



April 2022

The Navigator



Model

Kit Conversion:

USS Saratoga NCC-1887

Also in this issue:
ModelFiesta Gallery
Part 3





OUR MONTHLY MEETING SPOT

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

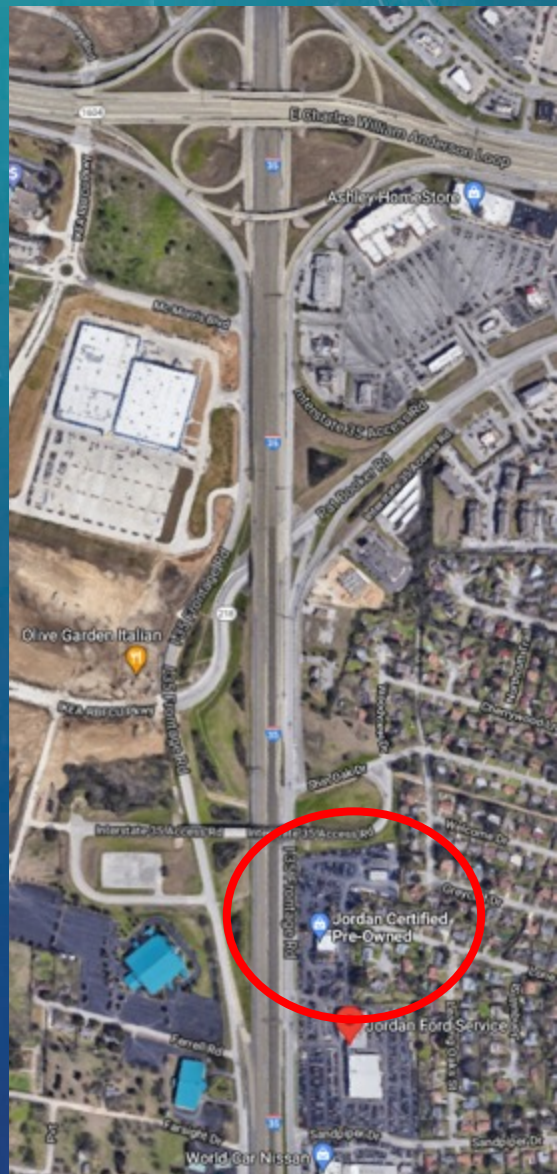
Date: Thursday,
April 7, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:50 PM

Demonstration: "Fit to Be Tied" by
Dick Montgomery

Model Contest Theme: Open

Health Protocol: Masks Optional





LEADERSHIP THOUGHTS

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well and the fresh Spring air is keeping your enthusiasm for models at a high level.

The election of the 2022-2023 club officers will take place in our upcoming April meeting. The nominations to date include Dana Mathes for President and Don Weaver for Treasurer. Eric Syverson has withdrawn his name for consideration due to family and work responsibilities, so there are no nominees yet for Vice President. Nominations can still be made at the April meeting. Absentee voting can be done by sending an email to Dick Montgomery (alamosquadron@gmail.com) before midnight on Wednesday, April 6. Be sure to include your name in the email. Per our constitution, the criteria to be a club officer is as follows:

The individual must be an active Adult or life member of Alamo Squadron.

The individual must display the ability and willingness to discharge the duties of the respective Executive Board position.

The individual must be willing to be a member of IPMS/USA during the term of service.

The individual must be an active model builder. The individual has been a paid member of Alamo Squadron for one year, paid by the time the term of office begins.

Each officer shall be an Adult or Life member of the club living within a 150-mile radius of the Alamo Mission.

One of the things that makes Alamo Squadron unique is the way the club recognizes **deceased members** who contributed greatly to the success of the club and its members during their modeling careers.

Their names are inscribed on the club's Memorial Trophy, which is displayed annually at our ModelFiesta event. Per the procedure in Bylaw IX, Lee Washburn has submitted a nomination for **Lyn Julian** to be recognized on the club's Memorial Trophy (see page 11). The criteria for the recognition and pictures of the trophy may be seen at

http://www.modelfiesta.com/memorial_trophy.html.

According to the procedure, the nomination has been endorsed by five members and your club officers recommend this to the club. We will vote on this nomination in the April meeting.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, April 7.

We will continue to kick off the meeting at 6:00 p.m. **Brett Scholten** will be taking orders for club shirts. Present your builds in the WIP discussion (gong and all). The Kit of the Month table will be open for business. Prior to the meeting, Lee Forbes will be available to review models per the IPMS/USA judging protocol. Dick Montgomery will discuss rigging techniques in his presentation, "Fit to Be Tied." The monthly contest theme is "Open".

Bring your models and let's enjoy a great hobby together,

Dana Mathes





Members Showcase

March Club Contest winners:



USS Buckley
By Mike Buckley

(Note: Expect an article from Mr. Buckley on the next issue)



Polish 7TP by
Stan Spooner



Zaku II
by Devon
McCullough





BUILDING POLAR LIGHTS 1/350 USS RELIANT NCC-1864 AS USS SARATOGA NCC-1887 BY DON WEAVER

Wanting to take a break from building 1/72 aircraft and being a Trekkie for many years, when I saw the kit at Hill Country Hobby, I just had to get it. I also got the Polar Lights Aztec decals for it, which as an added bonus, enables you to build different Miranda class starships along with giving a cool looking plating effect on the hull.

Polar Lights makes several Star Trek snap-together kits and while it does make assembly a bit easier, you still need to do clean up to get rid of little bumps and ridges. I used Tamiya extra thin cement along all the join lines and seams to make it more permanent. The box itself has painting instructions and shows decal placement for the kit decals, so don't throw the box away until you are all done! The kit decals will be applied AFTER the AZTEC decals, if you go that route.



The USS Saratoga NCC-1887 is in Star Trek IV “The Voyage Home” and is one of the starships disabled by the whale probe on its way to Earth. I built the kit as the USS Saratoga because the Aztec sheet had registry numbers for several different Miranda class ships. I love to build something different than whatever

markings are in the box when I can. Being a Trekkie, I have a number of *Eaglemoss* die cast models and since each one comes with a reference book for that ship using photos and diagrams from the studios. I used the book that came with my die cast USS Reliant as my reference for the USS Saratoga since both the USS Reliant and USS Saratoga were built and operating during the time of the Original Star Trek Series (TOS) and the movie studio actually used the USS Reliant model as the USS Saratoga in Star Trek IV. (Star Trek IV was created before CGI took over for all the newer Star Trek ships).

Because the kit was molded in a slightly white translucent plastic, I painted the inside of all major sub-assemblies using Tamiya Black TS-14 spray paint from a rattle can. I then followed the kit's assembly instructions except for the installing the clear parts, those I left until all the painting was done. The kit went together quite easily. I left the “wing” off until ALL painting and decaling were finished. This made it easier to paint and mask the saucer section and to apply decals both to the saucer's top section and the top and bottom of the wing.

Once everything was together I primed it from a rattle can with Tamiya White Fine Surface primer and then painted the model with Vallejo Model Air White Gray (71.119). I next masked and painted the engineering areas on the upper and lower side of the saucer with Vallejo Model Air Med Sea Gray (71.307).





The warp nacelle Bussard collectors at the front of the warp nacelles were painted Tamiya Black (X-2) and trimmed with Vallejo Model Air White Gray along the top and with Mission Models (MMP-136) Arcadian Blue along the vertical part. The forward lower ends of the Warp Nacelles and the fins at the rear were also painted with Mission Model Arcadian Blue. The vents along the side of the warp nacelles were painted with Tamiya black and the clear parts #107 & #108 were painted black on the inside surface then inserted in place when dry. The Impulse engine exhausts, Clear Parts #105 & #106 from Step #2,

were painted on the inside with Tamiya Clear Red (X-27) then inserted when dry. The Bussard vents, Step 4 Parts #18 & #19, on both nacelle sides were painted with Vallejo Model Color Amaranth Red (70.829) before being placed into position. Clear parts for the warp core, Step 1 clear parts #101 & #102, were painted on the inside with Tamiya Clear Blue (X-23) then inserted in place. The weapon pod fore and aft torpedo ports, Step 5, clear part #103 & 104, were painted with Tamiya Black and when dry a dot of Tamiya White (X-2) was added to the end of the torpedo tubes.



When I had finished with all the painting, I applied a coat of Micro Gloss and let it set overnight. I then started with the Aztec decals. I did top and bottom of the wing, top of the saucer, then bottom of the saucer then moved on to the pylons and warp nacelles. This took several sessions as my eyes would start getting tired. The decal sections are large and they tend to want to fold onto themselves unless you are very careful. You also have to match up edges with no overlap. Liberal application of Micro Set helped to keep them straight. Once a section of decals or decal was in place Micro Set was applied and was set aside. I found that I could not make Aztec decal #115 fit, it was supposed to be applied before Part #3 was attached. So I used the kit decal #48 instead. When I came to the starboard side of the model and was ready to apply Aztec decal #140, I saw that I was supposed to apply it BEFORE attaching the pylon. However careful trimming of the decal with a #11 knife allowed me to fit it without causing any problems with other saucer edge decals. I also had to trim Aztec decal #141 to fit. After finishing with the Aztec decals, I applied another coat of Micro Gloss and after letting it dry overnight I started on

the kit supplied decals and the Aztec USS Saratoga decals. The only problem I encountered with the decals was with the kit supplied Yellow decals for the Phasers and RCS Thrusters. These decals go over the phaser emitters (3 each top/bottom of saucer) and the 4 Thruster units along the front edge of the saucer. I had to use liberal amounts of Micro Set and Micro Sol and lots of patience to get them to set and stay in place.

As the final step I attached the painted and decaled wing and found I had to trim off two of the three snap-fit tabs with my sprue nipper at the front and rear of the pylons where part #12 (2 to each pylon) attaches in order to attach part #12 and secure the wing. Once satisfied, I gave the entire model a coat of Micro Satin to take the shine off and seal the decals.

Behold one of the Federation's finest – USS Saratoga, NCC 1887. It will look good on my shelf alongside my die cast model of the Enterprise. This was a fun build and I already have some more starships to build. I am hoping to have my own Federation Starship fleet on the shelf soon.





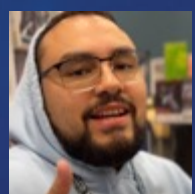
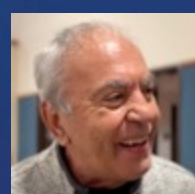
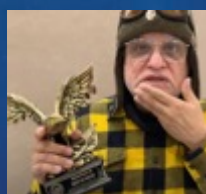
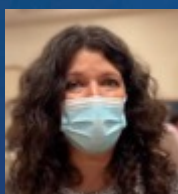
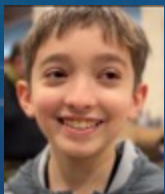
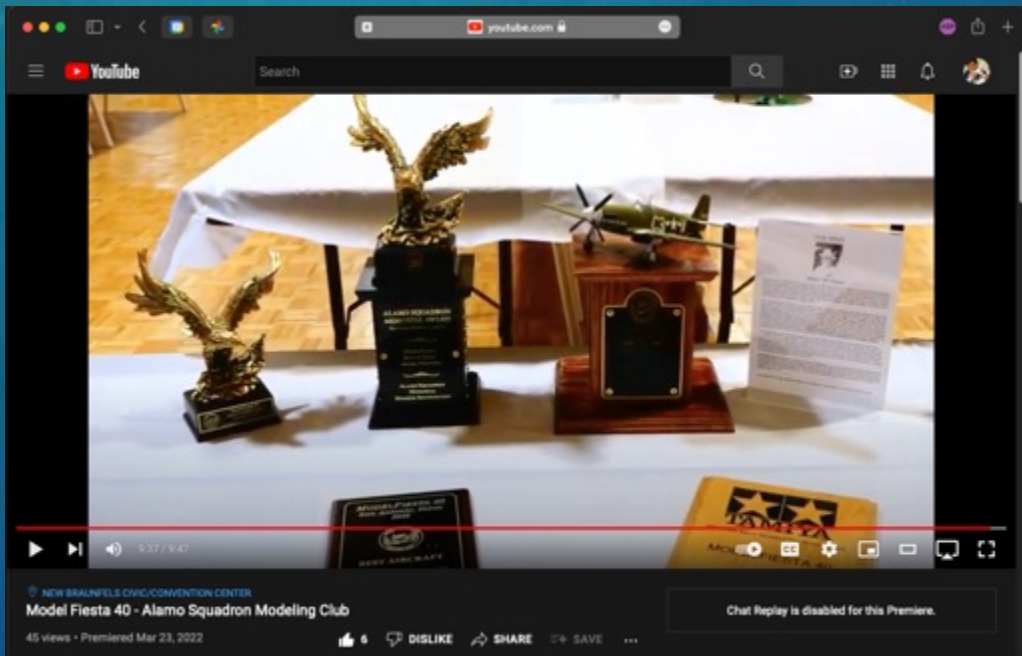
Model Fiesta 40 VIDEO SPECIAL

With views, interviews and overviews, this video will give you a glimpse of what we enjoyed at Model Fiesta 40 this past January in New Braunfels, Texas.

The video is hosted in my YouTube channel, so please like and subscribe!
(Don't worry, it's less than 10 minutes long!)

I hope you like it!
- Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo

[Click Here for Video!](#)



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www.wingsykits.com





Lyn Julian for the Alamo Squadron Memorial Trophy

Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to submit former Alamo Squadron member **Lyn Julian** to be recognized by adding his name on the Alamo Squadron Memorial Trophy.

Lyn Julian epitomized all prescribed requirements to be recognized for this unique and prestigious Club prize. Edifying those requirements, I provide my own experience of knowing, respecting and working with Lyn. I joined Alamo Squadron in 2004. Lyn was already a member of long standing at the time, and I believe he remained a member until about 2017. Long hours and physically demanding work sapped his strength and available time to attend Club meetings and Model Fiesta events. Lyn told me in September 2017 that he no longer had the will or interest to continue modeling. He passed away less than a year later.

Lyn was long known as an exceptional modeler of armor, figures, vehicles and especially dioramas of those subjects. Lyn produced some stunning models. He was recognized four times as the Club's Modeler of the Year Award. He always departed Model Fiesta and Region 6 model events with stacks of winning plaques and trophies. He was an active participant at Club meetings and his subject expertise was commonly viewed as exceptional. His research was off the charts. He could describe in detail the uniforms of the Pashto and Taliban fighters he was modeling for his Middle East war dioramas. He could be counted on for giving one or two classes a year and he immortalized himself to Club members for his painting technique using cat whiskers.

Once a year Lyn along with his compadre, Mike Picard, would present a listing of titles for the eleven monthly contest subjects of the coming year and explain what should be expected for entered models. He was the author of several Model Fiesta theme titles which were approved by a vote of Club members. On warm evenings, after the Club meeting at Central Market, Lyn and Mike would hold court at one of the tables outside and answer questions or foster discussion with any member that sat down with them. I remember times when there were no chairs left. This was his desire to make us all better modelers. I feel strongly that the individual and skilled modeler Lyn Julian represented contributed immensely to the growth and success of the Alamo Squadron Club.

I respectfully request the Club leadership look favorably on this nomination and move to recognize Lyn Julian on the Memorial Recognition Trophy. It is an honor past due.

Respectfully,

Lee P. Washburn



Bandai Star Destroyer 1/5000 By Jerry Escobedo



Mr. Mike Buckley



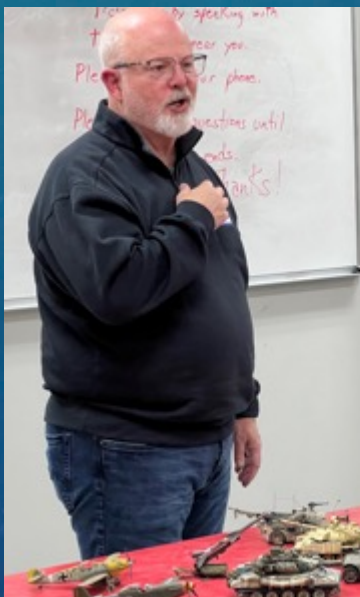
Mr. Rene Faulk



Mr. Devon McCollough



Mr. Rob Booth



Halinksi F-117 Paper Model
By Jerry Escobedo

Mr. Stan Spooner and some of
his models featured in
national magazines

MODEL FIESTA GALLERY *PART 3*









MEMBER'S SHOWCASE

MEMBER WINNERS AT THE SHREVEPORT RED RIVER RIVER CON



John Kress
Triathlon



Richard Kern
Triathlon



ADAM STEPHENSON ALSO COMPETED AT THE SHREVEPORT CONTEST AND WON BEST AIRCRAFT WITH HIS 1/48 F-14A FROM VF-301. HERE ARE THE PHOTOS OF THIS SPECTACULAR MODEL AND THE TROPHY.



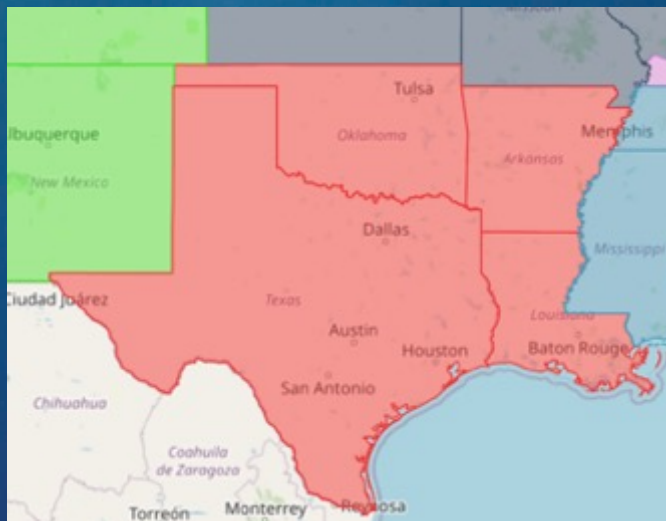
IPMS REGION 6

EVENTS



All-new hyperlinks! Click them all!

Date	Name	Location
April 2, 2022	<u>Great South Tigerfest XXVII Scale Model Contest</u>	Kenner, Louisiana
April 9, 2022	<u>Tulsa Modelers' Forum Route 66 Model Expo</u>	Bixby, Oklahoma
April 30, 2022	<u>Modelmania 2022</u>	Stafford, Texas
May 21, 2022	<u>CALMEX 35</u>	Sulphur, Louisiana
June 4, 2022	<u>Scalefest</u>	Grapevine, Texas
June 18, 2022	<u>Northshore Scale Modelers Expo 2022</u>	Covington, Louisiana
June 18, 2022	<u>OKCMetroCon 2022</u>	Bethany, Oklahoma





The Alamo Squadron Newsletter is published monthly by IPMS/USA Alamo Squadron of San Antonio, Texas, 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

IPMS Membership



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:

Junior (17 years or younger) \$17.00 Date of Birth:

Adult One year \$30.00

Two years \$58.00

Three years \$86.00

Canada & Mexico \$35.00

Foreign Surface \$38.00

Family (1 set of Journals) ← 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:

Billing Address, if different than above -

Address:

City: State:

Zip Code:

Applications should be printed and mailed to: IPMS/USA, PO Box 1411, Riverview, FL 33568-1411



Club's E-Board 2021-2022

Information

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.



[Alamo Squadron Facebook CLICK HERE](#)

President:
Dana Mathes
huskercat@gmail.com



Vice-President:
Eric Syverson
esyver@zoho.com



Treasurer:
Christopher Settle
csettle99x@yahoo.com



Editor:
Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo
paperjerry3@gmail.com
(here with Lt. Col. Dick Cole)





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