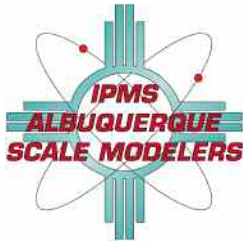


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

November 2015

THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

November, as I'm sure you all know, is a notable month for a couple of reasons (aside from my wife's birthday and God help me if I forget that...). Firstly, it's the month when ASM holds elections for the Executive Board, and secondly because it is the last points competition of the year.

Elections can be a chance to cast your votes for those members of the club who you think will do the best job in running the club in the interests of the membership. The only problem this year

is that we aren't having one. Not because power has been seized by a group of young and idealistic armed rebels, who have raised a People's Army and suspended the democratic process, but rather because the current board have all been re-elected (with one exception) by default. The one exception being Larry who is stepping down and I would like to offer my thanks on behalf of the board for the solid, articulate and sensible way in which he has acted as a pro-tem member during his tenure. His place will be taken by Josh Pals who I have no doubt, will also do an excellent job, and who has experience in filling several positions on the E-board in the past. So welcome aboard!

Hopefully this all means that you think the current E-board are doing a good job. If that is not the case, then make sure that you let us know. We are always open to constructive criticism. One point to make for the future is that it is always good to have new blood involved in



October Meeting highlights, L - R: Members checking out the model entries; plaques for the winners of last month's *Trainers* contest; and the business meeting in progress.



running our club in conjunction with the old hands, so if you have never held a position on the board before but are of sound mind (well, sound-ish) and have some time to dedicate to the role, please do consider standing for one of the E-Board positions next year. Your contribution would be very welcome.

So, it looks as though I am going to be President for another year then (I think this is the fourth year, but it's all been a bit of a blur). However, unless I get voted in as King next time around, this will probably be my last year in running the club as a change in leadership (such as it is) is a good thing every so often. Otherwise I'll end up like Caligula, drunk with power, cackling wildly, appointing Goldfish to positions on the E-board and having people thrown off cliffs, and we really don't want to go there, do we? Just giving you some (very) advanced notice, anyway... Of course, if I do get voted in as King, I shall expect a proper Coronation complete with the big gold coach, the crown, ermine robes, a sceptre that I can swing around wildly, and lots of corgis. I shall also expect everywhere I go to have been freshly painted and an enormous pair of scissors to cut ribbons and open new bridges and hospitals with, so don't say that you weren't warned.

The last points competition of the year also has some significance as the points competitions in the Masters and Intermediate classes are hotting up like a rapidly-warming thing and we are likely to go down to the wire this year in both. It promises to be a close finish. So I hope that everyone will get building and give us a rousing finish this year. I'm sure we are all looking forward to seeing those entries, so get building and let's see if we can really fill the tables as it's your last chance to get some points on the board and possibly win fame, fortune, glory, the respect of your peers and a flat piece of wood with your name on it. And who can resist that?

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MIKE BLOHM

A couple of items to mention. First off, we had the 2016 E-board nominations at the October meeting, and the current E-board was re-nominated other than Larry Glenn, who will be replaced by Josh Pals. Thank you, Larry, for your service in 2015 and a welcome aboard to Josh. Josh has already been instrumental in supporting the New Mexico State Fair model contests and our Make & Takes.

Secondly, I'd like to encourage club members to write and submit kit/product reviews and trip reports to the newsletter and website. They don't have to be fancy—just a few paragraphs and some pictures of your work in progress or the site or show that you visited.

We were fortunate enough to have recent visits to Albuquerque by both a Boeing B-29 Superfortress ("FiFi") and a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress ("Texas Raiders"). I was able to get some nice in-flight shots of the B-17 as it circled the Balloon Fiesta on Sunday, October 4, and as it flew over my house all weekend giving rides. It seemed like *Twelve O'clock High*. If any ASM members had the opportunity to go see the B-29 at Double Eagle Airport, please consider doing a trip report to share your pictures. Ken Piniak has submitted a report on his visit to the B-17 in this edition of the Newsletter.

Year 2015 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 09 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1:**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
Sponsored Contest: "Battle of the Bulge Plus 70" (ASM E-Board)
Sponsored Contest: "Fanta-storical" (Josh Pals & Patrick Dick)
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
- 06 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 06 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 03 Apr** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: "APRIL FOOLS"**
- 01 May** **May Day**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 05 Jun** **Rotary Wing**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Lockheed Martin" (Patrick Dick)
- 10 Jul** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3: 1945**
Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries" (Mike & Matt Blohm)
- 07 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 04 Sep** **Trainers**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "It's All Greek to Me" (Gil De La Plain)
- 02 Oct** **Nuclear Winters**—Any kit/subject/scale
Sponsored Contest: "Hawker Aircraft" (John Tate)
Sponsored Contest: "Nuclear Heritage Model Display" (Defense Nuclear Weapons School Museum)
- 06 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
Sponsored Contest: "Best Little Fokker" (Don Smith)
- 04 Dec** Sponsored Contest: "Steampunk" (Jerry Little)
Plus 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>

Lastly, the website has a "Model of the Year" webpage that lists all the contenders that were winners during 2015 in the four divisions. Please check that out, and plan to bring your potential Model of the Year winner to the December meeting. You don't have to be at the December meeting, but your model does. So if you cannot attend, please arrange to have someone else bring your models to the meeting to participate in the competition.

THE FINER POINTS

JERRY LITTLE

What a great month we had in October. Nearly forty models were displayed on the club tables for the monthly contest. In addition to the "Nuclear Winters" theme, we had two addi-

tional Sponsored contests: John Tate's "Best Hawker Subject" and the USAF Nuclear College's "Best Nuclear Subject." This made for a busy night and a great opportunity to see some amazing modeling!

October was a perfect time for the theme contest of "Nuclear Winters." The Albuquerque climate is becoming cooler, much like the days that would result from a so-called Nuclear Winter. The phrase is related to the hypothetical climatic effect that might result from hundreds of nuclear weapons detonating on cities around the world in WWII. These firestorms would kick soot into the stratosphere creating a "winter" as a result its effect on the greenhouse warming cycle. Brrrrr! We had enough nuclear subjects on the table that, as Winston Churchill famously said, "all you are going to do is make the rubble bounce." In the **Masters** category, Victor Maestas earned a first place in armor with his German Marder while John Tate earned a first in figures with his North Korean MiG Pilot. In aviation, John also took first with his MiG-17 Fresco from the Soviet Air Force. Tony Humphries's *HMS Vanguard* earned a first in the ship category and finally, John Tate's 1/144 Soviet SS-18 Satan ICBM took first in Space. The People's Choice award in Masters went to Victor Maestas for his Hawker Typhoon, and John Tate's SS-18 won Best of Show.

The **Intermediate** category saw a lot of models on the table. While Masters had ten, Intermediate had over twenty models entered—so many that in aircraft we split between Props and Jets. Steve Brodeur earned a first in Props with his B-26 Marauder and Len Faulconer was first with his F-106A Michigan ANG in Jets. Mike Clagett presented an outstanding card model of "The Space Race That Never was—1952" and earned a first in Science & Fantasy. Bret Kinman had a couple of armor pieces on display and earned a first with his Challenger I Mk 3 in 1/35 scale. Both Bret's and Mike's efforts earned them additional accolades when the People's Choice award was given to Mike for his Space Race model and Bret's Challenger was selected as Best of Show in Intermediate.

Kyle McIntyre earned a Gold Ribbon for his *USS Enterprise* and *Ranger* and was selected as Best of Show and People's Choice in the **Basic** Category. Joshua Kinman also earned a Gold ribbon for his red Corvette and it was also selected People's Choice and Best of Show.

As we get closer to the end of the year and selecting our Modeler of the Year and Model of the Year, we have one more points contest for these competitions. November is an "Open" so we should see a wide variety of subjects and genera. Now is the time to "load the box" for all those close MoY races!

FRED'S FOTO FILE

FRED FRANCESCHI

Biplanes

I don't pay a lot of attention to Great War airplanes, in fact, not only are they scarce now, they were scarce fifty years ago. But once in a while a biplane gets in the way of my camera's lens.

This is what happens when a crop duster gets a bit too low. Or did it get flipped by a tornado? The prop doesn't look bent.



I took the photo near a small town in rural Texas in August, 1979, while I was on a trip from California to Arkansas. This is a sample of an airplane that is designed for the pilot's survival when things go wrong. Hopefully, the pilot was able to walk away.



An attractive biplane at the Santa Paula airport in June, 1981.



A Tiger Moth in British markings. It sure looks pretty.

[Editor's note: The full text of Fred's article and several more excellent biplane photos (larger and in higher resolution) are in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

The Final Point

Sometimes my wife will comment to me; “If I have to tell you, then you are obviously not paying attention...” I’m sure we’ve all heard that before (okay, maybe not from my wife) and of course the only reasonable response is, “Well, if I could just read your mind, it would all be easier...!” The same kind of holds true for our monthly club contest when it comes to filling out our entry sheets.

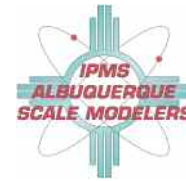
On occasion, there are multiple events happening during the same meeting contest. We have Theme contests, Special contests and often, Sponsored contests. Some like to enter the Sponsored but not the regular contest. I for one did this just last month when I entered the “Best Hawker Model” sponsored by John Tate (Thank you John!). I didn’t want my model competing for the regular contest in that I am the Contest Director and didn’t want any potential conflict of interest. It meant that it was entirely on me to correctly fill out the entry form to make judging easier. Additionally, there may be MoY points implications if you don’t correctly fill out the entry form. In a close contest for Modeler of the Year, that could be the difference. Now in all fairness, most of the time, the judges will catch this oversight and give the modeler the benefit of the doubt and make the correction; however, since our judges are volunteers, it slows down the process of judging and may not be caught all the time. We ask our judges to do a lot... but being able to read minds is not one of them! Help us out and fill it out... completely!

IN THE BONUS PAGES!

JOE WALTERS

In this month’s **Bonus Pages**:

- Proposed subjects for 2016 model contests
- Photos of the October contest winners
- The full text and photos of Fred’s Foto File
- Mike’s Photos of the B-17 *Texas Raiders*
- Ken Piniak’s Road Trip to tour that B-17
- Rolf Nitsche’s very long field trip to a model show in Germany



Master

John Tate	1473
Tony Humphries	1360
Glen Bingham	956
Ken Liotta	952
Larry Glenn	716
Victor Maestas	586
Dave Miller	410
Brian Peck	279
James Strickland	274
Mike Blohm	263
Josh Pals	227
Patrick Dick	154
Michael Foust	75
Danny Williamson	25
Dave Straub	2

Intermediate

Ken Piniak	1101
Frank Randall	991
Bret Kinman	886
Len Faulconer	578
Partap Davis	566
Jack Garriss	295
Gil Johnson	250
Theron Brawley	160
Jeff Frickstad	160
David Epstein	150
Steve Brodeur	125
Gorham Smoker	110
Pete Armijo	100
Blaine Couch	100
Michel Wingard	100

Richard Milner	25
Kyle Garber	4
Don Smith	4
Tim Wood	4

Basic

Jeannie Garriss	1035
Kyle McIntyre	785
Keith McIntyre	177
David Paul	2
Lloyd Powell	2

Junior

Josh Kinman	975
Anthony Jackson	150

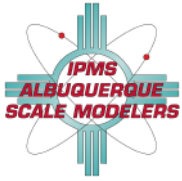
MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS STANDINGS

As of 20 Oct 15

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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.



BONUS PAGES!

2016 CONTEST SCHEDULE

JERRY LITTLE

It's that time of year where we start thinking about what we are going to model for 2016. This year has been a great success and I want to build on that in 2016. That means we need to pick some themes for the monthly contest. Next year, I've chosen to have three "Open" contests, one in each quarter, and four "Theme" contests. Based on the way the schedule is laid out, we will start the "standard" year with January's Special Moe Blalters, February's Swap Meet, and March as an Open contest. We then need to decide as a group on three themes. I am reserving the fourth theme for my input: "Rescue Me," a holdover from this year's list that we didn't get to do. Don't forget that in addition to the regular contest, we'll have the normal spread of "Sponsored" contests hosted by members of the club.

I've created a list of potential themes below and will provide ballots at the November meeting so we can vote on the list. Whatever gets the most votes wins. We'll even have a write-in spot for other ideas. My goal is to have the schedule for the December meeting. Here is a list of potential Themes:

- 1916 (100th Anniversary)—Anything from 1916
- 1941 (75th Anniversary)—A year which will live in infamy... Anything from 1941
- 1966 (50th Anniversary)—Vietnam and lots of stuff... Anything from 1966
- 1991 (25th Anniversary)—Desert Storm and lots other... Anything from 1991
- It's got two! (or more)—Anything with two or more: engines, wings, rotors, wheels, barrels
- What If?
- "Oh no, not that kit!" (Kits made before 1980)
- Fallen Comrades
- Captured!
- Paper please!—Models made of paper.
- Aircraft of the Aces—Any aircraft flown by an Ace from any era.
- Empire of the Rising Sun—Japan
- Carrier—Anything to do with aircraft carriers
- Wings of the Luftwaffe—German WWII aircraft
- Animals—Things with animal names, parts, paint schemes, etc.
- It Floats!—Anything that floats on water (or under)
- Single Kit... Everyone builds the same kit!
- $\frac{1}{24}$ -Scale British Aircraft

Think about what you want to see (or finish from this year) on the tables in 2016!

BONUS PAGES!

OCTOBER BEST OF SHOW WINNERS

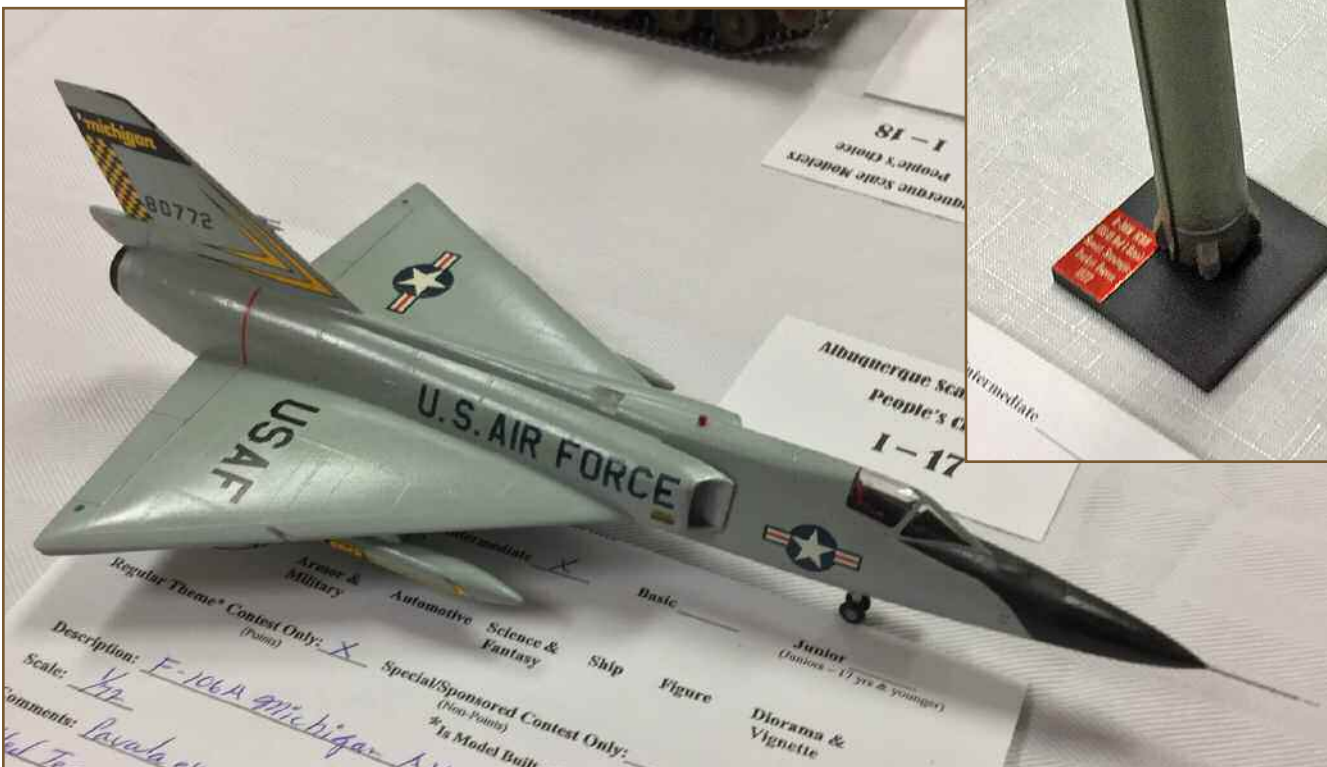
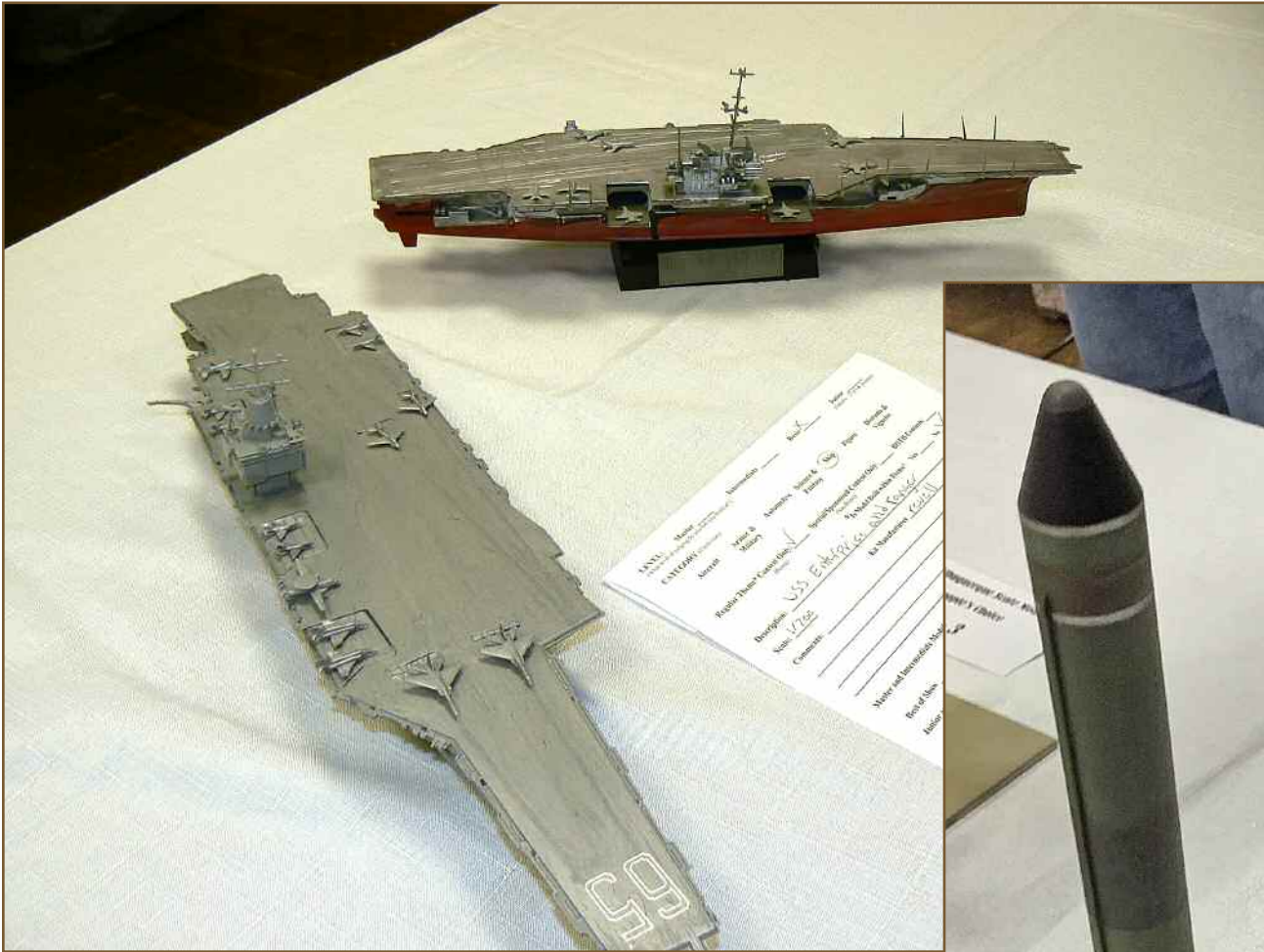
We start with the Best of Show models from October's "Nuclear Winter" Theme contest. Top to bottom: Joshua Kinman's Corvette (Juniors), Kyle McIntyre's *USS Enterprise* and *USS Ranger* (Basic).



Top to bottom: Bret Kinman's Challenger Tank (Intermediate), John Tate's R-36M ICBM SS-18 Satan (Masters).



Winners of the **Nuclear Heritage Model Display** sponsored contest, shown top to bottom: Kyle McIntyre's *USS Enterprise* and *USS Ranger* (Basic); John Tate's R-36M ICBM SS-18 Satan (Masters); and Len Faulconer's F-106A Michigan ANG (Intermediate).



Winners of the **Hawker** sponsored contest, top to bottom: Jerry Little's Tempest (Intermediate) and Victor Maestas's Typhoon (Masters).



At left: When I took this photo of Bret Kinman at the October meeting, in conjunction with the ongoing Challenge Build project, his daughter *really* didn't want to stand outside the picture! -JW

BONUS PAGES!

FRED'S FOTO FILE

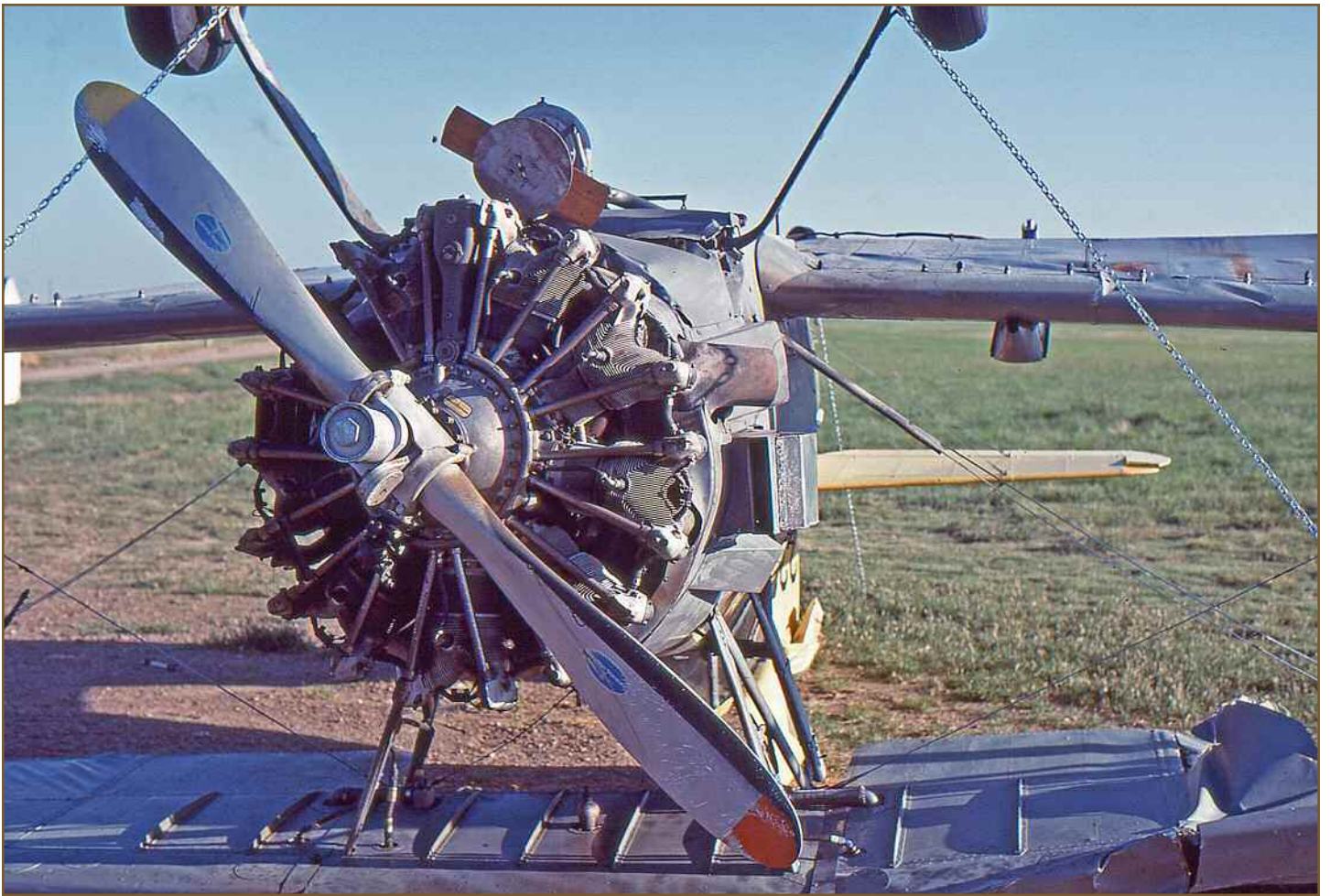
FRED FRANCESCHI

Biplanes

I don't pay a lot of attention to Great War airplanes, in fact, not only are they scarce now, they were scarce fifty years ago. But once in a while a biplane gets in the way of my camera's lens.

This is what happens when a crop duster gets a bit too low. Or did it get flipped by a tornado? The prop doesn't look bent. I took these photos near a small town in rural Texas in August, 1979, while I was on a trip from California to Arkansas. This is a sample of an airplane that is designed for the pilot's survival when things go wrong. Hopefully, the pilot was able to walk away.







An attractive biplane at the Santa Paula airport in June, 1981.





An N2S (PT-17) at the same airport. You can see why this aircraft was called the “Yellow Peril.” But high visibility is good when a bunch of trainees are trying not to bump into each other.





Above: Another N2S (PT-17) in different US Navy markings. I took the photo in January, 1978. Probably also at the Santa Paula airport.

Below: A really pretty biplane.





A Tiger Moth in British markings. It sure looks pretty.





Above: This looks like the type of airplane that crossed the English Channel before the Great War.
Below: Ronald McDonald's biplane in January 1978. Did anyone know that he had one? My now-ex-wife's in front of it.



BONUS PAGES!

TEXAS RAIDERS HISTORY

MIKE BLOHM

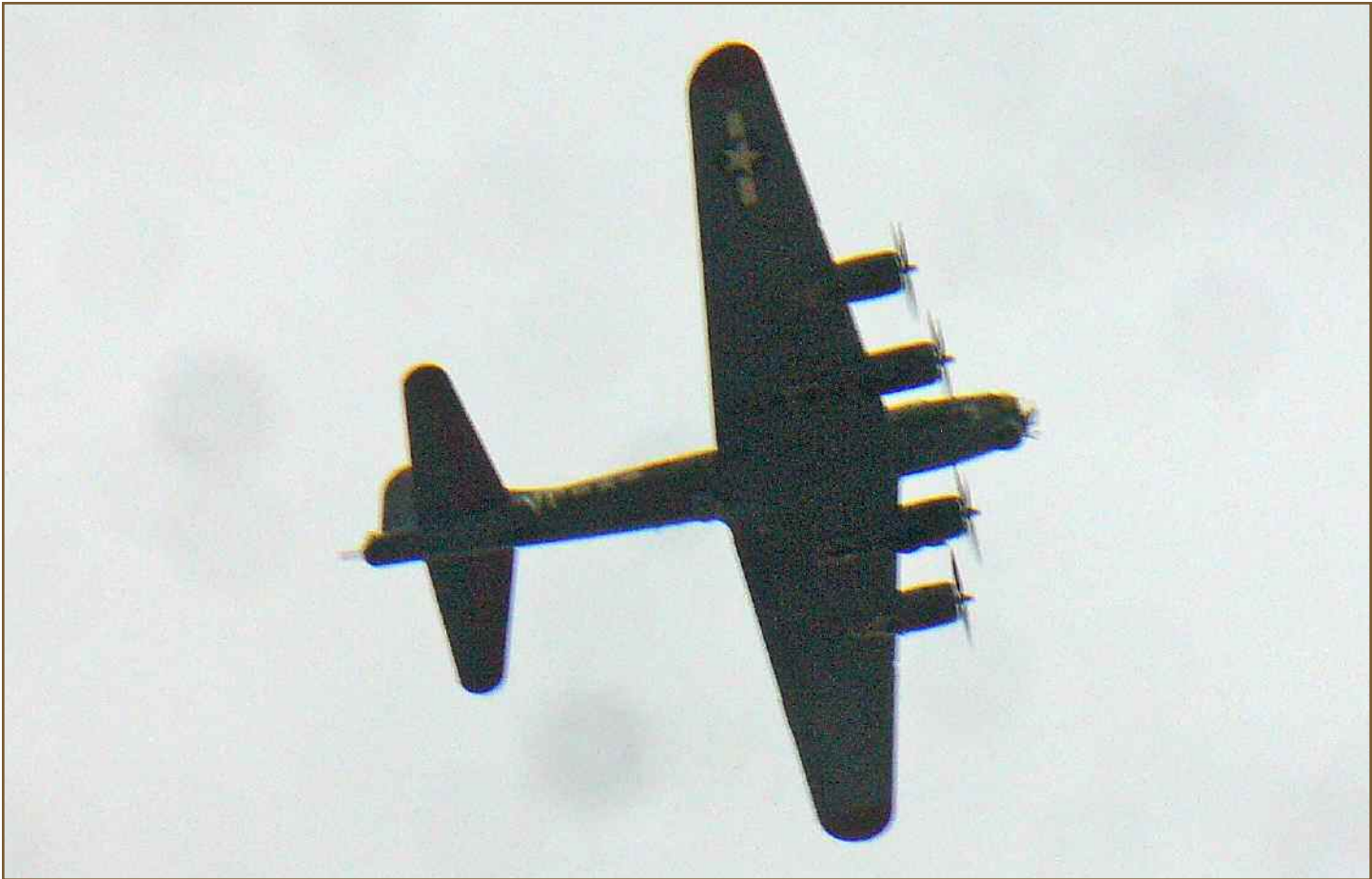
The B-17G Flying Fortress “Texas Raiders” is being presented at airshows and other events by the Gulf Coast Wing of the Commemorative Air Force. It is based at David Wayne Hooks Airport in Spring, Texas. It was originally delivered to the US Army Air Force on July 12, 1945, but was transferred to the US Navy on July 21, 1945. It was converted to serve as an airborne radar system. After service on the Atlantic Seaboard and in Japan, it was retired in August 1955. It was later used as a civilian cargo plane and for aerial photography, mapping, satellite tracking, and oil and natural gas surveys. Mapping assignments included photographic coverage of the entire continent of South America and an extensive amount of Central America. Surveys were conducted in the North Sea and Alaska. The Commemorative Air Force bought the B-17 in September 1967 for \$50,000. It went through major restorations in 1983 – 1986 and again in 1993. It is recognized as the best restored B-17G bomber currently flying in the world. Of note, no B-17 carried the name “Texas Raiders” during World War II. There are currently only eleven restored B-17s that are airworthy out of 12,732 produced. For more info on “Texas Raiders” visit their website at (<http://b17texasraiders.org>).



Above: The B-17 *Texas Raiders* overflies the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. Following pages: the same plane as seen from Mike’s house.









Above: Two photos of this plane from the *Texas Raiders* website.

Below: Though we don't yet have any member photos of it, *Fifi* was also in town during this time, parked out at Double Eagle, reportedly for the purpose of filming some scenes for the television series *Better Call Saul*. *Fifi* did overfly the Balloon Fiesta one day, and was caught in an impressive video pan by one of the local news helicopters during their coverage of a mass ascension. Both bombers stayed well clear of the balloons, of course!



The "Spider-Pig" hot air balloon was at the 2015 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta and some pictures are included here from its appearances at the Mass Ascension on Sunday, October 4, and the Balloon Glow on Saturday, October 10. Spider-Pig—Homer's pig Plopper—and his parody theme song came to fame in "The Simpsons Movie." Would make for an interesting plastic model.

*Spider-Pig, Spider-Pig,
Does whatever a Spider-Pig does.
Can he swing from a web?
No, he can't, he's a pig,
Look out, he is a Spider-Pig!*



BONUS PAGES!

A VERY SHORT ROAD TRIP

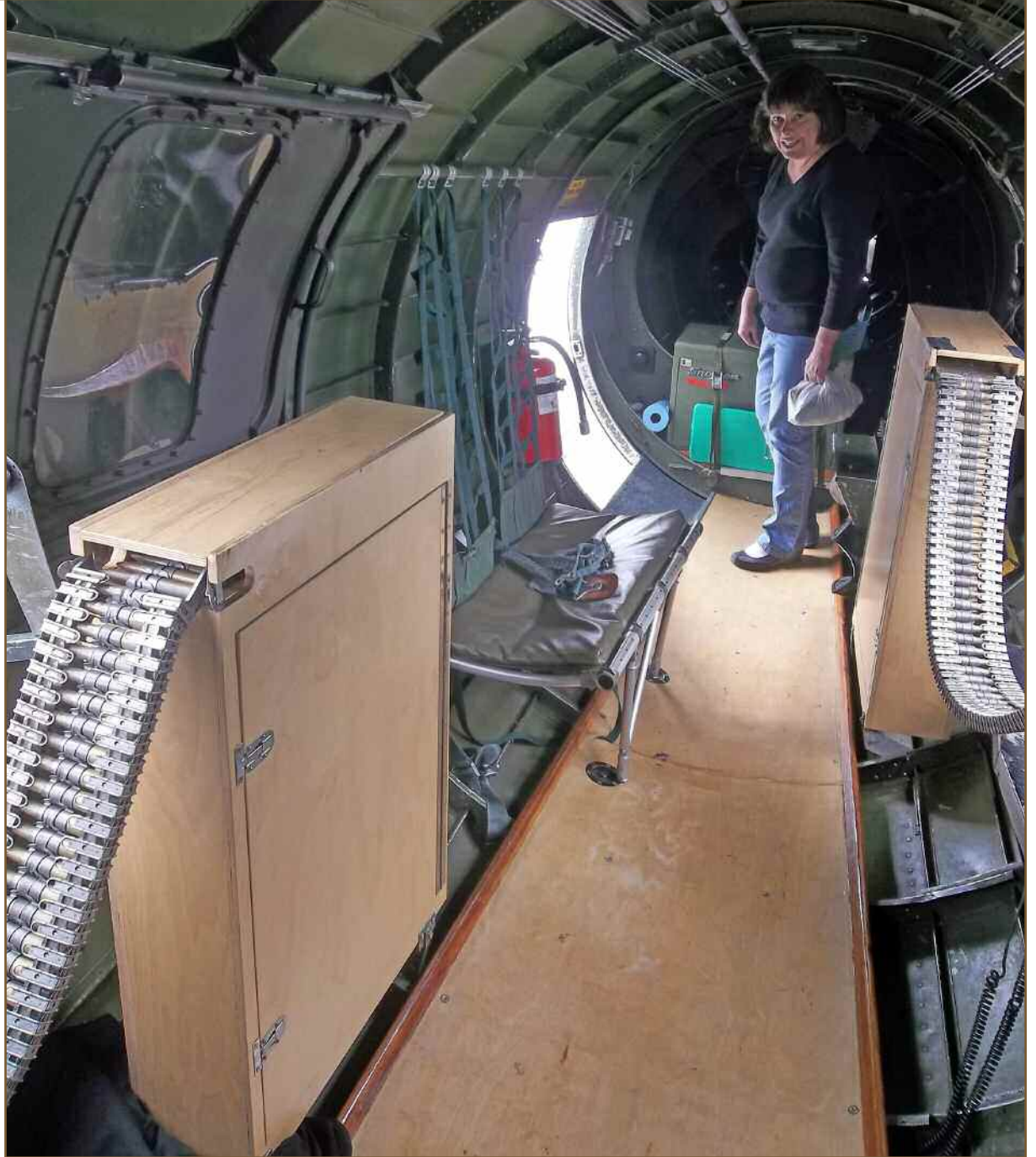
KEN PINIAK

On October 4, I took the wife down to Cutter Aviation on the south side of the Albuquerque Sunport to see the B-17 “Texas Raiders.” The “TR” is one of a handful of B-17s still flying, and perhaps the best preserved one of the group. While I have seen and toured quite a few B-17s in my time, including the “TR,” this was a first for my wife, Dawn. She is a veteran (Navy) so she has some understanding of the hardships and sacrifices involved in military service, but this was her first chance to experience up close what it was like for those brave airmen who flew in these machines all those years ago.

When we arrived, the plane was out on a flight, so we looked at a couple of WWII vehicles and browsed the selection of gifts and T-shirts they had available (we each bought a T-shirt). Then we heard the unmistakable sound of a large four-engine aircraft approaching. We were treated to the sight of this large, majestic bird as it made its approach and landing. After taxiing up to the ramp, shutting down the engines, and offloading the passengers and crew, the plane was opened up for tours. For the next hour or so, we explored the old girl inside and out. I answered my wife’s questions and pointed out some of the features of the plane, and what it was like to fly in it. Most people do not realize just how tiny, cramped, and spartan the interior of a B-17 really is. I showed Dawn how the crew entered the aircraft, how they had to open the windows to fire the waist guns, and where they plugged in their electrically-heated flight suits to keep from freezing to death.

Outside of the aircraft, we had to be careful to avoid dripping oil from the engines and other parts of the plane. We looked at the ball turret and the tail turret, the loneliest and most isolated parts of the aircraft. After viewing the plane from nose to tail, it was time to say goodbye and head home.





BONUS PAGES!

FIELD TRIP

ROLF NITSCHKE

Inspiration Modellbau Mainz, Germany—A Different Approach to Modeling

On the weekend of September 19, and 20, 2015, the 1. Mainzer Modellbau Club held its annual modeling show at the fairgrounds of Mainz, Germany. Luckily, I had a family reunion close by on that weekend and couldn't pass up the event of my former modeling club. The location in a large tent was not the best choice regarding climate and light conditions, but this event drew a lot of excellent modelers from partnering modeling clubs of the Rhine-Main Modeling Organization and of the neighboring European States like France and Belgium to Mainz, the former Monguntiacum founded by the Romans in 13 BC, where the Main River joins the Rhine River.

No contests are held at most German modeling shows like this one, allowing a wider definition of modeling and some additional creativity. RC modelers, model railroaders, scale and tin figure modelers, table top war gamers, paper modelers, LEGO builders, and, last but not least, plastic modelers showed off their excellent skills and models. For the children, a special kids' area was arranged to build make & takes. Dealers offered all kinds of supplies and kits to leave more money at the event. For the RC fans special terrains for trucks and tanks were set up and model railroaders had set up some modular layouts. This show was targeting beside the modeling experts the wider interested public in the Rhine-Main region. So let some pictures speak.

[Rolf also pointed to more photos from this amazing show at the 1. Mainzer Modellbau Club (that's how it's spelled!) website (<http://www.modellbauclub-mainz.de>). It's in German, but you should be able to find your way around! -JW]

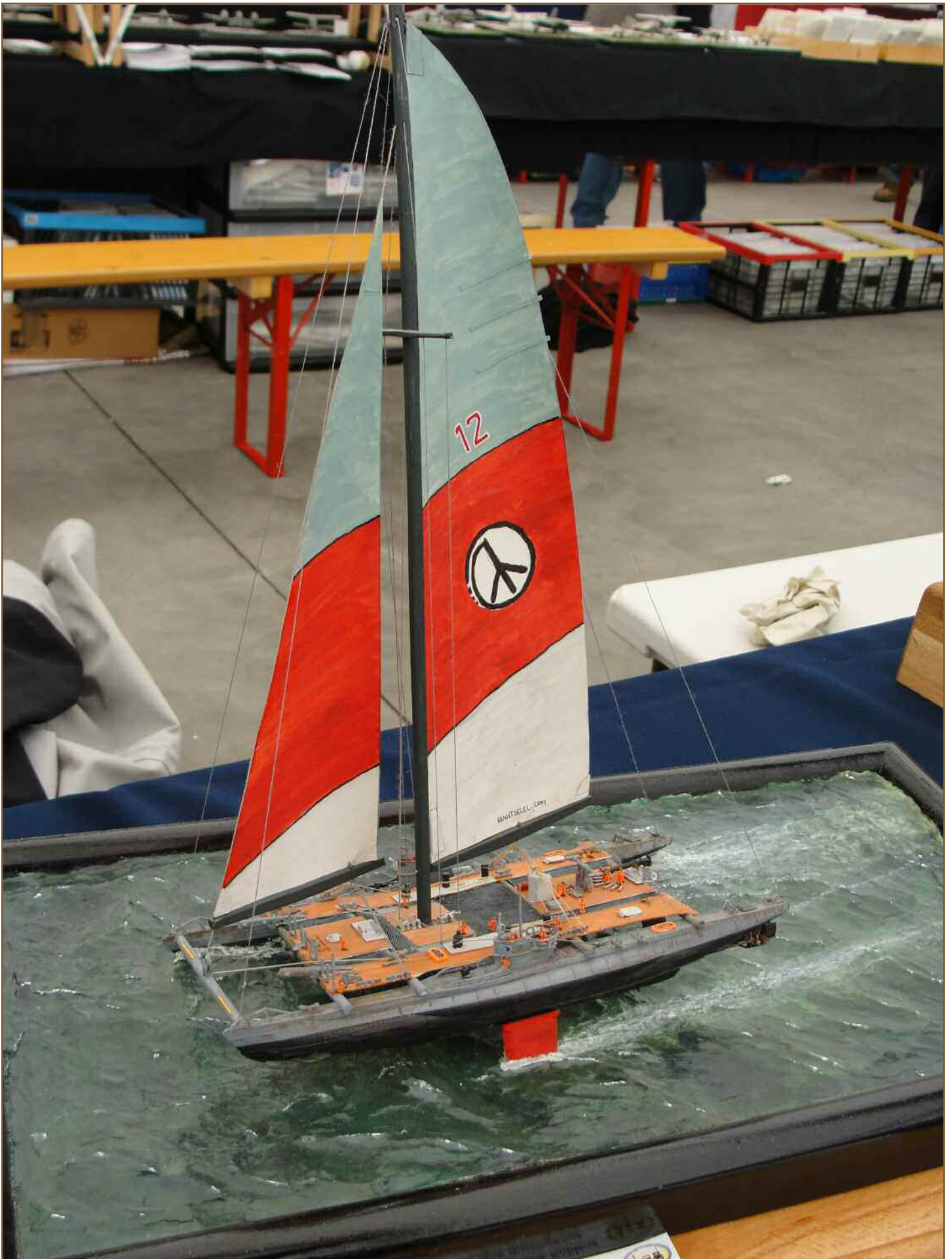














Join IPMS/USA!

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).



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