

*The Phantom*

# PHOENIX

*Volume 3 Issue 2*  
*March/April 2011*

*Featuring:*  
*TURN the TERRIBLE!*  
*By*  
*Rex Wadsworth*

*Revell 1/72 B-17G*  
*In-Box Review*  
*By*  
*Will Nichols*



# Editorial

## The Prez Says:

So we're two issues into the new-look of the *Phocus* now. I must say thank you for all the positive feedback and constructive criticism of the first issue. Please, keep it up. I need to know what works and what does not. If it's broke, I'll fix it.

Also, please keep sending in contributions. A big thank you goes to Rex Wadsworth for his 'Turu' write-up and to Larry Erwin for the pictures in the readers gallery. Without everyone's help, I cannot put this together each time.

Now enjoy your *Phocus*!

*William R Nichols Jr.*

### On the Cover:

Rex Wadsworth's 'Turu the Terrible' inspired by the Johnny Quest episode of the same name. The full story starts on page 4.



The Anniston show is upon us yet again. I don't know how y'all feel, but I think we put on one of the best shows in the southeast, if not the nation year-in and year-out. The competition is always stiff, the vendors always have great stuff, and the raffle can't be beat!

Speaking of the raffle, let me say a special thank you to Lynn Jones for graciously donating out grand prize print for the past three years. This years was 'Shark Sighting: Giving the shark its Teeth' featuring the signatures of fifteen members of the AVG Flying Tigers. This is a most special gift, and something that we do not take for granted.

Thank you Lynn.

Once Anniston passes, the summer promises to be fun. Shows within easy driving distance include Mem-

phis, Warner Robbins, and Atlanta. All three clubs support us every year, and we need to do the same.

Ok. Enough of that.

I have an Fock-Texan to finish...



I'll see everyone in Anniston and at the Museum in May!

Have fun!

## Meeting Round-up

The agenda for the March meeting was as follows:

1. Dues. \$12.00 + 2 kits for the raffle, or \$25.00 + 1 kit for the raffle. We can't stress this enough.
2. Museum show round-up: a report on the show, entries, future, etc...

The March demo is an Anniston contest prep. Bring your entry(ies) and we will divide into groups to go over each others work.

The agenda for the April meeting was as follows:

1. Dues. If you have not paid for the year, please do so. \$12.00 & 2 raffle kits, or \$25.00 & 1 raffle kit. See John Cornett for more details.
2. Anniston sign-ups for:
  - registration
  - Make & Take

Judging Seminar. John will be bringing 3 tanks. Y'all need to bring 3 aircraft for the seminar.



## Up-Coming Events

- 5/28/2011 Memphis, TN 2011 King-Con
- 6/4/2011 Warner Robbins, GA ScottCon 2011 <http://ipmsrlscottcontest.webs.com/>
- 6/25/2011 Marietta, GA IPMS Metro Atlanta Model Expo 2011 **CANCELLED!**
- 10/1/2011 Huntsville, AL HPMS 35th Annual contest <http://www.hpmsweb.topcities.com/>
- 11/5/2011 Murfreesboro, TN Middle Tennessee Annual Contest <http://www.ipmsmiddletennessee.com/>

These are all the Region 3 shows listed as of 3/3/2011 on the IPMSUSA website: <http://www.ipmsusa.org/MemberServices/EventsCalendar/EventCalendarList2.asp>

# Turu the Terrible

**By Rex Wadsworth**

My modeling motto for the year 2011 is “Have Fun”. As part of that quest, I offer up my Jonny Quest diorama. The take is a storyline off of the episode “Turu the Terrible”. Jonny and the gang Dr. Quest,

Hadji and Race Bannon have to deal with a madman (mad scientist?) who



happens to have a trained Pteranodon. Danger abounds but in the

end team Quest come out on top (was there ever any doubt?).

The components of the diorama are as follows: A Polar Lights/Round2 dino-



saur kit, the Pteranodon. My understanding is this is the old Aurora kit. If so the molding has held up very well the monster looks nice.

The down side is the kit being a snap kit. There are some large gaps to fill.

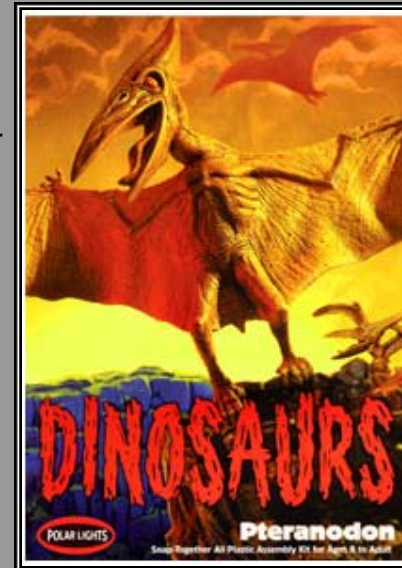
The second component of the diorama is a Hallmark ornament consisting of the Jonny Quest figure and the “Bandit” the dog figure. The Pteranodon cost me \$6 from the Polar Lights website. I got Jonny and Bandit on EBay for \$3. How about that! Cheep fun.

The Pteranodon kit comes with the monster and a really neat rock wall as a stand. In addition there are some baby Pteranodons and a partial

aquatic dinosaur. The Pteranodon consist of eight parts and goes together well, as I mentioned there are large gaps between the body and the wings. I filled these with Tamiya 2 part epoxy. I tossed the babies they are not in my story line. Painting would be the key to this kit as I am not modeling a real dinosaur, but a cartoon character. Having a great excuse to watch the Jonny Quest episode more than once, I made

my notes.

Turu was black with a purple belly. This was fun as I got to use colors not normally used in scale modeling. The cartoon character has big scraggly



teeth. The kit beast had no teeth. Out



with some sheet styrene and instant choppers! Also due to a lack of detail in the mouth, I used the Tamiya epoxy to create an inner mouth and palette.

Once all the assembly was done, I mixed some flat black, leather and dark sea blue together. I sprayed the backside of the Pteranodon, the head, arms, legs. This resulted in a nice cartoonlike black. (At least it did to me). Using what I had on hand as I am a modeler on a budget, I sprayed the belly and inner wings Napoleonic violet.

It looked great! Turu had a yellow bill in the show. This Pteranodon kit has a skin covered bill. As I have said I wanted to have fun, not do serious modifications to the kit so a coat of Testors flat yellow solved the problem for me. All other paints are Model Master.



brusher's dream. I had so much fun painting and detailing it. I'm very proud of it. I sprayed it overall with Model Master Engine grey. Using pastels and artist pens I got a very nice look. By the

way, all items were sealed with Future and then dulled with Testor's Dullcoat.



The rock wall is a detailer's and dry

I attached the rock wall to a small 4x4 plywood base as this is a very top heavy model. I then added railroad ballast rocks and used two-part epoxy to create the "swamp" at the base. Various Woodland Scenic's plants were placed. I then attached the Plesiosaur that came with the kit to the swamp. I painted this dinosaur SAC Bomber Tan over sand with many coats of future to finish. I wanted this guy to look wet as he swims by.

Turu was attached to the top of the rock wall using epoxy. Bandit the dog was glued at his feet and then Jonny and his jet-pack was placed “flying up the wall” by use of a brass rod. A very fun build. I did not pay attention to all of the basics. You can see a seam here and there. But I did this for fun for me. I now have a diorama of one of my favorite boy-hood shows. I hope you enjoy it!

*[the Editor has an inside source that says Johnny Quest will be returning to the pages of the Phoucs in the near future...]*



# REVELL 1/72 B-17G

**By Will Nichols**

Until recently, the only choices available to build a 1/72 B-17 was the ancient Revell B-17F, the Hasegawa B-17F/G, and the Academy clones of the Hasegawa kits. Now Revell Germany has released a 'modern' incarnation of Boeings venerable Flying Fortress.

Molded in 237 pieces of silver-gray and clear styrene, Revell's new Fort' features:

- Recessed panel lines
- A nicely detailed cockpit
- A well appointed and loaded bomb bay
- Choice of standard or Cheyenne (Pumpkin) tail guns
- Separate control surfaces
- Raised or lowered flaps
- Separate superchargers
- Detailed engines with separate crank case with push-rods, cylinder bank, and exhaust collectors



- Daco-designed decals for either 'Little Miss Mischief' or 'Nine-O-Nine'

That's just the basic list for this kit. And to make the model even more attractive, the US MSRP is just \$40, and most places have the kit discounted to around \$30! I bought the review sample from Mid-Tenn Hobbies at the Museum show in February for \$33. It is worth every penny.

The interior consists of several sub-assemblies forming the : bombardiers station, cockpit, bomb bay, radio sta-

tion, and aft gunners station. Even the ducts on the leading edges of the wings are separate pieces. Other options include multiple choices for the nose transparencies, blisters, windows, and a few partridges in pear trees. No wonder there are ninety-four (94!) steps in the instruction booklet. Revell certainly did their homework on this one.

One bit about the decals.



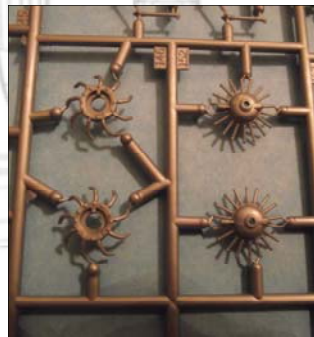
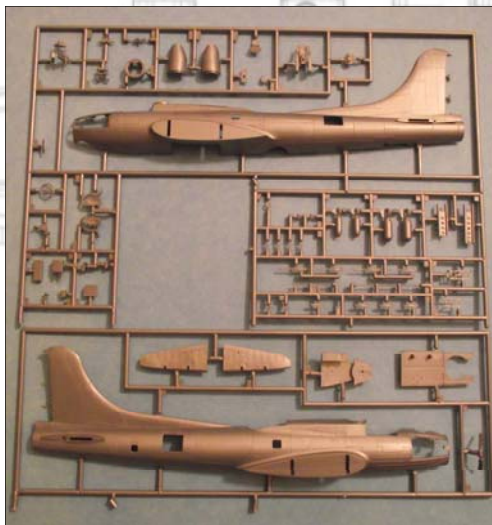
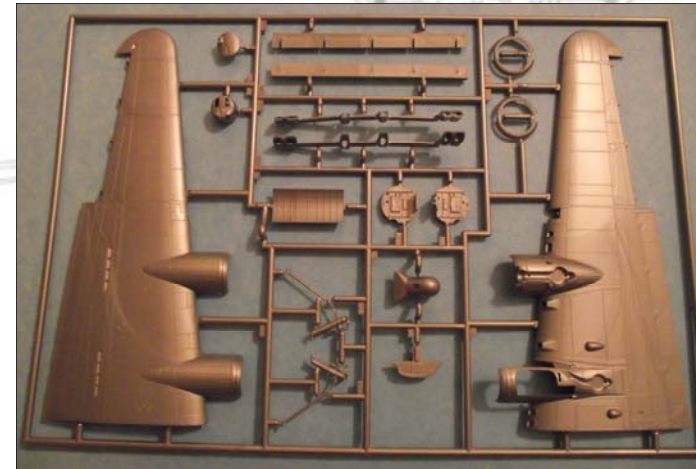
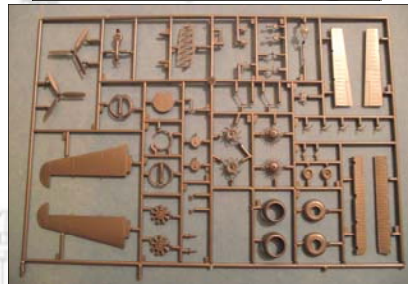
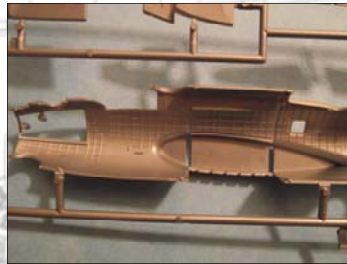
**Nicely printed Daco decals**

The build on the box used the out-of-production Pyn-up Decals by Cutting Edge, and not the ones pictured above.

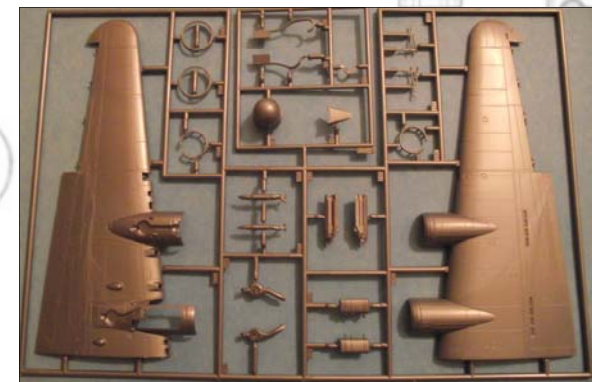
I have the Pyn-up sheet, and the differences are marked. That is not a knock in anyway on the kit decals, just an observation of the box art.

I can heartily recommend this kit to anyone who wants a good representation of Boeings Flying Fortress. There are many decal options out there already, and certainly many more to follow.

Now, if Revell would only scale this one up to 1/48...



Nice engine details!





Painting figures rates up there with metal finishes and biplane rigging. It usually scares the daylights out of most modelers but it only takes a little practice to achieve an acceptable result. This article is

going to address 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale figures only. There are many 1/72 scale figure sets available for most major countries.

Lets start with probably the hardest part of figures.

Any guess as to what that would be?

The hardest part is finding a figure in the proper attire and pose for your particular project. Monogram still has the absolute best figures around but you need to be careful with some of the figures done in the 70's as they are small and not well detailed. Sitting pilots from the 50's, 60, 70's and early 80's are plentiful. World War II figures are a

little harder but once again Monogram has some great German pilots from the Pro Modeler BF 110 kit. The Pro Modeler Catalina has four great US Navy pilot and gunner figures.

Tamiya has some odd shaped seated figures (*I once read a description of a Tamiya seated pilot in SAMI that related the poor fellow to "Quasimodo with a bought of constipation...-ed.)* but their standing figures are first rate. The Mosquito and Swordfish kits have very nice seated Royal Air Force and Royal Navy figures. Tamiya seems to heading towards releasing pilots and ground crew figures to go with their line of 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale armor. Hasegawa has released some nice 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale pilots and ground crew sets so the modern era modeler has many poses to choose.

Bottom line here is always watch for figures. Bug your friends for their figures.

I'm always looking for good 1/48<sup>th</sup> figures. I'm not going to address the

mass of after market sets because they come and go so fast. Some sets are very limited production runs and are very hard to find and can be expensive. Verlinden had some very nice sets but he always wanted top dollar and now these sets are very hard to find. If you are looking for a figure from a particular country, you can email me and I'll tell you what's available in the various kits.

Once you have found your figure and decided on the pose, you may find that it is necessary to make some minor modifications to achieve a more natural look. It is easy to swap heads or arms and this may help you achieve the look you want. I have run the gambit on figures from stock to highly modified. A little Tamiya cement and stretched sprue can fill most minor seams but you may need to break out the epoxy putty for some.

If the seam is minor, stretch some sprue to the approximate size and tack it into place with the Tamiya cement. Once that is dry, you can run the sprue along the seam. You'll need to coat the

sprue with cement until it is soft and pliable. Then just run it along the seam and let it dry for a few minutes. Once it is secure but still soft, use a small brush and blend the sprue into the seam.

You'll need to practice on an old figure until you feel comfortable. Tamiya cement will soften the plastic around the seam but with a little care and patience you'll find that you can blend these parts with little to no sanding. You can use epoxy putty the same way but instead of cement, use lacquer thinner. Take care because the lacquer thinner can melt plastic as well. Tamiya Putty can be blended in the same manner as above but you can use Tamiya Cement, Mr. Color Thinner or Tamiya Thinner to thin it so you can blend it into the shape of the surrounding area. You will not melt the plastic so you'll have to blend more with the putty.

Most of this is minor and most modelers can do this with ease. I do know so many guys that start with a torso and make arms legs with brass wire. When they bend the wires to achieve the "look" then they fill in with epoxy putty. They blend and shape until they replicate the service uniform of the desired pilot or

crew figure. This is more complicated but not necessarily harder. The brass wires are just there for support and to get the proper height. This is an area that people miss many times and that is if you have more than one figure then you need to make some height adjustments. Everyone is not the same size or height, so keep this in mind.

During WWII, the average height was around 5 foot 7 inches. In 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale, one inch equals four feet so that would make an average size of the figure around one and 3/8<sup>th</sup> inches tall. I try to find pictures of uniforms and men in various poses working around equipment. These will help add little details and enhance your end result. Next contest you attend, check out the figure categories.

Talk to figure guys, they won't bite...well...hard anyway. You'll be surprised at how much you can learn. Stand alone figures are impressive when done well and the figure guys have to do them well because that's all they have. IPMS National rules state that you can place one figure on the base with your plane or tank to show size. I love to see this because it adds so much to the display.

Me Don Alberts from New Mexico is one of the best at this. He always has a beautiful base and figure to complement his aircraft. It just makes your work stand out from the crowd. Everyone is looking for an edge over the competition and a good figure will draw eyes to your model.

Next time, we'll go into painting. My method is not hard and it lends very good results in 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale.

Dr Phil, Plastic Surgeon, Self Proclaimed Archaeologist and Possum Connoisseur



*"Down here we call Armadillos, Possum on the half shell".*

# *The Models of Larry Erwin*

Larry Erwin has sent in a number of pictures of his recent builds to be shared with the club. If you would like for your models to be featured in a future readers gallery, please email the pictures to [phantomphocus@gmail.com](mailto:phantomphocus@gmail.com)





# IN CLOSING...



The editor in his little corner of the asylum...

At the March Meeting we discussed the need for the club to travel within the region to other shows. To help further this goal, each issue of the *Phocus* has an "Up-Coming Events" column listing shows in Region 3 as listed on the IPMSUSA website.

Now, the club does not have to make a mass exodus to each and every show. That is unfeasible. What we do need is for a group of folks who can and will carpool to as many shows as we can.

As I said at the meeting, I know a few of us have to work on Saturdays

(myself included...) but the vast majority of the club can spend a few of their fifty-two Saturdays each year visiting other shows.

The reasoning behind this is simple: the more of our members that attend other chapters shows, the more of their members that will attend our shows. As I write this, just days removed from the April 16th Anniston show, I was moved by the number of people from around the region who came to our show. Folks came from Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Florida, Tennessee, and South Carolina. It would be a shame if we did not support them, after they came to enjoy our show.

See y'all **NEXT ISSUE!**



## **SOME THING FUNNY!**

**BY JIM BARNETT**

**Walking into the bar, Mike said to Charlie the bartender, "Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the little woman."**

**"Oh yeah?" said Charlie, "And how did this one end?"**

**"When it was over," Mike replied, "She came to me on her hands and knees."**

**"Really," said Charles, "Now that's a switch! What did she say?"**

**She said, "Come out from under the bed, you little chicken!"**