

THE NAVIGATOR

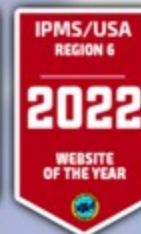
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE ALAMO SQUADRON MODELING CLUB
SAN ANTONIO TEXAS
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2023

COME AND MAKE IT
IPMS/USA NATIONAL CONVENTION
SAN MARCO TEXAS
AUG 2ND - 5TH 2023

THANK YOU!
¡GRACIAS!
MERCI!
DANKE!
GRAZIE!
TEŞEKKÜRLER!



alamosquadron.com



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 THE MODELFIESTA MODELING CONTEST SINCE 1981. LOCATIONS HAVE INCLUDED THE WONDERLAND MALL, HOLIDAY INN HOTEL, THE SEVEN OAKS MOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER, THE LIVE OAK CIVIC CENTER, THE SAN ANTONIO EVENT CENTER, AND THE NEW LOCATION SINCE 2022 -- THE NEW BRAUNFELS CONVENTION CENTER.



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Our monthly meeting spot

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

Date: Thursday,
October 5, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:50 PM

Demonstration: A Very
Special Surprise

Model Contest Theme:
"That's Just Scary"

Health Protocol: Masks
Optional





Leadership Thoughts

**By El Presidente
Keith Rule**

Weathermen forecasting a 30% chance of a thunderstorm will not do! We need sheets of rain, and soon! Up north in Spring Branch where I live the Guadalupe River has been dry since late June. I haven't seen this since I moved here in 2014. **Let's all pray for some serious rain!**

These are my first "Thoughts" since the IPMS/USA Nationals in San Marcos. And this was my first opportunity to attend the Nationals. Wednesday morning attendees found an asphalt paving crew racing to finish a large portion of the parking lot. Fortunately, they moved quickly and the pavement striping crew followed right behind. There was a line at registration the first two mornings, but once you were registered you were free to explore the vendors, demonstrations, and contest room. With 3110 entries, exploring the contest room was mind bogeling experience. I hope all attendees enjoyed the experience as much as I did. Alamo Squadron was well represented at the awards banquet with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards announced for Stan Spooner, Dana Mathes, Rob Booth, David Auth, and myself. (hope I didn't miss anyone). Congratulations!

The IPMS/USA Nationals had a really cool

logo called "**Come and Make It**" that incorporated the historical Gonzales cannon represented by an airbrush. This logo was developed by our member and current IPMS/USA 2nd Vice President Len Pilhofer who now lives in Albany, New York. Alamo Squadron's logo is a caricature of an airplane that was developed in the early days of Alamo Squadron when the club was basically an aircraft building club. It was suggested by a few members that we change our logo to the "Come and Make It" logo. Since Alamo Squadron was now much more diversified with armor, ship, gundam, and automotive builders, maybe the "Come and Make It" logo would be more appropriate. However, changing the club logo presented issues. We have a considerable investment in Model Fiesta Award Medals that include the airplane logo. We have an investment in shirts with the airplane logo. Our current logo is recognized by all those involved in the modeling world. Changing it would certainly cause some confusion. After discussing this at the September meeting, a show of hands indicated that the difficulties caused by changing our airplane logo was simply not worth it. My final thoughts (this is Leadership Thoughts) are this: Yes, we should always be willing to consider new ideas and I was glad to see some thinking "out of the box".

Model Fiesta meetings are going well. Chris Menold is leading well in his first year as Model Fiesta Director. We appreciate Dana Mathes' and Rob Booth's attendance to help in the transition to the new members on the Model Fiesta Team. As February 10 approaches, the next few MF42 meetings will bring it all together.

Our Vice President Devon McCollough is looking for volunteers for future meeting demonstrations. Our Newsletter Editor Jerry Escobedo is always looking for Navigator articles.

Our next meeting is October 5 at Jordan Ford. The Contest Theme is "That's Just Scary". Must have something to do with Halloween. I'm not sure what Devon has arranged for a demonstration.

See Ya' - Keith

*Keith Rule's winning model
at the IPMS Nationals:
Bekins Moving Tractor &
Trailer - 1st - Heavy
Commercial*



Charles Stone's Seminar on Masking and Painting



YouTube video soon...
Stay tuned!



WANTED!!

ASSISTANT EDITOR

TO THE NAVIGATOR NEWSLETTER

Please contact:

Gerardo “Jerry” Escobedo

Email: paperjerry@outlook.com

SHOW AND TELL



Camouflaged ship by Thomas Zimdahl...

Thomas, remember to give us a seminar on how to do this kind of camo!!



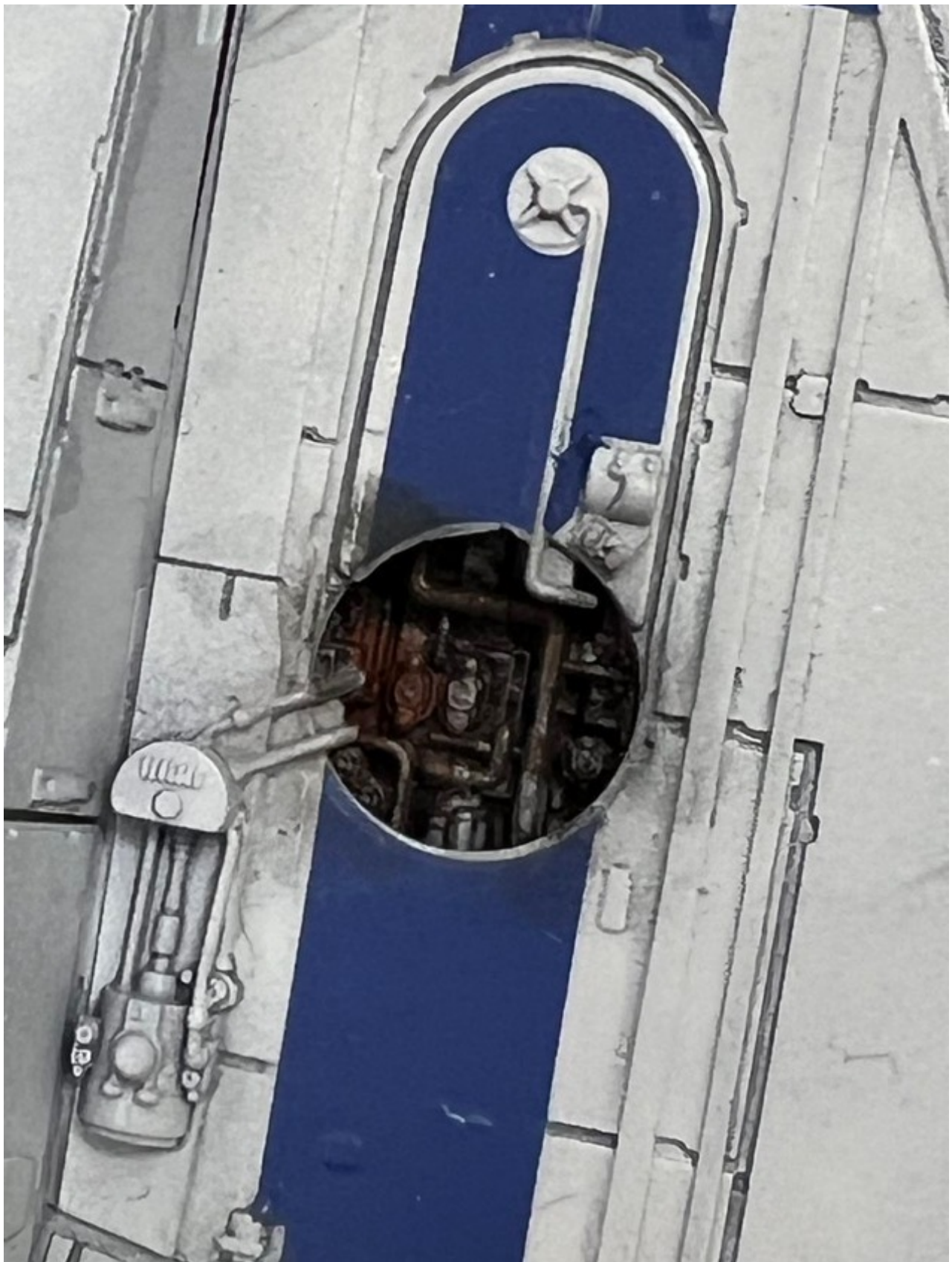
1911
Deperdussin in
1/48 by Tim
Rentz





A-Wing, Bandai 1/72 by Craig Gregory





Craig Gregory's Millennium Falcon from Bandai – close-up detail



IPMS/USA NATIONAL CONVENTION

I would like to start off with a huge thanks to everyone in Alamo Squadron who stepped up and helped out with the most recent National Convention in San Marcos.

From our several staff members to those of you that volunteered a bit of your time to help with registration, judging, vendor load-in/out, table set up/tear-down. The list goes on but I hope you all feel a sense of accomplishment for helping put together IPMS/USA's pinnacle event of the year.

The feedback I have received from many, many members is

that this one was one of the best that has ever been conducted. The contest alone had 3, 110 entries. Remember that collections, group/club builds, Triple-Play entries all had multiple models in their entries so the actual number of models on the contest tables easily approached 3,500, if not more. One word describes this kind of turnout:

Wow!

I'm sure many of you who attended the convention in San Marcos are still coming down off of your "highs" from your experiences at this event.



ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

BY LEN PILHOFER

I myself experienced that same exuberant feeling after my first national convention. It is this good feeling that motivated me to lead the bidding process and the team that helped put together this past convention. It was a very long journey. We first put the bid together to petition IPMS/USA to chose Texas after the 2017 convention in Omaha. Then, at the 2018 convention in Phoenix the leadership team presented the bid. Many of you know that we won that bid to host the convention in 2020. Fate had us in her sights when the ugly COVID-19 pandemic caused us to delay our show until this summer.

Six years of planning paid off and I feel we ran one of the largest, yet smoothest shows in the history of the society. Forgive me if I mention that it feels good to have this

convention finally behind me.

For those that had a great time – and want to see more of the same in the future - I encourage to think about what it takes to put together a show like this and perhaps bring a future convention back to Region 6 and Texas.

I won't lie, it does take a huge amount of time and energy to pull something like this off successfully; but more importantly, you would not be doing in on your own. The IPMS/USA Executive Board, and especially the office of the Second Vice President, is there to help you, and most importantly, fund the entire operation with no financial risk to you or your local chapter.

Texas State College Mariachi put a amusing Mexican flavor to the event



I stand ready to help advise any group of Alamo Squadron members that wish to put in a bid for a future show whether it be in San Marcos or another venue in the greater San Antonio area.

It is now time for some long-overdue bench time for this modeler. Going into the upcoming autumn I hope to refine my skills and move up to the next level of skill for myself.

Wishing you all the best...

-Len Pilhofer

IPMS# 49932

Chair, IPMS/USA National Convention 2023



The 2023 IPMS/USA National Convention Committee

Len Pilhofer - Event Chairman - IPMS/Alamo Squadron
Dick Montgomery - Registrar - IPMS/Alamo Squadron
Mark Verde - Volunteer Coordinator - IPMS/Alamo Squadron
Jim Roeder - Tours & Transportation Manager - IPMS/Alamo Squadron
Jerry Escobedo - Publicity & Foreign Relations - IPMS/Alamo Squadron

Jeff Schmitz - Financial Manager - IPMS Houston
Tom Moon - Contest Coordinator - IPMS/Houston

Rob Booth - Awards/Decals/Merch/Gofer - Texas Hill Country Scale Modelers
Stan Spooner - Vendor Coordinator - Texas Hill Country Scale Modelers
Will Winmill - Assistant Vendor Coordinator - Texas Hill Country Scale Modelers

Ted & Susan Andreas - Raffle Coordinators - Central Texas Scale Modelers Society

John Bonanni - Seminar Coordinator - IPMS/Three Rivers Pittsburgh

Thanks to the following contributors for their assistance in researching and putting together the IPMS/USA 2023 National Convention Commemorative decal sheet:

Two Bobs Decals - Bob Sanchez and Lisa Pannell - for the aircraft subjects, 181st TIE Fighter Squadron logo and awesome graphics artwork - Too Accurate, Too Colorful, TwoBobs! <http://www.twobobs.net>

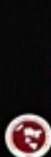
IPMS/USA Members Mike Idacavage & David Carlton for their extensive research and photos of the NASA M113

Ed Grune - for his encyclopedic knowledge of nautical vessels and research into the USS Texas markings and Dave Doyle for his permission to use the USS Texas camouflage graphics

Joseph Fischer - for his extensive reference photographs of the VMFA-112 Hornet



TWO BOBS
AVIATION GRAPHICS



National Convention YouTube Videos



There are many many videos on YouTube with all the models that were on display at the National Convention in San Marcos, Texas.

But I wanted to catch the PEOPLE.

So I edited this little video interviewing the IPMS members from around the world.

SCAN THE QR CODE

CLICK ON THE LINK

Take a look... And please LIKE and SUBSCRIBE!

<https://youtu.be/EOgZ70BxuSY>



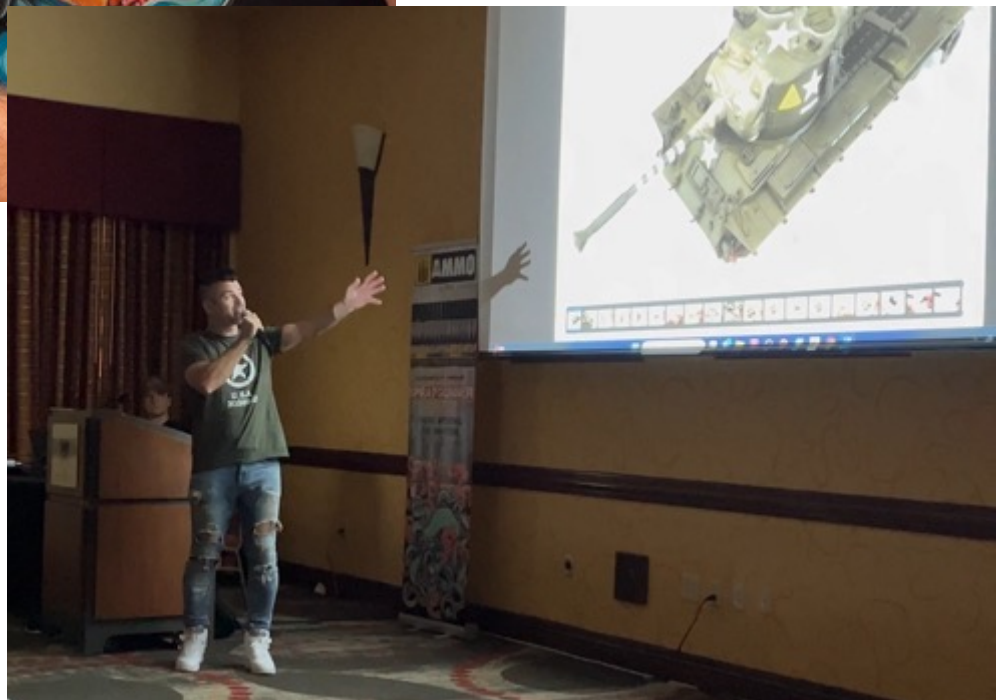
My main objective was to interview
YOUNG PEOPLE, and I
interviewed A LOT!

But sadly, I totally forgot to ask
permission to the parents of these
amazing young modelers (including
the awesome **Thiago Escobar**
from Peru, winner of the **Best of**
Juniors).
My bad!





Miguel "Mig" Jimenez signing one of his signature AMMO products to a fan. Miguel was sponsored by Spray Gunner from Miami, Florida (<https://spraygunner.com>)



1997 Ford F-150 Instructions

By Kelth Rule

Introduction

Jerry is always needing Navigator articles so I thought why not use the instructions I write for almost every build as part of an article. If this seems to be informative, I will continue to do this in the future. I haven't built a light truck since my Foose 1956 build. I tend to build for contest categories and it was time for another light truck. I chose the AMT '97 Ford F-150 kit. After reviewing the kit, I realized I could build it as a southern boy's, or Billy Bob's truck.

pattern found online, dragged into Powerpoint and reduced to fit, printed on decal paper, sealed with 2 coats of clear acrylic, cut to fit and applied to the seats

- Installing the two rear fenders, tailgate, and bumper required scratchbuilding support pieces glued to the frame
- Truck bed finished with Rustoleum Black Textured spray can.



Bullet Points

- Aftermarket resin wheels and tires
- Scale 3" lift built into suspension system
- Open hood held in place with pieces of elastic band hidden from view
- Seat insets are a



Billy Bob's Truck (1997 Ford F150) Instructions

1. Mock-Up body components, check fit to interior, chassis, etc.
2. Cut away depressed area of interior floorboard to allow chassis frame to fit.
3. Windshield must be in exact position. Scratchbuild support at roof for upper edge of windshield.
4. Fender fit to body is questionable. Add .030 strips for positive fit.
5. Glue grille unit to front of body.
6. Glue inner and outer tailgate pieces.
7. Scratchbuild front bumper unit support piece and glue to bottom of front grille.
8. Repair front grille/body seam.
9. Repair fill panels bottom of interior tub.
10. Sand entire body with 400 - 800
11. Sand off molded printing at interior roof.
12. Repair 4 injection points at underside of hood and injection points on roll bar. Remove fire extinguisher and bands from roll bar.
13. Assemble roll bar.
14. Scribe and prep panel lines.
15. Airbrush test spoon with MCW Gloss White and Gloss Yellow Enamel.
16. Airbrush test part with paint/sand technique for bed liner. Compare paint/sand technique to textured paint.
17. Tape off rear of cab and end of bed for future glue.
18. Tape off front bumper and scratchbuilt support for future glue.
19. Tape off tabs and frame where cab glues to frame for future glue.
20. Tape off front bumper pieces where chrome meets paint.
21. Tamiya Gray Primer at cab, hood, front bumper pieces, bed, both fenders, mirrors, tailgate unit, firewall, roll bar, wheels, and frame. Sand as needed.
22. Putty, sand, repair as needed.
23. Tamiya White Primer per Gray Primer.
24. Airbrush inside of hood MCW Gloss Yellow Enamel.



25. Mask and airbrush oval and curved areas inside of hood Tamiya Flat Black.
26. Airbrush bottom of bed and flat frame areas Tamiya Flat Aluminum. Mask flat aluminum and airbrush sides of bed Tamiya Flat Black. Mask flat areas of frame and airbrush frame Tamiya Semi-Gloss Black
27. Airbrush inside of fenders and bottom of interior tub Tamiya Flat Black
28. Mask inside piece of tailgate unit.
29. Airbrush color coats as follows:
 - Layout white/yellow dividing line.
 - Mask yellow area and airbrush MCW Gloss White Enamel at cab, front bumper pieces, both fenders, and tailgate unit.
 - Pull masking and cure in dehydrator.
 - Mask gloss white and airbrush MCW Pearl Yellow Gloss Enamel at cab, hood, both fenders, mirrors, tailgate unit, and firewall.
 - Pull masking and cure in dehydrator.
 - Layout and airbrush MCW Mediterranean Blue stripe at cab.
 - Pull masking and cure in dehydrator.
 - Layout and airbrush MCW Pepper Gray stripe at cab, both fenders, tailgate unit. Airbrush MCW Pepper Gray wheels and roll bar.
 - Mask and airbrush lights at roll bar Tamiya Flat Black.
 - Brush paint silver at taillight lenses and roll bar lenses.
 - Apply "Lariat" decals.
30. Clean and polish clear window parts with 1000, 2000, 3000, Meguiar's Ultimate Compound with Dremel as needed. Finish with Meguiar's Ultimate Polish with Dremel. Mask and airbrush Tamiya 50/50 Semi-Gloss at windshield perimeter.
- Airbrush Tamiya Semi-Gloss at window perimeter.
31. Clear coat cab, hood, front bumper pieces, both fenders, tailgate unit, mirrors, wheels, and roll bar using MCW 2K Enamel Clear Coat mix 2 parts clear to 1 part hardener to 1 part Mr. Hobby Leveling Thinner. Spray 1 Medium Coat. Cure several hours or overnight. Black ink panel lines and windshield vents with .10 Rotring Isograph. Apply decals per notes on instructions. Check for debri and sand out. Spray 1 wet coat. Cure several hours or overnight. Check for debri and sand out. Repeat for 1-5 more coats until happy with gloss. Sand debri to flat with 3000. Polish with Meguiar's Ultimate Compound using Dremel and wool polishing attachment. Polish with Meguiar's Ultimate Polish using Dremel and wool polishing attachment.
32. Fabricate step pads for side steps and rear bumper from .020 styrene. Mask finished area of tailgate unit, sides and bottom of bed. Apply paint/sand technique of textured paint to bed, inside of tailgate unit, and step pads.
33. Mask and airbrush Tamiya Flat Black at step pads, rear bumper top edge, fender tops, rear window perimeter, and tailgate handle. Airbrush Tamiya Semi-Gloss Clear at same areas.
34. Apply Meguiar's Yellow Wax.
35. Apply flat black wash to front grille.
36. Install step pads.
37. Scratchbuild Nerf Bars. Airbrush bar and brackets Tamiya Semi-Gloss Black. Airbrush step pad MCW Pepper Gray Enamel. Assemble and pin to frame with staple pins.

Engine & Chassis

1. Review kit instructions.
 2. Prep parts.
 3. Dechrome engine parts,
 4. Scratchbuild 3" lift components.
 5. Mock-up body, fenders, and chassis to check stance of 3" lift. Alter if needed.
 6. Remove projections on wheel side of rear wheel mount. Test fit wheel and glue aftermarket disc brake to wheel mount.
 7. Remove projections from steering knuckles and both sides of front disc brakes. Drill holes through center of steering knuckles and disc brakes. Install round rod to front wheels to fit holes in steering knuckles and disc brakes.
 8. Airbrush all parts Tamiya Gray Primer.
 9. Airbrush parts per notes on kit instructions.
 10. Plan any engine detailing after assembly and mock-up.
 11. Assemble per instructions and 3" lift notes.
- instructions.
 3. Mexican blanket experiment.
 4. Download seat pattern and experiment with print on white decal paper and plain paper. Finish with 2 coats se acrylic spray.
 5. Airbrush all parts Tamiya Gray Primer.
 6. Airbrush parts per notes on kit instructions.
 7. Apply gray flocking to floor.
 8. Experiment with application of seat decals and seat plain paper prints.
 9. Airbrush all parts with Tamiya Semi-Gloss.
 10. Apply dash decals and trim paint.
 11. Fabricate overhead seat belts.

Interior

1. Review kit instructions.
2. Make notes on kit





IPMS USA President Dave Lockhart and IPMS USA Secretary Rob Booth received a gift from our friends of IPMS Mexico, who were brightly represented in the IPMS USA National Convention. ¡Gracias, amigos!

1/48 scale Tamiya F-14A Late Version Kit number 61122 with Fightertown Decals by Adam-David Stephenson



Nissan 370Z Heritage Edition won a third place trophy in Automotive Class 550 Curbside by David Auth

3rd place in Basic Build Helicopters by Chris Lenahan





3rd Place
Documented replicas,
"Old Faithful" Kansas
farm truck by Dana
Mathes

3rd place 1/35
Armored cars,
Lanchester 4x2 Armored
car by Dana Mathes



Mr. Bryant Dunbar
from GREX USA
giving a seminar on
airbrushing.
2023 IPMS National
Convention
San Marcos Texas





1st Place 55 Chevy Pro Sportsman in Drag Racing
By Keith Rule

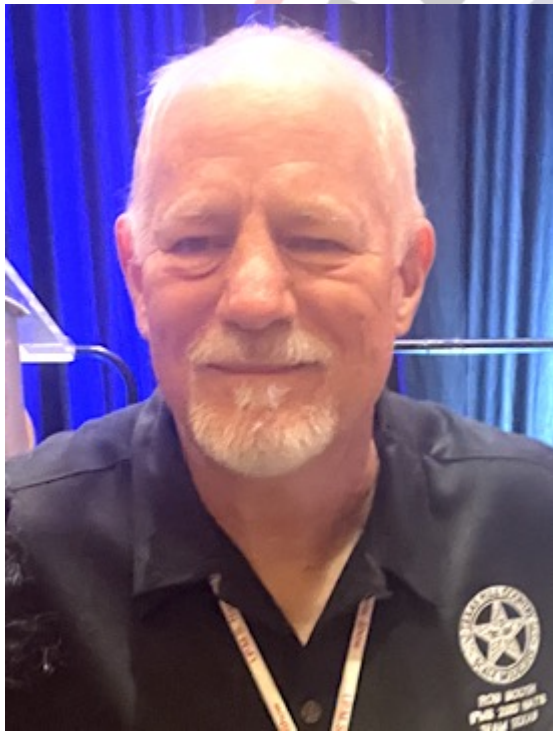




2nd Place BMW M4 in Curbside
By Keith Rule

2nd Place 1928 Mercedes Benz in Large Scale
By Keith Rule

Elections Results Announcement



On September 22, the election results were announced on the IPMS USA website. We are delighted to share that **Rob Booth** and **Len Pilhofer** were elected as **Secretary** and **Second Vice President**, respectively. Mr. Booth was re-elected for the position of Secretary. Although Mr. Pilhofer no longer resides in San Antonio, he is still a member of the Alamo Squadron.

This election outcome signifies that IPMS USA will continue to be actively involved in various regions across the country, thereby promoting the hobby within society. Congratulations to both Rob Booth and Len Pilhofer on their well-deserved victories!





SUPER CON 2023

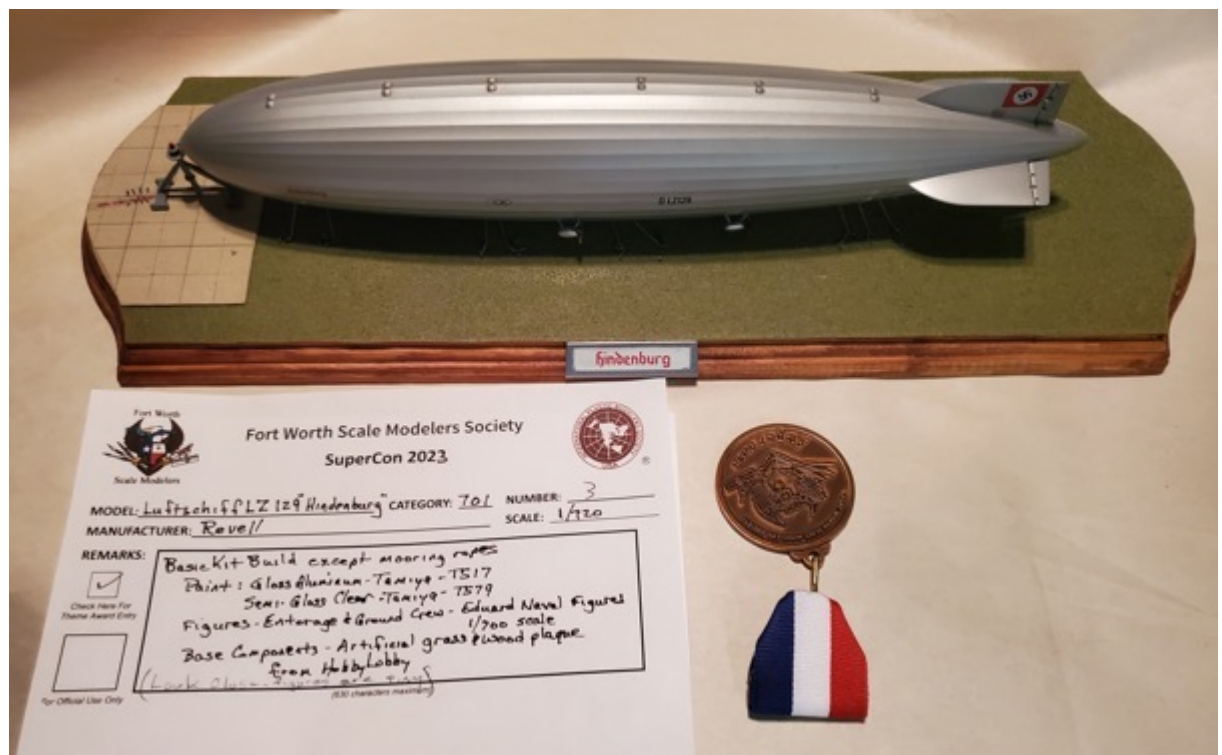


3rd Place 1/144 F-117 Nighthawk
by John Kress



3RD Place Fokker F-27 by John Kress

3rd Place
1/750 Hindenburg
By John Kress





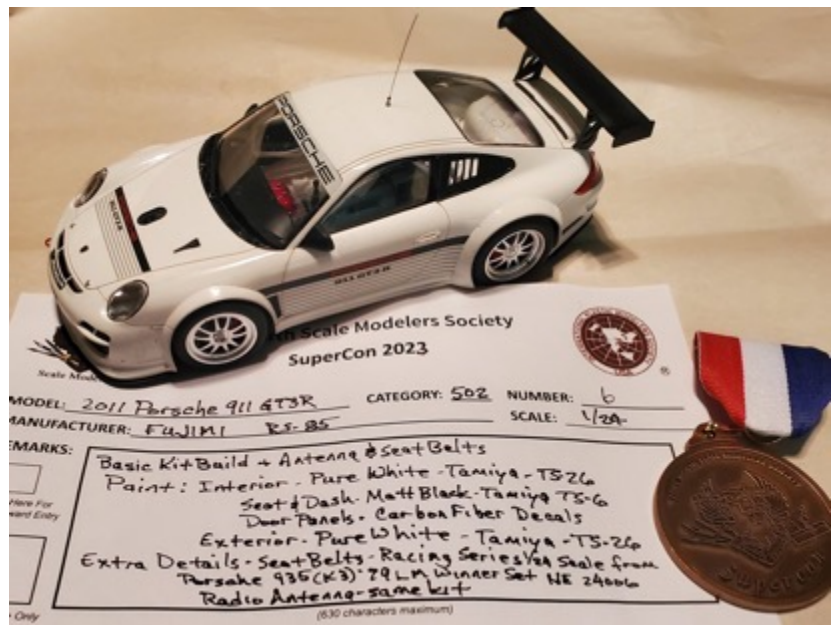
SUPER CON 2023



2nd Place Award with his 1/72 WW II Willys Jeep with a trailer by Julio Caro



3rd Place F-16 ADF by Brett Brett Scholten



3rd Place 1/24 Porsche 911 by John Kress



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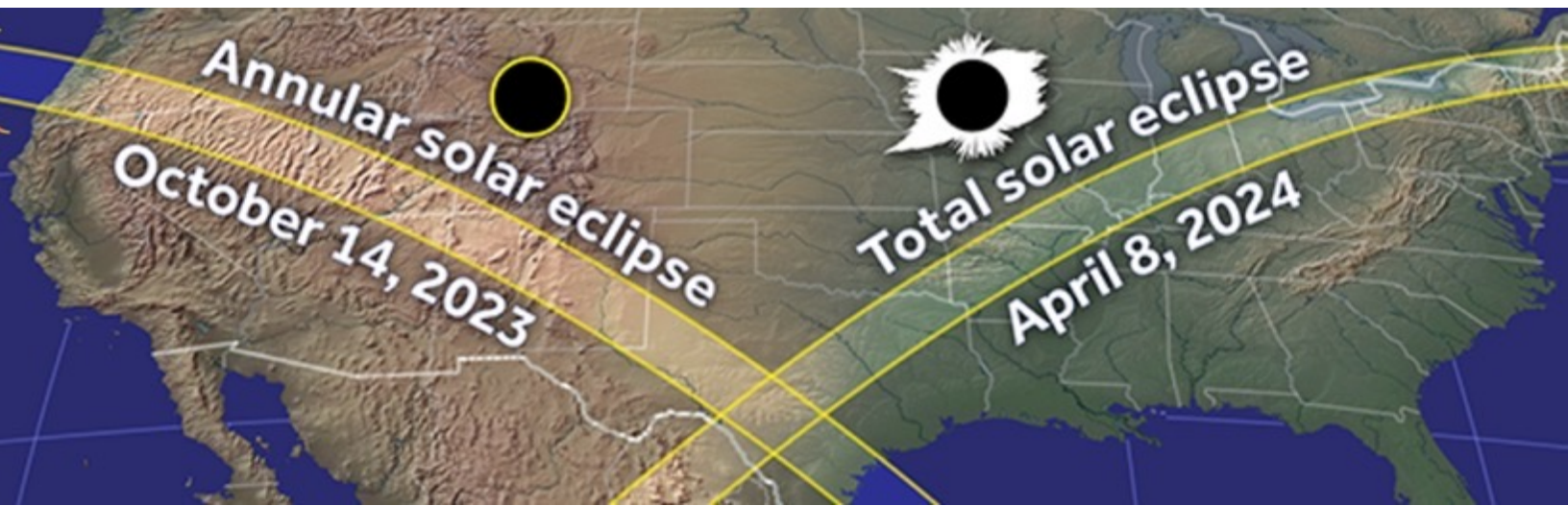
Join IPMS USA:
 IPMS/USA is the national organization for scale modelers in the U.S. In addition to publishing the IPMS/USA Journal six times a year and organizing the IPMS/USA National Contest and Convention, the organization does other things behind the scenes that make the hobby more fun and help to ensure its survival and growth.

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:
paperjerry@outlook.com

It looks like some local businesses liked the “Come And Make It” idea from our National Convention slogan and they took it as their business slogan as well. Very Texan!





Our fair city, San Antonio, Texas, is going to be THE optimal point in the whole USA to have 2 Solar Eclipses in a span of 6 months.

October 14, 2023 – Annular Solar Eclipse
 April 8, 2024 – Total Solar Eclipse



**ENJOY THESE MARVELOUS NATURAL PHENOMENOMS!
 BUT REMEMBER TO PRACTICE SAFE WHEN VIEWING THE SUN!**

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