



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
Contest Director's **SPECIAL AWARD PROMO**
& POSSIBLY USEFUL REFERENCE DATA
FOR

“ **TOP GUN** ”

BRIEF: Our TriCity Classic has a long run tradition, theme being combine of a known movie linked directly to specific geography. This time not so obvious as say in past, with “ The Good German ”, “Battle of Britain ” or “ Out Of Africa ”.

“ **Top Gun** ” actually covers a currently topical and historical range of current world real estate, yet stays within the movie.

Geography “on theme” is entire **USA (within 1776-present)** , also that of *any combatant parties generally recognized to be part of the 1964 to 1973 Vietnam Conflict* (core years of major US involvement and in keeping with original movie plot point)

FOR CONTEST : **ANY and ALL MODEL SUBJECTS are encouraged, warmly welcomed to enter.** Contest Theme just way to have some fun, set an overall tone for show from one year to the next. So, PLEASE FEEL FREE to ignore it entirely or plunge headlong into the fray, as you see fit. Just see fit to enter show and enjoy is all the Contest Director here wishes for.

SPECIFIC CONTENTS: Below is current list of the TC-18 Special Awards and some details for each. Within this Reference , I will try to illustrate and perhaps excite some interest in competing for some of these. Some are pretty self explanatory so won't warrant much comment, others may need page or two.

- SA3 “ TOMCAT ” Award for Best Entry befitting Contest Theme SA2 Best Of Show Junior/Youth SA1 Best Of Show Senior
SA4 “ Best Of The Best ” Series SA4A Best Grumman “CAT” SA4B Best Armored “CAT” SA4C Best “Bird “
SA5 “ Great Balls Of Fire ” Best Post 1976 USA subject or qualified “Fire” SA6 “ Know A Hornet's Mighty Sting “ Best American Fighter A/C
SA7 “Lightning Strikes Twice ” Best EE or Lockheed Lightning, Arado Blitz OR qualified SE Pair SA8 Best in Category for **Aircraft**
SA9 Best in Category for **Armor** SA10 Best in Category for **Automotive** SA11 Best in Category for **Figure or Robot**
SA12 Best in Category for **Ship or SpaceShip** SA13 “Space, Time and '42” Best in Category for **Diorama**
SA14 “It Figures” Lester Tockerman Memorial Award Series (Junior/Youth only) SA15 Kenneth Jung Memorial Award
SA16 SAT Service Award for Service to FH or R-9 Community SA17 Mulieres Volante Best Women In Aerospace
SA18 “TOP SECRET ” Best Spy Vehicle/ Person SA19 “TOWARD THE UNKNOWN ” Best Pioneering, Exploratory, Experimental Subject
SA20 “HARD DECK” Best Aircraft Carrier (includes helo only vessels)



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
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FOR
“ **TOMCAT** ”

Award for the Best Entry befitting the Contest Theme “ *TOP GUN* ”
(Entry Subject anything USA 1776 to 2026, or directly related to 1964 to 1973 Vietnam Conflict)

BRIEF: While entire plot of first movie and decades later followup employ primarily USA, more specifically US Naval Air assets in tale told, in (movie) real time, some key specific point references are made to the history that has passed. Namely later years of definitive US role in the Vietnam Conflict (correctly referred such as never a declared war, just like Korea). With of course reference to fact of having to disrespect people's memories, legacies and their sacrifices made; “all for the greater good or in saving face for current politics, keeping in mind what's in the big picture”, with its real world consequences in downplay.

The number of debate stances, topics relative to this real world practice are immaterial to this Contest Director. The true history of many who died in service of their causes unheralded, unknown to this day or being as officially portrayed utterly inaccurately purposely, not in question as fact or practice.

Merely excellent that practice is provided in movie as plot device. So now allows a framing of more specific geographic/timing theme to be added to this contest's theme. So perhaps you see there's more than a “ hoo ray USA ” cheer lead going on here.

So be creative. Consider that if you're a real passionate soul on particular subject, your model render will reflect it undoubtedly, then it's one you'd be willing to put your name so to speak on the signup sheet line for this. Otherwise, go with movie specific obvious tie-ins such as F-14, A-4, F-5 aircraft (not necessarily in movie versions, mind you) Already I have given confirmation a “ Final Countdown F-14 ” is as eligible as real life Gulf of Sidra shootdown Tomcats. Remember the sequel Maverick movie had several other qualifiers which may not initially come to mind. Or go directly to the SE Asia specific angle offer here.

QUALIFYING: Anything from the USA 1776-2026 (be aware you do have to sign up on sheet to be considered). Again as plot, anything directly in relationship to 1964 to 1973 period of USA-Vietnam Conflict. **Don't forget that busts, figures for instance, of real people or representative (NVA Soldier, USA Grunt, SVNAF Pilot) could easily qualify, or past Presidents !** Of course, closer your entry actually adheres to the spirit of the theme basis, the more weight it will be given in the final judgement.



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
Contest Director's SPECIAL AWARD PROMO
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FOR
“ Best Of The Best ” Series

Up to 3 Awards in any combine, for :
Best Grumman “ CAT ”, Armored “ CAT ”, or “ BIRD ” subject

BRIEF: Our “Tripoley” award series this year features a wider than first appears range . Work titled to fit within theme in a manner that’s coherent to the basis movie, however one is not limited by it. One perhaps offers small number of options, but is quite viable. Other two offer more range, also more work!

SA4A – Grumman “ CAT ” . Grumman’s rich history of achievements, yet one particular group has been a signature of theirs which ended fittingly with flagship of our theme movie. Entire lineup began with arguable “last of their Barrels from the Iron Works” ; F4F Wildcat. This airplane is as much a link to preceding FF-1, F2F, F3F as it is clearly start of the Grumman Cats.

So yes, you are type limited to all these Grumman officially named feline products. Almost all saw actual service somewhere in their lives which increases the variety. F4F, F6F, F7F, F8F, F9F, F10F, F11F, F14 are your specific limits. Mind you, all of the “foreign” employments do count, so don’t be narrow or feel put off competing here. In fact if you go with option of “ Martlet ” you are qualified for entry here and “ Best Bird ” . So go forth and claw your way to victory.



And yes I am making a blatant plea here for SOMEONE to please brave entering “ **The Tomcat’s Dad** ”, seen here at the left. Wha?

Yes, this is *the one and only JAGUAR*, the Grumman XF-10F-1.

Which has been offered in scale model form in resin, vacform and paper in several scales from 1/144 to 1/32. If you were to do one, you could sign up for SA4A, SA19 and have an inside shot at the SA15 which is Contest Director’s direct choice. Just saying,..

How is it Tomcat’s Dad ? It’s Grumman’s first SWING WING for the USN, predating the F-111B and F-14, *go look it up*.

SA4B – Armored “CAT” Alright, first the Contest Director wanted to be VERY CLEAR here, Armor modelers deserve a special award “in theme” shot, being recognized as major entry contributors to every big open range model contest. While may somewhat be taken as stretch by my use of “CAT” I hope to make sure here now that it’s well understood for this award.

Right off, all German WW2 Panther and Tigers eligible, as well 8 wheeled “PUMA” armor recon vehicle. There is also the Panzer II Luchs (Lynx) from same period, of course postwar they have the Leopard family of modern MBTs to choose from.

USA fans know M18 Hellcat works. Perhaps more challenging, but they are valid, these “modern day armored ‘cats’ exist:



So research, don't be shy. Also consider “ARMORED MARITIME VESSELS”

AND NOW ON THE RIGHT –

a sneaky lead into the last of the three here for “Best Of The Best” that shows a qualifier in SA4C, yet which ISN'T listed on next page...*



SA4C – “ BIRD ” Arguably not the most obvious for some, how it ties to movie theme, perhaps seems somewhat scope limited.

NOT SO! 1) As key character in both movies. Namely “Maverick” ‘s RIO, yes Lt. Nick Bradshaw, aka “ Goose ”. And for 2):

SA4C BEST Bird qualifier list (not exhaustive but it's an aide)

USA		UK		Germany	
Bell	V-22 Osprey	Blackburn	Skua	Fieseler Fi-156 Storch (Stork)	
		Fairey	Gannet	Heinkel He-219 Uhu (Eagle Owl)	
Curtiss		Fairey	Flycatcher	F-wulfe	Fw-187 Falke (Falcon)
		Fairey	Fulmar	F-Wulfe	Fw-189 Uhu (Eagle Owl)
A-8 or A-12	Shrike	Hawker	Harrier	F-Wulfe	Fw-190 Wurger (Butcher Bird – Shrike)
SOC-3	Seagull	Hawker	Kestrel	F-Wulfe	Fw-200 Kondor (Condor)
SOC	Seamew (a common gull)	Sopwith	Snipe	Messer. Me-262	Schwalbe (Swallow)
F11C	Goshawk	Supermarine	Swift		Me-262 SturmVogel (StormBird)
P-6E	Hawk			Etrich	Taube (Dove/Pigeon)
P-36	Hawk				
P-40	Warhawk				
Condor biplane	Airliner				
		USSR			
		Beriev Be-12	Chaika (Gull)		
Grumman				Italy	
F4F	(Martlet) Fleet Air Arm			Cant Z 1007	Alcione (Kingfisher)
J4F	Widgeon/Gosling	Canada		S-Marchetti	Sparviero (Sparrowhawk)
JRF/OA/FAA	Goose			Reggiano	Re-2000/2001 Falco & Falco II (Falcon)
G-21	Goose	Aircraft SNOWBIRDS scheme		Fiat CR42	Falco
HU-16	Albatross			Frati/Sequoia	Falco F8L Sport/Race plane (1980s-)
G-73	Mallard				
		Czech			
Vought OS2U	Kingfisher	Aero L-39	Albatros		
Fisher	P-75 Eagle				
McD-D AV-8	Harrier	France			
McD-D F-15	Eagle				
GD/LMF-16	Falcon	Sud SO4050	Vatour		
LM	F-22 Raptor				
Lockheed	F-117 Nighthawk	Japan			
Lockheed	A-12/YF-12/SR-71 Blackbird				
Lockheed	XV-4 Hummingbird	Ki-43 Hayabusa (Peregrine Falcon)			
		Ki-61 Hien (Flying Swallow)			

Aircraft USAF THUNDERBIRDS scheme

* The USS Macon? no. Curtiss F9C Sparrowhawk? Yes .



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
Contest Director's SPECIAL AWARD PROMO
& POSSIBLY USEFUL REFERENCE DATA
FOR
“ Great Balls Of Fire ”

Award for the Best Post 1976 USA Subject
OR
QUALIFYING “ **FIRE** ” Subject

BRIEF: Closing loop of the three part series of TriCity Contest Theme Specific awards (Overall, Tripoley, Closer). Again as “post” annum theme direct tie to movie then and now, while also meshing directly with the 250th USA anniversary theme too.

Okay, original movie was actually released in 1986 (as noted earlier, makes this 40th anniversary year) with its sequel of “Top Gun: Maverick” debut 2022. Consider though, the original film is inarguably iconic American culture, sequel every bit as good, which is impressive in itself considering the time gap between them. Yet the storylines mesh, real values are maintained, a solid dramatic continuity exists without being forced. A true love of country, family, real friend expressed in utterly American terms

In the first movie, Pete Mitchell learns of his dad’s ultimate sacrifice and the coverup for accepted rationale of it. All of which took place during a dark period of modern American history immediately preceding final fall of South Vietnam in 1975. There, 30 years after the end of WW2 which set forth American leadership in shaping postwar world. Post 1976 began the renewal of American spirit, a return to having a faith in ourselves as a nation. Seems appropriate enough marker by itself.

Fittingly, it’s the device of RIO “Goose” as character that emotionally and physically links the two movies, 250th anniversary as my theme here for the award. Do recall, “Great Balls of Fire” by Jerry Lee Lewis sung by the Bradshaw clan is the wormhole time tunnel between 1986, 2022 Maverick and his RIO Goose’s son. You can’t get too much more AMERICAN than Jerry Lee, and that song rocks anyway you play it. So, like the overall theme award, more here than just a surface cheer lead for 250th anny

QUALIFYING : ANYTHING directly supportable as post 1976 U.S.A subject matter (yes, hypothetical/”futuristic” do count) so go crazy as you like here: Figures, Aircraft, Ships, Military vehicles, Automotives, Buildings, everything USA. OR go with **FIRE**: Fire Equipment/Personnel, Fire Bombers, Flamethrower AFVs, Flamethrower Soldiers, FIRE BREATHING Dragons, the Human Torch, Pokemon class FIRE (only). ***SORRY, Firefly tanks/planes/SF alone*** do not qualify as such, nor similar vein



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA
FOR

“ Know A Hornet’s Mighty Sting ”

Award for the Best American Fighter Aircraft

SYNOPSIS: One of Our Free Hornets, hereafter known as Sir Bob 1759, O.B.E. (Our Benefactor Extraordinaire) weary of all this model nonsense, retired it to pursue other passions. *Offered to provide some means to carry forth our mission*, to be the Acme of Sarcastic Scale Modelling. *If we actively promote our hobby, and share this opportunity for others to join us*. Rather than be elitist, selfish and just plain crazy not to. Failure to do this is not an option. That would be simply dishonorable, plus anger the Contest Dir, whose generous friend this is. Against Bob’s wishes but with his knowledge, I inaugurated this award in his honor at TriCity 8. Seems appropriate enough, given that his absolute **favorite** subject of scale models or in history, is the **American Fighter Aircraft**. Especially those Curtiss Hawks...

THE CONTEST : In order to be eligible for this award, your entry subject simply must be something American Made , tasked as a Fighter mission aircraft, even if never actually was operated or served as one. Sorry, eligibility requirements EXCLUDE such otherwise worthy subjects such as Spitfires, Mosquitos, Fiat G.91 or similar American operated but not made here, craft.

Clarification: “hypothetical” or “paper designs” are eligible, as long as they are based on real proposals or project. Examples of these include the Republic P-69 or F-103, Bell P-59 or F-109, North American F-108 or Lockheed L-1000.

Further incentive; given the subject is not exactly a rare personal favorite (American Fighters): This Special Award remains as planned feature of all future Fremont Hornets “annual contests”. Regardless form they may take or themes otherwise selected.

So running out of steam to complete a “ stinging ” entry this year, still won’t penalize you in vying for it next, in other words.



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA
FOR

“ Lightning Strikes Twice ”

Award for the Best Twin Engine Lightning ... **OR - see addenda***

SYNOPSIS: Again, not specifically linked to the overall theme for this TriCity Eighteen. Instead a little “repeat fun” from the Contest Director (who loves all Lightnings), has offered this in prior TC-12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 so still finds it worth sponsoring

Right now, the simplest outlining of what is eligible is this: ANY SCALE and ANY VERSION of these listed AIRCRAFT:

English Electric Lightning, Lockheed Aircraft Lightning, Arado AR-234 “Blitz” (Lightning in German)

Take careful note, these are all “Twin Engined” designs at their outset, and all officially “Lightning” by name

As long as your subject entry(ies) fit inside that outline, you’re good to go. Any other effort, will be judged as dicey at best.

THE CONTEST : So ANY number of those subjects is eligible to start with.

They don’t have to be REAL (hypotheticals welcome) in case you’d like to see “alternate universe” for any of these in other employments as means to cause you to build one of them. UNFINISHED is a category too, don’t be shy when you consider the fact that all three indeed, may take more time to complete than you’d need. Still eligible by these rules, though likely a little less competitive if one is taking that route.

Be sure to sign up is all !

****SECOND TIME Offer of REVISIONS for EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY outlined next page -***

ADDENDUM made to Special Award SA 7 for TriCity 18 !!

“ Lightning Strikes Twice ”

TRADITIONALLY, an Award for the Best *Twin Engine Lightning*

Thusly what is eligible is this: *ANY SCALE* and *ANY VERSION* of these listed AIRCRAFT:

English Electric Lightning, Lockheed Aircraft Lightning, Arado AR-234 “Blitz” (Lightning in German)

Take careful note, these are all “Twin Engined” designs at their outset, and all officially “Lightning” by name

As long as your subject entry(ies) fit inside that outline, you’re good to go. **IF YOU GO WITH TRADITION**

BUCKING TRADITION for THIS YEAR’S SA7 AWARD

POTENTIALLY YOU MAY

ALSO ENTER

ANY COMBINATION

As PAIR of SINGLE ENGINE LIGHTNINGS

AS OUTLINED:

Examples: J7W1 Shiden (Magnificent Lightning), *Macchi MC 200 Saetta* (Lightning), *Lockheed F-35* (Lightning II), *N1K1 Shiden* and *N1K2J Shiden Kai* (Violet Lightning and Violet Lightning Improved).

ANY of THESE in ANY SCALE as long as PAIRED by ONE ENTRANT

REAL SIMPLE: Mary Modeller signs up on SA7 Special Award Sheet noting she has a 1/144th scale F-35 Lightning in Cat 17 and a 1/32 scale MC 200 in Cat 18. Andy Assembler is right behind her with a 1/72 J7W1 in Cat 7 and a 1/48 N1K2J Shiden Kai in Cat 12. **Mick Maniac** has a 1/32 F-35 in Cat 19 and 1/72 N1K1 Shiden in CAT 7, also a 1/48 MC200 and a J7W1 in Cat 12, as well as a 1/32 scratchbuilt XP-49 in Cat 18 and a 1/72 resin XP-58 in Cat 9. **But he forgets about sign up on the sheets** so Judges safely ignore his entries entirely. So Mary or Andy may win, if no one else has signed up any entries either way. Got it?



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA FOR

“ Best of Category or Show ”

BASICS for SA1 and SA2 Award QUALIFY:



While “ Best of Show ” would seem self explanatory, I think it would help to review how this decision is arrived at the TriCity Classics for now.

The actual full title says it better for both Senior and Junior/Youth BOS awards, namely “Judge’s Best of Show”

First place winners in all categories at the event where such were given and now eligible for Best of, are listed for the TC Head Judge to get his team together to go over, determine each so that everyone is now on the same page since many of them will not have judged many of the contenders in the initial 1/2/3 passes. Seen them, perhaps, but Judged?, not likely.

Then a first cut is made by the team to winnow down to a workable set of usually 8 to 15 contenders for the final or next to final pass for the BOS decision. In the case of the Junior/Youth, it’s usually gotten on the first pass as the number of contenders is usually not even the full ten to start out with. The Senior categories can sometimes go for two further passes to make sure everyone is in an agreement such as possible, for BOSS. There you have it.

Not so simple as that, but it’s the best fairest manner we all agree on. Popular or People’s Best of Show, well, sorry, not a fan of creating that chaos. On left, the actual YOUTH/JUNIOR BOS award for TC-15. The Senior was alike but larger. *WE WILL SEE WHAT WE WILL GET for TC-18 later*

BASICS for SA8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and SA13 Award QUALIFY:

Well again, these Special Awards for “Best In Category” winners don’t actually make themselves so clear, self explanatory and such. Plus some folks do know it’s somewhat skewed on a mathematical basis. Why, how you ask, isn’t that unfair? Not really, by virtue there is a lot of Air, Armor and Auto categories, but the Ship, Spaceship, Figure, Diorama , SF/Fantasy categories come down to much smaller amounts to be winnowed to just one winner. Many have tried to change the math but honestly, at club, regional, Nation level competition the same skews exist for the same reasons.

Given the expected turnouts over numbers of tens of years as a guide, there’s not much point changing the method much as it’s tilting at windmills.

So yes, basically again the Head Judge is given a tally of the specific FIRST place winners in each of the General categories, qualified teams of the same judging pool are gathered to go with the lists for each, and do their best to swiftly winnow out the Best of those best for that event. Although some arenas will have some who perpetuate that size does matter, or certain subjects within their genres will gain or lose favor at this juncture. My own first hand experience from many angles inside and outside the Judging pool, comparing notes with others, seems to bear out that none of it does have an edge in the end. Smaller, more obscure or less popular have triumphed here more often than not, and likely will continue surprise in future.



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition

SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA

FOR

Award SA14 “IT FIGURES”

Lester Tockerman Memorial Award Series

(Junior/Youth entrants **only** are eligible)

Sponsored by Mick Burton/MIRANDCO

3 part Memorial Award – Lester was a big guy, with big output, it is deserved

It Figures First – Junior/Youth modeler who has the MOST entries at the event (regardless if any or all win) Lester was always about promoting modelling to the young and he as a teacher especially fond of seeing that spark lit .

So to match his prolific entry output and encourage more like him I award 50 bucks

It Figures (Again) – Junior/Youth Modeler who has two or more Figure and/or Armor vehicle entries. In event of a tie or multiple entries by a modeler of one not the other, judgement will go to the one who has both first, then to one who has most of one or the other

Again, Lester’s two most passionate genres, to encourage more alike I award 25 bucks

It Figures (‘N All Adds Up) – Junior/Youth Modeler who has placed second or tied for the It Figures “Again” award - who has two or more Figure and/or Armor vehicle entries.

If not any one for that, then runner up for most entries award “It Figures First” wins 25 bucks

SORRY, NO SWEEPS for this Award Series. One Award each will be given to a Junior or Youth modeler (up to three) as accorded by the nature of the event’s competition and attendance. ***Please note the following:***

YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT EVENT AT TIME OF AWARD TO WIN! No Proxy or Absentee Winner

The Sponsor of this award series is the sole financial resource for this. No Fremont Hornets Club monies are involved and all costs of producing the awards are also on behalf of the Sponsor. The Club graciously gives The Sponsor the opportunity to provide chance to win this award to eligible entrants for this event year and may elect to continue or forgo this provision in future Tri City Classics, at discretion of the Contest Director



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA
FOR

“ Kenneth Jung Memorial Award ”

Award for the Contest Director's Choice

SYNOPSIS: Free Hornet Peter Long , all around good guy and real character, is the sponsor of this award, honoring memory of another enthusiastic scale modeler who has left our community far too soon . Since Ken would be potentially modelling just about anything that struck his fancy, and do what ever that turned out to be, real justice, Peter has graciously outlined that this award may be “Contest Director's Choice” for the years he sponsors it in the TriCity Classics ahead.

Thank You Peter, from the current Director. Yes, I can hear Mr Jung laughing from the other side. Well done, again, you .

THE CONTEST : We'll just have to see where this one lands. The Current Contest Director has a fancy for building just about any subject, and appreciates all facets of modelling . The inaugural awarding of this trophy went to a superb example of scale modelling in 1/35th scale , a Self Propelled Gun of 200 mm plus caliber, Russian origin, Cold War extraordinaire and obscure. Intriguing enough in selection for subject matter, one might consider. Challenge of it being a PAPER kit basis, winning meet.

Next time out, who knows. As perhaps the Judges will come up with something just ever so much deserves an award but gets edged out at one turn at bat, or as happens occasionally, more than one turn where eligible but not quite for a particular case.

So don't think of this as just beauty contest or playing for a Director's favorite bend, more than one choice involved in the how.



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA FOR

“ Steven A Travis Service Award ”

Award for Service to The Fremont Hornets or Region 9 Community or Both

SYNOPSIS: The Fremont Hornets have now a means to recognize those few who serve the many, faithfully and well, with an eye to making sure that our reach exceeds and excels in the manner Steven and his Anita, so tirelessly managed for so many.

Steve and Anita were strong supporters since the First TriCity event, always checking in with us to make sure “we had what we needed”, often enough following up with “ a small donation of appreciation “. Be advised, only small here was the handwriting.

Steven would also be sure to donate (out of his and their pockets, again) Raffle prizes, pay early to secure vendor tables for the SVSM Vets Drive Model Sale which he & Anita managed for many years, and always be smiling, helpful ambassador at that table all day long during those shows. We were far from alone in being treated to this universe of largesse from them, several of the Region Nine clubs in fact were equally well blessed by the Travis tenderings. Steve would be very pro active, promote the hobby and the organizations throughout the year, and travel quite a bit on their own time/dime to shows for the Vets project

There were other groups and organizations whom Steve also was a key contributor to, and veterans, hot rods (1/1) probably be how most who knew of him will remember him for. But above all, Steve was a “helluva guy” (his Anita does not suffer fools).

S. A. Travis enjoyed being part of a team in service to a common good with fun as a watchword. He is, always will be, missed.

So seems only apropos that we who got so much from him , give some back in the years ahead , in the spirit of Steve.



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition

SPECIAL AWARD PROMO & REFERENCE DATA

FOR

Award for “Best Women In Aerospace”

BASICS for SA17 Award QUALIFY:

Women have been in aviation since before fixed wing powered flight, and in roles besides time honored left seat of command or at helm of a fighter plane. History bears this out time and again, with only a slight effort of research these days you can discern many a way to come up with interesting entries that would qualify for this award. While Amelia Earhart carries the day in popular media even today in the USA, Bessie Coleman, Florence “Pancho” Barnes, and the gift that keeps on giving; one and only Jacqueline Cochran for three historic individuals for another take on Americans. A quick reminder that it wasn’t a propaganda exercise but a well recorded and regarded truth that during WW2, “the Night Witches” among others were a solid contributor to the war against Germany in the Soviet Union, along with a young legend named Lydia Litvyak. The first woman in space was a cosmonaut named Valentina Tereshkova, she still holds the record for youngest female in space (age 26) and longest solo space flight by a woman. A TINY glimpse of some of the ways one could approach this for a competitive entry. Look into Rogallo wing, Mercury 13, the 99s for other starts...

• So think in terms of Figures, Busts, Vehicles, Dioramas for good bets.





TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
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FOR

“ TOP SECRET: *From Real Genius To TOP GUN* ”

Best Spy Vehicle or Person (real or fictional)

The Fremont Hornets 2026/27 President's Memorial Award Honoring Val Kilmer

BRIEF: Free Hornet President and the Contest Director are in complete agreement that Val Kilmer deserves as much respect and recognition for his work in the original movie plus the sequel to Top Gun, for none of it would have worked without him.

We also are fans of his first two major movies, which were TOP SECRET (his cinema debut and excellent parody/homage to any number of great “spy/secret agent hero” movies), and REAL GENIUS, another enthused comedy with a subversive serious side on how science, research, human ambition can go severely awry. Those 1984 and 1985 steps took him right to “ICEMAN”

CONTEST : With a Secret Agent, Spy, Strategic Intelligence Gathering/Espionage and related Agency as one unifying theme within both films, it was easy to premise “Best Spy Vehicle or Person” for this award framing. So below, listed are **some not & yes will** qualifying examples of vehicles for subjects. Not limited to these, only try to illustrate the cut points. Also of course, if going for Busts or Figures path, Real or Fictional personages are equally acceptable ***just be sure to get entry on sign up sheet.***

Aircraft:

Westland Lysander **yes** (insertion retrieval a/c) F2, F3, F4/5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F13 **no** (tac recce not strategic or espionage)
F11, F12, specifically RB-29, RB-36, RB-45, RB-57, E/RB-50, RB-57D, RB-57G, RB-66, RB-69, E/RC-135, P4M, PB4Y-2, AJ2P, E/RA-3B, EP-3, U-2 family, A-12/SR-71, D-21, Tp-52 or PR.9 Canberra, Yakovlev Mandrake (Strategic recce & ferrets)

Other than aircraft (Real Space, Automotive, Maritime, tie in Movies/TV) :

James Bond 007's specific automobiles, MOL, X-20, X-37, KH-11, Corona satellites, “Fishing Boats and Trawlers of USSR, PRC, USA, UK etc with suspicious lack of such equipment aboard...”, Lotus KAR 120C, Agent 86's Sunbeam Tiger...



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
Contest Director's SPECIAL AWARD PROMO
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FOR
“ TOWARD THE UNKNOWN ”

Best Pioneering, Exploratory, Experimental Subject
The Fremont Hornets Contest Director's Award for TC-18

BRIEF: A movie by that very title, celebrates its 70th anniversary with our theme movie made 30 years later, and shares critic's take of them both as : Great aircraft flying scenes movie, as that nearly could be called recruitment film for US military service (US Air Force in 1956's Toward The Unknown, US Navy in 1986's Top Gun), with heavy pro USA propaganda tone... *Okay!* While then as now, TTU film has its detractors and critics, also has its fans and proponents, of which Contest Director is one.

Sure, the USAF, Edwards Air Force Base went out of their way to support fully “ Toward The Unknown ”, well known at the time, far from shocking also. Yet they also let TTU have movie plot points which coincidentally mirror “Top Gun” use of truth of Maverick's dad's demise in its story. Ones that weren't particularly flattering to US Government or so well known at time.

Namely: How the main character Major Bond was basically considered “unreliable and suspect” for any useful further military service. After being subjected to torture, brainwashing and eventually he ended up “confessing” to “ war crimes ” during his 14 months as pilot POW in Korea. Also noted just how he “goes unstably violent when restrained” during a fight scene in the film. All of which TTU film based on true history of an American WW2 ace and then a Korean War air vet Walker “Bud” Mahurin, who suffered similar actual events. As did the TTU film's “air boss” Lt Col. Pete Everest (he was an X-2 pilot too!), with whom William Holden (Maj Bond in movie and film's producer) became close to during the filming. This real life history sharing also included another real life pilot of Bell X-2, Milburn “Mel” Apt, who died after being first to break Mach 3 in the real airplane. Mr. Holden's character Major Bond survives the TTU film's X-2 demise, by the way. Also saves his doubters and proved right

Another, sad parallel between two films: Toward The Unknown's “Gilbert XF-120” fighter ? Really a Martin XB-51 bomber, then in test at Edwards AFB. The one used in film was flying to Eglin AFB in Florida from Edwards AFB, still in its “XF-120” markings, for an extra footage shoot when it crashed after a refuel stop in Texas, killing pilot. This is not well known even now. Top Gun ends on a dedication to memory of legendary pilot Art Scholl, who died during its filming, lost doing intentional spin.

So, in a nod to all those who brave the unknown to explore and pioneer, so that others may live, this award is offered for TC-18



TRI-CITY CLASSIC XVIII Scale Model Contest and Exhibition
Contest Director's SPECIAL AWARD PROMO
& POSSIBLY USEFUL REFERENCE DATA
FOR

“ HARD DECK ”

Best Aircraft Carrier (includes helo only vessels)

The Fremont Hornets 2026/27 President's Award for TC-18

BRIEF: ANY (using modern day definitions) CATOBAR, STOBAR, STOVL or Helicopter/Amphibious Assault carrier ships (note that not all helicopter carriers are considered Amphibious Assault vessels)

Which means in 2026 there are 14 countries operational with “aircraft carriers, at least one” by this definition.

The President decided it was not at all sensible for the Contest Director to leave out chance for a nice Special Award with this year's theme, by ignoring a clear part of the success quotient of the entire premise (Carrier Aviation), namely Aircraft Carrier!

As well too, so much history with these ships has been recorded yet the aircraft component is often the focus popularly and yet again the entire support system, personnel aren't enough recognized equally. So she has set this award up to rectify for once !

THE CONTEST : Any period, any nation, as long as vessel fits within the four general definitions given at first of this article.

So don't sign up catapult launch seaplane fighter or recce aircraft ship as they are not equipped so as to qualify, by definition.

DO consider there a huge number of World War I, between wars, World War 2 and into the 1970s vessels that served and can be rendered in model form pretty easily to qualify in most commonly accepted traditional aircraft carrier format. Since 1970s a number of significant design formats evolved that still essentially fit the “Hard Deck” concept quite clearly and should compete

As a favor to the more casual reader not prone to look this stuff up as I had to do, here is a quick summary guide on terms above

CATOBAR – Catapult Assisted Take Off But Assisted Recovery (for most, the very definition of an aircraft carrier, in essence)

STOBAR – Short Take Off But Assisted Recovery (think of Ski Jump with enough deck space for an arrested by wire landing)

STOVL – Short Take Off Vertical Landing (think of may have ski jump or not, either way only enough deck for short take off)