

CONTEST UPDATE JOSH PALS

The March Open Points Contest marks the first points contest of 2019. It also marks the first contest held in the same room as the business portion. Quarters were somewhat cramped, but we made it work without any complications. The tables were filled with some very good quality models with a total of forty entries across the divisions.

In Basic, Jeannie Garris took home a Silver and a Gold for her X-Wing Fighter and Off Road 4x4, respectively. Aaron Schmiedicke took Gold for his Monument Valley UFO, and Gold, Best of Show, and People's Choice for his TIE Interceptor.

In the Intermediate Division, Armor category, Third place went to Don Smith's US Jeep with 37mm anti-tank gun. Second and First place went to Rob Whitlock's Flakpanzer 4 Ostwind and Char B1 Bis, respectively. In Aircraft, Bob Henderson's PBY-5A from the Black Cats Squadron took Third place. Second place to Ken Piniak's AH-1Q TOW Cobra and First place went to Charles Petrilli's MiG-29A. In Science and Fantasy, Third place went to Bob Henderson's Fam's Vespa. Don Smith took Second place with his TIE Fighter and First place, Best of Show, and People's Choice went to Jim Medina and his Tantive 4. We added another category, Miscellaneous, as sometimes some models just don't "fit" into the other categories. In the Miscellaneous Category Mark Vaughn took Third place with his Visible Gummi Bear. Second place went to Ken Piniak's 2 Spool Turbofan Engine that was motorized and had sound! Jim Medina took First place with his "It's a Boy" Sherman tank.

Finally in the Master Division, Diorama/Vignette category, Glenn Bingham took First and Second with his P-8A Poseidon and V-2/A-4 Rocket, respectively. In Science Fiction/Fantasy Josh Pals took Third with his Gypsy Avenger Jager. Mike Blohm took Second place with his Holy Hand Grenade of Antioch and First place went to Josh Pals's Obsidian Fury Jager. In Automotive, Chuck Herrmann took First and Second place with his VW New Beetle and Surf Woody Roadster, respectively. In the Aircraft category Steve Brodeur took Third place with his Grumman SA-16 in Artic Rescue markings. Second place went to Casey Rupley's US Navy F-18F and First place went to Scott Jaworski's A-4F Skyhawk. In the Armor category, Third place went to Chuck Herrmann for his BMW R75 motorcycle, Second place to Patrick Dick and his Renault FT-17, and First place, Best of Show, and People's Choice went to Scott Jaworski's Chieftain Mk. 5 in Berlin Brigade Camo Scheme.

April's contest is a special non-points contest with the theme being "Fabulous Fifties"—any subject/ scale from the 1950s. The next points contest is in May with the theme being "Automotive" any scale of wheeled or tracked civilian automotive subject.

ASM MODEL DISPLAY MIKE BLOHM

Kirtland AFB Air Show

ASM is planning to put on a model display at the Saturday, May 18, airshow at Kirtland AFB. The theme is "Air and Space Fiesta," so we would like to include a lot of space models as well as the usual aircraft models. This year is the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing (July 20, 1969), so we need to highlight that event. The 50th anniversary is also the theme of our "Man in Space" contest on July 12, so this is a good reason to get your model(s) done early!

We are going to be located in a smaller building than in past airshows and we will only have two tables that can be either six feet or eight feet long. We need to supply those ourselves, as well as our chairs. Therefore, we need to scrounge up two portable eight feet long tables to maximize the amount of models that we can display.

We will need volunteers to help transport and set up the models and then man the tables throughout the day. We probably need about four people to continuously man the tables. Since folks will also like to break off to see parts of the airshow, we probably need at least about eight total people. It's a fun time, so please come out to help.

We will likely do a combination of "history of the USAF," "Man in Space," and some other genres—any kit you want to show what the hobby offers. We will try to include aircraft and missions that were/are at Kirtland AFB. Expect the usual drill of delivering tubs of models to Hobby Proz in the days before the airshow. Ensure your name is on your tubs and that you have a list of your models in the tub, along with any special instructions on packing or handling. Reminder emails will be sent out as the event gets closer. If you would like to participate, or just loan some models, please contact me

so that we can get a list of models going and determine what will fit our two tables. We will discuss this at the April 5 meeting as well.

ASM MODEL DISPLAY MIKE BLOHM

South Broadway Cultural Center

The Albuquerque Scale Modelers (ASM) model club conducted a month-long model display at the

FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

US Navy Weathering Techniques

Well, I finally found some photos that I had been looking for unsuccessfully for three or four years. And the April newsletter seems like the appropriate issue to publish these pictures in.

My father was the Hanger Deck Chief on the USS Boxer, CVS-21, an anti-submarine aircraft carrier at the time, and they had a "Family Day" for families of the crew. I was able to be on this one-day June 1956 cruise.

The photos I took show that the United States Navy was years ahead of the modeling community when it came to weathering panel lines. The grey and white Grumman S2F Trackers demonstrate this advanced modeling technique very well.



And I included other photos I took during the cruise, including an S2F landing on the carrier. Note that the arrester net is deployed in this photo.



[Editor's note: The full text of Fred's article, and many more photos (larger and in higher resolution) can be found in the **Bonus Pages**. -JW]

South Broadway Cultural Center and Library in Albuquerque from February 1 – 27, 2019. The theme of the display was "What is Scale Modeling." Models of all genres and scale—79 total were on display in three cases. See photo below; more photos may be found in the Bonus Pages. One case had five P-51D Mustang models lined up in all the popular scales: $\frac{1}{24}$, $\frac{1}{32}$, $\frac{1}{48}$ $\frac{1}{72}$, and $\frac{1}{144}$. Signage was included to explain what scales they were in and what that represents. A large tri-fold display board provided information on what scale modeling is, what the scales mean, pros and cons of the various scales, availability of model kits, and examples of model building supplies. Promotional materials for ASM and IPMS/USA were provided. Five ASM members helped set up the display: Josh Pals, Jack Garriss, Chuck Herrmann, Frank Randall, and Mike Blohm.



ASM conducted a Make & Take at the Library on Saturday, February 9, as part of the month-long display. Seven kids took part in the model-building and had a great time. At the end of their builds they were flying them around the library. See photo below; additional photos may be found in the Bonus Pages. The kit built by the kids was the Revell Snap Tite F-14 Tomcat in ¹/₁₂-scale. Our thanks to Hobby Proz for helping with the cost of the kits. Five ASM members supported the Make & Take: Josh Pals, Tony Humphries, Ken Piniak, Bob Henderson, and Mike Blohm.



MODELING FOR UPCOMING ASM DISPLAY EVENTS MIKE BLOHM

Over the last couple of years ASM has been able to conduct model displays at some fairly regular events. The purpose of our displays is to promote the hobby of scale modeling to the public and to try to gain some new members. The recurring displays include the Folds of Honor (FoH) Patriot Gala, which we supported in 2017 and 2018, and the Air Force Ball at Kirtland AFB that we supported in 2018. We hope to repeat the Air Force Ball this year. We do have an invite to the 2019 FoH Gala. The model themes for these events is the same each year, other than encompassing anything new in the current year. The AF Ball theme is the "History of the USAF." The FoH theme is "Aircraft, Armor, Vehicles, and Ships (including figures and dioramas) used by the US Services from 2001 to Now." Note that we opened up the 2018 FoH display to "Korean War to Now."



ASM lacked some model types in our in our 2018 displays, and I would like to encourage ASM members to build some specific models that we could roll out for our display each year. We need some modern ships (surface and subs), armor, support vehicles, artillery, figures, and dioramas. In the aircraft area, we need bomber and transport/support aircraft—best in 1/144-scale. As you would expect, we do have a lot of fighter types available. We also need ICBMs, IRBMs, cruise missiles, and SAMs. Keith Liotta is keeping a listing of aircraft, so please coordinate with him to see what is already built or underway. These models do not need to be IPMS Nationals contenders. If you have a kit that you've wanted to build for your own collection that matches a need in our displays, please think about cranking it out this year. If you don't have room for it in your own display case, we can probably store it as a loaner model at the Defense Nuclear Weapons School Museum display until we need it.

EXCELLENT NEW RESOURCE FOR AIRCRAFT MODELERS TONY HUMPHRIES

For fans of "things with wings," why not try out the new *Wingleader* website, if you haven't al-

ready? Address is:

http://www.wingleadermagazine.co.uk

The site contains email updates about new aviation publications that you can subscribe to—but better still, a downloadable and free PDF magazine published every month (they are already on issue #3). The magazine is really good too.

It is a site built with aviation buffs and modelers in mind and contains not only the downloadable magazine, but links to some superb aviation books that you can buy directly as well.

I highly recommend you check this out, and why not buy a book or two while you're there? I already have (books are shipped from the UK but shipping still seems reasonable). I'm sure you won't regret it!

By the way, they also have a related online archive (http://www.ww2images.com) (775 pages of pictures when I looked just now...) and for the social media junkies among you, and particularly those on Hatebook, they have a Facebook page as well. Why not check it out? There's some good stuff there, believe me.



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Contest Director:

Members Pro-Tem:

Newsletter Editor:

Master

Scott Jaworski	
Chuck Hermann	
Glenn Bingham 250]
Josh Pals 200	
Mike Blohm 100	
Casey Rupley 100	
Steve Brodeur	
Tony Humphries 25	
Frank Randall 25	

John Tate
Ken Liotta 6
Larry Glenn
Intermediate
Jim Medina 481
Don Smith
Rob Whitlock
Ken Piniak 200
Bob Henderson 175
Jack Garriss 50

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Josh Pals **Tony Humphries** Frank Randall Chris Kurtze David Epstein Jack Garriss Ken Piniak Mike Blohm Joe Walters

Year 2019 Contest Quick Reference Ch

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

04 Jan	SPECIAL CONTEST #1:
1	SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY
	Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser
	Beams" (Patrick Dick)
01 Feb	ASM Swap Meet—no contest
	Open Contest —Any kit/subject/scale
	SPECIAL CONTEST #2: <i>PRESIDENT'S</i>
	CHOICE: FABULOUS FIFTIES
03 May	Automotive—Any kit/subject/scale
	SPECIAL CONTEST #3: D-DAY
	75th Anniversary
12 Jul	Man in Space—Any
	proposed/realspace crewed subject
02 Aug	SPECIAL CONTEST #4: BEGINNING OF
	WWII 80th Anniversary
06 Sep	ASM Swap Meet—no contest
-	Enter the Dragon—Any
	DML/Dragon/Cyberhobby kit
01 Nov	Open Contest —Any kit/subject/scale
	SPECIAL CONTEST #5: BATTLE OF THE
	Bulge 75th Anniversary
l	Plus Model of the Year competition!
	r las model of the rout 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

David Hasking4
Steve Miller2
Logan Carbin 2
Basic
Aaron Schmiedke
Jeannie Garriss
Junior
No Entries

2019 MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS

As of 19 Mar 19

jpals871@gmail.com abkhumphries@gmail.com fcr40.fr@gmail.com aggressivekill@yahoo.com sf49erinnm@gmail.com jgar319113@aol.com kpiniak@yahoo.com BlohmM@aol.com 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 preceding month.

BONUS PAGES! MARCH CONTEST WINNERS

March's Open Contest winners, top to bottom: Scott Jaworksi's *Chieftain Mk V* (Masters); James Medina's *Tantive IV* (Intermediate); and Aaron Schmiedicke's *TIE Interceptor* (Basic).







BONUS PAGES! ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CLUB CAN DO FOR YOU... TONY HUMPHRIES

The Newsletter

Okay, so let's recap on a point that I raised at the March meeting and which I hope struck home to those in attendance. It is basically this: the club used to have a great newsletter—good enough to rival the best that other IPMS chapters put out. It was informative, inventive, and entertaining. At least I think it was, and I hope that others agree. There were frequent kit reviews, trip reports, and articles about all aspects of scale modeling. We were doing well.

The last two newsletters have been very poor, however, with little in February's newsletter and March's having one single article, and that was rubbish. I should know—I wrote it. This simply isn't going to work. It's not sustainable. We have a club with at least 85 paying members currently, and several lifetime members too. So how do we end up with such a poor newsletter recently? Well, let's get one thing straight. It is absolutely *not* the fault of our esteemed editor, Joe. He has been doing a lot with a little for a long time and balances his editing duties with a busy life outside of the club. We should be, and indeed are I believe, grateful to him for everything that he does for us. But Joe can only publish what he receives and if nobody sends him anything, well guess what? We have a pretty empty newsletter.

I know that many of you have been on trips that are space, civil aviation, military and/or modeling related. Lots of you have built kits recently and continue to do so, which is if course great to see on the tables every month. So, why not write a little about some of those trips or builds? It's easy and doesn't require a lot of pictures or indeed the literary (or drinking, although you can if you like) skills of Ernest Hemingway or anyone of his ilk. Those that have already done this (or trip reports, etc.)—and thank you to those that have—will vouch for this. Just jot down a couple of paragraphs about what you saw or how your build went, what you enjoyed, what the challenges were (if any) and show us a picture or two. Your cell phones can take perfectly good images these days. There's no need to spend several thousand dollars on expensive cameras, lenses, filters, lighting etc.

But it doesn't just have to be kit reviews or trip reports. There are other things that you can add, too. A story that you heard from a veteran, perhaps. A historical article. Some info that you found out about a potential modeling subject. Even a cartoon that you saw that was funny (not political though please). There is lots of scope and I know that we can do better here. We can get back to where we were easily and I urge you to do your part to make that happen. Onwards and upwards! Man the barricades! Let's storm the Winter Palace! Well, you get the idea...

The E-Board

Following on from this, I think we need to talk about elections and executive board positions as well. None of the positions on the board are particularly difficult or time-consuming to undertake. They really are not onerous and involve little work outside of attending the (usually) monthly meetings, with the exception perhaps, of the Contest Director's role. This involves some work on club nights and also requires the points totals to be added up and distributed monthly and a brief written report in the newsletter also. Even this is not hard. So why do we have so few people willing to step up and fill these roles? Any of you can do it, I assure you, and I appeal to those of you who have never held any of these positions before to give it a go. It would great to see next year's board composed of entirely new people who have never held any of these position before! We have quite a number of younger members, and you guys are the young blood with new ideas that we are going to need to look to for the future direction of the club. It's time for us old guys to hand the reins over to the next generation. So please think about this and put your names in the hat when the next elections are announced.

Outside Events

A further point here is that when we run outside events such as Make & Takes, displays, the State Fair, Chile Con, and other contests, etc., we need to have new blood (but not just younger members) involved in these too. We can't rely on the same seven or eight people who always show up to do this. Often these guys are showing up because they love what they are doing, but sometimes they are doing it because no one else will. We can't rely on 10% of our club to carry the other 90%. It's not fair to them. How would you feel if you were at work and were one of the only ones actually doing the work, while everyone else cruises along, chats all day around the water cooler and puts no effort in, while you're busting your butt and then draws the same paycheck as you at the end of the month? Well, that's what it feels like for the few who are always standing up and being counted. Now it's your turn. You can do it!

Bottom Line

The bottom line is, and if you take nothing else away from this article/diatribe, then let it be this: We have great monthly competitions and meetings and put ourselves out in the community to celebrate our hobby and to commemorate the sacrifices of, and to draw attention to, the work that our serving military and veterans do/did—the Folds of Honor, Air Force Ball, and forthcoming Kirtland air show, for example. We have excellent club competitions and the experience gained in these helps us to feature regularly in competition at the national level too.

If you want any of that to continue, then please consider helping out. Stand up and be counted! We have some great models on the table every month from some truly talented modelers. If you want this to continue and you want a place to show your models off, then please step up. If you don't, this club will die. Slowly and painfully. It's as simple as that. The old guard can't do everything and can't continue forever. Once we are gone, what are you going to do? It's a question that you need to ask yourselves and I believe that I can count on you to come up with the appropriate answer (and it's not "F— Off, Tony!" however much some of you might want it to be...).

Thanks for listening.



BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

US Navy Weathering Techniques

Well, I finally found some photos that I had been looking for unsuccessfully for three or four years. And the April newsletter seems like the appropriate issue to publish these pictures in.

My father was the Hangar Deck Chief on the USS Boxer, CVS-21, an anti-submarine aircraft carrier at the time, and they had a "Family Day" for families of the crew. I was able to be on this one-day June 1956 cruise.

I took these pictures with a Brownie camera and they are not of really high quality (they are actually really bad quality).

However, they show that the United States Navy was years ahead of the modeling community when it came to weathering panel lines. The grey and white Grumman S2F Trackers demonstrate this advanced modeling technique very well.





Any of you modelers who want to use the US Navy advanced panel line weathering technique are welcome to do so. Since the photos are black and white, I should mention that the panel lines were painted black.

At the time I asked my father why the panel line painting and he said that there were problems with corrosion forming at the panel joints and this was done to (hopefully) eliminate the corrosion.

And I included other photos I took during the cruise, including an S2F in the dark blue paint, and



an S2F landing on the carrier. Note that the arrester net is deployed in this photo.



In the two photos below are H-34 antisubmarine helicopters.





In a Foto File I did over a year ago, I mentioned that I was unable to find a picture I'd taken of (then) Lt. Hugh Batten, US Navy, who had given me a "silk" flight map of the Western Pacific. He was a Navy ace who shot down seven Japanese aircraft—if I remember correctly, five of them at one time. He was a family friend, and this picture is of him during one of his visits. My heroes are men like him and my father.



BONUS PAGES! PHOTOS FROM THE LIBRARY EVENTS MIKE BLOHM



































BONUS PAGES! KIT REVIEW JOHN TATE Airfix 1/24 Hurricane



First released back in 1973, the big-scale Airfix Hurricane is not unknown to modelers but, like many large airplane model kits, is seldom built. However, when ASM VP Tony Humphries traded the kit to me late last year, I decided to give it a try to see how it went together. I'm happy to say it's a great kit.

First off, this isn't a generic Hurricane; it's a metal-winged, eight-gun Mark I with a bulbous Rotol spinner and prop. This fighter

type was a mainstay of the RAF during the Battle of Britain, so I decided early on the markings I would use, from an excellent Techmod sheet, would be for 303 Squadron ace Josef Frantisek. For more on his life and wartime career, check out this BBC link:

https://www.bbc.com/news/stories-45516556

I knew of a problem with these Airfix ¹/₂₄-scale kits—the cowlings didn't fit once the engines were installed; I experienced this when I built their ¹/₂₄ Stuka a number of years ago. So I decided to leave out the engine and seal up the cowl panels; I'm glad I did, it greatly simplified construction and the rest of the build went smoothly. I did the same with the wing panels, closing up the wing gun bays, and was pleased to find they fit well.

The cockpit is well-detailed, a match for any current model kit, and once installed, I found the only addition necessary was a set of photoetch seatbelts for the Sutton harness. A cautionary note—make sure the rear bulkhead is flush with the fuselage halves—the armor plate should stand a little proud of the bulkhead.



There was a gap when I attached the wings but once they were on and aligned with the fuselage, I sealed the gap along the join lines, leaving a surface line for accuracy. The overall alignment of the model—wings, fuselage and horizontal stabilizers—was good. I'd read reviews that said the kit wings were too thick



but I didn't find this to be the case—they looked accurate and in-scale.

Next came the landing gear. I used a Scale Aircraft Conversions (SAC) white metal gear set specifically designed for this kit and found it fit well. Of special note is the kit's tail wheel strut, which needs replacement by the SAC item, as it isn't strong enough to support the weight of the model. The kit wheel wells are boxedin, well-defined and accurate.

The kit tires are rubber and unfortunately have a circumferential seam line. However, I was able remove it by hardening the seam with CA glue and sanding it off. Once fixed, the tires fit well and when placed on the finished model provide some shock-absorbing protection.



Painting was easy as the dark earth, dark green, and sky camouflage used by the RAF in 1940 is a dream for modelers—easy to paint, good coverage and tolerant of weathering. This particular aircraft was painted in a Type A scheme.

My only nitpick with the kit was the spinner—not shaped correctly and too big, which mars an otherwise



excellent model. So I used a Trumpeter $\frac{1}{24}$ Mark I spinner as a guide and carved down and sanded the Airfix spinner until it looked right. Turned out the thickness of the kit spinner made this an easy job,



and the result was a huge positive difference to the finished kit. By the way, the Trumpeter spinner? Too small for the Airfix model, so cross-kitting won't help you here.

What has me perplexed is why Airfix hasn't done anything to upgrade this kit over the past 46 years. Surely it would be a simple matter for them to retool the kit's Rotol spinner, then maybe throw in a new-tooled De Havilland prop and spinner, and a tropical air filter, to increase the versatility of the kit and boost its appeal to modelers. Just as perplexing is the slight interest shown in the kit by aftermarket companies—there are literally thousands of resin doodads available for everything with wings but this lion of a kit has been practically ignored. Go figure.



All in all, this was an enjoyable build and the finished model is an accurate replica of a Hurricane. You have a real sense of accomplishment when you complete a model this big. If you have time, dedication to subject and standard modeling skills, give this old-timer a try vou'll be rewarded with an excellent model of the unsung plane that stopped the Luftwaffe in its tracks and saved Britain and the world, nearly eighty years ago.

BONUS PAGES! MISCELLANEOUS SPECIAL ARMOR EDITION

(Just happened to come across a lot of these this time around.)











Do you wanna build a snowman?

Nein! Do you wanna build a panzer!









Join IPMS/USA!

The International Plastic Modelers' Society is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. There are 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, 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/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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