

EAA's Supermodels

Influenced by the Gathering of Mustangs and Legends event (see "Paying Tribute" on page 46), EAA recently held its own Mustang gathering, of models that is.

These sleek 'stangs are part of EAA's vast, eclectic model collection, totaling 1,331 items, including radio-control, kit-built, commercial-built, and World War II vintage recognition models, in various scaled sizes from 1/8 to 1/72. Of that collection, there are 23 P-51 and F-51 models: 10 in the attic and 13 on display in the EAA AirVenture Museum.

Some of the models are generic replicas. Others are customized, bearing nicknames and aircraft insignia based on actual aircraft. *Big Beautiful Doll*, for example, was flown by Col. John Landers during WWII. Years later Mustang pilot Ed Shipley restored a craft with the same paint scheme. The original *Dallas Doll* 44-14495 SX-I was flown by Lt. Frank A. Bouldin Jr. of the 352nd Fighter Squadron, 353rd Fighter Group, 8th Air Force. To see photographs of the original craft, visit www.CEBudAnderson.com/BigDoll.htm or www.LittleFriends.co.uk/gallery.php?Group=353.

—Kathleen L. Witman

