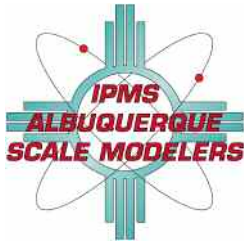


# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

March 2016

## THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

Following on from January's discussion (or rant, depending how you look at it—it was obviously meant to be light-hearted, though, and I'm sure you all understood that) about being an Englishman in the US, there were a couple of points that I ought to mention following feedback at our last meetings and elsewhere. We do know that you helped us out a lot during WWI and II and are grateful for that. Lend-lease in particular was an enormous help, although it cost us an arm and a leg too—I think we finished paying for that in 2008, or thereabouts. We know that it cost the United States a lot as well, although the difference was that you could afford it. WWII bankrupted Britain, particularly as it followed fairly closely on the heels of WWI which almost



did... We as a nation are genuinely appreciative of the assistance though.

On that subject, some random guy said to me in a downtown bar a while ago "You're English? Hah, we saved your asses in WWII!"—to which I replied, "Yes, in a way I suppose you did. *Eventually...*" It's funny how it all goes quiet when you've said something like that, isn't it? Still, it's not the first time that I've ever upset anyone and it certainly won't be the last. In a similar vein, I will probably do so again by pointing out that many people in Britain and Europe were convinced during the 1980s that Reagan was trying to make up for being late to the first two World Wars by being really early for the third one... Thankfully that never materialized, though, or we'd all be sitting in a large crater bonking rocks together instead of reading this. Oh and one other thing. For the love of God, *stop* trying to do an English accent when you meet any of us for the first time! You can't. You just sound like Dick Van Dyke or a recent stroke victim (and I don't know

February Meeting highlights, L – R: the Swap Meet was popular, as you can see from the crowd; a typical Swap Meet setup; and the business meeting in progress.



which is more unfortunate). Just accept it, stop spitting and drooling and move on. Like those old Charlie Chaplin movies, it's not big, it's not clever and it's *certainly* not funny. So don't. No one on our side of the pond liked that bloody Sting song either (*Englishman in New York* my arse...) by the way. That was just an elaborate practical joke, as was much of Sting's career, now that I come to think of it.

Okay. Now, on to some actual modeling topics for a change... So, another month, another WWI armor release. It really is amazing, the extent to which manufacturers have finally woken up to this long-neglected area. It's a shame it took about a century for it to happen! I'm not including the old Emhar kits here, by the way—they have been around for quite a while but are uniformly hideous and that comical old Italian A7V kit (the name of the manufacturer escapes me—thankfully... something to do with bulls, I think, which is certainly appropriate) was almost enough to make anyone give up the hobby for good and go and live in a remote mountaintop cave, with nothing to occupy them but artisanal carpet weaving, randomly ringing small bells, and the sound of Yak mooing. But there is some great stuff out there now, notably from Takom and Meng, although even Tamiya are getting in on the act too. Lots of figures are coming out now as well, most notably from Masterbox and Masterclub including at least two sets that I have seen which include parts to make a section of the trenches contained within them. This is also very welcome. The accuracy of these trenches is probably a little open to question from what I've seen, but they can be customized and improved without too much effort on the builder's part. An honorable mention must also go to the resin kits and figures from "Tommy's War" over in England as well—they are based in Leicestershire (and I look forward to hearing some of you try to pronounce *that*—I *would* promise not to laugh, but we all know that would be a lie). But then nobody is perfect. Check them out (<http://www.tommyswar.com>, believe it or not)—they are superb. It's great to see so many subjects from "the war to end all wars" (a sad misnomer indeed) now available.

If any of you manufacturers out there are listening (which I doubt), how about some figures and equipment from the Napoleonic and Revolutionary War periods now too? Both have also been long overlooked (except by the French ironically; *i.e.*, Historex) in the seemingly endless quest to release every paper panzer ever drawn on the back of a damp beer mat in a dingy Bierkeller by some sozzled Krupp or Porsche engineer (and they were probably joking anyway). Choice is of course a good thing, but do we really need every single minor variation of Panzer III and Panzer IV that was ever created, including the field modifications? It seems as though every time a picture of a panzer with a slightly different Jerry-can holder surfaces, DML rushes to release it as a separate, new multimedia (and multi-mega-dollar) kit. There's more to life than Nazi uniforms and equipment, you know. I'm beginning to think that "Deutschland Uber Alles" is DML's company motto. Maybe Martin Bormann got away and ended up in Shanghai after all?

One other request while I'm on the subject, is could we please get away from those single-track links (with the notable exception of Fruilmodel) and maybe go to link and length as the norm? The single links aren't "Magic" at all, in my opinion.

## Year 2016 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 08 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1:**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
- 05 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 04 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 01 Apr** **Rescue Me!**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 06 May** **Anniversaries**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 03 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: US PRESIDENTS**  
Sponsored Contest: "Northrop Grumman" (Patrick Dick)
- 08 Jul** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Revolutionary War / Bicentennial Subjects" (Tony Humphries)
- 05 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 02 Sep** **Captured!**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "100 Years of British Armor" (John Tate)  
Sponsored Contest: "Caricatures" (Gil De La Plain)
- NEW!** Sponsored Contest: "Star Trek: 50th Anniversary" (Mike & Matt Blohm & Joe Walters)
- 07 Oct** **Empire of the Sun—Japan**—Any kit/subject/scale from the World Wars
- 04 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Big 'Uns" (Tim Wood)
- 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>**

Voodoo possibly, but not magic, at least not in a good sense. In fact they're a bloody nuisance. Tamiya seemed to have grasped this with their most recent Panzer II kits and with the new SU-76 (at long last, a decent kit of that widely used vehicle) from what I hear. I'm sure that not everyone agrees with me on the subject of single-links, but having tried to put together styrene indie links for a Panzer 1 some time ago and having been afflicted with a nervous twitch and the thousand yard stare for several weeks afterwards as a result, I am adamant on the subject and will not be swayed. So there.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT MIKE BLOHM

The Ides of March are almost upon us. Be aware of where your X-Acto knife is.

March is our first points contest of 2016—Open Contest #1. Please keep in mind our Display-Only theme of "Desert Storm" at the 2016 New Mexico State Fair at the end of August as you build your model entries this year. Perhaps a



model covered by the “Rescue Me” (helicopter, ambulance) or “Presidents” (aircraft carrier, submarine) contests or Patrick Dick’s “Northrup Grumman” sponsored contest (F-14 Tomcat, A-6 Intruder, F-5 Tiger, E-2 Hawkeye) could also fit a Desert Storm display entry. Remember, however, that the State Fair display can be models off your shelves from years past, as well as new builds. I’ve been checking out my collection and have a bunch that are players.

We hope to conduct a Make & Take event in March that will need some help from the ASM membership. Stand by for more info on that via an email notification, if we do not have that nailed down by the March 4 ASM meeting.

Upcoming contests and other events in the next few months include the following (additional data and links are available on the *ASM Website*)

March 11 – 13: StarFest 2016 in Denver, Colorado

April 2: Trinity Site open to the public.

April 7 – 9: Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS) National Convention in Sumter, South Carolina.

April 16: CoMMiESFest 2016 in Golden, Colorado (IPMS Region 10)

April 23: Modelmania 2016 in Stafford, Texas (IPMS Region 6)

May 7: Best of the West Show and Contest in Las Vegas, Nevada (IPMS Region 8)

June 6 – 18: Squadron EagleQuest 25 in Grapevine, Texas.

August 3 – 6: IPMS/USA National Convention in Columbia, South Carolina.

And finally to close out this report, please don’t crowd Tony at the March meeting—that “Ides” thing.

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## THE FINER POINTS

### JERRY LITTLE

Woot! It’s March, and the first of our points paying contest. This is the start of another great modeling year for the club. We’ve got some great themes lined up this year, and the contests will be fun. Since March is an open contest, that means we can enter anything that suits our taste. Well, more likely it’s what we’ve been able to finish. In my case, I’ve been working on a Kitty Hawk AH-1Z Viper. I was intrigued by the design of this helicopter, as it shares about 85% of the components with the UH-1Y Huey. If you look close at both helicopters, you’ll see that the tail boom, engines, rotor system and cockpits are all common. Oh, one other thing, if the AH-1Z is the “Viper,” then the UH-1Y couldn’t just be called a Huey, they had to rename it the “Venom...” Well, my snake will be on the table for the March contest!

## FRED’S FOTO FILE

### FRED FRANCESCHI

#### Radial Engines

Since I enjoy building US Navy World War II airplanes, when I had a chance I would take photos of radial engines. That gave me information on how to detail and paint these complex powerplants. The real engines had two spark plugs per cylinder, one in the front of each cylinder and the other in the rear. I was inclined to simplify this to only show the wire going to the front cylinder, which I usually made from fishing leader felt-tip-penned black. Civilian owners of aircraft sometimes chrome plate parts that were not chromed on the original planes, so engines on restored planes may look more “flashy” than the originals designed for combat use did. Builder beware!



An SB2C’s engine in the aircraft. Taken in 1988, at the Yankee Air Force rebuilding and museum area at the Chino airport in California.



A double-row 18-cylinder radial engine on its stand. Not often can you view these engines outside their airplanes. This engine must have been a real bear to work on. I took these at the Planes of Fame museum at the Chino airport in September, 1988.

[Editor’s note: The full text of Fred’s article and several more Radial Engine photos (larger and in higher resolution) can be found in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

Even though March is the first points contest, it doesn't mean there haven't been a few points scored. We've had two opportunities to collect some points in January and February. There have been a few models on the "Works In Progress" tables and a modeler will get two points for each of the kits they put on the table. We can already tell who's in the running for Modeler of the Year because they've maximized the opportunity by displaying up to three WiPs for those months. If you remember, the difference between first and second in both Masters and Intermediate last year was close enough to be challenged by just a few WiPs over the year. So, even if you don't have a complete model to enter, bring it to the meeting and let everyone see how the building is going and you'll earn a couple of points.

The top three points leaders in each category:

|               |    |
|---------------|----|
| Masters       |    |
| Ken Liotta    | 12 |
| Mike Blohm    | 6  |
| Keith Liotta  | 6  |
| Josh Pals     | 6  |
| Intermediate  |    |
| Partap Davis  | 6  |
| Len Faulconer | 6  |
| Ken Piniak    | 6  |
| Junior        |    |
| Joshua Kinman | 2  |

### The Final Point

Take every chance you get to compete for Modeler of the Year. January started off this year with a great showing in our traditional contest. We had a lot of models on the table and it was clear by the quality of the builds, that the competition will be tight again in 2016. Everyone should go to the club website and review how points are awarded for each entry and placement in the different categories. And don't forget, 2 points are awarded for each Work in Progress!

## CONTEST SCHEDULE

JOE WALTERS

Looking at the Quick Reference chart on page 2, you'll notice a few new / changed items.

Tony Humphries is sponsoring a contest in July; the theme is **Revolutionary War / Bicentennial Subjects**.

Gil De La Plain's Sponsored Contest in September now has a specific subject: **Caricatures**. Any caricature of a model, such as an egg plane, Ratfink car, or goofy figure.

Also in September, John Tate is sponsoring a **100 Years of British Armor** contest, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the use of tanks in war.

Also also in September, in honor of the 50th anniversary of *Star Trek* (the series debuted on NBC in September, 1966), Mike and Matt Blohm and Joe Walters are sponsoring a **Star Trek** contest—spacecraft, figures, and whatever else you can come up with are welcome!

Also, a couple of sponsored contests previously listed for October have been removed—those were leftover from the 2015 list, and I failed to remove them from the 2016 list when I built it over the old one. Sorry about that!

## IN THE BONUS PAGES!

JOE WALTERS

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

- The full text and photos of Fred's Foto File
- Info on CoMMiESFest 2016



**CHILE CON**  
COMING IN 2017!

## 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        |
|                      | Victor Maestas | 771-0980 | vmaestas@aol.com          |
|                      | Josh Pals      |          | slapdaddyj@rocketmail.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!

## UPDATED 2016 CONTEST SCHEDULE

### JERRY LITTLE

- Maximum of three entries per modeler at Points contest, excluding Works-in-Progress
- Three Works-In-Progress entries allowed at each meeting (2 points per WIP entry)
- Five entries allowed per modeler at Special Contests (Non-points)
- Number of entries in a Sponsored Contest is up to the contest host
- State Fair contest entries earns 50 points per model / 25 pts for display—max of 3 models.
- All Theme contest are open to *all* entries

January 8: **Special Contest—Real Space/Science/Sci-Fi/Fantasy** (Non-Points).

Annual “Moe Blalters” special contest in honor of our longtime ASM Just Staff and Sci-Fi & Fantasy enthusiasts, Joe Walters and Mike Blohm, contest open to any subject, any scale, within theme. Examples include a Mercury space capsule, dinosaur, X-Wing Fighter or fantasy figure. Be creative!

Sponsored Contest: **Frickin’ Laser Beams** (Patrick Dick). Any subject involving lasers!

February 5: ASM Swap Meet—No contest. Bring your surplus kits to sell or swap!

March 4: **Points Contest #1. Open Contest.** Open to any kit, any subject, any scale.

April 1: **Points Contest #2. Rescue Me!**

Open to any subject, any scale or any kit that depicts First Responders. This theme represents any subject that is the first in during a crisis. This could be Special Ops figures, Ambulances, Aerial Fire Fighters or even Armor recovery vehicles. This could include military or civilian subjects in all genres!

May 6: **Points Contest #3. Anniversaries**

Open to any subject, any scale or any kit that represents the anniversaries of 2016. Subjects from the 100th, 75th, 50th or 25th years. That includes things like WWI (1916), WWII (1941), the Flower Power '60s (1966) or even the '90s (1991).

June 3: **Special Contest—Presidents** (Non-Points)

Open to any subject or any scale named after a US President. This also includes any vehicles used specifically by a President. This includes Air Force One, Marine One, a Presidential Limo, or even a Presidential Yacht.

Sponsored Contest: **Northrop Grumman** (Patrick Dick). Any Northrop Grumman subject or scale.

July 8: **Points Contest #4. Open Contest.** Open to any kit, any subject, any scale.

Sponsored Contest: **Revolutionary War / Bicentennial Subjects** (Tony Humphries).

August 5: Swap Meet and **Clinic Roundtable**—No Contest. Surplus kit sale. Basic modeling clinic set up to allow members to move from table to table during the demonstrations.

September 2: **Points Contest #5. Captured!**

Any subject or any scale that is finished in markings other than that of the country that designed the item. These are machines that were captured or left behind and reused, tested or displayed.

Sponsored Contest: **Cartoons and Caricatures!** (Gil De La Plain). Anything that is a cartoon character or caricature that represents a person, animal, or machine. Think anything by Dave Deal, or Rat Finks, Weird-ohs,



Silly Surfers, Egg Planes, Jetsons, Coyote/Roadrunner, or Flintstones-type stuff. No superheroes here—they're not weird enough! *No Marvel or DC superheroes allowed.*

Sponsored Contest: **Star Trek 50th Anniversary.** (Joe Walters and Mike & Matt Blohm). Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the airing of the first episode of *Star Trek*! Any subject, any scale that is Star Trek.

Sponsored Contest: **100 Years of British Armor.** (John Tate). September 2016 marks the 100th Anniversary of the first use of tanks in war, by the British at the Battle of the Somme during WWI. Open to any British tank, any scale or era, 1916 to Present.

September 8 – 18 - 2016: **New Mexico State Fair. Desert Storm.** Any subject or scale that represents vehicles that participated in Operation Desert Storm.

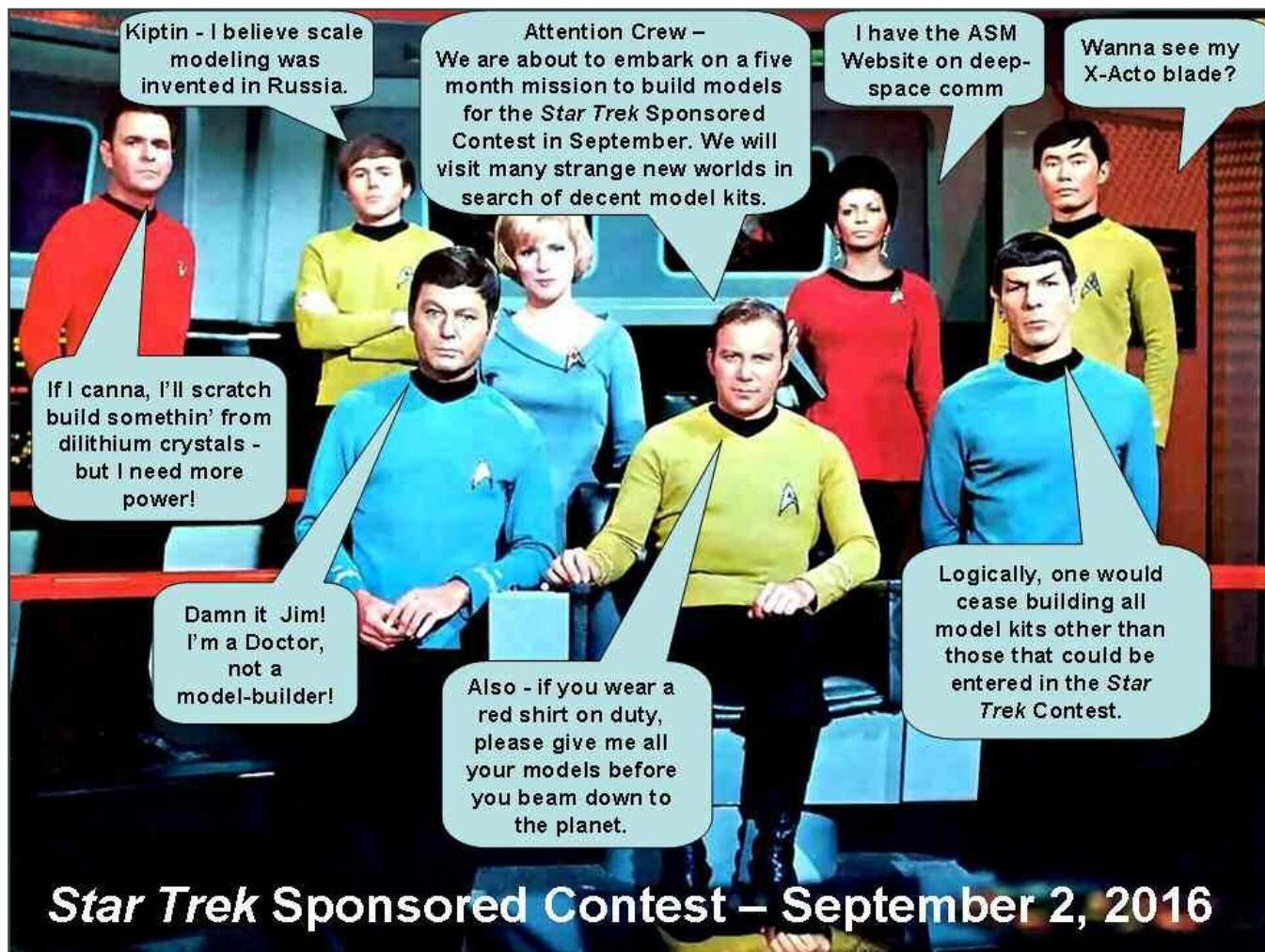
October 7: **Points Contest #6. Empire Of The Sun—Japan.**

Any subject, scale or kit that represents Japan during the World Wars. These should be subjects that reflect the Japanese culture and their effort during the period leading up to and including World War II. The theme is open to anything Nippon to include military, civilian and shogun warriors.

November 4: **Points Contest #7. Open Contest.** Open to any kit, any subject, any scale.

Sponsored Contest: **Big 'Uns** (Tim Wood). Any subject or scale over 18 inches.

December 2: **ASM 2016 MODEL OF THE YEAR CONTEST.**





# BONUS PAGES!

## FRED'S FOTO FILE

### FRED FRANCESCHI

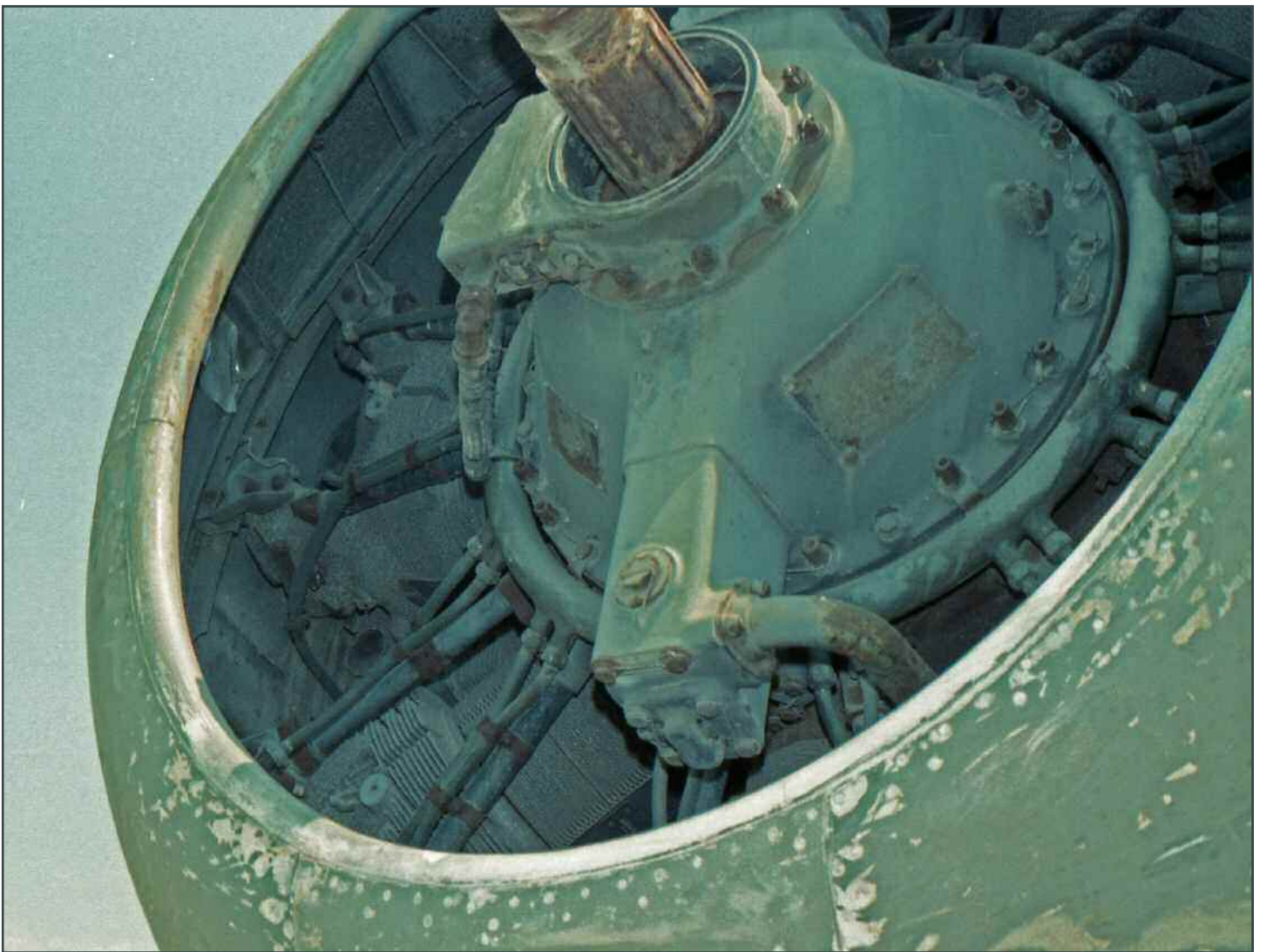
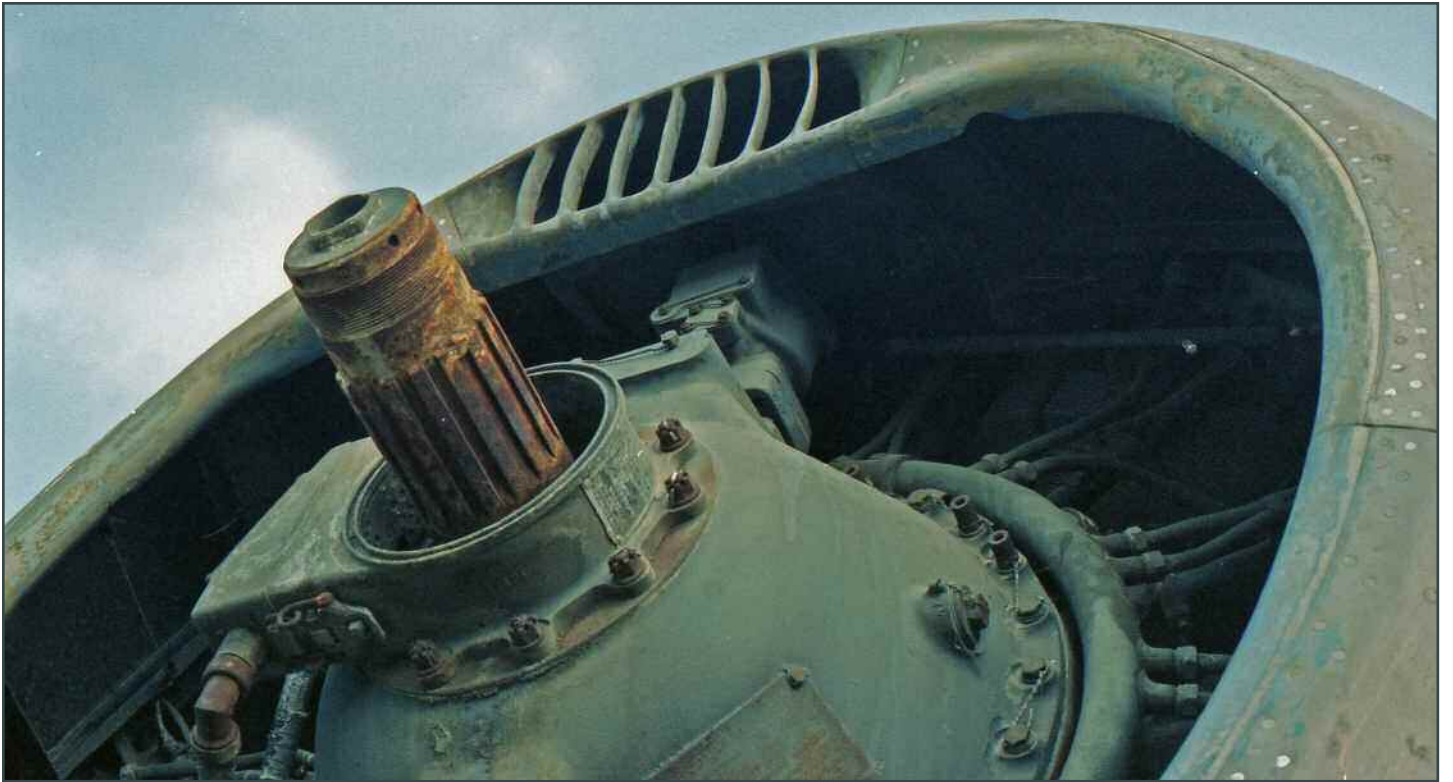
#### Radial Engines

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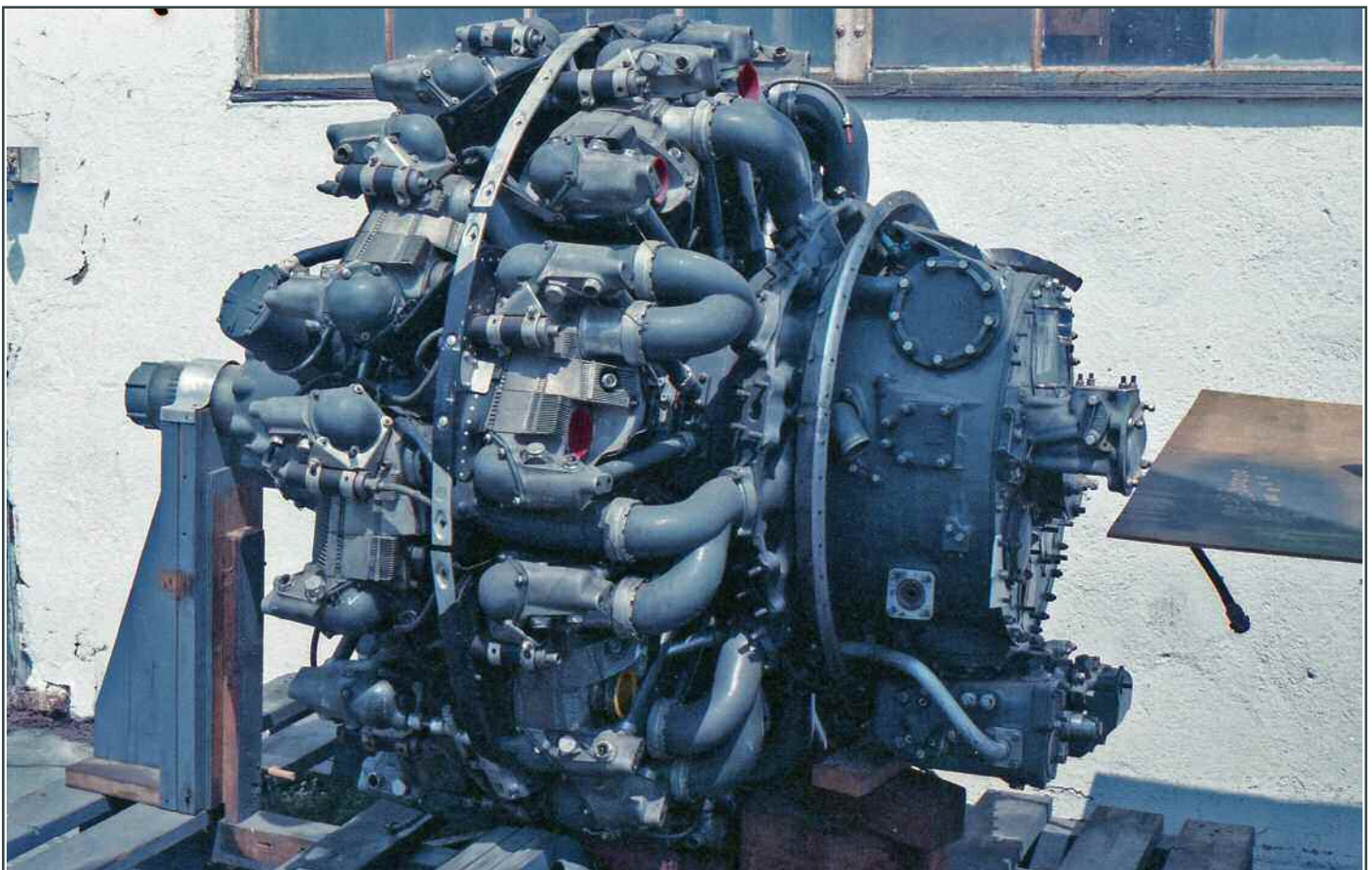
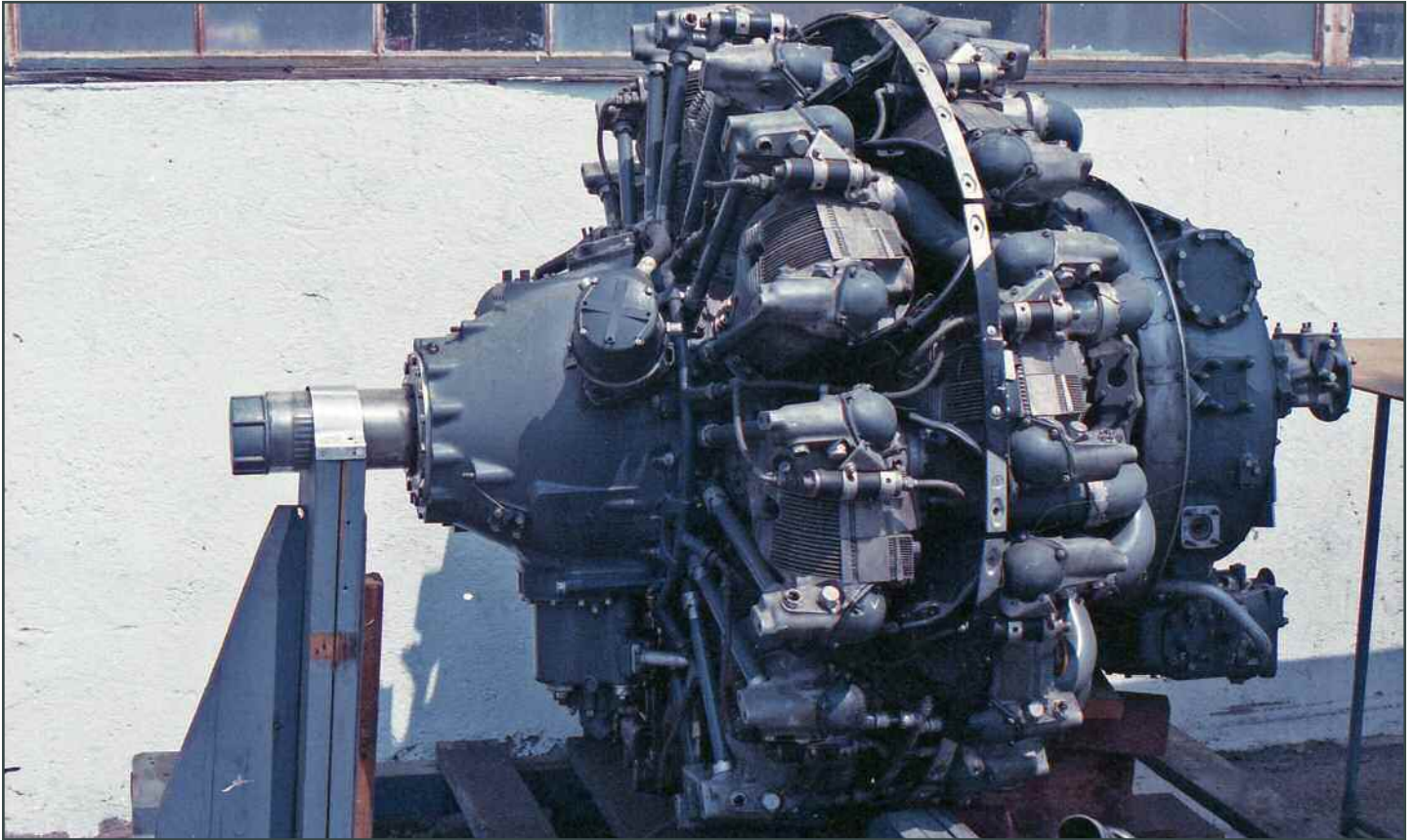
We begin with several shots of an SB2C's engine in the aircraft. The photos were taken in September, 1988, at the Yankee Air Force rebuilding and museum area at the Chino airport in California. The SB2C Helldiver was the predecessor to the AD Skyraider, so it seems appropriate to combine these photos with Skyraider engine photos.



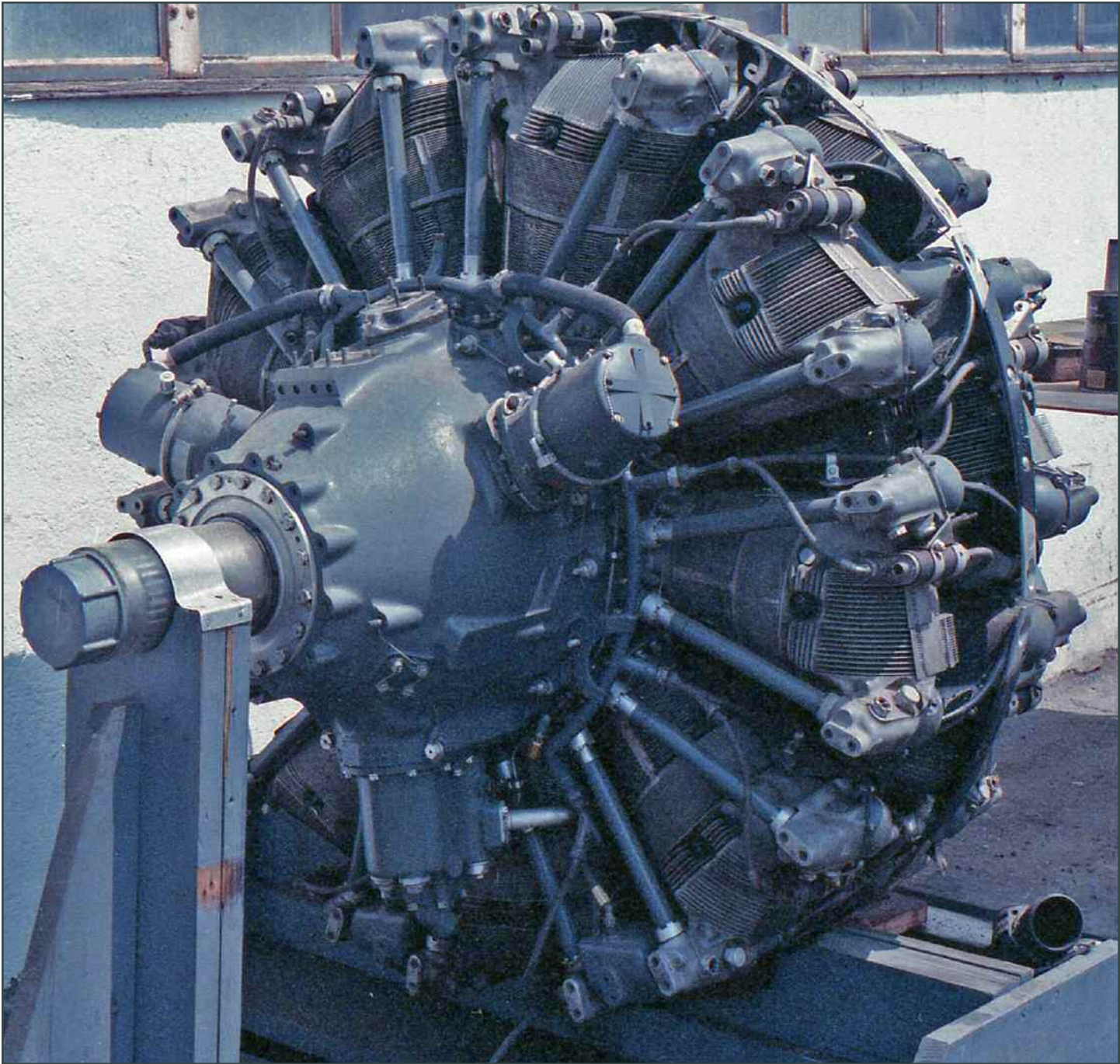




These are photos of a double-row 18-cylinder radial engine on its stand. Not often can you view these engines outside their airplanes. This engine must have been a real bear to work on. I took these at the Planes of Fame museum at the Chino airport in September, 1988.

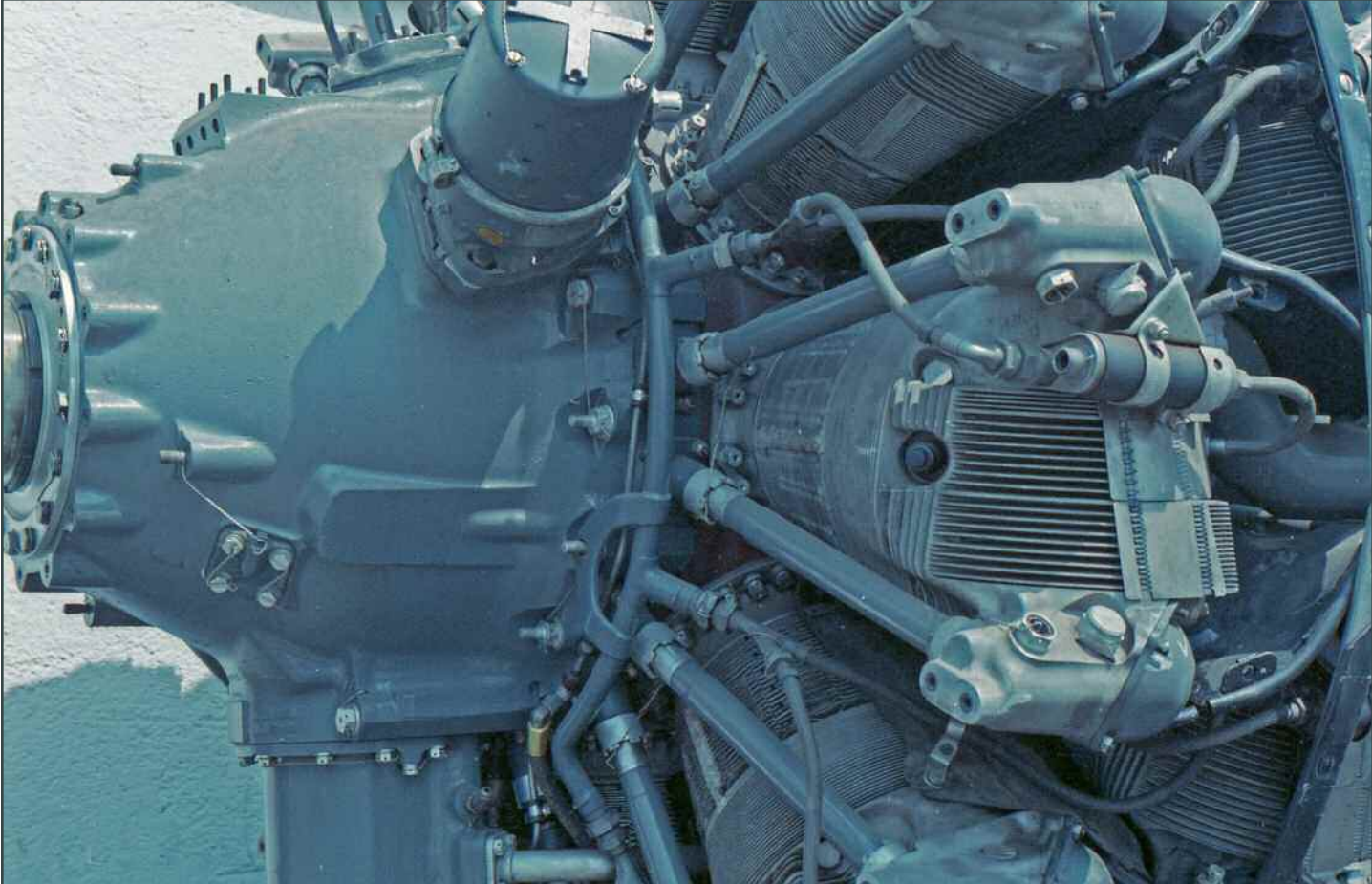
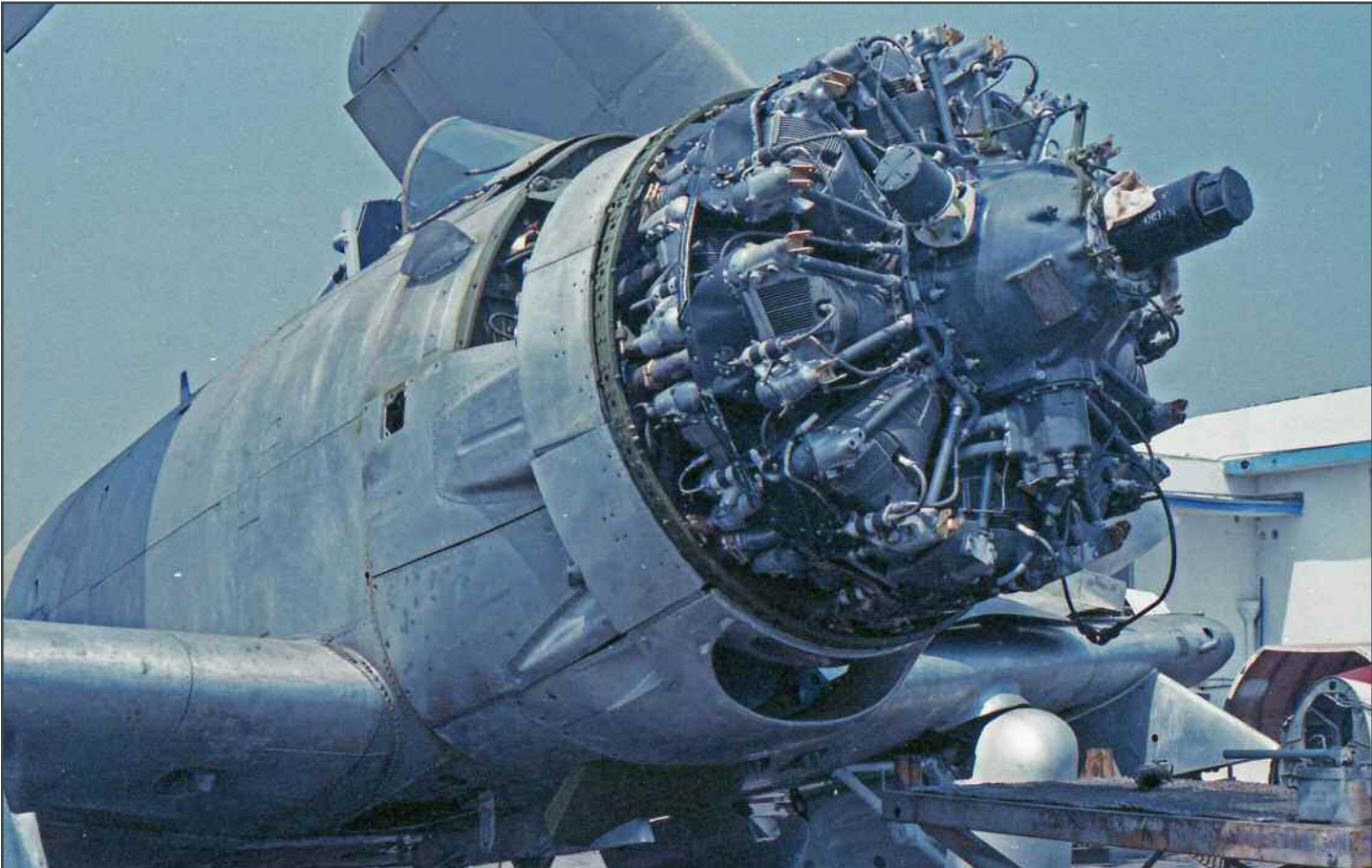








The engine in the aircraft. The engine in the top photo is in an AD; the bottom photo is probably in the same AD.





Mutual  
of COMMIES



# WILD KINGDOM

## MODEL CONTEST

April 16, 2016 9AM-7pm

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUND off 6th AVENUE

*Bring us your harnets, your mustangs,  
your blackbirds yearning to breathe free.*

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| REGISTRATION        | 9:00AM-12:00PM |
| MAKE & TAKE         | 10:00AM-5:00PM |
| DEMOS               | 10:00AM-5:00PM |
| Judging             | 1:00-5PM       |
| AWARDS PRESENTATION | 6:00PM         |

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Well, you all finally did it, you drove us to a zoo level of crazy. Let's see what kind of animals you can be. Show us those Rav4s, Cascavals, Svärdfisken, & Wren! Show us your Stchuka and we'll show you ours!





# WILD KINGDOM

## MODEL CONTEST

April 16, 2016

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| REGISTRATION        | 9:00AM-12:00PM |
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| AWARDS PRESENTATION | 6:00PM         |

**Models: Adults \$5.00 PER ENTRY, 4 OR MORE \$20 UNLIMITED**

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**THEME: Wild Kingdom - ANIMALS (REAL OR IMAGINARY), THINGS NAMED FOR ANIMALS (COUGARS AND WARTHOGS AND TIGERS, OH, MY), PAINTED TO LOOK LIKE ANIMALS (I.E. ZEBRA & TIGER STRIPING, POISON ARROW FROG, ETC); INSECTS, ARACHNIDS, SEA CREATURES, BIRDS, REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS INCLUDED.**

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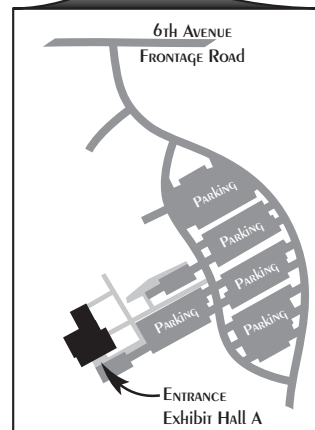
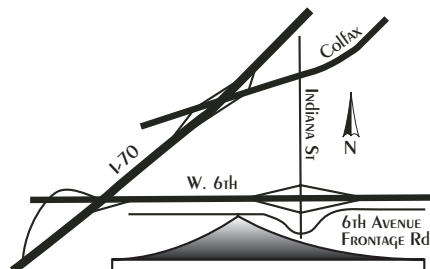
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The International Plastic Modelers' Society is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas, in 1964, there are now IPMS branches all over the world.

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](mailto:manager@ipmsusa.org)).



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