

MADDOG MONTHLY

The Official Publication of IPMS Boise Idaho October 2006

RV TRITON

BOO!



Calendar of Events

January	MoM
February	MoM, Civil theme
March	MoM, MoY
April	MoM
May	MoM, Resin theme
June	MoM
July	MoM, C.V. Auto contest
August	MoM, Photo Etch theme
September	MoM
October	MoM
November	MoM, Color Silver theme
December	MoM, Christmas Show

Executive Board

President: Brian Geiger
Vice President: Ian Robertson
Secretary: John Thirion
Treasurer: Kent Eckhart
Editor: Randy Hall
Chapter Contact: Bill Speece

September Meeting minutes

Again we had a very good turnover with 27 members present. Our new surrounding were somewhat unusual, but we hope that we will be back in our usual cosy room for the next meeting.
Like to remind all the members about the Christmas Show, time to get organized and plan on some advertising.

Model of the month

Herb Arnold 1/72 Curtiss-Wright "Demon" from MPM.

Herb Arnold 1/72 Dewoitine D.372 also from MPM.

George Bacon An entirely Scratchbuild fishing boat in 1/96, mostly made out of wood.

Tom Gloeckle 1/72 RO 44 from Octopus . The RO 44 was a ship launched scout plane.

Tom Gloeckle 1/72 RO 57 from Special Hobby. This was a twin engines that never reached production.

Gary Maslonka 1/48 Monogram Swift Boat.

Randy Hall 1/144 Revell 767-300 that will receive Delta markings.

Bob Olsen 1/24 Monogram GTO stock box.

John Thirion 1/350 Russian submarine K-19 from Szevda.

Ian Robertson 1/32 F190F8 from Hasegawa with early style canopy and tropical camouflage applied over Eastern front paint scheme.

Jim Burton 1/35 M113A2 desert version.

Jim Burton 1/35M163A1/2 Vulcan SPAAG, this self-propelled anti-aircraft system was developed on the ubiquitous M113 chassis and was deployed in Vietnam.

Jim Burton 1/35 IDF M113 "Zelda", a highly modified M113 with extra armor.

Brian Geiger 1/72 Hasegawa EA-6 Prowler.

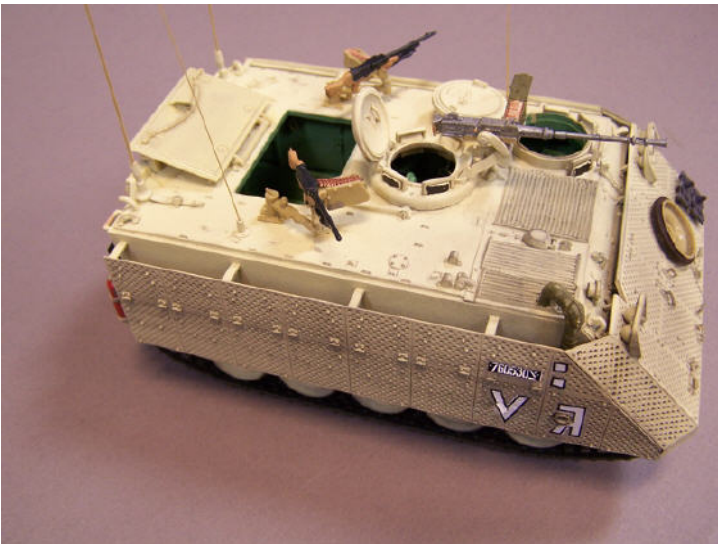
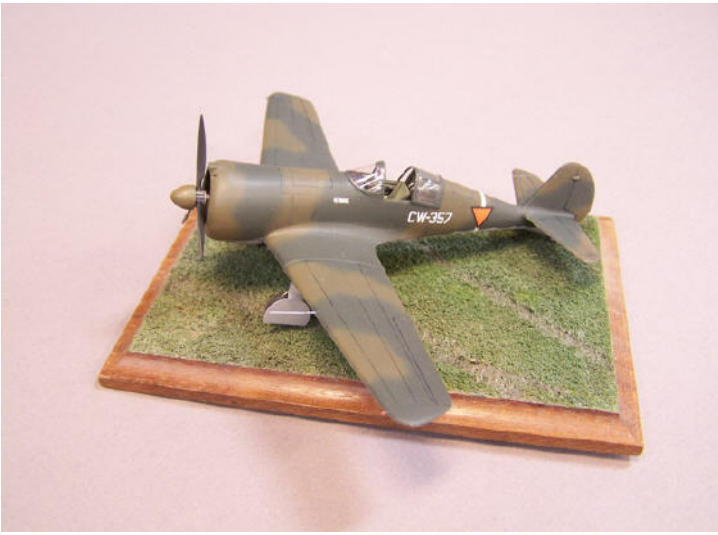
Brian Geiger 1/72 Revell A-6 Intruder. Both of Brian's models were "vintage models), Made to resemble modeling as it was 20 years ago. Maybe it could be fun for each of us to bring one of those old kits that we made way back then, just an idea.

The winners were 1. **George Bacon** with his fishing boat

2 & 3 were tie between **G. Maslonka** and his Swift boat

I. Robertson and his FW 190.







The Pros & Cons of SHOCON 2006

by Brian Geiger



Another year has passed and so the 21st annual NUSMA contest, Shocon. I don't have to remind you that there aren't many regional contests close to Boise. As I sum things up, perhaps a little background is in order. I enjoy model contests and have attended every NUSMA/NUPMA contest for the last thirteen years. It's hard not to compare the contest from one year to another. For some time, it seemed that

volunteers. Merely for comparison, I'd like to present some pros and cons in order to describe the event to those who didn't make it.

Let's start with the Friday night social

Cons

The attendance just seemed low to me. I estimate that there were approximately 16 modelers in attendance with a few wives and children. What's the deal? The local modelers alone should have doubled or tripled the number of participants.

Pros

Having the social at the Golden Corral made it easy to quickly stuff myself silly at an affordable price, less than half the

cost of previous years. It was a fun mix of modelers including locals and visitors from St. George, Pocatello, Albuquerque, and Calgary. Some nice kits were auctioned at pretty low prices. A Trumpeter SAM-2 Guideline Missile w/ Loading Cabin went for \$25, a Dragon 1/48 Ta-152 for \$20, a big Revell 1/72 U-boat sold for less than \$50.



every year the event got bigger and better. More modelers attended, bringing more entries, more vendors, more door prizes, more, more, more. The event grew to major proportions with over 1000 models on display in both 1998 and 2002. For various reasons, the attendance has been lighter for the last three years. This year's contest was bigger than last year but the number of entries was 428, with the collection categories making a total of 460 models. It was a shadow of the boom years of The Gathering but hey, 460 models is very respectable for a regional contest.

It is not my intention to whine and complain about the contest. A lot of work goes into it and I always come away with gratitude for all of the organizers and



The contest

Cons

As a cost saving measure, the contest was shaved down to a one day event. To compensate, the Saturday hours were to be extended. As it turned out, fewer entries made the judging go faster so the awards ceremony started a bit earlier. That's not a bad thing but it did result in the total Saturday hours being pretty much the same as last year. I figured that people would be lined up at the crack of dawn to get things started early since there would only be one day. To the contrary, it took a few hours for the hall to start looking populated and even some of the vendors rolled in a little late. Speaking of vendors, there were only about eight or nine in attendance, the smallest vendor turnout in many years.



There was no raffle or door prizes. That's not an event spoiler but it seemed scaled back from previous years.

Pros

Even though there were few vendors, there were still some great bargains to be had. The biggest seller was a hobby store that brought in a huge inventory. (Sorry, I didn't get the name of the store.) They bumped a percentage off of the retail prices. I picked up an Eduard 1/48 Tsurugi profi pack for just under \$20.

Union Station has been the venue of The Gathering for a majority of years. It's a good fit with the adjacent trains, antique car & Browning Arms Museum. The lighting leaves a bit to be desired for judging and photographing models.

Hat's off to the organizers for one of the quickest and easiest registration processes I've ever encountered. I can't recall seeing more than two or three people at the registration table at a time. They've really got this down. The paperwork was simple and minimal and they were able to get entries in without a huge bottleneck.

Even though a few categories were sparsely populated, many were packed and was a good amount of high quality entries. The few overhead pictures I took of the contest hall were taken in the morning before the tables had really filled. Some of my favorite entries was a VW bus "tiki bar" loaded with little details like a paper towel rack, mini blender, glasses, bottles, and ice. You had to look carefully to find all the extras. The same modeler also kit bashed a scratch built a post apocalyptic command center, complete with an armed toilet position in the back. The side doors opened to reveal yet another bar complete with tiny chaser lights. There were also some very nice armor entries that caught my eye.

The judging started one hour later so viewers got an extra hour before the hall closed. I volunteered to help judge and it seemed to go smoothly, without incident. I didn't hear any complaints.

The awards ceremony announced the winners of the special awards and appropriately wrapped up the event without dragging. A few modelers started packing up right after the award ceremony but many remained for a few more minutes of viewing and spotting the category winners. The culmination was more relaxed rather than a mad dash to clear out.

Two Mad Dogs, Bill Bailey and myself, made the trip and Bill Speece entered by proxy. I believe we all won awards... woof, woof, woof! I stayed over another night to rest up before the drive home. I was also able to stop in at the Hill Aerospace Museum. The B-47 is assembled outside and the new B-24D is taking shape. That's my report. It was a fun trip. Clear your schedule for next September because it will be back next year. See you there! ☺



The Scuttlebutt

New kits Trumpeter will be releasing a 1/350 Udaloy class destroyer. This class of Ship was developed in the 70's as an ASW platform for the Soviet Navy. It is similar to the US Spruance class. The kit will be release in early 2007. As usual for Trumpeter, the hull is in 2 pieces, divided at the waterline. It Consist of 400 styrene parts plus a small PE set for radars. GMM will be Releasing a comprehensive PE set. The already have a 1/700 set for this Class of ship therefore it will give you a good idea what will be available. Expect to pay about \$80 for this kit. The complete hull will be 18" long.

Hasegawa has announced the release of the Antarctic Observation ship Soya In 1/350. This ship was build in 1938 as a cargo icebreaker and was extensively used during WWII. In the 50's she was converted to her present role. Since the 70's the Soya has been docked at the Tokyo Museum of Science And Technology. The kit consist of 180 parts, Hasegawa has a specific PE Set for this ship,

Revell Germany has re-released their Dresden /Emden kit. It is already Available in Europe. There are not release date for the US.



Imperial Russian Cruiser Varyag , Szevda 1/350

This styrene kit was released about 2 years ago. Being overshadowed by all the Trumpeter releases and the Hasegawa Mikasa. Nevertheless it was a best seller in the ship builder community. A very nice kit for the fraction of the cost of a resin kit. The kit has a lot of molded on details, the level of which is very comprehensive enabling to build this kit "out of the box". The dedicated superdetailer will want to use the GMM PE set. Also available is a set of laser cut wood for a more "authentic wood" deck. Unlike Hasegawa and Trumpeter kits, this kit was not designed with PE application in mind, therefore a lot of scrapping and filling will be necessary to remove the styrene parts that are replaced with PE.

The Varyag was build in the US by Cramp & Son of Philadelphia.

Length ; 425 ft

Beam ; 52 ft

Draught ; 19.5 ft

Displacement ; 6500 tons later raised to 8000 tons

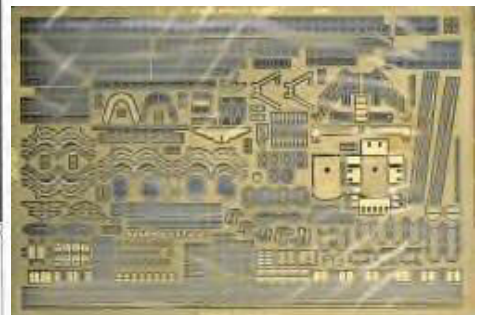
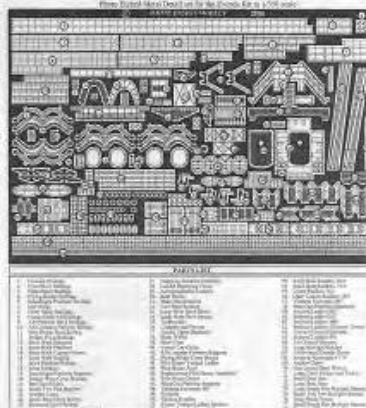
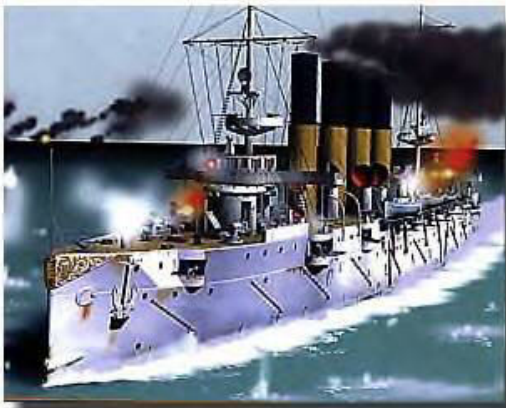
Crew ; 528

Armament ; 12, 152mm QF guns. 12, 75mm QF guns.

The name Varyag comes from the Russian for Varangians. The Varangians were the Viking guards of the Bizantine emperors. After 1066, most of the Varangian guard were made of Saxons which fled the Normand invasion of Britain.

Originally painted white and buff, the Varyag was soon repainted grey then green when send to the Far East. After leaving Port Arthur for Tschemulso, she was intercepted by a force of Japanese cruisers. The Russian gun crew were decimated by Japanese gunfire. The Russian guns did not have shields (all cruisers build in other countries for Russia had shielded guns). The Varyag was scuttled by her crew but recovered by the Japanese. They used it as a training ship until 1916 when it was returned to Russia. In 1917 the ship was send to Liverpool for refitting. In 1918 the Russian crew raised the red flag but soon after the ship was seized by the Royal Navy and scrapped in the 1920's.

The Varyag had a short and unhappy career, most of the shortcomings were caused by the builders insistance of fitting different boilers from what



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