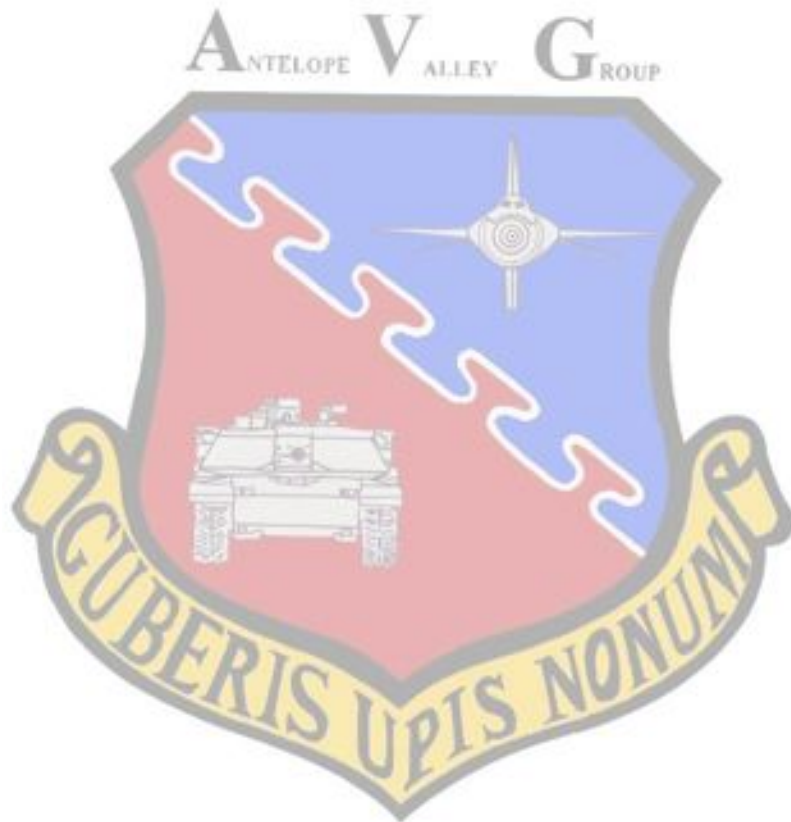


# The Smoking Hole

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**Volume 24, Number 8**



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## 2019 Club Officers

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## Club News and Business

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 17 2019, 1:00 PM AT ROSAMOND LIBRARY

### July General Meeting Notes:

During the July meeting, we discussed possible club outreach efforts and contest items

### Desert Classic Contest Items

Several updates. Niilo will be accepting payment for trophy sponsorship at the August meeting. Best in Show is \$60, categories are \$45 each and special awards are \$30 each.

At the September meeting, VP Jim will have the contest task assignment sign up sheet.

### Club Outreach

Tom briefed us on a club outreach effort he has been working on. Tom contacted his local newspaper (the Tehachapi News) and talked with them about possibly running a few paragraphs promoting the club and the Desert Classic contest. The editor was enthusiastic and agreed. Here is the text Tom submitted:

*"The Antelope Valley Group/IPMS is presenting their Desert Classic XXIII Annual Model Contest and Show on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Antelope Valley College at 3041 W. Avenue K, Lancaster CA – Cafeteria entrance.*

*The event is well respected statewide for its good venue, fair judging and outstanding awards. The show draws people from as far as Fresno, Las Vegas and San Diego, in addition to surrounding communities. Thirty-two categories of models are represented as well as special and theme awards.*

*There is no charge for spectators and all are welcome. For entry forms and fees, as well as categories, contest rules and eligibilities, go to the club website at [www.avg-ipms.org](http://www.avg-ipms.org). Come have fun and see some really neat models."*

Tom noted that the Bakersfield and Tehachapi papers are all published by the AV Press, and suggested submitting this text or something similar to the AV Press to run in the Antelope Valley. I will also try submitting a contest announcement to the Bakersfield TV stations to run on their Community Bulletin Board segments of their news programs.

### IPMS National Officers Vote

VP Jim reminded the member who are National IPMS member to be sure to vote for the national officers. IPMS is also conducting a non-binding survey on awards systems – whether the membership prefers the current 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or a Gold, Silver Bronze system.

### 2021 IPMS Nationals

Just got word that the 2021 IPMS Nats were awarded to Las Vegas. So we will have another West Coast Nats in the near future. 2022 Nats will be in Omaha

### Club Shirts

We had another go-around on club shirts. There was some confusion (and grumbling) about the chosen color, so we held another vote and black was chosen (in place of the previously chosen dark blue).

There was further discussion as to shirt style. It was suggested that, for a unified appearance, we should standardize on a single style. Curt suggested black Dickies button-down shirts, to which there was a general agreement.

Curt will do a group buy and have them embroidered. If you haven't done so yet and want to participate, get your shirt size to Curt ASAP

### Next In-House Contest

Just a quick reminder our next in-house contest is in September. Theme is "Out of Your Category". Build a subject that you don't normally build (like armor for me).

## 2019 Meeting Schedule

Primary	Activities	Refreshments	Demo	Review
19 Jan	Member Dues Collected	Steve/Matt		
16 Feb		Bill K./Jay	"Things Under Wings - Rant & Rave" - Henry	
16 Mar	In-House Contest "Marine!"	Rich/Mike W.		
20 Apr		Rick/Mike O.	Steve - Bare Metal Finish	
18 May	Club Kit Swap Meet	Dwight/Stephen	Rich - Static Grass (tentative) Tom - Making Antennas (tentative)	
15 June	In-House Contest "Jurassic Plastic"	Niilo/Joe		
20 July		Steve/Matt		
17 Aug		Bill P/Todd		
21 Sept	In-House Contest "Out of Your Category"	Bill K/Robby		
19 Oct				
26 Oct	2019 Desert Classic			
16 Nov	2020 Club Officer Nominations			
21 Dec	Christmas Potluck Gift Exchange 2020 Officer Elections In-House Contest "Red"	Everyone!		

## The Tool Crib

I found something kind of neat. Airtool Texture FX Airbrush Templates Mini Series



These are laser cut templates for airbrushing. Designed by artist Gerald Mendez, there are 3 patterns, Organic, Master, and Cosmic. These are the Organic, which seem the best suited to modeling. There is a full-size version, which is 8.5 x 11", but the mini templates are easier to use for modeling. Each sheet is resin-coated cardstock, and can be wiped clean with lacquer thinner after use. They seem pretty durable.

This looks like a great way to get a randomly varied pattern to simulate faded or weathered paint (I've seen these used in a couple of modeling magazines). I'm still experimenting with them, but they show a lot of promise.

Available from most airbrush supply vendors (Dick Blick, Dixie Art, Coast Airbrush), Amazon, and eBay. They run between \$18 to \$29, depending on where you get them.



## Kit Reviews

### 1/32 Zouki-Mura Ki-45 Kai Tei Type 2 Toryu



I gave a couple quick reviews of 2 new kits. First is the Zouki-Mura Ki-45 Toryu. The Ki-45 was a heavy fighter developed by Kawasaki for the Imperial Japanese Army. Dubbed “Toryu” (Dragon Slayer) and was code named “Nick” by the Allied forces. Like other heavy fighters (such as the Bf 110) it was initially used as a bomber escort, but like the Bf 110, its relatively poor maneuverability put it at a disadvantage against single engine opponents, and a number were lost to P-40’s of the AVG and Australians. The aircraft was re-purposed as an attack and maritime strike aircraft, but also found success as a bomber interceptor, both with heavy cannon armament and in ramming attacks. They were also used in Kamikaze attacks by Special Attack squadrons (the destroyer USS Dickenson was destroyed by 2 Ki-45’s).

This kit has been highly anticipated and represents the later, long nose interceptor variant with the oblique firing cannon, and also includes parts to build the stripped, bomber-ramming and Special Attack version. The kit is typical of ZM in that it includes a wealth of interior detail that will be normally be hidden when the kit is assembled (to include pistons in the engine cylinders). However, in what may be a first for ZM, the entire external fuselage, wings and cowlings are duplicated in clear plastic if you want to build the kit to be able to see all that detail. The kit is truly intricate, if you saw the prototype model at the Nats last year, you will know what I mean.

A set of vinyl canopy masks is included. Markings are for 2 aircraft, a Kai Tei interceptor and a Kai Hei/Tei special attack aircraft.





I think this kit is an outstanding value at \$140 dollars (bordering on a steal...) ZM has also just released a short-nose Ki-45 escort version.

### 1/48 Airfix Hawker Hunter F.6



The Hunter was the first high-performance swept-wing British fighter aircraft. Produced as an “insurance policy” for the Supermarine Swift, the Hunter proved the superior aircraft. Initially produced as an air-to-air fighter, it was replaced in that role by the supersonic Lightning. It then had a second successful career as a ground attack aircraft. Nearly 2000 were built and served with air forces in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and South America. Hunters are still in use today as adversary aircraft for air combat training and as equipment test platforms.

This is another highly anticipated kit. Previously, the only 1/48<sup>th</sup> Hunters were an ancient Lindberg kit and a fairly nice kit from Academy. The Academy kit had some well-know issues, the biggest being an underscale cockpit (the seat looked more like 1/72 scale) and fit issues.

The Airfix kit depicts the F.6 fighter variants (Airfix has also announced an F.4, and I would expect to see an FGA.9 and export variants kits as well). The Airfix kit handily eclipses the Academy kit as the definitive Hunter in 1/48<sup>th</sup>. Quality is in line with recent Airfix kits, with good shapes and finer surface detail than some of their recent efforts. The kit has full intake trunking and exhaust detail. There is also some clever engineering, such as the entire upper wing being one piece with a saddle over the top of the fuselage, with seams that fall on panel lines. The mold quality of my sample seems better than some recent Airfix efforts (such as the Sea Fury and Meteor) with no shot-shots or significant warping. My one criticism is that the kit seem to perhaps been rush, as detail has been omitted in several areas. For example, there is minimal cockpit sidewall detail and the inside of the landing gear doors are blank. The kit comes with 2 decal sheets for 3 aircraft, with a large amount of stenciling.



This is not a cheap kit (retail is about \$49, although you can get it for less if you look around), but it is one of the best Hunter kits around, and I highly recommend it.



## 1/48 Eduard F-18E "Superbug" Limited Edition

Stephen gave a quick review of Eduard F-18E "Superbug" Limited Edition.



In typical Eduard Limited Edition fashion, Eduard has taken the plastic from another manufacturer (in this case, Hasegawa) and added photo etch, masks, resin and a new decal sheet. The Hasegawa F-18E is regarded as the best late F-18 in this scale (despite some shape issues with the aft spine), and normally, the extra Eduard additions make for a good value.

However, in this case, Stephen says that Eduard has been stingy with the resin, only including a set of wheels and an ejection seat. While the Cartograph-printed decal sheet is nice, the high price of the kit (over \$100 retail) and the small amount of aftermarket included make it a poor value, especially with Hasegawa F-18E's available for as little as \$40 second-hand. He does not recommend the kit unless you can get it at a substantial discount.

## **Club Demos**

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:

30 hours

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya Spitfire Mk. IVb

1/48<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

Eduard Zoom cockpit  
 Master cannon barrels  
 Victory Model Decals "Aces of the Empire"

Paints Used:

Model Master and Tamiya  
 Flory Models wash + oils

Comments:

Tamiya quality kit form the '90's – fun build



Name:

Tracy Ackeret

Time To Build:

About 70-80 hours over 3 months

Kit & Scale:

Hasegawa A-4E Skyhawk

1/48<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

Eduard Brassin seat, wheels and exhaust

Paints Used:

Tamiya exterior, Mig Ammo Cockpits.  
Oil paint used for pin wash

Comments:



Name:

Tom Hamel

Time To Build:

3 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya British Matilda III

1/35<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Model Master

Comments:



Name:

Tom Hamel

Time To Build:

4 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Mini Art Dutch European House (with figures and Tamiya Simca)

1/35<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya and Model Master

Comments:

Mini Art was a unique experience in modeling. Kit came in large, thick vacuform sheets and all parts had to be cut out. Very challenging.





Name:

Mike Otis

Time To Build:

3 weeks

Kit & Scale:

Tamiya Porsche 956

1/24<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

Resin rear wheels

Braided hoses and compression fittings

Decals

Paints Used:

Tamiya Brilliant Blue

Comments:

Added Braided oil lines, spark plug wires and hoses





Name:

Mike Otis

Time To Build:

1 month

Kit & Scale:

Takom M3 Lee

1/35<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Tamiya Olive Drab and Black

Comments:

Kit fist well, but bogie wheel assemblies are fiddly and over-engineered. Ling-and-length tracks worked pretty well. Use AK Production Mud and Grass on lower hull.



Name:

Mike Steinke

Time To Build:

35 hours

Kit & Scale:

Iconix 3d Metal Dragon

Unspecified scale

Aftermarket Items:

Searles Lake Halite crystal

Paints Used:

None

Comments:

Lots of crazy glue and clear Gorilla glue for a "glueless" kit



Name:

Niilo Lund

Time To Build:

70 hours over 2 months. 20 hours to paint and assemble, 50 hours to set sails and rig

Kit & Scale:

Academy Clipper Ship "Cutty Sark"

1/350<sup>th</sup> scale

Aftermarket Items:

None

Paints Used:

Testors Gloss Red (cabin windows)  
 Testors Flat White (hull and sails)  
 Testors Flat Black Acrylic (hull)  
 Testors Gloss Copper (hull)  
 Testors Gloss Brown (deck cabins)  
 Testors Gloss Wood (decking)  
 Testors Gold Leaf Acrylic (hull trim)

Comments:

Good fit – minimum trimming and sanding  
 Assembly reasonably fast  
 Rigging difficult, as usual, but good practice, have to figure out how to minimize knotting.

	<p>Rigging and sail line experience 'tightness' with change in environment (temperature and humidity).</p> <p>Overall experience enjoyable, provides excellent experience for larger scale "square rig" sailers.</p> <p>If you may want to try a good challenge, try it!</p>
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Name:
Matt Graham
Time To Build:
Approx 40 hours total
Kit & Scale:
Revell Germany YF-22 Revell Germany YF-23 Revell Germany X-35B Triple Nuts X-32B
1/144 <sup>th</sup> scale
Aftermarket Items:
RetroKits resin cockpits in YF-22 and YF-23. YF-23 kitbashed with Trumpeter YF-23 (landing gear and gear doors) Sidewinder missiles for YF-23 from Dragon F-14
Paints Used:
Gunze Sangyo Mr. Color Light Ghost Gray, Dark Ghost Gray, Neutral Gray, Gunship Gray and Light Gray. Tamiya Lacquer Rubber Black Various Alclads
Comments:
Part of my 1/144 <sup>th</sup> Edwards prototype and test collection. Revell YF-22 and X-35 are real little gems, with full





cockpit detail (to include control sticks, decals for instrument panels and consoles) and detailed gear wells. Still couldn't resist using RetroKits resin YF-22 cockpit, however.

The YF-23 kit is cruder, but has a better overall shape than the Trumpeter kit and correct engine exhausts. The Trumpeter kit has more refined landing gear parts, so I substituted them. The cockpit needs a lot of help, which is where the RetroKits resin set comes in. I chose to build Ship 2 "Gray Ghost" rather than the well-known Ship 1 "Black Widow" as I like the more unusual scheme.

The X-32 'Monica' comes from a small Japanese producer called Triple Nuts, and is entirely 3D printed. It includes parts and decals to build either the X-32A or 32B. The entire fuselage and wing (including the cockpit) are a single piece. The canopy is clear resin. The kit suffers from some of the layering commonly seen in 3D printed parts, which are difficult to eliminate in some areas without obliterating detail, and some of the smaller parts (like the main gear) are inconsistent. I hear that these problems are less pronounced in later releases from this producer. The kit nose wheel looked too large compared to references I



	<p>have, so I substituted a smaller one from my spares. The kit is quite expensive (about 3 times the cost of one of the Revell kits), but it's the only X-32 in this scale and allowed me to complete my collection.</p>
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## Calendar

9/7/2019	IPMS Reno 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Contest	Desert Heights Elementary School 13948 Mt Bismark, Reno, NV
9/7/2019	REDCON 2018	Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV
10/12/2019	Orangecon 2019	Hotel Fullerton Anaheim 1500 South Raymond Ave., Fullerton, CA
.10/26/2019	Desert Classic XXIII	Antelope Valley College Cafeteria 3041 W Ave. K, Lancaster, CA
11/2/2019	Third Annual USS Hornet Model Contest and Expo	USS Hornet Air Sea and Space Museum 7007 W. Hornet Ave. Alameda, CA
11/17/2019	Kit Collector's Expo and Sale	Garden Grove Community Center 11300 Stanford Ave. Garden Grove, CA