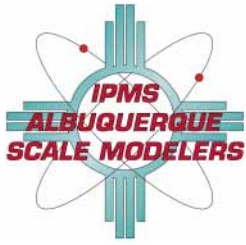


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<https://abqscalemodelers.com>

June 2022

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS JOHN TATE

There were a few developments at our May 6 ASM meeting that are worth noting to the club. First, by sentiment of the membership, it was decided that in addition to a guest speaker, our June meeting will host a modeling clinic, the first since the pandemic. There was also some interest expressed in holding another Chile Con contest, at a future date to be determined.

But first, I would like to congratulate the winners of the Ukraine War contest I sponsored; Best Aircraft and Best Armor went to Scott Jaworski for his excellent wargaming scale Mi-24 Hind E and T-64 tank in Ukrainian markings, with Best Intermediate going to Ken Piniak for his brewed-up $\frac{1}{2}$ Russian T-72, a common sight these days in the Ukrainian countryside. The Ukraine War has generated interest for many modelers and we will see more scale replicas from this conflict in the future. On a related

note, as hobbyists we also have an opportunity to support Ukraine with our scale modeling dollars since that country is home to several well-known lines of hobby products. These products are also of excellent quality and good value for money so purchasing them affords a rare opportunity to support freedom as well as making a wise consumer choice.

(Images of Scott's Mi-24 helo and T-64 models can be seen below.)

Our June 3 meeting will host guest speaker Frank Hoback giving a presentation on aerial fire-fighting; Frank is a retired air tanker pilot who has flown just about everything, including four-engine Privateers, so this should be an interesting talk. He's also an accomplished scale modeler with an eye for scale modeling detail.

ASM member Jerry Little might also put in a speaking appearance, discussing a favorite plane for many of us—the B-52—that he flew during his Air Force career. Speakers will be followed by a modeling clinic given by ASM members.



There was some talk at the meeting about organizing for a future Chile Con regional-level contest. As many of us can attest, there is no small amount of effort involved in putting on one of these shows so if we want to host another model contest to be proud of, we all have to be willing to put in the work for it.

I am encouraged by the skill and enthusiasm of the ASM members who have expressed interest so far in volunteering, and with a healthy club treasury at our disposal we have a good basis for a future show. This matter will be discussed by the E-Board before moving ahead but in the meantime consider as members your willingness to pitch in and get a future Chile Con off the ground.

Mike Blohm has contacted one of our favorite guest speakers, Doug Dildy, Col, USAF (Ret.), who will give a talk at our September meeting on The Big Week, the USAAF effort in February 1944 to knock out the Luftwaffe's fighter force. Check the ASM website for more updates.

Thanks to all ASM members for your dedication to and interest in the club, especially given the difficulties of the past few years; it should be a matter of pride for all of us that our club has continued to thrive with the hobby despite all adversity.

Year 2022 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 07 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1:**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
Sponsored Contest: "Gold Member"
Frickin' Laser Beams (Patrick Dick)
- 04 Feb** **Cancelled**
- 04 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
- 01 Apr** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest
- 06 May** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
Sponsored Contest: "Putin's War Machine" (John Tate)
- 03 Jun** **NO CONTEST; CLINIC NIGHT**
- 08 Jul** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
- 05 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest
- 09 Sep** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
Sponsored Contest: "75th Anniversary of the USAF" (Mike & Matt Blohm)
- 07 Oct** **NO CONTEST; SEMINARS**
- 04 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
- 02 Dec** **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>



Master

Victor Maestas	2
Chuck Hermann	350
James Strickland	6
Mike Blohm	2
Frank Randall	100

Intermediate

Jim Medina	502
Bob Henderson	325
Jim Coatney	250
Ken Piniak	150
James Barrett	100
Rob Whitlock	100
Steve Miller	75

Basic

Rolf Nitsche	275
Kris Herrera	225
Mark Vaughn	225

Junior

[No entries]

2022 MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS

As of 04 Mar 22



General contact email address for the ASM E-Board:
ABQScaleModelers@outlook.com

President:
Vice President:
Secretary/Treasurer:
Contest Director:
Members Pro-Tem:

Webmaster:
Newsletter Editor:

John Tate
Dave Epstein
Frank Randall
Ken Liotta
Bob Henderson
Victor Maestas
Scott Jaworski
Mike Blohm
Joe Walters (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 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!

MAY BEST-OF-SHOW WINNERS

Photos by Frank Randall. Top to bottom: Mark Vaughn's F9F-8 Cougar (Basic); James Medina's M4 Caricature (Intermediate); and Casey Rupley's *USS Reuben James* (Masters). There were no Junior entries.



BONUS PAGES!

AIRCRAFT ON DISPLAY AT MCAS YUMA

MIKE BLOHM

This field trip report covers the aircraft and helicopters on display at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma in Yuma, Arizona. I visited the base on a business trip in July 2021 and was able to take some time to check out and photograph the aircraft that they have on display. MCAS Yuma is home to AV-8B Harrier IIs and F-35 Lightning IIs operated by the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 (MAWTS-1), Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 1 (VMX-1), and Marine Fighter Training Squadron 401 (VMFT-401).

There are two groups of aircraft on display that have served at MCAS Yuma over the last fifty years. The first is at the main gate and the second is in front of the base headquarters building. Descriptions and pictures of the displays are included below. Some brief info is also covered on these aircraft's service in their units. Additional pictures are posted on the *ASM Website*.

Main Gate Display.



The display by the main gate has five aircraft:

1) a Hawker Siddeley AV-8A Harrier mounted on a pedestal in the markings of the VMA-513 “Flying Nightmares;”





2) a Douglas A4L Skyhawk, also on a pedestal, in markings of VMA-214 "Black Sheep;"



3) a McDonnell F-4B Phantom II in the markings of VMFAT-101 "Sharpshooters;"



4) a Northrup F-5E Tiger II in a two-brown aggressor lizard scheme in the markings of the VMFT-401 "Snipers" aggressor squadron; and



5) a McDonnell Douglas AV-8B Harrier II in the markings of the VMA-211 "Wake Island Avengers/Bastion Defenders." This is the latest addition to this display. Some of the aircraft carry rocket pods and Mk 82 bombs.



VMA-214 flew various versions of the A-4 for 27 years to June 1989, when they transitioned to the AV-8B. They are currently transitioning to the F-35B. VMFAT-101 was the last USMC F-4 training unit with its F-4s being retired in May 1987. It then transitioned to the F/A-18. VMA-513 was decommissioned in July 2013 after 69 years of service, last flying the AV-8B. It was recommissioned in June 2020 as an F-35B Fleet Replacement Squadron (training unit).

Pictures of the aircraft display by the main gate:



Headquarters Building Display.



The display by the headquarters building includes:
1) a Bell HH-1N Iroquois “Huey” in the markings of the Yuma Search and Rescue Flight (this HH-1N was previously displayed by the main gate, but was moved to this area to make way for the new AV-8B;)





2) a Beech UC-12B Huron logistical operations support aircraft; and



3) a McDonnell Douglas AV-8B Harrier in the markings of the VMA-311 "Tomcats." The AV-8B has Mk-82 bombs with BSU-49 high-drag tail units on the wing pylons.



VMA-311 flew Harriers from Sep 2000 to May 2016. They transitioned to F-35Bs in May 2016 and its designation was changed to VMFA-311. The UC-21Bs at Yuma were replaced by newer UC-12Ws in 2012. The HH-1N Hueys at Yuma were recently retired.

It is somewhat difficult to get close to or visit the gate display because it is up against the outbound road on one side (narrow sidewalk there and a low fence), the base outer fence on another, and some trees and bushes on the last side. You have to park your car behind one of the nearby buildings and hike through some grass to get there. Therefore, I have a mix of pictures with some taken from my car when stopped at the red light while on the way out the gate, some after I hiked over to the display, and some from the main drag outside the base.

An interesting group of aircraft and worth the hike if you want to get close up. The outside-the-base look will be necessary if you do not have ID that will let you get on the base. A drive-by / pause will work if there is little traffic. Or you can park across the street and walk over to the fence line. The display by the headquarters building is easily accessible from a parking lot right next to it. If you are on Interstate 8 driving between Phoenix and San Diego, it is just a short detour to get to the base and check out the display.



BONUS PAGES!

A GHOST FROM THE PAST

GIL DE LA PLAIN

Nostalgic Ramblings of a Chronologically-Challenged Scale Model Nerd

It's funny how a cross-country move can unexpectedly trigger long lost memories. And I don't mean "trigger" in the new-fangled and irritating "woke" sense of the word. I just mean bringing back some pleasant memories of how I got into this interesting hobby of ours.

Waaaayyyy back in the day it was my older brother Charley that got me interested in building scale models. The model that I remember as being the main catalyst (if I remember correctly) was the 1/16-scale "Revell Snowman" funny car.



He didn't just build it OOB, he took the time and effort to actually scratchbuild all of the linkage between the throttle pedal and the butterflies in the injector scoop, so that they opened when you pressed the pedal! Well, when I saw that, I was hooked and decided that it was time to build models of my own. Charley was four years older than me, and I was in junior high school. It was about this time that he got a job at the McDonalds on north Fourth Street in Albuquerque. Soon he found out about a hobby shop named "Hobby Corner" not too far from work. It was a really amazing, old school hobby shop and I believe it was run by a

guy named Hank Gauller (spelling?). It seemed Hank was always happy to answer any questions no matter what the age of the customer or their wallet size. There were creaky wood floors, model railroad stuff, plastic models, some RC stuff, tools, paint, etc., all stacked to the ceiling, and it was like an amusement park to a young model nerd like me.

On one of our early trips, my brother found out that there was actually a scale model club that met in an upstairs room at the hobby shop once a month and he started hauling me along to those meetings. At those meetings we were encouraged and mentored by "real pros" like Alan Goodman and Don Alberts. It was in the model club that I saw for the first time an amazing device called an airbrush. The club had a Paasche H airbrush...



...along with a compressor and spray booth located upstairs at Hobby Corner. The club members could schedule to use it as long as they were checked out on it and always left the airbrush and workspace clean and tidy when they were done. The experienced guys taught us youngsters how to use it, and I was thrilled because there was no way I could afford one of those gadgets, and they produced results that were so much better than my hand brush painting skills. About this time my brother's interests started drifting more towards music and playing in local bands and away from scale modeling, but I could still talk my parents or him into taking me to the meetings. My brother knew how much I longed for an airbrush of my own and unbeknownst to me he diligently saved money from his job at McDonalds until he had enough to make the purchase. One Christmas somewhere around 1973 I found under the tree a couple of boxes that I was not expecting. It was a Binks Wren B airbrush and a Binks diaphragm air compressor. I couldn't believe it and was absolutely over the moon!

And this is where all of my rambling ties back into my initial comments about our cross-country move and triggering old memories. I used that airbrush and compressor for many, many years until, like so many of us, it was my turn to be distracted by school, girls, jobs, and life in general. Obviously, that old Binks airbrush setup has way more sentimental value than logic would dictate, and there is no way it will ever get discarded. So it got packed away and forgotten about and moved from place to place for decades. Well, I finally got around to unpacking all of the "non-essentials" here in North Carolina and came across the old Binks treasure trove.



Upon further inspection the airbrush was in amazingly good shape, the needle and nozzle were pretty worn and the needle packing gasket was hard as a rock, but other than that it seemed fine. An internet search showed that the Wren airbrush is still made but is insanely expensive for a basic, single action airbrush (\$260 minimum). As you would assume, parts are commensurately expensive and hard to find as well. Some patient watching on eBay turned up a "like new" needle and nozzle assembly for a reasonable price and I was able to buy a bag of needle packing washers for under \$10. Okay, now I was in business for a seriously fun trip down memory lane! I did a final cleaning, installed the new needle/nozzle assembly along with a new packing gasket, and was ready to see if it would still shoot some paint.



Hmmmm; what to do about an air source? Surely the diaphragm in that old Binks compressor had rotted away by now, or the motor had frozen up after decades of being stored in various garages. But what the heck, I was feeling uncharacteristically optimistic and decided to just plug it in and stand by to reset a circuit breaker. To my amazement it immediately came to life with that same soothing hum that I remembered hearing for hours on end as a kid, and it was actually pumping air!



So now I had my original “over the moon” airbrush setup that provided untold hours of entertainment to those many years ago...

Some things to note about this setup:

The ancient paint drips on the airbrush box, compressor and air hose are almost all Floquil. Yes, the insanely smelly stuff in the square form factor bottles thinned with DIO-SOL (both of which would most likely get my spraying area declared a federal superfund cleanup site in these modern times). The pictures below were grabbed from the internet and I was amazed to see that there is any of this stuff still around at all. I was even more amazed to see that a bottle of Floquil paint was going for anywhere from \$20 to \$45 on our favorite online auction site. That's especially notable when taking into consideration the \$.68 price tag on the bottle in the photo. Clearly my retirement standard of living would be much higher if I had invested in Floquil commodities. Also Floquil "Grime" was a wonderful shade of—well, for lack of a better term—grimy black! I never have found a really good substitute for that particular paint color.



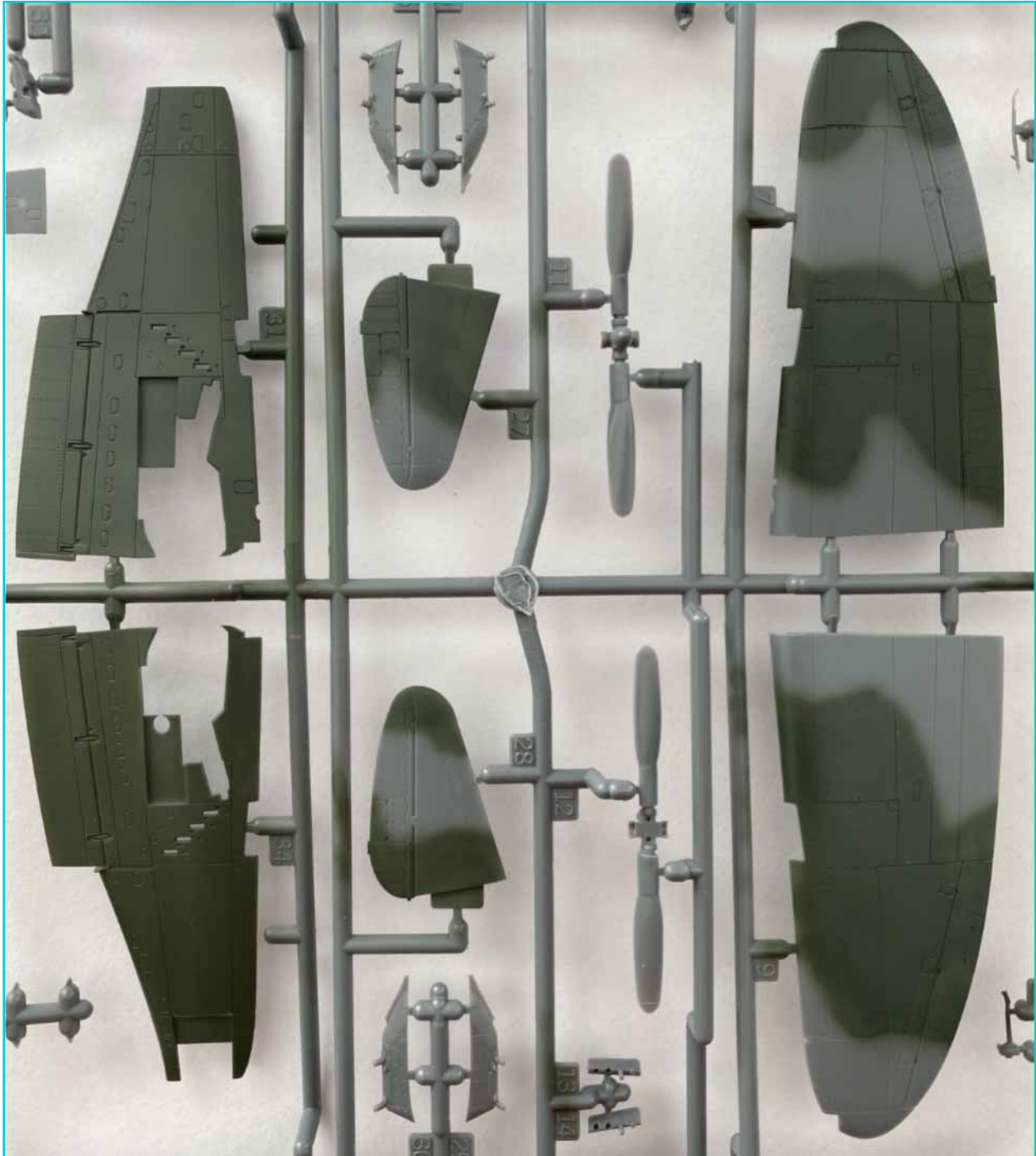
Regarding the air hose, it still works fine, just a lot stiffer and less flexible (not unlike myself). It also still retains the custom bailing wire hose clamps that I made to prevent leaks at the barbed fittings. I haven't had the guts to try the bailing wire clamp technique to address any personal leakage issues that may occur as time marches on. Also take note that there is a conspicuous absence of any air pressure regulator, filter or water separator. Ahhh, the times were simpler back then!

Enough reminiscing, let's see if this rig will actually still spray some paint. Any stash of Floquil colors and Diosol had disappeared long ago along with the ozone layer, but I still have quite a bit of the old Testors Model Master enamels, which are a close second it seems. So I grabbed a bottle of RLM 82 and some Model Master Universal Enamel Thinner and mixed up a small batch. I then grabbed a



sheet of paper and started with the requisite squiggly lines to see if anything happened at all. Results were certainly not impressive by today's double-action airbrush standards, but considering the age of the hardware, the skill level of the user, and the fact that I had not picked up an airbrush for about three years, I felt like I couldn't complain. Actually, I had to keep reminding myself that all of the major hardware was manufactured about fifty years ago and had been in storage for decades. Add an additional fourteen years to the user's date of manufacture over and above the hardware age and you begin to get the picture. It was hard not to go down the smug, old guy, "they just don't make stuff like they used to" path.

Now to try it on some styrene! I dragged out a spare 1/2 aircraft parts sprue to give it a quick shot and this was the result...



Examining the results I can honestly say that the only "paint boogers" were caused by operator error. Mostly by not quite having the paint viscosity, spraying distance and hand speed dialed in. Again, I say pretty amazing performance given the age of the hardware!

Many of you will recognize the sprue as the Tamiya $\frac{1}{2}$ P-47, one of the nicest $\frac{1}{2}$ -scale kits around. Please don't fret that I sacrificed such a fine kit for a paint test mule. This really was a spare since I had to buy this kit in the past just to rob the fuselage and cockpit pieces after learning the hard way that one of our puppies had a huge sweet tooth for styrene! But that's a story for another day.

In conclusion, if you've made it this far please accept my thanks (and apologies) for letting a chronologically-challenged styrene nerd amble and mumble down memory lane. That old Binks airbrush setup provided many, many years of enjoyment and entertainment and helped to develop hand/eye coordination and fine motor skills that were eventually of great benefit in my "grown up" career. The interest in scale modeling also quickly led to an interest in history (especially WWII) that kept me occupied in the local Albuquerque public libraries for hours on end as a teenager. I think my parents were pretty happy with that outcome as well.

Looking back I owe a debt of gratitude to a generous brother, a hobby shop owner and some experienced scale model builders in the old model club. They always encouraged me during the never ending learning process. When I was just starting, instead of saying "that looks like crap" when I proudly brought in something with way too much tube glue, paint brush marks all over the place and crooked decals, they just patiently suggested (and showed) better ways to do things in very encouraging ways. Hopefully that is the approach that we all have when someone new to the hobby arrives in our midst. Looking back over the years, those individuals actually provided a line of scale modeling "DNA" and connections that still run through ASM and Hobby Proz to this very day.

I hope you and yours are all well and enjoying this great hobby of ours. Now if you will excuse me I need to drop my brother a line and tell him thanks for getting me an airbrush instead of pounding his annoying little brother like I actually deserved.

BONUS PAGES! KEN'S ARMOR FILES KEN PINIAK

Life Imitates Art
or
History Repeats Itself



Back in 1984, MGM released the movie *Red Dawn*, about a Soviet invasion of the US. If you haven't seen this film, you should. It's a great movie, and as it turns out, a bit prophetic. The film is set in the fictional town of Calumet, Colorado (filmed in and around Las Vegas, New Mexico), and is told through the eyes of a group of high school kids. The kids engage the Russians in guerilla warfare, calling themselves "Wolverines" after the school football team. They tag destroyed vehicles and buildings with the name Wolverines. So now, fast forward 38 years.



In February 2022, Russia invaded the nation of Ukraine. The war, which is ongoing, bears many similarities to the film, and previous Russian tactics. These include a surprise attack, the targeting of civilian infrastructure, intense resistance by the invaded country, especially the civilian population, and Russian reprisals against civilians when things go bad.

And now we can add a new item to the list, as someone, perhaps more than one person or group, has begun to tag Russian vehicles "Wolverines." This is a direct reference to the film, and it provided me some inspiration. I would build a Wolverines tank.



I looked around to see what I had that would work, and settled on a 1/87 (HO scale) kit of a T-72 by SDV, a company in the Czech Republic. This is a nice, well-detailed kit of a T-72, with easy construction and a



low parts count. It is also a limited run plastic kit, with all of the problems inherent in those type of kits: rough moldings, no alignment pins or other devices to ensure parts are mated properly, and lots of flash, sink holes, and ejector pin marks. The instructions, written in Czech and German, look to be hand drawn. They would be barely adequate for a regular kit; but here, where parts and locations are vague, they are not much help. Good references are a must. If you can get

past all that, SDV kits do build up to be very nice replicas.

Most of the kit went together very quickly. Because this tank has been destroyed and burned out, I left a lot of the smaller bits off. I think that the kit gun tube is too skinny, so I replaced it with a metal one from a Trident kit. This actually worked out for the best. The key to this build, and the reason I went for it in the first place, is the paint job. I wanted to build this as a burned-out wreck. I started





1239819217

with a base coat of red automotive primer. Then I added some Testors rust and Model Master burnt umber in splotchy, stippled coats. After letting that dry a few days, I started with a rust weathering set from Lifecolor. These are acrylic paints, so they won't affect the underlying paint. Again, I applied them in a stippled, splotchy, and very random pattern. I also used them as a wash to help blend things together, and dry-brushing to get the highlights.

The thermal shrouds on the gun tube and the road wheels are aluminum. The gun, taken from another tank, had already been painted green and had lots of chipped paint, so it looked correct. The wheels I painted aluminum. Photos show some blackening, soot from the paint and rubber burning off. I used some very thinned down black for this. For the graffiti I used a white paint pen with the finest tip I could find. A final coat of flat clear to dull everything down, and it was done.

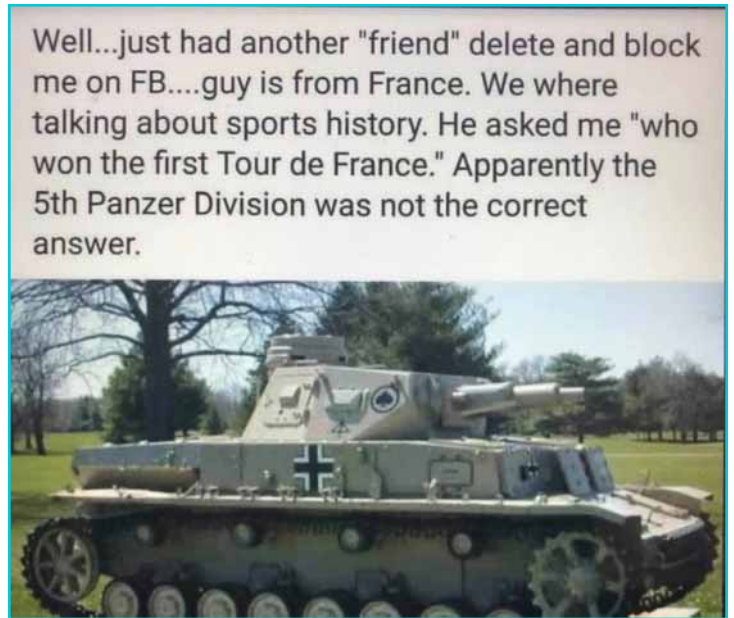






BONUS PAGES! MISCELLANEOUS

This page: Submissions from Mike Blohm.



This page: some images from our prolific Ken Piniak:





Don't throw out doll heads you can turn them into handy night lights for your kids 😊



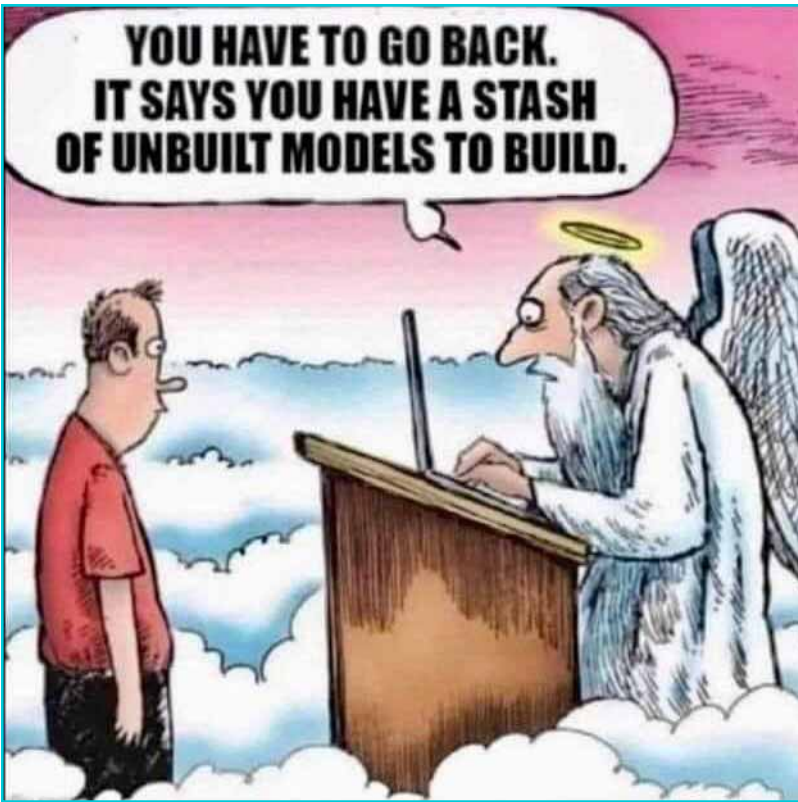
WHAT NORMAL PEOPLE THINK
WHEN THEY HEAR "U2"



WHAT I THINK



Left: submitted by Frank Randall



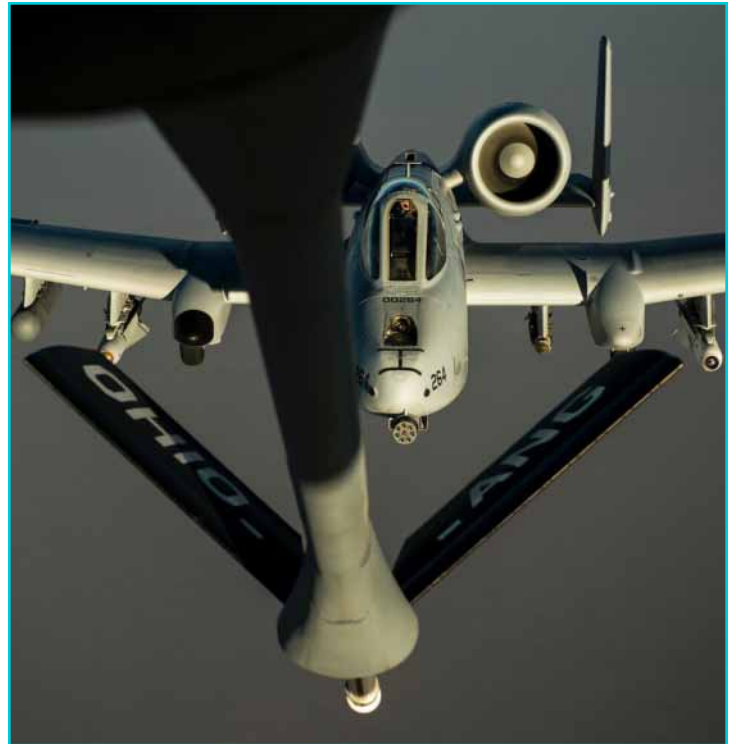




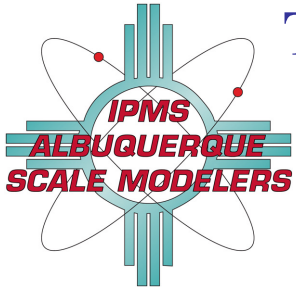
WARTHOGS ARE BEAUTIFUL



**ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY SMILE
AND SHOW THEIR 30MM TEETH**







The Albuquerque Scale Modelers' Meeting on June 3, 2022 includes:



No Contests



Guest Speaker:

"Aerial Firefighting"

By Frank Hoback



MODELZONA 2022



Saturday, November 5th, 2022
9am - 5pm

Red Mountain Community Church
6101 East Virginia Street - Mesa, Arizona 85215
(Northeast corner of Loop 202 and N. Recker Rd.)

SPECIAL AWARDS THIS YEAR*



75 Years - 1947 to 2022
Best United States
Air Force Subject

80 Years - Best 1942 Pacific War Subject

Best F4U Corsair

Raleigh Williams Craftmanship Award

*Indicate on the model entry form the Special Award for which you would like your model to be considered.

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Contact Keith at:

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for vendor info

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$5

Kids under 13 - FREE

Model Registration - 9am to 1pm

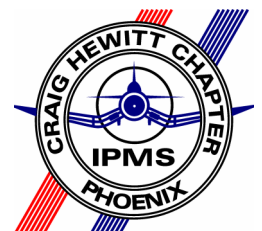
Adult - \$5 which includes your first 5 models (additional models - \$1 each)

Junior (under 17) - \$2 (unlimited models)

A fillable model registration form is available on our website. We encourage you to fill your forms out in advance so that you have more time to enjoy the show!

Visit our website for more info: www.ipms-phoenix.com

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IPMS/SALT LAKE CITY PRESENTS

SLC 2022 MODEL EXPO

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

MODEL CONTEST AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

**Gail Miller Conference Center
Miller Campus, Salt Lake Community College
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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

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