

JOHN THIRION'S 1/32 MORANE SAULNIER



MAD DOG

IPMS BOISE

MONTHLY

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SEATTLE SHOW REPORT

BY GEORGE BACON

THE SCUTTLEBUTT

WITH JOHN THIRION



BRIAN GEIGER'S TYPE 2 KA-MI AMPHIBIOUS TANK

MODEL OF THE MONTH



1/35 Dragon Type 2 Ka-Mi Amphibious tank
by Brian Geiger

meeting models



1/35 Tamiya StuG III G
by Brian Geiger



1/48 Academy F-15D Eagle
by Randy Hall



1/48 Testors T-33 Talon
by John Wilch



1/144 EKA-3B Whale
by Herb Arnold



1/144 A-4F Skyhawk
by Herb Arnold

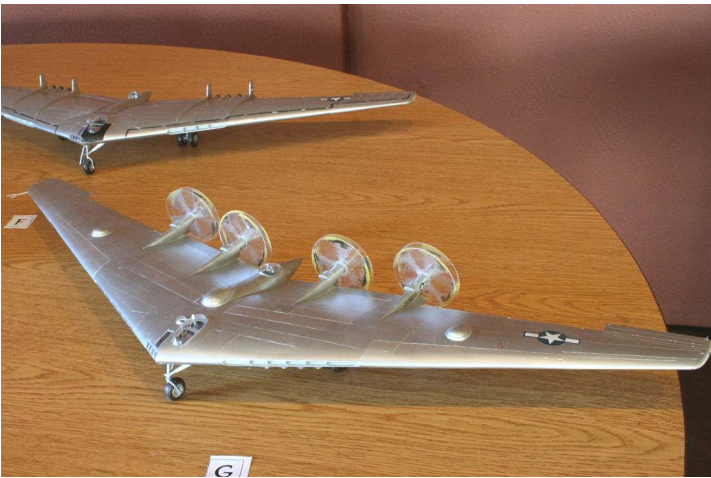
meeting models



1/72 Berliner Joyce Y1P-16
by Herb Arnold



1/48 Revell Swift Boat
by Jim Burton



1/72 AMT Northrop XB-35 & YB-49
by Jim Burton



1/72 AMT Northrop XB-35 & YB-49
by Jim Burton



1/72 Aoshima P-63 Kingcobra racer
by Terry Falk



1/72 Revell P-39 racer
by Terry Falk

meeting models



1/32 Special Hobby Morane Saulnier
by John Thirion



1/144 Revell Space Shuttle Enterprise
by Bill Speece



1/12 Rob Roy Canoe Yawl
by Dan Cripe



Scratch-built wood kit



1/32 Academy F-18 Hornet
by Ed White



Custom Air Tank
by Larry Van Bussum

meeting models



Jeff D'Andrea
Arlen Marshall
Herb Arnold
rotating members
Brian Geiger
John Cromarty

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Seattle Spring Show A Grandfather's Perspective

It wasn't their first rodeo. I've been taking my grand kids to the Seattle Model Contest for several years now, ever since they were tall enough to reach up over the display table and grab a tank by the barrel. However, this was the first time I took more than two at once.

On April 27, we descended on the Renton Community Center in full force. I had six grandchildren in tow (ages 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 13). They all live in the Seattle area, so transportation wasn't a big issue. Wrangling was, and they kept me pretty busy. I never had a chance to take a single photo or look carefully at all the entries. I was lucky to have time to get my own models out on the display tables. Luckily, my daughter was there to help (she owns two of the six). Don't know how many times I said, "don't touch the models!"

You may know, the Seattle show has a continuous raffle every year. It's a great event, filled with donated models and books. There are multiple winners with each drawing (about thirty), and drawings happen every half hour. If you buy ten raffle tickets, you're almost certain to win something. Except for some special prizes that are awarded every two hours, the winner selects a model off the shelf. I bet a couple hundred models were given away during the day.

When we first got there, I shelled-out \$60 for handfuls of raffle tickets. That gave each kid about eleven tickets with grandpa holding a



small strategic reserve. Besides using the tickets I purchased, the kids have learned to stand at the raffle table and looked sad and cute. Although it's an old ploy, even Rommel himself would be proud of such tactics. Unsuspecting old guys - like us - give them raffle tickets. It's especially effective for the little ones, who look sadder and cuter than the rest. Each kid ended up with about thirty extra tickets. We modelers are such an easy touch...

Needless to say, we came home with a car load of loot. Each kid won three models! The best (I think) was Tamiya's King Tiger - Ardennes version. That's a \$70 model!

My 12 year old grandson won that. Even though I told them they could keep whatever they won, he won't give it to me - little brat...

Trying to keep six kids entertained and fed for six or seven hours is no small task. But grandpa was smart. Walking the several miles to the nearest restaurant killed some time. I also brought a pile of sporting equipment -



Frisbees, basketball, Nerf football etc. The Renton Community Center has some wonderful fields. But this is Seattle. We played soccer with a basketball in the pouring rain on wet grass. What fun. Not.

All's well that ends well. Nobody died, and no models were harmed in the making of this family outing. The kids had a blast and ended up building models late into night after we got home. As a touching tribute, my 10-year old granddaughter gifted me with one of her winnings. To me, an armor modeler with a passion for mud, rust and realism, it was a touching gesture. Does anybody know if the Germans would have used the Ambush camouflage scheme on a Monogram NASCAR 50th Anniversary Gold Plated Commemorative Chevy?

- George Bacon



New Releases

Some interesting releases in the world of ship modeling. First as reference, **French cruiser 1922-1956**. This book follows the book by the same authors *French Battleships 1922-1956*. The book is divided into 6 chapters, each covering a specific class of cruisers. Heavy on technical details and construction specifics. Numerous photos and drawing made this book into a perfect reference. \$75 from the Naval Institute Press.

French destroyer "Le terrible" 1/350, resin. from Kombrig.

This is one of the French super destroyers. By US and British standards they would be classified as light cruisers. Their high speed and heavy armament, but short range, made them ideal for action in the Mediterranean Sea. The kit was made in cooperation with Box261, which means that we have railings included with the PE. Cost about \$200.

USS Chimo, 1/192 by Flagship Models, resin. A single turret monitor from the Civil War converted into a torpedo boat. Did carry an 11 inch gun into an open position in place of the turret which mane the craft too top heavy. Some scratch building is necessary but the material is provided. Instructions are at time somewhat nebulous with this manufacturer but more than adequate with this kit. Some of the PE part could be challenging, such as the stanchions or other boat accessories which requires to have several PE parts layered, such as the boat davits. Price \$95.

On another subject, for those interested in "period" movies there is a Spanish movie

"Alatriste" which was released several years ago. It is the story of a Spanish Captain during the 17th century. Intrigues, duels, assassinations, great scenery and finally the famous battle of Rocroi against the French.

Alatriste is played by Vigo Mortensen.



Francisca

Not a girl's name or an order of monks but the deadly throwing axe of the Franks. Many Germanic tribes used throwing axes as weapon but the Franks were the only one that used with coordinations during battle. The Francisca was a fairly light weapon at less than 2 pounds and had a curved handle. Each warrior did carry several weapons. Both Romans and the Moors who had to face the weapons stated that they were very efficient and caused massive casualties against both infantry and cavalry. Beside the over-handed throw, the weapon was thrown in a sideways stance bouncing off the ground at odd angles and causing debilitating injuries to the lower extremities. The weapon lost its military significance after the reign of Charlemagne but was still used in the back country of France. Indeed the Indian in Canada were surprised to see the French "coureur des bois" being so proficient at using the throwing axe.

- John Thirion