



# The Navigator

August 2022

Dana Mathes'  
Art, History, and Engineering  
In Scale Modeling

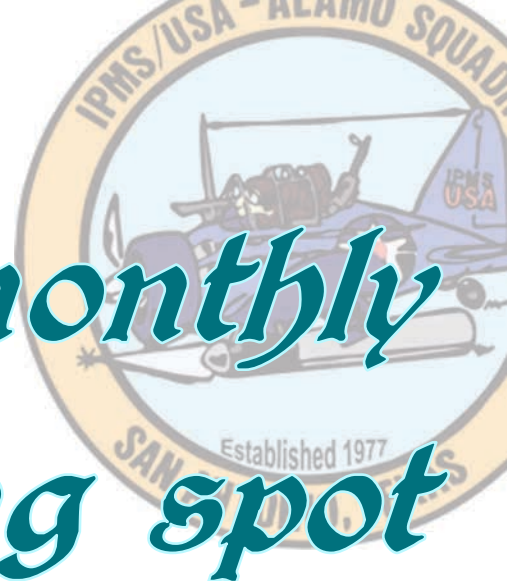
Alamo Squadron  
Model Building  
Summit Award



The  
Navigator  
August 2022



# *Our monthly meeting spot*



Meeting:  
Jordan Ford  
13010 N Interstate 35,  
San Antonio, TX 78233

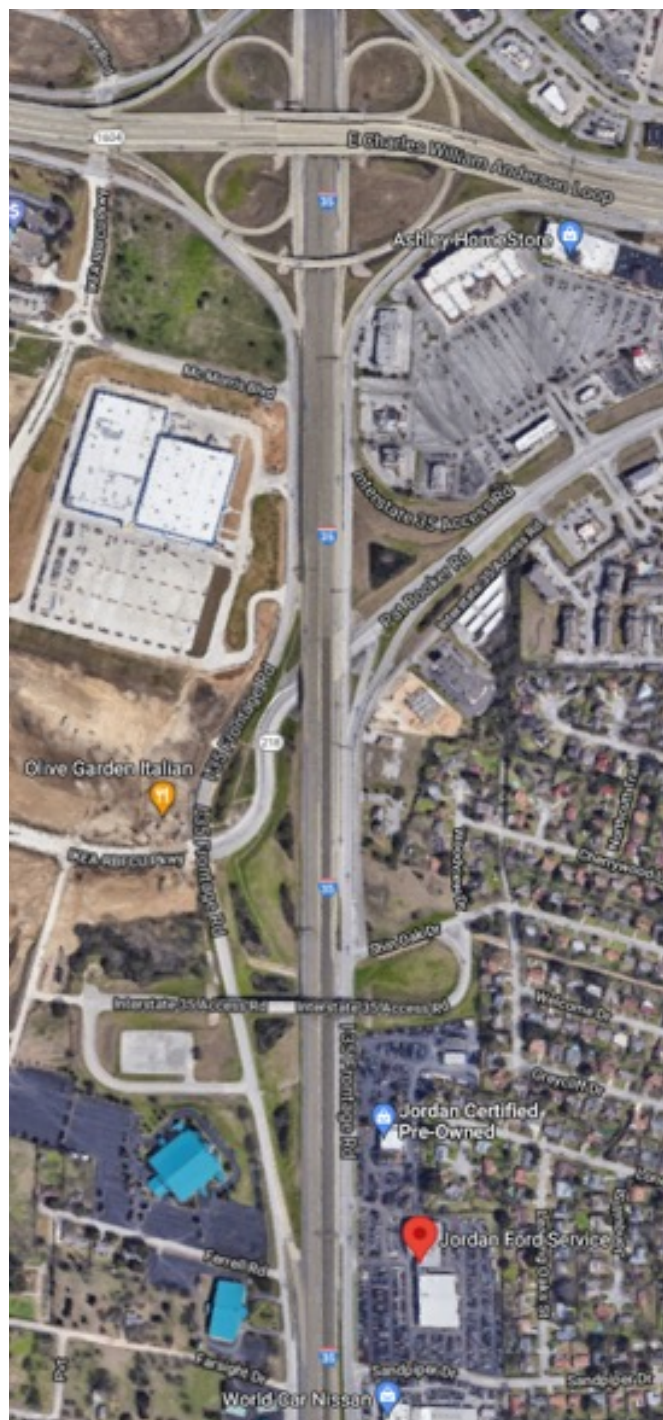
Date: Thursday,  
August 4, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:50 PM

Demonstration: "Riveting  
and Panel Lines"  
by Rob Booth

Model Contest Theme:  
OPEN

Health Protocol: Masks  
Optional



# LEADERSHIP THOUGHTS

This hot summer is speeding by. I hope you are finding a cool spot for some model building.

Last month the club approved Life Member recognition for both Rob Booth and Lee Washburn. Please join me in congratulating them on these well-deserved awards.

Congratulations go to the Alamo Squadron members who competed in the HAMS Auto Model Contest in Cypress, TX. Hats off to **Stan Spooner, Rob Booth, and Keith Rule** for the awards they won there.

The IPMS/USA National Convention took place this past month (July 20-23) in Omaha, NE. Alamo Squadron was well represented. A dozen of our members attended. Our folks won nine category awards, with three of these being 1<sup>st</sup> places. The contest tables were jam packed with outstanding models. The two vendor halls bulged with kits, tools, books, and supplies. 3D printing technology is showing up in many vendor offerings.

Please mark **August 2-5, 2023** on your calendar. Having an IPMS/USA National Convention in your own backyard is a once in a lifetime opportunity. I spoke with

many folks in Omaha about the convention we will be co-hosting next August in San Marcos. Enthusiasm is high and many folks, even from overseas, will be coming our way to "Come and Make It."

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, August 4. We will kick off the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The WIP table will be in business (gong and all). The Kit of the Month table will also be available. The monthly contest theme is "Open." This month's demonstration will be "Riveting and Panel Lines" by Rob Booth.

The Covid virus is rampant right now. Please take appropriate measures to protect yourself and your family. If you may have been exposed or have symptoms, please do not come to the meeting for the sake of your friends in the club.

Hope to see you soon,

Dana Mathes





# **Alamo Squadron Model Building Summit Award**

**By Don Weaver & Herb Scranton**

## **Purpose:**

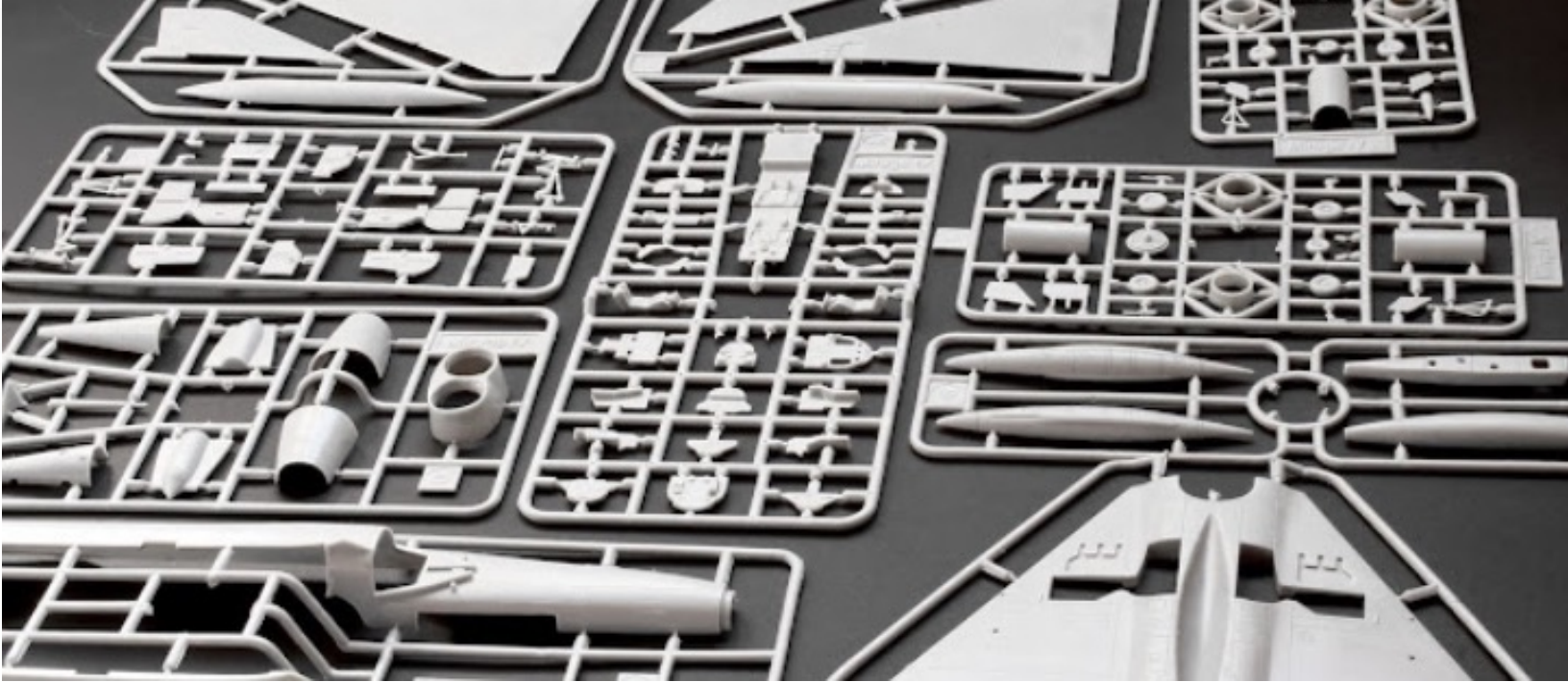
To recognize those Alamo Squadron members who actively support the Alamo Squadron to improve their own and other club members' modeling skills and display the club's work to the public.

Criteria for Award: Alamo Squadron members must complete activities worth a minimum of 5 points during the course of the year (Apr - Mar). Members must complete and display, either at contests or club meetings, a minimum of three (3) models during the year (Apr- Mar). Points are earned by club members for each of the activities below:

- A. Build and display a completed model. (1.5 points)
- B. Demonstrate a modeling technique or method to club members (1 point).
- C. Submit an article to the club newsletter about a model build, kit review, modeling technique, or about scale modeling in general. (1 point)
- D. Serve as Model Fiesta Director, Newsletter Editor, Multimedia Coordinator, Education Coordinator, Model Summit Chairman, or any other position appointed to by the president. (1.5 point)
- E. Work as a volunteer at Model Fiesta, a Region 6 contest, or at Nationals. (.5 point)
- F. Work as a judge at Model Fiesta, or a Region 6 or National level contest. (.5 point)
- G. Serve a term as club president, vice president, or treasurer. (1.5 point)

## **Procedures:**

1. Members can accumulate points toward Model Summit Award for as many activities as they wish as long as the minimum requirement of building, completing, and displaying at least three (3) models during the year is met. All activities must be entered in the logbook by the end of the March meeting. Members are solely responsible for updating their page in the Model Summit logbook as each model or activity is completed.
2. The Model Summit Chairman will ensure the logbook is present at each meeting so members can update their sheet.
3. Following the March meeting, the Model Summit chairman will review member activities for the year and identify those club members who have met the Model Summit Award criteria.
4. The Model Summit chairman will work with the Alamo Squadron Executive Board to provide appropriate awards/materials/kits for the Model Summit drawing during the April meeting. All present eligible modelers will select their award during the April Meeting starting with the modeler with the most completed models. All other present eligible modelers will select their award in random order. If a modeler is not present at the April meeting, they will be contacted by the Model Summit Chairman to arrange pickup.



## Art, History, and Engineering Combine to Make Scale Modeling a Unique Hobby

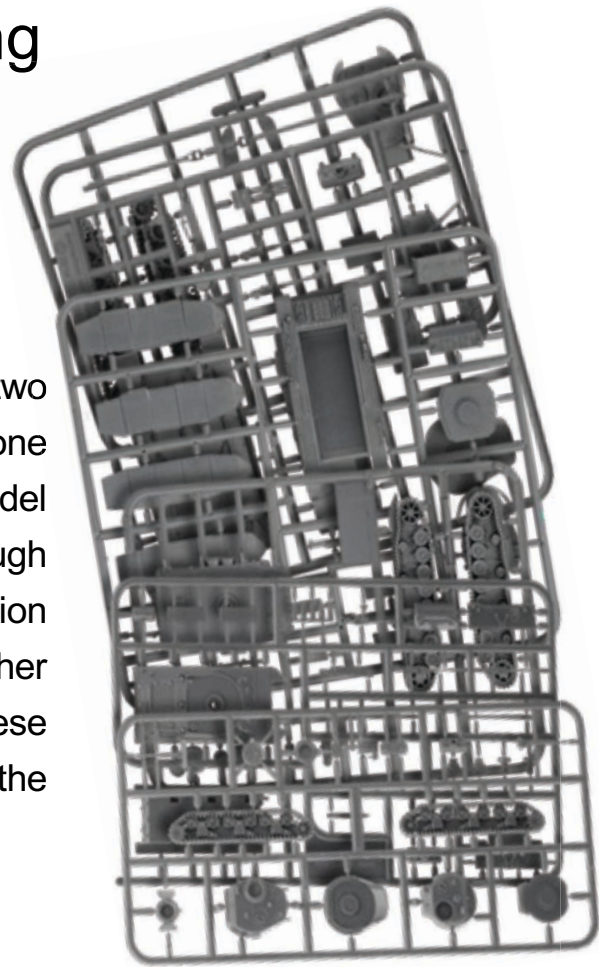


Dana Mathes

Have you ever been asked why you build scale models? How did you answer the question? Have you ever given thought to what it is about this hobby that captivates you, that consumes your time, and lightens your wallet?

My answer to this question is that scale modeling uniquely combines art, history, and engineering.

Some pursuits combine two of these elements, but none fully accomplish model building's trifecta. Although vehicle/aircraft restoration has similarities, no other hobby integrates these three elements in quite the same way.



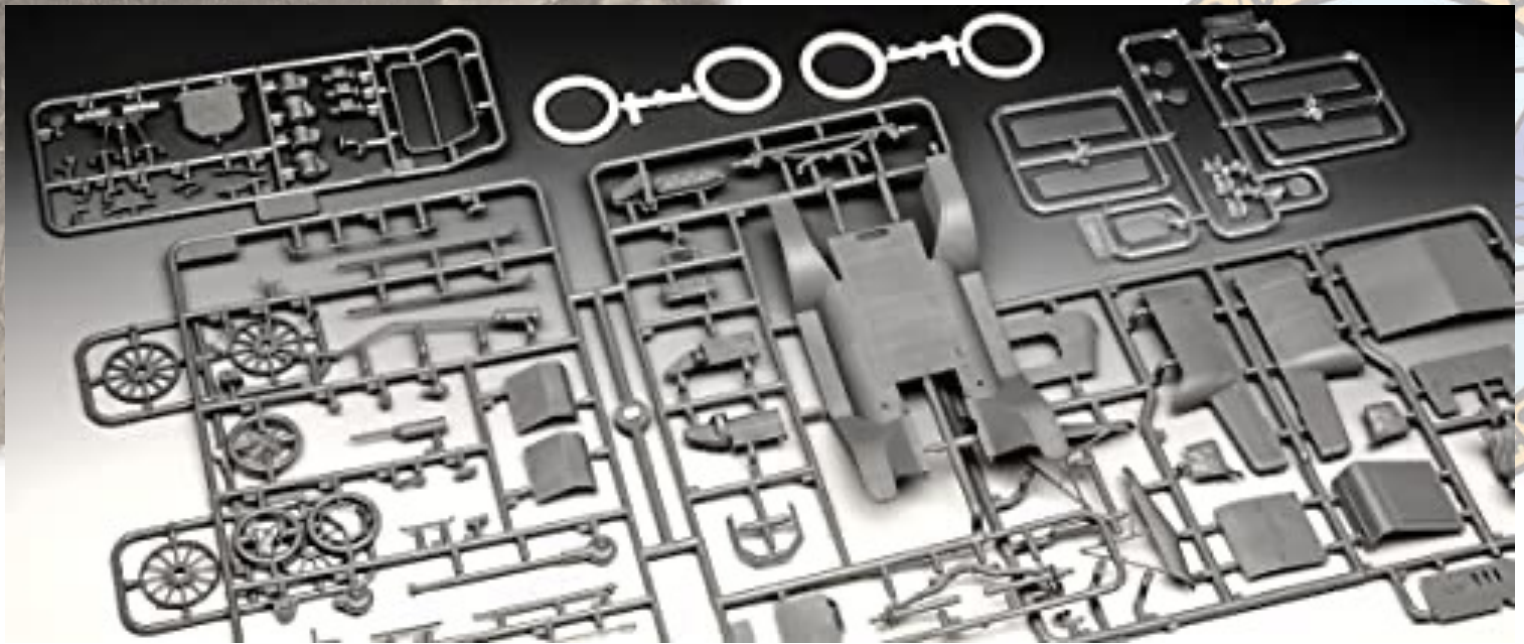




Scale models are three-dimensional works of art. In the hobby's most extreme forms, the construction of figures and scratch building, it fully incorporates sculpture. Figure painting is seen by many as a form of art. But all scale model builds involve some form of artistic composition. The selection and execution of paint and marking schemes, a part of every project, is certainly artistic expression. The design and arrangement of

stowage, bases, and dioramas is pure artistic composition. Anyone who has finished a scale model has completed a work of art. Virtually every model project is inspired by history. I include literature and media in my definition of historical sources as they are part of cultural history. By this definition, aircraft, figures, sci-fi subjects, etc. all have some historical basis even if they have not ever physically existed. This element of the

hobby invites modelers to research their projects to properly understand and depict them. Consequently, modelers frequently have extensive libraries of photos, books, and videos of their preferred subject matter. Historical research underpins scale modeling. The folks from Chattanooga (2019 Nationals) made this point by asking if "the war was over after the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor".



Engineering is about solving problems and it expresses itself in the hobby in two ways. The subject modeled always has a technological aspect. Whether it is a rare version of a particular tank or a sci-fi figure with a futuristic garment, every model describes a form of technological innovation. By undertaking the project, the modeler is appreciating the science and technology represented in the subject modeled. The hobby's second engineering aspect is finding solutions to the model's building and finishing challenges. Scale modeling is full of tools, tricks, and MacGyverisms. Almost every seasoned modeler possesses an assortment of jigs and custom-made gadgets created to conquer particular problems. A key theme in the hobby is trial and error. Finishing a model is an engineering feat, a triumph over the

project's opposition.

I invite you to test my theory that scale modeling is a blend of art, history, and engineering. The next time you are with a group of modelers, listen to the dialog and the questions asked. How did you do that? Why did you paint it in that scheme? That painting effect is amazing! Where did you find the references? What was that version designed to do? Wow, what a beautiful build!

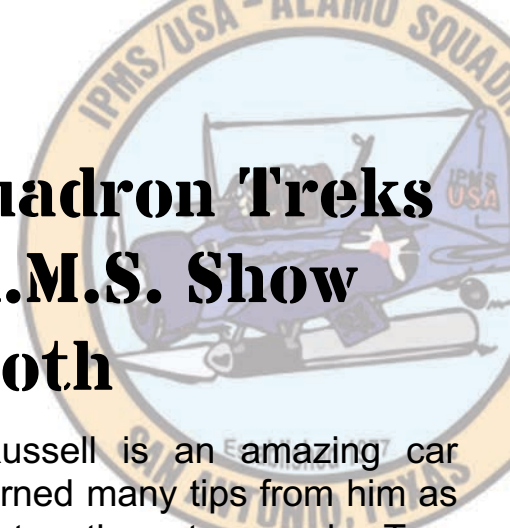
Art, history, and engineering combine to give scale modeling a unique and broad appeal. Each modeler can relish the three elements in his own personal way. When you consider your attraction to model building, which of these three aspects do you enjoy the most?







## **Alamo Squadron Treks to the H.A.M.S. Show by Rob Booth**



I tagged up with fellow Alamo Squadron member Stan Spooner in Boerne about 7:00AM on July 9<sup>th</sup> to make the drive over to Spring, Texas for the annual Houston Automotive Modelers Society's annual model car show and contest. We discussed plastic the whole way over, and after the 4-hour drive quickly passed, we pulled up in front of the Cypress Creek Christian Church to unload our entries.

Following a quick and easy check in with Robert McQuown, Mike Stucker & Co., Stan and I distributed our stuff on the contest tables. I took a 1/24 Ford GT "click kit" and 1/25 Jim Hall Chaparral 2Dr Coupe to enter. The Ford GT is finished in a matte black paint scheme with two bright orange GT stripes down the center of the body. It also has orange brake caliper housings and orange accents in the interior. The Chaparral is the classic white paint scheme with various sponsor markings. I corrected a few things on it that are left over from the kits' former life as a slot car body. Stan brought several of his military vehicles to enter in the appropriate categories that were offered.

We ran into Keith Rule and his wife in the contest room, and of course Jerry Escobedo was there vending his wares. The four of us made up the attending Alamo Squadron contingent. I met Stan's buddy, and now my new friend Russell Wells and his wife Micki

at the show. Russell is an amazing car builder, and I learned many tips from him as we all ate lunch together at a nearby Tex-Mex place. When we returned, I offered to assist with any judging that still remained to be completed, but chief judge David Green indicated they were nearly done.

I hit the vendor area and scored a couple of interesting older kits, an AMT "Amtronic" two-part futuristic transport. It's a special edition of the original kit dated 1969. Also bought a Monogram kit of the Oldsmobile Aerotech released in 1989. It looks like a Formula 1 body with an IMSA shell on it. AJ Foyt set some speed records out at Ft. Stockton with it back when I was much younger.

Once judging was completed, the awards ceremony commenced. I garnered a third place in one split of the Open Wheel Competition category for the Chaparral, and a second place for the Ford GT in the Box Stock category. Keith Rule received a second place for his Auburn Speedster in Foreign & Exotic, a first place for the Bekins Moving Tractor /Trailer in Commercial Vehicles, and a first place for





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his VW Combi Camper Bus in Factory/Showroom. Stan was awarded a first place for his Magiras ARW and a second place for his Ba-64b in Military Wheeled and Semi-Tracked Vehicles as well as a 3rd place for his Warhammer LRDG in the Miscellaneous class. Our friend Russel Wells took the top two placings in the 1/43 scale class, and the "Best Interior" award for his Porsche Racer.

Following the awards, we packed up our goods in the car and headed home at about 5:00PM. After some snafus navigating construction on the 99 toll road, we headed West as the miles passed with more talk about plastic, judging, life, etc. A good trip with good people. That's what this hobby is all about.

Thanks to Rick McQuown, Mike Stucker, David Green and all the guys at HAMS for another great show.





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## Stan Spooner



Cat.20 Military Wheeled and Semi  
Tracked  
1<sup>st</sup> Magiras ARW



Cat.22 Miscellaneous  
3<sup>rd</sup> Warhammer LRDG



Cat.20 Military  
Wheeled and  
Semi Tracked  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ba-64b





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## Rob Booth



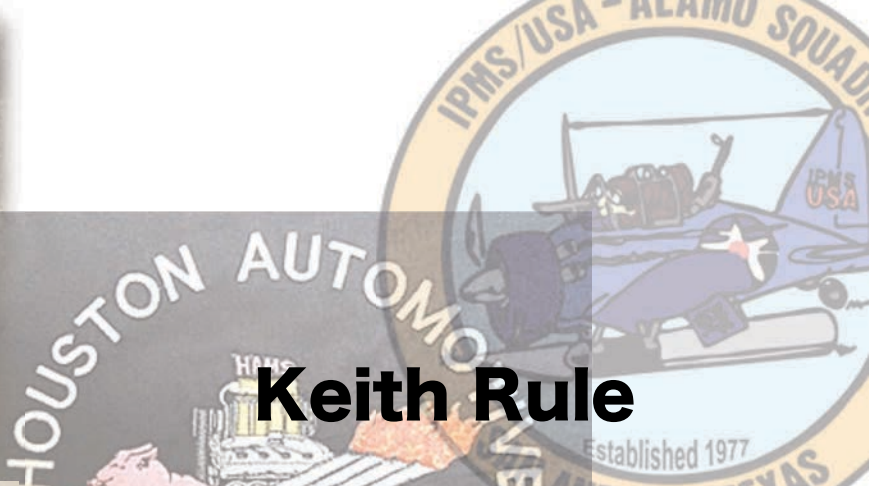
2nd place  
for the Ford  
GT  
in the Box  
Stock  
category

3rd place in  
one split of  
the Open  
Wheel  
Competition  
category for  
the Chaparral





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**Keith Rule**



2nd Place in Foreign & Exotic



1st Place in Factory Showroom



1st Place in Commercial



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**TEXANS INVASION TO THE  
2022 IPMS USA NATIONALS**



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IPMS USA Secretary,  
our own **Rob Booth**,  
won these prizes at the  
IPMS USA National  
Convention 2022 in  
Omaha, Nebraska, this  
past July.



2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Category 105-B - 1/72  
Scale US/Allied Radial Engine Aircraft  
– Royal Navy Corsair F. Mk I



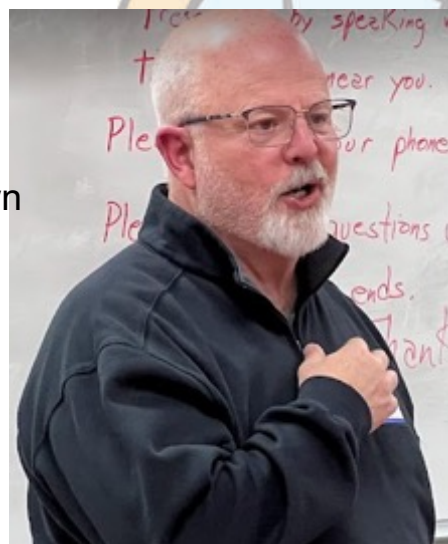
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Category 162 – Civil, Sport, Racing  
and Air Taxis – Basic Kit Build – TG-9A (ASK-2)  
USAFA Sailplane Trainer





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Renown author, our own Stan Spooner, got all fired up with these prizes.



1st Place in 1/48 Tracked Armor:  
Polish 7TP Tank

1st Place  
in 1/48  
Wheeled:  
Ba-64b



2nd Place in SciFi/Fantasy:  
Warhammer LRDG





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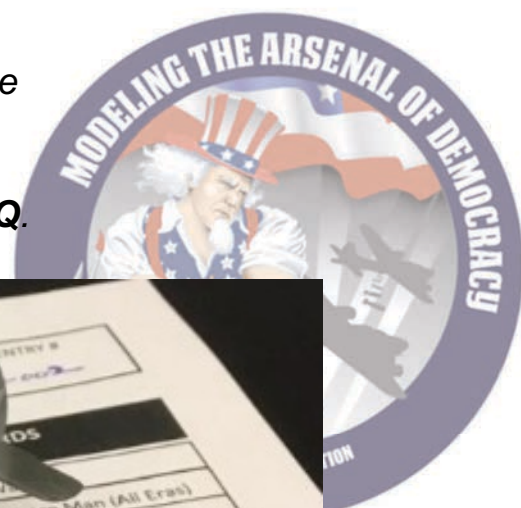
Second place winner at the 2022 Nats in Omaha last week. The Category was 821. Hypothetical, Kit-bashed/scratchbuilt.

Let's **Lee Forbes** tell us about this little gem:

*I was totally surprised when I saw it on th screen.*

*I built this "fictional" model about 10 years ago and competed it in a number of IPMS Region local contests and never received any recognition at all. It contains parts from about 11 different kits as I recall, and parts and decals from my spares box; so you can imagine my surprise when I saw the photo on screen at the Awards Banquet Saturday night. I guess "beauty" resides in the eyes of the judging beholder!*

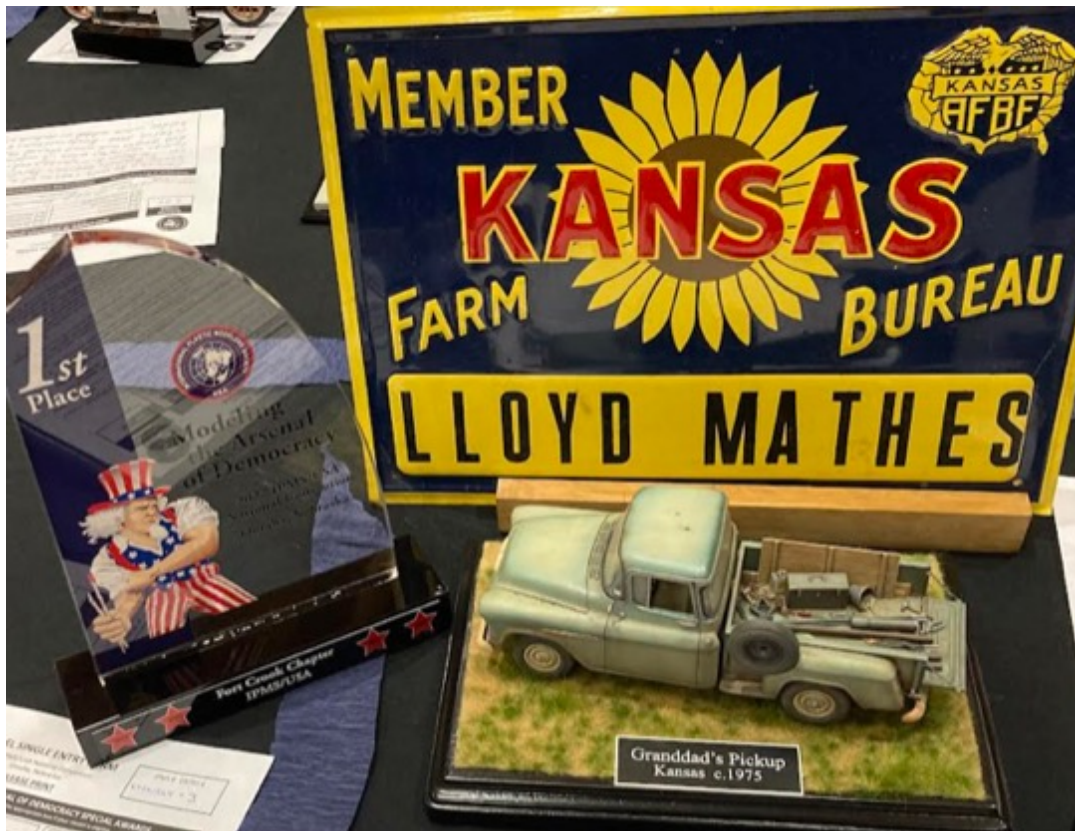
*I painted the model in mid-war German Luftwaffe day fighter camo and useful Japanese markings, so I called it the **Ki-109Q**.*





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Dana Mathe's  
2nd Place in 1/35  
Modern Tracked  
Armor, non-  
NATO/non-  
Russian, with his  
K2 Black Panther  
Tank



1st Place in Stock  
Automobiles, Pre-  
1959, Granddad's  
Pickup... Dana's  
granddaddy, to  
be exact.



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## SHOW AND TELL



Kent Knebel and the  
outstanding B-25  
“Haulin’ Ass”



Dana Mathes and his  
superb hovering boat



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## SHOW AND TELL



Mario Fernández and  
his T-45 from Italeri,  
with Very Texan  
decals from Draw  
Decals



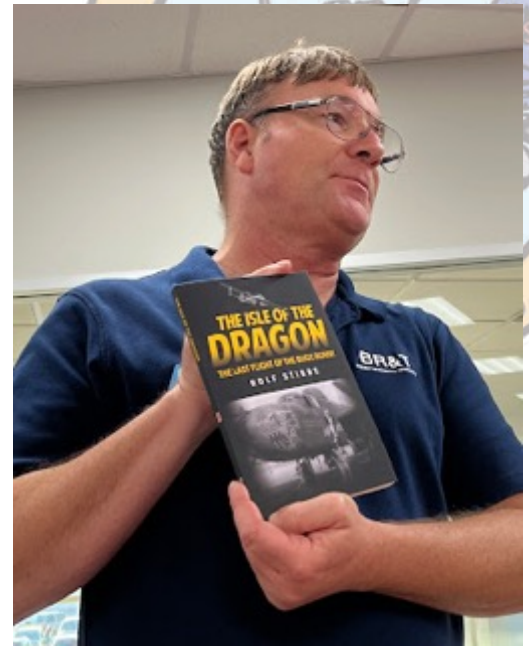
Michael  
Buckley and  
his  
watercolor  
paints...  
Wait...  
What??



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Another author... Rolf Stibbe, and his book "The Isle of the Dragon", a page-turner story about the crew of the B-25 "Bugs Bunny" in WWII... oh, and he also builds models: P-51 signed by a Tuskegee Airmen.



John Kress and his WIP for the P-38 "Glacier Girl, which by the way, you may recall that we as a club visited this beautiful airplane back in 2015, at her house in the San Antonio airport. See the Alamo Squadron newsletter cover from April 2015.



**Alamo Squadron's date with Glacier Girl**

Program for April 2: **ELECTION DAY II**

IPMS/USA 1998-1999 & 2004-2005 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR



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Dana Mathe's  
Klingon Bird of  
Prey

Adam Stephenson's F-14 collection



Mario Fernández tank



Chris McLain's tank



Julio Caro's C-47



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## SHOW AND TELL



Gary Droubay's 35t Panzer



Henry Nunez' Ambush at Poteau



Rob Booth's B-25 Doolittle Raiders



Mark Verdi's 1/144 collection



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## SHOW AND TELL



Not everybody can build a model for which its real-world image is in the garage. But not Herb Scranton. He is building the *kinda* same car he has in his garage: a Ford Galaxie 500XL (yes, Galaxie, not Galaxy).

**The scale model:** It is an AMT 1970 Ford Galaxie 500, painted Ford 3 Putt Green. The hub caps were from a AMT 1969 Ford XL kit. The small block V8 was from the MPC 1978 Ford Pinto and the auto transmission was from the AMT 1966 Fairlane.

**The real deal:** 1964 Ford Galaxie 500XL. Black with a black interior. The engine is a Ford FE 427 which is bored and stroked to 488cu. With dual quad-carbs and a top loader 4 speed transmission with a Hurst Competition shifter.

Hey Herb, is it for sale?

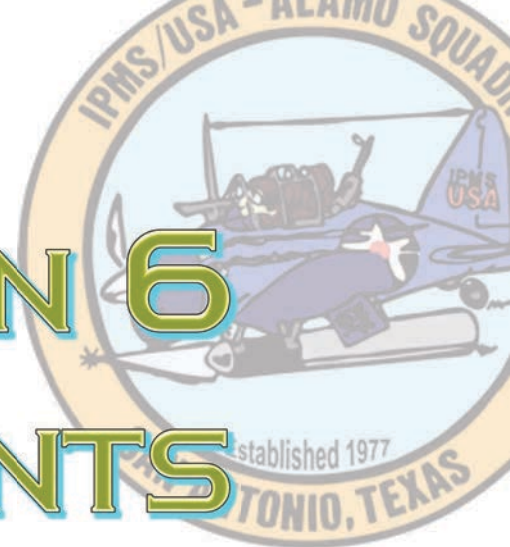
- Hell no! 🤪



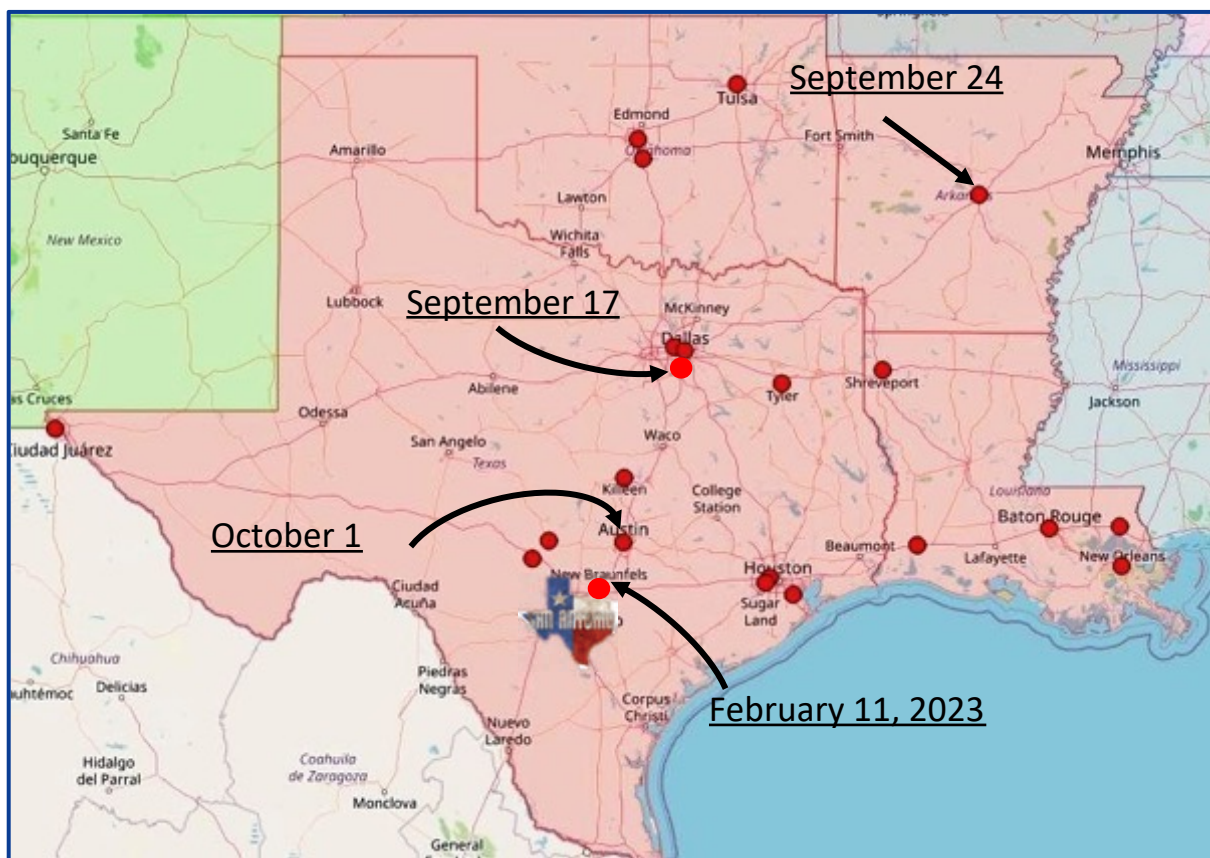


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# IPMS REGION 6 2022 EVENTS



Click on the date on the map to go to the event website!



COME AND MAKE IT  
IPMS/USA NATIONAL CONVENTION  
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS  
JUL 29 - AUG 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2023  
WWW.NATS2020.COM



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The Alamo Squadron Newsletter is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, Texas, for the information and enjoyment of the members of the Alamo Squadron and its friends around the world. Articles, reviews, news items, ads to buy, sell or trade, and other contributions are very welcome.

Send text file, photos and web sites to  
Jerry Escobedo:  
paperjerry3@gmail.com

[www.ipmsusa.org](http://www.ipmsusa.org)



## IPMS Membership



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

New ☐ Renewal ☐ IPMS #:

Name:

Address:

City:  State:

Zip Code:

Phone:  E-Mail:

Chapter Affiliation, if any:

<b>Junior</b> (17 years or younger)	\$17.00	<input type="text"/>	Date of Birth: <input type="text"/>
<b>Adult</b> One year	\$30.00	<input type="text"/>	
Two years	\$58.00	<input type="text"/>	
Three years	\$86.00	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Canada &amp; Mexico</b>	\$35.00	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Foreign</b> Surface	\$38.00	<input type="text"/>	

**Family** (1 set of Journals)  ← Adult fee + \$5.00 # of cards?

Your Signature:

If recommended by an IPMS member, please provide his/her:

Name:  IPMS #:

#### PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Cash ☐ Amount:

Check ☐ Check #:  Amount:

Billing Address, if different than above -

Address:

City:  State:

Zip Code:



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# Club's E-Board

## 2022-2023



### IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron:

The Club was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members.

The Alamo Squadron has been putting on ModelFiesta since 1981. Locations have included the Wonderland Mall, a Holiday Inn, the Seven Oaks Motel & Convention Center, the Live Oak Civic Center, the San Antonio Event Center and the new location since 2022, the New Braunfels Convention Center.



[Alamo Squadron](#)

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— H O B B Y —

**ANIME**  
TOKYO

Something for my girl and something for me. 🤪





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**Model Fiesta 41  
planning is under  
way!!**

**Many great surprises  
for everybody!!**

**stay tuned!!**

