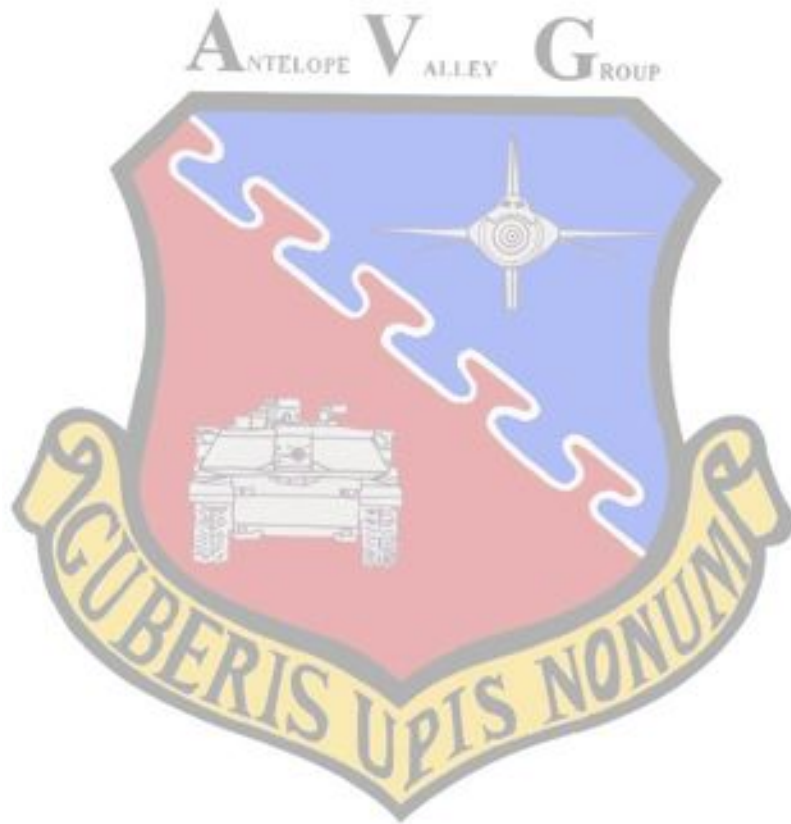


The Smoking Hole

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

2018 Club Officers

President

Tracy Ackeret

silkinca@gmail.com

Vice President

Jim Abercromby

jaber_23@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Niilo Lund

niiloj7@verizon.net

Secretary

Matt Graham

mgraham4@bak.rr.com

Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING MAY 19 2018, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

April General Meeting Notes:

April was our first Club Swap meet this season. Lot's of cool stuff changed hands. If you didn't get what you wanted, we'll have another in October. We had a report on the IPMS San Jose contest, and a short business discussion on contest planning.

2018 Desert Classic

VP Jim reported that the AVG Desert Classic is officially on the IPMS Calendar and the contest ad will appear in the next edition of the Journal

"Back to Basics"

Prez Tracy suggested a 'Back to Basics' feature at our Build Meetings. Members would demonstrate how to perform a basic modeling skill (seam filling, sanding, masking, etc.). Sounds like a great idea to improve everyone's skills!

2018 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
20 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Jay/Jim		
17 Feb		Tracy/?		
17 Mar	Club Build Meeting	Mike W./ open		
21 Apr	Club Swap Meet	Mike O./Dwight		
16 May		Rick/Bill P.		
17 June		Joe/Nillo		
21 July		Robby/Nick		
18 Aug	In House Contest – "Jurassic Plastic"			
15 Sept				
20 Oct	Club Swap Meet			

27 Oct	2018 Desert Classic			
17 Nov	2019 Club Officer Nominations			
15 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2019 Officer Elections	Everyone!		

The Tool Crib

Several members brought in some new tools to share.



Dwight brought in nice, inexpensive ultrasonic parts cleaner. These are invaluable for cleaning airbrush parts. And only about \$25 from Amazon.



Mark showed the Green Stuff World leaf punch tools. These nifty little tools allow you to punch out realistic scale leaves in various designs (oak, maple, etc.). You can use various materials to make the leaves, colored paper, even real leaves. Available from the Green Stuff World website, <http://www.greenstuffworld.com>. I also note that Sprue Brothers sells what appear to be the identical punches under the “RP Toolz” brand.



Bill P. brought a small, battery powered engraving tool. Could have various uses, such as engraving lines. Pretty inexpensive (something like \$8) at Harbor Freight.

Club Demos

If you'd like to do a demo for the club, let me know and I'll put you on the calendar

Member Show and Tell



Name:

Curtis Stidham

Time To Build:

30 Hrs over the past year

Kit & Scale:

Hobby Boss Merkava Mk IV

Kit#82429

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Black Dog 1/35 Merkava IV Trophy
APS System Upgrade Set (for Hobby
Boss) T35127

Chain from Michael's "bead landing"
Fashion Chain product # 468991 72in,
perfect size for replacing kits provided
chain.

Paints Used:

Valajo IDF Sini Grey 82 #71.142,
Testers Dull Cote Lacquer

Comments:

The kit (plastic) was easy to assemble with no fit issues at all, The Black Dog Trophy system was a drop fit, and was mastered off of this Hobby Boss kit as evidence from molded on details from the kit turret imprinted on the underside of the resin parts, these detail imprints greatly aided in



locating the resin parts to the turret. I haven't built too many armor kits with individual tracks, so some building sequences need to be modified to be able to install the tracks, a new learning curve for me, I'll need to learn to install the tracks before assembling the upper and lower hull together...

I did not care for the rubber road wheels, there was no real advantage to them, they had to be installed prior to painting, which I would think to be the only advantage to having that feature, once installed I noticed some shape distortion and a few cracks appeared, the cracks seemed to be where the rubber meets as it flows into the mold, they looked like perfect razor cuts, I did have to glue the cuts and fill the separations, with careful positioning they were hardly noticeable.

Now the real fun part....Ball and Chains...H/B does not provide enough chain to complete the entire set needed, Michaels to the rescue, I already had this chain stashed in another kit box (luckily) anticipating a problem, I recommend using this chain for this project and not the chain provided by HB, the Mich chain eye is just a bit larger and this makes it much easier to thread the pin on the ball armor, another word of caution, try to make consistent loop bends on the ball armor as it will affect the over-all length of the completed ball chain

segments. Next PIA was attaching the chain segments to the thin flimsy photo etch hangers, pay attention on how each chain segment is to be attached to its hanger, some are threaded and will require a cut link, others will need a uncut link that is pressed into it's very flimsy hanger.... PE and super glue are not my favorite medium so this process took the longest for me, I'd say about 3-4 hrs on and off.

Paint and finish: I wanted a very dark grey green for my Mk.IV, I had a variety of Valajo IDF colors and chose the Sini Grey 82 as it was the darkest, still not what I was looking for, but I went with it anyhow.

No pre-post shading was done, I did put a wash of Tamiya clear smoke to darken some recesses, then applied dry pastel chalks to the tops, I followed this with some oil paints diluted in Turpanoid to represent oil stains here and there.

I did enjoy building this kit, aside from the fiddly chain arrangement that I think looks really good (if done correctly, I kind of failed) I would recommend this kit for the ease of construction of the plastic parts, but if you want the Trophy conversion Meng just came out with one, it never fails....



Name:

Luis Toledo

Time To Build:

5 months (on & off)

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya M3A2

1/35th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Verlinden stowage set, Star decals

Paints Used:

Tamiya, Vallejo, Model Master

Comments:

Great kit! Highly recommend it to any type of modeler, from beginner to advanced. The only downfall on the kit is the tracks. There's no aftermarket for them so pay close attention to them.



Name:	Nick Kiriokos
Time To Build:	40 hours
Kit & Scale:	Hasegawa F2A-1 1/72 nd scale
Aftermarket Items:	Some Reheat p.e., Eduard p.e., Mike Grant placards, SBS decals
Paints Used:	Tamiya, Xtracolor, Lifecolor, Model Master
Comments:	Scratchbuilt cockpit, wheel well, modified F4F-4 prop, engine and brake lines from 0.3mm solder. Weathering with pastels



Name:
Stephen Lucy
Time To Build:
1 month (club meeting to club meeting)
Kit & Scale:
Tamiya Fw-190D9
1/48 th
Aftermarket Items:
Eduard Zoom (cockpit), EZ-Line antenna, Aeromaster Decals 48-637 'Too Little, Too Late'
Paints Used:
Aeromaster RLM 84, Model Master RLM 70, 75, 76, 81, 82
Comments:
Tamiya kits are nice!



Name:

Tracy Ackeret

Time To Build:

60 hours

Kit & Scale:

Eduard I-16

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Quickboost exhausts, Eduard p.e. in cockpit, MIG Ammo antenna wire for gear retract

Paints Used:

MIG Ammo

Comments:

Bad fit on cowl area and cockpit wrong on kit, fixed cockpit floor.
Drilled out guns.
National Spanish colors



Name:	Rick Reinert
Time To Build:	Too long!
Kit & Scale:	Tamiya Fw-190F8 1/48 th scale
Aftermarket Items:	Eduard belts. Pitot probe Metal tubes for machine guns
Paints Used:	Testors RLM 74, 75, 76
Comments:	Surprised at the amount of effort required to clean up seams



Name:

Matt Graham

Time To Build:

Approx 50 hours

Kit & Scale:

Eduard Spitfire Mk IXe Profipack

1/48th scale

Aftermarket Items:

Barracuda Studios Spitfire IX Cockpit Snapshot set, Spitfire XVI Seamless upper cowl, Eduard Mk. IX supplemental p.e. set, Eduard Brassin 90-gal. slipper tank, Yahu Mk.IX (late) instrument panel, Ultracast wheels and fishtail exhausts, Master Model brass gun barrels, Colorado (Carpena) 'Spitfire Exotics' decals

Paints Used:

Gunze Sangyo synthetic lacquer Light Blue, custom-mixed dark green and RAL 8002 brown, Model Master British Interior Green, Alclad, Tamiya synthetic lacquer.
Weathering with MIG Ammo washes, Worn Effects and pastels

**Comments:**

Spitfire LF IXe of the Union of Burma air force, 1955. Burma received 30 ex-Israeli Spitfires (former Czech and Italian airframes). Very interesting story on the refurbishment and ferrying of the Spitfires from Israel to Burma (by mercenary pilots). The Spitfires were not popular with the Burmese – they wanted new aircraft. There were many accidents, and many otherwise repairable airframes were written off in an attempt to obtain new aircraft. The Spitfires were used in a ground attack role against rebel Burmese forces.

Kit is the excellent Eduard kit, which is the best mid-Mark Spitfire on the market. I have a number of these in the stash, but this is my first build. Fit is superb, but seems over complicated. Eduard's philosophy seems to be similar to Dragon's with their armor kits – "Why use one part when 10 will do?" Lots of teeny, tiny parts, especially in the cockpit. About half my build time was spent on the cockpit. Kit cockpit is great OOB, but I used the Barracuda Cockpit Snapshot set, as Roy's parts have a bit more finesse and the seat is fabulous. Also used a Yahu pre-assembled photo-etch instrument panel. These look better than the Eduard panels, and you can often get them for around \$3 on sale. Eduard molds the upper cowling in 2 pieces, with a seam down the middle, so I used a Barracuda 1-piece resin

	<p>cowl. The cowl was slightly narrow and tall, so had to use a lot of super glue and pressure to get it to fit right, and I slopped super glue on the side cowl, ruining the detail. Jury is out, next time I may just deal with the seam. Aftermarket I DO recommend is the Ultracast exhausts. The Eduard exhausts are engineered such that you have to install them when you assemble the cowl, complicating painting. The Ultracast parts are designed to be installed after painting. Also recommend the Master Model gun barrels, as the Eduard .50 cal barrels have no detail.</p> <p>Colorado decals were okay, but have some accuracy issues. The national insignia for the fuselage is too large, the underwing serials are missing, and they provide national insignia for the upper wing, which were not present on Burmese Spitfires. They did, however, get the unusual font of the serial numbers correct. Color callouts were a bit dubious, so I custom mixed paint to match photos of museum examples and Israeli camo colors of the period. Overall a great build and I have an unusual Spitfire for my display case!</p>
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Calendar

6/9/2018	IPMS Region 8 Contest and Swap Meet	San Diego Air and Space Museum Annex 335 Kenney St. El Cajon, CA
8/1-4/2018	IPMS/USA National Convention	Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3 rd St. Phoenix, AZ
10/13/2017	OrangeCon	Pavilion at the University Conference Center, Cal State Fullerton 800 N. State College Blvd Fullerton, CA
10/27/2018	Desert Classic XXII	Antelope Valley College Cafeteria 3041 W Ave. K, Lancaster, CA
11/3/2018	Redcon	Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV