

# Hello All!

Happy New Year & Merry Ground Hog's Day!

Without any ado. Here are the Quarrantine build updates from your fellow members. Enjoy!

Chris

#### **Phil Pucher**

Hasegawa Fw-190

If memory serves, this kit was first issued before 2000. I know that it has been re-released at least once. It is probably the oldest kit on my "Shelf of Doom".



Now for my review. The panel lines and rivet detail are exquisite. Problem is, much the detail is lost when sanding seams. The cockpit has only basic details (a good place for an aftermarket replacement). The landing gear bays are shallow and also lack detail. The parts count is low and the fit is good. A wealth of ordinance (bombs (2 sizes) and underwing cannon), a long range fuel tank, and 2 different forward cowlings are provided, so four different marks can be built.

The marking/painting guide is vague, so further research is recommended for any specific a/c. I chose an Fw-190A-6 flown by Walter Nowotny in November 1943, based on a photo on page 71 of "Focke-Wulf Fw 190 Aces of the Russian Front" by Osprey Publications.



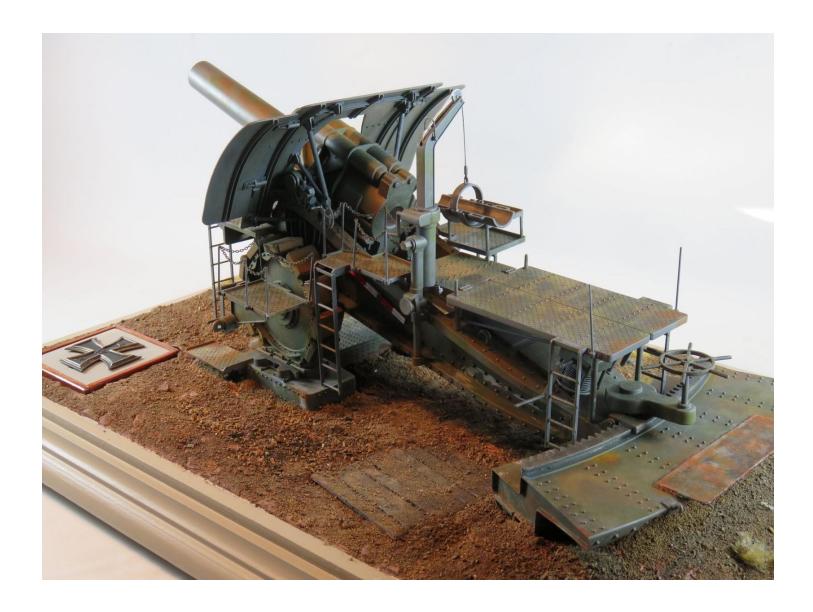
For a kit of this vintage, I was pleased with the way it came out. I was also pleased that I was able to rescue another model from the SOD.

The 42cm Kurze Marinekanone, popularly known as "Big Bertha" was a German siege howitzer built by Krupp and fielded by the Germans in WW I.



The kit is by Takom, According to reviews, the model is not entirely accurate, but I doubt anyone would know the difference. Trying to follow the instructions is like walking thru a mine field. I found 4 issues that fortunately were correctable. My suggestion is to read the instructions (mostly illustrations) carefully to understand how parts fit together and do a lot of dryfitting.

Because most of the parts are visible, a lot of seam scraping is necessary. I recommend using a curved X-Acto knife blade to scrape the larger seams (i.e. howitzer barrel). The blade doesn't have to match exactly; it just has to be close. Parts fit is good; however Takom kits tend to lack good pins/holes, tabs/slots, etc.. The kit was built in sub-assemblies, painted, and then assembled.



Overall, I'm pleased with how the kit turned out. I've built several Takom kits, so I know what to look for. Because of its' size, I built a base that will accommodate a separate cover.



**KIT FOR SALE**; Pershing Tank, Hunnicutt - \$30.00 Contact Phil for details

# **John Trippe**

Here is my 1/700 HMS Renown. One of several ships that closed in on the Bismark. After the Fairy Swordfish crippled its rudder from a dropped torpedo, it was forced into a permanent circle. It gave the Royal Navy time to zero in with radar. Something Germany did not have at that time. The Renown's guns played a huge role in Bismark's sinking.



I'm really happy with this. As in previous discussions, 1/700 is tough. But, I'm happy with the result. Camouflage is from 1945 colors. I did my best to get it right allowing myself a reasonable amount of forgiveness.

The rigging too is not arbitrary, but close.

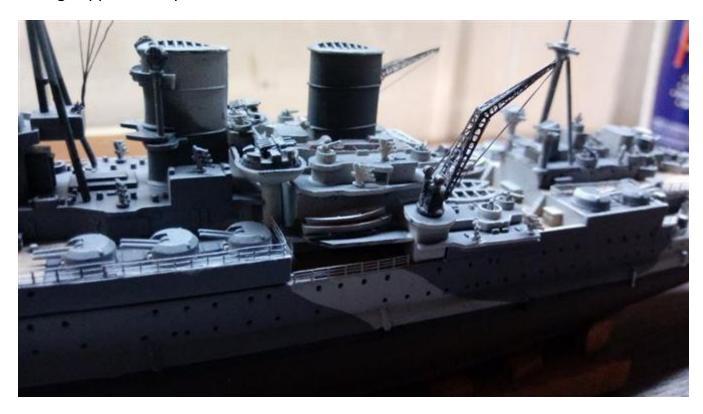


A nod to Ken for the PE stuff including the cranes, a beautiful display case and encouragement along the way. Also to Bill Gilman whose tutorials on photo etching gave confidence along with emails.

There many layers to the build. A lot of smeegles, doodles, cooples and scnuggs to the kit (Trumpeter). As too with armor, I was putting parts on it for days and days and no change in the appearance. After a time, things shaped up.



In the future I will gravitate more toward 1/350th kits for the sake of my sight and a monstrous rug with a huge appetite for parts and PE.







More Renown Pics later in the process



A Crane handling a Supermarine Walrus Seaplane.





Here are pictures of the completed model.













## USS Hopper / Arleigh Burke

As other works go, I keep finding more and more things to add to Trumpeter's 1/350 USS Hopper / Arliegh Burke class ship. Every time I think I'm getting close to completion...I find and page of instructions.

But! Having fun!

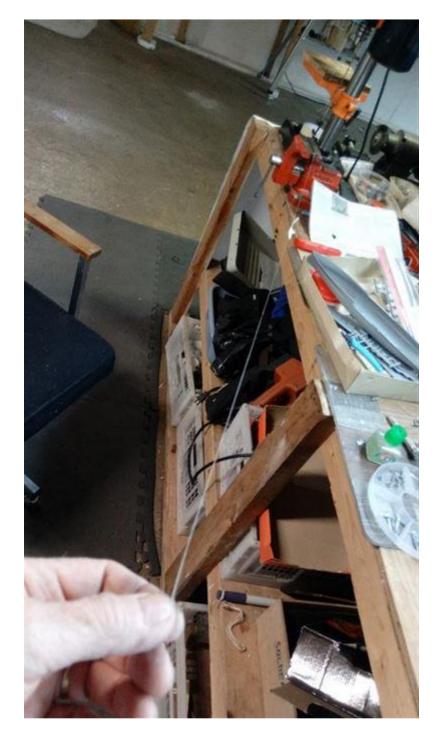




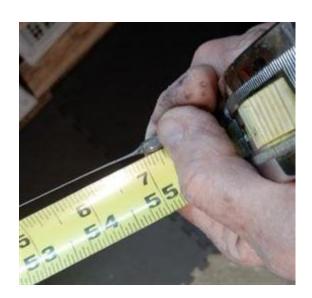


#### John's Contest Idea . . .

While making weld lines for a 60 year old kit from Russia. Then it occurred to me... A stretched sprue contest! (the tape shows about middle...)







### Editor's note:

I'd say this constitutes a challenge. If you're up for it – submit photos of your best effort at melting and stretching sprue as long as you can for the March newsletter (along with the final length in inches). One lucky winner will be able to say:

"Well, that was a nice walk!"

# **Paul Stirrup**

Horizon Models 1/72 Mercury Redstone, (Mission MR-3)



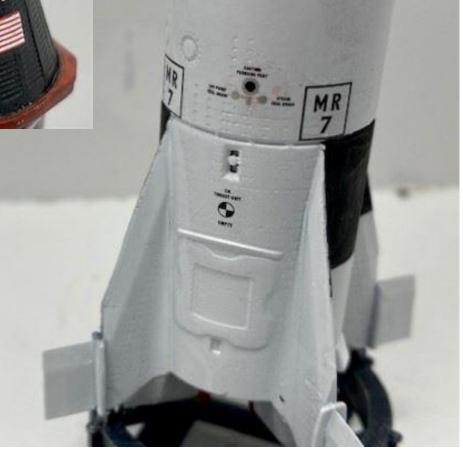
May 5th, 1961, Alan B Shepard became the first American to fly into space. Reaching a speed of 4349mph and an altitude of 117miles, Shepard experienced around 5mins of weightlessness, and saw the earth that no American had ever witnessed before. During re-entry he experienced +11g, before splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean some 302 miles from Cape Canaveral and recovered by USS Lake Champlain.

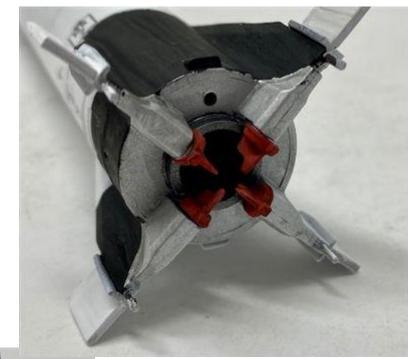


So begins my Mercury Launch Vehicle phase....

Horizon Models 1/72 Mercury-Atlas MA-6, great kit some fit issues but overall very nice, decals were sublime... thin and in full register, set down with Micro Sol/Set and looked flawless.











Feb 20 1962, John Glenn set atop MA-6 Atlas 109D 'Friendship 7', not knowing if this particular Atlas would explode as so many had done before. The mission profile was to orbit the Earth and land safely near Bermuda. Orbiting only 3 times in just under 5 hrs the flight was cut short due to an alarm from the heat shield separation system. Glenn was unaware at first of the problem and was informed he would have to manually manoeuvre the capsule for re-entry, and keep the retro pack attached in the hope it would keep the heat shield in place. During the flight Glenn noticed 'Space Fireflies', highly iridescent flakes floating past the capsule window, and goes down as one of the first recorded UFOs at NASA.







It was found that during the next flight by Scott Carpenter on Aurora 7 if he hit the side of the capsule, that flakes of ice would fall off, and be illuminated by the sun, explaining the unusual 'Space Fireflies'.

Glenn didn't return to space until 1998 on STS-95 at the age of 77, as a mission specialist, he is still the oldest person to have flown in space, and the only person to fly in both Mercury and Shuttle missions.









Horizon Models 1/72 Mercury Atlas 10D 'Big Joe' Boilerplate Capsule, Sept 9, 1959

Two flight readiness firings (FRF) were performed on Big Joe 1.

The first, on 1 September 1959, ended immediately after T-0 because the ignition stage delay timer commanded shutdown of the rocket engines when neither sustainer nor main engine ignition followed normal vernier ignition. There was no booster or stand damage.

The second FRF was successfully completed on 3 September 1959, with normal ignition, transition to main stage and shutdown by the engine timer after approximately 19 seconds of running time. At 08:19 GMT on 9 September, Big Joe lifted from LC-14 atop Atlas-10D. All went well until the two-minute mark when telemetry readouts indicated that the booster section had failed to jettison. After some malfunctions the capsule was separated but bumped off course by the booster section and landed 500mls from its designated splashdown zone.







All three together



## 1/48 Monogram Gemini capsule...

What can I say? Well it has to be the most flash ladened kit I've ever made, every single piece at best had a halo of flash others were directly connected by a large pour gate that was the whole length of the part. It did have pieces for a detailed service bay, but the parts were so deformed it wasn't worth even trying to clean them up, so I made a thermal cover with a Xmas Tree bauble and masking tape, the umbilicals are made from guitar strings and various tubes and wires.

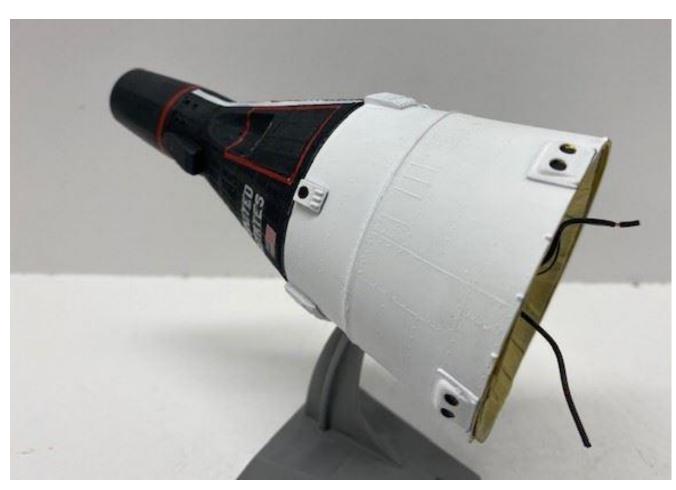






There was a noticeable lack of clear parts for the windows, so I formed them with UV cure glue. Decals were silvered and splitting, so I cleared them with a UV light overnight and overspray of clear gloss, I added the white docking stripe with a spare decal and made the red lining around the hatches by cutting a red decal into thin stripes.

Tough work but I needed a Gemini capsule for my growing real space collection.



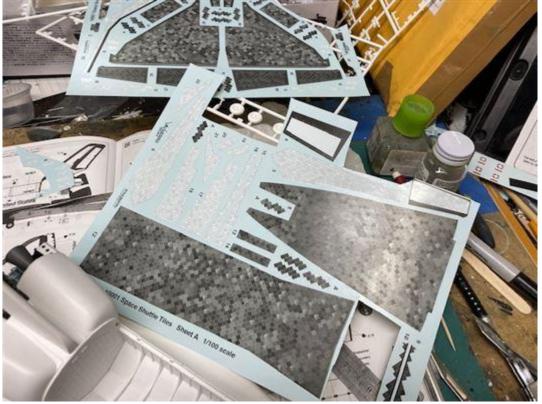


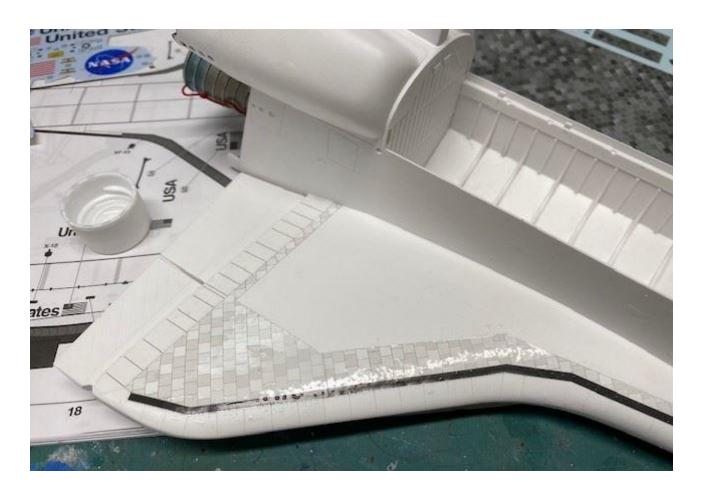
1/100 Space Shuttle from Tamiya... great build, nicely detailed but very clunky in areas, example the door hinges are just slots and rod.

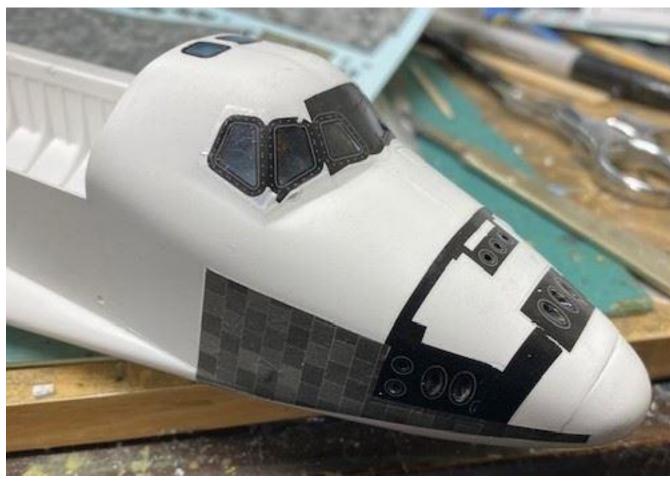




I used the Warbird Decal set for the tiles and some insignia, they laid down really well with a copious application of Micro Sol/Set.

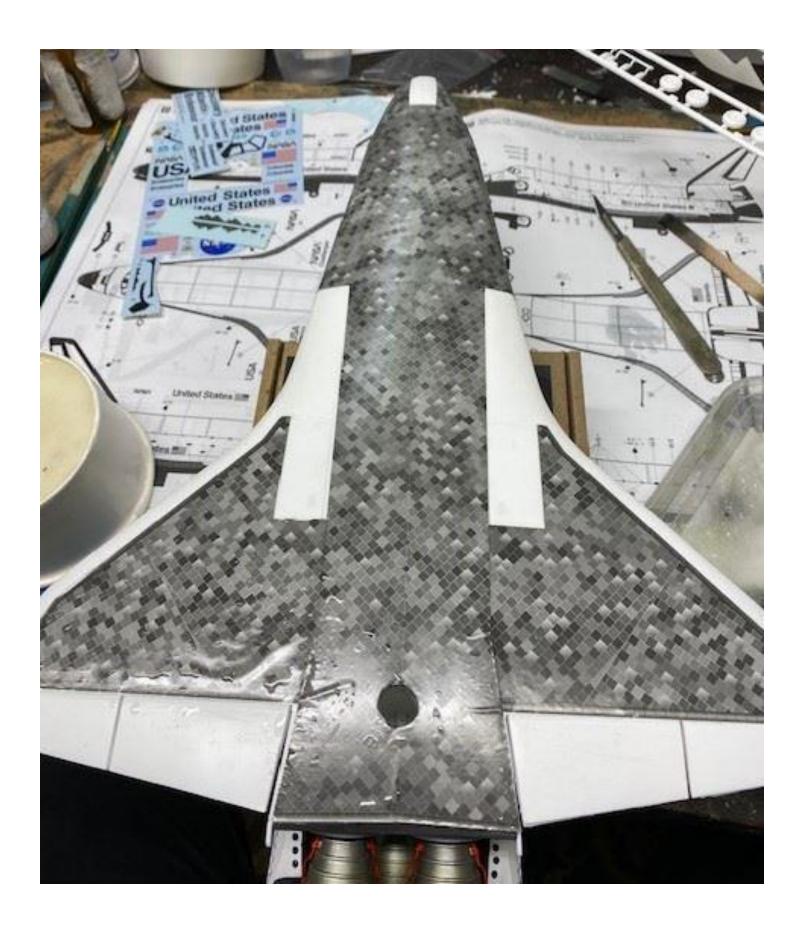














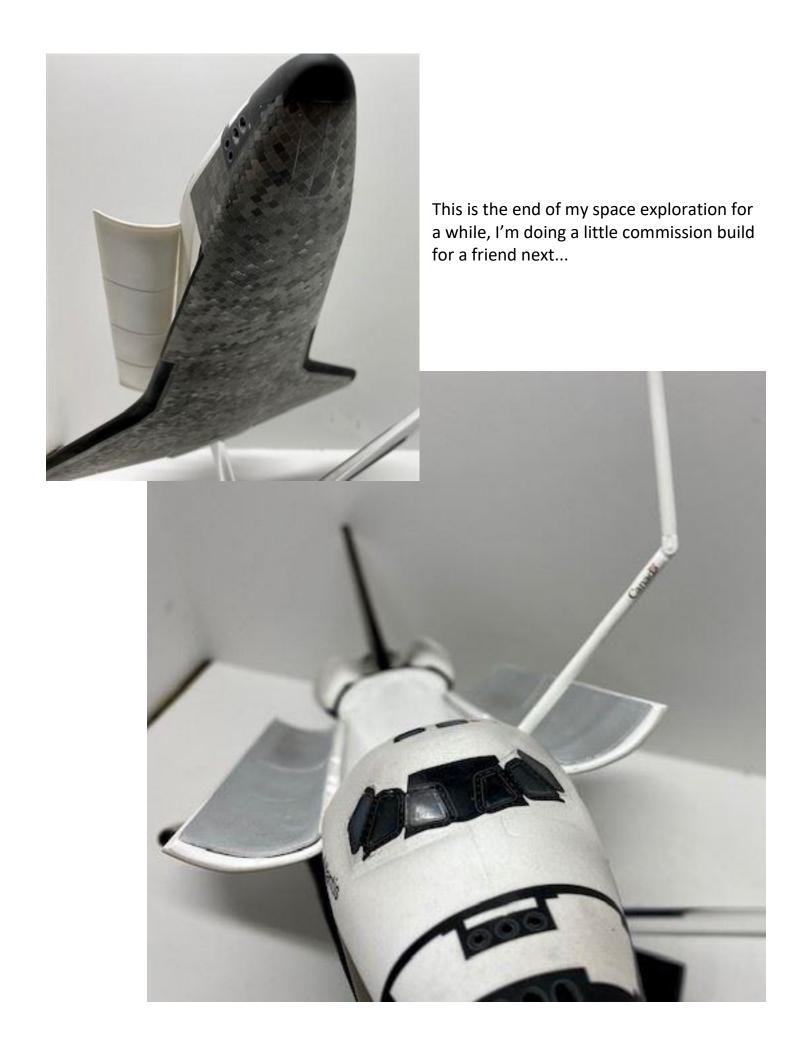
I tried to weather it in the same way I usually weather things, but it just didn't work, and I wish I'd have left it clean now... oh well a lesson learnt is a mistake never made again.











### **Bill Gilman**

What! Another contest? "Navy Bird Gilman's - Name That Plane Game."

At press time, Bill was still working on his current project and hadn't had a chance to take many photos. Something must be in the drinking water because Bill also had an idea for an impromptu contest. — He suggested putting this photo in the newsletter and have people guess what aircraft normally surrounds these two chairs.

Bill suggested that we should guess by emailing with a "reply to all" using the newsletter club mailing list so that all can see and he can offer snide comments to those who guess wrong. He will be the final arbitrator on who wins! What should the prize be? How about whoever wins tells Bill to build something that's not an aircraft?

Or maybe we could have him scratch-build something out of the miles of stretched sprue that will be produced by the other contest!



### **Chris Boss**

1/72 Hasegawa & Airfix Grumman Wildcats. Two kits separated by 20 years or so.

HASEGAWA AIRFIX

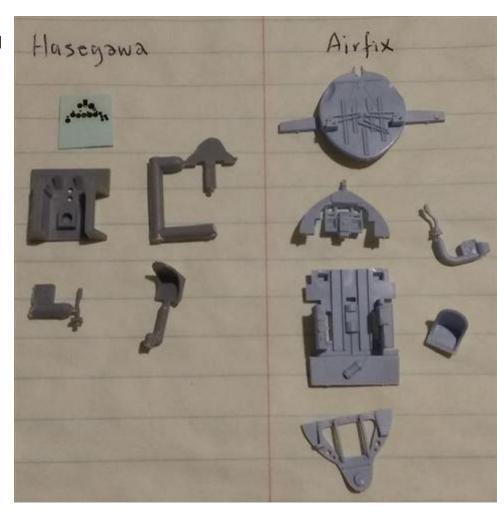


The new tool Airfix kit has quite a few extra details that are very nice.

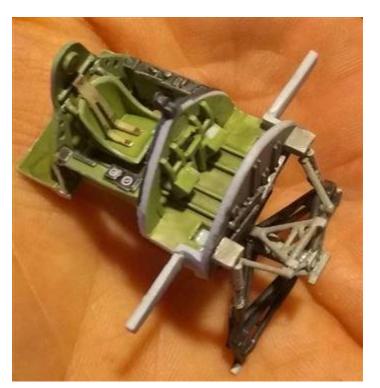
- Significantly more detail in the cockpit/wheel wells/fire wall
- Open or closed canopy options
- Straight or folded wing options for both wings.

Here's a photo showing difference between the cockpit parts for the two kits.

Both kits have very fine exterior detail.



Airfix Cockpit, Firewall and landing gear assembly. A wine bottle foil harness was added to the seat









A quick test fit of one of the Airfix wingfold assemblies on the Hasegawa fuselage showed me that they were interchangeable! How Lucky is *THAT*?! So ... both kits got one wingfold and one straight wing from the Airfix kit.



# 1/24 Revell 1968 Dodge Charger



A few years ago I started a project to re-create the battling duo from the movie "Bullit". The "Good Guy" 1968 Ford Mustang was finished 4 years ago. But the "Bad Guy" Charger has been sitting neglected in a partially completed state since then. I was pleased with the way the wood grain detail on the interior came out



No progress yet – but I'll try to push the Charger a little farther down the road toward completion this month.

## **Peter Leas**

I've gotten back to the bench after helping my mother clean out her house of 63+ years. Also took on an emergency bathroom remodel which included removal, unplugging and rebuilding a toilet, replacing loose and damaged floor tiles and grout. After the 1:1 scale projects, I found some decals referencing the Roycroft of East Aurora NY. Albert Hubbard founded The Roycroft.





The drivers name comes from the Philistine, the name of a series of pamphlets Hubbard wrote and published and of course the Head Mechanics name is self-explanatory. I don't know how these decals came to be in an AMT '41 Chevy kit.



Der Beetle Bus was started early in 2018.

This build was interrupted to use a second kits rear floor pan, engine and suspension in a tank for the "Hot Rod your model" challenge at the end of 2019.

As I'm still playing German beer hall music after 50 years, I couldn't pass up this kit.





The Mustang II pro street was purchased for \$2 at a garage sale for the parts box. I had to sand down the paint, undo the exhaust that had assembled prior to installation and remove and rebuild the rear suspension which was built wrong. The Fire Fighter name was included in the kit. The Chicago Fire Dept. came from my stash.



The back story on this was the first time out, the engine blew and almost destroyed the car. The Chicago fire department, along with the track crew saved the driver/owner. Not having the resources to rebuild the car, he donated it to the fire department for training. Some of the firefighter got together and rebuilt the car as a public relations piece.



The car was raced in the Chicago area and displayed at various fire houses. Well it makes an interesting story, doesn't it?

## **Ken Brent**

The modelers have been busy at the John Trippe workshop! Here are my entries for this month. Thank you again for your work, I look forward to seeing all of the groups' work. Stay healthy and safe.

Completed: Cyber Hobby 1/700 USS Independence

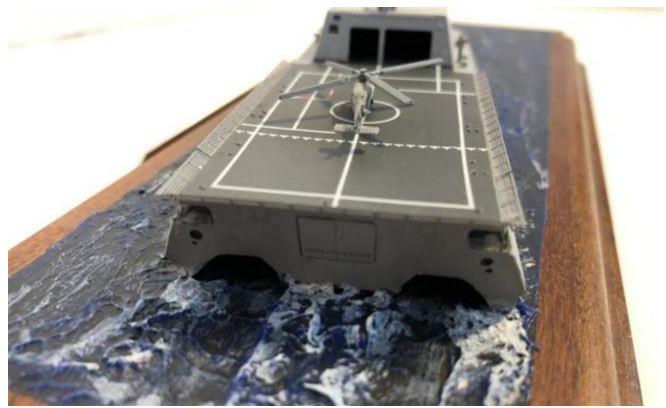
This is a very nice model. It can be built full hull or waterline, an unusual tri- hull design. In this scale the parts are very fine and easily lost without a pair of reverse tweezers.



It was painted a coating of Testors light gray/ metallic silver mixture. A clear gloss for decals and then a clear flat. The original ship has a dull aluminum finish and highly weathered. The kit contains one helicopter to be displayed with an open or closed maintenance bay. I added photo etched catch nets.

The base is painted artist Golden Gel Medium, Extra Heavy Gel (Semi-Gloss) touched up with acrylics.



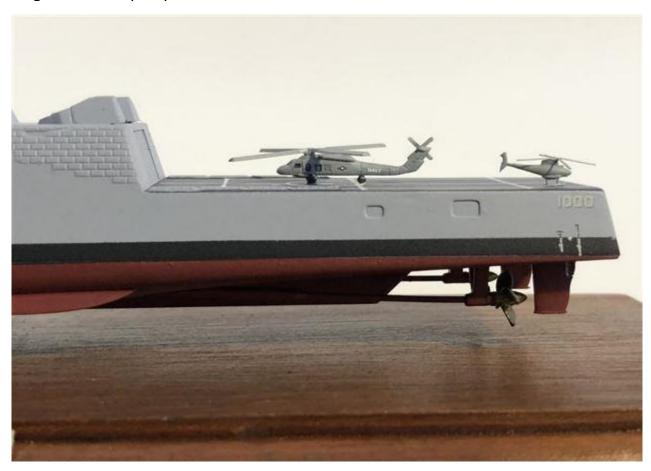


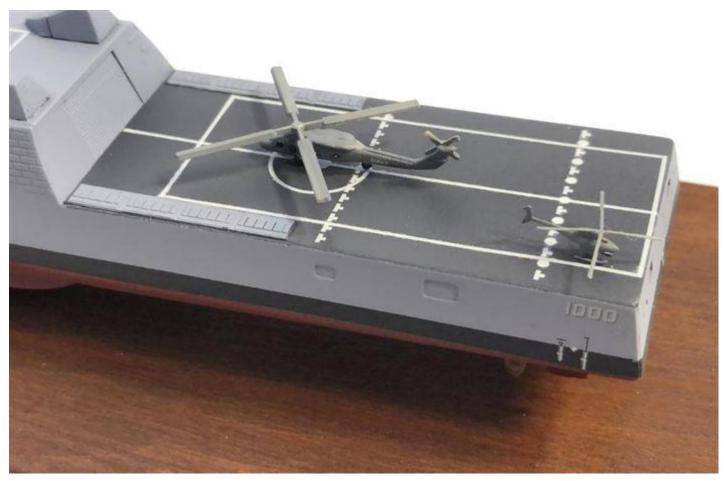


# Completed: Dragon 1/700 USS Zumwalt



This was an enjoyable kit of a modern class ship. The model is a rendering of the original design of the first in class. Pretty basic and stealth. A check on line, shows all kinds of radar hung all over the main tower. So much for stealth! The mast, radar, catch nets are all inside the ship, to be deployed as needed. The paint is Testors Acryl; Haze Gray, German Gray, Hull Red and Flat Black. I used Citidal paint for the brass props. The kit contains one helicopter and a drone with photo etch. I lost the drone and the photo etch parts multiple times on the workbench. I posed the main guns in the open position with the rear two closed.







On the workbench: Trumpeter 1/350 USS The Sullivans



Working full hull, painting is a combination; Floquil Deck Blue, Testors Acryil grays, hull red and flat black. I used Tamiya tape to mask the hull from 1mm up to 10mm and Frog painters tape for the large areas. Lots of touch up work to be done.







On the workbench: ESCI 1/72 F-111A

This is the first aircraft I was trained on in 1972. The kit went together OK, but the cockpit/ nose area has a seam down the middle. Lots of sanding and filling to do to make a decent representation. The munitions are also split down the middle and aren't totally round, oh well. Decals are really sparse, so I added a couple from my old Microscale F-111 sheets.









## **Armand Miale**

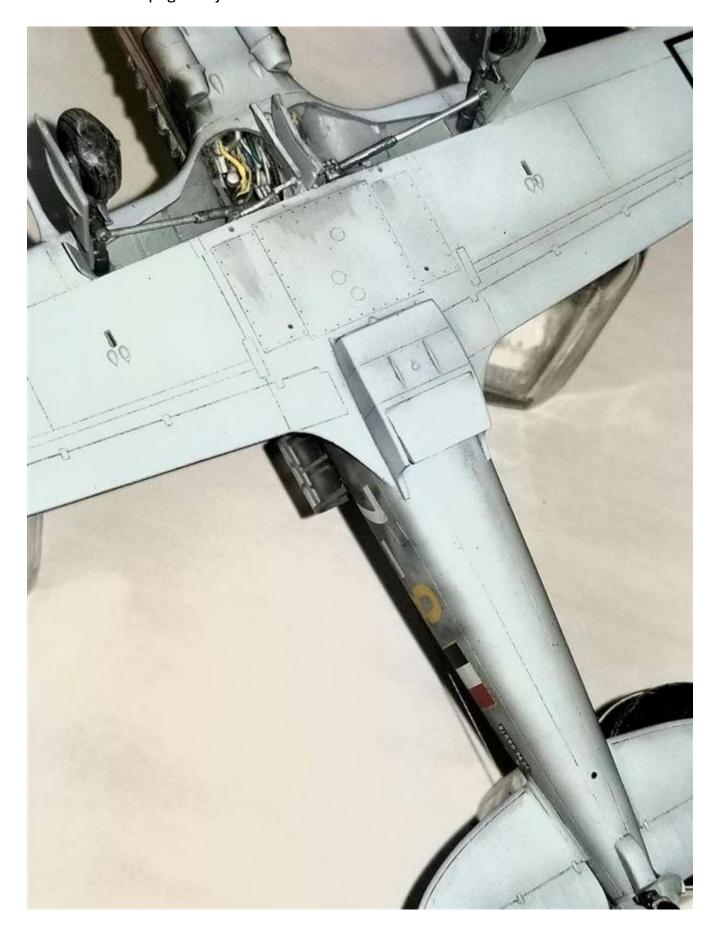
Here is my latest completion. It's Hasegawa's 1/48th Macchi Mc 205c Veltro. I used the Jaguar resin set for the cockpit, wheel wells and exhausts. Also used the excellent Stormo decals.



When Italy surrendered, some decided to stay and fight alongside the Germans. This 205 was originally painted in the "herringbone" scheme...wide strips of green and brown. It then received German colors of 74. 75 & 76.



The wheel well is a spaghetti junction.





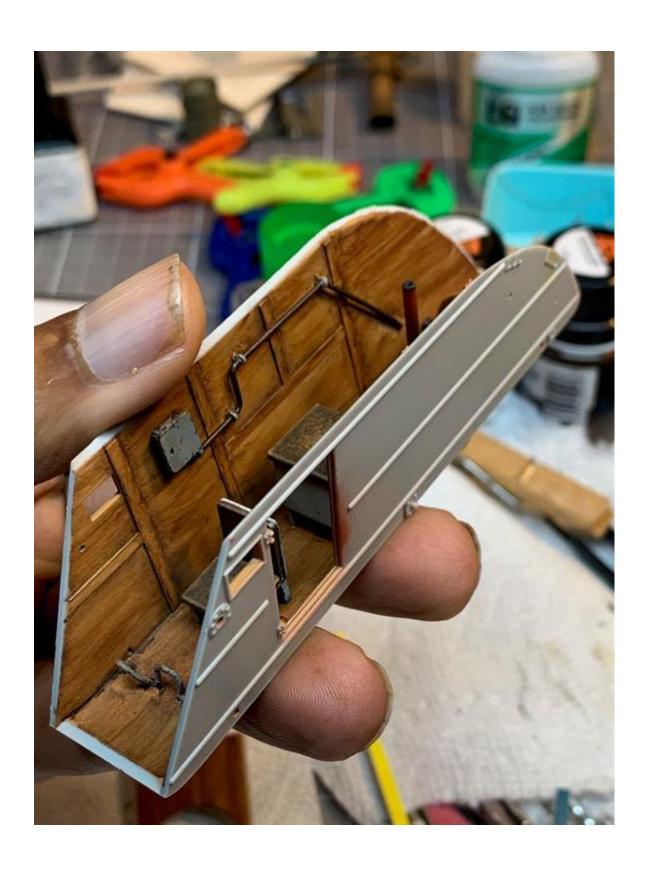
### **Jason Charles**

Greetings fellow modelers and future friends! I'm sure like most of you, this has been a prolific time at the bench! I have numerous models to share, but would rather show most of them in person when things hopefully get back to normalcy. However, I do have two models to contribute to this February's newsletter:

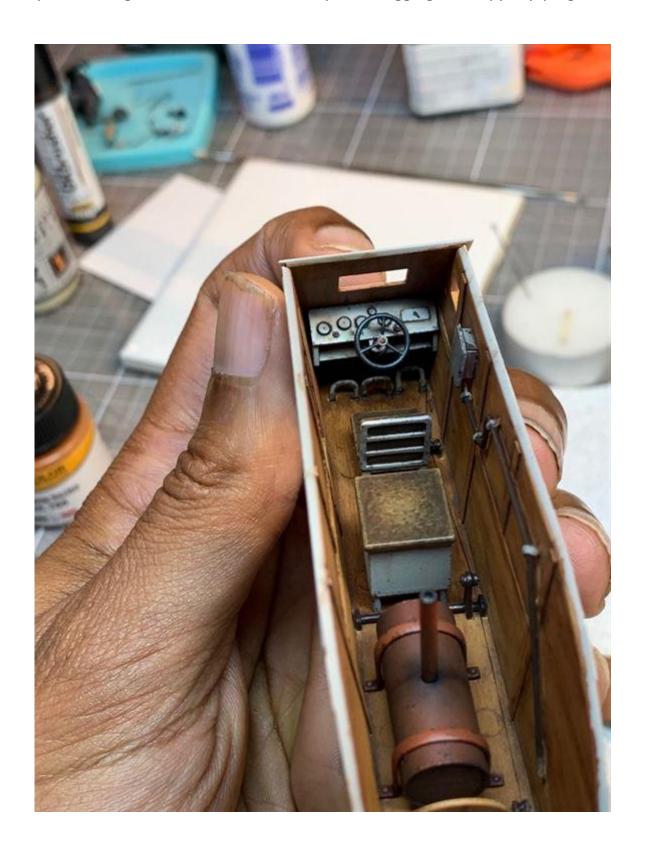
The first is a WW2 Russian NKL-26 Aerosan. For some reason, I have been into Russian Armor lately. It could be due to the fact that I love the color palettes and they have some interesting stories behind their vehicles. True to Phil Pucher's taste in models, I like the really unique models that most people don't see or have even heard of.



During World War II, Aerosans were used for reconnaissance, communication and light raiding in northern areas due to their durability and ease of traveling in deep snow. The interior could only hold two soldiers and the frame work was entirely made out of plywood. The only protection the Aerosan possessed was an armor plate on the front and a metal turret that housed a 7.62 mm DT machine gun.



The Aerosan was a perfect choice for an interesting build. The challenge was making the interior look like real wood and scratch-building the pedal pulley system since Trumpeter did not include that detail. I also added a control box and wiring system. Here are the results of my first attempt at wood grain and some additional pedals, rigging and copper piping:

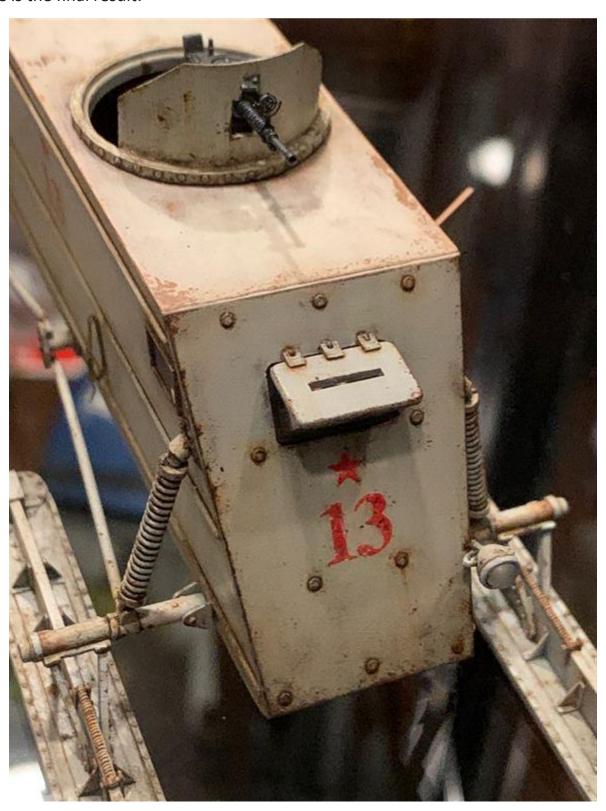


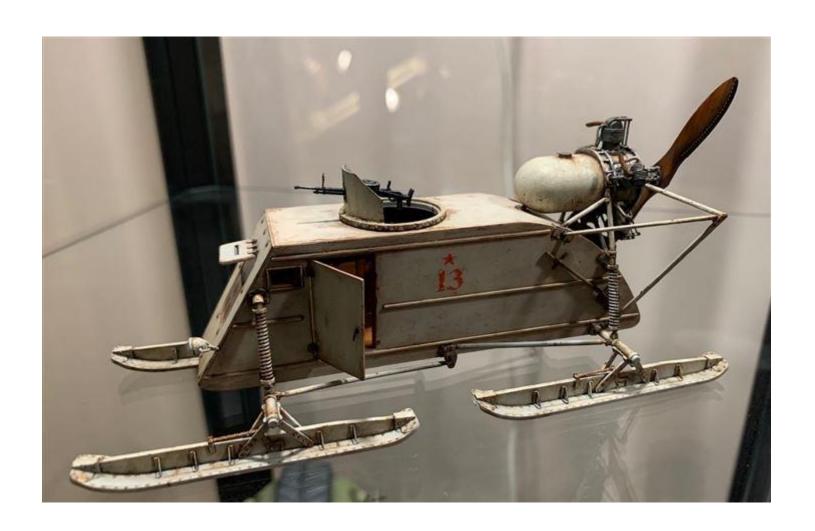
The exterior's challenge was deciding on how not to paint a pure white color and managing some toned down variations of grey. After mixing samples, I finally came up with a color that seemed muted enough. With the assistance of oils, filters and enamels, I was able to come up with something that suited my taste.



All in all the kit was a fun build and allowed me to experiment with new things like scratch building, rendering woodgrain and photoetch. And believe you me, there was a ton of photoetch on the skis themselves! Again, I'm very new to the hobby, but am very much looking forward to learning from you guys.

And here is the final result:





My next little project was a figure set Santa (aka, my wife) gave me as a Christmas gift. I remember seeing this little set at Barnes and Nobles and thought the sculpting and detail on this kit were exquisite! I guess it's a Warhammer type gaming figure? Regardless, these characters had such a charm that I had to pick it up and start painting.

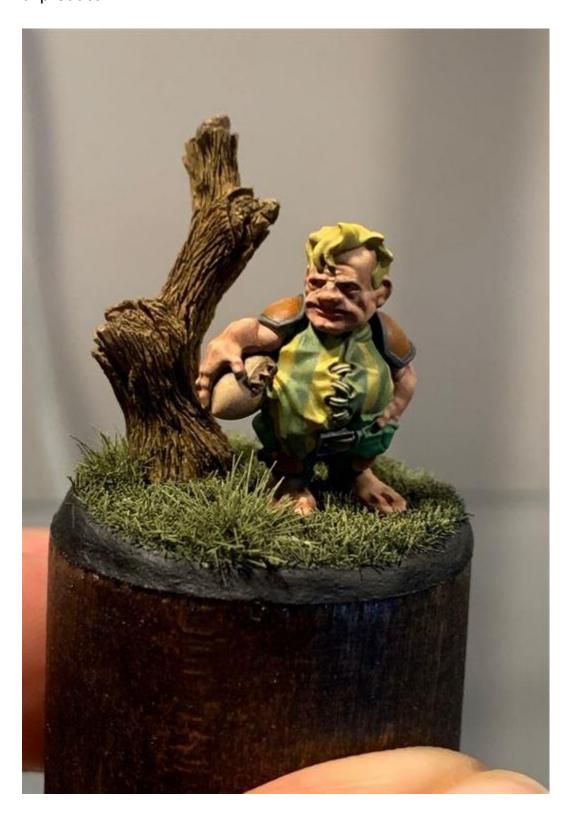


I decided on painting the most regal looking one and kept true to the palette that was on the box.

Of course I had to present him on a base that I scratch built with the exception of a resin tree I picked up at a show. I started off with the plinth that I stained to make it look more presentable than the little plastic bases the kit came with.

The grass was and tree were airbrushed and hand painted to unify everything. After the figure was sanded, glued and filled in a couple areas (feet area), I hand painted him with acrylics.

It was a fun little build that gave me some practice with figure painting. The anatomy was really puzzling, but I guess that's part of the challenge! I'm really glad I did the base. The variation of the tree helped with the composition overall. I'm amazed at how well these plastic figures are sculpted. Resin might be a thing of the past with these new printers! Here's the final product:





I have many other builds, but I will share some of them for the next newsletter. Thank you for accepting me in your newsletter! I hope all of you stay safe and sane out there!

# **Steve Coykendall**

I've got two projects for this newsletter. The first is a commission paintwork. She's a rare kit that I originally built 3 years ago, and my client managed to pick one up from someone cleaning out their stash. She's Jasmine (The Flying Carpet), sculpted by Roberto von Behr based on the illustration work of J Scott Campbell.





Built almost the same as mine, main modification was the position of the lamp. I made her veil optional by embedding magnets in the sides of her head before gluing her hair on. There's thin metal tabs on the ends of the veil and I made a slight gap where the hair meets the head for the tabs to slide in.

There was some damage to the kit...two out of three of the spire's tips were gone so I drilled them out and replaced them with turned brass. I added sand and matt medium to the base for a nicer texture. All that's left is to break her down, pack her up and send her on her way.

Next up is another kit sculpted by Roberto von Behr, based on Campbells art. The Poisoned Apple. This is a two figure kit originally sculpted back in 2016 and was finally molded, cast, and available last fall. Stupid expensive which I think was the cause of the delay, but I had already set aside the money for this one.



It's still in-progress but the two figures are just about done.

I'm modifying elements of the base and I'm not sure when that'll get done. I did some modifications to Snow White...I beefed up her chin and jawline a bit with Aves Apoxie Sculpt.



I also moved the left leg seam in order to make painting her easier. I cut along a fold in her skirt for the new seam which is hidden by the chair she sits in. The cut off element was glued to the leg, and the original seam was filled and blended, I used magnets on all her joints so I could paint and blend colors together better, then pull the parts off to paint other elements before final assembly.







The Queen's a delicate one...lots of loose bits. The only modification I did to her is her wine goblet. I really wanted to remove it completely and replace it with a clear one, but that would have been a major challenge. I did have to grind out the sculpted interior.



It was pretty clear that element was originally turned on a lathe with the top of the wine level to the top of the goblet, however in the final sculpt its canted at a pretty good angle. I will be filling it with red tinted resin soon...right now it's empty.

