



BUILDER★ZINE

JUNE 2016



WINNERS AREN'T BORN... THEY'RE BUILT!

BUILDERS' ZONE

Straight from the desk of Dan Siskind

Summer time is upon us. For Brickmania, that means hitting the road for a full schedule of LEGO® fan conventions and museum displays almost every weekend. So far this year we've already visited Birmingham, Anaheim, Indianapolis, Raleigh, Philadelphia, and Boston. Please check out the list of upcoming confirmed Brickmania appearance located on page 11. More dates will be announced throughout the year, so check our web site or future editions of this magazine.

Our first major event during the summer season is the fifth annual World War Brick event, (and the fourth being held at Brickmania HQ in Minneapolis). We're excited to open our doors for our fans, but it is also bitter sweet, because we know that this is the last time we'll be able to do it in our headquarters. The Brickmania Team is expanding at such a rate that we simply will not have the room to host events like this in the future. We have already expanded World War Brick to new locations in Anaheim and Hartford, and may seek another Midwestern location for 2017.

So what makes World War Brick different from other LEGO fan events? First, we're the only fan event created by/ for LEGO® builders with an exclusively historical and military focus. Second, we're not an AFOL or "Adult Fan of LEGO" event. We believe that builders of all ages and abilities should be welcomed and encouraged to participate (of course, for reasons beyond saying, we ask that minors under a certain age should be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian). Third, we are the only event organized directly by the Brickmania team (and friends such as Will Chapman from BrickArms, Julie Nelson from GI Brick, etc.), the same group whose builds and kits have been inspiring creativity and learning for more than a decade.

While we greatly enjoy sharing our mega builds and displays with the public, Brickmania's primary function is to develop our ever-expanding line of custom building kits. "What is coming out next?" is a question I'm asked practically every day. I've

decided I'm going to use this section of Builder-Zine to give you a look into Brickmania's near future releases. Without further adieu, here are some of the great new releases we have planned for June.

LAV-25

(Now Available)

This Light Armored Vehicle is currently in use by the US Marine Corps and Canadian Army. This moderately priced kit has lots of opening hatches, includes three minifigs, and is sturdy enough for active play/ This is an improved version of the previously released a LAV-25 kit from 2014.



AN/TWQ-1 Avenger

(to be released June 13)

Pressure by the local Marine Corps lobby pushed the Avenger into production as a follow up to the LAV-25. The

Avenger is mobile, short-range anti-aircraft defense system and is used by the US Army and US Marine Corps. This model incorporates the latest improvements to my HMMVW chassis and easy opening doors and roofs allow for easy access. This kit comes with one minifig.



Panzer III

(to be released June 20)

One of Brickmania's most popular kits, and have produced half a dozen different versions of this

model over the years. The next generation panzer III is vastly more detailed than any of the previous editions we've released in gray bricks. This new version has more appropriately sized tracks, has three opening hatches in the turret and includes one Panzer Commander minifig. This one not only has good looks, but it has lots of playability too!



WW2 JEEP 4x4

(to be released June 26)

A brand new version of this iconic utility vehicle. This edition has been designed by Brickmania's newest



Building Team member, Cody Osell. His models captures the classic lines of the JEEP with a totally different building style from my previous versions. This model has great looks, but it's more complex than your standard Brickmania kits, and is more of a model than an action toy.

Of course there will also be some kit restocks happening in June too. These include new batches of the M4 Sherman and UH-1D Iroquois. Those who come to World War Brick can also expect to find one of my WLA Motorcycle kits in their Goodie Bag.

To close this month I'm going to answer another question I am regularly asked: What is Brickmania's official connection to the LEGO® company? The correct answer is Brickmania has absolutely no official connection whatsoever. While LEGO arguably makes the best building bricks out there, the models we build goes against the company's own internal policy of not creating modern

military themes or weapons. Their policy makes it impossible for us to receive any help or official endorsement from the company. That's OK with us, because we enjoy our independence to build what our customers want us to build. But this also means we have to buy all of our bricks in the same retail market as everyone else and have to pay market rates for our parts. We're huge LEGO fans and don't plan to substitute with clone brands or any other substandard parts in our kits. The end result is a more expensive product, but we're real sticklers for quality and don't want to compromise in that area.

Until next month, thank you for your continued support,

Daniel Siskind, Chief Designer



WHAT IS BRICKMANIA?

Learn more about the company behind the kits

Brickmania creates premium building kits made from genuine LEGO® brand parts. Founded by brick artist Daniel Siskind in 1999, we started out creating instruction sets and selling them on the Brickmania web site. Response was immediate, overwhelmingly positive, and led to the release of new Brickmania kits by the spring of 2000. One year and 1000 kits later, Brickmania was officially incorporated as Brickmania LLC and we have grown at a meteoric pace ever since. Dan remains at the helm and continues to deliver bar-raising designs with an unequalled devotion to historical accuracy.

Because of his dedication, we have earned an international reputation as the industry leader for military and historical kits.

Visit us at our store locations as well as at our monthly toyworks event or one of the national shows or expos we attend.



Find us online at Brickmania.com or in a store near you:

Mall of America
Open 7 days a week
Bloomington, MN (3rd floor, east side)

Woodfield Mall
Opening in June 2016
Schaumburg, IL



WO WAR BRICK

er deHarbor
- 2016



CERTIFICATE

The largest K'NEX ball contraption has 126,285 pieces and was built by Austin Granger (USA), as demonstrated in Saint Anthony, Minnesota, USA, on 13 March 2016.

OFFICIALLY AMAZING





K'NEX

THE GREAT BALL CONTRAPTION

Austin Granger has been building ball contraptions out of K'nex for nearly a decade. Starting off with small structures in his bedroom, he kept building ever larger and more intricate contraptions until a video of his work went viral and caught the attention of a friend of Brickmania, who got us in touch with Austin. In late 2014, he began construction of what would become the largest K'nex ball contraption in the world, filling the Brickmania Toyworks with rolling balls and motorized lift mechanisms.

18 months later, his contraption – which he still calls a work-in-progress – contains 8 lifting mechanisms and nearly 1000 feet of ball track. Plastic balls embark on a six-and-a-half minute tour of the Toyworks, encountering ramps, loops, spirals, elevators, a 6-foot-wide vortex, and a 40 foot long bridge which spans nearly the entire width of the warehouse.

In Spring of 2016, Austin was contacted by the Guinness Book of World Records, who certified his machine as the World's Largest K'nex Ball Contraption, with 126,285 pieces. Since then, the machine has grown to over 135,000 pieces, and will likely continue growing ever larger as Austin continues to search for new building challenges.

FURY

HONOR ■ GLORY ■ WAR

It was less than a year after D-Day that the Allies breached the Rhine, Germany's last geographic barrier. The war was all but over by March of 1945. April saw the capture of Germany's Industrial districts, and Nazi soldiers began to discard their uniforms and surrender by the thousands. Hitler's SS was still active and fighting harder than ever. They would hang deserters from lampposts with signs around their necks, decrying their cowardice

for the whole world to see. American forces advanced as much as 10 miles a day, often finding a white bed sheet wavering in the open – a sign of unanimous surrender, but some still encountered vicious resistance. The Allies reached Nuremberg, the Third Reich's spiritual heart on April 16th. When 30 German soldiers approached with white flags of surrender they were mowed down by Nazi machine-gun fire. As the Nazi ranks dwindled, they began enlisting the Hitler Youth, boys as young as 15 were called to





Town Square Scene Recreation



Town Square Scene Recreation
Figures A, B & C

fight on the front lines. Despite their youth and inexperience, they mounted a strong defense and held the city until April 20th, Hitler's birthday. Germany's surrender on May 8th, 1945 ended the war in Europe.

It is during these final days of WWII that the film *Fury* takes place.

Our builder team has recreated the scene from the small German village that the

US Army tanks roll through and shelter in. We have selected various vignettes from the film and recreated them in painstaking detail. From the frescoes on the green building (Figure A), to the blown out front of the Hotel Prinz-Karl (Figure B) where a German sniper had holed up, to the white sheet of surrender hanging in the square (Figure C).

See if you can recognize other moments from the film in this elaborate and epic scene.



STATISTICS

Build time: Over 600 labor hours

Build Team: 2 primary builders, with an additional team for larger projects (like the cobblestone streets)

Part Count: Over 40,000

THE BUILDERS

- Cody Osell – Buildings, Props, Characters, Vehicles, Vehicle Customization
- Yitzy Kasowitz – Props, Vehicles, Vehicle Customization, Characters, Buildings
- Landon Reimer – Decal Design
- Dan Siskind – Vehicles



The M4A3E8 "Easy Eight" Sherman Tank, the titular "FURY"



*Alley Way Scene Recreation
Figures B & C*

View this build:
Brickmania - Woodfield Mall
Schaumburg, IL.

Film stills courtesy of Columbia Pictures





BRICKMANIA REMEMBERS D-DAY

BRICKMANIA ORIGINALS



"STRENGTH FOR FREEDOM"

The USS Missouri is one of the most well-known ships of the United States Navy. Arriving in the Pacific late in World War II, she participated in the battles for Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and the bombardment of the Japanese home islands. Being named after the home state of President Harry Truman, the "Mighty Mo" was selected to lead the Pacific fleet into Tokyo Bay to accept the official surrender of the Japanese government. The USS Missouri also participated in the Korean War and the 1st Persian Gulf War. She currently resides as a memorial in

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Brickmania's model was built by Daniel Siskind in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. It is still a "work in progress" with additional details being added as time permits.

Scale:	1/35th
Length:	25' 8" (7.8 meters)
Brick Count:	Over half a million
Build Time:	6 months and counting
Fun Fact:	The interior is partially hollow using a grid structure for stability. It takes 11 different sections to support the whole ship!

U.S.S. Nicholas

The destroyer USS Nicholas was one of the most decorated ships of the US Navy in World War II. Her extensive battle record earned her the honor of escorting the USS Missouri into Tokyo Bay to accept the Japanese surrender.



CURRENT DISPLAYS



Omaha Beach: D-Day plus 1

Dan Siskind, Cody Osell & Yitzy Kasowitz

The liberation of western Europe began on June 6, 1944 (D-Day) at Normandy, France. This diorama depicts "Omaha Beach" on the day after the German defenses were overcome and American troops and supplies begin to pour in.



Brandenburg Gate

Yitzy Kasowitz & Dan Siskind

This important landmark in the German capital was witness to bloody street fighting at the climax of the Battle of Berlin and the end of World War II in Europe. This scene shows the gate as it would have been shortly after the Soviet victory.



The Siege of Stalingrad

Yitzy Kasowitz & Dan Siskind

What began as Hitler's attempt to capture this important city on the Volga River (and symbolic namesake of Soviet leader Joseph Stalin), was turned into a great defeat at the hands of determined Russian defenders. *Currently at MoA Store.*



The Vietnam War

Dan Siskind & John Neal

The United States was a main combatant in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1974. This diorama was built to depict as many scenes from this conflict as possible in a 30x60" space. Look closely for hidden items throughout the diorama.

BRICKMANIA IS ON TOUR!

Come see us at our upcoming events!

Brickworld Chicago: Schaumburg, IL June 18-19

WWII in LEGO: Evansville, IN June 18-19

Brick Fiesta Houston: Houston, TX July 7-10

W.W.B. Hartford: Hartford, CT July 22-24

Brickfair Virginia: Chantilly, VA Aug 6-7

BrickUniverse Columbus: Columbus, OH Aug 20-21

Brickworld Ft. Wayne: Fort Wayne, IN Aug 27-28

BrickUniverse Tulsa: Tulsa, OK Sept 10-11

Check Brickmaniatoys.com/events for additional locations!

Brickmania Toyworks

Come visit our toyworks in NE Minneapolis and enjoy our 10,000 square feet of unique, playful, one of a kind displays. We are pleased to host the Greater Midwest and Twin Cities LEGO Train Clubs whose layouts are displayed at the toyworks alongside the military dioramas of Brickmania's builder team.

2016 Open House Dates

10 am - 4 pm

July 9th December 3rd

August 13th December 10th

October 8th December 17th

November 12th December 24th

1620 Central Ave, NE, Ste 170, Minneapolis, MN

(612) 545-5263



World War Brick is the premiere event for Historic Military LEGO® Modelers and Customizers. These events are open to builders, enthusiasts and the general public, World War Brick has something for everyone!

DATES + LOCATIONS

HARTFORD, CT.

JULY 22-24, 2016

ANAHEIM, CA

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2017

Learn more and get tickets:

WORLDWARBRICK.COM

CUSTOMIZE YOUR FIGS

Brickmania offers only the finest custom minifigs, but we have some tips and tricks for using your own parts to make them even more epic! This month we look at how to customize the WWII US Marine V.2 minifig.

FLAMETHROWER



Scuba Tank
30091

Castle Dragon Flame
6126b

Pneumatic Hose
21826

Space Gun / Torch
3959

Pneumatic "T" bar
4697b



RADIO TRANSCEIVER



Radio w ext. handle
3962b

Neck bracket w/ stud
42446

1x2 Technic brick
3700

1x1 plate
3024

String w end studs
x127c11



Shop for these parts and more at bricklink.com

COLLECT THEM ALL!

Find these kits and more at BRICKMANIA.COM



BKM834
M923
5-Ton Heavy Utility Truck



BKM836 **NEW!**
LAV-25



BKM2112
M36 Jackson
Tank Destroyer



BKM1016
T-55
Russian Main Battle Tank



BKM2114 **NEW!**
Sdkfz 251 Ausf D+ Pak 40
Ambush Camouflage



BKM2111 **NEW!**
Panzer IV Ausf J
Ambush Camouflage

GEAR UP WITH BRICKARMS

Get your minifigs battle ready with vests from BrickArms

BrickArms Vests

\$1.00 each



LCV Recon

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black, Tan
Dark Tan, OD Green



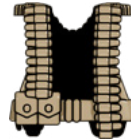
PCV Specialist

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Tan, Olive, Tan



WWII US Command

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



WWII US Gunner

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



WWII US Ranger

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



LCV Rifleman

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black, Tan
Dark Tan, OD Green



PCV Operator

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Tan, Olive, Tan



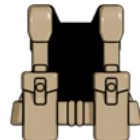
WWII US Rifleman

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



WWII US Scout

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



WWII Pattern '37

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
Olive, Tan



LCV SAW

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black, Tan
Dark Tan, OD Green



PCV Signal

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Tan, Olive, Tan



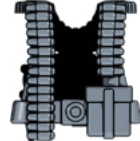
German Command

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive



German Grenadier

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive



German Gunner

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive



LCV Sidearm

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black, Tan
Dark Tan, OD Green



PCV Commando

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Tan, Olive, Tan



German Paratrooper

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive



German Ranger

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive



German Rifleman

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black,
Dark Brown, Olive

Find all these and much more online at WWW.BRICKMANIA.COM

PROTECT YOUR PIECES

Leave no noggin unprotected with helmets by BrickArms

BrickArms Helmets

\$1.00 each



MCH

Colors:
Black, Dk Tan, Dk Gray,
Tan, Lt Gray, UN Blue



Boonie Hat

Colors:
Black, Dark Tan,
OD Green



Brodie Helmet

Colors:
Black, Dk Gray, Tan,
Gunmetal, Dk Tan



M1 Steel Pot Helmet

Colors:
Gunmetal, Tan, White,
Dk Tan, Lt Gray, OD



Stahlhelm

Colors:
Dark Gray, Black, Tan,
White, Gunmetal



Ushanka

Colors:
Dark Brown, Gunmetal,
Dark Gray

Brickmania Custom Netted Helmets

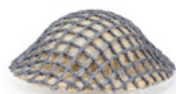
\$6.00 each

Available only at Brickmania! We've customized BrickArms helmets with durable netting. Take your minifigs and MOCs to the next level with these awesome helmets.



M1 Steel Pot Helmet

Colors:
OD Green, Olive



Brodie Helmet

Colors:
Dark Tan



Stahlhelm

Colors:
Tan, Dark Gray

AVENGER

AN/TWQ-1 HMMWV



NEW FROM BRICKMANIA

\$5 OFF \$50

Redeem in person at any store, our booth, or use ONLINE at Brickmania.com with code:

JUNE505

Valid through 7/31/16

Excludes WWB Tickets, Elite Membership Enrollment, rare and discontinued vintage LEGO® kits.



\$15 OFF \$100

Redeem in person at any store, our booth, or use ONLINE at Brickmania.com with code:

JUNE150

Valid through 7/31/16

Excludes WWB Tickets, Elite Membership Enrollment, rare and discontinued vintage LEGO® kits.

