

Konstantin Rickford's Musashi



MAD DOG

IPMS BOISE MONTHLY

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Scuttlebutt

Theme Gallery

Model of the Month

Robby, you devil you!



What! Somebody Messin' with the newsletter? Yep!

Editor's Notes

Somebody is messing with your newsletter, me! The former Editor at Large. Arlen relinquished the newsletter for reasons I can't comment on, nor will speculate on. Ask him. Anyway, after working out some technical issues with software I'm getting this thing chugging down the track. I don't have any plans on changing too much, for now. I will continue to passively pander for any articles you care to submit. Trivia, event news, and just general modeling skullduggery will be welcome. After all, this is YOUR newsletter! I'm just borrowing it for right now, and who knows, I might just resort to shadow puppetry at a boring PowerPoint presentation. I digress. On with the show.

ビルドしない場合には短すぎる静物

Life's too short to not build!

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This is almost as crazy as 1/700th scale ships and 1/200th scale airplanes with full cockpits. I said almost. This is the turret of the Revell of Germany 1/72nd T-90. Surprisingly, the fit of the parts is quite good, but trust me, I did some time on the floor trying to find tiny parts that I fat fingered. Trickiest parts were the three piece smoke grenade launchers. *Your Editor at Large*

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness to report the passing of Rick Chin. A few of the long time Mad Dog members will have known Rick. “Uncle” Rick, as he was known, was a fixture in the modeling club scene in Calgary. His shop, Uncle Bill’s Hobbies, was the go to place in Calgary for modelers in need of the latest kits and all their supplies. He was also quite an accomplished modeler himself with many contest winning models to his name. He was also a fanatical aviation enthusiast and aviation photographer. He had a special affinity for the Idaho Air National Guard and that’s where I met him. I had the pleasure of giving him tours on Gowen’s flightline and he had struck many a friendship with the IDANG’s aircrew. When an Idaho plane went to an airshow in Calgary, Rick was always the host and made sure those pilots had a good time. If you got a set of IDANG A-10 decals from me, those were produced by Uncle Rick. He was also instrumental in getting Leading Edge Decals to produce IDANG F-4G Wild Weasel decals. The modeling world, Canada, and Calgary have lost another one of the truly colorful characters. My condolences go to Rick’s family.

The Scuttlebutt

May saw another great meeting for the Boise IPMS. The “Japan” theme was very well attended, Konstantine got first place with his Tamiya Yamato, Herb got 3rd place with his Flying boat Shin Meiwa, and truly yours, second place with the Hasegawa Mikasa.

I want to remind everyone of the themes for the remainder of the year;

August ; movie and TV, anything related to the afore mentioned.

September ; Models released prior to the 80's.

November ; Anything aquatic.

Trumpeter has now released the HMS Roberts (WWII), included is a very comprehensive PE set. It seems that has become a trend with Trumpeter. The only critique are the 15” inch gun barrels, but wait, some one already came with metal replacement!

Revell of Germany has released a class 214 boat in 1/144 which has become a very popular scale for submarines.

Takom is now offering a Saint-Chamond, sacrebleu another French WWI tank in 1/35. Maybe next year we should have a “French” theme. Hope to see more WWI tanks (there are not too many left).

(John, you forgot the Tamiya British Mk. IV Male tank!-Ed.)

The summer is always “the slow season” for modeling, nevertheless I hope that all the sun and resulting Vitamin D will help rejuvenating the creative juices!

Darrin will be presiding over the June meeting in my absence (yes I messed up my work schedule) so everyone be nice.

Arlen has been having difficulties with his computer and acquiring a compatible editing program so Tom volunteered to step in and be in charge of the newsletter publishing for the time being.

Apparently, Hobbytown Nampa is closing, I am not sure of the reason but there probably wasn't a market in the valley for two hobby shops. Feel sorry for those who will lose their jobs.

I will leave you with a bit of medieval trivia. The myth of the Valkyries originated with the shield maidens, women who chose the warrior trade instead of the more common life expected from them. At the battle of Bravellir between the Swede and Danes, the Danes had 300 shield maidens. One, named Visna must have been a good enough warrior, she held the Danish standard and died defending it. The Viking saga.

John

Polar Lights Robby The Robot movie poster edition.

By Randy Hall



Polar Lights has finally done it! They've made a Robby the Robot with Altaira kit. And Anne Francis hasn't look this good in 40 years. Actually it doesn't look anything like Anne Francis. This is the movie poster version of Altaira and for a mass produced plastic figure it looks pretty good.

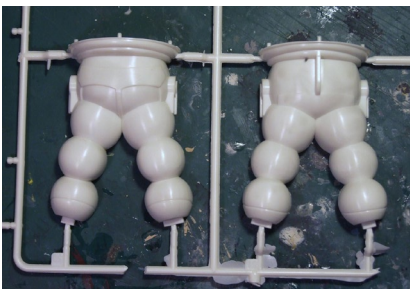
Altaira:

The girl figure is comprised of thirteen parts. Top and bottom legs, arms, torso, two for the hair and one for the head. She was designed to fit very snugly to Robby's chest so they left off most of her right side. Everything went together seamlessly with only the smallest of gaps between the left arm and shoulder. A little bit of putty and it vanished. For the rest, a little sanding eliminated the joint lines and Altaira was ready for primer, paint and makeup.



Robby:

I've already built the original version of Robby and noted that the mold's are beginning to show some age. Things not fitting together so well. The new parts don't share that problem, the arms and legs fit nicely. Again, a little sanding and no seems. The old parts like the torso and head pieces are a little bit softer than the parts from my first kit. I think a good five years or so had past since the two kits had been made and the molds have seen a fair amount of use.



Boy(robot) meets Girl:

The instructions say to leave off Robby's arms until final assembly otherwise you wont be able to get Altaira into where she needs to be. This is very important as I learned in test fitting. The best way is going to be to get her situated in Robby's arms and then attach the arms to his torso. I don't think glue will be necessary, she really is in there quite snug.





Painting:

For Altaira I decided to use acrylics. Mostly Model Color paint. They brush and blend much better than enamels. After airbrushing on Floquil primer gray(I know) I shot several coats of skin color I made from titanium white, raw and burnt sienna and red oxide. When that was dry I brushed her clothes white then yellow and then airbrushed on a layer of polished gold paint. For her hair I started with a coat of desert sand followed by a black wash, then several coats of progressively dryer dry brushing of yellow to white. The end effect is a layered blond hair look. I hope.

Robby is painted in Model Master gunmetal enamel. He's going to have quite a few lights inside him so thick paint for light blocking is a must. After airbrushing dark gray primer he got several coats

of gunmetal paint.

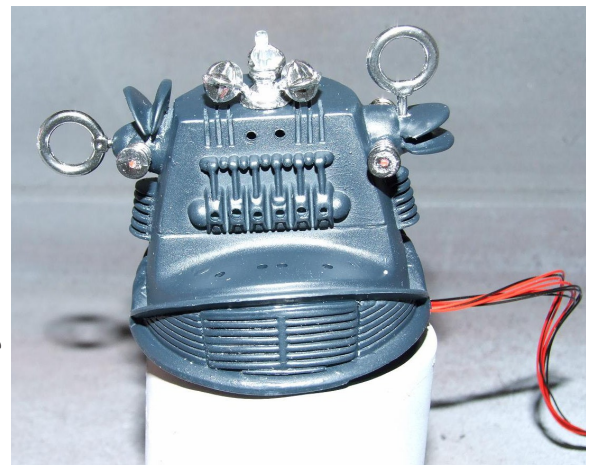
The chromed pieces were stripped with Easy Off oven cleaner and then painted with gloss black paint followed by Alclad Chrome. It just looks more "real" to me.

The base is painted with Model Color acrylic. A brown base with a dry brushing of tan on the highlights. The boulders were painted with orange brown. I found an image of the finished kit on-line where the boulders had been painted gunmetal blue. I really liked the look. It sort of tied Robby to the base, like he was made from the minerals in the rocks. Unfortunately I couldn't find gunmetal acrylic paint at Hobby Town, so I stayed with the brown.

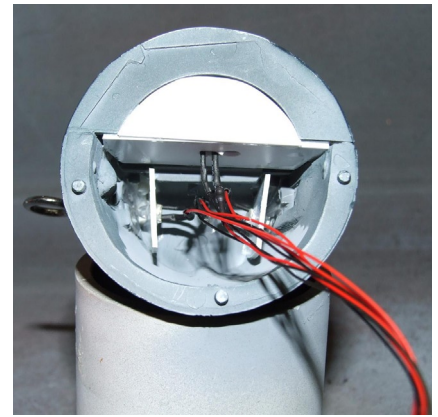
Lighting:

I found a great company on the Interweb called ModelTrainSoftware.com featuring Evan Designs LED's for model railroaders. They sell LED's that already come with resistor and wire leads for whatever voltage you specify and even with shipping charges it's less money than going to Radio Shack and doing all the work myself. I'm running everything off a single 9 volt battery in the base, so I had them wire all my LED's accordingly. Robby has a 3mm red light at the top of his dome, two 3mm blinking white lights on either side of his head for weapon neutralizers. Another 3mm flickering blue special effect light replicates his voice tubes. Two 3mm flashing red/white lights connected to fiber optic lines running to the chrome dials on his chest give a nice little light show.

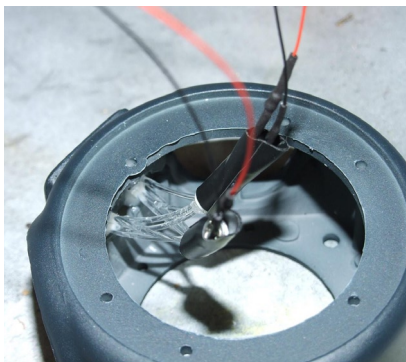
For the dome top light I glued the LED into the top of the main head housing in the hole meant for the main gyro stabilizer. Then I cut off the mounting peg and top half of the main gyro stabilizer and hollowed it out enough for the LED to fit inside it's base. A couple of clear costume beads glued on top with white glue catches the light and gives a nice indirect lighting effect.



The weapon neutralizers were a bit of a problem. They came as solid plastic pieces and somehow I was supposed to make the ends flash. I started by hollowing them out with a 1mm drill bit and fitting a length of red florescent fiber through them into the clear Transducers domes they sit on. Florescent fiber is a cousin of fiber optic, but instead of transmitting light from one end to another, it gathers ambient light along it's length and then shines out the end. The white LED's I mounted inside Robby's head shine into the clear Transducers and light the florescent fibers making the weapon neutralizes flash.



Neon tubes running at seven thousand volts lite Robby's voice box on screen, I'm using nine volts to light mine. Evan Designs makes a flickering LED for model railroading that mimics glowing coals or a steam engine's fire box. I made a little box from plastic card stock to fit behind the clear plastic voice tube to hold the LED and when lite gives a fair impression of Robby talking.



It's hard to notice on screen, but the dials on Robby's chest each have four white lights that blink randomly. I tried replicating this with two LEDs that flash from red to white. I white glued them into short lengths of plastic tubing and then had four 1mm strands of

fiber optic lines glued into the other end of the tubing. The fiber lines went through 1mm holes I drilled through the chromed dials glued to his chest. Two from each light on each dial. A bit of black electrical tape serves as additional light blockage. The effect is totally random and quite pretty to watch.

All the wires run down the right leg through a hole drilled into the base where they are joined to a nine volt battery holder I got from Evans. It has a neat little micro-switch wired to it which I mounted into a hole drilled through the side wall of the base. The battery will be taped to the underside of the base for easy change-out.



Theme Models

日本 Japan



1st



2nd



3rd



I400 Submarine
Jim Burton



IJNS Hiryu
Randy Hall



M6A1 Seiran
Jim Burton



K5Y Willow
Jim Burton



Macross VF-1D
John Wilch



A6M Zero
Jim Burton



Kikka
Herb Arnold



Ki-43I Oscar
Herb Arnold



B3N1 Kate
Jim Burton



Ki-61 Hien
Terry Falk



Ki-84 Frank
Terry Falk



J7W Shinden
Tom Gloeckle



Argonaut Space Cruiser
John Wilch



IJNS Yamato

Model of the Month



Model of the Month
KC-135A and B-52D
Herb Arnold



SH-60B Seahawk
Jeff D'Andrea



Count Tow Mater
Jim Burton



Battleship Suvarov
John Thirion



F-102 Delta Dagger
John Wilch



Embraer 170
Tom Gloeckle



Stargate
Randy Hall



Ferrari California
Tom Gloeckle



Harrier Family
Terry Falk



F-4G Wild Weasel
John Wilch