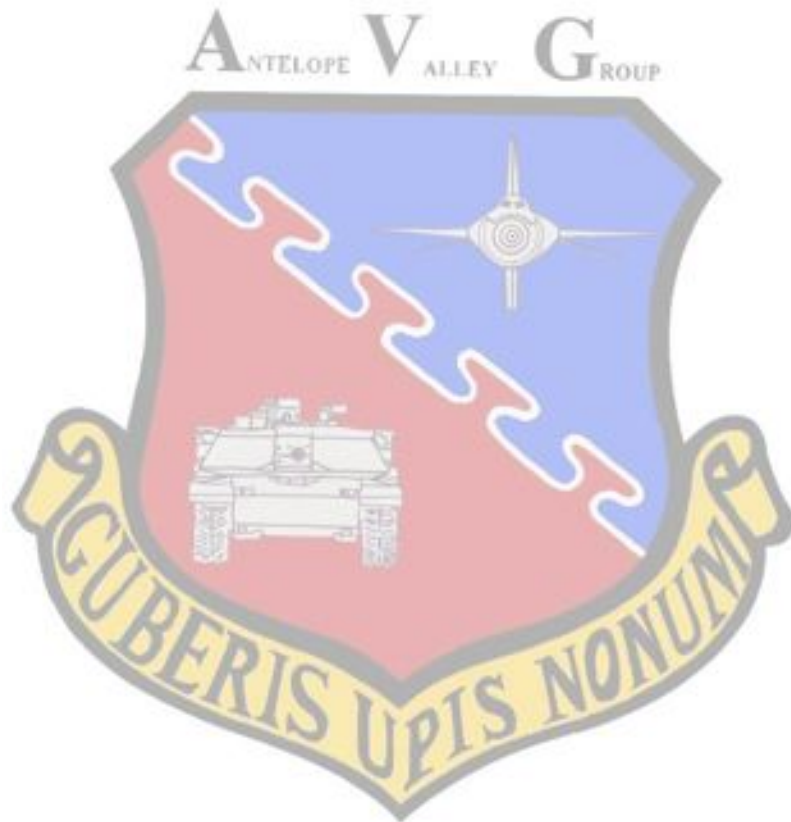


The Smoking Hole

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2017 Club Officers

President

Tracy Ackeret

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Vice President

Jim Abercromby

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Treasurer

Niilo Lund

niiloj7@verizon.net

Secretary

Matt Graham

mgraham4@bak.rr.com

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 16 2017, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

November General Meeting Notes:

Primary discussion for November was a contest review and nomination of Club Officers for 2018.

2018 Officer Elections

Hard to believe it's December already and time to elect the Club Officers for 2018.

Here's the slate:

President:

Tracy A. (incumbent)

Steve S.

Vice President:

Jim A. (incumbent)

Mike W.

Curtis S.

Treasurer:

Niilo L. (unopposed)

Secretary:

Matt G. (unopposed)

December Potluck and Gift Exchange

As we do every year, we will be having our Potluck and Gift Exchange at the meeting. We had a signup sheet at the last meeting for food, and there is also an e-mail chain going around of what people are bringing.

You do not need to participate in the gift exchange, but if you choose to, please bring a wrapped gift. Guidelines – bring a kit worth in the vicinity of \$20 (or more). The kit does not have to be new, but should be unstarted and should be something decent (that you would enjoy building) (a gift card from a hobby retailer would also be acceptable). Always remember Tom's immortal words: "No dogs!"

Contest Recap

We had a good post-contest discussion. The general consensus was that the contest went very well, but a few improvements are possible.

Turnout was one of the best we have ever experienced. Here is a summary of the number of entries in each category:

Cat. #	# of Entries	Cat. #	# of Entries	Cat. #	# of Entries
1.	6	16.	8	31.	3
2.	7	17.	8	32.	3
3.	6	18.	12	33.	6
4.	9	19.	11	34.	3
5.	5	20.	18	35.	2
6.	7	21.	10	36.	9
7.	6	22.	5	37.	5
8.	13	23.	10	38.	7
9.	10	24.	8	39.	12
10.	2	25.	4	40.	3
11.	19	26.	5		
12.	5	27.	13	J01.	0
13.	6	28.	9	J02.	2
14.	4	29.	5		
15.	5	30.	9		

Some recommendations for improvements:

Have more members involved in registration so people can take a break and not have to support the entire time.

Have judging sheets for splits printed up.

Have a Contest Coordinator to collect judging sheets, tabulate results and survey the entries eligible for special awards, relieving the VP of some duties.

Have the eligibility for the “Jurassic Plastic” category on a sliding scale (40 years and older).

All agreed on a proposed date of 28 October for the 2018 Desert Classic.

Club Website

Our club domain will be up for renewal in 2019. Jim has been maintaining the site for many years now, and would like to retire from those duties at that time. He's looking for another member willing to assume the duties as webmaster.

2017 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
21 Jan	Member Dues Collected			
18 Feb	Project Build Meeting	Rich M. / Steve		
18 Mar		Matt/Niilo		
15 Apr	In-House Contest "6 Day War"	Mike O. / Rick		
20 May		Rich / Jay		
17 June		Jim / Joe	"Things Under Wings - ARM-US"	
16 July	In-House Contest "Jurassic Plastic"	Steve S. / Robby		
19 Aug		Frank / Stephen		
16 Sept		Bill P. / Tracy		
21 Oct		David / Henry		
28 Oct	2017 Desert Classic			
18 Nov	2018 Club Officer Nominations	Mike W. / Bill P.		
16 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2018 Officer Elections	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

Nothing this month.

Club Demos

If you'd like to do a demo for the club, let me know and I'll put you on the calendar

Member Show and Tell

Name:

Curtis Stidham

Time To Build:

4 months

Kit & Scale:

Monogram Duesenberg SC Torpedo
Dual Phaeton (1963 issue)

1/25th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Humbrol, Model Master, Testors,
Alclad Chrome & Duraluminum

Comments:

Classic Monogram Duesenberg.
Testors lacquer finish



Name:

Robby Robinson

Time To Build:

6 hours

Kit & Scale:

Hobby Boss USS Vincennes

1/1250th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None.

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:



Name:

Mike Otis

Time To Build:

3 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Meng Achzarit I.D.F. APC

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Vallejo Sinai Gray

Comments:

Good kit. Good fit, not a ton of parts



Name:	Matt Graham
Time To Build:	5 hours
Kit & Scale:	Tomytec U.S. Navy F-4J VF-51 Vigilantes 1/144 th scale
Aftermarket Items:	None
Paints Used:	Kit is pre-painted. Small amount of Gunze Sangyo and Testors used for touchups and detail painting
Comments:	Amazing little kit. Although pre-painted, it is much more of a real model than some earlier Tomytec kits. Very detailed and accurate, with a large number of parts (>60), some extremely small (individual antennas). Numerous options (open or one piece, deployed or retracted refueling probe, extended nose gear strut, etc. Clever engineering minimizes visible seams. Puts some 1/72 kits to shame.

USS Bowfin Museum

During my TDY to Oahu last month, I took the opportunity to visit the USS Bowfin Museum at Pearl Harbor.



The Bowfin Museum is part of the Pearl Harbor Museum complex, which also includes the Pearl Harbor Museum, the Arizona Memorial, the USS Missouri and the Pacific Air Museum. I had visited the other museums on a previous trip, but had not had time to see the Bowfin.

The USS Bowfin (SS-287) is a *Balao*-class submarine. The *Balao*-class was a refinement of the *Gato*-class, differing primarily in having a strengthened hull and some minor internal equipment differences. The boats were 311 feet in length, with a crew of 80 (10 officers and 70) enlisted. Propulsion was diesel-electric, with a maximum speed of 20 knots surfaced and 8.75 knots submerged. Armament consisted of 24 torpedoes, a 5-inch deck gun and 20 and 40 mm deck cannons. The submarine could stay submerged for up to 48 hours. The Bowfin was launched on December 7, 1942, exactly one year after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, which earned the Bowfin the nickname “Pearl Harbor Avenger”. The Bowfin served off and on (the final 10 years as a reserve training boat) until 1971.

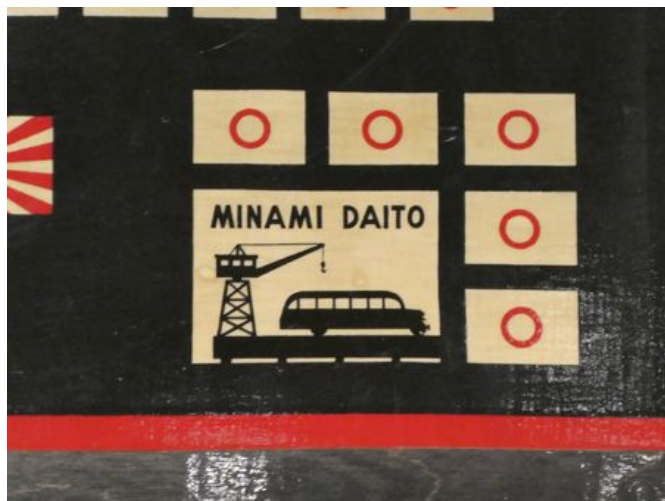
The museum consists of the submarine itself, a museum building, and several outside exhibits.

The museum building tells the history of submarine warfare. It is primarily oriented toward the United States submarine service, but has information on German and Japanese wartime operations and some information on Soviet submarines.

The museum has a large collection of submarine battle flags. It was a tradition for each submarine crew to create a battle flag, with the ships mascot and kill markings added for each operation (something like kill and mission marking on US WW2 aircraft). Like some US bombers, many of the sub's mascots were created by Walt Disney artists.



Plaque representing Bowfin's last battle flag



The Bowfin's is credited with "sinking" a pier, bus and crane! While attacking the harbor at Minami Daito, an errant torpedo hit a pier with a bus and crane on it. The pier sunk, so the crew thought 'what the heck' and added it to the flag.

The museum contains several nice models, including a spectacular 1/32 scale cutaway of the Bowfin showing the internal arrangement.



There is also a nice model of the Japanese I-401 'aircraft carrier' submarine, showing the launching of the Aichi M6A Seiran attack floatplane



The museum also contains a rather sobering display of a full-size Poseidon C-3 SLBM mockup



The actual submarine is beautifully restored and meticulously maintained.



A self-guided audio tour is provided, and almost the entire submarine is open to visit, the only exception being the conning tower fighting compartment, which is too small to host visitors. A cutaway conning tower is available to see on the outdoor exhibits, but unfortunately it was closed for restoration during my visit.



Forward torpedo room, containing 4 torpedo tubes. Note the upper left tube is loaded and the torpedo on the right. Every inch of space is utilized in the sub, and there are crew bunks above the torpedoes.



Most luxurious place in the sub – the Captain's quarters. The inside of the sub is painted white to make it seem less claustrophobic.



Helm in the main control room. Large wheels control the forward and aft dive planes, and the large gauges are depth gauges. There is a separate rudder control station aft of this, which also has the engine room telegraph.



Forward engine room. Engines are General Motors 16-248 V-16 2-stroke diesels, driving electric generators. Bowfin has 4 engines.



Maneuvering control station. This is located at the rear of the aft engine room. Commands are received from the control room on the engine room telegraph display on the left and the crewmen control the power source (batteries or generator power) and electric propulsion motor speed and direction with the levers.



5-inch deck gun. Forward of the gun is the conning tower with periscopes and 40 mm Bofors gun. There is a 20 mm Oerlikon cannon forward of the conning tower.

The museum also has a number of submarine related outdoor displays.



Vought Regulus I submarine launched missile. The Regulus was turbojet powered and could carry a nuclear payload. Would be considered a cruise missile today. Vought produced a supersonic Regulus II, but it was never deployed as it was made obsolete by ballistic missiles.



40 mm twin Bofors mount. While not used on submarines, they were used for anti-aircraft on battleships and shore installations



Japanese Kaiten manned suicide torpedo. Kaitens were not too successful, only being credited with sinking 2 ships, with the loss of 106 Kaiten pilots.



Submariner's Memorial Circle. Each obelisk is dedicated to one of the 52 submarines lost during WWII, and details how the boat was lost and lists the crewmember's names. The submarine force paid a high price, with more than 3500 crewmembers lost in action.

I was very impressed with the quality of the museum and highly recommend a visit if you find yourself on Oahu.

There are a number of kits of US WW2 submarine, the most impressive being Revell's 1/72 Gato. *Gatos* and *Balaos* tend to differ in detail from boat to boat. Nautilus Models make a number of conversion sets, including a Bowfin conning tower.

Calendar

11/19/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
1/13/2018	Scorpfest V	Tucson FOP Lodge #1 3445N. Dodge Blvd. Tucson, AZ
2/17/2018	Silvercon	Town and Country Lutheran Church and School 4049 Marconi Ave. Sacramento, CA
3/4/2018	Valley Con 2018	Peterson Automotive Museum 6060 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA
3/11/2018	Kit Collectors Expo	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
3/31/2018	Silicon Valley Classic V	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
5/5/2107	Best of the West, Prelude to the Phoenix Nationals	Eastside Cannery Hotel and Casino 5255 Boulder Hwy. Las Vegas, NV
6/9/2018	IPMS Region 8 Contest and Swap Meet	San Diego Air and Space Museum Annex 335 Kenney St. El Cajon, CA
8/1-4/2017	IPMS/USA National Convention	Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3 rd St. Phoenix, AZ