

JIM'S SPRUES & REVIEWS JAMES GULD

It's officially Fall, and that means the baseball playoffs are winding down, football is underway, and for modeling the Tokyo Modeling Show is happening.

You can search the web and probably find a bunch of links to the show, but here is one (http://www.sembado.com/photo/48th_ths/ index.html).

I had told you last month about the new Tasca M4A1 DV Sherman but I didn't know they are also adding a new early .50 cal to the kit. I have one on pre-order from Dragon USA but haven't received it yet. Hopefully by our next meeting I'll have it.



It looks like FineMolds also has some new figures and a new 57mm version of the Type 97 command tank.

Trumpeter looks to be very busy with both new and old armor and some more trains to boot.

Dragon had a test shot model of the T-34 with the Hex turret along with the biggest surprise from them, the M3 75mm GMC halftrack. Now with this and the M16 halftrack, the regular M3/M3A1 shouldn't be too far off. They also had a number of other kits displayed—a late Hummel, Panzerjager 1, an early Panther G with zimmerit, a Tiger 1 Late with zimmerit, and some nice early war figures of French tankers surrendering.

Tamiya had models of their new JagdTiger kit along with their re-dos of some earlier kits with new added details. They redid their Italian M-13/40, Semovente and the German 232 armored car. They also have some new modern Russian fig-



October meeting highlights, counterclockwise from upper left: The crowd milling about early; the business meeting in progress; and Brian Peck runs a clinic.

October Special Contest winners, left to right: Kyle Garber's P-47, Mike Franklin's P-47, Larry Horyna's P-40, and Dave Straub's Alan Goodman Memorial Contest winning Loire 130.

ures. In 1/48-scale, they have the Marder III, Opel Blitz truck, and an AB41 armored car, which is an Italeri re-box. I also saw pictures of an L6 Italian light tank listed, but I think this is actually an Italeri kit. Either way it looks nice. It would look good K.O.'ed in the Western Desert.

Lion Roar showed off their BMW R75 with sidecar and it looks like a light trailer is also included.

AFV Club has models out of their new Churchill III and some test shots of the upcoming T-34 model 1941 with full interior. Looks like it will have a clear hull. They also had a 1/48-scale 251/1C shown.

Academy had a model of the K1A1, which I believe is the Korean Army version of the Abrams tank.

There was a number of interesting looking ship models also shown on the site along with some new finishing products. The only downside is the site is in Japanese, so it makes it a little hard to figure out what the product details are.

Well, that about wraps it up for this month. Now off to the closet to figure out what to build next.

SHOCON: THE 2008 REGIONAL RICHARD C. ENGAR

Greetings to all Region X Modelers and friends! Shocon 2008: The 2008 Regional is now history. The event is over and now we can briefly summarize the results. There were a total of 301 entries, which comprised almost 400 models considering the composition of collections, etc. Final statistics will likely be posted on the NUSMA web site (http://www.nusma.org) shortly. We had plenty of publicity and even advertising in the *IPMS Journal* (thank you very much!!!) and there were three mentions of Shocon 2008 in Salt Lake and Ogden newspapers. You could also read about it in the IPMS Journal and in Fine Scale Modeler.

We appreciate all of the sponsors and exhibitors who made the show so special. A big shout-out to Earl's Hobby Hangar in Logan, which had the most models to sell and provided the greatest amount of donations for the Friday Night Social and Auction. The auction was a grand success from all accounts.

Thanks also to all volunteers who helped, especially to Jen Crothers, wife of Sean, who was ubiquitous at the registration tables, contest hall, or anywhere else that help was needed. A photo is attached so you know who she is (that's her in the red shirt). All of you should thank her profusely if you run into her. Thanks also to Chris Gunter who had a great sound system set up so we could all enjoy great music during the show.



Thanks to Dan Holmes and company for han-

dling a fun Make & Take for the kids, which worked out well. Check out the attached photos. And thanks to Polar Lights for donating kits. Bat cycles were popular among the kids...



Final thanks to Contest gurus Phil Gladstone and Jim Sorensen who orchestrated the event and made it all possible.

Now, for the bad news: Where were many of our prior participants and where were all the new models? Even though this was an IPMS Regional, we did not see near the numbers of participants we enjoyed in the past. Of course, we had a usual great contingent from Pocatello, and it was great to see Mike Bobeau and his wife who came all the way from Alberta, Canada. We also had a great representation from Zia modelers of New Mexico, who were there in force. And there were some fantastic models on display.

But, I guess the gas prices and economy finally hit us at Shocon...

As a result of the declining attendance and factors such as a large increase in the fee charged by Union Station for us to have the show there, prob-



Year 20	008 Contest Quick Reference Chart
	Titles in blue indicate contests for
	"Modeler of the Year" Points
4 Jan	Special Contest #1
	SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
1 Feb	ASM Swap Meet—no contest.
7 Mar	Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale.
4 Apr	Heroes & The Good Guys—men,
ADI	women, or machines, any
	kit/subject/scale/era.
	Sponsored Contest: "Best Corsair"
	(Don Smith)
2 May	Special Contest #2
	Phabulous Phantom's Phiftieth
	ANNIVERSARY
	Sponsored Contest: "American
	MiG Killers" (Brian Peck)
6 Jun	Eastern Front—Aircraft, Armor,
	Figures (any kit/scale/subject).
	Sponsored Contest: "Best D-Day
	Subject" (ASM E-Board)
11 Jul	Open Contest —Any kit/subject/scale.
1 Aug	
	Cougars, etc.; any kit/subject/scale.
5 Sep	The Pacific—Any kit/subject/scale.
	Sponsored Contest: "Best P-40"
	(Patrick Dick)
3 Oct	Special Contest #3
	ASM's Best P-47, 10th Anniversary
	Sponsored Contest: "Allan Goodman
	Memorial—Best of Any Subject"
	(ASM E-Board)
7 Nov	World War I, 90 Years—Any WWI
	kit/subject/scale.
	Sponsored Contest: "WWI Aces"
	(Mike Blohm)
5 Dec	Special Contest #4
	TAG-TEAM MODEL
	Plus Model of the Year competition!
	Sponsored Contest: "Captured"
	(ASM E-Board)
	Sponsored Contest: "Something
	Completely Different" (Tom Grossman)
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lems with availability dates, and general burnout by the tired few who were willing to organize and present the annual NUSMA contest for the past several years, the annual NUSMA contest will take a sabbatical for a while. The membership voted last night to put plans on hold to host a big show for a while. Thus, there will not be a fall contest in 2009 and it is likely that NUSMA will not hold a contest in 2010 if IPMS/Salt Lake agrees to hold one in the spring so all efforts can be put forward by all clubs to make this 2010 contest a grand success, if it happens.

What does this mean to all of you? You have time

now to build, build, build and have a large cadre of models ready for future events. I usually build five

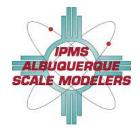


models a year, at my snail's pace, but I challenge all of you to match my output! Let's all strive to have over 500 models at the next Utah show, whether it is sponsored by NUSMA or by IPMS/SLC.

Don't look to Dem Brudders to agree to serve as Contest Chairs anytime soon. I will probably be happy to do it again once I retire for good but things are getting really busy at work for both of us. We hope some of the younger modelers will be willing to step forward and take a turn, both in the Salt Lake and Ogden clubs. Of course, car aficionados will enjoy GSL in Spring of 2009 but that is an established event that brings world class modelers to downtown Salt Lake City and will not have divisions for any models other than those that are vehicle related (but no treaded armor!).

Anyway, photos of Shocon 2008 will be posted on the NUSMA web site eventually (since they were taken by me and a disk sent to Jim Sorensen for processing a week later). So you can all look forward to seeing those along with names of the winners. I personally enjoyed the most recent edition of Shocon immensely, as did all those who attended from what I could see. But all good things must come to an end, at least for awhile, so let nostalgia kick in for a while, get over AMS, and start building like crazy.

So, until next time, model on!



Master

John Tate
James Guld
Mike Blohm
Dave Miller
Mike Franklin 420
Patrick Dick
Keith Liotta
Ken Liotta
Mike McNichols 170
Brian Peck 158
Glenn Bingham 85

ASM 2008 MODELER-OF-THE-YEAR POINTS

Victor Maestas 1539 Josh Pals 1275

Intermediate

Josh Pals 1275
Rick Carver 830
Frank Randall 700
Tom Perea 613
Adrian Montaño 355
Tim Wood
Wayne Sprong
Kyle Garber 164
Don Blea
Tony Humphries 110
Don Smith 103
Danny Williamson 102

Jeff Frickstad.						75
Jack Garriss .						25

Basic

Dasic	
Gil Johnson	1940
Jeannie Garriss	. 260
Kent Weeks	. 175
John Tribou	. 125
Matt Blohm	. 125
Junior	
Chalana Davaa	160

Chelsea Perea	460
Alyssa Perea	125

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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.