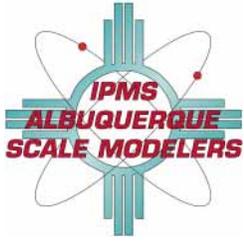


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

June 2019

MAY CONTEST RESULTS JOSH PALS

May was our second points contest with the theme being *Automotive*. With many members being avid aircraft or armor modelers, we had a great turnout of automotive subjects! We had a total of 23 automotive subjects on the table. Aside from the high number of vehicles on the table, the quality was just as high. I would like to thank everyone for their entries and hope that all of you had fun building something “shiny” for a change of pace.

We had a Junior entry this month! Alexander Tate took Best of Show, People’s Choice, and a Gold ribbon with his VW Beetle. Great job Alexander! We look forward to seeing more of your builds!

In the Basic class, Jeannie Garriss took Gold ribbons with her ’57 Corvette and 2014 Corvette Stingray. John Wyer took Best of Show, People’s Choice, and a Gold ribbon with his Tommy Ivo’s “Showboat” four-engine dragster.

In the Intermediate class, Ken Piniak took 3rd with his ’70s vintage kit of a ’74 McLaren F-1 race car and 1st with his Caricature of the Bandit’s Trans Am in the “Other” category. Don Smith took 2nd with his civilian version of a Kurogane bulldozer. 1st place, Best of Show, and People’s Choice went to Bob Henderson’s 1956 Ford F-100 pickup. James Medina entered a stunning $\frac{1}{144}$ Millennium Falcon that took 1st for sci-fi, and Ken Piniak took 1st in

May Meeting highlights, left to right: members milling about before the meeting, David DeYoung gives a presentation on a Wings Over Dallas, and the business meeting in progress.



aircraft for an awesome *Blue Thunder* helicopter.

In the Master class, Chuck Herrmann took 3rd with his '37 Ford Rat Rod. John Tate took 2nd with his SIMCA 5. 1st place, Best of Show, and People's Choice went to Scott Jaworski with his 2016 Ford GT. Dave Epstein took 1st in the ships with his PBR Mk II. John Tate took 1st places with his 1/16 Renault FT in armor and his P-47 in aircraft.

Just a reminder to members: You don't have to enter a model that is "in theme" for points contests, you just won't be eligible for Best of Show if it's not.

June's contest is a Special non-points contest, *75th Anniversary of D-Day*, which means only those subjects which fit into that theme will be allowed. As always, you can bring in models for the "Display Only" to show off.

ASM MODEL DISPLAY AT THE KIRTLAND AFB AIR SHOW MIKE BLOHM

The Albuquerque Scale Modelers (ASM) conducted a model display at the Air and Space Fiesta Air Show at Kirtland Air Force Base on Saturday, May 18. Our goals were to promote the hobby of scale modeling with a display of USAF and space-related models that fit the theme of the air show, and to let the public know that Albuquerque did have an active model club and to perhaps gain some new members. I think that we put on a great display and successfully met those goals.

We had a very primo spot for our display near the center of the Science, Technology, Engineering,

and Math (STEM) and Space Pavilion hangar. Whereas we thought we were going to be allowed only two tables for the display due to space limitations, we ended up with room for five. We had brought some spare tables, and they also had one spare for us to use. We had brought a lot of models, thinking we would have to pare down based on what would fit. With the five tables we ended up using them all and had 77 total models in the display. From left to right around our horseshoe setup (see pictures), we had sections on the USAF in the Korean War, the "What is Scale Modeling" P-51Ds vignette in five different scales, the Viet Nam war, USAF helicopters, New Mexico Air National Guard aircraft, the bombers and aircraft of the Strategic Air Command, the Military Airlift Command/Air Mobility Command, the Air Defense Command, and the aircraft in Desert Storm through the current operations in Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq. Finally, there was a section with Real Space and Theoretical Space models. Some attendees did inquire about models of World War II aircraft. One thing I had thought about bringing was a 1/12-scale B-17 and a B-24 to talk about Kirtland's past role as a bomber training base during World War II. Unfortunately I left those at home, thinking that we would not have space. So we will need to look at making sure to bring those next time around.

We were there at 8:00 to set up, so we were well ahead of the folks coming on base for the air show. We heard later that there was a big traffic jam with very long waits. We had a continual crowd of lookers all day long, and had lots of questions and comments on the models. Based upon comments that I heard, people's favorite aircraft was the F-4 Phantom followed by the A-10 Warthog. A lot of folks





mentioned that they had previously built models and wanted to know where they could get kits to get back into the hobby. We pointed them at our favorite neighborhood hobby shop. We passed out a lot of ASM handouts and perhaps we will get some new members. We did get a lot of thank yous for putting on the display. One of the USAF members supporting our hangar came by as we were packing up and told us that there were more than 40,000 attendees at the air show, and that about 32,000 people had visited the STEM and Space Pavillion. There were a lot of cool interactive-type displays in our hangar, plus shade. So I guess ASM and the hobby of scale modeling did get some good exposure with the public during this airshow.

Thanks to all who contributed models and to those who set up and manned the display. Model loaners included Victor Maestas, Keith Liotta, Ken Piniak, Jack Garriss, Larry Glenn, David DeYoung, Josh Pals, Bob Henderson, Frank Randall, Mike Blohm, and the Defense Nuclear Weapons School Museum. Manning the display were Josh Pals, Ken Piniak, Larry Glenn, Jeff Frickstad, Ken Piniak, and Matt and Mike Blohm.

[Editor's note: many *many* more photos of this event—larger and in higher resolution—are available in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]

UNDERGROUND, OVERGROUND, WOMBLE-ING FREE... TONY HUMPHRIES

I often wonder (and you may do this too) as I merrily skip my way through life—am I odd? Or particularly unusual? The answer to that, is of course “yes,” but allow me to elaborate... Am I the only one

who walks around looking at the world in general as one enormous and potential modeling accessory?

For example, when opening a bottle of wine or anything else with good quality foil on it (okay, it's mainly wine to be honest), I immediately think, “aha— $\frac{1}{72}$ -scale aircraft seatbelts” or “ $\frac{1}{35}$ weapon slings.” When out walking the dog, we meander around the park like a pair of drunken Wombles (you may have to look that up, depending on

your upbringing... <https://tinyurl.com/asm1906b> may help if so) looking for sticks that might be useful for palm logs in a pacific island diorama. Or twigs that can be turned into scale trees.

Who among you doesn't have glycerin for preserving small plants for that Vietnam jungle scene that you want to build? Buying it in large quantities can lead to funny looks from the pharmacy staff of course, since it is used not only in soap making but also for enemas, apparently. Who knew? So don't wince or walk with a limp when you buy it. Just a word to the wise...

Or who doesn't pick up dried leaves to crumble for diorama ground cover, or even dry the leaves from your tea-bags when you've made your morning cup of tea? I am assuming here of course that you are a civilized member of society and drink hot tea rather than that ghastly icy stuff that my wife keeps trying to foist upon me. Lipton, schmipton, I say. Give me Tetley or PG Tips any day of the week (this is not a paid endorsement by the way, but hey, if you're listening out there...). Tea bags from the iced stuff might work too for all I know, but I am not rushing to find out. Call me a bluff old traditionalist, if you will. I don't care. I wear the badge of a cantankerous (and foreign) old git, with pride.

Anyway, getting back to the subject at hand, do you consider the leaf litter/forest scene/ground cover possibilities? Well, if you don't, maybe you should. Ground up tree leaves can be very useful there. And taking a leaf (no pun intended) from the late and great Shep Paine's book, what looks more like dirt than real dirt?

Perhaps it's worth saving the wire from that broken lamp and stripping it to use in your next aircraft cockpit super-detailing project? Well, unless it's a Dallas Cowboys or Manchester United lamp of course, in which case it is clearly tainted beyond

saving and should be disposed of immediately and with extreme prejudice... There are of course many other things that can prove useful to you—the wooden stirring sticks from Starbucks *et al*, for example, make useful planks in certain scales as well, so make sure you pick a few of them up next time you're in there buying that \$10 cup of liquid absurdity. You know it makes sense.

So aside from having cemented my reputation here as a terrible cheapskate and a grumpy old barsteward, I think the lesson here is simple and particularly significant in these frugal times: accessories are all around you, and they aren't necessarily made of resin. So, Womble on folks. Womble on.

IN THE BONUS PAGES!

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

- Photos of last month's contest winners
- Photos to accompany Mike Blohm's article on the Kirtland AFB display
- A report on the Region 8 Conference in Las Vegas by Chuck Hermann
- A report on StarFest 2019 from Mike & Matt Blohm
- A report on StarFest 2019 from Joe Walters
- And more!

Year 2019 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 04 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1: SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
 - 01 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest
 - 01 Mar** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
 - 05 Apr** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: FABULOUS FIFTIES**
 - 03 May** **Automotive**—Any kit/subject/scale
 - 07 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3: D-DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY**
 - 12 Jul** **Man in Space**—Any proposed/realspace crewed subject
Sponsored Contest: "Best Supersonic" (Patrick Dick)
 - 02 Aug** **SPECIAL CONTEST #4: BEGINNING OF WWII 80TH ANNIVERSARY**
 - 06 Sep** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest
 - 04 Oct** **Enter the Dragon**—Any DML/Dragon/Cyberhobby kit
 - 01 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale
 - 06 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #5: BATTLE OF THE BULGE 75TH ANNIVERSARY**
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>**

Master

Scott Jaworski	810
Chuck Hermann	439
John Tate	385
Glenn Bingham	250
Josh Pals	200
David Epstein	150
Mike Blohm	125
Steve Brodeur	100
Casey Rupley	100
Frank Randall	50
Tony Humphries	25

Ken Liotta	6
Larry Glenn	6
Intermediate	
Jim Medina	608
Ken Piniak	572
Bob Henderson	560
Don Smith	335
Rob Whitlock	225
David DeYoung	50
Jack Garriss	50
Charles Petrilli	25
David Hasking	4

Steve Miller	2
Logan Carbin	2
Basic	
Jeannie Garriss	495
John Wyer	335
Aaron Schmiedke	300
Junior	
Alexander Tate	335

2019 MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS

As of 23 May 19

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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!

MAY CONTEST WINNERS

Best of Show winners from May's *Automotive* contest. This page, top to bottom: Alexander Tate's *VW Beetle* (Junior) and John Wyre's *4-Engine Dragster "Showboat"* (Basic).



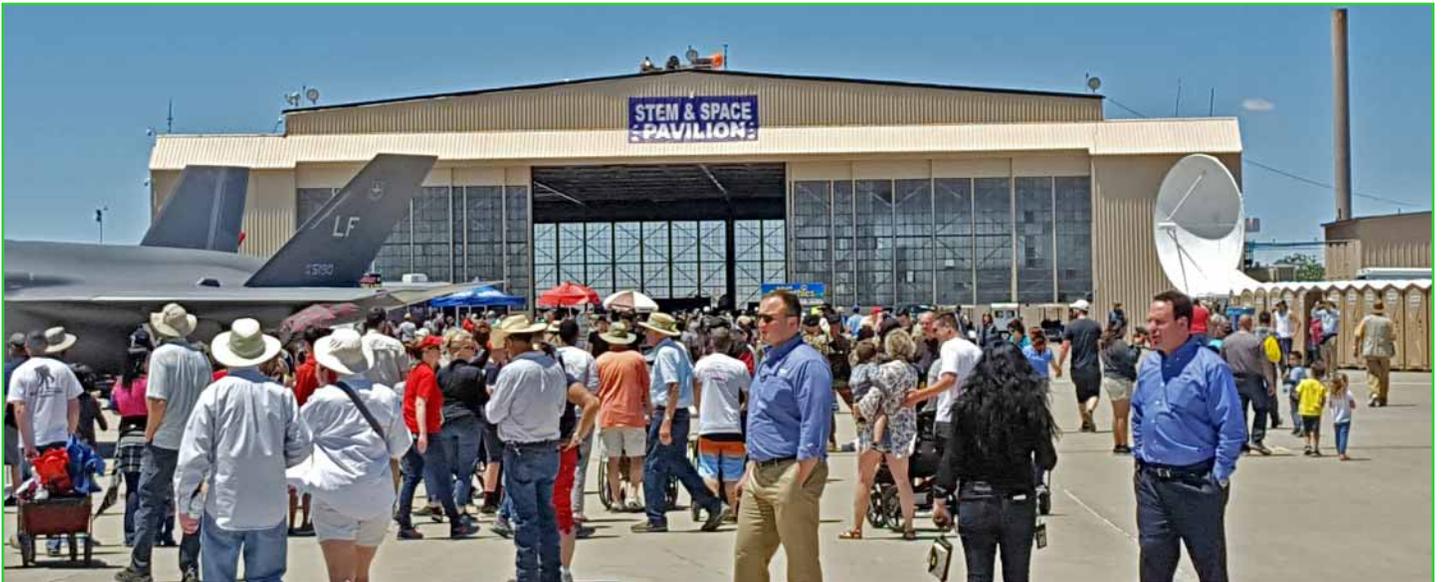
This page: Bob Henderson's *Ford F-150 Pickup* (Intermediate), and Scott Jaworski's *Ford GT* (Masters)



BONUS PAGES!

PHOTOS FROM THE ASM MODEL DISPLAY AT THE KIRTLAND AFB AIR SHOW

MIKE BLOHM

























BONUS PAGES!

2019 IPMS REGION 8 CONVENTION

CHUCK HERMANN



Over the years I have been to several (now ten) IPMS Regionals. It is always interesting to see modelers new to me and their work. So when I saw that the IPMS Region 8 event would be the weekend after Easter, I was able to combine a holiday family trip to Utah with a stop in Vegas on the way home for the event.

The IPMS Region 8 Convention was held Saturday, April 27, in Las Vegas, Nevada. It

was a one-day event. The show was held at the Eastside Cannery Casino and Hotel, in one of the meeting rooms. The facility was nice, everything looked relatively new.

There were 131 entrants; I did not hear a final count, but I would say there were about 300 or so models. IPMS Region 8 covers Southern California and southern Nevada, LA to Las Vegas.





The vendors were set up around the edges of the room. I would say there were maybe thirty. ASM members probably know that automotive models are my thing. And unlike many other IPMS shows, there were plenty of automotive kits available. I was able to grab seven kits along with some paints and decals. But there were also a lot of military and sci-fi kits, as well as supplies and tools.

There were 56 categories of all types of models. Unlike many IPMS events, there were more auto than airplane classes! The model car turnout was pretty good, with a nice mix. Oddly there was only one each in the Open Wheel Competition and Open Wheel drag classes. And as usual the aircraft tables were packed. I spoke to builders from California, Nevada, and even Idaho.

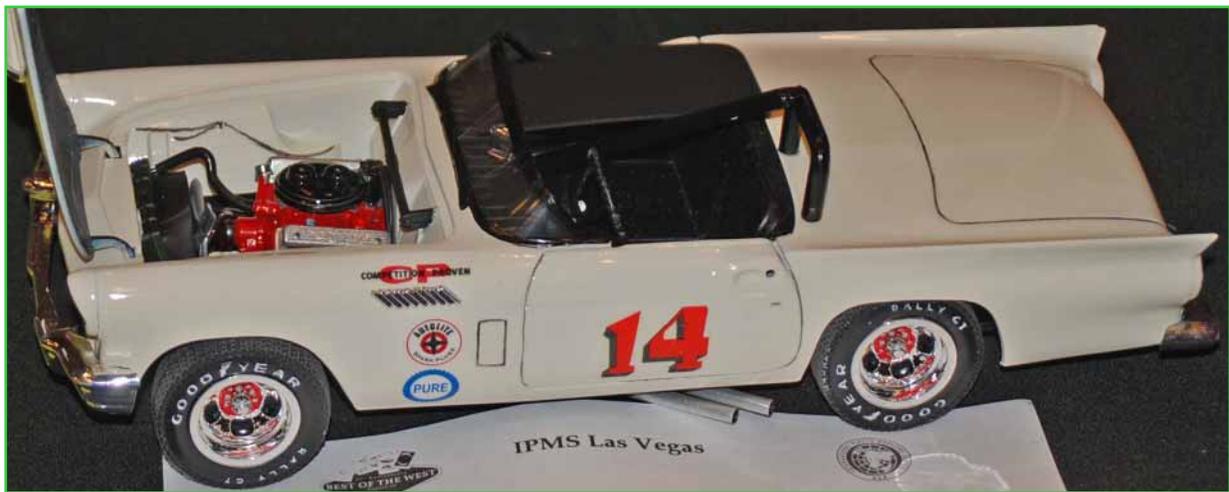
The awards presentation went pretty crisply; even with some regional awards, it was done in about forty minutes.



Here are some photos of the stuff on the tables, lots of automotive since that is my thing but I also took some of what interested me from the other classes.



Closed Wheel Competition Table. Drag was a separate class.



Large scale winner, 1/16 T-Bird





Above: One of the street rod winners.

Right: The judges hard at work.





Open Wheel Winner.



Best Automotive winner.



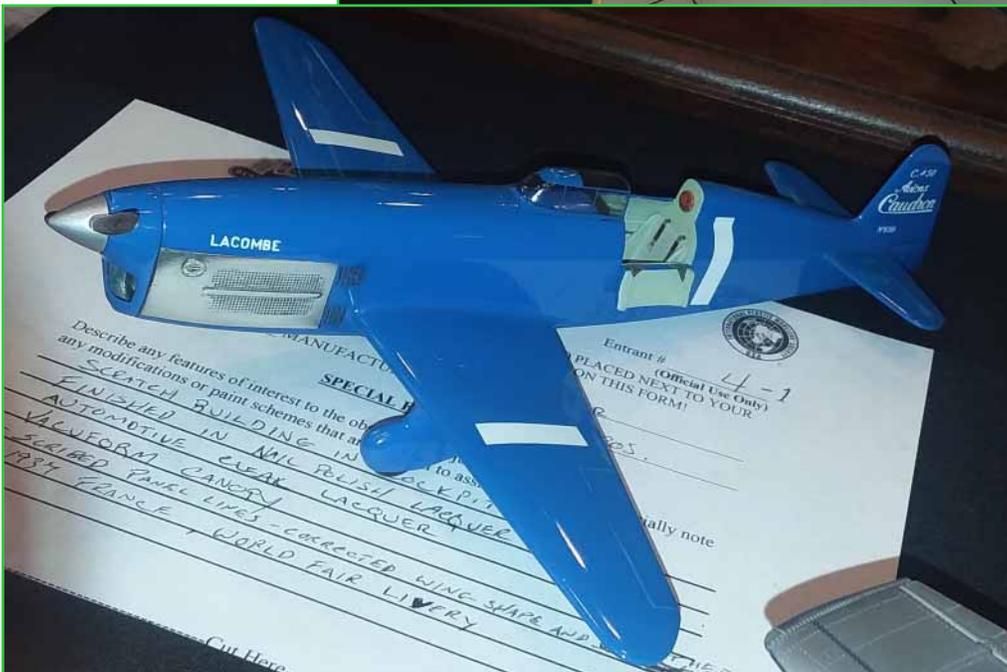
One of the street rod winners.



Best Hot Rod Special Trophy Winner

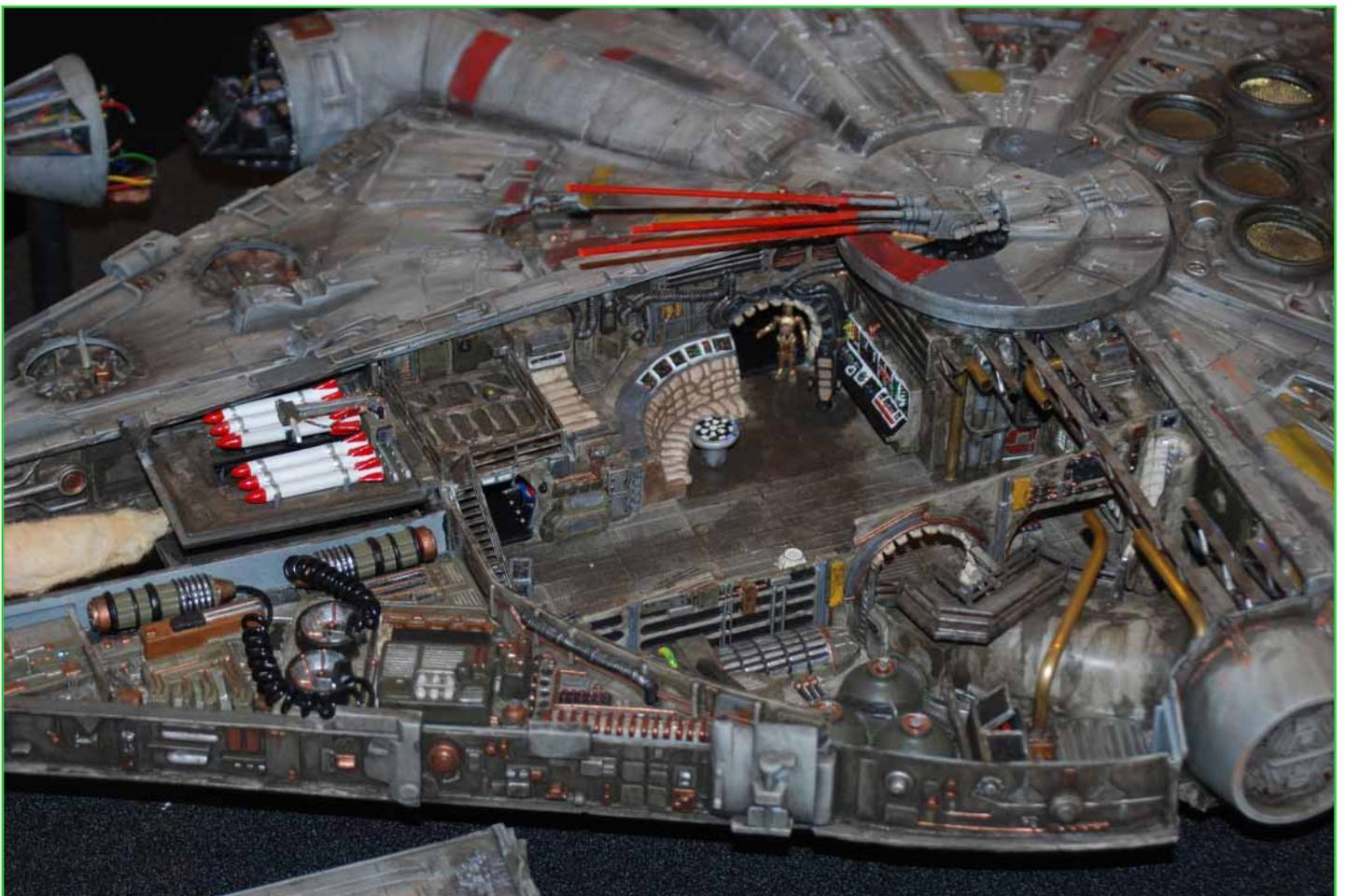


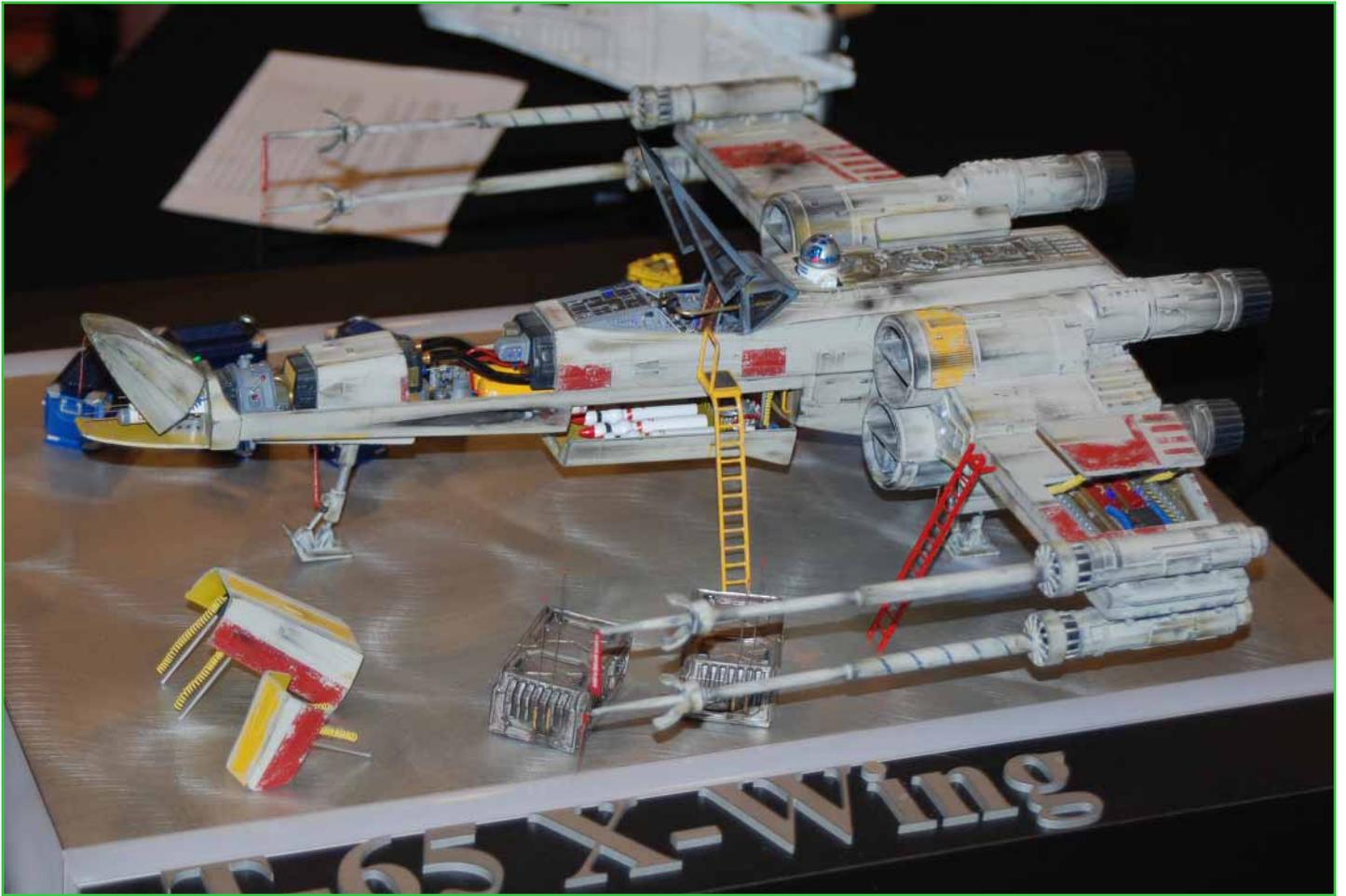
Closed Wheel winner.



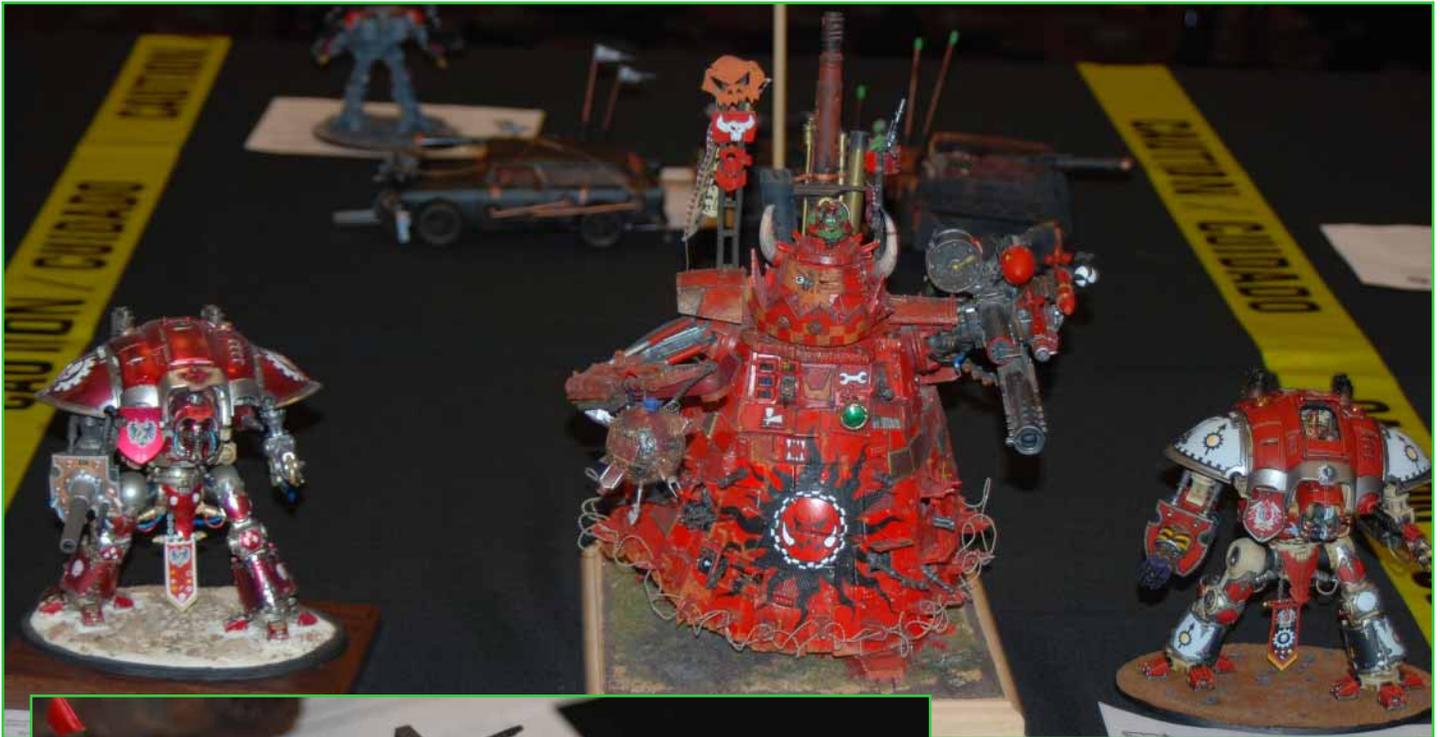


The overall Best of Show Trophy went to this crazy detailed Star Wars *Millennium Falcon* model.



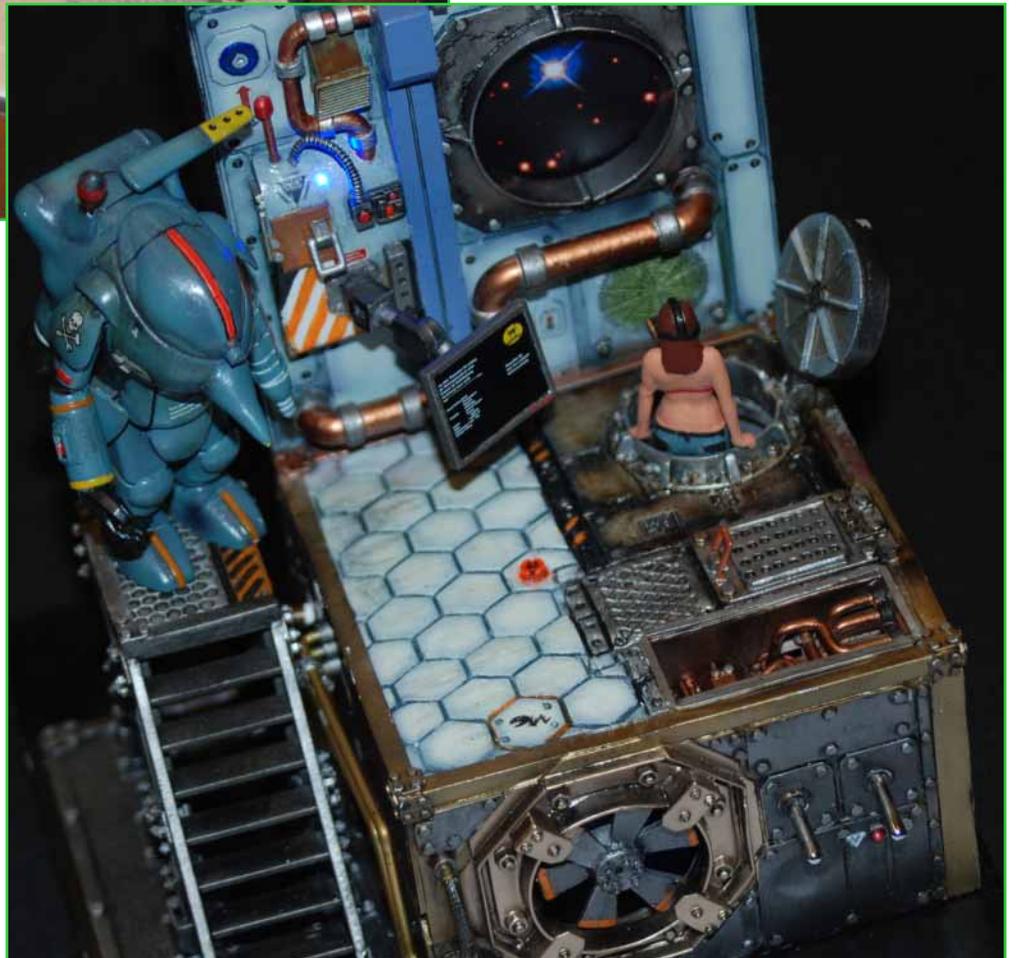














BONUS PAGES!

STARFEST 2019—THERE AND BACK AGAIN

MIKE AND MATT BLOHM

This was our first time attending a StarFest event and we were not quite sure what to expect. We had seen multiple articles on the event by Joe Walters in the past and it did look like a good show.

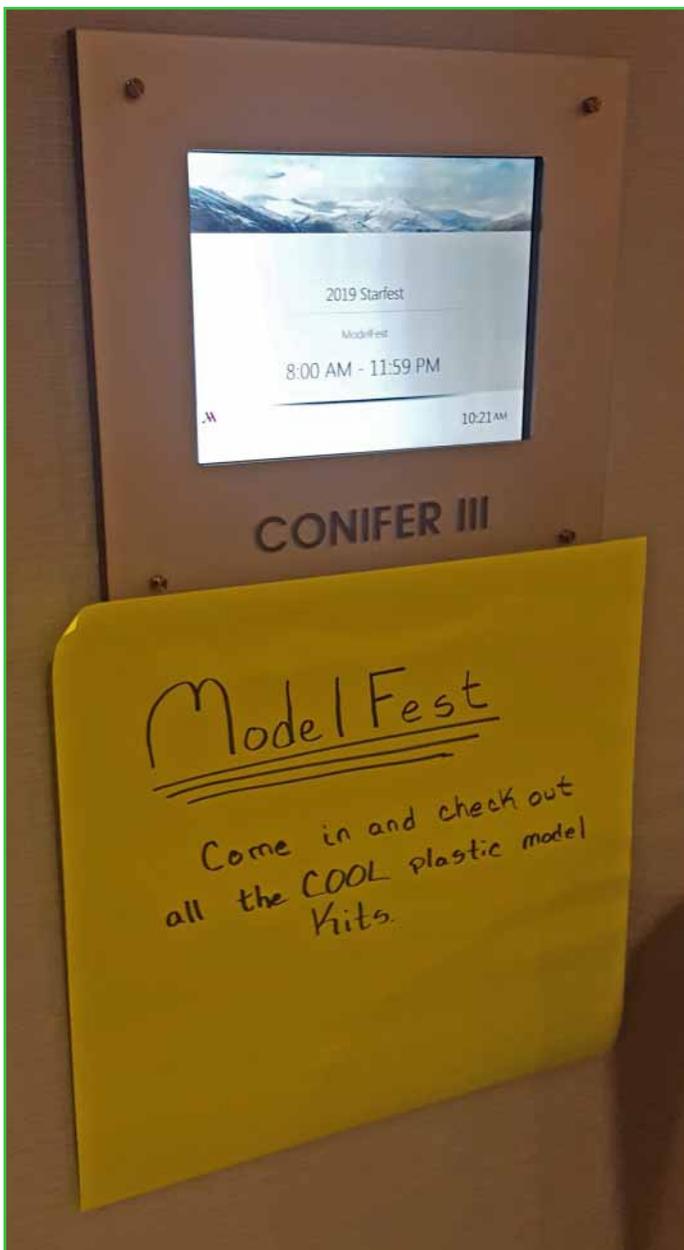
StarFest is a three-day event held at the Marriott Tech Center, Denver, Colorado. StarFest is a mix of a bunch of genres that all do their own thing at the same time as part of a consolidated gathering. Those genres included: ComicFest, ScienceFest, GameFest, ModelFest, KlingonFest, HorrorFest, CosPlay, ArtFest, Avistrum (sorcery), guest appearances, and autographs/photo sessions, and movies/video screenings.

One of the biggest challenges was diving into the extensive show schedule. Their “quad-fold”—actually one big sheet—was about two feet wide by one foot high and printed on both sides. The daily schedules depicted what was going on in columns for each of the fests, so you could crosscheck what was going on

at any one time and figure out what your choices were to go see. With the late night movies there were events lasting until midnight on Friday and Saturday.

Matt and I both like comics and collect a couple of series, so we wanted to check out the ComicFest area. They had a lot of comic book artists but were pretty light in comic book vendors. We still managed to find a couple to pick up.

ModelFest is put on by the Colorado Modeling Militia Enjoying Sci-Fi (the CoMMiES) IPMS Chapter from Lakewood, Colorado (you can see the high-quality door sign on the left). Their model contest had looked intriguing over the years from Joe’s previous coverage and pics, and I thought that we needed some ASM representation at that. Therefore, I wanted to enter some models myself, so I packed up some entries that fit the sci-fi theme. Their ModelFest webpage did not have any details posted on the contest itself, including a description of entry categories. It turned out that there were twelve total categories, not all of which were sci-fi related. There were a lot of impressive models entered. I had three winners: a first place in Real Space with a Mercury Redstone (Alan Shepard’s *Freedom 7*) in $\frac{1}{200}$ scale (AMT); a second in Dioramas with the “You are Leaving New Mexico” UFO (Atlantis kit) and cow abduction scene; and a third in Spaceships with a Rocket Retriever in $\frac{1}{72}$ scale (Glencoe). The Best of Show award went to an early 1900s mono-plane. If I attend again I will plan to bring some non sci-fi models as well. It appeared that the CoMMiES members had a section of models on the tables that were “display only” and were judged amongst themselves by Rick Sternbach.





Above and below: The model contest area ran the length of one side of the room. The model registration area was just inside the door on the left side of this picture.

ModelFest had various modeling seminars going on each day. We sat in on a presentation by Rick Sternbach on prepping art for making your own decals, which was pretty cosmic. They also had Make & Take sessions, and club members building a variety of model types all day that attendees could observe and ask questions. Attendees could bring in and build their own models in sessions each evening.









Above: In the background, you can see where RoboFest had their setup, with two replicas of the Robot from *Lost in Space*, and even a life-sized statue of Dr. Smith.

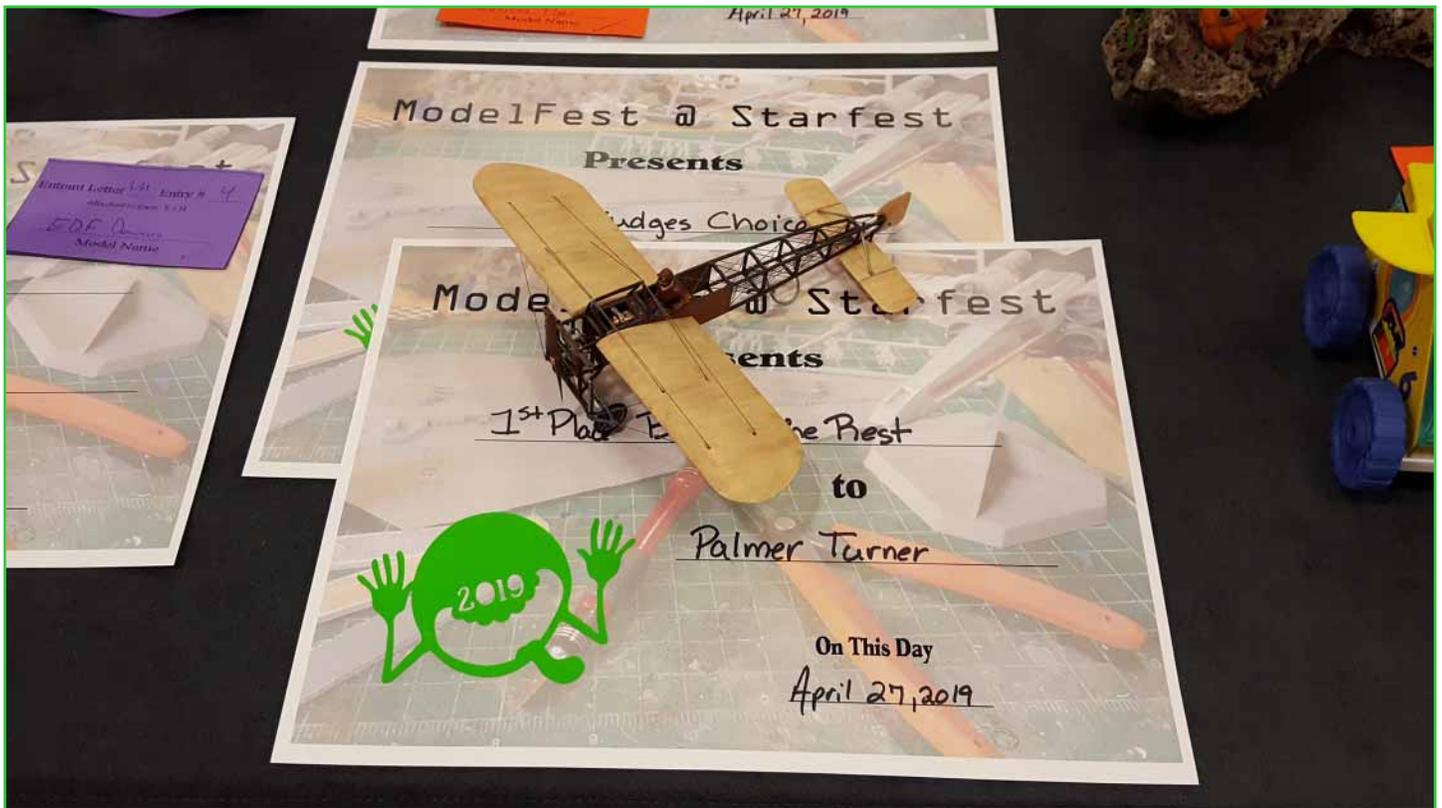
Below and following: Club members occupied tables opposite the contest area, building various types of models and answering any questions from the attendees. The panorama shot shows the whole room.





Below: Rick Sternbach's decal-making presentation.





Above: The Judge's Choice award went to this early 1900s monoplane.

Right and below: Nicely done models of an X-Wing and a ship that looks like a kit-bash of several kits.





Above: The Marriott Denver Tech Center, home of StarFest. [Mike must have taken this on the way out on Sunday afternoon, as there are open parking spaces visible! -JTW]



Above; The Main Events room, where all the primary presentations took place. Hey, over on the right! It's Joe & Linda! Sort of...



Above: Set of booths where the guests signed autographs. Matt got a Ben Browder autograph and we were able to talk with him for a bit

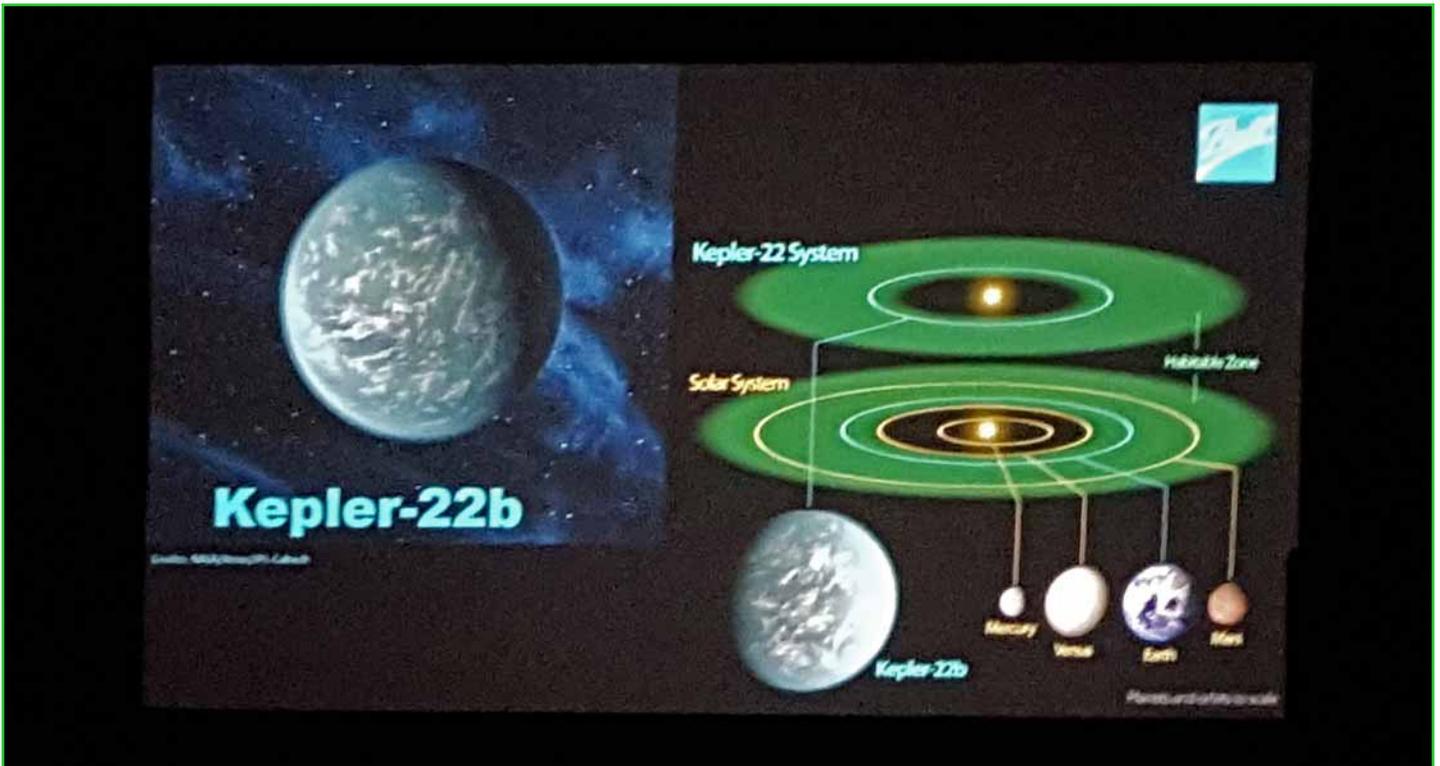
In the *Star Trek*, *Star Wars*, and Sci Fi area, they had some guests that were worthwhile to see, and some were also doing autographs. Those included Ben Browder (above, *Stargate* and *Farscape*), William Shatner (*Star Trek*), and Peter Macon (Bortus on *The Orville*). Macon was a last-minute replacement for Scott Grimes (Lt. Gordon Malloy on *The Orville*). Nichelle Nichols (Uhura from *Star Trek*) was there signing autographs but did not do a presentation. Matt got an autograph from Ben Browder. He was very interesting to talk with, and we talked about his son who is graduating from the USAF Academy this year and wants to fly A-10s, and his flight with the Thunderbirds. We also watched the “Peter Greenwood and Rick Sternbach Discuss Sci Fi Art and Movie Magic” presentation (below).





Genres included ArtFest (which had some really cool items), GameFest, ScienceFest and ComicFest, among others.





Above: This is the “Exoplanets” presentation.

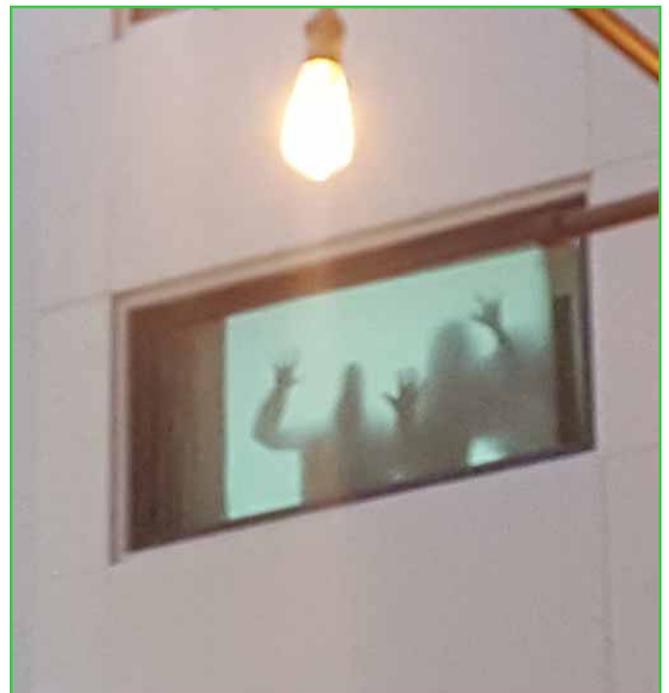
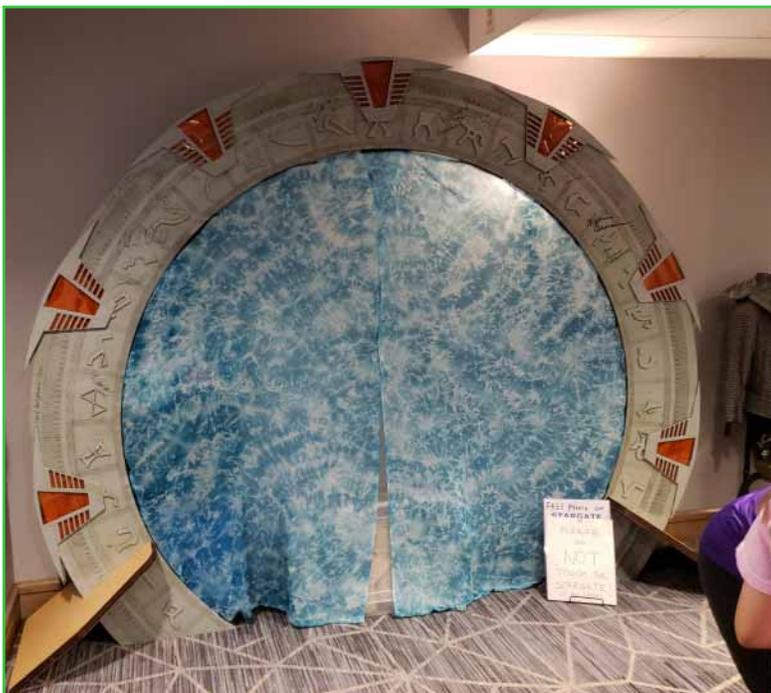
StarFest also had a Science component, and this ran a series of discussions each day on various topics. Matt and I watched the panels on Exoplanets, Hubble 2020, and Meteorites, Movies and Mysteries. Unfortunately, there were conflicts with a couple of guest presentations that precluded seeing some really good science subjects. The 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 discussion was the same time as William Shatner. You think that they may have deconflicted those two.



ComicFest had lots of artists and some comic vendors. Don't argue price too hard with some of the customers.



One of the popular events on Saturday evening was a Costume Contest that ran over two hours. Some of the outfits were really cool and took a long time to put together—that info was provided by the announcer. We disagreed with some of the winners picked by the judges.



Above: The Stargate was available if you thought that you needed to get away for a bit... The gate is festooned with many SG-1 autographs, including Amanda Tapping, Christopher Judge, and Richard Dean Anderson, all former StarFest guests. And many rooms overlooking the atrium had displays to see, this one ran a continuous video loop of the undead trying to break free. It was a very effective display!

KlingonFest had a wedding going on, but there were too many competing events going on to attend. It did seem pretty popular—there was a long line to get in because they were making everybody check their weapons at the door.



There were lots of vendors selling the normal fare: T-shirts, patches, jewelry, posters, art, figures, toys, armor, swords, etc. Attendees dressed up in costumes were everywhere and some were very impressive.







The Dealer Room had lots of stuff to spend your credits, Latinum, or Talons on. Even Spidey did a little shopping looking for extra web shooter fluid refills.

For the ultimate Auto Nerds there were several vehicles parked in front of the hotel during the convention. There was a replica *Jurassic Park* Jeep Wrangler YJ and a *Starsky and Hutch* 1974 Ford Gran Torino. There were also custom creations of a Post Apocalyptic Anarchy Van (with spikes, skeleton on the hood and chains all over), a Toyota FJ Cruiser done up in *Ghostbusters Ecto-1* scheme, a Nissan 350Z done up as a Nightwing Batmobile with dual Gatling guns, a “Toyota Bullet Bill” from the Mario Video Game Series, and a very nicely painted Honda done up as an Alliance Landing Shuttle from the SR2 Normandy of the Mass Effect Video Game Series.





Attendees had some pretty impressive costumes. Next time I will need to come up with something myself. Attendees included Loki and Hela, Marvin the Martian, Deadpool hard at work, a mix of Marvel and DC characters getting along, a bunch of Star Wars characters including Darth Vader, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Kylo Ren, Darth Maul, Darth Nihlusa and Darth Malgus (Old Republic Sith Lords looking for some fun), a Clone Wars Jedi, TIE pilot, a lady who has some trouble with Tribbles, some Cobra guys looking for trouble, Thor and Hela, some warriors, and more Hela!











Left: “Say ‘moo’ again! Say ‘moo’ again, I dare you! I double dare you...”

Overall it was a fun time, and we would likely attend again if they had some guest speakers and topics that we would like to see. We enjoyed the speakers and presentations at the 2019 event. The model contest was a good competition and I think that ASM sci-fi builders would enjoy bringing some models to that. The event is not that far a drive from Albuquerque, and the Denver Tech Center is on the south side of the city so you do not have to fight that traffic.



BONUS PAGES!

STARFEST 2019

JOE WALTERS



Over the weekend of 24 - 26 April, the annual StarFest science-fiction convention was held at the Marriott Denver Tech Center in Denver, Colorado. My wife Linda and I attended, as did Mike & Matt Blohm (Mike's report on the show appears above!). We've been attending these annually since 1996, and we always have a great time. This is a locally-run show, and they have the process down pat. It's really well-run, and they have a lot of stuff for everybody!

As the convention has been opening earlier and earlier on Fridays, we have learned to drive up Thursday to avoid the stress of leaving early enough Friday to get there before things start to roll. We also learned that this makes it possible to get a parking space, as the lot tends to fill up early Friday! The Blohms were very lucky to find a spot Friday afternoon, as the lot was full but some convenient fellow pulled out of a spot at *just* the right moment. And, as the convention has been adding events later and later on Sundays (this time, William Shatner was onstage from 4:00 to 5:00, and there was an auction followed by a movie trailer presentation after that), we've also taken to returning home on the Monday after the show. So, while the Blohms were blasting south on I-25 at warp speed Sunday night to make it home around midnight, we went to a nice leisurely dinner at a nearby Benihana and then watched *Game of Thrones* back at our room. Traffic homeward Monday morning was light!

StarFest caters to all sorts of sci-fi and fantasy subjects, from *Star Wars* to *Star Trek* to *Stargate*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Harry Potter*, *The Orville*, *Babylon 5*, and on and on. There are many events and panels and discussions and presentations, always too many to catch all that you want, so one of the first things we do after registering is go over the schedule and see what we can and cannot attend. There are also some competitions, like the Costume Competition, the Art Show, and the Model Show, more about which later.

There are also several additional "fests" taking place in the same venue as part of the overall show, like HorrorFest, ComicFest, GameFest, KlingonFest, and so on. All these events are open to all attendees, no separate tickets required.

There's also a vast Dealer Room, where there are many ways you can get rid of that extra money you have weighing down your pockets! And some of those dealers sell things of interest to modelers.

Over the last few years, StarFest has added many real-world science presentations, and those have proven very popular and have become favorites for us. There's a Lockheed-Martin facility in the local area that builds space probes like the New Horizons probe that explored Pluto, the InSight Mars Lander that is on Mars *now*, and others. A guy from JPL comes to give presentations on the Hubble. A couple of years back, a few months before New Horizons encountered Pluto, project manager Alan Stern gave a great presentation on how that was going, and sent one of his minions the next year (he was in Washington, accepting an award for the thing) to show us imagery and data not seen before. This year, a team member did a presentation on the probe's recent flyby of the Kuiper Belt object known as Ultima Thule, and again showed imagery and data that doesn't show up on the usual news sources (and said they're looking for a potential target for another flyby, but that may or may not happen). We got a great presentation on the InSight lander on Mars, what it's done since arriving, and saw some photos and videos of it in action on the Martian surface. There was a presentation about the recent news of the first imaging of a black hole, and one on methods being researched for preventing asteroids from ruining our day.

Costumes abounded throughout the show! Here are a few samples.

Left: Thor (complete with Stormbreaker) encounters a female version of Deadpool. Below, this guy really looked the part, just Super. And a frakkin' Cylon in classic armor, with a *working* red-eye-light thing. Just excellent!



At left, Corbin Dallas (not *quite* looking like Bruce Willis), Leeloo (with Multipass), and Ruby Rahd from *The Fifth Element* pose for a shot. Not just anybody can easily pull off Ruby's look; and he had the annoying voice down too!



This page, clockwise from above: Jessica Rabbit's not bad, she's just drawn that way.

And I'm sure you know how many times *not* to say this guy's name!

And at right, Joel from *Mystery Science Theater 3000*, replete with two familiar robots on his shoulders. I happened to catch him wandering through Authors' Alley, and you can see some of the autograph area in the background.



At left, Wonder Woman and some friends.

Below, this fellow was quite a hit at the show, sometimes dressed like this, sometimes like a pirate, sometimes other characters, but he always had his little companion Smee (bottom left) with him, and Smee was a very popular attraction, and well behaved at that! In the shot at below right, you can see Wonder Woman paying Smee some attention, while *another* Wonder Woman chats with his owner. There are also two Hela costumes visible in this shot, one at center (with the Jack Kirby hat) and one at top left (hatless). Mike Blohm has excellent photos of both of them, and they appear in his report. And at right, someone dressed as Black Widow from *Avengers: Endgame*, even though that movie had only opened the day before! Where does one get a costume before its movie even opens?





Above: At the Saturday night costume competition, the Grandmaster from *Thor: Ragnarok*, complete with his melty stick.

Above right: Who ya gonna call?

Right: This father and daughter team really looked the part! They entered the stage with Violet on Mr. Incredible's shoulder; she leaped off and did a perfect superhero landing, to the delight and cheers of the crowd!





At left, a couple of Starfleet uniforms from different eras, in a casual moment.

Above, Captain Marvel and an Andorian lady in the Dealer Room.



The Dealer Room! Abandon all funds, ye who enter here! Toys, t-shirts, action figures, merchandise, swords, art items, posters, patches, videos, CDs, collectible plates, other collectibles, cards, books, jewelry, autographs, publicity photos, clothing, costumes, accessories, model kits (assembled and unassembled), display items of various sorts, and more things than you would believe.

At left, one dealer had this box full of tiny bagged Japanese model kits. Mike Blohm says he picked up a couple of these.



Above, here's one of several dealers selling sci-fi model kits (among other things). Many of these are familiar and relatively easy to find, and some are not! Where else can you find a Talon Fighter from *Masters of the Universe*? Or a *CHiPs* motorcycle (right center)? Check out the Predator figure (left center), and the Roman Chariot kit above it, and the Hawk kit at the top of that stack!

Below, a number of ready-to-display pieces and accessories.





Here, two other angles on the same table as in the previous photo, showing the diversity of product here! Kits, built items, accessories, and all sorts of goodies. And yes, that is a Ceti Eel from *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* in the spherical terrarium. These are... pets, of course. Not quite domesticated.



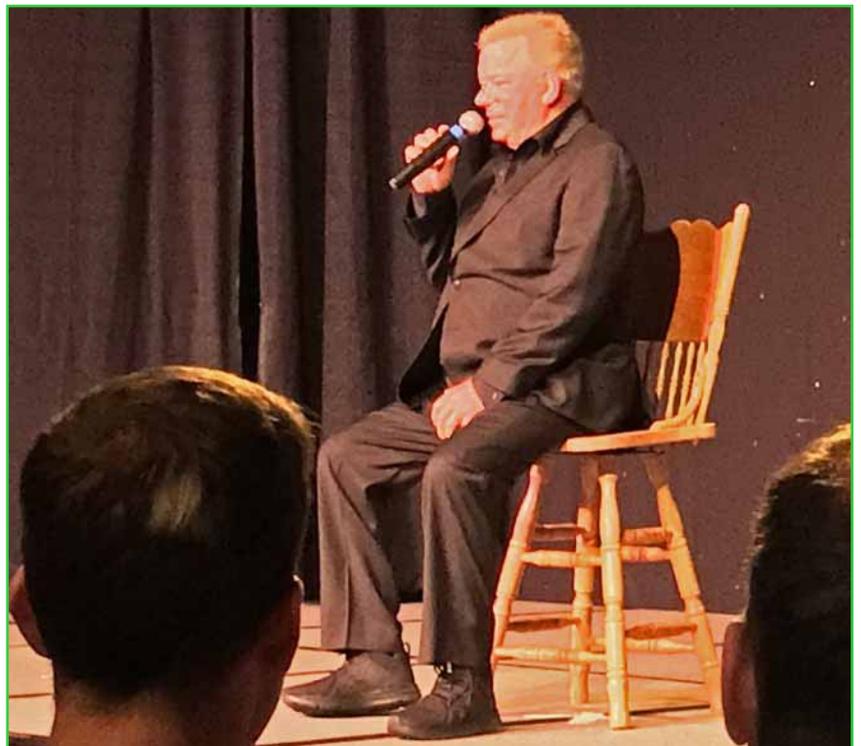
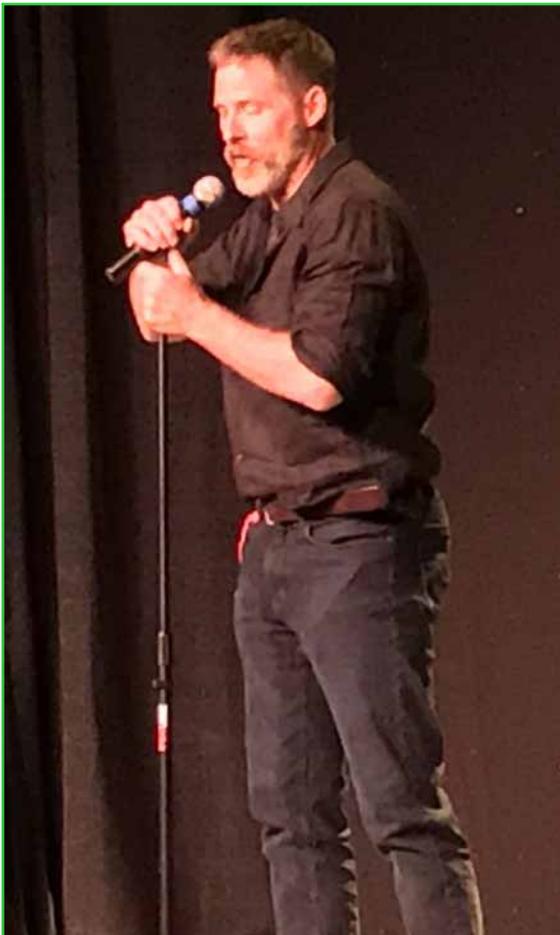


There were several celebrity guests at the show, and we saw some of them on stage. At left, Peter Macon doesn't look much like Bortus (above) on *The Orville*. He spoke of the advantages of enjoying a certain amount of anonymity in public!

Bottom left, Ben Browder of *Farscape* and *Stargate SG-1* was a popular speaker, with many stories and anecdotes to pass along. His son was in pre-school when Ben was filming *Farscape* in Australia, and is now about to graduate from the US Air Force Academy!

And, at bottom right, 88-year-old William Shatner filled the Main Events room to near capacity late Sunday afternoon. He looks younger than me! And he sure has a lot more energy. I don't know how he does it!

Not shown: guests Nichelle Nichols (Uhura from *Star Trek*), Ken Foree (character actor from many shows), voice actor Peter Greenwood, and several other luminaries from the onscreen world as well as comic artists and writers.





Okay, okay, what about models, already?

The CoMMiES club puts on a “Modeling University” each year, featuring many panels on how to build, decal, and light models, among other things. There are Make & Take activities as well.

And one of the events at the show every year is a model competition, which, as you will see, draws a *lot* of entries, many of them quite excellent. Mike Blohm entered several models and about half of them won *something*. I’ll let him tell about that!

Vern Clark (member of the CoMMiES group) runs the show, and recognizes me whenever I show up. Whenever he first sees me, he hollers, “What did you bring?” He also gives me hell for not bringing other ASM members along. He was quite surprised this time when I told him I brought two modelers, and they were bringing several models to enter!

There were so many entries this year, they really had to cram them together somewhat. You’ll probably recognize a few of them.

At left, a poster on display in the Model Room.

Below, a large scratchbuild from a *Doctor Who* fan.



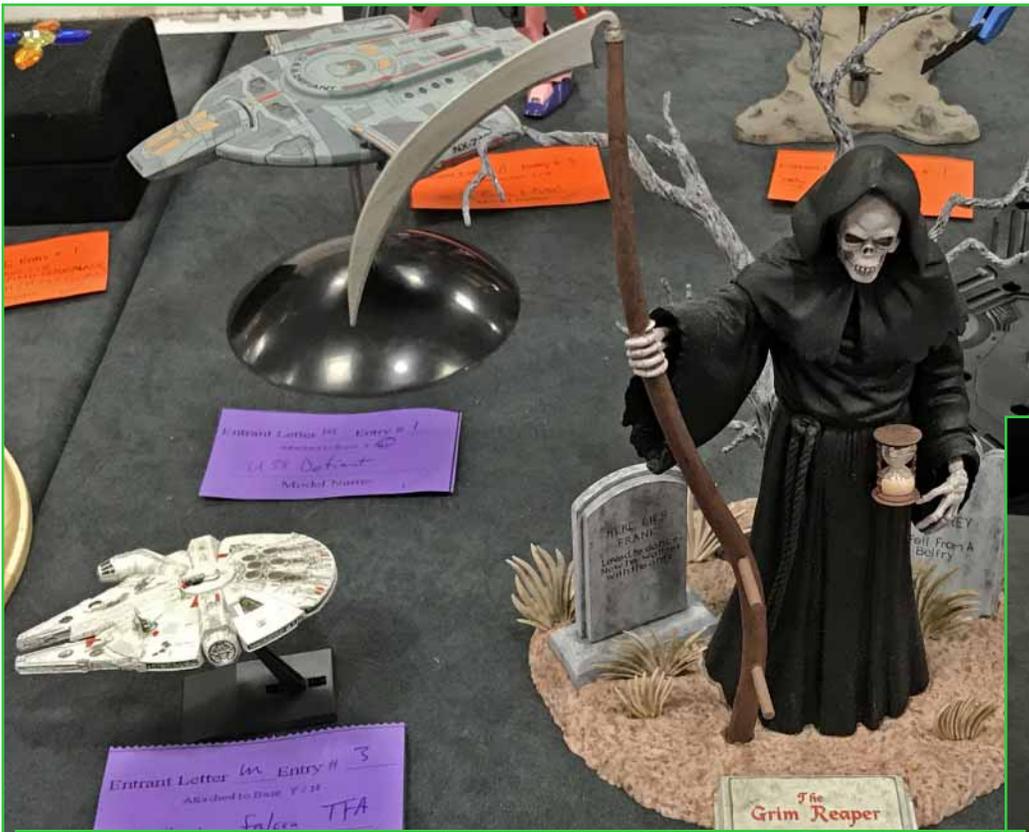


Above, two of Mike's entries. The "Leaving New Mexico" piece won second place in dioramas, and was *immensely* popular among the crowds. At left, a kitbashed giant space habitat.

At bottom left, Mike's Mercury Redstone won 1st in Real-space, beating out an excellent Titan II missile and a huge Saturn V rocket.

Bottom right, another familiar Blohm creation!





At left, the Grim Reaper and a couple of vessels from *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* (note to you muggles: yes, they're two different things).

Below left, Japanese robots remain popular.

Below: the classic fifties Mars Lander.

Bottom: the Space Cruiser *Yamato* from *Star Blazers*.





Entrant Letter A - Entry # 5
Submitted to show # 114
Daisuke - Elper
Model Plastic

Entrant Letter A - Entry # 4
Submitted to show # 114
Daisuke - Elper
Model Plastic



NAUTICAL
NONSENSE

Entrant Letter A - Entry # 15
Submitted to show # 114
Daisuke - Elper
Model Plastic

Above, a number of Japanese anime subjects. Ask the nearest ten-year-old boy if you're curious.

At left, a cool (and very detailed) underwater exploration vehicle. It looks scratchbuilt/kitbashed to me; if it has a source, I don't know it! And though I don't watch the show depicted, I do know what that pineapple-shaped structure at bottom left is about.



Above, a Loknar-class *Star Trek* starship variant (its origin is quite obscure!).

At right, something we may have seen at ASM meetings.

Below right, another Japanese subject. Perhaps I should have brought in one of those ten-year-old boys for a consultation to identify these things.

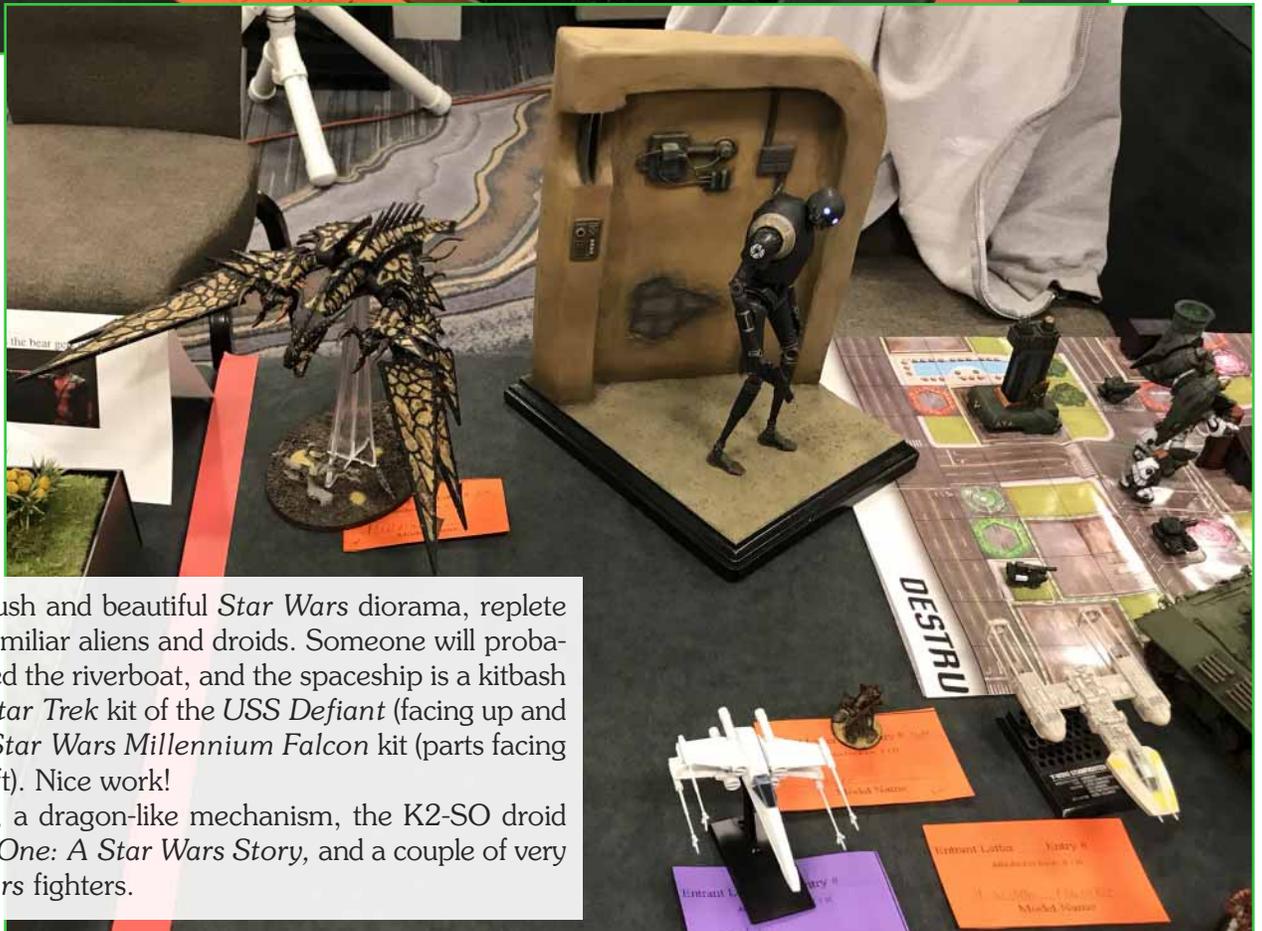
Below, the Cosmostrator from *First Spaceship on Venus*.



At right, a huge dinosaur figure. I have a dog that's smaller than that! What kind of dinosaur is it? Reference the abovementioned ten-year-old.

Bottom right: This one won People's Choice. A scratchbuilt Starfleet Runabout from *Star Trek Deep Space Nine*. It's huge, about two feet long! I couldn't get a good photo of it, but this thing has a complete—and lighted—interior, and you can see from the front windows to and through the back windows! There's even a fish tank in the rear compartment!





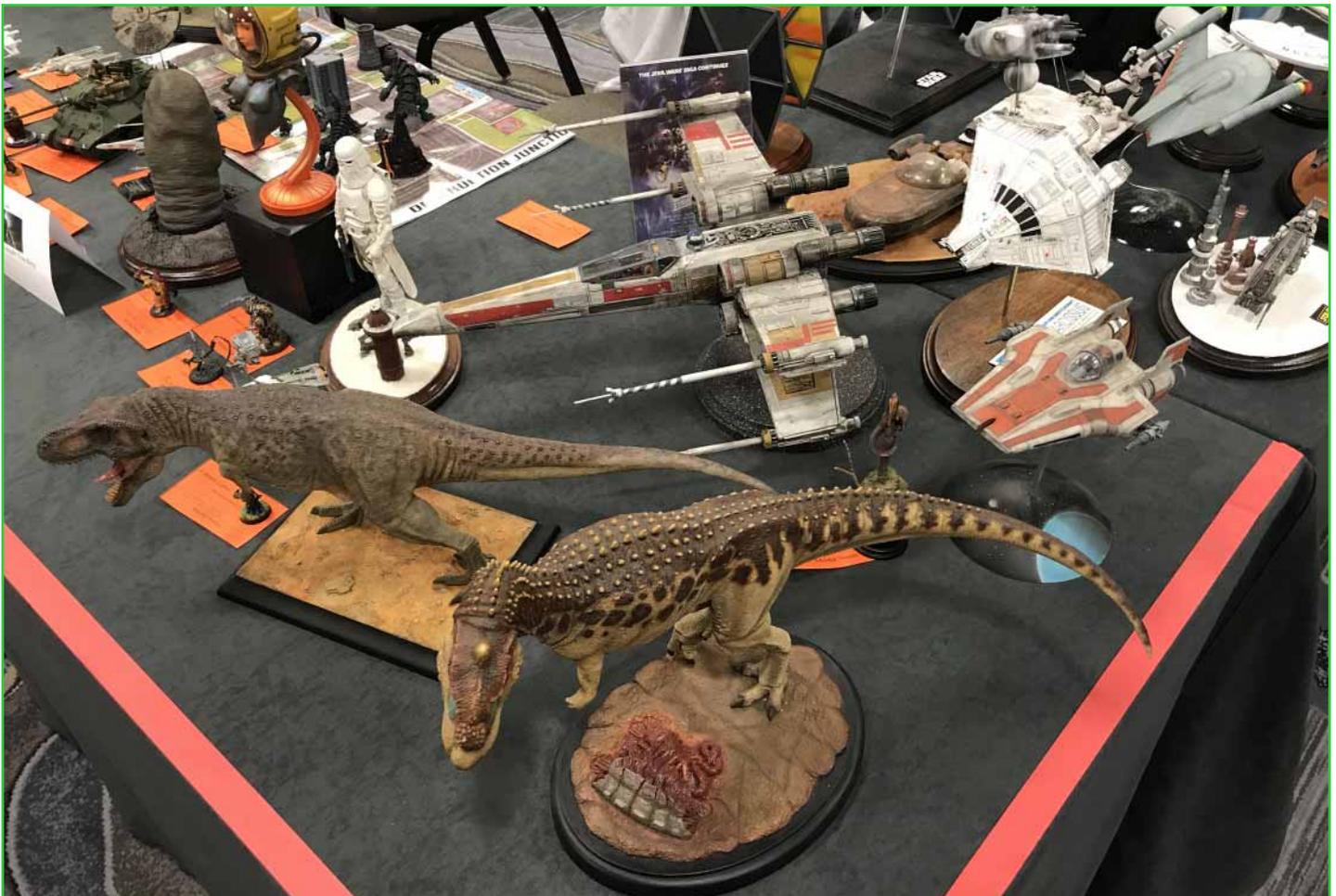
Above, a lush and beautiful *Star Wars* diorama, replete with some familiar aliens and droids. Someone will probably recognized the riverboat, and the spaceship is a kitbash based on a *Star Trek* kit of the *USS Defiant* (facing up and right) and a *Star Wars Millennium Falcon* kit (parts facing down and left). Nice work!

At bottom, a dragon-like mechanism, the K2-SO droid from *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, and a couple of very tiny *Star Wars* fighters.

Top right: Snack!

Below: Didn't this win Lopez Demente at Chile Con 4?

Bottom: Lots of models in a small space!





Above: A couple of *Star Trek* vessels, and a *Star Wars* landspeeder in background.
Below, more *Star Trek* variants, and a fighter from *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*.



At right, more *Trek* variants.
Middle right, a couple of builds from *Buck Rogers* kits.
Bottom, a well-weathered Viper fighter from the original *Battlestar: Galactica*.





Above, another crowded display of many many models.
Left, I have no idea why R2-D2 is sitting on the base of this excellent *Botany Bay* model!





And at left, my favorite model of this show. I didn't even notice it my first time through the exhibit! Hardcore *Star Wars* fans will get it, and may even notice he's holding his gun backwards.

So another StarFest is over and done! Over the last few years, they have really improved certain characteristics of this show; not only did the hotel build a large new (and excellent!) restaurant in the atrium area, there are also several convention-type burger & hot dog vendors around the hotel during the show, and there are lots more chairs than there used to be. You can actually grab a bite *and* sit down to eat it!

StarFest provides attendees with a full-color program book and a large double-sided printed schedule of the entire show, so you can quickly learn what you cannot attend!

Next year's show is already scheduled. We even have our tickets! Mark the weekend of May 1 – 3, 2020, on your calendar and get some sci-fi models ready!

Monitor <https://starfestdenver.com> as time goes on; things start to happen on the website late in the year. There are also links to the hotel for early reservations at any time. Sooner is wiser!



BONUS PAGES! MISCELLANEOUS





Above: Build details and additional photos of this 1:1-scale cardboard Merkava MK4 Israeli battle tank are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/asm1906a>

Right: Topically accurate model of the Notre Dame cathedral. And it's so tasteless, it could have been a contender for a Lopez Demente award!







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