

The Navigator

May 2021



Das  Werk

Kit Review by Marc Smith



OUR STILL “NEW” MONTHLY MEETING SPOT

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

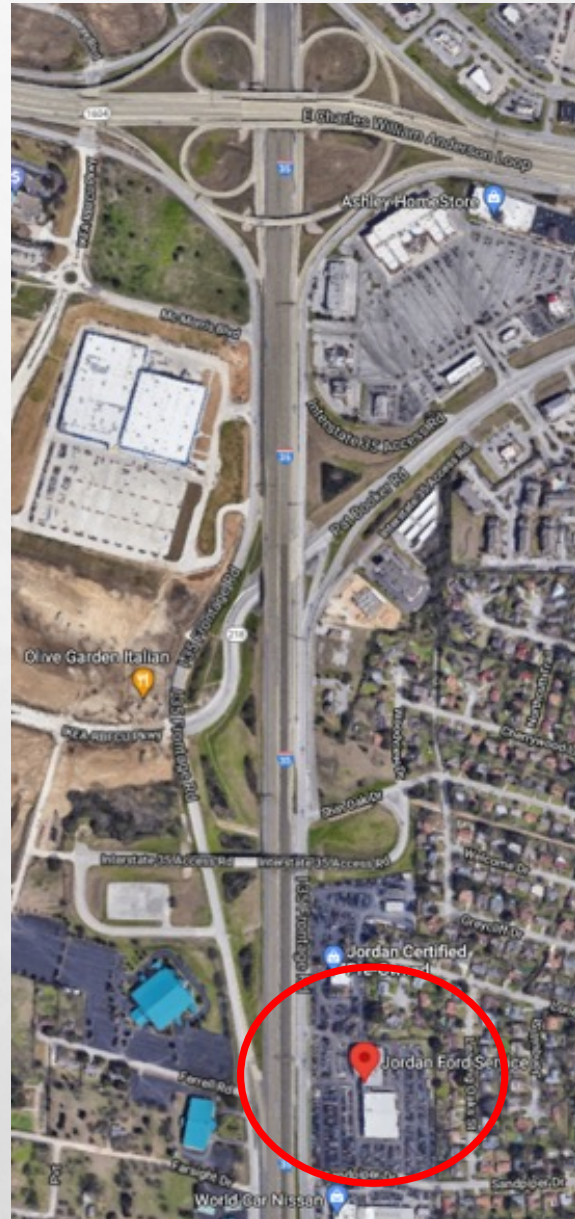
Date: Thursday,
May 6, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

NOTE: Masks and
distancing are still in place

At press time, a video
conference call setup may
be in the process of being
considered as an
alternative venue for
remote/online participants
this Thursday evening.

Watch for an email
announcement.





Meeting Details

Date: May 6, 2021

Time: 6:30 -8:00 p.m.

Location: Jordan Ford, 13010 N Interstate 35,
San Antonio, TX

Health Protocol: Masks and distancing

Demonstration: Chrome Paints by Keith Rule

Model Contest Theme: Scratch-built and Kit-Bashed

Leadership Thoughts

Thank you for your trust in your new Executive Board's ability to lead the club this coming year. Chris, Eric, and I feel it is an honor and privilege to serve you. We will do our very best to not disappoint you.

Your Executive Board (E-Board) met this month to discuss the needs and priorities of the club for this next year. We feel there are three key issues to address. First, we must maintain the safety of our club members as we are immunized and transition into larger in-person meetings. Jordan Ford is our current meeting venue. By popular demand, the club meeting start time has been moved back to 6:30 p.m. Always give yourself plenty of time to allow for heavy traffic. We will continue to require masks and distancing for the foreseeable future. We will also continue to provide Zoom links for virtual attenders.

Secondly, the E-Board wants to enhance the learning focus of the club meetings, such that



every attendee always comes away with something that will help them to be a better modeler. We hope to include more Kit of the Month and tool presentations. In addition, there will be an emphasis on new demonstration topics and presenters. There may also be some modifications to the Model Summit Award criteria which will reward more forms of participation in club activities. Herb Scranton will be our Model summit Coordinator for 2021-2022. Thanks Herb, for taking on these duties. Please make sure to update the Model Summit Logbook at each meeting with your builds and activities.

Finally, and certainly not least, is the goal of putting on an excellent ModelFiesta event. Our next contest will be on February 19, 2022. Mike Gallegos will be taking on the duties of ModelFiesta Director. Many thanks go to our outgoing Director, Mark Verdi, for his leadership in recent years, especially with the many iterations considered for the ill-fated 2020 event. Please contact Mike if you'd like to be involved with the planning for our 2022 event. Monthly MF planning meetings will begin in June.

I hope you can join us in person or virtually for our next meeting on May 6 at 6:30 p.m. Keith Rule will be making a presentation about options for achieving Chrome finishes. Our monthly contest theme this month is "Scratch-built or Kit-bashed." So, bring in those creative projects you've been building during the pandemic.

See you soon, Dana Mathes



Show and Tell

Photos by Miguel Lopez





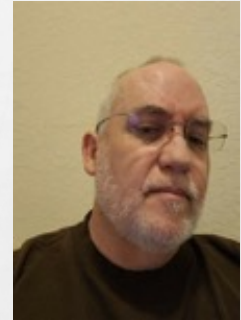




Das Werk German WWI SM U-Boot U-9

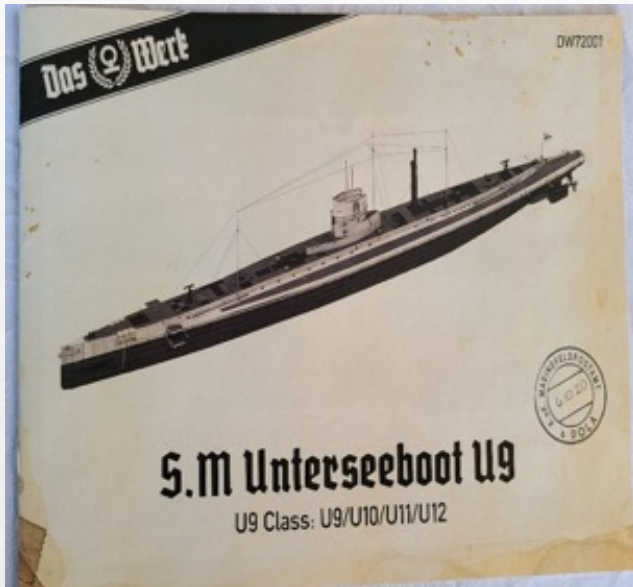
I have been building model kits since the 1960's when I was a child. One of my favorite type of models to build are submarines. They are not complicated kits, especially those from the 1960's and 70's, and mostly finished when you glue to two hull sections together – about 80% of the kit! Just a few more parts to go and then you can show it to your friends. But submarine kits, over the decades, have become more complicated and much larger in scales up to 1/72 and even an unbelievable 1/35. The most popular of sub kits are for example the WWII Type VII German submarine which has been produced in good quantities. Up to this time I have only built WWII submarine kits of various scales and manufactures. It had not occurred to me that kits of WWI subs existed, until I saw a video presentation of the recently released WWI S.M. Unterseeboot U-9 submarine kit by

By Marc Smith
IPMS #50350
Kit Review #DW 72001
Scale: 1/72
Photo by the author



the German manufacture **Das Werk**, and is the subject of this review.

There are numerous reviews of this U-9 kit on-line, and many detailed full-builds. After seeing several videos, I decided to purchase the kit through E-bay for about \$122.00 which included shipping. I could not find the kit any cheaper and found various outlets wanting as much as \$250.00 - ouch! The box the kit comes in is approximately 5"x9"x33", and the box art is genuinely nice with an on-fire surface ship the sub had just torpedoed. After opening the box, I noticed the kit would pretty much fit in a box about half the lay-down height of 5 inches (see open box photo on next page).



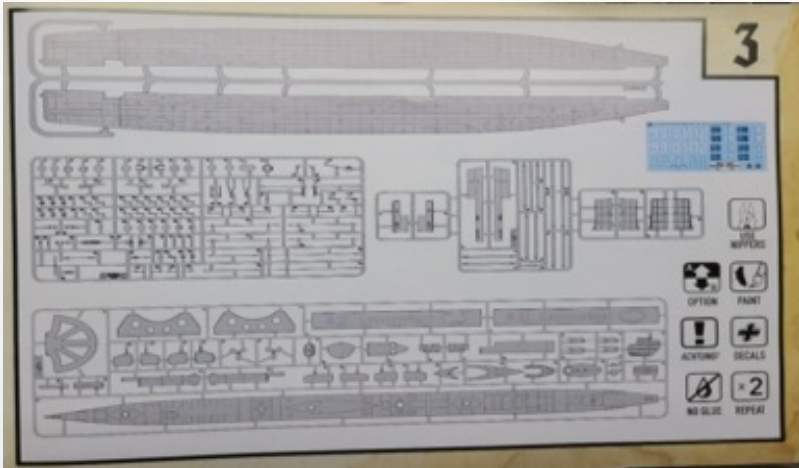
The kit is nicely wrapped, and the 15-page kit instructions are fashioned in pictures vs. written and has been formatted as “aged” showing simulated old-paper from 100+ years ago. The front cover of the instructions also shows the rigging pattern which is substantial for a submarine (see instruction pics, back and front).



The back or last page of the instructions, above, depict three individuals in the left column that developed the kit, and the two other individuals on the right were part of the ship’s crew and dive-team that actually visited one of the sunken U-9 sister subs to acquire the most accurate sub information – now that is dedication and makes for a great and precisely scaled and detailed kit.

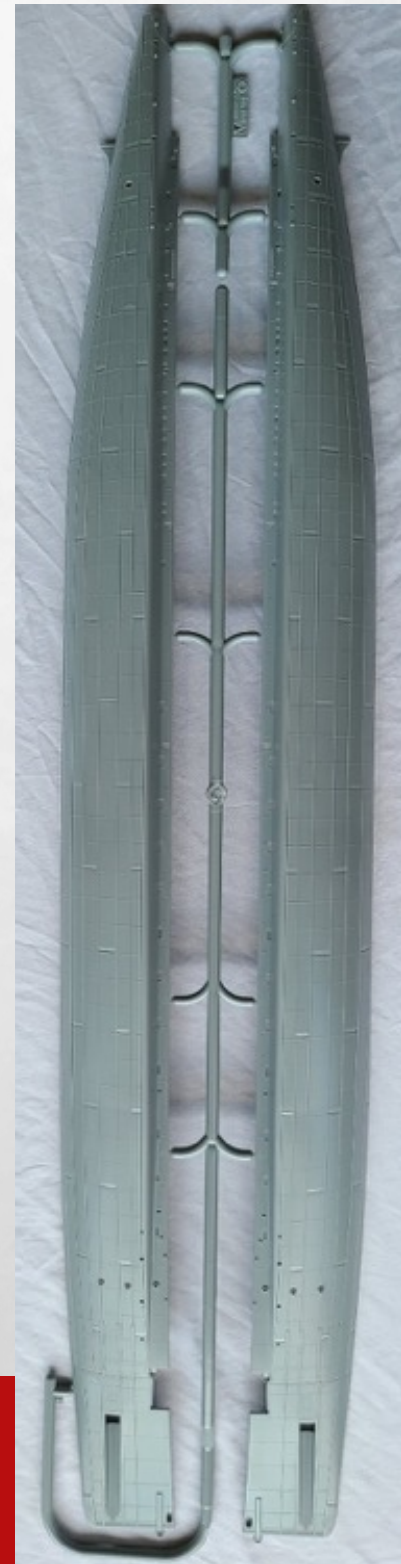
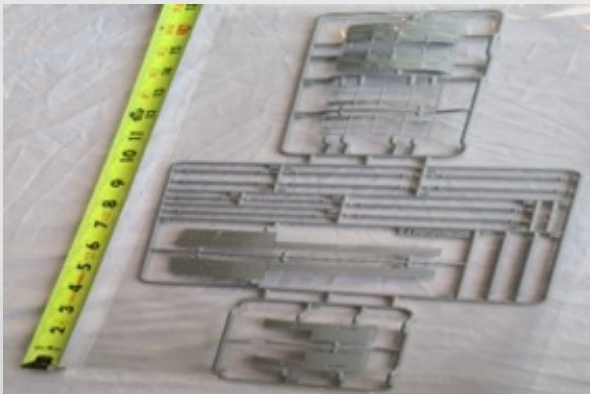
The instructions are nicely represented with a parts list with sprue pic reference, and the kit also includes a nice set of decals which gives the builder the option to build three other sister ships, the U-10, U-11, or the U-12 (see decal figure within photo numbered “3” on next page).





One issue with the kit is the long-pole masts that are quite high for the eventual rigging, appear to be fragile and may tend to snap off. There is talk about more rugged aftermarket parts eventually, and so far, what I have seen is quite expensive. Hopefully, these more fragile parts could be fashioned in brass.

From the sprue pics and the dimension of the box, the entire kit will eventually be about 32 inches in length with a flat and wide deck profile.



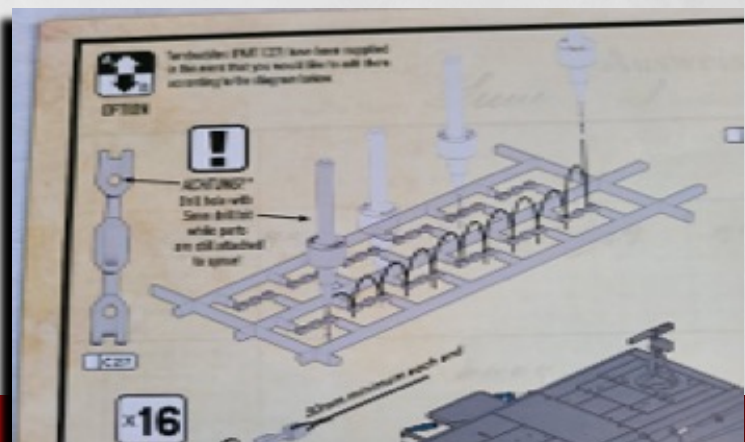
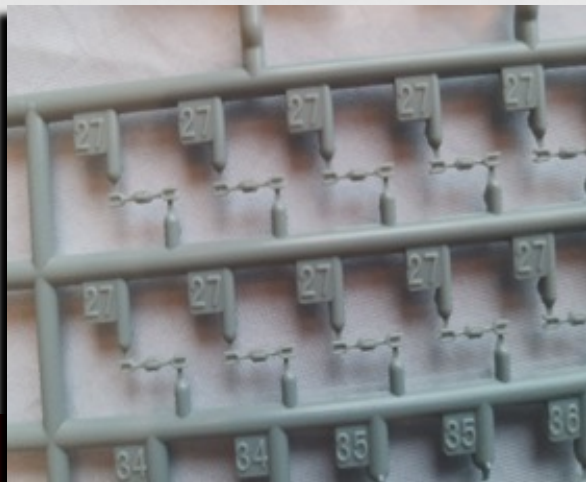


An aspect of the instructions which stands out is the reference to the paint-color list. The information is nicely displayed by the actual represented color, the reference letter, color

name, and then by the various color manufacture options for the same color, and even acrylics (see above photo).

For the actual build, one set of the sprues warrants a further examination since it is something I have never seen in a submarine

kit which are turn-buckles, and also includes how to drill the buckles to enable installation of the rigging (see the next two figures).





The figure to the right of the sprue shows the employment of a 0.5 mm drill which is ultra-small, and the instructions tell you to drill these holes while attached to the sprue – just one wrong breath and the buckle will be gone forever!

I consider this a high-quality kit in plastic parts, with deliberate instructions, and boasts 1000 rivets on the hull skin, and I bet that number is correct (see following figure).



The historical reference book, which Das Werk professes will be included in only the first run of the kit, also covers the development of the kit to final market release, technical specifications of various parts of the sub: deck guns, torpedoes, propulsion system, and further information about the crews. Overall, the WWI U-9 is a straightforward build, but not for the novice - so check those on-line build videos and you will get some pointers and time-saving ideas and improve your skill as a model builder. This kit is one that should be enjoyed and will look good on anyone's mantle or at a model builders' competition.



If that kind of details is not enough the kit comes with a 100-page commemorative booklet about the U-9 type sub which includes historical treatment of the boat, and sister ships. (see following pic of the booklet).





In Search of Presenter Volunteers

As you know Alamo Squadron is resuming in-person meetings with the proper safety protocol. As stated on page 2, our meeting will take place at a new venue near Loop 1604 and US 281. That means that we have the opportunity to have demos again as part of our club meetings.

This note is an invitation for you to give a demonstration or lead a discussion of a modeling technique, a tool, research methods, painting techniques, or any other modeling-related topic you'd like to share with the club. Being hunkered down this year, there are bound to be many things the group has learned that can help the club advance its modeling skills.

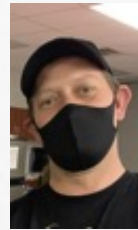
If you'd be willing to present a 15-20 minute demonstration at a club meeting at one of the upcoming monthly meetings (Jun, Jul, Aug), please send a note back to me with a brief description of your topic.

Thanks for your consideration, Dana.

huskercat@gmail.com



POLISHING PROCESS



By Jonathon Griffith

Due to the popularity of this demonstration from March, I've been asked to write an article going into a bit more detail, or at least revisiting the process. The products used are Meguiar's Ultimate Compound, Meguiar's Mirror Glaze (optional), Meguiar's Ultimate Polish, Tamiya Blue cap Fine Compound, Tamiya white cap Finish Compound, Meguiar's Cleaner Wax, and/or any liquid wax of your choosing. I use Griot's Garage "Best Of Show" carnauba wax, occasionally, as it has a nice, deep gloss. I also use the Tamiya compound applicator cloths, and an Auto Zone purchased microfiber cloth. Now that we've gotten all our supplies together, let's get polishing!!

Once you've got the paint where you want it (primer, color, clear), and the wet sanding finished, just take the Meguiar's Ultimate Compound, apply a small dab on your microfiber, and apply it using light pressure, in small circles (kind'a like brushing your teeth), until your surface area is completely covered, and then you can start applying slightly more pressure to remove the polish, and remove fine scratches and imperfections. You'll want to watch out for polishing through the paint, or clear, as well. At this point, you'll start seeing a difference in the shine of your paint. Second step is applying a coat of the Mirror Glaze in a similar fashion to the Compound, taking a little more dullness out of the paint, and removing even finer imperfections.

Third step is using the Tamiya Fine Compound, and on this one, you apply it with the Tamiya compound applicator cloth, and you can apply and buff this step using a basic straight back and forth motion, still using just a slight amount of pressure. Fourth step is the Tamiya Finish Compound, applied with another applicator cloth, which should really bring up some nice shine. At this point, if you feel the need to take a break, and rest your hands, go for it. Final step is the Meguiar's Cleaner wax or deep gloss carnauba wax to seal the shine in. You'll apply and buff this with another super soft microfiber cloth, and at this point, you should have a nice, deep, glossy shine on your model. I hope this helps, and if anyone has further questions, please don't hesitate to ask

Please email me for anyone looking for further assistance:

jonathon.griffith@yahoo.com





Upcoming Events

IPMS Region 6 Events

All-new hyperlinks! Click them all!

Start Date	Name & Link	Contact	Location
May 8, 2021	<u>ModelMania 2021</u>	Kenneth Jackson - KW.Jackson.1@hotmail.com (Their website has problems)	Stafford, Texas Region 6 - Southwest
June 12, 2021	<u>OKCMetroCon 2021</u>	Richard Fisher - challenger@challenger-n-scale.com	Bethany, Oklahoma Region 6 - Southwest
July 24, 2021	<u>Houston Automotive Modelers Society 14th Running of our Model Car Show and Contest</u>	Robert D. McQuown - robert.mcquown@sbcglobal.net (link sends e-mail) Event Website(link is external)	Spring, Texas Region 6 - Southwest



August 18 - 21, 2021
In the Fabulous City of
LAS VEGAS



Club Information

Club's E-Board

2019-2020

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 and the new location since 2013, the San Antonio Event Center.



President:
Dana Mathes
huskercat@gmail.com



Vice-President:
Eric Syverson
esyver@zoho.com



Treasurer:
Christopher Settle
csettle99x@yahoo.com



Photos by:
Miguel Lopez & Jerry Escobedo

ARTICLES!! ARTICLES!!

We need your writing skills for the newsletter!

All submission must be turned in by the 20th of the month prior to next month's meeting. Please, send your input to Jerry Escobedo: paperjerry3@gmail.com

ALAMO SQUADRON – MAY 2021
[HTTP://WWW.ALAMOSQUADRON.COM](http://WWW.ALAMOSQUADRON.COM)



IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____ If Renewing _____ First _____ Middle _____ Last _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Signature (required by P.O.) _____
Type of Membership ☐ Adult, 1 Year: \$30 ☐ Adult, 2 Years: \$58 ☐ Adult, 3 Years: \$86
☐ Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 ☐ Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____
☐ Canada & Mexico: \$35 ☐ Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order
Payment Method: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order
Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____
If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:
Name: _____ IPMS No.: _____

IPMS/USA

Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org

PO Box 1411

Riverview, FL 33568-1411

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

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



Just for consideration, Mad Max was set in 2021... is it socially acceptable to dress like this straight away, or do we give it a few weeks?



Support your Local Hobby Shops!

For models, paints, books, decals, tools and more!

Special Orders
Mail Orders

dibbleshobbies@gmail.com

DIBBLE'S HOBBIES
Trains, Planes, and Other Things

1029 Donaldson Ave.
San Antonio, Texas 78228

Tues.-Sat. 10am-6pm
(210) 735-7721

dibbleshobbies.com

HILL COUNTRY HOBBY

9355 BANDERA RD. #109
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78250
(210) 681-2007

GARY EMERY
HILLCOUNTRYHOBBY.COM
GARY@HILLCOUNTRYHOBBY.COM

hillcountryhobby.com

Rudy Cline
President

5500 FM 2770, Suite 103
Kyle, TX 78640

T 512-804-3404
C 512-825-2877

rudy@lionhearthobby.com
lionhearthobby.com

facebook.com/lionhearthobby

lionhearthobby.com

STEPHEN'S COLLECTIBLES
Toys With Purpose

STEPHEN & DAISY JACKSON

12000 E LOOP 1604 N. SUITE 106 UNIVERSAL CITY TX 78148

PHONE: 800-391-2170
EMAIL: STEPHENJ@COLLECTMORETOYS.COM
WEBSITE: WWW.COLLECTMORETOYS.COM

facebook.com/stephenscollectibles.more