

# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

May 2012

## PRESIDENT'S SPIEL JAMES GULD

Wow! It's May. That means warmer weather on a more consistent basis and more outdoor activities. All I ask is that you don't forget about building models. We've had a pretty good turnout so far this year and I hope to see this trend continue.

I will do a trip report next month about my upcoming AMPS Nationals, April 26 – 28. Hopefully, tornadoes will not be a part of it as it is being held in Auburn, Indiana. For us treadheads it is a great show. It will be held at the WWII Victory Museum. It houses over 150 vehicles along with a great vendor room and seminars from some of the top modelers from around the world. This year both Mig Jimenez and Adam Wilder will be giving seminars.

For more information about AMPS, see their web site (<http://www.amps-armor.org/ampssite/default.aspx>).

I do have a new technique I wanted to share with you for April meeting highlights, L – R: Members gathering before the meeting; Jim Guld lectures on judging procedures; and the business meeting in progress.

making Allied Air ID panels. In the past I was making them out of lead foil. This worked okay most of the time but occasionally when I was bending it to the contour of the tank, it



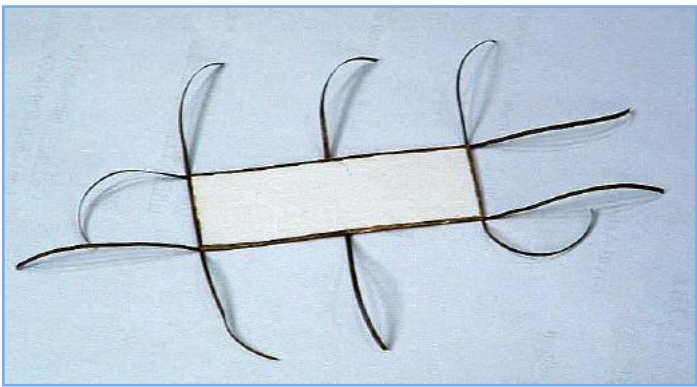
would crack the paint off—especially on the tiedown straps that are attached to the panels. My new method involves using a combination of artists' white tape for the back of the panel and regular tan masking tape from 3M for the front of the panel. I also use this tan tape to make the straps. I lay down a strip of the white tape, sticky side up, on my cutting surface and then stick a strip of the tan tape on top. It is oversized





April's Best-of-Show winners, left to right: Paul Kirchner's *Oberscharführer*, Frank Randall's *Ki-84 Frank*, Matt Blohm's *Cylon Raider*, and Aleya Montaña's *Triceratops*.

slightly, so next I cut it to the proper scale size of 28" x 72" or, for the larger panels, 28" x 144".



After cutting them down I then paint the tan side either bright yellow or cerise. They also used a blue panel but that was mainly for rear echelon troops. Once this is dry, I add on the border strips and the tiedown strap,s which were an OD-colored canvas cloth. You could even paint the tape strips first OD, then add them or paint them afterwards. I usually only put the tape strips on the colored side and just paint a thin OD line on the other side, since you rarely see the other side once it's on the vehicle. The panels were made from an acetate material with canvas borders and straps and were rolled up and stored in an OD bag. The nice thing I like about the tan tape is that it has a slight texture to it and once bent looks a lot more like the real thing then the lead foil. In Steve Zaloga's book, "Modeling US Armor of WWII," he has pictures of the real panels along with a chart of when they were used.

[Editor's note: Jim supplied several photos of this process; they are all present on the Bonus Pages! -JW]

## CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE VICTOR MAESTAS

April's contest theme was "Large Scale." There were twenty-three entries and most of them were "in-theme." In the Juniors level, Aleya Montano earned several golds, a Best of Show and a People's Choice award for her impressive dinosaurs. In Basic, Matt Blohm also earned a sweep of Gold, Best of Show, and People's Choice for his Cylon Raider. Frank Randall took Best of Show and People's Choice for his

### Year 2012 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for "Modeler of the Year" Points

- 06 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: *Lasers*  
(Patrick Dick)
- 03 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 02 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: *SF Spaceship*  
(Don Smith)
- 06 Apr** **Large Scale**—Aircraft 1/35 and up,  
Armor 1/25 and up, Auto 1/18 and up,  
Ships 1/44 and up  
Sponsored Contest: *Best Tamiya 1/32 P-51D Mustang* (Hobby Proz)
- 04 May** **Super Clinic Night**—no contest.
- 01 Jun** **British Steel**—Any kit/subject/scale,  
operated or built in England.
- 13 Jul** **2012: 100-, 70-, 50-year anniversaries**—Any subject from 1912, 1942, 1962 (100 year anniv of NM statehood)
- 03 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 07 Sep** **Radial Engines**—Any  
kit/subject/scale.
- 05 Oct** **Century Series**—Any subject with 1xx  
in name or designation  
Sponsored Contest: *From a Movie or TV show per IMDB* (Josh Pals)
- 02 Nov** **More Than a Handful**—Any subject  
with large weapons  
Sponsored Contest: *Stealth*  
(Mike Blohm)
- 07 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**  
**PEARL HARBOR**  
Sponsored Contest: *Rolls Royce*  
(Patrick Dick)  
Plus *Model of the Year* competition!

aplytly-named Ki-84 Hayate (Frank) in the Intermediate level. In Masters, Paul Kirchner won Best of Show with his well done SS Oberscharführer figure. Brian Peck earned a People's Choice award for his Heinkel He 110D-1 with an unusual paint job, very impressive. Next in line for Brian is a



Zwilling conversion of the He-110 in 1/32 scale; Bold move, Brian, bold move.

The points standings for Modeler of the Year are starting to shape up. In Juniors and Basic, there are a few members who are dominating. In Intermediate, the standings are very close with only 200 points separating the top six members. For Masters, the lead has been shifting back and forth between Paul and John. The year is still young and there are a lot of contests to go, so all the standings are up for grabs—keep those entries coming in.

Reminder: *All points contests are open to all entries.* The benefits of being “in theme” are an additional ten points per entry and being eligible for “Best of Show” awards. Otherwise, there are potentially 175 points available for each non-theme entry.

Upcoming contests include the much-anticipated Best 1/32 Tamiya P-51 Mustang Contest sponsored by Hobby Proz for the May meeting. In June, the theme contest will be British Steel—let’s have some boundaries pushed for this one.

If there are any questions on the contest rules, filling out forms or specific contest ROEs please contact me.

## ASM MODEL HIGHLIGHT VICTOR MAESTAS

The Model Spotlight this month is for the Tamiya Lotus 78 Formula 1 race car in 1/12 scale by Adrian Montano. Adrian picked this subject for its curb appeal, its innovative design, and success on the track with driver Mario Andretti. The fact that his wife bought the kit for him for \$10.00 at a flea market also greatly influenced his choice.

Adrian built the kit mostly out of the box with the only changes being scratchbuilt wiring and plumbing details. The



kit was typical Tamiya, even if it’s an “old” kit from the ‘80s, with good fit and plenty of detail. The major gloss black surfaces of the car are black Bare Metal Foil applied to a

## FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

### Consolidated P2Y-1 Patrol Planes

During the 1930s my father was in US Navy patrol plane squadron VP 10 on the West Coast and in the Territory of Hawaii. These are some of the

photos from my father’s scrapbook. These aircraft made some historic long range flights, including the first formation flight to the Canal Zone and the first formation flight to the Hawaiian Islands.

These flights pushed the American patrol capability, and were of great interest to the Japanese navy. There are several mimeograph

pages from squadron newsletters describing Japanese efforts to gather information about the flights. And this was many years before Pearl Harbor.



Arriving in Honolulu

*of Fred’s VP 10 photos may be found in the Bonus Pages! -JW*



Acapulco, Mexico

I suspect that there are very few (original) copies of these mimeographs remaining after almost 80 years.

For those of you who are not “old guys” like me, the mimeograph machine was what you used before copy machines existed.

*[Editor’s note: All*

*of Fred’s VP 10 photos may be found in the Bonus Pages! -JW*

primered base coat. The hardest part of applying the finish is ensuring that there is no lint caught under the foil. A final top coat of Future sealed the decals and gave the finish its gloss.

## STARFEST 2012 JOE WALTERS

Once again, my wife and I made the journey to Denver to attend the annual StarFest, a large and still-growing science fiction convention.

There were several guests of note, including John Noble (on *Fringe*, he plays Walter Bishop, Walter Bishop, and Walter Bishop; he also played the mad Lord Denethor in *Lord of the Rings*), Jewel Staitte (Kaylee from *Firefly* and many more), David Prowse (the man in the Darth Vader suit in the original

films), Jonathan Frakes (Riker from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*), and many more.

The Saturday night Costume Competition had to be seen to be believed! I took videos of most of the entries, they're online, and they're worth taking the time to check out. Turn the volume down before running them!

Tom Grossman runs a continuous airbrush demo and a Make & Take as well. He's always there—I don't think he's ever seen any of the rest of the convention.



This very functional Iron Man costume won Best of Show.



Fitting the theme of the con (Zombie Apocalypse), this Star Trek diorama shows some Red Shirts getting into the spirit.

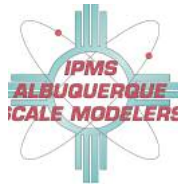
Below: one of two excellent Botany Bay models



Tom Grossman at the airbrush demo

Vern Clark runs the Model Show, and the turnout is always great, and the quality of the models is often amazing.

All the photos and videos I took—including *all* the models—are available on the web (<http://tinyurl.com/jwsf12>). This gallery was constructed using Apple's MobileMe service, which is shutting down in June, so go check them out right away!



**Master**

Paul Kirchner . . . . .	772
John Tate . . . . .	695
Brian Peck . . . . .	285
Mike Blohm . . . . .	279
Ken Liotta . . . . .	268
Ray Ayles . . . . .	189
Dave Miller . . . . .	112
Larry Glenn . . . . .	79
Glenn Bingham . . . . .	29
Josh Pals . . . . .	8

**Intermediate**

Robert Meeker . . . . .	525
Frank Randall . . . . .	487
Don Smith . . . . .	456
Adrian Montaño . . . . .	420
Tony Humphries . . . . .	410
Pete Beck . . . . .	325
Kyle Garber . . . . .	129
Rick Carver . . . . .	125
Steve Brodeur . . . . .	125
Ken Piniak . . . . .	102

**Basic**

Matt Blohm . . . . .	662
Chuck Girvin . . . . .	4

**Junior**

Aleya Montaño . . . . .	595
Phillip Trujillo . . . . .	325
Matthew Ortiz . . . . .	125

**MODELER OF THE YEAR  
POINTS STANDINGS**

**CONTACT  
INFO**

President:	James Guld	982-3089	jamesguld@pngltd.com
Vice President:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Frank Randall	299-3760	fcr40@aol.com
Contest Director:	Victor Maestas	771-0980	vmaestas@aol.com
Members Pro-Tem:	Patrick Dick	890-4368	mclanahandick@worldnet.att.com
	Larry Glenn	822-1488	l.glenn2@comcast.net
	Brian Peck		oryen@msn.com
Webmaster:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
Newsletter Editor:	Joe Walters	821-3751	jwalters22@comcast.net

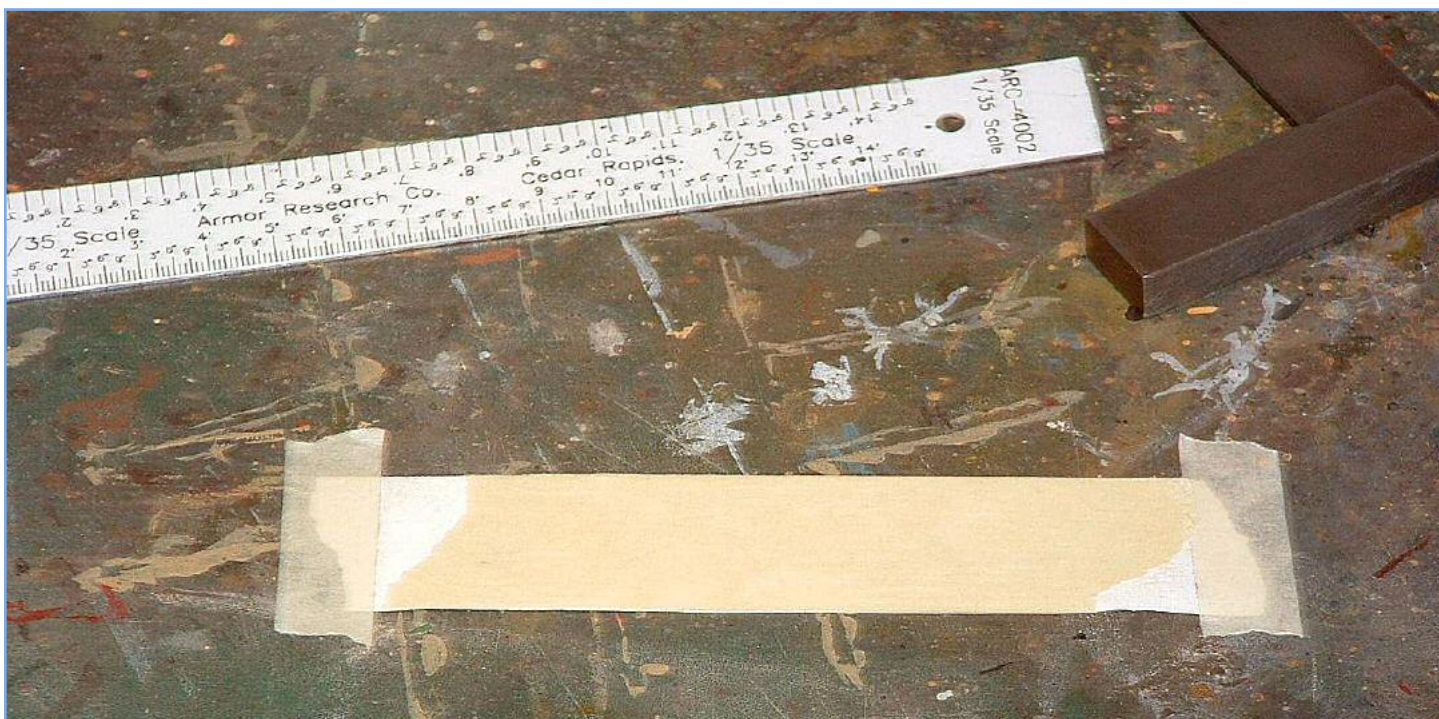
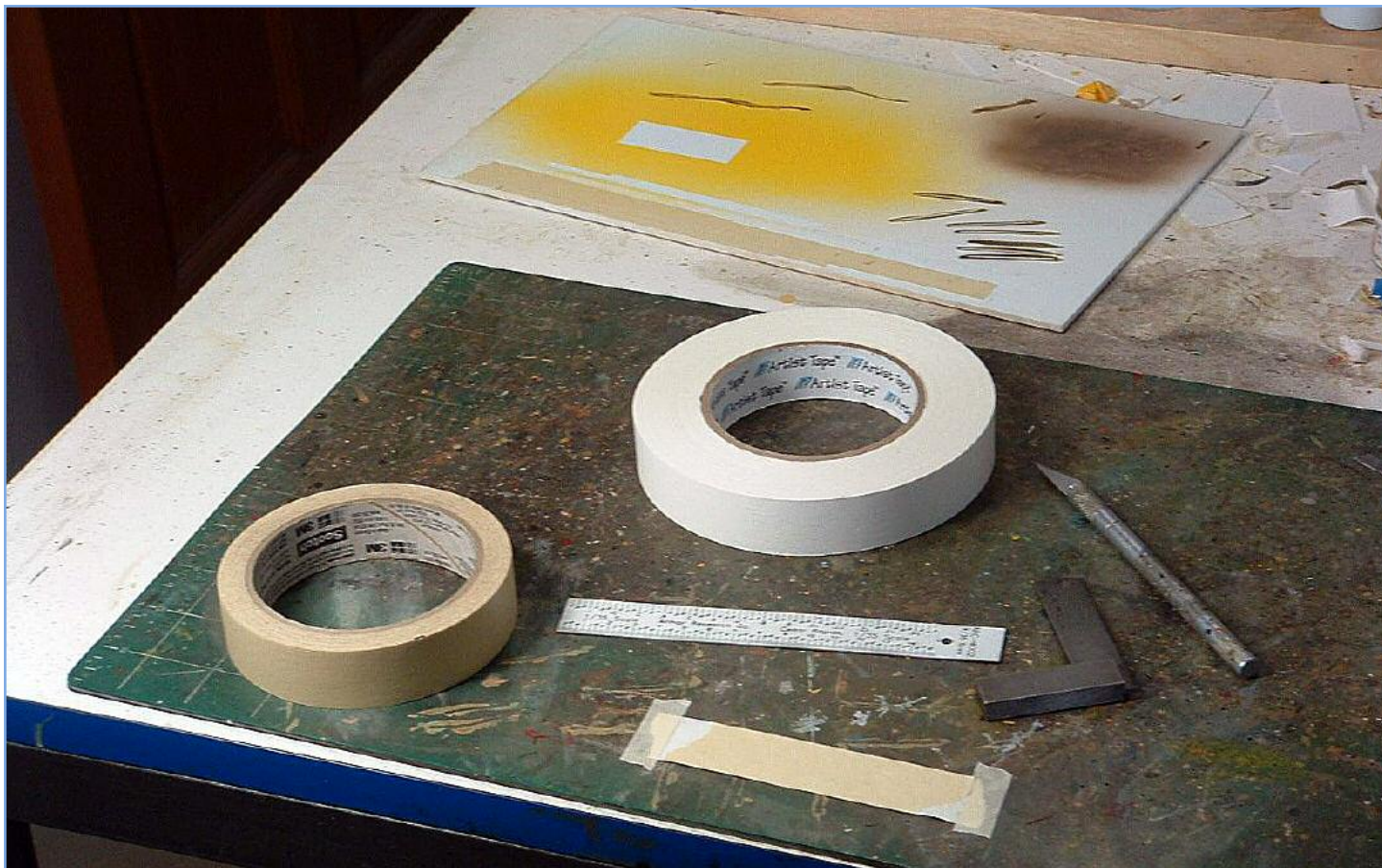
ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. Submission deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month.



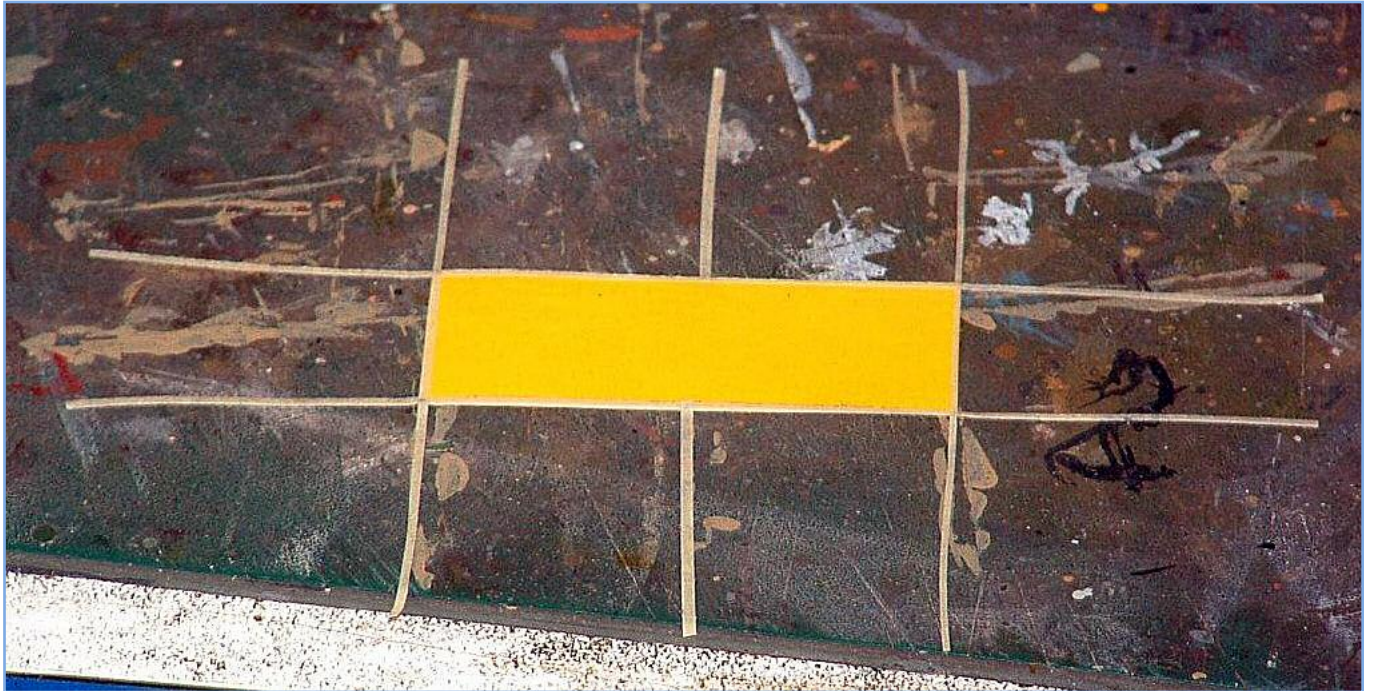
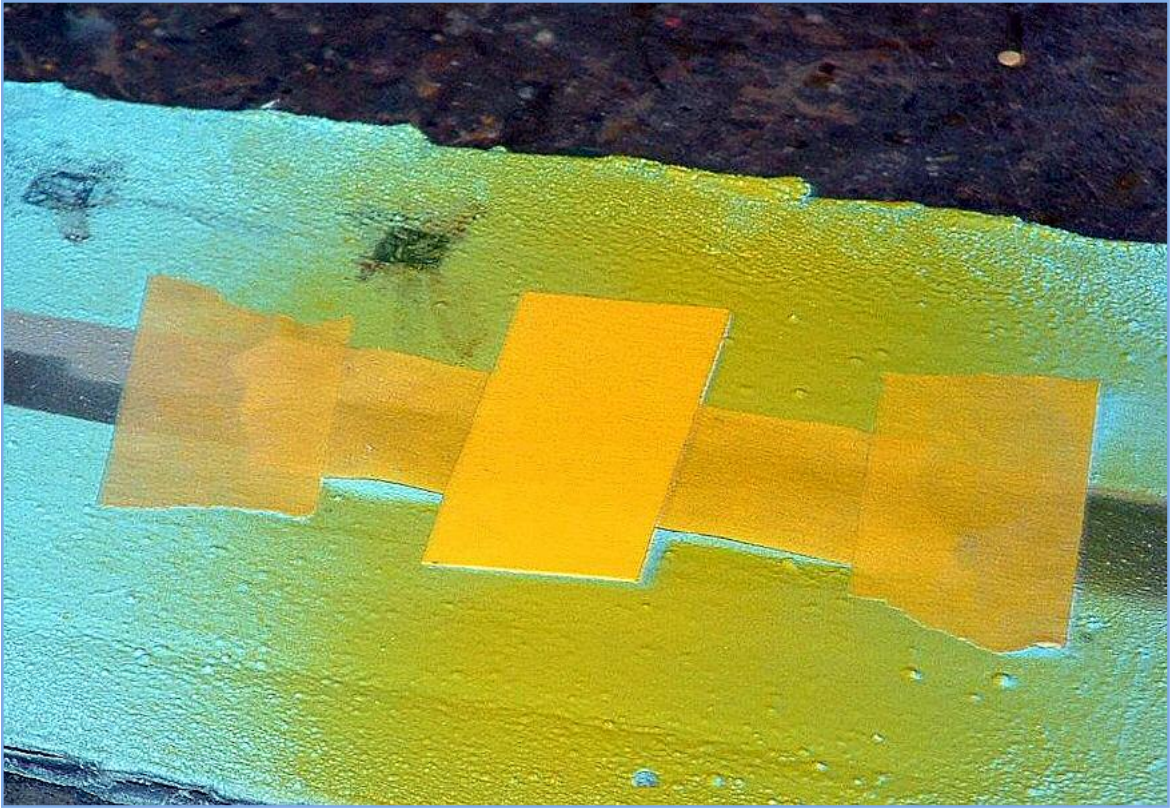
# BONUS PAGES!

## JAMES GULD

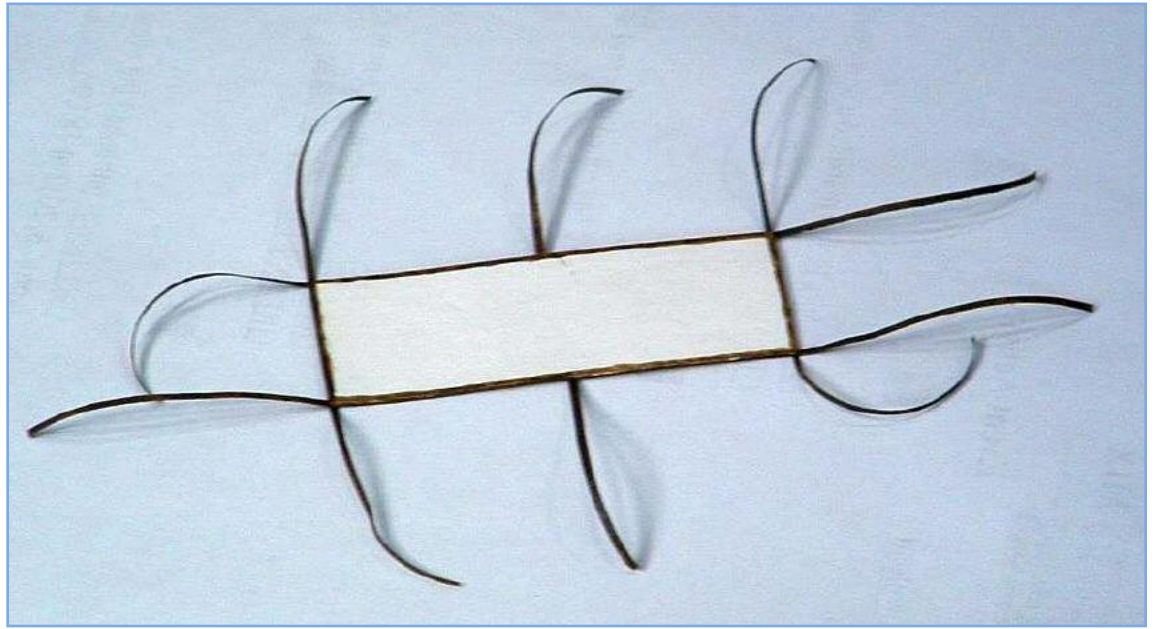
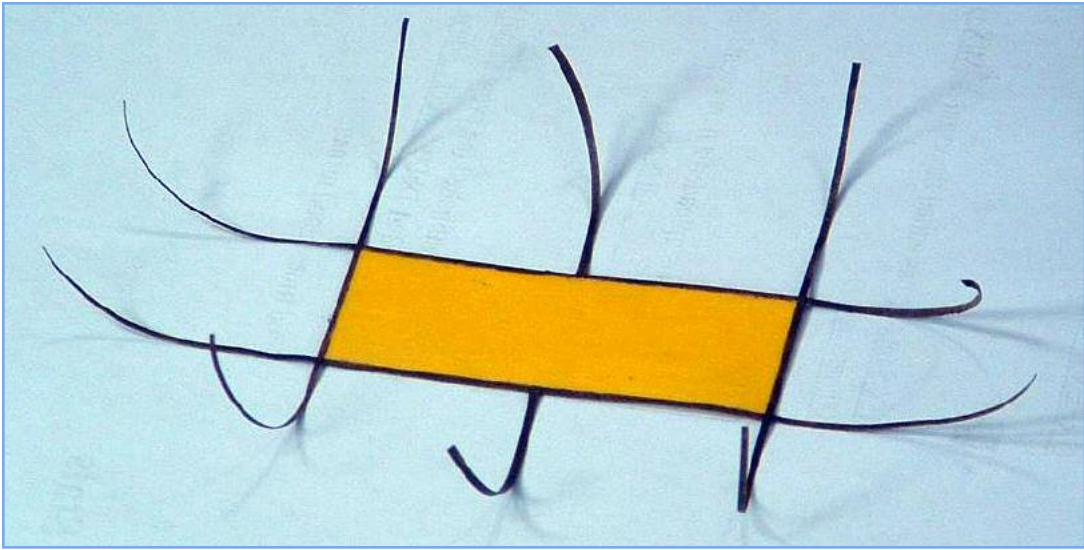
Here is the entire set of photos James supplied to demonstrate his ID Panels technique.











# BONUS PAGES!

## FRED'S FOTO FILE

### FRED FRANCESCHI

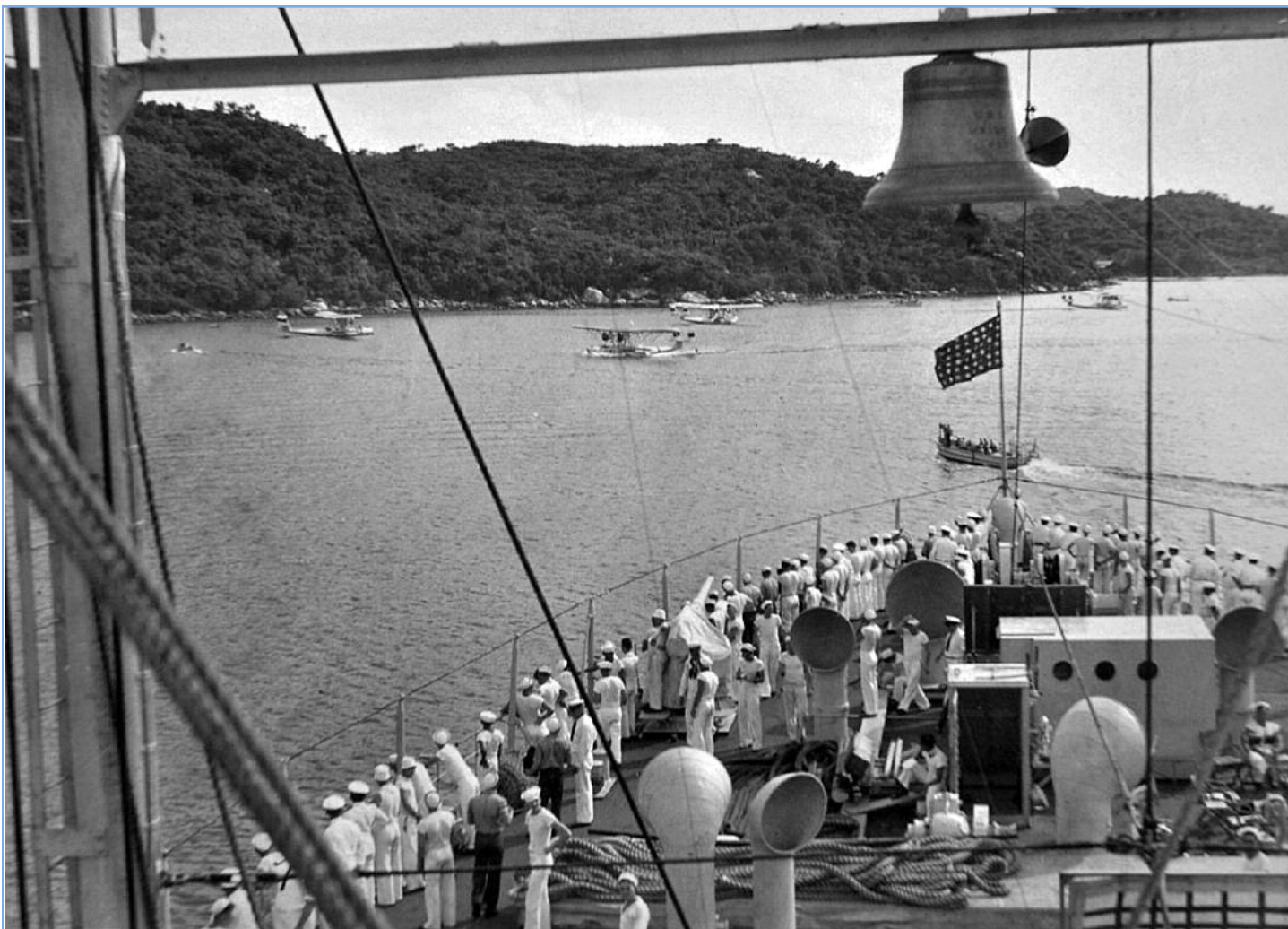
#### **Consolidated P2Y-1 Patrol Planes**

Here's the full set of Fred's photos of this subject. Fred supplied captions for some of them!

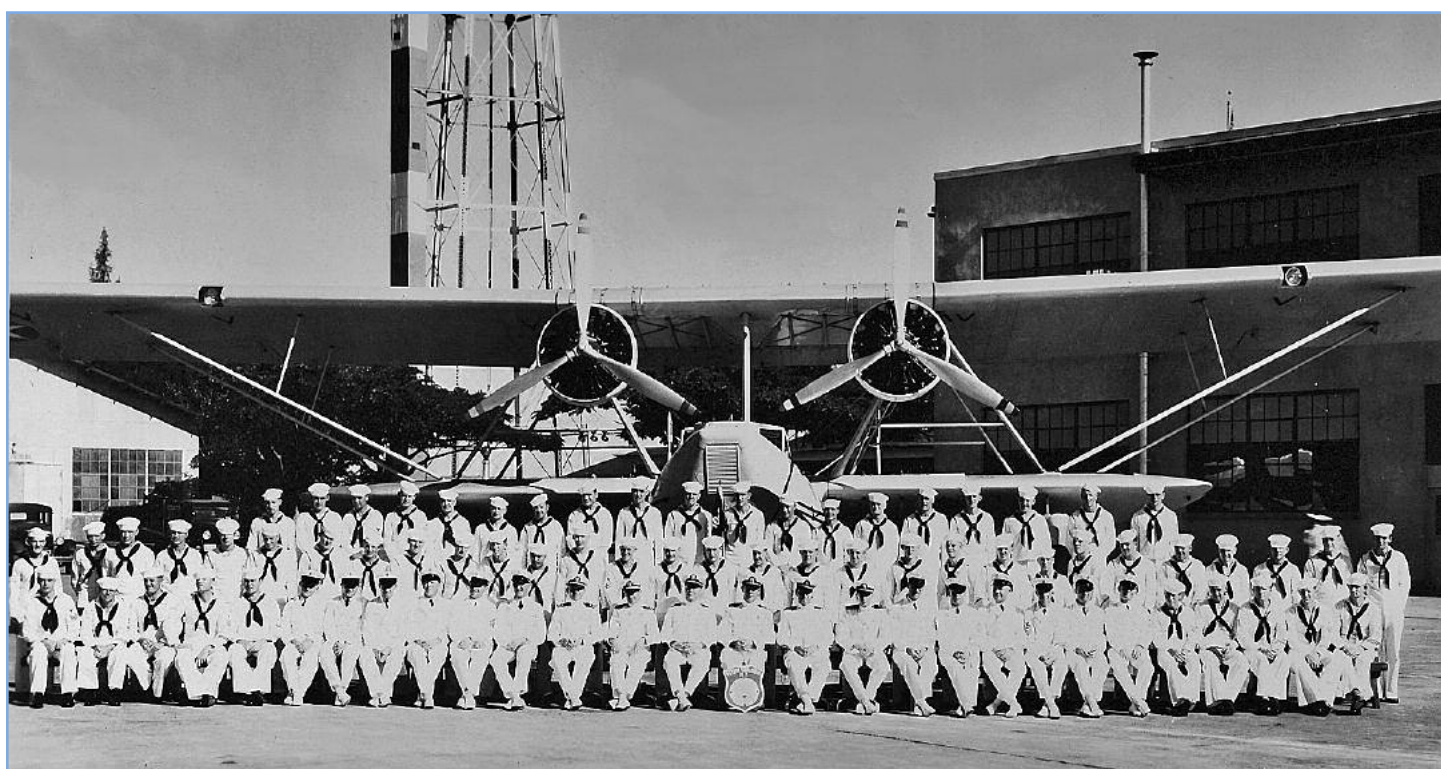


Above: Acapulco, Mexico.





Above: Acapulco, Mexico.  
Below: Squadron Photo







Above: Arriving in Honolulu  
Below: Leaving San Diego







Above: Detail from the above photo, Leaving San Diego  
Below: VP 10 in formation (the bottom picture is a close-up of the lead plane)





# VP-10 ACCLAIMED

USS WRIGHT

THE DAILY TALE SPIN

OCTOBER 10, 1933

## VP 10 COMPLETES HAZARDOUS FLIGHT WITH WHOLE NATION ACCLAIMING MILITARY AIR CONQUESTS

San Diego, Calif.: (UP)- Special.

Five Navy seaplanes landed here at 9:16 A.M. yesterday, ending a hazardous squadron flight of 3,292 miles from Coco Solo holding formation despite heavy fogs on the last leg of the flight. The ships completed the journey in 30 flying hours, averaging better than 100 miles an hour.

San Diego, Calif.: (AP)-

Completing a 1,644 mile non-stop flight from Acapulco, Mexico, a squadron of seaplanes landed in San Diego harbor at 9:17 yesterday. A sixth plane, part of the squadron which left Coco Solo, Canal Zone, Saturday, remained in Acapulco.

A graphic illustration of the amazing speed made by the huge Navy bombers that made the trip may be had by comparing their actual flying time and that of the electric liner Pennsylvania of the Panama Pacific line. The bombers left the Gulf of Panama at 5:35 A.M. last Saturday arriving here at 9:16 A.M., averaging better than 90 miles per hour on the 3,000 mile voyage.

# STUDY HAWAIIAN HOP

USS WRIGHT

THE DAILY TALE SPIN

OCTOBER 12, 1933

## ADMIRAL JOHNSON ANNOUNCES VP-10 PLANES DESIGNATED FOR PEARL HARBOR

San Diego, Calif.: (UP)-

Rear Admiral A.W. Johnson, Commander of Aircraft Base Force, announced yesterday that the five flying boats which arrived here Monday from Panama are designed for Hawaii, but the method of getting them there has not been determined. The sixth plane which was left at Acapulco, Mexico, is due here aboard the USS Wright. It is undamaged and will be available for the flight or shipment to Hawaii.

Admiral Johnson was back at North Island yesterday following a visit to San Pedro to confer with high ranking Naval officers, including Rear Admiral Thomas J. Senn. Work of checking over the five amphibians was begun immediately.

## JAPANESE ADMIRAL REFUSED STUDY OF FLYING BOATS

Los Angeles, Calif.: (AP)-

Admiral Tada, head of the Japanese Naval Aviation Force, sailed for home yesterday without obtaining a closer view of the five U.S. Navy seaplanes which arrived at San Diego Monday after a flight from Coco Solo, C.Z.

The Los Angeles Examiner published a story that the high ranking Japanese officer was refused a request to approach the squadron at the North Island Air Base for a close inspection. Tada accepted the refusal without a trace of rancor and with the brief announcement that he had been unable to inspect other United States military and naval aircraft left, the Examiner said.

Mimeographed VP 10 newsletter.

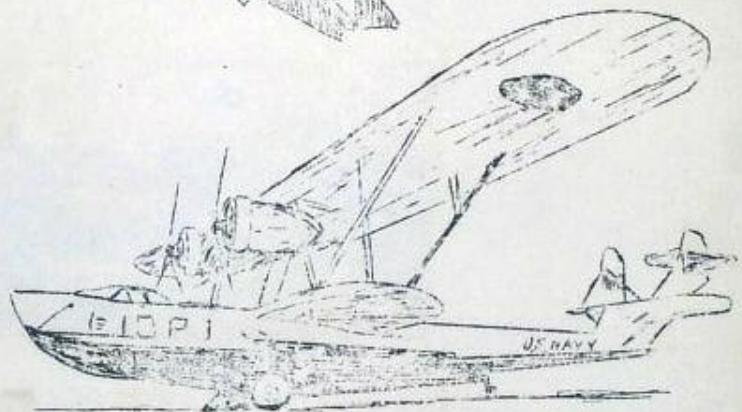
On these and following pages, note multiple references to Japanese interest in American Naval power—as early as the 1930s!



THE DAILY TALE SPIN  
VOL. 1 NO. 3



LT. COMDR. KNEFLER MCGINNIS  
"THE MAN OF THE HOUR"



USS WRIGHT  
AT SEA  
JANUARY 9, 1934

This page and following pages: Seaplane tender USS Wright mimeograph newsletter





### SIX MIGHTY MONSTERS OF THE AIR WING WAY OVER PACIFIC

San Francisco, Calif.: (AP)-

Like huge monsters from the prehistoric world, the six enormous flying boats of the Naval Air Force overcame difficulties at the start and growlingly pointed their noses towards their Hawaiian destination.

Two of the planes, led by Commander Knefler McGinnis, gained the air during the noon hour but were forced to circle overhead for almost two hours as their companions' craft were delayed in takeoff attempts by an ebb tide and sudden calm. It was exactly two hours and eight minutes from the time the first plane got into the air until the sixth had joined it.

The first plane aloft was piloted by Lieutenant Thomas Guinn, of Atlanta, Georgia. He thus won the honor of starting the flight, which, if successful, will break all records for nonstop formation movement of airplanes. Commander McGinnis got his plane aloft forty minutes later. After many futile attempts the four remaining planes altered their surface courses and climbed suddenly into the air. Official time of the start was given as 2:25 P.M., Pacific time.

Lieutenant E.W. Stephens, aerologist assigned to predicting the weather for the flyers, forecast excellent flying conditions all the way to Honolulu. But it was now or a week from now. If the planes hadn't prepared to get off this morning, the delay would have been that long due to a storm now blowing down from the north. The flyers will race the storm across the Pacific.

An official delegation including Admirals H.G. Laws and David Sellers, and Mayor Angelo Rossi, saw the start of the flight. The planes are expected to reach Honolulu within 24 hours. Naval vessels were stationed at 300 mile intervals along the route of flight.

### "PEOUILIAR COINCIDENT" REPEATED IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY.

San Francisco, Calif.: (INS)-

By just one more of those "peculiar coincidences" the Japanese Naval tanker Erino just happened to be in San Francisco yesterday when the six United States flying boats took off for Honolulu on the longest nonstop formation flight ever attempted. And by another "coincidence" all of the officers of the tanker and fifty midshipmen she carried "just happened" to decide to spend the day in Marin County, which was the best observation spot, and photograph, if one had in mind, the takeoff of the squadron.



# WORLD APPLAUDS AIR FORCE

USS WRIGHT

THE DAILY TALE SPIN

JANUARY 12, 1934

## VP TEN RECEIVES THUNDEROUS OVATION FROM FLOWER- BEDECKED HONOLULU AS PLANES ARRIVE AT THE "CROSSROADS OF THE PACIFIC"

### First Mass Formation Flight Breaks Record Held By Army Fliers

Honolulu, T.H.: (AP)- Special.

Flashing out of the east in their familiar three and three formation, their metal wings and hulls gleaming in the sun, amid the thunderous acclaim of spectators, the six big seaplanes of the San Francisco - Pearl Harbor Navy flight swooped over Hawaii yesterday to end aviation's greatest mass formation flight. One by one the great Navy birds circled their new home base and slid to smooth landings in the harbor waters, plumes of spray rising like triumphant crests as each glistening craft skimmed to a stop.

Honolulu, flower bedecked and ready to place the traditional leis of welcome around the necks of the 30 officers and men who are the heroes of the epic flight, declared a virtual holiday for the reception of the squadron. As word of the safe arrival of the squadron flashed over the ether to San Francisco yesterday weary Naval officers including Admiral David F. Sellers relaxed for the first time their vigil at 12th Naval District Communication Headquarters there.

Throughout Wednesday afternoon and night, the long hours before dawn, and on through yesterday they remained in quiet but tense attendance on the radio reports from Lieut. Commander Knefler McGinnis, in command of their flight.

There was a deafening ovation as the Navy airmen crawled from their ships Thursday. Tugs and steamers shrieked blasts of welcome. Hundreds of persons, crowding nearby piers, set up a tremendous shout. Naval, military and civic delegations pushed forward to bestow honors on McGinnis and his 29 officers and men. Tired but smiling, McGinnis stepped from his ship.

"The first thing I want is a cigarette," he said. "Glad that's behind me," he said. "Since seven o'clock Wednesday night there were low hanging clouds and it was hazy all the way in."

The planes, in perfect formation, were sighted over Koko Head at 2:44 o'clock, San Francisco time. This made the time of the flight 24 hours and 19 minutes. They had spanned the ocean almost to the dot on the scheduled twenty-four hours allotted for flight, figuring on the official time in the Golden Gate of 2:25 o'clock, Wednesday. The hop, the greatest overseas mass flight ever attempted, beat the record set in 1927 by the Army Lieutenants. Lester Maitland and his co-pilot, of 25 hours and 15 minutes. Ernest Smith left San Francisco in a light monoplane in July 1927 and made the flight in 25 hours and 36 minutes. Five others dropped into the sea with a total loss of life, seven.

### THIRSTY JAPANESE ON LIBERTY VIEW VP 10 TAKEOFF

San Francisco, Calif.: (INS)-

Because Japan's Navy was "thirsty", recalling a similar incident a year ago, the ships officers and fifty midshipmen yesterday enjoyed the recreation of watching the United States Navy's air squadron of six planes take off for Honolulu.

The tanker Erinc unexpectedly arrived in San Francisco Bay "by remarkable coincidence" shortly before the takeoff of the planes on the epochal flight for Hawaii. By "further coincidence" the Japanese crew was given a holiday in Marin County, near the scene of the hop.



# BONUS PAGES!

## STARFEST 2012

JOE WALTERS

StarFest includes several sci-fi events, including a stunning costume competition that gets better every year, major celebrity guests, a balcony decoration contest in the hotel's Atrium, Panels, Videos, Art Show, and much much more.

And there's the Model Show, of course!

I took many more photos and pictures than can be placed here, and urge you to check out the online gallery linked in the main article if you're interested!



A few samples from the Costume Competition

Above left: A costume from HALO.

Above: A huge Skeksi leader from *Dark Crystal*. Notice his height relative to the MC, Kevin Atkins, in the background. This was a TALL costume!

Below left: A Bantha from *Star Wars* came walking out onto the stage to thunderous applause. This one had to be seen to be believed!

Below: This very operational Iron Man suit won this fellow Best of Show and something even greater: While on stage, he called out his girlfriend, who was waiting to go on stage next, and *proposed to her right then and there*. The audience went wild! (She accepted.)







Guest Appearances



Above: J.G. Hertzler (left) and Robert O'Reilly in costume and in character as General Martok and Chancellor Gowron from *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Deep Space Nine*. These two had a lot of fun, telling stories, answering questions, and singing Klingon songs.

Left: The irrepressible Jonathan Frakes (Commander Riker from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*). He's quite energetic, rarely holds still, and tends to wander off the stage and roam around the audience, while talking—you never know what he's going to do next!

Below: David Prowse was the man in the Darth Vader costume in the original *Star Wars* films. A former bodybuilder, he had some great stories to tell about how he got the part and how he solved the problem of how to toss the Emperor over the railing in *Return of the Jedi*...





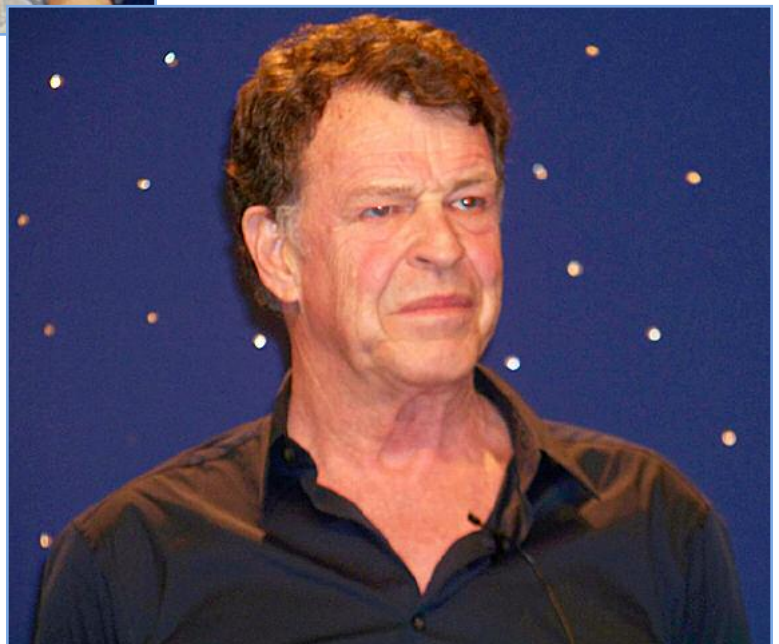


Above: Dee Wallace spoke of her experiences filming *E.T.*, *Cujo*, and many more. Did you know there were five different dogs that played *Cujo*? The one that was used for all the close-up snarling and growling had to be filmed from careful camera angles, so you couldn't see his wagging tail.



Left: Jewel Staite (*Firefly*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *The LA Complex*, and more) was easy on the eyes and quite pleasant and entertaining as a speaker.

Below: John Noble played the mad Lord Denethor, Steward of Gondor, in *Lord of the Rings* and now plays multiple incarnations of Walter Bishop on *Fringe*. An Australian actor, he is a very energetic and dynamic speaker, and was a major hit of the show. He seemed genuinely surprised at the standing ovation he received at the end of his appearance.





Okay, okay, I know—this is a model club! You want to see the models! Fine. Here are a few.

The theme of the conference was the Zombie Apocalypse (as it is for many cons this year, including Albuquerque's own Bubonicon—something to do with the Mayan calendar, I understand). At the top, an in-theme *Star Trek* entry features the always-doomed Red Shirts already zombified. The one on the far left is carrying a severed head; we thought it might have been Kirk's, but weren't sure.



Here's Godzilla, fighting King Ghidora.  
Nice figure work!



Starship Destiny, the only build I've ever seen from *Stargate: Universe*. If you didn't see that series, well, you're not alone!





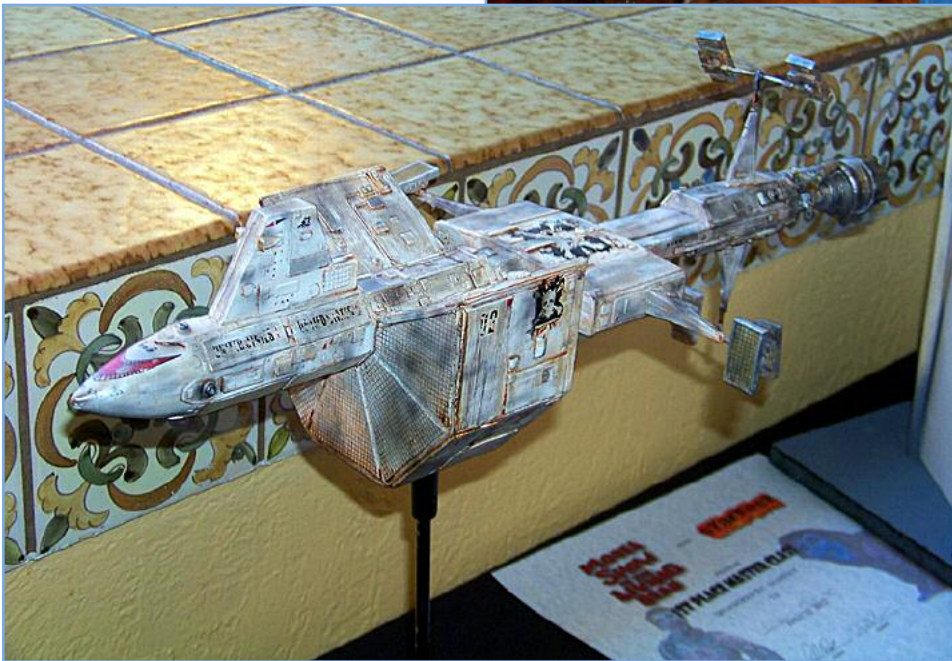
Left and below: Kits of Sasquatch and the Enterprise-C from *Star Trek* were assembled at the Make & Take event (which was very busy throughout the weekend!), and many participants entered their work into the contest. Some of the Enterprises here show evidence of also having been involved in Tom Grossman's airbrush demo as well!



A stunning and superbly-detailed model of the Time Machine from the 1950s George Pal movie of the same name drew lots of attention, and won this special award from the IPMS CoMMiES chapter. The text around the emblem reads "Best Example of Something We Like." As you can see from the certificates at the bottom of the picture, it won more awards as well.



A few non-sci-fi entries were present (I have no idea why!), mostly marked "Display Only," and this B-49 was a standout. In addition to a few airplanes, there were a few of them tank things too.



Two excellent builds of variations of the Botany Bay from early *Star Trek*.





This superbly-detailed Gemini capsule got my attention early on. I learned too late that I should have looked into the equally-detailed aft section, which included many of the internal details of the Gemini configuration. Guess I was too busy moving from model to model to make sure I photographed them all!



"Hello my baby, hello my honey..." Anyone who has seen *Spaceballs* will remember this fellow bursting from John Hurt's chest ("Not... again...!" "Check, please!"). Everyone liked this one.

Here are some of the prizes awarded to winners at the show. Kits, gift certificates, aftermarket goodies, and more!

