

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition



**BUILT SOMETHING YOU'RE PROUD OF?  
WHY NOT DISPLAY IT HERE?**

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURES

Click or tap on the links below to navigate to the feature you wish to see:

### Articles, Stories and More

- [ModelFiesta 45: "We're Golden"](#)
- [M1134 Stryker ATGM Build Review](#)
- [Building HMS Prince of Wales](#)
- [The GM "Bubble Top" Era](#)
- [When Your Hands Start Freelancing](#)
- [Navigator Contributors Wanted!](#)

### Model Contest Winners

- [March 5, 2026 Club Contest Results](#)
- [March 5, 2026 Top 3 Club Winners](#)
- [Winter Blitz 2026 Winners](#)
- [MCMA Showdown 2026 Winners](#)

### Events and Photos

- [March 5th, 2026 Meeting Photos](#)

### Upcoming Events Information

- [Upcoming IPMS Shows and Events](#)
- [2026 Annual Club Picnic](#)
- [Route 66 Model Expo Information](#)

### Links and General Information

- [Monthly Meetings Information](#)
- [IPMS-USA Membership](#)
- [Area Hobby Stores](#)
- [Club Officers and Support Staff](#)



**M31 TANK RECOVERY VEHICLE**  
By Michael Williamson



**KENWORTH W900 TRUCK**  
By John Kress

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## March 5th 2026 Club Model Contest Results

By Julio A. Caro

[Back to Home Page](#)

The members of Alamo Squadron once again demonstrated exceptional craftsmanship in the March 5th Club Model Contest. **Here are the results: Total participants: 20, of these 9 (45%) received GOLD, 7 (35%) received SILVER, 2 (10%) received BRONZE and 2 (10%) got an Honorable Mention.**



MODEL NAME	PARTICIPANT (DISPLAY)	SCORE	AWARD	PLACE
WWII "Follow Me" Jeep, Lal Hat, India, 1944	Rob Booth	118	GOLD	1ST
F-22 Raptor	Joseph Chapa	111	GOLD	2ND
M1134 Stryker	Julio Caro	110	GOLD	3RD
ISherman M50 Tank	Jose A Reyes	102	GOLD	
P-47D	JUAN NOLTENIUS	102	GOLD	
Panzer 38T	Chris Lenahan	101	GOLD	
Hurricane Mk.IIc Tropical	Scott Bishop	100	GOLD	
Sdkfz 222	Chris Lenahan	99	GOLD	
SBD Dauntless	William Knebel	97	GOLD	
Snoopy Pave Hawk Pilot	Rob Booth	93	SILVER	
1964 Chevy Impala Low Rider	Keith Rule	92	SILVER	
1993 Toyota Long bed	David Auth	90	SILVER	
Willis MB Jeep, U.S. Navy Shore Patrol	Julio Caro	90	SILVER	
Russian T55 Medium Tank M1958	Julio Caro	87	SILVER	
T-55A Medium Tank	Dana Mathes	87	SILVER	
Saturn 1B Rocket	Greg Hamon	85	SILVER	
1959 Drag Boat	David Auth	76	BRONZE	
Fist of War E75 Heavy Panzer Walker	Rob Booth	70	BRONZE	
Mandalorian N1	Greg Hamon	60	HM	
'69 Camaro SS 396	Gene Botkins	50	HM	

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## March 5th 2026 Club Model Contest Winners

By Julio A. Caro



**ROB BOOTH**

**"Follow Me" WWII Willys Jeep**

**Congratulations to all our  
March 5th, 2026 Club Contest  
winners!**

The competition as always was fierce,  
but these three outstanding modelers  
truly stood out.



**JOSEPH CHAPA**

**F-22 Raptor**



**JULIO A. CARO**

**M1134 Stryker**

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Winter Blitz 2026 Winners

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of #

[Back to Home Page](#)

The following pages feature a selection of **Winter Blitz 2026 Show Award** winners in College Station on 2/28/26 who opted to showcase their winning models on our newsletter. While many other members earned medals and awards at the event, not all winning entries are represented here. We extend our congratulations to all award recipients for their outstanding work. **Note:** *Winners are listed in the order their work was received.*

Click the link below to watch HOBBY SHOW's full video of all displays from the Winter Blitz 2026 Show .

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJX5jhBYiSg>

### Julio A. Caro | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle	1/72	
	Russian T-55 Medium Tank M1958	1/72	

### Dana Mathes | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	Chinese Type 59-II Tank Tiananmen Square, 1989 <b>BEST CAMO/CREATIVE PAINT AWARD</b>	1/35	
	FV4034 Challenger 2 Iraq, 2003 <b>HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE AWARD</b>	1/35	

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Winter Blitz 2026 Winners

By Julio A. Caro | Page 2 of #

### Rob Booth | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	Collection of P-47 Tank Buster	1/72	
	MB Willys "Follow Me" Jeep	1/35	
	Fist of War E75 Heavy Panzer Walker	1/35	

### Henry Nuñez | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	U. S. Combat Medic	1/35	
	Imperial Japanese Army Sergeant Major, 1942	1/18	

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Winter Blitz 2026 Winners

By Julio A. Caro | Page 3 of #

### Michael Williamson | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	M31 Tank Recovery Vehicle	1/35	
	M4A3 HVSS POA-CWS-H5 Tank	1/48	
	USMC M4A3 Sherman Tank WWII Pacific Theatre	1/48	
	PBR-31 Mk. II (Pibber)	1/35	
	Syrian T-55 Medium Tank	1/48	

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Winter Blitz 2026 Winners

By Julio A. Caro | Page 4 of #

### Juan Noltenius | Winter Blitz 2026, College Station

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	Jumbo Sherman M4A3E2 tank	1/35	
	British Matilda Mk.3	1/48	
	Panther Ausf. D Tank	1/35	

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## MCMA Model Car Showdown 2026

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of 2



This year's **Metroplex Car Modelers Association (MCMA)** Model Car Show was held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, in Plano, Texas, drawing a focused field of talented builders and enthusiasts. **David Auth** was the sole representative from Alamo Squadron in attendance, and—true to form—he delivered an outstanding performance, representing the club with distinction. Listed below are his winning entries. **CONGRATULATIONS, David!**

### David Auth | MCMA Model Car Showdown 2026

PHOTO	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	AWARD(S)
	1959 AMT Drag Boat	1/25	
	1995 Toyota Service Truck	1/24	
	1947 Chevy Fleetmaster	1/25	
	1988 Toyota MR2	1/24	

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## March 5th 2026 Meeting Photos

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of 4

[Back to Home Page](#)

Our **March 5th, 2026** meeting brought many of our members together once again for an evening filled with creativity, craftsmanship, and camaraderie. Whether you were presenting, learning, or simply enjoying the atmosphere, the meeting was a great reminder of what makes our club so special. Enjoy the highlights Below.



**Keith Rule** kicks off the 3/5/26 meeting.



**Dana Mathes** talks about current club issues.



**Alan Larrumbide** discusses the Model Summit Award Program.



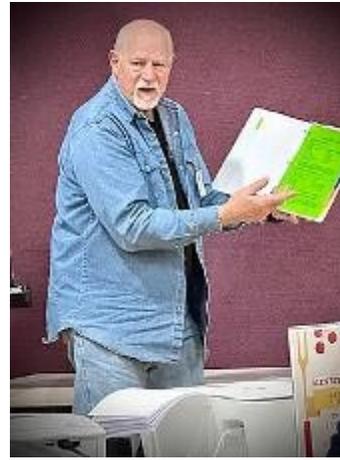
**Jim Norton** briefs members on the status of club finances.



**Mario Fernandez** registers Club Contest Entries into the new Registration system.



**Chris Menold** discusses to theme for Model Fiesta 45. Gold for our 50th anniversary.



**Rob Booth** talks about the upcoming car build and Gundam classes at the Model Box Hobby Shop.



**Dick "The Grinch" Montgomery** briefs club on new "Plastic Pyramid" finds.

**APRIL 2026 Edition**

**March 5th 2026 Meeting Photos**

By Julio A. Caro | Page 2 of 4



Don Weaver tells club about the **USS Reliant** and **VW Beetle** he's working on.



Gabriel Lee gives club an update on his **collection of F-16 fighters**.



New member Brad Heaston has a great **BF-109D** on the work in progress table and tell club about it.



George Ortega gives a great **demonstration on Formula 1 cars** he's built over time.



Rob Booth's **Snoopy Pave Hawk Pilot** figure on the Contest Table.



Greg Hamon's outstanding **B1 Rocket** on the Contest Table.



Chris Lenahan's **3D printed figures** on the Work in Progress (WIP) table.



David Auth's **1959 Drag Boat** on the Contest Table.

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## March 5th 2026 Meeting Photos

By Julio A. Caro | Page 3 of 4

[Back to Home Page](#)



Keith Rule's **1964 Chevy Impala Low Rider** on the Contest Table.



**1969 Camaro SS 396** by Gene Botkins sits proudly on the Contest Table.



**1993 Toyota Long Bed Pick Up** on the Contest Table by David Auth.



Brad Heaston's **BF-109D** on the Work in Progress table.



Check out this amazing **F-16C** by Juan Noltenius on the Work in Progress table.



**Soviet T-55 Medium Tank** by Julio Caro proudly sitting on the Contest Table.



**U. S. Navy Shore Patrol WWII Willys Jeep** by Julio A. Caro on the Contest Table.



**Russian T-55 Tank with impressive Ethiopian camo** built by Dana Mathes (on display) on the Contest Table.



Sitting on the Contest Table was this cool-looking **First of War E75 Heavy Panzer Walker** by Rob Booth.

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## March 5th 2026 Meeting Photos

By Julio A. Caro | Page 4 of 4

[Back to Home Page](#)



Hurricane Mk. IIc Tropical Scheme plane by Scott Bishop on the Contest Table.



A beautiful SHERMAN M50 tank built by Jose A. Reyes on the Contest Table.



A collection of F-16 jets setting on the Work in Progress table by Gabriel Lee.



Take a look at our 1st Place winner a "Follow Me" Willys Jeep by Rob Booth.



2nd Place winner F-22 Raptor by Joe Chapa sitting on the Contest Table.



3rd Place winner M1134 Stryker on the Contest Table by Julio A. Caro



Chris Lenahan built this outstanding German T-38 tank on the Contest Table.



And how about this exceptional Leichter Panzerspähwagen Sd.Kfz.222 vehicle also built by Chris Lenahan on the Contest Table?



Greg Hamon's Mandalorian N1 model on the Contest Table. How cool is that!

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Cheers to 50 years

By Dana Mathes

## ModelFiesta 45: "We're Golden!"

February 19-20, 2027

Friday, Feb 19 (Tentative): Paid Seminars and Hospitality Room  
Saturday, Feb. 20: Exhibition, Contest, and Vendors

**New Braunfels Civic Convention Center  
New Braunfels, TX**

Come join us in celebrating Alamo Squadron of San Antonio's fiftieth anniversary! In affiliation with Modellers Without Borders and Help Heal Veterans, Alamo Squadron presents ModelFiesta 45.

The theme for our annual event is "**We're Golden!**" To be considered for this award your model can be either display-only or an evaluated contest entrant. It must have at least one of the three following attributes:

1. The number "**50**" is prominently **displayed** on it.
2. The color is predominately **gold**.
3. The subject represents **something introduced in 1977**. Examples include:
  - a. **Movies:** Star Wars, Smokey and the Bandit, Close Encounters of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kind
  - b. **Aircraft:** Mig 29, A-10 Warthog
  - c. **Automobiles:** Pontiac Trans AM, Chevy Camaro Z28
  - d. **Military Vehicles:** Flakpanzer Gerard, M88A2 Hercules
  - e. **Ships:** HMS Invincible, USS Belleau Wood

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of 6

[Back to Home Page](#)



Photo courtesy of MILITARY-TODAY.com



Greetings, styrene pirates! I've just wrapped up Trumpeter's 1/72 scale M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle and today I'm bringing you my build review of the kit.

The kit in question is Trumpeter's 1/72nd scale M1134 Stryker Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM) Vehicle, (Kit # 07425) shown below:

### MODEL KIT KEY SPECIFICATIONS

FEATURE	DETAILS
Scale:	1/72
Model Length:	108 mm
Parts Included:	80 plastic parts, rubber tires
Additional Items:	Decals, instruction manual
Release Date:	March 2024

### M1134 Stryker's Main Purpose

The M1134 is usually deployed **behind or alongside infantry**. Its job is to **stop tanks before they ever reach friendly forces**, then relocate quickly before drawing return fire.



APRIL 2026 Edition

## M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review

By Julio A. Caro | Page 2 of 6

### THE BUILD EXPERIENCE

#### Instructions

I found the instructions for this kit to be generally easy to follow. However, I did find some omissions which I feel are important enough to mention to the modeler. For instance, certain parts—such as the **towing clevises** and the **TOW protective shroud**—are not included with this kit, even though the box art clearly shows them. More on that later.

#### Detailing

The kit features realistically rendered panel lines and accurate proportions that enhance its overall appearance. Parts are largely free of flash, and any sink marks present are minor and confined to areas hidden after assembly—an always welcomed mercy for the modeler.

#### Assembly

This kit goes together quite well, with no major fit issues, though careful attention is needed when working with the many small parts. Precision and patience definitely pay off here, as even tiny components like the smoke launchers or headlight guards demand a steady hand.

As mentioned earlier, the kit does not include the TOW protective shroud or the towing clevises. If you want to include these details, you'll need to source or fabricate them yourself. For my build, I opted to leave the towing clevises off—at least for now—but I couldn't resist creating my own TOW protective shroud, as I felt it would add both visual appeal and realism to the model.



To make the shroud, I used 12 mm Tamiya yellow tape, carefully cut to size then folded in a layered pattern to mimic the protective covering shown in the box art. I reinforced it on the plastic TOW extender using PVA glue to ensure it stayed securely in place. In my opinion, the finished piece turned out quite well and it adds a subtle but noticeable enhancement to the overall look of the Stryker.

Here's a close-up picture of my custom-made TOW protective cover shroud on the finished model:



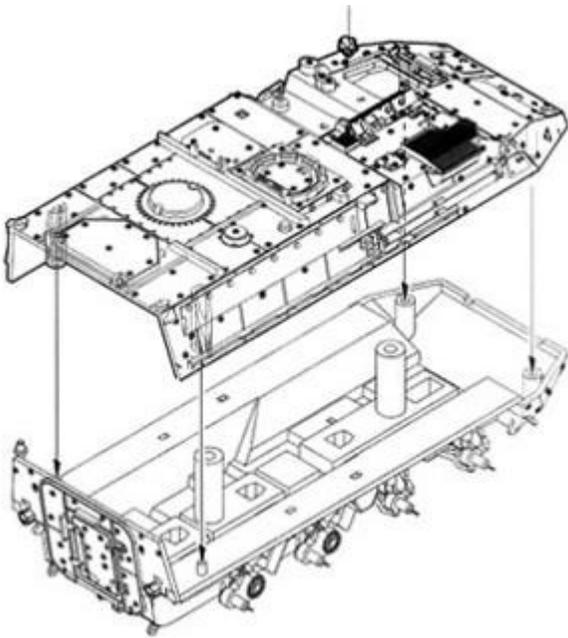
[Back to Home Page](#)

## M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review

By Julio A. Caro | Page 3 of 6

### Upper and Lower Hulls

The kit features a one-piece slide-molded upper and lower hull, which makes assembly refreshingly straightforward. Reference illustration below:



### Tires



One of the best features of this kit is the set of eight black rubber tires, which eliminates the need to paint them as would be required if they were molded in plastic. Each tire includes a separate plastic hub that you should paint and then insert each into the rubber tire.

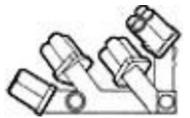
### Challenging Parts

The following parts proved to be particularly challenging, thanks to their **tiny size and delicate construction**. Working with them sometimes felt less like model building and more like performing **microsurgery with tweezers**. Even the slightest slip could mean bending, breaking, or losing them entirely into the great abyss under my workbench. Precision, patience, and a steady hand were essential—and occasionally a bit of luck, too.

These are the pieces that test both your dexterity and your sanity, but when properly installed, they add a level of detail and realism that makes the effort more than worthwhile.

### Smoke Grenade Launchers

I'm convinced these parts were forged in the deepest recesses of the underworld! Tiny, slippery, and nearly impossible to hold with tweezers, they certainly justify the generous number of spares included with this kit.



### 7.62mm M240B MG Gun



This was a fun little part—not just because it's tiny size, but also because its delicate components make it a real test of patience. One wrong move and it snaps... as I quickly discovered, requiring a tense round of super glue to set things right.

[Back to Home Page](#)

## APRIL 2026 Edition

# M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review

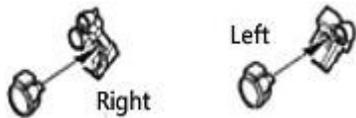
By Julio A. Caro | Page 4 of 6

### Driver's Left and Right Side Mirrors

Same story here—another delicate part that could snap if mishandled. Luckily, installation went off without a hitch with these.



### Headlights



The headlights consists of two parts you must position and glue together. A steady hand is

helpful here, as the pieces are quite small and easy to misalign.

### Headlight Guards

Another delicate part requiring a steady touch to avoid breakage, with multiple attachment points.



### Antennas



The kit includes several antenna types, ranging from reasonably manageable to very small. Their size isn't so much the issue as their fragility—careful handling is essential. I learned that lesson the hard way after snapping two of them and having to perform some surgery to set things right.

### Painting

The instructions come with a Paint Reference Chart with a painting and masking guide with color recommendations for several manufacturers as seen in the illustration below.

#### PAINT REFERENCE COLOR

Color	Mr.Hobby	Acrycion	Vallejo	Model Master	Tamiya	Humbrol
Olive Drab 橄榄色	H 304 304	N 304	887	1711	XF62	155
Steel 黑铁色	H 18 28	N 18	864	1402	XF84	—
Tire Black 胎黑色	H 77 137	N 77	—	—	XF85	—
Silver 银色	H 8 8	N 8	997	1546	X11	11
Red 红色	H 3 3	N 3	908	1503	X7	19
Wood Brown 木棕色	H 37 43	N 37	983	1701	—	186
Khaki 卡其色	H 81 55	N 81	988	—	XF49	26

### Priming

I decided black basing would be the best approach to take, so I primed the model with Vallejo's 74.602 Black Primer. Here's the result:



**APRIL 2026 Edition**

**M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review**  
 By Julio A. Caro | Page 5 of 6

**Base Coat**

Once the black base had cured, I applied the base color coat of U.S. Olive Drab using Tamiya XF-62, thinned to a 50/50 consistency.

**Post Shading**

Happy with the base coat—a 70/30 mix of Tamiya Olive Drab and XF-49 Khaki—I added light pre-shading to select areas to mimic natural fading. The result was instant depth and visual interest, giving the finish a more realistic feel.

Once that was complete, I applied a gloss coat over the entire model to seal the paintwork and prepare the surface for decals and later weathering.

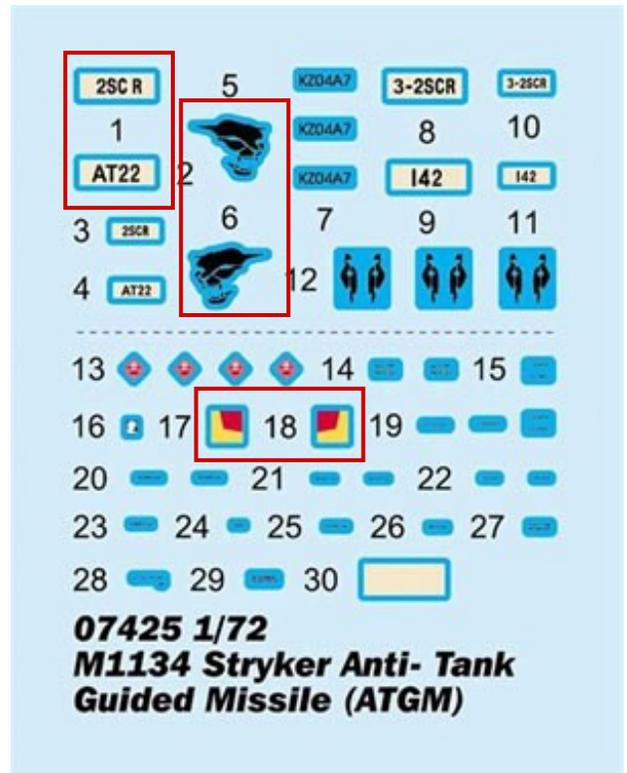
Here are the results of that work:



**Decals**

Once the paint and gloss coats had fully dried, I moved on to applying the decals. The kit decals are quite small—borderline microscopic—which made placement a bit of a challenge.

The instructions provided several marking options, but I found them somewhat confusing. To make matters more interesting, the illustrations were printed very dark, making them difficult to interpret. After a bit of squinting, second-guessing, and mild frustration, I decided the wiser course was to look up reference photos online. Here are the decals that came in the box and the ones I used (highlighted in red):



[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## M1134 Stryker ATGM Vehicle Build Review

By Julio A. Caro | Page 6 of 6

### Panel Lining

To really make the surface details pop, I did a pin wash and panel lining with a 70/30 mix of Tamiya's Black and Dark Brown Panel Line Accent Colors. After letting it sit for about an hour, I cleaned up the excess with mineral spirits, cotton swabs, and a fine brush. The result? Crisp, well-defined lines that gave the model a real sense of depth—definitely worth the extra patience. Here is the result of that work:



### Weathering

This is usually one of my favorite stages of any build—there's something deeply satisfying about watching your creation come to life with a touch of realism.

Using Vallejo paints and pigments, I weathered key areas to blend with the base terrain, adding a touch of realism that really brings the model pop. I paid particular attention to the tires.

After the weathering dried, a final matte varnish sealed the work and gave the model that authentic, real-world appearance. Here's the finished piece:



*Julio*

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 1 of 6

[Back to Home Page](#)



**This project began not at the workbench—but over coffee.**

Before committing to the build, I met with my good friend Art Nicholson at a café on Broadway Street in Midtown San Antonio. We spent a long and enjoyable afternoon talking ships, history, and specifically His Majesty's Ship Prince of Wales. Art offered valuable suggestions for the build—details to pay attention to, historical nuances to keep in mind, and perspectives that only someone deeply immersed in the ship's story could provide. He even interviewed people involved in the ship's short life!



I truly appreciate Art's contribution to this project. Beyond being the author of **Hostages to Fortune: Winston Churchill and the Loss of the Prince of Wales and Repulse** (Sutton Publishing, 2005), Art has long been part of our modeling

community. He is a member of the San Antonio Armor Builders' Club, a former member of the Alamo Squadron modeling club, and he is a familiar face at Model Fiesta events year after year. His passion for history and modeling continues to inspire many of us. With that inspiration, I began my 1/350 scale build of the HMS Prince of Wales from Tamiya.



APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 2 of 6

[Back to Home Page](#)

### A Ship of Power—and Fate

Few warships carry a story as compelling as HMS Prince of Wales. She was not merely a battleship of steel and rivets, but a vessel launched into history at a moment when the balance of naval warfare itself was shifting beneath the waves.

Early in his book, Art captures the grandeur and tragedy of her story:

“The story of the Prince of Wales and Repulse is an endlessly fascinating one. It is the story of a voyage around the world that ended in a hard but cleanly fought battle, a story of great and heroic men, powerful and graceful ships, and cruel twist of fate.”

That sense of inevitability—of powerful ships moving toward a destiny not yet understood—stayed with me throughout the build.

### Camouflage: Interpreting History in Paint

One of the earliest and most demanding decisions was selecting the camouflage scheme. As many Royal Navy enthusiasts know, there are multiple interpretations of Prince of Wales' camouflage pattern during her final deployment. There are at least four interpretations of Prince of Wales' final pattern.

After reviewing several references, I chose to follow Sławomir Brzeziński's booklet *Brytyjski pancernik Prince of Wales* (2007). Though only sixteen pages long, it

contains a color diagram that proved invaluable.

Thanks again to my friend Art Nicholson for providing this source material!

Matching the tones required remixing paints carefully to approximate the suggested shades. For masking, I used Tamiya masking sheets, labeling each section by color number. Only the active area was exposed while painting; once dry, it was carefully re-covered before moving on to the next shade. It was slow work—but deeply satisfying as the pattern emerged.

Later, AK Masking Putty allowed smoother transitions on the superstructure and turrets.

I also tightened the separation lines by hand with a fine brush—small corrections that sharpen the overall appearance.

### A Ship Already Tested

Art Nicholson reminds us that Prince of Wales was still very new in 1941:

“The flagship of Force Z and the British Eastern Fleet was the battleship Prince of Wales. The Prince of Wales was a very new ship, having been launched in 1939 and completed only in March of 1941. More powerful than graceful in appearance, she displaced 36,730 tons... and had a maximum speed of about 28 knots.”

Despite her youth, she had already faced one of the most famous naval engagements of the war. In May 1941, she engaged the German battleship Bismarck in the Denmark Strait. Art clarifies a common misconception:

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 3 of 6

"It was these hits... which among other things damaged fuel tanks and flooded a boiler room, that forced the Bismarck to break off her convoy raiding mission..."

Knowing that this same ship—fresh from battle with Bismarck—would soon steam toward Southeast Asia adds powerful weight to the modeling experience.

### Construction Strategy and Hidden Details

For this build, I chose to paint the hull separately before attaching it to the deck. This reduced masking complexity and kept the paint lines crisp. Once joined, I installed a lighting system (thanks to my wife Monica for providing the lighting series). Whether much of it will be visible once sealed is uncertain—but knowing it's there adds a quiet layer of realism.

The wooden deck from the Pontos set proved thicker than expected, requiring careful trimming. For weathering, AMMO by Mig's Orange Brown panel liner provided subtle warmth without overwhelming the planking detail.

Boats, rafts, Pom-poms, and searchlights followed, gradually transforming the kit into a convincing silhouette.

Rigging was completed with INFINI nylon thread—one of my favorite stages in any battleship build. There is something satisfying about stretching those fine lines that brings life and tension to the model. Reference photo the photo following.



Rigging was completed using INFINI nylon thread as shown in the photo of the model above.

### The Voyage to Singapore

Perhaps the most sobering part of Art's narrative in his book is the decision that sent Prince of Wales eastward. Admiral Tovey protested her deployment, citing operational concerns—but his protest "came to naught."

Art writes of her arrival at Singapore on December 2, 1941:

"The ships' arrival was a major event in Singapore, and no doubt it raised morale..."

Continues on the following page...

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 4 of 6

Just days later, without adequate air cover, Prince of Wales and Repulse were sunk by Japanese aircraft on December 10, 1941—the first time capital ships at sea were destroyed solely by air power.

In that moment, naval warfare changed forever.

### The Sea Base

For the water base, I used my aluminum foil method over foam, layering glue and foil to create organic wave texture as shown in the photo below.



After drying, multiple tones of green, blue, and white were applied, followed by AK Water Effects and Liquitex Gloss Medium for the final sheen. The result suggests motion—appropriate for a ship forever remembered in action.

### Model Build Photos

The following photos walk through the build process, showing how the model came together from basic parts to a finished piece.

[Back to Home Page](#)

**PHOTO #1**—Kit, Pontos wooden deck set and aftermarket materials



**PHOTO #2**—Labeled Tamiya masking sheets and color notes visible



WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 5 of 6

**PHOTO #3**—Superstructure showing layered camouflage



**PHOTO #5**—Hull and Forward Turrets



**PHOTO #4**—Pontos Deck Installed



**PHOTO #6**—Superstructure Lighting and Rigging



[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Building HMS Prince of Wales

*Steel, Camouflage, and a Voyage Into History*

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 6 of 6

**PHOTO #7**—Full Diorama Presentation: Complete ship on carved wooden base with sea effects



### Final Reflections

This project became more than a build. It became a conversation—between modeler and historian, between past and present, between craftsmanship and memory. A friends' engagement.

Meeting with Art at that Broadway café gave this project direction and depth. His insights shaped not only how I approached the model, but how I understood the ship.

HMS Prince of Wales represents decision under pressure, courage under fire, and the harsh lesson that technology evolves faster than tradition.

And that is why we build these ships.

### Historical Photos of HMS Prince of Wales



Photo source: [www.warhistoryonline.com](http://www.warhistoryonline.com)



Photo source: [Axis&Allies.org](http://Axis&Allies.org)



Photo source: [Reddit.com](http://Reddit.com)

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## The GM “Bubble Top” Era (1959–1962)

*A Jet-Age Icon of American Design*

By David Auth | Page 1 of 2



**In the late 1950s and early 1960s, General Motors captured the spirit of the Space Age with**

**a dramatic and now highly collectible design feature: the “bubble top.”**

Produced from 1959 through 1962 across several GM divisions, these cars were defined by their expansive, curved rooflines and thin pillars, creating an airy, almost futuristic greenhouse that seemed inspired by jet aircraft canopies.

The bubble top design first appeared in 1959, a year already known for bold automotive styling—towering tailfins, abundant chrome, and sweeping lines.

GM designers pushed boundaries further by reshaping the roof itself. Instead of a traditional flat or squared-off top, bubble tops featured a rounded, dome-like profile with large, wraparound glass and minimal structural interruption. This gave the cars a light, open feel and dramatically improved outward visibility.

Among the most notable models to feature bubble tops were

the Chevrolet Impala, the Pontiac Catalina, the Oldsmobile 88, and select Buick and Cadillac models. While each division retained its own styling cues—grilles, trim, and proportions—the shared bubble top roofline created a visual family resemblance across GM’s lineup.



[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## The GM “Bubble Top” Era (1959–1962) A Jet-Age Icon of American Design

By David Auth | Page 2 of 2

[Back to Home Page](#)

The design wasn't purely aesthetic. The thinner roof pillars, especially the rear “C-pillars,” enhanced visibility for drivers and passengers alike, an advantage over many competitors' more enclosed designs.

However, the expansive glass areas also came with trade-offs. Interiors could become quite hot under direct sunlight, particularly before the widespread adoption of modern air conditioning. Additionally, the delicate-looking roof structures raised concerns about structural rigidity, especially as safety standards began to evolve.

By 1962, the bubble top era was already fading. Automotive design trends were shifting toward more formal, squared rooflines with thicker pillars, influenced in part by growing attention to safety and structural integrity. The flamboyant styling of the late '50s gave way to cleaner, more restrained lines that would define the mid-1960s.

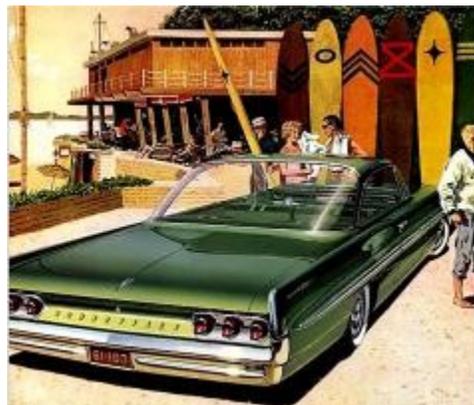
Today, GM bubble top cars are celebrated as quintessential examples of Jet Age automotive design. Collectors prize them not only for their rarity but also for their

unmistakable silhouette—a blend of optimism, innovation, and bold styling. Whether seen at car shows or preserved in private collections, these vehicles remain rolling time capsules of an era when American automakers dared to dream big and design even bigger.

Here are some photos to delight your senses:



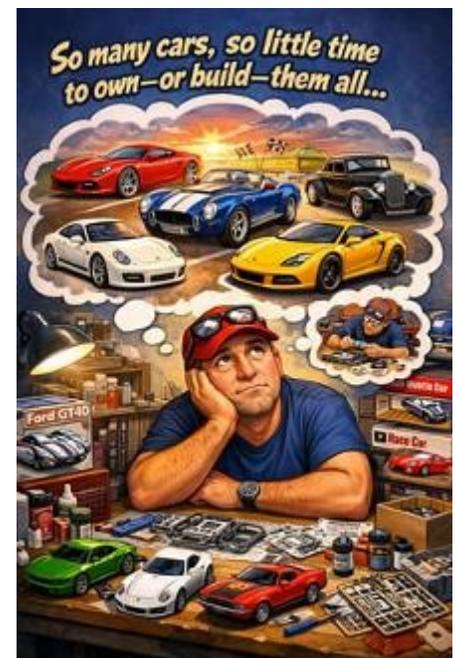
*Let's start with this gorgeous Chevrolet Impala Bubble Top.*



**Here's a great illustration of a classic Oldsmobile Bubble Car.**



**And to finish it up, take a look at the body of this Cadillac Bubble Top car I'm currently working on.**



**Cheers, David.**

APRIL 2026 Edition

## When Your Hands Start Freelancing

*A Lighthearted Look at Modeling and Aging*

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of 2



**There comes a moment in every modeler's life when you realize the problem isn't the kit, the instructions, or even the manufacturer's questionable engineering choices. The**

**problem... is your hands.**

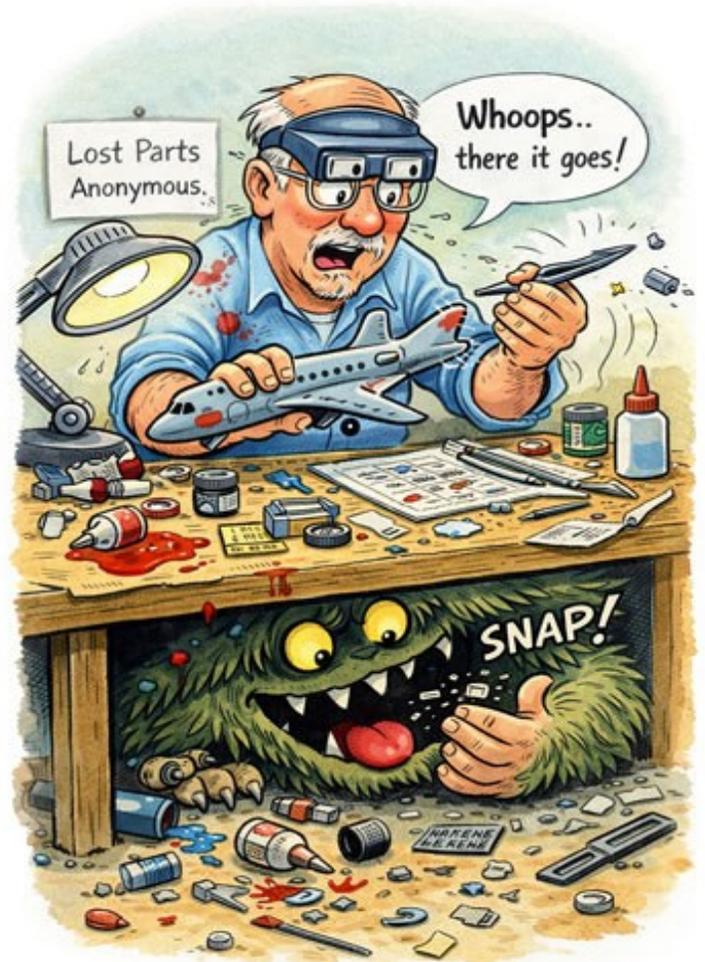
Over the years, I've noticed a curious development: my hands sometimes seem to have a mind of their own. They'll drop a tiny model part at Mach speed, smear fresh paint onto a perfectly clean panel, or nudge a delicate assembly just far enough to create "surprise weathering." And yes, it always happens after I've spent an hour getting everything just right.

At first, I blamed the kit. Then the tweezers. Eventually, I had to admit the truth: I'm getting older. And with age comes clumsiness, a shorter fuse for frustration, and a dwindling supply of patience—three things not ideally suited to fine-scale modeling.

### The Frustration Factor

It's easy to get upset when you spend painstaking hours assembling and painting a model, only to have your own hands sabotage it

in seconds. I've found myself muttering things like, "I just need five more years of steady hands!" or "Was that part glued in or did it just fly away?"



[Back to Home Page](#)

APRIL 2026 Edition

## When Your Hands Start Freelancing

*A Lighthearted Look at Modeling and Aging*

By Julio A. Caro | Page 2 of 2

Some days, I even question if this hobby is worth the stress. But then I remind myself: modeling is about creativity and enjoyment—and that helps.

Even as our hands stage rebellions, there are ways to adapt and keep enjoying the hobby:

- **Light & Magnify:** LED lamps and magnifiers make tiny parts easier to see.
- **Tray or Towel:** Keep parts from disappearing into the Carpet Monster dimension.
- **Clamps & Tweezers:** Reduce accidental launches.
- **Take Breaks:** Short, focused sessions beat fatigue.
- **Selective Detailing:** Not every part is essential for a great-looking model.
- **Humor Helps:** Laugh at mistakes—they're inevitable anyway.

### The Silver Lining

Despite occasional clumsiness and lost patience, aging brings something valuable: experience. Years of modeling teach us smarter

techniques, better problem-solving, and how to disguise mistakes convincingly.

And let's be honest: a slightly "weathered" model often looks better than the pristine one we spent three hours trying to perfect anyway.



So, if your hands occasionally rebel, your patience wanes, or your models acquire unexpected features, take comfort—you're not alone. Adapt, laugh, and keep building.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Julio".

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Route 66 Model Expo Information

Information Presented by Don Weaver

TULSA MODELERS' & TULSA MINIATURE FORUM & MOTORWORKS



**SATURDAY APRIL 18TH**

10600 E 96th S  
Tulsa, Ok 74133

Registration: 9am-Noon  
Raffle: 10:30am-2:30  
Awards: 3pm(approx)

**FIXED ENTRY FEE**

**\$20 ENTRY FEE INCLUDES 4 EVALUATED ENTRIES AND ADDITIONAL DISPLAY ENTRIES**

**ADMISSION IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

**Vendor Tables available**

8 foot tables \$30 for first table \$20 for each additional.  
Contact Greg @ [greg.kittinger@gmail.com](mailto:greg.kittinger@gmail.com) to reserve yours.

**ROUTE66MODELEXPO.COM**

**Theme: Ring of Fire Subjects of the Pacific Rim**

Two special theme awards (Historical and Fictional) for outstanding subjects from Pacific Rim countries. Open to all categories



## Exhibition Format

**Models will be displayed by modeler, not category. Additionally, modelers' names will be displayed with their works. All attendees will be given a name tag to make connecting with your favorite builders even easier.**

**Higher Quality Evaluations:** We believe that modelers should receive both positive and constructive feedback from our judges as a tool to help them achieve their personal goals in the hobby. For 2026, the fixed entry fee will include four evaluated entries per modeler. Limiting each entrants' evaluated entries will allow judges to focus on providing a better experience for attendees. Additionally, entrants are encouraged to showcase additional models in their display, providing attendees with a comprehensive overview of their work.

**Three Award Tiers**

- **GSB:** All evaluated entries will be eligible to earn a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Challenge coin, commensurate with the level of work presented.
- **Master Awards:** The traditional "Best of Awards" will recognize the most outstanding evaluated entries in their respective classes.
- **Special Awards:** These awards will recognize "Outstanding" builds that incorporate unique themes, regardless of whether they are evaluated or displayed.

**Easy Online Registration Open April 1st**

[Back to Home Page](#)

**3rd Annual Alamo Squadron Family Picnic**  
by John Kress [Back to Home Page](#)

**WHEN:** Sunday, April 26th, 2026  
**TIME:** From 12:00 Noon to 5:00 pm  
**WHERE:** O. P. Schnabel Park, Graff Pavilion  
9606 Bandera Rd., San Antonio, TX 78250  
**WHAT SHOULD I BRING?** Your family, a covered dish (vegetable side dish, salad or dessert)



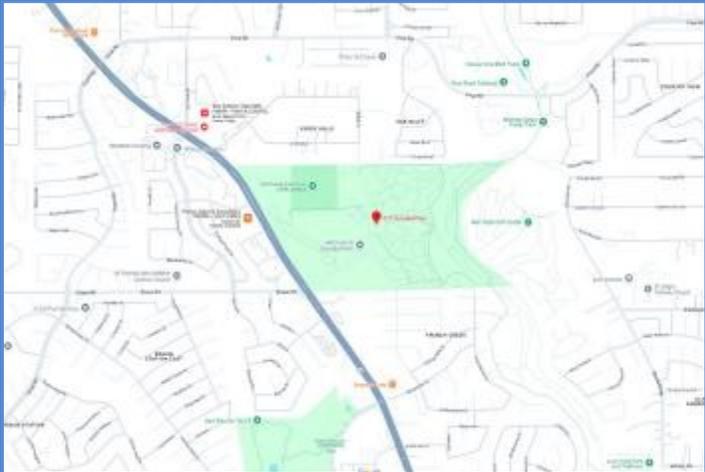
The Graff Pavilion is pretty large, so there's not going to be problem if it rains. Last year, we had about 60 people attend and all had a terrific time!



Activity planning is still in progress, but hopefully, we're hoping to get all that decided and finalized real soon. There's going to be a sign-up sheet at our asking for some

information for those of you planning to attend, such as:

- ✓ **Member's name**
- ✓ **The number of adults and children that will be attending,**
- ✓ **What main dish each person would like (beef or chicken) and what**
- ✓ **side dish you're bringing.**



WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Navigator Contributors Wanted!

By Your Navigator Editing Staff | Page 1 of 2



**Writing for the Newsletter** Writing for the Navigator newsletter is more than just putting words on a page— it's a chance to shape the voice of our Alamo Squadron community and beyond. Each submission brings fresh perspective, whether it's a humorous anecdote, a detailed build report, or a reflective piece on modeling or camaraderie. These stories not only entertain, they inform and inspire, showcasing the diversity of skills, styles, and personalities within our chapter.

When members take part, the newsletter transforms into something truly special: a collective showcase of creativity and shared passion. It becomes a publication we all own, reflecting the spirit and heart of our group. This sense of ownership builds stronger connections and invites new members to feel welcomed and engaged.

Varied writing styles and topics add texture and interest, turning each issue into a lively mix rather than a monotonous read. It's not just informative—it's inviting. Submissions also lighten the load for editors and help keep content fresh and dynamic. In short, writing for the Navigator isn't just helpful—it's powerful. It turns readers into contributors, and contributors into community builders. Let your voice be part of the journey.

Varied writing styles and topics add texture and interest, turning each issue into a lively mix rather than a monotonous read. It's not just informative—it's inviting. Submissions also lighten the load for editors and help keep content fresh and dynamic. In short, writing for the Navigator isn't just helpful—it's powerful. It turns readers into contributors, and contributors into community builders. Let your voice be part of the journey.

We can use several types of content. Here are a few suggestions:

Continues on the following page...

[Back to Home Page](#)

## Navigator Contributors Wanted!

By Your Navigator Editing Staff | Page 2 of 2

[Back to Home Page](#)



### Short Teases

Short teases—about **300 words or less**—are perfect for sharing anecdotes, humorous

incidents, or brief stories from the hobby. Feel free to include a photo or illustration if it adds to the piece. These short entries are an excellent starting point for **first-time contributors**: they're quick to write and a fun way to get involved.

### Full-Length Articles

Full-length articles typically range from **500 to 1,500 words**. While longer pieces are welcome, keep in mind that a newsletter exceeding **40 pages** can become overwhelming for readers. This is a hobby publication—not a scientific journal or technical manual—so **clarity and brevity are always appreciated**.

### Visuals and Illustrations

Including **5–10 images per article** works well in most cases. Please **attach photos and artwork as separate files rather than embedding them in the document**; this allows us to properly size and position them during layout. You're welcome to include captions, or we can add them for you—if needed.

### Image Placement

If your article includes photos or illustrations, please indicate roughly where you would like them to appear in the text. The easiest way to do this is to insert a short note at the appropriate spot, such as:

*“[Insert Photo 1 here]” or “[Insert Figure 1 here]”*

This helps us match each image with the correct section of your article, especially when multiple photos are submitted. Don't worry about exact placement—we'll handle the final layout—but your notes help ensure the images appear in the right spot.

### Photo Tips

Please submit **the highest-quality images available**. Files can be shared using free services such as **Google Drive** or **WeTransfer** if they are too large to email.

### File Format

Whenever possible, please submit your article in **Microsoft Word** format (**.doc** or **.docx**), or in another program that can be easily opened and saved as a Word file.

### For New and Seasoned Writers Alike

If you've never written an article before but would like to give it a try, we're happy to help you get started. And for those with publishing experience—yes, our editing team will still give your work a careful once-over (it's a publishing thing!). That said, we appreciate it if you review your work before submission.

**APRIL 2026 Edition**

## Upcoming IPMS Shows and Events

Mark your calendars and get ready to be inspired by the creativity and craftsmanship on display at these upcoming IPMS Region 06 model shows.



EVENT DATE	NAME	LOCATION	ADDRESS
4/18/2026	Route 66 Model Expo	Tulsa, OK	The Park Church of Christ 10600 E 96th ST S, Tulsa, OK 74133
05/2/2026	ModelMania 2026	Stafford, TX	The Stafford Center 10505 Cash Rd, Stafford, TX 77477
05/16/2026	CALMEX 2026	Sulphur, LA	West-Cal Arena & Events Center 401 Arena Road Sulphur, LA 70665
<b>August 5-8, 2026</b>	<b>2026 IPMS NATIONALS</b>	<b>Fort Wayne, IN</b>	<b>Grand Wayne Convention Center 120 W. Jefferson Blvd. Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802</b>
08/22/2026	Space City Shootout Model Car Show	Stafford, TX	The Stafford Center 10505 Cash Rd, Stafford, TX 77477
09/12/2026	SuperCon 2026	Arlington, TX	Bob Duncan Community Center 2800 S. Center Street, Arlington, TX 76014
11/14/2026	Capitol Classic	Taylor, TX	Williamson County Expo Center 5350 Bill Pickett Trail, Taylor, TX 76574
<b>02/20/2027</b>	<b>MODELFiesta 45</b>	<b>New Braunfels, TX</b>	<b>New Braunfels Civic Center 375 S Castell Ave New Braunfels, TX 78130</b>

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Monthly Club Meeting Information

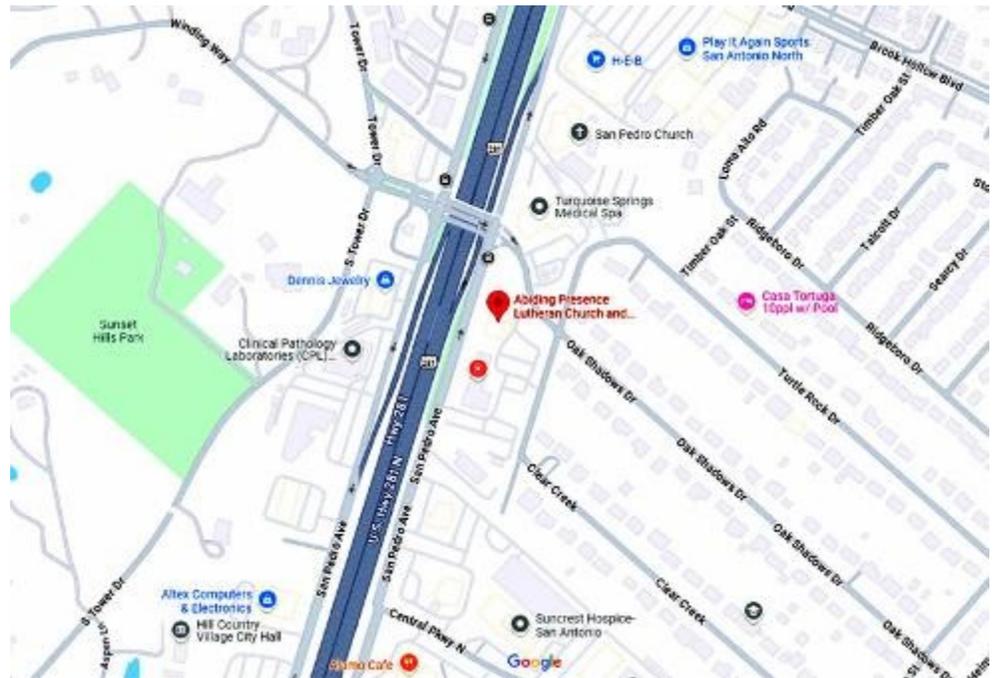
Alamo Squadron monthly club meetings are the perfect place to connect with fellow modelers to exchange ideas and learn new techniques to enhance your craft. Come share your latest projects, gain valuable insights, and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals who share your love for scale modeling.



Our monthly meetings are held on the **first Thursday of the month** starting at **6:30 PM** at

### ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH

14700 San Pedro Ave.  
San Antonio, TX 78232



Our next meeting will take place on **May 7, 2026.**

[Back to Home Page](#)

# IPMS Membership Information

Joining IPMS/USA is a great idea because it connects you with a dedicated community of scale modelers who share your passion. The society offers valuable resources, including detailed magazines, access to national and regional events, and opportunities for learning and improvement through workshops and contests. Membership also provides a platform to share your work, receive constructive feedback, and stay updated with the latest trends and techniques in scale modeling.



### 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)   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$17.00            | Date of Birth _____ |
| <b>Adult</b> One year                 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00            |                     |
| Two years                             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$58.00            |                     |
| Three years                           | <input type="checkbox"/> \$86.00            |                     |
| <b>Canada &amp; Mexico</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00            |                     |
| <b>Foreign</b> <small>Surface</small> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$38.00            |                     |
| <b>Family</b>                         | <input type="checkbox"/> 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: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Where did you hear about IPMS/USA? Please check all that apply:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local model club     | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet search               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend               | <input type="checkbox"/> IPMS web site                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ad in IPMS Journal   | <input type="checkbox"/> I'm a former member rejoining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ad in other magazine |  |

Applications should be printed and mailed to:

IPMS/USA  
P. O. Box 452350  
Omaha, Nebraska 68145-0235

### Interested in joining IPMS?

Here is a copy of an IPMS Membership Application/Renewal Form. You can download the actual form from the IPMS/USA website at:

[https://ipmsusa.org/sites/default/files/membership\\_application\\_0.pdf](https://ipmsusa.org/sites/default/files/membership_application_0.pdf)



<https://ipmsusa.org/>

[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Hobby Stores and Other Links

*Support hobby stores that support our club!*

### DIBBLES HOBBIES

1029 Donaldson Ave,  
San Antonio, TX 78228  
(210) 735-7221

<http://dibbleshobbies.com>

**OPEN:** Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 PM

**CLOSED:** Sundays and Mondays

### HOBBY TOWN

1309 N. Loop 1604 W.,  
Vineyard Shopping Center, Suite 101  
San Antonio, TX 78259-4769  
(210) 236-5527

<https://www.hobbytown.com/sanantonio-tx/1196>

**OPEN:** Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 8:00 PM

**OPEN:** Sunday, 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

### HILL COUNTRY HOBBY

9355 Bandera Road, Suite 118  
San Antonio, TX 78250  
(210) 681-2007

<http://www.hillcountryhobby.com>

**OPEN:** Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 PM

**CLOSED:** Sundays and Mondays

### HOBBY LOBBY

Visit the Hobby Lobby website to find the nearest store to your location.

<http://www.hobbylobby.com>

### LIONHEART HOBBY

5500 FM 2770, Suite 103,  
Kyle, TX 78640  
(512) 504-3404

<https://lionhearthobby.com>

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Monday - Thursday, 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Sunday 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

### KING'S HOBBY

7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Unit E188  
Austin, TX 78752  
(512) 836-7388

<http://kingshobby.com>

**OPEN:** Monday to Friday, 10:00 am - 6:00 PM

**CLOSED:** Saturday and Sunday

### THE MODEL BOX

1022 N. Main St.  
Boerne, TX 78006  
Office: (830)-331-9144  
Cell: (714) 323-4710

<https://themodelbox.co/>



[Back to Home Page](#)

WELCOME TO

# The NAVIGATOR

ALAMO SQUADRON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 2026 Edition

## Club Officers and Support Staff



**Keith Rule**  
President



**David Auth**  
Vice President



**Jim Norton**  
Treasurer



**Don Weaver**  
Chapter Contact



**Mario Fernandez**  
Webmaster



**Julio A. Caro**  
*The Navigator*  
Managing Editor,  
Design & Production



**Alan Larrumbide**  
*The Navigator*  
Assistant Editor



**Alamo Squadron Website**  
<https://www.alamosquadron.com>



**Alamo Squadron FACEBOOK Page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/114044928625406>



**IPMS Membership Information**  
<https://www.myipmsusa.org/join-us>

[Back to Home Page](#)