



Ahoy There !

There must've been something in the water during February, because it seems like a lot of us sent in Naval Subjects for this month's newsletter: Ships, Flying boats, and Carrier Aircraft. (Oddly - there were no belly buttons to be seen)

There are also a few non-Naval subjects for the land lubbers among us.

So just sit right back (pop a Dramamine) and you'll read a tale of your fellow club members' last month of building . . .

Enjoy !

BILL GILMAN

This is the old Airfix kit of the **Shorts Tucano** (nee Embraer Tucano). The model was modified with pretty much every aftermarket set available including a resin engine, new prop/spinner, resin control surfaces, resin wheels, decal sheet, and resin cockpit and ejection seats. No one successfully identified the cockpit photo in last month's newsletter as being this aircraft. In fact, no one even *tried* to identify it. You guys are so lame. 😊



Why a Tucano? It all started one day while I was contemplating my breakfast cereal. (Tucano – Toucan – Froot Loops – get it?) It's a neat little aircraft and I had the kit. Plus, it was near the top of the pile. A few clicks of the mouse and the aftermarket items were in my mailbox. I selected a display scheme from 2010. The red, white, and blue "swooshes" are all decals – the aluminum is Floquil Old Silver. The latter is a great paint and has no discernable pigments or grain - which is why Testors discontinued it. Losers. Luckily, GSI Creos Mr. Color Super Metallics 2 are even better. I scrounged around in the PE spares box and found the canopy handles and the four mirrors (mounted to the instrument panel coamings). The detonator cords are decals and were very fiddly indeed. And I don't know about those prop markings. That must have looked like a late night TV test pattern when the engine was running.



The model is a tail sitter, even though I crammed every available space with Liquid Gravity. If I hadn't put in the resin engine, there would have been plenty of room for ballast. I added the wheel chocks (an ancient PE set from PP Aeroparts) and glued her to a nice airfield base. That shows who's boss.



Speaking of GSI Creos (nee Gunze Sangyo) – if you use these paints, or those in similar bottles like Tamiya, AK Interactive, etc. you need **Mr. Cap Opener**. Trust me. It's the best \$6.00 you'll ever spend.



Next project? I can give you some clues – two words. Raspberry and Ripple.

STEVE SMITH

Much sadness is with my March entry. I finished the last of my Japanese Cruisers that I started, during build nights, years ago. The small scale made for easy transport - but hard on the eyes at the lighting of Bill Grays.







ASHIGARA



KISO



YAHAGI

JOHN McKEOWN

Here is my latest creation. The actual V-1 came from a Frog Arado kit which sat unfinished for decades. Then I saw the Hanna Reich footage from The old movie operation crossbow and I was inspired.



INTERESTING LINK

Editor's note: A friend sent me this link to the Flickr account of a guy named Michael Paul Smith. He builds car and truck models, along with scale buildings and other diorama details that are incredibly realistic.

He also gives some details about the way he photographs his work.

The guy is a magician. **Really** impressive – check it out !

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/24796741@N05/sets/72157604247242338/show/with/2346008881/>

RICHARD SENGES

News You Can Use

In April 2020 a six page article was published by AMPS - *Boresight* magazine - regarding Richard Senges' 1/6 scale 1942 Desert Raider jeep. In March of 2021 the MVPA published an article in their magazine *History in Motion* regarding a joint convention of AMPS and the MVPA to be held in August 2021 in Indiana. In this magazine article nine images were dedicated to the same model - the 1/6th scale Desert Raider jeep. On March 23, 2021, the MVPA is planning to publish another of Richard's articles comparing and contrasting 1:1 historic military vehicle restoration with 1/6th scale military modeling. Model below



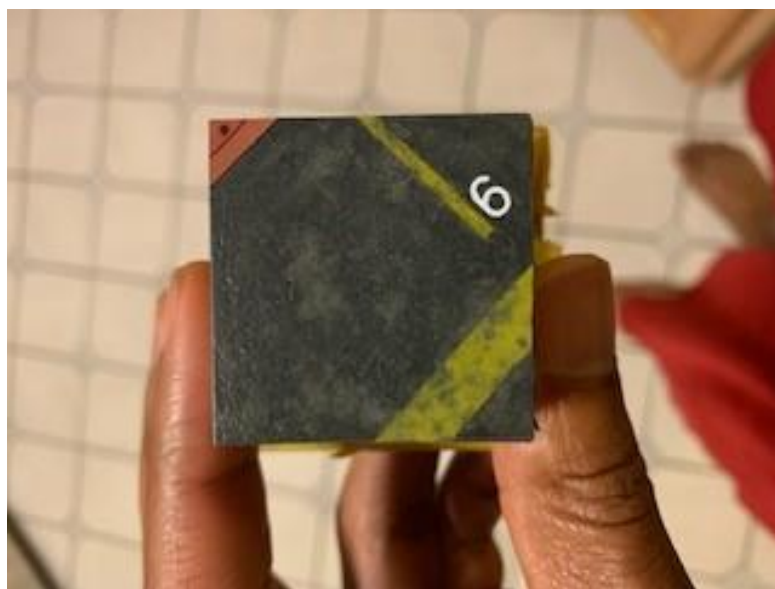
JASON CHARLES

Greetings again fellow modelers! So this time I decided to show and tell one of my 1/35 scale “Maschien Krieger” models. I purchased this kit sometime last year and have been wanting to build, paint and set it up on a base since then. The kit is manufactured by Hasegawa and the head was replaced with a resin Hornet head. The details and facial expressions seem to lend itself with what I had envisioned for this futuristic battle suit. Everything else was OBB with the exception of the cast texture I added in a couple areas to vary texture. The base was completely scratch built with plastic card and painted with acrylic paint.

This is an example of the shoulder pad texture added to make it appear heavy:



This is a work in progress shot of the scratch built base top:



You'll never will see it that much, but I did add a couple extra things to the inside of his suit. Paul Stirrup and I spoke about the things that others will not see, but getting better sleep at night because WE know it's there! That conversation validated my reasoning for doing stuff like that. So needless to say, I get a ton of sleep at night!



This was an absolute fun build with the exception of all of the fiddly attachments here and there. Other than that, it fit together well. I did modify the glass canopy top by directly cutting it at a mid-point that seemed to look natural. The kit called for it to be closed, but I couldn't resist opening it to show the figure's head. If anything was a bore and chore, it was the seam work! Everything was in half sections. Once you get around that, everything went together well! Here is the final product!

My apologies for the terrible shots! I will be focusing on taking better shots for the next newsletter. I hope all is well with everyone, and who knows... Maybe a meeting by the end of year? Fingers crossed!

Editor's note:

You Kidding ?

These pictures are great !





JOHN TRIPPE

Hello sequestered builders! Been working on this 50-60 year old Russian kit, of a turn of the century warship. I tried translating the instructions...my best effort was an Aurora class, 1902 ish ? Was in the Russo-Japanese war. The subject is rare. The kit is something that many would have thrown out. But, my desire to push myself is always fun for me.



more PE work on the Russian Aurora 1/400. Get it done!! 🤪





With new brass gun barrels, some paint and some photo etched rails n' such...!m pleased with the journey so far. Hope to call it done, soon.



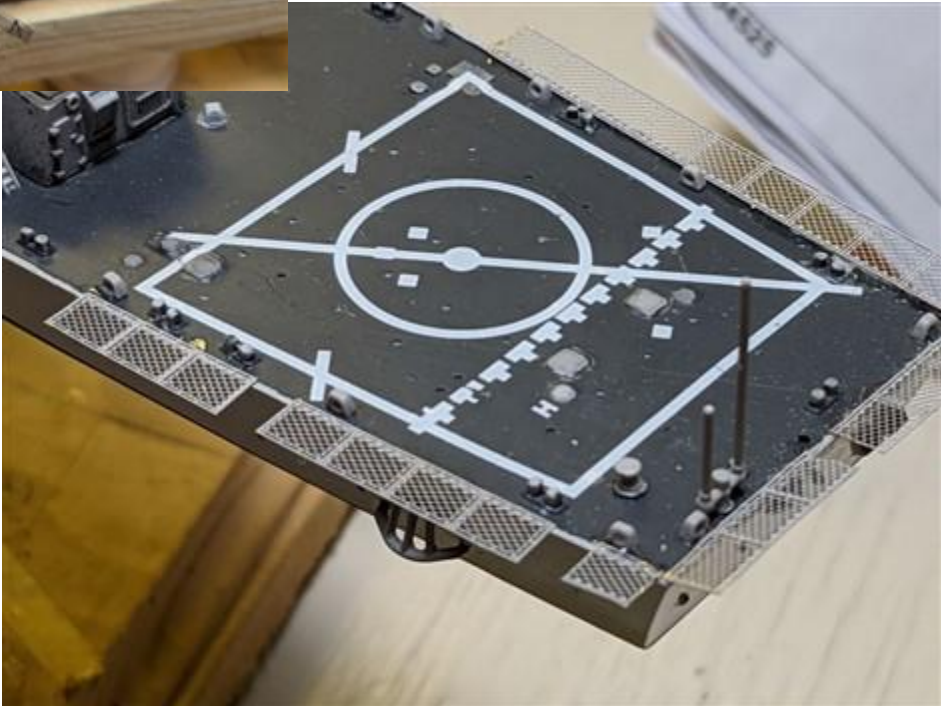
The Aurley Burke has an issue.

A Mis-step with Helo nets made me buy new ones. So, had to wait. Hope to call that done soon also.



Installing railing.

New Nets Procured !



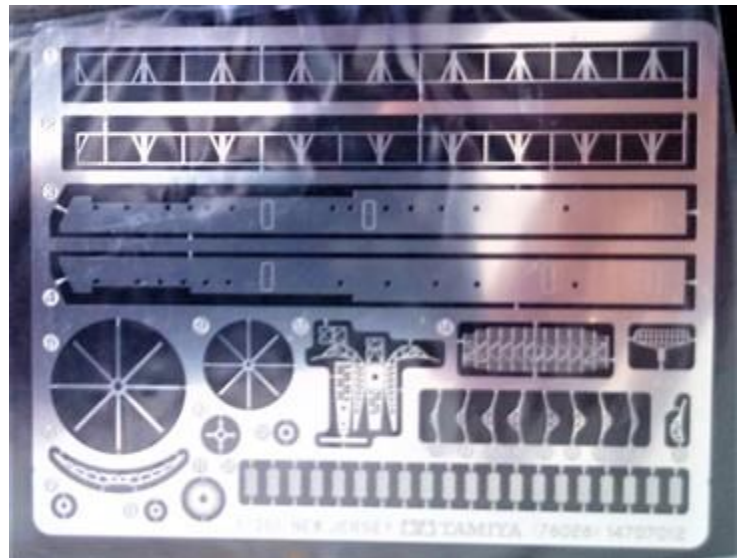
I wanted to share the upcoming build. Tamiya's USS New Jersey 1/350 scale. I got it on eBay with missing parts. I knew this in advance.



Just under
3 feet long !



With nothing to lose, I contacted Tamiya online. Got a great customer service rep that sent me what I needed including a sheet of photo etched parts !! No charge too ! Wow ! Triple A+++'s for Tamiya.



CHRIS BOSS

Here is a 1/72 Academy PBY-4 Catalina that I've worked on throughout the month of February. It has a pretty low parts count for such a big 1/72 kit. The 1990 mold produced super crisp parts with nice riveting on the exterior surface and great fit.

The waist gunner positions have a little bit of detail. But because they are so visible through the opened windows, I decided to add some styrene rod framing in this area - just to make it more visually interesting.



I also added some framing to the wingtip bays.

The cockpit was simple and sparse, but I decided to leave it as-is. The canopy framing is so dense, there would be no way to see any detail (or lack of detail).



The tri-color camo scheme is a combination that I haven't seen on any other USN aircraft. The kit instructions said that this was a field applied camo scheme that used colors that happened to be available: The underside is a Light Gray, with the upper camo in Flat Gull Gray, Blue Gray, and Intermediate Blue. It came out looking a lot lighter than I was expecting.

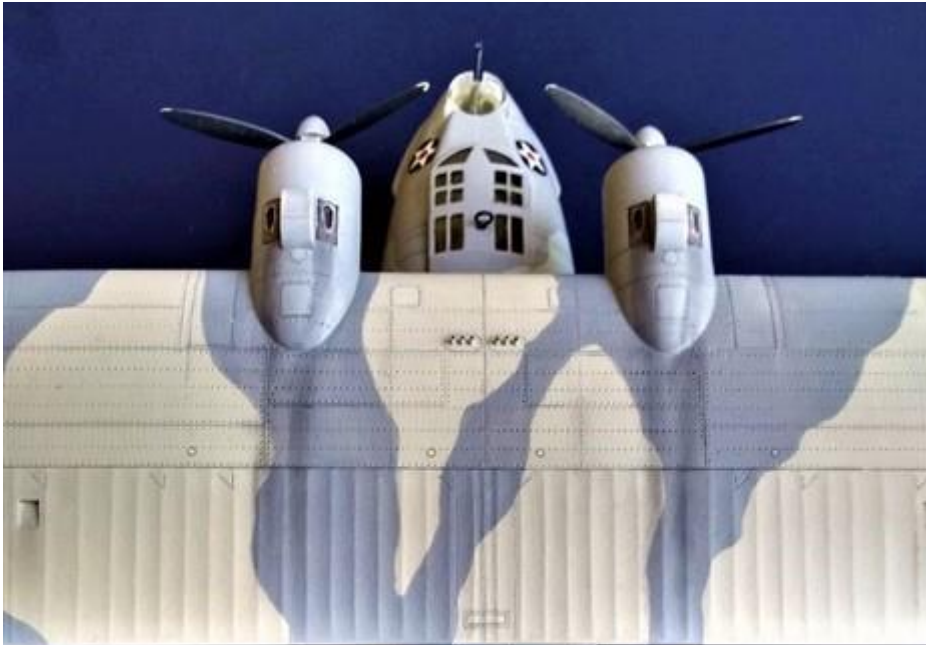
I apply paint colors starting with the lightest grays that go underneath everything, and then move to the darker colors over top.

Here she is, pretty much finished . . .



These pics were taken before adding the sliding windows that would cover the waist gunner positions.





The antenna is made from EZ- line, an elastic thread – painted medium grey. Exhaust stains need darkening.

This was one of those builds that just kinda grabbed my attention and kept it. I didn't run into any snags, until the very end when I tried to use a liquid mask (for the first time) on the canopy "glass" so that it would be protected while I sprayed an overall dull coat.

It made quite a mess. If anyone knows of a good liquid mask product for this purpose, let me know.



Light weathering on the underside. I may add more later.



PHIL PUCHER

The Fleet Air Arm was part of the Royal Navy. It was responsible for the delivery of naval air power on land and at sea. Although the FAA had a number of carrier based aircraft available at the start of the war, a number of them were eventually relegated to non-combat duties or withdrawn altogether due to their sub-standard performance. With the passage of the Lend-Lease Act, the FAA now had aircraft better suited to the task of winning the war.

Shown below are the aircraft of my "Squadron".

The newest addition is a Corsair IV of 1841 Squadron, HMS Formidable, August 1945.



The other aircraft are as follows:

Hellcat Mk II, 1839 Squadron, HMS Indomitable, April 1945



**Hellcat Mk I, 800 Squadron HMS Emperor
Operation Hoops May 1944**



**Corsair Mk II, 1836 Squadron HMS Victorious
April 1945**



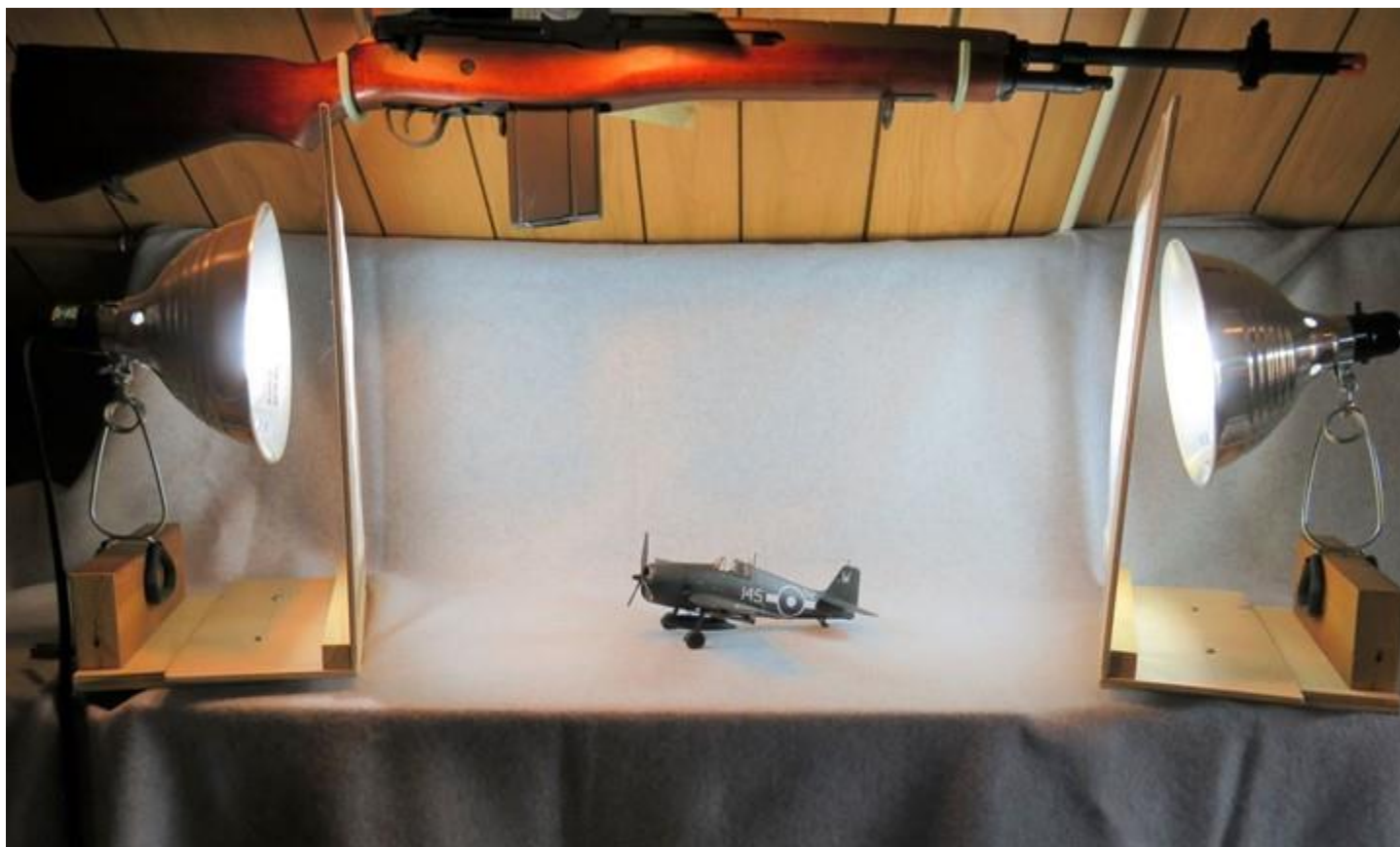
Avenger Mk I, 758 Squadron, HMS Merlin (Shore based), June 1944



My ongoing project is a Ryefield Model Panzer IVJ with a complete interior, clear parts (upper hull and turret), and workable tracks. I haven't decided if I want to use just the clear parts or use them and also do a partial cutaway. This project is going to take some time. I'm sure that I'll be taking a break and building another model (I have a P-47 and decals to do a sharkmouth) before it gets done.



Here is a pic of my photo “studio” It is set up on top of a display case. A wood dowel mounted to the ceiling with 2 screw eyes holds the fabric backdrop. I used scrap wood to make bases to hold the clip on reflector lights. LED light bulbs provide balanced lighting and generate almost no heat. The light is diffused by translucent fabric mounted in front of the lights. A light bar attached to the ceiling provides overhead lighting. The materials were relatively inexpensive, and it only takes a few minutes to set up/take down. NOTE: The M-14 rifle isn’t real; it is an Air-Soft rifle (A glorified BB gun - perfectly legal). So please don’t report me to the Safe Act Police.



ARMAND MIALE

Here is my 1/48th Tamiya -1 Corsair. Beautiful kit.



I used a Kendall resin cockpit Set.



Tried to beat up the finish from the harsh SW Pacific conditions.



Used AeroMaster decals.

