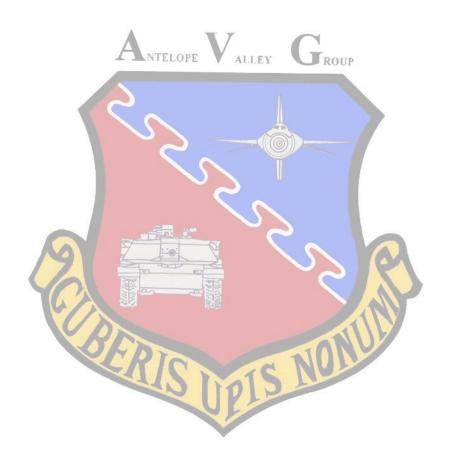
# **The Smoking Hole**

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## **Club News and Business**

## NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 19 2019, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

## September General Meeting Notes:

At the August meeting, we conducted the "Out of Your Category" in-house contest and discussed contest preparation

## "Out of Your Category" In-House Contest this month!

There were some really great entries for our third in-house contest for the year. With great fanfare, our winner is...



Rich Ribado's Fantastic Plastic "Icarus" spacecraft from "Planet of the Apes". From Rich's description, a challenging build (how often do you use Bondo and car body tools in YOUR builds...?) and a well-deserved win! Now, get your hands off me, you damn dirty ape!

#### Desert Classic Contest Items

We discussed task assignments and VP Jim passed around the contest signup sheet. We seem to be pretty well covered for judging and most tasks, but could always use additional help for registration.

We've had a number of members sign up for category trophy sponsorship, and Burbank House of Hobbies has generously sponsored a category. Niilo will be accepting payment for trophy sponsorship all the way up until the contest.

Curtis has received the trophies. Some assembly is required, however. We will have a "gluing party" at the meeting for the first and second place trophies (the third place are assembled).

Jim B. made a really cool poster for our Tom Daniel display this year. I would post a picture here, but idiot me forgot to take one! Trust me, it was very professionally done. Incidentally, the club decided that, instead of a Special Award for the 2020 contest, the Tom Daniel award will be a full-fledged category with first, second and third.

Rowdy suggested the possibility of a 1/35<sup>th</sup> wargaming display table at the contest. There was some interest, but time seems a bit short to arrange participation for this year. Perhaps a bigger turnout next year?

#### **Meeting Visitor**

We had a visitor (and potential member) at the September meeting. John Summerfield is from Bakersfield (via Seattle) and is primarily an aircraft modeler. He brought a couple kits to show (including the Sharkit Long-EZ, which I've built) and also a cool tool (see the Tool Crib). Welcome, John!

### Shameless Member Plug

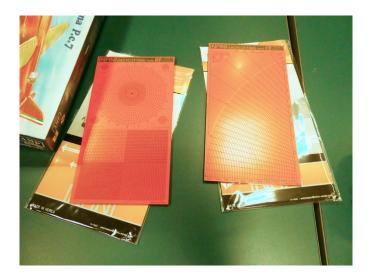
Club member Jay Faulke has picked up a couple kit collections and has them for sale. Now, I need more kits like I need a case of herpes, but I paid him a visit (Luis was there, too) and he has some great stuff. I found something I'd been looking for quite a while, and Jay will make you a fair deal. Check it out!

## **2019 Meeting Schedule**

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
19 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Steve/Matt		
16 Feb		Bill K./Jay	"Things Under Wings – Rant & Rave" - Henry	
16 Mar	In-House Contest "Marine!"	Rich/Mike W.		
20 Apr		Rick/Mike O.	Steve – Bare Metal Finish	
18 May	Club Kit Swap Meet	Dwight/Stephen	Rich – Static Grass (tentative) Tom – Making Antennas (tentative)	
15 June	In-House Contest "Jurassic Plastic"	Niilo/Joe		
20 July		Steve/Matt		
17 Aug		Bill P/Todd		
21 Sept	In-House Contest "Out of Your Category"	Bill K/Robby		
19 Oct		Mark/?		
26 Oct	2019 Desert Classic			
16 Nov	2020 Club Officer Nominations			
21 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2020 Officer Elections In-House Contest "Red"	Everyone!		

## **The Tool Crib**

John Summerfield brought in some Infini Easycutting cutting mats.



These are pretty cool in that they have geometric depressions molded into them, which are very useful for cutting masking. Put your Tamiya tape on them and use the depressions to cut precision masking. Available from Micro-Mark

Stephen brought Archer anti-skid texture decals.



If you're familiar with Archer's rivet and weld bead decals, these are similar, with a resin anti-skid texture applied to decal film. Just cut to size and apply like regular decals. Perfect for aircraft walkways, etc. Available directly from Archer and other retailers like Sprue Brothers for about \$18.

Rich had a pretty cool home-made jig/modeling bench.



Basically, a box with a sheet steel top, Rich uses various magnetic tools (such as the red Harbor Freight welding clamps in the picture) to secure the model. Very cool, and inexpensive to make!

## **Club Demos**

Let me know if you would like to give a demo and I'll put you on the calendar

## **Member Show and Tell**



Name:

Rich Ribaudo

Time To Build:

25-30 hours

Kit & Scale:

Fantastic Plastic Icarus

1/72nd scale

Aftermarket Items:

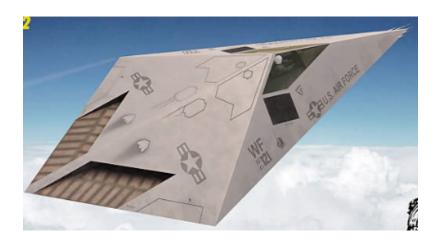
None

Paints Used:

Tamiya Pure White. Model Master FS34096 Dark Green, Model Master FS36173 Air Mobility Gray, Alclad Metal finishes on engines& thrusters

#### Comments:

Sometimes minor characters, vehicles and devices in movies take on a life of their own. Such is the case of **The Icarus**; the interplanetary ship that carried Charlton Heston and his crew in the 1968 film "Planet of the Apes". The ship gets very little screen time and we only get to see the forward part of it. That's because





while on screen it is partially submerged and sinking in a lake! For many years fans wondered what the rest of the ship looked like below the water line. Many had their own theories on what a ship like this needed as a drive section to propel it on its mission, but it was all speculation. Fantastic Plastic's all resin kit presents a plausible and very attractive proposal as to what The Icarus might have looked like if we could have seen all of it before it sank into the lake. Fantastic Plastic decided to kit the Icarus as conceived by "Planet of the Apes" fan, Jan Rukr.

The concept as explained in Scale Model News http://www.scalemodelnews.com/2012/05/incoming-planet-of-apes-icarus.html

#### Missing concept

"The Icarus as depicted in the movie is an elegant looking design, so who sketched it out? According to Fantastic Plastic: "One of the most elegant solutions to the 'missing aft section' question was posited by fan Jan Rukr in 2002. He extended the nose section's lines, then cut the rear back in stepped angular configuration, reminiscent of the Lockheed 'Hopeless Diamond' stealth demonstrator aircraft. This aerodynamically credible airframe could have ridden atop (or in front of) a larger drive section, automatically separating before re-entry. Although just one of many Icarus concepts published in the last 20 years, Rukr's solution remains a fan favorite and was thus chosen for kitting by Fantastic Plastic."





THE BUILD: This kit was first released back in 2012. Popular demand influenced Fantastic Plastic to reissue this kit again in 2018 and when they did, I made sure I didn't miss it again. 23 well cast resin pieces make up this kit and a beautifully rendered decal sheet by J-Bot provides all the markings and instrument consoles.

The expectation going into an all resin kit should always include cleaning up parts and making fit adjustments. Big pieces of resin are difficult to cast without distortion or warpage, but Fantastic Plastic did a respectable job on this kit. The interior parts fit with no issues except for the windscreens. I substituted clear sheet styrene for the provided clear resin parts, but all that detail in the cabin is invisible! I wound up painting the windows black as I didn't care for the appearance of the clear parts. No loss here as the interior wasn't visible anyway.

As this model has no landing gear it demanded a base to hold it "in flight". Before joining the fuselage halves, I epoxied a hardwood block to the bottom hull. This allowed me to drill into the model and have a hefty mass into which I could drill and inserted an acrylic support rod. The rod was fastened to a simple maple stand. An "ANSA" (American National Space Administration) embroidered patch I found on eBay was glued to the base.

In order to cast the razor-sharp leading edges on the chines, Fantastic Plastic put the seams between the body halves ½" inboard along the chine lengths, on the bottom of the model. There was a healthy gap here and the fit required some Dremel work to adjust the step height between the parts. I filled the gap with Gorilla Super Glue Gel and surfaced it with 3M Blue Acrylic



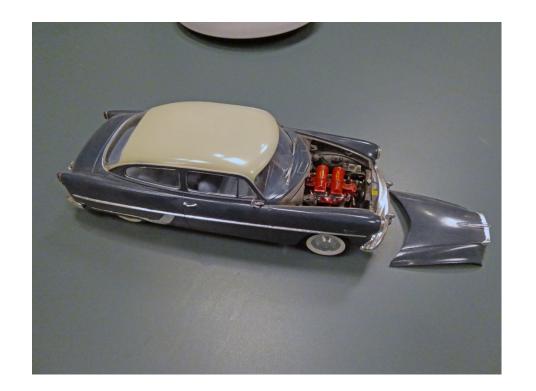
Filler. I leveled and smoothed the chine seam with grades of 200 through 800 wet sandpaper on a 12" aluminum T extrusion sander. It was messy work but only took a couple of hours, including polishing the rest of the ship's outer surfaces with 800 wet paper.

PAINT AND FINISHING: Once sanded and polished the model got a few coats of Tamiya White Primer from a rattle can. After some minor touch-ups 3 coats of Tamiya Pure White spray paint were applied. The antiglare panels and aft decks were painted with Model Master FS34096 Dark Green and the transom received a coat of Model Master FS36173 Air Mobility Gray. Engine bells and rocket tubes were finished in Alclad metal shades and super glued in place. I applied the splendid J-Bot decals which behaved beautifully before adding the final engine details.

CONCLUSION: The end result was very satisfying, and I'm pleased with how the model turned out. Most of the construction time was spent sanding some healthy seams and polishing the already well molded fuselage. But these are things we have to expect when committing to a resin kit, so I don't consider this extra work as a detracting factor. I've certainly had worse experiences on other resin projects. The ability to build unusual subject matter with resin kits almost always offsets the extra prep work we have to do. If one omits building the Icarus' interior several hours will be saved, to say nothing of the disappointment of not seeing all that work.

I recommend this kit to builders of moderate experience who don't mind treating seam and step height issues. This might not be a bad "first" resin kit for modelers wanting to try one.

**EPILOGE:** If you ever wondered what happened to the actual Icarus ship used in *Planet of the Apes* there's some sad news to be told. The movie prop was dismantled and the nose section, the very part that the crew made their escape from, became a sign post for a motel and restaurant. An ignominious end to a really cool looking spaceship.



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John Summerford

Time To Build:

20 hours

Kit & Scale:

Moebius Hudson Hornet

1/25<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Testors

Comments:



Jim Bunch

Time To Build:

Kit & Scale:

Trumpeter Stalinetz S65 Tractor

1/144<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Rustoleum Camo

Tamiya Primer (gray)

Comments:

Complete failure!

And stripped with Testors ELO!



Jim Bunch

Time To Build:

A few hours (5-10)

Kit & Scale:

Revell Rat Fink

?scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya primer

Dry brushing with Tamiya dulled

colors

Comments:

Opened mouth.

Fun Build!



**Robby Robinson** 

Time To Build:

20 hours

Kit & Scale:

Monogram Santa Fe Hudson Locomotive

1/87<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya, Vallejo. Ponteen hairspray

Comments:



Mike Hutchison

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya Spitfire Mk. 1 (2018 release)

1/48<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Mission Models, Model Master and Alclad paint Sky decals

#### Comments:

Beautiful kit. Cockpit is a model by itself. Decals created a lot of buzz on a group on Facebook. You be the judge on accuracy...



David Newman

Time To Build:

3 months

Kit & Scale:

Micro-Mir UB-1 WWI German sub, modified to UB-16

1/144<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

Alps decals (eyes and mouth)

Paints Used:

Gunze and Tamiya

## Comments:

Also- hypothetical 1/144<sup>th</sup> Curtiss race motorcycle (1919) with 400hpLiberty engine and NC-4 engine pod for body – all scratchbuilt



Mike Stenke

Time To Build:

25 hours

Kit & Scale:

Trumpeter USS England

1/350<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tru-Color and Tamiya

Comments:

Good fit, except photoetch parts do not fit well over depth charge and K-gun racks



Niilo Lund

Time To Build:

120 hours over 4 months.

Kit & Scale:

Monogram Big Boy Locomotive

1/87th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Sharpie (water and oil based), Silver paint pen marker (body and wheels), Black paint pen marker (body), White paint pen marker (wheels)

Testors Gloss Red for cockpit, wheel cranks and lights Testors Metallic Gold for bell

#### Comments:

Challenging build particularly for the 16 drive wheel assemblies. Locomotive and tender instructions were clear for most of the build. However, the piping for the relief lines was initially confusing until I figured out that the locomotive assembly needed to be upside down to complete installation and final assembly. Painting the engineer's station was difficult due to small workspace. Decals were good and laid down with Pledge surface prep followed by Micro-Sol covering. History: the DH&IR Railroad was formed in 1938. The Mallets were about 20 tons lighter than the Union Pacific (3600-4200 ton) engines were modernized from the 1910,1916-1917 versions as the demand for iron ore escalated to support WW2. The following forced increases to 140,000 lbs from 110,000 lbs, and were not replaced by diesels until 1962. Challenging build, time consuming, a lot of patience required. All in all, it was , Different, fun, and satisfying.

## Calendar

10/26/2019	Desert Classic XXIII	Antelope Valley College Cafeteria 3041 W Ave. K, Lancaster, CA
11/2/2019	Third Annual USS Hornet Model Contest and Expo	USS Hornet Air Sea and Space Museum 7007 W. Hornet Ave. Alameda, CA
11/17/2019	Kit Collector's Expo and Sale	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
4/18/2020	Silicon Valley Classic VII	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
4/25/2020	Best of the West	East Side Cannery Resort & Casino 5255 Boulder Hwy. Las Vegas, NV