



# THE CORSAIR

*IPMS Phoenix / Craig Hewitt Chapter*

## President's Message

Greetings,

Ok, people, it is go time! It is that time of year when we Arizonans lock ourselves indoors for the next several months. What better time to build a few models?

As you can see, this newsletter is a bit earlier than normal. I wanted to get a copy out before the next meeting. Unfortunately, I will not be there at the June meeting. Rather, Bill Dunkle has agreed to stage a coup and seize control of the club (for a meeting at least, I hope).

Some of you may not know, but VP Craig Pierce, has another masterpiece on his hands. This one is a wonderful, 1:1 daughter. Little Carlee Janelle, was born on May 9 to Craig and his wife, Theresa.

With travel season starting, I thought I would include a throwback this month. Inside the Corsair is an article I wrote 10 years ago about what to see when visiting San Diego. This was in my pre digital camera days so alas, there are no photos but hopefully you will still find it enjoyable.

Two seminars are on tap this month. Ethan Dunsford will be speaking about , what else, Sherman Tanks. Charles Swanson will be demoing stretching sprue.

You keep building, Phoenix!  
Mike Pabis

## May Contest Award



Jim Pearsall's 1/72 Hasegawa RF-4E



Chuck Ludwig's 1/72 Airfix U-2

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## 2014 Club Contest Themes

**January:** Weapons Free - A kit w/o any sort of visible weapons or load, i.e. bare bones, aircraft, vehicle, car etc.

**February:** 1st Group Build - aircraft, F4U Corsair. Any model of the famed gull winged corsair, WWII or Korean era corsair. Can be any scale.

**March:** NMF - any plane in natural metal finish, no camo.

**April:** Vietnam Era - aircraft, boats, tanks, that participated in the Vietnam War.

**May:** Spy or Recon aircraft - any aircraft designed for either spy or recon missions.

**June: 2nd Group Build - armor, Sherman tank. Any variant of the famous Sherman Tank in any scale.**

**July:** Sci-Fi/Fantasy - can be a figure, vehicle or ship.

**August:** Whatever floats your boat - Anything designed to float, submarines, surface vessels, seaplanes.

**September:** 3rd Group Build - autos, Ford Mustang. Any variant of the classic Ford Mustang, any scale.

**October:** A wolf in sheep's clothing - Any model not in its original colors or livery such as: military vehicles in civilian service, captured equipment, WWII race planes and fire bombers, armored cars used by police etc.

**November:** Special Ops - Has some connection to a special operations unit, mission, etc.

**December:** 4th Group Build - Ships, U-boat (Type 9). Any scale model of the infamous Type 9 U-boat from WWII.

### May Model Display Photos



Mike Mackowski's scratch built Mars Curiosity Rover    Kurt Mitterling's 1/35 Dragon Kubelwagen

**May Model Photos Cont.**

Craig Pierce's 1/25 Tamiya Opel Astra V-8 DTM Touring Car



Gary Thomas' 1/72 Airfix L-19



Jim Pearsall's 1/72 Hasegawa RJ-35 Draken



Jim Pearsall's 1/144 Dragon U-2R



Unknown Modeler's ME-109



Jim Pearsall's 1/144 Brengun BV-40

# ICM 1/144 Tu-144

## By Jim Pearsall



### THE AIRCRAFT

The Tu-144 was quite a special aircraft. It was the first supersonic passenger plane to fly, beating the Concorde by two months. The Concorde was scheduled to fly first, but ran into some developmental problems which delayed the flight. The Tupolev was pressured into flying their aircraft first, in spite of problems, giving the Soviet Union a huge propaganda boost, showing the superiority of the Communist system.

There were only 16 Tu-144s built, two prototypes, nine Tu-144S and five Tu-144Ds, compared to 20 Concordes. In the 1960s there was great expectation that large fleets of supersonic airliners would be seen around the globe. One of the contributing factors that made this impractical was the global energy crisis of the early 1970s when OPEC embargoed crude oil to most countries. The resulting high cost of operation made jumbo jets a much better financial deal for the airlines, with a much lower cost per mile per passenger.

The Tu-144 was never as popular as the Concorde, especially after one crashed at the 1973 Paris Air Show. There were other problems, particularly the method of building the 144. Fuselage sections were machined from large blocks and panels, and there was no stopping a crack in the fuselage once it started. This resulted in several emergencies and crashes.

Passenger service began with the Tu-144 in November of 1977. In June of 1978, with

## Tu-144 cont'd.

only 55 passenger flights, airline service was terminated. The Tu-144 was used by Aeroflot as a freighter for a short time, but there were only 57 more flights before Aeroflot retired the Tu-144.

One example was leased by NASA in 1995 for use in testing the feasibility of a high-speed transport. There were 27 flights in 1996 and 1997. The project ended in 1999 when funding was terminated.

The big difference between the Tu-114S and Tu-114D was the engines. The earlier S had afterburning turbofan engines, which didn't have enough thrust to maintain Mach 2 without afterburner. The Tu-144D used Kolesov RD-36 turbojets, which allowed Mach 2 cruise and much longer range.

## THE MODEL

This is a large model which comes in a large box. Because of the engine change, the Tu-144D has a different engine configuration from the earlier ICM kit of the Tu-144. So there's some surgery. You have to cut down the length of the nacelles at the rear of the aircraft. I lucked out here for some of these cuts, as I have a tool called "The Chopper", which is used by model railroaders for cutting rails, ties, and anything else which needs to be cleanly cut in a straight line.

I painted the fuselage halves with Floquil Reefer White. I've found that this paint covers nicely, is durable, and maintains its whiteness pretty well. I then inserted the windows, and mated the fuselage halves.

When I began the assembly of the fuselage, nacelle, and wing assemblies, I was very impressed with the highly precise molding done by ICM in this kit. The fuselage halves required only a little scraping, and the fuselage to wing joint required no filler at all.

The fit was amazingly tight all along these long parts. There was no flash, no warp, no departure from the exact lines needed to get the parts to fit

cleanly and exactly.

When I got the fuselage, nacelles and wing assemblies together, I discovered that I had gotten ahead of the game. The ailerons, at the rear of the delta



## Tu-144 cont'd.



wing are separate parts, and have tiny little extensions which are static electricity dispersers. I should have left these parts off until after all the handling, as I managed to destroy almost all of these during handling. Fortunately I didn't install the rudder until very late, and its extensions survived intact.

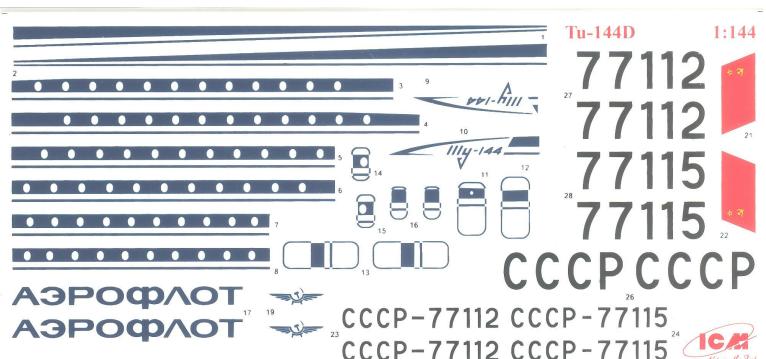
## PAINTING

Although I had already painted the fuselage halves and installed the windows, it was necessary to mask the windows while I used the Reefer White on the fuselage top which I had to scrape and the tops of the wings. The underside was painted with Testors Flanker Gray and Titanium Metalizer. I had some difficulty getting the Titanium area masked, and there's a place where the gray underside comes to a point right at the radome, which required some effort to mask, and some fixing. Once I got this done, I applied a couple of coats of Future, as the Reefer white is dead flat, and that large area requires a goodly amount of gloss coat. And it was ready for decals.

## DECALS

I started with the identifying markings under the wings. I decided to do CCCP 77115. The choices are 77115 and 77112. The CCCP went on OK, but the numbers split as I was putting the decal on the wing surface. OK, I can deal with that. Next I did the Soviet flag on the tail and the ID numbers. The flags went on fine, one of the numbers broke during positioning. Still manageable. I let these decals set up overnight, wanting them to be firmly set before I started handling the plane again.

Then I started the side stripes which have clear spots which match the windows. And I discovered that there's no decal film for those windows. Each of these decals is about two to four inches long. Each of those decals broke in two or three spots, right at a window. I persevered for three of these stripes and a couple of doors before I figured out I had a problem that could be solved by technology. I left the decals that were already on in place, and applied Micro Scale Decal Film to all of the remaining decals. Problem solved.



## Tu-144 cont'd.

Decals still took four days because I didn't want to screw up the decals I'd applied with an errant finger. After all of the markings were done, I applied another coat of Future, and I was ready for the fiddly bits.

## FINAL ASSEMBLY

I always leave the landing gear, both legs and doors, and all the small parts until after I finish decals. This is because I become task fixated, and will knock those parts off anyway, so why bother putting them on only to have to repair/reinstall?

The landing gear legs and the axle assemblies were really nice. The instructions call for an angle of 85 degrees for the gear legs, and when you put the legs on the axle, they naturally fall to the correct angle. Again, some superior engineering.

There are two wheels per side on the axle, and two axles per side, giving 8 wheels per main gear. The outer wheel fits into a recess in the inner wheel, and then both are put onto the axle. In your dreams. Here is where the fine and exact molding jumped up and bit me. The outer wheels fit the hole in the inner wheels so exactly that I couldn't press hard enough to get them in. I had to use a #11 blade to gouge out the hole in the inner wheels and the extension in the outer wheels until they finally fit. Then I had to ream the holes in the inner wheels to get the axles in, as well as polishing the axles with #150 sandpaper. I pretty much had to give up on the outer wheels, and I cut the axles off short. There's plenty of mechanical strength in the shorter axles because the outer wheels fit so tight.



While installing the wheels, I also learned that the plastic doesn't respond well to Tamiya Extra-Thin Cement. Tenax worked well, however. I used CA to install the gear legs and gear doors.

I was more than pleased when all 16 main wheels sat exactly on the ground, first try. The engineers give, they take away.

I had left the droop nose off until next to last. I did the glass part, and then painted the

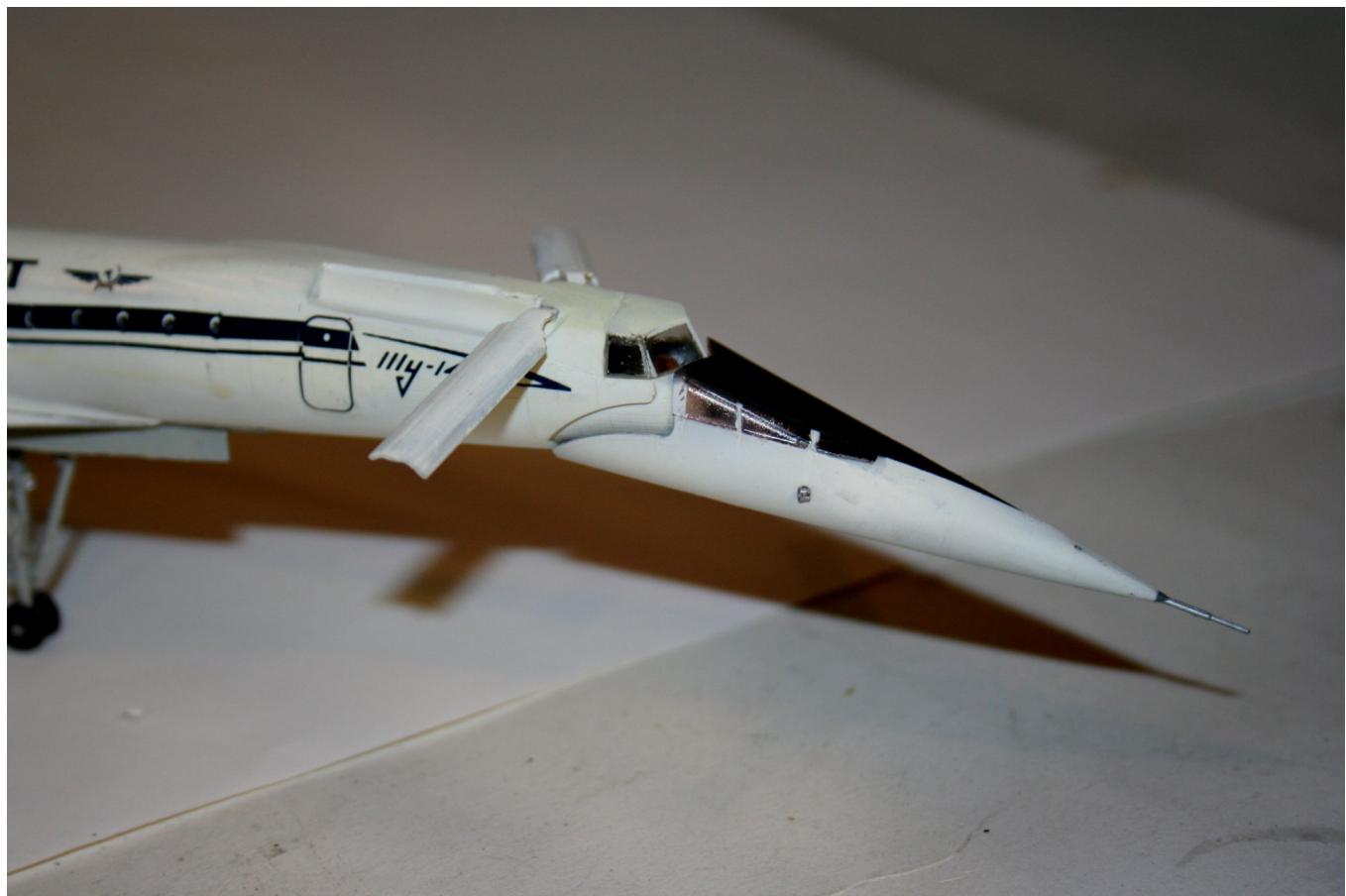
## Tu-144 cont'd.

anti-glare panel on top of the clear part. I went to [www.airliners.net](http://www.airliners.net) and did a search for photos of the Tu-144. And I learned something. Besides the engines, I learned that there's another noticeable difference between the S and D sub-models. The Ds have tinted glass in the droop windows. I used a "rust" wash to get the reddish tint.

## OVERALL EVALUATION

Recommended. This airliner sits next to a Concorde like a B-52 sits next to a B-47. The fit of the main parts is SO nice. The necessity of cutting the engine nacelles does make this somewhat more of a project for the experienced masochist. The other ICM kit of the Tu-144 doesn't require that this be done. The decal problem is eminently fixable, and there weren't any show-stopper problems. The instructions were pretty good, although there were a couple of places where I had to test fit before I believed I had it right. On the other hand, there was no time when I used the Wild Weasel YGBSM motto. I spent 4 weeks on this kit, working just about every day, and it was well worth the time and effort.

Thanks to ICM, MMD/Squadron, IPMS/USA and Steve Collins for a really interesting addition to the airliner shelf.



# Secretary's Sound Off

## By Hal Sanguinetti



Our Secretary continues his diplomatic mission to Europe this month. While he is away, an able bodied substitute was found to record highlights from the meeting.

At the May meeting, quite a few items were brought up to the membership. First, the club received a very generous gift from the 2010 IPMS National Committee. A use for the future funds will be determined at a later date by the club membership.

Steve Collins notified the membership that the club has sponsored three different trophy packages for the 2014 IPMS Nationals, the Group Build category and two junior categories.

The third annual Scale Modeling Clinic will be held on Sept. 13th at the American Legion. Volunteers will be needed to present and help out at the event. Please contact Bill Dunkle or Keith Pieper if you are interested.

A formal outline for the club's entry into the 2015 IPMS Nationals Group Build was presented. For further details or if you are interested in signing up for one of the spots, please contact Mike Pabis.

# 2015 IPMS Nationals Group Build

The formalized plan is now in place for the club's entry into the 2015 Nationals in Columbus, OH. Quite a few members have already signed up and offered to build kits for this exciting endeavor. However, other volunteers are also needed in order to bring the Group Build trophy back to its rightful home :)

Should you want to participate or would like more information, contact Mike Pabis for additional details. All levels of experience are welcome. If you wish to do something other than build one of the kits, other opportunities are always available.

## Modeler of the Year Standings

Name	Jan- uary	Feb- ruary	Mar ch	April	May	Total Point
Jim Pearsall	1	3	1	1	10	16
Charles Swan-	2	6	2	6		16
Gary Thomas		4		7	5	16
Brain Baker	2	6		2	2	12
Craig Pierce	4			4	1	9
Chuck Ludwig	1		2	1	4	8
John Schwartz	2		4	2		8
4 Tied at 5pts						5

The current Modeler of the Year standings are to the left. The top 10 modelers are shown.

Points are earned by bringing a model for display and winning the monthly contests. Point values are as follows: 1 point for each model on display and 3 points for a contest winning model.

Be sure to bring your latest finished projects to each meeting.

# The Visitors Guide to Viewing Military Equipment and Museums in San Diego

By Mike Pabis

*Editors Note: Originally published in 2004. With summer vacations approaching, I felt it reasonable to republish for some members who may not have read it the first time around.*

It seems that we are all familiar with San Diego. Most summers, half of the state of Arizona can be found there at any one time. Most visitors go for the beach, nice weather and family attractions. What some people might not be aware of are the good museums and opportunities to view military equipment that are available to all visitors. The best part of it is that there are many things to see within 10 minutes of downtown San Diego. After coming back from a recent trip, I thought a summary of these places would be helpful for someone's next trip.

## San Diego Aerospace Museum

Most people are familiar with Balboa Park being the home of the San Diego Zoo. What some might not know is that the southern end of the park is home to the San Diego Aerospace Museum. It is easy to identify by the SR-71 and Sea Dart prominently displayed out front. Admission is \$9 for adults. The museum is shaped like a donut with the displays on the inside and an open middle which displays a PBY Catalina, F-4 Phantom, AH-1 Cobra and Ford Trimotor.

The museum traces the history of aviation from the beginning through the post Vietnam era. As expected there is added emphasis on items related to San Diego. For the pre-WW2 fans, there are a lot of exhibits for you. About 40% of the museum is dedicated to the era before WW2. On display are replica aircraft and artifacts related to WW1 and the booming aviation field after the war.

WW2 fans will find a lot of interesting exhibits to see. On display are an AVG P-40, P-51, ME-109, Zero, Wildcat, and other aircraft. Most of the aircraft are displayed in order for visitors to view. However, some are displayed from the ceiling and limit your exposure to the aircraft. I really liked the chance to view the aircraft, as it had been a long time since I had seen these types of planes. Also on display are quite a few models built by the San Diego IPMS chapter. Many of the models on display are of WW2 and Korea type aircraft.

The museum also displays quite a few artifacts from the Korean War. Most no-

tably on display are a F-86 and Mig-15. Viewing opportunities for the F-86 were limited as it was also hung from the ceiling. I was hoping to take a good look at it, but was thwarted.

Towards the end of the museum, the exhibits focus on the Vietnam War. I think they ran out of space towards the end, as there wasn't too much of a focus put on aviation from Vietnam on. However, there is an A-4 displayed for visitors to see.

Space enthusiasts can enjoy a real nice opportunity to view the Apollo 9 capsule, which is currently on display. On loan from the National Air and Space Museum, it will most likely only be there for another few months. There are some nice exhibits related to space for visitors to see. Always interesting to see are the gear and space suits that the astronauts have to wear.

After finishing viewing the space exhibits, you are at the end of the museum and exit through the gift shop. I was somewhat disappointed by the gift shop as there were not as many products as in years past. Overall, you can probably get through the museum in about 3 hours if you view everything. For those who are interested in WW2 and beyond, you can spend about 1 ½ hours there.

## **USS Midway Museum**

It is not that often that you can drive down the street, tilt your head and see a nearly 1000 foot long ship staring right back at you. Opened back in June, the USS Midway now calls San Diego home. Located at Navy Pier (south of the cruise ship terminal and about 200 yards from Seaport Village), the USS Midway has been converted to a floating museum. Visitors should not pass up a chance to come aboard an aircraft carrier and explore for a few hours. Admission is \$13 for adults and plan to spend about 3 hours on board.

The museum has you board via stairs right into the hanger bay. It really is a huge space to begin your journey. All visitors are given an audio tour guide for their journey. The nice thing about it is it is not a traditional tape cassette but a digital audio player where you enter in the number of the exhibit you are at and can listen to the story. I found this a lot better system than other museums, as you are able to bounce around the museum and not worry about messing up the audio tour.

Right away you get to view the enormous hanger bay and marvel at all the activity that took place in it. An A-4 is on display along with T-45 and S-2. The last two aircraft were moved into the hanger bay as I was touring, but they may return topside at a later date. On this deck you begin touring some of the living and working quarters of the ship. I found it enjoyable to view some of the different aspects of the ship

that are not shown on other floating museums. I spent about an hour below decks exploring. However, if you are my size, be prepared to duck, as the ship was not designed for people over 6 feet tall.

After spending quite a bit of time below deck, it was time to head up top. I took the stairs up top and was met with a great sight. You get to look out upon the entire deck and have a wonderful view of San Diego Bay. There were multiple aircraft on display including a F-14, F-4, E-2 C-2, UH-1C Sea Wolf, A-7 and A-6. However, I was really disappointed in the fact that all of the aircraft were repainted and not in the natural finish and color. I was hoping to get a chance to look at the detail on the aircraft, but with the paint job, I was prevented from doing so. Wandering around the deck was really nice. In addition to viewing all the aircraft, you can view the bridge. I spent a lot of time just enjoying the view up top. When I was there, the USS Ronald Reagan and USS Nimitz were in port and provided a marvelous sight to see.

After I finished, I took a tour of the gift shop. There are quite a few things there, but as the museum is new, I would expect that there would be more to come in upcoming months and years. There appears to be plenty of space for the museum to add artifacts and exhibits. Expect items to be brought in over time, so you might have to make multiple visits.

## Coronado Island

Coronado might not be some place that you would expect to be able to view military equipment, but you would be wrong. Those of us without military IDs are restricted to viewing all the goodies from certain parts of the island. You won't be disappointed. Simply relax on Coronado Beach and look up or out over the ocean. Aircraft are a plenty and appear many times an hour when units are in port. There are ample opportunities to view SH-60s, S-3s, and everything else that flies into NAS North Island. I have never been disappointed when sitting on the beach. Also, most days, you can look out over the water and watch the ships of the US Navy entering and leaving the bay. Over my many journeys, I have seen every type of ship stationed at San Diego floating out in front of me. It is really a treat.

Also on Coronado, visitors can view prospective SEALs as they take part in BUDS (Basic Underwater Demolition School aka Hell Week). My last visit was the first time I had really seen the prospective SEALs and it was a pleasant treat. A few notes, while they BUDS classes routinely run and take part in other activities along Coronado Beach, don't venture too far down towards their installation. There is security there to keep civilians away from part of the installation. My suggestion would be to enjoy what you can from the open part of the beach by the Hotel Del Coronado or take a walk towards Silver Strand Beach and you might be able to see more.

## Cabrillo National Monument

Growing up in southern California for 18 years and making dozens of trips to San Diego, I am now kicking myself for never going to the Cabrillo National Monument. Located at the tip of Point Loma this really is an amazing site. While the National Park is thoroughly enjoyable, there are extra benefits.

Part of the Cabrillo National Monument was home to a coastal artillery battery during WW2 and some of it can still be seen. There is a nice exhibit for visitors to see about the coastal artillery battery that was there. However, the best part of the monument is the view. It is amazing.

On the trails, you get to see all of San Diego Bay and large portions of the Pacific Ocean. The best part about it you get to look right down into NAS North Island and the submarine pens. On the day that I was there, I got to see two ballistic missile subs entering and exiting the bay directly in front and below of me. I could have thrown a football at them and bounced it off the sail.

Also provided for a quarter are viewers that allow you to look at the bases up close. I spent about two hours enjoying the view and watching aircraft and ships alike enter and leave the bases below. In my opinion, this is probably one of the best-kept



# THE SHUTTLE

stalks its prey

## 2014 CLUB MEETING CALENDAR

All meetings held at American Legion Post #1, 364 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003

### JANUARY 2014

Tuesday 7th, 7pm

**Contest:** Weapons Free - A kit w/o any sort of visible weapons or load

**Seminar/Speaker:** Decal finishes by Mike Pabis

**Event:** None

### JULY 2014

Tuesday 1st, 7pm

**Contest:** Sci-Fi/Fantasy - can be a figure, vehicle or ship.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Alclad finishes by Bruce Briggs

**Event:** TBD

### FEBRUARY 2014

Tuesday 4th, 7pm

**Contest:** 1st Group Build - F4U Corsair. Any model/scale of the famed gull winged Corsair, WWII or Korean era.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Model Photos by Ethan Dunsford

### AUGUST 2014

Tuesday 5th, 7pm

**Contest:** Whatever floats- Anything designed to float, submarines, surface vessels, seaplanes.

**Seminar/Speaker:** TBD

**Event:** Club Swap Meet

### MARCH 2014

Tuesday 4th, 7pm

**Contest:** Natural Metal Finish. Any plane in natural metal finish, no camo.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Canopies by Steve Collins

**Event:** Distressed Kit White Elephant Exchange

### SEPTEMBER 2014

Tuesday 2nd, 7pm

**Contest:** 3rd Group Build - Ford

**Mustang.** Any variant/scale of the classic Ford Mustang.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Diorama Bases by Bill Dunkle

### APRIL 2014

Tuesday 1st, 7pm

**Contest:** Vietnam Era - aircraft, boats, tanks, that participated in the Vietnam War.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Making your own decals by Jim Pearsall

### OCTOBER 2014

Tuesday 7th, 7pm

**Contest:** A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing - Any model not in its original colors or livery

**Seminar/Speaker:** TBD

**Event:** TBD

### MAY 2014

Tuesday 6th, 7pm

**Contest:** Spy or Recon aircraft - any aircraft designed for either spy or recon missions.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Model railroading for modelers by Don Stewart

### NOVEMBER 2014

Tuesday 4th, 7pm

**Contest:** Special Ops - Has some connection to a special operations unit, mission, etc.

**Seminar/Speaker:** TBD

**Event:** TBD

### JUNE 2014

Tuesday 3rd, 7pm

**Contest:** 2nd Group Build- Sherman Tank. Any variant of the famous Sherman Tank in any scale.

**Seminar/Speaker:** Modeling Shermans & Stretched Sprue

### DECEMBER 2014

Tuesday 2nd, 7pm

**Contest:** 4th Group Build - U-boat (Type 9). Any scale model of the infamous Type 9 U-boat from WWII.

**Seminar/Speaker:** TBD



Here are the items up for raffle at the JUNE meeting.

### Raffle Update

- Item A:
- Item B:
- Item C:
- Item D:
- Item E:
- Item F:
- Item G:
- Item H:

**RAFFLE ITEMS NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINT.  
SEE WEBSITE PRIOR TO  
MEETING FOR UPDATES.  
[WWW.IPMS-PHOENIX.ORG](http://www.ipms-phoenix.org)**

## 2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday June 7th, 9:00-3:00 - San Diego Model Expo and Swap Meet— San Diego Air & Space Museum Annex, San Diego, CA

Saturday July 11-12th, - Region 10 Chile Con— MCM Elegante Hotel and Event Center, 2020 Menaul Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM

## IPMS Phoenix / Craig Hewitt Chapter

The club meets at 7pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the American Legion Post #1 in Phoenix. Check the club website at [www.ipms-phoenix.org](http://www.ipms-phoenix.org) for more meeting info.

### American Legion Post #1

364 N. 7th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85003

The post is located South of I-10 just a few blocks North of Van Buren. Look for the huge American flag.

### Chapter Officers

President.....	Mike Pabis .....	president@ipms-phoenix.org
Vice President.....	Craig Pierce .....	vice_president@ipms-phoenix.org
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Newsletter Editor .....	Mike Pabis .....	newsletter@ipms-phoenix.org



# PLASTIC PONDERINGS

## BY MIKE PABIS

In Summmmmeeeerrrrr!

Spring time! Baseball! Nice weather (well, we pretty much always have that, don't we?)! And that all means it is time to start thinking about summer and vacations, right? Pretty soon, you will be packing your bags and heading off on the Grizwold Family Vacation. Whether you head to Wally World by plane, car or train, summer is a chance to get out and see all sorts of new things.

What does this all have to do with scale modeling? A fine question you ask. The answer is as you go out, many of you will undoubtedly be planning to visit some sort of museum, battlefield, historical site or just plain see something cool. When you are there, make sure to stop in and see what they have to offer. You never know what may be in store for you.

Perhaps the grungy looking museum building you are about to go into may have a very rare piece of automotive craftsmanship inside. That historical society building near the beach might actually be more interesting than you think. Or is that gate guard outside the museum a hidden gem that actually has a real historical significance.

Many of us will head to California this year. Why? Well because it is close, has beaches and the temperature isn't hotter than the sun 31 months a year. Reason enough right? I have even heard that there is neat stuff to do there that doesn't involve a castle, giant mouse and all your money getting sucked out of your wallet. It might just be a rumor though.

Anyway, California is easy for we Arizonans to get to and get to often. You might be surprised at all the neat stuff there is to see. Remember that as an Arizonan, in Article 4 of the state Constitution, you are legally required to annually visit San Diego. Well guess what? There are a lot of neat things to see there.

There are several top notch museums in history rich San Diego. Oh, don't forget they apparently have a ship or two in town. I have even heard that they sometimes have aircraft flying over. Basically, when you go to San Diego and the fleet is in town, you can see a TON of stuff.

Perhaps you like venturing across country. Needless to say, Washington DC and the DC metro area into Virginia put most areas to shame. Just about any avenue of history

## Plastic Ponderings Cont.

is available to you. If it drove, flew, sailed or flew, you can see it there.

I can still remember a rain soaked day in 1991. My family and I had gone to the Indy 500 and were heading back to my grandmother's in Pennsylvania. Well being that Ohio was in the way, we had to cross it. Thankfully we were presented with the holy grail of aviation museums, the US Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH. HOLY COW! What a place. Even as a boy I was awed by what I got to see. Limited by time, we only saw a portion of the museum, leaving an entire building and the outside for another trip (which has yet to come). Over the years I have tried to swing extra time on business trips to Cleveland and Columbus in order to drive down but alas, no luck. Should you find yourself in Ohio, GO THERE!!!

You never know where you will be when you get to see something. If you have your camera in hand you can snap some pictures. Otherwise you story will be like spotting bigfoot.

I have been fortunate enough in my life to go to Hawaii a couple of times. Yeah it is beautiful. Yeah it is relaxing. Yeah it is loaded to the gills with military hardware and history. At times without plan, I have been able to stand next to nuclear submarines, guided missile destroyers, see a U-2R take off in front of me, fly over a aircraft carrier and drive onto the runway at Hickam AFB. None of this was planned, just in the right place at the right time. If I had shied away from areas of history, I would have missed all of this.

So what is the point of all this? As you head out this summer, make sure to stop by and see what is around you. The United States has a ton of history that you can easily visit. Some of it is right under your nose. Some of it is a bit out of the way. Who knows, maybe you will even wind up overseas and get to see some really neat stuff most will never get a chance to.

What else can you do? Take a ton of pictures and bring them back to play show and tell with all of us. Educate us on what you saw, liked and didn't like. You are already there so why not snap some photos? So many of us have a wide variety of interests that IPMS Phoenix is bound to cover all the different genres out there.

If you haven't already got your travel plans set, use these links to help you this year. You might be surprised at what is along the way during your travels. Make sure to double check the information on the links just to make sure there is no bad information.

**Military.Com Museum and Memorial Guide** - [http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceSubmittedFileView?file=museums\\_museum\\_guide.htm](http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceSubmittedFileView?file=museums_museum_guide.htm)

## Plastic Ponderings Cont.

**US Army Museum Directory** - <http://www.history.army.mil/html/museums/dir-links.html>

**Wikipedia List of Aircraft Museums** - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_aerospace\\_museums#United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_aerospace_museums#United_States)

**Wikipedia List of Maritime Museums** - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_maritime\\_museums\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_maritime_museums_in_the_United_States)

**Naval and Maritme Museum List** - <http://www.bb62museum.org/usnavmus.html>

**Wikipedia List of Automotive Museums** - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_automobile\\_museums#United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_automobile_museums#United_States)

**National Association of Automobile Museums** - <http://www.naam.museum/museum-list/>



**MODEL KIT STASH**  
BECAUSE HE WHO DIES WITH THE MOST KITS...WINS !!

# Box Art of the Month

A collection of notable, amazing or otherwise great looking box art from kit boxes over the years. Feel free to contribute any images you have or know of for future issues. This month: Patrol Boats



## SURFING THE WEB

The End is Near! A great video of a recent Griffon missile test in Bahrain

<http://intercepts.defensenews.com/2014/04/video-griffin-missile-launches-from-patrol-ship-blasts-target-goes-operational/>

A totally new perspective of scale modeling using, paper, bondo and computer design for cosplay costumes

<http://www.therpf.com/>

Facebook modeling sites with amazing works

Mobile Model Zone—<https://www.facebook.com/Share4Model>

Pinnacle Scale Models—<https://www.facebook.com/Pinnacle.Models>

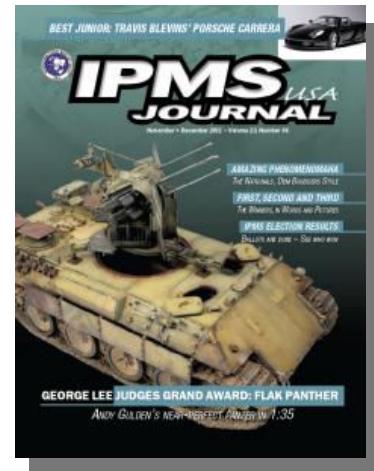
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Membership also gives you access to the online Discussion Forum, where you can exchange ideas and information with other members of IPMS.



### **CONTENT NEEDED!!!!**

The Corsair needs your help! To keep this newsletter filled with all the great content, I need your help with content. Here are some useful items that I can use to put together future issues each month:

- Kit reviews/In-box reviews
- Website links
- Modeling related articles
- Commentary and featured columns
- Neat, strange or otherwise shareable pictures
- Book reviews
- Trip and vacation write-ups

Anything you have can be used. Don't hesitate. Even a few paragraphs are great.

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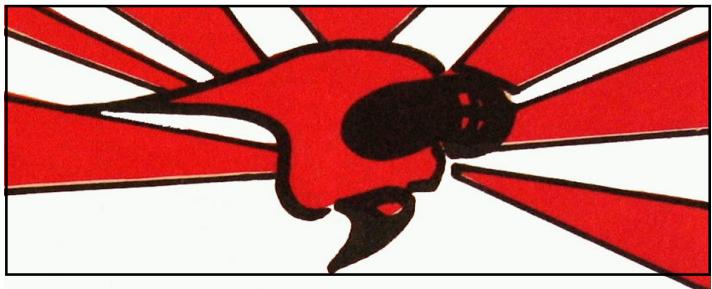
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