

The Navigator

The Newsletter of Alamo Squadron

*The San Antonio chapter of the International Plastic Modelers' Society
A registered 501c-7*

September 2016



IPMS/USA Chapter of the Year:

1998-1999 & 2004-2005

IPMS/USA Region 6 Chapter of
the Year: 2015

Nats Report: 2016



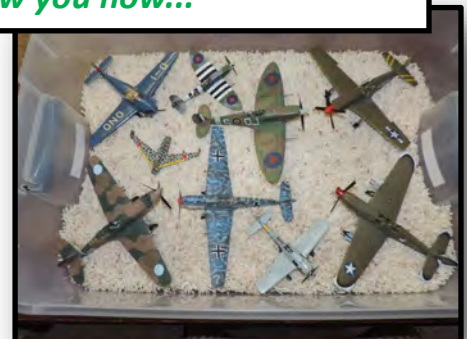
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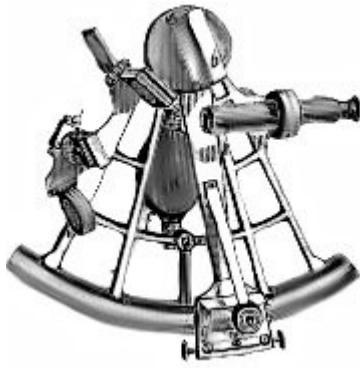
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171 Days to
ModelFiesta 36!

*Take your models and modeling on
the go...Craig Gregory and Rob
Booth show you how...*





President's Column

By Dick Montgomery

IPMS #14003



President's Message – September, 2016

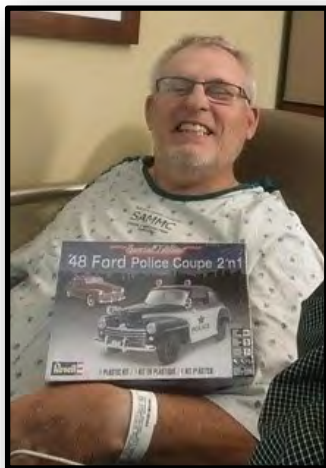
The September meeting is Thursday, Sept 1st. Please be reminded that our meeting times have changed. The meeting will start at **7PM** and end by 8:30PM. We want to show courtesy to the staff at NSF by vacating the building so that they can lock up and go home.

The **Membership** cycle begins/ends at the September meeting. While there are a handful of members who have paid for multiple years, most members will need to renew their membership at the September meeting. Dues are \$24 (a typo in the Aug President's column stated the amount was \$25) per year and you can pay with a check or cash. See Dana Mathes at the meeting to take care of your dues payment for the upcoming year.

A number of POV reports from the **Columbia National Convention** will be offered with those reporting asked to keep their remarks to about 3 minutes each. Lee Forbes served as a judge and has been asked to summarize the convention from the perspective of serving in that role. Dana Mathes took home some hardware (as did Rob Booth) and Dana will summarize the convention from the view of a contestant.

Rob Booth was part of the Bid Team and will summarize the Bid Presentation meeting from his point of view.

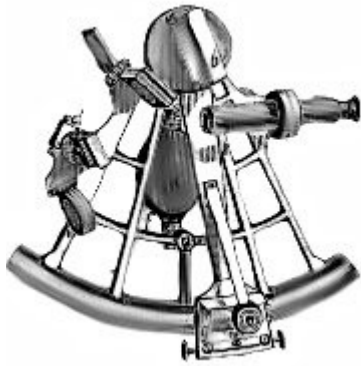
As you may know, **Herb Scranton** is spending some time being tended to in a Rehab facility following a surgical procedure.



Progress is, of course, way too slow for Herb's taste, but he will be running laps around us all again soon. We have several members who will step up and take on some of Herb's responsibilities during his absence and we hope that it won't be too long before we see Herb's smiling face at the meetings once again.

During my flight home from Columbia I received an email that communicated some excellent news to me regarding Alamo Squadron. Each year clubs can choose to register as the **Region 6 Chapter of the Year** by submitting paperwork to our Region 6 Coordinator, and that paperwork was filed many months ago. The email I received from Sean Glaspell, RC-6, was to inform me that IPMS Alamo Squadron had, indeed, been selected as the Region 6 Chapter of the Year! Region 6 is a five-state area and each state is home to some very dynamic chapters, so this recognition is quite a prize. Some contributing factors in this selection included the fact that our meeting programs focus on modeling skills and techniques, that our newsletter and website have undergone some impressive alterations, that the club involves itself in community activities such as the Camargo Park Car Show, and that our club hosts a very impressive annual event, that being ModelFiesta. Further, the ABC program and the Summit Award program show the focus on modeling and the sharing of modeling techniques that is fundamental to the growth of the hobby. In other words, you all, as members, are doing it right! Congratulations!

Lastly, a reminder to please make sure that you are working with Craig to register your current projects in the **Model Summit Program**. I think Craig has hit on a very interesting and enjoyable way to encourage members to build models and to share those projects with the membership.



Club Announcements

ModelFiesta 36

As of September 1st we are 171 days from ModelFiesta 36, scheduled for February 18th, 2017 at the San Antonio Event Center. The theme for ModelFiesta 36 will be **“Everything is Bigger in Texas: A Big Model or a Big Subject”**. The MF36 committee met in mid-August and finalized the classes and categories for the event. The classes remain the same, although re-ordered, and the committee scaled-back the number of categories in some of the classes. The committee added a category dedicated to **Gundam** builds since this appears to be a fast growing genre. The ModelFiesta web page is updated with current show details including the [MF36 flyer](#). We expect delivery of the hard-copy flyers before September’s meeting so the director will have some on hand. Stay-tuned for more MF36 news as we will be seeking volunteers to help test our new contestant registration system in the coming months.



Web Page Bios

Len Pilhofer is still putting together member bios on the club web page. Several e-mails have gone out in past months with instructions and the information we are looking to publish. In no way is this mandatory and only if you wish to share your info with other club members should you participate. Be aware that whatever we post on the webpage is public to the world...there are no security controls on our website. Here is a link to the bios already on the site: <http://alamosquadron.com/members.html>

Member Idea-Suggestion-Comment Forms

A new way of bringing ideas to the club for discussion, votes, and decisions will be via the Member Suggestion Form. Dick Montgomery has these at each of the meetings and they are available for download here: <http://alamosquadron.com/MISC Form.docx>. While it may seem like additional administrivia it helps club leadership keep things organized and ensure everyone’s input is taken into account and addressed.

Club Internal Contest Themes:

Sep:	Monthly Contest/Open
Oct:	Quarterly Contest: Titanic: It’s Big!
Nov:	Monthly Contest/Open
Dec:	Holiday Party—No Contest
Jan:	Quarterly Contest: Ford Challenge

Club Program

The following is the club meeting program for the rest of the “club year” (i.e., up through ModelFiesta month):

September:	Masking Canopies by Chris Lenahan
October:	Applying decals by Lee Forbes
November:	Ship Building Tips by Lee Washburn
December:	Christmas Party
January:	Swap Meet
February:	Automotive Finishing by Paul Barrena

Hill Country Hobby’s Hours for September

Alamo Squadron’s Gary Emery is going to be out of town for parts of September and as a result Hill Country Hobby will be closed on the following days in September: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 17, and 24. HCH will also be closed on Mondays (if not listed above) as per the usual schedule.

Bachelor Build Nights

Craig Gregory and Len Pilhofer are going to start hosting build nights/meetings for any Alamo Squadron member. The focus of these meetings is to build models and comradery with a secondary goal of watching and learning different techniques. There will be no official club business at these meetings, only



Club Announcements

folks sitting with their kit, building it, and talking about any topic you desire. We envision everyone chipping in to get a pizza or some other form of quick and easy dinner...or bring your own. Each build night will run from 5-9 PM.

The schedule will be as follows:

8 September @ Craig's
 22 September @ Len's
 13 October @ Craig's
 27 October @ Len's
 10 November @ Craig's
 17 November @ Len's
 15 December @ Craig's

Craig and Len will be focusing on the recent release of the MPC 1/48 scale **Space: 1999 Eagle Transporter** but this is not a pre-requisite for the build night...bring whatever kit you wish to work on. **Reach out to Craig or Len** if you are interested in participating as there are limited seats available.



August Meeting Report

While a good chunk of Alamo Squadron leadership was deployed to Columbia for the Nats the rest of us managed to squeak out a pretty good meeting. Charles Stone ran through his masking techniques for painting aircraft. He utilizes "Clever Putty", while not specifically made for the hobby, it enables this job of masking to be done quite well. He showed us the re-

sults of such a job on his recent Airfix 1/48 Super Etendard build.



Charles shows us why Clever Putty is so clever.

Internal Club Contest Results for August:



All photos by Craigory

Pete Ortensie's 1st Place 1956 Ford Thunderbird "Tetanus Special"



Mike McKinney's 2nd Place 1/700 scale USS San Antonio



Rick Stanley's 3rd Place '63 Corvette Stingray



Member Techniques

Canopy Masking with Bare Metal Foil

Story and Photo by Chris Lenahan

There are a variety of way to mask a model aircraft canopy today, including pre-cut masks and tape products from Japan. I prefer to use Bare-Metal Foil and have used this method for over 15 years. The foil is self-adhesive and very thin. It is thin enough that if you make a mistake you can just lay more foil over the spot and continue.

The recommended tools to be used with the foil are a hobby knife with a new sharp blade, a fine pair of tweezers, a burnishing tool, a Sharpie, toothpicks, scissors and a soft cloth. I also use an Optivisor for some work.

First prepare your canopy as you normally would. I polish it and then give it a coat of Future before I start. Next take your new knife blade and color the beveled cutting edge with the Sharpie. This will help you see exactly where you are cutting which can be difficult if both are silver and reflective.

Cut small pieces of the foil while it is still attached to its backing. I have found that it is better you use small overlapping pieces of foil to cover the canopy allowing it to conform to compound curves easier. Use your fine Tweezers to remove the foil from its backing and apply to the canopy. Cover the entire canopy with foil.



Smooth the foil with your finger then burnish the foil with a burnishing tool. Once burnished use the soft cloth to polish the foil. Now use your hobby knife to cut the foil along the canopy frame lines and remove the foil from the frame areas. Burnish and polish the foil again and the canopy is ready for painting.

Once painting is completed cut along the frame lines again with your hobby knife and use a toothpick to raise a corner of the foil and then remove it using the tweezers. This method of masking provides a crisp clean line and due to the thinness of the foil works well for all scales especially the smaller ones.



Cover Story

Report From The IPMS/USA Nationals

Story and Photos by Dana Mathes, Dick Montgomery, and Rob Booth

Venue

This year's contest was held at the Columbia, SC Convention Center. Columbia is a small city with a population of about 270,000 people. The Convention Center is nestled among many good restaurants and stores in a nice area near the state capital and not far from the University of South Carolina. The hotels were generally only a short walk from the Convention Center. The Convention Center facility itself was spacious and a very comfortable place for the contestants



and vendors. The Contest Room was adequate for the number of models on hand and the lighting was acceptable.

Contest

As expected, the contest attracted the best model builders in the country. There were over 2500 entries and 660 contestants. True to an IPMS Nationals, the quality and creativity of the entries were fabu-



lous. Photographs of the Best of Class and Best of Show models are displayed on the IPMS website (IPMSUSA.com). See links to gallery and winner's



slideshow near the National portion of the home page). Even the pictures don't do justice to the quality of many of the models. Some of the more eye-catching models included a 1/48 KC-135 in-flight refueling a 1/48 C-5 and remarkable a scratchbuilt mo-



Cover Story

Report From The IPMS/USA Nationals



torcycle that took seven years to build. The theme of the show was “Every Model Tells a Story”. In line with that theme, the Best of Show award went to an outstanding WWII diorama showing German POW’s being heckled and harassed by conquering Russian troops.

Vendors

The vendor area of the Nationals was indeed the largest hobby shop in the country for those four days. The vendors came from all over the country as well as from foreign countries. Major kit manufacturers such as Tamiya were also present. Tools, kits, supplies, accessories, and reference materials were on sale for almost any project imaginable.

Seminars

Seminars were given throughout the contest by noted model builders. The subjects ranged from Gemini spacecraft to Civil War ironclads to Armor Weather-



ing Techniques. In general, these sessions were well-attended, interesting, and presented in a professional style.

Bids for Future Conventions

In addition to our bid to bring the 2018 contest to Texas, proposals were made for future Nationals by Phoenix, Chattanooga, Loveland, CO, and Las Vegas. Rob Booth and Tom Moon (Houston IPMS) did an excellent job of presenting our bid information and handling questions from the audience. But in the end, Phoenix was chosen to host the 2018 Nationals and Chattanooga as the site of the 2019 contest.



Club Results

Our club was represented in Columbia by Dick Montgomery, Lee Forbes, Mike Buckley, Rob Booth, Dana Mathes, and Dave Herron. Rob won second place awards for his OOB 1/48 Eduard Bf-108 Taifun and 1/72 IJA Ku-4 Ram Jet aircraft models. Dana was awarded a first place for his OOB Vietnam PBR boat and second place for his OOB Caterpillar bulldozer.



Feature Story

Building a Grim Reaper: Part 1

Story and Photos by Len Pilhofer (except where noted)



It has been over 10 years since I have tackled an aircraft kit and (thanks to World of Tanks) have focused primarily on armor since getting back into the hobby. I have a close Air Force friend who used to fly F-15Cs and I have always wanted to build him a token of his former office for his new office. He is unaware of this gift so hopefully he doesn't read The Navigator and thus let the cat out of the bag! I am going to detail this build over several issues of The Navigator with this issue focusing on the initial build-up



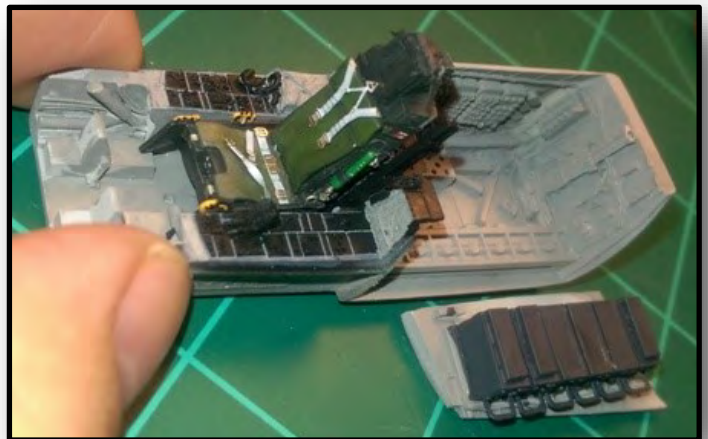
With several kits out there of the F-15C I had to choose one that would fit the bill. My friend piloted these birds just a few years ago so it would be a more modern MSIP II version of the "C-Model". I chose the Academy 1/48 F-15C MSIP II (Kit # 12222) as I had read good reviews of it online. I also purchased several aftermarket kit add-ons for the base kit: Aires resin cockpit and resin exhaust cans, SAC white-metal landing gear, Eduard internal and external photo-etch details, and resin "weighted" wheels. I also obtained Caracal decals specific to the 493rd Fighter Squadron at RAF Lakenheath...his favorite assignment.

I started work on the resin cockpit tub and Aces II ejection seat. This item is beautifully rendered with maximum detail molded into every piece. I opted to use the seat harness from the Eduard internal detail set as it came pre-painted and a bit easier to attach. Fit of the cockpit within the Academy nose section is, for



the most part problem free. A slight gap remained after closing the two halves that was easily filled with a small amount of CA.

I went on to work the intakes and decided early on that I wanted to be able to see into the openings and model the smooth, white interiors of the real thing. I dug deeper into the Academy kit and quickly realized this was going to be a challenge. I studied the parts more closely and developed a strategy to approach this. As I executed this part of the build I began to think of other





Feature Story

Building a Grim Reaper



I didn't have the energy to tackle this mess...

kits and how they engineer and mold their air intakes. I knew Great Wall Hobby has on the market a 1/48 F-15C MSIP II (Kit #L4817) While a bit pricier than the Academy kit when I opened it for the first time I immediately realized I was dealing with a superior kit. The intakes, among other items, are engineered much better than its Academy competitor. If economy is your goal, stick with Academy; if competitive execution is your goal then spend the extra dollars, it is worth it.



GWH's F-15C kit: Note the single upper wing & fuselage piece.

Of course it is almost impossible to find any large part molded as a single piece but at least the GWH F-15 intake is just two pieces: a cylinder split down the middle. I decided to try a technique I had heard and subsequently read about on Hyperscale that uses enamel paint to coat the insides of the intakes with the aim of creating a smooth and seamless interior. I picked up a small can of Rustoleum enamel white that

is made for outdoor use. This stuff is thick and flows relatively slowly. I taped off each intake at one end and filled it with the Rustoleum white enamel paint. Once it had time to set against the sides of the intake I pulled the tape away and drained the paint for additional use. After letting each coat dry overnight (it's thick enamel) I executed the same procedure again for each intake. I did this a total of three times. Then, letting it cure over several days I trimmed the forward



Rustoluem enamel paint to the rescue.



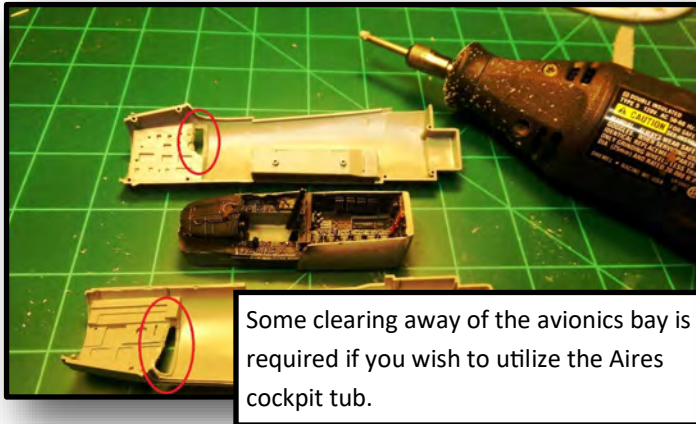
Intakes complete...I was satisfied with the results.

intake edges (the ones that will be visible) of built-up paint to ensure a smooth fit with the intake fairings. I touched up this area with the same paint applied with a flat brush and smoothed it out as best as possible. This paint is thick enough that after you apply with a standard brush it self-levels quite nicely.



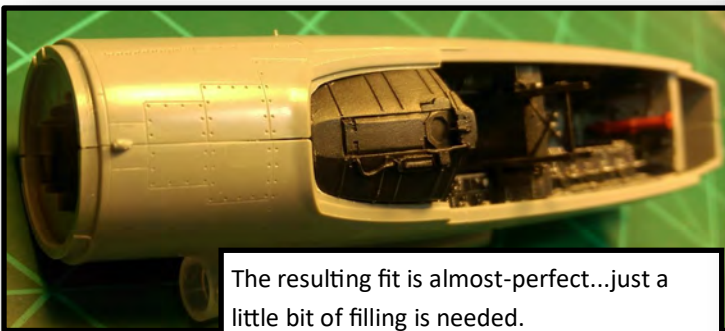
Feature Story

Building a Grim Reaper



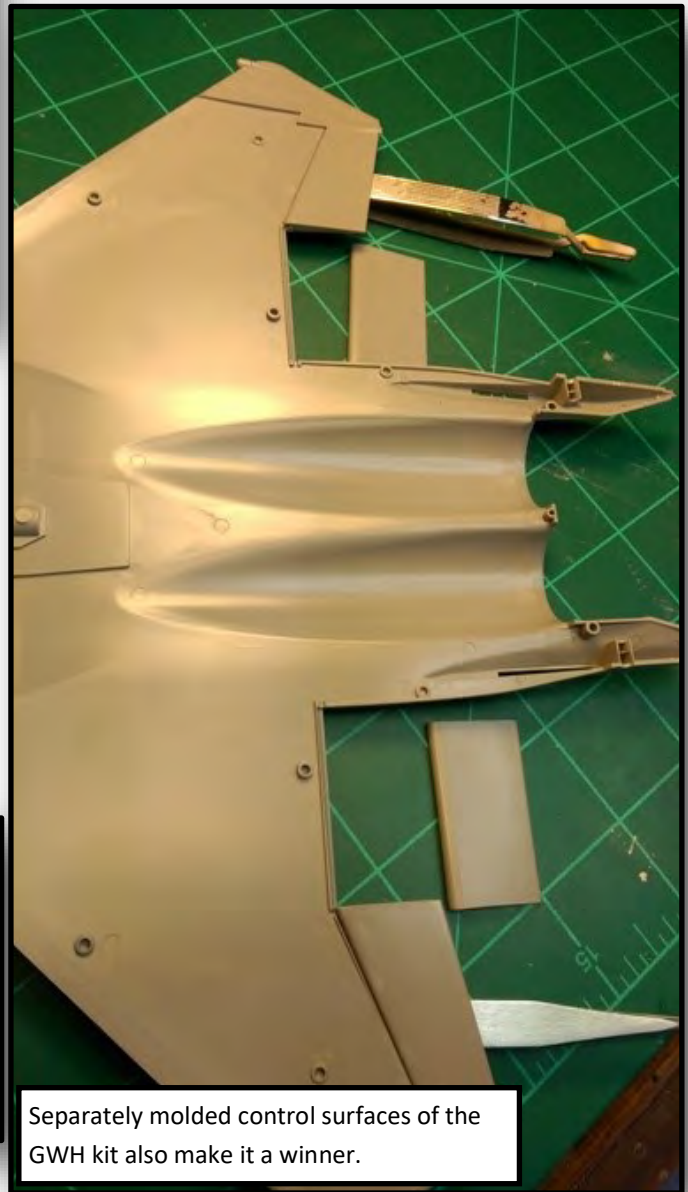
Some clearing away of the avionics bay is required if you wish to utilize the Aires cockpit tub.

Another problem with switching to the GWH kit is the fit of the Aires resin cockpit tub in the nose section of this kit. GWH has the welcome addition of open and visible avionics bays in the fore section of the aircraft, just aft of the radar suite. The price you pay for this detail is blockage against the fit of the aftermarket cockpit tub. I was not too keen on displaying the avionics bays open so I trimmed away, with my Dremel motor tool and grinding bit, the aft sections of this recessed bay. Once it was cleared away the cockpit tub fit without a hitch and the two halves came together nicely.



The resulting fit is almost-perfect...just a little bit of filling is needed.

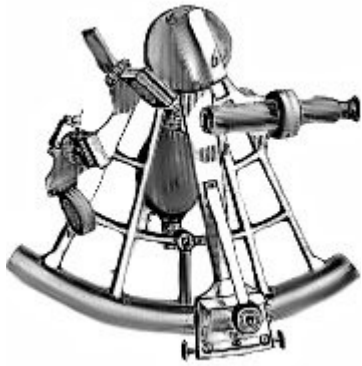
ual feature, of the F-15. Executing it correctly in a kit helps make it that much better.



Separately molded control surfaces of the GWH kit also make it a winner.

The closing of the main fuselage is another treat of this kit and one more reason why the extra bucks are well spent. The upper wing halves are molded to the upper fuselage which makes for an absolutely beautiful upper wing/fuselage of the this model. This is critical since this upper surface is a major design, and vis-

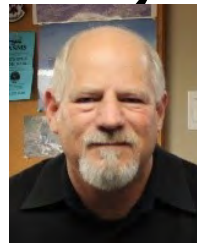
Check out next month's edition of the Navigator where I will continue with the documentation of this fantastic F-15C kit...



Feature Story

Packing For The Nats

Story and Photos by Rob Booth



It was that time of year again and the IPMS National Convention was upon us in August. I spent a couple hours planning the best way to transport my entries from my display case to the contest tables, with a minimum opportunity for any catastrophic damage to them. As an airplane guy, my packing method is tailored towards that genre, but most of my system is adaptable to other subjects. It's really just a contest specific adaptation of the same container that I use when I travel by car or truck to our regional contests.



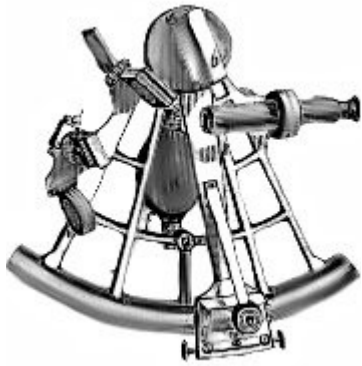
First, I am still a working stiff, so limiting my available vacation time means I have to travel by commercial air service (UGH!) to the NATS convention city. As if airline travel these days isn't enough of a pain, try coming up with a packing system that you would entrust to airline baggage handlers to get your prized entries to another city across the country! In my opinion, that's just not an economic feasibility!

So, my first task was to come up with a light weight container that would fit within the overhead luggage bin of most of today's commercial airliners. That actually involves planning a flight itinerary on an airline that will use Boeing 737 or larger aircraft for all legs. The smaller commuter aircraft just don't have enough overhead room to allow for my system, and the

checked baggage system is NOT an option! I have obtained a couple of plastic storage bins over the years that come close to the 45 total inch carry on size limitations of most airlines. I use these same containers for local contests with a piece of scrap shag carpet in the bottom of it to keep my planes from moving around. The length actually exceeds the strict dimensioning by a couple of inches, but I've never been kicked off of a flight for it. Usually, if a flight attendant questions whether my container will fit in the overhead compartment, I just open the lid for closer inspection by whomever, and the "wow" factor takes over. Then, you get "Captain, you HAVE to see this!", and blah, blah, blah. But I digress ...

I bought a couple sheets of inexpensive Styrofoam sheet wall insulation a few years ago (less than \$15 for a 4'X8'X3/4" sheet) to experiment with for just this purpose. My plan was to come up with a system that would allow me to maximize the number of models I could place in the space available, and then "lock and fix" the position of each model in place to prevent any movement in any direction. I traced out

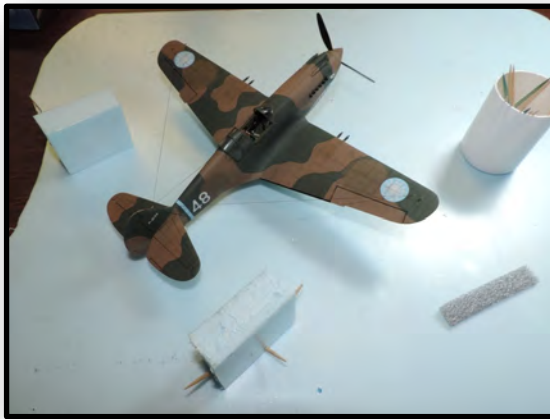




Feature Story

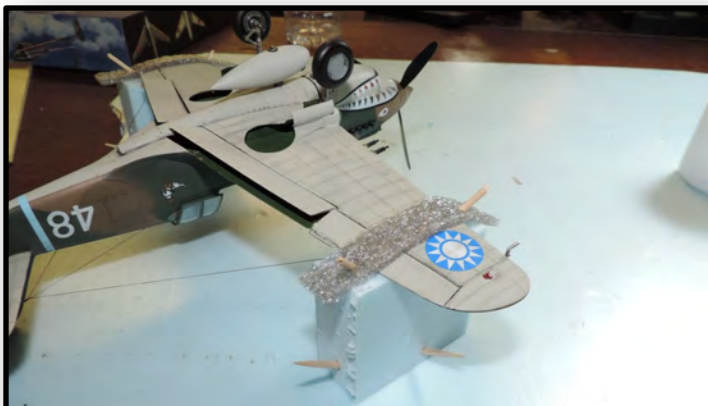
Packing For The Nats

the inside dimension and pattern for each of my bins, and cut out a Styrofoam “base” that would fit in the bottom of each .



Starting with my usual carpet base, I then experiment with the placement of each

model to maximize the space available to fit the number of entries I’m dealing with. My typical haul would include 6-10 subjects in 1/72 and 1/48 scale. When I’m satisfied with a layout that accommodates all my models without touching each other to avoid scratches and scrapes, I take a digital photo for reference, and go to work with the Styrofoam.



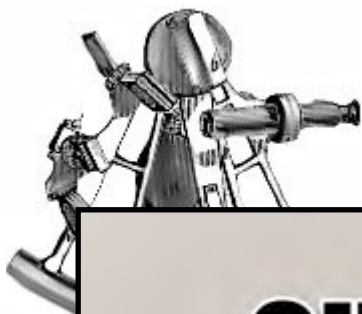
I begin by cutting a couple of identical pieces of foam the will support the wings of each aircraft in an inverted position. The pieces of foam must allow the aircraft to clear any antenna or open canopies from the foam base, but not so tall that it puts the landing gear too close to the bin lid, as the lid will

“give” from above. After cutting the appropriate blocks, I begin placing each model to match the layout I came up with, one at a time. I attach the Styrofoam blocks to the base with toothpicks pushed through the blocks and into the base sheet at an angle to fix them in place . Each aircraft is then placed, inverted, on the top of the blocks on their wings, and affixed with thin foam “straps” held in



place by more toothpicks. This system effectively “locks” each model in its respective space, and prevents any shifting or movement with the exception of an all out drop kick or free-fall of the container. A couple of foam “columns” here and there, prevent the possibility of a jolt or bounce causing the entire sheet to raise up and collide with the plastic lid, damaging fragile landing gear, ordnance, etc.

This system has served me well, travelling to four or five National Contests without any major catastrophes to my entries. In fact, I have inflicted way more damage removing models from my display case or placing them on contest tables, than I have suffered as a result of “travel” damage.



ガンダム

GUNDAM BUILD DAY at **HobbyTown USA**

Join fellow Gundam builders
Saturday September 24th
12 noon - 5 pm

Bring a kit from your backlog or
buy a new one here!

Curious about techniques or supplies?
Come for quick one-on-one
instruction,
examples, and
resources!





Alamo Squadron

Model Building Summit Program

To promote more model building and enthusiasm amongst club members, Alamo Squadron is sponsoring the Model Building Summit Award. By building 5 model projects within in one calendar year, participants receive recognition and prizes.

The rules are simple:

- This year's building period started on March 3rd, 2016 and ends on March 1st, 2017; coincides with the building season for ModelFiesta.
- Complete 5 modeling projects within the building period to earn recognition and prizes. All modeling genres, subject and complexity are encouraged.
- Eligible models must be presented at a regular club meeting, where a simple entry form is completed.



The Wall of Modeling Heroes...be sure to add your name!

A special provision for projects started before the current building period, provides eligibility when at least the last 25% of the modeling effort completes the project within the current building period. Effort is measured in hours.

This is the perfect excuse to finish those neglected projects wanting on your shelves, or to uphold your promises to begin whittling down your model stash.

Hill Country Hobby is sponsoring a 20% discount on any plastic model in stock for each participant achieving the summit of 5 models. There is also a trove of plastic models that will be awarded, along with club bragging rights.

Questions? Hit up Craig Gregory at the next meeting.



Feature Story

Mobile Modeling

Story and Photo by Craig Gregory



Perhaps you have already heard my story that my first introduction to Alamo Squadron was through the Adult Building Course (ABC). Yes, I modeled as a kid: tube glue all over the place, didn't even attempt to paint the models. I tried again after college; I even had an airbrush this time. But my true introduction to plastic modeling was joining Alamo Squadron and participating in the ABC.

So I was attending the weekly ABC session carrying all the tools and paints I needed in a shoebox; literally in a shoebox. The instructor had all his items neatly organized in a large fishing tackle box. Being the innovator that I am, I decided that I could also use a tackle box to organize and carry my modeling items. A trip to Academy Sports + Outdoor provided a large selection of tackle boxes and I made my purchase.





Feature Story

Mobile Modeling

I decided upon the Plano 737. It is divided into 5 storage areas, each configured to handle different needs. This model has physical drawers rather than sub containers stored in the body of the box. The drawers and the compartments of different size and shape are the reasons I choose this model.

The lower face of the front folds down giving access to 3 pull-out drawers (A). The drawers are about 75% of the width of the entire tackle box. Each drawer is sub-divided and optional snap-in dividers are available to further sub-divide the drawers.

In the top drawer I keep a flash light, pens & pencils, a set of screwdrivers and band aids.

The middle drawer contains my basic modeling tools which include hobby knives, sanding sticks, a set of metal files, tweezers, small metal ruler, modeling putty and scribing tools.

And finally the bottom drawer holds wet-n-dry sand paper, a Flex-File, masking tapes, clamps, clothes pins and paint brushes.

To the right of the drawers is another door (B), about 25% of the tackle box width, which opens and reveals a compartment where I keep 3 or 4 glass jars. I use the jars as temporary tool holders so that my tools are not rolling around my work surface. Think pencil holder.

The top of the tackle box has a full with lid (C), under the lid and again making up about 75% of the width is a large compartment for miscellaneous item. I use it for my larger items like my cutting mat, water dish, glass plate for cutting masking tape, etc.

The left 25% of the top section is a deeper compartment (D) where I keep my glues and cans of Tamiya spray primer.

Finally inlaid into the top is a compartment that is sub-divided (E) and is ideal to hold the paints I require for my works in progress.

I don't only use my modeling tool chest when traveling to an ABC session or a random build session with a fellow modeler. The tackle box is my permanent tool chest at home. And should I decide to do a little modeling on the dining room table, I simply pick up my tool chest and go.



Craigory: Modeler-On-The-Go!



Modeling Caves

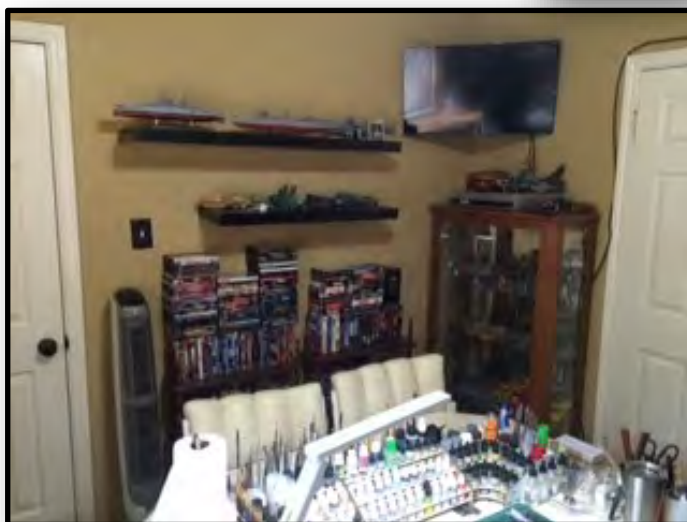
Story and Photos by Mike Holsen



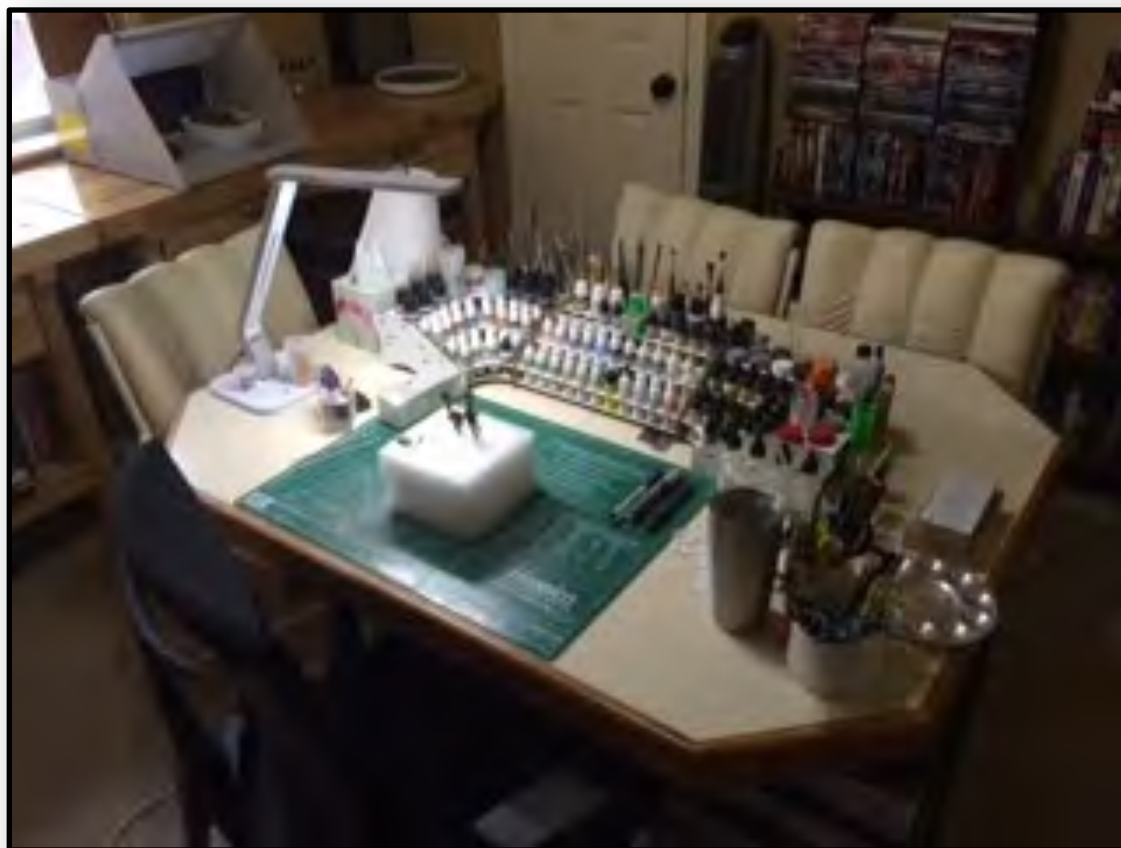
As every modeler soon discovers, having a secure and ample space to build models is imperative. Likewise, having a cooperative spouse (or significant other) factors in the overall equation to successful model building. Whether it's pets (like cats) or young children, the ability to secure and control entry is important. As most modelers find out, once you start your project build, being able to "leave it out" and not have to put everything away, facilitates rather than frustrates the model building process. And let's not forget the environment: lighting, humidity and temperature. These factors alone, if not at a comfortable level, will frustrate and dissuade the beginner, let alone the more experienced modeler.

I mention these factors because I have, in my modeling career, encountered them all. It has been a learning experience from trying to build models in the garage to my elaborate "man cave" set up that I now relish and enjoy.

My big "break" in achieving my current set-up came when my spouse and I found it most convenient to convert our dining room into the office and the office, now empty, to become my modeling room. We simply exchanged the desk in the office to the dining room and the dining room table with chairs to the office. The dining

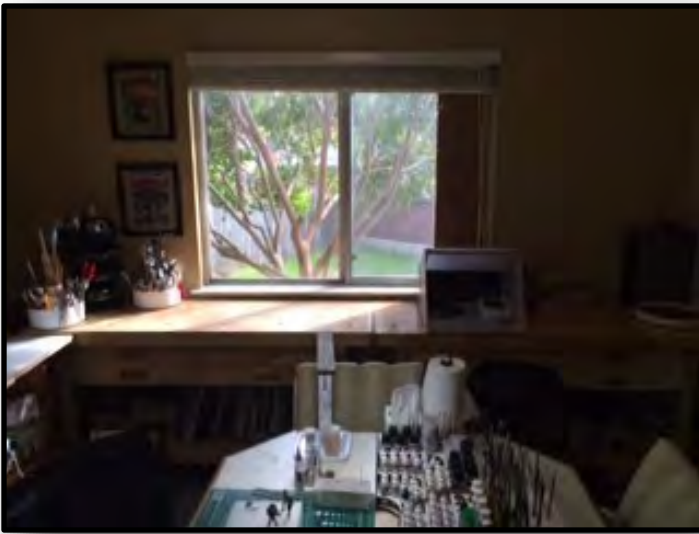


room table offered ample space for my main build area plus enough room to add a paint stand organizer with





Modeling Caves



room still left around the table for visiting modelers, like my dad, to work or watch me work.

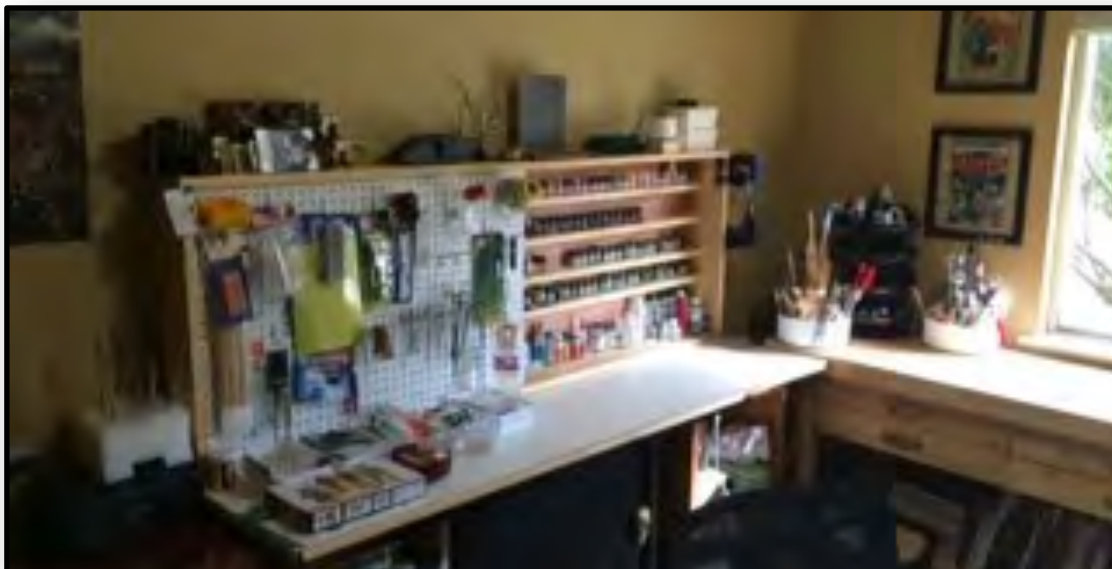
After assessing the additional space in the room, I then bought Harbor Freight wood work benches that I assembled. This set-up not only provided additional room to locate my paint booth, but drawers and shelves for more storage. Likewise, I hand-built a shelf to store paints and other liquid solvents, as well

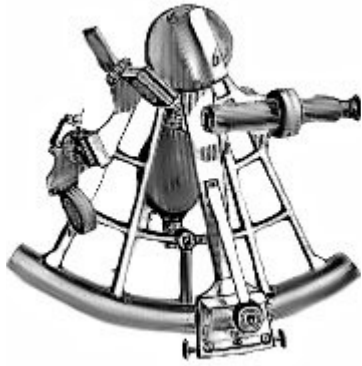
as a peg board to place tools and other materials for easy access.

Finding a place to display completed models is yet another factor that needs consideration. My "man cave" set-up allowed me the room to install shelving along the wall. Additionally, I added furniture with glass doors and shelves for safe-keeping and display of finished models.

The final consideration in my "man cave" set-up was purchasing a small flat screen TV. With Internet access, I can watch YouTube programming on techniques being used by even more experienced modelers to learn and apply on my model builds. And, when I grow tired watching these instructional programs, I can always watch one of my favorite zombie genre movie.

In conclusion, every modeler seriously contemplating getting involved in this craft must consider a good location to accomplish the task. In the end, it is an adaptive process given the individual modeler's circumstances, ingenuity and budget.





Upcoming Events

IPMS Region 6

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 1st, 2016 at 7:00PM

Location: Northside Ford of San Antonio

September 3, 2016

31st Annual Cajun Modelfest

LSU Ag Center 4H Minifarm Building

Ag Center Drive

Baton Rouge, LA 70808

<http://www.brscalemodelers.com/>



September 10, 2016

SuperCon 2016

Bob Duncan Community Center

2800 S. Center St

Vandergriff Park, Arlington, TX

<http://fortworthscalemodelers.org/SuperCon.html>



September 24, 2016

16th Annual Spoo-Doo Model Show

Statehouse Convention Center

101 E Markham St.

Little Rock, AR 72201

<http://www.casmodels.org/spoo-doo-2016.html>



September 24, 2016

Austin Scale Modelers Society Capitol Classic 2016

Norris Conference Center

2525 West Anderson Lane

Austin, TX

<http://www.austinsms.org/contest.php>



About Alamo Squadron

Executive Board 2016-2017



President:
Dick Montgomery
IPMS #14003
president@alamosquadron.com



Vice-President:
Herb Scranton III
vp@alamosquadron.com



Treasurer:
Dana Mathes
IPMS #43781
sec-treas@alamosquadron.com

IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members. It is a hobby-centered social organization which, at its core, is focused on scale modeling of all kinds. It is an excellent source of information for those who wish to enhance their modeling skills and improve their modeling techniques, and is open and inviting to visitors and guests. Dues are \$24.00 a year, due to the treasurer on September 1st of each year.

Alamo Squadron has been hosting ModelFiesta since 1981. Locations have included the Wonderland Mall, a Holiday Inn, the Seven Oaks Motel & Convention Center, the Live Oak Civic Center and the new location for 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.

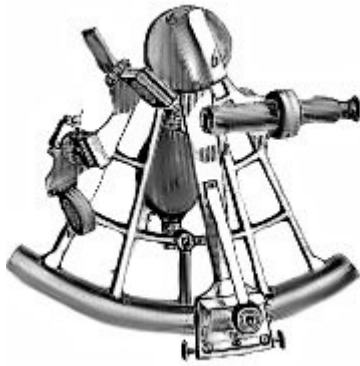


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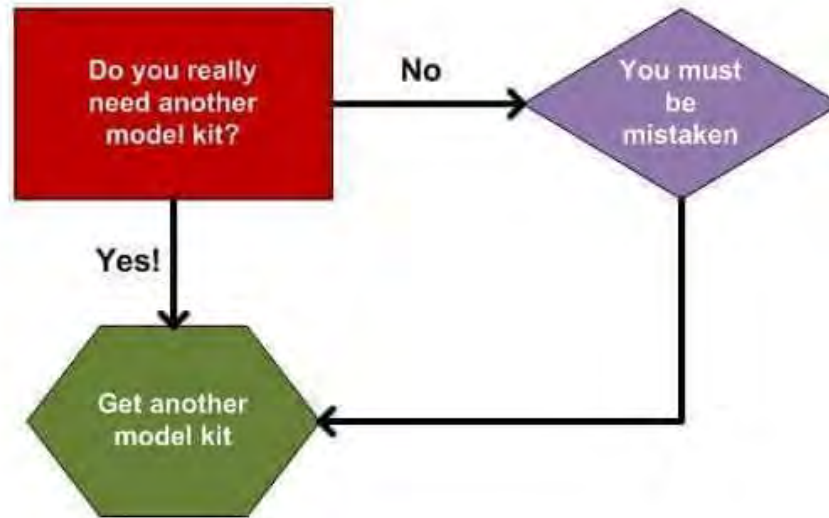


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Final Words...



IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM				
IPMS No.:	Name: _____			
Address:	(If Responder) _____			
City:	State:	Zip:		
Phone:	E-mail:			
Signature (required by PO): _____				
Type of Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 1 Year: \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 2 Years: \$58	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 3 Years: \$86	
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17	<input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals)	How Many Cards? _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada & Mexico: \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Other / Foreign: \$38 (airfare) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order			
Payment Method:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order			
Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____				
If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:				
Name:	IPMS No.:			
IPMS/USA		PO Box 56023		
Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org		St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023		

Alamo Squadron's newsletter, "The Navigator", is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, for the information and enjoyment of the members of Alamo Squadron and its friends around the world. Articles, reviews, news items, and other hobby-related contributions are very welcome. Send text file, photos, and web sites as well as feedback to the editor, Len Pilhofer: pilhofer@hotmail.com

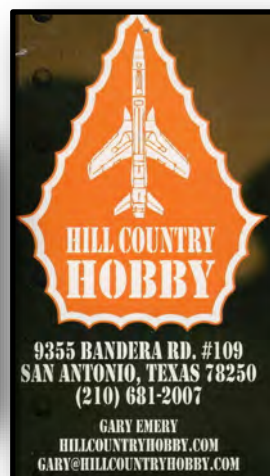
<http://www.ipmsusa.org/>

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<http://www.hillcountryhobby.com/>



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Do You Like to Build Models?

Alamo Squadron, a plastic modeling club located in San Antonio, invites you to join us at one of our upcoming meetings. Alamo Squadron is open to all modelers of all skill levels. Our mission is the *educational advancement of scale modeling skills*. Alamo Squadron is a chartered chapter of the International Plastic Modelers Society/USA. IPMS/USA has become a 5,000 member, all-volunteer organization dedicated to promoting our modeling hobby.



Alamo Squadron's

Club Meetings are held monthly. Typically, each monthly meeting has a modeling contest, a "Works-In-Progress" segment in which members' current projects are displayed, and a featured demonstration by one of our members of a modeling technique or skill. The purpose of the monthly membership meeting is to have fun and share knowledge; club business matters are held to a minimum.

For the modeling novice, Alamo Squadron offers the **Adult Building Course**. The ABC is for new modelers, or those experienced modelers who wish to enhance and practice their skills. When ABC is in session, participants meet once a week for 2 hours.

Each year our club hosts **ModelFiesta**, one of the largest plastic modeling contests/events in the Southern United States. Currently the event attracts 100+ competitors, 650+ modeling entries, 125+ vendor tables. For one day in February, ModelFiesta is the largest hobby shop in Texas!



Contact via e-mail at President@AlamoSquadron.com or visit our home on the web at: <http://alamosquadron.com>

Fill out this form and leave with one of our members; we'll get back with you ASAP on the information you requested

Name: _____	My Interests	Email me information on
Phone: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Aircraft	<input type="checkbox"/> Club Meetings
Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Armor	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Building Course
	<input type="checkbox"/> Automotive	<input type="checkbox"/> ModelFiesta
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ships	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Space/Fantasy	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Figures	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	