

# The Navigator

**The Newsletter of Alamo Squadron**

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



**November 2018**

IPMS/USA Chapter of the Year: 1999 & 2005

IPMS/USA Regional Chapter of the Year: 2016

IPMS/USA Regional Newsletter of the Year 2017

## ***Eggsperimenting With Egg Planes!***

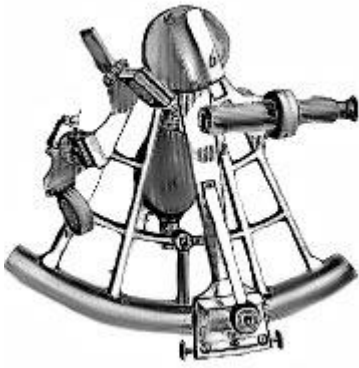


***Craig Explains The Joy  
Of These Simple Models***

### ***Inside This Issue:***

- Kit Of The Month: Moebius Ford F-100
- Show Report: Austin's Capitol Classic 2018
- Decaling with Future/Pledge Floor Care
- Alamo Squadron History: Closing Out The 20th Century





# President's Column

By Herb Scranton III

IPMS #48314



## President's Message: November 2018

Greetings Alamo Squadron members,

Summer is gone, but sooooo much rain. Finally some sun today. Halloween in a few days, have lots of candy for the kids, just snitched a few sweets.

There are lots to look forward to. Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> we turn our clocks back one hour, the 6<sup>th</sup> is Election Day. I encourage everyone to go out and vote for their candidates of choice. The 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day and I would like to take this time to thank all of the veterans in the club. The 22<sup>nd</sup> is one of my favorite holidays, Thanksgiving. The time with family and the wonderful food is the best. I will be traveling to Phoenix to have Thanksgiving with mom. I wish all you safe travels for the holidays. Christmas is only 60 days away at this writing, WOW.

Next week's meeting will just be a regular meeting; however November marks the last month you can attend a meeting if you haven't paid your dues. I would hate to lose one of our great members because of dues.

December's meeting is coming fast. It is one of my favorite meetings of the year as we get to party, have a White Elephant gift exchange and lots of good food. Do you see a common theme here, I like food. The club will supply the cake, drinks, plates, forks and napkins. Members bring a wrapped gift valued at around \$20, and a favorite food item.

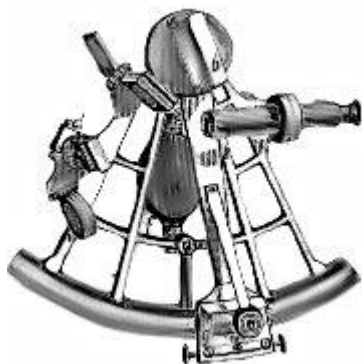
I'm looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Cheers Herb III



Alamo Squadron's new club banner...look for it at future build days, shows, and other club events!





# Club Announcements

## ModelFiesta 38

ModelFiesta 38 planning continues this month with successful meetings that ironed out the details of a new Pre-Registration feature of the shows. Look for details at upcoming meetings and well as e-mails from the event director, Len Pilhofer. Also new this month is the first listing of the Individually Sponsored Awards (ISA) for ModelFiesta 38...they are posted to the ModelFiesta website: [www.alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta](http://www.alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta). The date of the show will be Saturday, February 16th 2019. As with previous shows will be looking for a large volunteer contingent to help out the night before and during the day of the show. Len will be bringing this up at future meetings but for now keep your calendars free for those 2 days in February.



## November Birthdays

Be sure to wish the following members a Happy Birthday for the month of November: Miguel Lopez, Hayden Reyes, Robert Carr and Paul Blackmon.

## Alamo Squadron Build Days

The next Alamo Squadron Build Day is Saturday, 3 November from 12:00-4:00 PM. The intent of these build days is to move more of the social and building aspect of our meetings to a more conducive environment...and what better environment than a hobby store! There will be no set format but if a member wishes to see a first hand demo on a certain technique then this is the perfect opportunity to make it happen. We hope that many club members will take the opportunity to participate. And added bonus is that we will be able to recruit for Alamo Squadron while at this establishment answering any and all questions of passers-by.

## Monthly Contest Schedule

<b>November</b>	<b>Out of Your Element</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>No Contest - Holiday Party</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>2018 Model of the Year</b>

## Monthly Program Schedule

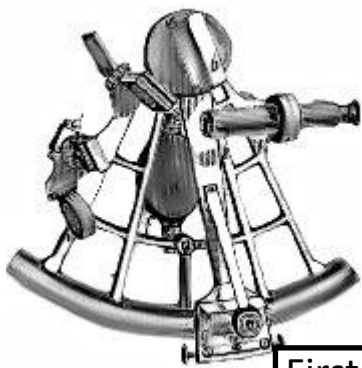
November:	Decaling with Future/PFC
December:	White Elephant Gift Exchange
January:	Basic Figure Painting

## IPMS Support the Troops Initiative

For some years Dick Montgomery was the Point of Contact for those wishing to donate hobby-related materials to the Support the Troops Initiative. Dick recently received a donation of kits from a Repeat-Provider. The STT Initiative has been expanded under the leadership of Jon Emery [models4troops@gmail.com](mailto:models4troops@gmail.com)

Alamo Squadron facilitated this donation by providing shipping costs so that the collection could be forwarded to Jon Emery. The shipping fee was actually donated by members of Alamo Squadron and the kits were sent along to Mr. Emery for distribution to facilities that, in some way, shape or form, provide care and assistance to members of the Armed Services. Thanks to the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, and to Alamo Squadron for assisting in the delivery of these model kits.





# Club Announcements

## October Contest Results

Theme: Open

First Place: Len Pilhofer  
1/537 U.S.S. Reliant



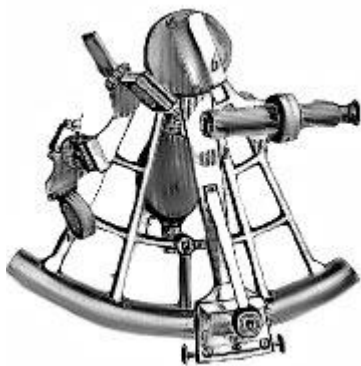
Second Place: Dana Mathes  
1/35 Warrior ACV



Third Place: Kent Knebel  
1/48 Bell OH-13







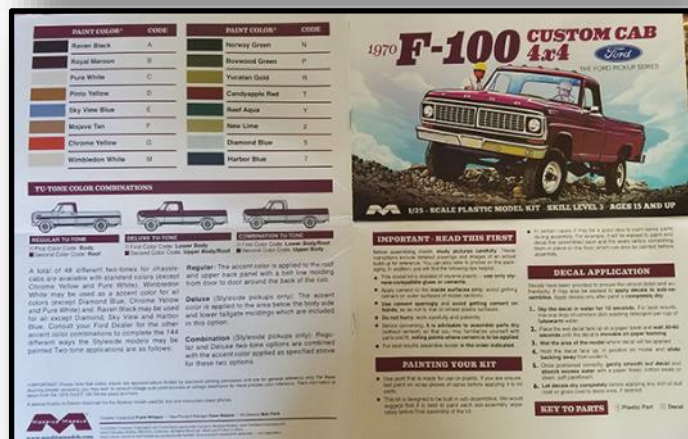
# Kit of the Month

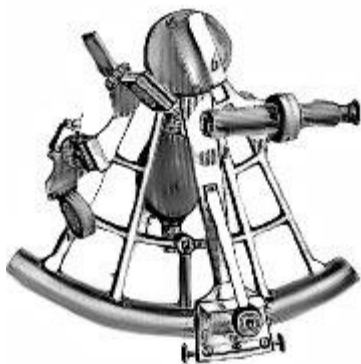
## Moebius 1970 F-100 Custom Cab 4x4

Presented By Herb Scranton III

This model was only available for a short time, I had to order it on line and cost me \$34.99. You can still acquire it on line for now. The model is in 1/25 scale and a skill level 3. The box art is well done with pictures of the completed truck on the side panels. All the parts are bagged separately. The chrome is beautifully done however the custom cab Ford trucks did not have chrome Bumpers, Grills, and hub caps. They were white, so I will be stripping the chrome from those parts. The clear parts are thin and distortion free. The 5 tires, 4 tires and 1 spare, have good tread pattern and no side detail. They are regular truck tires, would have been better with some snow tires which was typical of the time period for 4 wheel drive trucks. This model depicts the Ford Custom Cab. The model has a chrome spear and lower chrome cladding depicted on the lower body which will have to be removed to make a true Custom Cab. The parts are nicely molded with very little to no flash and most of the pin marks will be hidden when the model is made. The decals are well done. There are decals for the dash and engine. You have a choice of 4 different tailgate decals depending on the color you choose for the body, side marker, "Custom", and Michigan, or Indiana license plates. There is some commercial advertising for the doors. The instructions are very well done and easy to follow. Most model cars/trucks start with the engine however this starts with the chassis. The engine is next, it is supposed to be Ford's FE 360 with a decal for the air cleaner, however the 360 and 390 are identical and the decal sheet also has the 390 decal for the air cleaner. The manual has 9 pages of building instructions, 2 pages showing the actual model for paint and decaling instructions and the last page give Ford's paint colors and tu-tone color combinations. I have been looking for a long bed F-100 custom. I have some of the other Moebius F-100s. I learned to drive in my dad's 68 F-

100. With the other kits I can kit bash a 1968 F-100 long bed base model 2 wheel drive and an I-6. I look forward to building my dad's F-100.





# Show Report

## ASMS Capitol Classic 2018

On October 6th a large contingent from Alamo Squadron traveled to Austin, TX to participate in the Austin Scale Modeling Society's 2018 Capitol Classic model contest and show. Our hats-off to the Austin crew for the fantastic show they executed that day. There were hundreds of fantastic models on display, vendor pickings were aplenty, and the contest ran very smooth and on-time. Huzzah!

Below is a list of all the Alamo Squadron members who brought home some hardware. Of particular note a big congrats to our own **Kent Knebel** for winning the theme award: Cold War and an even bigger congrats to **Dana Mathes** who won Best of Show with his Triathlon entry. For a list of all the winners:



<http://www.austinsms.org/2018Winners.pdf>



Kent Knebel's "Korean War Aircraft" Collection

### Youth

Category 101 Young Modelers:

Samuel Syverson, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Camaro

### Aircraft

Category 203 Civilian Airliners:

John Kress, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Lockheed Vega

Paul Barena, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Wagner Twin Cub

Category 204 Rotary Wing:

Mark Verdi 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: AH-64D

Category 210 1/72 Scale Props, Large:

Paul Barena, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Cant Z501

Category 211 1/72 Scale Jets:

Rob Booth: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dassault Rafale

### Armor

Category 307b Softskin Armor:

Mike Holsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, IDF Jeep

Category 309 Tracked AFV up to 1959:

Mark Verdi, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Tiger

Category 310b: Tracked AFV 1960-Present: Dana Mathes, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Challenger 2

### Sci-Fi

Category 603a Science Fiction Spacecraft:

Len Pilhofer, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Eagle Transporter

Craig Gregory, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Eagle Transporter

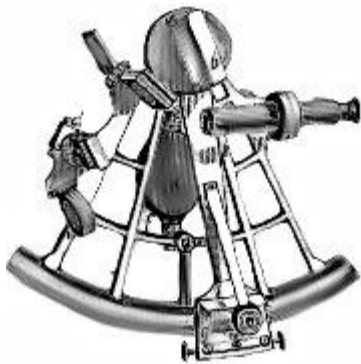
Category 603b Science Fiction Spacecraft:

Len Pilhofer 1<sup>st</sup> Place, U.S.S. Reliant

*Best of Class Sci-Fi:*

*Len Pilhofer, Space: 1999 Eagle Transporter*





# Show Report

## ASMS Capitol Classic 2018

### Figures

Category 701 Historical, 54mm & Smaller: Henry Nunez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, SS Tanker  
 Category 702 Historical, 55mm & Larger: Henry Nunez, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Confederate Inf Officer  
 Henry Nunez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Rommel  
 Category 706 Busts: Henry Nunez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Bust U-Boat "KapitainLt"

### Collections

Category 801 Collection: Kent Knebel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Aircraft of the Korean War  
 Category 802 Triathlon: Dana Mathes-1<sup>st</sup> Place, Triathlon: DH8-LSSC-Hypothetical SGP  
*Best of Class: Collections: Dana Mathes, Triathlon: DH8-LSSC-HypoSPG*

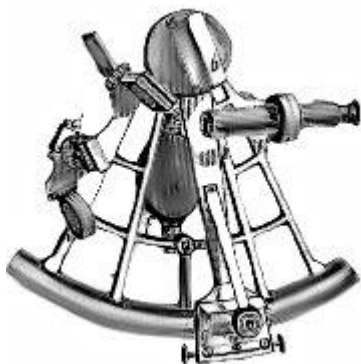
### Dioramas

Category 904 Diorama-Figures: Henry Nunez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, "Hold The Line"

### Special Awards

On Her Majesty's Service: Dana Mathes, Challenger 2  
 Best Star Trek Model: Len Pilhofer, U.S.S. Reliant  
*Show Theme - Cold War: Kent Knebel, Korean War Aircraft Collection*  
*Best of Show: Dana Mathes, Triathlon: DH8-LSSC-HypoSPG*





# Cover Story

## Eggperiments

Models, Story and Photos by Craig Gregory  
IPMS# 49320



I started my first Eggplane with the single intention; improve my modeling skills. I reasoned, just finishing the ABC class, that I needed to build another model immediately to apply my freshly learned skills. I had just learned gluing techniques, repairing seam lines and basic airbrushing. Eggplanes have all the necessary attributes:

- They are fast builds; few parts
- They are inexpensive; \$8 equivalent from China
- They require gluing, seam repair, painting and decaling
- They're cute.

*I have built a several Eggplanes, and now there are ships, real space, sci-fi and armor with that distinctive "feel." Other club members know I have a liking to this genre of models; I'm the Eggplane man.*

Hasegawa manufactures and distributes the Eggplane series, but 5 years ago there was little opportunity to buy these kits in the US. I bought my first kit on a visit to Beijing, China. Along with many other models I felt I could stuff into my luggage, a little box of for \$60 RMB (about \$8.50) caught my eye. At the time I didn't see it as a practice kit; it was just a cute little model of an A-6.

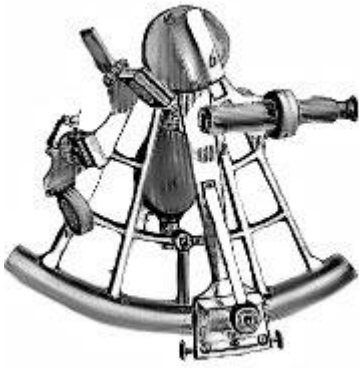
I am a graduate of Alamo Squadron's Adult Building Course (ABC). The ABC project at that time was Tamiya's Mitsubishi A6M2 Zero (Zeke) at 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale. I had thrown models together as a kid and after college built a few other modes, but before taking the ABC, I considered myself a beginner. Now with my newly leaned ABC skills, I needed a second project to memorize what I learned. Another concern influenced my project decision; I didn't want to be judged by rivet counters. So while rummaging thru my stash, I choose Hasegawa's A-6 Intruder Eggplane for my next project.



One interesting feature of Hasegawa's Eggplane series (of the ones I built so far) is that there is a decal option with the trim color and any markings together; and an option to paint the trim color and use individual decals for the markings. For example; the MV-22 Osprey has the option of a single decal for the red vertical stabilizers with an integrated squadron insignia. Or you may paint the vertical stabilizers, and use separate squadron insignia decals applied to the painted surface. Another unusual feature are decals for the trim around the canopy.

Assembling the A-6 was similar to any other aircraft model: you must assemble in order of painting considerations; seam lines must be attended to and surface preparation for painting is important. Since the dominating feature on every Eggplane is an exaggerated rounded body, care must be taken to assembly the body with smooth transitions. That is, the sys will detect any irregularities in the curvature of the egg shape. This particular A-6 model's body consisted of 3 separate parts that needed a lot of sanding and shaping to preserve the proper curvature. I companied the A-6 at the next ModelFiesta where it placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Me-





# Cover Story

## Eggsperiments

chanicals. It also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at a monthly club contest and garnered a few positive comments about its finish.

My next Eggplane, the MV-22 Osprey, “forced” me to practice masking and painting a multi-colored Navy camouflage pattern. These are small models and the compound curves made this a difficult paint scheme. But I persevered and was happy with the results. I had a problem fitting the canopy which I never solved to my satisfaction and I messed up on applying a decal to the top of the model. Oh well, things to work on with my next project.



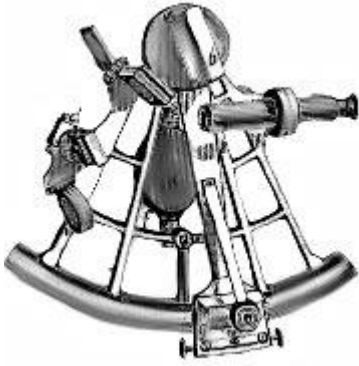
But here’s the point: I didn’t waste vast amounts of building time or have a large investment before I was practicing a new finishing skill. And if an issue arises, as with the Osprey canopy, there’s no emotional investment.

I had the opportunity, as an IPMS Reviewer Corps member, to build Hasegawa’s F-2 & T-4 “ADTW 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” set. Lesson learned: never use masking tape to mask after applying decals; even if they have been sealed by a gloss coat.



I built the J11Q from Sharing Hobby. Lesson learned: A great build with no problems; modeling Zen.






# Cover Story

## Eggsperiments

Another IPMS review: the F-22 Raptor “Mobius-1” from Hasegawa. Lesson learned: using bare metal foil as a trim color.

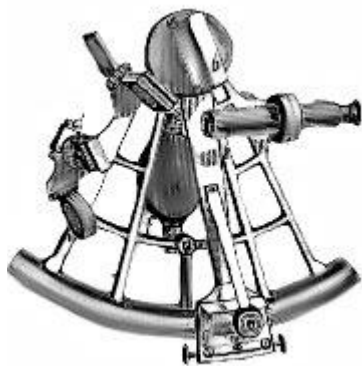
Availability in the US market has grown and other manufacturers have begun to fill this modeling niche. If there are projects stuck in your stash, waiting for that day when you feel you have the necessary skills; learn them with an “Eggsperiment.” 



***“But here’s the point: I didn’t waste vast amounts of building time or have a large investment before I was practicing a new finishing skill.”***







# Member How-To:

## Decaling with “Future/PFC”

by Lee Forbes  
IPMS# 2297



I first learned about this technique years ago while I was still on active duty in the Air Force and stationed at Headquarters Strategic Air Command at Offutt AFB, NE. At that time I was a member of the IPMS Ft. Crook Scale Modelers Chapter. At one of our meetings I noticed how good the decals looked on an aircraft model that one of the members had brought to the meeting to show off his latest creation. I asked how he had accomplished that “painted on” look of the decals and he told me that he had used “Future” Floor Wax as a setting solution and he proceeded to explain to me his technique which I’ll describe later in this article.

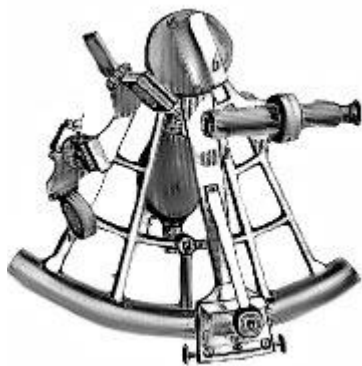
Before I go on, I’d like to digress a bit and tell you why I was so amazed to see such realistic decals on his model. This occurred during the mid-1980s, and the decal producers hadn’t yet perfected the processes of making decals that we have available to us modelers today. At that time silk screening was in common use to print the decals, they usually had a thick decal carrier, were often out of register, and there wasn’t the abundant choice of subjects that exist today. This was the hay-day of “decal silvering” that so often occurred spoiling many beautifully done models. Solvaset setting solution was in common use and even that often didn’t solve that problem. And many of us hadn’t discovered yet that decals “like to adhere” to a glossy, or shiny, painted surface rather than a dull or flat surface. At this point in time, modelers were being introduced to ready-mixed paint colors (Yes, many of us modelers were mixing our own paint colors from precise recipes for RLM 70, 71 or RAF Dark Green, etc.) and many of the brands available were proud of the “dull or flat” finish that resulted on the final painted model. This kind of finish was the culprit for most of the “decal silvering” that was so common at that time. Well, that’s enough history of our hobby, so let’s

move on to the use of “Future”/Pledge” Floor Wax to set decals.

Keep in mind, that this technique is just another approach to applying decals to finished models and is not in any way intended to “convert you” to using this method. If you’re happy with the setting solutions that you presently are using to apply decals, please stick with them. Today we are blessed with the highest quality model decals of all genres that have ever existed in our hobby, and the problem of “decal silvering” has become almost non-existent. It rarely disqualifies models any more in contest competition. To get started you need a small amount of “Future”/“Pledge” Floor Wax and a container, lots of Q-Tips (I prefer the ones with wound paper shafts rather than the plastic ones...the former can withstand more rolling pressure), several sizes of modeling tweezers, small pair of scissors or a number 11 modeling knife, water and a container for soaking decals, paper towels and/or double layer toilet tissue, and a portable hair dryer. Note: I prefer to use Q-Tips rather than a paint brush for applying “Future”/“Pledge” to the decals. Now let’s get started. I’ll describe the process in steps as indicated below:

Step 1: Prepare your work surface, paper towels/toilet tissue with plenty of good light, and tape your container, or bottle, of “Future”/“Pledge” to your work surface so you won’t knock it over during the process (I’ve been there and done that).

Step 2: Select the decal you want to apply and remove it from the decal sheet (using your favorite modeling tool for this purpose) and place it in the water container...remove when ready keeping the decal on the wet decal carrier until ready to apply. Be very careful in using extremely thin decals, because they may “roll up” into a cylinder after removing them from the wa-



# Member How-To:

## Decaling with “Future/PFC”

ter. If that happens, you’ll probably need another decal sheet!

**Step 3:** Dip a Q-Tip in the “Future”/”Pledge” and blot it on the paper towel/toilet tissue to remove excess fluid, apply to the model in gentle rolling action in the area where the decal will be applied.

**Step 4:** Slide the decal onto the area that contains the previously applied “Future”/”Pledge.” Maneuver the decal in place. You may need to use another Q-Tip dipped in water (blot up the excess) and a tweezer to get the decal in the exact spot. Next using a Q-Tip dipped in “Future”/”Pledge” (blot up excess) and roll over the decal in a gentle rolling motion.

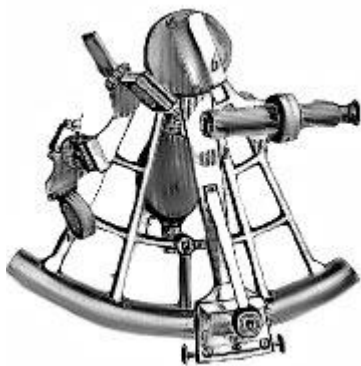
**Step 5:** Using your hair dryer apply high heat to the area to set the decal. Hold the hair dryer about 2 inches away from the decal. There is something about the high heat that causes a chemical reaction to occur that in turn causes the decal to settle into the contours and crevices of the model perfectly. When the decal is dry, you should have a decal that is ready for a final top coat of your choosing to blend everything together after all of your decals have been applied. **NOTE:** My preferred top coat is a mixture of 25 % flat, 25 % gloss, and 50% thinner. This will work with either enamel or acrylic paints of your choosing.

**POSTSCRIPT:** As some of you may know the S.C. Johnson Company that originally produced the acrylic floor finish that was marketed as “Future” Floor Wax has been reformulated and renamed “Pledge.” This new product has been marketed with several different versions of “Pledge” and has been criticized by some modelers as not having the same characteristics as the original “Future.” However, I recently purchased a bottle of “Pledge Revive It Floor Gloss” (It has a yellow and brown label with the word “original” appearing in the label) at my local grocery store and found it

to have the same characteristics as the original “Future” Floor Wax. I tried it successfully for brightening clear plastic aircraft canopies and as a setting solution for decals and saw no difference in the results from the original “Future” Floor Wax. If anything the solution appears to have a little thinner consistency than the original product and can be airbrushed successfully without using any thinning agent. In my opinion, I would heartily endorse this new “Pledge” product described above as the equivalent to the original “Future.” Try it, I’m confident that you’ll be satisfied with the results.







# Feature Story

## History of Alamo Squadron: Closing Out the 20th Century

by Dick Montgomery IPMS # 14003



**B**y 1995 Alamo Squadron had matured steadily, and much like a teenager entering his late teen years had gone through growth pains and personality clashes, with some poor choices being overcome by good leadership coupled with club members who had dedicated time, treasure, and talent to the club.

Newsletters from 1995 show the club being involved in some interesting activities. The May/June issue of "Alamo Squadron News" contained a report by President Phil Sanders that Alamo Squadron had participated in the Air Show at Randolph Air Force Base. Over the years Alamo Squadron took advantage of the opportunities presented by participating at Air Shows. It was an excellent way to publicize the club and to recruit new members. In the case of this particular Air Show, 4 new members were recruited.

The newsletter also indicates that the club, once again, changed its meeting location. This change saw the club moving to the Northeast Police Station on Jones-Maltsberger Road. A club roster was included in the newsletter and a quick scan of the page shows that a number of current members were present in 1995. Those members being

Bob Angel- a current Life Member

Lee Forbes- a current Life Member

Dick Montgomery – a current Life Member

Charlie Moriarty – a current Life Member

Bob Carr, often serving as an officer and as Vendor Coordinator in numerous ModelFiestas

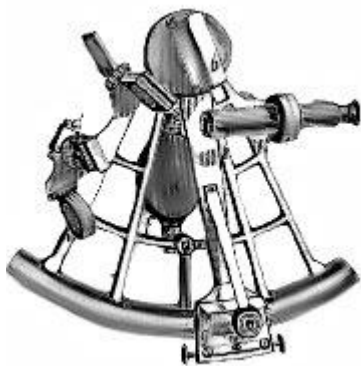
David Walker, a long-time member and supporter of Alamo Squadron

By July of 1995 the club had, once again, relocated. Meetings were now being held at the Brook Hollow

Library Branch on Heimer Road. This relocation was followed by yet another change in meeting location. In October the club moved to the AMF Country Lanes Bowling Alley located on San Pedro Avenue on the south-bound side of Highway 281. By coincidence, the current meeting location (as of Oct, 2018) is just on the other side of Highway 281, that being Northside Ford car dealership.

During the middle months of 1995, a number of members decided to publish a modeling magazine much like the AIM magazine mentioned in earlier articles in this series. The magazine was, most certainly, a product published by club members, but was designed to be about the hobby and not about the club. The Oct 1995, Vol 1 & 2, featured a list of articles that included a number of subjects. An article about the 1995 IPMS National Convention in Albuquerque was included, as reviews and kit announcements featuring ProModeler's P-40E, Sub kits by Karo, a Tamiya M4 Sherman, and a Hasegawa MC.202, to name a few.

In the November issue of the club newsletter, the newly elected President, Bob Carr, addressed the withdrawal from the club of some long-time members, including some Founding Members. The reason for their departure from Alamo Squadron was that the club had moved away from their early vision of a club that focused on Aircraft modeling. And, indeed, the club had broadened the range of interests of members. Bob, himself, was and still is, a NASCAR aficionado, and several members were interested in ships, armor, Sci Fi, and spacecraft. The schism was not characterized by ill will or lack of respect but motivated more by a feeling of disenfranchisement on the part of those members who were aircraft fans, first and only. Today, Alamo Squadron has a membership that is quite



# Feature Story

## History of Alamo Squadron: Closing Out The 20th Century

diverse in interest and favorite modeling subject. In fact, just look at the October 2018 issue. The two featured articles are armor and Sci Fi Space related, not an aircraft in sight! And here I sit, next to my modeling workbench which is currently occupied by.....you guessed it, an airplane. I'm far into my Wingnut Wings Pfalz XII project and loving it! It is not that the departing Aircraft Modelers simply turned their backs on the club and walked away..... not even close. To this day (2018) a number of those individuals continue to attend ModelFiesta. In doing so, these individuals continue to support Alamo Squadron and enjoy the hobby.

Throughout the remaining years in the 1990s, Alamo Squadron continued to provide a "community space" for those interested in modeling. Some activities in the newsletters for the late 1990's focus on the club, and other articles clearly show that the club was very much aware of a larger community of modelers. Some notable events and activities include:

Aug, 1997 – Tom Ward was awarded the first "Alamo Squadron IPMS/USA Founders Award". Tom was not only present at the birth of Alamo Squadron but was one of those members who guided the new club and made significant contributions to the character and personality of the club as it currently exists.

Aug, 1997 – Lee Forbes had attended the 1997 IPMS National Convention and shared his experiences with the club members.

Jan, 1998 – Bob Carr writes an editorial in the club newsletter regarding IPMS and membership guidelines for local clubs when renewing the club charter with IPMS

June, 1998 – Announcement that Tom Ward's widow will attend a future meeting and bring in some of

Tom's stash for liquidation.

June, 1998 – Bob Angel submits an article titled, "Organized Plastic Modeling in San Antonio...an informal history."

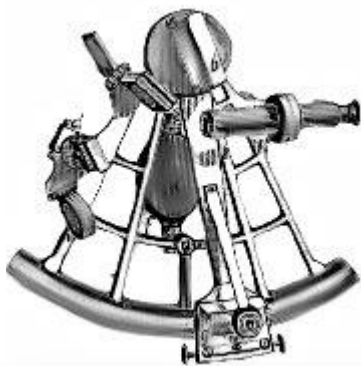
A look at the officers who served for the years 1995 to 2000 will close out this portion of "club news".

Term of Office	Pres	VP	Sec/Treas
Sep 95-Aug 96:	Bob Carr	Gil Lomax	Bob Carr
Sep 96-Aug 97	Phil Sanders	Tom Babin	Bob Carr
Sep 97-Aug 98	Lee Forbes	Bob Smith	Bob Carr
Sep 98-Sep 99	Lee Forbes	Bob Smith	Bob Carr
Sep 99-Aug 00	Don Cook/ Gordon Ziegler	G. Ziegler/ Lee Forbes	L. Forbes

Don Cook (now residing in Albuquerque, NM), was elected as President, but a relocation to Albuquerque resulted in a need to fill that office. Gordon Zeigler moved from Vice President to President, and Lee Forbes assumed the role of Vice President as well as his elected role as Sec/Treasurer. The club Constitution (as it now exists in 2018) would not allow one member to hold more than one E-Board office at any time. The club could very well be put into a difficult position were that person to relocate.

1998-1999 saw Alamo Squadron reach a notable milestone. Alamo Squadron, an IPMS Chapter from its inception in November, 1977, was one of several chapters that had self-nominated for the prestigious IPMS/USA Chapter of the Year award. Lee Forbes assembled the information for the nomination documentation and was on hand at the IPMS convention to receive the award on behalf of Alamo Squadron. Officers at the time were Lee Forbes (President), Bob Smith (Vice President), and Bob Carr (Sec/Treasurer).





# Feature Story

## History of Alamo Squadron: Closing Out The 20th Century



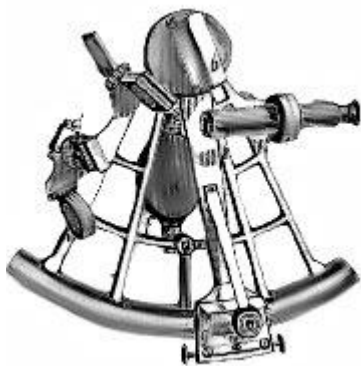
Gordon Ziegler...in the 21st Century

ModelFiesta continued to attract modelers from an ever expanding area, with groups that were annual participants visiting from Albuquerque, Dallas, Houston, Austin, Ft. Worth, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mexico. There was one major change from previous ModelFiestas starting with ModelFiesta 15. The contest moved to a new location, not that far from Seven Oaks Convention Center, the site of ModelFiesta 14. ModelFiesta 15 would be the first of 17 ModelFiestas to be held at the Live Oak Civic Center. LOCC was located near the intersection of Loop 1604 and Interstate 35. The facility had some 25,000 square feet of floor space, two meeting rooms which could be used

for Model Registration and then the pre-event Judge's meeting, and with the 2<sup>nd</sup> room being large enough for the Awards Ceremony. Parking was ample. Vendors could be loaded and unloaded via a large roll-up door at the rear of the structure and lighting all across the contest area and vendor space was good. A snack bar also provided snacks, burgers, and drinks to participants throughout the day.

The Event Director for MF-15 was Phil Sanders. Serving as Vendor Coordinator, a role that he filled often, was Bob Carr. Model Registration was supervised by Dick Montgomery. Details regarding MF-15 are thin, with no images of entries, trophies, and no winner's list being stored in the archive. The total entry count is recorded as 524 entries. A copy of the event brochure lists the Theme as "Experimentals". The event brochure also noted that during judging the contest area would be closed. This practice has been changed to keep the contest area open to visitors and onlookers during judging. The Financial Report indicates that the event made a profit. The profit was not large, but enough, when combined with the balance in the club treasury, to book the LOCC for ModelFiesta 16 to be held in 1997.

ModelFiesta 16 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> ModelFiesta held at LOCC and took place on February 15, 1997. Phil Sanders served as the Event Director, with Bob Carr as the Vendor Coordinator, and Dick Montgomery, once again serving as the Registrar. The contest Theme was, "The 1960's". The contest area was closed during judging, as it was at ModelFiesta 15. Entry numbers dipped to 499, a decrease of 25 entries from the previous year. MF-16 was a financial success, and just as MF-15 did, MF-16 provided a sufficient profit, that combined with the club treasury bal-



# Feature Story

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## History of Alamo Squadron: Closing Out The 20th Century

ance, guaranteed that there would be an MF-17.

Just a note, here about MF 15, 16, 17, and 18, the budget notes indicate that a budget was set for the purchase of “film” for purposes of photographing the entries, people, and activities of the event. For those of you not familiar with “film”, think of it as clear “tape” upon which images were “stuck” for viewing through a device called a slide projector. The projector would hold the “tape” and shine a bright light through it, thus projecting the “stuck image” on a screen.

ModelFiestas 17 and 18 were held in February at the LOCC, on Feb 28, 1998 and Feb 27, 1999 respectively. The Theme for MF-17 was “Hollywood Models”, and for MF-18 the Theme was , “The Impossible Model- A Model 20 or more years old”. Both events followed the financial footsteps of the two previous ModelFiestas, providing enough cash to host the event for the following year.

A major shift occurred, starting with ModelFiesta 17, although it was rather subtle and unobserved by many who were participants in previous ModelFiestas, or volunteers, working the various stations at the event. Lee Forbes was appointed as Event Director for MF-17 and his leadership began to make a difference early on in the planning stages. Lee provided a measure of organizations, planning, and execution that exceeded that which had been the standard for previous ModelFiestas. The difference was not that MF-1 through MF-16 had been poorly planned, poorly organized, and poorly executed. Quite the contrary, MF-1 through MF-16 had been successful because of the hard work of the leadership group and support from the volunteers.

One of the significant characteristics of Lee’s leadership style was to get ahead of the Problem Curve, and

to take steps toward solving those problems before the event opened its doors on the day of the event. Lee made sure that he began recruiting judges well in advance of the event. In fact, it was not unusual for Lee to have contacted potential judges 6 to 9 months prior to the event. Lee’s thought was that it was better to have the judging ranks filled out as much as possible well in advance than to wait until the event was just a week or two in the future. It was easier, Lee thought, to replace a judge who had a conflict and couldn’t attend, then to scramble on the day of the event, trying to fill key positions.

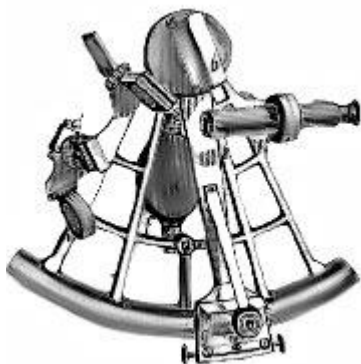
The recruiting effort made by Lee paid dividends year after year and laid the foundation for judging recruitment efforts that are used by the Chief Judge for ModelFiesta to the present day. (Well, almost every ModelFiesta. Some Event Directors didn’t see the need to launch the recruiting effort as early, and as in-depth as Lee.)

The Leadership Staff for MF-17 consisted of Lee, serving as the Event Director. Bob Carr continued his role as the Vendor Coordinator and Dick Montgomery, once again, served as the Registrar. Bob Smith served as the Chief Judge. No winner’s list, model counts, or other information is available for MF-17.

The same leadership team, serving in the same positions, led the effort for MF-18, which was held at LOCC on Feb 27, 1999. Again, detailed information is lacking, but one bit of data indicates a major improvement over the previous two ModelFiestas. In Feb, 1997 MF-16 had 499 entries, whereas at MF-18 in Feb, 1999 broke the 600 entry barrier for the first time with 612 entries.

ModelFiesta 19, held on Feb 16, 2000 was a virtual repeat of the previous two successful events. The





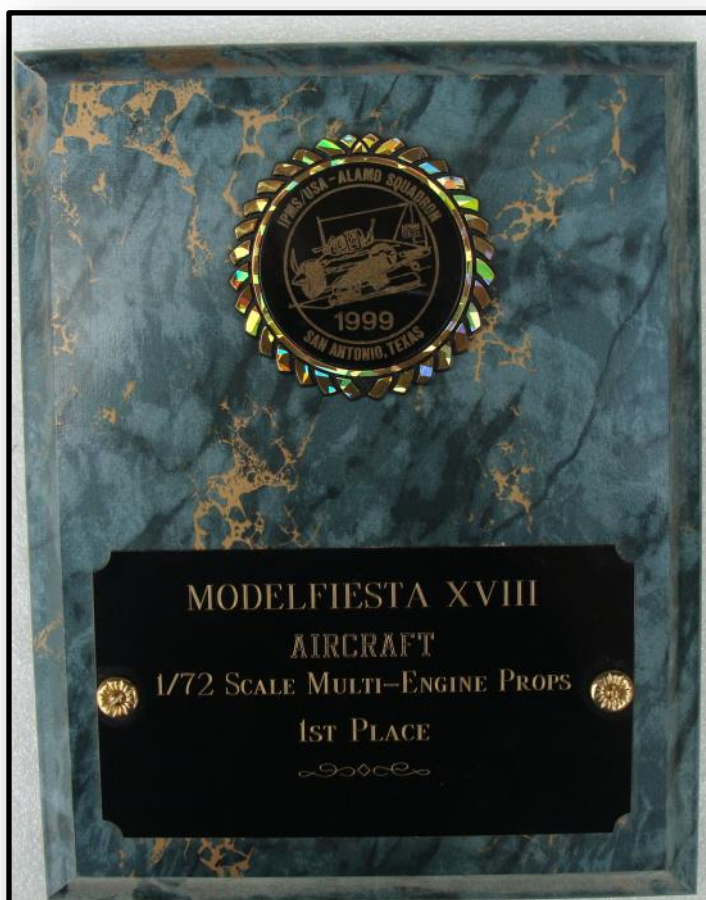
# Feature Story

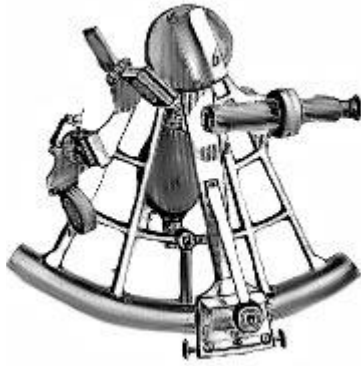
## History of Alamo Squadron: Closing Out The 20th Century

Leadership Team was again led by Lee Forbes, with Vendor Coordinator Bob Carr listed on the contest brochure as the point of contact for the event. Dick Montgomery served as registrar. The Chief Judge is not identified in the documentation associated for the event. The Theme for the event was, “The New Millennium”, in keeping with the fact that MF-19 was the first contest of the new millennium. The entry count for MF-19 was an indicator of success at 581 entries.

While ModelFiestas 1 thru 16 had been successful and the club had a solid foundation upon which to conduct future events. Important lessons had been learned in the areas of the administration of an event, coopera-

tion with neighboring model clubs, judging procedures, coordination to support the vendors, and managing the issues that arose during the day of the event. ModelFiesta 17, 18, 19, however, landmark events in terms of administration. Lee Forbes brought his organizational and planning skills to bear, with positive and long lasting results. Two other Alamo Squadron members would “brand” ModelFiesta with their unique and positive administrative decisions, but that a story to be told in future articles this series.





# Upcoming Events

IPMS Region 6

***Next Meeting: Thursday, November 1st, 2018 at 7:00PM***

***Location: Northside Ford of San Antonio***

**November 11, 2018**

**Model Display, Bassett Place**

**Bassett Place**

**6101 Gateway Blvd West, El Paso TX 79925**

**<http://www.ipmselpaso.us/>**



**January 27, 2019**

**CALMEX XXXIII**

**Lake Charles Civic Center**

**9000 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70602**

**<http://www.ipmsswamp.com/calmex.html>**



**February 16, 2019**

**ModelFiesta 38**

**San Antonio Event Center**

**8111 Meadow Leaf Drive**

**San Antonio, TX 78227**

**<http://www.alamosquadron.com/modelfiesta>**



**March 30, 2019**

**RiverCon VIII 2019**

**Bossier City Civic Center**

**620 Benton Rd**

**Bossier City, LA 71171**

**<https://www.facebook.com/RiverConIPMS/>**



**March 30, 2019**

**Tulsa Modelers Forum Contest**

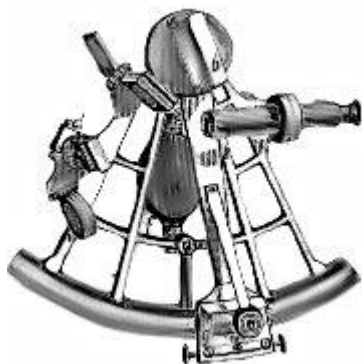
**Bixby Community Center**

**211 N. Cabaniss Ave, Bixby, OK 74008**

**<https://www.tulsaipms.org/>**







# About Alamo Squadron

## Executive Board 2018-2019



**President**  
**Herb Scranton III**  
IPMS #48314  
president@alamosquadron.com



**Vice President:**  
**Jose Valdenegro**  
IPMS #50490  
vp@alamosquadron.com



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

**IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron** was founded on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 in 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.



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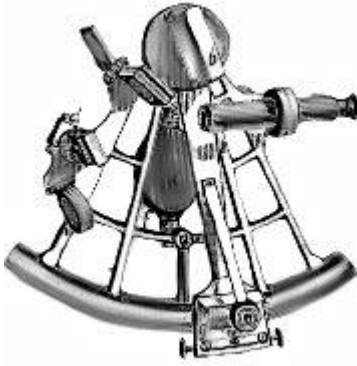


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[www.alamosquadron.com](http://www.alamosquadron.com)



# Final Words ...



Alamo Squadron's newsletter, "The Navigator", is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, Texas for the 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 our editor, Len

Pilhofer: pilhofer@hotmail.com

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

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<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 <input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____			
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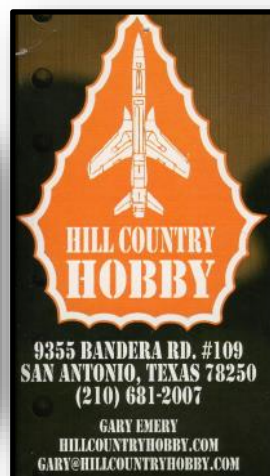


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