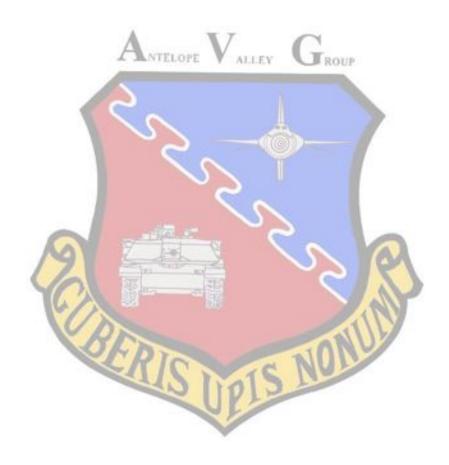
The Smoking Hole

A Publication of the Antelope Valley Group IPMS **Volume 24, Number 7**



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2019 Club Officers

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Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING JULY 20 2019, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

May General Meeting Notes:

For the June meeting, we had our second in-house contest, and various discussions

In-House Contest

We didn't quite have the turnout for our "Jurassic Plastic" contest, but we made up for the low quantity with high quality. So, without further ado, the winner is...



Jim Peterson with his 1/40th LaCrosse Missile and Launcher! This was a very clean build of the ancient, originally Renwal kit. And it's OOB, too! Great job, Jim!

Honors for Prez Emeritus Tracy

The club is indebted to Tracy for the outstanding service has given to the club. A number of the members chipped in to create and award to recognize him. I'm sure everyone agrees that Tracy's leadership, friendship and willingness to share his building techniques has contributed greatly to the success of the club.





Current Prez Steve presented Tracy with his well-deserved award

Club Shirts

Toolman Rich had brought a couple of shirts he had embroidered, with an interesting observation. When Rich brought in his dark blue shirt for embroidery, he got it back with a blue lo-viz AVG logo.



He was told that is what the club specified for blue shirts (although no-one remembers giving that instruction). I think it looks kind of cool, but if you want the full-color logo, be sure to specify when you place your order.

Club Visitor

We had a visitor at the June meeting, Alex Anderson. Alex is new to the area, and is from Portland OR, where he was a member of the Oregon Modeler's Society. Welcome Alex, and hope you choose to join us!

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 | | | | |
| 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

Prez. Steve brought in a rotary tool, this one battery powered. The Herzo 3.7v Mini Rotary Tool. Charges

through USB.



\$22 from Amazon.

Have you ever spilled liquid cement or paint on your work surface, or, worse yet, on your model? Or visitor Alex had a great solution.



He has created weighted oversize bases to hold your glue or paint bottles, making them essentially impossible to tip over. He uses readily available items and fills them with sand and plaster for weight.

They are available from Alex.

Kit Review

1/72 Airfix McDonnell Douglas Phantom FGR.2



Prez Steve gave a review of the new Airfix Phantom. The FGR.2 (also known as the F-4M) was one of two versions of the Phantom for the British military. One of the greatest changes to the FG.1 (RN) and FGR.2 (RAF) from other Phantoms was the use of Rolls Royce Spey low-bypass turbofans instead of the J-79 turbojets used in other Phantoms. The RAF also used a small number of surplus US Navy F-4J's as interim interceptors after the Faulklands War

Steve was very impressed with this kit. It is a brand-new tool, owing nothing to earlier Phantom kits. Steve said one of the highlights of the kit was the numerous building options – extended or retracted flaps and slats, optional deployed refueling probe, multi-piece open or one-piece closed canopy, a radar unit that can be displayed, and open or closed auxiliary air doors.

He also likes the decals, which include a tremendous number of stencils.

Steve believes this is the best kit of a British Phantom available in this scale, and eclipses the Fujimi kits (the previous high standard). He highly recommends the kit. Retail is \$33.00, but can be had cheaper if you look around (Sprue Brothers currently has it for \$28).

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:

Jim Peterson

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Revell LaCrosse Missile and Launcher

1/40th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None – box stock

Paints Used:

Mission Models paint

Comments:

"Silk purse from a sow's ear"



Tracy Ackeret

Time To Build:

50 hours

Kit & Scale:

AMT re-box of 1962 issue 1949 Forde Coupe. 2016 extra parts for gasser

1/25th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None. OTB

Paints Used:

Mig Ammo white (never again)
Mig Ammo interior grays (light and dark)

Comments:

Fun build of a 1960's-style gasser. Caddy blown engine



Joe Cote

Time To Build:

40 hours

Kit & Scale:

AMT Silhouette

1/25th scale

Aftermarket Items:

McGee quad-cam resin engine. Misc. parts from various kits.

Paints Used:

Testors Sunset Red Pearl, silver black, red

Comments:

40 hours to build, 20 of those in the last week



David Newman

Time To Build:

5 years

Kit & Scale:

Minicraft C-54

1/25th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Alps decals

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Model Master

Comments:

Edwards AFB markings



| Name: |
|---------------------------|
| David Newman |
| Time To Build: |
| 3 months |
| Kit & Scale: |
| Roden C-118 |
| 1/144 th scale |
| Aftermarket Items: |
| None |
| Paints Used: |
| Tamiya |
| |
| Comments: |
| |



Niilo Lund

Time To Build:

60 hours over 3 months

Kit & Scale:

Monogram U.S. Navy Avenger TBF (Torpedo Bomber) (1958)

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya Light Grey, Flat Yellow, Flat Black

Testors Flat White, Gloss Red, Gloss Blue, Model Master Zinc Chromate Crew: Testors Flat Tan, Brown, Gloss

White

Engine: Sharpie- Metallic Silver Wheels: Testors Flat Black

Comments:

Challenging kit as it is called a "working or functional" model. This means, (1) folding wings, (2) retracting gear, (3) bay doors open to drop torpedo, (4) turret revolves and gun swivels, and (5) tail hook extends and contracts.

Decided to make final configuration: (1) gear extended, (2) wings folded, and (3) tail hook retracted. I also left

| the weapons bay doors open with the |
|--|
| torpedo fixed in the installed position. |
| Kit came with pilot and gunner and |
| four landing recovery crew if model |
| was to be displayed as a diorama, |
| which I decided not to do. |
| Decals were extremely fragile. Had to |
| use a model knife to extract them |
| from the backing after extensive |
| soaking. |
| Fun model to build if you can find one. |
| Considered to be a collector's edition. |



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DJ "Rowdy" Yates

Time To Build:

Kit & Scale:

RO-B3 ("Robby") - Hasbro R2 unit Body, Japanese Robby Dome.

1/18th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:

This was a figure sent by a friend, it is a Hasbro R2 unit body, with a Japanese Robby the Robot dome! He had originally primed/painted it with Krylon, I had to strip & sand most of it off, seal it, and repaint with Tamiya acrylics. Most of it is Tamiya, with some cheap paints.



DJ "Rowdy" Yates

Time To Build:

Kit & Scale:

Hasbro Imperial R4 Astromech Droid

1/18th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:

This started out as a Hasbro R4-I9 figure, that I repainted to replace a smaller 1:30 scale figure that I had done for Star Wars Celebration Chicago, that was unfortunately lost. All paints are Tamiya. Striping is done by hand, no masking was used. It represents an Imperial R4 Astromech Droid, during the Galactic Civil War era.

IPMS San Diego Contest Report

By Tracy Ackeret

Jun 1st of this year the San Diego IPMS along with the San Diego Model Car club held their annual contest and swap meet at the San Diego Air & Space Museum Annex. For those who don't know about the Annex it's in El Cajon at Gillespie Field. This is a good contest that I have attended for the last 3 years running and I really enjoy it. Not just for the contest but for the great location they hold it at. This year's contest had a couple themes, one just for the cars. The car theme was "Gasser Wars" and the main theme was D-Day's 75th anniversary. Since this contest is hosted by 2 clubs they split the duties between the clubs such as judging. As I said the contest is held at the Annex so there are lots of cool full sized airplanes to look at as well as the models. They have some rather unique airplanes on display as well as some mundane ones. They move most of the planes out of the hangar and onto the ramp area for the swap meet part of the show.





They still leave the airplanes that are hanging and those that are too hard to move like the X-13. They have some rather unique aircraft on display outside as well. One such is the Douglas A2D SkyShark. This is a turboprop powered attack airplane built for the Navy. The first flight of the SkyShark was in March of 1950. This is the only remaining example of the A2D left out of 12 built.



One airplane that I was really surprised to see was the Formula One racer "Shoestring". For those who might not know, Mojave held air races back in the 70's. I remember going and watching these races when I was in High School. Shoestring was one that was always in the hunt for wins back then. It was great to see this airplane again. The

paint scheme she is wearing now was later in her career when she was sponsored by Circus-Circus hotel and casino in Las Vegas. Not sure where her wing is but she is in surprisingly good shape for as old as she is.



As for the contest there were some amazing models in contention this year in all categories. One in particular was a Spitfire Mk-18. I didn't catch the name of the guy who built this but it had lots of scratch built stuff on it and lots of exposed panels. The guy works for Fed-Ex and was unsure if he was even going to make the contest as he was in India just a couple days before the contest. He did make it though and I'm glad he did as it was spectacular. He not only won the $1/48^{th}$ Allied aircraft class but Best Aircraft and Best of show. You can bet this model will be seen a lot more. Probably at the Nats this year if he is in town.



The car classes also had some amazing models, one was this Porsche 959. This car was the winner of the 1983 Le Man 24 hour race. A couple more cars on display were this Lotus Type 78 from 1977 and the Mercedes AMG GT-3 and this display of Carlsbad raceway with a number of Gasser type cars.



Surprisingly the 1/32nd aircraft class was very well represented, I remember a few years ago when we were lucky to have one or two 1/32nd aircraft entered in our contest. This one had a lot of amazing entries including this JU-88/Fw-190 Mistel with fully detailed engines on both the Ju-88 and Fw-190.



An interesting model in the 1/72nd airplane class was this P-51 race plane. It's of Miss Ashley II, a highly modified P-51 Mustang. Well calling it a P-51 is a bit of a misnomer as it was built by hand not a modified P-51 from WWII. They got plans from the Smithsonian and built her from scratch but instead of the normal P-51 style wing they put wings and tail-planes from a Lear Jet on her, as well as the Rolls Royce Griffin engine with contra rotating props. I remember seeing the real one back in the late 90's when she started flying. She only flew for a few years before she crashed at Reno in 1999 totaling her and killing the pilot Gary Levitz of Levitz furniture fame. This was a really nicely done model of her.



In the real space category was a very well done full Space Shuttle stack of the Shuttle Columbia as well as this model of the Lunar Lander. The lander had a lot of the kit parts replaced with scratch built ones and had the kit ones displayed alongside it to show the difference in the detail.



In the 1/72nd jet category was this nice FA-18E model of the Puken Dogs of VFA-143. I'm still not sure if I'm a fan of all the shading, but it did look like a well-used example of a Super Bug as one might see on a long deployment at sea, even if it was posed on a land runway.



One area I was surprised at the lack of many entries was the Armor. There really wasn't that many compared to other contests I have attended. What was there was very nice but just not a large amount of entries.



Overall this was a fun contest and one that I will be returning to next year. The San Diego IPMS and San Diego Model Car Club's put on a great contest in a fantastic location. Models and real planes at the same place, what could be better. Plus it's San Diego, there are lots of great places to visit down in that area and lots of places to eat.

Calendar

| 8/7-10/2019 | IPMS USA Nationals | Chattanooga Convention Center Chattanooga, TN |
|-------------|--|---|
| 9/7/2019 | IPMS Reno 20 th Anniversary Contest | Desert Heights Elementary School 13948 Mt Bismark, Reno, NV |
| 9/7/2019 | REDCON 2018 | Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV |
| 10/12/2019 | Orangecon 2019 | Hotel Fullerton Anaheim 1500 South Raymond Ave., Fullerton, CA |
| .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 |