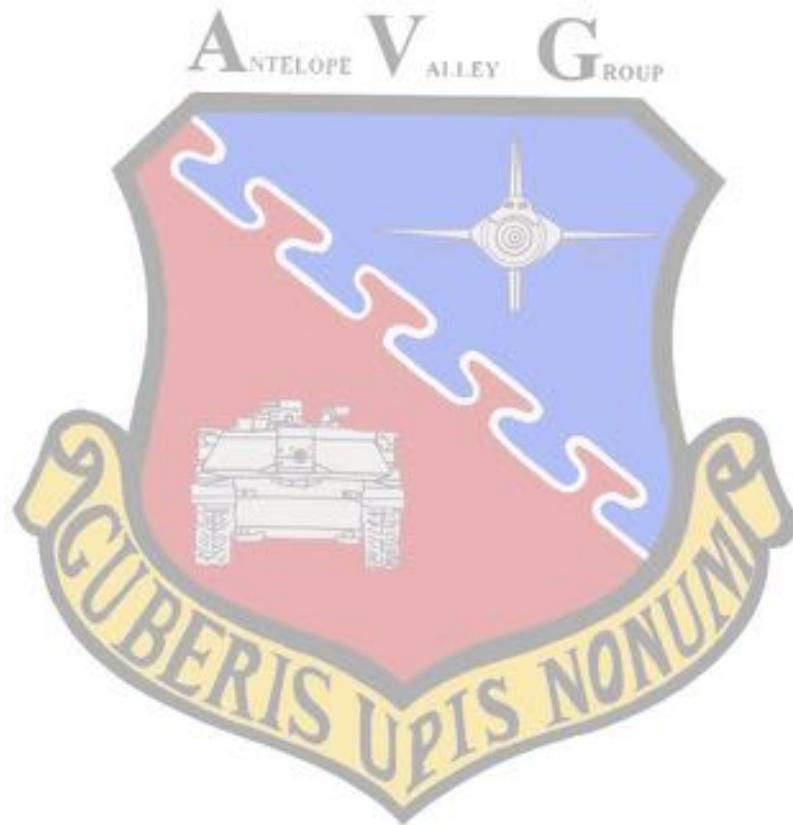


The Smoking Hole

A Publication of the Antelope Valley Group IPMS

Volume 25, Number 4



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

2020 Club Officers

President

Dwight Young
dwight.avg@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

Jay Faulk / Luis Toledo
Faulkme2002@yahoo.com
Coladito1@aol.com

Treasurer

Niilo Lund
niiloj7@verizon.net

Secretary

Matt Graham
flighttester64@gmail.com

Club News and Business

APRIL MEETING IS CANCELLED

March Meeting General Meeting Notes:

The March meeting was canceled due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place recommendations

These are not normal times for the AVG.

Kern County has extended the state of emergency due to COVID-19 until at least May 1, and county buildings (including the libraries) will remain closed

With this in mind and considering the current 'shelter-in-place' recommendations, the April meeting is cancelled.

This obviously affects club operations. Treasurer Niilo has made a recommendation on a path forward. The club officers endorse this plan:

- Continue planning for Desert Classic XXIV
 - Finalize contest flyer.
 - To get a list of categories and special award titles to provide to Palmdale for engraving
 - Identify contest personnel assignments for the day of the contest.
 - Identify contest raffle models
 - Tracy and Curtis will provide a current listing of the Club's inventory of models currently available for the Desert Classic XXIV Raffle, and the club's current inventory.
 - Identify potential vendor participation.
 - Provide to Curtis for a composite list
 - Finalize the selection for Special award trophies, we have purchased 2 versions based on Curtis's suggestion.
- Adjust the "In House" Contest schedule to inform the club membership.
 - A suggested reschedule could be as follows:
 - Contest #1 March 21, 2020 – Theme "Small World", rescheduled for May 16, 2020
 - If the library is not open for business in May Contest #1 would be rescheduled for the next full body scheduled meeting and if that is June 20, 2020 so be it, we would have two contests at one meeting.
 - If the library is still not open for business in June Contest #1 and Contest #2 would be rescheduled as before, for the next full body scheduled meeting.
 - This process could continue each time the next scheduled full body meeting is cancelled until we reach the December 19, 2020 with the exception of using the October 17, 2020 meeting date because of the requirements to prepare for Desert Classic XXIV.
 - Contest #2 June 20, 2020 – Theme "Kitty, Kitty", if not rescheduled via the process described for Contest #1
 - Contest #3 September 19, 2020 – Theme "Jurassic Plastic", if not rescheduled via the process described for Contest #1
 - Contest #4 December 19, 2020 – Theme "Personal/Professional Experience", if not rescheduled via the process described for Contest #1
- Continue to report the club financial status on a monthly basis for the record.

- Need receipts for any purchases made.
- Continue to publish the Smoking Hole on a monthly basis for the record.
- Need an updated master email and phone number list for the full body membership. Easy to have all members email Matt so he could assemble and distribute a final current list to all.

West Coast Contests Postponed or Rescheduled

IPMS San Diego has postponed Modelfest 2020 until a later date (TBA).

Planning is still continuing for the NATS to be held on schedule at this time.

2020 Desert Classic

Co-VP Luis has finalized the contest flyer. Looks great! Here it is:

Desert Classic XXIV

IPMS Region 8

Saturday October 31st 2020

Presented by
The
Antelope Valley Group
IPMS AVG



Event Location:
Antelope Valley College
3041 W. Avenue K, Lancaster CA
Cafeteria Entrance

**This Year's Theme:
"The Italian Job"**

Categories

Provisions for Splits provided as required

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Helicopters, All Scales & Types | 17. Artillery* & Open Top Self Propelled Guns (1/35 & larger) |
| 2. Aircraft: Biplanes, All Scales & Types | 18. Military Vehicles Tracked (1/35 & Larger) |
| 3. Aircraft 1/73 & Smaller | 19. Military Vehicles Wheeled (1/35 & Larger) |
| 4. Aircraft 1/72 Prop | 20. Auto Factory & Replica Stock |
| 5. Aircraft 1/72 Multi Engine Prop | 21. Auto Street Machine & Hot Rods |
| 6. Aircraft 1/72 Jet | 22. Auto Cruisers, Customs, Low Riders |
| 7. Aircraft 1/48 Allied Prop | 23. Auto Competition Straight & Oval Track |
| 8. Aircraft 1/48 Axis Prop | 24. Auto: Miscellaneous |
| 9. Aircraft 1/48 Jet | 25. Figures: Historical |
| 10. Aircraft 1/32 & Larger | 26. Figures: Fantasy / Sci-Fi Biologic Types |
| 11. Ships: All Scales & Types | 27. Dioramas: All Compositions |
| 12. Submarines: All Scales & Types | 28. Vignettes |
| 13. Military Vehicles Small Scale 1/36 & Smaller All Types | 29. Mechs / Robots / Sci-Fi & Real Space: Hardware |
| 14. Tanks: Allied -1945 & Earlier (1/35 & Larger) | 30. Miscellaneous |
| 15. Tanks: Axis -1945 & Earlier (1/35 & Larger) | 31. Tom Daniel |
| 16. Tanks 1946 - Present (1/35 & Larger) | 32. Jurassic Plastic |
| | 33. Juniors: 17 & Under |

Notes: * Category 17: Artillery is All Types and Scales

Special Awards

- Theme Award: "The Italian Job"
- Best of Show
- Presidents Award
- X-Plane Award
- 75th Anniversary VJ Day
- Red October
- Spooky Award
- Best Auto Paint & Finish

Schedule:

- 09:00-12:30 Registration
- 1:00-3:30 Judging
- 3:30-4:30 Awards Presentation

Fees:

- Parking: \$0.50 charged by College (May be waived)
- Adult: \$12.00 up to 3 entries.
- \$1.00 ea. per additional entry.
- \$2.00 discount for IPMS Members.
- Seniors: FREE
- Spectators: FREE
- Vendors: \$45.00 Per table (reserved), \$50.00 at the door.

Vendor Contacts:

Vendor Contact
<http://www.avg-ipms.org>

Curtis Stidham (661) 267-0089 cbstidham@sbcglobal.net

Special Awards & Category Criteria

Theme Award "The Italian Job":

Any subject that's Italian. From the Roman times to the Modern era. Aircraft, vehicle, figure, etc.

Red October:

Any subject from a Communist country.

Spooky Award:

Best entry that embodies something being "spooky"; either in nature, vampire, ghost etc., or in it's name: AC47 "spooky", Dodge Demon, etc.

X-Plane Award:

Includes any "X" Designated Experimental Plane tested at Edwards AFB or Mojave area.

75th Anniversary VJ Day Award:

Best subject related to Victory Over Japan Day. Aircraft, vehicle, figure, etc.

Presidents Award:

Best model as determined by the Antelope Valley IPMS President.

Jurassic Plastic:

Any plastic model that the original mold was released prior to 1970. IPMS National OOB rules will be used. Instructions required.

Tom Daniel:

Model must be a design of Tom Daniel; Any subject, any scale. Customization and aftermarket upgrades allowed.

Directions to Antelope Valley College:

Take 14 North or South to Avenue K Exit, turn west. Continue through 30th St. West and turn right into College Parking Lot.



For contest news and updates see our website at <http://www.avg-ipms.org>

IPMS National Rules will be the primary judging criteria. A "limited" No Sweeps rule will be in effect for this contest. No one contestant shall hold all three placements (1st, 2nd, & 3rd) of any given category, unless that contestant is the "sole participant" in that category. There is no minimum entry requirement per category, thus no category merging.

NOTE: Any winning entry from previous AVG contests and any award winner from IPMS Nationals are not eligible, with the exception of current IPMS National award winners. IPMS / AVG reserves the right to change/alter any category structure(s) and entry classification as they pertain to IPMS Rules and AVG contest criteria. All judges' decisions are final. The Antelope Valley College and IPMS AVG cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to entrants, vendors, or spectators and their respective entries, merchandise or effects.

In-House Contest

“It’s a Small World” (May - Tentative) – Build a small-scale kit. 1/72 or smaller for aircraft, 1/48 or smaller for armor, 1/600 or smaller for ships, 1/32 or smaller for autos, 54mm or smaller for figures. There are not a lot of large scale sci-fi kits, so probably most would qualify – suggest 1/144 or smaller for this contest.

2020 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
18 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Steve/Mike -Main Jim- Drinks Jay - Chips		
15 Feb		Bill, Mike O.		
21 Mar	CANCELED			
18 Apr	CANCELED			
16 May	In-House Contest “It’s a Small World”	Mike, Rich E., Mike S.		
20 June	In-House Contest “Here, Kitty, Kitty”	Mike A.		
18 July		Mike H.		
15 Aug		Jim B. Dwight		
19 Sept	In-House Contest “Jurassic Plastic”	Luis, Stephen		
17 Oct		Steve		
31 Oct (tentative)	2020 Desert Classic			
21 Nov	2021 Club Officer Nominations	Dwight		
19 Dec	Gift Exchange, In-House Contest “Your Personal or Professional Experience”	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

If you’ve come across a cool tool lately, send me a pic and a description and I’ll include it here.

Club Demos

Little bit hard to do demos during “social distancing”, though suppose you could do a YouTube demo or Zoom session.

Anyway, hope to see some demos when we all get back together.

Member Show and Tell

We didn't have our traditional show and tell, but there's been a pretty cool e-mail thread among the member showing some recent projects, so I thought I'd highlight them here.

Jim B. has a couple of cool automotive projects in the works:



A '55 Chevy mild custom. Like the color combo and the TorqueThrusts



I really like this one! The stance and color are awesome! Looks to be based on the Revell '41 Chevy Pickup. Wonder what engine Jim's going to use?

Mike S. is also working an auto project while isolated in Trona (one might argue one is ALWAYS isolated in Trona...)



Mike's using the 1/25 Revell Foose Custom Cadillac Eldorado as a canvas for another Vallejo color-shift paint project. As Elvis and Bruce Springsteen said, Cadillac's are pink and Mike is aiming for an interesting variation, with several shades of pink. As you can see in the first picture, he's used several different colors of primer, black, gray and white. The second picture shows the body with 6 coats of the Vallejo color-shift. Mike's applying one coat a day to give ample drying time, so he's using that time to build a collection of 1/35th Jeeps. From left to right are Takom, Italeri, Tamiya and another Italeri. Mike says they go together quick and he's using them to experiment with various weathering techniques. I like the airfield Jeep with the checkerboard!



Apparently autonomous pizza delivery has come to Trona. This is Mike's Pegasus T-800, painted with Rust-oleum silver and Molotow Chrome.

Tracy has been prolific as always:



He's also done an automotive subject, a 1/20th Tamiya Honda RA272 F-1 car. If I recall correctly, this car had a transverse 1.5 liter air-cooled V-12. Good use of Honda's motorcycle technology. This car won the 1965 Mexico Grand Prix. I also think it was James Garner's ride in the movie "Grand Prix"



Well, it's not a Bf.109, but it IS German. Tracy's 1/48th Hobby Boss Ta.152

Member Emeritus Rick R. has been taking advantage of his retirement to complete a couple more of his outstanding Wingnuts Wings builds:

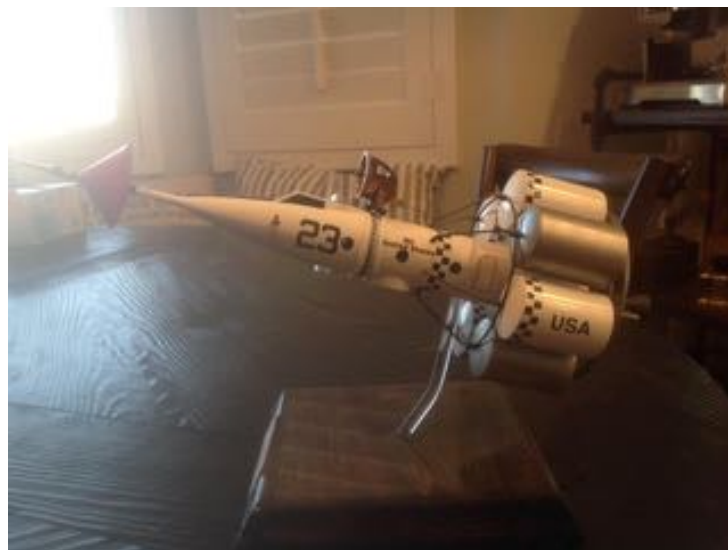


Rick finished the Fokker E.II in February. I think he got the metal finish on the cowling spot on.



Rick finished the DFW CV in March. That cammo is fantastic! Rick's superb Wingnuts builds have inspired me to cross over to the Wingnuts Dark Side and I've bought a couple kits (D.VII and Richthofen Albatros).

Rich R. continues on his vintage sci-fi theme:



Old Strombecker kit, re-popped by Glenco. Rich seems to be continuing his masochistic streak of constructing ill-fitting kits. Hopefully he didn't have to resort to too much Bondo.

We also have a few works-in-progress:

John S. is working on a classic Aurora M-2 Mailplane:



He's got the red paint applied in this photo. I remember when these kits were in the hobby shop for 98 cents. Definitely some Jurassic Plastic!

Bill K. shows us that sometimes you have to resort to some pretty drastic measures to get a 'vintage' kit assembled:



Lol, love the Korean C-clamp. F-4's were sometimes referred to as 'Lead Sleds' so the tool seems appropriate.

Continuing on the theme:



Niilo has resorted to adjustable woodworker's clamps to force his Monogram P-40 into submission.

And, lastly. I haven't had as much modeling time as I'd hoped, as they are still keeping me employed teleworking, but I have been able to spare a few moments.

I got out one of my TomyTec kits as a bit of a change of pace:



Decided to build my CV-22 Osprey. I've brought in a couple TomyTec kits to meetings in the past. As you may recall, they are all 1/144th, come pre-decorated and most are snap-together or semi-snap together. Initially, you might think these are unassembled Japanese "Gashapon" (like F-toys), but this belies their true nature. They are really complex, serious models. The V-22 has about 150 parts, many of them extremely small. All the antennas, pitot tubes, etc. are separate (very small) pieces. Each main landing gear is 5 parts. The kit comes with a full interior and a number of building options (gear up or down, flaps up or down, refueling probe extended or retracted). It even comes with a separate set of folded rotors, and the wing is positionable in the folded position. Fit is pretty precise, the major parts snap together, but you do have to use glue on this one, as the small parts such as antennas and the windshield wipers won't stay in place without glue. Looks really cool and I enjoyed building it, but took longer than I expected – I put about 10 hours into it (some of that spent looking for tiny parts that flew out of the tweezers into the "Carpet Monster"!)



I'm also plugging away at my NB-36H nuclear research aircraft. This is based on the Hobbycrap kit, not the Monogram monster, but you can see it's still fair-sized. Hope to start working on the metal finish soon.

Calendar

Postponed. Date to be announced	50 Years of Modeling Excellence	Fresno EAA Chapter, Hangar 379 4344 W. Spaatz Ave. Fresno, CA
Postponed. Date to be announced	Silicon Valley Classic VII	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
Postponed. Date to be announced	San Diego Model Expo & Swap Meet	San Diego Air and Space Museum Annex 335 Kenny St. El Cajon, CA
7/12/2020	Kit Collectors Exposition & Show	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
7/29 – 8/1/2020	IPMS/USA National Convention	Embassy Suites and San Marcos Conference Center 1011 E McCarty Ln. San Marcos, TX
9/5/2020	Best of the West	East Side Cannery Resort & Casino 5255 Boulder Hwy. Las Vegas, NV
11/3/2020	IPMS Reno “High Rollers” 21 st Invitational Contest & Swap Meet	BPOE Lodge 597 597 Kumle Ln. Reno, NV

Edwards AFB History-Cruise Missile Chase

Bill K. found an interesting thread on Britmodeler from Keith Svendsen, who was a flight test engineer at Edwards. Here's Bill's summary of Keith's thread:

6510 Test Wing ALCM Chase Mission*

From 1977 to 1987, AGM-86 Air-Launched Cruise Missile flight testing was accomplished for full-scale development and upgrades. Many test launches began in the Western Test Range off the California coast. The missile would follow a pre-programmed mission profile, going "feet dry" near Vandenberg AFB, threading its way around populated areas, then continuing through the Sierra Nevada mountains into Edwards/China Lake airspace, and north to targets in Utah. Safety chase aircraft were required to accompany the ALCM in flight to ensure compliance with its programmed profile, or to 'mark the spot' should the missile crash. The chase mission was assigned to dedicated F-4E aircraft of the 6510th Test Wing, AFFTC, Edwards AFB, and flown by 6512 Test Squadron crews. Four to six chase aircraft were required, plus one spare chase and one tanker. These F-4E's were unique in their history and configuration because all had been assigned to the USAF Thunderbirds until T-38's replaced them in 1973. They carried no radar and the original short cannon muzzle fairing aperture was faired over. Also, the No. 7 fuselage fuel tank was isolated to carry smoke oil. While none of these features were useful for a combat squadron, they were innocuous to the chase mission. The only modification to each aircraft subsequent to assignment with the 6510th was an ALCM missile destruct radio control unit located in the rear cockpit to be activated should the missile blunder toward a population center. F-4E's assigned to the ALCM chase mission: 66-0286 66-0289 (1984/85, '289 carried a deer kill on the left splitter plate in light grey)66-029166-029466-031566-031966-0329 ("long" cannon muzzle fairing installed)66-0377A typical ALCM chase began with two F-4's on station at the launch point. They would observe the ALCM separate from a B-52, then begin the chase to watch for anomalies. Further ahead, a KC-135 would be positioned with additional F-4's in tow which would take fuel as necessary so as to replace the active chase jets as they ran low on fuel ("joker"). "Joker" aircraft would then rotate out and

head for the tanker. This process would repeat itself until termination of the mission. F-4 upper wing surfaces were painted white for easier recognition against a terrain background. During 1979 to 1981 the F-4's received wrap-around camo, but retained white wings, and all but '377 carried the segmented monotone national insignia. '377 retained the full color star and bar. Some aircraft had black canopy rails yet few carried crew or maintainer's names. "ED" tail codes were applied in late 1982. When the dedicated ALCM chase mission was no longer needed, the F-4's were repainted in an overall white scheme with red/orange recognition panels. They were redesignated NF-4E and '329 received the original short gun muzzle fairing once again.

*Text edited for brevity. Original by Air Force FTE Keith C. Svendsen as found in "Britmodeller.com"

Here's a few of Keith's pics.





Here's the link to Keith's thread: <https://www.britmodeller.com/forums/index.php?/topic/235065574-test-support-nf-4e-66-0329/&tab=comments#comment-3538059>

I remember when these missions were going on. I knew a Canadian exchange pilot that flew some of these missions, and I think I ran across Keith on a couple of occasions.

Interestingly, the flight path used by the ALCM's and chase are still in use today by UAV's. It's called the "Cruise Missile Corridor", and it's the flight path we use for Global Hawk to get from Edwards to the Pacific Ocean. UAV's are only allowed to use this routing for UAV's because the range safety analysis that was done for ALCM shows that the probability of injury or death to a person on the ground is less than 1×10^{-6} .

From the Oval Office – Notes From the Prez

Expanding the Hobby

I re-entered the modeling hobby in 2013 after an extended hiatus to start my career and my family. I am continually inspired by the growth of the hobby since I first started modeling as a young lad in the early 1970s. Plastic kits abound, from sophisticated, well-engineered offerings from Tamiya and Wingnut Wings, all the way down to limited-run oddball kits made on low-pressure molds that wouldn't be out of place in a box from the 1940s. Vacuum-formed kits have gone from something I heard or read about, but did not often see, to items readily found not just in listings in the back pages of magazines, but full-on electronic commerce sites as well. Additionally, photo-etched brass and stainless steel items and molded-resin detail items are very commonly available, and at attractive prices for those willing to put in the extra effort and occasional swear words. Modelers have almost unlimited options available for markings for their projects. If there are no mass- or custom-printed decals for a given prototype available, home printing solutions are available to either print the desired markings on decal sheets or cutting vinyl stencils to paint the markings directly onto your project. None of this came out of thin air, of course. The availability is directly related to the demand of an active and vigorous body of modelers. As enthusiasts, we have a unique opportunity to continue this growth and expansion. Keep examples of your work around, either finished projects or pictures of them, in your workspace if possible, or on your social media. If you have young folks around, answer their questions about our hobby. Show them how when they have questions about technique. Let them know where to find new projects, emphasizing as much as possible local hobby stores before chains or Amazon. I have long said that accessibility is the overarching strength of our hobby: get people started, have them meet success, and soon we have another hobbyist. Another consumer demanding more and better kits, accessories, paints, and other supplies, improving the range of offerings for everyone.

Oops. Glued my knife to the workbench again.