

**TREVOR ROBERTSON'S 1/35 DRAGON TIGER I**



# **MAD DOG** *IPMS BOISE* **MONTHLY**

May 2012 - Volume 12, Number 05

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WITH JOHN THIRION



**JOHN THIRION'S ZVEZDA BALTIC HANSA COG CRUSADERS SHIP**

## D'AL DENTE

With Mothers day having come and gone. I thought I would share an article I found on the Internet. I am sure many of our wife's or sweethearts feel this way. I know mine does. ☺



**Jeff D**

### LIFE AS A PLASTIC WIDOW

By Lorelei Bryan

My husband and I were enjoying the rare treat of having dinner out alone; (rare because we have two teenage daughters at home and one grown daughter who lives a half mile away). I was deriving great pleasure from the time alone as well as from the stimulating adult conversation. One of the things I have always loved about my husband is his ability to carry on an intellectual conversation on nearly any subject imaginable.

He is well read and well informed so the potential topics of conversation are virtually limitless. We were discussing, without interruption from the children or the dog, everything from the state of the plants in the yard to the state of the world. We had just begun a fascinating dialogue on the ozone layer and global warming when...the inevitable occurred. The conversation suddenly turned to plastic.

Yes, it's true. I am a "Plastic Widow." My husband is an avid modeler and this means that every aspect of our lives is somehow connected to modeling and, hence, to plastic.

Never heard of a *Plastic Widow*? Oh come, now. Certainly you are familiar with Football Widows, Basketball Widows, or Hockey Widows? These terms refer to the wives or girlfriends of men who are so obsessed with these sports that they have had to make allowances for their husbands' passion in their

lives and homes in order to keep the relationship in existence. A *Plastic Widow* endures the same fate with the exception that, instead of sharing her husband's attention with sporting events, she shares her husband with his undying devotion to modeling.



Most of us know that our husbands are plastic junkies long before they become our husbands. If this is the case, we have no one to blame but ourselves for our predicament. We knew what we were getting into. For instance:

*Plastic knows no season; there will be modeling year round.*

*We will be shown each piece at each stage and expected to say, "Wow!" and marvel at his craftsmanship.*

*We might as well add plastic, glue, and paint to the budget. It will be purchased; resistance is futile.*

*We must lower our expectations of organization. It's not a mess, it's a project.*

*There are hobby shops in every vacation spot you may visit.*

*There will be shows and competitions at which we will stand around and...well...stand around.*



*Plastic junkies are afflicted with "modeler's disease." They buy far more kits than they will ever build. There is no cure and they wouldn't take it if there was one.*

*And last, but not least, every single topic of conversation can and will be related, in some way, shape, or form, to plastic modeling.*

That reminds me... wondering how a discussion on global warming morphed into a conversation about plastic? Any *Plastic Widow* knows that this was actually a short trip. Global warming is responsible for the deterioration of the ozone layer. The depletion of the ozone layer has led to scientific research on methods of producing plastic that are more environmentally friendly. Implementation of these new methods of production will cost the model companies more and, consequently, the increase will be passed on to the consumer and the price of model kits will go up. So, it stands to reason that global warming is responsible for the rising cost

of the tools of the trade for our passionate modelers. Any questions?

While all of this may sound rather overwhelming, the true *Plastic Widow* knows that, while his eyes may light up at the sight of '78 Corvette Sport Coupe or a Panzer Battalion Series kit, his heart still beats for the woman who stands by him as the winners are called out at the show. He knows that she is the one who will be beaming with pride when he is handed the award or the one who will tell him how his piece was much better and should have won when his name is passed over. She is his biggest fan and his sounding board. She pretends to understand what he explains about his plans for his next build.

The *Plastic Widow* is a woman who loves a man who loves to model. If she is wise, she will use this to her advantage. Remember...for every kit or supply of paint, every bottle of glue or package of after-market supplies that is purchased, therein lies leverage for that pair of shoes, that new outfit, or that dinner out that of which she has been dreaming. Of course, the conversation during dinner will always turn to plastic, but, hey, we Plastic Widows knew that would happen all along. We're used to it.



Jeff D'Andrea

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John Cromarty

Chapter Contact

**MODEL OF THE MONTH**

**meeting models**



**Zvezda Hansa Cog  
by John Thirion**



**1/48 Knoll Ranch Water Tank  
by Gil Flores**



**1/72 MH-53J Stallion Pave Low III  
by Herb Arnold**



**1/72 UH-34D Sea Horse  
by John Wilch**



**1/24 AMT 1941 Ford Woody  
by John Burton**



**1/32 Tamiya F-15 E  
by Ed White**

# meeting models



1/48 ProModeler F-84 G diorama  
by Bill Miller



1/35 Dragon Tiger I  
by Trevor Robertson



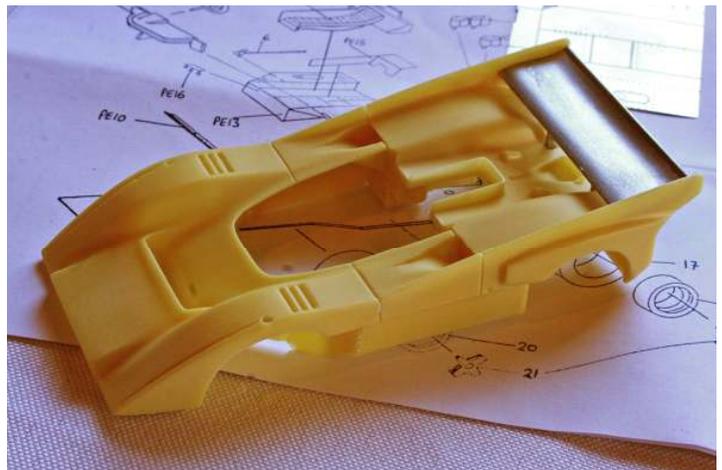
1/200 Verlinden U.S.S. Monitor Civil War Ironclad  
by Bill Speece



1/24 Fujimi Porsche 911 Carrera Cabriolet  
by Brian Geiger



1/35 Dragon M-26 Pershing  
by Trevor Robertson



1/43 Marsh Models McLaren M8D Can Am  
by Paul Erendson

# meeting models



1/32 Tamiya P-51 D in progress  
by Darrin Bringman



Congratulations again to all who participated in the Seattle Spring Show  
Photos by John King



## Castle Building

The French (them again) have decided that the best way to learn about medieval construction was to build a castle. The castle in question is to represent a typical 13th century fortress. About 50 people are employed, only construction material and tools typical of the era are used. The workers are dressed in medieval garb, at time safety equipments must be used. Members of the public are also to be involved on a volunteers basis. The universities of Lyon and Bordeaux offer credits in Archeology, Art, Architecture, and Castleology for people working on the site. Tours of the site are available and it is estimated that about 300,000 people visit the site every year. The project was started in 1997 and should be completed by 2025. More information is available at <http://www.guedelon.fr/en/>.

I would really like to see them starting a cathedral!

I am not an armor modeler by the strict definition of the term but could not help be interested by the models available from DRAKKAR Models in 1/35. Most of them are bunkers and turrets of Russian, but mostly French tanks, captured and used on pillboxes. The prices are very modest and they can be a great building base for dioramas. I found them on nordlandmodels.com, a mail order company in the Czech Republic.

### New Model from a New company

Most modelers of naval subjects are aware of the Russian companies Combrig and Box 261. Both have released some very interesting Russian naval subjects. A new Russian company has entered the fray, Wake Model out

of Siberia. This is a one man operation. His first release is Admiral Ushakov. The interesting aspect of the kit is that it is resin and hollow. This is achieved by molding the top and lower hull separately and then joining them together at the factory. Only mild clean up appear to be necessary. As a plus, all the necessary PE are provided including the railing, albeit without the bottom runner.



The Admiral Ushakov was a small ship, only 285 feet long and was classified as a Coastal battleship not adequate for high sea fleet operation. Nevertheless the ship was sent as part of the Pacific Squadron and was sunk on the second day of the battle of Tsushima.

- John Thirion

