

Butch O'Hare IPMS / USA

The Monthly Resinator



The Official Newsletter of IPMS Butch O'Hare Scale Modelers

October 2013



In my quest to do a little something different coming from the Ardennes campaign, I decided to build a little jewel that's been in my stash for a long time. It's REALLY a long name, so for the sake of simplicity let's just go with ZWI, shall we?

In reality, this vehicle was literally an interim solution for a redesigned Panzerjager IV (L48) to an up gunned L/70 Lang. It featured a large gun/crew housing to mount the 7.5cm Pak 42 L70 Gun, which was already achieving great fanfare in the panther tanks.

As you can see, the weight of the tank was very heavy on the front of the

chassis, which forced the engineers to use solid steel road wheels in the first four stations on each side to compensate for the additional weight of the gun housing.

This vehicle depicts a unit off the 116th Panzer Division in action near and around the town of Compogne, Belgium, in 1944.

I like this kit a lot. It's a pre-million part DRAGON kit but still holds up well. As you can see, I decided early on NOT to install the THOMA SHIELDS because at this particular time in combat they would be ripped apart on the half-lane roads of the Ardennes.

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Important Stuff:

Next Club Meeting at St. Paul's Church on Friday, October 11, 7:30 pm.

Special Theme:
Police Vehicles
Class Time:
Contest Judging



Besides, when I do the Panzer IV Ausf. J (later) they will be more appropriate. Also left off was the gun travel lock, which just annoyed me. (In modeling, you can do that...it's allowed.) Following the instructions every step of the way, I ran into no problems, but I did have a few questions.

In subsequent pictures I found that the extra wheel mountings were on the engine deck resting on peg mounts against the casemate.

There was nothing in the instructions about this other than them being shown (lightly) in step 12, so plan ahead. Furthermore, they do have you install two F13 parts for mounts on the rear hull...hmmmm. Go with the pegs--it looks better! After the chassis was

finished I had a ball with the kit-supplied solid horn track. I love them--in fact, if you don't want yours, I'll take them. I have never had a conflict with DRAGON track. In fact, I really prefer it. You get a lot of time for the cement to cure, and you can shape it however you want. It's very forgiving.

The upper hull was a real gem too. I used strip plastic melted on with TESTORS liquid glue and melted it into the lines (with a #11 blade) where weld beads should be added and enhanced. This attention to detail will really pay off in the dry brushing segment. A small lead wire was added for the electrical lead for the light. Now, I looked all over for the two periscopes that are to be on the right and left on top of the casemate. I could not find them, so I added them from the extra kit I keep for parts. I also tossed the exhaust cylinders as I just didn't like

them. I used my RAZOR from John Vojtek and sawed aluminum tube. I added strip plastic for the weld seams on the front and back, and then left the tools off for later after painting. The gun came out nice, and as it begins to move along you can really see what a brute of a tank this was. Highly intimidating.

In looking at the only example left--Samur, France--I roughed up the plastic of the housing a bit and added some green putty for that texture. On to the paint shop: As I do with all my armor, I gave the entire vehicle a coat of flat black beforehand.

Early this year I made a major investment just for ME--I brought myself into the modern



age and put my trusty PAASCHE VH into retirement. I purchased a GREX outfit, the TRG with compressor. I love it! If it were a female I would marry it! OK, with that out of way, I also upgraded my paint and bought 60 colors of VALLEJO.....these are magical.

A few months ago my friends suggested that I lighten up my kits because they were darkish. Well, I paid attention, and the past four kits that I've done have been looking superb. I used the TANK ACES colors for green (Splinter Bloch) and a light yellow and almost a rust red brown. With the GREX I did the pattern freehand, adding a lighter shade of the paint in the middle of the pattern. When this was to my satisfaction, I applied a coat of FUTURE. With the clear coat dry, I gave the tank a few "Dick" Van Dyke oil washes from Windsor-Newton. Everything was now coming into play, and a nice flat coat from VALLEJO sealed it all in. I soaked VERLINDEN'S netting in some white glue mixed with water and spread it out on the front of the housing and gun mantlet. My original intention was to use foliage, but I opted for the net instead.

With the painting all out of the way, I did the extra little things like spraying the tracks and undersides along with adding MIG PIGMENTS to and around the areas of usage. The chassis got the same oil wash treatment as the hull, and all was tight in the world. Metal rubbing on metal leaves a worn silverish look, so I used some



aluminum paint for the running gear and tracks, and this enhanced things really well. Now for the tools. I painted the metal dark grey and the wood portions TAMIYA "Buff." I let this dry, then raw sienna oil paint was lightly brushed and streaked over the buff to give a wooden look. This was sealed with clear and oil washed too. I brushed the flat coat on the base.

I used some packing
Styrofoam glued to the base
on each side because I
wanted a sunken road. This
dried in a day, and then I
made a Celluclay mixed with
white glue mixture and
covered the base, which was
squared off with masking tape
to keep the frame part intact.

This dried over a three-day period, and the tracks from an ITALERI Panzer IV were pressed into the Celluclay for tread marks in the road while it was still drying. Superb! Before it was completely dry I pressed some VERLINDEN fuel cans and drum into the roadside to give the appearance of how critical the fuel shortage was for the Germans during this time. Two browns along with an oil wash were applied, and then three layers of baking soda--first for the soaking of the oil wash. Just keep applying it until it stays white.

Next came a layer over that, and then I applied a water/white glue mixture with an eye dropper to keep the baking soda in place. The third layer was to cover the white glue and soak into the second layer. Some bushes were implanted, but not over done. Overkill is a common mistake--when it's enough, stop.

There you have it! I enjoyed this kit very much, and I'm already looking at my next project. See you down the line.

Club D.E.B.R.I.E.F. By Stan Kurcz

Last month's meeting was held on Friday the 13th. It turned out to be a lively meeting. In keeping with the spirit of the day, I lost my notes and am now recapping this from memory. We had another good turnout of members (approximately 30) along with a selection of planes, cars, AFVs and science fiction presented. There was a reminder that iHobby is on Oct. 3, 4, 5 and 6 at the Schaumburg Convention Center. We can use more volunteers for Saturday, Oct. 5, to help with the model show. Please email any of the officers if you can help.

We also need judges for our November contest. At the next meeting in October, we will have a short presentation of judging rules and technique for each model category. As mentioned before, judging is a great way to boost your modeling knowledge while having some fun. Please plan on attending the meeting and volunteering.

The highlight of the night was the lively discussion concerning suggestions about improving the meetings. A sheet was passed around for suggestions/questions, which collected a wide range of comments. This triggered a discussion about how the meetings are conducted and about planning future meetings. The board has continued the debate since then. We will develop a plan to discuss at the December meeting.

Hope to see you all in October!



PMS/USA Membership

IPMS/USA is dedicated to the hobby (and fun) of scale modeling. It was started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas, in 1964. There are now branches of IPMS all over the world. Our local regions and chapters sponsor model shows and contests every year, but you needn't be a member to visit the shows or attend the club meetings!

With IPMS/USA membership, you will receive the outstanding IPMS/USA Journal six times a year. It includes features on all modeling subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, figures--you name it! You will also find listings of IPMS contests, swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews.

Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA sanctioned contests, particularly our world-famous National Convention, held each summer. As a member, you'll also be able to access our online discussion board, where a wide variety of modeling topics are discussed, and enjoy interaction with other serious modelers for help with questions about modeling techniques or IPMS in general. Many hobby shops and model vendors around the country offer discounts to IPMS/USA members.

Memberships are available in several types:

Junior: 17 years old or younger, \$12 per year

Adult: \$25 for 1 year

\$49 for 2 years \$73 for 3 years

Family: Adult membership plus \$5 (additional membership cards as requested)

Canada or Mexico: \$30 per year

Foreign: \$32 per year (Journal via regular mail) or \$55 per year (Journal via air mail)

Payment Information: Online payment may be made via credit card only.

Downloadable IPMS/USA Application Form (in PDF, 100KB).

Applications using payment via check or money order should be printed and mailed to:

IPMS/USA Dept. H P.O. Box 2475

N. Canton, OH 44720-0475

For any questions or problems with your membership application/renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Office Manager, Ms. M.J. Kinney, at manager@ipmsusa.org

JOIN/RENEW BUTCH O'HARE SCALE MODELERS					
Name:					
Address:	E-mail:				
City:	State: Zip:				
IPMS Membership #	Exp. Date:				
Additional Family Members:					
What do you build? (circle one or more) Aircraft Armor Autos Sci-Fi Ships Figures	Send To: Butch O'Hare Model Club 7513 W. Roosevelt Rd. Apt. A103				

Dues: \$20 per year. Make checks payable to the Butch O'Hare Model Club.

**NEW MEMBERS*: Jan-Mar \$20; Apr-Jun \$17; Jul-Sept \$14; Oct-Dec \$9



Local Hobby Shops



Forest Park, IL 60130

• Al's Hobby Shop
Chicagoland Hobby
• Forever Timeless
• Des Plaines Hobbies
America's Best Hobby
• La Grange Hobby
• Ron's Mundelein Hobbies
• M & Models
• Past Time Hobbies
Greenfield Hobby
Oakridge Hobbies & Toys7511 Lemont Road, Suite 100, Darien, IL, 630-435-5900







to the editor

Just a few thoughts and ideas:

For what it's worth, our last Friday meeting was Friday the 13th! Not sure if that had anything to do with the proceedings. Here are a few comments about it. I think the meeting was one of the more memorable meetings because there was a good discussion! The other thing that stands out was the discussion about "push button" modeling. It was memorable because so many people piped up. Unfortunately, I don't know how to replicate that on a regular basis.

Actually, Tom Nelson's forceful comments were good in an odd way as they are stimulating some renewed thought on a few areas that have probably been a perpetual struggle over the club's history. The club's to-do list passed around at the meeting is interesting. The basics of modeling would be difficult. How basic do you go? John is correct that no one wanted to sign up for his basics class, and I'm not confident that it would go over that much better in a meeting. And there are so many articles on the web and in **Fine Scale Modeling** that I have to wonder about the questions. Is it laziness or being afraid to start?

Some of the items listed would be hard to do in an hour or simply take too much equipment or involve chemicals, etc., for an evening meeting. Another area that always lurks below the surface is the lack of models brought in by the <u>majority</u> of members.

Certainly in a club like ours where the skill level is generally high, it's intimidating to bring in your first model or even any model. After joining it took me months before I screwed up the courage to bring in something because I was so intimidated. I know we are not critical of anyone's effort, but when you see the entries each month, it can be nerve wracking to bring in your effort for comparison.

So here are some suggestions:

Group build: Perhaps do an out of the box group build for/with beginners? Each month have the group builders review a portion of the process (say 30-45 minutes), give pointers, answer questions and then everyone works on it for next meeting. It could be a self-paced thing so some can go faster than others. This would not have to involve everyone but could be off in a separate corner.

Another option might be to build a model over several months for the meetings. Each month would show a different stage of the build emphasizing techniques, planning, assembly, painting, weathering, etc. It could be a cycle of show/explain progress to



letters



Cont.

date, explain next steps or actions, document with some pictures during the month at your workbench and then show/explain results at next month's meeting, with final postings on the web? Perhaps keep it to 30-45 minutes. We could have a different "expert" for each stage (basic sub assembly, assembly/seam filling, painting, decaling, weathering, display base) so no one person has to do the entire project by himself. Motivated people could also build the same one as well, to compare or practice, and the others could simply watch. Actually, this sounds like it might be a fun thing to try! We could do it for an airplane and then an AFV or car. If modeling skills are universal, it would get us exposed to other types of modeling as well! It would be proactive.

Basics: I have a number of Internet sites that have excellent free resources on how to build a model or various techniques such as airbrushing. In fact, it's part of an article I am putting together on research. I volunteer to give a short presentation on this and researching at a meeting. This might help to let beginners, at least, know where to look. Perhaps we could add the links on the website?

Website: Now that we have an award-winning newsletter, perhaps it's time to upgrade our website. The "How To" tab has mostly contest rules. I did stumble on the "Articles," but there are not many. How do we get more of the past articles or presentations onto the web? There's an "At our last Butch O'Hare Meeting" at the bottom of the main page but nothing there.

Maybe we could add some type of link to send an email with a modeling question. It could go to a reviewer(s), who could get input from our panel of experts to post back on the website. This could then be added to a list or Wiki for future reference. I think there are some exciting possibilities for the website that could answer some of the questions/issues on the list. I would be willing to help in this effort.

I really like the different newsletters that Kevin forwards. It's great to see how other clubs function and operate meetings/activities. It's interesting how many clubs do group builds or rate each month's models to give points and awards at the end of the year. Theme nights seem to be popular at other clubs, but ours rarely has more than one or two theme models presented. I know I have tried, but I always seem to finish a month after the theme night. I don't have any ideas on that.

Looking forward to kicking this around some more to see what we can do.



Modelers with these skills:

- -Weathering / Dry-Brushing
- -Figures
- -Scribing
- -Sanding / Filling Sink Marks
- -Masking and Painting Canopies
- -Replicating parts from Spares Box
- -Paints and the Different Types of Paint
- -Paint Removers and Strippers
- -Printing Decals / Trimming Decals
- -Preshading / Postshading
- -Dremel Usage
- -Making Bombed-out Buildings for Dioramas
- -Removing the Silver Coating on Car Kits / Repainting

These are requests for help from your club members. Please find the time to step forward and share your abilities. 2014 is just waiting for well-motivated demos.



You Asked for It, Now Make It Happens

15 Raffle Tickets per Demonstration!

The Display Table





Beautiful reflection of F-5s that flew, *Carl*!



Tissue and stick Pipers that fly for 90 seconds are amazing, *Keith*!





Darren, the stealthier the better for this U-2.



This USS Wasp looks brand new out of the factory, *Don*.



The Display Table, cont.

FU-024

Nice 2nd place at the Nats for this sabre-Dog, Carl!



About time! Thanks for the Triumph cycle, Pik!



Stan, this is a great P-51 and diorama!



Also for the PBY, Carl!



Darren, this X-3 really reaches back to the "golden days" of test flights.

The Display Table cont.





Rich, this is a fantastic P-47... stunning!



Carl, this is almost Clutch Cargo-like.



Tom, nice addition honoring the Ploesti raids!



Nice pre-war F4F-3 from the USS Wasp, *Don*.



This wouldn't be complete without an airliner, *Carl*.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Chet, this is an unusual way to break into 35mm photography.

Carl, this is the exact plane I'm waiting for. The KC-135 from Minicraft with the "big" motors!



Darren, can't wait to see this captured P-51 completed.

Critical Analysis



Good News and Bad News

By Walt Fink

Most of you know by now that Ad Venture Hobbies in Wheeling has closed. They're going to be sorely missed by everyone and they've been an institution for me--a hobby mecca, for certain--for many years.

My association with then-Venture Hobbies dates back to the '70s. In 1972-73, I edited the old IPMS/USA *Quarterly* magazine and one day received a phone call out of the blue from Terry Molqueen, an Australian gent who'd gotten my name and number from the magazine. He explained that he was new in town and was opening up--Ta-DAAA--a Squadron Shop franchise in Elmhurst. He wanted to know if the IPMS group in town would be interested in helping him with the physical work of the setup.

At that time, IPMS/McKinstry was the only chartered IPMS chapter, meeting at the California Park fieldhouse in Chicago. I took Terry to the meeting and introduced him to the guys, who were most happy to help him in the next couple of weeks, putting up shelves and stocking them. The Elmhurst mecca was a mandatory stop for us all. Terry and the store endured two floods of the adjacent Salt Creek during his tenure there.

Terry moved on (I think he might've been tapped by Squadron to run their Washington, D.C., store), and Ralph Muscente took over the Elmhurst franchise. I was there looking for something one day and couldn't find it, so I asked Ralph if he could help me. "You might try Venture," he told me, and I thought he meant Venture Stores, the old white big-box stores with the black stripes on them. "Nope," he replied, and informed me about Venture Hobbies. Never having been aware of its existence, I gave it a try.

At that time the store was lots smaller and was located further east on Dundee Road than the present one. After that first visit, Venture became a must-do anytime hobby needs arose (and didn't they always?). After their third owner and a long history, it's come to an end, much to everyone's sorrow. It's been a great run and I'm sorry to see George close it down, but it had gotten economically unfeasible to keep putting money into it when they couldn't make the profit margin needed to keep it open. I wish them well in their future endeavors--R.I.P., Ad Venture.

There's an old saying that when one door closes, another one opens, and on Aug. 1 we literally ran into a new HobbyTown USA store just opening up in Lake Geneva, Wis. At this writing, they haven't had their grand opening yet, though they're open for business. Franchisees John and Margie Danno's brand-new store is located at 168 East Geneva Square in Lake Geneva, maybe a mile from Art's house. These kind folks live in Genoa City, Wis., just across the Illinois/Wisconsin state line, and are neighbors of longtime Lakes Region member Ted Horn. (At least, he was before he moved out of Wonder Lake and headed north.)

We wish the Dannos a hearty "bon voyage" and hope they have fair winds and following seas in their new business. Stop in for a visit.

This Month in Auto History

October 1, 1965: Ford Motor Company introduced the 1966 Ford Bronco. It was designed as a competitor in the growing compact four-wheel-drive market.









October 17, 1945: The first postwar Cadillac was built on this date. The company entered the postwar era competing with Packard for the top rank in America's luxury market. The famous aircraft-inspired tailfin Cadillac debuted in 1948, with the company becoming the styling innovator in its market.







UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3-6, 2013 iHobby Expo

Schaumburg Convention Center
Near Chicago Map
Schaumburg, IL
Dick Crist 630-444-7372

October 19, 2013
MOSS CON 2013
White House Theatre
2255 Gretna Road Map
Branson, MO
Nate Jones 417-230-6220

October 19, 2013
Glue Crew 2013
Howard Johnson Inn & Conference Center
2101 North Mountain Road Map
Wausau, WI
Joseph Drew 715-842-0173

November 9, 2013

IPMS "Butch" O'Hare Chapter Contest
Lakeview Junior High School
701 Plainfield Road Map
Downers Grove, IL
John Bishop 630-880-4905

Febuary 1, 2014
17th Annual Hope It Don't Snow Show
Ramada Hotel & Convention Center
1517 16th St. SW Map
Rochester, MN
Chris Krco 507-254-4646

March 8, 2014

Mad City Modelers Annual Show
Double Days

4586 Baxter Road Map
Cottage Grove, WI
Stuart Vandervort 608-358-4773

IHOBBYEXPO2013 MODEL CONTEST Show off your model building workmanship · SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th ONLY (ONE DAY EVENT) · \$10 ENTRY FEE FOR BOTH SHOW & CONTEST ENTRY

- (Space is limited!)
- · TROPHIES FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE 2 Categories Adult and Junior (under 14) Contest entry also earns a raffle ticket. Prizes will be awarded through-out the day by PA announcement. Additional raffle tickets will also be available for sale to contest entrants.

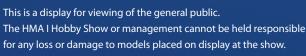
What to do:

Models must be brought to the Show entrance for registration between 9AM and 11AM. Entries need to be a built plastic model kit, small dioramas are welcome. Models MUST be approved at the show entrance to reflect "FAMILY FRIENDLY" subject matter. After lobby registration a pass will be provided to enter the show and proceed to the model display area. An entry form MUST be filled out and shown to retrieve the model at the end of the show. Votes are counted at 4 PM. Models must be picked up by 4:30 PM.











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31st ANNUAL IPMS BUTCH O'HARE CHAPTER OPEN MODEL CONTEST

SATURDAY – NOVEMBER 9, 2013 at: LAKEVIEW JR. HIGH SCHOOL

701 Plainfield Rd. Downers Grove, IL 60516

SCALE MODELERS - BRING OUT YOUR BEST!

COMPETE FOR SPECIAL AWARDS WITH MODELERS FROM
CHICAGOLAND AND THE ENTIRE CENTRAL REGION

FACT: ONE OF THE BEST TRADER ROOMS AT A LOCAL SHOW IN THE MIDWEST!



COMPETE FOR SPECIAL AWARDS WITH MODELERS FROM CHICAGOLAND AND THE ENTIRE CENTRAL REGION



TIMETABLE:

7:00 AM --- VENDORS SETUP

9:00 AM --- DOORS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

11:00 AM -- 1ST RAFFLE

NOON ---- REGISTRATION CLOSES

4:00 PM -- AWARDS ANNOUNCED

5:00 PM -- END OF CONTEST FOR 2013

CONTEST ENTRY FEES: \$7 ADULT (over 17 yrs old) FOR FIRST 3 MODELS, \$3 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MODEL

EVENT INFORMATION:

REGISTRATION FORMS & INTEL

Go to Our Website:

www.butchoharemodelers.com or call our chapter contact

Marco Fernandez @ 773-804-1584 or mfchi@sbcglobal.net

VENDORS TABLE RESERVATIONS AND INTEL: Contact

JOHN BISHOP 630-880-4905

<u>ilbishop@wideopenwest.com</u>

Judged by "CHICAGO RULES"

UNLIMITED CLASS AWARDS IN GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE

MEDALLIONS! RECOGNIZING YOUR MODELING SKILLS, PLUS:

SPECIAL AWARDS For DISTINGUISHED MODELING

EXCELLENCE: Best in Show - People's Choice - Best Aircraft - Best Armor -Best Nautical - Best Auto - Best Figure - Best Sci-Fi - Fantasy/Comic - Best Diorama - Best Junior and many more!!!!

WALK THRU SPECTATOR FEES:

\$5 ADULT (OVER 17 YRS OLD)

\$1 JUNIOR (OVER 12 to 17 YRS)

\$ FREE FOR KIDS UNDER 12 YRS

EARLY BIRD ENTRANCE TO THE VENDORS ROOM FOR \$10 (8 AM START TIME)

RAFFLE TICKETS DRAWN THROUGHOUT THE DAY for \$1 each/6 for \$5

PLEASE PRINT, FILL IN AND BRING TO THE CONTEST FOR SPEEDIER SERVICE

ENTRY FORM for IPMS "Butch" O'Hare Chapter - Annual OPEN Contest				
NAME: ADDRESS: CITY: PHONE # Registrar ENTRY #	STATE CLUB AFFILIATION: E-Mail Address: ENTRY NAME:	ZIP SCALE:		CHECK ONE CATEGORY Aircraft Armor Auto Nautical Figure Sci Fi / Fantasy / Comic Diorama Junior
	All entries must be the sole work of the indi CONTEST JUDGING RULES ARE AVA Registration-Detach I	AILABLE AT REGISTRATION		try Form.
A	II entries must be the sole work of the indi	vidual whose name is o	n this En	-
Registrar ENTRY #	ENTRY NAME:	SCALE:		CHECK <u>ONE</u> CATEGORY Aircraft Armor
KIT MANUFACTURE				Auto Nautical
MODIFICATIONS (de	AFTERMARKET MODIFICATION SCRIBE BELOW): □ DECALS □ RESI			Figure Sci Fi / Fantasy / Comic Diorama Junior
				for Judges Use Only
			_	
				Thanks for sharing your Hobby
				REV. 09

ONE FORM PER MODEL PLEASE

On Sept. 14, 2013, while flying from the northwest suburbs to the Gary, Ind., airport, Butch Bejna spotted our contest site and snapped this photo.

"The parking lot is empty today, but just wait two months from now!" writes Butch.



Panthers, Tigers and Shermans, OH MY! By Stan Kurcz This April Lattended the AMPS national contest in Atlanta. It was my first convention, and I had a great

This April, I attended the AMPS national contest in Atlanta. It was my first convention, and I had a great time. The first event was an outing to Fort Benning, Ga., that is now the home of the Airborne and Armor schools. As part of a consolidation, the armor museum from Fort Knox and the armor collection from the Aberdeen proving grounds were relocated to Fort Benning. (Photo 1) The original plans included creation of a new museum for armor at Fort Benning, but Congress determined that the U.S. Army should not be running a public museum so they restricted funding to storage and rehabilitation of various armor subjects. A private

foundation was created to raise money to build a public museum dedicated to armor.

Since the collection is not normally open to the public, this was a special opportunity to see the history of armor from WWI to the present day in only four hours! Talk about a rush!

We started off in the morning at one of the base motor pools, where the AMPS hosting chapter had arranged for us to climb on and inside an M1 Abrams tank. (Photos 2-6) Really cool, but I have to say--this stuff is a young man's



game! I've destroyed any evidence of how I got on or off the tank so that there's only proof of me standing in place! We were also able to walk around some of the other vehicles: Strykers, HUMVEEs and M1s. We were told that because of sequestration there were only one or two armored vehicles allowed to b operating in the entire motor pool.

Next stop was at a mess facility for lunch. Fort Benning also conducts basic training, so we had to weave our way through recruit platoons waiting to go in. I don't recall ever being that young! Chow was excellent and a great deal for around \$3 a head! After lunch was the highlight of the day: the tank park! (**Photos 7-10**)











We received a briefing from the manager about how events had unfolded up to the present facility and the future plans. Their mission is preservation and some renovation. One of the subjects currently being worked on is an FT-17 tank from WWI. This particular one fought in the Russian civil war and later, along with about 30 others, was sent to the king of Afghanistan in the 1920s. It languished in a scrap yard with a lot of Soviet armor from their invasion until it was noticed by U.S. personnel after the overthrow of the Taliban. From there it was moved back to the United States, where it is now being restored.





One of the purposes of the collection is to provide a historical perspective and training for active duty soldiers. During our visit, a group of marines was changing track on an old Sherman tank. It's one of the ways the small staff is able to maintain the collection.

There were only three vehicles we were asked not to climb on. One was an original 1938 Harley-Davidson motorcycle used by mechanics to move between broken-down tanks in the field. The other two were German Panzers that still had their original paint. Otherwise, we were allowed to climb on any of the vehicles. The only admonition was to replace any tarps as we found them, and to be careful when climbing. When was the last time you had an offer like that at a museum!

And with that, the gun went off, starting a two-and-a-half-hour frantic search for TANKS! At this point, let me say that aircraft are my first love, but after a lifetime of building and reading about Panthers, Tigers and Shermans, this was incredible. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would stand on a Panther or a

Tiger tank! It was an incredible opportunity to "feel" history. A common remark (usually with a shake of the head) was, "Do you believe this?"





I had built an M4A4 Sherman for the contest, and I actually got to climb all over a real one. That was a special experience and really reinforced why I love to model. At the end of a long day, a busload of dehydrated but happy armor nerds made their way back to Atlanta. It was an extraordinary day, and along with the contest and seminars, it was a great experience. If you have never been to a national convention, I would heartily recommend attending one. It's inspiring to be around a lot of people who share your passion and have a great time. On to 2014 in Fredericksburg, Va.!





FROM THE OVAL OFFICE



The past couple of meetings have really brought to the forefront ideas on how we can be more effective as a club. One such idea is having a better structured process for our monthly show and tell. In coming meetings you will find a standardized sign-in sheet so that everyone knows where to sign up to be able to show their work. And since we now know where the a/c control is, we won't have that to worry about.

What I personally would like to see is increased participation throughout the club. With that in mind, I'd really like to see ideas about what would motivate each of you to "take the plunge!"

The exciting thing is that this club can be whatever we want it to be - I look forward to charting our course together!

John

REGION 5 NEWS WITH KELLY QUIRK

Hello Region 5 modelers,

The 2013 National Convention is now in the books. I had a wonderful time there myself, and congratulate the Colorado clubs on a job very well done. Having hosted one of these myself, I know how much hard work, time and dedication go into one of these. Awesome job all around, and I have heard nothing but good things from everybody I have talked to. It was also great to meet many more of my fellow Region 5 peeps!

Of particular note coming out of the convention is that the IPMS Newsletter of the Year Award went to one of our own, IPMS/Butch O'Hare and Editor Kevin Stover. Congrats, guys, and well-done! BOH is very deserving of this honor!

Also, just in case you haven't already heard, the 2014 National Convention will be held in Columbus, Ohio. Well within most Region 5 driving distance, and they know how to host a good show.

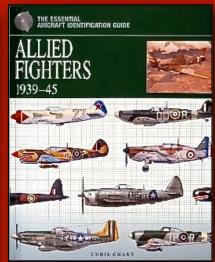
Next month will kick off the IPMS re-charter season. As I have been saying the last couple of updates, please get your membership in order, officers current, and Fact Sheets up to date. This is important!

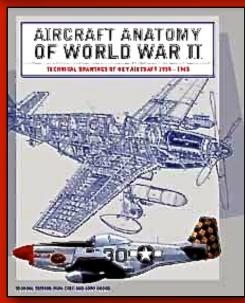
Kelly Zuirk Region 5 RC

New Kits...and stuff

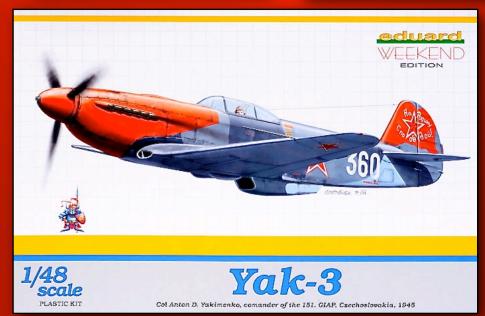
Thanks to all of the members who brought in these new releases for us to see.

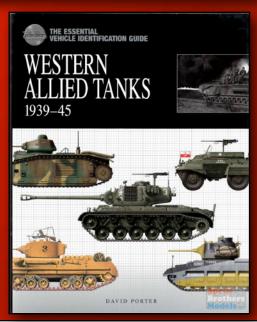












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Upcoming Schedule 2013

Date	Theme	Demo/guest	
January 11	****	****	
February 8	****	****	
March 8	****	****	
April 12	****	****	
May 10	****	****	
June 14	****	****	
July 12	****	****	
August 9	****	****	
September 13	****	****	
October 11	**Police Vehicles	Judging Workshop	
November 9	****	CONTEST!	
December 13	**Fire Fighters	Xmas Party	



Parachute into unknown modeling communities...
Come on in for the BIG WIN!
"Actually TAKE

PRISONERS"

All meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at:

St. Paul's United Church of Christ 5739 Dunham Rd. Downers Grove, IL