

**DEREK SANTOS' 1966 BATMOBILE**



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

*December 2012 - Volume 12, Number 12*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*D'AL DENTE*

**MEETING PHOTO GALLERY**

*VISIT THE ONLINE GALLERY*

**THE SCUTTLEBUTT**

*WITH JOHN THIRION*



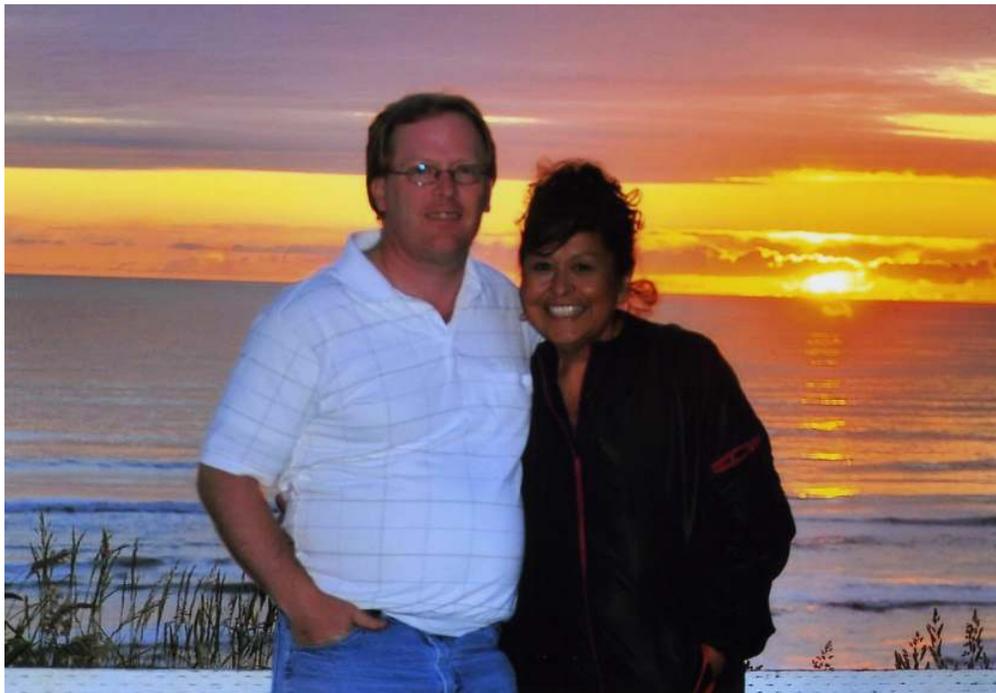
**IAN ROBERTSON'S 1/12 STAR WARS SPEEDER BIKE**

## D'AL DENTE

Here's wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas. Hopefully you'll find some fresh plastic under the tree.

It's been an exciting month for many Mad Dogs. Congratulations to Paul Erlendson on his clean bill-of-health after his chemo treatment! Congratulations to Bill & Gloria Speece who were married on December first!

We look forward to sharing another fun-filled year ahead.



**MOVIE/TV/SCIFI/FANTASY THEME CONTEST**

**meeting models**



(L to R) Ed White, Ian Robertson, Herb Arnold  
Winners!



1<sup>st</sup> Place 1/12 AMT/ERTL Speeder Bike  
by Ian Robertson



2<sup>nd</sup> Place Apollo 13 Service Module & LEM  
by Ed White



3<sup>rd</sup> Place 1/25 Eagles Talon Northrop M2-F2  
by Herb Arnold



1/32 Macross Robotech VE-1 Elintseeker  
by Jim Burton



1/48 resin Advanced Cylon Raider  
by Bill Speece

# meeting models



Seaview  
by Jim Burton



1/25 AMT Nash Bridges '71 Cuda Convertible  
by John Wilch



1/458 Monogram Kazon Battle Cruiser  
By John Wilch



1/32 Monogram Blue Thunder Helicopter  
by Terry Falk



1/25 (Tow) Mater  
by Jim Burton



1/25 Lightning McQueen  
by Jim Burton

# meeting models



1/48 AMT/ERTL Star Wars Trade Federation Droid Fighter  
by Brian Geiger



1/25 Polar Lights 1966 Batmobile  
by Derek Santos



1/16 Tamiya HVSS Sherman  
by Dan Cripe



1/16 Tamiya M4(105) Howitzer Sherman  
by Dan Cripe



1/25 1955 Chevy Pace Car  
by Jim Burton



1/25 1953 Hudson Hornet  
by Jim Burton



1/12 Soldat Wolf Girl  
by Randy Hall



1/15 AMT/ERTL Star Wars Rancor  
by Jim Burton



1/12 Solarwind Vampirella  
by Randy Hall



Hasbro 3D Figure Painter Darth Maul  
by Brian Geiger

# meeting models



1/72 Revell Super Catalina from "Always"  
by Terry Falk



1/35 Dragon Ersatz M10  
by Trevor & Ian Robertson



1/35 Tamiya StuG III hybrid in progress  
by Brian Geiger



1/35 Tamiya KV-1B  
by Trevor Robertson



1/35 Dragon M4A1 Sherman in progress  
by Trevor Robertson



## New Releases



### Uschi Van der Rosten

#### High Quality Wood Grain Decals 1/32 Super Fine by Ronni Bar

This German company has been releasing some interesting items, one being decals made to represent wood panels. This set designed by Ronni Barand is made to complement the WNW Albatros kit. Not a surprise Ronni is the artist behind the color files of WNW manuals. It might be just me but the drawings and the lettering of the Uschi website remind me of the pre WWII german propoganda posters. Uschi also has stencils for WWII german armor camouflauge.

### Aoshima 1/350 Light cruiser Isuzu

The Isuzu was launched in 1921 and was one of a



class of 6 ships build for the Japanese Navy as flagships for destroyer groups. Laong and narrow (534 feet by 48 feet) it was the typical inter war cruiser. Somewhat odd looking with a large tower like superstructure at the bow then just funnels and guns on the rest of the hull. Aoshima is offering two PE sets for this ship. The first is the "universal" which only contains the railing, the second is referred as the "exclusive" and contains ladders, doors, etc...



## New Releases

### **Madman Lighting Inc.**

This company is offering a lighting kit for carrier hangar. It contains a controller card, LED's, shrink tubes, fiber optics, and a CD ROM for instructions.

### **Combrig Resin 1/350**

HMS Lord Nelson; Last pre-dreadnaught class build for the RN. An interesting armament layout with one turret at the bow and one at the stern, then 6 more spread on each side. This must have been a nightmare to design an appropriate protection for the ammunition storage.

Imperator Nicolai I; Built for the Imperial Russian Navy, its construction was plagued and delayed by numerous design changes. Another Russian ship of the Russo-Japanese war, soon we will be able to reconstruct the entire Russian fleet at Tsushima. After the battle of Tsushima this ship was taken over by the Japanese as the Iishi and was used as a gunnery training ship. Later it was sunk as target by the Kongo and Hiei.

Combrig offers some very interesting and obscure ships that will never see the light as styrene models, also they offer the option to have the kit as water line (discounted price) or full hull. But for the last several years their offerings has been lacking PE for the railings which is a major problem with pre WWI ships of different nations which had some very distinct and different styles of railing. This is surprising when many major manufacturer of styrene kits are now including some very comprehensive PE with their new releases.

### **News from the Medieval Era**

To many visitors the great stained glasses of Canterbury Cathedral are an epitome of medieval art. Sadly they are fakes, made early part of the last century by Samuel Caldwell jr who died in 1963 at the age of 102. Sam was a great artist but wasn't good enough to fake historians, just tourist and gullible publishers of schoolbooks who still include photos of the Cathedral windows as example of medieval art!

Why is there so much disparity between the size of armies in the antiquity and the medieval era? During the antiquity large empires like Rome and Persia had the financial resources to maintain large armies. Command and control was easier with professional soldiers. The Emperor had the ultimate power and decision making and had total control over the resources of the empire. Medieval kings had to deal with barons, dukes, lords and free cities always reluctant to give power to the king.

Rome could easily put in the field armies totaling a dozen legions. At Cannae the Romans had 80,000 men in the field, at Carrhae they had 60,000, Lake Trasimene they fielded 65,000. In the invasion of Gaul Ceasar could count on over 100,000 legionnaires.

In the Medieval period most armies were well below 20,000. Only three battles had large numbers of men, at Bouvines the French and Imperialist fielded armies of over 20,000 men each, at Grunwald the Teutonic Knight had 27,000 men and the Poles 39,000.

# The Scuttlebutt

The largest battle of the medieval period was Las Navas de Tolosa during the Reconquista when the Castillian/Aragonese/ crusader army had 50,000 men and faced the Almohad Muslim army had over 100,000 men.

Chinese armies were always very large and were composed of soldiers farmers with a small core of professionals. Most Chinese armies were in the hundred of thousands. The invention of the blast furnace in china facilitated the production of weapon in large enough quantities and the advent of precision seeding of crops instead of scattering seeds facilitated harvesting.

The movement of such large numbers of men has always been a problem. The Romans

could move their legion over the excellent road system throughout the empire but most Roman roads were only 8 feet wide while Chinese roads were 40 feet wide. One road between two main cities was 190 feet wide. Large amounts of men could be moved on such road without stretching the army over dozens of miles. In one battle against the Mongols, the Chinese fielded an army of 550,000 men. To face such an army, Genghis Kan had to gather the entire strength of Mongolia and had 125,000 warriors (the largest ever for a Mongol army). In medieval Europe most Roman roads had fallen into disrepair and most roads were dirt tracts only a few feet wide.

- John Thirion



Jeff D'Andrea

President

Arlen Marshall

Vice President

Herb Arnold

Treasurer

*rotating members*

Secretary

Brian Geiger

Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

John Cromarty

Chapter Contact