

# THE NAVIGATOR

IPMS REGION 6 | ALAMO SQUADRON | SAN ANTONIO, TX



SEPTEMBER 2025 Edition

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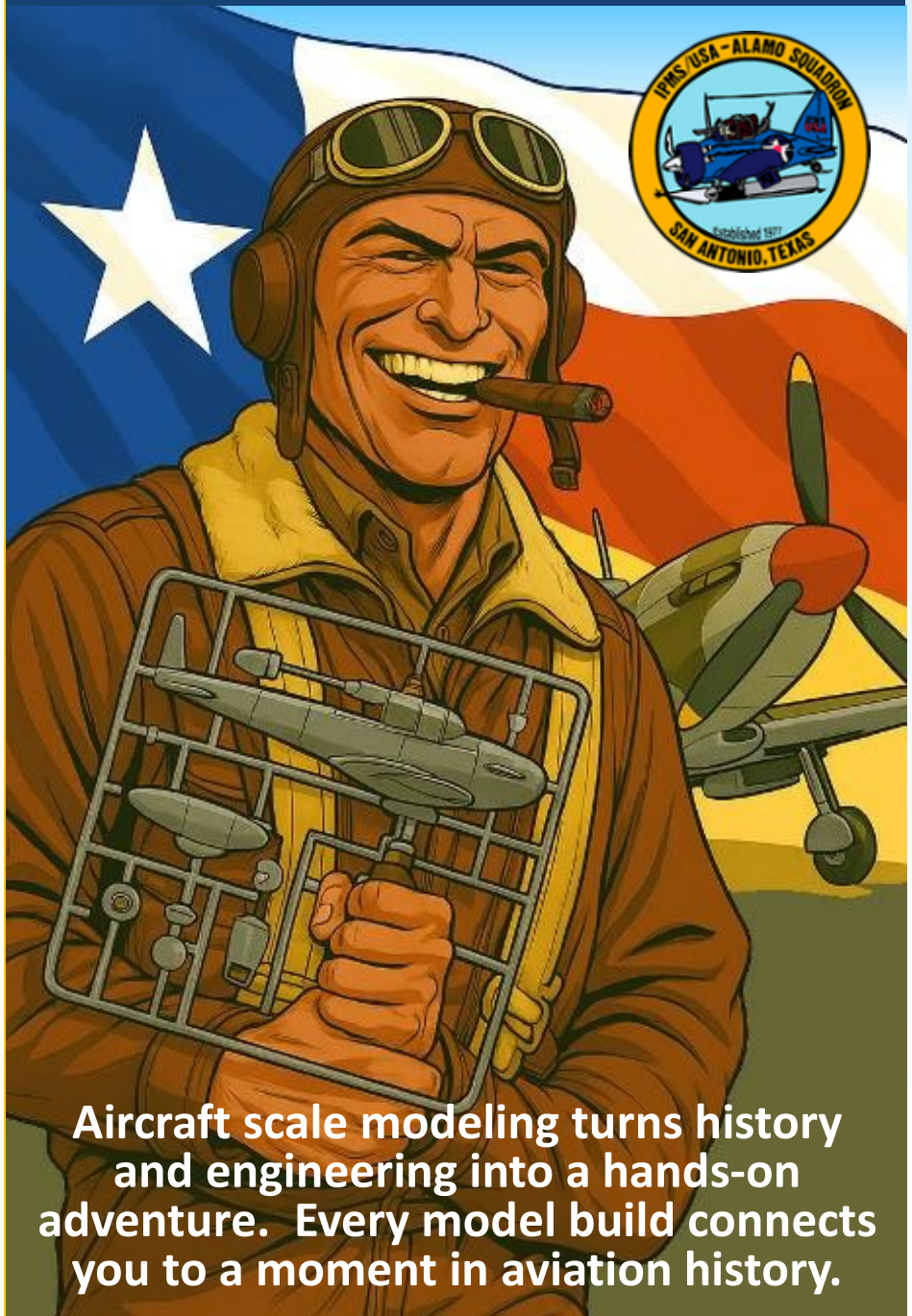
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## ARE YOU AN AIRCRAFT BUILDER?



Aircraft scale modeling turns history and engineering into a hands-on adventure. Every model build connects you to a moment in aviation history.



## ModelFiesta Judging Process Update - August, 2025

By Dana Mathes, Chief Judge | Page 1 of 2

Our new judging process, debuted at ModelFiesta 43 (January, 2025). It was very successful as we received many positive comments regarding our process and the feedback we gave. While we did well, there were many things that our Head Class Judges felt could be even better. They worked diligently from February till May to outline the areas for improvement and work out revisions in our process. I wish to thank them for their diligence and the many hours they invested to make our contest fairer and more consistent. We are now about four months from our January contest and here is where we stand:

### 1. Judging Standards and Evaluation Forms

The goal of the work in the Spring was to revise the evaluation forms/standards and then test them this summer in monthly club contests. Significant work was done to better articulate the scoring for presentation and scope of work. We also made a special effort to upgrade our Gunpla standard, with multiple reviews by experienced Gunpla builders. The scoring was also revised to allow excellent models which have no base or presentation to be able to compete for gold medals. In general, the new forms have been well received. More work will take place to further streamline them by October 1, the date they will be posted, along with our updated contest rules, on the ModelFiesta website. Our October club meeting will be devoted to training on the revised standards and evaluation forms.

### 2. Display Models and Awards

We will be using the same contest room layout that we used for ModelFiesta 43. There will be rows in the center of the contest room for the evaluation of the contest models by class. Tables for display models will again form a perimeter around the room. An entrant will place up to five models for evaluation on the contest class tables and then place his/her display models on an assigned space on one of the display tables. The display space locations will be assigned at the Registration desk. Exhibitors will be able to display their name with their display models.

A significant change has been made regarding the display models this year. While they will not be evaluated for medals, they will be eligible for the theme and sponsored special awards.



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## ModelFiesta Judging Process Update - August, 2025

By Dana Mathes, Chief Judge | Page 2 of 2

The list of sponsored special awards will be about 15, more than last year. Sign-in sheets for the special and theme awards will be available for contestants to list their entries (both contest and display models).

### 3. Judge Recruitment and Training.

We continue to recruit more judges prior to our contest, especially aerospace judges. Please contact Joe Bianco or me if you would be willing to help judge at ModelFiesta. I will be preparing videos to summarize our process changes for our ModelFiesta website this Fall. We will have virtual judge training sessions (via Zoom) for each class. These will be held from late September to early November.

So, as you can see we are making some significant improvements for ModelFiesta 44. I thank you in advance for your help as judges and your willingness to train in advance of our January contest.

Dana Mathes





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## August 2025 Model Contest Winners

By Julio A. Caro

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As always the competition was fierce, but these three outstanding modelers truly stood out:



**LEE FORBES**

Battle of France,  
Vichy French Fighter Collection



**KEITH RULE**

Lotus Super 7 Racer



**HENRY NUNEZ**

Roman Centurion



*Congratulations!*



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## August 7th, 2025 Meeting Photos

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Our August gathering brought many of our members together once again for a vibrant evening filled with creativity, craftsmanship, and camaraderie. The latest scale modeling projects on display—from meticulously detailed builds to imaginative compositions—sparked lively discussion and admiration throughout the room. A highlight of the evening was William Knebel's engaging presentation about his incredible **German Luftwaffe Airfield Support Field** diorama. Whether you were presenting, learning, or simply enjoying the atmosphere, the meeting was a wonderful reminder of what makes our club so special. Enjoy the highlights below!



**Keith Rule** brings meeting to order.



**Dana Mathes** talks about Gold –Silver-Bronze judging.



**Jim Norton** briefs members on club Finances.



**Chris Menold** discusses latest MF-2026 details.



Work in Progress (WIP) Models on the table ready for show & tell.



**Robert Stiegel's** Show and Tell about his cool MIG-21 and USMC Harrier



Show and Tell by **Juan Nolenius** on his great P-38 and F-35 fighters



Show and Tell by **Craig Gregory** on his rocket build.





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## August 7th, 2025 Meeting Photos

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**Bryan William's** Show and Tell on his cars.



**Dana Mathes' Show and Tell** on his Tiger 1 Tank.



**Chuck Blair's Show and Tell** on his Sherman M4 Tank.



**Chris Menold's Show and Tell** on a new 727-200 kit.



Show and Tell by **David Auth** on the Roadster he's currently working on.



**Devon McCollough** conducts Show and Tell on his Gloucester Meteor.



Show and Tell by **Joe Bianco** on several WW2 fighters he's building.



Show and Tell by **Stacy Gaddis** on his amazing illuminated robots.

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## August 7th, 2025 Meeting Photos

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Gloucester Meteor by  
Devon McCollough



Roadster by  
David Auth



F-35 and P-38 Fighters by  
Devon McCollough



German Tiger 1 Tank by  
Dana Mathes



Ferrari Convertible and Racer by  
Bryan Williamson



P-47 Fighter by  
Joe Bianco



MIG-21 and USMC Harrier by  
Robert Stiegel



Ferrari Convertible and Racer by  
Bryan Williamson



Luftwaffe Airfield Support Field  
diorama by William Knebel



## August 7th, 2025 Meeting Photos

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**Weathered Toyota SUV**  
**Chris McClain**



**Ferret Scout Car Mk II**  
**Dana Mathes**



**British Battleship**  
**Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo**



**Toyota Supra**  
**David Auth**



**JU-88 Bomber, Juniors Category**  
**Lee Forbes Family**



Several outstanding models were on display at our August meeting, but unfortunately, they couldn't be featured in this issue of the Navigator. Why? Because essential details—such as the model name and/or builder—was missing.

Every member's work deserves to be recognized and celebrated. To ensure your model gets the spotlight it deserves, please provide complete information to the Navigator staff for any entry on the Contest or Work in Progress tables you'd like featured in the Navigator newsletter.

**Let's make sure your craftsmanship gets the attention it's earned!**

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## International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS) 2025 IPMS/USA National Convention Hampton, VA | August 6—9, 2025

From August 6—9, 2025, the **IPMS National Convention** brought together the finest scale modelers from across the country—and beyond—to compete in Virginia for top honors in craftsmanship and creativity. Representing Alamo Squadron with pride were **Chuck Adams, Brett Scholten, Herb Scranton, John Kress** and **Tim Robb**.





This year's competition was nothing short of world-class, with modelers vying for Gold (1st), Silver (2nd), and Bronze (3rd) awards across a wide array of categories. Among our talented group, John Kress stepped into the competitive arena—and we're thrilled to announce that he brought home a **3rd Place (Bronze)** award for his stunning **Kenworth W900 Truck** build.

John's dedication to the craft truly paid off. His model stood out in a field of exceptional entries, earning well-deserved recognition at the national level.

***Congratulations, John!***

### JOHN KRESS | 2025 IPMS/USA Nationals

Photo	Description	Scale	Award
	Kenworth W900 Truck	1/25	



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## WHY I BUILD PLASTIC MODEL SHIPS

By Gerardo “Jerry” Escobedo | Page 1 of 4

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Illustration of NAZI Germany's Scharnhorst Battleship, Circa 1936



I started building the Hipper German battleship just because the box art was striking. I had no idea I was

stepping into one of the most beautiful and rewarding modeling experiences of my life. I couldn't put it down... not even after having a heart attack midway through!

Next thing I knew, I'd built six battleships in just 45 days—rigging, sea bases, and all—across both 1/350 and 1/700 scale. I was completely hooked on this niche. But to my surprise, solid reference materials were scarce, especially for battleships.



Ship references—especially for battleships—were surprisingly scarce. I scoured the internet,

raided Half Price Books and Lionheart Hobbies in Kyle, Texas, and finally struck gold... in Japanese. I grabbed the magazines anyway, and with Google Translator's help, managed to glean some useful insights.

That's when it hit me—ship modeling is a narrow niche in the world of plastic kits. I felt like an outlier... a rare breed... maybe a night owl... maybe just a nerd.

But then I uncovered a few stats that prove ship modeling stands as its own distinct genre. Here they are:



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## WHY I BUILD PLASTIC MODEL SHIPS

By Gerardo "Jerry" Escobedo | Page 2 of 4

### 1. Proportion of Ship Models in Mainstream Model

Magazines like FineScale Modeler, Modeling, Tamiya Model Magazine, and IPMS Journal primarily focus on aircraft, armor, and figures. Ship model content typically comprises a minor fraction—perhaps 5–10% of their total content. Dedicated ship issues or handbook supplements are occasional exceptions (e.g., FSM's Ship Modeler's Handbook) Even YouTube is limited on ships plastic models, and again, they are mostly European or Japanese.

In Europe, niche publications and clubs exist, but many cater to RC boats or historic wooden sailing ships, not plastic warship kits. True battleship plastic model coverage remains sparse in print.

### 2. Percentage of Ship Models at IPMS Events in the USA

At IPMS national/regional shows, "Ships" is just one among multiple major classes (Aircraft, Vehicles, Figures, Ships, etc.). In 2023 our IPMS Nationals in San Marcos, Texas, ships made up roughly 7–8% of total entries. That implies each class has similar representation, with ships often placing 4th or 5th in volume—far behind aircraft and armor.

### 3. Detail Comparison: Battleship vs. WWII Aircraft Models

Aircraft models (e.g., Stuka or B-17) concentrate detail in: highly intricate cockpits, landing gear bays, engine complex shapes.

### 4. Build Diversity: Aircraft vs. Battleships

Battleships, on the other hand, feature vast expanses of components—turrets, deck fittings, superstructure, ladders, boats, rigging and more. Each revisit reveals new layers of detail, giving battleship modeling an almost never-ending depth, often surpassing aircraft in sheer volume of parts and surface intricacy.

- Piece Counts: RN Roma vs Dragon M4A1 (76)W

- Dragon M4A1 (76)W (#6083, 1/35 scale): comes with about 600 pieces.

Trumpeter RN Roma (#05318, Italian Navy): this 1/350 scale kit includes approximately 1,750 parts (plastic sprues, brass, PE, etc.) (manufacturer data).

Though RN Roma offers nearly 3× the parts count, piece count alone isn't decisive—subject matter, build scale, and detailing focus all influence the

time and fun involved.

### 5. Build Diversity: Aircraft vs. Battleships

Though RN Roma offers nearly 3× the parts count, piece count alone isn't decisive—subject matter, build scale, and detailing focus all influence the time and fun involved.

### 6. Forums: Planes vs. Ships

There are easily over 100 active online forums for aircraft scale modeling. In contrast, ship-specific forums number roughly 20–30. That's a 4–5× difference, echoing the low share of ship models at events and in publications. The scarcity of builders and shared interest helps explain forum distribution.

### 7. Annual Kit Sales: Airplanes vs. Ships

While exact numbers aren't publicly disclosed, IPMS estimates suggest plastic aircraft kits sell in the hundreds of thousands annually, possibly over a million worldwide.



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## WHY I BUILD PLASTIC MODEL SHIPS

By Gerardo “Jerry” Escobedo | Page 3 of 4

In comparison, plastic ship kits likely total in the tens of thousands. This 10–20× disparity parallels the audience and forum engagement gap, further explaining modeling focus.

### A Call to Broaden Horizons

My friendly recommendation? Be open to plastic model ships. Even if you’ve never built one—and maybe you think you never will—next time you’re at a scale model show or club gathering, take a few minutes to check out the naval section. Walk around the battleships, cruisers, destroyers and other watercraft displays and really look at them. Look at the details: the rigging, the tiny railings, the layered superstructures, the subtle weathering, the precision of the guns and deck fittings.

You might be surprised at how much there is to appreciate. Ships have a kind of quiet complexity that doesn’t always shout for attention like a flashy fighter jet or a rugged tank—but once you start noticing, it’s hard not to admire the craftsmanship. Who knows! Perhaps one day, a battleship might

just find its way onto your bench.

### Admiration for Battleship Engineering

What amazes me the most about naval models—especially WWI and WWII battleships—is not just the insane level of detail we get to recreate in plastic, but the sheer engineering brilliance behind the real ships themselves. Think about it for a moment: legendary battleships like the *Bismarck*, *Yamato*, or *Roma* were designed and built entirely with manual calculations. No computers, no CAD, not even a basic electronic calculator. And yet, they built these massive floating fortresses with incredible precision.

To me, they were like giant buildings that moved—not just moved but sailed through water while packing tons of firepower and housing thousands of crew members.

The more I build battleship kits, the more I admire the real thing: the way they designed the superstructures to deal with air resistance like aircraft, armored the hull like a tank, powered the

engines to move mountains of steel like a locomotive, food storage and preparation to the level of a Michelin restaurant, and organized their crew with the complexity of a full-on corporation. And behind every single one of those ships were thousands of people—engineers, shipbuilders, naval strategists—working together to bring them to life.

### Final Thoughts

Ship modeling is a niche, but for those drawn to immense detail, engineering grandeur, and quiet mastery, it offers so much. You may only build a few battleships in your life—but each could outshine dozens of smaller builds in complexity, joy, and historical depth.

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Photos follow!**







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## WHY I BUILD PLASTIC MODEL SHIPS

By Gerardo “Jerry” Escobedo | Page 4 of 4

### And that is why I love to build battleship plastic models!

So yes—stay open, give naval models a spotlight next time, and let their engineering and scale, once seen, inspire your craft. That’s what I find so inspiring. Every time I build a battleship model, I feel like I’m honoring not just a machine, but a masterpiece of human effort, creativity, and determination.

Here are photos and views of one of the many ships I’ve built:



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## EDUARD'S 1/48 SCALE WILDER CAT

By Joe Chapa | Page 1 of 3

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This was my first Eduard kit I built and I was very impressed with the quality and available upgrades directly from Eduard vs. third-party aftermarket parts. The kit included masks and PE cockpit upgrades, though I elected to push my skills with Eduard's 3D upgrades for the engine and folded wings.



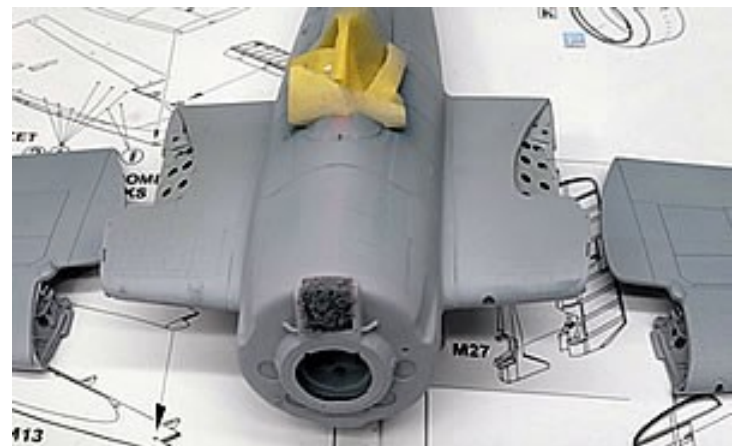
For the most part construction was fairly simple and a joy to assemble. For the seams I used CA glue for filler vs. putty, although the trick is to sand the CA glue



about 20 minutes into the curing process, if fully cured it will be hard as a diamond.

I also used the new AK paint pen to check and verify my sanding. The paint pen helps show how it will look with paint vs. painting and having to start all over, this was a huge time saver.

Cutting away the wings and front engine panels was more difficult but with patience and some tools it can be done, the key is to take your time and plan out how you're going to remove plastic and then sand the parts. I used a cheap Dremel and sanding sticks to achieve the results I wanted.



Once construction was completed, I moved onto paint. I use Mr. Finishing Surfacer 1500 mixed with Mr. Color Leveling Thinner for the primer followed by MRP paint as the main colors.

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## EDUARD'S 1/48 SCALE WILDER CAT

By Joe Chapa | Page 2 of 3

I also used chipping fluid for the fuselage scratches and you can see some of the yellow green paint. Since the paint is lacquer, it was a little hard to remove though it did work.

For the camouflage pattern, I used silly putty rolled up then followed up over the sharp lines with an airbrush to simulate a soft edge.



To reach the desired effect, I just went over the sharp lines with an airbrush until I was happy.



Another new item for me was the eduard decals, these decals have a top layer that must be removed after the decal is dry. I used sharp tweezers but I heard using enamel thinner will remove the film vs tweezers, as the tweezers can scratch the paint. I admit I was a bit intimidated with these decals but I can say I really like them as the decals are super thin and almost resemble paint.

For weathering I used a host of different techniques such as enamel washes, post shading and oil paints for the exhaust.



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## EDUARD'S 1/48 SCALE WILDER CAT

By Joe Chapa | Page 3 of 3

For final assembly I made sure to find items that would help me ensure the wheels and wings were level and symmetrical.



Fixed wing check!



**I really enjoyed building this kit and would recommend this for anyone looking for a challenge and a good quality model!**

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## McDonnell F3H-2M Demon Walkaround

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This F3H-2M Demon on display at the National Naval Museum in Pensacola, Florida is one of only 3 examples which still exist. The Demon was designed as a short-range carrier-based interceptor. The predecessor to the highly successful twin engine F-4 Phantom II, the F3H was the only single engine carrier-based fighter produced by McDonnell.



External views of the cockpit from which the visibility was reportedly excellent.



This view highlights the unusual location of the pitot tube at the base of the windscreen.

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## McDonnell F3H-2M Demon Walkaround

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The port side cannon ports can be seen under the port air intake.



Head on view showing the layout of the four 20mm cannon ports, the air intakes, and the nose gear geometry. Also note the angle of the wing fold line.



The colors of the three indicator lights on the nose gear strut are evident in this view.



Interesting view of the various shapes and vents under the nose.





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## McDonnell F3H-2M Demon Walkaround

By Devon McCollough | Page 3 of 5



Starboard side nose gear strut details.



Starboard main gear strut.



Starboard wing flap looking forward. Interesting items include what appears to be a perforated spoiler on the top of the wing, a red striped fuel vent outboard of the flap, and a partially open speed brake on the fuselage.



Starboard wing fold line details.

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## McDonnell F3H-2M Demon Walkaround

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In this next series of tail section shots, the design similarities between the F3H and its successor, the F-4 Phantom are readily apparent.



Details of the tail hook and port side speed brake.

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## McDonnell F3H-2M Demon Walkaround

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Details of the port side main landing gear and wing fold.





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## *Scale Modeling Burnout:* **WHEN MODELING'S BECOMES A CHORE AND NO LONGER FUN**

By Julio A. Caro | Page 1 of 2

### ***Breaking the Mold: Understanding and Overcoming Scale Modeling Burnout***



Scale modeling is often a labor of love—a blend of craftsmanship, storytelling, and historical reverence. But even the most passionate modelers can find themselves staring blankly at a half-painted fuselage or a cluttered workbench, wondering where the spark went. Burnout in scale modeling isn't just about losing interest; it's a complex emotional and creative fatigue that can sneak in quietly and stall progress for weeks or even months.

### ***What Contributes to Burnout?***

One of the most common culprits is perfectionism. The drive to replicate every rivet, weather each panel flawlessly, and achieve historical accuracy down to the final decal can quickly become overwhelming. When the joy of creation is overshadowed by the pressure to perform—or when building shifts from personal fulfillment to competitive obligation—modeling risks losing its soul. What began as a relaxing, expressive hobby can start to feel like just another demanding task.

Another factor is overcommitment. Modelers often juggle multiple builds, participate in group projects, or set ambitious deadlines for competitions or publications.



While these goals can be motivating, they can also drain energy and leave little room for spontaneity or experimentation.

Repetition plays a role too. Building similar kits or sticking to one genre—say, WWII aircraft or modern armor—can lead to creative stagnation. The process becomes predictable, and the excitement of discovery fades.

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## *Scale Modeling Burnout:* **WHEN MODELING'S BECOMES A CHORE AND NO LONGER FUN**

By Julio A. Caro | Page 2 of 2

Lastly, external stressors—work, family obligations, or even seasonal changes—can sap the mental bandwidth needed for focused, detailed work. When life gets heavy, the bench can feel like just another responsibility.

### **Snapping Out of the Funk**

The first step is to give yourself permission to pause. Burnout isn't a failure; it's a signal. Stepping away from the bench for a few days or weeks can help reset your perspective. Sometimes, the best way to rekindle interest is to miss the hobby a little.

Changing your approach can also help. Try a quick-build kit with fewer parts and less pressure. Switch genres—if you usually build tanks, try a sci-fi spaceship. The novelty can reignite curiosity and make the process feel fresh again.

Reorganizing your workspace can be surprisingly therapeutic. Clearing clutter, rearranging tools, or even adding a new lamp can create a sense of renewal. A tidy bench often invites creativity.

Engaging with the community—online forums, local clubs, or social media—can offer encouragement and inspiration. Seeing others' work, sharing your own, or simply chatting about techniques can remind you why you started modeling in the first place.

Finally, revisit your “why.” Was it the history? The artistry? The meditative focus? Reconnecting with the deeper reasons behind your passion can help shift your mindset from obligation back to enjoyment.



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## Become a Navigator Newsletter Contributor!

By Julio A. Caro, Navigator Co-editor & Publisher | Page 1 of 3

### Writing for the Newsletter

Writing for the *Navigator* newsletter is more than just putting words on a page—it's a chance to shape the voice of our Alamo Squadron community and beyond. Each submission brings fresh perspective, whether it's a humorous anecdote, a detailed build report, or a reflective piece on modeling or camaraderie. These stories not only entertain, they inform and inspire, showcasing the diversity of skills, styles, and personalities within our chapter.

When members take part, the newsletter transforms into something truly special: a collective showcase of creativity and shared passion. It becomes a publication we all own, reflecting the spirit and heart of our group. This sense of ownership builds stronger connections and invites new members to feel welcomed and engaged.

Varied writing styles and topics add texture and interest, turning each issue into a lively mix rather than a monotonous read. It's not just informative—it's inviting. Submissions also lighten the load for editors and help keep content fresh and dynamic.

In short, writing for the *Navigator* isn't just helpful—it's powerful. It turns readers into contributors, and contributors into community builders. Let your voice be part of the journey.





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## NAVIGATOR Newsletter Submission Guidelines



**We can use several types of content. Here are a few thoughts on article submissions:**

1. **Short Teases:** Around 300 words or less, short teasers are the way to go for sharing anecdotes, humorous incidents, or brief stories. If you like, Feel free to include a photo or illustration. These type of articles are a perfect entry point for first-time contributors. Short teasers are easy to write and a fun way to get involved.
2. **Full-length articles:** Full-length articles typically span 500 to 1,500 words. While there's room for longer reads, a newsletter stretching beyond 35 pages can feel overwhelming to many readers. After all, this is a hobby publication—not a scientific journal or technical manual—so brevity and clarity take top billing.
3. **Visuals and Illustrations:** 5 to 10 images per

article is ideal. Please attach artwork and photos instead of embedding them—I'll handle sizing and placement. Feel free to include captions, or I'm happy to write them for you if you prefer.

4. **Photo Tips:** When it comes to images, please send the best quality photos you can. You can use free services like Google Drive or [WeTransfer](#) to share them. Don't crop, edit, or size them—We'll take care of that. Also, if at all possible, please avoid inserting them into the body of your article, we'll have to remove them, which creates extra work and editing time.
5. **File Format:** If possible, please submit your article in Microsoft Word format, or in another application that can be opened and saved as a Word file."

### For New and Seasoned Writers Alike

If you've never written an article before but would like to give it a try, we're here to help. And for those of you with publishing experience—yes, our editing team will still give your work a once-over (it's a publishing thing, you know), but it's greatly appreciate it if you do your best to check your work before you submit it.

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## Editorial Standards and Content Rights

To uphold the clarity, consistency, and thematic integrity of the *Navigator Newsletter*, the editorial team reserves the right to review, edit, and adapt all submitted content prior to publication. This includes—but is not limited to—adjustments for grammar, structure, tone, formatting, and alignment with our publication’s style and values.

By submitting content, contributors acknowledge that:

- **Editorial Revisions** may be made to ensure readability, factual accuracy, and alignment with our community’s standards.
- **Thematic Consistency** will be maintained across all published pieces to reflect the newsletter’s mission and voice.
- **Collaborative Dialogue** is encouraged; editors may reach out to contributors for clarification or refinement when appropriate.
- **Final Publication Decisions rest with the editorial team.** This includes the right to withhold or postpone publication if a submission does not meet established guidelines.

### Final Thoughts

We value your creativity and insight. We strive to honor each voice while maintaining a cohesive and high-quality publication. Our goal is to foster a space where shared ownership and editorial excellence go hand in hand.

Looking for a quick assist? Then you might find this tool helpful: <https://wordcounter.net>



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## Upcoming Region 6 and National Events

Mark your calendars and get ready to be inspired by the creativity and craftsmanship on display at these upcoming IPMS Region 06 model shows.



EVENT DATE	NAME	LOCATION	ADDRESS
09/13/2025	SuperCon 2025	Arlington, TX	Bob Duncan Community Center 2800 S. Center St. Vandergriff Park, Arlington TX 76014
11/01/2025	Cajun Modelfest 37	Baton Rouge, LA	LSU Ag Center 4H Mini Barn Building AG Center Lane , Baton Rouge, LA 70802
11/08/2025	Austin Capitol Classic	Taylor, TX	Williamson County Expo Center 5350 Bill Pickett Trail, Taylor, TX 76574
01/03/2026	ModelFiesta - 2026	New Braunsfel, TX	New Braunfels Civic Convention Center 375 S Castell Ave, New Braunfels, TX 78130
03/14/2026	Rivercon XV - 2026	Shreveport, LA	One University Place, Shreveport, LA 71115



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## Tamiya Founder Passes Away at the Age of 90



### SHUNSAKU TAMIYA

*December 19, 1934 – July 18, 2025*

It is with deep respect and admiration that we announce the passing of **SHUNSAKU TAMIYA**, Chairman of Tamiya Corporation, in Shizuoka, Japan, on July 18, 2025, at the age of 90.

A visionary leader and tireless innovator, Mr. Tamiya transformed his family's business into a global icon of precision and creativity in scale modeling. His legacy lives on in every meticulously crafted kit that continues to inspire generations of modelers worldwide.

### Contributions to Scale Modeling

- **Pioneered Plastic Model Kits:** Led the transition from wooden toys to injection-molded plastic kits, beginning with the Jaguar D-Type.
- **Set Global Standards for Quality:** Under his leadership, Tamiya earned its reputation as "First in Quality Around the World," known for engineering excellence and realism.
- **Expanded Subject Range:** Oversaw the development of kits spanning military vehicles, aircraft, race cars, and more, often based on full-size reference models he personally photographed.
- **Introduced RC Innovation:** Launched Tamiya's first radio-controlled car—the Porsche 934—in the 1970s, sparking a new era of hobby racing.
- **Popularized Mini 4WD:** Championed the development of Mini 4WD cars in the 1980s, which became a cultural phenomenon in Japan.
- **Elevated Shizuoka as a Modeling Hub:** As chairman of the Shizuoka Model & Educational Cooperative Association, he helped establish the city as a global center for model manufacturing and hosted the renowned Shizuoka Hobby Show.

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SEPTEMBER 2025 Edition

## Monthly Club Meeting Information

**Alamo Squadron monthly club meetings** are the perfect place to connect with fellow modelers to exchange ideas and learn new techniques to enhance your craft. Come share your latest projects, gain valuable insights, and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals who share your love for scale modeling.



Our monthly meetings are held on the **first Thursday of the month** starting at **6:30 PM** at the following location:

### ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH

14700 San Pedro Ave.  
San Antonio, TX 78232




*We look forward to seeing you!*

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## IPMS Membership Information

Joining IPMS/USA is a great idea because it connects you with a dedicated community of scale modelers who share your passion. The society offers valuable resources, including detailed magazines, access to national and regional events, and opportunities for learning and improvement through workshops and contests. Membership also provides a platform to share your work, receive constructive feedback, and stay updated with the latest trends and techniques in scale modeling.



**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** ☐ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Where did you hear about IPMS/USA? Please check all that apply:**

☐ Local model club ☐ Internet search

☐ Friend ☐ IPMS web site

☐ Ad in IPMS Journal ☐ I'm a former member rejoining

☐ Facebook ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Ad in other magazine

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

### Interested in joining IPMS?

Here is a copy of an IPMS Membership Application/Renewal Form. You can download the actual form from the IPMS/USA website at:

[https://ipmsusa.org/sites/default/files/membership\\_application\\_0.pdf](https://ipmsusa.org/sites/default/files/membership_application_0.pdf).



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## Hobby Stores and Other Links

*Support hobby stores that support our club!*

- **DIBBLES HOBBIES**

1029 Donaldson Ave, San Antonio, TX 78228  
(210) 735-7221

<http://dibbleshobbies.com>

OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 PM

CLOSED: Sundays and Mondays

- **HOBBY TOWN**

1309 N. Loop 1604 W.,  
Vineyard Shopping Center, Suite 101  
San Antonio, TX 78259-4769  
(210) 236-5527

<https://www.hobbytown.com/sanantonio-tx/l196>

OPEN: Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am to 8:00 PM

OPEN: Sunday, 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

- **HILL COUNTRY HOBBY**

9355 Bandera Road, Suite 118  
San Antonio, TX 78250  
(210) 681-2007

<http://www.hillcountryhobby.com>

OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 PM

CLOSED: Sundays and Mondays

- **HOBBY LOBBY**

Visit the Hobby Lobby website to find the nearest store to your location.

<http://www.hobbylobby.com>

- **LIONHEART HOBBY**

5500 FM 2770, Suite 103,  
Kyle, TX 78640  
(512) 504-3404

<https://lionhearthobby.com>

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Monday - Thursday, 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Sunday 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

- **KING'S HOBBY**

7801 N. Lamar Blvd., Unit E188  
Austin, TX 78752

(512) 836-7388

<http://kingshobby.com>

OPEN: Monday to Friday, 10:00 am - 6:00 PM

CLOSED: Saturday and Sunday



### Alamo Squadron Website

<https://www.alamosquadron.com>



### Alamo Squadron FACEBOOK Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/114044928625406>



### IPMS Membership Information

<https://www.myipmsusa.org/join-us>

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## ModelFiesta 2026 Information

IPMS ALAMO SQUADRON PRESENTS

# COLD WAR

MODELFESTA 2026

46-91

DEMOCRACY vs COMMUNISM

Model Contest Vendor Event

MODELLERS WITHOUT BORDERS

Help Heal Veterans  
Therapeutic Craft Kits

GOLD • SILVER • BRONZE

Classes:  
Youth, Aerospace, Armor  
Automotive, Ships, Figures  
Fictional Vehicles, Gunpla  
and Miscellaneous

**JANUARY 3rd 2026**  
New Braunfels Civic Convention Center  
Visit [ModelFiesta.com](http://ModelFiesta.com) for more information