

Thanks for your submissions!

Have a Great Holiday Everyone!

#### **Phil Pucher**

I rescued these two kits from the Shelf of Doom (5 more to go!)

The Sdkfz 232 is an old Tamiya kit. AFV Club has made subsequent versions. I applied a winter camouflage using the hairspray method and applied oil colors using the OPR (oil paint rendering) method developed by Michael Rinaldi.



The markings are of the 5<sup>th</sup> SS Panzer Division "Wiking". The division was made up of volunteers from the Scandanavian countries, Estonia, the Netherlands and Belgium and commanded by German officers. The division spent the entire war in Russia.



The JS-2 was developed to combat the Tiger I. This is the old Dragon kit. It was necessary to add a 3mm shim to the sides of the lower hull so the fenders on the upper hull wouldn't sit on the tracks. The tracks are individual link but will stay connected when pressed together so it wasn't too difficult to assemble them.

Sagging tracks are seen on many Russian tanks. I sprayed a base coat of medium green. Shadows and recesses were airbrushed with a darker green and highlights and raised areas were airbrushed with a lighter green. Each of the greens were of a different hue rather than a lighter/darker shade of the base color. The decals had turned yellow, but I was able to salvage a polish division emblem.





I acquired this display case 2 years ago. It was in rough shape, but the curved glass front was intact (Curved glass is VERY expensive). I rebuilt all 3 corners so the case would accept shelves ¼ of a circle. When I went to re-install the glass front, it wouldn't fit!! \$#@%!! Sooo, I had to partially disassemble the case to make it fit. Now I have a place to display my larger aircraft.



#### **Chris Boss**

1/72 AMT B52-G/H

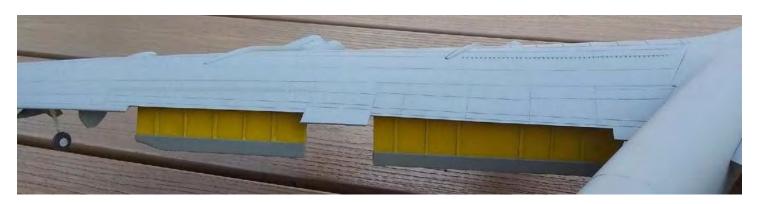


A continuation of work on the B-52 . . . and I'm going to call this one done. But before finishing, I ran into a snag painting the canopy. My normal method for canopy painting is to use a very fine brush and paint by hand, but with this kit I had spray painted the main body. In order to match the color, I decided to decant some of the spray paint and apply it with a brush to the clear canopy. Let's just say that I won't be doing that again. I have no idea why – but the paint appeared significantly darker as a result of using this method.

Here it is after painting. Not so great.

Since then, I've overpainted it with my own custom blend of acrylic paint. It's better, but haven't really been able to match the overall grey color exactly. . . . So the rest of these shots are taken from a distance.

One successful bit of scratch building was done on the wing flaps. The flaps were scribed away from the lower wing halves and strips of various widths were cut from styrene sheet to (kindof) match ribbing that I had seen in reference photos. A pretty easy addition that I thought added some much needed interest to these large, plain grey surfaces.



And here's the finished product.



The model is so huge that the only place for me to display it is to hang it from the ceiling. In this case, that's not such a bad thing. The canopy is less visible – and the underside detail is the main thing you see!



#### 1/72 Hasegawa EA6 B Prowler

This kit was started around 15 years ago and has been worked on intermittently since then. At some point I decided to scratch build the wing fold – having no idea that it would discourage me from even picking the kit up for so long. This year I have been trying to work through the partially built kits that have been lingering in my stash, so it has felt good to get over the major hurdles with this one.



The Hasegawa kit has very fine detail on the exterior surfaces, and the fit was very good. The decals were excellent! But as with some of these older Hasegawa kits, the cockpit and the wheel wells are rather simplistic. I may add some harnesses and wiring in the cockpit to busy it up a bit.







There will be more detail added to the wing fold.



1/72 Hasegawa SBD-3 Dauntless Done!





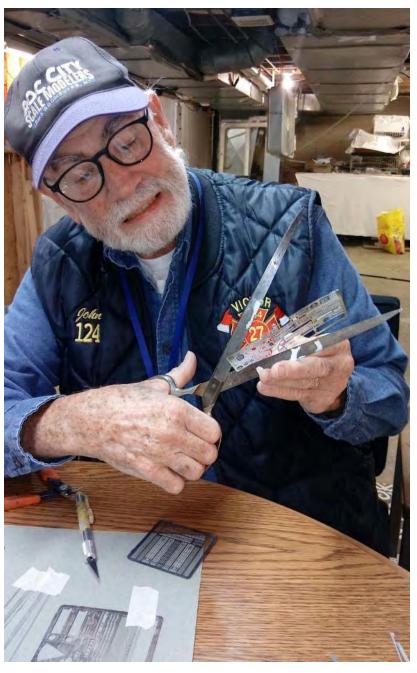




## **John Trippe**

First off I'd like to share a photo demonstrating the high precision instruments that are used harvesting photo etched parts. Spare no expense fellas on getting the right tools!

I'm working on 3 concurrent builds: the DC6, Fairchild Flying Boxcar and the Knox.





Next is a demonstration of the assembly process of the nacelles and engines for the 1/144 DC6, vacuform kit by Welch Models (England)

1) started by stacking and gluing the engine facade on the mounting disc.

2) then under great duress and calm, I progressively opened the holes for the engine install. Then inserting them down the inside of the housing.

3) This took a lot of time and test fitting.

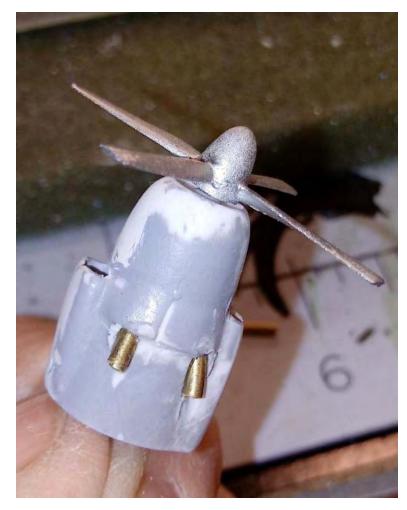


4) along with the engine openings, I opened the intakes and exhausts. OMG  $\textcircled{\@3pt}$ 





5) made openings for exhaust pipes too. They get installed after the engines. Otherwise you can not get the engine to seat properly. Once happy with all of that...you have an engine! Some more clean up, then primer and install on the wing. Did I mention this is in 1/144, Whewww!!



More progress examples through staged fitting. Getting closer to a primer coat to expose further work 🗟 😉

Staged in place before a primer coat to expose the issues.

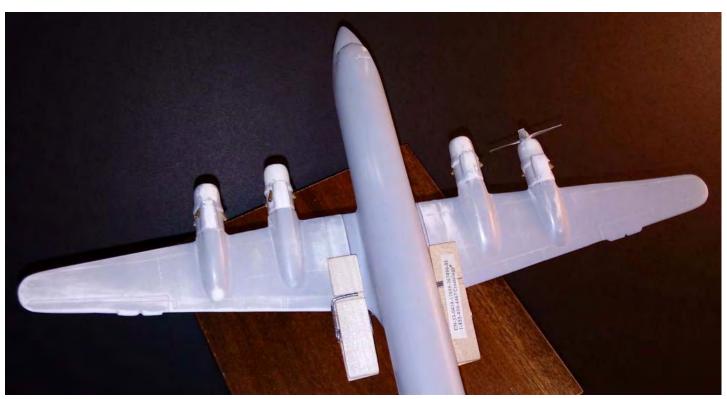


Then a commitment to final assemblies. Rear stabilizers are pinned for stability. All props are white metal and each needs adjustments to the camber of the axle insert. So, lots of caution there. I'm hoping for a final reveal at some point. In the meantime, slow but sure..







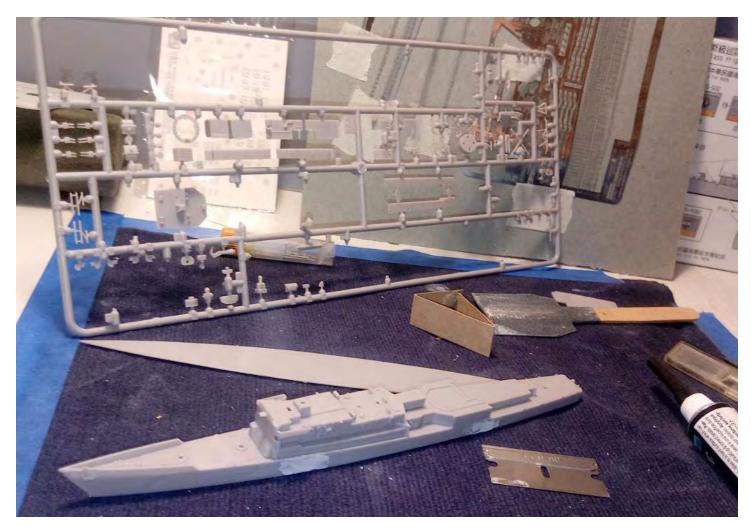


Concurrently with the dc6, I'm also working on Roden's 1/144 Flying Boxcar. Please take note of the Huge lead splitshot used for nose weight. Now, the instructions call for 6g. I put in 10. Tests so far show, it should work.



Finally I've started the USS JOHN TRIPPE (yes, it's true. A naval officer from the Revolutionary War) Knox class frigate. With PE parts. What's wrong with me? The kit is for the USS Aylwin, Elmer Montgomery or the Kirk. I will attempt my namesake. The numerals for the Trippe are with the kits. Just cut them as required. I have never done a Naval vessel before. Let alone in 1/700. I'm looking forward to continuing.







The Tower



Be safe all! Keep building...! Thanks! John

# **Armand Miale**

Gaspatch Henschel 123 Final paint stages



#### Guess she's done!



Biplanes can be a challenge. The Gaspatch kit is very, very nice...highly recommended.



#### ?????

These photos were submitted by someone who's e-mail address I couldn't identify. So - I don't know who sent them in - but I'll update everyone when I find out.

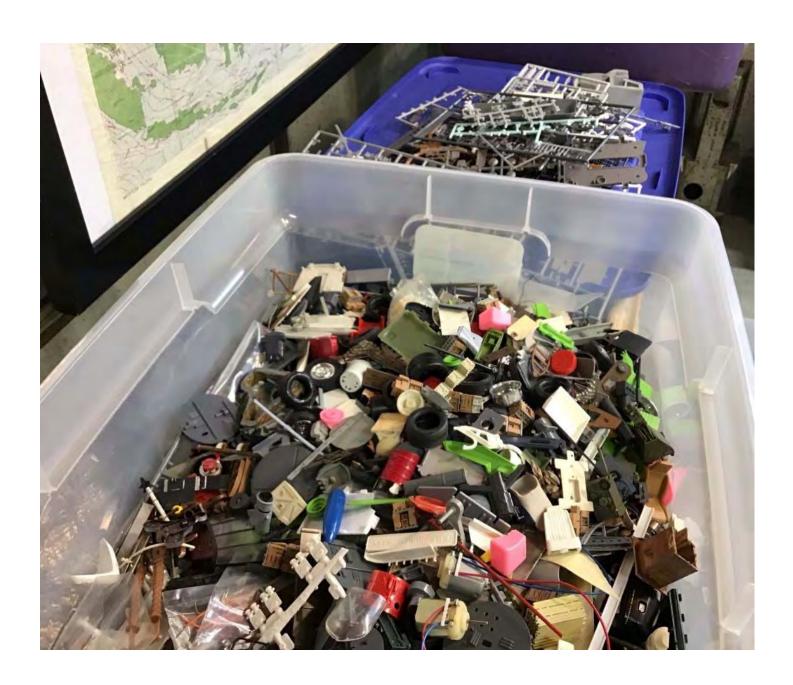
Northrup F5 in USN Aggressor color scheme. Hobby Boss kit. Vallejo, Mission & Tamiya paints. Much blood, sweat & tears.



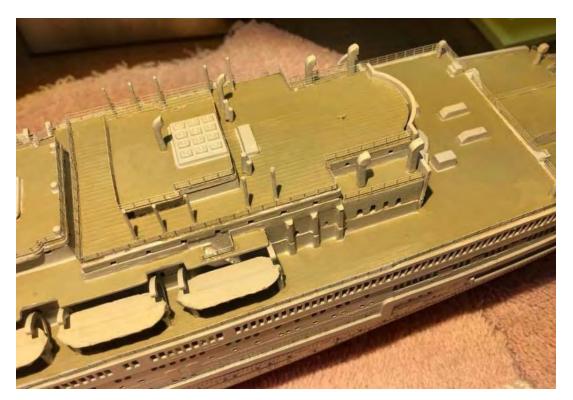


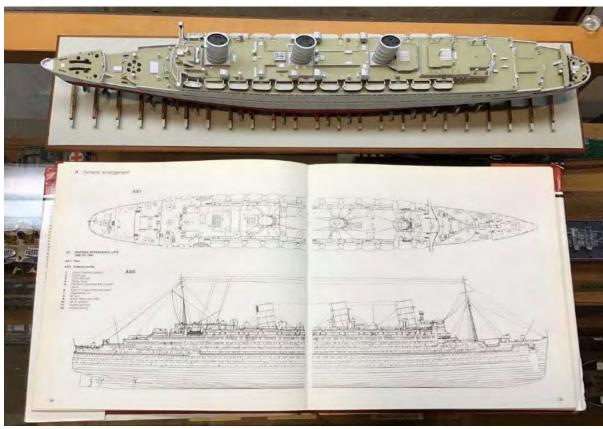
#### **Steve Smith**

I knew if I saved my parts long enough they would come in handy. Sixty years of saving produces several boxes of stuff. I was surprised at how many little bits I remembered what kit they came from. Can't remember wife's birthday, can't remember to turn the lights off, but remember this part came from the USS King by Renwal.



My current build is the Queen Mary as she appeared during her service as a troopship during WW 2. I need to add many anti-aircraft guns and a De-gassing cable (to protect against magnetic mines) so into the parts stash I dive. Also this is the most intensive photo-etch I've ever done. Three or four railings a session. Good thing I have a good supply of Irish Whiskey.





## **Steve Coykendal**

This is Dotty Storm from the Denizens of Zo series concepted and produced by Garage Kits US Colors. She's about 1/6th scale. The series is a take off from The Wizard of Oz, obviously. Dotty is a bash of Dorothy Gale and Alice from Resident Evil - Extinction. All of the characters are serious tweaks on the original. For example, the Scarecrow is equipped with a flame thrower. I didn't like the Toto that came with the kit so I'll be sculpting a new one at some point.







#### **Bill Gilman**

Here ya go! All in glorious 1:72 scale, which was the original scale intended by God at the creation until those silly giants got involved.

First is the **Hasegawa Panavia Tornado F.3**. This was built back in 1990 when the kit first came out - so she's 30 years old! I think she's held up well. I remember buying this kit at Dan's and paying *list price*, which was an outrageous \$29.95. Probably more like \$50 today.



Next up is a couple shots of the **Revell McDonnell Douglas (but built by Mitsubishi) F-4EJ Kai** in resplendent JASDF 301 Squadron anniversary markings. Now if you don't think she's a purty bird, well, you haven't been paying attention. These markings are a combination of decals and painting, but by far the most fun part of the job was the stencils. Every. Single. Last. One. There has to be several hundred stencils - if you get out your electron microscope you can actually read what they say. And yes, they are in English not Japanese.



The model is a minor conversion required to earn the "Kai" designation. You'll notice that the wingtips have extra antennae, the wings are not slatted, and the fin has an extra bulge above the rudder.



And now we have three shots of one of the coolest lawn darts from the 50s - the **Grumman XF10F-1 Jaguar** which first flew in 1952. This is the **Planet Models** resin kit and is a great replica of the Tomcat's Grandaddy.



The Jaguar featured swing wings and a unique "double delta" all-moving tailplane in addition to "horsals" - Grumman's word for the horizontal dorsal fins on the aft end of the fuselage. The cockpit and rear diffuser for the engine were scratchbuilt.



The Jaguar was on the drawing board a mere three years after the Hellcat ended production. If only she wasn't powered by the awful Westinghouse J40 engine - she might have gone into production. "Corky" Meyer was the only man to ever fly her.



Last but not least is **Vought's weird little F7U-3 Cutlass**. This is the **Fujimi** kit, of course, and a real gem it is. She's also more than thirty years old, and I found her in a shoe box labeled "junk." Huh. I wonder what I thought was good back then. Due to the abnormally high angle of attack necessary to slow these birds down for a carrier landing, the nose strut is rather long. In a rough landing, the nose strut would occasionally break, or even tear through the floor of the cockpit and launch the pilot (seat and all) through the canopy and into the barrier. Kind of a landing-induced ejection. I am not making this up. You can find the videos on YouTube.







Stay safe - I hope everyone has some Pactra 'Namel on their fingernails! Cheers, Bill

#### **Richard Senges**

# How to Get that Gray Steel Look by Richard Senges

I want to get that gray steel look on my models but was not sure how to achieve that soft not so shiny steel metal look. After some research and experimenting, the results are below.

For the tires on wagon wheels, try using a #2 pencil on the bottom on the metal tires – the part the touches the ground. Just rub some of the lead from the pencil on the wagon tire and bingo, there's the color you are looking for. And it is quick and easy. It also works on the belt side of pulleys, like those use in a shop. Also can be used on gun barrels.

Another product which is somewhat more expensive is Neolube introduced to me by a fellow modeler. This product is sold as the "superior electrically conductive dry lubricant" by PBL of Ukiah, CA. It is suggested for: valve gear, wheel treads, driver tires, shay drives, and coupler & coupler knuckle faces. It is especially great on side rods for your engines. The material is liquid and appears to be graphite in a solution of isopropanol (isopropyl alcohol). Before using the product, you need to shake the wide mouth jar to mix up the contents. And you definitely do not want to get this stuff on your hands. It is very black and hard to get off! PBL can be reached at www.pb-l.com

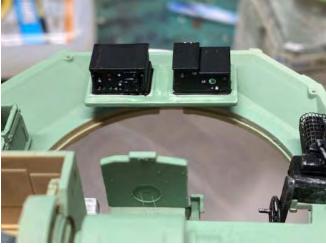
Gray powders can also be used to create that soft gray steel look. These powers can be applied dry or mixed with isopropyl alcohol.



# **Paul Stirrup**

MENG, Bradly full interior.... great shake and bake kit, no problems or issues.















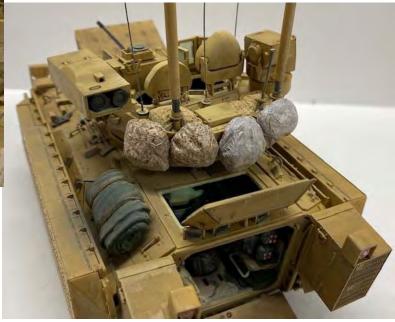




































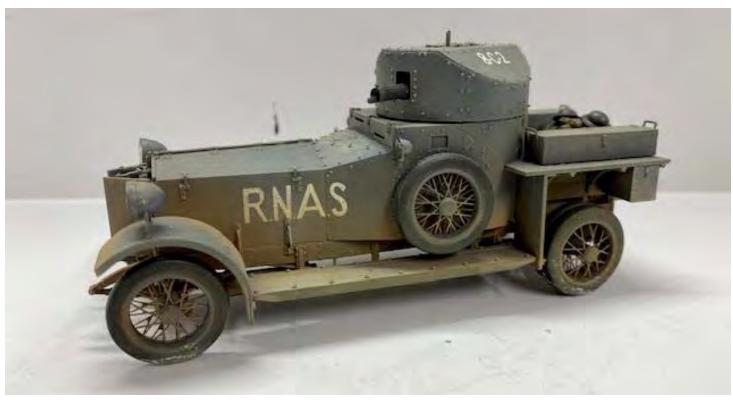
MENG Rolls Royce Armoured Car, absolutely loved making this, and the figures were very nice to build and paint.



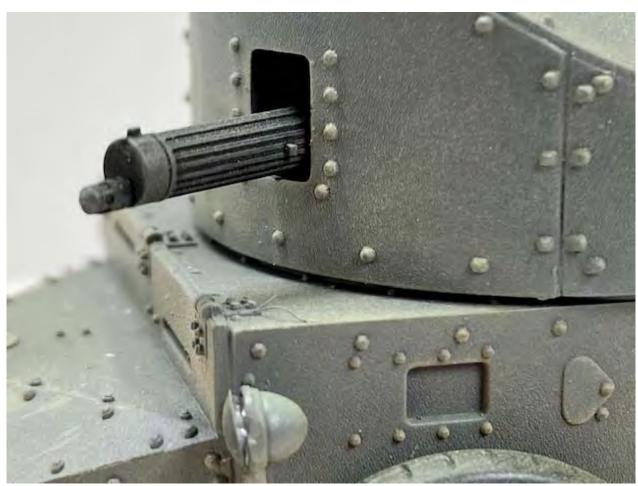
































Accurate Armour Ferret Mk.3, first time making a full resin kit, some minor fit finish issues, and details not as crisp as I'd have liked, but it's another one of my bucket list builds, I had the use of one of these during my deployments to Northern Ireland, so was another build close to my heart.









01 CA 54







## **Ted Thull**

Attached are a couple shots of my latest venture, a Revell P-40b Tiger Shark, 1:48 scale. It was a cheapo level 2 that I bought a couple years ago, and I'm trying to shrink the inventory - which is hard to do when obtaining two or three in the time you finish one!



Obviously, I haven't gotten very far since first starting this a few months ago at a Build Night at Bill Gray's, Charlotte (always a great time, I promise to get there more often!). The parts don't fit the greatest, which adds to the challenge of making the finished product look half-way clean and presentable.

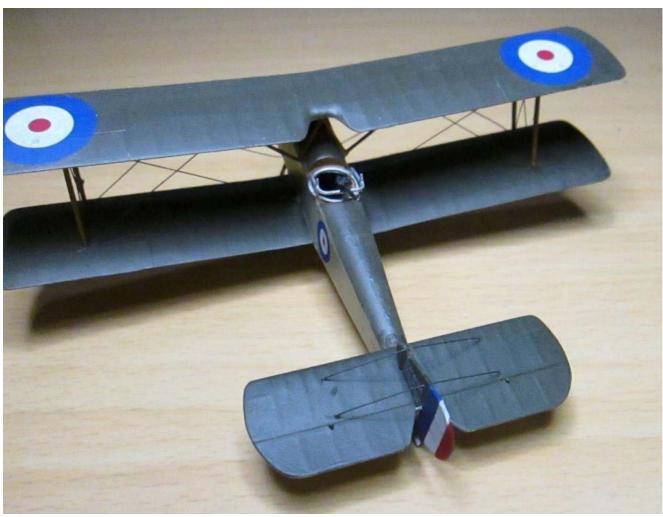


## John McKeown

Here are some photos of my 2020 builds, so far.

A TUKU 1/72 scale Sopwith 1 1/2 Strutter,





and a Roden 1/72 scale Fokker D VIII.



I understand that these firms have merged. The quality of the kits is a notch up compared to the Revell and Airfixes of our youth, The Sopwith's Lewis gun even has a gunsight.

The Fokker was a fiendish build. I learned a lesson never to attempt to place decals on unpainted plastic.

I hope folks enjoy the photos.

## **Ken Brent**

Hobby Boss 1/72 F4F -4 Wildcat completion

Decals went on well after a clear top coat of Model Master Acryl, another to seal them and then a clear flat coat.







Hobby Boss 1/72 P-40M 1945 44FS 18FG completion

Finished with Model Master Acryl clear gloss and flat









## Revell 1/144 Sea Shadow completion

I'm glad the Hobby Boss models went together well! This ship was a real challenge. The kit itself was molded in some kind of strange plastic, wouldn't take glue very well. Made in Belgium according to a flyer in the box. I had to use Plastruct Bondene liquid cement and Gorilla Super glue (a tip of the hat to John Trippe). The side are cut at odd angles and don't allow for gluing surfaces. Plastruct was added to aid in filling in those areas. Perfect Plastic Putty from Deluxe Materials was used to fill in any gaps. The pontoons were difficult to fill and sand, being split in half and ribbed. A Flex-I-file worked wonders, also foamed backed, thin sanders aided in the smoothing. The interior bridge had to be finished and installed, as well as the interior windows, before the hull was glued together. Only a couple of braces keep the pieces together. The ship was finished in Haze Grey Model Master paints and white. The kit decals barely came off the backing and had horrible yellow film on them. NO way could they have been placed on a black ship! I found some small lettering in Hobby Lobby and rubbed them onto decal film. The depth markings are from a 1/700 scale decal sheet. I have since found a proper decal sheet on line for all versions. To show scale, I included some figures donated to the cause by John Trippe. A very unique ship finally sails!



