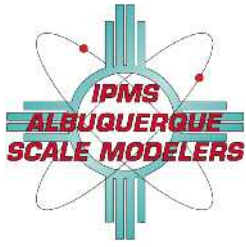


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

May 2014

THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

As a follow up to last month's article, I thought that it might be worth talking about both visits to other clubs and other museum and related trips. If any of you are going to spend time away from home on vacation this year or indeed on business trips, it is well worth contacting the nearest IPMS chapter and seeing if you can attend one of their meetings as a guest, if the dates coincide. This applies to the US as well as internationally. This is a great way to forge links with other clubs and to exchange information, swap stories, kit reviews etc. and if it can be done over a cold, frothy beverage, then so much the better. Of course we will be happy to welcome members from other clubs in the same way, for anyone else out there who is reading this. Don't just show up for half

an hour and then leave though. Make sure that you allot enough time to accomplish something useful and that goes particularly for museum visits and related trips too.

I noticed, for example, when reading a recent *IPMS Journal* article by Dick Christ that they visited a number of museums in England on a recent trip over there, but whoever had arranged it had allotted two hours for the RAF Museum at Hendon and another two hours at the Imperial War Museum site at Duxford. Two Hours?!? You can barely get through the gift shop and the queue for the restrooms at Duxford in that time (and the same goes for Hendon too). They have 190 or so aircraft in the collection at Duxford, I'd guess around 100 military vehicles, plus outdoor exhibits and a historic airfield and buildings that were used during



April highlights, left to right: members looking over contest entries before the meeting; Ken Piniak brought the new Galactica kit (reviewed last issue) and the old, for the interested to compare; and the business meeting in progress.



the Battle of Britain and indeed featured in the 1969 movie of the same name. I'm sure you've seen it. It features Michael Caine in another deeply unconvincing performance (how does he get paid for this stuff?), Bf.108s instead of Bf.109s and 47 clips of that same Spanish post-war Heinkel-111 crashing into the sea, shot from a multitude of angles. Actually it does have some excellent flying sequences too, to be fair and pokes fun at Hermann Goering as well, which is of course, entirely reasonable behavior. But I digress... My original point was, that to see all of that in two hours you'd either need to have a serious amphetamine habit (not that I recommend acquiring one, I should add) or you'd need to be an Olympic athlete. I doubt that we have many of those in our ranks, although maybe I am doing you a disservice there? Although modeling is not a hobby that tends to attract that kind of person generally, it has to be said...

I can speak with some authority about Duxford as I spent seven hours there during my visit back to England last July and only saw probably 70% of what they have on display (and we could possibly organize a slideshow on this at a future club meeting, if anyone is interested? There will certainly be a trip report on the web site in the next few weeks along with supporting pictures). Granted, I'm not going to be in contention for the 10,000m gold medal in the 2016 Olympics (believe it or not) but I kept up a brisk pace nonetheless. The guys on that IPMS trip would have been much better served if the organizers had allowed them a whole day for that trip. The same really goes for the RAF Museum at Hendon, the RAC Museum at Bovington, and other places that they visited also. Some of the museums selected were definitely minority interest places such as the Fleet Air Arm museum but it's good that they catered for this for those who were interested, although not everyone would be. Still, as long as everyone had a good time then that's the main thing. It's probably better to have seen a bit than never to have seen any at all—I'm sure Shakespeare said that at some point. It's worth learning from their example perhaps if you're planning this type of visit for yourself though. Generally a good rule of thumb (at least in England) might be to think about how much time you think you'll need, double it and then add half an hour for lunch and at least an hour in the pub afterwards. So the moral of this tale is, if you're planning a visit like this, don't sell yourselves short. See everything, take pictures and come back and tell us all about it.

CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE

JOHN TATE

"Family Ties" was the Special Contest for the April 4 meeting, with entries connected to the modeler's family or personal history. In **Intermediate**, Gorham Smoker won a First in Automotive and a Best of Show for his 1968 Pontiac Firebird; this was a nicely-done car model with a nice paint job. In **Masters**, Mike Blohm picked up a First in Aircraft and Best of Show for his 1/44 X-35 JSF. Other eye-catching models were a Monogram 1/48 B-24D by Steve Brodeur, a Tamiya 1/35 M60A1 by Ken Piniak, and a C-119 by Frank Randall. Armor guru Jim Guld surprised everyone by bringing in an airplane model, a B-17G crewed by his late father-in-law during WWII,

Year 2014 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 03 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
Sponsored Contest: "Best Ford-themed model" (Patrick Dick)
- 07 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 07 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 04 Apr** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2**
FAMILY TIES
- 02 May** **Japan**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 13 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
WORLD WAR I
Sponsored Contest: "D-Day, June 1944" (ASM E-Board)
- 11 Jul** **No meeting** due to Chile Con 3.
- 01 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no points contest.
Sponsored Contest: "Best French Subject" (Tony Humphries)
- 05 Sep** **Speed Demons**—Any it/subject/scale.
SPECIAL CONTEST #4
SEAPLANES / AMPHIBIANS
Sponsored Contest: "Electronic Warfare" (Gil De La Plain)
- 03 Oct** Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries" (Mike & Matt Blohm)
Sponsored Contest: "Assam Valley" (Don Smith)
- 07 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Russian Bombers" (Tim Wood)
- 06 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #5**
BATTLE OF THE BULGE PLUS 70
Plus Model of the Year competition!
Sponsored Contest: "Fanta-storical" (Josh Pals & Patrick Dick)

As a result of the Chile Con date change, many of this year's scheduled events have been rescheduled. If you have a copy of an older Quick Ref chart tacked up somewhere, rip it right down and replace it with this one, which reflects the current schedule.

complete with a piece of real flak shrapnel courtesy of the Third Reich.

Several modelers, including Jim Guld, Mike Blohm and Ken Liotta, presented topics of modeling interest for "Show and Tell;" presentations of this kind are a good opportunity for club members to share their current areas of interest, and more of these talks will be scheduled in the future. Also, if there are any modelers interested in giving a clinic presentation at one of our meeting nights, let me or another E-Board member know and your clinic can be added to the schedule.

The May 2 meeting will have a Points Contest with "Japan" as its theme; any model related to Japan will be eligible—cars, planes, tanks, ships or sci-fi/anime/gundam. Thanks to Japan's prolific model industry, there should be no shortage of entries and I'm looking forward to seeing more of our mem-

bership's excellent work at this contest.

At the June 13 meeting, there will be a WWI Special Contest and an E-Board Sponsored Contest for Best D-Day subject. These contests were scheduled to lend support to the efforts of Mike Blohm and Josh Pals in organizing ASM group entries at the State Fair in September, and also to support the D-Day theme for Chile Con 3 in July. Since 2014 also commemorates the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War, this is a good opportunity to give one of the great new WWI model kits a try, such as a Meng FT-17 or one of the excellent kits from Wingnut Wings.

And a reminder, even if you don't finish your build in time for the monthly meeting, feel free to enter it as a Work in Progress to show off your latest project and pick up a few points before entering it in a regular contest. Modelers can enter up to three models in the Works in Progress category and there have been some interesting entries so far this year- keep up the good work!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MIKE BLOHM

The following data come from the Articles section on the ASM Website; visit that page to find links to additional and up-to-date information about these events.

May 2 – 4: StarFest 2014 Science Fiction Convention, Denver Tech Center, Denver Colorado. Includes the annual StarFest Model Show hosted by IPMS/Colorado Modeling Militia Enjoying Sci-Fi (CoMMiES). Watch for a report in the June issue!

May 3: Best of the West XIX, Railroad Pass Hotel and Casino, 2800 South Boulder Highway, Henderson NV. IPMS Las Vegas, Region 8. Contact: Joe Porche at 702-296-9976

May 16 – 17: Prairie Wind 2014. IPMS Region VI Convention. Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Wichita, Kansas. IPMS Air Capital/Wichita. Contact: Mark Vittorini 316-440-6846, contact@aircapitalipms.org

May 31: Scalefest, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main Street, Grapevine, TX. IPMS North Central Texas, Region 6. Contact: Don Capone 214-957-2907

June 19 – 21: Squadron EagleQuest XXIII, Grapevine TX

June 27 – 29: **Albuquerque Comic Expo 2014 (ACE)** at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Visit the ASM Website to see ASM Model Display at ACE 2012 and ACE 2013.

July 11 – 12: **Chile Con 3**, MCM Elegante Hotel & Event Center, Albuquerque NM. Contact: Jim Guld 505-982-3089.

FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

Ft. Bliss

Well, here are some more photos.



These were M-33 anti-aircraft radar vans at the Air Defense School. You can see the radar antennas and hoisting cranes on top of the vans. These were the tracking radars that provided information to the fire control computers aiming the 90mm guns. But by this time guns were becoming obsolete and the Nike Ajax missiles were coming on board. An acquisition radar is visible in the distance between the two soldiers standing on the right. It rotated and was used to pick up incoming airplanes, then that information was fed to the tracking radar for targeting.



I think this is a Skysweeper, a radar controlled 75mm anti-aircraft gun. Renwal had a model of this gun in the 1960s.

[Editor's note: All of Fred's Ft. Bliss photos—and there are many more!—larger and in full resolution, are in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

July 31 – August 3: Star Trek Convention, Las Vegas 2014, Rio Suites Hotel, Las Vegas NV

August 1 – 3: Bubonicon 46 Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention, Albuquerque Marriott Uptown, 2101 Louisiana Blvd NE (Louisiana & I-40), Albuquerque, NM

August 2: HAMS Seventh Annual Model Car Contest, Cypress Creek Christian Community Center, 6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring TX. Houston Automotive Modelers Society, Region 6. Contact: Rob McQuown 281-731-6566

August 6 – 9: IPMS/USA National Convention—50th Anniversary. Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton VA. Hosted by IPMS/Tidewater

September 5 – 6: New Mexico State Fair ASM-Sponsored Model Contest; Model registration dates are on Fri Sep 5 & Sat Sep 6 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Judging probably on Mon, Sep 8.

September 13: SuperCon 2014, Bob Duncan Community Center, Vandergriff Park, 2800 S Center Street, Arlington TX. IPMS Fort Worth Scale Modelers, Region 6.

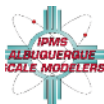
IN THE BONUS PAGES! JOE WALTERS

In this month's Bonus Pages:

- Photos of April's Best-of-Show contest winners.
- Fred's photos from Ft. Bliss
- Photos by Jeffrey M. Harper from a NASA/JSC field trip



ASM Website



Chile Con 3 page



**CHILE
CON**

DATE CHANGE!

**2014 IPMS
Region 10 Contest
July 11 - 12, 2014**

Hosted by
ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS

D-DAY PLUS SEVENTY

Due to a change imposed upon us by the host hotel, we have been forced to reschedule Chile Con.

We know this will inconvenience some of you, and we *seriously do* regret that, but we have no control over this.

Chile Con 3 will still take place at:
MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center
2020 Menaul NE • Albuquerque, NM 87107
toll free (866) 650-4900 • fax (505) 881-4806
www.mcmelegantealbuquerque.com

Rooms \$81.00/Double Occupancy. Be sure to mention Albuquerque Scale Modelers and Chile Con 3 to get this rate!
IPMS members pre-registration:
\$18.00 through May 31, 2014; \$20.00 thereafter
Contest entry costs are for an unlimited number of entries.
Awards Banquet, Raffle, and Make & Takes to be offered.
For details as they develop, visit the ASM web sites
www.abqscalemodelers.com
<http://tinyurl.com/chilecon3>

Contact person: Contest Co-Chair James Guld
(505) 982-3089 • jamesguld@pngltd.com

Master

James Guld	402
Larry Glenn	304
Ken Liotta	237
Tony Humphries	175
Victor Maestas	150
Mike Blohm	106
Dave Miller	102
Glenn Bingham	75
Patrick Dick	8
James Strickland	4
Brian Peck	2

Intermediate

Adrian Montañó	427
Don Smith	312
Gorham Smoker	300
Partap Davis	275
Jack Garriss	150
Jerry Little	127
Pete Armijo	125
Len Faulconer	125
Frank Randall	106
Ken Piniak	8
Matt Blohm	6
Gil Johnson	2

Basic

Jeannie Garriss	550
Michel Wingard	2

Junior

Aleya Montañó	325
Marie Smith	200

MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS STANDINGS

CONTACT INFO

President:	Tony Humphries	764-0046	abkhumphries@gmail.com
Vice President:	Mike Blohm	823-9404	BlohmM@aol.com
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	Larry Glenn		l.glenn2@comcast.net
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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!

APRIL'S BEST OF SHOW WINNERS

Gorham Smoker's '68 Pontiac Firebird (Intermediate, top) and Mike Blohm's F-35 (Masters, bottom). There were no Junior or Basic entries.



BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

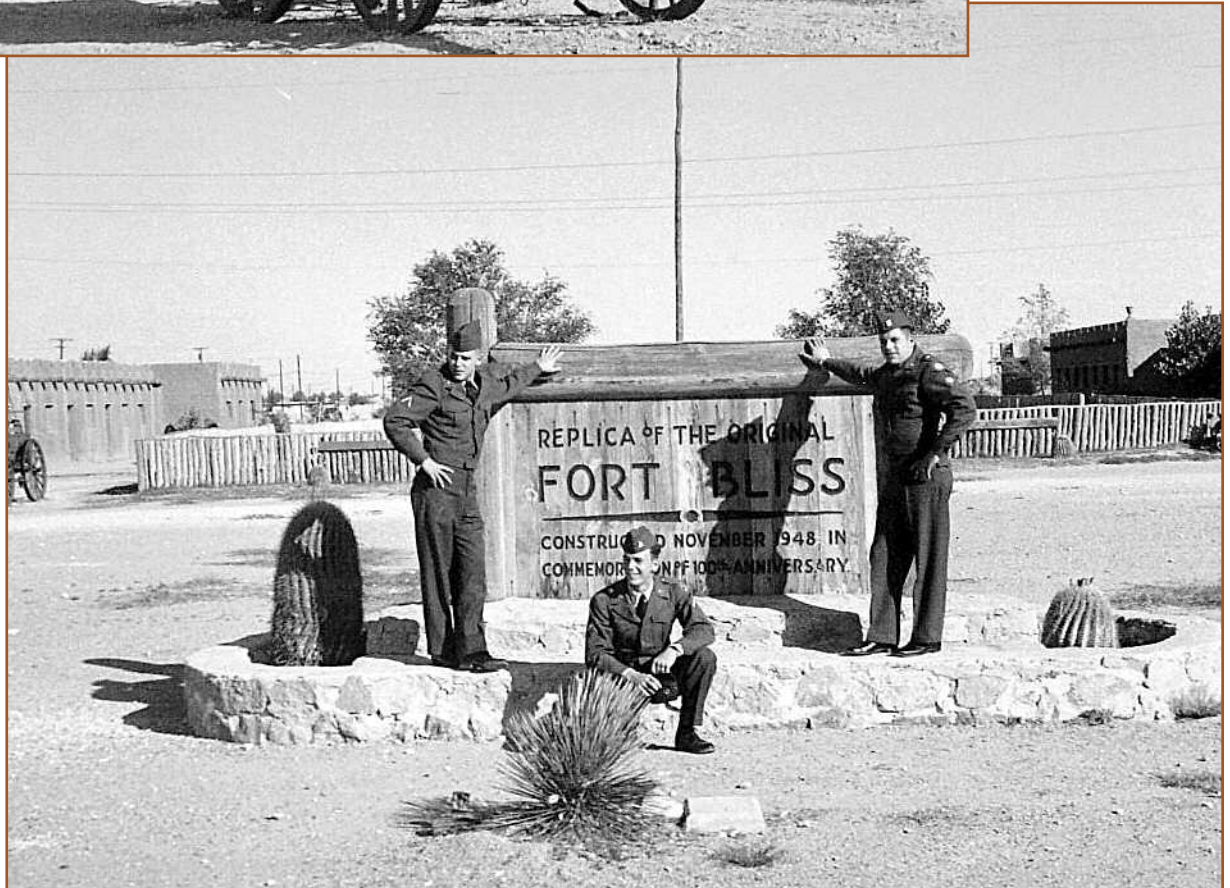
Ft. Bliss

Well, here are some more photos.



This is what it's like to fly to Korea or Japan in a C-141. Web-strap seating, no windows, and portapotties strapped to the floor at the rear of the aircraft. A ten- or twelve-hour flight like this is a memorable experience, and not one to be repeated enthusiastically. It might even be worse than coach flights in some of our domestic airlines. At least there were no little kids running up and down the aisles (there were no aisles). I think that the General and the bird Colonels had real seats up front, but not the rest of us. Being packed like this helps me understand why paratroopers want to get out of their planes. This was probably taken when my unit was on a flight to Japan in the late 1980s.

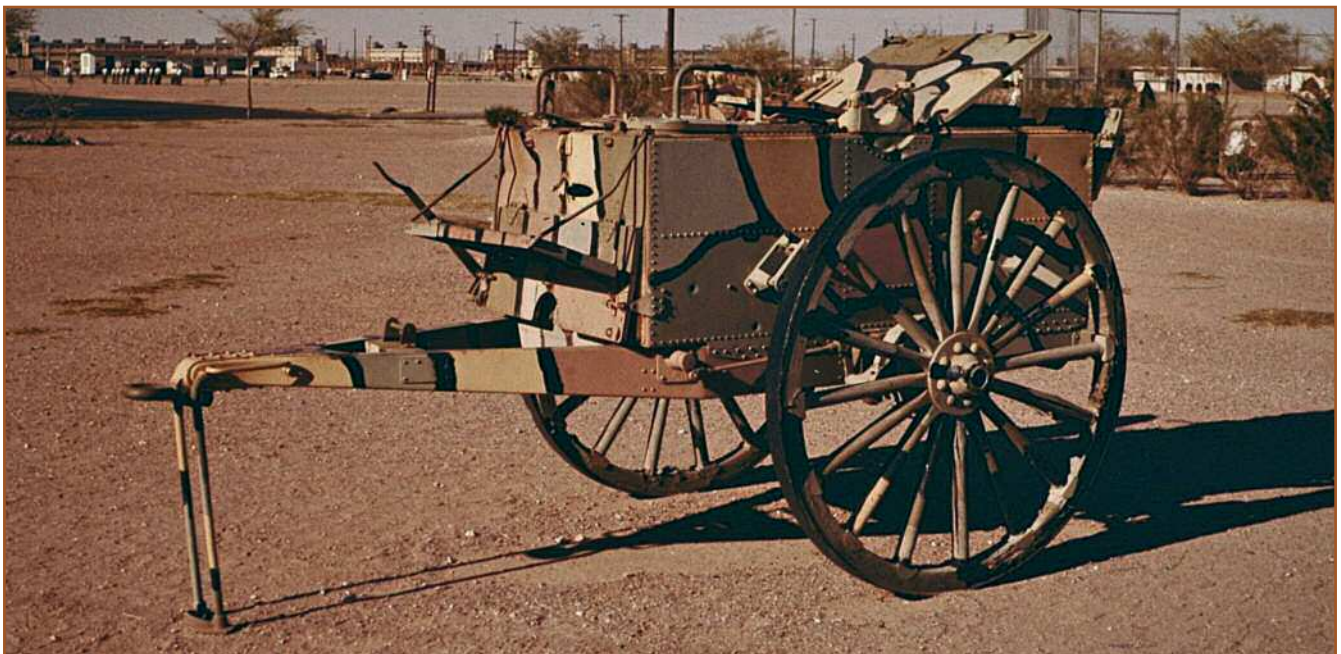
These were taken at Fort Bliss in 1958 or 1959. That was in the days when brown drab Ike jackets were still worn. But by then I had probably dyed my boots and shoes black. I was in the "brown boot" Army when I started out. Reading the sign, there was a replica built of the original Fort Bliss. I don't know if it's still there now.





These were M-33 anti-aircraft radar vans at the Air Defense School. You can see the radar antennas and hoisting cranes on top of the vans. These were the tracking radars that provided information to the fire control computers aiming the 90mm guns. But by this time guns were becoming obsolete and the Nike Ajax missiles were coming on board. An acquisition radar is visible in the distance between the two soldiers standing on the right. It rotated and was used to pick up incoming airplanes, then that information was fed to the tracking radar for targeting.

[Below] Another piece of equipment at the Fort Bliss museum. This was the horse drawn wagon that carried ammunition for the artillery during the "Indian Wars." As the song says, "...and the caissons go rolling along."





I think this is a Skysweeper, a radar controlled 75mm anti-aircraft gun. Renwal had a model of this gun in the 1960s.



And it is appropriate to mention that Joe Walters, our newsletter editor, worked wonders on the colored Fort Bliss photos. They had not developed properly and everything was in red tones. Joe did absolute magic to make them usable.

[Editor's Note: Aww, garsh, Fred. 'Tweren't nuthin. The software used was Adobe Photoshop, which indeed does wonders, assuming the information is still within the photo and you have a clue (I've been using Photoshop in various versions for over fifteen years, and still consider myself competent in about 10% of what it can do). Photoshop can't save *everything*, but it did save these. The results also vary depending on just how much time you're willing to devote to the process. Here's a before-and-after example. -JW]



FIELD TRIP!

JEFFREY M. HARPER

NASA Johnson Space Center

In July 2002 I went to Houston on a trip and was able to take a morning to visit Johnson Space Center, though you really should allot yourself the better part of a full day to be able to take in all the exhibits. Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Houston is NASA's (National Aeronautics & Space Administration) center for spaceflight training, research, and flight control. The center opened in 1963 as the Manned Spacecraft Center and was renamed on February 19, 1973. JSC contains the Christopher C. Kraft Jr. Mission Control Center, which directed all space shuttle missions and directs all activity aboard the International Space Station. Also at the JSC is the Sonny Carter Training Facility which houses the Neutral Buoyance Laboratory.

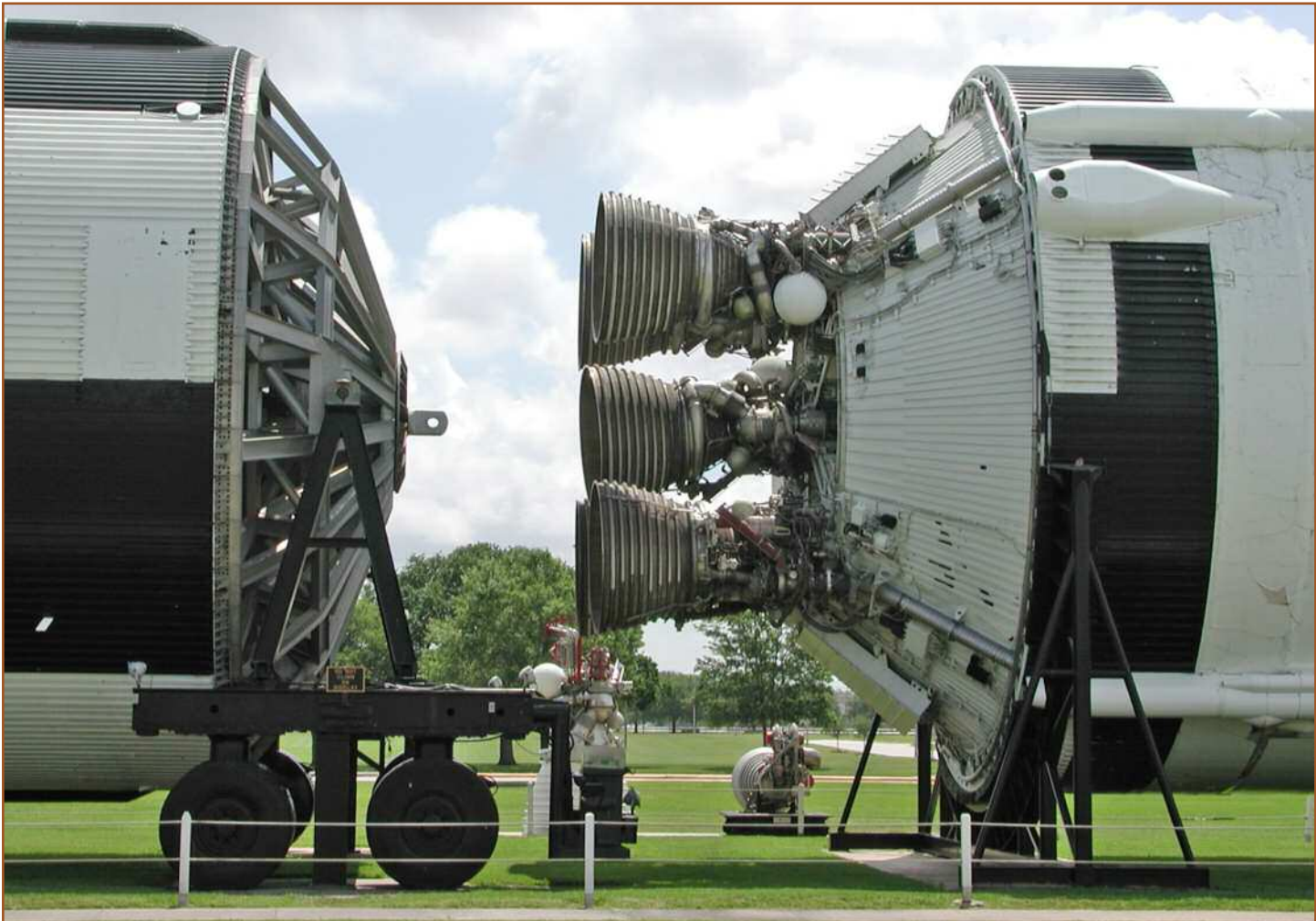
If you can visit the Johnson Space Center, I highly recommend it, however it is fairly expensive—\$6.00 for parking, then \$23.00 per adult at the door. There are online savings for tickets and if you are in Houston for a number of days there is a Houston City Pass program that offers discounted admittance to Space Center Houston, the Downtown Aquarium, Houston Museum of Natural Science and two other City amenities.

The Visitor Center at JSC recently added the restored Shuttlecraft Galileo full scale prop from the original Star Trek television series to its display. I hope to revisit JSC sometime soon and take pictures of it and the new exhibits. Also in February 2015, Space Center Houston will open the new Shuttle & 747 Carrier exhibit.

<http://www.spacecenter.org>

[Editor's Note: Jeffrey supplied 140 high-quality images of his trip, including many close-ups of Saturn 5 and other hardware, excellent modelers' references indeed and, as I can't cram that many into this publication, I have passed them all on to Mike Blohm, and hopefully you'll be able to see all of them on the site ere long! Meanwhile, here's a sample of twenty or so of the photos. Thanks, Jeffrey! -JW]







SVMF
SPACE VEHICLE MOCKUP FACILITY
website: www.jsc.nasa.gov/dx14/svmf.htm

ROBOTICS TRAINERS

- MDF Manipulator Development Facility
- MMDF Multi-Purpose Remote Manipulator Development Facility
- SDTS Six-Degree-of-Freedom Dynamic Test System

SHUTTLE TRAINERS

- FFT Full Fuselage Trainer
- CCT Crew Compartment Trainer
- PASP Precision Air-Bearing Facility
- POS Partial Gravity Simulator

STATION TRAINERS

- RPFT Rack Part Test Trainer
- ZVEZDA (STAR) Service Module
- ZARYA (SUNFIRE) Control Module
- Functional Cargo Block - (FCB)
- SOYUZ
- CAM Centrifuge Accommodation Module
- UNITY (NCC-1) Connecting Module
- DESTINY US Laboratory Module
- ARLROCK
- VOY Vehicle Operations Trainer
- PDL Payload Development Laboratory
- JAPANESE LOGISTICS MODULE
- KOJIKI (J-CPS) Japanese Experiment Module
- HOPE II
- CCP Columbus Orbital Facility

Logos for participating countries and organizations: USA, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.



High-tech space exploration equipment!

