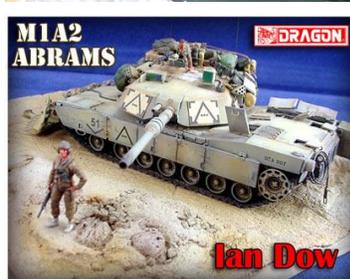




THE BIGGEST LITTLE MODEL CLUB IN IPMS

CLUB INFORMATION



IPMS Livonia is a non-profit educational organization created to promote and share the art of plastic modeling. The group meets at 8:00 p.m. every 2nd Tuesday of the Month.

Meeting Place: The Pierson Center, Suite 5, 32625 West Seven Mile Rd., Livonia, Michigan.

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Club Dues

IPMS US members:

\$12 Non-IPMS US members: \$15
Juniors: \$5

Web Site: www.ipmslivonia.org

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by: Ian P. Dow

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Meeting is at 8pm at Pierson Center this Tuesday the 14th. It will be a DEMO month on Weathering by yours truly.

We will discuss the Bay City Show and the Christmas Party if anyone has thoughts or ideas on this.

Any issues, problems, questions, model building techniques or how to tips that anyone would like addressed then please bring them on Tuesday.



Hear Ye Hear Ye, His Royal Bob is Speaking

Gentlemen,

The 2017 contest season has arrived. Quite a few of the Livonia and Motor City Kids members just attended the competition in Bay City a few days ago. A well-run contest with all of our members taking home awards (except for those who didn't enter anything-Sorry). A contest can be fun for all. Even if you don't win an award, there's still so much to come away with. Seeing so many quality entries on the table can give you a sense of awe at the talents of your fellow modelers. Getting to see old friends from around the region as well as making new ones is always welcome. Of course, there is always very willing vendors ready to separate your cash from your wallets. I strongly urge all members to try and attend a contest in our region this year. Not only will it show our support to our fellow clubs, but I'm quite sure you'll all have a great time as well. And who knows...You might just win some bragging rights as well.

Bob (Can't believe it's not butter) Blevins



Models, Mayhem, and Merriment.

By Ian Dow

Gentleman,

Since we have so many new members and some members who may just not remember when our events are scheduled I am sending out this reminder again about the X-Mas party. This was from last months newsletter and I have not changed anything. Except talking about the annual "Steve Grigg Saturday Night Hot Tub / Disco Party". It was decided at the last meeting that whoever scored the lowest points in the model of the year contest had to scrub the hot tub out at the end of the night. That includes getting all the hair out of the traps.

The annual IPMS Christmas Party. The event which combines everything that modelers like. Judging fellow modelers kits, eating salty, sweet and crunchy foods, and the biggest raffle one basement can hold. Now every year we get a few more members and a few who get brave enough to come to the event. Wives are also encouraged, (as are girlfriends, Albert) to attend. Here is what happens. It will occur at 4pm on Saturday February 11th. My address is 33453 Bobrich, Livonia. If you need directions let me know. The party kicks off with our model of the year contest. This is where you bring out any model you have built in the last year and we judge it for Model of the Year. A nifty trophy is given for that one.

Next comes the snacking, socializing, drinking of beer and general bs'ing about what a great deal you got on a model recently. Then Jeff Edge will bring out some crazy Japanese model from a Korean Company purchased from a Chinese brother living in Uzbekistan. This is just the tip of the iceberg. The club then generously provides a healthy and nutritious meal of pizza and pop. I do encourage an appetizer to pass so that nobody passes out from hunger before the pizza arrives. Beer is encouraged to make listening to other club members more palatable. At least I will be drinking beer.

Then we have our raffle. This is where all who attend bring the models they know they will not build or no longer want and we stack them in a big pile and we raffle the madness off. Now the raffle stack has been getting a little thin the last couple years of decent kits, so its time to encourage a little shelf digging to bring out some good ones that people will really want. And try not to bring out some busted down smack that is missing parts and nobody wants. Keep that at home. All proceeds go to the club. It is a ton of fun and after the raffle we barter back and forth with each other. After all that, you can stay and hang out or go home. I am home so I don't care what happens.

Ian

M88 Retirement Commemorative

Build and Write up by: Jerry Fraske



My brother, Gary, enlisted in the US Army September, 1976, and served three years active duty, mostly in Germany, as a tracked vehicle mechanic. Upon leaving active duty he joined the US Army Reserve eventually changing his MOS to Intelligence gathering and interrogating and later serving in deployments to the Persian Gulf in Operation Desert Storm, Bosnia, and Arizona where he served long deployments as an instructor and eventually attaining the rank of Master Sergeant.



When Gary announced his plans early last year to retire from the military in November (Actually, he had no choice as he was turning 60) I knew I wanted to do something special for him to recognize his 40 years of active and reserve service. It so happened that in his first field exercise in Germany in 1977 he served as a crew member on an M88 Armored Recovery Vehicle. It also so happened that a friend of his took a photograph of him standing in front of that M88 that has remained with our family ever since. I had purchased the AFV Club 1/35 M88A1 kit some 15-20 years ago when first issued with the intention of someday building it for him so I figured the time had now come.



The kit itself is very well done with many fine details and delicate parts. Extreme care was needed in cutting parts off the sprue trees and the Eduard M88A1 photo-etch set was very handy for such parts as the light brush guards and other delicate details. But otherwise, the kit was basically built out of the box. I worked on the hull first attaching all the non-fragile parts such as doors, hatches, fenders, cupola, etc., and primed the entire thing light gray. The stabilizing blade was assembled but kept off for the time being to allow for the camouflage painting to follow later. Likewise, the boom was kept off as it has very delicate step bars molded on to it and extreme caution had to be taken to avoid breaking them off. The various lights, hooks, pulleys and pioneer tools were painted separately and not attached to the model until close to final assembly. All vision ports were painted gloss black and coated with Future Floor wax to simulate glass. I used thread coated with Future Floor wax as well for the various cables which were then painted steel gray and weathered. The “rubber band” type track provided in the kit is nicely detailed, accepted paint well, and is accurate for M88’s in service through the 1980’s.



The camouflage scheme was typical for such vehicles in the Winter European Verdant colors of the late 1970's as specified in US Army Tech Bulletin TB 43-0209 (1976) and airbrushed accordingly using Testors Model Master Acrylics. Since I was not replicating a particular M88, it allowed me the liberty to apply some "artistic license" to the vehicle in regards to markings. I worked up some lettering and numbers on the computer and made decals off the printer using clear decal film. Numberings such as "1976", "2016" and "40" were discretely applied as well as the name "Gary's Rod" on the port crew door. Following this particular exercise, Gary usually drove a big wrecker truck out in the field and against regulations painted the words "Me and my Big Ten Inch" on the boom. Fortunately for him, his commanding officer liked it and he retained it on his vehicle the remainder of his tour. Therefore, I had to include the same thing on the starboard boom of the model.



The model was appropriately weathered with a black wash in recesses areas and around other areas where dirt and grime would accumulate. The retractable stabilizing spade was heavily worn with powdered graphite and silver Prismacolor lead shavings. Spattered mud was applied to the lower hull by flicking Wilder stony light grey textured earth off a tooth brush. The entire model was finally given a coat of overall matt flat to blend it all in.

A Tamiya Mortar Crew figure closely approximating the pose of my brother in the photograph was kindly built up and painted by Ian. I then only added the gas mask bag and cartridge belt pouches and painted the helmet with a subtle camouflage pattern to complete the figure.

Finally, the model, figure, and laser cut plate from Great Lakes Trophies featuring my brother, circa 1977, along with congratulations for 40 years' service was set in place on the base made of Celluclay, Woodland Scenics stone, and static grass.



The Bullsheet

As it turned out, I didn't have a minute to spare to finish since I flew out to New York the very next morning to personally present his gift at the surprise retirement party his wife, Char, put on for him. It really was one of the most enjoyable and worthwhile projects I've ever completed and I know he was very happy with it.





Upcoming IPMS Livonia Events

IPMS Livonia 2017 Calendar

Feb 11th- Livonia Christmas Party at Ian Dows house.

Feb 14th- "Weathering Night"... Pigments, Oil Weathering, Modulation, etc.

Mar 14th- M.O.M. and Sprue Stretching Demo

Apr 11th- "Glue Night"...Liquid, C/A, Clear Parts, Gluing resin and P.E.

May 9th- M.O.M.

June 13th- "Sci-Fi" Theme Contest (details to follow)

July 11th- M.O.M. and P.E. Tools and Tips

Aug 8th- "Ground Work Night"...Water Effects, Trees and Plants, etc.

Sept 12th- M.O.M.

Oct 10th- "Putty Night" (round table discussion)- Bring Your Putty and Tools

Nov 14th- M.O.M. and "Unusual Tool Night" (details to follow)

Dec 12th- "Rigging for Bi-Planes"



Contest Corner

Model of the Year Standings 2017

1. <i>Jeff Edge</i>	10 points
2. <i>Alex Meirzejewski</i>	6 points
3. <i>Steve Freeman</i>	4 points
4. <i>Jerry Fraske</i>	4 points
5. <i>Randy Helms</i>	2 points
6. <i>John Kesner</i>	1 point
7. <i>James Rudy Rudolph</i>	1 point

Mess Hall

By Grunty the Magic Pig

Lobster Tacos

Ingredients

1. 4 lobster tails
2. salt and ground black pepper to taste.
3. 1/4 cup red guajillo chile sauce (such as Herdez®).
4. 1 tomato, diced, divided.
5. 3 green onions, chopped.
6. 1/4 cup shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese.
7. 8 (6 inch) flour tortillas.
8. 1 small avocado, sliced.
9. 1/2 cup shredded lettuce



1. Preheat a lightly oiled grill pan over medium-high heat.
2. Cut lobster tails in half lengthwise along the spine. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper. Grill until slightly charred and shells are bright in color, about 5 minutes. Remove lobster meat from the shells and chop coarsely.
3. Combine chile sauce, 1/2 the tomato, and green onions in a large bowl. Mix in chopped lobster meat.
4. Divide Colby-Monterey Jack cheese evenly among tortillas. Top each tortilla with some of the lobster mixture. Fold tacos over and grill until cheese melts and tortillas are lightly charred, about 1 minute per side. Garnish with remaining tomato, avocado, and shredded lettuce.



For the beef broth:

1. Heat a heavy pan or cast iron over high heat. Add the onions halves cut side down and the ginger pieces and cook until well charred (black) on all sides.
2. Fill a stock pot with 6 quarts of cold water or chicken broth, or a combination of both. Add the beef brisket, top round and/or oxtail and bring to a simmer. Skim and discard the foam that comes to the surface and add the charred onion, ginger, garlic, sugar, peppercorns, fish sauce, star anise, cloves, cardamom, fennel seeds, coriander seeds, and a large pinch of sea salt. Bring to a simmer. Cook for 2 1/2 hours, until the meat is fork tender. Turn off the heat and cool. Refrigerate overnight.
3. Remove the fat from the broth, strain into a clean pot and bring to a simmer. Add fish sauce to taste. Season with salt and pepper.

For the beef pho':

1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil and cook the rice noodles until tender. Drain and rinse the noodles.
2. Divide the rice noodles among the bowls, add some of the meat, bean sprouts, onions, cilantro, mint, basil and scallions.
3. Add some of the hot beef broth to each bowl and serve with lime wedges and sliced hot chilis.