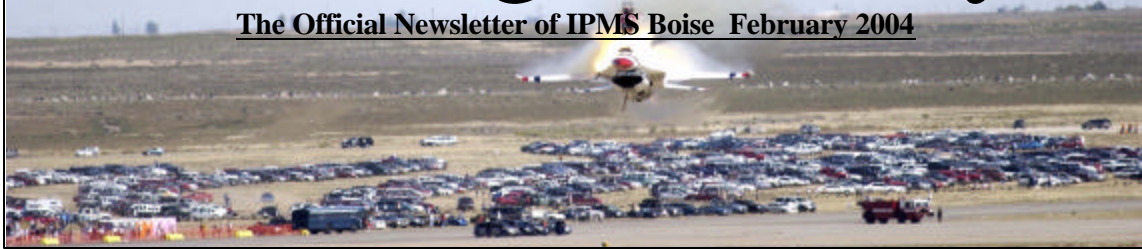


# Maddog Monthly

The Official Newsletter of IPMS Boise February 2004



Hi everyone, I hope your all doing well. Better than the guy in the picture anyway. I hear he's flying a desk in the Pentagon these days. Lucky to be alive he is.

Well I picked up the model I'm going to build for the Curt Vandervoort Memorial Auto Contest this April. It's a very famous car with a history that goes back to the early 1980's. A powerful symbol for good and justice. The shining white steed that carried it's gallant knights into battle with the forces of evil. Yes, I write of none other than the Ghostbusters' Ecto 1!

For those of you interested in airplanes, particularly airliners, Aerocolors Graphics has come out with the new Southwest Airlines Beach Ball color decals! Having seen and used their current Southwest decal sheet I'm betting the new sheet will be fantastic. Can't wait to get mine! Last week I was painting the red stripe on my current project, a Southwest 737. When I went to peel off the mask the Testors Gloss Coat I applied came off too, along with a good portion of red paint! Well my beautiful, carefully applied paint job was ruined. I ended up stripping it off with Poly S paint stripper. Now I'm waiting for the new Desert Gold paint job to dry so I can try again. This time, no gloss coat!

Editor- *Randy Hall*

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Check out our website at:

[www.maddog.delta-v.org](http://www.maddog.delta-v.org)

## January Meeting Minutes By Bill Miller VP

1. April is the Kurt Vandervoort Memorial instead of March.
2. Tom Glec poster for the Air Guard, done in Photoshop, is beautiful.
3. Better advertising for Dec model show- John Thirion.
4. Monogram kit Kingfisher by Mark Armstrong. Cutting Edge interior, real nice job.
5. John Thirion Civil war cannon.
6. Tom Vogt Lindberg 46 Lincoln/Hell 1/48 Wassimer private airplane kit/Testors SNJ 1/72/ Fiat CR32 by Supermodel/KP Airo C3A.
7. Don V. T55-54 Trumpeter kit.
8. Jim Burton Early tanks M60A1 M60A2.
9. Bill Bailey PM Spitfire on floats/Egg Plane SR71.
10. John Wilch Monogram P-47 Razorback 1/72.
11. Brian Geiger Revell Focke Wulf Flitzer 1/72 PM Ta 183 Huckerbein.
12. Ian Tamiya P-51 Mustang ProModeler Bf 109G-4.
13. Rob Aveson Ju 86 by Dragon.
14. Tom G Checkmaster Wyvern 1/72 a lovely resin kit. Caudron Heller 1/72 kit.
15. Randy DML Rail Gun Leopold WOW!!! 1/35.
16. Hobby Hobbit Academy Panzer 4/ Tamiya Klubel Wagon 1/35 CMK kit Volkswagen/CMK Volkswagen/Panzer II Tamiya.

### Blues Clues?

No- Dues Blues! Yes folks this is the last meeting where you will have the chance to pay your dues for the one time low price of \$20.00. Did you know that if you choose not to take advantage of this offer that your yearly dues cost is \$24.00?

Mad Dogs must be members in good standing to take part in our contests. Members in good standing are current on their dues. February is our Water Born Theme Contest so if you want to take part you need to pay those dues!

If you are not a member in good standing then this is the last news letter you will get. So don't miss out on the fun and games: pay those dues!

# Wayne's World

It is the time of year when the weather is changing and we all want to be out doing and going. In your rounds as a model enthusiast, this is a great season to start visiting our local museums and see what is happening that is new and exciting.

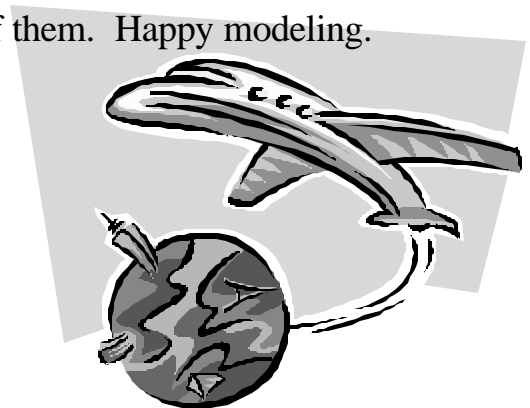
Allow me to make some suggestions, at the risk of being a biased journalist. You all know of our close affiliation with the Idaho Military History Museum. Currently, there are new exhibits, both in place and being set up, covering the Idaho Army National Guard and the Idaho Air National Guard histories. You will be pleasantly surprised at the changes you see.

Which brings me to my main topic of this editorial. You may or may not be aware that the museum has in its possession a three quarter scale P51-D made of composite materials. The catch is that this replica is unassembled and needs to be built and painted. The goal of the museum is to display this aircraft with the correct markings of the period in which it was flown, the 190 Fighter Bomber Squadron, ID ANG.

Now, the request! I am coordinating information and volunteers for the project of completing this display unit and need your help. Specifically, what we are looking for is a network of people with talents, space, skills and even funding for materials to complete the plane. Please think about anyone you may know of or whom you can contact that would be willing to help. We are just beginning the inquiries into who and what may be available, so open your minds and let's get started. This will be the largest model I have ever worked on and look forward to the finished product.

Let me know your suggestions as you think of them. Happy modeling.

Wayne Keith, President



Model Reviewer

## Formations M4 A1 Conversion

1/35th Scale - \$55.00

*By Dan Shepard*

They call it a “conversion” for the Italeri M4 A1 (76mm). Well, I’m not sure if you can call it a conversion of a kit when you only use a dozen or so of the hundreds of part of the base kit. But, what the heck, I’ll go with the conversion idea. I am not sure I really wanted to do this kit as I have a love/hate relationship with super glue and as this is a resin kit I suppose I am going to have to use a lot of super glue. Oh, by love/ hate, I mean, “I love to hate it”! Of the numerous M4 variants in WWII, this was a latter version of the early cast hull M4 powered by the Continental radial engine and using the 75 mm main gun. A marvelous combination of weak gun, weak armor, mechanical reliability, and in numbers that rolled over the German Panzer forces anywhere they met. Volumes have been written about the M4 so I won’t bore you further. This kit is cool! Rob at Formations Models does a great job. You take the lower hull tub, suspension arms, road wheels and a few other parts from the Italeri M4 A1 (76mm) Sherman. This kit is like the first good Sherman kit to come out in 1/35 scale and that was about 30 years ago. It has stood the test of time and continues to be pretty easy to come by. Its availability and low cost, about \$20 is why I think it is used as the starting point of this conversion. I got my Italeri kit from the Gathering in Utah a couple of years ago for \$10. The Formations M4 A1 conversion is a mid WW II Sherman. One of the originals that was up armored on the hull sides and turret front. Formations casting is very good. The kit arrives in a very small box with no packing. It is apparently sturdy enough to survive the US Mail. In other words, it is built like a Sherman Tank! The hull is a resin casting of a cast steel tank. At the time, it was the largest steel casting ever made. The hull and turret both feature very nice cast texture. The major parts of both castings have almost all the details cast in the resin. You add a few odds and ends like lifting rings, headlights, ventilator covers, fuel caps, etc. The tank tools are all separate with the tie down and straps cast in place. These are very realistic looking. All of the add on parts are made to be cut off with a razor saw and I had difficulty with only the engine crank. At first I thought I'd just leave it off until I read where the radial engines had to be hand cranked just like and aircraft radial to get the oil out of the bottom of the cylinders. Ya just can't live without yer crank! The fit is superb! There were no parts that required any more shaping or sanding than you'd encounter in a injection molded kit! This is really evident in the fit of the resin hull top to the injection lower hull. About the only kit part not replaced from the Italeri kit that you really wouldn't want to use is the headlight guards.

It's recommended to get a good basic Sherman etched set. This kit is cool! Way cool! Anywho, the detail is awesome. So, as it now sits on my workbench, it awaits the etch set and a trip to the paint shop for its basic OD paint scheme. This is going to eventually wind up as a tour bus used in the Normandy. And by the way, so far I have not super glued any major body part to another body part or the floor!



#### Side door on tanks By Dan Shepard

Last model meeting, the question of "why does the Panzer IV have doors on the side of the turret?" came up. Well, it is mostly a matter of egress. But didn't this make a weak point in the armor? Yes it did. Why was Germany the only one to use them? Well, they weren't, exactly. In the good old USA, the precursor to the Sherman, the M3 Lee and Grants, had side doors in the hulls. As these tanks evolved, the doors disappeared as they were weak points in the armor. The first Sherman prototypes had, you guessed it, a side door in the hull. These were replaced by an escape hatch in the hull floor. The US and Germany were not the only users of the side door. The English used them at least on the Churchill's. First square and then round. The Cromwell's had a sort of side door for the driver. I really think these were all holdovers from WW I designs, but all were gone by the end of WW II. Getting out of tanks has always been popular with the crews.

(p.s. Both the Tiger and the Panther had side hatches too. They were mainly for loading ammunition, but were used as an access point to the turret by the crew. Ed.)

## Model News from the Final Frontier

I've learned a few interesting things over the last few days that I thought I'd pass along.

Our good friends at Polar Lights have just come out with a companion kit for their USS Enterprise kit. The venerable Klingon D7 Battlecruiser. This is a snap tight kit in 1:1000 scale just like the Enterprise kit. It retails for \$12. I can't wait to add one or two to my collection.



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Also coming soon from Polar Lights, at long last, the much anticipated large scale model of the NX-01. This beauty is going to be in 1:350 scale which will make her 24 inches long with 240 pieces. No info on price yet.



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For those of us who can't wait for Polar Lights, Bandai has released their own NX-01 kit. This kit is just like their NCC-1701 kit. It's a snap tight and comes pre-painted. It also come with the Bandai lighting kit. The kit retails for around \$90.



*A letter of thanks to a Mad Dog Modeler*

By now, I am sure that many of you have seen the Idaho Air National Guard poster, created by MSgt Gloeckle, that was brought to a recent Mad Dog Meeting. I want to express my gratitude for MSgt Tom Gloeckle's support for history in this area. Not only has he produced an outstanding piece of artwork, he has authorized the Idaho Military History Museum to sell copies as a fundraiser. I feel that MSgt Gloeckle's support deserves recognition. In closing, I ask that you not look at this as a shameless effort to publicize the poster, but only my personal thanks and gratitude to one of the Mad Dog Modelers for helping preserve Idaho's Military History. Tom, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,  
Gary A. Keith  
Curator, Idaho Military History Museum

**IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION**

IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leave Blank First Middle Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (Required by PO): \_\_\_\_\_

Adult: \$21      Junior (17 Years Old or Younger): \$9  
 Trade Member: \$21      Canada & Mexico: \$25  
 Family (Adult Dues + \$5, One Set Magazines, Number of Membership Cards Required: \_\_\_\_\_)      Other/Foreign: \$28

If Recommended by an IPMS Member, list His/Her Name and Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_

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