2018 CAMS New Year's Challenge

the 2018 CAMS New Year's Challenge was held on Tuesday, February 6th. The Challenge was started in 2012 by Gordon Barrett as a way for CAMS modellers to show their building prowess since the show in the spring.

This year there was no shortage of kits on the table for the members to choose from.

First up was Dave Terlecky with his 1/10 scale of an SSA soldier from WWII. The kit showed some great detail on the face of the soldier as well as his pet monkey. Dave's specialty is dioramas/vignettes and this was a fine display of his talents.





We followed this up with a bit of a challenge for Brian Florian from his brother who is an HO train collector. Brian let his mouth run off about detailing and weathering models and his brother called his bluff and sent him a pair of HO resin box cars. Brian is an all-around modeller who does amazing things with armour and Gundam figures but this train was a bit of a challenge for him. He showed a semi-finished kit that was breath taking and he hadn't even laid paint to it. We look forward to seeing the finished product in the future.



A change to automotive with Gordon Barrett's entry was next. He is taking a stock 70 Vega, scratch building and kit bashing it into a tire shredding Pro-Stock race car. Scratch built details include the chassis, interior pan with huge tubs, re-engineered custom bumpers, front and rear spoilers, cowl induction hood and that is only part of it. The list just goes on and on and he hasn't even got to the drive train yet. Gordon is a meticulous designer/builder and when he gets the Vega finished it should be a site to behold.





And now for something completely different. Scott Milligan brought his Bandi "A Wing" fighter from Star Wars. The kit was finely detailed with panel lines, wear markings and a pilot figure. Sometimes as modellers of other genres we forget the amount of detail provided in these tiny kits but Scott reminded us with this immaculate build.





In the midst of the NY Challenge was a bit of a mini-challenge, for a number of years Bob and Kyle Kerasiotis along with Darren Anderson have been trying to sort out the best of the three. A number of different things were attempted but never seemed to work out. This year was to be different with the Acura Challenge.

Each of the builders had a copy of the 1/25 Revell Acura "Tuner" and that would be the basis of the Challenge. The rules were simple, the kits had to be built out of the box with no additional details other than paint. In the end three unique Acura's were put on the table.

First up was Kyle's. He chose to finish his Acura with in a dark coral with a two-toned interior of dark red and black. The chassis is usually Kyle's strong point so he detailed it with various types and colors of paint to bring out the detail engraving. The kit wheels were enhanced with marker to make them pop as well as paint detailing the engine. Another unique build for the youngest builder of the trio.





Next up was Darren who finished his Acura in Krylon Metallic Purple with a two-tone interior. The engine was left with most of the chrome bits intact but highlighted with India Ink to make the details pop. The wheels were stripped and painted black to go with the older build. He also gave weathering a shot with some rust applied to a few places. This was a major departure for Darren who usually builds kits that are untouched by the ravages of time. Nice change of pace.





Last up was Bob, the oldest of the bunch, who showed his Acura in gloss black from Scale Finishes. The interior was done in a two-tone of the black and leather. The engine bay was trimmed of chrome and the engine was detailed in multiple shades of Alclad and Humbrol polished steel. The chassis was treated to a coat of Humbrol gunmetal metal coat and polished up with Alclad for enhancements. The wheels were treated with a light wash to bring out the detail and then the kit was polished to a nice shine.





When all was said and done the winner of the NY Challenge was Dave Terlecky with his figure who joined the likes of such notable builders as Gordon Barrett, Dave Hutchison, Mile Lewis, Darren Anderson & Bob Kerasiotis as winner of the NY Challenge.

As for the Acura challenge, bragging rights went to Bob Kerasiotis who proved that old age and experience beats youthful enthusiasm every time ... well almost.

Special thanks to all the guys who entered this year, as well as Elm City Hobbies for the gift certificate and of course Gordon for the idea of the challenge and providing the Trophies.

Remember, Share the Hobby and we'll see you in May.

The Scribe