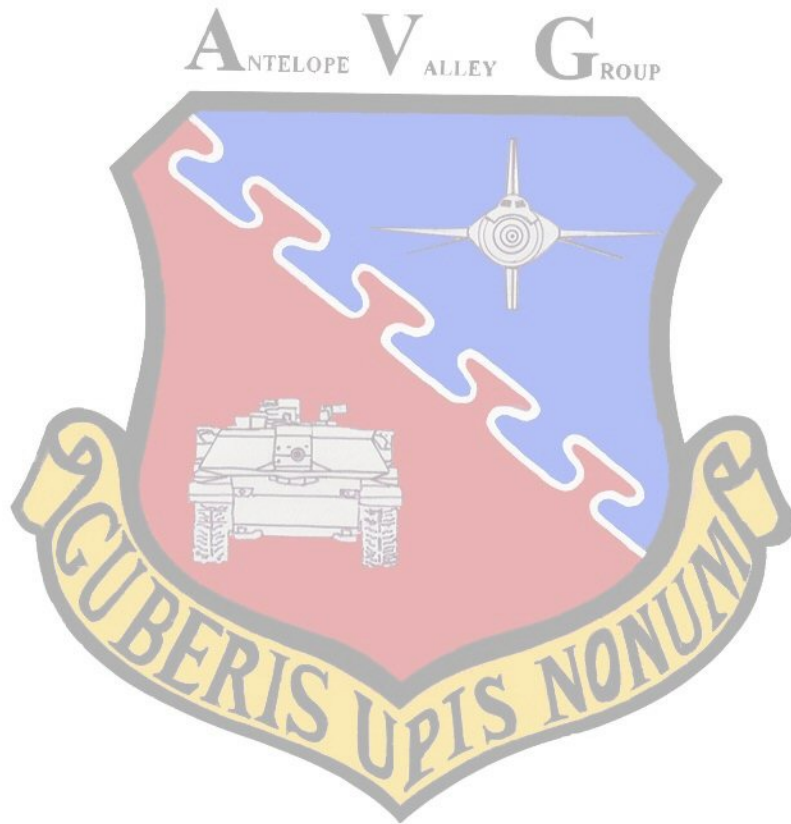


The Smoking Hole

A Publication of the Antelope Valley Group IPMS
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2015 Club Officers

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Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING February 21, 2015, 1 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

General Meeting Notes:

We discussed general club business at the January meeting

2015 Contest Themes

It's not too early to start thinking about the theme for this year's contest. Several theme ideas were proposed at the January meeting:

“Look Inside” – details inside a model. Examples: Best aircraft cockpit, best armor interior, best auto interior or engine.

“A Day at the Zoo 2” - Models with an animal name – i.e. a Jaguar aircraft, Tiger tank, Mustang car, etc.

“Nifty Fifties” – Model subjects from the 1950's

“Factory Fresh” – Models depicting a brand new vehicle (aircraft, tank, auto)

Special Awards

Several proposals for the 2015 contest special awards were made at the meeting:

Best Russian Armor

Best British

Three carry-over awards were proposed:

Best X-Plane

President's Award

Best Auto Paint and Finish

Club Facebook Page

It was proposed that the club perhaps have a Facebook page to supplement (or perhaps replace) the club website. Social media is very popular and several other clubs have implemented this idea. A positive aspect of replacing the website with a Facebook page would be elimination of the fee to maintain the club domain name. A possible downside is that the club information would only be available to people with a Facebook account, and not everyone has (or wants) a Facebook account.

2015 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
17 Jan	Member Dues Collected			
21 Feb		Rich R. / Mike O.		
21 Mar		Jim / Robbie	"Things Under Wings" (Henry)	
18 Apr	In House Contest-"A is for April"	Rick / Curt		
16 May		Dwight / Nick		
20 June	Club BBQ			
18 July	In House Contest - "Built a Tamiya Kit"	Niilo		
15 Aug				
19 Sept		Jeff		
17 Oct	Judge's Clinic			
7 Nov	2016 Desert Classic			
21 Nov	2016 Club Officer Nominations			
19 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2016 Officer Elections			

The Tool Crib

Time for another installment of “Rich the Tool Man”.

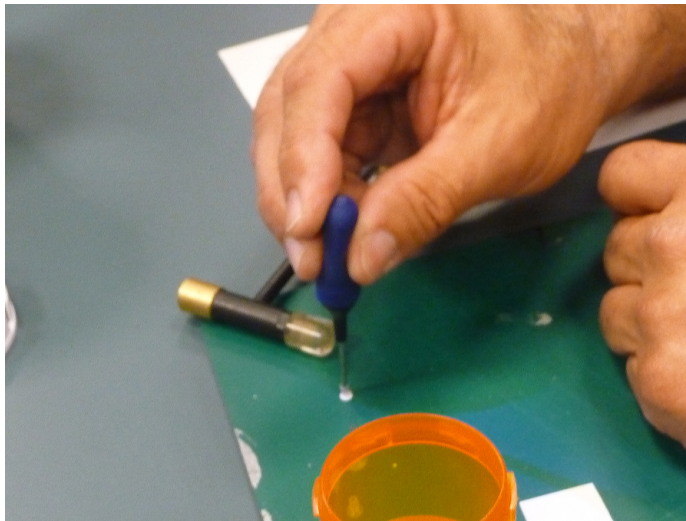


Waldron Punch and Die Set. Waldron Model Products was a company in San Jose, California. Well before Eduard (the 1970's), Waldron started to produce a series of photoetch detail sets (primarily seat belt buckles in various scales, and canopy detailing items). They also produced a series of aircraft instruments and placards, produced by photolithography onto very thin aluminum sheet. To remove the instruments from the sheet, Waldron also made a punch set.



The set consists of a precision steel die with a Plexiglas upper cover and 6 steel punches, ranging in size from 0.160 down to 0.039. The die has 6 holes corresponding to the punch sizes. To use the set, the proper size punch is selected and the item to be punched is inserted between the die and the plexi cover, aligning with the hole corresponding to the punch size. The punch is inserted through the hole in the plexi cover and struck (a small brass mallet works well), punching a disk from the item. The set can be used to punch paper, plastic and thin metal. It is useful for removing instruments from decal sheets for individual application, or making small plastic disks (which can be useful for filling ejector pin marks). Waldron also made a Sub-Miniature Punch and Die set of even smaller punches, which was useful for making knobs and switches for instrument panels.

These sets are no longer generally available (Waldron went out of business in the '90's and was purchased by, I believe, Roll Models), but a similar set is available from Micro Mark. These sets aren't cheap (I remember paying something like \$40 for mine in 1979, and the Sub Miniature set was even more expensive, at about \$70). I saw a Sub Miniature set at Brookhurst Hobbies a couple of weeks ago priced at \$100!

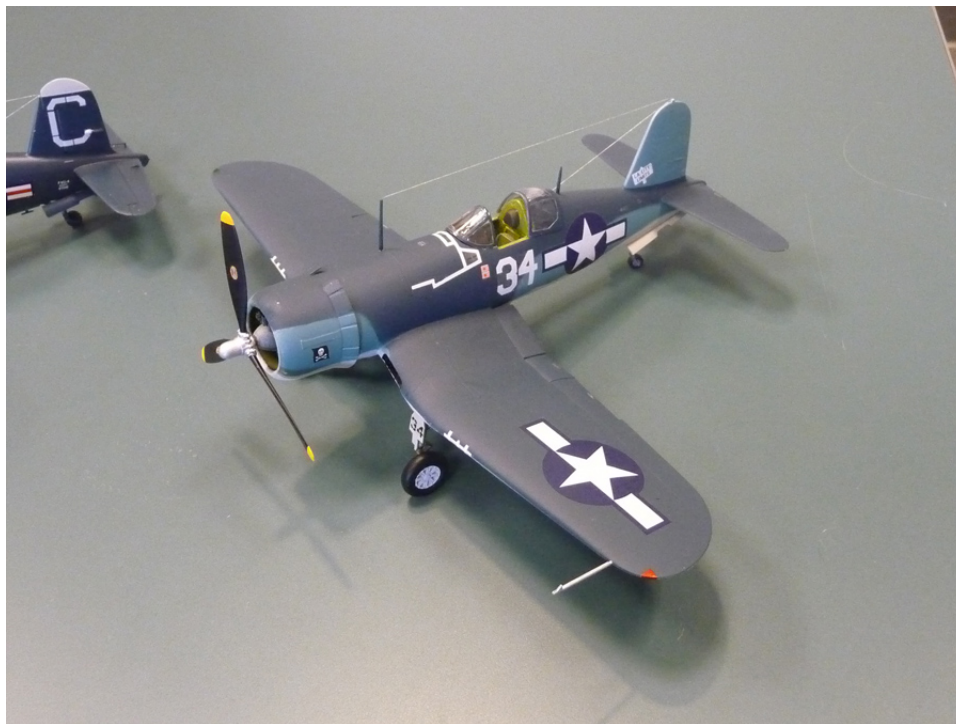


Model Pal vacuum placing tool. Silly name for a useful item. Small squeeze-bulb tool with a suction cup on the end. Place the cup on the item you want to pick up and squeeze the bulb, squeeze it again to release. Great way to handle small items and also canopies without getting fingerprints on them. Available from Micro Mark.

Club Demos

Let me know if you'd like to do a demo for the club and I'll highlight it in the newsletter. We already have a couple lined up.

Member Show and Tell



Name:

Tracy Ackret

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Academy F4U-1D

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:

Airplane of Ens. Chico Freeman of
VF-17



Name:

Tracy Ackret

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Hobbyboss F4U-4

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

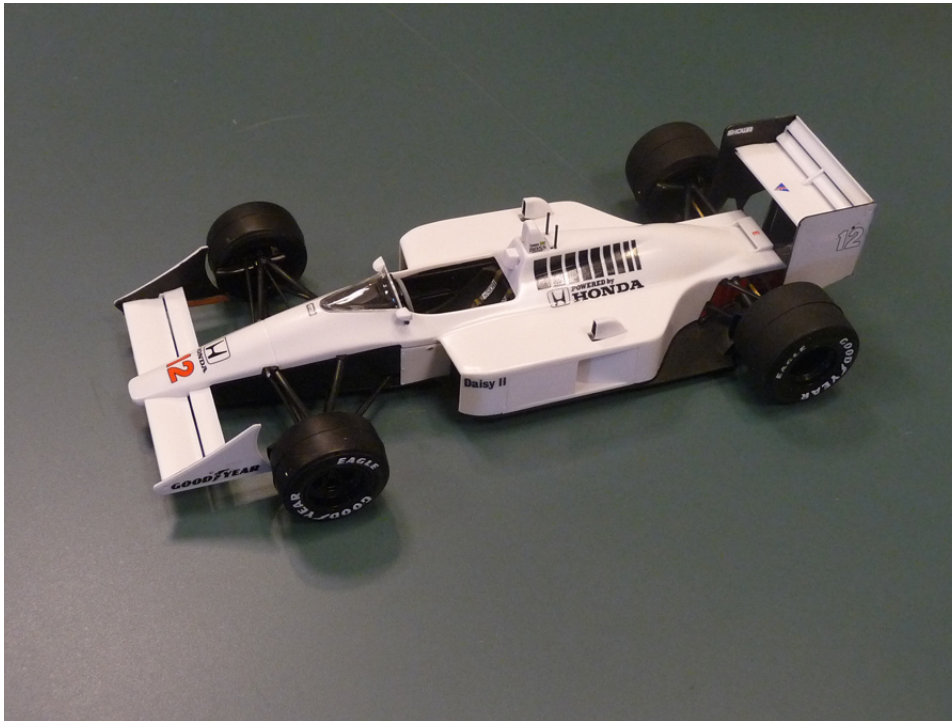
Furball stars-and-bars decals

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:

The stars-and-bars were not right, so I used Furball replacements. Aircraft of VF-5B Jolly Rogers



Name:

Tom Hamel

Time To Build:

2 Weeks

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya McLaren/Honda MP4/4
Formula 1 race car

1/20th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Model Master

A good challenging kit for me. Lots of engine detail is covered up by outer shell.



Name:

Tom Hamel

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya US M4A3E8 Sherman

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Some stowage detail

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Model Master

Probably one of the better Sherman kits. Some modeling skills are needed, especially in the suspension and tracks. NO crew figures are included



Name:

Rich Ribaldo

Time To Build:

16 hours

Kit & Scale:

Fly Model Avro VZ-9 Avrocar

1/72nd scale

Aftermarket Items:

Scratchbuilt canopies and details

Paints Used:

Tamiya, Model Master and Alclad

See Rich's detailed build-up article
(following)

Avro VZ-9 Build Report

By Rich Ribaud

Model: Fly Model Avro VZ-9 Avrocar. 1/72 scale Kit # 72014

Build Time: Construction = 4 hours. Paint & decals = 9 hours. Extra Details = 3 hours.

Finish: Overall metal finish is various shades of Alclad and Model Master Metalizer over a base coat of Tamiya Gloss Black TS-14. Anti-Glare Panels are Testors Flat Black. Miscellaneous small details picked out with various Testors and Model Master paints.

Aftermarket Items: Nothing commercially available, but homemade vacuum formed canopies and scratch built styrene parts.

History: *Courtesy of Wikipedia.* wikipedia.org/wiki/Avro_Canada_VZ-9_Avrocar

The Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar was a VTOL aircraft developed by Avro Aircraft Ltd. (Canada) as part of a secret U.S. military project carried out in the early years of the Cold War. The Avrocar intended to exploit the Coandă effect to provide lift and thrust from a single "turborotor" blowing exhaust out the rim of the disk-shaped aircraft to provide anticipated VTOL-like performance. In the air, it would have resembled a flying saucer.

Originally designed as a fighter-like aircraft capable of very high speeds and altitudes, the project was repeatedly scaled back over time and the U.S. Air Force eventually abandoned it. Development was then taken up by the U.S. Army for a tactical combat aircraft requirement, a sort of high-performance helicopter. In flight testing, the Avrocar proved to have unresolved thrust and stability problems that limited it to a degraded, low-performance flight envelope; subsequently, the project was cancelled in September 1961.

Courtesy of Wikipedia. wikipedia.org/wiki/Avro_Canada_VZ-9_Avrocar

Build Notes: This is the first kit across the finish line for me in 2015, but it took me three years to get around to finishing it! Having said that it is worth mentioning that I have declared 2015 as my "Clean Out the Fridge" year. My goal is to finish one of my dozen or so builds I abandoned over the years for each new kit I start in 2015.

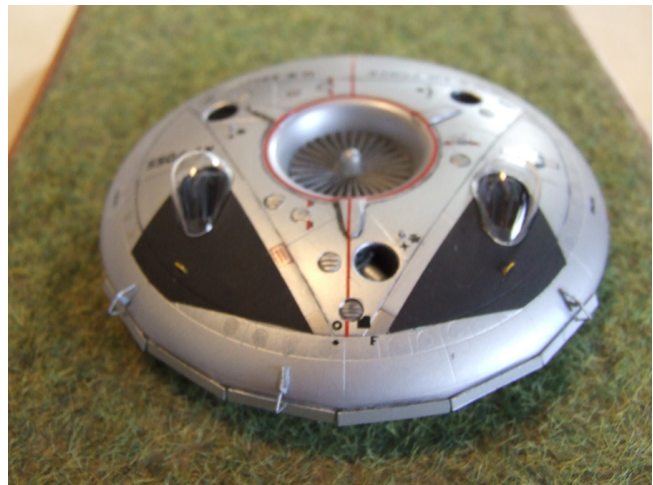
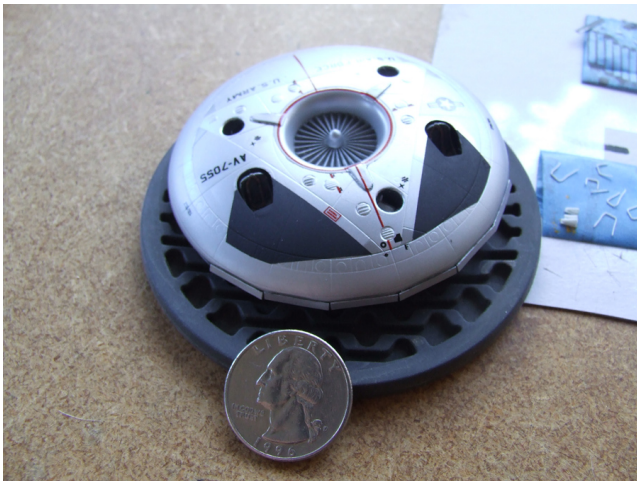
Fly Model's PZ-9 is a simple, well-fitting kit comprised of 24 plastic and 9 resin parts. I used no filler and the seams cleaned up with just a bit of polishing. The cockpits are made up of a number of resin parts but are all but invisible under the structure and tiny canopies. Speaking of canopies the kit parts were

extremely thick for 1/72 scale so replacements were made on a Mattel Vac-U-Form machine using the kit parts as masters. The decals were thin but strong and they behaved well with Micro Sol setting solutions.

The model, being essentially a round disc, would be uninteresting without adding the few external details found on the real article. I added small detail such as handles, vent tubes, diverter vane covers, bell cranks and linkages.

Summary: This was a fun build that went further than I expected it to go, but that was my own doing. Once I got close to finishing the basic kit I couldn't leave off the added extra external details that add visual interest. There are a few areas needing a bit of cleaning up as you might expect when dealing with resin parts but nothing excessive. The basic build goes fast but most of the hours spent on this build were spent on repeatedly masking and painting tiny panel shapes on the round fuselage. If you don't mind working under a magnifying visor, and if tiny parts are not a problem I recommend this kit. Any modeler of average skill who has a bit of experience with limited run kits and resin parts will have no trouble with this kit. If nothing else you'll be rewarded with something very different than what is in your display case.

Further, I'd be interested in knowing if any of my fellow AVG members want to take up the challenge of "Cleaning Out" their own backlog of models that were left by the wayside for something newer, brighter & shinier.



Calendar

3/1/2015	Valley Con 2015	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum 40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley, CA
3/15/2015	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
4/10- 11/2015	SCAHMS 2015 California Show	TBA
4/11/2015	Silicon Valley Classic 2015	Naperdak Hall 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose, CA
4/18/2015	20 th Annual Best of the West	Riviera Hotel and Casino 2901 Las Vegas Blvd South, Las Vegas, NV
6/6/2015	San Diego Model Expo and Swap Meet	San Diego Air and Space Museum Annex, Gillespie Field 335 Kenney St., San Diego, CA
6/13/2015	Hobby Expo 2015	Well Fargo Center for the Arts 50 Mark West Springs Rd., Santa Rosa, CA
7/12/2015	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
9/12/2015	"High Rollers 16 th Annual Invitational	Desert Heights Elementary School 13948 Mt. Bismark, Reno, NV
9/27/2015	TriCity Classic Eleven	Milpitas Community Center 457 E Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA
11/8/2015	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA