

AUGUST 16 MEET

This month we will have slides of the IPMS National Convention in Salt Lake City. We have about four boxes of slides of some of the best models in the world, as well as a few shots from the tour of Hill AFB.

Last month we had a good turn out of models for the contest and the winners were:

Aircraft

- 1 Matt Hargreaves, 1/72 Nieuport Triplane (converted)
- 2 Bruce Johnson, 1/72 Fiat CR 32, Supermodel
- 3 Wayne Snowden, 1/48 Gloster Meteor, AMT

Vehicles

- 1 Scott Taylor, 1/25 DC 966 Dump Truck, AMT
- 2 Carl Kietzke, 1/25 Kenworth Fire Engine, AMT
- 3 Doug Groesbeck, 1/35 Panther V, Tamiya

Figures

- 1 Zak Pasco, Dungeon & Dragons' "Rustmonster" (scratch)
- 2 Jeff Glockner, 90 mm "Thor", Superior
- 3 Jeff Glockner, 75 mm British Trumpeter, Cameo

Our congratulations to all the winners and thanks to the judges.

ROSTER ADDITIONS:

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Salt Lake

It wasn't Atlanta, but it was still a good show. Unfortunately, the most notable feature of the Salt Lake Convention was the lack of attendance. I haven't heard any official figures yet, but I would guess that only some 250 made the trip. It's unfortunate because the Salt Lake Chapter organized an excellent convention.

The models of course are the main attraction, and there were some great ones. Best-in-Show was a large diorama (about three foot square) of the four Douglas World Crusiers tied up at at fishing wharf in Fairbanks. The whole thing was magnificently detailed, right down to the starfish and barnacles on the piles. The scene included a restaurant and bait shop on the pier, a fishing trawler, an engine overhaul and people running all over. The Judges Award went to a 1/48th scale scratch-built Northrup YR-49 flying wing. The interior of all crew stations, wheel wells and engine intakes were fully detailed. Other notable models included a scratchbuilt WWI Short bomber, a detailed PT boat nearly three feet long (from the old Lindbergh kit?), a 1/16 scale "beater" Pickup at a gas station and other marvels you'll have to attend our slide show to see.

The trip out to Hill AFB was very interesting. Beside seeing rows and rows of grey F-16s, we saw the experimental green and black F-16 scheme and one in the Israeli camouflage. Hill is also home for some F-105s and F-4s. A very interesting tour indeed.

A few of our local members took some honors. Matt Hargreaves took a third in scratchbuilt with his Bugatti Racer and Bob LaRouy placed second in conversion with his EP-3 Orion. Jim Pernikoff scored an unbelievable 96 on IPMS San Francisco's grueling Aircraft Recognition Contest, for a three way tie in first, but lost out on a tie breaker.

The next two Convention sites have already been awarded. It will be New York City (at the Waldorf!) in 1981 and St. Louis in 1982. 1983 will be the Westcoast's turn again. If you want to help Seattle get it in two years, get in touch with Terry Moore at the next meeting and we'll start planning the 81 Can-Am, for practice.

Tips

Take a look at some model-railroading magazines for modeling ideas. I get a number of them myself as they always contain ideas that are readily adaptable to aircraft, AFV or ship modeling. There are far more model railroaders than there are serious (IPMS type) scale model builders and with such a pool of talent to draw from, the model RR magazines are always presenting great ideas on such topics as decals, weathering, tools, etc. For example, Railroad Model Craftsman, in their Sept/79 issue, had an article on producing your own water-slide decals. Model Railroader, not to be out done, then followed (Feb/80) with an article on making dry transfers (Letra-set type). Other articles, in the past six months or so have covered weathering with womens' eye-shadow, making autumnal trees, making a pin-hole camera for model photography, tools for making rivets impressions and more. TE

BLUE MAGIC POLISH

Blue Magic is a metal polishing paste which works very well on canopies. It comes in a 100 gm tube and contains (along with the abrasive) ammonia and a little wax. I use it by placing a dab on a soft grit free cloth and polishing vigorously. Clean water is added as work progresses to keep the paste thin. After a few minutes, the part is washed clean and buffed with a dry cloth. (To avoid scratches when sanding, particularly canopies, it is important to rinse thoroughly between each grade of abrasive to remove all traces of the previous grit.)

This product is the best canopy polish I have tried (which includes several toothpastes, jewelers' rouges and automotive buffing pastes) in terms of speed and final clarity. I have not compared it with other metal polishes, such as Brasso, which may work equally well. GR

Review

MATCHBOX Heyford 1/72

Who else but Matchbox would do the Heyford, that great awkward strut and fabric biplane with its wings on upside-down? Although the kit does suffer from a number of defects, it does represent another small step forward in Matchbox's gradual improvement. Overall, the general shape and outline agree reasonably well with the Aeromodeller plans. The fabric effect is a considerable improvement over the Stranraer, although the ribs are not very distinct, particularly on the wings. The other flying surfaces are better, perhaps the best Matchbox has done to date. The raised surface detail is good, except on the nose where the external stringers are much too heavy. The irrigation-ditch panel lines which Matchbox pioneered on their early kits, are confined to a few comparatively shallow lines on the engines and around the wing tank areas. Other good points include the parts for alternate Marks, a nice decal sheet and a four page painting guide.

Perhaps the most serious problem is the flat sided rear fuselage. This seems to be due to the odd way Matchbox chose to mold the fuselage, in top and bottom halves rather than left and right. The fuselage should have some prominent longerons fleshing out the rectangular box frame. The dedicated modeler could add stretched sprue to the fuselage sides and fold over thin sheet to achieve the correct appearance, but I suspect that most will choose to ignore the problem. Also several of the struts are too narrow and should be replaced, such as the engine bearers, engine control struts and the centerline vee-struts.

The kit provides several alternate parts; spats, radiators, electrical generators and propellers, so that one can build the Mk I, II or III. Unfortunately, the instructions make it misleadingly clear which parts go where. There were only 125 Heyfords so with all the re-fits and special mods, standard configurations are a bit difficult to define. The engines provided are for the Mk I. According to the Profile, the engines for the Mk II and III were 18 inches higher, in addition to being narrower. How this should be worked out in the kit I haven't puzzled out yet. A further problem is that the side windows in the nose were not very common, although examples of all three Marks can be found with them. You'll need to study your references carefully.

While the kit is flawed, the problems are not insurmountable, and it offers a delightful diversion from the glut of F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, and F-18s.

REFERENCES:

Profile # 182, The H. P. Heyford, by Philip Moyes
 Aeromodeller Plan Set #2677

GR

Rumors

The following announcements were made during the Manufacturers' Meeting at the Salt Lake Convention.

Detail & Scale: future titles, B-17, F-5E & Aggressors, F-16, F-4 in four parts.

Squadron/Signal: in August, P-80 (including T-33, F-94), MC-202 (inc 205), B-36, P-39 (inc P-63), in November, Bf-109 pt 1, US Battleships pt 1, Blitzkrieg, Fighters of WWII (Airdata monographs #1-6), Airforce Colors pt 2.

Scale Aircraft Modelling will include decals about four times per year to augment the conversion articles.

Scale Master: B-36 (out), 1/48 US insignia, 1/72 all US national insignia styles

Fowler Aviation: 1/48 F-100 (Sept), USAir

Minicraft will produce "limited editions" of the Emily (Oct), Marlin (Nov), Mavis (Nov), 1/48 Nate (Sept) 1/48 George (new, Dec), and 1/450 Missouri (Sept). Minicraft also had on display the first of their 1/200 airliners and the 1/72 Hellcat.

Tamiya will produce a series of 1/35 WWII Generals. Heller will announce their 1981 releases in Sept. They will be moving into more civilian aircraft and 1/24 cars (European types) due to current marketing restriction in Europe of "war toys".

Testors will be bringing in more of the Italaerei line.

Other fine rumors:

Tuskuda has reissued the Heller Coleoptere, Hawk Me-163 and the Baka (American Eagles will be importing Tuskuda) Matchbox rumors for 81: 1/72 PBM-5, H.P. Victor

Panda (In Australia) is reissuing Nitto's P-51, MiG-15, F-5A, Hellcat, Nik2-J, B6N2, T.1a, most of Aoshima, Fujimi's P-40 and Aurora's F-107 (!).

Tauro (in Italy) is producing a new series of WWI AFV in 1/35: A7V (out), Mk I (male), Char Schneider, St Chamond

New in Town

CAMPUS HOBBIES: Minicraft 1/200 L-1011, DC-10, DC-9, 737

AMERICAN EAGLES: Minicraft 1/200 DC-9, 737; ESCI 1/72 Diorama sets "Okinawa" and "Battle of Berlin"; Monogram B-36, Revell Ta-152, Ar-234, He-115 (all ex-Frog), SR-71 Airfix 1/32 Medieval Infantry

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