds at the Nats in Colorado in 2013 that even I knew weren't accurate but they still win prizes, so it seems that accuracy itself—despite the emphasis that you see in modeling forums and among the rivet-counting fraternity—really doesn't matter much to the judges. It's all about build quality and getting the basics right. That is of course understandable but I would like to see more credit given by the judges for historical accuracy, ambitious paint schemes, unusual markings, etc. I would also like to see credit given to people who attempt particularly bad kits from several poorly-regarded manufacturers. Old Airfix (in contrast to their newly-tooled kits which are excellent), Frog, Lindberg, Monogram, many older DML, Alan, and anything else out of Russia before 2004, for example. Bonus points should definitely be awarded there. Anyone can make a potential winner out of the new 800-part multi-media all-singing, all-dancing kits. But an old Frog release? Not quite so simple, is it? It shouldn't all be about hiding the seams effectively, surely, even though that is important. Maybe AMPS do things a bit differently? IPMS though don't seem to worry about anything beyond the basic checklist, to me at least. I find that disappointing, but maybe I'm the only one who does?

Perhaps a holistic approach to judging is called for with less of a focus on the technical aspects? More incense, meditation, chanting "om" and organic building perhaps? A focus on the "whole" model maybe? Officially issued Birkenstocks and prayer wheels? Who knows? I'd like to see the focus change a little, though, but that's probably wishful thinking. In any case let's see what the judging at Region 10 brings us. Onwards and Upwards! Well, North-wards, anyway...

THE FINER POINTS

JERRY LITTLE

If you could imagine it is winter 1944 along the Russian front, what would you see? A lot of white. That's pretty much what we had for the monthly contest of May Day. The theme was any subject or scale that represents the conflict between the European Axis powers against the Soviet Union and other allies. The entries for the month's theme were down; however,



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.
- 06 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)
- 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>

much like the Russians would claim, it isn't the quantity, it's the quality! I believe it was the perfect storm, or should I say буря! The number of models may have been low, but the spread between categories was perfect. We were able to award ribbons to all of the major categories of aircraft, armor, figures, autos and dioramas.

Jeannie Garriss earned a Silver award in Basic for her well-crafted Police Motorcycle. In addition to the Silver award, she also was awarded "People's Choice" for her efforts.

In Intermediate, there were several categories represented. Partap Davis took 1st Place in Figures with his WWII German Field Commander, 1944. His figure quality is outstanding and it earned him Best of Show and was awarded "Выбор людей" by his club comrades! In aircraft, Frank Randall placed first with his Polikarpov I-16. This aircraft was significant in that it was the world's first cantilevered low-winged fighter design with retractable gear that became operational. Frank also took 3rd with a second entry of the Polikarpov I-16 Siipiorava

("Flying Squirrel"). Finally, there were three entries in Intermediate armor and 1st Place went to Brett Kinman for his M60-A1 for outstanding work of an old Esci kit.

Our comrades in the Master's Division had entries in multiple categories as well. Starting with armor, David Miller earned a 1st Place award with his 1/35 Sd.Kfz. 250 Neu mit 5 cm PaK 38 by Dragon Models. Rounding out the armor category was John Tate's well done BA-20 armored car in 2nd and Tony Humphries's 3rd Place Panzer III Ausf H. In diorama, Glenn Bingham took 1st Place with a nice depiction of a FW-190-F8 display along with his 3rd Place Finnish Air Force Brewster Model 239. Second in diorama went to Tony Humphries's M3 Lee diorama titled "Coffin for 7 Brothers." General Motors supplied over 1300 M3s to the Soviets and were considered by the Red Army as inferior. The Red Army often referred to the M3s as "Братская могила на шестерых" or "a grave for six men." Rounding out the Soviet Infantry was the lone entry in the Figure category: Tony's 1944 Russian Infantry Man, which was awarded a 1st Place. In the aircraft category, Glenn Bingham scored a 3rd Place with his 1948 F-51D and John Tate took 2nd with his LaGG 3 Series 60 aircraft. Finally, Larry Glenn took 1st Place, Best of Show and People's Choice all for his 1944 Royal Hungarian Air Force BF-109G-6. Larry's Gustav represented the colorful "Old Puma" from the commander of the 101st fighter Wing of the Royal Hungarian AF based in Veszperm, Hungary. On the Eastern Front, the Pumas were credited with kills of 70 Soviet aircraft and the destruction of over 390 aircraft between 1943 - 1945.

Much like the snow on the ground of the Soviet's Eastern Front, there was a lot of white space on the tables for this month's contest. The quality of the models was outstanding and represented the great work of our ASM members. We are looking for a great turnout in June for our next theme contest "Rotary Wing." This is open to any kit, any subject, any scale that is has a rotor (helicopters, CV-22, gyrocopter). We also have Patrick Dick's Sponsored contest "Lockheed-Martin" representing any L-M subject in any scale. Lockheed Martin, you say... now, where's my kit from the Oxcart Program...?

The Final Point

Some build models for contest. Some build for relaxation. For some, it's a mission. But for all of us, its fun... or at least it should be. The problem we all tend to have is time. There simply isn't enough time and a 25-hour day! Looking at our monthly contest schedule, we have themes that should appeal to just about everyone. However, the biggest issue is finding the time to build for all of those cool contests. Even though we'd all like

FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

Lockheed & Helicopters

Rotary Wing and *Lockheed-Martin* are this month's contest themes, and it seemed suitable to find some Foto File pictures to go with those themes.



A CH-47 Chinook. The emblem on the door may indicate that it is from an Army Reserve unit. I think I took this photo at an airshow in Arizona in the mid 1980s.



Lockheed F-104 Starfighters. This shot was taken at Edwards Air Force Base in May, 1960.



A Navy P2V-7 (Lockheed) Neptune. Taken in August, 1957. This one has a "stinger" tail and jet engines under the wings. The clear plastic front on the right "wing tank" probably indicates a spotlight for illuminating surfaced submarines. An earlier version has a tail turret with, I think, 20mm machine guns pointing out. If someone wants to have fun building a model, Wikipedia has a photo of an RB-69A, a P2V-7 painted Navy blue, with USAF markings and serial number. I'd never heard of that one before starting this Foto File. And during our "Fire Season," you can still see P2Vs here in Albuquerque, heading off to put out forest fires.

[Editor's note: The full text of Fred's article and many more photos of Lockheed and rotary-wing aircraft (larger and in full resolution) are in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

to have that extra hour in a day, most of us don't so that means we need a strategy. Take for example the May contest. One builder entered and placed with three models. These entries earned him a total of 330 points that all go towards Modeler of the Year. A different approach was taken by another modeler who only entered a single model. His model took a 1st Place, Best of Show and was the People's choice. In that single model, he scored 335 points towards Modeler of the Year. One model versus three earning almost identical points. What I'm confident of is both outstanding modelers built what interested them and had fun doing it. While some may build for quantity and others may build for quality, we all build what we like for fun!

For a full listing of contest guidelines:

<http://abqscalemodelers.com/asmguidelines.html>

EDITOR OUTTA TOWN JOE WALTERS

Hi! If this newsletter misses any late-breaking events, it's because I had to crank it out way early (this is also why last month's point totals are repeated below; monitor the website for up-to-date info!). During the week I would normally build this thing, I'll be out of town at a convention thrown by my employer, the International Trumpet Guild (and rest assured that I'll suffer great abuse there as I build daily online reports into the wee hours of every morning).

Why mention it here? Well, like IPMS, ITG rotates their convention sites year by year, and this year it's in (drum roll) *Columbus, Ohio*. Sound familiar? Yep, same city as this

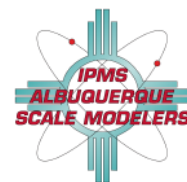


year's IPMS Nationals. On a hunch, I looked it up and—sure enough—we're in the Hyatt Regency Columbus, the same hotel as the Nationals! So if anyone needs any spy photos taken a couple of months in advance, email me quick!

IN THE BONUS PAGES! JOE WALTERS

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

- Winning models from the May meeting
- The full text and photos of Fred's Foto File
- A New Kit Review from Larry Horyna
- Information on the 2015 Region 10 contest



Master

Tony Humphries	350
Brian Peck	279
Ken Liotta	268
James Strickland	204
Larry Glenn	179
Josh Pals	125
Mike Blohm	108
Michael Foust	75
Glen Bingham	52
Danny Williamson	25
Patrick Dick	2

Victor Maestas 2

Dave Straub	2
John Tate	2

Intermediate

Ken Piniak	425
Len Faulconer	129
Gil Johnson	125
Frank Randall	100
Partap Davis	77
Bret Kinman	27
Tim Wood	2

Basic

Jeannie Garriss	400
Keith McIntyre	2
David Paul	2

Junior

Josh Kinman	325
Anthony Jackson	150

MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS STANDINGS

As of 03 Apr 15

CONTACT INFO

President:	Tony Humphries	459-6926	abkhumphries@gmail.com
Vice President:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	681-5158	fcr40.fr@gmail.com
Contest Director:	Jerry Little	280-9038	bravo52@aol.com
Members Pro-Tem:	Jack Garriss	908-1231	jgar319113@aol.com
	Larry Glenn		l.glenn2@comcast.net
	Victor Maestas	771-0980	vmaestas@aol.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'S "MAY DAY" THEME CONTEST WINNERS

Left to right: Partap Davis's WWII German Field Commander, Jeannie Garriss's Police Motorcycle, and Larry Glenn's Bf-109G-6 Royal Hungarian Air Force. Photos by Frank Randall.



BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

Lockheed & Helicopters

Rotary Wing and *Lockheed-Martin* are this month's contest themes, and it seemed suitable to find some Foto File pictures to go with those themes.

The Lockheed Martin contest reminds me of when I saw my first Lockheed jet. It was about 1949, and my father was stationed at Barber's Point Naval Air Station in Oahu, Hawaii. One of my buddies said that there was a Shooting Star at the Coast Guard facility, located far away from the normal areas I was familiar with. We went over to the runway, and off in the distance was a white object, parked with the Coast Guard stuff. It was (I think) the TO-1, the Navy version of the F-80. We were very impressed with that white speck in the distance.



Below: A Lockheed T-33 trainer. I'm not sure where I was when I took this photo, but it may have been at the Mojave airport, as I can see civilian cars in the distance. An interesting thing about the T-33; it was created to train pilots on how to fly the F-80, but it had better performance than the F-80. So the T-33 was turned into the F-94 Starfire.





F-104 Starfighters. These shots were taken at Edwards Air Force Base in May, 1960.





Above: A Navy P2V-7 (Lockheed) Neptune. Taken in August, 1957. This one has a “stinger” tail and jet engines under the wings. The clear plastic front on the right “wing tank” probably indicates a spotlight for illuminating surfaced submarines. An earlier version has a tail turret with, I think, 20mm machine guns pointing out. If someone wants to have fun building a model, Wikipedia has a photo of an RB-69A, a P2V-7 painted Navy blue, with USAF markings and serial number. I’d never heard of that one before starting this Foto File. And during our “Fire Season,” you can still see P2Vs here in Albuquerque, heading off to put out forest fires.

Below: Taken at Miramar Naval Air Station in January 1962, this is a Piasecki HUP Retriever rescue helicopter. Piasecki was later acquired by Boeing, and became their Vertol division.





An OH-58 Kiowa helicopter. The emblem on the door may indicate that it is from an Army Reserve unit.



A CH-47 Chinook with the same emblem. I *think* I took these two photos at an airshow in Arizona in the mid 1980s.

BONUS PAGES!

KIT REVIEW

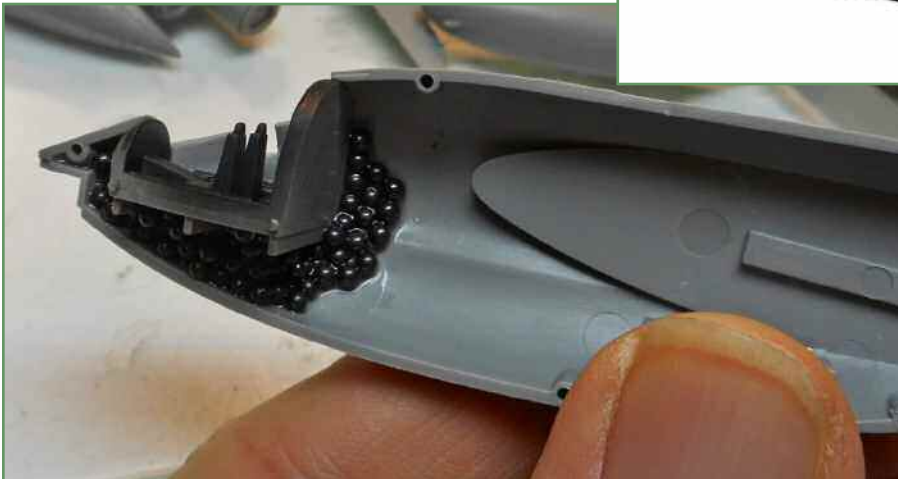
LARRY HORYNA

Great Wall Hobby Handley Page Victor B.2

Retired from active service in 1993, the Handley Page Victor was the last of the British “V” bombers (the Vulcan and Valiant being the first two). Removed from the strategic nuclear bombing mission in 1968 due to the discovery of fatigue cracks, many Victors were modified to fly strategic reconnaissance missions. After the nuclear deterrent role was handed over to Polaris missile carrying submarines of the Royal Navy, the Victor found new life as an aerial refueling tanker. In this capacity, the Victor saw service during the Falklands War refueling Vulcan bombers on the long range “Black Buck” missions. The 1991 Gulf War saw the Victor in its last use in wartime before being retired.

Great Wall Hobby has recently released a 1/144-scale kit of this historically important Cold War British aircraft.

Given the scale, the kit is very well detailed. The casting is clean and crisp with very little fit issues. There were a few ejector pin marks in places that were a bit of a hassle to remove, most noticeably on the tiny fuselage intake doors near the tail. Nose weight is required to get the model to sit on the gear (very little though, three grams as I recall). The large wing leading edge intakes pose a bit of challenge as there is a seam running right through the middle of it (but, hey, isn't that just a fact of life for “jet guys?”). Careful filling and sanding will get rid of what was the only seam issue on the kit.



Top to bottom: Box art, nose weights, visible pin marks, and the dreaded wing leading edge intake seam.

One other very small gripe. There are several antennas on the fuselage. Three are very small blade antennas. Two have to be glued on but for some reason, one is molded on the fuselage top center, making it a certain victim of covering the fuselage seam. After accidentally sanding it off I made a simple replacement from plastic card. I just thought it was strange that Great Wall elected to mold that antenna on the fuselage when the other two would not have been in the way. That's about it for assembly! Everything else was a breeze as far as fit. The real challenge was the paint scheme. The leading edges of the wings and tail had a slight wraparound, which required a lot of masking. In fact, I would say that I spent half the time on this model masking! The result was well worth it, though.



Paints were Tamiya acrylics following the same techniques I use for larger scale models. I start with a black pre-shade, followed by base colors and then a highlight using the base color with a little white mixed in. This is the third model I have used post-shading on and I like the technique very much. I keep a bottle of a particular mix for this. It is made up of Tamiya black and red brown thinned about 75% with Tamiya thinner. I spray this in shadowed areas as well as on the demarcation lines between the camo colors. There is a very good tutorial on Hyperscale.com where Brett Green demonstrates the technique.

I used Future for the clear coat followed by the decals. The kit decals went down without a problem and reacted well with only a few coats of Micro-Sol. Next came a panel wash using MIG dark brown followed by Testor's clear flat mixed with just a little semi-gloss. I wanted a tiny bit of sheen but not much because of the scale. Lastly, the landing gear were added. Here there is one little glitch in the instructions. The instructions have you add the gear doors before the gear struts. This is a little unusual but it works fine for the main gear. If you follow the instructions for the nose gear you will have a problem. The doors will interfere with the strut going into the bay. You will want to attach the gear and then the doors. Otherwise, this was a very nice little kit and a very enjoyable build. Highly Recommended.











50 Shades of Green

CoMMiESFest 6
IPMS Region 10
Regional Contest
12th & 13th of June, 2015



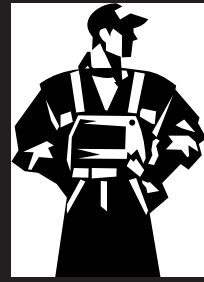
TEAM
S.A.B.L.E.
Stash Accumulated Beyond Life Expectancy

Holiday Inn Denver East -
Stapleton
3333 Quebec Street
Denver, CO 80207
(303) 321-3500

Mr.Badwrench64@gmail.
com
commiesfest.com
info@commiesfest.com

It's not easy being green, or even defining 'green'. We can specify a wavelength but I'd bet even that would get argued about, additive vs subtractive color, CMYK vs RGB, green hulk vs yellow hulk.

Fifty Shades of Green



CoMMiESFest 6 IPMS Region 10 Regional Contest 12th & 13th of June, 2015

Contest: So how green are you? Categories will be split as needed and we retain the right to merge under-populated categories or to not award anything if deemed so by the judges. Single entries in a category are not guaranteed a 1st place.

Categories: IPMS based categories list.

Check our website (<http://commiesfest.com>) for the latest info and updates!

Vendor Tables Available!
contact Sean Kneeland zaku2ms06@gmail.com

Spectators Welcome!



Holiday Inn Denver East -
Stapleton
3333 Quebec Street
Denver, CO 80207
(303) 321-3500



Mr.Badwrench64@gmail.com
Ministress@me.com
<http://commiesfest.com>
info@commiesfest.com

CoMMiESFEST

2 0 1 5

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).



IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ If Renewing _____ First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Signature (required by P.O.) _____

Type of Membership Adult, 1 Year: \$30 Adult, 2 Years: \$58 Adult, 3 Years: \$86

Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____

Canada & Mexico: \$35 Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order

Payment Method: Check Money Order Credit Card (MC/VISA/DISC)

Credit Card No: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____

If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:

Name: _____ IPMS No.: _____

IPMS/USA

Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org

P.O. Box 2475

North Canton, OH 44720-0475