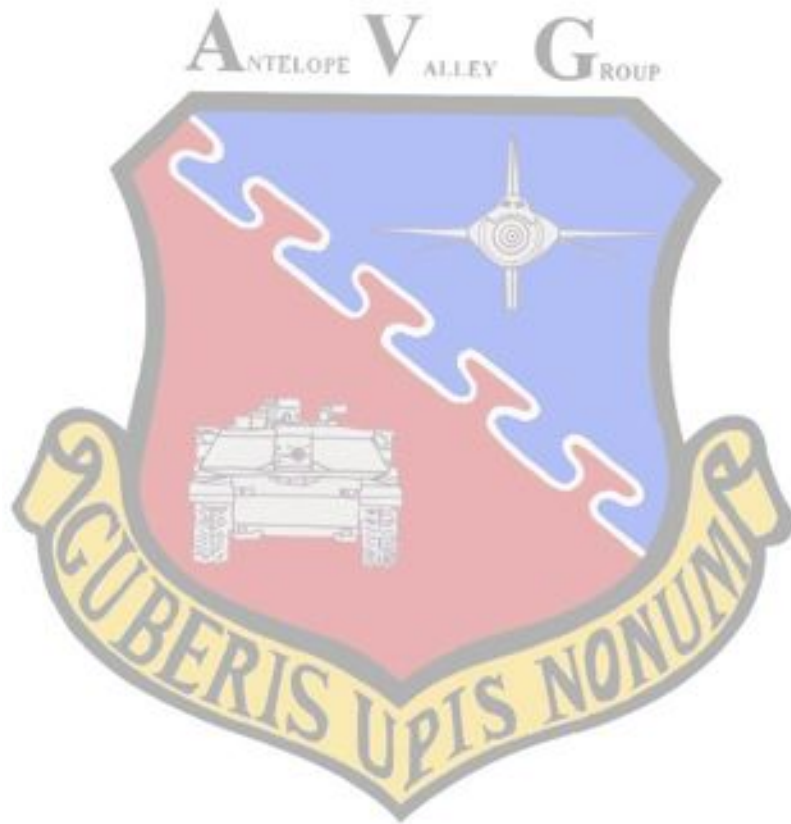


The Smoking Hole

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Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 21 2017, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

General Meeting Notes:

The December meeting was, of course, dedicated to the annual Christmas Gift Exchange and Pot Luck. Much good cheer and merriment was shared by all!

Contest Discussion

VP Jim had a couple contest items to discuss.

As previously mentioned, due to conflicts, IPMS Orange County has moved up their contest date for 2017, and it was proposed to move the 2017 contest date up to 28 October to de-conflict with Phoenix. The members voted in favor of the date change, assuming the AV College venue is available.

It time to start thinking about a theme for our contest, so bring your proposals to the meeting for discussion.

Dues are Due (Doobie Doobie Doo...)

Reminder, 2017 dues are due this month. Yearly dues are \$36. If you haven't already paid, please try to do so this month.

2016 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
21 Jan	Member Dues Collected			
18 Feb	Project Build Meeting			
18 Mar				
15 Apr			"Things Under Wings - AIM-US"	
20 May				
17 June			"Things Under Wings - AIM-Other" (Tentative)	
16 July				
19 Aug				
16 Sept				
21 Oct				
28 Oct	2017 Desert Classic			
18 Nov	2018 Club Officer Nominations			
16 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2018 Officer Elections	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

Luis showed off a great re-purposed cigar box tool storage box. These quality wooden boxes are often available for free for the asking at cigar shops.

Club Demos

Let me know if you'd like to do a demo for the club and I'll highlight it in the newsletter. Henry promised to present another couple of installments in his series "Things Under Wings" this year.

Member Show and Tell

Name:

Tracy Ackeret

Time To Build:

80 hours

Kit & Scale:

Hasegawa Bf-109F-2

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Aires cockpit, Ultracast wheels,
Quickboost exhausts and guns, Eduard
seatbelts, EagleCal decals

Paints Used:

Model Master RLM colors, MIG
Ammo, paints, Vallejo paints

Comments:

Yellow 8 from 9./JG2 of Fw. Heinz
Johner Ligescourt, France, summer
1941



Name:

Matt Graham

Time To Build:

Approx. 20 hours

Kit & Scale:

Hawk YO-10A

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Gunze synthetic lacquer,
Model Master, Floquil

Comments:

“Jurassic” Hawk kit from 1966.
Depicts prototype OV-10
configuration with original 30 ft
wingspan. Kit was later re-tooled with
40 ft wingspan to represent the
production configuration, but retained
prototype tailboom spacing, making it
inaccurate. The re-tooled kit is still
available in Testors and Chemetic
boxings.



This kit was part of the Hawk “Authenti-Plate” series which featured subtly textured surfaces and low-shine chrome plating, to allow easy depiction of a natural metal surfaces. All of the 1/48th Hawk kits of this era were available in normal and “Authenti-Plate” versions.

Decals depict a civil “Patrol and Mission Aid” aircraft. Markings are fictional – no OV-10 was actual painted this way – and were designed by Hawk’s designer John Andrews.

Kit is very basic in detail, but assembles pretty well. It is very tail heavy and requires a lot of weight. One of the drawbacks of the “Authenti-Plate” system was how to deal with seams. I sanded the seams as usual and used dull aluminum Bare Metal Foil to cover the seams, which works fairly well. The kit decals were 40 years old and were the biggest headache. They were difficult to get to release from the paper, and when they did, they would not stick to the model, and are very brittle and chip and crack easily. I used 2 sets, and am still not happy with the results. I have one more set and may scan and print a new set on my Alps printer.



Name:

Rich Ribado

Time To Build:

Approx. 35 hours

Kit & Scale:

Pilot Replicas SAAB J-21A

1/48^h scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

All Model Master Enamels: FS34096 Green for the top side and cockpit, a mix of 90% FS36320 Dark Ghost Gray and 10% FS 35109 Blue for the lower.

Comments:

In 1937 the Swedish military found itself without a home-grown fighter aircraft. Fighters in service were all purchased from foreign nations, and SAAB was already at capacity building bomber aircraft. The J-21A first flew in 1943 and flying qualities were so good that a total of 689 examples were built. The design evolved into a jet powered version, the J-21R, and between 1950 and 1951



SAAB produced 69 examples of the R.

Pilot Replicas is a fairly new company that, so far, produces aircraft exclusively used by their own country, Sweden. To my knowledge there are no other 1/48 injection molded J-21 kits on the market so they made a good choice here. Pilot Replicas back up that choice with good fit, excellent molding, delicate detail and well printed decals.

The J-21 is rendered in light gray plastic that's a bit softer than most main stream kits. Panel lines are of the scribed variety and are restrained and sharp. Other surface details are equally well molded and the transparencies are very clear. Many of the parts' sprue attachment points are a bit "heavy" so care needs to be taken when removing them. Refinements to future kits may see this improve, but it isn't bad for a first release. The decals are beautiful, went on with no trouble and responded well to Micro Sol.

Pilot Replicas includes a full color, high gloss color scheme page for three aircraft and a guide to the included full set of airframe stencils. The instruction sheet is also on high gloss paper and



features CAD renderings of the parts and assembly diagrams. There is a very delicate fret of photo-etched parts that give the modeler a choice to use P.E. torque links to replace the injected parts, a full interior framework for the transparency and some antennas. The P.E. is thoughtfully covered with mild adhesive cellophane on both sides that keeps the springy metal parts from entering low earth orbit when cut from the sheet.

The kit went together well and I'm hard pressed to remember more than one trouble spot: we'll get to that in a moment. The well detailed cockpit is built first and the instructions remind us to add 21 grams of weight to the nose. The forward fuselage had plenty of room for me to add bird shot as weight. I expected the boom and horizontal alignment to be tricky but everything fit well and alignment was achieved with no trimming, twisting or shimming.

The only real area of the kit that needs lots of care and attention is the nose wheel attachment. Pilot Replicas made the nose strut and wheel very delicate and detailed. But this faithful rendering does not give much contact area for cementing the wheel to the



The Swedish Bikini Team Approves Pilot Replica's J-21 !!

strut fork. Care must be taken here to support the model in the correct attitude while gluing the wheel to the fork. Compounding the problem, Pilot Replicas has molded their wheels with a flat “weighted” spot on the bottom that demands careful orientation when cementing the wheel in place. To facilitate this effort I built a jig from Lego blocks and did the fine height adjustment with baseball card “shims” slid underneath the blocks. After the CA glue cured things were fine.

I recommend this kit to modelers of moderate experience who have built a few limited run kits. I’d like to point out that mentioning limited run kits in no way detracts from Pilot Replicas quality, but the slightly softer plastic and “not quite Tamiya/Hasegawa” fit and engineering require just a bit more care. We have to remember this is an early effort from this company. Having said that they started off on a high step of the ladder right away, so I expect things to get even better rapidly. If Pilot Replicas’ future releases are at least as good as their J-21 they will have a bright future. I’m looking forward to their next kits and I think the modeling community at large will benefit greatly.



Note: An excellent source of reference for the J-21 is Mushroom Publications J-21. The book is equally divided into two sections: one for the J-21A and one for the J-21R. This is an outstanding book filled with operational history, photos of the aircraft in service and a “walk around” section with full color photos of museum examples that had to have been taken with the modeler in mind. A separate fold-out poster is included with highly detailed drawings of the J-21 and J-21R in 1/72 and 1/48 scale. This book is an incredible value and I recommend it without reservation as single source of reference.

Calendar

01/28/2017	Spruefest	Brookhurst Hobbies 12188 Brookhurst Street Garden Grove, CA
03/04/2017	IPMS Silicon Valley Silicon Valley Classic	Napredak Hall 770 Montague Expressway San Jose, CA
03/05/2017	Pasadena Modelers Society Valleycon 2017	Peterson Automobile Museum 6060 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA
03/19/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
05/06/2017	Best of the West-Vegas-Con 2017	East Side Cannery Resort & Casino 5255 Boulder Highway, Las Vegas, NV
07/09/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA
07/26-29/2017	IPMS National Convention	LaVista Conference Center 12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista, NE
09/23/2017	REDCON 2017	Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV
11/12/2017	Kit Collectors Exposition and Show	UFCW Local 324 Union Hall 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA