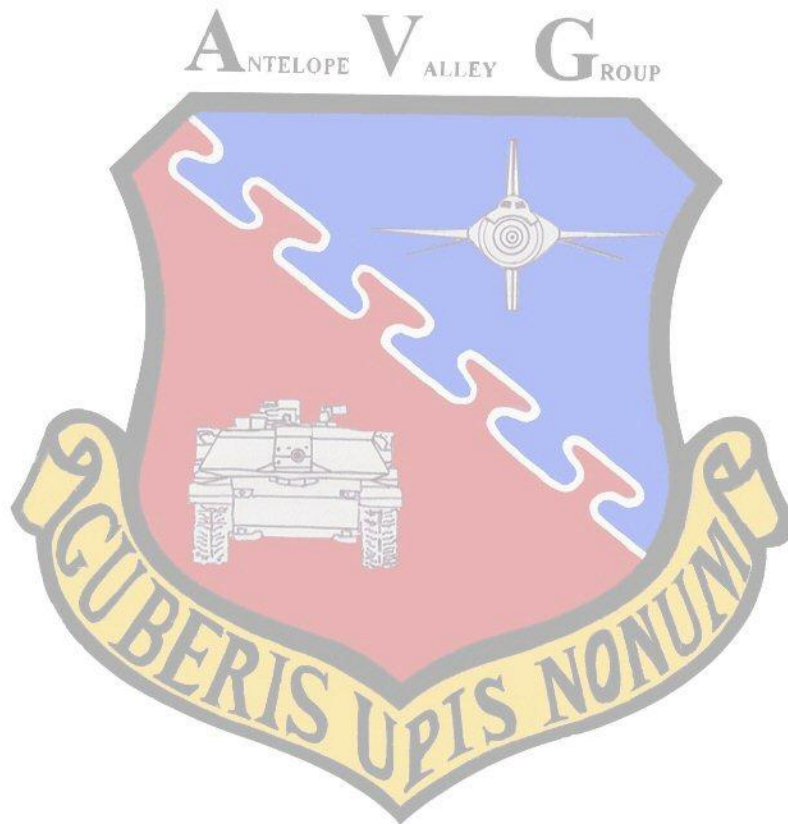


The Smoking Hole

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2012 Club Officers

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Nick Kiriokos	Mike Otis	Curtis Stidham	Mike Marchioli
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From the President's Pen

Somehow in all the excitement, I deleted the president's pen! This segment will return next month.

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 15 2012, 1 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

General Meeting Notes:

Meeting notes centered around the upcoming desert classic.

2012 Desert Classic

We are getting close to the wire as there are just 2 meetings remaining before the contest. The next few meetings we will be going over individual duties during the contest and have our judges clinic in October. Also any notes we had from last year's contest would be helpful.

New Club Shirts:

The new club shirts are in and were distributed at the June meeting. If you ordered one and have not picked it up yet, get with Curtis.

2012 Meeting Schedule

We still need volunteers for both demos and refreshments. Please review the open months and let one of the officers know if you want to sign up for either a demo, refreshments or both.

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
21 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Rich Ribaud	Photo Etch Curtis S.	Riveting Tool Curtis S.
18 Feb	2012 Contest Theme Discussion	Nick Kiriokos	Tom Hamel Dry Brush	3M Respirator
17 Mar		Greg Saccoccio		
21 Apr		Rick Reinert	Mike Marchioli Wiring Radial Engines	
19 May	Club Barbeque	All Members	Airbrushing	
16 June				
28 July	Club Swap Meet	Jim Abercromby		
18 Aug				
15 Sept		Tom Hamel		
20 Oct	Judge's Clinic			
3 Nov	Desert Classic			
17 Nov		John Pearce		
15 Dec	Christmas Potluck & Gift Exchange			

RICH'S TOOL CHEST

Every month our resident tool guru, Rich Ribaldo will provide us with a new gizmo that is especially helpful in our hobby. First installment will be in October.

Member Show and Tell

Instead of a show and tell this month, we have a special treat this week. Mike Brignola has provided an article on a diorama he has just completed. So without any further intro – here it is!

This is my show and tell with some detail on making this DAK (Deutsches Afrika Korps) vignette. Kit: 1/35 AFV Sd.Kfz.11 & leFH18 Value Pack (pic#1). Figures: Deutsches Afrika Korps (pic#2).



The kit went together fairly well with a couple of fit issues but not bad (pic#3). I used the PE that comes with the kit. There's a seam line on the back corners of the half-track that many think are part of the subject, but it is a mold line and needs to be removed (pic#4).



The leFH18 10.5cm howitzer is very detailed and took as long, if not more to build as the half-track. I used Humbrol 67 tank grey enamel for the undercoat and let it dry several days. Then I used a good dose of hairspray and immediately applied Tamiya XF-59 Desert Yellow. I took a tooth brush and water and began working the 'chipping' effect as demonstrated at the May

meeting. I had about 45 mins. to work before the paint became too difficult to remove. I then used Tamiya thinner and a brush to further loosen and thin the paint over the exposed grey. Decals were applied at this point using Future underneath (Curt's demo). They settled very well to the flat surface. I then used a burnt umber and black oil wash and dusted using Mig pigments and airbrushed Testors enamel sand and flat clear coat. I painted the tracks separate but added them before the final dusting, not forgetting that these tracks have rubber portions. I used a pencil and dry brushing to create a fresh wear effect over the dusting (pic#5).



The figures were assembled and primed with Floquil grey lacquer. I later found this to be incompatible with the Tamiya acrylics I used on for the uniforms. The base flesh is a gloss light cream acrylic (pic#6). I used flat Humbrol flesh and other enamels to blend the flesh tones over the acrylic base. Uniforms were likewise shaded with either darker Tamiya shades or enamels. I dry brushed the figures like Tom demonstrated, using Testors enamels (pic#7, 8).



The base is a simple representation. First I stained the base and made sure to cover the entire base with a good coat of varnish so that when I applied the celluclay, it didn't warp the wood. I used wood glue on the base before applying the celluclay (pic#9, 10). I then used a coarse mix of gravel and fine mix of gravel and pressed it into the celluclay (pic#11, 12).



Some baking soda was used to fill in some gaps like sand and I pressed the vehicle and gun into the cellulay to make tracks and give the weighted appearance of the vehicle on the sand (pic#13).



I painted the sand a dark brown to create shadows and airbrushed Testors enamel sand color at a 90 degree angle (straight down). It seems to represent the desert accurately based on an artillery photo I have (pic#15) and there was no vegetation.



I added the figures by drilling a hole in the base and using the posts already drilled into the figure boots with a paper clip wire to position on the base (pic#14). I added a little seek and find visitor to the scene as a final touch (pic#16).



Overall, I'm satisfied with the result (pic#17). I put about 20-25 hours into the vehicle and gun and about 15-20 hours into the figures and base. I'm improving on my figures and think this is a decent diorama representation. This completes a couple of my yearly modeling goals.



Thanks for sharing Mike – Great Work!

Club Demo

There was no club demo for August. If you're interested in doing a demo, let Mike Marchioli know and he can schedule it.

2012 Modeling Goals

Members are encouraged to set modeling goals for 2012. As each goal is accomplished we will track it and see how we all do at the end of 2012. If you would like to set goals for 2012 please provide your goals to Mike Marchioli (mmarchioli1@yahoo.com) for inclusion in the member goals data base. Please look at the January 2012 edition of the smoking hole for examples.

“So, There I Was.....”

Aviation stories provided by John Pearce.

There will be a bit of a break as John prepares a special 4 part series on the fighter mafia!
Looking forward to it John!

Calendar

10/7/2012	Modelfest	Commemorative Air Force, Southern California Wing 455 Aviation Drive Camarillo, California 93010
10/13/2012	OrangeCon 2012	Cal State University Fullerton Conference Center Portola Pavilions A & B 800 N. State College Blvd. Fullerton, CA 92834 9am to 5pm
10/13/2012	Tri-City Classic #8	Milpitas Community Center, Main Auditorium 457 E Calaveras Boulevard Milpitas, California
11/3/2012	Desert Classic	Antelope Valley College 3041 West Ave K Lancaster, California
2/24/2013	Modelfest	Seaside Park (Ventura Fairgrounds) 10 West Harbor Blvd Ventura, California 93001