LANDING GEAR TECHNIQUES...

NEXT TO COCKPIT DETAILING, LANDING GEAR ARE A
FOCAL POINT TO IMPROVE SCALE APPEARANCE/SCORING.
HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO ADD TO YOUR NEXT PROJECT!

1. MAKE THE LANDING GEAR "PLUG-IN" FOR EASY REMOVAL - LIGHT WEIGHT = LONGER FLIGHTS. THE SYSTEM SHOWN USES A "FALSE" RIB AS A SUPPORT POINT FOR THE LANDING GEAR LEG.

2. USE A PLASTIC SODA STRAW FOR THE LANDING GEAR LEG - SPLIT IT LENGTHWISE & USE PLASTIC CYANO TO GLUE THE SEAM. THE BALSA "FORGING" IS SPLIT TO FIT OVER THE WIRE, USE ELMIERS "CARPENTERS WOOD FILLER" TO FILL ANY HOLES.

3. SPIN THE BALSA WHEELS ON A DREMEL POOL... SHAPE THE PROFILE WITH A SANDING STICK & ADD THE "TREAD" WITH A SMALL TRIANGULAR SWISS FILE.

4. MAKE WHEEL DISC'S FROM BOND PAPER.

5. ADD SCISSORS, FITTINGS ETC... MAKE FROM PLASTIC SHEET BASS WOOD OR BALSA.

6. "BUSH" THE WHEELS W/ 1/8" I.D. ALUM TUBE.

TOTAL TIME EXPENDED TO MAKE A SET OFGEARS FOR MY MIDKIFF KI-61 "TONY" WAS 8 HOURS. THEY LOOK GREAT & THERE IS NO WEIGHT PENALTY EXCEPT MINIMAL STRUCTURE IN WING... TRY IT, YOU'LL BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED.

BOB ISAACKS
- PILOTOS LOCOS '95