



The Plastic Whittler



Our Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be on **Monday, April 21st, 6:30 pm**, at HobbyTown USA. Baring any unforeseen issues we'll have a seam filling demo by Mike Moore. Logan's Coupons are out there! As usual we'll wrap up at 8 PM to Logan's for dinner.

News & This Issue

Another large issue of *The Plastic Whittler*! And that's thanks to several contributions from various individuals. I really appreciate it! Keep it coming!!!!

Airfix Spitfire: A recent quest for the Airfix kit in a certain set of markings prompted a little investigation on just what is in the boxes of two very similar boxing of the iconic Spitfire.

Our Last Meeting: Pages 8 to 11 show a series of photos and a list of who brought what. Pages 12 thru 13 show a recap of our decal demo & a reprint of the handout.

Jack Bruno's Latest Armor Article: Jack Bruno has adopted us fully now and has committed to proving us a series of armor articles. Jack's article

UPCOMING EVENTS	DATE
HobbyTown Model Show & Clinic	4/26/2014
IPMS/Atlanta	5/10/2014
IPMS/Louisville	5/17/2014
ScottCon IPMS Warner Robins	6/7/2014
IPMS Nationals—Hampton, VA	8/6-9/2014
IPMS/Piedmont R-XII Regional	9/19&20/2014
IPMS/AMPS/ Chattanooga Scale Modelers Association MODELCON	2/6&7/2015

The Monthly Newsletter of:
IPMS/AMPS/Chattanooga Scale Modelers Association
Lynn Petty - Chapter Contact
hlpetty@comcast.net

<http://www.chattanoogascalemodelers.com>
Mike Moore—Webmaster

on the DRAGON 1/35 Stug III Ausf. G (late) is found on pages 5 thru 7

For Info on The HobbyTown Show & Clinic: See page 31.

Coker Tire Cruise-In: Jeff keyed an article and provided photos of the Coker Tire Cruise In and his brother Mike provided additional images for a article covering the recent event on pages 17 thru 19..

Ride in a Huey? See what is coming to the area this Saturday on page 16.

Greek F-4 Phantoms Gary Thomas attends our meetings when he can. He submitted several photos from his pen/e-mail pal who is an F-4 crew chief on the HAF.jet of choice! See page 14..

Chattanooga Skies Our own skies are no stranger to military aircraft. Emanuel captured these images of Ospreys (or is it Osprii?). See page 15.

Dayton, WrightCon, USAF Museum, AMPS Regional, Restoration Center at USAFM and The Memphis Belle: Pages 20 thru 30. Reading the fine print we figured out that last weekend was the time to be in Dayton Ohio.

Anniston Placed deliberately at the back of this issue (so you'll look at the whole issue!) is Mike Moore's Article on this always popular show in R-III

Other Show Flyers Somewhere in Between!

They're Just Alike Except Where They're Different

By Lynn Petty

One of the joys of this hobby is thinking about your next project. For quite a while I've thought about a test to see if I could truly build something in 48 to 72 hours time. I spotted two of the 1/72 Airfix Spitfire gift set in my local Barnes & Noble a few weeks ago. You know the kind with a tube of glue and four plastic pots of paint in the box. I walked on by ignoring it but the thought still came across my mind "What about building that truly out-Of the Box (OOB) using the paints and the glue included?" The thought being that by limiting my work to what is in the box I could produce a passable little model of the Spitfire Mk 1A. Probably a part of the thought was that this gift set had the decals for DW-K. That may not mean much to every reader but those my age and above will recognize it as the markings for the old Revell 1/32 Spitfire straight out of the

Supermarine Spitfire MK-I



60's. Yes that was a ground breaking kit that every kid I knew built. The scale was new then—a model that was really large. And yes as a youngster that was before I locked myself into 1/72 scale. Indeed in my sordid past I did build a few 1/32 scale kits. The box art on that old Revell kit was magnificent! Truly in the day the box art had as much to sparking the imagination as anything. Doubtless the box art was inspired by the air-to-air photo that captured the "Dawn Patrol" mentality of every 13 year old

that saw it! You can see the madness in this is all coming together a 13 year olds toy but built by a 58 year old! This was starting to come together in my mind anyway. Okay the rules are use what is in the box, closed canopy, airbrush using the paints provided, decal solutions and clear gloss and clear flat are allowed. Fill seams, Build for fun! Yes this could work. I frequently get a

coupon from Barnes & Noble in the e-mail that sometimes has a fair percentage off but is prohibited for using on magazines. I waited a couple of weeks and finally a 20% off coupon sealed the deal and on my next trip to B&N I was disappointed. Both kits were gone. (Sold to a 13 year old no doubt!) A brief word at the central information desk revealed that there were none elsewhere in the store according to their computer inventory. The young lady there said that indeed those things are selling well. Indeed that is good news anyway. Glad to hear they are selling. But now my little project could fade away.

And then a trip to the show in Knoxville. You could not help but notice Mike Driskill's Airfix Spitfire Mk 1 built and on the table as you entered the contest. Done in the Pre-war markings of — Squadron and with the two bladed prop it is an inspiration to build. And after talking to him it is a good little kit. I probably spent a couple of hours at the show before I finally walked around to the vending arena. Starfighter Models is known for having row upon row of the latest bright red boxes of Airfix kits. I was blown away at that vendors table. The brand new F.2A Lightning was there and after trading texts I knew I needed more than one. He also had one of the rag wing Hurricanes. In the middle of column 3 he had two Airfix kit # A01071A Spitfire Mk 1A with the decals for DW-K. These did not have the paint pots but otherwise appeared to be identical. New box Spitfire with the DW-K decals. Close enough. I bought both of them taking into account my preference to have a back up set of decals just in case...I knew I might have to compromise on the source of paint for this OOB build. But who am I kidding besides myself? Will I really build it OOB? If I compromise one part of the equation wouldn't I quickly yield to the other? Anyway it dawned on me that

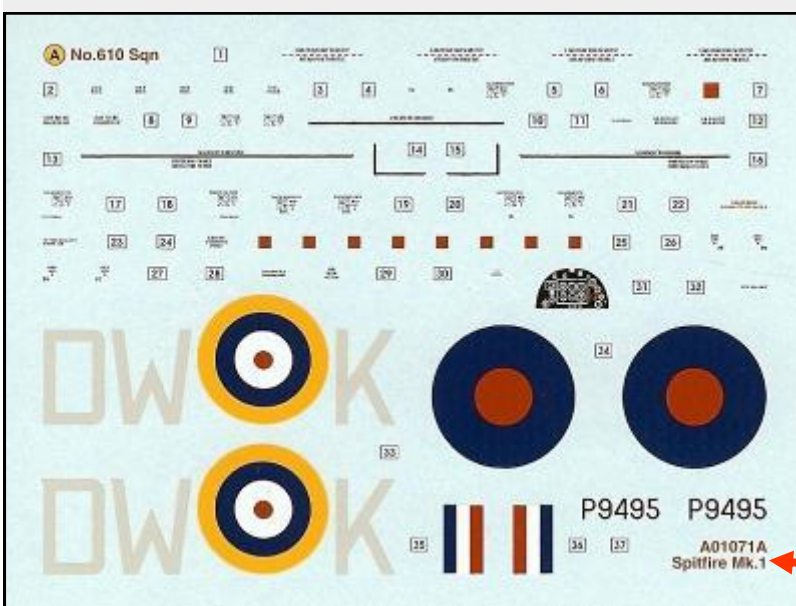
there is a B&N in Knoxville and it is almost directly on the route home. The route I take from the show in Knoxville of course goes down Kingston Pike and to the HobbyTown there just to look at paints and stock up on what I need. Yes there is one more chance! After bidding our farewells we proceeded west, stopping first at the B&N on Kingston Pike. A quick march around the store and BINGO there is the Spitfire Gift Set with DW-K decals, paints and all. No Coupon in hand but this has become a quest. I couldn't get my money out of my wallet fast enough. We proceeded on our way.

Fast Forward to Monday morning. Yes I had one of those weekends (It was short by 1 hour due to the "Spring Forward" daylight saving time move) I was sorting out my purchases and starting to stack things into my closet. The gift set box was about a 1/2 inch longer than the other tow kits. This was not totally unexpected but I thought it odd that the box was only 1/2 in longer with all other dimensions the same. Then the twist began. The Gift Set box had "Decals by Cartagraph" printed in small font on the side of the box. I then noted the box art between the two is also different.

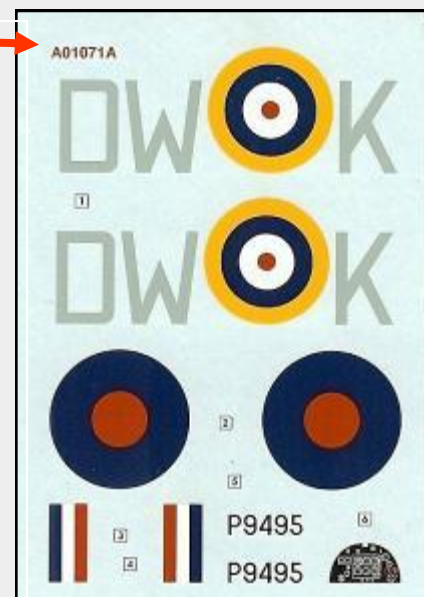


I now had to open and compare! Cartagraph decals would be really nice. I was truly expecting the decals to be exactly the same between the boxes but they were not. The ones in the Gift set were actually dumbed down. None of the really nice stencils are on the dumber sheet. The major marks are included only. For some reason the fin flash is slightly taller on the Gift Set sheet. Most of the colors are identical but the squadron codes are slightly darker on the dumb sheet. Fortunately the plastic sprues are identical for both editions.

Go Figure.... I guess the Gift Sets are truly aimed at the younger crowd. There you have it. Upon further



Standard Kit

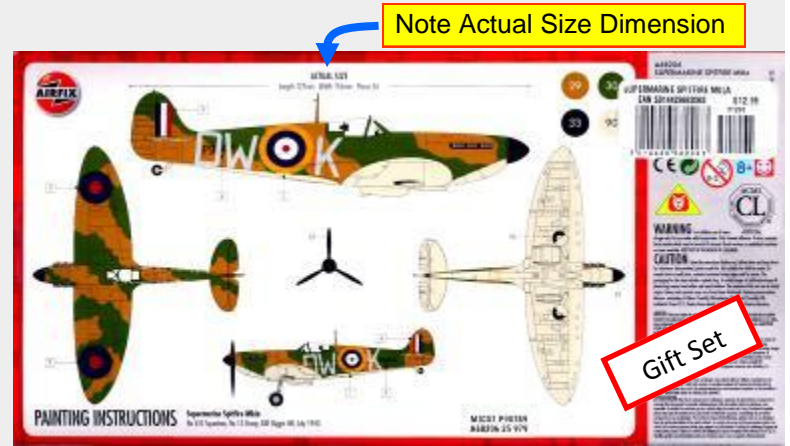
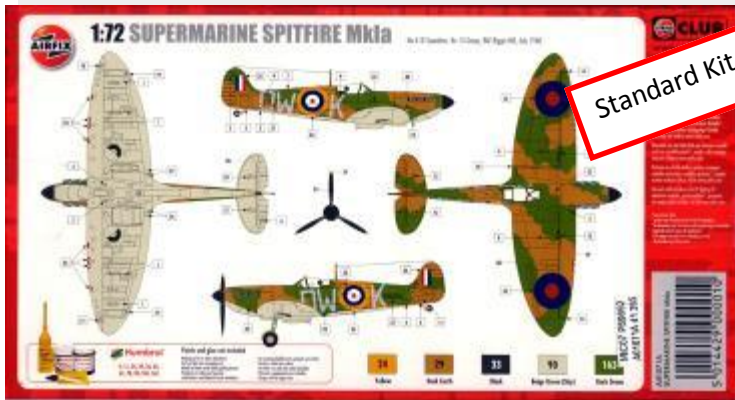


Gift Set

Note the decal sheets for both boxing show the stock number of the "grown up kit"

A01071A

review of the two kits it became apparent that a lot of thought went in to making the Gift Set box more of a "Weekend" edition than the regular boxed edition. The instructions, including the painting instructions on the back of the box, had been cleared of all mention of the stencils, the notes for paint were removed. It is interesting to note that on the gift set box there is a dimension to line to show the "actual size of the model"



on the profile which is slightly larger to facilitate that explanation. Probably some legal requirement to disclose what is in the box to the uninitiated. Yes indeed the dumped down version was truly aimed at the younger crowd but it retains the new mold Spitfire which is indeed a gem!

I traded e-mails with Mike Driskill regarding this find and he responded with the following:

"Very interesting--I didn't realize the both versions had "DW-K," I thought Airfix was putting different markings in each version of the kit. I guess the paint-set versions are aimed at kids so it sort of makes sense it has the "dumbed-down" version.

The "Mk.I / IIA" version that I built had fabulous decals. Very similar to your left sheet--most petite stencil printing I've ever seen, plus they had carefully researched the stenciling differences for each variant! The finished model had SIXTY decals on it, with a lot left over on the sheet! Not the thinnest film in the world, but if you do your homework with before-and-after clear coats, it goes down great and totally disappears."

It is true! The decals including all the stencils on his Spitfire look great! So the decal sheet from the more adult kit is indeed useable and useful!!



Mk1/MkIIa version that came out preceding this Mk1a boxing.



But note! There are at least two other starter set boxings of the same kit in other markings! This is not counting a "Dogfight Doubles" where this kit is paired with the ME110. Airfix is getting a lot of bang from the same moulds in various boxings.

DRAGON 1/35 Stug III Ausf. G (late)

By Jack Bruno

I've been busy lately building the older kits that everyone seems to discard every time a newer/better version comes out.....yes, at even twice the price. I came on this little jewel a few weeks ago looking thru the stash for a "Pigshead" Stug. This was nice and doubled the fun since I had never built a late version before. Late Stug G's had a few simpler manufac-

turer differences in them like the return wheels made of steel, smaller/ angled machine gun shield, pilson mounts and fighting compartment deck. In doing a bit of re- search I decided to do a vehicle from an unidentified unit in Poland in late 1944. It was all dark yellow but.....let the story begin.....

Having built a few Stugs of late I started getting into the trap every mod- eler gets himself

(or her) intoby having the finished product in your head before you even built it.....c'mon, we all do it. Anyway, I took it off the shelf and started to let my mind wander to a different colder place (I live in chi-town) and allowed myself to make the model the vision I had. I started with the running gear and chassis and the only different thing here was the all steel return rollers. this was finished before the end of a Blackhawk game (they won) and I started working on the tracks. The kit comes with the solid horn 40cm Track but I just could not get into it.....solid horn on a Stug III is like spitting into dinner before you ate it, so.....I opted for my built up stash of hollow horn Magic Track. I have built so many DRAGON kits that I have an ample supply of extra's that I use for moments like this. YES, you CAN use the solid, but I'll save them for that Panzer IV Ausf. J (late) that I have in mind. So, the following night I was watching The Big Bang Theory and before the three episodes ended I had both runs done, mounted and just looking oh so very pretty. The upper hull and fighting compartment was very easy to build and I started to scratch the rear stowage deck from scrap plas-



tic and brass strip for the mounts. I always play with the rack (stop it) by putting weld beads along the mounts with green putty and a toothpick. I added the stowage from the spares box. Looks good! Next, the mantlet is put together and I stippled it with liquid glue and an old brush to give it a nice cast texture. Then in went the 75mm gun. I added a canvas cover according to my pics and I was starting to really dig it! I made the steel cable and attached it to the side skirt mounts and again was starting to have visions. I wanted to be a little different and while re-searching Panthers I came across a couple of crews that removed the side skirts and stored them on the engine deck. I thought that was interesting and decided to do that. Everything that you see here was done and off to the paint shop it went.



As always, I sprayed the entire vehicle Flat Black from the can (TAMIYA). When it dried I took out my trusty PAASCHE H single action that's older than my kids. I few light coats covered it and I changed colors to a darker yellow (VALLEJO) to do some panels just to give it depth. This was coming along and I gave it a FU-

TURE covering for the decals and some oil wash. I did the lower part of the vehicle first and let it dry before removing the film with Q-Tips. During this time I started to paint the stowage. Interesting enough, I found that in field vehicles sometimes received a application of new paint. To bring this into my thought process I painted everything on the Stug that the crew would take off, such as bedrolls, canvas and some light boxes, but other heavy things like spare roadwheels and tool boxes and sometimes the tools themselves were just over sprayed. I did





want to add some SASSY, so I painted two of the schurtzen a primer red brown. I must say, it did pop! After that prep work was finished I took a few German Crosses and decaled them..(Solvaset)..one on the rear stowage rack and one on the non-covered hull side (right) When these were dry I brushed FUTURE over them and they were sealed for the weathering process.

I flat Coated the whole kit and that turned out nice.....I even took a wide chisel brush and just lightly went over the tank with a small Turpentine wetting. Just enough to make it pretty ;) At this time I had an idea that I've seen many good armor builders do.....chips and scratches.....I took out a tube of PAYNE'S GRAY and with a small brush, streaked some area's around where the crew would be getting on and off. It came out the way I wanted, subtle and not over done. The tools were painted BUFF on the wooden area's and when those dried I used a wee bit of burnt sienna oil to streak it until I had a nice wood grain finish. I stopped for a day to work on something else and the returned to give the wooden axe's a nice lil brush painted flat finish. I stepped back to look at the overall picture then went over some area's with some dry-brushing. Like I alwayzz said, "It looks like Crap.....then it's done!" I got a camera so the pictures should be of better quality.....anyway, I hope you like it and stay tuned cause I gotta bunch more coming ;)

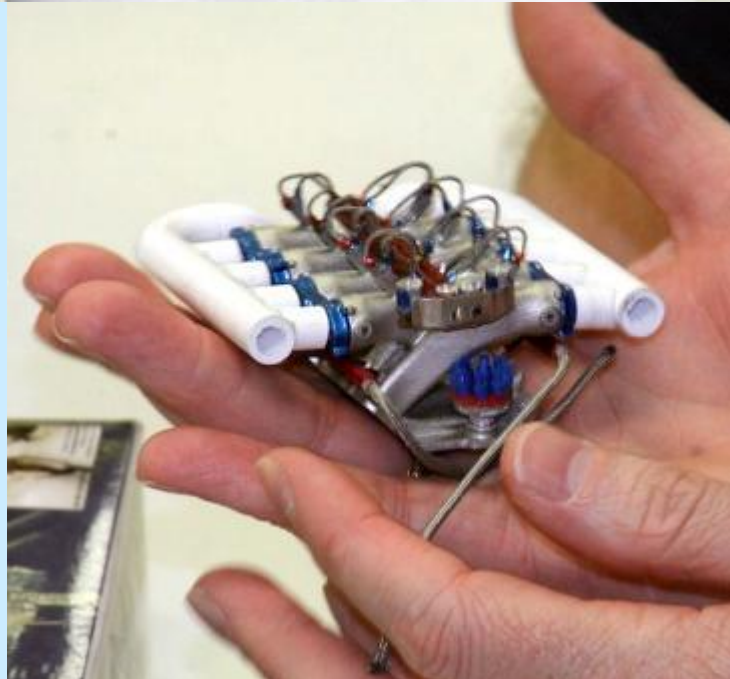
jb

(Ed. note—Jack's article on the Sherman 105 will be in our May issue)

1	Dave Blackwell	1/32 Trumpeter F-100D in Dad's Markings
2	James Burton	
3	Phillip Chandler	
4	Mike Fiore	
5	Tom Gaston	
6	Keith Griffith	
7	Don Hixson	
8	Ted Ladd	- 1/48 Academy MiG 29, 1/48 Monogram F-16A, 1/72 AMT Independence Day Fighter
9	Rod Lewis	- 1/200 Boeing 747 W.I.P.
10	Jeff Mattheiss	
11	Mike Moore	- 1/48 A-1E Skyraider Resin Conversion
12	William Newberry	- 1/25 Revell Peterbuilt Modified "Low Budget Lowrider"
13	Lynn Petty	- 1/72 Hasegawa HE-111H-8 Balloon Cutter W.I.P.
14	Rodger Price	
15	Mike Roby	1/8 Revell '32 Frame w/ Engine + Engines / Scratch W.I.P.
16	Emmanuel Roland	- Pictures
17	James Ruiz	- 1/35 Dragon G2 Jagdpanther
18	Jason Satterfield	
19	Tim Simmons	- 1/72 Hasegawa Tiger I
20	Stan Stewart	
21	Ed Sunder	- 1/20 Bandai Anime Video Figure
22	Roger Trochelman	- 1/48 Academy P-38F "Glacier Girl"

Photos from our last meeting









Decal Demo

At our last meeting we had the little decal demonstration. Reproduced below are images from that demo and on the next page is the handout we used to keep on track with the discussion.



Glossy Side of the Panel

Matte (Flat Finish) Side of the Panel



Close Up of the decals on the matte side of the panel showing "silvering"

HANDOUT - DECALS

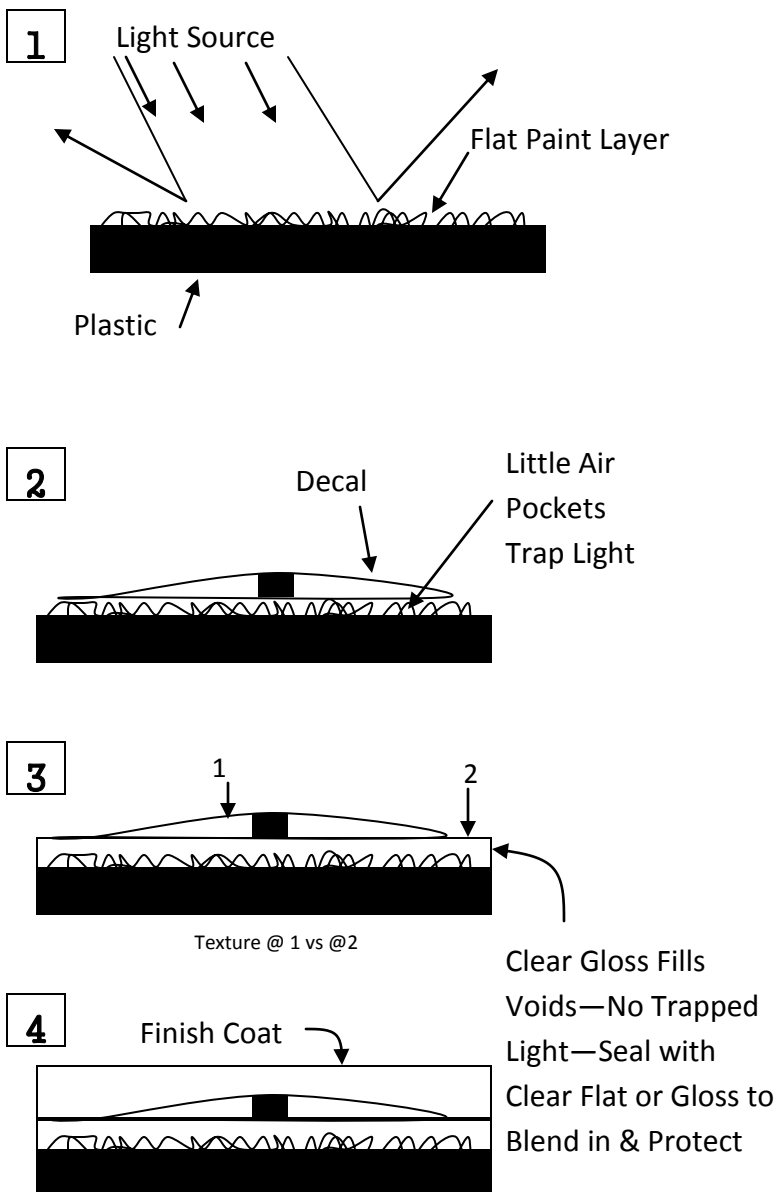
1. Just what is a decal? Ink printed on a film that is on a water-soluble glue which shrinks as it dries
2. Start with High Quality Decals (Often the marking is what drives the build to begin with)

Advantages of Aftermarket Decals—Usually a higher quality, thin medium, inks are generally more opaque. Plus it is reproducible if you have a problem

3. Decals are an investment—Store them Wisely
4. Plan your decaling before you paint the model (Strategy!!)

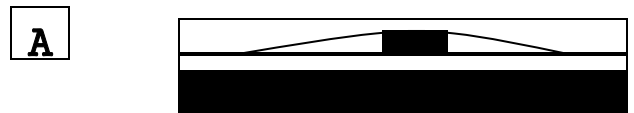
Consider Paint Alternatives to Decals—Stripes, Checkers, Invasion Stripes,

5. Why Apply Decals to a gloss finish?

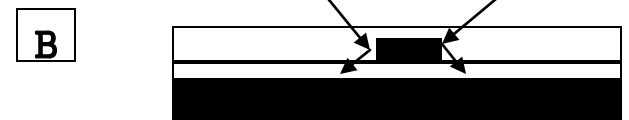


Here's A Decision—Trim Close to Image or Feather in?

Blended in Decal in A Perfect World

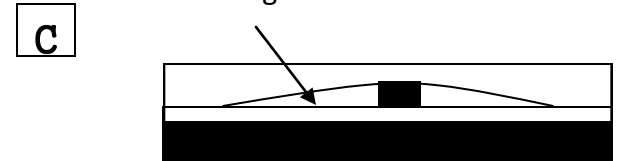


Trimmed Close
Edge Effect Potential
Risk a Shadow



Some Say Trimmed Decal Edge is Better

Balance Risking This Much Clear Area



Some Say Feathered Decal Edge is Better

From my friend Nikoç who is a H.A.F. hydraulics mechanic in Athens. Greece

Gary Thomas



Emanuel Roland captured these images of the Osprey



Huey & Cobra Rides

Hixson Flight Museum

This is from John Brooks. Here is your chance to fly in either a Huey or a Cobra Helicopter. The Army Aviation Heritage Flight (a.k.a. - The Sky Soldiers) will be at the local Hixson Flight Museum on April 19th, Call The Hixson Flight Museum to make reservations 423-228-2359.

Cobra rides \$500 in advance - \$600 on the day of the show (Only 3 left as of March 26)

Huey rides \$79 in advance - \$89 on the day of the show (several left as of March 26)

I plan on going out there just to take a few photos of takeoffs and landings.



HIXSON FLIGHT MUSEUM
1824 E. CRABTREE ROAD
HIXSON, TN 37343
423-228-2FLY (2359)

WWW.HIXSONFLIGHTMUSEUM.ORG

**HERE IS YOUR CHANCE OF A LIFETIME
RIDE IN A HUEY HELICOPTER OR A COBRA HELICOPTER.**

***** TICKETS ON SALE NOW *****
(TICKETS SOLD ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS)

SKY SOLDIERS
WWW.ARMYAV.ORG

APRIL 19 2014 0900 -1700

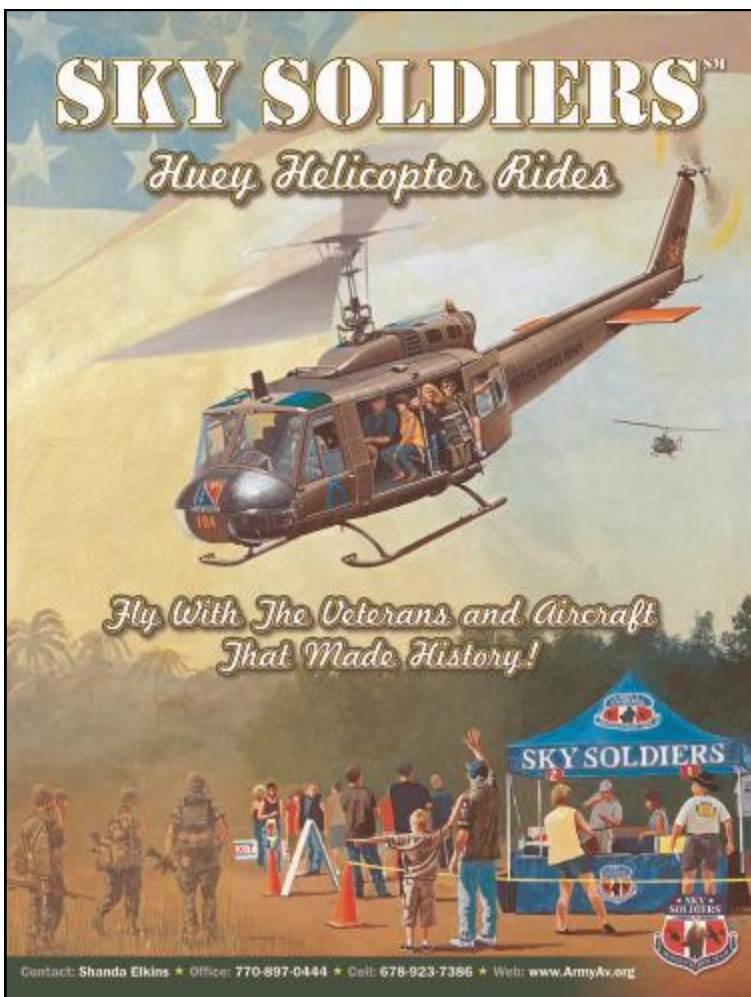
RAIN DATE 4/20/2014

ONLY 100 SEATS AVAILABLE SO
HURRY AND GET YOUR TICKET
TODAY! ONLY \$79.00 EACH



ONLY 10 SEATS AVAILABLE GET
YOUR TICKET WHILE YOU CAN!
ONLY \$500.00 EACH.

CALL (423)228-2359 TO GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



SKY SOLDIERS™
Huey Helicopter Rides

*Fly With The Veterans and Aircraft
That Made History!*

SKY SOLDIERS

Contact: Shanda Elkins • Office: 770-897-0444 • Cell: 678-923-7386 • Web: www.ArmyAv.org

There are rumors that the Army Aviation Heritage Flight will be on static display at the same location on Saturday April 12. This is somewhat supported by the Sky Soldiers own Web Page Calendar where it seems to say they are attending something called a Gala Celebration” The young lady I talked with at the Hixson Flight Museum could not confirm this for me.

Coker Tire Cruise-In April 5, 2014

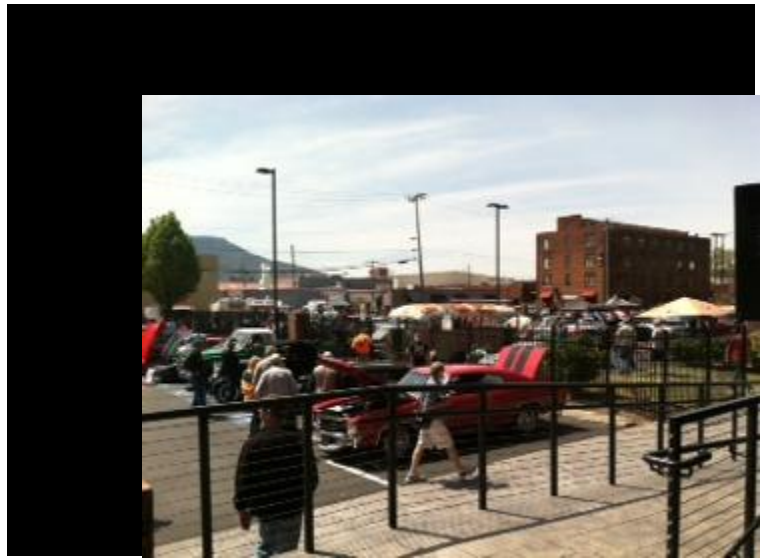
Well, for those not “in the know”, Coker Tire downtown on Chestnut Street holds a Cruise-In twice a year, sort of like a BIG MODEL SHOW. No, really, just think of it as a big, 1/1 scale, model show. I’ve been in the past and, normally, there are a few hundred cars, lots of people, and generally good weather (i.e. Sunshine) for even better picture taking. All I can say is, if you missed this past Saturday, you missed probably the BEST cruise-in yet! If you’re familiar with the downtown area, the cars were scattered from West 13th Street all the way down to West Main Street and overflowing into Finley Stadium parking lot. They also were in about every “free” parking space from almost Broad Street over to Carter Street and a lot of alleys in between. What does that mean? My brother, Mike Mattheiss (who works for Coker), was told there were 1200 cars entered for this Cruise-In. You know, for a 1/1 scale model show, that’s a LOT of cars! No, I doubt I saw all of them but what I did see was first rate. Each Cruise-In sometimes has a different “flavor” than others in the way certain cars and types of cars show up. This year I noticed more “rat rods” (about 24 or so) than in previous years but at the same time I noticed very few OLD (1930’s and earlier) factory original type cars. That may be why they do two of these shows per year. Oh, and don’t forget that they open up the office and museum for walk-through’s as well. Please enjoy the photos Lynn included and I hope you get the captions as well. NOTICE: the next Cruise-In will be on September 13, 2014. Mark your calendar ‘cause it should also be a good one!

Jeff Mattheiss





Yep, a few foreign jobs.



Again off of Coker Landing



Standing at W 14th & Chestnut looking SE



1930's Packard inside machine shop



Standing on landing at Coker Tire



Machine Shop Cleaned Up



Snoopy is in the cockpit



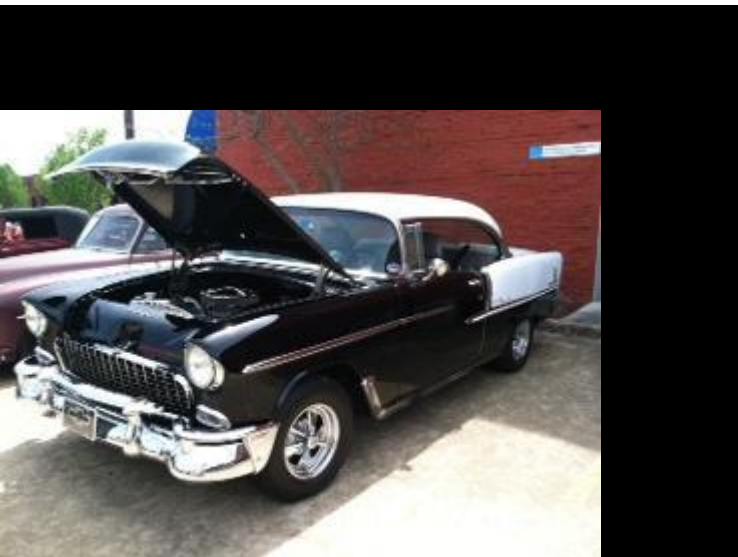
See there are SOME military vehicles



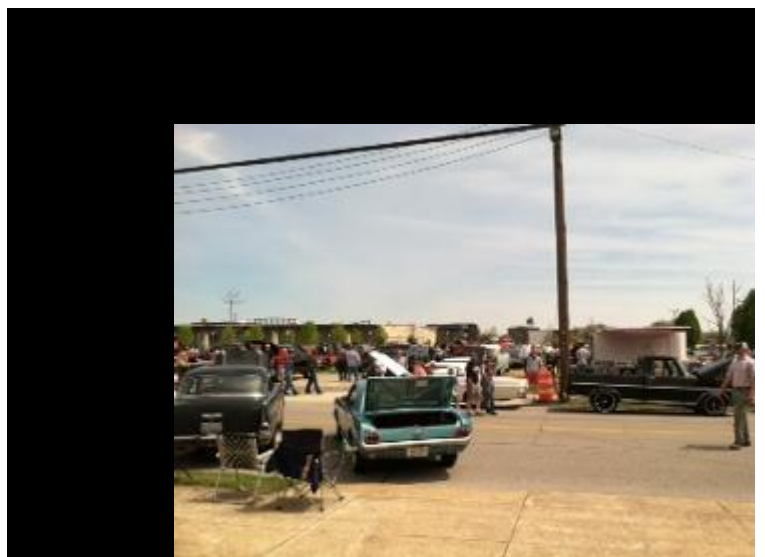
1950's Plymouth—Very Nice



....cycles too



Lots of these around



Lots of people too!

Did You Ever Wonder What Happened to This?

WrightCon 2014 Trip

by Mike Moore



Well...Here it is:



An Iraqi Mig-25 sitting in the storage hangar attached to the restoration hangars at Wright-Patterson...didn't expect to see THAT!



Let's see. Wrightcon in Dayton is supposed to be a really good show. Dayton is where Wright Patterson AFB is located. WPAFB is where the National Museum of the United States Air Force is located. Friday afternoon the NMUSAF does a behind the scenes tour of the restoration hangars. Add all that to a great room rate at the convention center, the Hope Hotel and Convention Center (as in Bob Hope) and you come up with a trip the Lynn and I couldn't see our way to passing up. So Thursday the 10th found us loading up and heading north to test our luck with finding our way to the right place. We must be getting used to Madame Garmin because we really didn't get lost this trip. I know, hard to believe. Never the less, it's true.

So, you've already seen one of the sights we were treated to. The other highlight of the restoration hangar is the Memphis Belle:



Working on the inside of the tail of the Memphis Belle. They figure they've got about 10 years left on the restoration...

Fun fact...Wright got too busy and Studebaker built Wright engines. Between the 8 Wright R-1820 engines (they've got 2 B-17's under restoration) I believe 5 of them were Studebaker's...



A few other sights in the restoration area...



The mother of all vac-formed canopies



One of the X-32 Prototypes... Ugly enough only a mother could love it!



Another unexpected sight...a Mig-23. The story goes that a Russian General sold it to a Finnish company for money to feed his troops. And then a rich Floridian bought it and brought it home, where upon the ATF confiscated it as the proper permits hadn't been obtained. The winner? The Air Force Museum of course!



Clearly not to scale! There's just no way that those plates are made out of scale .156 sheet stock! Check that Mig-25 exhaust for a scale reference...

Show? Oh yeah...there was a show! Wrightcon. These guys know how to do a show. The Hope Hotel and Convention center is a smallish convention facility right on the edge of Wright-Patt. The model and vendor rooms were each in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the large meeting space while the smaller meeting rooms did duty as registration, seminar and AMPS judging rooms. One wonders if the vendor count might be a touch limited by the space, but everything else fits great. And with the hotel attached, it felt like a mini-nationals! Everything but armor was judged under IPMS rules, and the armor was judged under AMPS rules. I judged AMPS, and Lynn judged IPMS. I think I got the better end of that bargain as I was definitely done sooner. But there were great models entered on both sides of the show. Lynn brought back a second place with one of his FW 190 night fighters, while I scored a first with one of my old Fokker Dr 1's and a second with my Tamiya Zero. I also won the Ace of Aces (best of past winners) award with my M3A1.

And there was plenty of damage done in the vendor room as well. Mr. Petty seemed pretty good at finding stuff for me to spend my money on. And that was AFTER I did real well spending a fair amount on books at the Museum. But I had the last laugh. I barely looked at the sprues for the Academy F-35 (MRC was there) and the MRC guy handed me a free decal sheet of various national insignia in various scales. I told Lynn about it, so he headed over to score as well. I watched him. He perused sprues, he fondled sprues, he photographed sprues, he photographed box covers. Heck, he did everything short of a jig in the aisle, all to no avail. No decals for YOU! Bwaahhahaaaaahaaaaaa....

And here's a few photographic highlights...



The lighting on this Nautilus was pretty cool!



You don't see too many Motocross bike models...and you can't argue about a nice Stuart...



I really wish the Jackal and the Model T ambulance were in 1/35 scale!



You gotta love captured schemes...
And you don't see too many F-5's in the synthetic haze finish...



Memphis Belle Visit

By Lynn Petty



A certain highlight of our trip to Dayton last weekend was spending a few minutes walking around the famous B-17F “The Memphis Belle.” Most readers will know this aircraft as the first B-17 to survive the “25 mission mark” with the 8th Air Force in Europe. As such the crew completed the tour of duty (mathematically calculated at one point in the war to be impossible!) and rotated home for other safer duties. Of equal note is the fact that the last mission of the Belle was filmed in color under the direction of William Wyler who made an Oscar winning documentary. (Not to be confused with a circa 1991 Hollywood move of the same title with an exciting but fictional story!!!)

For me as a child growing up in Memphis I remember seeing out the back window of our then new 1961 Ford Galaxy, the Memphis Belle on a concrete pedestal on Central Avenue near the National Guard Armory. I also remember riding my bicycle to Jim’s Model Train Shop to purchase from the window display the then new Revell plastic kit of the same plane. I think I paid \$1.25 for it and as 8 year old treated building it as if it has cost me the huge fortune it did!!! Over the intervening years I have built the varying incarnations of the kit. I was also fortunate enough to participate a bit in one of the various rehabilitations of the Belle while it was in Memphis and being moved to a better home than the concrete mount it had for many years. I was also able to meet Captain (later Col.) Morgan and several of the then surviving crew members. Indeed the Revell kit and my various acquaintances with the real Belle perhaps made the connection between real planes of history and modelling a bit personal for me. But enough about me.

The Belle of course was “repossessed” by the USAF and brought to Dayton to be restored and added to the collection there. The thought of a completed and accurate restoration, placing the Belle on display INSIDE the museum with a complete display (with movie running) seems to be a very appropriate home for what is



perhaps the most famous B-17 of all. The USAFM restoration area also has the B-17D “The Swoose” under restoration and the thought of both B-17’s replacing the rather non descript B-17G currently on display is really breathtaking.

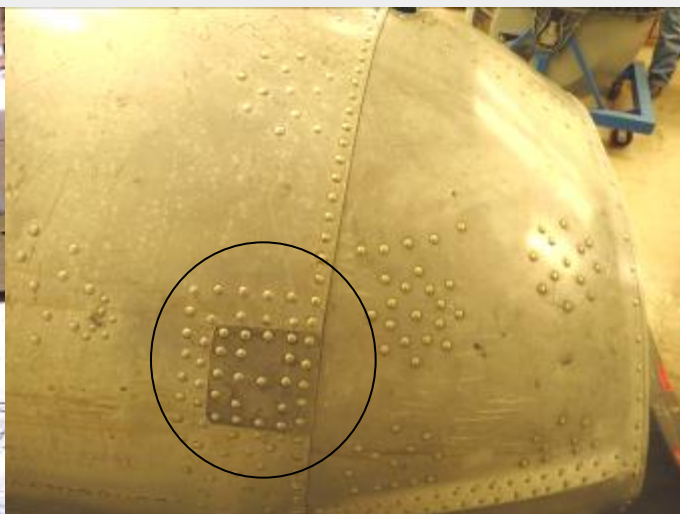
It was indeed a pleasure to see the current state of affairs of the restoration effort. As seen in the photograph the paint is striped away with the exception of a portion

of the port side nose left to make the interim display. It was estimated at one time that the restoration will take 10 years. It will likely take more. The technicians involved are of course doing a stellar job. Other museum projects sometimes take precedence and they of course often have to think through their approach on how to accurately remanufacture parts and pieces. In one room they had the museum's B-24 ball turret placed adjacent to the Belle's ball turret where they were using the former as an example of how to rebuild the latter. The bomb bay doors were placed on a mount and the starboard side showed what is likely a left over patch from combat action in WW2. A later look at the removed section of the tail gun position showed what was no doubt some repaired battle damage.

No promises were made to us as to when the restoration of the Belle would be completed. All four engines, propellers, and cowlings were completed. Eagle eyed Mike Moore caught the Studebaker emblem on one of the engines. That serves as a reminder and testament to the fact that all industries were fully involved in the war effort then.

The restoration process is much like a model build. There are definite research steps as well as a process of "how will we replicate these parts." Decisions are made as the work goes depending on what condition is discovered and what to repair or replace. A common goal is to maximize realism. Progress is made in subtle steps.

While the Belle is indeed the center of focus of the restoration tour, many other noteworthy items of interest are in each corner of the tacitly. If you ever get a chance to take the tour I would fully recommend it!



WrightCon Show

By Lynn Petty

Mike has covered the trip elsewhere in this issue with a lot of information and you've seen the USAFM restoration tour from our two perspectives. I spent some time looking around other parts of the show and participating in the IPMS judging side of the room. These guys in Dayton indeed know how to put on a show. In a lot of ways they're a relatively young club being born out of a spilt with another group in the area. Such is the world but it doesn't really matter. Many of these guys are veterans of other clubs. Those who are not are very enthusiastic and are doing a great job promoting and running their show. They don't hesitate to use good ideas from other clubs. I always appreciated the ALL AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN GROUNDEDA signs used in the 1980's at the shows in the eastern half of R-III (Sam Morgan's design I believe!) Of course the rooms were well marked showing what was where. In the Hope Hotel it also helps when the rooms are named after famous

aircraft.. The seminars were held in the DH-4 Liberty Room and the Contest was in the B52 Strato-fortress room!

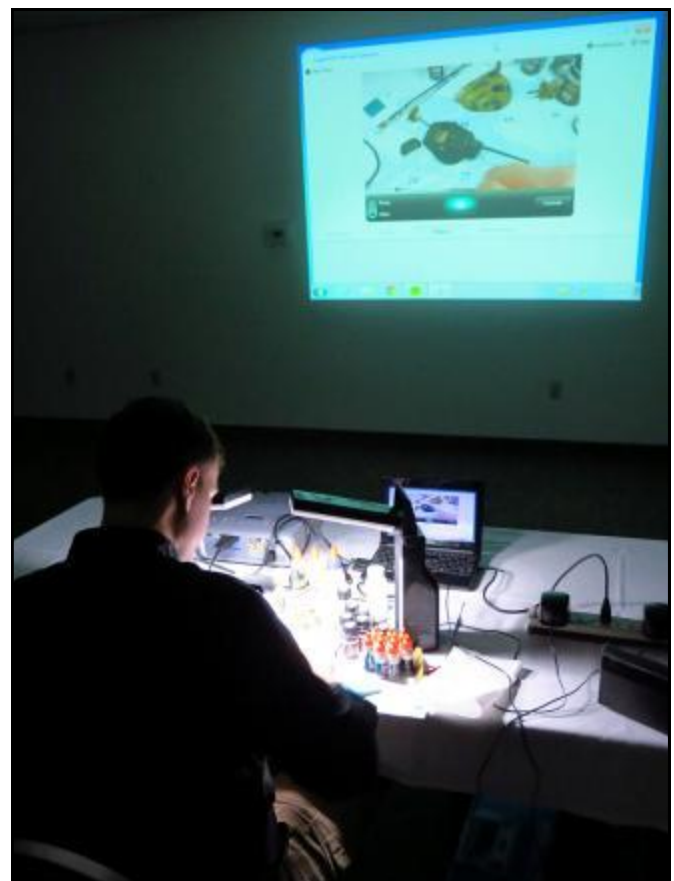
Speaking of seminars they had a few to go along with the packed weekend. Maybe not the same density of seminars that we'll have at the Nationals but still respectable! I am certainly not an armor builder but the little seminar Friday night on washes and shipping was worth the hour I spent in there. The guys there made good use of technology by setting up a couple of OTT

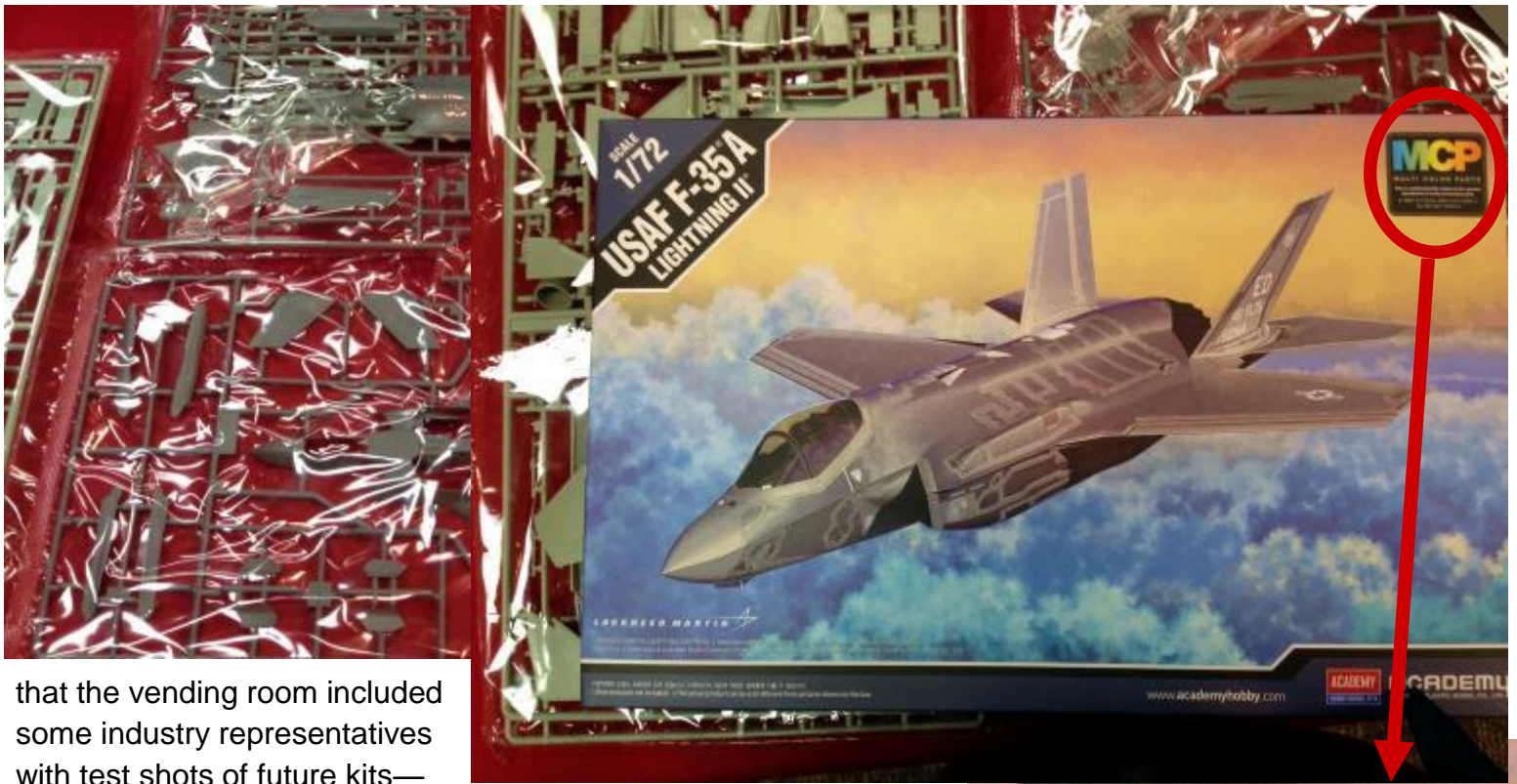
Lights, a web cam, and a projector to enable the attendees to get a "hands on" view of what was going on. Granted they had a little trouble at the beginning but once sorted out it was well done. The seminar was well attended and I think I can apply this technique directly to a few aircraft models in the not to distant future. Vending was good. I bought a few things but really enjoyed

WrightCon 2014



AMPS Midwest Regional Convention
and
IPMS Wright Field Invitational





that the vending room included some industry representatives with test shots of future kits—

just like you see at the Nationals! I particularly enjoyed looking at the MRC desk and reading the close up information about the Academy F35 kit. Reminds me of the multi color Matchbox kits of the 1970's. I really don't see the white plastic weapons bay satisfying very many real modelers. But back to the show and how well it was run. It was a two day show with Friday arranged to make it easy to attend the tour at the USAFM and still arrive in time to do a little vending and place models on the table. Clearly though the most entries came in on Saturday.

Tables were jacked up about 18 inches in height. Not quite as tall as ours but still helpful. Lighting was superb. An interesting twist on the raffle is shown in the photo and is self descriptive. Pretty slick way to separate the genre's! Judging



Friday Night Photo - Tables were full on Saturday.



was done under a split system. Armor was judged AMPS style and everything else was done traditional IPMS style. I personally prefer G-S-B but I understand and can function and indeed have a good time in either format. As Mike has said elsewhere he judged in the Armor arena and I worked the IPMS side of the house. We were both tired afterwards. The team at IPMS Dayton really appreciated our pitching in! I attended the judges meeting and noted that the Head Judge was from IPMS Cincinnati. Kind nice how the state groups worked together. Not surprising though as they have done it before! Having the head judge from another club also helped prevent anyone from accusing the locals of "home cooking." A problem we avoid with G-S-B! But the Dayton crew also has a nice twist on the IPMS style of judging. Like us they prohibit the judges from picking up the models. I like that as I have had judges break off some parts of some of my better models! They go to the trouble to ask that you put your phone number on the entry phone with a note if you are "text capable" so they can contact you if a model needs to be moved. Pretty nice though I never saw it actually employed.

At the judges meeting they handed out the accompanying "checklist" [Mike Driskill did much the same at IPMS/Knoxville in March and I plan to publish his in the newsletter in a future article] The checklist is a reminder that basic construction is a prerequisite just to get your model in the top running to be considered in either judging format!!!!

Fortunately there were numerous "splits" in the categories. There were also a large number of categories and several special categories. Lots of really nice models!

Trophies were nice two-sided coins that showed the AMPS logo on one side and the IPMS logo on the other. This is a GREAT show to attend should you get the chance!



WrightCon 2014



AMPS Midwest Regional Convention
and
IPMS Wright Field Invitational

Judges Checklist

Examine an entry on the following judging criteria and in this order of priority:

- 1. Basic Construction** - Seam work, alignment, symmetry, glue residue,
- 2. Finishing** - Smooth consistent paint, neatly painted, decal application and silvering,
- 3. Accuracy** - Model should accurately represent the subject; correct configuration, painted in appropriate colors,
- 4. Authenticity** - Model should represent wear and conditions of service at it applies to subject,
- 5. Detailing** - Give extra consideration to model if additional detail is added, however it must be correct and enhance the appearance of the model,
- 6. Degree of Difficulty** - Give extra consideration for a particularly difficult model or finish.

Please avoid judging a model on visual appeal alone. Remember, we're looking for specific application of good modeling skills, not just a model that looks impressive at arms length on the table.

Thanks for your participation as a judge.

HobbyTown USA

Model Contest & Clinic April 26

Here we go folks.... This is our chance to say thanks to our local HobbyTown USA for letting us meet in the store regularly! The box here is a reproduction of a flyer that HobbyTown is putting in each bag for the next several weeks to advertise the local installment of the HobbyTown's National Model Contest. This date



is at a time that doesn't conflict with the many IPMS or AMPS show in the region, which means we can support them even better than we have before. In addition to performing the judging honors for the local entrants we'll be able to set up and do a build day in the back. Our last build day was very well received by both the visitors to the show and our own members. It was a real hoot to just sit, hang out, and build models together. The opportunity to share techniques and progress among each other was fantastic. I would expect this to be the same. At least one model that was started at the last build day actually was completed and entered in our show! The opportunity to pick up some more members is another plus to this event.

We'll plan more and talk about this at our meetings between now and April 26th. **BE SURE TO HOLD THE DATE!!!!**

GAMES · TRAINS · R/C · TOYS · BOATS · PLANES · MODELS & MORE!

NATIONAL MODEL CONTEST

It's time for 2014's spring National Model Contest. Come in to HobbyTown USA® (Chattanooga) and show us your best modeling work. Any and all categories of models are welcome, and we'll be giving awards for best paint, best junior (ages 16 and under) and best in show.

Let your inner artist come out and Play smart with HobbyTown USA®.

10 A.M. to Noon drop off, 2 P.M. Judging/Awards
April 26, 2014

Chattanooga HobbyTown USA

The local model club will be available from
10 A.M. to 3 P.M. for a clinic on any questions you have
about building or painting models.

 **HobbyTown USA**

ATLANTA CON

2014



Model Show

Lockheed Martin Local Lodge 709
1032 South Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060

Saturday, May 10, 2014
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase
All proceeds supporting Guide Dogs of America



For additional information go to: <http://ipms-atlanta.org/>
Contact: Bill Johnston at (bjnqa1952@gmail.com) ph. (678) 308-7308

IPMS/GEN R. L. SCOTT AND THE MUSEUM OF AVIATION
ARE PROUD TO PRESENT:

SCOTTCON 2014

JUNE 7, 2014

0900 - 1700

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

D-DAY + 70

MUSEUM OF AVIATION

WARNER ROBINS, GA

OVER 40 CATEGORIES

AND SPECIAL AWARDS!

Entries: Adults-\$12.00 (Includes 5 Models)

Additional Models-\$1.00

Juniors (under 17) - \$5.00 (Unlimited Models)

IPMS Members Receive a \$2.00 discount!

For More Information:

<http://ipmsrlscottcontest.webs.com/>

wlpaul@bellsouth.net

Vendor info:

wlpaul@bellsouth.net

(478) 929-3210



The IPMS USA 2014 50th Anniversary National Convention



**August 6-9, 2014 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center
Hampton, Virginia**

Hosted by IPMS Tidewater

Celebrating Modeler's Skills to Build



The 2014 National Convention will be held in a new facility centrally located in the Hampton Roads area

- Convenient - Just off I-64 and Mercury Blvd
- Over 450 Vendor Tables
- Over 100,000 sq. ft. of display/vendor space
- Loading Dock Supports All Exhibit Halls
- Convenient Utility Hook-Ups
- 3,500 Free parking spaces available
- Easily accessible on-site food service available in the Vendor Area
- Wi-Fi Connectivity in Pre-function Area

The Embassy Suites Hotel (757-827-8200), adjacent to the Hampton Roads Convention Center, is the contest Flagship Hotel. Five additional hotels, all within 1/2 mile of the Center, have been contracted to serve our convention guests:

Courtyard Marriott	1(800) 321-2211
Springhill Suites	757-310-6333
Hilton Garden Inn	(same as Springhill Suites)
Red Roof Inn	757-838-1737
Days Inn Hampton	757-826-4810



ipmsusa2014.com

Registration & General Information

Convention	Adult \$40.00 (Pre-registration)
Registration:	Adult \$45.00 (After Jun 30, 2014)
	Junior (< 17) \$25.00
Vendor	Regular Table: \$75.00
Registration:	Preferred Area Table: \$100.00

No Waiting in Line - Pre-registered guests will receive their convention badge in the mail.

Banquet Ticket: \$45

Menu options will include a Beef, Chicken, Seafood or Vegetarian Entree. Special Dietary Options available with advance request.

Tours

Tours are currently scheduled for the Ft. Eustis U.S. Army Transportation Museum, The Newport News Mariners Museum, and the U.S. Marine Corps Museum in Quantico.

Special Virginia Air & Space Center Social

The Virginia Air & Space Center will host a 50th Anniversary Convention Social and BBQ on Thursday evening, Aug 7. Ticket price: \$30.

Proceeds will benefit the Wounded Warrior Project



Four Special Convention Theme awards:



"America's Pony"

- The 1964 Introduction of the Ford Mustang (Best model of any year of the iconic Ford Mustang)

"Over There"

- The First World War Centennial (Best Aircraft, Armor, Military Vehicle, Diorama, Ship, Figure, or Car of the 1914-1918 Period)

"The British Invasion"

- The Anniversary of British Rock and Roll Groups Coming to America in 1964 (Best British Aircraft, Armor, Military Vehicle, Ship, Car or Figure
- judging teams will be augmented by members of IPMS Ipswich)

"Honoring the Vietnam Veteran"

- Best Vietnam Aircraft, Armor, Military Vehicle, Ship, Figure, Diorama or Space Vehicle of the Vietnam War Era 1964-1975)

Area Attractions

Theme Parks

Busch Gardens / Water Country USA

Historic Sites

Jamestown • Yorktown • Williamsburg

Museums

Mariner's Museum (USS Monitor restoration) • USS Wisconsin / Nauticus / Hampton Roads Naval Museum
US Army Transportation Museum • Virginia Air and Space Museum (IMAX)
Virginia Beach Science Museum • Virginia War Museum

Convention Contacts

Chairman John Lent eljefe@ipmsusa2014.com
Contest Jared Nuss contest@ipmsusa2014.com
Registration ... Chip Jean registration@ipmsusa2014.com
Vendors Mike Mattei vendors@ipmsusa2014.com
Lodging Tom Jett lodging@ipmsusa2014.com

P.O. Box 1651 Newport News, VA 23601-1651

ipmsusa50th.com



Chattanooga ModelCon

February 6th & 7th 2015

**CHATTANOOGA TRADE AND CONVENTION
CENTER**

- Same Location as Last Year
- **NNL Style Judging for automotive entries with our Gold Silver Bronze Format for all other models—Check our Website for Guidelines**
 - Improved Speedier Judging Software
 - 18,000 SF of Carpeted Space
 - Well Lit and Spacious Convention Center
- Same Weekend as the Chattanooga Boat Show

Plans Include:

- Show rate at the convention Hotel
- Vendors can be open for business and registration to begin early Friday afternoon
- Friday Night Hospitality Room
- And more...check out our web site—Updates as plans come together

Show Hours

Fri 2 - 7 PM

Sat 8 - 4 PM ish

Vendor Info

8 FT—Tables

\$25 prepay

\$30 late pay

www.chattanoogascalemodelers.com



General Contact—Mike Moore maxwinthrop@yahoo.com

Vendor Contact—Jeff Mattheiss emilyshouse@juno.com



Anniston 2014..or my trip down a bumpy road....

by Mike Moore

Ah...the joys of Interstate 59 in Alabama. They are working on it. It is better. At least this year I didn't have to drive 5 miles on the shoulder (and that year the nose wheel on one of Tom's models still broke off), but seriously, please, someone with some pull in Alabama, get them to give up on concrete for the damn highways. PLEASE!

Ok, where was I? Oh yeah, I was gonna write an article for the newsletter about the Anniston show. Held once again at the Anniston Meeting Center, the show once again provided a great place to meet up with friends, look at models, and buy stuff that you don't need but somehow still can't live another day without. In addition to your correspondent, other CSM'ers present included Don Hixson (I don't know how it placed, but I did see his steam donkey model on the table), James Burton, James Ruiz, and Ed Sunder and sons. There may have been others, but I waited too long to write this up. So if I forgot I saw you there, well, I'm sorry.



Lighten up Francis...errr, James (yup...I saw Stripes a week or so ago). It's a model show, you're supposed to be having fun! And kudos to Ed for the inadvertent photo bomb...

How did we do? Well, I didn't have anything done to enter. I'm sure James picked up an award or two for his armor, but I didn't catch up with him to ask. I certainly hope that Don was rewarded for the Steam Donkey, but again, I didn't see him before the end of the show to find out. I do know that Ed picked up a first or second with his Academy drone, but I can't remember which. I know, I know, the editor really needs to find a more reliable reporter.

At any rate, it was a nice day spent with good friends looking at cool models...what could be better? Besides the interstate...





I'm not real sure what series the RSS Athena is from (and yes, I did Google it...) but this was a really nice scratch build. Note the detailing under the clear dome.



And in this corner, wearing the red trunks, Roger Rasor's Fokker DVII...unfortunately for Roger, while his DVII is really nice, Ken Nile's Rumpler (Ken and I agreed not to refer to his Rump anymore) is REALLY nice. Ken took first, Best Aircraft, and I believe, Best in Show.

And yes I do know when someone will finally do a decent Demon in 1/72...right after I finish one of the Emhar kits in my stash...



And now...for a smattering of armor...

