

Guillermo Rojas-Bazan

2013 Metalworking Craftsman of the Year Professional Aircraft Model Maker Carries on Family Tradition

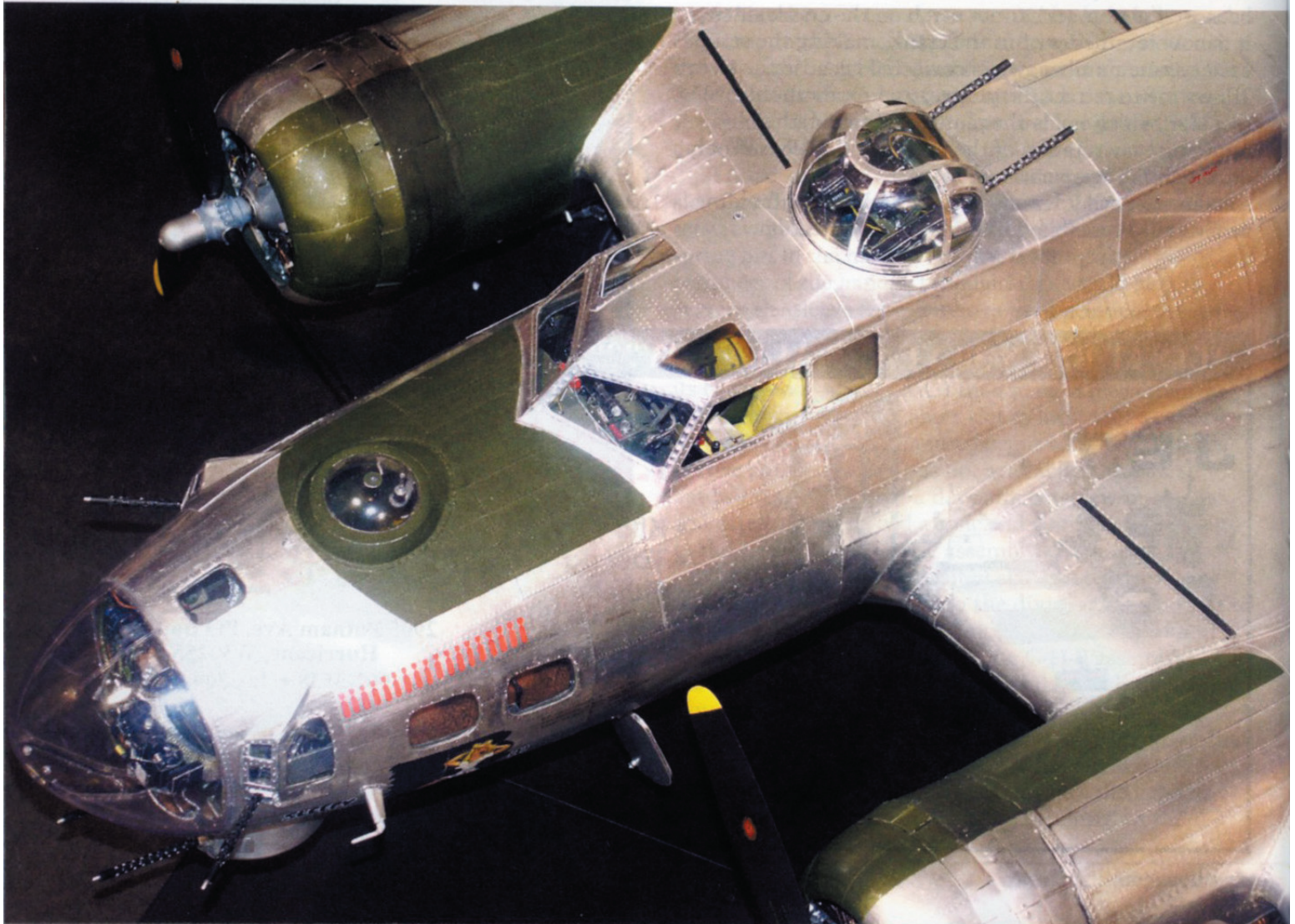
As a child in Argentina, Guillermo Rojas-Bazan would watch his father build detailed tinplate models of famous aircraft. He started out building kits, and at age 8-1/2 he wanted to build a model of a Martin B-10 bomber but no kit was available. He followed in his father's footsteps and ventured into the realm of scratch building, making his first model from cardboard. From there he moved on to other aircraft and other materials until in 1981 he was hired by the Argentine Air Force and *Instituto Aeronaval* as an aviation illustrator, technical draftsman and designer and builder of aluminum aircraft models for their museum.

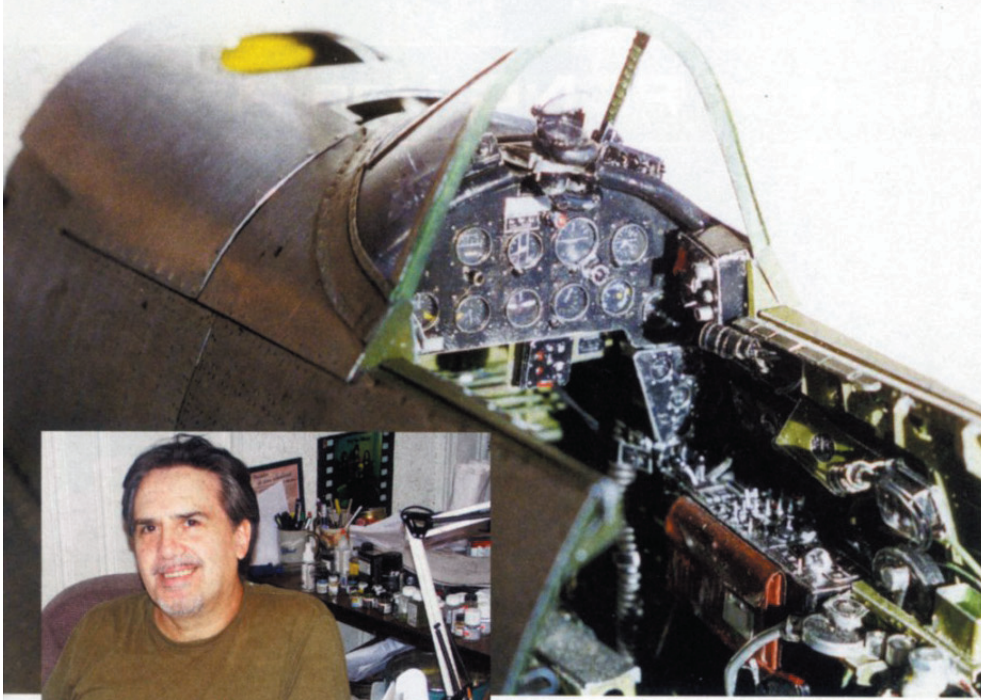
He moved to Spain in 1988 and worked building models commissioned by a London gallery for clients

around the world. While travelling to Israel he met and married his Argentine-born wife Clarisa and they moved to the USA in 1994. In Michigan, Guillermo built aircraft models for another model company well known for their high quality scale offerings. Now he is finally working on his own, making models on commission and also putting together a DVD video documenting his special techniques. He and his wife reside in Royal Oak, MI.

HIGHLY DETAILED ALUMINUM MODELS

Guillermo's models are so perfect in every detail that they can be compared to works of art. Even the insides of the aircraft are detailed with things like radios, instruments, working control surfaces and items





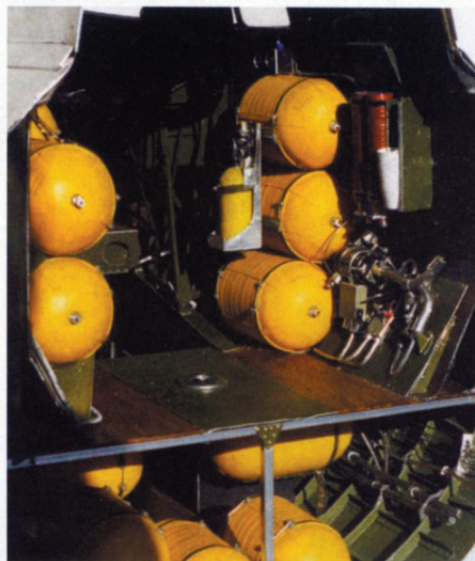
that can no longer be seen once the aluminum skin is applied. Photos taken during construction of the model are needed to see all the detail that was included. Each part is made by hand without the aid of any electrically powered tools except the compressor for his airbrush. Even so, he has always been able to build enough models to make a living at it. Having established a world-wide reputation, his models are now highly sought after by museums and collectors. He has built in scales as small as 1/40 and as large as 1/10, but the majority of his models are in 1/15 scale. He has built about 212 to date. His largest is a 1/15 scale B-17 bomber that has a wingspan of almost 7 feet!

ABOUT THE AWARD

Each year the Joe Martin Foundation for Exceptional Craftsmanship selects a winner of their Metalworking Craftsmanship of the Year award, a tradition begun in 1997. Guillermo Rojas-Bazan was selected as the 2013 winner of that prestigious award. He will be presented with an engraved medalion and check for \$2,000.00 at the

North American Model Engineering Society Expo (NAMES) in Wyandotte, MI, April 20-21, 2013. The foundation has posted many photos of his work on their museum website at www.CraftsmanShipMuseum.com/Bazan.htm. The Joe Martin Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization funded by the profits of Mr. Martin's precision tool company, Sherline Products. In addition to model makers, past winners include model engineers, engravers, clock makers and gunsmiths, all working on projects at the miniature end of the size scale.

For more information contact Foundation Director Craig Libuse at (760) 727-5857 or craig@craftsmanshipmuseum.com.



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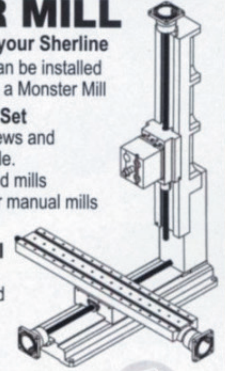
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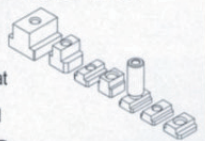
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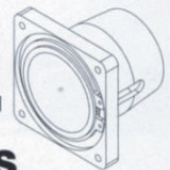
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