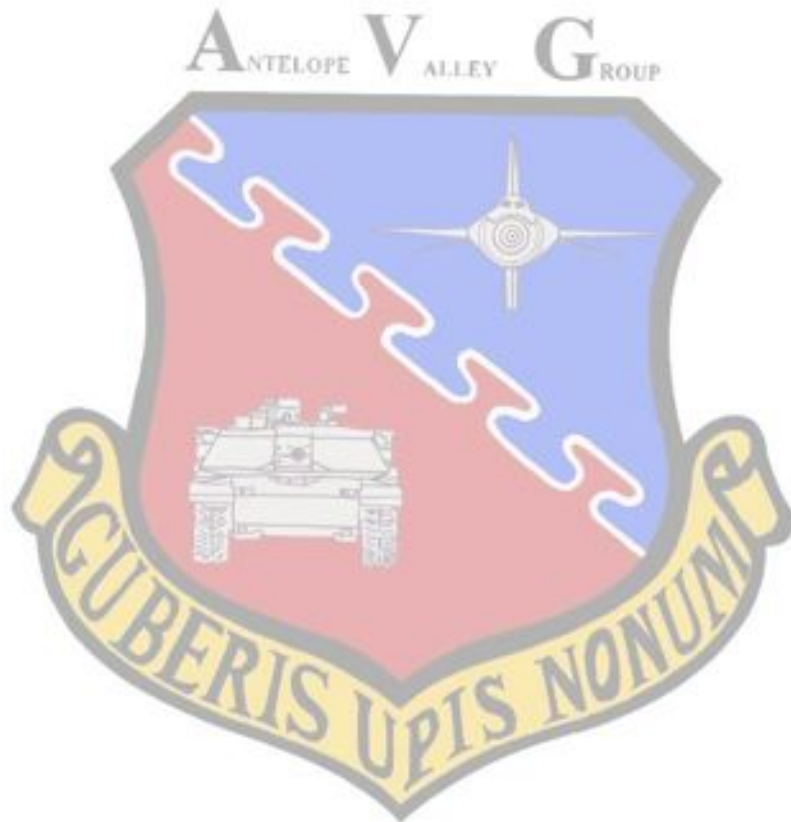


The Smoking Hole

A Publication of the Antelope Valley Group IPMS
Volume 21, Number 12



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2016 Club Officers

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Tracy Ackeret	Jim Abercromby	Niilo Lund	Matt Graham
silkinca@gmail.com	jaber_23@sbcglobal.net	niiloj7@verizon.net	mgraham4@bak.rr.com

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 17 2016, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

General Meeting Notes:

Primary business discussed at the November meeting was contest recap and 2017 club officer nominations.

Contest Discussion

We conducted a recap and rundown of the contest. The consensus was the contest went smoothly, with the a bit better attendance than last year. There were 196 total entries, and there were 4 categories with less than 3 entries.

The continuing date conflict with Phoenix was discussed. Jim noted that due to scheduling constraints at Cal State Fullerton, IPMS Orange County will be holding their contest earlier in 2017. Jim suggested the possibility of moving the 2017 Desert Classic up one week to 28 October to de-conflict with Phoenix (assuming the AV Collage cafeteria is available). Tracy will contact Phoenix to confirm that their contest date is again planned for the first week in November.

The 2017 Desert Classic will be a Regional, with an increased number of categories than our regular contest. Suggestion is 40 categories with 5 splits. It was also suggested that we have a full ‘no-sweeps’ rule instead of a ‘partial no-sweeps’ rule.

There are 56 kits remaining in the club stash for next year’s raffle. The consensus is that we have plenty of aircraft and armor kits, but we need more cars and ships. Curt was given a budget to purchase more kits during the “Black Friday” sales, with an emphasis on car and ship kits.

2017 Club Officer Nominations

Each November meeting we nominate the club officers for the next year. The current club officer agreed to continue in their current posts for 2017:

President: Tracy Akeret

Vice President: Jim Abercromby

Secretary: Matt Graham

Treasurer: Niilo Lund

Project Build Meeting

The ‘work on your project’ meetings started this year were popular, so will be continued in 2017. We decided on 4 “build” meetings for 2017, with the first being in February.

December Potluck and Gift Exchange

The December meeting traditionally marks our annual potluck and gift exchange. President Tracy has sent the potluck sign-up by e-mail to all the members.

Participation in the gift exchange is (as always) voluntary. If you wish to participate, bring a gift-wrapped kit. It should be something you would enjoy building yourself (target value of about \$25

minimum). In the immortal words of Tom: “No dogs!” (All right, we might exempt “Krypto, the Superdog”...)

2017 Dues

Reminder, 2017 dues will be due (hmmm...maybe that’s why they’re called ‘dues?') in January. Yearly dues are \$36. Please make an effort to pay on time.

2016 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
16 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Rich R. / John		
20 Feb		Rich M. / Robby		
19 Mar		Luis / Niilo		
16 Apr	In Club Contest “If It Floats...”	Rick / Jim		
21 May	Project build meeting	Mike / Tracy		
18 June				
16 July		Steve/Nick		
20 Aug	In Club Contest “Shelf of Doom” Judge’s Clinic	Rich R. / Bill P		
17 Sept	Judge’s Clinic			
15 Oct	Judge’s Clinic			
5 Nov	2016 Desert Classic			
19 Nov	2017 Club Officer Nominations			
17 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2017 Officer Elections	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

I recently came across some tools for working with phototetch at a reasonable price. Xuron has a photoetch tool set that is retailing for about \$70, but these 2 tools will set you back less than half that.



Electronics flush cutters. These are used in the electronics fabrication industry and are also insulated. They are very precise and will cut the etch sprue flush with the part, saving you from having to use a file to remove the burr usually left when you cut the part with a modeling knife. The ones I have are 'reconditioned' (sharpened) and cost \$25.



Mini smooth-jaw pliers. These are spring-loaded and perfect for bending small etch part. They cost \$1.

I obtained these at the Kern County Fair, from a vendor named "Pristine Systems, Inc." They primarily sell at county fairs and have a fantastic selection of useful tools for modelers (such as tweezers, cutters, abrasives, lights, etc.) at bargain prices. They have a website: "Gadgets and Neat Stuff.com".

Club Demos

Let me know if you'd like to do a demo for the club and I'll highlight it in the newsletter. Henry promised to present another couple of installments in his series "Things Under Wings" next year.

Member Show and Tell



Name:
Jim Abercromby
Time To Build:
About 20 hours over 6 months
Kit & Scale:
Dark Sword Robert Baratheon
Aftermarket Items:
None
Paints Used:
Vallejo and Scale 75
Comments:



Name:

Jim Abercromby

Time To Build:

About 30 hours over 18 months

Kit & Scale:

Nocturna Viking Raider

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Vallejo and Scale 75

Comments:



Name:

Mike Otis

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Takom T-55 AMV

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya XF-57 Buff, XF-61 Dark Green, XF-64 Red Brown

Comments:

Over-engineered kit. Many fiddly parts on turret. Good fit on main hull and big parts. Tracks fit good.



Name:

Mike Otis

Time To Build:

2 weeks

Kit & Scale:

AMT Star Wars AT-ST

1/54th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Solder

Paints Used:

Model Master 5-N Navy Blue

Tamiya XF-9 Hull Red, Flat Black

Comments:

Added turret from M1117 armored car, HOT missiles from 1/48 Bo-105 helicopter, armored glass block from an IDF Nagmachon, and track sections for a Char 2C tank, to make a fictional all-terrain assault walker (A.T.A.W.) of the UN's Mars Enforcement Unit



Name:

Rich Ribado

Time To Build:

8 hours, including the homemade stand

Kit & Scale:

Fantastic Plastic "Starduster" from the 1962 "Space Angel" cartoon

1/200th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

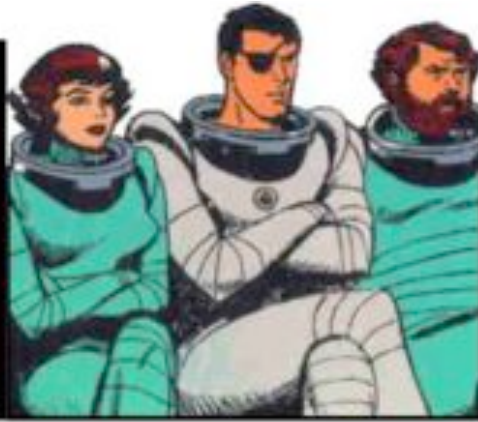
Tamiya White primer, Tamiya Pure White, Testors gloss black, Model Master Burnt Metal and Exhaust Metalizers

Comments:

Space Angel was a cartoon that ran from 1962 to 1964. I remember watching every episode when I was a kid and jumped on the chance to build the very cool "Starduster" spaceship when I saw it.



Scott Mc Cloud-alias Space Angel



Crystal Mace, Scott Mc Cloud and Taurus



Wikipedia tells us....

Space Angel was an animated science fiction television series produced in the United States from early 1962 through 1964. It used the same Synchro-Vox lip technique as Clutch Cargo, the first cartoon produced by the same studio, Cambria Productions.

The series chronicled the adventures of three astronauts who worked for the Earth Bureau of Investigation's Interplanetary Space Force on board the spaceship Starduster: Captain/Pilot Scott McCloud, also known as "The Space Angel, Electronics/Communications expert Crystal Mace , and the immensely strong Scottish born Gunner/Engineer Taurus. The character name Space Angel was a secret identity. Scott McCloud had an eyepatch; when he appeared as Space Angel, he would lower bulging sunglasses from his helmet to cover it.

Apart from the use of Synchro-Vox, animation was very limited, but the static panel art by the renowned Alex Toth was often well-drawn. Story lines were serialized over five episodes which ran five minutes each, the idea being that stations could show one episode per weekday, with the climax coming on Friday.

This model is comprised of just seven dark gray resin parts and two decal insignias that come in a well packed and sturdy box. My copy required a few minutes of cleaning up with a Dremel tool and sandpaper to get the wings and tail to mate into their respective slots in the fuselage. But this effort was no more than one would expect from a limited edition all resin kit. I spent about two hours trimming, fitting, filling some pin holes and progressively polishing everything up to 800 grit sandpaper. I used Loctite Super Glue Gel for assembly and filled the seams and pin holes with 3M Acryl Blue Body Filler.

A few coats of Tamiya white primer revealed a few spots needing touch up. After that several coats of Tamiya Pure White from a rattle can were applied and the pair of bulging cockpit windows were painted gloss black. The two decals of the “Interplanetary Space Force” insignia were applied and the carrier film disappeared beautifully. The Starduster then received four coats of Tamiya clear gloss, again from a spray can. Finally the rocket nozzle was sprayed with Model Master Metlizer and attached, completing the build.

The model sits atop a round wooden base I picked up at Michaels for about a buck and is suspended “in flight” by a clear 1/8” diameter acrylic rod. The edges of the base were stained with Varathane Cabernet and a flat disc made from styrene was painted black and fixed to the top of the base. The entire base was covered with Famowood Glaze, a two part resin used to coat bar tops with a super high gloss and durable finish.

This is a fast, fun build of something very different, and at just 6” long it won’t hog up shelf space. I recommend it for modelers of moderate skill who wish to attempt their first all-resin project. If everything is test-fitted and cleaned up before committing to glue, even someone with limited experience will achieve good results. I also recommend visiting the “Fantastic Plastic” website and checking out some very unusual subjects the “big companies” would never dream of producing.

BTW: Original episodes of “Space Angel” can be found in DVD format on E-bay and Amazon. If you are too young to remember this series from the

very early 1960s, or just want to see it again I highly recommend picking up a copy. It bears mentioning that the crew members and their adventures have an uncanny similarity to an eternally famous live action series from later in 1967, 68 and 69, whose mission was to “***Boldly Go Where No Man Has Gone Before***”...and that similarity goes double for both show’s Scottish Engineers!! Coincidence?... you decide, but I think not!

Here's a chance to get to know your fellow AVG members:

AVG Club Member Biography



Name:
Niilo J. Lund

Profession:
Technical Manager – Senior Flight Test Engineer – Systems Engineer

Family:
Wife Diane, daughters Kirsten Jones and Noel Hartley, stepson Mark Chaffez,
stepdaughter Cheri + 10 grankids

IPMS Member?:
Yes

How long have you been a member of AVG?:
2 years

How long have you been modeling:
Started 1947 for 5 years. Re-started 2010 to present

Do you remember what the first kit you built was?:
B-29 in 1947 (was eaten by my dog, Boots).

Favorite subjects and scales:
Aerospace, all scales & all ships, all scales

Paint. Acrylic or Enamel?
Primarily acrylic, but have used others

Anything else you'd like us to know? Other hobbies or interests? Comments?
Other hobbies and pastimes include golf and woodworking.

Calendar

01/28/2017	Spruefest	Brookhurst Hobbies 12188 Brookhurst Street Garden Grove, CA
03/04/2017	IPMS Silicon Valley Silicon Valley Classic	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
03/05/2017	Pasadena Modelers Society Valleycon 2017	Peterson Automobile Museum 6060 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA
03/19/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
05/06/2017	Best of the West-Vegas-Con 2017	East Side Cannery Resort & Casino 5255 Boulder Highway, Las Vegas, NV
07/09/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
07/26-29/2017	IPMS National Convention	LaVista Conference Center 12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista, NE
09/23/2017	REDCON 2017	Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV
11/12/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA