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Nate's Notes

By Nate Jones, President IPMS/MOSS

I was scrolling through some Facebook posts recently and happened across a Facebook page called [Retro Space Images](#). What caught my attention was a picture from one



Apollo 13 launch April 11, 1970
Retro Space Images

of the Apollo missions. It connected with me because in March, my wife and I took a vacation with some friends to Florida and we spent most of a day touring Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Cape Canaveral. Both my wife and I had visited there before years ago, but the place has since grown and changed immensely! Our

schedule was short so our visit was as well, but it was overwhelming to experience a simulated Saturn V launch

from the actual Mission

Control center. It was equally awe-inspiring to walk under a real Saturn V rocket, see the actual Apollo era Astronaut Transfer Van, and stand next to Astronaut Jim Lovell's flight suit which he wore on the famed Apollo 13 mission.

In addition to those things, the museums were chock full of other amazing artifacts and pieces of history.

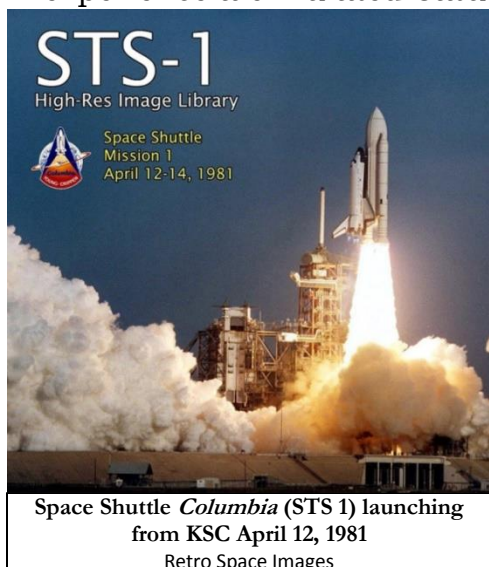
One display included items from the early 1960's influenced by the space program which permeated daily life: a child's lunch box and thermos set, LIFE magazine, collector's cards,

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Apollo 13 crew: Lovell, Haise and Swigert being hoisted to helicopter April 17, 1970
Retro Space Images



Space Shuttle *Columbia* (STS 1) launching from KSC April 12, 1981
Retro Space Images

newspaper extras about the astronauts and the space program and even models!

Some of the models on display were samples of children's plastic toy models and others were NASA engineering mock ups of the spacecraft and rockets.

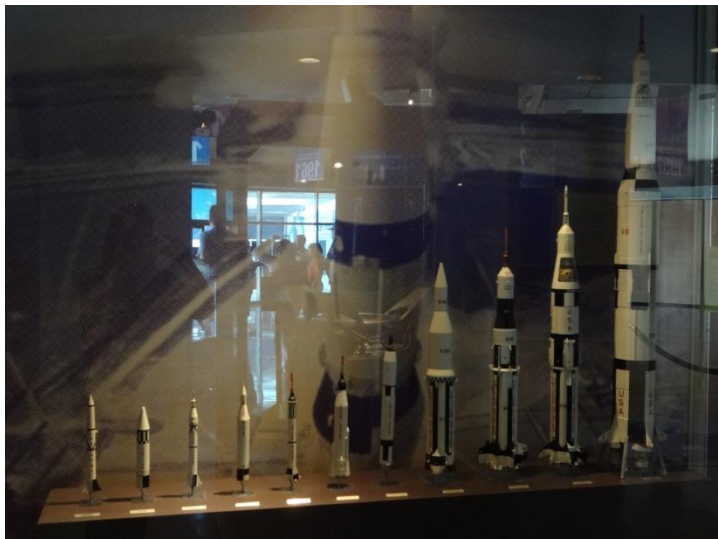


In one display was a Revell 1/24 scale Gemini space capsule plastic model kit from 1965.

The most impressive model to me, however, was the 1960's era 1/72 scale Saturn V engineering mock up model which stood nearly five feet tall! *(And there were more than just one in the museum!)*

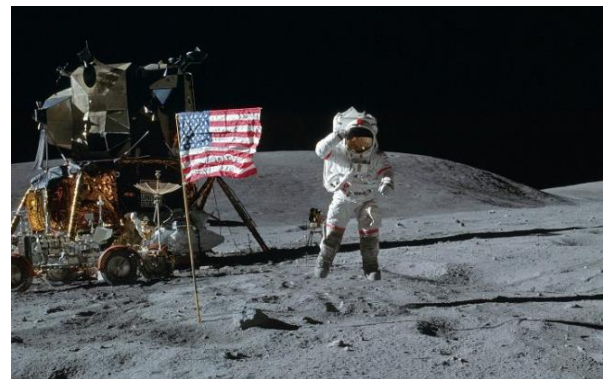
Aside from (but not discounting!) the amazing history of these museum items, looking through these displays of

models made me reflect on how scale modeling, like the space program, has developed through the years. Injection molded kits and scratch-built kits still remain, but the technology has changed!



Display of the whole series of early NASA engineering rocket mock up models in 1/72 scale.

We've seen where the hobby has been...now, where will the hobby go in the future?

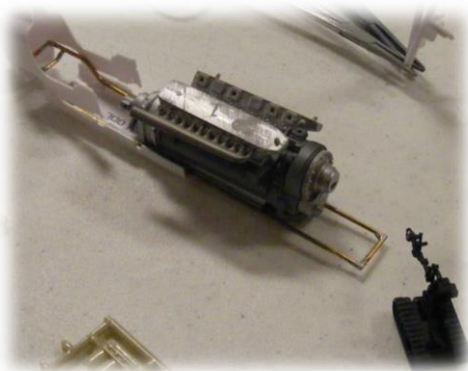


Apollo 16 Astronaut John Young, ninth human on the moon, salutes fellow Astronaut Charlie Duke, April 21, 1972

***“We’re making it a small world,
because small things matter!”***

LAST MEETING

13 April: We met in the West Wing of the White House Theater; had a great turn out for attendance, and had Gary Sanders' son, Aaron, join us!



Mike Staworski brought in his built 1/35 AFV Club EOD Tactical Robot kit and his in-progress Allison V-12 equipped Midget racer kit.

Paul Drinkall brought in his 1/35 Vietnam era Australian Army MK 5/1 Centurion tank. Paul

used a resin conversion kit to modify the Tamiya kit, cast two extra road wheels, and added additional Verlinden stowage, as well as modified the crew figures. He used Celluclay to add mud and muck to the treads and lower chassis.



Gary Sanders brought in a 1/25 AMT-Ertl Display Case Trailer kit and an old Aurora F6F Hellcat kit (originally priced at 79¢!) that he purchased from an antique store.



Mike Steenstra brought in three new kits that he recently acquired: Tamiya's 1/48 WWII Airfield Fuel Truck, Miniart's 1/35 Battle of the Bulge figure kit, and Tamiya's 1/35 SdKfz. 164 Nashorn. *(Sorry I didn't get pictures of your actual kits)*



Richard Carroll brought in his completed 2013 Group Build with which he won a 1st Place award at the Joplin 4 States Modelers show the previous

weekend; also brought his flat head roadster and dragster and 1950's hard plastic toy cowboy figure he hand painted during a different era of his model building days.



Mark Mahy brought in two 1:1 resin gear shifter knobs that he custom painted few years ago.

Nate Jones brought in his Tamiya 1/48 Rufe after running into an issue with the gloss coat, an old custom painted Academy 1/200 B-17F model that melted after accidentally being left in the back of a car,



and a Monogram 1/48 B-26 Marauder (which suffered some damage during a previous household move).



Following the show-and-tell session, Nate did a short “tips and techniques” session on how he applies decals (see below).

Unfortunately, a looming severe storm warning cut the meeting short, but we all still had a good time!

Go to www.ipmsmoss.com and check out the Gallery for more pictures!

Nate's Technique for Applying Decals

Supplies Needed: Small scissors, bowl with warm water, toothpicks, forceps/tweezers, cotton swabs, Micro Sol, Micro Set (or similar decal setting solution product), old small paint brush

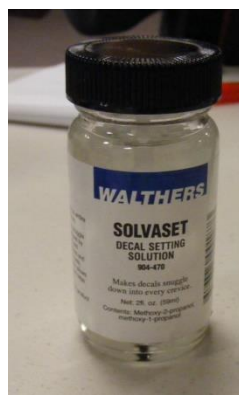
Steps:

1. Prepare your model surface to be decaled – depends on personal preference, but a glossy surface provides best results. Surface should be dust and lint free, and clean from finger prints, etc.
2. Select decal to be applied, cut decal from sheet. Leave just enough carrier paper on one side to serve as an edge to hold the decal.
3. Clamp selected decal (on the carrier paper edge) in forceps and dip into bowl of warm water. Wait.
4. While waiting, use old small paint brush dipped to brush a small puddle of decal setting solution onto the model surface where the decal will be placed.
5. When the decal looks like it starting to loosen from the carrier paper, remove from water and drain excess water off decal.
 - a. If it doesn't look like the decal is getting loose, use a toothpick to gently prod the edge of the decal – when ready, the decal should easily loosen from the decal carrier paper.
 - b. Note: if you accidentally wait too long and the decal floats off the paper – that is okay! Just re-float the decal back onto the paper and drain off excess water.
6. Using a toothpick (can be softened by soaking the tip in water), gently prod and slide the decal off the carrier paper onto the model surface. Once an edge of the decal is on the model, I use the toothpick to trap the decal there and then gently slide the paper away.
7. Use a cotton swab and—starting from the center of the decal—gently press down and roll outward to the edges. This removes any trapped water from under the decal and helps burnish the decal onto the surface and/or any surface details.
 - a. You can make any last minute adjustments if needed using a water-softened toothpick or the decal setting solution brush.



8. Re-apply the decal setting solution to the surface of the decal. Be sure to cover the WHOLE decal with the setting solution.
9. Wait. The decal will wrinkle up; this is okay! It's supposed to do that. Continue to wait.
10. Within a few minutes, the decal will settle back down and hug those surface details.
11. If you have a lot of surface detail (i.e. raised molded on rivets, panel lines, vents, louvers, corrugations, etc.) after waiting about 10-15 minutes, liberally re-apply more decal setting solution to the whole decal. Continue to re-apply if/as necessary. I've found that even up to 2-3 days later, I can still re-apply decal setting solution to help snuggle that decal down onto the model surface.
12. Let dry completely and seal with gloss or dull coat as desired.

Rusty Hamblin also shared that he uses Testors' Decal Set and Walthers Solvaset decal setting solution instead of Micro Sol or Micro Set. He uses these solutions because they are a little less harsh or aggressive on the decals than the Micro Sol / Micro Set products.



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more details.



by Rusty Hamblin

I hate painting models and I'm not sure why. I think it might be because I know that the paint is truly what makes a model stand out. Sure all of your seams can be sanded and parts fitted perfectly, no glue marks or blemishes of any kind, but if your paint isn't flawless the model stinks. Let's face reality; it's the paint that draws our attention. Even if it is a subject we don't care for, if the paint is done well, it will make us stop and stare.

When I sit at my modeling desk, if I turn around 180° I find myself looking at stacks of unfinished models in their boxes. I made the mistake of counting one time and there are over sixty. Sixty models is a lot especially when they all fall over on top of you while you are trying to glue that tiny little piece to your latest work. Don't worry, I wasn't hurt. They are all sitting there unfinished because each and every one of them is awaiting some sort of paint. That is how much I hate to paint.

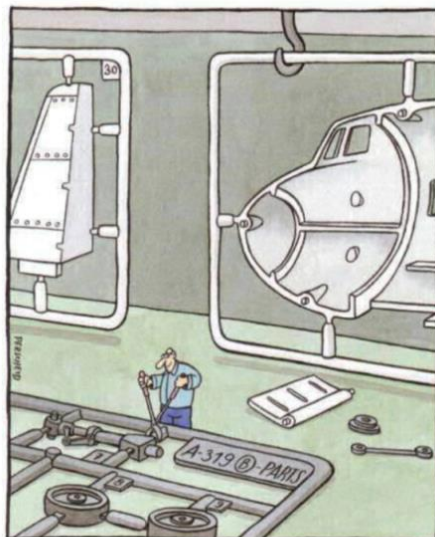
I have a tendency to get excited about building something so I will rush from room to room looking for the perfect model to build. Yes, I really do have stacks of models in nearly every room in my house. This is a great trick I have found to keep me single. The first glimpse a gal gets of my place and she is gone faster than that irreplaceable photo-etched piece you fire across the room as you snip it from the sheet. Anyhow, I find the model I want, sit down and start only to have it derail when it comes time to paint something.

My brush painting skills are horrible, by airbrushing little better, and my rattle can skill the best of all. Then there are all the other things required for painting like cleaning the airbrush, washing the parts, drying the parts, masking parts, finding a way to hold parts while they are painted, and even finding a place to put parts until they dry.

Drying takes another chunk of time since I use enamels. Yes, I've been told I should use acrylics but honestly I hate acrylic paints. I find them twice as hard to work with as any other type of paint. In fact, I keep a database of paints I own and/or have used and this list is currently 413 entries long. Four hundred and thirteen little bottles and spray cans of paint is enough for me to consider myself well versed in paint types and brands. Acrylic just doesn't do it for me, so I stay away from them as much as possible.

So what's the answer? I've read every book on model painting I can and watched DVDs and YouTube videos until I'm bored silly. I've practiced and I've experimented and I still can't paint very well. Models just keep building up at this choke point, so I force myself to paint and I don't think that helps any either. Once parts are painted and ready for assembly I'm a happy camper again.

Is there anyone else out there like me? I mean in the "hating-to-paint" sense, not in the "I'm-an-odd-duck" sense. Do you have any suggestions for getting me out of this slump? Pass them along to me at jordanfordusa@gmail.com. If they help I might pass them along in a future Ramblin'.



Juergen's job at Airbus was exactly like his childhood dreams.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Kinetic 1/48 scale E-2C Hawkeye, Part 3 by Michael Praetorius

Once the nacelles were attached it was time to paint and add the propellers. Kinetic had molded the grooves where the various colors went. It made it easy to be consistent in line thickness, but not sure I like the extra plastic. Also, it was molded from a softer plastic, almost like a tank tread on an armor model.



I then needed to assemble the cockpit and canopy. Here I found a problem; the starboard



side of the window opening aft of the side window of the molded clear plastic was not there. I had $\frac{3}{4}$ of a canopy. It was all one piece to be painted, so I resolved this problem by taking a thin piece of acetate and measuring the missing area. I then cut the piece and glued it to the existing canopy section with superglue. When it dried, I sanded it smooth with a very fine grit board. The side windows are anti-radiation glass and are a yellow-

orange shade. To make this color I mixed some food coloring and soaked, briefly, the two side windows until I had the correct shade.

I assembled the clear nose with its equipment inside (why it is clear, I don't know, since it is all painted and covered). Beneath the nose are the landing approach lights of red, orange, and green to let the carrier's Landing Safety Officer coordinate the plane's yaw and pitch. All these went together well fit-wise. Other than the canopy hiccup, I like this build.

It seems all that is left is the folded wings, the radar dome assembly, and decals which I will tackle in the next and final installment of the E2-C Hawkeye work-in-progress. Enjoy!



Building the Tamiya Israeli M51 with the Legend M51 Detailing Set, Part 2

by Michael Steenstra

The second part of the build includes steps 4 through 7 – the running gear of the M51. Below left are the different parts that make up the different suspension components.

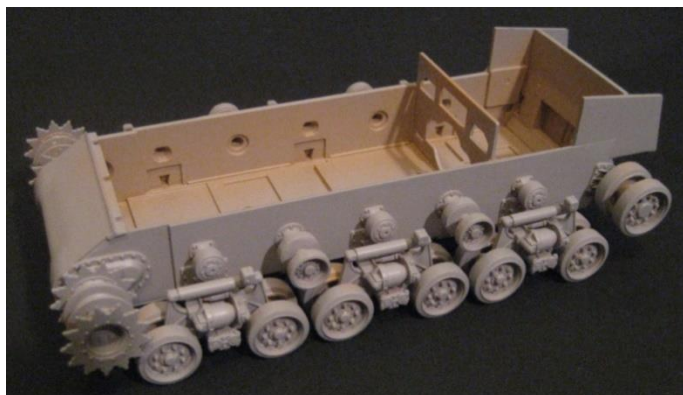


Here (below) are the parts all assembled and added to the lower hull of the M51 Sherman. It went together very well and with carefully applied Model master liquid glue – the main road wheels on the HVSS suspension still rotate. The sprockets and idler wheels all have the famous Tamiya poly-caps so they rotate also.



Here is another view including the vinyl tracks that are included with the Tamiya kit.





Here (left) I have applied primer to the lower hull.

I decided to paint the lower hull with the Israeli Sand Grey 61-73 using the IDF Modelling website recommendation. They have a useful web page named “**Which colour for your IDF vehicle?**”

The Tamiya color mix is 50% XF-60 Dark Yellow + 50% XF-57 Buff. It compares very well to the color plates in the *Lioness & Lion*

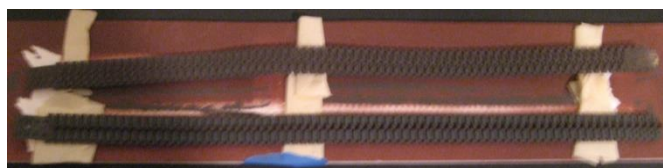
book except for a glossy shine to it. A flat clear will take care of that in the future.



My “oops” moment came during airbrushing – I stopped to look closely to see if I was getting into the nooks and crannies good enough and I did not notice holding the airbrush almost upside down. Since it is a single-action siphon feed airbrush, a drip came out of the little vent hole on top of the jar lid and dripped right on the newly painted transmission cover. The good news is the top of the transmission cover will be repainted when

I paint the completed model. I will have the running gear masked off at that point.

The tracks are painted with Vallejo 304 Track Primer. The T-80 tracks are all metal except on the backside where they have rubber pads next to the guide horns. I used Vallejo 306 Dark Rubber for those pads. Both sides are shown here (right).



Except for painting the rubber portions of the tires and doing some weathering, that nearly completes the first 7 steps of the Tamiya M51. The only part I have not added is the transmission strip that goes between the transmission cover and the upper hull. My preference is to add this part when I attach the upper hull to the lower hull. And still no Legend detail parts have been added yet.








Hope you enjoy the build so far!








25 May 2014 - 6pm, Sunday. Bring a model, bring a friend! If you have a tip or technique to share, bring it in too! See you there!

SHOWS & CONTESTS

Here are some upcoming shows in the “local” area (IPMS Region 5 & some “close” Region 6) in case you’d like to attend!

5/16/2014 To 5/17/2014	Kansas Wichita Region 6	PRARIE WIND 2014 REGION 6 CONVENTION-- THEME: "INVASION STRIPES"  Marriott Hotel & Event Center 9100 Corporate Hills Drive Map Air Capital IPMS Modelers Mark Vittorini 316-440-6846
6/7/2014 To 6/8/2014	Kansas OVERLAND PARK Region 5	Heartland Model Car Nationals  Overland Park Convention Center 6000 COLLEGE BLVD. Map KC Slammers Robert Perillo 816-729-6159
6/14/2014	Nebraska Ashland Region 5	OMACON 2014  Strategic Air and Space Museum 28210 West Park Highway Map Ft. Crook IPMS Scott Hackney 402-861-1999
6/21/2014	Wisconsin Eagle River Region 5	"Spring in the Pines" Model Contest and Swap Meet Eagle River Snowmobile Derby Track PO Box 1447 Map Northwoods Scale Model Phanatics James W. Unger 715-420-0072
6/21/2014	Missouri Branson Region 5	MOSS CON 2014  The White House Theater 2255 Gretna Road Map IPMS/Missouri Ozarks Scale Specialists (MOSS) Nate Jones 417-230-6220
7/12/2014	Illinois CRYSTAL LAKE Region 5	NIMCON 3  MC HENRY COUNTY COLLEGE 8900 U.S. 14 Map IPMS LAKES REGION SCALE MODELERS PHIL PIGNATARO 847-658-9920
8/3/2014	Illinois Crystal Lake Region 5	7th Annual GTR Summer NNL  Algonquin Township Building 3702 US Highway 14 Map IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers Chuck Herrmann (847) 516-0211
9/6/2014	Missouri St. Louis Region 5	Gateway to the West Contest and Swap Meet  Holiday Inn- Route 66 10709 Watson Rd Map

		IPMS-Gateway Doug Barton 314-610-2429
9/20/2014	Kansas Leavenworth Region 5	IPMS-Prison City Modelers Model Contest  The Heritage Center 109 Delaware St Map IPMS-Prison City Modelers Mark Gerges 913-680-0066
10/11/2014	Kansas Wichita Region 6	ConAir 2014 Annual IPMS Model Contest & Expo  Kansas Aviation Museum 3350 South George Washington Blvd. Map Air Capital IPMS Modelers Mark Vittorini 316-440-6846
10/18/2014	Missouri Kansas City Region 5	2014 Region 5 Regional Convention  AmeriStar Casino & Hotel 3200 N. Ameristar Drive Map IPMS/West Central Missouri Justin Carlson 816-256-1310
11/1/2014	Wisconsin Wausau Region 5	Glue Crew 2014  The Howard Johnson Inn & Conference Center 2101 N. Mountain Road Map #05/36 The Glue Crew Joseph Drew
11/8/2014	Missouri Columbia Region 5	TigerCon 2014  Hickman High School 1104 North Providence Map Central Missouri Scale Modelers T.Mike Curry 573-696-0316

We'll see you at the meeting on May 25th!

Take care, be safe and Happy Modeling!



"We're making it a small world!"

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