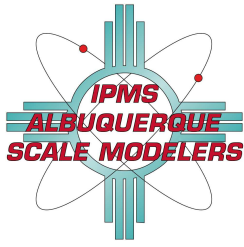


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/asmweb.htm>

October 2005

VICE-PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS FRANK RANDALL

Hey you all, wasn't that a great meeting last month? Mr. Jim Stark, P-38 pilot with the 474th fighter group in Europe, was a fun speaker. I did get a kick out of his visual aid, a 1/48 Lightning model, which he used to great effect in showing what was happening, how he liked to dive bomb and how the Lightning behaved (see, even WWII pilots like to fly their models around the room). I thought it was a great insight into just how things worked back then. I knew that bailing out of a P-38 was a little hairy, but Mr. Stark's description brought it into focus. I was also reminded that not all of the pilots in WWII saw plane-to-plane combat. Some just did bomber coverage and bombing duties. But to me they are all heroes and deserve great respect and honor. Mr. Stark was just tickled pink to get his really neat plaque that had pictures of P-38s and listings of the fighter groups in his squadron.

And you know the servicemen and women of that generation are getting fewer and fewer, and I am grateful that we are getting the chances to hear "living history."

In other news, we have our next "Super Raffle," thanks to Tim: a 1/32 Hobbycraft F-105D. This will occur at the November meeting. I would like to thank everyone that has contributed to the club raffle supplies; I don't remember ev-

eryone that did so, so this is a blanket "Thanks a bunch."

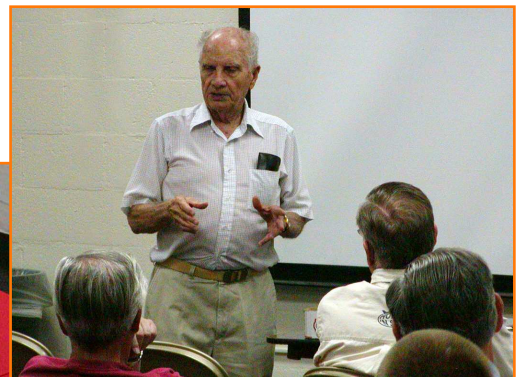
Lastly, the club's donation to the Red Cross Hurricane relief fund was \$225, and the GAP Inc double-matched it, bringing the total to \$675; way to go everyone!

One more last item: Brian and Lisa Peck had a beautiful healthy baby girl. Mom and baby are doing fine; Dad may be a bit frazzled. Congrats!!

CONTEST CORNER MIKE BLOHM

September Contest Results: "Africa and Middle East—1914 to Present"

The September meeting had two great contests and an excellent historical speaker. The theme contest was "Africa and the Middle East—1914 to Present," which had 32 total entries. Pictures of the Best of Show win-



September meeting highlights, L - R: Members milling about during Contest setup; several P-38s ready for the Special Contest; guest speaker Jim Stark gives us a taste of life in the P-38.



September Best of Show winners, clockwise from top: Don Smith's halftrack, Hank Petitgerard's P-38, Shawn Brown's Lowrider, and Glenn Bingham's Bf 109



ners can be found in the ASM Newsletter. Pictures of all the models can be found on the ASM Website (http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/asm_pictures.htm)

In the Junior's Division, Shawn Brown's excellently finished "Lowrider" won the Best of Show, People's Choice and a Gold Award in Automotive. Kelly Brown won a Silver Award with her nicely-painted Boeing 737 airliner. Nice job, Juniors!

Don Smith's SdKfz 251/1 Halftrack won the Best of Show—Basic award, and a Gold Award in the Armor and Military category. John Kendrick won the People's Choice—Basic award, and a Gold Award in Armor and Military category for his M3A1 Stuart tank. Don's 1/144 scale Panzer IV aus F won a Silver award. John's nicely-done F-117A won a Gold award in Aircraft.

The Intermediate Division had a great turnout with seven total P-38s and one piece of armor. Hank Petitgerard's P-38F "Texas Terror" from the 1 FG in Algeria in 1943 won the Best of Show—Intermediate award. Kyle Garber's P-38J from the 20 FG in Kingscliffe, England, in 1944 won the People's Choice—Intermediate award. Tom Redling's excellent British M7 Priest won a First in Armor and Military. In the Aircraft category, Kyle Garber's P-38J took First place, Hank Petitgerard's P-38F took Second place, and Jack Morris' P-38L took Third place.

The Master's Division had 17 model entries. The Best of Show—Masters award went to Glenn Bingham's outstanding Bf 109 F-4/R-8 from 1.(F)/122 in Tunisia 1942. The People's Choice—Masters award went to Jim Guld's excellent "Operation Battleaxe" featuring a Panzer III of the 5th Light Division. In the Armor & Military category, First place went to John Tate's T-34/85 tank from the Egyptian Army in 1956. Second place went to Jim Guld's Valentine Mk III tank. Third place was won by Mike Mummey's VK4S01 Tiger tank. In the Aircraft category, First place went to Glenn Bingham's Bf 109 F-4. Second place went to John Tate's Spitfire IXe from the Royal Egyptian Air Force. Mike McNichols won a First place in Figures for his "Egyptian Gods." In the Science Fiction and Fantasy category, which includes

rockets and real-space entries, First place went to John Tate's S-75 "Dvina" (SAM-2). Second place went to Mike Blohm's Burning Gundam. In the Diorama and Vignettes category, First place went to Jim Guld's "Operation Battleaxe." Second place went to Mike Mummey's Water Pump House. Third place went to Don MacBryde's "SAS Motor Pool."

"Best P-38" Sponsored Contest Results

Stan Johnson's "Best P-38" sponsored contest had a great showing with 13 total entries representing both the European and Pacific Theaters of Operation in World War II and a great range of scale. First Place—Masters went to Fred Franceschi's F-5 Photo-Recon Lightning in 1/48 scale. Second Place—Masters went to Mike Blohm's P-38L Lightning in 1/72 scale. Third Place—Masters went to Keith Liotta's P-38J Lightning in 1/32 scale. First Place—Intermediate went to Frank Randall's P-38J Lightning in 1/72 scale. Second Place—Intermediate went to Kyle Garber's P-38J in 1/32 scale. Third Place—Intermediate went to Jack Morris' P-38L Lightning in 1/72 scale. Stan had some great trophies to present to the winners—engraved glass mugs featuring the award level, a P-38 profile, and the dedication: "In memory of the men and machines of the 474th Fighter Group, 9th Air Force, Europe, 1945." Stan hopes to do another sponsored contest in 2006, so you won't want to miss that one!

P-38 Lightning Pilot Historical Presentation

In conjunction with the "Best P-38" sponsored contest, the September meeting featured a very entertaining and enlightening historical presentation by Mr. Jim Stark, a P-38 Lightning pilot who flew with the 474th Fighter Group in the European Theater of Operations during World War II. A short article will be posted on the ASM Website, which also features a short history of the 474 FG.

Upcoming Contests / Events of Interest

There are quite a few local contests in October. Let's make a good showing in El Paso and Phoenix.

Year 2005 Contest Quick Reference Chart

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

- 7 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
- 4 Feb** **D-Day Presentation**—no contest.
- 4 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Gundams*
(John Kendrick)
ASM Swap Meet
- 1 Apr** **Bent-wing Birds/Cats/Animals**—
Any kit, any scale, any era.
- 6 May** **WWI**—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Micro-Modeling*
(ASM E-Board)
- 3 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: SOUTHEAST ASIA**
1941 - PRESENT
**Sponsored Contest: Best P-40*
Subject (Ken Liotta)
- 8 Jul** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 5 Aug** **Jets & Prototype Aircraft/Vehicles/**
Ships—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Night Fighters*
(Patrick Dick & Jason Clevenger)
- 9 Sep** **Africa/Middle East, 1914 - Present**
Any kit, any scale, any nation.
**Sponsored Contest: Best P-38*
(Stan Johnson)
- 7 Oct** **Battles of 1945**—Any subject/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: 1/35-scale German*
Armor (Rick Carver & Don Smith)
**Sponsored Contest: BabeFest*
(Larry Horyna)
- 5 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit, any scale.
Plus: **One-Hour Modeling Contest**
**Sponsored Contest: F/A-22 Raptors*
(Mike Blohm)
- 2 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
MODELING NEW MEXICO
Plus: **Model of the Year**

Sep 30 – Oct 1: **Region 10 2005 Regional Contest.**

Fort Collins, Colorado

(<http://www.ipmshpm.org/2005Region>)

Oct 7: **ASM Theme (Points) Contest: "Battles of 1945."** Any subject or scale, friend or foe, that participated in one of the major battles of WWII that occurred in 1945.

Sponsored Contest: 1/35 Scale German Armor
(Rick Carver and Don Smith)

Sponsored Contest: "Babefest" (Larry Horyna)

Workshop: Scratchbuilding and Rivets (James Guld)

Oct 8: **Desert Con 2005 Contest.** El Paso Scale Model Society. Saint Paul's United Methodist Church,

7000 Edgemere Blvd, El Paso, Texas
(<http://www.ipmselpaso.org>)

Oct 22: **Craig Hewitt IPMS Chapter Annual Contest.** Central United Methodist Church, 1875 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, Arizona. Contact: Rick Marshall (623) 935-4300; rjmarsha@cox.net
(<http://www.ipms-phx.org>)

Nov 4: **ASM Theme (Points) Contest: Open Contest #2.** All scales, subjects and eras.

One-Hour Modeling Contest. ROE: The kit must not be started in any manner—parts must still be on the sprue, and unpainted. Work on the model can begin at the "go" call. All work must stop at the 60 minutes call. Judging by People's Choice, with awards in each Division.

Sponsored Contest: F/A-22 Raptors (Mike Blohm)

Note: The European Sports Cars Sponsored Contest has been canceled.

Dec 2: **Special (Non Points) Contest #3 "Modeling New Mexico."** Any subject from New Mexico's history. All subjects, scales, nationalities and eras.

"Model of the Year" Competition amongst the Best of Show/Best Entry winners at each skill level from all the 2005 Theme and Special Contests

May 5 – 6, 2006: **Chile-Con 2006. Region 10 2006 Regional Convention and Contest** in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Web page on ASM website
(http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/Region_10_Chile-Con_2006.htm)

Aug 6 – 9, 2006: **2006 IPMS/USA National Convention.** Crown Center Exhibition Hall, Kansas City, Missouri (<http://www.ipmsusa2006.org>)

JIM'S SPRUES & REVIEWS

JAMES GULD

This month I thought I would give you an in-progress report. I've been working on the Dragon T-34/85 Model 1944 kit #6066. It really should be called the 1945 model since it has all the features of that year. I plan to put this into a small diorama I started earlier, set at the Kufursten-damn U-bahn (subway station) entranceway in Berlin. I also picked up the Lion Roar PE set for the kit since it came with front/rear fenders, side fenders, rear smoke discharge canisters, side fuel tanks, grill screens, and a host of other replacement items. Aber also has PE for this kit, but you have to buy a couple of sets to get everything that came in the single Lion Roar set. The Lion Roar set is a good value, but it has some minor flaws. They don't provide the fine tie-downs that were on the rear of the turret (luckily the kit ones were easy to get

off the sprues without boogering them up). A few of the pieces on the frets are misnumbered as compared to the instruction sheets. They also misrepresented the front/rear holders for the safety catch for the tow hooks. They show two different styles in the instructions, and one would be right if the piece was oriented 90 degrees, but the other style of mount I haven't seen in any pictures of late T-34/85's. Then they show the same part with a different number for the front glacis plate. So basically they don't provide enough parts to do both items. I opted to scratchbuild the safety catch mounts out of styrene and use the PE for the front glacis mounts. These are minor things and I'm still glad I tried out this new company. One other minor detail is the thickness of the PE itself. Some of the items feel a little thin, but this may be due to being used to Aber sets, which tend to be a little thicker, or it may just be the hardness of the Aber sets. They provide some interior details for the commander's cupola and for the inside of the drivers hatch. This will be relegated to the spare parts bin, as my tank will be buttoned up. They also give you a choice of front fenders, either the earlier rounded ones or the later angular ones. I'm representing a battle tattered veteran, so I'm only leaving one of the rear fenders on. I'm also

leaving off the side fuel tanks and the rear smoke discharge canisters, but will use the mounts for both. The fit of the parts has been excellent so far so I'd recommend this company if you're thinking of PE.

The Dragon kit went together easily and the fit of the parts was pretty good overall. The only place I noticed some small gaps was on the turret where they separate it at the casting line for the front lower end. This is minor and since they didn't represent the casting seams, it gets filled when you put them on. I used .020 styrene for the main seam and stretched sprue for the front seams around the casting that covers the gun's trunions. This was then textured after applying thin liquid glue to soften the plastic. I replaced the kit side and rear deck handholds with pieces made from .020 brass using the Grab Handler. Boy, it sure works nice! I have a few more PE items to deal with and then can get into painting this red menace. I will then have to deal with the suspension and tracks, which will be going over an uneven surface, so I'm leaving the suspension arms off until after painting. Right now, I'm planning on using the kit tracks, which are pretty good and don't require any cleanup at all except for cutting them off the sprues. So that's where it stands. Now go build something...

Master

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| John Tate | 2310 |
| James Guld | 1649 |
| Stan Harris | 620 |
| Glenn Bingham | 530 |
| Mike Blohm | 517 |
| Mike Mummey | 416 |
| Don MacBryde | 385 |
| Dave Straub | 335 |
| Mike McNichols | 310 |
| Ken Liotta | 249 |
| Ken Piniak | 174 |
| Larry Horyna | 125 |
| Patrick Dick | 118 |
| Ed Mummey | 100 |
| Fred Franceschi | 25 |
| Keith Liotta | 6 |
| Chuck DeWitt | 2 |
| Brian Peck | 2 |

Intermediate

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| David Boehning | 745 |
| Hank Petitgirard | 665 |
| Rick Carver | 585 |
| David Downs | 472 |
| Tom Redling | 455 |
| Walter Schanwald | 450 |
| Frank Randall | 360 |
| Brian Willard | 360 |
| Jeremy Connell | 335 |
| Kyle Garber | 335 |
| Cecil Severs | 139 |
| Jack Morris | 71 |
| Phil Spaeth | 75 |
| Mark Soppet | 4 |

Basic

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Don Smith | 1717 |
| John Kendrick | 1546 |
| Don Blea | 245 |
| Matt Blohm | 200 |
| Alberto Bernal | 110 |

Junior

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Jeannie Garriss | 880 |
| Hamish Connell | 805 |
| Shawn Brown | 660 |
| Logan Carbin | 327 |
| Taylor Liotta | 225 |
| Kelly Brown | 110 |
| Adam Martin | 110 |
| Bre Anna Camaco | 100 |
| Jimmy Letterhos | 100 |
| Nathan Shatto | 100 |

ASM CONTEST POINTS

**CONTACT
INFO**

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| President: | Brian Peck | 822-8577 | oryen@msn.com |
| Vice President: | Frank Randall | 299-3760 | fcr40@aol.com |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Patrick Dick | 890-4368 | mcclanahandick@worldnet.att.net |
| Contest Director & Webmaster: | Mike Blohm | 823-9404 | BlohmM@aol.com |
| Members Pro-Tem: | Rick Carver | 424-4280 | RCarver204@aol.com |
| | Tom Perea | 897-4778 | indy1615@aol.com |
| | Tim Wood | 897-1889 | planedreamin@hotmail.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 prior month.