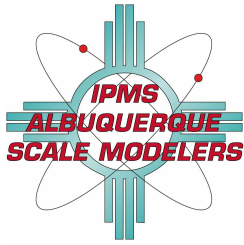


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



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

September 2005

VICE-PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS FRANK RANDALL

Note: this is an editorial column; the opinions are my own.

As I look back on this year, I have seen poor behavior, name calling, paranoia, and various kinds of rumors and bullying. And I sit here and scratch my head and wonder why?

It's just a hobby.

It's my hobby and I enjoy the interaction with my fellow hobbyists, the contests, the guest speakers, the clinics and all the other activities that we do. For me, it's stress release. When I am building my latest masterpiece, I am not worried about the price of gas, the War, my clueless boss, crazy people who shoot cops, red light runners, my health problems and whether or not I can retire in ten years. (ha!)

It's just a hobby.

You know, if you think about it, we play with toys. You can't tell me that when that latest plane gets its wings on and starts to look like it should that you don't fly it around the desk and make sound effects. Or that latest military vehicle or car or ship looks good, you think what it would be like if it were real. I do; in fact that black Mosquito Nightfighter that I built last month flew around my desk and even buzzed my pet cockatiel (who looked at me like I had lost my mind). Don't we all go the Hobby shop and drool over the latest and greatest offering that we see on the shelf and wonder how to sneak it by our significant other or wife.

It's just a hobby.

The members of the E-Board are volunteers. We love this Hobby enough that we give up our time, our talents and even our money (every one of the Super Special raffles came out of our pockets). We are charged with making sure that we have a place to meet, guest speakers, clinics, slide shows, contests, awards, judges and that everything runs smoothly—and above all else, to have fun. We also are charged with finding volunteers who are willing to put on a Regional model show and contest with a \$1000-dollar-smaller budget than the last one. Not an easy task. But the Club is solvent, plans are in place and going and we are well on track for next year.

And still we have to endure griping from a small minority. *And it's just a hobby.*



August meeting highlights, L - R: The meeting in progress; one of two crowded Work-in-Progress tables; members mill about and observe a large number of models on display

Time is too short; life is too short. Who knew that four years ago that the World Trade Center towers would be destroyed? Who knew that four years ago my Mom would be diagnosed with terminal cancer and be gone in three months. Who knew two APD officers and two other people would be shot by a mental patient. There are far more important matters in life.

But still, *it's just a hobby*. So enjoy your hobby, build that latest masterpiece, reduce your stress and have fun. And as a wise man once said; "Don't sweat the small stuff."

And ultimately it's all small stuff.



August Best of Show winners, clockwise from top: David Boehning's Do-335; Don Smith's Maus prototype; Shawn Brown's Wright Flyer; and John Tate's MiG 17.

CONTEST CORNER MIKE BLOHM

August Contest Results: "Jets and Prototype Aircraft / Vehicles / Ships"

The August meeting had a great turnout of both models and modelers. There were 75 total models on display: 49 entered in the theme contest, 12 in the sponsored contest; 13 works in progress, and 15 as display only. That could well be a record—great job ASM! Pictures of the Best of Show winners can be found in the ASM Newsletter.

Pictures of all the models are on the ASM Website (http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/asm_pictures.htm).

In the Junior Division, Shawn Brown's nicely-done Wright Flyer won the Best of Show, People's Choice and a Gold Award in Aircraft. Shawn did a nice job with the wire rigging on his Flyer! Jeanie Garriss won a Gold Award with her F-18 Blue Angel. Kelly Brown won a Silver Award with her modified Jaguar jet aircraft.

Don Smith's excellent diminutive Maus Heavy Tank Prototype won the Best of Show—Basic award, and a Gold Award in Armor and Military category. John Kendrick won the People's Choice—Basic award, and a Gold Award in Armor and Military category for his excellent AAV-7A1 assault amphibious vehicle. Great camouflage job, John! John also won a Gold Award in Figures for his Samurai Warrior—Crane Clan. And finally, Alberto Bernal won a Gold Award in Science Fiction & Fantasy for his excellent comparison via models of the Enterprise and Buran Space Shuttles.

The Intermediate Division had a great turnout with 16 models—all aircraft!

The Best of Show award went to David Boehning's superb Do 335-AO Pre-Production "Pfiel" (Anteater). The People's Choice award went to Kyle Garber's most excellent MiG-21

F-13. The Aircraft category had a large-small scale split.

In the small aircraft split (1/72 and smaller), First place went to Frank Randall's Mosquito Mk II night fighter. Second and Third places went to Walt Schanwald's Ryan XF2R-1 "Dark Star" and Ryan FR-1 "Fireball"—a couple of designs that most people aren't aware of. In the large aircraft split (1/48 and larger), First place went to David Boehning's Do 335 A-0; Second place went to Kyle Garber's MiG-21 F-13; and Third place went to Philip Spaeth's Bf 110G-4 night fighter.

The Master Division had 18 models entered, with a good mix of entries across all categories. The Best of Show award went to John Tate's excellent MiG-17F from the Vietnamese People's Air Force. The People's Choice Award went to Jim Guld's Panther F. In the Armor category, First place went to Jim Guld's Flak Panther 341. Second place went to Mike Mummey's T-34/76 Mod 1940. Third place was won by Jim Guld's Panzerjager IV. In the Diorama & Vignettes category, First place went to Jim Guld's Panther F. Second place went to Mike Mummey's "Dulce Carman's Shack." First place in the Aircraft category went to John Tate's MiG-17F VPAF in 1/48 scale. Second place went to Glenn Bingham's superb TBM-3D Avenger Night Torpedo Bomber in 1/32 scale. Third place in Aircraft went to Mike Blohm's F6F-5N Hellcat Night Fighter in

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**

1/72 scale. John Tate’s nicely-done “MiG Killer USAF Phantom II Pilot” won First place in Figures. And finally, in the Science Fiction & Fantasy category, which also includes Real Space and Rockets—Missiles, First place went to John Tate’s excellent S-75 Dvina (SA-2) SAM, VPAF 1972. Second place went to Ed Mumme’s innovative and fascinating German Trade Federation Tank (1946) from Star Wars.

“Night Fighters” Sponsored Contest Results

The “Night Fighters” sponsored contest had a great showing with 12 total entries representing both the European and Pacific Theaters of Operation in World War II, and both propeller and jet night fighters in the Korean War. The Best Large-Scale Entry award went to

Glenn Bingham’s awesome TMB-3D Avenger Night Torpedo Bomber in 1/32 scale. The Best Small-Scale Entry was won by Frank Randall’s excellent Mosquito Mk II Night Fighter in 1/72 scale. The Best Overall Night Fighter Entry award went to Glenn Bingham’s TMB-3D Avenger.

P-38 Lightning Pilot Historical Presentation at September Meeting

In conjunction with September’s “Best P-38” sponsored contest, the September meeting will feature a 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. Please peruse the Articles page on the ASM Website to read the history of the 474 FG in WW II and to see pictures of their P-38’s in action.

Upcoming Contests / Events of Interest

Sep 1 – 3: **New Mexico State Fair / Expo New Mexico.** Model entries accepted on Thursday, September 1, and Friday, September 2, from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; and on Saturday, September 3, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The State Fair Website covers all categories in the Creative Arts Division:
<http://exponm.com/cms/index.php?id=22,71,0,0,1,0>

September 9: **ASM Theme (Points) Contest: “Africa and Middle East - 1914 to Present.”** Any subject from Africa or Middle East from 1914 to the present. All scales, nations. Includes African continent nations, with the Middle East defined as the current nations of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Yemen; or what had once been these nations from 1914.

Sponsored Contest: Best P-38 (Stan Johnson)
Guest Speaker: Mr. Jim Stark, World War II P-38 “Lightning” pilot

Sep 23 – 24: **The Gathering / SHOCON Annual Contest.** Davis Conference Center, Logan, Utah
(<http://www.nusma.org>).

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 WW II that occurred in 1945. Please provide documentation for the timeframe of your models; *i.e.*, what unit a vehicle was from, and date, campaign or battles, etc.
Sponsored Contest: 1/35 Scale German Armor

(Rick Carver and Don Smith)

Sponsored Contest: "Babefest" (Larry Horyna)

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

One-Hour Modeling Contest

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

Sponsored Contest: European Sports Cars (Casey Dick and Kellan Bethke)

Oct 26: **Craig Hewitt 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>

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>).

BONUS PAGES!

Members who receive the electronic (PDF) version of the newsletter will receive James Guld's "Sprues and Reviews" article, this month focusing on tools used with photoetch in preparation for his clinic at the September meeting.

If you don't automatically receive the PDF file now, you can download it from the ASM web site.

CHILE CON



2006

2006 IPMS Region 10 Contest May 5 – 6, 2006

**MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center
2020 Menaul NE, Albuquerque NM 87107**

Master

John Tate	1930
James Guld	1354
Stan Harris	620
Mike Blohm	380
Dave Straub	335
Don MacBryde	265
Ken Liotta	247
Mike Mummey	239
Glenn Bingham	210
Ken Piniak	174
Larry Horyna	125
Patrick Dick	118
Mike McNichols	105
Ed Mummey	100
Keith Liotta	6
Chuck DeWitt	2
Brian Peck	2

Intermediate

David Boehning	745
Rick Carver	585
David Downs	472
Walter Schanwald	450
Frank Randall	360
Brian Willard	360
Jeremy Connell	335
Hank Petitgirard	330
Tom Redling	320
Kyle Garber	160
Cecil Severs	139
Phil Spaeth	75
Mark Soppet	4

Basic

Don Smith	1316
John Kendrick	1226
Don Blea	245
Matt Blohm	200
Alberto Bernal	110

Junior

Jeannie Garriss	880
Hamish Connell	805
Logan Carbin	327
Shawn Brown	335
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.

JIM'S SPRUES & REVIEWS

JAMES GULD

This month I thought I would talk tools, since I'll be doing a clinic at the September meeting. Most of us are familiar with X-Actos and tweezers but when you start to go on to the next level of model building using photoetch parts and/or scratch-building, then you will come across the need for more tools at some point. So I figured I would touch upon some of the items I have or would like to have and give my experience with them.

Working with simple photoetched parts only requires a couple of good pairs of tweezers or smooth inner-faced needle-nosed pliers to get them into shape, but when you start working on more complex items like curved turret skirts, long fender runs or complex box shapes, then you see the need for some of the specialty bending and forming tools.

I have the 8" Etch Mate, which comes with a bending plate that has various size fingers that hold the items you are bending. They also provide a replacement bending guide for doing long items like the side fenders of a tank. I used this when I replaced the fenders on a Panzer IV I did earlier this year. It made the task much easier. There are other versions on the market and even some mini versions that are only about 2" long.

For working with round shapes, I have a forming guide made by the Small Shop. It is basically a series of half-round shapes and round aluminum rods that you use to form your pieces. This is good for forming round items or partial round items. An added bonus with this tool is that on the front edge is also a built-in series of slits that you can use to make grab handles. This was the reason I originally bought this tool, but have since found it's not that great for making grab handles. There are two problems: the tool is made from aluminum, so you can't use stiff wire or even copper wire (maybe you could use copper wire if you heated it up, but then the process is getting even more complicated); the other problem with the design is that it isn't easy to make short grab handles and get a nice tight corner on the grab handle itself.

So I recently picked up the Grab-Handler from Mission Models. This tool is just for making grab handles and it's CNC produced and is very nice. The design allows you to insert the wire into it and

then you just press each side down to form the handle. The sides have a little notch at each space so that when you bend it keeps the piece flat. Making multiples of any size is easy and it's made of steel so you can bend copper wire or even steel wire. I've only used it a couple of times but like it a lot.

Now for assembling all those tiny bits, you can use super glue, but for a stronger joint you could solder. I have just a simple soldering iron with two heat settings, 15 – 30W, and I use the smallest diameter solder I could get from Radio Shack, which is .015". The other key item is liquid flux. I had to get this from an electronics store here in Santa Fe, since Radio Shack didn't carry it. Other handy items to have are small alligator clips to hold parts and to act as heat sinks. You can get these at Radio Shack. I've only soldered a few items, but it sure makes a strong joint. You will want to practice on some scrap first to get the feel of it and learn not use too much solder; otherwise, you'll have a lot of cleanup. The item I saw listed in the Micro Mark catalog that would be sweet to have is a resistance soldering iron. Its kind of works like a spot welder, where you super-heat up just the point of contact small electrodes and apply a small amount of solder. They are expensive, though—around \$400.00.

Now, let's move onto punch and die sets. I picked mine up from Historex Agents in England a few years ago. I have a round one and a hex one. There are others on the market also but at the time this was the best deal I could find. They aren't cheap but will last a lifetime. They were about \$35 each plus shipping.

My latest purchase—and one I'm still waiting for as I write—is a Dremel micro table saw. I have a 10" Delta Unisaw at my workshop, but for doing really small stuff like brass or styrene strips the micro table saw is hard to beat. Now this is one of those items that is really only necessary if you plan on making a lot of dioramas or work in metals a lot. I like to work in plex as I used to be an architectural model maker so I'm comfortable with it. That's why I picked up one. I bought mine off of eBay. I believe the size is about 7" x 12" and can cut up to 3/4" materials. I have also heard of a neat trick to change the drive pulleys so that you can use a cogged drive belt that doesn't slip and will cut heavier materials easier. Though for me, I'll

just be cutting light stuff so I'll probably not have to make the change. It comes with a fence to make rip cuts and a miter gauge for cross cuts. I will also make a small sliding crosscut table out of plexi-glass, which comes in handy when doing longer pieces.

Here is my list of commonly used tool items:

- 6 – 12" machinist rules
- Small machinist squares
- For working on diorama parts like assembling buildings I use either an old extension wing from a table saw or my table saws wing as a surface plate.
- Machinist assembly blocks; these are 90-degree steel blocks that keep everything square and hold stuff in place.

Many of these items you can get used at tool auctions or from stores like Micro Mark or Victor Tool and Supply. You could also probably look through eBay and find stuff. If you have any questions feel free to call, talk to me at the meeting ,or email me at jamesguld@cybermesa.com

Now go build something....