

**IPMS FAME CITIES  
NEWSLETTER**

**AKRON/CANTON, OHIO**

**VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2**

**FEBRUARY, 2007**



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**Next meeting February 21**

**Green Public Library**



Fame Cities' new Executive Board grasps the reigns of power.

### Demo Schedule

If you would like to see a subject demonstrated, or have a subject to demo let us know!

**February 2007**

Pastels and weathering by Ed Kinney

**March 2007**

Figure painting presented by Steve Dottavio

**Date To be Announced**

Resin casting by Paul Kittle

2007 got off to great start on January 17, as Mike Meredith assumed the presidency. We had a good turnout of members, and a nice selection of models, as you will see on pages two and three. Steve Reisch stood out with his impressive PT boat. Business included setting up a schedule of contests and demos for the coming year, which are listed below. Any month not already scheduled can be requested for a contest or demo, so don't be shy. The annual kit auction will be held in March, at Goodrich Aerospace offices. The exact date is to be announced later.

In other business, we will be remaining at Green Library for this year, but the club's growth may force a move later. We may establish a site search committee at some point. A possible joint contest hosted by ourselves and Cleveland was discussed, and the executive board will pursue this idea.

Our new website is up and running, and webmaster Bill Weckel is requesting content (as am I!). Anyone may have a personal page on the website by giving Bill a short bio and some model photos.

Yearly dues are, well, due. The renewal form is reproduced on page 4, and dues may be mailed to Joe Staudt or paid at the next meeting.

### 2007 Contest Schedule

Anyone wishing to sponsor a contest may still do so, simply make your request at a meeting.

**April 2007**

Anything Japanese sponsored by Bill Weckel. This is the usual March contest moved to April at Bill's request.

**June 2007**

Mustangs and Thunderbolts sponsored by Larry Davis. Yes, this includes cars.

**September 2007**

Picnic Contest - Two of a Kind sponsored by Ed Kinney.

**October 2007**

Build any subject, but include at least two scratch built items. Sponsored by Amers Hobby Shop (Ken Patterson)

**December 2007**

National Guard and Reserve sponsored by Ralph Nollan

# Scale Scriblings

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## January Models



One of two by Jack Norton, a '37 Chevy.



Jack's other model, a '66 Nova



Jan Hubert's DO-335 in 1/72 scale.



A pair of P-39 air racers by Ed Kinney.



Super Etendard by Steve Brooks

Steve Reisch brought this Acura NSX racer



## WORKS IN PROGRESS



Jerry Royer's 1/32 Hasegawa Stuka



Ryan Newall showed more progress on his Monogram B-17.



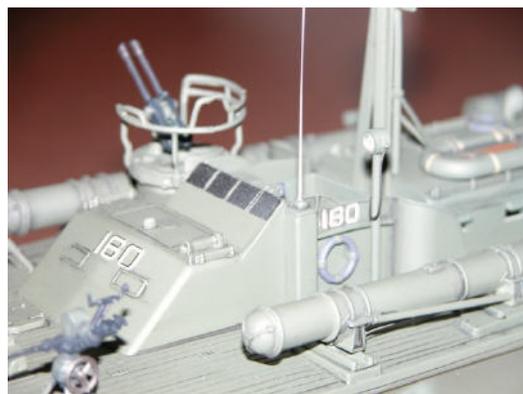
Andy Miday's Gato Class submarine taped together and partially assembled. Note that this sub, the PT boat to its right and the HE-111 to its upper left are all 1/72 scale. This is one big model.

# Scale Scribblings

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In addition to his NSX racer, Steve Reisch brought in this remarkable 1/72 PT boat, based on Revell's PT-109 kit. Steve put a lot of work into accurizing and detailing his PT boat, and added many scratch built details. These include most of the guns, mortars and depth charges. Note also the open hatch with ladder and the coiled rope. Nice job, Steve, and welcome to Advanced Modeler's Syndrome.



## IPMS Fame Cities Membership Renewal

It is time once again to renew your membership. Dues for the year 2007 are as follows:

Individual Membership: \$12.00

Family Membership: \$14.00

An individual membership gets you a subscription to our newsletter and all membership privileges. A family membership gets you a subscription to our newsletter and membership privileges for yourself and as many members of your household as you would like.

Please fill in your name and any other information that may have changed from last year on the form below and bring it to the next meeting along with cash or a check made out to: **IPMS Fame Cities**. If you can't make it to the meeting, mail the form and a check to:

Joe Staudt  
2715 Watervale Dr.  
Uniontown, OH 44685

**Note:** If there is any information below that you would NOT want to be printed in the directory, such as an unlisted phone number, please mention this at the bottom of the form under "Comments".

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: INDIVIDUAL: \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY: \_\_\_\_\_

IF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP, LIST NAMES OF ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS HERE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

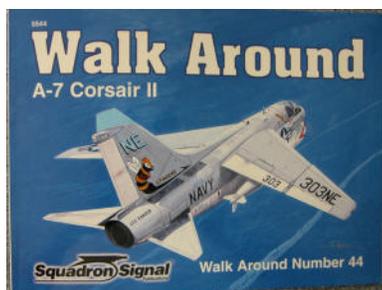
IPMS/USA MEMBER: Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ IPMS/USA NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Book Review: A-7 Corsair II Walkaround by Lou Drendel

Squadron-Signal Publications Number SS5544  
MSRP \$14.95



Squadron-Signal's ever growing collection of Walkaround books has proven a very useful source of information and photos for detail oriented modelers, at a reasonable price. When the A-7 Corsair was announced as a subject I was happy, the old Verlinden A-7D Lockon being the best detail reference I had. Having gone through this book several times, I am sad to report that the Verlinden book is still the best reference I have.

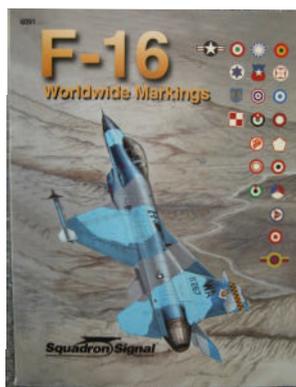
The by now standard Walkaround format is followed: lots of black and white photos, with a good number of color photos interspersed, and a selection of color profiles. Text is basically limited to photo captions. Where this title falls short of all the others in this series that I have seen is, well, in the details. Or lack thereof. A book which purports to cover both Navy and Air Force Corsairs in detail ought to have photos of both versions where they differ. The sparse selection of cockpit photos is limited to Navy birds, and is incomplete even then, with no all aspect coverage, no shots of consoles, aft decking, canopy details..... you get the picture. A-7 wheel wells, which are complex and busy, are covered by two or three black and white photos - again, no all aspect coverage. I was especially disappointed to find no close up coverage at all of the prominent avionics bays on the fuselage sides which are often open on the ground and are provided in both the 1/48 and 1/32 scale kits. We are instead treated to close ups of things like pitot tubes and exhaust vents. The book as a whole looks like what anyone could get by taking museum photographs. If I am spending money for a book like this I expect to see interior details that I couldn't readily get myself from a display aircraft. I also noticed a number of photographs recycled from earlier Drendel books. The lasting impression is that this was a half-hearted hurry up effort, probably to take advantage of the Trumpeter kit releases.

If you need a Corsair detail references, I cannot recommend this publication. The Verlinden Lockon is still available, and provides much more complete full color coverage, although it is limited to the Air Force versions. Even the old Detail and Scale books are probably more useful, though hard to find.

Review copy provided, unfortunately, by my wallet.

## Book Review: F-16 Worldwide Markings by Lou Drendel

Squadron-Signal Publications Number SS6091  
MSRP \$16.95



Another offering from Squadron-Signal and Lou Drendel is this photographic survey of F-16 colors and markings in global service. This sixty four page softbound book is made up of many color photographs supplemented by a selection of color profiles rendered by Drendel, Don Greer and Dave Gebhardt. There are no black and white photos, and little text aside from photo captions.

Coverage begins with US service, and includes a nice selection of photos from the F-16's combat service with the USAF. The book then moves on to European service, especially the truly stunning special paint jobs that have been applied to NATO birds from time to time. The Royal Netherlands Air Force demonstration plane has to be seen to be appreciated. Middle Eastern service follows, dominated by Israeli aircraft, and we continue with Asian markings, including some interesting Taiwanese birds. The book concludes with South American Falcons. Strangely, there is a page of close up F-16 nose art photos stuck in between the last two regional sections. These are in some cases stunning, but I would have liked to have seen them accompanied by photos of the entire airplane.

Fans of the F-16 will certainly want this book.

Review copy provided by Larry Davis and Squadron-Signal.

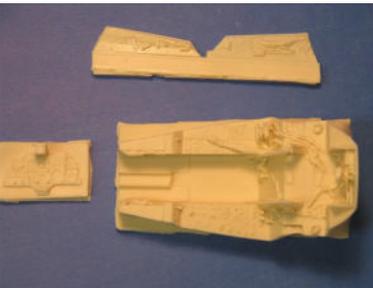
## The Aftermarket Column

### Corsair Stuff

The Trumpeter 1/32 scale A-7 Corsair has brought forth a multitude of offerings from the aftermarket community to either correct the kit's shortcomings or enhance it. This survey is by no means comprehensive but may be helpful to those thinking about dressing up their SLUF. This column may turn into a regular feature, and I invite anyone who is interested to submit aftermarket reviews for publication.

#### Black Box A-7 Cockpits

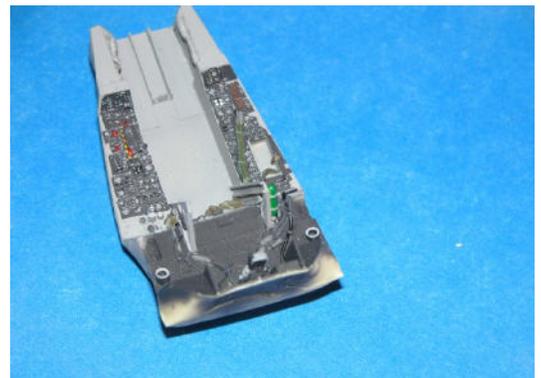
Product Number 32032 (A-7E) 32037 (A-7D)  
MSRP \$40.00



Black Box has changed its name to Avionix, but the Black Box name is still more familiar to most, so we'll use it here. Separate sets are available for the A-7E and A-7D, though the differences are fairly minor. Like all Black Box sets these are all resin. The parts are beautifully realized, however, and some may prefer the greater relief on the instrument panel compared to Aires PE offering. It is not too difficult to drill out the instrument faces and insert punched out decal instruments if you desire. The seat is nicely done, with cast in harness as opposed to Aires PE parts. The separately cast sidewalls should be easier to paint than Aires one piece tub and sidewall casting. Aires does get points for the included canopy framing.

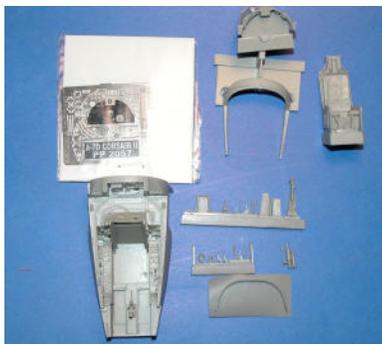
Fit is virtually drop in, not always a characteristic of Black Box. You will need to grind off some of the bottom rear of the casting to clear the intake trunking.

Below are pictures of a painted A-7E cockpit, which show the extent of fine detail cast into this product.



#### Aires A-7 Cockpits

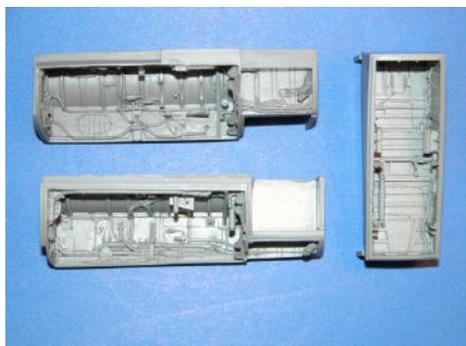
Product Number 32050 (A-7E early) 32054 (A-7E late) 32057(A-7D)  
MSRP \$40.00



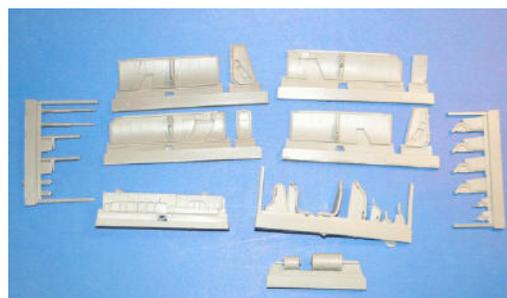
The Aires cockpits differ from Black Box, and Aires breaks down the A-7E pits into early and late versions. If you like Aires photoetch instrument panel treatment better than pure resin, you'll like this set. I was also impressed with the canopy interior framing included, which should look great installed. A minor quibble is the decision to mold the sidewalls with the tub. This will complicate painting. Since I have not tried to install this set yet, I cannot comment on fit, but long experience with Aires leads me to believe a good bit of fiddling will be needed to get this set into the kit. It should be worth the effort.



**Aires A-7 Landing Gear Wells** Product Number 32055 MSRP \$50.00



A-7 landing gear wells are both very complex and especially visible. Trumpeter actually didn't do too bad a job here, but the actual thing is a lot more crowded and busier looking. In addition, the smaller drag strut well located behind the main well is completely barren in the kit. Aires replacement set really enhances the kit and has very accurate and complete details. I would love to know how it takes to produce masters for castings like this.

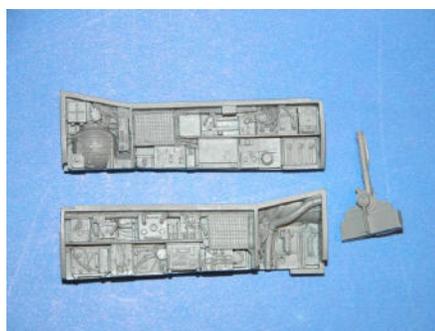


The set also includes all new doors, with better detail, and a full supply of smaller detail parts which you add to the main castings. These comprise tubing and larger parts which would have been impossible to cast in place even for the wizards at Aires. This set will really add something to your model, and as we noted, A-7 wheel wells are very visible. Like the avionics bays, these are a drop fit into Trump's kit.

## Aires A-7 Avionics Bays

Product Number 32058 (A-7E) 32059 (A-7D)  
MSRP \$22.00

The open avionics bays are one of the signature Corsair characteristics. Trumpeter's effort in this area is OK but lacks a lot of detail and is simply bogus



in some of what it does offer. The forward compartment on the port side should house the oxygen tank and related equipment, but this is missing in the kit. Likewise, the forward starboard compartment where the emergency air driven hydraulic pump lives is much busier than Trumpeter's rendition. This set corrects all that with amazing detail, and is a drop fit into the Trumpeter kit. The photos really do not do justice to the tiny

detail in these castings. Note that the avionics differ slightly between Air Force and Navy A-7's, and choose the correct set.

## Steel Beach A-7 FOD Covers

Product Number SB506  
MSRP \$6.99



The intake is another problem area on the Trump A-7. Not only is it in two pieces, but the interior sides feature huge ejector pin marks. There are one piece resin intakes available from Seamless Suckers, or you could set out to clean up the kit parts. I did the latter and gave up. But an inexpensive and attractive alternative is to simply cover up the ugly truth. These two piece vinyl covers will do that, saving a lot of time and effort. They are available in a variety of colors, so you need to pick your markings early as squadrons tended to have their FOD covers in the squadron color.

## Contact-Resine A-7 Wheels

Product Number 32038  
MSRP \$12.00



Simplicity itself - a direct resin replacement for Trumpeter's vinyl tires and wheels. These products are available from Design and Marketing International at [www.design-marketingintl.com](http://www.design-marketingintl.com)