



MOSQUITO-GRAM

Official Newsletter of the NJIPMS.

April, 2021

Vol.xxx,Iss.iv

FROM THE IRON WORKS

By Big Bill Schwarz, Pres.

Hi all ! Hope you all had a very good Easter and are all well. It took me awhile to get down here today but I needed to write a few words to you all. Not much is going on in my world these days except I got my 2nd shot and am still having a few issues with my leg which I hope will be resolved in the coming months. With that said , as of this moment the show still has the **July 31st date on the calendar**. Now as NJ has become another hotspot this can change as well. We have to play it day by day for now and hope for the best. Any future changes will be sent to all members when we get news and decide which way we are moving. That's it on that.

Next up I'm working on a few things and will send more pics when I move along. Modelling is fun now for me and I'm using greater creativity in my models as well as the subject matter. I see a lot of you doing some great shit too so keep it up !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

That's about it for me with one more exception. Most of you know my long-time friend and professional model builder for TRANS WIORLD INDUSTRIES "Pat Sparks" He is a former club member and a big part of putting the show called MOSQUITOCON, Ttogether with the other guys that helped me launch it way back when! Anyway I asked him to send pics for the newsletter of his newest project. It's the 32nd scale HK models Lancaster Bomber , Highly modified to the coastal command air sea rescue version. I've included a bit of text on what was done and let you all know the overall paint work was done with TAMIYA SPRAY CAN LAQUERS. !!!

Enjoy the pics and txt. That's it for me for now. Be well- Covid free- and enjoy life!

Regards, Big Bill

We all wish Le Grande Guillaume the bst of continued improvement for his leg. Hang in there! Ed.

"Avro Lancaster Coastal Command Lancaster "

By Pat Sparks



Just a few words on this model. This started life as the HK models Lancaster bomber in 1/32nd scale. This is a highly modified version of that kit. I'm just going to list mods that were done and let you all know the model was finished with tamiya spray laquers straight from the can! Enjoy the pics and text. BB

Mods include 22 windows filled in on fuse sides , 3 new windows in rear fuse (LATE WAR LANCASTER) , 1 window in entry door , 2 observation windows , upper turret plugged off, removed gunsights from front and rear turrets , ammo boxes, guns removed, gun ports faired over , extra seat in the cockpit , eduard cockpit and radiator and intake screens on the nacelles , main wheels replaced with block treads , 3d printed rescue canoe built up in front to be more bulbous , mounting brackets and pads for the canoe scratchbuilt based on photos and drawings. Markings were made by creating marking art files on the computer and printed on bare metal foil clear decal paper. All exterior paint is done with tamiya spray cans over a primer barrier. ENJOY !!!! THIS WILL BE AT THE NEXT MOSQUITOCON !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! BB



WOW!!!!



DOUBLE WOW!!

I remember in Chattanooga that Wing Nut Wings were showing a preview of their 1/32 Lancaster, and it was impressive! Obviously HK MODELS has picked up the ball and scored a certain touch....as the Brits would say. Nicely done! Ed.



From the Vice President's Desk

By Vince D'Alessio



Hi Guys

This month I submit my Japanese Zero -an Iconic WW2 fighter plane, it dominated in the early months of the war in the Pacific. It was light and very maneuverable. The Zero could fly great distances because of its weight and because its pilots were among the best trained and seasoned fighting men in the world. It was not until 1943 when the USA introduced the Hellcat, Corsair P38 and the Mustang that the Zero became obsolete, along with attrition of its finest pilots that the air war in the pacific became an American side show. The kit is the Hasagawa A6M from the 70"s. the paint used was Model Masters only, the cockpit was by Eduard. I think this is one of the best looking planes of that era ,

Guys I hope u all had a great Easter and that we can get together soon ,

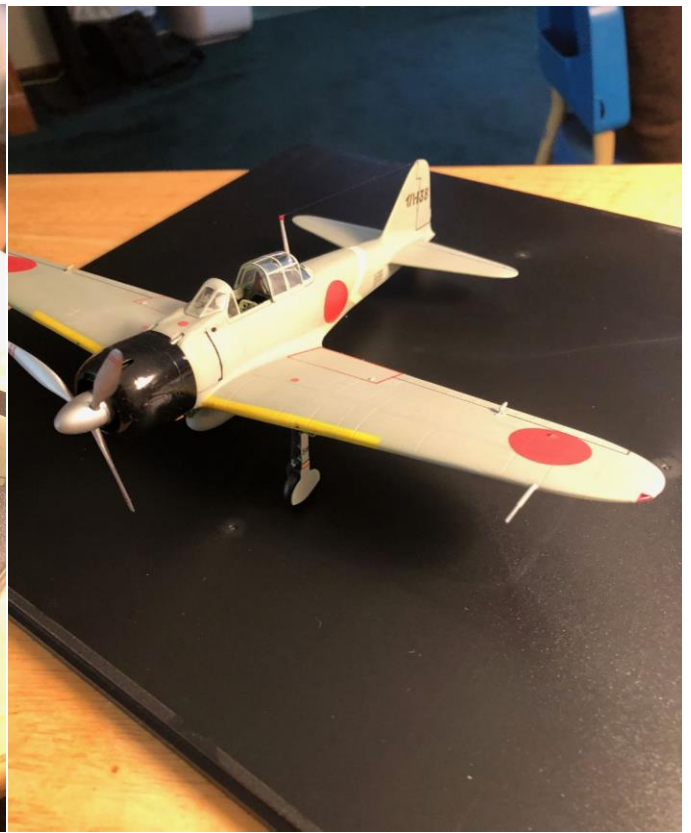
Big Bill I hope you are feeling better.

Vince.



As

Vince mentioned, the Zero was a deadly surprise to the British, Dutch, Americans and Australians at the outset of WWII. Japanese pilots used very sophisticated gas mixing techniques to get incredible range out of their aircraft. But they were poorly armored....and a few hits from a .50 Cal blew them to bits. Ed.



Thanks Vince!!



This is a copy of a Japanese poster from WW II, showing the Zero, leading the Rising sun of Japan.



And this is USA Looney Tunes cartoon, showing what the USA thought of the Japs, before Bugs and Daffy shot them down!!



If you ever get a chance to see the Warner Bros. WW II Looney Tunes, they are incredible!!

The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Well, I've got everything ready for April in New Jersey: Sunscreen, ice pick, flip flops, parka, bathing suit, wool hat, shorts, thermal underwear, beach badges and hand warmers. I'm all ready for the 30-40 degree daily temperature swings that we're accustomed to.

Let's hope that the crazy temps somehow knock out the covid viruses, or at least slow their spread. Enough already!

In the most recent IPMS Journal it looks like some shows are still prepared to go off as planned, so that's a good thing. As we slowly approach herd immunity, hopefully things will begin to get back to some normalcy.

Thanks again to Dan Spera for setting up and running our club Zoom meetings. Those meetings have been a great way for us to stay linked together and continue to share our stuff and ideas. And thanks to all the contributors to the newsletter! The articles are fantastic and Bill Schroeter does a great job putting it all together.

Looking forward to seeing you guys on the next meeting!

Best Wishes,
Mike P.

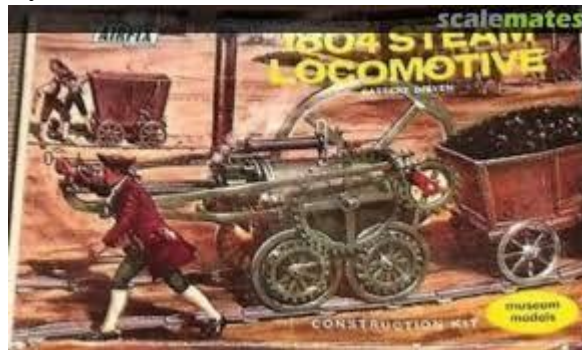
Next up is this month's TERRE-GRAM, wherein Mike continues his dive into engines of yore!



Airfix 1804 Locomotive

Normally I build 1/72nd scale biplanes and pioneer aircraft with a special emphasis on vacu-form kits. Recently however I've been building injected vintage kits. These builds are nothing special, no super detailing, just a clean "out of the box" build.....good "three foot" models, that is, looks good from three feet away!

As a kid I was always intrigued by the Airfix 1804 locomotive, kit A005871, those giant gears and wheels and



that smokestack looked so cool. "steam punk" look to it.

Today you'd say that it has a

I never got this kit when I was a kid but many years later I did purchase it at one of those legendary Squadron sales for \$5.00. It sat in my stash for many years until a few months ago when during a dark and stormy night the modeling gods placed it on my bench. Never argue with those guys or your next build will be trash!

First a little history about the actual locomotive; it was designed by an Englishman named Richard Trevithick in, you guessed it 1804. It was to be used to haul iron ore at the Penydarren Iron Works. Although the locomotive worked just fine it was plagued by the breakage of the brittle iron rails it rode on and was soon used

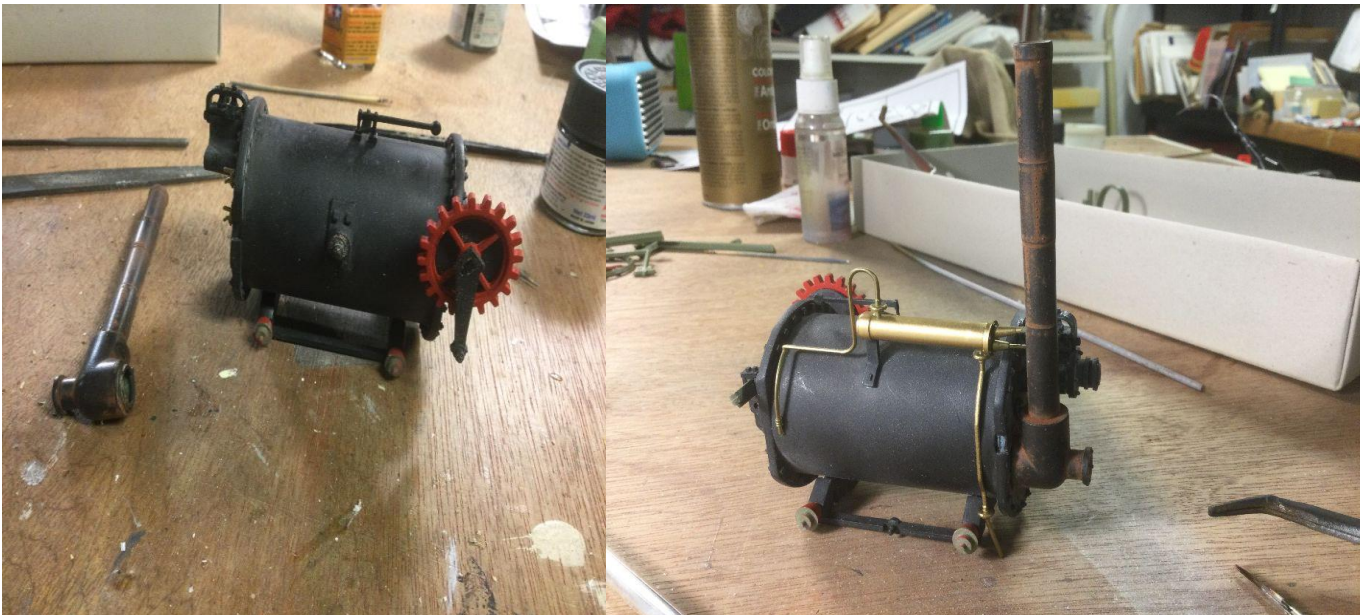
as a stationary steam engine for operating the mines' water pumps. However Trevithick's locomotive is considered the worlds' first steam powered railway vehicle.

I find it interesting to note how it was to be operated. A man walked in front and to one side of the loco and using those brass control rods, operated it. It's much like leading a team of horses to pull the ore carts which the loco was designed to replace. I've included a picture of the original box art showing it in operation. By the way a few of these locomotives have been restored to working order. There are some wonderful You Tube videos that are great to watch, just Google "Trevithicks's locomotive" and you'll find them. Ok, history lesson over, no quiz either!

This kit was first released by Airfix in 1968 and has been release a few times there after, mine was the 2012 release. The kit is comprised of 106 green plastic parts on seven sprue. Metal axles are also provided. Time has not been good to the molds with much flash noted. Many of the parts, especially the operating arms were warped as well. The biggest part of my build time was in cleaning up the parts. Further the instructions were very poor, thankfully there was a great box art picture of the model which really helped.

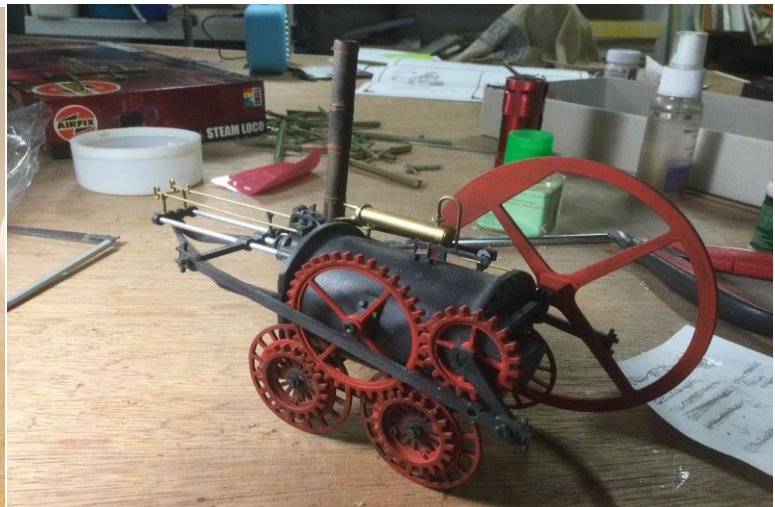
This was meant to be a working model, the "articulating gear" (railway term, who says you don't learn anything building a model!) does move, however there's so much "slop" in the parts that it's really not worth the effort. Wish I knew this before I started! Overall parts fit was terrible, mostly due to the age of the molds.

The majority of the loco was black and for this I used Rustoleum 347320 black automotive primer straight out of the "rattle can". I really like this primer as it has a soft sooty texture when applied, but with a little rubbing with either your finger or paper towel will give it a hard satin sheen, perfect for replicating hot metal parts. The smoke stack was finished in this manner but a brown pastel/alcohol wash was applied to simulate rusted areas. The red gears and wheels were finished by a quick airbrushing of Tamiya XF-7 red.

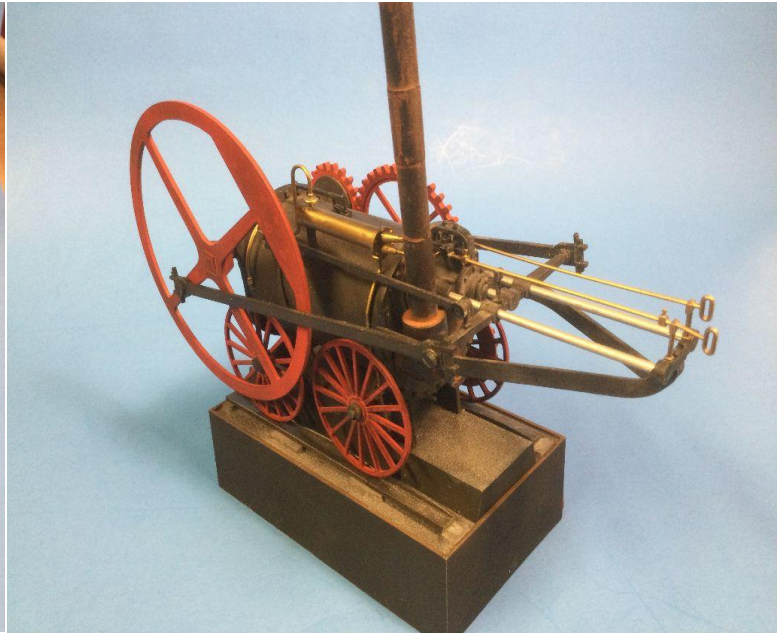


A few of the parts, mostly the cylinder arms and control rods had to have silver and brass finishes and here's where I found something interesting. Finding that my metallic brass paint has dried up I went looking through Deb's (my wife) paints. Deb does a lot of crafting using dried flowers, many of which she paints. These dried flowers are very delicate so imagine my surprise when I found out she spray paints them and sometimes with metallic finishes! These paints are made by Design Master with a "Flower Friendly" logo on the cans top. I tried the Antique Gold on some of the control rods and steam lines and found it gave an excellent rendition of

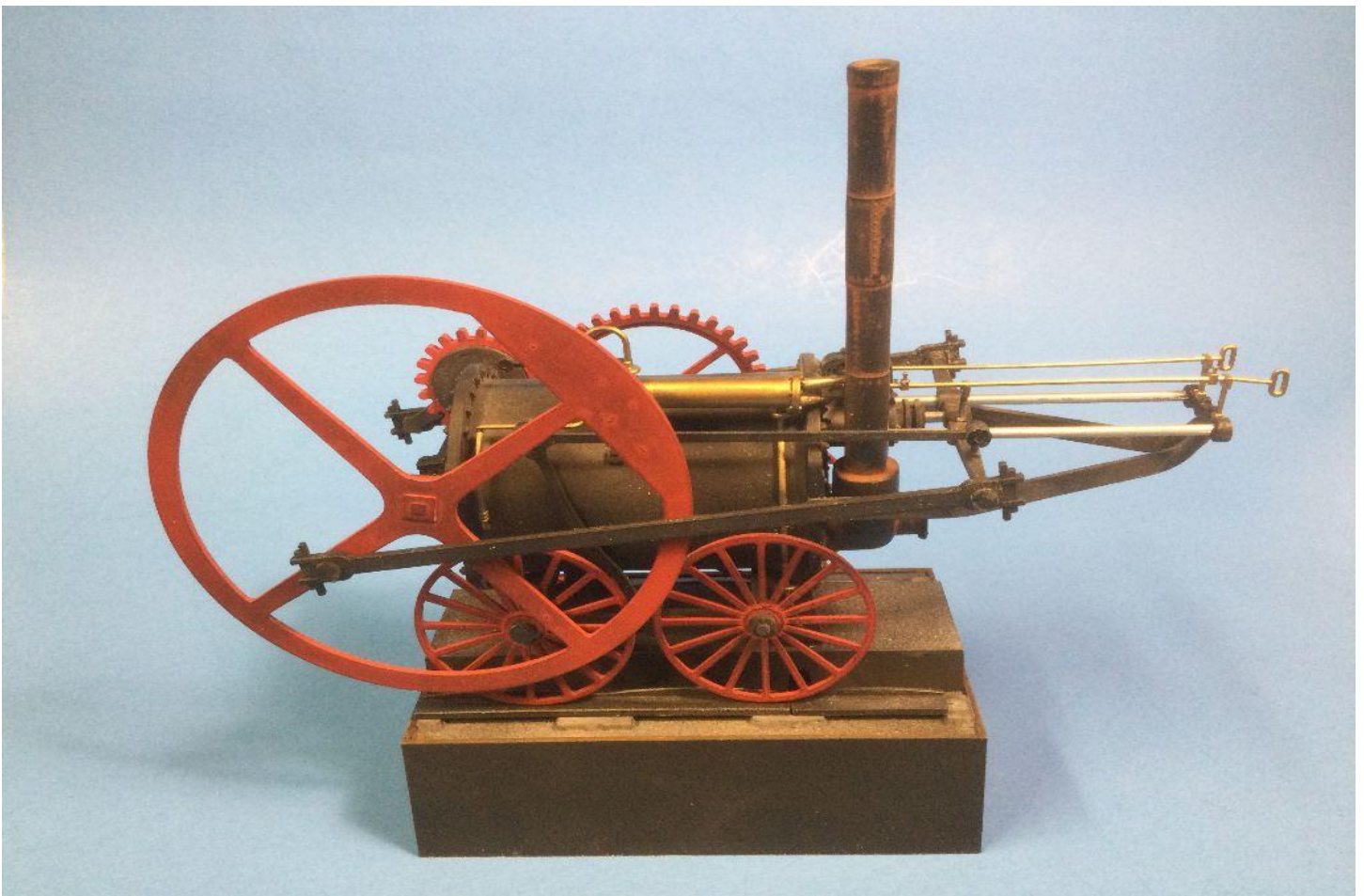
brass. The same was found using Brilliant Silver on the cylinder arms. These paints dry almost immediately, and give a perfect metallic sheen, not too glossy, not too dull. Further the finish is extremely thin and rivals that of more expensive modeling metallic finishes. But best of all is that the finish is very durable, hand contact and masking won't hurt it at all. These paints are available at Michael's and other craft stores and cost about \$10 for an 11oz can. I'm going to experiment with this line of paints and let you guys know how it goes. I've included a picture of these paints in case you might want to try them out. Oh, I put Deb's paint back where I found them, she guards her stuff much like I do!



Well, back to the build. Assembly was difficult, again due to poor parts fit and instructions. I weathered the model using black and gray pastels plus a little Rub-N-Buff silver. Airfix supplies a very nice base for the loco with a section of rails for the model to sit on. They also supply a nice placard for the base as well. This placard was painted overall Tamiya XF-7 red and then then lightly sanded to reveal the lettering.



This was a challenging but quick two week build that I greatly enjoyed. I'm very happy with the completed model, it's very unique and interesting to look at. It's funny but although I know I'll get back to my normal builds eventually I think I'll stay on a vintage kit "roll" for a while. I'd like all my fellow modelers to pull some "oldie" out of the stash and get in on their bench!



Well, that's it for now. Let's hope that this virus stuff goes away soon and we can get together at the Garwood K of C soon. Hey! Maybe we can combine "Nostalgia Night" with a vintage kit build! That'd be way cool! Thanks for reading, stay safe!

Mike Terre

Very cool build Mike. I think your next build should be a "Steam Punk Cow!" Ed.

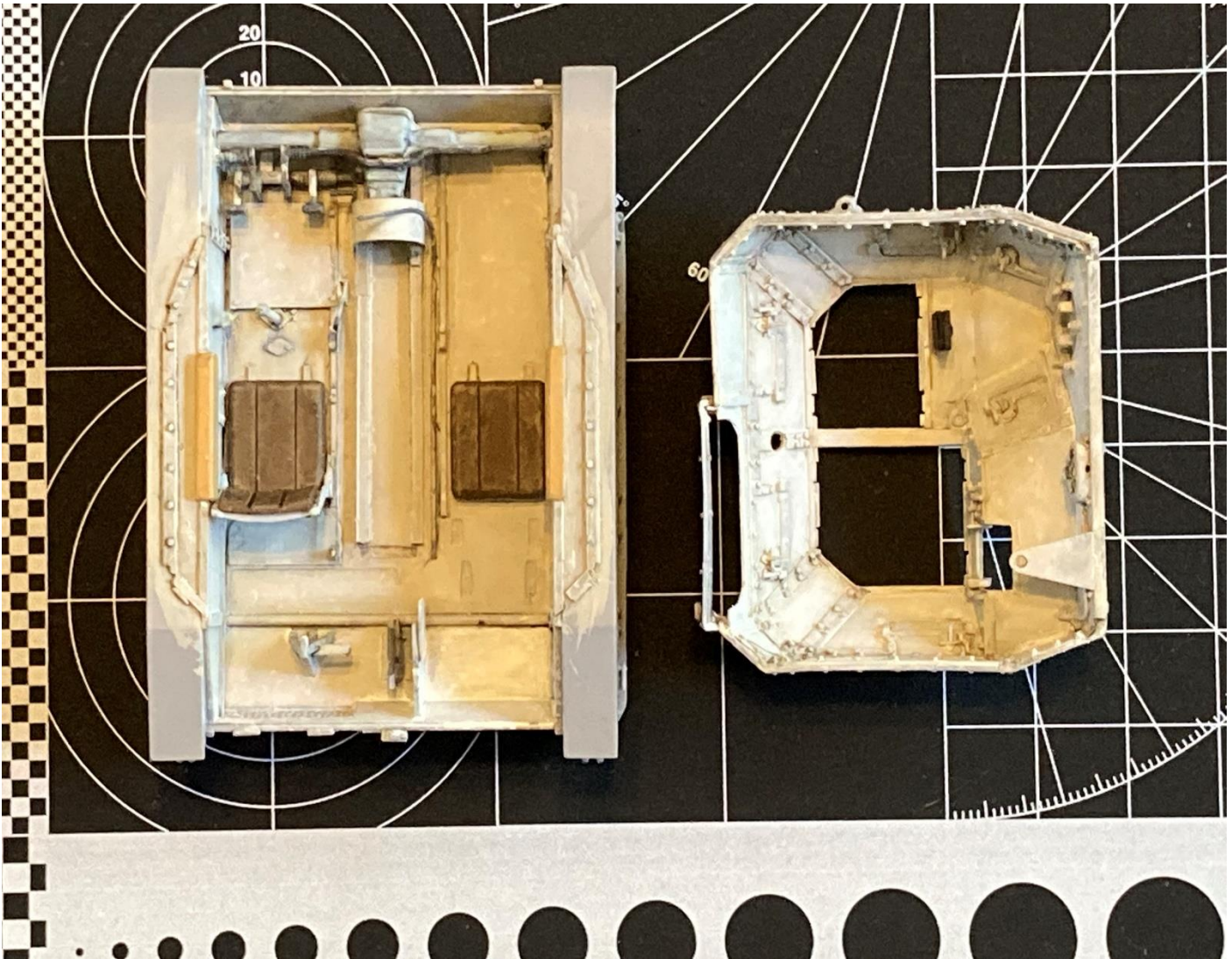


Now from John Bucholz' Eagles Nest.

Last issue you saw "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" (the TKS tankette review). This month the sequel is here! "A Fist Full of TKS"-or we build the TKS tankette!

The back story- The basic review from last month is our starting point. A few points to mention- First-The plastic is on the soft side so use care when filing and cutting all parts. Second- locating tabs and holes are very shallow or non-existent so test fit everything before you glue. Third- If you want a hatch open model you will have a lot of extra work to do on this kit so be prepared to scratch build.

The picture of the upper works shows the strips and bolt head fasteners that need to be added (if you build this kit with all hatches closed you can skip the next few paragraphs). The outer "rivets" on the TKS were in fact screws (they have a flat on each side of the cone) and were screwed into the strips on the inside of the armor plate (which is why the bolt heads on the inside are so prominent!) I detailed any area that could be seen from an open hatch. Be aware that if you open the inspection hatches in the front and rear you will need to add extra detail in these areas. The kit calls for interior white on the inside surfaces but remember that the engine is right there between the two crewmen, so I decided to darken the shade just a bit due to fuel, oil, and exhaust deposits.



The next picture shows the interior with all the extra items installed. The basic items are all there but I will give you the specifics of what you need to add or replace. Let's start the show!

Seats- Cushions are there but no seat backs are provided- Sources say they may have been made from canvas but I chose to copy the leather of the cushions. (This is your call.)

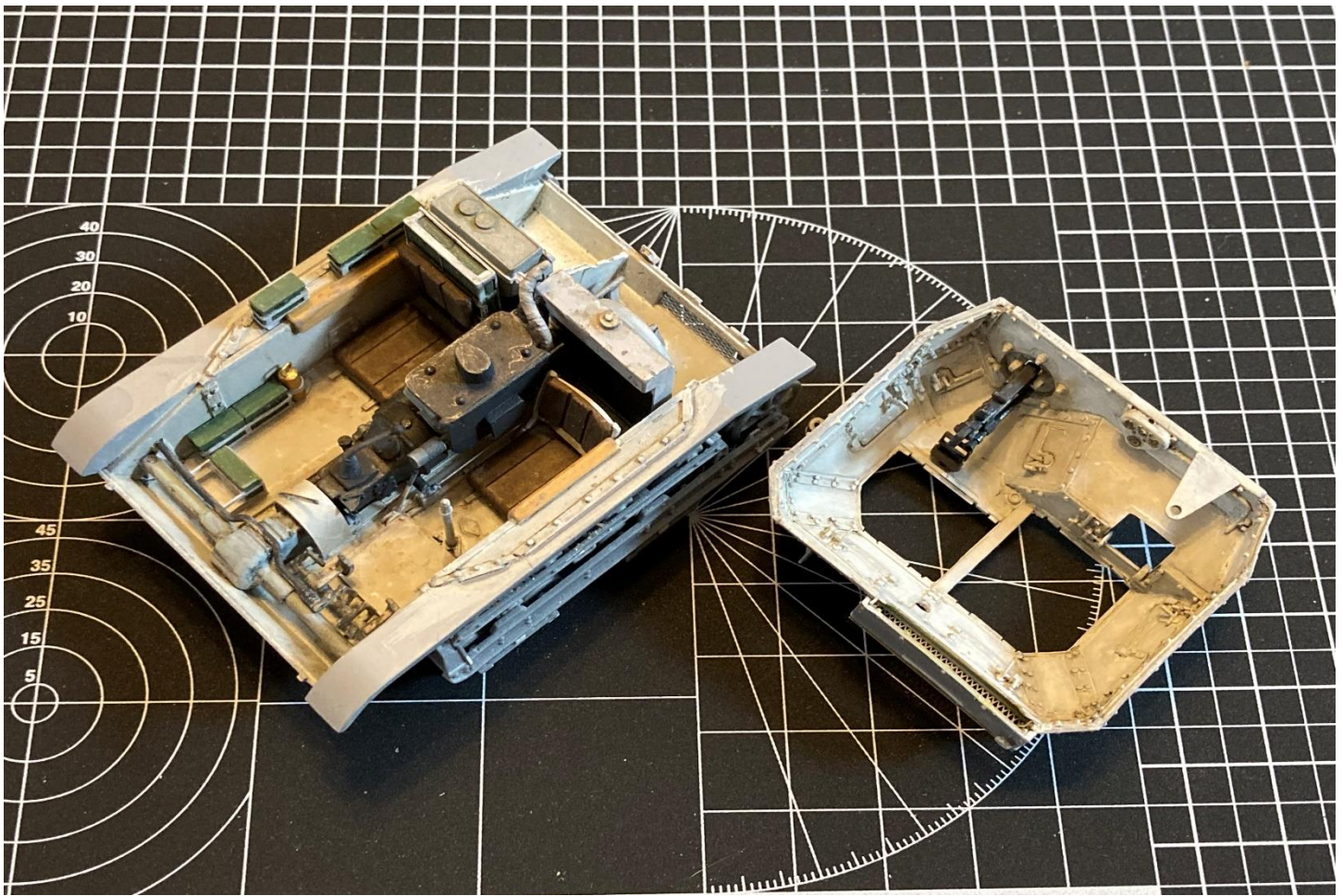
Armrests- Each seat had a canvas covered arm rest on the ledge. Scratch build.

Gunners Ammo rack- The rack had a frame to hold the ammo cans and a bracket to hold the rear seat back. The seat back was made to be removable so the gunner could access the eight cans of ammo. Scratch build.

Extra ammo cans- These all need retaining straps added as well as a bracket for the fire extinguisher by the gunner. Scratch build.

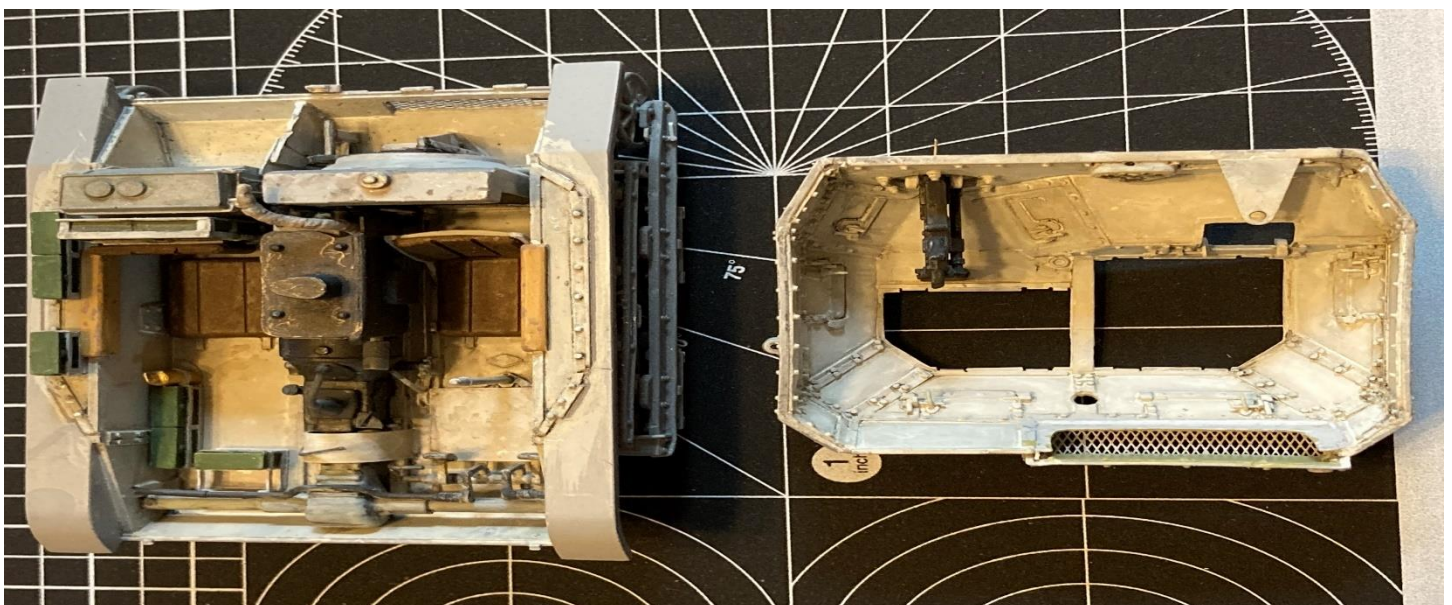
Driver's controls- The brake and clutch pedals are there but you need to add the gas pedal. The control cables on the floor were covered with a plywood panel. The driver has two levers on either side of his seat to open and close the vent doors in the floor and rear compartment. Scratch build.

The Engine- The basic engine is included but you really should not be able to see very much because it had an asbestos lined metal cover over the top and drivers' side (this side had the intake and exhaust manifold). This shield covered the distributor, spark plugs, and carburetor as well so only the air intake and the asbestos wrapped exhaust pipe were visible. Scratch build.

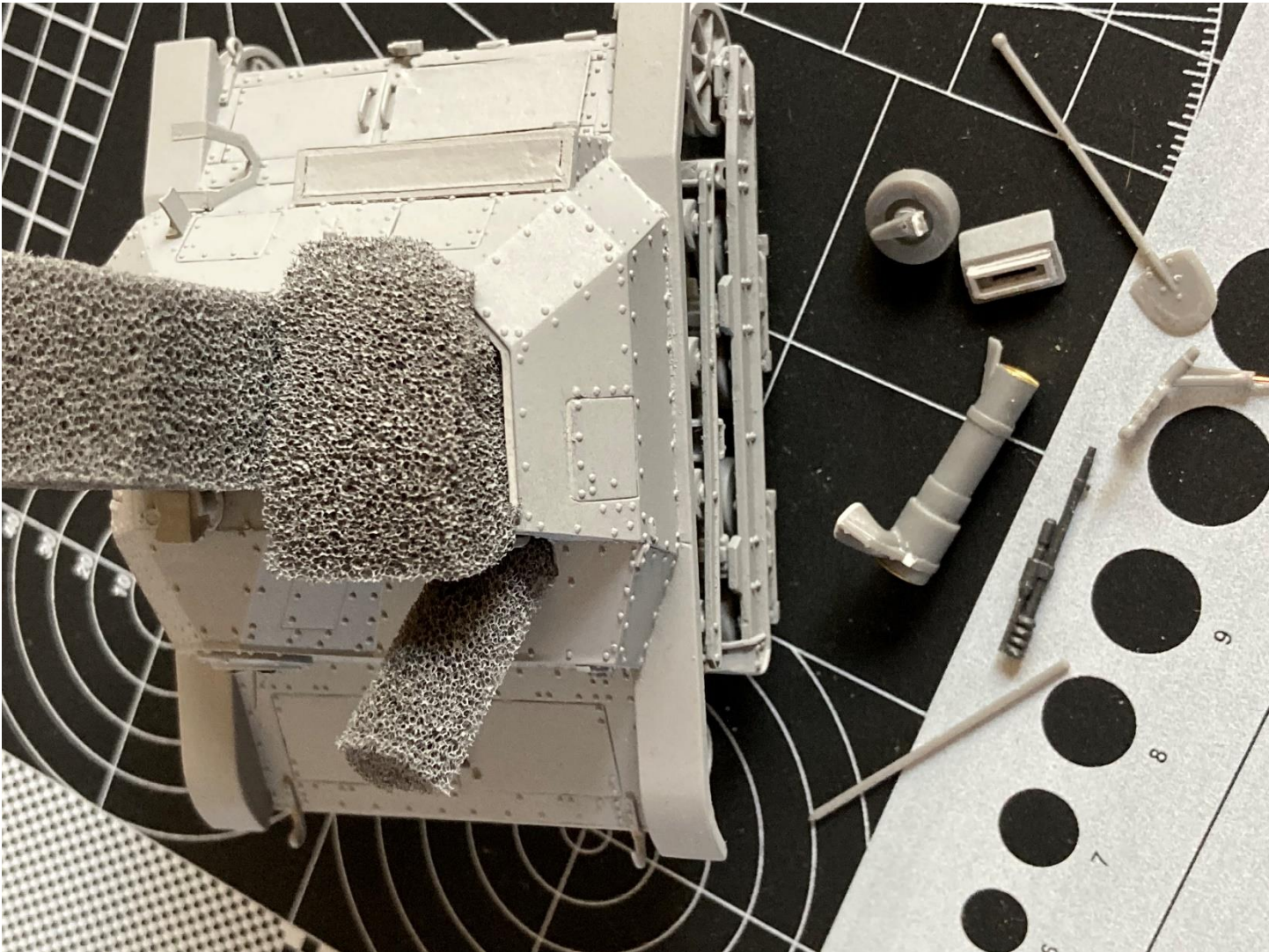


Miscellaneous- Add an ignition spark panel, floor drain, trans coupling cover, trans oil filler, and assorted wires and cables. The spare wheel on the rear(A6) goes on bracket A12. This bracket is over simplified and is really V-shaped. Part C39 (drivers Vision port) should have a frame to hold a bullet proof glass. Scratch build.

Some small tidbits- The spot light (C8) was rarely used and I could not find a picture that showed it being used in a combat situation. The tow hooks (parts A1) are not correct as provided. They are shaped like a pig tail (curved and pointed not flat and straight). Thin each to a point then curve them inward.



Now we are ready to close up shop as they say. I followed the build instructions that IBG provided and they worked very well other than a few exceptions. Part C13 the steering wheel column bracket is best attached to M2 the front armor assembly. You can add the steering wheel through the top hatch after you glue the top and bottom assemblies together. Part G1(the machinegun) is added before you glue the top to the bottom. This is the correct procedure but in order to prevent breakage when painting I removed the barrel from the housing. I will wait till after painting to glue the barrel to the housing. The tools, spare wheel, and muffler will be added after the paint is applied. I installed the PE top screen and the PE lower vent screen at this time. I decided to prime the tankette with Tamiya grey primer. I masked off the screens with tape and added scrap foam pieces in the open



hatches before spraying.

Next time we will go into the full "technicolor" sequel- Painting the TKS. The movie title will be "Paint Your Wagon"!!!

P.S. If you Google the preceding title, you may be very surprised who starred in that movie (it was a musical western with two actors you would never associate with anything that had singing and dancing in the screenplay!)

Happy Modeling. John Bucholz...

Thanks John.....I still would be leery going up against even a Panzer I in this thing! But then again, the Poles used to wear wings as their cavalry charged!!

Speaking of Polish this is from **MIKE DOBRZELECKI-HAPPY EASTER!**



And here are some Piszanski hand-colored eggs!



THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva

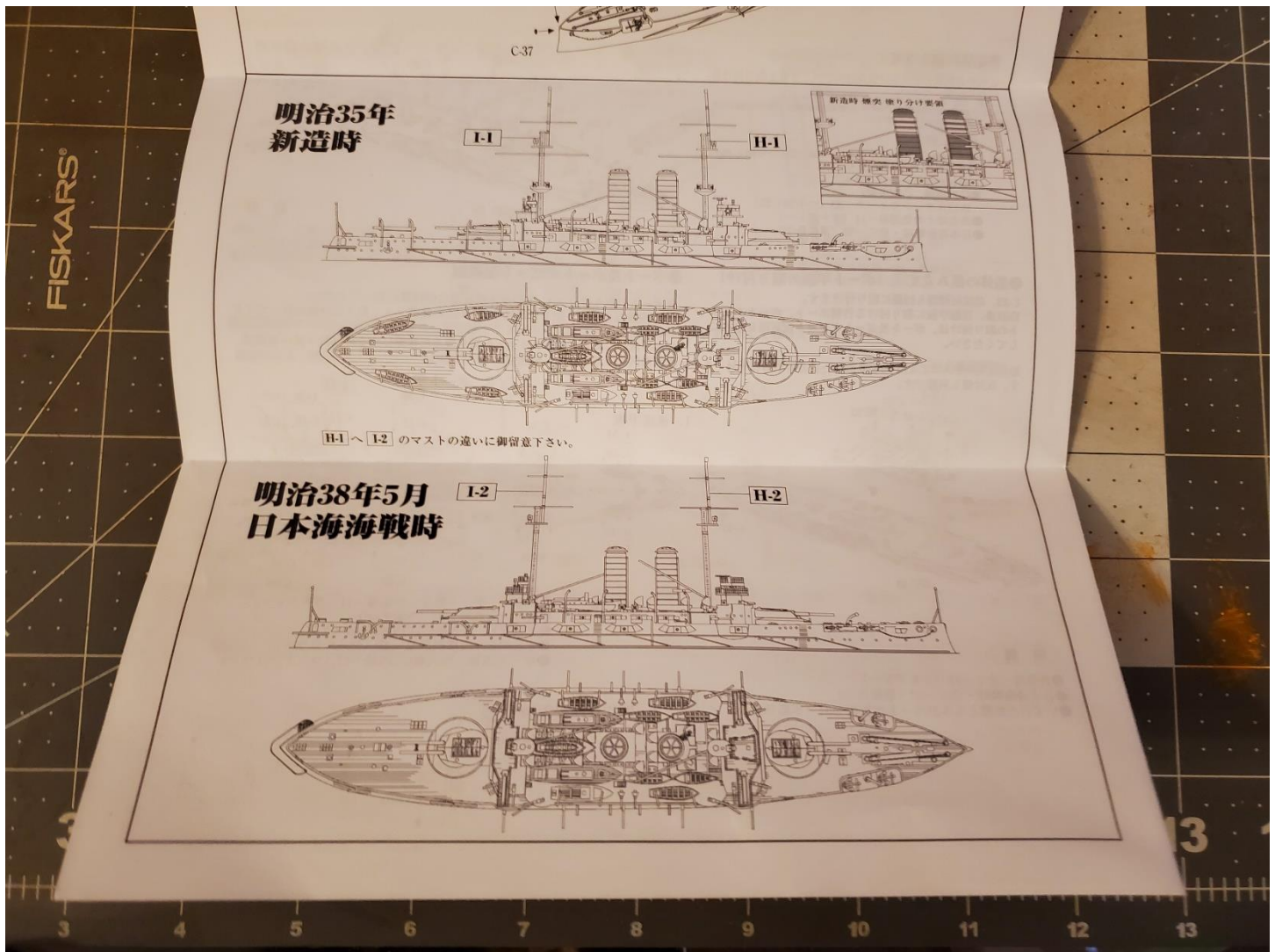


Happy Easter to all who celebrate it. I hope its enjoyable no matter how you choose to celebrate. I have been working on a variety of things (not including models). It seems like there is always a car to repair in my fleet or work to be done around the house. In model related business I've got two kits I've been toying with. One is the 1/700 Seal Models battleship Mikasa. I'm using the Tom's Model works photo etch set for the Hasegawa Mikasa kit which of course differs greatly from the model I've bought. Here are some photos.



Naturally the Hasegawa kit has the bridge separated from the wood deck and the Seal models kit has them molded together. I've not decided if I want to try to chisel the bridge off with a utility knife blade or scratch build a new one.

The instructions leave everything to be desired and are spartan at best. This kit is sold on the battleship Mikasa in the gift shop and that's where I bought it.



Additionally I've been working on this 1/48 scale F-2a



What I really like is that the fuselage is molded horizontal instead of vertical which makes it easier for airplane novices like me. I hope to finish both these models sometime in the next 5 years (a likely reality for us all)

Thanks Jon! I finally got Jon to send some pictures with his info! Progress.

Jimmy Pentifallo sent some pictures of some armor builds from a club build of the past.



Tamiya 1/48 Panther and Hetzer/Jagdpanther.

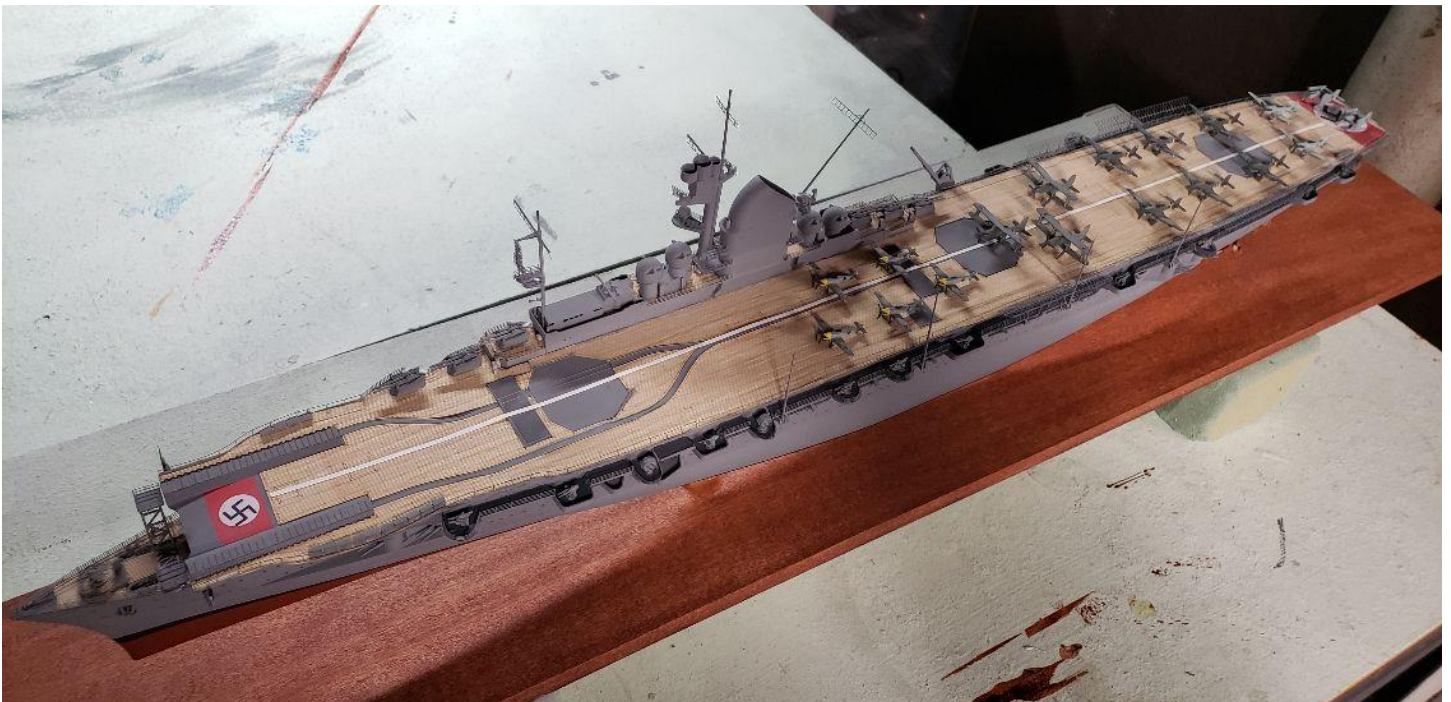


Great camo work!



AND ON WE GO! PATRICK O'CONNOR sent photos of his recent build, **TRUMPETER 1/350**

GRAF ZEPPELIN AIRCRAFT CARRIER. I maybe wrong but I think this is the final kit his Dad was working on-if so-a labor of respect!

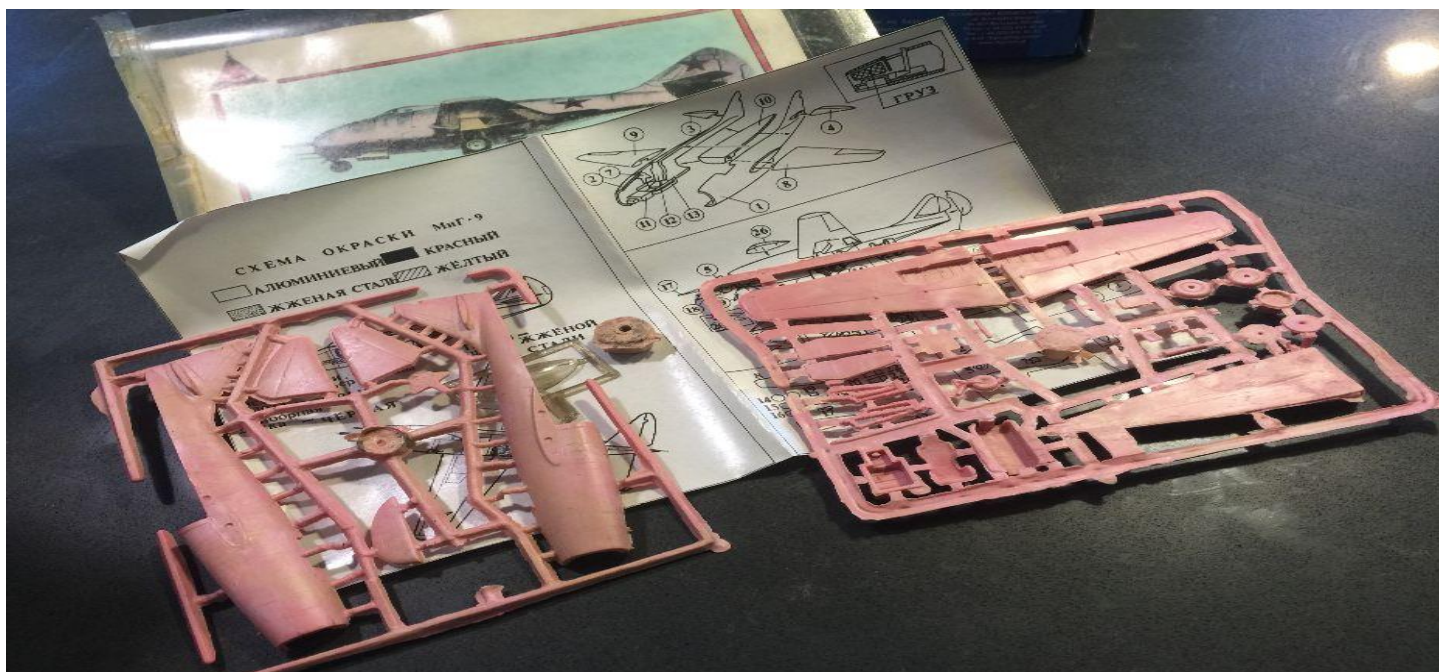




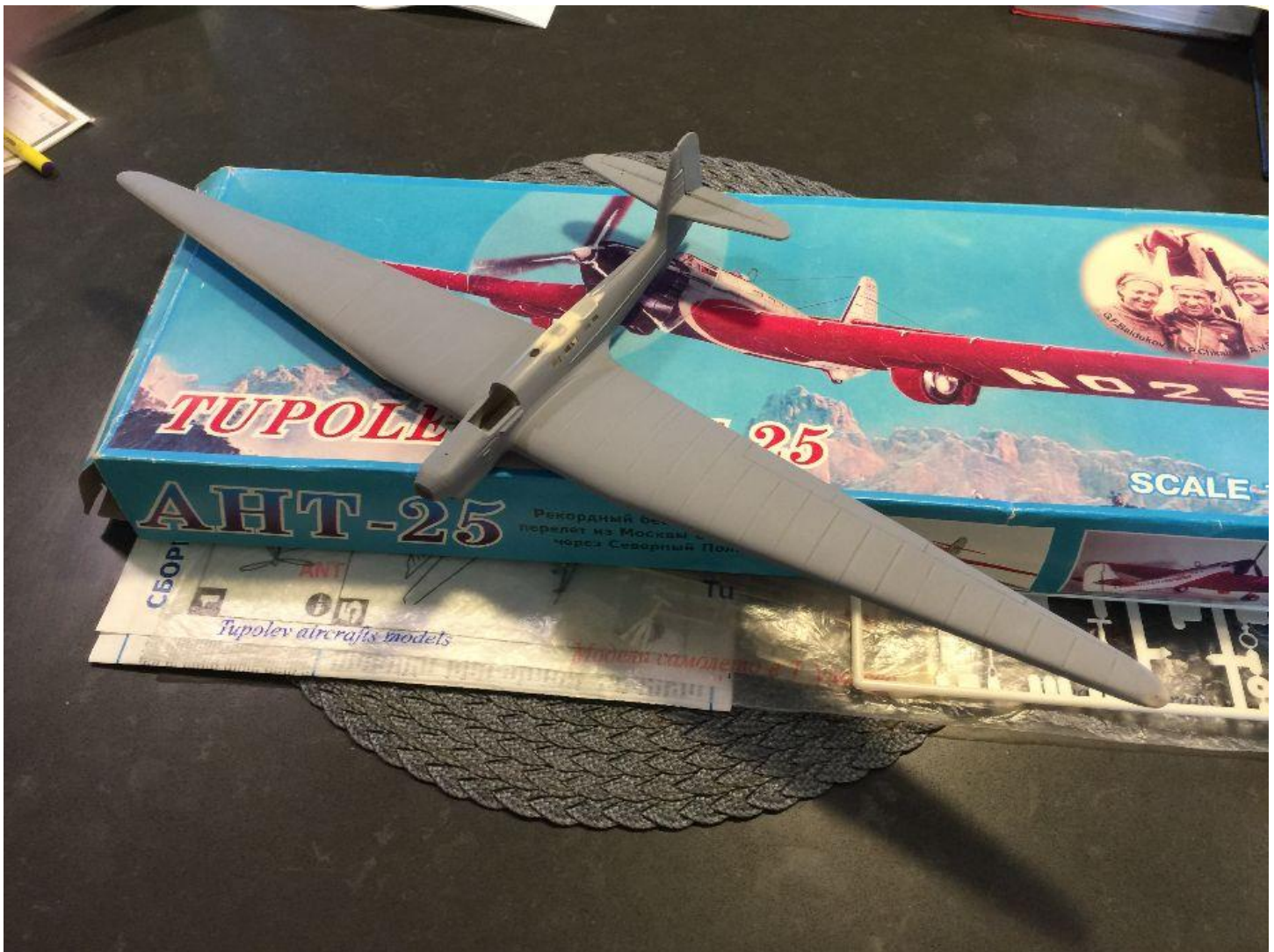
Really nice work. As I recall, this never got built.



Our Mad Doctor Simon Vichnivetesky sent some photos of Eastern Bloc craft and kits.



1/72 MIG 9 Looking rough. Unknown manufacturer.



1/72 Tupolev ANT 25 , actually a pretty nice kit of an important aircraft . It's been marketed by a number of companies , including Tupolev itself .

Thanks to everyone for contributing. Now a few requests: When sending long documents (I'm getting 4-7 page articles, plus pictures) please take a look at where in each paragraph you would like each picture. Then in parenthesis make a note for me so I know what goes where. Example: (Picture 1 here) or (first picture in the line-up goes here). This will really help me as I tend to read less of really long articles while I'm trying to figure out where to put the pictures! Also, please do not imbed the pictures in the article, unless it is fully WORD formatting with pictures Inserted. Take pictures with your phone, and add them as attachments to the article. This way, I can view, copy and paste. If you do it any other way, then I am forced to download your pictures so I can proceed. I do not want to do it that way, as it fills up my computer. Lastly, please pay attention to the error markings for capitalizations, punctuation, etc. 30-40 corrections for one article is too tedious.

THAT'S MY RANT FOR TODAY. MODEL ON, GRASSHOPPERS.