

## 4 Editor's note

Inspiration by the shovel full

## 6 IPMS/USA Nationals 2019

The International Plastic Modelers Society/USA gets down in Chattanooga, Tennessee

## 24 EagleQuest 2019

If you're ever down in Dallas, Texas, in June, check out Squadron's peer-judged contest and event

## 30 WonderFest USA 2019

It's a weekend of sci-fi, fantasy, horror, and comic book thrills and chills in Louisville, Kentucky

## 44 AMPS 2019

Modelers shuffled off to Buffalo, New York, for the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society annual convention

## 58 Mad City 2019

The Madison, Wisconsin, IPMS chapter's annual show doubled as a regional contest this year

## 66 Jaxcon 2019

Hundreds of terrific models are a reason to kill a day in Jacksonville, Florida

## 74 MMSI 2018

Every October, the Military Miniature Society of Illinois show brings modelers back to Chicago



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▲ **DAVID WELLS**  
**ALTO, MICHIGAN**

David built Amodel's 1/72 scale Beechcraft Starship as the aircraft he would own. After opening the passenger door and scratchbuilding airstairs per Beechcraft manuals, he hand cut masks for a scheme he designed; it's finished with Tamiya spray-can lacquers and Testors enamels. "This is the most complex masking and painting I've ever attempted," he adds.



▲ **DANNY VAZQUEZ**  
**SUNRISE, FLORIDA**

After dressing up Kitty Hawk's 1/48 scale Su-17 "Fitter" with metal pitot tubes, Eduard Brassin bombs, and photo-etched wiring and other details, Danny airbrushed the camouflage freehand with Tamiya and Hobby Color acrylics. In addition to pre- and post-shading, Danny weathered the Russian fighter-bomber with artist-oil washes.





◀ **TIM LACAPRA**  
**SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE**

Tim dressed up the base of Moebius' 1/8 scale Batman with small rocks and gravel for depth and stretched clear sprue to show fluid spilling from broken pipes as the Caped Crusader battles Doomsday at the end of *Batman v Superman — Dawn of Justice*. The figure was both airbrushed and hand-painted with Testors Model Master Metalizers, enamels, and artist oils.

▼ **ED OKUN**  
**DAVIE, FLORIDA**

Working from a photo his father shot in the Golan Heights during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Ed modeled Tamiya's 1/35 scale T-62 as a knocked-out Syrian tank. He airbrushed the tank with Testors Model Master enamel Russian armor green, and hand-painted the camouflage gray swirls. The Israeli Defense Forces M38 jeep is an AFV Club kit with a crew of Warriors figures.



**GIL HODGES**  
**ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA**

Koster's 1/48 scale Mitsubishi G3M "Nell" comprises 28 vacuum-formed, 49 metal, and 60 resin parts. Gil built it out of the box and painted it with Testors Model Master enamels for a Japanese bomber in Indonesia in 1942. He used strips of painted decal to frame the canopy.

► **DAVE MCCROY**  
**CHATSWORTH, GEORGIA**

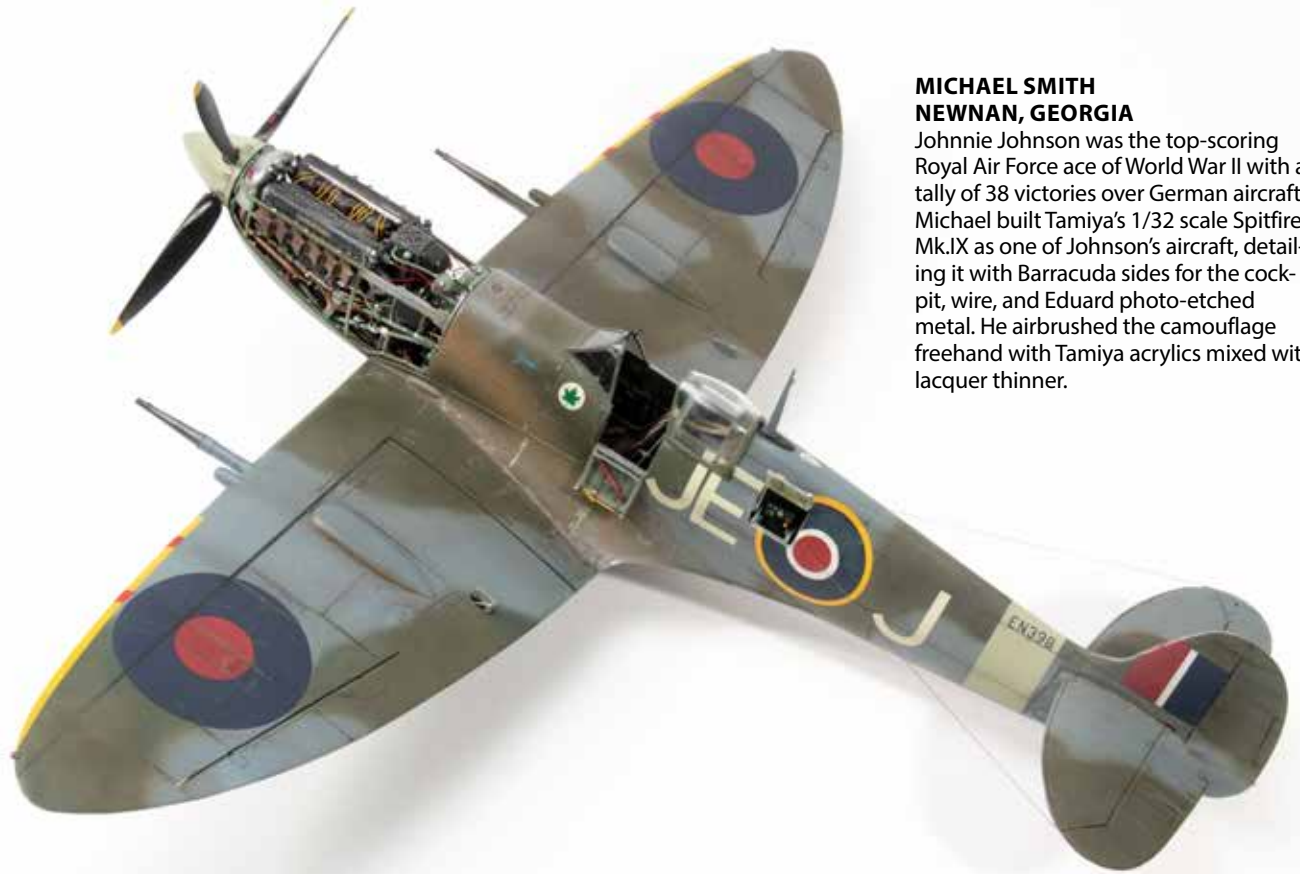
What you see here is the final version of "Roger, Out," a Vietnam War diorama Dave has built and rebuilt several times. He filled the helmet with styrene foam covered with Durham's Rock-Hard Water Putty; the rocks around the stream are foam chunks dipped in wet putty and placed on the groundwork. He made the jungle foliage with Squadron Products leaves, Woodland Scenics static grass, and scratchbuilt limbs; the water is gloss gel medium, Woodland Scenics water effects, and polyfill. He recruited the 1st Cavalry Division patrol from YuFan, Hobby Fan, and Dragon figures repositioned to fit the scene.

▼ **SCOTT A. BREGI**  
**NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA**

Known to NATO as the SA-8 "Gecko," the 9K33 Osa has served as an anti-aircraft missile platform in the Soviet and then Russian armies since the early 1970s. Scott built Trumpeter's 1/35 scale kit out of the box and painted it with Hataka acrylics as a vehicle used during the later stages of Soviet Afghan operations. Over a layer of green, he applied chipping fluid followed by Soviet yellow gray; scrubbing revealed the green in selected areas.







**MICHAEL SMITH  
NEWAN, GEORGIA**

Johnnie Johnson was the top-scoring Royal Air Force ace of World War II with a tally of 38 victories over German aircraft. Michael built Tamiya's 1/32 scale Spitfire Mk.IX as one of Johnson's aircraft, detailing it with Barracuda sides for the cockpit, wire, and Eduard photo-etched metal. He airbrushed the camouflage freehand with Tamiya acrylics mixed with lacquer thinner.



**ANDREW FRILL  
CALIFORNIA, MARYLAND**

After being deployed to hit Islamic State targets in Iraq and Syria, a French navy Super Étendard launched from the carrier *Charles de Gaulle* on March 16, 2016, ending the type's service after nearly 40 years. To mark the event, Andrew built Kitty Hawk's 1/48 scale kit out of the box and finished it with Mr. Color paints and artist-oil washes.