

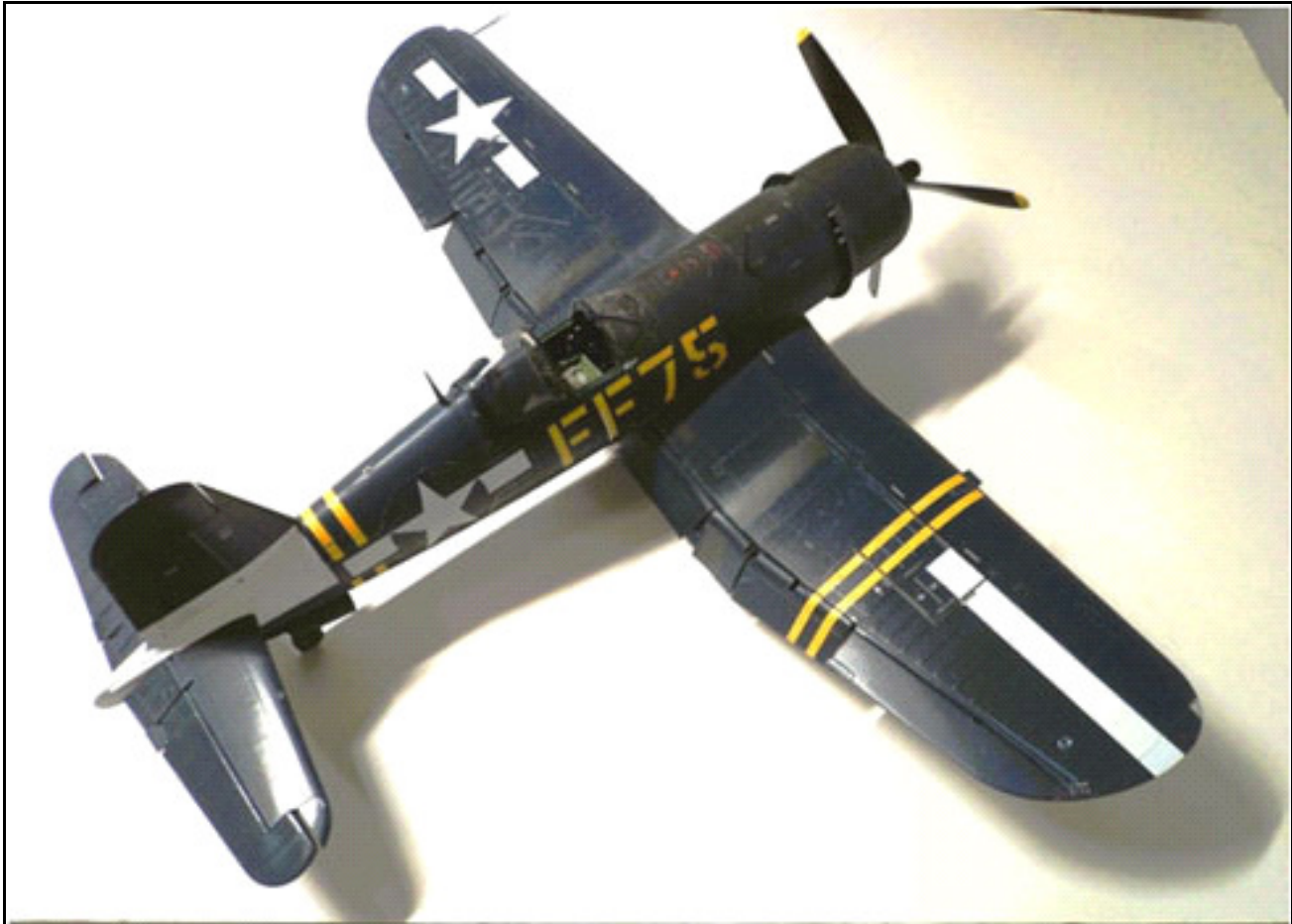
The Aero Historian



Volume 56 Number 7

Website: <http://www.aerohistorians.org>

July 2022



Tamiya 1/32 scale F4U-1D Corsair
by *Mark Krumrey*

F4U-1D by *Mark Krumrey*

Design of the Corsair began in 1938 at the request of the US Navy who wanted a high-performance, carrier-based replacement for the Brewster F-2A and the Grumman F-4F. By 1940, the gull-winged F4U Corsair became a formidable fighter that not only outperformed Japanese aircraft, but

most allied ones as well, and is considered by many as the best piston engine fighter ever built. The last Corsairs rolled off the assembly line in 1952. Originally designed as a carrier-based aircraft, the Corsair was re-assigned to land-based operations while the F-6F Hellcat remained at sea. This was primarily a logistical decision as it was easier to supply ships with parts for one type of aircraft. The Corsair was adopted by the US

Marine Corps and used extensively in campaigns in the South Pacific. Other countries used the Corsair including Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. (1) My model represents a plane used by Marine Fighter Squadron, VMF-351, aboard the USS Cape Gloucester during the Okinawa Campaign beginning in April 1945.

(Continued on page 3)

TCAH Officers

President, Mark Copeland

Vice-President, Steve Hustad

Secretary, Bob Maderich

Treasurer, Dennis Strand

Historian, Merrill Anderson

Newsletter Info

Article Submission Deadline: 22nd of each month

Editor

Bob Arko

6417 Rice Court

Lino Lakes, MN 55014

651-481-8887

boba@arkokraft.com

Send Change of Address Notice to:
Dennis Strand

TCAH This Month

The monthly meeting will be held Saturday July 9, at Fleming Field, South St. Paul, beginning at 1:00 pm. Come early.



President's Address

by Mark Copeland

Hello Everyone!! I hope you are enjoying the summer so far and getting some modeling time in between yard work chores!!

Yippee Kay Yeah!! It's "Wagon's Ho!!" for Omaha, Nebraska and the **2022 International Plastic Modelers Society Convention** at the **La Vista Conference Center** - 12520 Westport Parkway - La Vista, Nebraska 68128. This convention is one of the most highly anticipated events of 2022. The IPMS Nationals or "Nats" is the mecca for scale modelers. They are anticipating well over 3000 models on the tables, 325+ sold out vendor tables and a host of seminars that will satisfy any modeler's pallet.

If you have never experienced an IPMS National, I can't encourage you enough to get down to Omaha and see it for yourself. Remember in the movie, the **Wizard of Oz** when Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tim Man and the Cowardly Lion came upon the Emerald City, now you have a pretty good idea!!

You won't regret it, even if it's just for one or two days!! The convention starts on Wednesday, July 20th and runs through Sunday, July 24th. Omaha is a not that far and if one car pools to split the fuel costs, it's pretty affordable....until you get to the vendor rooms!!

For more information go to their excellent website: **www.ipmsusa2022.com**.

Okay, that addresses model shows on the national level, now let's circle back and look in our own back yard!! **Nordic-Con**

2022 is scheduled on September 24th, 2022 from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the **Veterans Memorial Community Center** in Inver Grove Heights (same place as the last few years). I know, Bob Maderich and Erik Zabel and their skilled team will once again put on a first class show!!! I can hardly wait!!

At our last meeting, we voted for sponsoring **four** Special Awards (\$30.00 each) to be sponsored by **TCAH**. At our July meeting, we will take suggestions from the membership as to what these awards shall be. Think about it, and bring your ideas to the meeting. We will vote on the four most popular themes and then lock them down with Special Awards Chairperson - Erik Zabel.

Lastly, a big shout out to **TCAH** member, David Mayer who graciously donated some beautiful framed aviation artwork to the club. We decided to dress up the Fleming Field FBO and in turn, donated the pieces to adorn the walls of our home. In particular, I was very pleased that a framed limited edition print created by our late member, Tim McGovern, was included in this very generous donation. The Fleming Field FBO agreed to hang that particular piece inside our meeting room to honor Tim's legacy and for all of us to remember his contributions to the club. Thank you Dave Mayer for your generosity and for helping the club!!

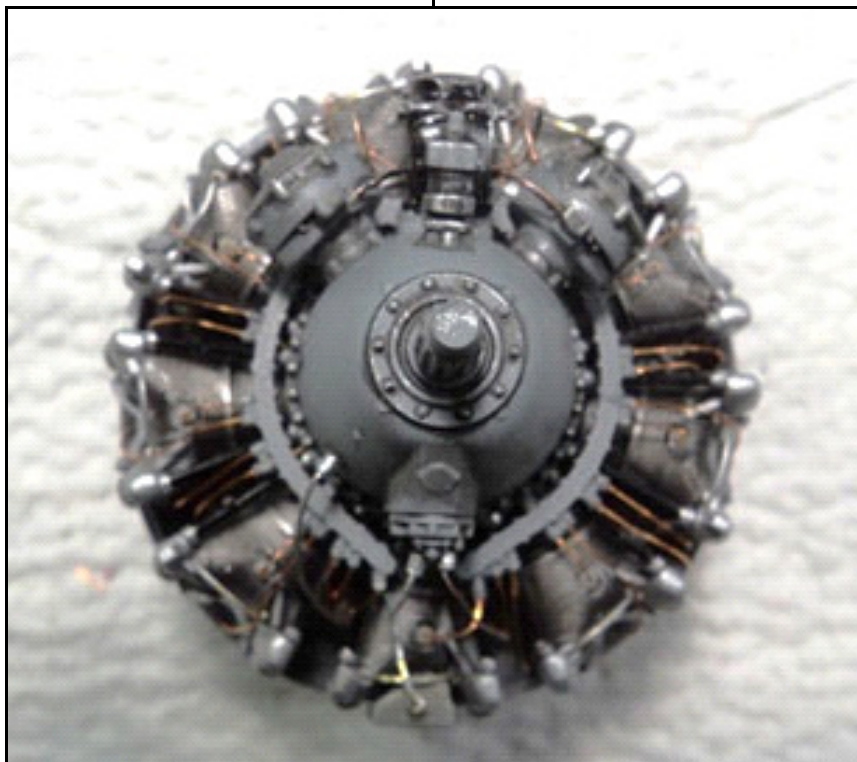
With that, stay well friends and we will see you at the meeting in July!!



VMF-351 was originally organized and activated as an observation squadron, VMO-351 in March of 1943 at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point North Carolina. After moving to Bogue Field, the squadron was trained to take part in Operation Crossbow, the plan to have Carrier Borne aircraft attack German V-1 Sites. The operation was cancelled. Once the squadron was assigned to the USS Commencement Bay, in February 1945 the squadron was redesignated Marine Fighter Squadron VMF-351. In April of 1945 VMF-351 participated in Combat operations, operating from the USS Cape Gloucester mostly in the Ground Attack role as opportunities for aerial combat were reduced due to allied air superiority: the squadron was credited with downing three enemy aircraft.

For my model I used the Outstanding 1/32nd Tamiya F4U1-D corsair model. I gotta tell ya, I have built a lot of Wingnut Wings models and marveled at their fine engineering, parts fit, decals and well laid out instructions. I would give WNW a 10, the Tamiya Corsair would get at least a 12. The engineering and fit is amazing. Make no mistake this is a complex kit, and requires extensive study of the instructions, but the end result will reward the modeler with a truly outstanding model.

The parts are laid out nicely on twenty sprues, including two clear parts; two Photo etch which includes seat belts and other details, canopy masks for the wind screen and canopy, sprue for a stand to display the model in an in-flight configuration and one sprue for figures, one seated and one standing which are very nicely sculpted.



The kit allows the modeler to build the model with flaps up or down, wings folded or extended, and the instruction sheet is divided accordingly. Yes, those modelers who long for the days of operating folding wings won't find it in this kit.

Markings are provided for an F4U1-D of VF-84, operating off the USS Bunker Hill, CV-17 April 1945 and an FG1-D of VMF-351, operating off the USS Cape Gloucester CVE, 109.

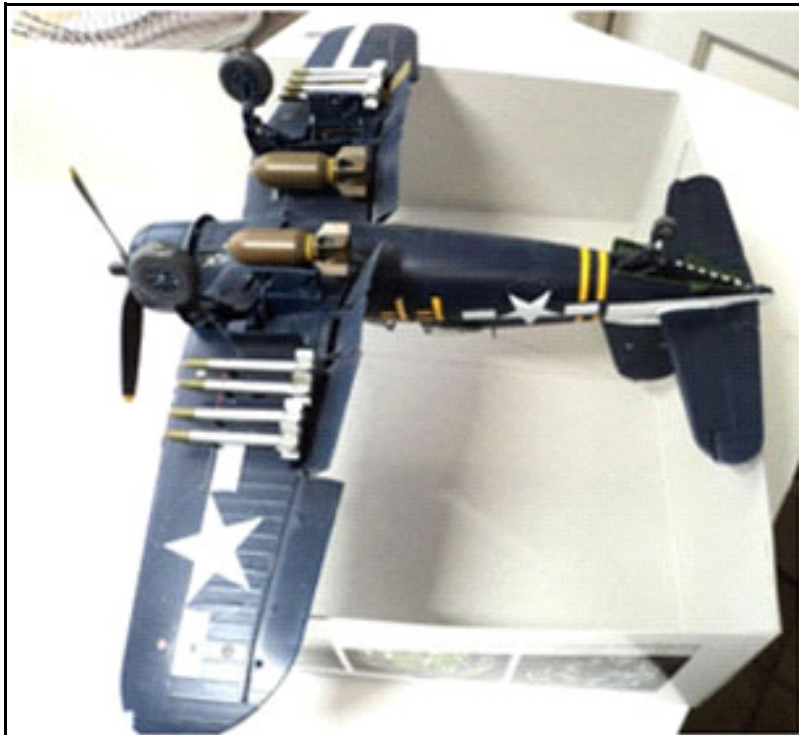
On the downside, yes Virginia, there is a down side, the decals are typical Tamiya, thick, waxy and almost impervious to Solvaset. I chose this kit as I had always wanted to do a Corsair in the markings of VMF-351, so I did use the kit decals, but not without some compromise.

I will highlight the salient points of the model rather than go into an in depth build as there

are plenty of those articles and videos on the internet.

ENGINE: The engine is a model in itself and builds into an exact replica of the Pratt and Whitney eighteen-cylinder R-2800. I added ignition wires using copper wire and the oil lines between the rocker boxes and propeller gear housing using brass wire. There are PE call outs for the modeler to fix the PE to the engine. Due to the close tolerances of the kit, it is advisable to test fit to ensure the added doo dads aren't in the way of proper fitment. The exhaust set up resembles a Spaghetti dinner at BukaBeppo, but have no fear, it all fits, albeit the modeler must muster up all the dexterity at his/her disposal to ensure a good solid fit, but it does fit nicely. A real bonus included in this kit; however the modeler has to look for it on of the decal sheets, is Tamiya, in their infinite wisdom provides the modeler with a Pratt and Whitney

(Continued on page 6)







(Continued from page 3)

Logo for the lower Gear Case!!! How cool is that sports fans? The cooling fins are finely molded, and as one modeler put it, there is nothing more satisfying than watching your engine wash run nicely between all the cooling fins. I used Tamiya Black Panel line paint over Alclad Aluminum for the cooling fins.

INTERIOR: Eduard makes a Cockpit accessory set for the Tamiya F4U1-D, but, with the level of detail that Tamiya provides, it really isn't necessary, Barracuda industries does make a nice decal sheet for the interior, and I would highly recommend it. It is available at Barracadastudios.com, decal sheet BC32129. The instrument panel is a "Sandwich" affair, with a reversed print decal, fixed to the back side of the clear portion of the Instrument panel, that fits nicely into the forward instrument panel. As there are no lenses to mask on the outside portion, it

can be painted prior to assembly. The instruments stand out nicely as the clear portion seems to be concave magnifying the instruments. I tell ya, Tamiya thought of everything in this kit!



I did order the Barracuda Resin seat, but I opted for the kit supplied seat and used the kit PE Seatbelts to good effect. The side panels were painted semi gloss black, dry brushed with


Testors Silver, details picked out in red and then given a wash with Tamiya Grey Panel Line paint. I really like that stuff. It cleans up pretty good with Terpenoid on a Q-tip if you don't like it and want to do it again. Somehow, I figured that out.

LANDING GEAR: The Landing Gear is probably the most complex part of the assembly. Care must be taken by the modeler to ensure the parts are fixed properly. The real fiddly part are parts F-35, 36 & 45, 46. They form attachment points for the gear door: If installed upside down, the gear doors won't fit.

I opted for the Barracuda resin wheels. The parts fit the Tamiya kit perfectly. I didn't like the Rubber tires Tamiya provided as the center seam is
(Continued on page 8)

Treasurer's Report *by Dennis Strand*

Hello fellow TCAH members, we had a light turnout for the June meeting, but with the beautiful weather it was to be expected. BUT, we still had 34 excellent models on the table, with some fitting the June theme of "War in the Pacific" The variety that this club displays in their building still amazes me, just about every genre is represented every month. Congrats to all that display every month!

Don't forget next month's theme is: The oldest model you have built, or the oldest actual kit you have built. So, for example, "I built this Tamiya kit 25 years ago" or "This Frog kit kicked my butt, when I mistakenly built it" You get it, see you in July. 

On The Table—June 2022

Modeler	Kit	Manufacturer	Scale	Modeler	Kit	Manufacturer	Scale
Steve Hustad	Mitsubishi Ki-51	Hasegawa/Mania	1/72	Sean Brzozowski	SA-6	Tank-Mania	1/48
	Mitsubishi Ki-51	Clear Prop	1/72	Dave Perzel	SBD Dauntless	Academy	1/48
Ken Sallman	F4B	Tamiya	1/48	Bob Maderich	Type 97 Japanese tank	Dragon	1/35
Noel Allard	Curtis Fledgling	Scratchbuilt	1/72		Mitsubishi Zero	Tamiya	1/72
	NAF-N3N-3	Scratchbuilt	1/72		Wildcat	Airfix	1/72
Don Stauffer	USS Saratoga	Trumpeter	1/700		TBM Avenger	Accu. Min.	1/48
Paul Dial	USS Hazzard	Lindbergh	1/350	Erik Zabel	TBM Avenger	Hobby Boss	1/48
	M4A Sherman	Tamiya	1/35		SBD Dauntless	Acc. Min.	1/48
	M10 Tank Des.	Tamiya	1/35	Harold Parsons	Mitsubishi Ki-51	Nichimo	1/48
	SU-KV152	Bronco	1/48		Brewster F2A-2	Tamiya	1/48
Chris Siemback	Millenium Falcon	Bandai	1/144		Brewster 339 RNZ	Tamiya	1/48
Josh Barney	Allison 501-D13	Atlantis	??		M4 Sherman (early)	Tamiya	1/48
Jay Budge	Bugatti Veyron	Lego			M10 Tank Destroyer	Tamiya	1/48
	Ford Mustang	Lego		Ed Vigilante	RA-5C "Vigilante"	Hasegawa	1/72
Dennis Strand	TBD Devastator	Great Wall	1/48		TBD-1 "Devastator"	Monogram	1/48
Steve Erickson	M18 Hellcat	Tamiya	1/35				
	Stug IV	Tamiya	1/35				
	Fokker D7	Eduard	1/48				
	P-40F	AMT	1/48				

Directions to the Club Meeting Location

Where: South St. Paul Municipal Airport, a.k.a. Fleming Field, located on the southern extremity of South St. Paul, south of 1-494, west of Concord Street and East of Highway 52.

If coming from the western Twin Cities going east on 494:

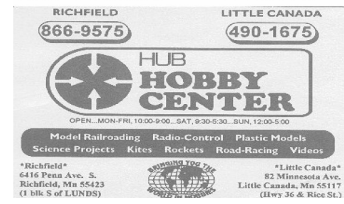
- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn right (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left there will be a McDonald's; to your right front there will be a Walgreen's.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .6 miles. Along the way you will encounter three more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2

- miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building.

If coming from east Twin Cities on westbound 494:

- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn left (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left front there will be a small strip mall; to your right there will be an Amoco station.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .4 miles. Along the way you will encounter two more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2 miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building

The terminal is on the right with parking available.



The Aero Historian is published monthly by the Twin City Aero Historians, Inc., a joint chapter of the American Aviation Historical Society and International Plastic Modelers Society/USA, for members and readers as part of their annual dues or fees.

The group is open to aviation enthusiasts from teenagers on up who are interested in aviation modeling, photography, collecting, art and writing.

The Twin Cities Aero Historians (TCAH) meet the second Saturday of every month at 1:00pm.

See above for the new meeting locations and directions.

Mail Newsletter material to the editor and address changes to the treasurer.

(Continued from page 6)

almost impossible to remove. The downside is the "Goodyear" lettering is actually spelled "Goodyearn".



I also added plumbing lines to the wheel well and the hydraulic pump to actuator cylinders for an added bit of

detail, not that it's noticeable with the model on the undercarriage.

I could get into the wing and flap assembly but by carefully following the instructions and sequence, The rest of the assembly went smoothly without any issues.

It's a great kit and I would highly recommend this kit to anyone who is looking for the penultimate, 1/32nd scale F4U1-D Corsair.

- (1) Air Modeler 083
- (2) Detail & Scale Vol. 55

