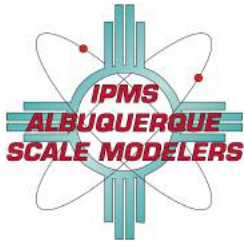


# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

March 2009

## PRESIDENT'S SPIEL JAMES GULD

I hope everyone is getting stimulated and building models for the upcoming year. Let's see those tables full. I remember last March we had a good turnout both for completed models and for works-in-progress.

I would also like to encourage people to write articles for the newsletter. It can be about any model-related subject like a book or kit review or even a build report letting others know how a certain kit went together. I've just noticed that the newsletter has been a little light the past few months so think about writing something. Thanks.

February meeting highlights, clockwise from upper left: members checking out the swap meet; one of many tables of goodies; the business meeting in progress

## FIELD TRIP REPORT MIKE BLOHM

### Pima Air & Space Museum

This Field Trip Report covers a trip that I recently made to the Pima Air & Space Museum in Tucson, Arizona. The museum has a huge outside exhibit area—over half of the museum grounds—with approximately 157 aircraft and 18 aircraft-related ground vehicles from all the US services, and from some other countries as well. A more detailed trip report and additional pictures are available on the ASM web site (<http://abqscale->



[modelers.com/asm\\_field\\_trips.htm](http://modelers.com/asm_field_trips.htm)).

The “Spirit of Freedom” Hangar next to the entrance has a B-18B Bolo, PBM-5A Mariner, F 107 Ultra-Sabre, SR-71A, A-10A, S-3B Viking, and an AH-1S Cobra, amongst others. Just outside is a Ground Launched Cruise Missile display that includes a BGM-109, a missile transporter-erector, erector launcher, and tractor. Perfect for anybody contemplating a diorama.



The museum has a total of seven MiG fighters including a MiG-29 and MiG-21PF. The “bomber row” includes an F-111D, B-57E, EB-47E, B-50, NB-52A (Edwards-NASA test launch platform), B-52D, B-52G, B-58A, and WB-66. Unfortunately the B-36 and WB-57 were in a refurbishment area. Bombers elsewhere included a B26K, B-23 Dragon, and Bristol Mk IV Blenheim. There are plenty of cargo, aerial refueling, and anti-submarine aircraft. Of note were the Boeing YC-14 prototype, PV-2 Harpoon, NASA B-377SG (ex-C-97) Super Guppy, AP-2H Neptune in the multi-grey SEA scheme, and a YQM-98A “Compass Cope” drone.



Several independent hangar buildings contain approximately 73 aircraft. The 390th Bomb Group Memorial hangar has a very nice B-17G. You can peer into several of the hatches, bomb bay, and ball turret to get an appreciation of what it was like to fly in it. Hangar 3 houses a B 24J, B-25J, A-26C, C-47 in D-Day markings, PT-19 and



AT-11 trainers, Fi-103 (V-1) Buzz Bomb, and Hurricane Mk II, amongst many others. Hangar 4 houses a B-29, C-46D, TBM-3, P 63E, F4U-4, and a Ki-43 Oscar. Of note is a FM-2 Wildcat that was recovered from Lake Michigan where it was lost during carrier landing training in April 1945. Surprisingly the museum did not have a P-47, P-51, F6F, or F8F anywhere in its collection. Make sure you visit the WW II Barracks, as it includes some model displays. The Space Gallery hangar includes an X-15A-2 mock-up and some nice models of various spacecraft.



The museum has just about all the post-WW II USAF and USN/USMC fighters and attack aircraft in several long rows. Standouts were an F-4C that had scored a MiG-17 kill in Viet Nam, an F-84F Thunderstreak in Thunderbirds markings, and an F 11F Tiger in Blue Angels markings. Foreign types include a Hawker F-58 Hunter and a Fairey AEW-3 Gannet, a most ungainly-looking aircraft. There are also groupings of Presidential and civil aircraft and 12 helicopters.



Very highly recommended—plan on at least a whole day to see everything. The best thing about the museum is that you are able to get up close to almost all the aircraft to check them out and to get



photographs from just about any angle you want.

For more information, check out the museum's web site (<http://www.pimaair.org>).

## KITS FOR THE TROOPS

### FRANK RANDALL

At the February 2009 meeting we had our roundup of kits for the troops. There was a generous donation of thirty-five kits of all types. So thanks to you all who donated to the cause.



Now, there is a hold on mailing the kits out. The contacts for the overseas model clubs have rotated back or moved on to other positions and I am waiting for the new contacts to take over. IPMS/USA has a listing of the clubs and will update the contacts as soon as possible. Now there is a current contact for the Diego Garcia club, so we will be sending them a care package. Some of the biggest needs the clubs want are supplies, tools, paints, etc., since these are hard to come by over there, so if anyone wants to further assist our troops please see any board members.

Again, thanks to all.

## CHALLENGE BUILD

### BRIAN PECK

Greetings fellow modelers!

At our January meeting I gave out four kits for this year's first ASM challenge build. Sean and

### 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!

Gregg Hayes, Keith Liotta, and Adrian Montano rose to the challenge to build their kits and complete them within the two-month time period. Hopefully we will see the finished kits this Friday!

I'll probably do few more of these throughout the year to encourage more people to build, build, build! The kits were generously donated by a semi-anonymous ASM member (just ask me if you really want to know) in hopes that the kits will be built and put to good use.

See you all at the next meeting!

# JIM'S ARMOR CORNER

## JAMES GULD

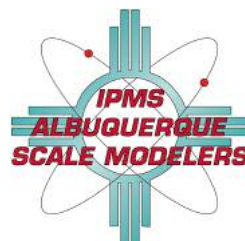
I have decided to change my column slightly. Instead of just regurgitating what you can find for yourself on PMMS, I will try and focus on an armor-related subject of some sort. I hope you enjoy it.

This month I thought I would discuss researching, as I'm in the middle of a new diorama involving an M16B "Wasp" halftrack set near a canal lock near the town of Sarreinsming, France, in December 1944. Personally, I get into doing the research for a diorama almost as much as building and finishing it. I have found that the Missing-Lynx site (<http://www.missing-lynx.com>) is a great place to start for getting info on a particular subject.

The people that contribute to the site are some of the top armor modelers in the world. For my current diorama, I had asked a question about the setting and received some answers from some members, and also started Emailing with one member who was able to help me find a site on canal locks. This guy is a lock nerd. The web is great for this sort of stuff. People are into the

weirdest stuff...

Through this site I was able to find a modern-day picture of the lock I'm working on and of old abandoned locks that were built at about the same time as the lock I'm working on. I also started corresponding with this person and he acted as my second set of eyes. Working from an old black and white photo is tough and it helps to have a second opinion as to what something is in a photo or how it might be constructed. With his help, we've been able to figure out many of the items in the photo with some degree of certainty. Some items are still a mystery as to what their function is, and you just have to go with your best WAG. I will bring in this diorama as a Work-in-Progress and it will also be apart of an article I'm writing for "Boresight," the AMPS magazine.



### Master

John Tate	3102
James Guld	3044
Mike Blohm	734
Dave Miller	497
Mike Franklin	420
Patrick Dick	216
Keith Liotta	212
Ken Liotta	187
Mike McNichols	170
Brian Peck	160
Glenn Bingham	85

### Intermediate

Victor Maestas	1946
Josh Pals	1537
Rick Carver	830
Frank Randall	810
Tom Perea	615
Tim Wood	502
Adrian Montaño	407
Wayne Sprong	305
Tony Humphries	247
Kyle Garber	168
Don Blea	125
Don Smith	103
Danny Williamson	102

Jeff Frickstad	75
Jack Garriss	25

### Basic

Gil Johnson	1940
Kent Weeks	620
Jeannie Garriss	385
John Tribou	125
Matt Blohm	125

### Junior

Chelsea Perea	460
Kelly Brown	275
Shaun Brown	175
Alyssa Perea	125

## ASM 2008 MODELER-OF-THE-YEAR FINALS

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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.