

http://abqscalemodelers.com

August 2018

ASM LOSES ANOTHER GIL JOHNSON • 1948 – 2018

On July 5, ASM received this email from Carol Johnson, via Gil's email account:

I wanted to let you know that one of your members, my husband Gilbert Johnson, passed away suddenly on Saturday.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, July 7, 2018, at Tramway Community Church, 4800 Tramway Ridge Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Interment will take place at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions to be made to:

NM Ministry Network 6640 Caminito Coors NW Albuquerque, NM 87120

Or you may give online at the ministry's website (http://www.nmministry.net).

Please include "In Memory of Gil Johnson" on the memo.

Since he had been a member so long, I wanted to be sure you knew.

Carol Johnson

ASM President Mike Blohm responded to her with a condolence note on behalf of the club, and, along with some other members, attended the memorial service.

A brief tribute article, several photos, and Gil's obituary and the flyer from the service are posted in the Bonus Pages.

July Meeting highlights, left to right: Members checking out the contest entries; Brian Peck runs a clinic about decals; and the business meeting in progress.



THE EAGLE'S VIEW MIKE BLOHM

I hope that ASM members who attended the IPMS/USA Nationals Convention in Phoenix on August 1 – 4 had a good time and were able to place well in the contest with whatever you entered. I think that we have a lot of great modelers who will

have be competitive. Please bring your entries and any awards that you received to the ASM meeting on August 10.

I am sure that we will have member reports on the convention submitted for the September edition of the ASM Newsletter.

Anyone is welcome to submit an article to Joe Walters on their perceptions and experiences at the big show, and they will be published as received. I will also get those articles posted to the *ASM Website*. Everyone please take pics of whatever models you entered, and we will get all those posted too.

We will be starting the first of three big ASM model displays at the 2018 New Mexico State Fair, which runs September 6 - 16. Model entries are on August 24 and 25 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day. Please contact Josh Pals if you can help—he is the lead for this effort. There will probably be a sign-up sheet at the August 10 meeting. There is a longer article elsewhere in this newsletter on entering your models in the contest and contributing to the "1918" display. We had a lot of great World War I models on the tables for the "1918" sponsored contest at the May ASM meeting. I'd like to see all those at the state fair! Remember that if you take a model to the fair, it will not be available for either the September 7 ASM meeting or the September 15 Air Force Ball, our next big model display effort.

To finish up, here is another short "ace story." August 31, 1943, was the first use of the F6F Hell-cat in combat, so this month's story is on little-known Hellcat ace Lieutenant Patrick D. Fleming, who scored 19 total aerial victories. Fleming is the 22nd-ranking American ace (tie), and the 4th-ranking US Navy ace (tie). He initially served on the cruiser USS Cincinnati until entering flight training in November 1942. He then served as a flight instructor from December 1943 to March 1944.

when he joined VF-80 (Fighting Squadron 80 "Vipers") aboard the *USS Ticonderoga*. During two combat tours with VF-80 he scored ten victories, including five kills on 14 Dec 1944 (four Zekes and one Oscar) in the Philippines; a "triple" on 3 Jan 1945 (two Oscars and one Tojo); and a "double" on 25 Nov 1944 (two Frances). He then transferred to VBF-80 (Bombing Fighting Squadron 80) as the Ex-

ecutive Officer, where he continued his multi-kill missions by scoring nine kills in two days: five scored on 16 Feb (five Zekes) and four on 17 Feb 1945 (four Nates) during the carrier raids on Tokyo. Fleming took com-

mand of VF-80 in May 1945. He was awarded a Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, and two Distinguished Flying Crosses. Fleming resigned from the Navy in January 1947 and joined the newly formed USAF as a Major. He flew the B-29, B-50, and B-47 and rose to the rank of Colonel. Fleming was killed in a B-52B crash on 16 Feb 1956 while serving as the 93rd Bomb Wing's Deputy Wing Commander.

The model of Fleming's Hellcat (shown in the Bonus Pages) is the Heller ½-scale kit depicted in November 1944 aboard the *USS Ticonderoga*. The model is finished in Model Master enamel paint (Dark Sea Blue FS15042). The markings were kitbashed from Super Scale Hellcat decal sheets. Of note, of the 6,477 Japanese aircraft that were claimed destroyed in the air by US Navy pilots, the Hellcat was responsible for 4,947 of them (76.4 percent).

CONTEST UPDATE JOHN TATE

Contest theme for the July 6 meeting was demanding—bare metal—but ASM members rose to the challenge and put some excellent models on the table.

In Junior, Aleya Montano won a Gold, People's Choice, and Best of Show for her Star Wars Thermal Detonator. In Basic, Elias Clark won a Gold, People's Choice, and Best of Show for his ½ Wildcat. Intermediate saw some tough competition as usual, with Michael O'Brien winning a First and People's Choice for his eye-catching Klingon K'Tinga Battlecruiser and Scott Jaworski winning a

First and Best of Show for his metal-finish MiG-21 PFM. In Masters, Tony Humphries won People's Choice for his rusted-out Afghan FT tank, and Josh Pals won Best of Show for his flawless photoetched Silver Dragon.

My contest favorites were a "What-if" Supermarine Spiteful in Israeli markings by Dave Epstein and the Silver Dragon by Josh Pals.





Year 2018 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

■ 05 Jan Special Contest #1:

SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser

Sponsorea Contest: Trickin Lase Beams" (Patrick Dick)

02 Feb ASM Swap Meet—no contest.

02 Mar Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale.

06 Apr ASM Clinic Night—no contest.

04 May Special Contest #2: Tamiya vs.

HASEGAWA SHOWDOWN.

Sponsored Contest: "1918" (John

Tate)

01 Jun O Canada!—Any kit/subject/scale representing a Canadian subject.

Sponsored Contest: "Stormy Weather"

(Jack Garriss)

O6 Jul Bare Metal—Any kit/subject/scale.

Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries II"

(Mike & Matt Blohm)

10 Aug ASM Swap Meet—no contest.

07 Sep Special Contest #3: Post

APOCALYPSE.

Sponsored Contest: "Global War on Terror (GWOT)" (ASM E-Board) Sponsored Contest: "Goodyear"

Patrick Dick)

Sponsored Contest: "Best of

Corporations Contests" (Patrick Dick)

05 Oct Middle East Conflict—Any

kit/subject/scale, 1948 – present. Sponsored Contest: "Get Your Fix—Airfix, That Is" (Gil De La Plain)

02 Nov Open Contest—Any kit/subject/scale.

Sponsored Contest: "Blackbirds"

(Dave Epstein)

14 Dec Special Contest #4: Pearl Harbor

PLUS SEVEN.

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

By now, Nationals results have been decided and the winners have their trophies. So bring your winning models and trophies to the August 10 meeting to show off your hard work along with any surplus kits you want to part with at our club swap meet. The contest schedule begins in earnest again this fall, with a healthy number of contests leading to the Modeler of the Year award—still plenty of competition in the months ahead!

BONUS PAGES! UPCOMING EVENTS

August 24 – 25: New Mexico State Fair. ASM-Sponsored Model Contest; Model registration dates are on Friday & Saturday, 24 & 25 Aug, from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day. Judging probably on Monday, 27 Aug. ASM Display-Only Theme: "1918." The fair runs Sep 6 – 16. Model pick-up is on the 17th.

August 24 – 26: Bubonicon 50, 2018. Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention, Albuquerque Marriott Uptown, 2101 Louisiana Blvd NE (Louisiana & I-40), Albuquerque, New Mexico

September 15: ASM Model Display at the Air Force Ball on Kirtland AFB.

October 6: Trinity Site Open to the Public. 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. at White Sands Missile Range.

October 20: ASM Model Display at the Folds of Honor Patriot Gala in Albuquerque.

November 3: ModelZona 2018. Commemorative Air Force Museum, 2017 North Greenfield Rd., Mesa, Arizona from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. IPMS Craig Hewitt Chapter, Region 10.

IN THE BONUS PAGES! JOE WALTERS

In this month's **Bonus Pages**:

- Photos of the July contest winners
- Info on Gil Johnson's passing
- Mike Blohm has some State Fair info for us
- Photos from Mike Blohm's Ace article
- A kit review by Fred Franceschi
- And more!



Master	Inte	ermediate		Mark Vaughn 25
Brian Peck	675	Chuck Herrmann.	966	Don Smith
Tony Humphries	647	Robert Henderson	950	Partap Davis 4
Glenn Bingham 512		Dave Epstein		Jeff Frickstad2
Josh Pals	503	Henry McHarney.	553	
Ken Liotta	497	Scott Jaworski	397	Basic
Chris Kurtze 372		Michael O'Brien 277		Jeannie Garriss 575
Mike Blohm 259		Rob Whitlock 225		Elias Clark 450
Steve Brodeur 252		Charles Petrilli206		Steve Miller
Fred Franceschi200		John Dodd 200		Aaron Schmiedicke 225
Frank Randall 168		Adrian Montaño 195		
Victor Maestas 104		Ken Piniak		Junior
James Strickland 4		Logan Carbin 131		Aleya Montaño 335
Larry Glenn 2		Gil Johnson		1 110yer 1 1011101110 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Bret Kinman 2		Jack Garriss		2018 MODELER OF THE
Diet i miniari		Blaine Couch		YEAR POINTS
			20	As of 15 Jul 18
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REMEMBERING GIL JOHNSON MIKE BLOHM

Gilbert S. Johnson passed away suddenly on June 30, 2018. He had been an active member of ASM since 2006. Gil was born in Portland, Oregon, on June 8, 1948. Gil was a Corporal in the US Marine Corps and served two tours in Viet Nam. He then joined the US Army, and served there for eleven years, rising to the rank of Sergeant, and participating in Operation Desert Storm. Gil received his BA in religious studies from North Central University, and was a very active member of the Tramway Community Church. He enjoyed working as background on various television shows and movies.

With ASM, Gil was an excellent modeler, building mostly armor and dioramas. He won the Basic Model of the Year Award in 2008 with a T-34-76—see pictures below. Gil always participated in the New Mexico State Fair and had many winning models there. I attended Gil's memorial service on July 7, and it was fitting that the table at the front of the service had a US Marine Corps blanket, pictures of Gil, a folded American flag, and two of Gil's models. He will be missed.

On this page, Gil Johnson's obituary.

On the following two pages, the flyer that was handed out at the memorial service.

On the pages that follow, some photos of Gil and some of his models.

Gilbert S. Johnson

Born: June 8, 1948 Died: June 30, 2018

Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Tribute & Message From The Family

Gilbert was born on June 8, 1948 and passed away on Saturday, June 30, 2018.

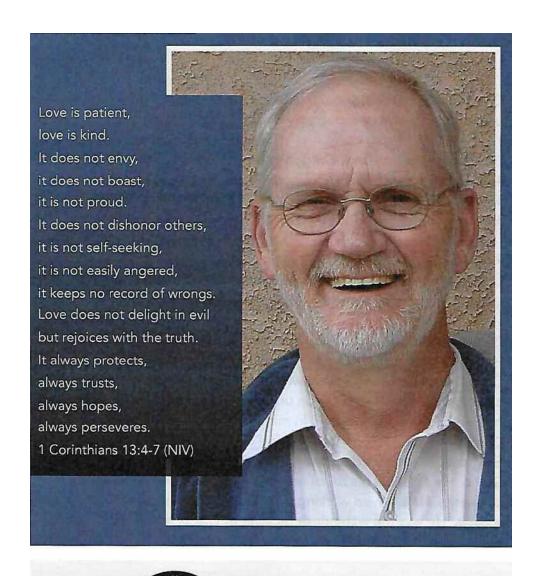
Gilbert was a resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico at the time of passing.

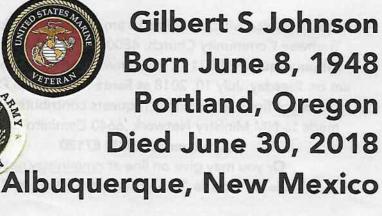
He received his BA of religious studies from North Central University.

Gil was a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps, serving in Vietnam, and a Sergeant in the United States Army for 11 years, serving in Desert Storm.

A memorial service will be held at 10 am on Saturday, July 7, 2018 at Tramway Community Church, 4800 Tramway Ridge Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Interment will take place at 9:00 am on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions to be made to: NM Ministry Network 6640 Caminito Coors NW Albuquerque, NM 87120 Or you may give on line at nmministry.net.





Gilbert S (Gibby) Johnson, 70, of Albuquerque, NM went home to his Lord suddenly and unexpectedly on Saturday, June 30, 2018.

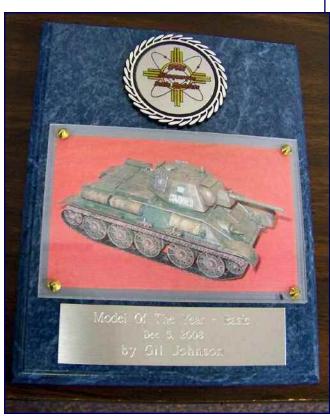
Gil was born in Portland, Oregon and is survived by his wife Carol Johnson; daughter Amy Lundebrek (Ryan); 5 sons-Jeremy, Jason Johnson (Barbara), Shua, Bobby, Kurt Eidschun; grandson Liam Johnson; 4 granddaughters- Athena, Esme Johnson; Freya, Liv Lundebrek; sister Bj Johnson and brother of his heart Nate Phillips. He was preceded in death by parents Ewald Gustav & Wabena (Johnnie) Johnson; brother David Ewald Johnson; granddaughter Ella Lucia Johnson; and grandson Jude Alexander Johnson.

Gil was a godly, loving, caring husband, father and grandfather. His contagious gift of laughter and joy enriched everyone's lives. Gibby was a baby and animal whisperer. He was happiest when he was serving others. Gil will leave an unfillable hole in everyone's lives that he touched. He was involved in missions work for his Lord. Gil was a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps, serving in Vietnam, and a Sergeant in the United States Army for 11 years, serving in Desert Storm. He received his BA of religious studies from North Central University. He enjoyed working as background on various tv shows and movies. He was the warehouse receiver at LMCA on KAFB. Gil was an active member of Tramway Community Church.

A memorial service will be held at 10 am on Saturday, July 7, 2018 at Tramway Community Church, 4800 Tramway Ridge Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Interment will take place at 9:00 am on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at Santa Fe National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions to be made to:NM Ministry Network ,6640 Caminito Coors NW Albuquerque, NM 87120 Or you may give on line at nmministry.net

Please include "In Memory of Gil Johnson"



















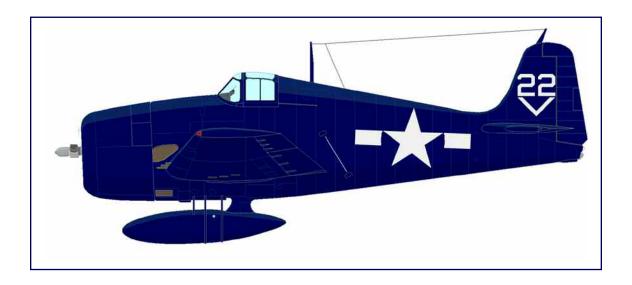






Bonus Pages! IMAGES FROM THE EAGLE'S VIEW MIKE BLOHM

Mike Blohm's photos and imagery to accompany his article about Lieutenant Patrick D. Fleming, on page 2.















Bonus Pages! July Contest Winners

Top to bottom: Eli Clarks's F4F Wildcat (Basic) and Aleya Montaño's Thermal Detonator from *Star Wars* (Junior).



 $Top\ to\ bottom:\ Scott\ Jaworski's\ MiG-21PFM\ (Intermediate)\ and\ Josh\ Pals's\ Silver\ Dragon\ (Masters).$



Bonus Pages! 2018 New Mexico State Fair Model Contest Mike Blohm

Enter Your Models or Contribute to the "1918" Display

All ASM members are encouraged to enter their models in the contest at the 2018 New Mexico Sate Fair. There are 18 different classes (categories) to enter, and you can enter one model in each. Model entries at the Fair will count in the ASM Modeler of the Year competition—at 50 points per contest model entry or 25 points per display-only model entry—with a max of three models counting for points. This means you can enter more than three (please do), but only three will count for points.

As in previous years, ASM members in the Masters and Intermediate divisions are requested to enter their models in the "Professional" Section. Juniors and Basics can enter in either the Youth (11 years and under), Senior Youth (12-17), or Adult (18 and over) as they fit. Please see the New Mexico State Fair webpage for additional info and rules for the contest. Please note that you cannot enter a model in the contest that has been previously entered in the fair. See the ASM New Mexico State Fair web pages if you cannot remember what you previously entered. There are web pages going back to 2005.

Model entries are from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Friday and Saturday, August 24 and 25. Judging will likely be on either Monday, August 27, or Tuesday, Aug 28. Please contact Josh Pals via email (jpals871@gmail.com) if you can help with the registration and judging. We are looking at having two shifts each day for the registration from 9:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M. and from 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. We'd like at least two people per shift. Please wear an ASM shirt and name tag if you have them and bring a model to work on!

This year's "ASM Display-Only" theme is "1918"—we are looking for anything that fits that theme, in any scale: armor, other military vehicles, artillery, aircraft, ships, figures, and dioramas (people love dioramas)—all are welcome to be put on display. Note that contest entries that are in the "1918" theme are okay too—they will be placed in the display-only case after the judging, and all the State Fair paperwork (entry/name tags) will be kept with them. Hopefully we can totally fill the case and have an impressive display again this year. Some pictures of our totally great "Star Wars" display at the 2017 fair are included below.







"1918" Display-Only models can be:

- 1. Brought directly to the State Fair on the model entry days, Friday and Saturday, August 24 and 25, from 9:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M. (when you are hopefully bringing in some of your own contest entries);
- 2. Brought in on the judging day, Monday, August 27, or Tuesday, August 28 (TBD), at 5:00 P.M. (contact Josh Pals for the exact day and time); or
- 3. Dropped off at Hobby Proz by close of business on Friday, August 24, in a secure plastic bin (give to Brian Peck). Please have some paperwork with your name and model type(s) so that we can track all the models.

Please let us know if you will be picking them up yourself after the State Fair on Monday, September 17, or you'd like us to hold on to them until the next ASM meeting, or you can get back with us.

Please send me an E-mail (blohmm@aol.com) describing what type of models you are bringing so that placards can be made. Please include info such as the aircraft, ship, armor, or vehicle type, or the figure's name, what country and unit it is from, etc. If you want to supply your own placard that would be great.

Pictures from previous year's model contests and ASM display-only themes are on the website—please check them out, and come out and participate.



Some maps are included with this article if you have never been to the Creative Arts building at the New Mexico State Fairgrounds. You can enter the fairgrounds through the gate at San Pedro and Copper. Tell the gate guard that you are entering something at the Creative Arts building. You can park in front of the Creative Arts building (located pretty much in the center of the colored map below, just West of Tingley Coliseum) or in the lot just northeast of the building, when you are dropping off models or helping with the entry registrations. Please contact Josh Pals or Mike Blohm if you have any questions.



BONUS PAGES! KIT REVIEW

FRED FRANCESCHI

Building the Tamiya Joseph Stalin JS-3 (IS-3) Tank



When I was about twelve years old, I saw a photograph of a Soviet JS-3 tank in an American military pamphlet my aunt showed me. I thought that it was the best-looking tank I'd ever seen. So, about twenty years ago when I visited the hobby shop in Greeley, Colorado, I picked up the Tamiya kit. And it has sat on the "to build" shelf in my hobby room for the past twenty years. I finally decided to build the kit in April.

It appears that the kit was first released in 1996, and is a model of an early version of

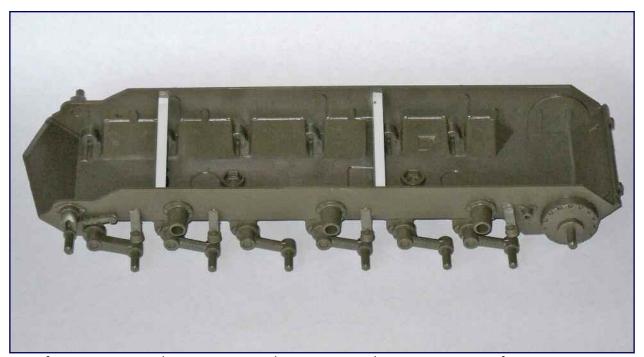
the IS-3. The dual naming is because the tank was named after Joseph Stalin, and we called it the JS-3. But the Russian spelling of Joseph starts with a Cyrillic "I," so the correct Russian nomenclature is IS-3.

The tank used 122mm rounds, which were very large for the time. This meant that if the projectile hit another tank, it stayed hit. But there was a downside to the rounds. They were so heavy that the shells consisted of two parts, the projectile and the powder charge. So each part of the round had to be inserted into the chamber separately. This slowed down firing to only two or three shots per minute. During a tank battle when a tank gunner is applying "burst on target," I suspect that it would be difficult to hit a moving tank when there is a 20- or 30-second delay between shots.

On September 7, 1945, the Allied Powers occupying Berlin had a "Victory" parade. And a lot of IS-3s participated in that parade. Those were early model IS-3s, and they were in very good condition. The parade consisted of vehicles and troops of the four occupying powers: Russia, the United States, Great Britain, and France. This parade was done at the *insistence* of the Soviets. As I looked at films of the parade, I noticed that Russia had a lot of new heavy tanks, self-propelled guns and other heavy hardware. The other allied countries had jeeps and light armored equipment. I suspect that the Soviet intent was to intimidate the other allies as a start to the Cold War.

As I was working on it, I remembered that I have a copy of FM30-40, Recognition Manual on Armored Vehicles, dated October, 1951. It has photos, specifications and a description for the 'Heavy Tank, JS-3." And the manual pays a strong compliment to this tank: "It represents an outstanding attempt on behalf of Russian designers to produce a tank which possesses superior firepower and the maximum of armor protection with a minimum overall weight." Considering that the Army manual was written during the Cold War and we were fighting communism in Korea at that time, this is really high praise.

I assembled the lower hull per the instruction sheet with no serious problems. I also assembled the road wheels, track support rollers and drive sprockets, but decided not to attach them to the hull until later. But when I fitted the upper hull to the lower hull, I realized that the lower hull only attaches to the upper hull



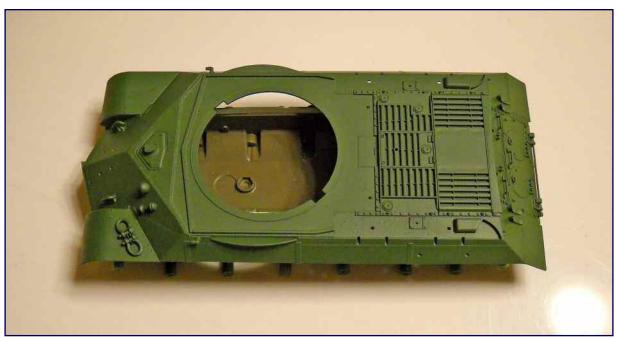
Before cementing plastic strip on sides, I cemented .125 x .188 reinforcement pieces inside the hull. This prevents the hull from flexing and gives me a good handhold during construction.

at the front and back. There is a huge gap along the entire inside of the model, and that gap would be noticeable. I searched the kit, and there were no parts to fill in the void. So I built up the sides from .125 and .080 styrene strip. Now you can't look through the tank. But I had to cut out the seats from the turret so that the turret can fit on the hull and rotate with the raised sides. That gap would be a flaw to me if I was thinking about buying this kit today. Also, the turret ring is wider than the inside of the hull; doesn't seem right to me. Another flaw.

I now have the kit half-built, so I am going to continue. But I wonder what other flaws I am going to discover.



This shows the plastic strip needed to fill the gaps visible through the hull sides.



When the top hull is placed on the lower hull, you can see out the bottom sides through the turret ring, even with the hull sides built up.



The completed model. I liked the way the flag turned out. It is A small piece of Kimwipe paper ACC'ed to the mast. Then ACC was Applied to the paper and shaped before the ACC set. Then I painted The flag flat red.

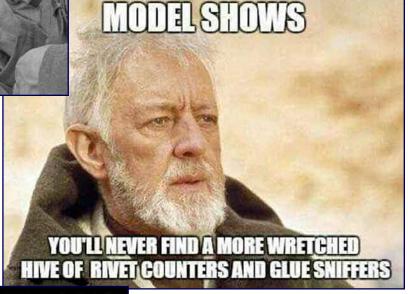
I just got that question answered. I did some checking on the internet, and found a comment that if the external fuel tanks are installed per the instructions, the turret won't rotate the full 360 degrees. I checked on my model and the gun mantlet does hit the fuel tanks when the turret is rotated. Another flaw. But what the heck, my main gun will be pointed forward so I am okay. And the "rubber band" tracks concerned me. I've built a few individual track link kits and enjoyed them. I was skeptical of the Tamiya flexible tracks, but they went together just fine. The tow cable fittings don't (fit, that is). I was only able to attach one tow cable. And even that is not correct. Bummer. But I will finish the kit.

To summarize the kit (in my opinion), it is flawed, but I had fun building it, it looks good, and I've satisfied a childhood desire to have a model of the tank. And I made a small space on my "unbuilt models" shelf.

Bonus Pages! Miscellaneous



At left: this photo was submitted by John Tate. We agree that it needs a caption! You are invited to submit suggested captions, to be run with this photo in the next issue. Email your caption to jwalters22@comcast.net, no later than August 20, with the subject line "Caption," and prepare for the eternal fame that will surely be yours (if you don't want your name used, let me know in the email!). -JW



What my friends think I do What my co-workers think I do What I think I do What I think I do What I actually do







IPMS/SALT LAKE CITY PRESENTS



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 MODEL CONTEST AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

Gail Miller Conference Center
Miller Campus, Salt Lake Community College
9750 South 300 West, Sandy, Utah 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Banquet & Auction Fri. Night, Sept. 21, 6:00 PM at Golden Corral 665 E. Ft. Union Blvd, Midvale, Utah

Vendors! Several Classes and Categories! Special and Sponsors' Choice Awards!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
RICHARD ENGAR: pie@pieutah.org

www.ipmsslc.org



Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org

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).

IPMS No.:

St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023

PO Box 56023

Address:	Na If Renewing	me:First	Middle	Last
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