

Notions of a first timer on a plastic model airplane

The Navigator September 2022

Our monthly meeting spot

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

Date: Thursday, September 1, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:50 PM

Demonstration: "Armor Weathering Techniques" by Stan Spooner

Model Contest Theme: "From a Photo"

Health Protocol: Masks Optional



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LEADERSHIP THOUSENS

Your Executive Board (E-Board) continues to work on the priority items: safety, learning, the **ModelFiesta 41** contest, and support for the 2023 **Nationals in San Marcos, TX**. Many folks in the club and in the community have recently been ill with the Covid virus. Our posture will continue to be optional masking. Please continue to take prudent health measures for the sake of your fellow club members.

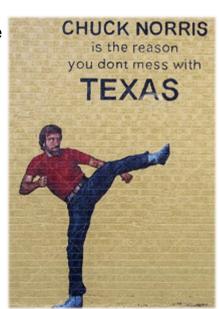
There are three club business updates. Dues collection for the 2022-2023 year will begin at the September 1 meeting. Dues will remain at \$12 for the year and can be paid using cash (nothing larger than \$20 please), a check made out to Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, or by using a debit/credit card. Please see Don Weaver at the next meeting to pay. Secondly, our revised Constitution and Bylaws are now posted on the AlamoSquadron.com website. Finally, the monthly demonstration and club model contest schedule for the next year is now available on the club's website.

Preparations for ModelFiesta 41 are moving ahead. Due to the smaller area that we will have available for the contest room in 2023, we will be limiting contestants to **one entry per category**. In addition, we will close the contest room during judging to provide adequate room for the judges to perform their duties. Contest

categories for MF41 have now been reviewed and finalized. We have award sponsorships available for the Sci-Fi, Figures, and Armor classes. Please see me if you are interested in sponsoring a class. Detailed information about ModelFiesta 41 will soon be available at ModelFiesta.com. King's Hobby will be sponsoring events in support of our military veterans at the **Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp** Mabry in Austin on Monday, October 10 (12-4 p.m.) and Sunday, October 23 (12 p.m.-4 p.m.). There will be make and take models for children and military veterans. The museum has memorabilia from military deployments over the past two hundred years as well as a nice armor collection. Check their website by clicking here. A flyer describing the events is provided below. Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday, September 1 at 6:00 p.m. Stan Spooner will be present "Armor Weathering Techniques."

"From a Photo" is the club contest theme. So, bring in a build along with the photo that inspired it. See you soon,

Dana Mathes



The **Navigator**

Monthly contest



First Place: Alpine Renault from Tamiya By David Auth

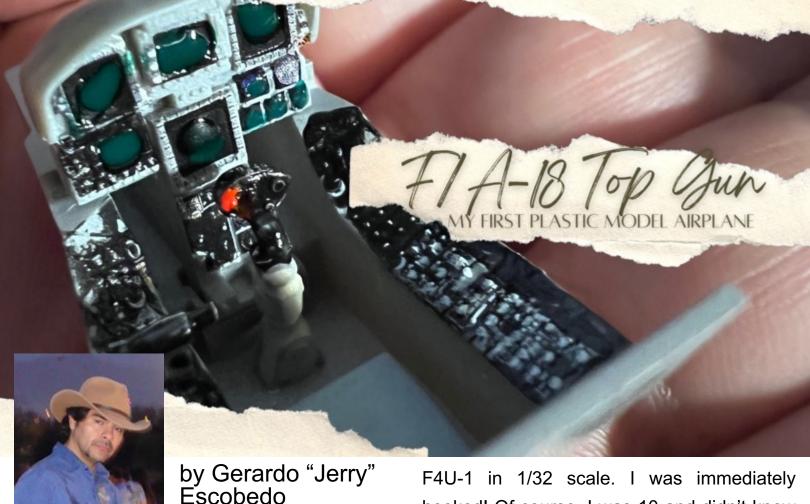
Established 1977



Second Place: M4 Early from Tamiya, built by Chris McLain

Third Place: Mg-42 Crew, built by Henry Nunez





Well... is not technically my first plastic model, but my first plastic model airplane. After 5 years of building Gundam (Gunpla) and Star Wars models, all from Bandai, building a plastic model airplane is a very "different animal".

Maybe for most of you the words you're about to read would come uneventful, but for me – a first timer, after 40 years since my last plastic model – it felt like flying! (Pun intended.)

I was introduced to scale models back in 1977, when my uncle (a Vietnam veteran helicopter pilot) gave me a Revell Corsair hooked! Of course, I was 10 and didn't know how to paint or didn't know that there were tools to build it either; still, I built it, and it was a dream. After that I saved my "domingos" (weekly allowances), went to the store, which in that time they sold models in general stores; built them, played with them... and destroyed them in epic battles.



A copy of my very first scale model, owned by another member of the Alamo Squadron.



Then in 2004 I started to build paper models and didn't stop until 2017. My last paper model was the Heavy Metal band Iron Maiden Boeing 747 "Ed Force One" (the base for this model, the 747 British Airways in 1/144 scale, is still available free of charge by clicking on the image below). Then I went plastic with Gundam (or Gunpla) scale models.



You can download this paper model for free. Click on the image to go to the website.

Don't get me wrong, building paper models are a league on their own, and super fun to build. You must take great care handling the paper (or most precisely, cardstock), holding it, scoring it and bending it. I might write an article on that someday, yeah.



Ed Force One paper model in 1/144

Being a member of IPMS clubs since 2006 - first with the great guys in El Paso, Texas; then in Monterrey, Mexico with the ARME guys; and lastly here at the Alamo Squadron - it always fascinated me how plastic models were built. Little by little I was enchanted by the plastic runners – or sprues -, by how they painted the models, and how they weathered them. In a talk I gave to the Alamo Squadron back in 2012, I told them "for me you guys are painters" – being able to paint in a 3-D surface was out of the extraordinary.

YouTube videos of people making art out of plastic models is my ASMR (Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response), especially when they open the cellophane bags (oh, that sound!) and show the model runners.





Then "Top Gun Maverick" was on the movie theaters, after 2 years of holding it back. And that... was... it! I run to get a model of that F/A-18, and I got the Revell in 1/48 scale.

And the cool thing is that it's fictional, so I don't have to be 100% accurate on... well... anything. Being my first plastic model, and a real/fictional aircraft, it would be my testbed for non-Gundam plastic models.

When I got the model, I didn't open it unceremoniously, no sir!

I got a place at home where to open it undisturbed... and with plenty of time... like they do in the YouTube videos. Feeling the box, the cellophane bags, open them, and then, getting the runners out. After that, I got to see the details of the parts, the engine, tires, fuselage ("oh, look, the fuselage comes already built! Unlike paper

models, where you HAVE to build the fuselage section by section") ... the wings and the cockpit... and of course, the rivets. It was an experience on its own.

I understand that this is not the best plastic model out there, nor the most accurate, but again, I wouldn't spent hundred of dollars for my testbed model, would I?



F/A-18 Super Hornet in 1/48 scale







Next month, I will give my impressions of the building of the model itself, and how I found it so different from Gunpla and from Paper Models, and even Star Wars Bandai models.

The sprues... a sight to behold

The first step in the painting process... priming





Life Membership Awards

On our last meeting, both Lee Washburn and Ron Booth were awarded with the Life Membership from the IPMS Alamo Squadron. Their background on supporting and acting for the IPMS was recognized with this award. Congratulations, friends!





Mr. Lee Washburn Mr. Rob Booth



SHOW AND TELL



FRS1 Harriers by Hasegawa in 1/72 scale built by Gary Droubay







Region 6 Newsletter Award

Also on the last meeting, Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo was recognized for his work on The Navigator newsletter. The Navigator is the winner of the Newsletter of the Year in Region 6.





Mr. Gerardo Escobedo

Demonstration



Demonstration:
"Riveting and Panel
Lines"
by Rob Booth

Check our facebook page, as videos of the monthly demonstrators are going to be posted there.



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Chris McLain



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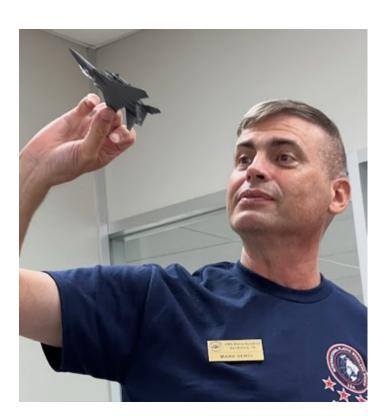
David Auth

Gerardo Escobedo





Alan Larrumbide



Dana o Matha

Dana Mathes

Mark Verdi



SHOW AND TELL

Vince Hutson

Carl Alsup



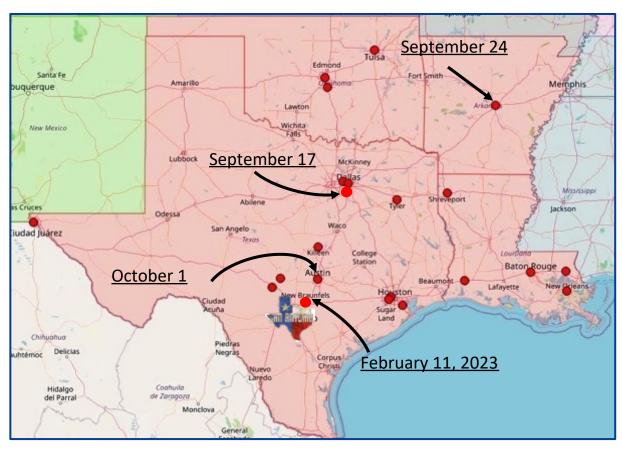


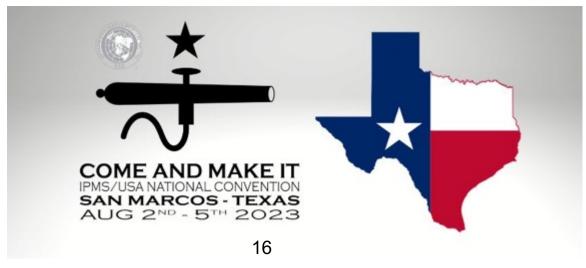


Devon McCollough



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







The Alamo Squadron
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Alamo Squadron of San
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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

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Club's E-Board



President: Dana Mathes huskercat@gmail.com



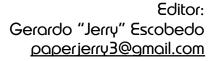
IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron: The Club was founded in 1977 in San Antonio, Texas, for the enjoyment of building scale models and the camaraderie of the members.

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.

Vice-President: Devon McCollough dmccollough@outlook.com



Treasurer: Don Weaver dweaver78250@gmail.com







Alamo Squadron

The Navigator '
ptember 2022

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