



MOSQUITO-GRAM

Official Newsletter of the NJIPMS.

May, 2021

FROM THE IRON WORKS

Vol.xxx:Iss:v

By Big Bill Schwarz, Pres.

Hi all. By now you received the message about return to meeting night on the 14th. Please follow the simple guidelines I've outlined and everything will be great. That's it on that!

Just a few quick other things. MCON 29 is looking great for July. We will keep you all informed with the latest updates and restrictions or whatever. Some of you guys will be needed to do some floor work this year and I'm letting you know up front. We as always have never asked a lot from any of you, but we do need people in other rolls which will be shared by other members.

When it comes showtime just step up. It's only several hours a year so just do it. Thank You in advance. Quinn, Pav, and Danny are the Show. I am Vendors , and Joe and Vin are money. That's the breakdown there. More to come info-wise as we get closer to show time.

I can't think of anything else at the moment so we will end on this note. Be well, observe the simple guidelines and enjoy life. See a lot of you the 14th !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Big Bill . President



The Contact's View

By Mike Pavlo, VP



Well, the time has finally come...in-person club meetings!! The Zooms have been fun and convenient, and a big thanks to **Dan Spera** for setting them up! And thanks to Big Bill for working with the K of C to get the details of our meeting place in order. I'm sure we're all looking forward to getting back together like "the old days" and seeing all the finished models and works in-progress up close and live time.

It's hard to believe that it has been 15 months since our last in-person meeting. Let's hope that the imposed restrictions continue to be lessened and/or lifted completely. It's time, it's right and it's welcomed. We've earned it.

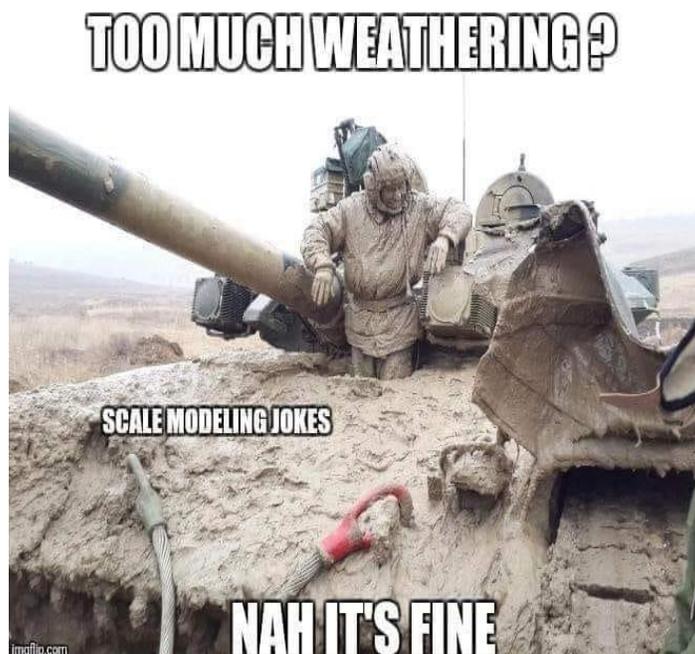
I look forward to seeing you all and trying to get back to some kind of normal.

Best Wishes,

Mike P.

Thanks Mike, for so eloquently putting the thoughts of us all in your Contact's View.

One of the big issues on-line re: modeling is WEATHERING. So.....



And Now it's time for anoootoother TEEERE-A-GRAM!



Revell Corporal missile

Lately I've been on an "old kit" binge and I don't think it'll stop anytime soon. I just enjoy building stuff again that I did as a kid. However, I never got the chance to build this one, wanted it a lot but never got it. Well thanks to John at Avenel Hobbies I got this one in 2010 for the sale price of \$10!



This kit is in 1/40th scale and was originally issued by Adams Models in 1959. A little trivia, Adams was one of the first kit companies to issue models in a standard scale, in this case 1/40th. When Adams folded Revell bought out all their molds and issued it in their own box in 1962.

My kit was the 2008 reissue. It contained 143 pieces and included a sheet of clear plastic for the windows (more on that later) and a very nice decal sheet. You also get two vinyl tires for the launcher. The vehicle parts were molded in olive drab plastic with the missile parts in white. The molds seemed to have held up well however there was some flash that had to be dealt with.

I first started with the Corporal missile. It was a pretty straight forward build however the missile halves were slightly warped. A little judicious clamping and segmented gluing fixed the problem right up. The Corporal was given a coat of Krylon Gloss White, with the black sections getting some Tamiya XF-69 Scale Black. Once dry, a coat of Krylon Clear Gloss was applied, followed by the decals. The decals were easy to work with, perhaps a little thick but they settled

down with the usual Micro Set/Sol combination. With the decals on a final coat of Krylon Clear Satin was applied. I chose a satin finish as I thought that gloss looked out of scale and “toy like”. The Corporal build took a pleasant weekend to complete.



Next up was the launcher. This looked easy but I really ran into problems with the instructions as they didn’t show the exact location of the support arm mounting flanges. But it was the internet to the rescue! I found a couple of build reviews that addressed this problem along with a copy of the original instruction sheets. Boy were those early Revell instruction sheets great! One look at that any my problem was solved.

The Adams models always had moving parts and Revell didn’t change that. All the leveling legs fold out, the wheels are removable, the missile can be mounted on the launcher with the support arms holding it upright. I managed to make all these features work but it is so damn fragile that I took some pictures with it all set up and put it back together, never to be touched again. The launcher was painted Tamiya XF-62 Olive Drab. A little bit of black and dark gray pastel was used for weathering and to make the details “pop”. Oh, and I had the devil of a time getting those vinyl tires over the wheels. I literally used a vice and two blocks of wood to press the tires onto the wheels. The launcher took about five days to complete, a lot longer then I thought it would.



Next it was onto the transporter and what an absolutely cool vehicle it is! It just looks like it came out of some 1950's sci-fi movie. However this build was difficult as the instructions were simply awful, if it were not for the resources I talked about above it would have been a nightmare to complete. Again there were many moving features. Both the front and back wheels are steerable, the missile cradle can be erected and the missile detached and placed on the launcher. Even the leveling legs at the back of the transporter can be operated. But it is very fragile and again, once some pictures were taken everything was put back in place, NEVER to be operated again!

One interesting portion of this build was the clear plastic sheet used for the cab windows. The instructions had templates to be used as a pattern and these were dutifully cut out. However when I went to put them in place I found that the templates were all wrong! Those damn instructions got me again! It was no big deal to make new ones however and after a little measuring and cutting the problem was solved. It was interesting to see how the old kits dealt with clear parts. There were little tabs on the inside of the cab interior where the plastic would be slid into place and it worked wonderfully! Once in place a little dab of Aleen's clear tacky glue applied with a tooth pick held them in place.



Another fun portion of this build was those monstrous tires! Do you know that you can clearly see the Firestone name and trademark on them. I'm surprised that Firestone didn't ask for licensing fees! The tires were two pieces, easily put together with hardly a seam to sand. I finished the tires with Rustoleum automotive black primer. I really like this primer as it goes on with a "sooty" finish but once dry a little rubbing with your fingers or paper towel will give a nice "rubbery" finish.

The biggest problem I had in this whole build was attaching the missile cradle to the transporter, the instructions were simply wrong. However those years of modeling skills and the internet cured the problem.

The transporter was finished with Tamiya XF-62 Olive Drab. Since there only a few decals I gloss coated only the areas where they were to be placed. Again no problems with the decals. Once dry the entire transporter was given a coat of Krylon clear flat. Weathering was kept to a minimum, black and dark gray pastels along with a little silver Rub-N-Buff were used to "pop" the details. The transporter build took a solid two weeks.



Finally, the kit is supplied with four US Army guys and a super secret radar! What is it with figures molded in the 1950's? Regardless of manufacturer they all have these monstrous holes molded in the middle of them! I'm no figure painter but I filled in the holes and painted them with a mixture of Tamiya paints. That exercise made me appreciate the skill that figure painter guys have and that I will never possess.

All in all this was a fun 5 week build, yes there were problems but they were easily overcome. It was also great to build a kit I wanted as a kid but never got the chance.

I know I'll eventually get back to serious builds but for now I'm happy with the "oldies".

Well, from what I understand there will be a May meeting at the Garwood K of C! Hopefully I can make it. It will be wonderful to see you all again however the Zoom meetings were great as well and perhaps they can continue. Many thanks to Dan Spera for the “Zoom”!

Hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I did building it. See you in Garwood!

Mike Terre

It's so much fun to see the different ...angles that Mike Terre-Gram decides to approach in his builds. So original! Ed.

Martin Quinn wants all of you SHIPWRIGHTS to storm and board at the USS New Jersey come August!

CALLING ALL PLASTIC MODEL MAKERS!



The Philadelphia Ship Model Society in partnership with the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial is hosting Model Con 2021 aboard the Battleship, [Saturday, August 7.](#)

We are seeking plastic model-maker volunteers! Come and promote the hobby to the guests of the World's Greatest Battleship.

Bring a model you built or are in the process of actively building. Be prepare to talk about your

models or model-making to guests.

All volunteers will enjoy a complimentary tour of the Battleship!

To Participate, [Click Here](#)

Sounds like fun! I toured the New Jersey some years back. It's really cool to see how things were in such a huge ship.

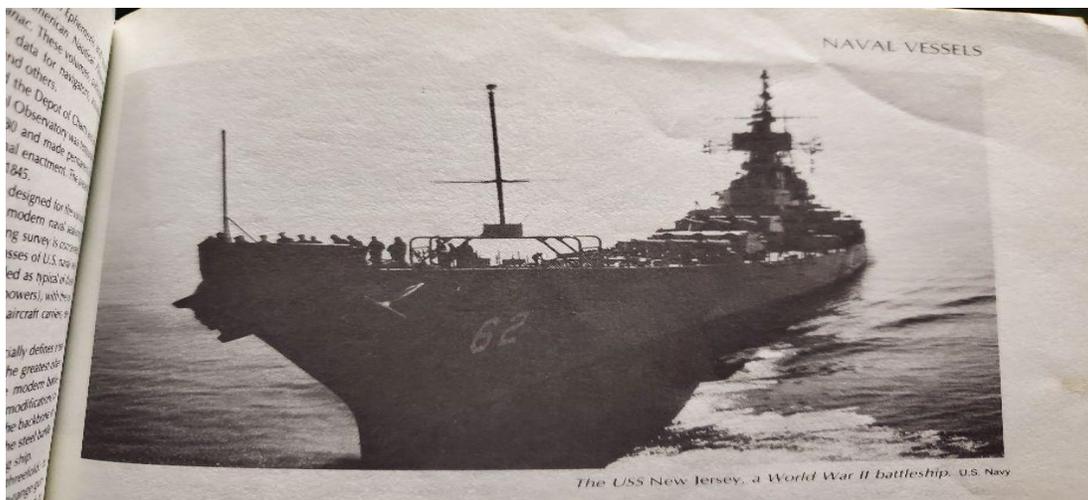


THE JUDGES TABLE

By Jon Da Silva



I am fortunate enough to have been born when the 4 Iowa class battleships were in commission (1988), with one fitting out (Wisconsin). I've always been obsessed with nautical and naval history. My degree is in history, I work at a museum that deals with both immigration, and nautical history, and I primarily build ship models. New Jersey, for obvious reasons, is my favorite ship. I am fond of the way she looked from October 1943 - May / June 1945 with her round bridge and Measure 21 5n/20b overall paint. It was from her bridge that several of the largest naval operations in history were commanded. From Operation Hailstone, where upon entering the combat zone, Admiral Spruance broke flag on her, and where she was one of only two Iowa class battleships to engage enemy warships (the other being Iowa herself) thru the Marianas and Leyte with Halsey, and then again as Spruance flagship of a massive occupational / contingency force in September 1945. My parents bought me an encyclopedia set in the early 90's which I still have to this day. It was in these encyclopedias, long before the internet, that I saw what New Jersey looked like for the first time and learned she was the only battleship active in the world during the Vietnam war (and again from 1982-1984).



I've always been curious about her service history during the Vietnam war. I vividly remember watching a tv documentary in the early 90's on a channel that once displayed history where a Vietnam vet said, "If it wasn't for the Big J, they would have zapped our ass." Fast forward to last year. The USS New Jersey youtube channel has been producing daily weekday videos, many of them oral histories from sailors from WWII to the Gulf War, and many of the Vietnam veterans said they remember a night where they fired nonstop. I asked the Battleship New Jersey museum if they had a copy of logs from Vietnam, which they sent me in PDF form. I found out the night in question was February 22, 1969, though the actual log only had a single paragraph, not exactly descriptive enough for me. With the magic of the internet, and remembering the quote I stated earlier, I then found a 1969 narrative website. Much more descriptive;

NEW JERSEY continued firing observed missions by day and both observed and unobserved missions by night through Saturday, 22 February. That night turned out to be the busiest of NEW JERSEY's entire deployment.

Just after 0100, while NEW JERSEY was firing prearranged unobserved fire, she received an urgent call for fire from a Marine outpost about 1,000 meters south of the DMZ which was under attack. The post, named Oceanview, was manned by about 20 Marines and a Naval Gunfire Liaison team. It was attacked by a force later estimated to be about 130 North Vietnamese Regulars. Following is a chronological record of the night's action taken from the ship's operation report:

..."0106 - Emergency call for fire from forward observation post, Third Marine Division. Unknown number of enemy troops attacking. Commenced secondary battery fire, two mounts, increasing to four mounts and adding main battery as attack intensified. "0400 - Continued high explosive fire multiple target...

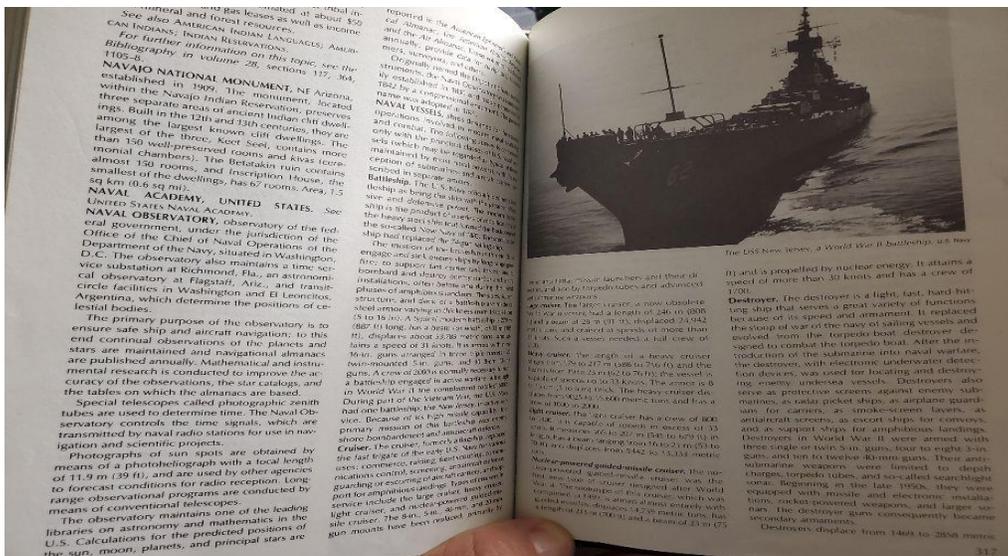
One thousand-seven hundred ten 5-inch rounds were fired that night in nearly six hours of continuous fire. At various times throughout the night NEW JERSEY was teamed with the Coast Guard cutter OWASCO and two artillery batteries. One spotter, Lance Corporal Roger Clouse of Lincoln, Nebraska, controlled all fire that night, and at one point he was firing six batteries simultaneously. He was recommended for the Bronze Star for his night's work.

This mission served as a concrete example of how important every man is to NEW JERSEY's mission. For although the gunners fire the rounds, credit belongs to everyone. From the food servicemen who keep the crew on the go, to the engineers who answer every bell, to supply who keeps the ship in spare parts, to the officer of the deck and the entire watch-standing team, to the navigation team who keep the ship in clear water and the batteries unmasked, to the

operators who maintain a constant flow of information and a secondary fire control solution, every man had to do his part for "Firepower for Freedom." The ability to sustain fire with every gun on the engaged side, without going to General Quarters, would have been non-existent without this teamwork.

The Commanding Officer at the outpost, Marine Major Ronald Smaldone, said later that "if it hadn't been for NEW JERSEY, they would have zapped our ass!"

I'm curious if any of our members that served in Vietnam remember this or heard about it. It sounds like something out of the climax of a war movie. For those interested, I'm attaching some photos of the encyclopedia I've had all these years.



Excellent Research Jon! My Dad was Navy from June, 1941-Sept., 1982



Dr. Simon sent pictures of his latest builds.

Alfa brand Soviet 1/72 Yakovlev Yak-6 . Circa 1990, later put out by Encore and Zvezda .
Original decals , representing a “ hack” plane of the Normandie-Nieman Squadron .



No-name brand Soviet 1/72 Yakovlev UT-2 circa 1990 . A nice little kit after parts cleanup,
decals were shockingly good !



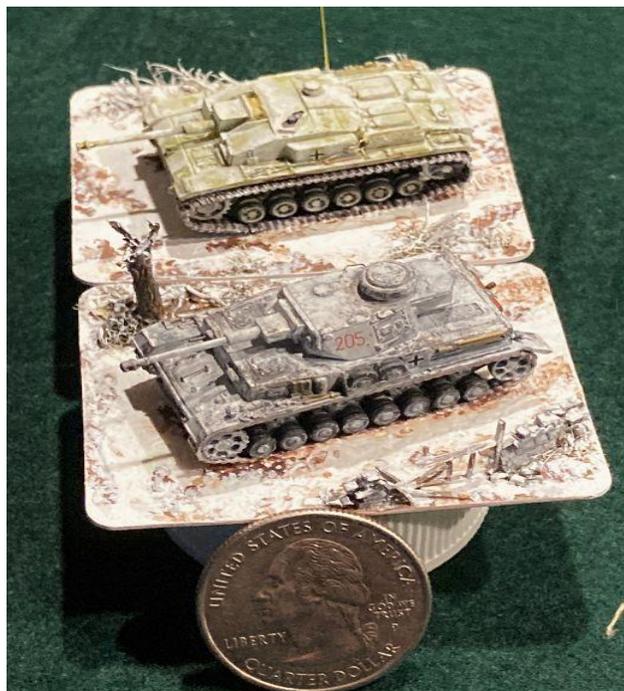
John Bucholz continues to look at some smallish parts of the hobby.

Let's Get Small-

No, it's not an old Steve Martin bit (although it was!), but rather a quick look at Dragon 1/144th scale armor kits. These kits are super scaled down 1/35th scale kits they have already produced (the box art is a direct copy of the 1/35th scale box top). With less than 15 pieces in the box, build time is less than an hour. They also come with flexible vinyl tracks and a full set of decals.



A few words about the build. It is important to heat the tracks before they are stretched over the sprockets and rims. The fit is very tight and if you attempt to stretch them onto the rims you will wind up distorting/and or breaking the treads. Also, all of the external stores are molded onto the hull. If you want a bit more detail it is advisable to shave off and replace/reshape items for greater accuracy. One nit-pick, the Stug III is an F-8 model which should have the longer 75mm gun-add 2mm to the barrel length for a proper F-8.



Decals are provided for multiple vehicles and I chose the markings for the battle of Karkov 1942-43. The winter whitewash camo schemes are a great way to show off the detail of each kit to the fullest. And now for the best part- the cost was less than five dollars each! I found these on the HLJ website but they also show up on other sites from time to time. At present all the kits seem to be German armor but who knows what they might produce in the future-why not

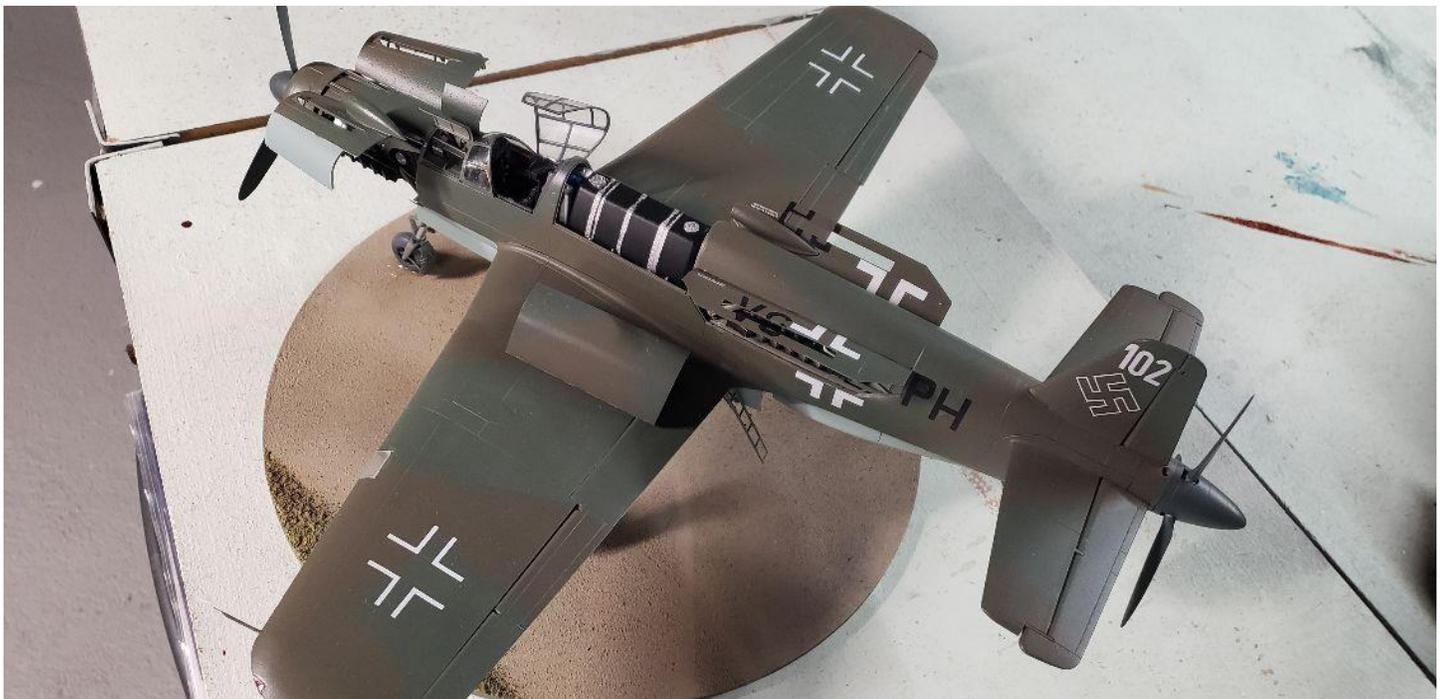


give them a try!

John Bucholz

WOW! They are small. I tried to start a 1/700 German Destroyer and gave up! These are a little bigger-maybe I'll give it a try.

Patrick O'Connor sent us a shot of his SWS 1/32 Do-335.



Nice Work, Patrick. I always get into discussions with folks about this aircraft. Did it see action? I haven't found any proof that it did, though some people claim they have, yet never seem to be able to find it!

I hope I've included everything that people contributed for the NL. Dr. Simon, please forgive but I'm confused-I have a longish story that was supposed to go with pictures from last month? Can we start all over? I'll keep the text if you can send more pictures that I can put with the text that went with the April pics -or is it the other way around?!?

FINALLY, A WORD ABOUT THE UPCOMING MEETING (Yippee!) That's not the word though. Big Bill is very safety conscious. Please be sure to wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose, and let's try to respect social distancing as much as possible. Even though most of us have probably had our vaxx shots, nothing is 100%. The more we try to care for each other, the better off we will be.

Can't wait to see everyone and all the builds and WIP's

FRIDAY, MAY 15 at 700 PM at the Garwood K of C.



Bill Schroeter, Editor