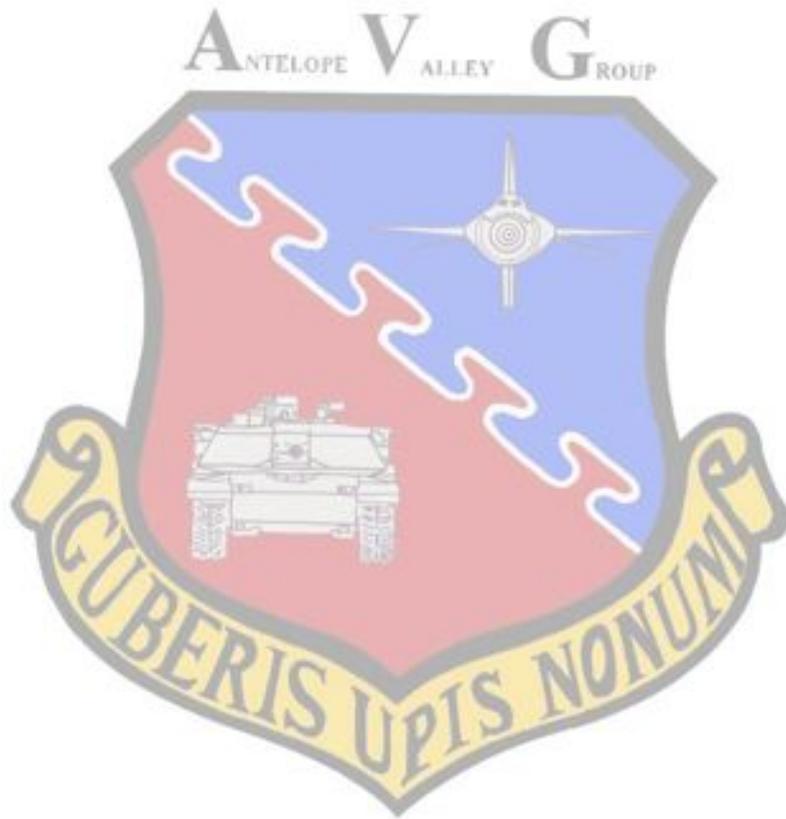


The Smoking Hole

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www.avg-ipms.org
avg_ipms@yahoo.com

2014 Club Officers

President

Steve Spandorf

sfrodnaps@msn.com

Vice President

Rick Reinert

reinertfamily@verizon.net

Treasurer

Curtis Stidham

cbstidham@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Matt Graham

mgraham4@bak.rr.com

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING August 16, 2014, 1 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

General Meeting Notes:

We discussed general club business at the June meeting

Award Sponsorship

Several individuals or groups have signed up to sponsor awards for the contest. Any category or special award can be sponsored. Cost is \$45 per category/award. Here's what we have sponsored so far:

Master's Category – Fremont Hornets

Best Japanese Aircraft – Rick R.

Best Auto Paint and Finish – Matt

1/32 Aircraft – John P.

Contest Flyer

The final version of the contest flyer was approved. There will be no changes from now on. Please help distribute these at contests, hobby shops (are there any of those left?), your workplace, etc.

In-Club Contests

August is time for the "Triathlon" In-House contest. This has been popular at several contests and the Nats. The "Triathlon" consists of three models from three different categories (i.e. an airplane, a tank and a car). This will give you an opportunity to build a subject (maybe two!) that you might not normally build.

Modeler of the Month

July's "Modeler of the Month": Richard Manaseri



Here's Richard's Nomination: Richard is fast becoming one of the clubs "better modelers". His models are accurate and attractive. In addition, he attends all regular meetings, participates in club projects, helps at our annual contest, represents the club at other contests, and brings a fresh positive attitude to the club. I would like to see him try out his modeling skill on other mediums of modeling other than aircraft. I am sure her would do well.

Richards's Bio: I started modeling at the age of 8 with an F-105 I built with my father. I have been building off and on for the past 20+ years, doing mostly auto and aircraft. Most recently have been Cold War era reconnaissance aircraft and WWII aircraft. I have been testing the waters with weathering after joining the club and learning from other members.

2014 Meeting Schedule

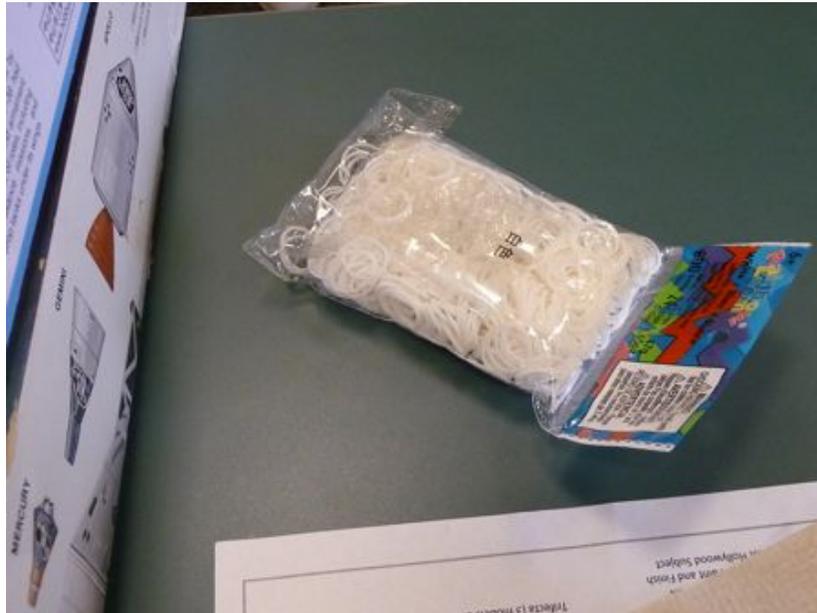
We need volunteers for both demos and refreshments for 2014. Please review the open months and let one of the officers know if you want to sign up for either a demo, refreshments or both.

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
18 Jan	Member Dues Collected			
15 Feb		Rich R.	Drybrushing (Tom H.)	
15 Mar	"M is for March" In-House Contest		Scaffolding (Bill P.) (tentative)	
19 Apr		Mike O.	"Things Under Wings" (Henry)	
17 May	Club BBQ (Mike B's house)			
21 June	"Build an Airfix Kit" In-House Contest	Steve S.		
19 July				
16 Aug	"Triathlon" In-House Contest	Tom H.		
20 Sept		Jeff P.		
18 Oct	Judge's Clinic	Richard M.	Salt paint chipping method (Matt)	
1 Nov	2015 Desert Classic			
15 Nov	2015 Club Officer Nominations	Bill P.		
20 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2015 Officer Elections	All		

The Tool Crib

Rich R brought some neat tools to show:

Really Cheap Rubber Bands:



Package of 600 small rubber bands. Use to secure small assemblies, keep paint brushes together – what have you. Available at Michael’s for 99 cents. That’s 0.165 cents per rubber band! How can you beat that? (Not with a stick!)

Really Cheap Sprue Cutters:



How about a set of sprue cutters for under 3 bucks? Flush cutters from Harbor Freight for \$2.99!

I actually went and bought a couple of these. Sure, they're not as precise or as hefty as Xurons, but they do a more than satisfactory job and they're 1/5th the price. So you don't care so much if you lose them. BTW, the P-38 is not included.

Digital Calipers:



What the heck do I need a set of digital calipers for, you might ask yourself. Well, how about transferring dimensions? Or measuring a rigging span for a biplane. I know you can think of more, and they have uses outside of modeling. The small ones on the left are \$16 from Micro-Mark, while the larger set is \$15 from Harbor Freight. I have a nearly identical set that I use at work and they work great.

Dremel Cut-off and Grinding Wheels:



This is a new system from Dremel called EZ-Lock. It has a quick-change feature that allows you change out the wheel on the spindle with just a quick turn, instead of messing with a tiny screw. These are about \$12 to 15 a set at places like Home Depot and Lowe's.

Disposable Contact Lens Containers:



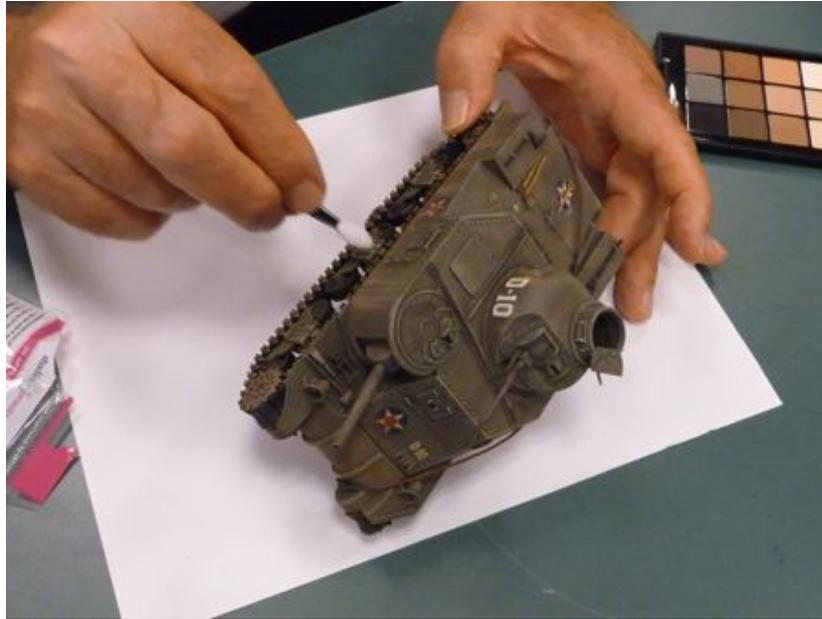
Some of us are ancient and can't see a damn thing anymore, but that's not what this is about. These actually make pretty neat disposable paint mixing containers (like, say, for a wash). Don't know where you buy these, but if you know someone with disposable contacts, you might get a supply for free.

Club Demos

We had two club demos in June.

Highlighting with Pastels

Tom gave a great demo on how to highlight with pastels. This is a great method for highlighting and depicting certain kinds of streaks and stains. Pastels are different from weathering powders in that most are contained in an oil-based medium that cause them to stick to the surface somewhat better than powders without fixing. There are several modeling-specific pastels sets out there (such as Tamiya), but Tom suggests a more economical source – the cosmetics section. Tom obtained his set from Target. These sets are intended as makeup – they are often used for eye shadow. Tom suggests obtaining a neutral tone set as opposed to metallic sets would be most useful to most modelers for a more natural appearance (I might suggest, however that some of the metallic blues, greens and grays might be of use to sci-fi and Gundam modelers).



Here Tom shows how to apply highlights to a Sherman suspension with a sponge makeup applicator. A light tan tone is being used here.



Black or dark gray tones are also useful for depicting exhaust or smoke stains. Note the black stains applied to the grills of the Sherman upper hull.

Masking with Parafilm M

By request, Rich R. showed us how to use Parafilm M for masking. Parafilm is a thin flexible polymer film often used as a cover for test tubes and petri dishes in laboratories. It has a mild adhesive on one side of the film that is activated by stretching the film. Some hobbyists (primarily model railroaders and scale modelers) have long used Parafilm as a masking medium. Some of you may remember that Testors once marketed Parafilm to modelers under their Model Master brand.

Rich demonstrated how to mask a canopy with Parafilm. After cutting a piece satisfactory to cover the canopy, the film is stretched to activate the adhesive:



The film is then pressed onto the surface of the canopy until the entire surface is covered. The film adhesive will hold the film to the part.



A sharp knife can then be used to trim the film from the canopy frames and you're ready to paint! (One note: In my experience, I have noticed that Parafilm seems to be porous to some strong solvents, such as in lacquers such as Testors Dullcoat, so be cautious when using strong solvents. It seems to work well with enamels and water-base acrylics, though).

Rich showed us one more use for Parafilm. One method of achieving soft-edge camouflage edges is to raise the edge of the mask from the surface to be painted. Some modelers use Blu-Tak reusable adhesive putty rolled into "ropes" to raise the masking, but Blu-Tak is relatively expensive. Rich showed us a more economical method. He showed that Parafilm can be used in a similar manner. The Parafilm can be rolled into a rope, and the Parafilm adhesive will allow the rope to keep its shape and stick to the surface of the model.



Parafilm is available from laboratory supply houses or Micro-Mark. A large roll is about \$20 and will probably last you your entire modeling career!

Member Show and Tell

Name:

Rick Reinert

Time To Build:

6 weeks total for both

Kit & Scale:

Eduard Me109G-6

1/48th scale (1/47th?)

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Model Master enamels

Comments:

Good quality kit from Eduard. Great fit and detail. Ignore the scale issues and it is an enjoyable build



Name:

Tom Hamel

Time To Build:

3 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya M-26 Armored Recovery Vehicle

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Model Master, Tamiya Paints. Some dry pastels

Excellent kit: fit is perfect – accuracy is outstanding. Instructions are easy to read and walk you through it. It's a good kit for beginners wanting to move up to the next level.

Calendar

9/6/2014	15 th Annual Invitational IPMS Reno "High Rollers"	Desert Heights Elementary School 13948 Mt. Bismark Reno, NV
9/28/2014	TriCity X Classic IPMS Fremont Hornets	Milpitas Community Center 457 E. Calaveras Blvd Milpitas, CA
10/4/2014	Orangecon 2014 IPMS Orange County	Cal State Fullerton 800 N. State College Blvd. Fullerton, CA
11/1/2014	2014 Desert Classic IPMS AVG	AV College 3041 W. Ave. K Lancaster, CA