

# The Trim Tab

May 2019 Volume 48 Issue 6



## IPMS Atlanta / Scale Modelers

[IPMS Atlanta Website](#)



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### Coming Events

#### PDK Airport Monthly Meeting -

This month's meeting will be **Wednesday, May 15, 7 p.m.** at Peachtree-Dekalb Airport (PDK). Turn from Clairmont onto Airport Rd. Go to the last left turn before reaching the speed bumps. The street will take you around the hanger and across the ramp. There is parking just past the ramp. Go in the glass door. Take the stairs to the left and go up to the second floor. The conference room is just down the hall. [DIRECTIONS](#)

#### Childrens Hospital Of Atlanta Build Session

**Egleston Hospital**  
**May 23, 2 pm**  
 Contact Jim Elmore

Join IPMS Atlanta club members for model building and conversation first and last Saturdays of each month at HobbyTown!

#### Model Building Clinic and Q&A-

**Saturday, May 25, 1 p.m.**  
**Club Build-Session-**  
**Saturday, June 1, 1 p.m.**

**HobbyTown USA**

4125 GA-20, BUFORD, GA

<http://www.hobbytownduluth.com/>

**2019 IPMS/USA Nationals**  
**Chattanooga, TN**  
**Aug 7-10, 2019**

Now Less Than ...  
**3 Months** Away!

[Click to Volunteer to Help](#)

### In This Month's Newsletter:

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## CALENDAR

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| <p><b>May 15:</b> PDK Airport Monthly Meeting 7-9 pm</p> <p><b>May 18:</b> <b>Smokey Mountain Model-Con</b><br/><b>Knoxville, TN</b></p> <p><b>May 23:</b> <b>CHOA Build Session</b><br/><b>Egleston Hospital</b></p> <p><b>May 25:</b> HobbyTown Model Build Q&amp;A 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Jun 1:</b> HobbyTown Build Session 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Jun 15:</b> <b>ScottCon</b><br/><b>Warner Robins, GA</b></p> <p><b>Jun 19:</b> PDK Airport Monthly Meeting 7-9 pm</p> <p><b>Jun 29:</b> HobbyTown Model Build Q&amp;A 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Jul 6:</b> HobbyTown Build Session 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Jul 17:</b> PDK Airport Monthly Meeting 7-9 pm</p> | <p><b>Jul 27:</b> HobbyTown Model Build Q&amp;A 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Aug 3:</b> HobbyTown Build Session 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Aug 7-10:</b> <b>IPMS/USA Nationals</b><br/><b>Chattanooga, TN</b></p> <p><b>Aug 21:</b> PDK Airport Monthly Meeting 7-9 pm</p> <p><b>Aug 24:</b> <b>Huntsville Model Contest</b><br/><b>Huntsville, AL</b></p> <p><b>Aug 31:</b> HobbyTown Model Build Q&amp;A 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Sep 7:</b> HobbyTown Build Session 1-3 pm</p> <p><b>Sep 18:</b> PDK Airport Monthly Meeting 7-9 pm</p> |
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### PDK Meeting Notes

- A. 4/17/2019 Brief club business meeting ...
1. **Spring Cookout:** Thank you to Ed & Jonne Sveum for a great Spring Cookout!
  2. **Volunteering for Chattanooga Nationals:** Members were reminded to go to the website for the upcoming Nationals and volunteer to help. <http://www.ipmsnationals.com/Help/Volunteer.aspx>
  3. **CHOA Build Session:** Jim Elmore indicated Thursday, May 23, at 2 pm as the date and time.
  4. **CHOA Auction:** Jim Elmore brought in some kits and held a quick auction with members to raise additional money for kit purchases for this activity.
  5. **AtlantaCon 2020 Vote:** A motion to hold the annual AtlantaCon Contest and Show in 2020 was forwarded, seconded, and a vote accepted the motion. Kim Elmore will be Show Chairperson.
  6. **Club Shirts:** A brief discussion was held about doing a new order possibly changing the look but primarily to allow new members to get a shirt. Additional discussion required.
  7. **Pictures:** Members were reminded to continue to send pictures of their Model Work/Display Areas
  8. **Upcoming Shows:** Pensacola, FL, May 4, and Knoxville, TN, May 18.
- B. **"Shelf of Doom" Project Selection** - Members indicated what kits they planned to complete for the March, 2020 contest..
- C. **"Brush Painting Metallics" Demo:** Thanks to Ed Sveum for an informative demo.
- D. Members discussed a small but great group of models on the table this month.
- E. The F-8J Crusader build from Bill Wofford was selected "Model of the Month."
- F. Michael Miller was the Raffle Winner.


#### **Recognition and Thanks to:**

**Lane Royal** for handling monthly meeting raffles, and **Bill Wofford** for monthly meeting model photography.

# Models for the Gwinnett Veterans Memorial Museum

<http://vetmemorialmuseum.tripod.com/index.html>

## COMPLETED:

MiG-21, Bill Wofford  
 F-4, Brian Speer  
 MiG-17, Bill Johnston  
 B-58, (1/48), Bill Easton  
 F/A 18, Jim Elmore  
 F-5, Jim Elmore  
 A-10, Brian Mason (Lost In Action)   
 F-117, Gale Brown  
 B-52, Ed Sveum  
 USS Skipjack (1/72), Dave Lockhart  
 F-105, Gale Brown, Bill Easton

## IN PROCESS:

F-100, Art Murray  
 A-10 (Replacement), Ed Hulsey  
 Berlin Airlift 3-Plane Set (1/144)  
 Jose Morales Jr, Ray Wheeler, Bill Easton

## UNASSIGNED:

A-4  
 A-6  
 F-106  
 F-86  
 OV-10  
 OV-1A

*All models/kits are 1/32 Scale unless otherwise noted.*

# CHOA

**Build Session  
 Scheduled!!**



## Childrens' Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston Hospital

IPMS/Atlanta is scheduled for a build session with the kids at Childrens' Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston on **May 23 at 2PM**.

This is a great time for all and anyone is invited to join in. For more details, contact Jim Elmore at 770-962-2584.

### On the Table in April ...



**Art Murray**

1:72

Revell (Matchbox)

**T-2 C/E Buckeye**

Paint: Spaz Stix

Add-on: "Lots of patience"

**Bill Wofford**

1:48

Hasegawa

**F8-J Crusader**

Paint: Testors Enamel

Add-on: Scratch built ECM Sensors





1:72  
PM 1/96, F-4E Phantom

**Curtiss-Avia CF.28 Akoup  
(What-If)**

Paint: Model Master Acryl &  
Testors Enamel

Add-on: Major rebuild &  
Conversion ... Lots of putty!

### Two builds from Ed Sveum

1/72  
Monogram

**F-16A**

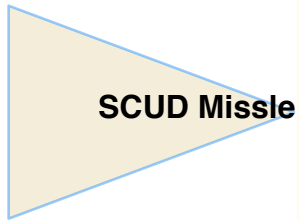
Paint: Model Master Acryl &  
Testors Enamel



The original aircraft was a participant in "Operation Opera;" The bombing of the Iraqi nuclear plant in 1981.

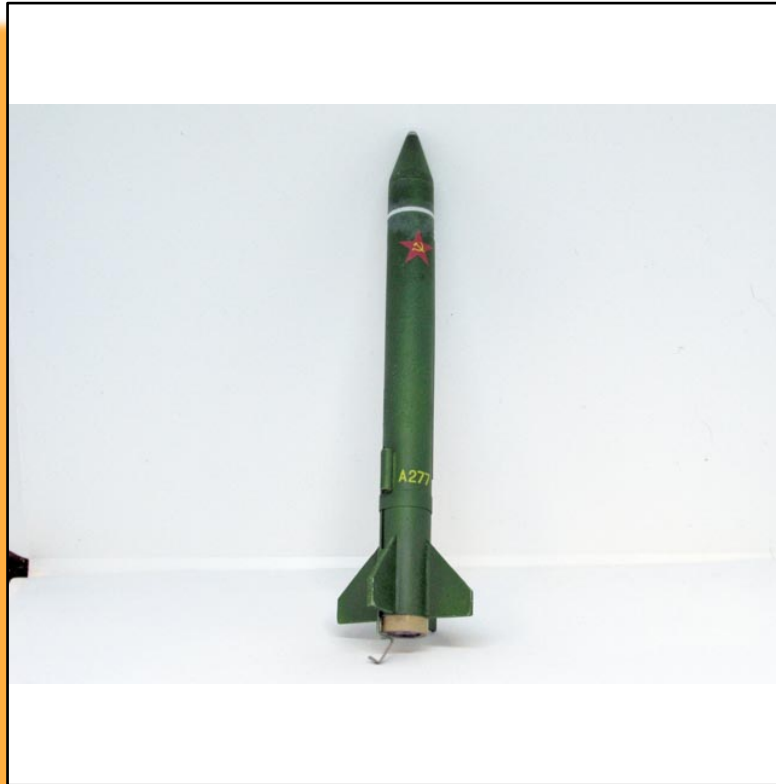
**Jose Morales, Jr.**

1:48 "ish"  
Scratch Build



Paint: Vallejo Medium Olive

USSR mobile ballistic missile during the Cold War. In service since 1957, widely exported.



Jose's missile actually flies!

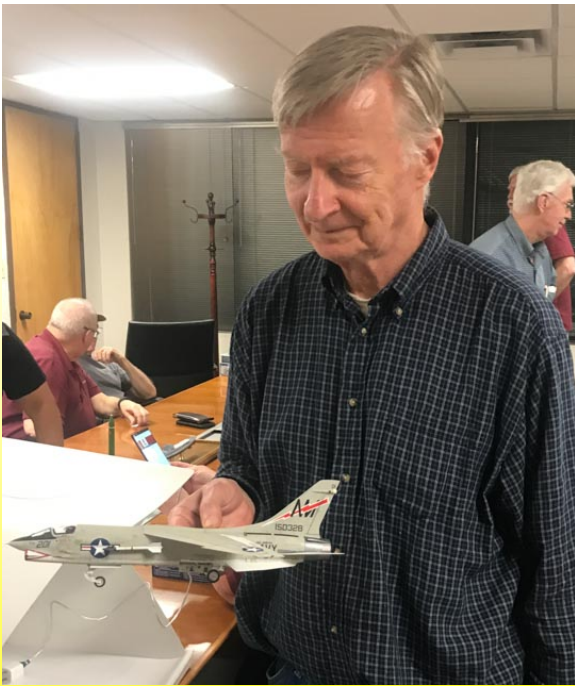
The missile is equipped with a rocket "motor" to launch it (see maximum heights in the picture on the right.)

There is also a parachute on board that will deploy to get the missile visible and carry it back to the ground for retrieval and re-use.

Talk to Jose about some of the new modeling activity he is into!



# Model of the Month



**F8-J Crusader**

**Build by  
Bill Wofford**

***Congratulations Bill!***

**April**

## Raffle Winner

**Michael Miller**

Was the Raffle winner in April, and is shown at right talking with Lane Royal about possible selections from the raffle inventory now stored on Scalemates.com thanks to Lane's good work.

***Congratulations, Michael!***



**Reminder:** Get a free raffle ticket for each model you bring to the monthly meeting.

***Build 'em and Bring 'em!***

# PDK Monthly Meeting ...

The April meeting was held without the able leadership of our President Dave Lockhart. Attendance, and conversation was good as always. The number of models on the table was notably smaller for this meeting, but those presented for review and discussion were excellent! Some members discussed their kit(s) for the 2020 "Shelf of Doom" Club Contest.



Thanks to Ed Sveum for an excellent (as always) demo. His subject was applying metallic paint with a brush. Ed's technique utilized a worn paintbrush and using what he referred to as a "scrubbing" application. Results were impressive!



## *Sprue Snippings ...*

If you run across a source that you think might be helpful to others for their modeling reference, or just for general interest, please pass it along. For this month ...

### ***Last Northrup N9M Crashes:***

The Planes of Fame Northrop N9M crashed shortly after takeoff from the Chino, California, airport on Monday, killing the pilot. This N9M, the last remaining flying-wing, third-scale prototype used to develop the B-35, was being flown in preparation for the upcoming Chino Air Show. Local authorities have confirmed that the sole occupant of the aircraft was killed. Photos on social media depict the crash site adjacent to a state prison in Norco; the N9M appears to have suffered a comprehensive post-crash fire.



This particular N9M was restored by the Planes of Fame Museum starting in 1981, and completed its test flying in 1996. It was one of four third-scale prototypes built by Northrop in the 1940s to test design concepts that would eventually yield the B-35 flying-wing bomber. The B-2 Spirit bomber also traces its lineage to the N9M. Powered by two 300-HP Franklin eight-cylinder engines buried in the wing, the N9M had twin pusher props and advanced flying-wing features like leading-edge slots.

According to the Planes of Fame website, "The primary mission of the N9Ms was to provide flight test information from which the maneuverability, controllability and performance of the XB-35 could be predicted. It was flown at Muroc Army Airfield (later Edwards Air Force Base) by well-known pilots including Robert Cardenas, Russ Schlee, John Myers, and Bob Hoover."

The identity of the pilot has not been released. No one on the ground was injured.

*(Source: Marc Cook ... received in an email from a club member.)*

### ***From Brian Mason:***

A link for Atlantis Models.

This company is bringing back a lot of re-releasing of older kits. Worth checking out:

[www.atlantis-models.com](http://www.atlantis-models.com)

### ***Jim Elmore ...***

*got an email from David Von Almen (former IPMS/USA Journal Editor, now retired and living in Hawaii.) David had seen our last newsletter, and wanted to know more from Jim about the "rust" technique he used on his "Galaxie in Autumn" model.*

*Sounds like David will now have some time to actually build models instead of spending all his time publishing about the hobby!*

*Enjoy retirement, David!*

## Bench / Display



*Jim Elmore*



*Editor Note: This is where the model building, figures, and miniature construction magic happens!*



**Thanks for the pic's Jim!**

Reminder: Send any pic's and comments about your modeling area to:  
weaston4@gmail.com

## Notes from the Workbench - May 2019

Dave Lockhart

### Where are the hobby shops (perspective does change one's opinion)



For many years as I perused through my favorite modeling website, I would occasionally read of someone who was traveling where the local hobby shops were. I'm thinking, "There are no more local hobby shops anymore, why can't they order on line like many of us do". Let's fact the facts, there are fewer and fewer hobby shops. Where I live in Atlanta there are a couple of HobbyTown's and some Hobby Lobby's but all the older model shops are gone. Besides, you can order just about everything on line, the selection is endless.

A couple of weeks ago my wife and I visited my daughter and her new baby (my grandson Jake) in Massachusetts. I knew I would get very antsy for the 7 day visit so I put together some modeling tools for my checked bag and had a couple of models as carry on. I would get some quality time working on my models while my wife and daughter were busy with the baby.

Got to the airport, was loading luggage on the parking lot van and guess what?? No models. "Well, crap!" I would have gone back home if I had the time but that was not going to happen. I'll just get a couple in MA.

Once we settled at my daughter's house, I fired up the laptop and Googled local hobby shops. There was only one hobby shop nearby, a HobbyTown 20 miles into NH and a Hobby Lobby about 15 miles. Now I know what the guys on the modeling sites were feeling. There really aren't many hobby stores anymore.

There was nothing at either HobbyTown or Hobby Lobby I would build. There was a small hobby store just a couple of miles from the daughter's house in Georgetown, MA. Very quaint town. Small shop located in a row of older businesses on Main St. The door had a bell that rang when you opened it. It was an old shop, a bit dark and a bit dusty. Shelves on both sides and behind the glass counter. Probably the size of my home kitchen. There were models of various kinds stacked all over the place. Some were piled in the front glass window. There were three older gentlemen in the store. I can say that because I'm old too. Exchanged a few pleasant greetings. I told them my story. They chuckled and the owner (Mr. Pratt?? - as most modelers names are always secondary to talking models) waved hi hand for me to look around to see if there was anything of interest. The talk among the three was what most old people talk about: recent medical issues, aches & pains, etc.

I was looking for a good armor model which are the best to build on the road but couldn't find any of interest. Instead, I picked up the Revell 1/35 PBR boat. I like ships and thought this would be a good one.

Of course, you know the end of the story. I never got to work on the model but I did

not leave it at my daughter's house. Will it get built - maybe, maybe not.

It was nostalgic to go into an old timey model shop, but sad to know that they are a dying breed.

If you have one near where you live, try and support it as much as possible. Who knows, you may find the one model you've always wanted to build sitting on the shelf with a fine layer of dust on it.

Happy modeling

Dave



## JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS

by Jim Pernikoff

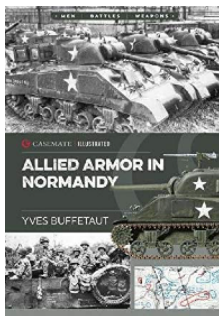


Specialty Press has been producing some nice books in their square-format series, and I have two for you this month. Actually, *Thunderchief, The Complete History of the Republic F-105*, by Dennis Jenkins is a book that not only do I not own, I have yet to see a copy! But it is getting about the best reviews I've seen for any aviation book in a number of years, so I can confidently recommend it to all fans of the "Thud". Their recent book on the F-106 got high ratings, so they are on a roll. If one of you gets a copy, I'd like to see it!

The one I did get is *America's Round-Engine Airliners, Airframes & Powerplants in the Golden Age of Aviation*. The use of the terms "Airframes" and "Powerplants" in the subtitle is appropriate, because each of the two authors is responsible for one of those topics. The chapters cover the subject chronologically, starting with early types like the Boeing 40 & 80 and the Ford Tri-Motor and ending up with the DC-7C and Lockheed Starliner. The pertinent types in between are all covered, including the flying boats, one-offs like the DC-4E, smaller types like the Convairliners and the Martin 2-0-2/4-0-4 and even some military transports and recon planes from



Douglas, Lockheed and Republic that might have become airliners but didn't. In each chapter, Craig Kodera handles the "airframes" but not with much detail, though his section features lots of neat interior photos, period print ads and other documents. Then William Pearce handles the various "powerplants" in much greater technical detail; generally each chapter covers one of America's great radial engines, with lots of close-ups and cutaways that will be useful to modelers of large-scale kits who need to fully detail their engines, and tables comparing the different engines. I'd even say that Pearce's technical details are too much for the average fan, but you can read as much as you want. The book has a detailed bibliography and decent index, and is definitely a different sort of book for airliner fans, and especially for fans of radial aircraft engines!

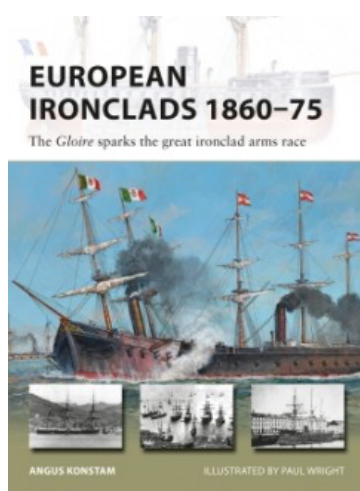


Casemate Publishers operates on both sides of the Atlantic, though they have impressed me as being more of a distributor than a publisher of their own books. But a new series called *Casemate Illustrated* has some interesting books first published by French publisher *Histoire & Collections* and now translated into English. *Allied Armor in Normandy* and *German Armor in Normandy* are two companion books by the same author that tell the same story from both sides. They are both heavily into organizational aspects, identifying each unit



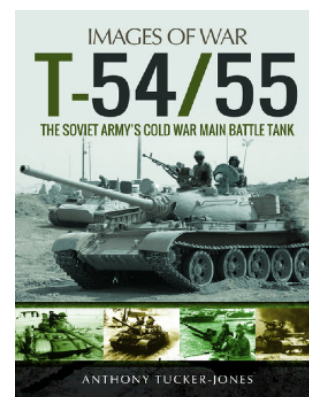
## JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS - Continued

in the campaign, showing its strength at various times using tables, and describing its history through the campaign. The action is described until around mid-August 1944. There are full-page biographies of the principal leaders and plenty of color drawings, both side-views and isometrics, of pertinent vehicles. These may not be the most authoritative books around, and I can't comment on their accuracy, but they are nicely laid out and not too expensive. Each has a bibliography and an index.



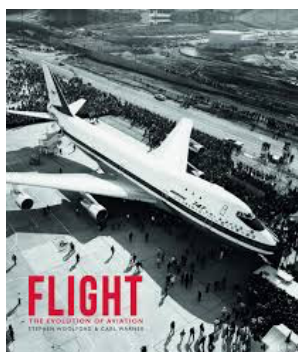
This month's offering from Osprey is *New Vanguard* #269, **European Ironclads 1860-75**, which is a companion volume to author Angus Konstam's recent offering on British ironclads of the same years. The French started the ball rolling with the ironclad frigate *Gloire*, which caused the British to respond with HMS *Warrior*, and the race was on. Initially these were still ships with broadside guns, but the advent of *Monitor* in the U.S. led to a shift to turrets by the end of the period, though the ships still had sails. A total of 51 classes of ships for 9 countries are listed; each class has a table listing specifications for the class, and the name of each ship in the class together with where and when it was built and its eventual fate. Of course, in a 48-page book there cannot be much detail about individual vessels. There is a chapter about these ships in action, the most prominent being the battle of Lissa in 1866, wherein the Austrian flagship rammed and sank the Italian flagship, and you know what that means: for the next 40 years, all large warships had to have ram bows. Artwork includes a cutaway of *Gloire*, side views of a number of other ships, and an action shot of the celebrated ramming attack, also shown on the cover. Of course there is a bibliography and an index. This is an excellent introduction to an important group of warships, brief as the coverage might be.

Last month I reviewed the *TankCraft* series from Pen & Sword, and now comes a postwar subject in book #16, **T-54/55**, covering the most widely-used AFV in history. The book starts with development, from the T-44 onwards, and then briefly describes all the main variants, with 8 full-page four-view color drawings showing the variants in representative color schemes. A gallery shows multiple views of four well-built models of tanks from four different armies, one with reactive armor added. The products section shows kits from six different manufacturers, all in 1/35 save for Revell's 1/72 kit, but no aftermarket products. A brief listing follows of 15 African and Latin countries that used these tanks, typically with one photo for each, and a chapter shows other vehicles built on the chassis, like anti-aircraft guns and bridgelayers. Finally, a nine-page chapter shows the T-54/55 in action, starting



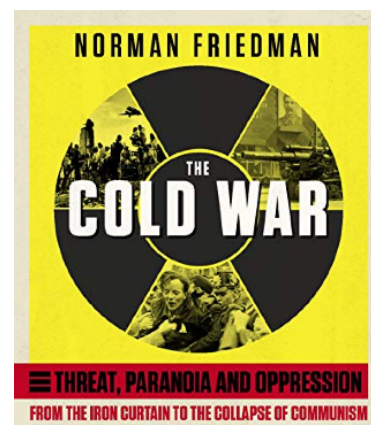
## JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS - Continued

with the 1956 Hungarian uprising and continuing to the present day. Considering the wide use of these tanks, the book is effective enough, though there is still a feeling that there should have somehow been a place for more content.



“Holy bargain books, Batman, they’re at it again!” For the second month running, there are a couple of new bargain books at B&N showing up “out of season”. *Flight, The Evolution of Aviation*, may sound like another ho-hum general history of aviation with little to recommend it, but this book’s strengths include a lot of photos that I haven’t seen before, a lot of neat little sidebars providing biographies of famous people, and above all, a ton of reproduced documents that provide some degree of fascination. These include letters, telegrams, action reports, logbook entries and advertisements, and since some are not in English, a section on translations is included right after the nice index. For \$13, this is a good book to sit down and go over with the kids, or to just leave on a coffee table for anyone passing by to peruse.

On the other hand, *The Cold War, Threat, Paranoia, and Oppression*, by noted defense analyst Norman Friedman is a bargain book I would describe as important. This square-format book has some 28 chapters, ranging from 4 to 8 pages each, starting with the partition of Europe after WW II and ending with the breakup of the Soviet Union. These cover such topics as the Truman Doctrine & Marshall Plan, China, The Bomb, McCarthyism, Sputnik, the Bay of Pigs, Vietnam, Solidarity and Gorbachev. There are photos, some excellent maps, biographical sidebars, and again, plentiful reproduced documents of a variety of types, including memos, declarations, newspaper articles, propaganda posters and such poignant reminders as a brochure “Advising the Householder on Protection Against Nuclear Attack”. (This goes well beyond “bend down, put your head between your legs and kiss your a\*\* goodbye” but was probably no more effective!) Again, there is a large number of translations provided and a good index. Aside from being fascinating to go through, I think that the topic is important enough that every one of you should buy one and sit down with your kids to show them what you had to put up with. This book would be a bargain at any price, but at \$10 it’s an absolute steal!



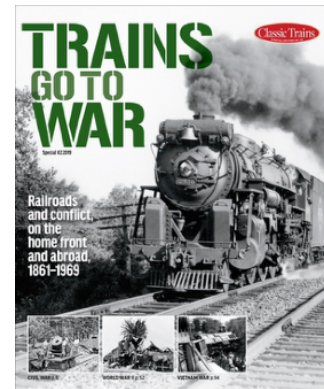
Which brings us to the magazines, starting with the U.S. issues. *Medal of Honor* is a special issue of *America in WWII* magazine that lists all 222 Americans with names from A through K that were awarded the medal due to actions in World War II, thus it is the first of two such issues. This may seem unexciting until you read the story for each recipient. They are generally 3 to a page, with a small photo, their rank and unit, their date and place of birth

## JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS - Continued



and death and a brief mention of the action for which they were awarded, followed by a more complete description. There is a lot of information here, and this cannot be reasonably gone through at one sitting or even a few. I think it is important going forward to read this and understand how and why these men were Medal of Honor winners. Some names are very familiar: Bong, Boyington, Doolittle, Foss, Inouye, Kearby, but of course most are not. Paying \$15 for a 96-page magazine may seem like a lot, but in this case, I wouldn't hesitate.

Trains Go to War is a special issue of *Classic Trains* from Kalmbach Publishing, and describes the exploits of railroads in five conflicts ranging from 1861 to 1969, both home and abroad. What is interesting is that these are actually existing articles first published in *Trains* and *Classic Trains* magazines, many during the conflict covered, so these are mostly active reports and not mere reminiscences. There are plentiful photos, a handful even in color, a few maps, and some delightful cartoons by a G.I. depicting Army rail operations in Italy during WW II. One intriguing article shows how a basic boxcar design was adapted to create troop cars and mobile kitchens during the war. The final chapter describes the trials and tribulations of the South Vietnamese Railroad while the U.S. forces were in-country. Even if you are not into railroading, this is interesting reading, and there are some diorama ideas lurking within.

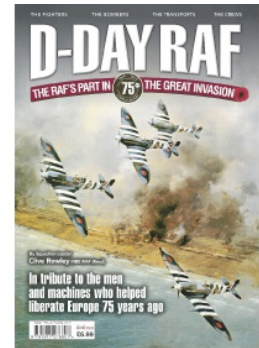


Now to the British. **Mortons Media** has two bookazines that were originally published five years ago but which have been reissued, with new covers and minor corrections, to commemorate a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **D-Day Overlord** is quite detailed, with 22 chapters on 130 pages describing many aspects, starting with the previous disastrous invasion at Dieppe and ending with the liberation of Paris. The action at all five invasion beaches is described, though action after the initial surge emphasizes the British activity, which should not come as a surprise. From a purely historical standpoint, this may be, overall, the best of the special publications likely to appear this year, though rival Key Publishing has yet to be heard from.



## JIM'S PRINTED MATTERS - Continued

On the other hand, **D-Day RAF** is unabashedly British, but contains many fascinating first-hand reports that make it worthwhile, including at least one bloke who was shot down and was forced to become a foot soldier. There are some excellent photos and artwork supporting the text, and in spite of the British bias this is a publication worth getting. Just remember that these are not new publications; if you bought them in 2014 there is no reason to get them again.



Several months ago I reviewed the first issue of a publication called *Bringing History to Life* from a Norwegian publisher called **Bonnier Publications**. Their 2/2019 issue is called *Planes, Air Combat in World War II*, which again may sound repetitious, but there is enough new in here to make this worth looking into. Six chapters describe Air Battles & Tactics, from the birth of the Luftwaffe to dealing with Kamikazes. There are five chapters detailing well-known combat aircraft and five detailed biographies of ace pilots, not all of whom are well known. I mean, have you ever heard of Franco Luccini or Boris Safonov? They achieved their fame in decidedly obsolete airplanes, and their stories are arguably the high point of the publication, so at least look for this one on your

newsstand.

Finally, another installment in the *Air Power* series from **Hachette Partworks**, this one on the *Messerschmitt Bf 109, From Spanish Condor to Third Reich Eagle*. Like the previously reviewed issues in the series on the Spitfire and the B-52, this is a very good one-volume reference work. Particularly noteworthy is the very large number of color side views and three-views, showing just about every conceivable color scheme that 109s ever carried, either German or foreign. Even if you have all the references on the Messerschmitt that you think you need, you ought to at least search for this one on your newsstand to see if you want to spend another \$20 on another one. Their next issue is announced as the F-4 Phantom II.



This being May, elsewhere in this newsletter you should find a list of selected **Osprey** series releases for the second half of the year. As is typical, there should be something on the list for nearly everyone's area of interest.

## Osprey Publishing New Releases

### Osprey Publishing New Releases July - December 2019

Here are *selected* softcover Osprey releases for the second half of the year. Dates are subject to change:

#### Air Campaigns:

Battle of Berlin 1943-44 (September)

Ploesti 1943 (October)

Guadalcanal 1942-43 (November)

#### Campaign:

The First Anglo-Sikh War 1845-46 (July)

Kos & Leros 1943 (August)

The Long March 1934-35 (September)

The Glorious First of June 1794 (October)

The Paraguayan War 1864-70 (October)

Petsamo & Kirkenes 1944 (October)

Java Sea 1942 (December)

#### Combat:

British Airborne Soldier vs Waffen-SS Soldier 1944 (July)

Sioux Warrior vs U.S. Cavalryman 1876-77 (September)

Soviet Partisan vs German Security Soldier 1941-44 (October)

Samurai vs Ashigaru: Japan 1543-75 (November)

#### Combat Aircraft:

Dornier Do 17 Units of World War II (September)

B-58 Hustler Units (October)

Me 210/410 Zerstorers Units (November)

#### Duel:

USAF F-105 Thunderchief vs VPAF MiG-17 (July)

T-34 vs StuG.III: Finland 1944 (August)

Tempest V vs Fw 190D-9 1944-45 (September)

Panzerfaust vs Sherman 1944-45 (October)

German Flak Defenses vs Allied Heavy Bombers 1942-45 (October)

Me 262 vs P-51 Mustang (November)

#### Elite:

The Royal Dragoon Guards 1685-2018 (October)

North American Forest Warfare Tactics 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Centuries (November)

## ***Osprey Publishing New Releases***

(Continued)

**Men-at-Arms:**

Armies of the Great Northern War 1700-1720 (October)

**New Vanguard:**

Churchill Infantry Tank (August)

The Medieval Cannon 1326-1494 (August)

British Escort Carriers 1941-45 (September)

Russian Battleships & Cruisers of the Russo-Japanese War (October)

German Guided Missiles of World War II (November)

British Amphibious Assault Ships 1956-Present (December)

**Weapon:**

Weapons of the U.S. Special Operations Command (July)

The Arisaka Rifle (August)

Hotchkiss Machine Guns (November)

**X-Planes:**

Jet Prototypes of World War II (September)

Douglas D-558 (October)

Wright Flyers 1899-1916 (December)

## ***Publisher Survey - Schiffer (Part 2)***

Last month, I told you about **Schiffer Publishing** of Pennsylvania, and about how their ties to a German publisher of books on military history has led Schiffer to become a major player in that genre, starting with two series of softcovers which were merely translations of the German texts. I also told you that after releasing most of these and introducing new books, many on American topics, Schiffer began transitioning more and more to hardcover books.

I included two checklists. One had many of their softcover books on military and aviation history, both those that were parts of identifiable series and those that were not. That list also included Schiffer's current hardcover series, *Legends of Warfare*, which is their major push in this genre at the present time, with quite a number of titles due for release later this year and into 2020. The other checklist had all of Schiffer's other identifiable series of hardcover books, a few of which are still active, notably one on U-Boat aces.

So what does that leave? Schiffer's hardcover books that are not in identifiable series, which started out as a fairly short list that was originally part of one of last month's lists. That was due to the fact that, believe it or not, I only own about 20 of the books on this month's checklist. So what happened? As I went through the eligible titles on Amazon, I realized that the number of such books that would be of interest to modelers and historians was actually quite vast. Even trying to be somewhat selective, as I added books to the list I realized that it had to be separated from what I brought you last month, and by the time I was done, I had a list of some *700 books*, presented chronologically by publication date, but otherwise not distinguished from one another! (And I repeat, this is *not* Schiffer's total output, not by a long shot. There are other books that I passed over, including one entire subject which I will mention later.)

I realized that a single list of 700 books wouldn't be very helpful to anybody, and that I had to break it up into "bite-size" units. So I began pulling out books on similar topics, grouping them together into sub-lists, and giving these sub-lists useful titles. It was basically making series out of books that were not identified as such. And then I had to decide what order to list these sub-lists in, and I decided on as much as a chronological approach as possible, beginning with pre-1898 wars and continuing to the present day. Lists that were not chronological in nature, like the few books on modeling, are near the end of the total checklist, and the 70 or so remaining books that I could not categorize are at the very end. Better 70 than 700! Ordering the many World War II lists was a bit of a hassle, but I think I reached a good compromise.

So to use this checklist, find a category that suits your fancy and scan down the list to find an interesting title. Then call it up on Amazon and get the details and the reviews, which are important. Schiffer's production standards are high - these are nicely sturdy books - but the reviews are likely to range from superlative to awful! Here are some of the issues people have with these books:

- As with the softcovers, those books translated from the German, which would include many of the books on German topics, were often translated by people not familiar with the subject matter, which may result in translations that range from mediocre to so bad as to be nearly unusable.
- Although photo image quality is generally better than in the early softcovers, there are some exceptions, which hopefully the reviewers will note.

## Publisher Survey - Schiffer (Part 2) - Continued

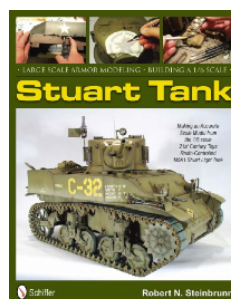
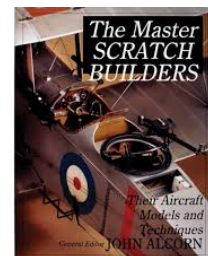
- Schiffer is notoriously poor at proofreading and editing, as if they simply take the author's manuscript, "productionize" it and print it without any internal reviewing. In some cases, for autobiographies or group histories (which are often copied verbatim from the texts written during or just after the war), that is often preferable, since it'll read just like the original, warts and all. But for books written by professional authors, poor proofreading and editing is unforgivable. If you find poor reviews for a book you really want otherwise, you'll just have to make up your mind.
- What makes problems like that worse is that these books tend to be expensive! I'd say that the average new price for the 700 books on the attached checklist is probably around \$50. The good production quality of the books may make that acceptable, but if the contents are crap? As stated previously, all these books are still available new, but you might want to opt for a less-expensive used copy.
- You'll have to order these online or through your local hobby shop, since the "big box" bookstores simply do not carry Schiffer books at all.

As I mentioned, one subject matter that I decided to skip due to personal bias was the Waffen-SS, which Schiffer publishes quite a few books on, including individual unit histories. This isn't much of a problem: just go to Amazon and do a search keying in "schiffer waffen ss" and you should get a complete list of available titles.

Okay, so any specific recommendations? For modelers, *The Master Scratch Builders* is fantastic, even if you have no intentions of ever doing any



scratchbuilding yourself. Yefim Gordon's books on the Tupolev bombers are definitive and mate nicely with his similar books for Crecy Publishing. Paul Gillcrist's books on modern U.S. Navy aviation are outstanding, though I wish he would update *Tomcat!* Istvan Toperczer's book on the *MiG Aces of the Vietnam War* is worth reading even if you don't believe it, but the book also has some nice color art of these pilots' aircraft. *Conquest of the Skies* is an interesting study about how long range aircraft were developed. *Revolution in the Sky* and *The Northrop Story* are companion volumes first published elsewhere that give detailed information on the early designs of Lockheed and Northrop. *Boeing 737* is an outstanding one-aircraft history (at least until its publication date) and *Colorful Aircraft* is just plain fun! Aside from these, you're on your own.



**To see the booklist referenced in this Publisher Survey, please open the email attachment:**

**Schiffer Hardcover Books - Other.pdf**

## ***Book Synopsis***

This month, IPMS Atlanta member, Fernando Sanchez sent along a book synopsis he had completed on ...

**Military briefs 6. Israeli Improvised Armoured Vehicles; Jeeps 1947-1949,**  
by John Myszka.

Fernando is an excellent armor model builder and specializes in Israeli Defense Force tank subjects. Be sure to take a look at his synopsis of Mr. Myszka's book.

***To read what Fernando has to say, open the email attachment labeled:***

***Book Synopsis by Fernando Sanchez.pdf***

**Scale Modeler's Brag Sheet**

Fill out and bring with your model to the club meeting.



Model Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Kit Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

Add-ons: \_\_\_\_\_

Paints: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Techniques: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Historical/Background Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Modeler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Scale Modeler's Brag Sheet**

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Any Historical/Background Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Modeler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_



### International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA Membership Application / Renewal Form

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- Ad in IPMS Journal  I'm a former member rejoining
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