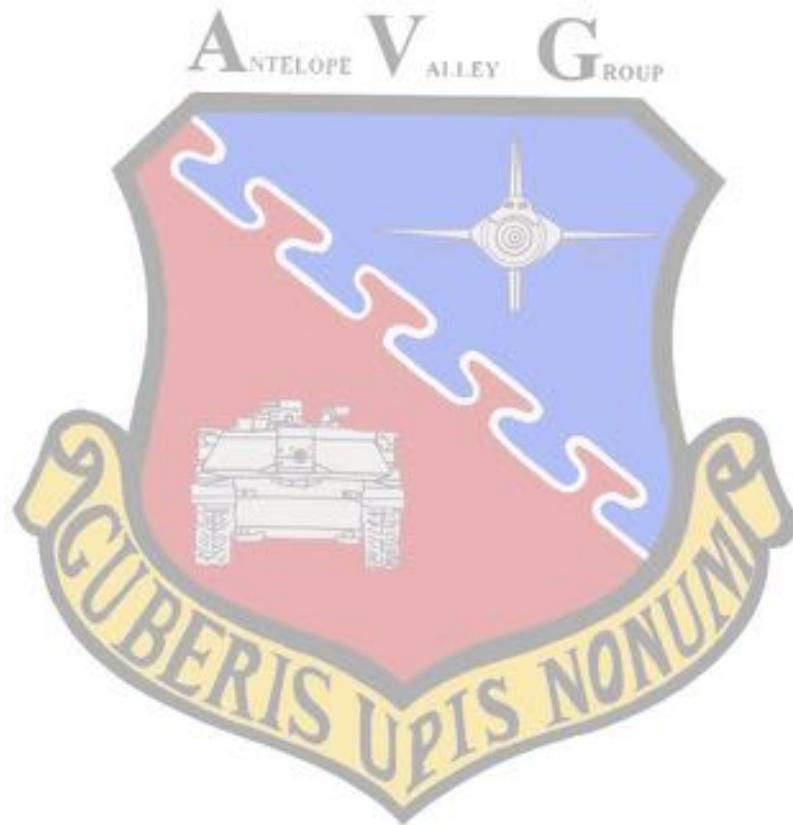


The Smoking Hole

A Publication of the Antelope Valley Group IPMS

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www.avg-ipms.org
avg_ipms@yahoo.com

2019 Club Officers

President

Dwight Young
dwright.avg@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

Jay Faulk / Luis Toledo
Faulkme2002@yahoo.com
Coladito1@aol.com

Treasurer

Niilo Lund
niiloj7@verizon.net

Secretary

Matt Graham
flighttester64@gmail.com

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 15 2020, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

January Meeting General Meeting Notes:

We kicked off the new year by beginning our planning for the Desert Classic and choosing the subjects for our in-house contests.

2020 Desert Classic

It's never too early to begin planning for the contest! We discussed categories, the theme and special awards.

The consensus on categories is to retain the same categories as last year, with the addition of the special Tom Daniel category for this year.

There were many good suggestions for this year's theme. We finally settled on "The Italian Job" – anything Italian!

Initial cut on special awards:

Best of Show
President's Award
X-Plane Award
75th Anniversary of VJ Day
Jurassic Plastic

There will be lot's more contest discussion to come!

In-House Contests for 2020

Here's what we decided on for our in-house contests for the upcoming year:

"It's a Small World" (March) – Build a small-scale kit. 1/72 or smaller for aircraft, 1/48 or smaller for armor, 1/500 or smaller for ships and 1/32 or smaller for autos. There are not a lot of large scale sci-fi kits, so probably most would qualify – probably 1/144 or smaller for this contest.

"Here Kitty, Kitty" (June) – Build something with a cat theme. Something with a cat name (a Grumman Panther, a Mercury Cougar, the USS Tigerfish, etc.), or something with cat markings (a Tiger Meet jet, or the Korean War M48 with the cat head markings come to mind).

"Jurassic Plastic" (September) – You know the drill. Build a 1970 or older kit OOB. Modern re-releases are okay, as long as the original kit was released in 1970 or prior. Scalemates is your friend...

"Your Professional or Personal Experience" (December) – Build a model of a subject that you have experience with, either in your profession or personal life. An aircraft you flew, tested or maintained, a car you owned, a ship you served on., etc.

2020 Club Dues

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please make an effort to do so at this month's meeting. Still only \$36. Cheap at twice the price.

2020 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
18 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Steve/Mike -Main Jim- Drinks Jay - Chips		
15 Feb		Bill, Mike O.		
21 Mar	In-House Contest "It's a Small World"	Nick, Alex		
18 Apr		Matt, Tom, Robby		
16May		Mike, Rich E., Mike S.		
20 June	In-House Contest "Here, Kitty, Kitty"	Mike A.		
18 July		Mike H.		
15 Aug		Jim B. Dwight		
19 Sept	In-House Contest "Jurassic Plastic"	Luis, Stephen		
17 Oct		Steve		
31 Oct (tentative)	2020 Desert Classic			
21 Nov	2021 Club Officer Nominations	Dwight		
19 Dec	Gift Exchange, In-House Contest "Your Personal or Professional Experience"	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

Jim B. brought in a kitchen device useful to modelers



Nesco Food Dehydrator. Besides making beef jerky, a food dehydrator can be very useful in speeding up paint drying. Set at 115 deg. F, your enamel paint job can be dry in 4 hours. You do need to be careful with the temperature, or you can melt your model. About \$100 from Amazon.



Jim also brought in some lead detailing wire. It's available in a number of sizes. One of the great advantages of lead wire is that it is much easier to shape than other types of wire. Hobby lead wire is available for a number of sources, but you can also available from fishing supply shops.

“Toolman” Rich also brought in more of his unique finds:



Grit-Lock ASB-4.5XS,S,M Sanding Block Kit

by Grit-Lock

★★★★★ 2 ratings

Price: **\$32.99** ✓prime & FREE Returns

Your cost could be \$22.99. Eligible customers get a \$10 bonus when reloading \$100.

- Simple, quick and easy sandpaper replacement
- Includes 30 pieces of pre-cut 3M Wetordry TM 400 grit sandpaper sheets
- Can be used for wet or dry sanding
- Does not require specialized adhesive or hook and loop backed sandpaper
- Rigid aluminum parts

[See more product details](#)

[Compare with similar items](#)




Uschi Van Der Rosten Trinity Splatter Airbrush Stencil

\$13.50 on eBay



K&J Magnetics, Inc.

Your Source for the World's Strongest Magnets

 <p>N42 0.15 lb N</p> <p>D14 1/16" dia. x 1/4" thick Nickel Plated Axially Magnetized</p> <p>Pack of 10 Price: \$1.80</p>	 <p>N52 0.07 lb N</p> <p>D101-N52 1/16" dia. x 1/32" thick Nickel Plated Axially Magnetized</p> <p>Pack of 100 Price: \$14.00</p>	 <p>N52 0.15 lb N</p> <p>D12-N52 1/16" dia. x 1/8" thick Nickel Plated Axially Magnetized</p> <p>Pack of 10 Price: \$1.40</p>	 <p>N42SH 0.1 lb N</p> <p>D11SH 1/16" dia. x 1/16" thick Nickel Plated Axially Magnetized</p> <p>Pack of 10 Price: \$1.10</p>
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Here's a link to everything they carry <https://www.kjmagnetics.com/categories.asp>



Club Demos

It's been a while since we've had a demo. Let me know if you would like to give a demo and I'll put you on the calendar

Member Show and Tell

Name:

Stephen Lucy

Time To Build:

40hours

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya P-47D-20

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Eduard Zoom (cockpit)
Kits World decals

Paints Used:

Model Master, Tamiya Clear
Flory Models washes

Comments:

Nice kit!



Name:

John Summerford

Time To Build:

20 hours (+/-)

Kit & Scale:

AMP Piaggio-Pegna P.C.7

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Testors enamel, Alclad II

Comments:

Short run



Name:	Tom Hamel
Time To Build:	3 weeks
Kit & Scale:	Five different Trumpeter armor kits 1/72nd scale
Aftermarket Items:	None
Paints Used:	Tamiya and Model Master
Comments:	Something to do during the storm



Name: Luis Toledo
Time To Build: 13 ½ hours
Kit & Scale: Hobbyboss F-5E 1/72 nd scale
Aftermarket Items: Bilek resin ejection seat
Paints Used: AK Interactive True Colors
Comments: Great little kit. For the moderate modeler. Some dry fitting is definitely needed. Overall, really fun to build.



Name:

Mike Hutchison

Time To Build:

3 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Eduard Bf 109G-10 Profipack

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

OOB

Paints Used:

Mr. Paint and Alclad II throughout

Comments:

Beautiful kit that falls together



Name:

Mike Hutchison

Time To Build:

6 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Bobcat Models Il-28T

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Eduard photoetch – where it would fit

Paints Used:

Model Master enamels
Mig gloss and flat clear

Comments:

Finally an Il-28 that's affordable. A lot of seam clean up, but not difficult to do.



Name:

Tracy Ackeret

Time To Build:

80 hours

Kit & Scale:

Revell Chitown Hustler '69 Charger
Funnycar

1/25th scale

Aftermarket Items:

OOB

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Mig Ammo used for
frame and other parts.
Duplicolor auto paint for body
Alclad used for metal parts

Comments:

Stripped chrome off of many parts
to paint correct colors of metal



Name:

Mike Steinke

Time To Build:

8 hours

Kit & Scale:

Ral Partha "Rogon"

25 mm

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya, Citadel and Vallejo

Comments:

First dragon I have done in years. Vallejo "Colorshift" paints. Final colors dry to dramatically different colors depending on the underlying base coat. Gloss black primer is suggested.



Name:

Mike Steinke

Time To Build:

12 hours

Kit & Scale:

Hobbyboss VBL

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

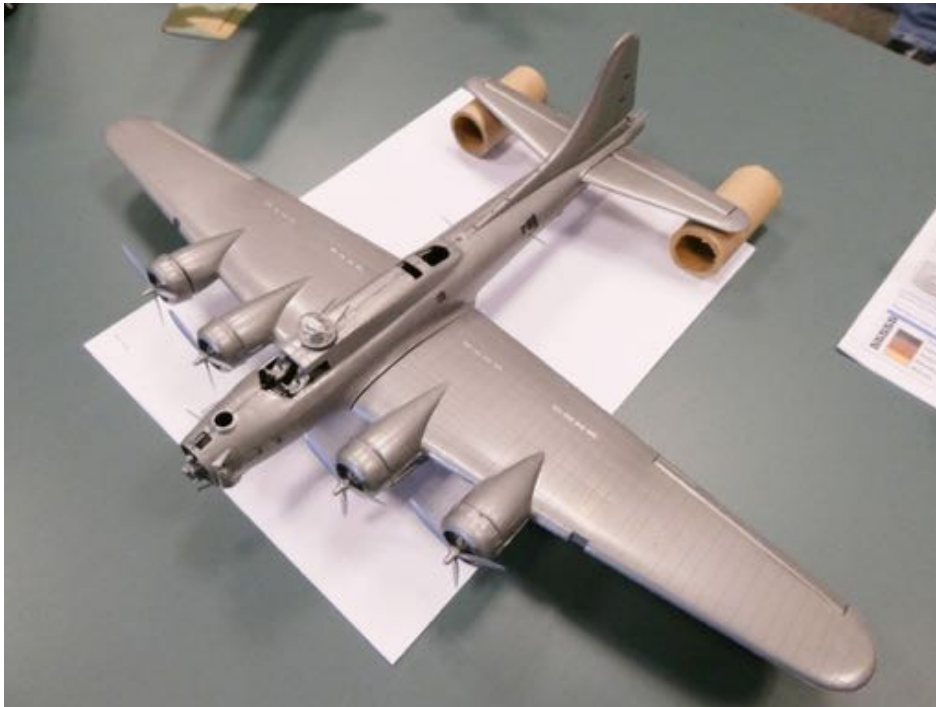
None

Paints Used:

Tamiya

Comments:

Fit problems with top and bottom chassis, as well as all clear parts.

**Name:**

Niilo Lund

Time To Build:

Work in progress – so far 30 hours over 2 months

Kit & Scale:

Airfix B-17G

1/72nd scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

None

Comments:

Decided to build this kit to practice and try out new or different build techniques. So far found a lot of fit problems that required file work and sanding. At this time the fuselage, wing and horizontal subassemblies are glued up, but final assembly remains, including all exterior cockpit and windows. Don't know if I'll finish but if I do I'll dedicate it as a memorial to all those B-17's all models lost during WWII. 12,731 built, 4735 lost in

	<p>battle. 46 planes survive today, 10 of which are airworthy and 39 reside in the USA. Fun kit to play with</p>
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Name:

Rich Ribaldo

Time To Build:

20 hours

Kit & Scale:

Atlantis (Revell) Convair Space Shuttle

1/150th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Miniature magnets from K&J Magnetics

Paints Used:

Tamiya spray can White & Black, Alclad Metal finishes

Comments:

HISTORY: In the late 1940s through early 1960s space flight permeated the American psyche. Books, magazines, toys, movies and television all had their mind on what the future of manned spaceflight would look like. We were going to have permanent bases on the moon and Mars by the 1970s and be reaching to the stars shortly thereafter. But as science progressed into the mid-1960s government funding, practical design and function overtook imagination. As a result,



the appearance of spacecraft took a radical, utilitarian turn.

Krafft Ehricke was a German rocket-propulsion engineer and advocate for space colonization. He worked at Peenemünde as a propulsion engineer from 1942 to 1945 with Walter Thiel, then went to the United States with other German rocket scientists and technicians under "Operation Paperclip" in 1947. He also worked for a short time with the Von Braun Rocket Team at Huntsville. While at Convair in 1952 he designed the D-1 Centaur, the world's first upper-stage-booster that used liquid hydrogen and oxygen. He also created an early space station design, based on being launched by Convair's Atlas rocket. The NEXUS reusable rocket was a 1960s concept design by a group at General Dynamics led by Krafft Ehricke. Also, during his stay at General Dynamics, he participated on Project Orion (nuclear propulsion). This model represents Ehricke's design of a multi-stage reusable space ferry for travelling to space stations and earth orbiting satellites.

THE BUILD: This Atlantis Models kit is a reissue of the Revell kit from 1958. Despite its 60+ years of age it builds up easily with little to no drama. That was a refreshing change from some of the recent heartaches I've had on the bench! I found a bit of flash on some of the parts but far less than expected from a kit of this era. The parts fit well and, once sanded, they needed just a bit of putty here and there to fill the seams and gaps.

Kits from this period often included features that added "Play Value" to the



finished model. The rocket separates into three stages and a removable fuel tank. The roof of the “Glider” section is removable to reveal a five-man crew. To keep the roof in place when the model is vertical, and to steady the entire model on the launch ring, I used tiny magnets from K & J magnetics. A pair of magnets are embedded in the glider’s roof and in each of the booster fins. These tiny magnets were so powerful I had to use plastic tweezers to fix them in place because they stuck so ferociously to metal tools!

PAINT AND FINISHING: My last rocket (a Saturn 1B) had a roll pattern on it. I was determined to make replicating another similar pattern easier, so I drew the model full size on paper and experimented with a few schemes until I got what I wanted. The result is a simple black and white pattern based on what was applied to Titan rockets and Mercury Redstone boosters of the day. I added some checkerboard borders at the top and bottom of the booster as this was often seen on spaceship renderings in magazines and animation features of that era. The second stage and re-entry glider were painted to replicate a heat resistant alloy. For that I used a base of Tamiya TS-14 black overcoated with Alclad Steel. The resulting dark metallic finish was just what I was looking for as I wasn’t satisfied with just painting it flat black.

The kit decals performed well and make up most of the markings. The Atlantis decal sheet has been enhanced over the original Revell sheet and now includes NASA markings in case one wants to update the rocket to modern appearances. I chose to



give the model its original “retro” look. I sourced a few scrap decals from an F-104 instrument panel and cut it up in sections to place on each crew member’s console. I even had enough to give each crew station an overhead panel.

CONCLUSION: Simply put, this was a FUN project. Despite needing some minor cleanup and seam work I recommend this kit to builders having little to no experience building models. It’s a great entry level kit for kids because of the ability to disassemble the rocket and “fly a mission” with its component parts. The decals offer a wide field of options to satisfy the imagination and there are no delicate parts or complicated assemblies to deal with. This model exemplifies the early concept of “Boost-Glide” space travel using a reusable spacecraft. It’s a progenitor to the modern-day Space Shuttle orbiter using the same basic principles in hardware and mission execution.



Name:

Rich Ribaudo

Time To Build:

9 hours

Kit & Scale:

Moebius Nuclear Exploration Vehicle (N.E.V.)

1/144th scale

Aftermarket Items:

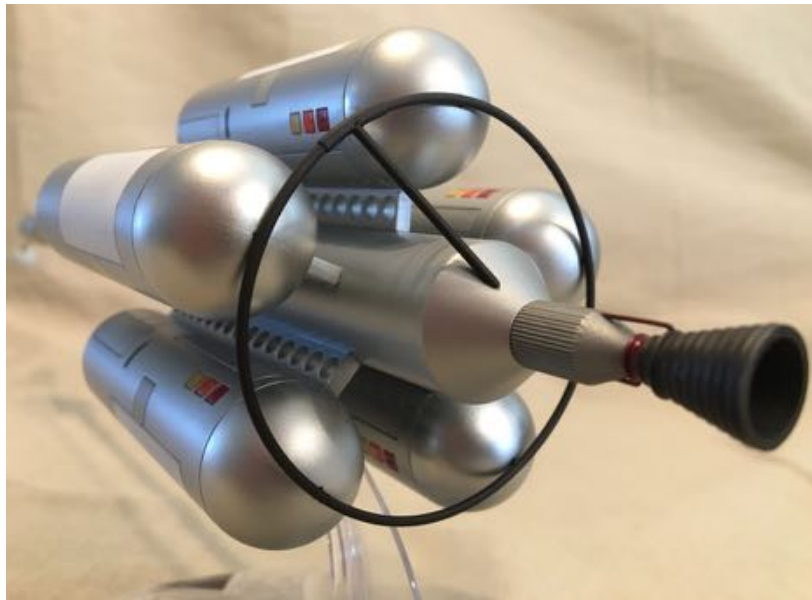
None

Paints Used:

Alclad Aluminum, Alclad RAF High Speed Silver, Alclad White Aluminum, MRP White

Comments:

HISTORY: Here is another brainchild from the mind of Scientist and Engineer Krafft Arnold Ehricke. While at Convair Ehricke worked on Project Orion: the exploration of space through the use of nuclear propulsion. The Nuclear Exploration Vehicle spacecraft was to be built in low earth orbit and powered by a Nuclear Engine



for Rocket Vehicle (NERVA) nuclear thermal rocket engine and could theoretically carry a crew of four to Mars. The fuel tanks and drive unit are separated from the crew module by a long rod. The idea of this separation was to keep the crew a safe distance from the nuclear reactor driving the ship.

THE BUILD: This is a newly tooled kit and Moebius did a fine job engineering it. The fit was tight and little filler is required. The kit's main parts are comprised of fuel tanks and a crew module making up seven cylindrical components joined by a lengthy rod. Each of the cylinders had a pair of lengthwise seams to polish but the job went quickly with so little filler.

PAINT AND FINISHING: After polishing the many sub-assemblies were primed gray and received a base color of Alclad Airframe Aluminum. A few panels on each part were sprayed with Alclad White Aluminum, Dull Aluminum and RAF High Speed Silver to break up the monotony of an overall metal finish. MRP White was used as a "solar heat deterrent coating" on the tanks and a few Testors enamels such as black, red, orange and yellow were used to pick out the details and add a bit of color. Finally, Tamiya Dark Gray Wash was used to highlight the panel lines. The



final step was to attach the fuel tanks to the central drive body, add the fuel ring and engine bell and connect the crew module and main body with the rod. I chose not to use the kit decals so I cannot comment on how they behave. There's really no wrong way to finish something that never existed so the modeler has total creative license in painting and marking this kit.

BASE: Moebius includes a 1960's era clear triangular base that we all remember from "back in the day". I built many of the old Aurora Airliners in the 1960s and they were all held "in flight" by one of these stands. Being a retro design, the base looks good holding up the model. At some point I may make a more stable wooden base with an acrylic rod to hold the model but for now it looks good as is and the plastic base brings back cool memories.

CONCLUSION: I recommend this kit to all modelers. The low parts count, easy construction and interesting shape make it a good choice for kids. The history of the design and unlimited finishing possibilities are a great chance for experienced modelers to ply the limits of their painting skills.



Name:

Rich Ribaldo

Time To Build:

2 hours

Kit & Scale:

Pegasus "Spaceship Luna"

1/144th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Alclad Chrome over Tamiya TS-14
Gloss Black

Comments:

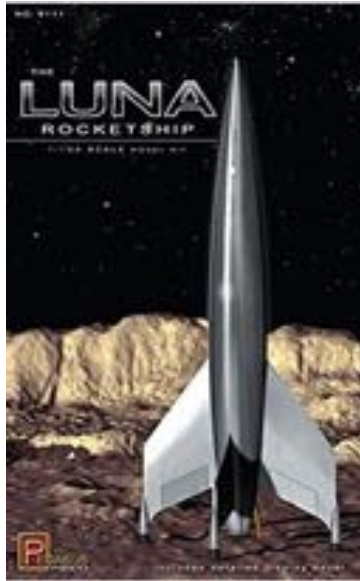
HISTORY: This kit is the subject of the spaceship in George Pal's 1950 film "Destination Moon". Here's the Wikipedia summary of the movie.

"Destination Moon" was the first major U.S. science fiction film to deal with the practical scientific and engineering challenges of space travel and to speculate on what a manned expedition to the Moon would look



like. Famed science fiction author Robert A. Heinlein contributed to the script. The film's premise is that **private industry** will mobilize, finance, and manufacture the first spacecraft to the Moon, and that the U.S. government will be forced to purchase or lease the technology to remain the dominant power in space. Different industrialists cooperate to support the private venture. In the final scene, as the crew approaches the Earth, the traditional "The End" heralds the dawn of the coming Space Age: "This is THE END...of the Beginning"."

Oddly prophetic plot synopsis: "When their latest rocket test fails and **government funding collapses**, rocket scientist Dr. Charles Cargraves and space enthusiast General Thayer enlist the aid of aircraft magnate Jim Barnes. With the necessary millions raised privately from a group of patriotic U.S. industrialists, Cargraves, Warner, and Barnes build an advanced single-stage-to-orbit atomic powered spaceship, named Luna, at their desert manufacturing and launch facility. The project is soon threatened by a ginned-up public uproar over "radiation safety", but the three circumvent legal efforts to stop their expedition by launching the world's



first Moon mission ahead of schedule “.

THE BUILD: This might be the shortest build I ever did. Not counting paint cure times, this build took me all of one hour! The fit was so perfect that this kit could be built without cement. The finish on the parts was mirror smooth and defect/flash free. There are no decals. Instructions are printed on the back of the box.

PAINT AND FINISHING: I polished the seams, primed it gray, painted it gloss black and applied Alclad Chrome Metalizer. I didn't use the kit windows, so after everything was dry, I added a drop of Micro Clear to each window. Model finished!!

BASE: The model sits on a 99-cent craft plaque from Hobby Lobby. I stained it with Minwax Ebony stain, added a printed image of the Martian Surface from Google and poured bar resin over it. After two days cure time it was finished.

CONCLUSION: I loved it! This is a fun, no drama little project to build while you're waiting for your coffee to brew. It is an *excellent* candidate as a “first model” for kids to get into the hobby. When finished, this model stands shorter than a .50 caliber round so

	<p>even a fleet of these little beasts won't take up any space on you display shelf.</p>
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Name:

DJ "Rowdy" Yates

Time To Build:

Kit & Scale:

Hot Wheels Starships Diecast AT-ST Raider, from 'The Mandalorian'

1/144th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Paints Used:

Comments:

This is the AT-ST Raider seen in 'The Mandalorian' Star Wars web series. I weathered a too clean Hot Wheels Diecast Vehicle to make it look more screen accurate. Weathering, wash, blaster burns, rust & mud were pretty straightforward... The base is 100% scratch built, including the tree! I also included a few footprints & broken logs from the walker!

Calendar

2/15/2020	IPMS Silverwings Sacramento Silvercon 2020	Town & Country Lutheran Church 4049 Marconi Ave. Sacramento CA
3/1/2020	Valley Con 2020	Pasadena Convention Center 300 E. Green St. Pasadena, CA
3/8/2020	Kit Collectors Exposition & Show	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
3/21/2020	50 Years of Modeling Excellence	Fresno EAA Chapter, Hangar 379 4344 W. Spaatz Ave. Fresno, CA
4/18/2020	Silicon Valley Classic VII	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
4/25/2020	Best of the West	East Side Cannery Resort & Casino 5255 Boulder Hwy. Las Vegas, NV
5/16/2020	San Diego Model Expo & Swap Meet	San Diego Air and Space Museum Annex 335 Kenny St. El Cajon, CA
7/12/2020	Kit Collectors Exposition & Show	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA
7/29 – 8/1/2020	IPMS/USA National Convention	Embassy Suites and San Marcos Conference Center 1011 E McCarty Ln. San Marcos, TX
11/3/2020	IPMS Reno “High Rollers” 21 st Invitational Contest & Swap Meet	BPOE Lodge 597 597 Kumle Ln. Reno, NV

From the Oval Office – Notes From the Prez

Improving Skills

This month, I want to talk about improving skills. Every one of us enjoys the hobby of scale modeling, to be sure, which is why we join a club like ours. I think I can safely speak for everyone when I say we all want to improve our skills.

Improving our skills as hobbyists and enjoying the hobby itself seem to go hand in glove. When I first joined the club, I was pleased and honestly a little daunted to see how many well done projects were being displayed or shared while in progress. Tom early on encouraged me to look around at the work of others, and to really observe what they did to achieve their results. However, his most important advice was and still is just sit down and model. Even if just for a few minutes a day, that time spent improving the coordination of the hands and the eyes, the powers of observation of prototypes and considering how to represent what we see on our replicas, is time well-spent.

Every model I build relies on my accumulation of skills in achieving a clean, accurate assembly and neat initial painting as the basis of a convincing depiction of what was often a real object or person, or a believable one from fiction. Taking the time to carefully test fit, dry-fit, trim, shape, and sand, then cement and check the joint in the first place means I will be less likely to need to fill gaps or be tempted to just leave it as-is. A model that is not taking shape as expected is discouraging, and often finds its way to the Shelf of Doom. Some kits, however, are “dogs,” and sometimes we may need to decide that they need to be set aside, and later reconsidered as a “silk purse” project or something to be discarded. Even those projects that do not turn out as planned, however, still have a place as long as they are around: something that you’d never display on a contest table will do just fine as a “test buck” for trying new finishing techniques, or learning how to use that new airbrush or moto-tool, or even how to sand off hideously off-scale surface detail and replace it using new tools to scribe lines or emboss “rivets.”

Just like the basketball player who misses 100 percent of the shots he doesn’t take, I will lose every contest I do not enter. To that end, I am pledging to myself to give myself a break from my other obligations, a small part of each day or each week, and acquire and improve the skills I need to finish models that are worthy of the contest table. I hope you all will join me!

Oops. Glued my knife to the workbench again.