

**IPMS FAME CITIES
NEWSLETTER**

AKRON/CANTON, OHIO

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MARCH, 2006

Scale Scribblings

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Fame Cities' February meeting was once again very well attended, with a large number of models on the tables. The works in progress idea seems to be really taking off, as the coverage on the following pages will illustrate.

We also feature this month another build article by Joe Staudt, on his Hummer. This is the kind of article that we are looking for in the newsletter, and it's not that hard to do, folks. You do not have to follow any particular format, for example, you could do a build article on an older kit rather than a new kit. Short pieces on techniques, or non-kit product reviews are other types of articles we would welcome.

This issue also inaugurates a new Wants and Disposals feature, in which you can advertise items for sale, or plead with someone to sell you that item you just can't live without.

Next month is a contest month (Andy's 'Year you were born'), so make plans to attend even if you don't have anything to enter. This theme should make for some interesting entries. And just remember, no fudging on your age - this is the era of Google, and we will know.

Next meeting March 15

Green Public Library

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Fame Cities At BlizzardCon 2006

IPMS Columbus held their annual February Blizzardcon on February 18, 2006. Once again, Fame Cities made an outstanding showing. The following list was compiled by picking the memories of those who attended, and therefore carries no guarantees of completeness. The results are also posted on our website.

The big winner was Steve Dottavio, who took Best Aircraft and Best Adult Model with his Hind helicopter. Steve also brought home a First and a Second in the regular classes. Other winners were Andy Miday (2 First); Ed Kinney (a First and a Second); Ralph Nollan (a Third); Ken Patterson (Third); Mike Meredith (two Seconds); Al Imler (a Second); Jerry Royer (three First Place and one Third); and Mark Smith (a First, two Second and two Third). My apologies to anyone who has been missed. Please make me aware if you have been overlooked, and I will publish a correction.

This performance continues the club's great showing at contests. Scale Scribblings is pleased to offer congratulations to all who brought home awards. Each contest seems to add further proof that our club is home to some of the finest modelers in our area. The next local contests are Mid-Michigan on March 18, and Three Rivers on March 25. Let's have a good Fame Cities turnout for these events - we have a reputation to uphold!

MARCH CONTEST

Build Something From the Year You Were Born

Scale Scriblings

March 2006 Vol 2, Number3

February's Models



Paul Kittle's Kenworth W900



Rick Slagle brought this LAV25



A SPPZZ (?) by Steve Dottavio



A Tamiya F-14 by Ed Kinney



Another by Ed - Tamiya P-47D



A Hummer by Joe Staudt
(See Joe's build article)



A J1N1 Gekko by Jerry Royer



Andy Miday's Mig-29



Joe also brought this Olds lowrider



Two of Ryan Newell's superb biplanes - a Fokker DVIII and a Nieuport 28



Al Imler's M10 tank destroyer

Scale Scriblings

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Further progress on Gary Wolfe's USS Enterprise

February's

Works in Progress

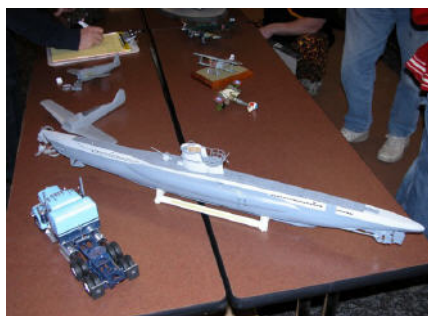
A great turnout of works in progress - ranging from just started to almost finished.



Mike Meredith's JU-87



Al Imler's FW-190



Bill Weckel's U-boat



Ken Patterson's P-47D

"I" Stands for International

by Bill Weckel, IPMS 43974

IPMS USA is an enormous organization, but it's only a small part of the IPMS world community. If you need a break from building, or are looking for inspiration for your next project, take an hour or two to see what some of our modeling brethren next door and across the seas are doing.

IPMS Canada <http://www.ipmscanada.com>

IPMS Mexico <http://www.ipmsmexico.com>

IPMS Panama <http://www.geocities.com/ipmspanama>

IPMS Colombia <http://geocities.com/ipmsco>

IPMS Chile <http://www.ipmschile.cl>

IPMS Netherlands <http://www.ipms.nl>

IPMS Phillipines <http://www.ipmsphilippines.com>

IPMS Sweden <http://ipmsstockholm.org>

IPMS Denmark <http://www.ipms.dk>

IPMS Italy <http://www.ipmsitaly.com>

IPMS France <http://ipms-france.ifrance.com/ipms-france>

IPMS Switzerland <http://www.ipms.ch>

IPMS Malta <http://www.ipmsmalta.com>

IPMS New Zealand <http://www.geocities.com/roaring40sdunedin>

Revell Hummer H1 Easy-kit; 1:25 scale (#85-1938)

By Joe Staudt

The Hummer has carved out a niche for itself as the king of the American-made SUV's. With its military pedigree, it can take on any terrain it is thrown into, while coddling its driver with leather seats and a killer sound system. Inevitably, it has also become a target for the customization: taking a vehicle that is already larger-than-life and making it even more so.

The subject kit for this review follows that larger-than-life customization premise and presents the Hummer H1 as the ultimate tuner vehicle, with huge, chrome wheels, special graphics, and a sound system powerful enough to blow out the windows on nearby vehicles. This is a natural application for this kit, since this is precisely the sort of over-the-top treatment that appeals to the pre-teen boys (and girls) that these snap-together kits are designed for. So let's see what this kit has to offer.



The kit is molded in orange and black, with clear plastic for the windows and headlights, and a "small" tree of chrome pieces. There is very little flash, and mold lines are almost non-existent. The body is a one-piece representation of the soft-top version of the H1, with the canvas top and bed cover molded on. The engraving is sharp throughout, and has lots of detail. The kit is a curbside, so the doors and hood are molded shut. The orange plastic is REALLY orange, and doesn't match any of the colors available on an actual H1, but for a customized vehicle the color works.

The tub interior is molded in black, with separate seats, dashboard, and steering wheel. The seats have hollow backs, but once the vehicle is put together they're pretty hard to see if left black. The dashboard instruments are molded well enough that someone with a steadier hand than mine could pick out the details with paint if they were so inclined.

The chassis is also molded in black. It is a one-piece affair with engine, exhaust, suspension, and drive train detail molded in. Plastic coil springs for all four wheels are the only pieces to be added. Again, detail is nice and crisp, if a bit on the basic side. The chassis attaches to the body with two screws. Four giant chrome wheels with separate pieces for the brake disks are shod with no-name "rubber-band" tires to get the appropriate tuner look. The wheels attach to steel axles that can be installed in either of two positions: normal or lowered.

The sticker sheet contains carbon-fiber inserts for the doors, tailgate, and hood, side sills that are supposed to look like exhaust pipes, a license plate, taillights, an "RM Customs" fender emblem, and a set of massive speakers for the rear deck. I've built several of Revell's Easy-Kits over the past few years, and the stickers keep getting better and better. The ones in this kit are nearly as thin as waterslide decals, but are also strong enough to survive some less-than-gentle handling on the way from the sheet to the model. The instructions are basic but clear, with good line drawings and parts called out by name and number.

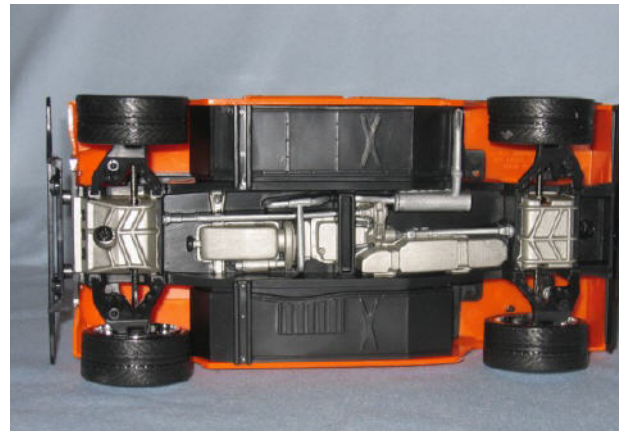


In order to get this done quickly for the review, and because my modeling time is way too limited these days (small children will do that, you know), I decided to stick to the basics on this one. I brush painted the canvas top and bed cover flat black and left the body orange. I picked out interior and chassis details with silver paint, but left them otherwise bare. I spent most of my time detailing the body with matte black on the grills, hood latches, door handles, and other trim pieces. Taillights, turn signals, and side marker lights got a 3-layer treatment: black for their outer trim, then silver on the lenses to provide a background for the clear red and amber. Since this was supposed to be a custom job, I added some .

"bling" with silver surrounds on the door handles and a Bare-Metal Foil "Ultra Chrome" grill shell. The "Hummer" insignias on the fenders and front were dry-brushed with silver as well. As a final touch, the chromed disk brakes got a coat of steel paint to differentiate them from the chrome wheels they would go behind.

Assembly was quick and easy, requiring maybe forty minutes at the most, including sticker placement. Although it is a snap-together kit, I would recommend adding a dab of glue to most of the parts to prevent them from coming apart later. The coil springs and the roll bars in particular will almost require some glue to stay in place properly. I installed the axles in their upper holes to get a lowered look; the other position just looked way too high for my tastes. The stickers went on easily and fit their assigned locations almost perfectly. The only exceptions were the side sill decals, which are just barely too long to fit the sills properly. I elected not to apply the speaker decals or the taillights, which I had already detailed with paint. As I mentioned before, these stickers are amazingly thin, and I commend Revell for the advances they have made in this area.

The final result of this build was a sturdy model with rolling wheels and a coolness factor that is sure to please most kids, as well as the kid in many of us adults. Kitbashers may be able to take this kit and go a long way with it if they are so inclined. My thanks to Revell and IPMS for the opportunity to review it



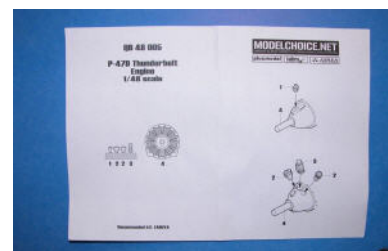
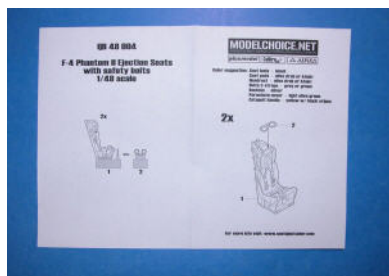
Trumpeter 2006 New Releases by Bill Weckel

2006 looks like it will be another incredible year in the current "golden age of modeling", thanks in no small part to Trumpeter, who have announced an enormous list of new kits. Prices and dates are TBA. All information is courtesy of Stevens International.

Automobiles	1 Naval	1/700 USS Hancock CV19 Aircraft Carrier	1/72 M4A3E8 Sherman Tank
1/25 1978 Chevrolet Monte Carlo Landau	1/700 A3D Skywarrior Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/700 USS Saratoga CV3 Aircraft Carrier	1/72 M4A3 76(W) Sherman Tank
Aircraft	1/700 RA5C Vigilante Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 HMS Hood Battleship	1/72 Russian JS3 Stalin Heavy Tank Russian Army
1/144 TU95MS Bear H	1/700 A6E Intruder Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 Metal Accessory Set for HMS Hood	1/72 Russian JS3m Stalin Tank Russian & Egyptian
1/144 TU142MR Bear J	1/700 A7E Corsair II Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS Alabama BB60 Battleship	1/72 Russian KV2 Tank
1/72 Republic F105D Thunderchief	1/700 F4J Phantom II Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS England DE635 Destroyer	1/72 Russian KV1 1942 Tank
1/72 Republic F105G Thunderchief	1/700 F14A Tomcat Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS Massachusetts BB59 Battleship	1/72 US M113ACAV Tank
1/72 CH47A Chinook Helicopter	1/700 F14B/D Tomcat Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS Alabama BB60 Battleship	1/72 Panzer VI Tiger I Ausf E Early Version Tank
1/72 CH47D Chinook Helicopter	1/700 F14B/D Tomcat Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS Saratoga CV3 Aircraft Carrier	1/72 Panzer VI Tiger I Ausf E Mid-Production
1/48 British Wellington Mk IC	1/700 F/A18C Hornet Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/350 USS Hancock CV19 Aircraft Carrier	1/72 Panzer VI Tiger I Ausf E Late Version
1/48 British Wellington Mk III	1/700 F/A18D Hornet Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/200 Chinese Naval Destroyer 136 Hangzhou	1/72 Panther D Tank
1/48 Beriev Be6 Madge	1/700 F/A18E Super Hornet Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/144 USS Gato SS212 Submarine 1941	1/72 Panther Ausf A SSPzDiv Wikinmg Kovel March 44
1/48 Aerospaciale AS365N2	1/700 F/A18F Super Hornet Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/144 USS Gato SS212 Submarine 1944	1/48 US M4A3 Sherman Tank
1/48 Westland Wyvern S4 Aircraft	1/700 E2C Hawkeye Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)		1/48 US M4A3E8 Easy Eight Sherman Tank
1/32 Curtiss P40E Kitty Hawk	1/700 C2 Greyhound Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	Armor	1/35 BR52 Kriegslocomotive German
1/32 Curtiss P40M Kitty Hawk	1/700 S3B Viking Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 German King Tiger	1/35 Soviet Tank Transporter Maz537
1/32 Curtiss P40N Kitty Hawk	1/700 EA6B Prowler Aircraft Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 German King Tiger Porsche Turret	1/35 Chinese Type 96 Main Battle Tank
1/32 Grumman F4F-3 Wildcat	1/700 SH60F Oceanhawk Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 Soviet T34/76 Model 1943 Tank	1/35 KV1 Model 1942 Lightweight Cast Tank
1/32 Douglas TBD-1 Devastator	1/700 MH60S Knighthawk Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 Soviet T34/85 Model 1944 Tank	1/35 Russian SAM6 Anti-Aircraft Missile w/ Launcher
1/32 AV8B Harrier	1/700 HH60H Rescue Hawk Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 Soviet KV1C Tank	1/35 Russian BMP3 Fighting Vehicle
1/32 North American F100D Super Sabre	1/700 SH3 Sea King Set for USS Nimitz (6/Bx)	1/72 German 12.8cm L/61 Sturer Emil Selbstfahrlafette	1/35 Russian BMP3 Fighting Vehicle
1/32 Messerschmitt Me262B1a/U1	1/700 USS Nimitz CVN68 Aircraft Carrier (1975)	1/72 Brummbar Tank Mid Production	1/35 German PzKpfm KV1 756(r) Captured Tank
1/32 US Navy SBD1/2 Dauntless Dive Bomber	1/700 USS Mount Whitney LCC20 Fleet Flagship 1997	1/72 Brummbar Tank Late Production	1/35 German Pz754(r) Tank
1/32 US Navy SBD3/4/A-24A Dauntless	1/700 Marshal Ustinov Russian Slava Class Cruiser	1/72 British Challenger II Main Battle Tank	
1/32 A7D Corsair II	1/700 Vilna Ukraine (Ukrainian)Salva Class Cruiser	1/72 British Challenger II Main Battle Tank	
1/32 A6A Intruder	1/700 USS Baltimore CA68 1944 Heavy Cruiser		
1/32 Su27UB Flanker C	1/700 USS Essex CV9 Aircraft Carrier	1/72 US M4A1(76)W Sherman Tank US Army Markings	Misc
1/35 CH47D Chinook Helicopter	1/700 USS The Sullivans DD537 Destroyer	1/72 M4 Medium Sherman Tank US Army Markings	Battery Operated Mirrored Turntable for Model Kit Display
1/24 P51B/C Mustang III	1/700 USS North Carolina BB55 Battleship	1/72 M4A3 Sherman Tank	
1/24 Hurricane Mk I	1/700 USS Washington BB56 Battleship	1/72 M4A3E8 Sherman Tank w/T66 Track Lin	
1/24 Focke Wulf 190A6/8	1/700 USS Ticonderoga CV14 Aircraft Carrier		

QuickBoost Resin Accessories - New Product

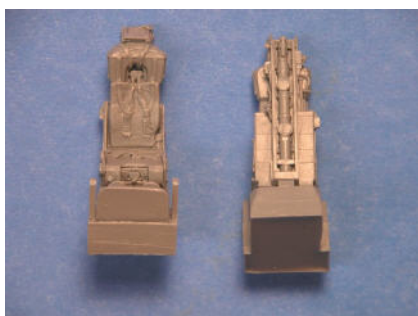
QuickBoost is a new line of inexpensive and simple resin detail parts, each of which is aimed at enhancing a specific area of a specific kit. Word on the net is that this line of products is actually designed and produced by Aires, and judging by the level of detail and the casting quality that is not hard to believe. All the examples I have seen are crisply cast with no flaws, and the detail is superb. Since the sets are marketed as add on items for specific kits, they are mostly drop in replacements for kit parts and require only removal from their casting blocks as preparation.



Pictures, on the left, are Martin Baker ejection seats for the F-4 Phantom. There are a lot of F-4 seats on the market, but these offer about the best detailing I have seen. On the right is a Pratt and Whitney engine for Tamiya's P-47 kits. Note that the back plate of this piece is an exact match for the Tamiya kit part. Detail here, especially the cooling fins, is outstanding.



The QuickBoost line is rapidly becoming very extensive, with items in all three popular scales. There is heavy emphasis on ejection seats and engines, but the line also includes gunsights, instrument panels, and other interesting pieces. Particularly useful are cooling scoops for aircraft such as the F-8 Crusader and Mig-21, hollowed out with scale thickness edges. As the QuickBoost line expands I expect we will be finding more and more things that our models simply must have.



Best of all is that the price levels for these items are very reasonable. With the price of Aires regular line getting steeper all the time, this is most welcome.

QuickBoost products are readily available from the usual mail order outlets, and from our own Ken Patterson at Amers Hobby Shop.

WANTS AND DISPOSALS

WANTED

Dangerboy wingfold set for the Hasegawa F-4U-5 kit.

Contact Ed Kinney (emkinney1@aol.com)

DISPOSALS

Large homemade spray booth with blower and motor. About 24-36 inches on a side, vent sized for flex dryer hose, furnace filter media. \$35.00

Contact John Noack (john.noack@goodrich.com)

DISPOSALS

Black Box cockpit set for Academy 1/32 F-18C (early version). Complete in box. \$10.00

Contact Bob Ulrich (bulrich@neo.rr.com)

Tamiya 1/35 Soviet T-34 and Italeri Hetzer 38t, boxes open for inspection but unbuilt. \$10.00

Contact Bill Weckel (billweckel@mac.com)