

DAVID STANSELL'S MAKE 'N TAKE TABLE DISPLAY



MAD DOG

IPMS BOISE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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MAD DOG MODELER INTERVIEW

DYNAMIC ROBERTSON DUO

THE SCUTTLEBUTT

WITH JOHN THIRION



ARLEN MARSHALL'S 1/25 AMT/ERTL CATERPILLAR BULLDOZER

FOOTHILLS FESTIVAL

make 'n take



make 'n take



make 'n take



The Dynamic Robertson Duo



Time for another Maddog Modeler Interview, and our subjects are a couple of well-known stalwarts to the club. Ian and Trevor are long-time members, and consistently bring quality work to our meetings. Is there a plastic gene passed down from father to son? An evolutionary disposition for scale accuracy? Can modeling craftsmanship be passed along through DNA? Will a breed of supermodeler humans soon take over the planet? By the end of this interview, we'll have the answer...

Let's start with the basics; who are they and how did they wind up in Boise?

Ian Charles Robertson is a 45 year old Biology Professor at BSU, and Trevor Charles Robertson is a 13 year old student and the

progeny of said professor. Simple enough. Both are from the hinterlands of the frozen north, Oilberta, and Canadian by birth. Ian had finished his graduate studies and young Trevor had just popped out of the womb when the opportunity to escape from behind the "Maple Curtain" came. Yearning to breathe the air of freedom, where modelers aren't forced to endlessly build Sea Furies and CF-105's, they made a mad dash across the border to the U. S. of A. Warmly embraced in their new homeland, Ian found work at BSU and immediately began supporting kit, resin and photoetch manufacturers from around the world with American dollars. For his part, Trevor quickly integrated and excelled within the Boise school system and now speaks perfect American English. (This is a source of chagrin to his father, who still can be heard saying "zed", "colours" and "homo milk"...)

What started their interest in modeling?

Ian remembers getting Monogram 1/48 Shermans and Mustangs for Christmas and birthdays, as well as trips taken with his Dad to local airfields and museums. ("From such wellsprings of nostalgia are great modelers borne", as someone famous should have said...) And as Ian accurately observed in our conversation, an appreciation of the sweep of 20th century history was part of the legacy handed down from our father's generation, including stories of the machines they built, sailed, rode or flew into battle. What young man could hear those tales and not be stirred? How could they resist building small models as totems of these national sagas? (Well, if you were good at sports or could impress girls, maybe those were more useful activities...) In

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carve from bars of soap...) Second, accurate representation is not optional! In-depth study of good references, a separate pursuit quite enjoyable in itself, is committed for all his work as

any event, Ian did have other interests which followed him to adulthood: fish. You know, the colorful little ones that you put in tanks, and then watch go back and forth. They're fascinating! And this is a hobby he's also nurtured since childhood, now reaching the point where several tanks of multiple species cohabit with the Robertson family. For Trevor, then, the introduction to modeling was simply extended by one generation. Dad's totems looked interesting, and he took a liking to them! Although starting from a similar exposure to multiple subjects, Trevor has developed a preference for armored vehicles. He is now, quite proudly, a "tank man". Which brings us to...

What do they like to model and why?

For Ian, the range of armor and aircraft subjects from WWII has been a consistent source of inspiration for the many years he has wielded the south end of an Exacto knife. However, having reached his "modeling maturity", he explained that his subject selections now follow a specific and refined internal compass. First, kit quality is important. He gets the best results from the best kits, so that path is clear. (Let others

completely as possible. If a detail shows up in a grainy photo taken on the steppes of Russia in 1944, that detail will be accurately interpreted and present on his model. (Speaking of Russia, Ian is currently building upon a theme, illustrating the battle of Kursk through its vehicular and aerial participants.) And as those who are familiar with his work know, Ian has an impressive reputation for quantity as well as quality. He can work with frightening efficiency, and recalled a time when he turned out "a model every two weeks or so, for years..."! This identifies Ian as one of a truly tiny group of senior modelers who may actually die without leaving behind a huge stash of unbuilt kits. (That stash is currently 212 aircraft, 54 armor, 9 Sci-Fi, and 2 dinosaurs... not an insurmountable backlog at all for the Canadian professor...) He is also one of the exclusive minority who have actually gained commercial benefit from their hobby, having provided several "prototypes" for the ready-made model industry. Although he no longer does this, he described it as an interesting and profitable diversion which clarified what he enjoys about the hobby.

And Trevor? His satisfaction lies in building that mechanical beast of the battlefield, the

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tank. Wheeled vehicles, armored cars and open-topped mobile guns are better left to those of weaker spirits. Pressed to name a favorite, he concedes an admiration for the Tiger I, and has modeled this classic AFV in his preferred 1/35 scale. Trevor works with the same efficiency as his dad, and is unburdened by the weight of any 'stash' hanging over his head. Instead, it's possible the old man's armor kits may find their way to his workbench, a phenomenon which Ian calls "trickle-down modelnomics". Trevor also has a second hobby (not unusual for his generation), which is a deep and instinctual facility with computer simulations and games. Adept in "World of Tanks", "Call of Duty", and "World at War", he also is extremely capable at an application that actually allows him to completely design, construct and operate a tank (or any other machine) within a virtual environment. Seeing him create something from scratch into a functioning digital representation made me



feel like I was, well, playing with plastic models in comparison...

Currently on the workbench?

Ian: Focke-Wulf Fw-190V-18 "Kanguruh"

Trevor: Kliment Voroshilov KV-1 heavy tank

Let's see the factory floor...

After the grueling interview session, Ian and Trevor took me on a tour of their workspaces and display areas. Trevor enjoys a work desk in his bedroom, where he can inhale the sweet smell of polystyrene night and day. Ian has a reference library space (small but impressive) directly next to his workshop (also small but impressive). He also has an excellent and compact set-up for model photography; well-lit and well thought out. This is no accident, and it became clear that taking clear and attractive photographs of his finished subjects is an important finale to his entire modeling process. And it's a fact: Superbly executed models, beautifully photographed, have made Ian's work consistently admired in the many websites and print sources that they've appeared. (He photographs his fish, too, but I don't know if they're equally popular...)

Let me finish by expressing thanks to Ian and Trevor for their time and generous hospitality.

(I never did find out about that breed of supermodelers taking over the planet...)

- Herb Arnold



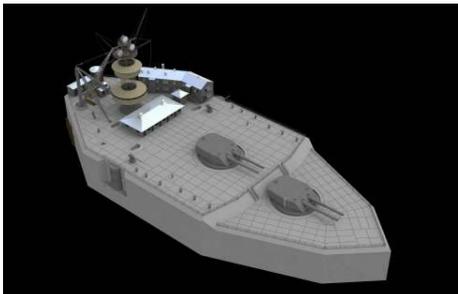
New Releases

Hobby Boss 1/350 German Type 212 submarine



If you are looking for a fairly simple weekend project that may give a sense of achievement this may be the kit for you. A two pieces hull, coning tower, plastic or PE propeller plus various bits and pieces, to this you also have an attractive brass nameplate and you will have a great little model one of the most modern non atomic submarines at an affordable \$15.00.

Blue Ridge Models 1/350 Fort Drum



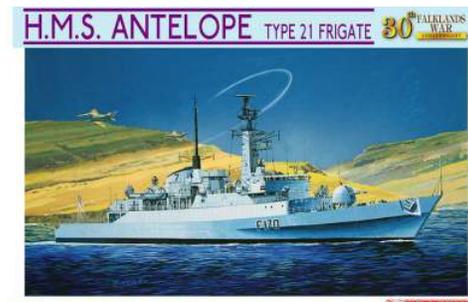
For those with a deeper purse and looking for a more challenging and unusual model this concrete battleship is certainly a good candidate.

For your money you will get a big chunk of resin (one piece mold) some smaller resin parts for the gun turrets and the temporary housing that was build on top of the structure, four brass gun barrels and the necessary PE to make the intricate derrick hoist and cage mast.

Dragon 1/700 Antelope

Our British friends are going crazy about this one, not in delight but frustration.

Apparently the hull is more 1/600 scale while the superstructure is 1/700. Also the kit which is advertised as being able to be build waterline has the



waterline at the wrong place. Much unhappiness from those who did purchase this kit. Dragon should follow Trumpeter and fix the kit and provide for a free exchange.

Loose Canon 1/700 USS Paktoka

This company has the reputation for releasing some very obscure subject and this is certainly a good example. This tanker was build in 1919 and was extensively used to ship oil to Europe. In 1924 it was modified to be used as an airship tender and was fitted with a very large docking tower at the stern. Looking at the very extensive and intricate PE frets I

believe that this would appeal only to those who are very experienced with this medium.

Trivia

Did you know that the original Renwal Polaris submarine had a playboy bunny scribed on the bulkhead of the crew quarter. This was later removed in subsequent releases when the NOW group complained and threatened to boycott the company. The same organization was instrumental in having Monogram terminate their monster collection.

Medieval History

Most of us are not aware that the most feared soldiers during the 14th to the 16th century were the Swiss. From Morgarten in 1315 to Marignano they were unbeatable. At Marignano they faced a combination of French Medieval cavalry, German Landsknecht and French artillery and arquebusiers. The two days bloodbath is often referred as the first modern battle when the French used a combination of shock (heavy armored cavalry), infantry, and artillery to defeat the feared Swiss pike squares. Total casualties for the two day battles (which lasted during the night of the first day) was 8.000 French dead and 14.000 Swiss.

- John Thirion

president's message

D'AL DENTE

It was good to be at the meeting again. Still no model room set up. But hey I did buy some more models! That has got to count for something. Hopefully before November's meeting I will be all set up and ready to work again.

Speaking of November's meeting, I want to put out a big reminder for the Theme of the month "Movie, TV, SciFi, Fantasy." Or as I think I'll call it;



That pretty much covers all the areas mentioned.

It has been about a year since our last give away so I think it is time for another one. We have another Poster challenge at the meeting. This time we will have 1st, 2nd and 3rd place gift certificates. (sorry Herb for the late notice ☺) So make sure you bring your thinking caps to try and identify as many models from Movies, TV, SciFi and Fantasy as you can. There will be some easy and some not so much. Hope to see you all there.



Jeff D