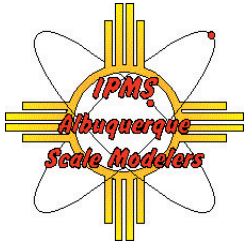


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://www.hobbies-n-stuff.com/asmweb.htm>

January 2004

VICE-PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS FRANK RANDALL

Well, another year is almost past. It has been a good year, and I want to take a moment to heap praises on all the members of the club. You all make this work. You all put in great suggestions for contest themes, sponsor special contests and participate in every way. You all make our jobs as officers worthwhile. You all have elected a great board and we will strive to serve you all well. But it still boils down to you, the members; you drive this great club and keep it fun.

I was just amazed at the turnout for the P-51 contest and for the end of the year Model of the Year contest. You are all just amazing. I got such a big kick out of the mix of models, especially the big 1/24 Mustang surrounded by the flock of 1/72 mustangs, like a mother and chicks. This club has some of the best builders I have seen in one club. Thanks for your support and I look forward to another great year. Keep on building!

CONTEST CORNER MIKE BLOHM

December Contest Results

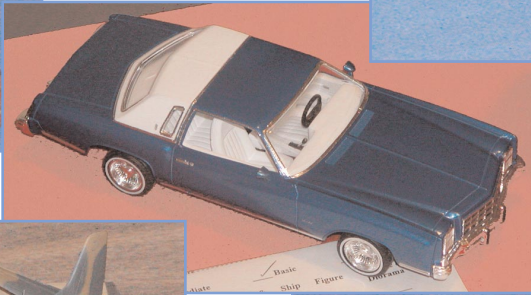
The December 2003 meeting was a great turnout of really fine models. The "Best P-51 Mustang" Special Contest proved to be a very popular topic with a total of 22 entries, which kept the judges pretty busy. The "2003 Model of the Year" showdown had 27 entries out of the 31 eligible Best of Show contenders. Can't do much better than that! However, it did mean that the judges had a very tough time deciding upon the final winners. My thanks to Ken Liotta for filling-in to run the December contest in my absence.

The Best Overall P-51 Mustang plaque, sponsored by Hobbies 'N Stuff, went to John Tate for his superb P-51D in the markings of the Israeli Defense Force Air

Force. The Masters division ended up with a split for natural metal finished and non-natural metal finished P-51s. The winner of the natural metal split was Stan Harris for his excellent P-51D "Stinker Pat" in the markings of Lt George Hamilton (4 victories) of the 325th Fighter Group "Checkertail Clan." The winner of the non-natural metal split was John Tate's IDF/AF P-51D. The winner of the Intermediate division was



December meeting highlights, from top: the crowd mills about; tables filled with Model of the Year (left) and P-51 (right) entries; and harried judges Ken Liotta, Jason Clevenger and Keith Liotta attempt to resolve a deadlock with advanced judging techniques.



From upper left: Stan Harris's *Last Stand* vignette; Sam Blackwell's *Jeep*; Tom Tagert's *Lowrider*; John Tate's *Best P-51* winner; David Boehning's *P-38*.

Mike Mummey, who built a first-rate P-51B "Hell-er Bust" in the markings of 1Lt Edwin Heller (5.5 victories in WW II, 3.5 in Korea) of the 352nd Fighter Group "Blue-Nosed Birds from Bodney." John Tribou took the honors in the Basic division with his very nicely done P-51A from the 154th Reconnaissance Squadron. As a bit of coincidence, the "Best P-51 Mustang" plaque and division awards depict each of the four major versions of the "Mustang"—the P-51A, P-51B, P-51D without a vertical tail finlet, and the classic P-51D with the finlet—and the contest winners hit three of those four. The "Best P-51" plaque was awarded at the Dec meeting; the other awards will be presented at the Jan meeting. Pictures of the top winners are included in the Newsletter; pictures of all the entries can be found in the Model Pictures section of the ASM Website.

The 2003 Model of the Year showdown was a close contest at all the levels. The Junior 2003 Model of the Year went to Sam Blackwell's excellently crafted Willys MB Jeep, Normandy 1944. Tom Tagert's superbly finished 1977 Monte Carlo Lowrider won the Basic 2003 Model of the Year. The Intermediate 2003 Model of the Year went to David Boehning's outstanding natural metal finish P-38 Lightning depicting Lt Col Charles MacDonald's (27 victories) "Putt Putt Maru." The Masters division was particular tough to judge with a lot of very fine entries. The Masters 2003 Model of the Year went to Stan Harris for his truly superb vignette "Last Stand of the 44th, Gandak, Afghanistan." Pictures of these winners can be found in the Newsletter and in the Model of the Year Contenders section of the ASM Website.

The 2004 Contest Schedule was unveiled at the December meeting. The schedule is based upon the suggestions annotated on the 2004 E-Board ballots, with those topics suggested the most getting the nod. In some cases, the suggestions were close enough to get grouped together into a single topic. In 2004, there will be three special contests (Sci-Fi/Real Space/Fantasy, Battles of 1944, and Between the Wars), two open contests, and five theme contests. The 2004 schedule is posted on the website, and a hard copy should be handed out at the Jan meeting. Something different that I'm trying this year is providing an "Information / Rules of Engagement" for the Sponsored Contests with the posted 2004 schedule on the website. Each person sponsoring a contest will provide me with the particulars of their contest—what is eligible, prizes to be awarded, etc., and this info will be posted on the website. This information will have an "As Of" date included so that changes can be tracked by anyone thinking about entering one of the contests. The schedule handed out in Jan will have the sponsored contest ROE, as of the printing, on the backside. Please stay tuned to the website and the newsletter for any changes during the year.

2004 will see two minor "tweaks" to the contest points system. The points awarded for a "Best of Show" winner will be changed from the current 25 points to 150 points. The rationale behind this change is to almost equal out the points possible between a single best of show winner and three entries that garner high points but not a best of show. The points awarded for the "People's Choice" winners will be changed from the current 25 points to 50 points. These point's

changes will go into effect at the March contest, which is the first points contest for 2004. Please see the top portion of the "Modeler-of-the-Year Point Standings" section on the website for a summarized version of how points are awarded. As a reminder, models that have placed at an IPMS Nationals Contest are not eligible to be subsequently entered at an ASM monthly contest.

If you weren't already aware of it, I have been working as the ASM Webmaster since October. Please let me know if you have any suggestions to make the website better in 2004. We are exploring ways to have both the Newsletter and Entry Sheets on the website as Adobe Acrobat PDF files. We will try to keep the last three months of Contest Pictures current on the site, deleting the oldest as the newest gets added. I do hope to get the Aug, Sep, Nov and Dec pictures on the site for at least a month, so please tune in to check those out when they get posted. If you do not have access to the Internet, the ASM Binder at Hobbies 'N Stuff contains printouts of each month's contest results, current points standings, website articles, pictures of each month's contest entries, etc., as an alternate source of information besides the ASM website. The binder also has blank contest entry forms if you'd like to fill one out before you arrive at a meeting, and extra copies of the contest schedule.

Upcoming Contests / Events of Interest

January 9: Special Contest # 1 "Sci-Fi / Real Space / Fantasy" (Non-Points).

ASM's traditional January contest. Any subject or scale in the realms of science fiction (Star Wars, Star Trek, etc.); actual (real) space exploration (Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Space Shuttle, Vostok, Mir, Space Station, etc.); or fantasy, including comic book (Spider Man, Hulk, etc.) and anime subjects (Gundams, Robotech, etc.). Overall best entry plaque, sponsored by Hobbies 'N Stuff, plus awards for the best Junior, Basic, Intermediate and Masters entries. Possible splits between Sci-Fi, Real Space, and Fantasy depending upon number of entries.

February 6: Swap Meet—No contest

March 5: Theme Contest: "Russia / Soviet Union." (Points Contest).

Any Russian or Soviet Union subject in any scale or era. Subject must be depicted in Russian/USSR markings/dress.

Workshop: Making Tracks (Patrick Dick)

Sponsored Contest: Best Russian Aviation and Armor subject (Tim Estes)

Tim's ROE: Any Russian/Soviet aircraft (military or civilian-*lend/lease* included), or armor subject (including figures) from any time frame (wartime or peacetime). What I am looking for is unique presentation. In other words, something that is more than a subject just sitting on the table. Tell a story; *surprise me with your diorama prowess!* Prizes will be awarded to the best air-

craft subject and the best armor subject. Depending on the types presented there may be a split between prop driven and jet aircraft and between tanks and figures.

WHAT THE FAQ?

JOE WALTERS

Like most internet-based organizations, the usenet newsgroup known as rec.models.scale maintains a useful resource known as a "Frequently-Asked Questions" list, or *FAQ* as it's usually known.

This particular FAQ is a truly vast repository of modeling knowledge, and is maintained on an ongoing basis.

The list is easily accessible to anyone, and is located on the web at www.ninfinger.org/~sven/models/rms_tips/rmsfaq.1.html; and if that seems a bit much to type, just jump over to Google and do a search on the words *scale model faq*—it'll likely pop up as the first selection.

The list is divided into no less than 19 sections, including:

- General questions about modeling
- How to make your own photo-etched parts
- How to obtain a really high gloss finish
- How to get a realistic "bare metal" finish
- A section of assorted lists of useful information, such as:
 - A list of questions without answers
 - Addresses of mail order companies and aftermarket suppliers
 - Modeling clubs and special interest groups
 - Interesting websites
 - Magazines, newsletters, etc.
 - Museums that provides sources of research
 - Model manufacturers and distributors
- Various comments on individual armor link tank tracks
- The basics of building resin models
- How to make custom decals
- Painting tips for assorted (real and fictional) spacecraft
- Questions on weathering and detail painting
- Lists of hobby shops and interesting places to visit while travelling
- Paints and painting
- A how-to guide for making cast resin parts

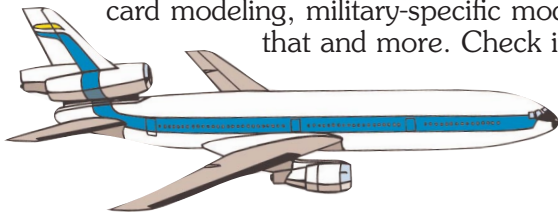
- A collection of “advanced” building techniques—examples include scratchbuilding and panel-line scribing.
- And more!

Lists like this are amazing resources, loaded with useful and—often—organized information, answers to that question that comes up at 2:00 A.M. when you can’t call someone, but you can certainly check out one of these pages and search out the information you need now.

Looking for more specific subject matter? Steve Iverson maintains an excellent science fiction modeling FAQ on his site at www.cultvman.com/sfmfaq.html, part of a very rich collection of sci-fi modeling information.

Nautical modelers can find the Ship Modeling FAQ at <http://home.att.net/~shipmodelfaq>, but you might first check out www.faqs.org/faqs/models/ships/faq, where you’ll find pointers to several ship-modeling lists.

Name a subject, and there’s a usenet newsgroup and a FAQ covering it. Railroads, rockets, cars, paper and card modeling, military-specific modeling... all that and more. Check it out!



Year 2004 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for “Modeler of the Year” Points

- 9 Jan** **SPECIAL CONTEST #1**
SCI-FI, REAL SPACE & FANTASY
- 6 Feb** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 5 Mar** **Russia/Soviet Union**—Any kit/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Best Russian Aviation or Armor (Tim Estes)*
- 2 Apr** **Open Contest**—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Best 1950s US Naval Aviation (Rick Carver & Don Smith)*
- 7 May** **WWII—Pacific**—Any kit, any scale.
- 4 Jun** **SPECIAL CONTEST #2: BATTLES OF 1944**
**Sponsored Contest: Best Fw 190 (Ken Liotta)*
- 2 Jul** **Modern Marvels**—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Big (Brian Peck)*
**Sponsored Contest: Fast Movers (John Tate)*
- 13 Aug** **ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 3 Sep** **Aces and Heroes**—Any kit, any scale.
- 1 Oct** **WWII—Western Front**—Any kit/scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Babe Fest (Ken Liotta)*
- 5 Nov** **Open Contest**—Any kit, any scale.
**Sponsored Contest: Best 1/700 or 1/720 Ship (no subs) (Tom Perea)*
- 3 Dec** **SPECIAL CONTEST #3**
BETWEEN THE WARS
Plus: **Model of the Year**

Master

John Tate	2095
Stan Harris	1410
Don MacBryde	945
Ken Liotta	893
Jason Clevenger	510
Glen Bingham	489
James Taylor	357
Mike Blohm	238
David Miller	185
Dave Straub	185
Patrick Dick	183
Miguel Duncan	175
Fred Franceschi	135
Chuck DeWitt	87
Brian Peck	85
Keith Liotta	77
Reid Langerman	25
Ken Piniak	6

ASM CONTEST POINTS FINAL STANDINGS—2003

Intermediate

Hank Petitgirard	1255
Scott Podeyn	1244
James Guld	924
Walter Schanwald	670
Frank Randall	517
Tom Perea	457
David Boehning	350
Jack Garriss	340
Rick Carver	305
Tom Redling	237
John Pattison	125
Jeff Frickstad	110
Tim Wood	100
Jerry Pitts	75
David Downs	2

Basic

Cecil Severs	2002
John Kendrick	915
Tom Tagert	800
Don Smith	765
Tim Estes	235
Gil Johnson	125
Greg Tribou	85
Matt Blohm	4
John Tribou	2

Junior

Casey Dick	1557
Taylor Liotta	775
Sam Blackwell	300
P.J. Podeyn	175
Kellan Belhke	135
Logan Carbin	125

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ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. Submission deadline for each issue is the 20th of the prior month.