



## October Meeting

October 17, 2020



*Chuck Colucci displayed his return to model building with four beautifully completed builds. A Hasegawa 1/72 Hellcat shepherds (l to r) a Tamiya. 1/35 M5A1 Stuart, European Theatre 1943; Tamiya 1/35 M4A3E8 Sherman, 8th Armoured division, April, 1945; Tamiya 1/35 M41A1 Walker Bulldog.*

The October meeting began at noon but was held outside on the VFW's outside dining area due to confusion about the changing of the keys. Next month we should be back to meeting normally inside once more.

In attendance were Mark Sandvigen, Andy Fulcher, Jay Roig, Chuck Colucci, David Stiteler and Marshall Smith. Arriving fashionably late were Alan Welch, Jeff Maples and guest Mark Gray after cruising in from the Jacksonville and Wilmington areas.

The big order of business, before models were displayed, was to decide on the future of the Downeast Con, 2021. Since we anticipate that by next Summer the country should have a handle on the Covid issue we have decided to investigate the potential of going back the original concept of a "normal" con and contest once again at the Havelock Visitor Center.

We anticipate being able to hold a contest for awards, dealer tables and a raffle where visitors can win kits, as it was wildly popular last con.

Some updates to the website were requested and the other big change was to start a newsletter. (Just in case you missed this memo).

We would like this newsletter to flourish but that will depend on input from you, the members. We'll need some serious participation in the form of articles, reviews, photographs and suggestions for things to include. Remember, this is *your* newsletter and, indeed, *your* club.

Think you can't write? Then think again, we can edit. Put your thinking caps on and start typing. They can be sent either to Mark Sandvigen or Alan Welch both of whom are working on this project.

## Events

**Wilmington, NC Plastic Modelers** will hold their next face-to-face meeting as another open air gathering again, time and place TBA. Details can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/117277425006833>

**IPMS Eagle Squadron Informal Build Night**, Hangar 18 Hobbies The Triangle's IPMS Eagle Squadron holds a monthly informal build session/meetup on the last Wednesday of each month at Hangar 18 Hobbies from 6pm-8pm. Hangar 18 has a wonderful meeting space, and carries all the modeling gear you could need.

**Jacksonville NC Plastic Modelers** will meet November 18 at 7:00 pm at The Hobby Chest, 345 Westrn Blvd, Jacksonville, NC. The Hobby Chest carries a great selection of hobby kits and supplies and is a grand center for Warhammer and other gaming activities.

**Carolina Maritime Model Society** Next meeting will be Saturday, December 5, 2:00 pm, at the North Carolina Maritime Museum, 315 Front St., Beaufort, NC. This group builds ships and boats and encourages scratch building. Having their meetings in the museum imparts a great nautical air.

**New Bern Maritime Modelers Guild.** Meets at the VFW hall, 3850 Butler Rd, New Bern, NC the second Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon. Members share the enjoyment of building scale model ships of all scales and materials.

# MiniReviews

Black Cat Models 3-D Accessories

<https://blackcatmodels.eu/en/>

I use a good deal of aftermarket details on my 1/350 scale ships. There are a number of excellent suppliers out there and one of my favorites is Black Cat Models from France.

Their work is first class and I like the fact that they use a 3D printed soft plastic which means they can be handled far easier with less fear of breaking the tiny details. and the tiny details are beautiful, indeed.

They cover the Royal Navy, the Kriegsmarine, the Imperial Japanese Navy, the USN and the Coast Guard and other navies will be covered soon. Items range from weapons to deck fittings and life rafts to crew figures and I have used many of them with great satisfaction.

They also produce full kits of vessels up to destroyer size in resin with 3-D printed and photo etch details but I have not built any as of yet. Some of their vessels are unique and highly welcome to the hobby

I always order with confidence. ■

-Alan Welch

See full information on our website.

**39<sup>th</sup> Annual Smoky Mtn Model-Con**

Presented by

**The Knoxville Scale Modelers Assoc.**



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS & IDEAS:

[WWW.KNOXVILLESCALEMODELERS.COM](http://WWW.KNOXVILLESCALEMODELERS.COM)

**SATURDAY, March 6, 2021**

9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
KNOXVILLE CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL  
9246 FOX LONAS RD. NW,  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

**MODEL CONTEST**

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fi, ships, and more on display.

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judging info available  
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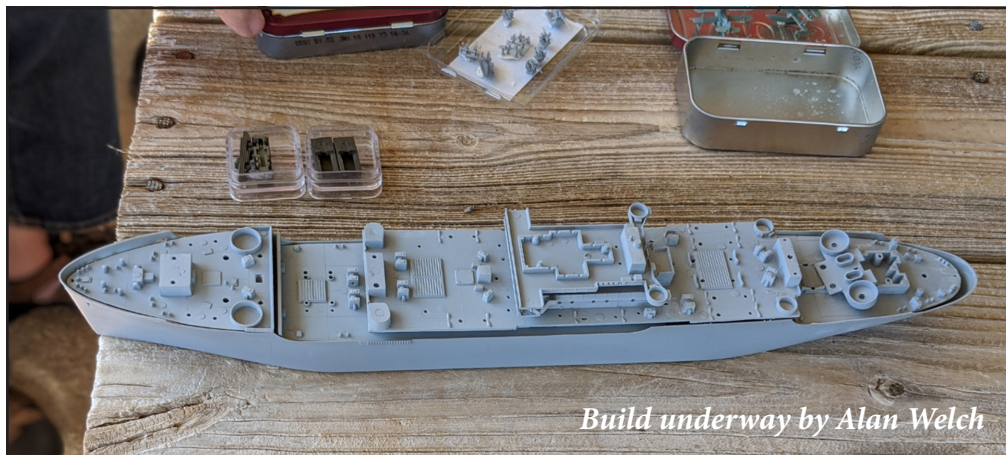
Adults - \$10.00 for first 3  
models and \$1.00 for each  
additional model.  
Under 18s - FREE

**General Admission:**

Adults - \$5.00  
Under 18s - FREE

SEE OVER FOR SHOW  
CONTACT INFORMATION  
AND DIRECTIONS.

# U.S.S. Montrose



Build underway by Alan Welch

*Main portions of the Montrose showing the revamped gun positions.*

USS Montrose is originally a 1956 Revell release of a Haskell class attack transport in a somewhat confusing scale. One re-release states it is in 1/376 scale while another release gives the scale as 1/400. whatever scale it is it's an interesting subject and one that deserves remembering.

The kit is interesting with some good points and some rough ones. we'll look at the good points first. The kit is fairly cleanly molded and comes with a good compliment of landing craft of three different varieties. Interestingly, the hull and main decks have lovely plate joint details.

The bad parts are somewhat serious for current modelers. First, the hull is neither full hull nor waterline but flattens just below the waterline to a flat bottom to conform to the supplied base. Many small details are left off, such as the searchlight positions on the stack and some of the details are crude, such as the armament, but one needs to remember when this kit was produce and be a bit forgiving. The railings, however, are the horrible solid plastic walls at the deck edges.

There is a small amount of flash and the usual mold marks and a plethora of ejection pin marks.

In my build I am attempting to resolve some of these issues.

I have removed all the 20mm guns and reamed out and re-floored the gun tubs of these and some of the 40mm Bofors positions. I can then replace them with 3-D printed units



from Black Cat Models. I've also removed what railings I can and replaced with photo etched parts. I'm also crewing the ship with naval personnel as well as marines to go on deck and in some of the boats. I plan to present her as running a practice landing drill. I'm adding a lot of 3-D printed deck details after removing a number of molded in place details. More as the build develops. ■



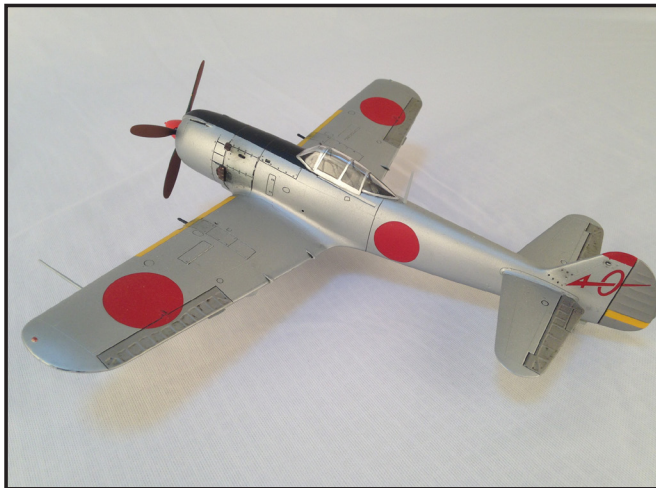
## Tamiya KI-84 Frank

Jeff Maples pulled another rabbit out of the hat with his K-84 "Frank" 1/48 scale Japanese fighter. Jeff stated that the panel lines on the aircraft were the best that he had ever achieved - the plane was beautiful and a testament to his craftsmanship.

On a historical note, the Frank was one of the late war Japanese fighters that could effectively spar with the latest allied aircraft.

This model was so well built that the prop immediately started turning when hit by the wind moving across the wooden flight deck (OK, it was actually a picnic table). ■

*-Mark Sandvigen*



## The Build - Ki-84 IA

This is the Tamiya 1:48 kit of Nakajima's Ki-84-IA 'Hayate' (Frank). It is an older Tamiya kit from the early 70's. It is not up to today's Tamiya standards, however, compared to other kits from that time period it was great (No Flashing!). It does have engraved panel lines and very little, to no rivets (saves time on not having to count them). There is a low count on pieces, and you can purchase a kit for around \$15.00.

I built this a few years ago and I remember it being a fun build and fairly easy. The plane  
*(continued on page 4)*



*The Leopard 2 is a 1/35 Tamiya kit.*

*The Humvee is a 1/35 kit is by ERTL.*



## Experiments in Camouflage

Mark Grey brought two separate exhibits to show our members. Both were experimentations in materials and paint. His USMC snipers were an experimentation in ghillie suits and shading.

The ghillie suits were constructed of cloth and gauze taken from expired USMC med-kits. I think you all will agree the results were exceptional. ■

*-Mark Sandvigen*



Mark's other experimentation was in winter camouflage. Mark brought in two out-of-the-box builds - a German Leopard tank and an up-armored HUMVEE.

Mark stated these models served as props for painting of camouflage schemes. He said the real difference lies in the fact that the Germans only use greens and whites (no browns) whereas American's depending on terrain will use brown within the winter-scheme.

Again, the models were extremely well done and definitely a pleasure to look at. ■

*-Mark Sandvigen*

## Ki-84

*(continued from page 3)*

color is Alclad II White Aluminum which is a lacquer paint that dries very hard. The control surfaces are Dark Aluminum as they are canvas covered and usually showed darker (lower reflection).

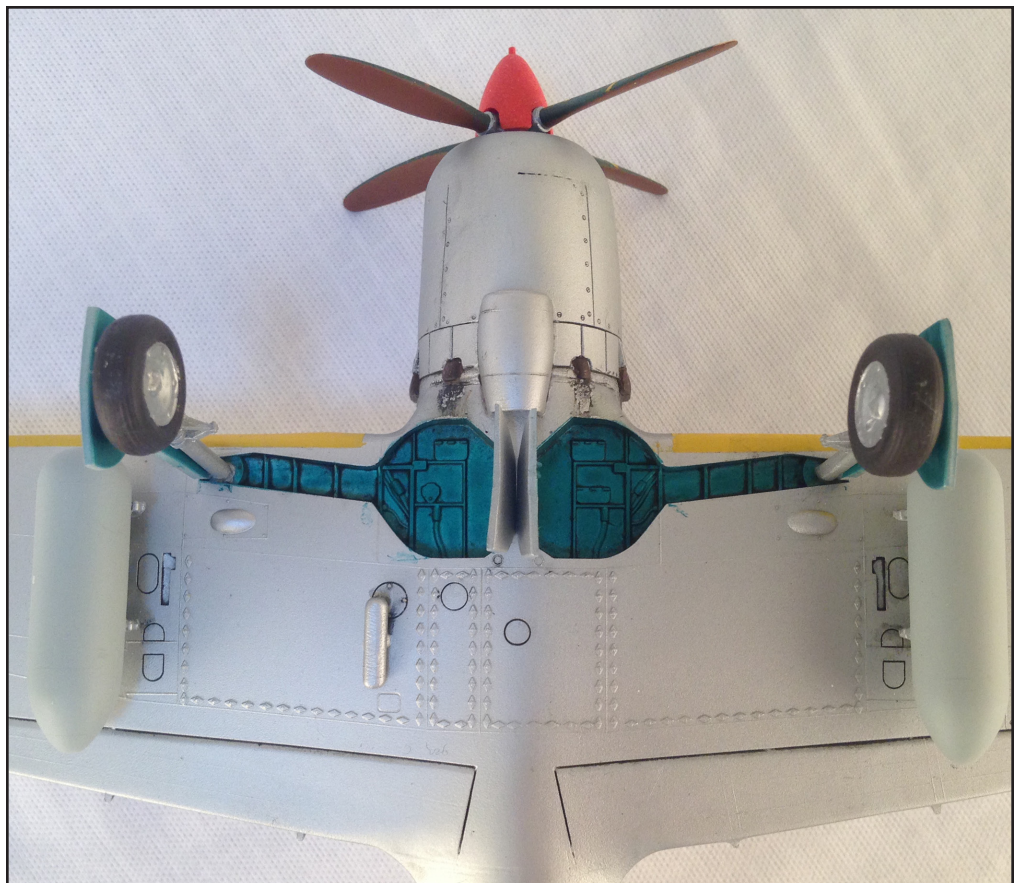
The anti-glare panel is common on bare-metal aircraft (from any country) and that is Model Master flat black. The decals were perfect and up to Tamiya's standards. They give you generous markings for 4 Sentai (squadrons). I used the 1st Chutai (unit) of 104 the Sentai (squadron) of the Imperial Japanese Army Air Force. The Japanese used a blue-green color for the wheel well interior. I mixed Tamiya Clear Blue X23 and Clear Green X25. I don't remember the ratio, but you can mix it to your liking. The final coat is Testors rattle can Dull. Like the copy states below, weathering on bare metal turned the skin panels a ray (less shine). I scraped pastel chalk in 2 colors for the engine exhaust – blue and black. For the gun smoke – straight black pastel.

The propeller is my favorite. The face is a dark green and the back is reddish-brown. When you build a lot of airplanes that all have a silver or black propeller, you are thrilled when neither color is used. I felt then and still do, that this is one of my best builds. I never call it Frank. I call her my 'Smooth Gale'.

### Camouflage and markings

My Ki-84-IA has the Type N markings. The rudder art represents the 104th Sentai. I couldn't find any information on the Sentai logo, but I see (what I think is) the numbers 0 and 4 with the 1 being the long line (?). Any thoughts?

Type N: The entire airframe was left in its original natural metal. Because



*The underside and wheel wells of Jeff's immaculate "Smooth Gale" showing the Japanese interior anti-corrosive color and panel line details.*

of the different grades of alloy used for various panels, the overall finish soon weathered or oxidized to a pale metallic grey, with variations in shade and texture, depending on the grade of duralumin used for each area of skin. A black anti-glare panel was painted on the top forward fuselage and engine cowling.

### The Plane

The Americans called the Ki-84 'Frank'. Rumors say it was because they feared this Japanese fighter that Frank was short for Frankenstein. The Japanese called it 'Hayate'. I have seen several translations but the most popular were 'Gale' (strong wind) and 'Smooth'.

The Ki-84-IA Hayate is a Japanese WW2 Army type 4 fighter. Armed with 2 x 12.7mm Ho-103 machine guns and 2 x 20mm Ho-5 cannon in wings (most widely produced version). Built by Nakajima Aircraft Mfg. Company, the Ki-84 was con-

sidered to be the best Japanese fighter to see large scale operations during WW2. The Ki-84's performance matched that of any single-engine Allied fighter it faced, and its operational ceiling enabled it to intercept the high-flying B-29 Superfortress bombers (as displayed on the Tamiya box art).

It was Japan's fastest fighter at max speed of 424 mph. The first major operational involvement was during the Battle of Leyte at the end of 1944, and from that moment until the end of the Pacific war, the Ki-84 was deployed wherever the action was intense. ■

*-Jeff Maples*

Don't forget, next month's meeting will be Saturday, November 21, 12:00 noon till 2:00 pm and all members are requested to bring some builds please.