



O.H.M.S.

Oklahoma Historical Modelers' Society
NEWSLETTER



Volume 48, Issue 7

July 2018

Coming Events

July 6-- OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
July 20--OHMS Meeting.--Program night. Build Night.
July 21-- HAMS 12th Annual Model Car Show and Contest. Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Annex Building Gym, 6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring TX. IPMS Houston Automotive Modelers Society (HAMS)
Aug 1-4--2018 IPMS/USA National Convention & Contest Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3rd St, Phoenix, AZ <http://www.ipmsusanationals2018.com/>
Aug 3-- OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
Aug 17-- OHMS Meeting. Program night. DC-3 History.

Meeting Reports

Business Meeting—June 1

There was a brief review of the very busy June calendar.

The second of three club-sponsored IPMS National memberships was distributed.

Note: Given the conflict with the Nationals and the first meeting in August, it is currently unclear as to when the print copies of the August newsletter will be available. I expect the e-mailed copies to be distributed before I leave.

Model of the Month— June 1

As with last month, what looked like a slow night filled out as people and entries trickled in.

This was also a night with a Budget Build. We'll start with those entries first.



Fokker Dr.I

Robert Stingle



Me 163 and Me 262

Ethan Willis



Smoke Break

James Merritt

Robbie's biplane won this part of the contest.

Then there were the entries for the standard contest:



Dornier Do-335A-12

Butch Maurey



Iranian F-14

David Paxton



Quark

Rick Jackson



Avro Lancaster

Ethan Willis



"The Haunted Tank"

James Merritt



"Capturing the Moment"

Dave Kimbrell



'94 Mustang GT

Daniel Kuhlmeier



Landsknecht

Dave Kimbrell

This was a very tight vote with Butch's airplane eking out the win.

Program Night—June 15

This meeting we went 'old school' and had an evening of pictures from recent model contests. Dave Kimbrell provided pictures from the HMSNEO Tulsa Figure Show and Rick Jackson shows pictures from the Regional in San Antonio the local IPMS contests in Grapevine and OKC.

A few thoughts from the Head Chicken...

Use It; Build It

I have been on a major building spree since I retired. This has led me to finish some old stuff and engage in at least one major project while writing numerous *Journal* articles. One of the things I have discovered is that along with a bunch of kits, I have amassed a sizable number of aftermarket products. Some have set on the shelf for years. For about the past fifteen years, I have been writing the acquisition date on stuff I buy. This is an excellent way to monitor your plans and dreams; it is also scary.

As a dedicated model builder, I am always on the lookout for products to help me enhance my projects. However, there is a temptation to save them for that "special" project. This leads to hoarding these items, sometimes for decades. Some of this hoarding comes, in part, from the specialized nature of decals, photo-etch and resin items. There is also an availability issue. Lots of small companies have released a superb product only to go belly up in a short time.

But a lot of the companies hold on, so don't be afraid, use the product. Yes, you may have to buy more....that is what the companies are counting on, after all. By hoarding the stuff, you run the risk of it becoming obsolete, or told old to use. And sometimes you find the item simply doesn't work as well as advertised. This is very annoying when you do get to the special project, only to find you can't do it as planned because the decals disintegrated, the P.E. is too tiny to work, or the resin is full of bubbles. There are a lot of pretty products out there which look better in the package, than they work in real life.

So, be bold and make use of the specialty stuff in your stash.

Model on!

Dave Kimbrell

The Dark Side

Come to the Dark Side.....audacity cures boredom.

In chaos, there is....opportunity.

Those who know me also know I like unique models like knocked out tanks, crashed airplanes and sinking ships.

Recently, we have seen several tank kits released with full interiors, in 1/35th scale. Takom has issued German Tiger II tanks and Panther A model. Rye Field Models has released a Tiger I and an M-1A1 Abrams. MiniArt has released both a T-54 and T-55. There are a number of DML and Bronco tanks kits with interiors, also. While some would consider it sacrilege to "destroy" these beautiful kits, they offer a wide range of possibilities for the adventurous diorama builder. So, here is some inspiration.

These two color images of Tiger Is, are in Tunisia and the black and white are in Normandy.





Notice how the turret of the Tiger II came apart just like a kit part.

This is also in Normandy.



These two pictures of a Panther A model are in Normandy and taken at different times. Note the tracks and sign.



These Abrams tanks are out east.





These T-54/55 tanks are in Vietnam, the Mid-East, and Africa.





Of course, knocked out tanks are not for everyone, but there are some very nice kits which lend themselves to rough handling dioramas. In the old days, it would have taken weeks, perhaps months, of scratch work to get the detail available in these kits.

General Knowledge and Private Information
Walter Brennan (7/25/1894-9/21/1974)

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During WWI, Brennan enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in the **101st Field Artillery Regiment** in France for two years. He was injured in a mustard gas attack which resulted in his distinctive voice. Being penniless, he started acting in 1924. Best known for westerns, he was versatile, playing both good guys and villains. (Look for him in *Bride of Frankenstein*) As a supporting actor, he won three Academy awards, making him one of only three male actors to win three Oscars. Although only about seven years older than Gary Cooper, he was usually cast as a much older person. His famous limp was fake.

Dave Kimbrell

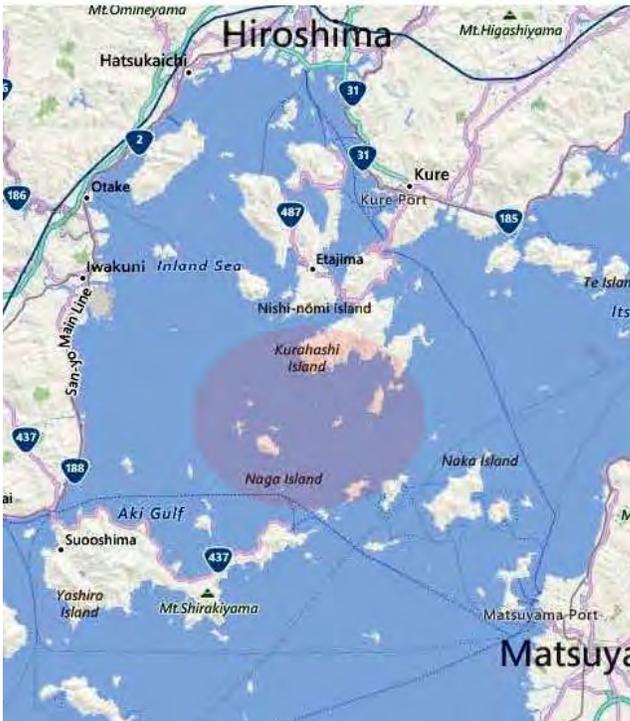


BATHTUB ADMIRALS

Hashirajima-The most famous anchorage you've never heard of.

This isn't entirely true. You know about events that happened here. You've heard of nearby locations. You just didn't realize this was what it was called or that it was all found so close together.

Hashirajima (Hashira Island) is the name given to the area in the Inland Sea of Japan used as an anchorage by the Japanese Navy and is named after the island just to the south of the area. Hashirajima is where the ships participating in both the Pearl Harbor and Midway battles (and many others) congregated before leaving.



The anchorage essentially covers the highlighted area. On the map, Hashira is the roundish island in the highlighted area just above the word Naga. It's a tiny island of 1.2 square miles. It currently has under 200 residents but I don't know what it was during the war since it did provide some support to the ships at anchor. The anchorage itself roughly covers the area shaded on the map. Average depth is a little over 120 feet.

Much like Scapa Flow, this is where the IJN would locate most of the fleet when not on a mission or when not being serviced. How it differs, though, is that Scapa is a long way from anywhere. The nearest base was Rosyth over 300 miles away. Kure Naval Base, on the other hand, is about 20 miles northeast of Hashirajima.



Modern Kure looking, I believe, east.

Kure was the home of the Second Naval District in WWII. It was the largest base and arsenal and many of the IJN ships were built there with *Yamato* being the most famous.



Yamato fitting out at Kure in 1941.

The two are so tied together that perhaps the world's largest model—a 1/10th scale *Yamato*—resides in the Yamato Museum in Kure.



Despite its importance, the area around Kure is too confined for effective anchoring of a large contingent of ships as well as adding a lot of sea miles to go north around Eta Island and into Hiroshima Bay to reach open sea.



Nagato, later in the war, tied to a Hashirajima buoy.

Ships would group in specified areas based on their squadron. The commanding ship of the squadron would often tie to one of several buoys that would contain a telephone line and the squadron commander could communicate directly with the high command or other commanders. When *Mutsu* exploded in 1943 she was anchored in such a way and sank next to a buoy. The forward section of the hull rested on her port side and was just barely below the surface.

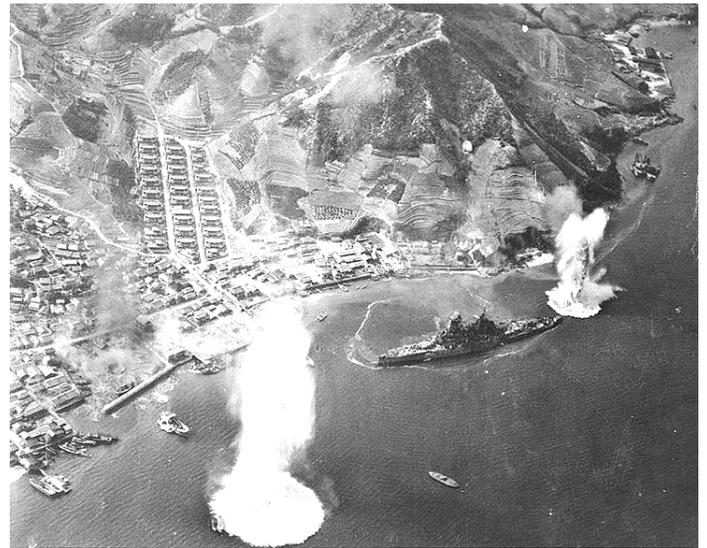


Also in the area is the Etajima Naval Academy located on the island of Etajima in the city of the same name across the harbor from Kure. This is Japan's Annapolis. It was moved here in 1888 and was where all of the IJN officers in WW II graduated. It was closed at the end of the war and re-opened in 1956 for the JMDSF.

Once the US started directly bombing Japan, Hashirajima fell out of favor. The ships would be too isolated and, left to only their ship-board AA at anchor, easy to attack. The remaining capital ships anchored in the vicinity of Kure to gain the support of the base defenses. This wasn't much of an improvement and by war's end most of the remaining ships were sunk at anchor around Kure.



Amagi

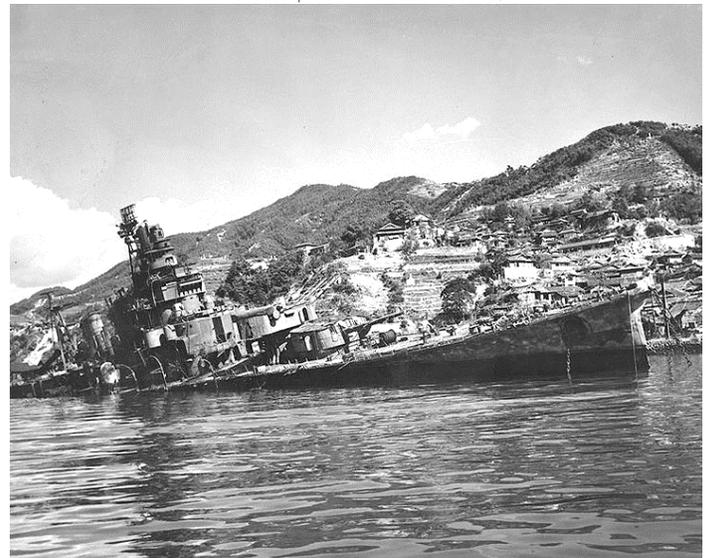


Haruna during the bombing July 28, 1945.



Hyuga, also sunk on July 28th.

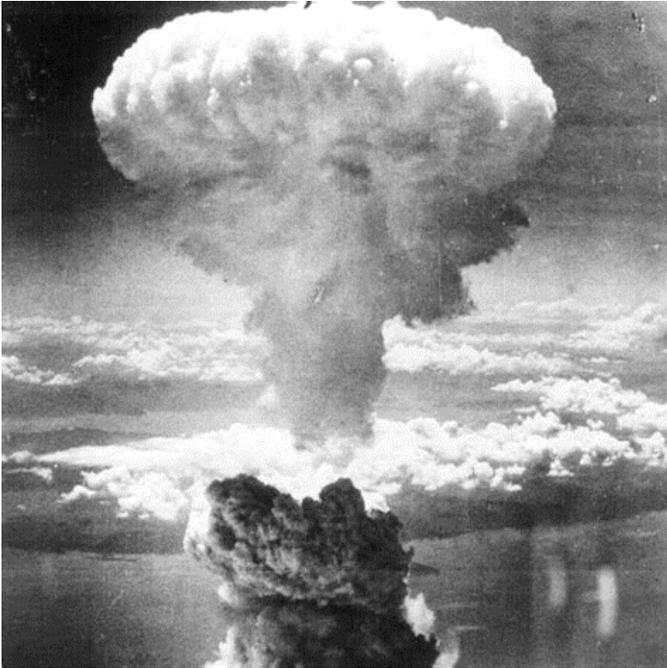
Photo # NH 97737 Japanese cruiser Aoba sunk at Kure, 1945



Cruiser Aoba

Of course, the final historical event for the area is obvious from a look at the map and happened just over a week after

the Kure bombings. Hiroshima was destroyed by the first atomic bomb.



The modeling tie-ins for Hashirajima/Kure are numerous as there are kits galore of ships associated with this area. Two kits, though, are rather unique. The first is a somewhat new 2013 release of the *Yamato* dockside by Fujimi. I haven't seen the kit, but it strongly implies that it does include parts for a diorama to replicate the fitting out picture. The ship in this would be the one already released by them as the commissioning version from 2004. There is a second release dated 2016 with colorized box art and 'new parts'. It also implies the carrier *Hosho* docked alongside is included. This would make the diorama about two foot square.



Even more unusual kits are of the Kure base itself although, full disclosure, I am relying on the internet poster that it is Kure since I can't read Japanese. The Fujimi version It is listed in 1/3000th scale and there appear to be two different boxings of it. I didn't find any shots showing the contents but I am assuming it does contain some ships.



Another one is from Tomy. Again, I can't prove it is of Kure and the parts shown on the box photo appears very generic. There appears to be only parts for the base in the box.



Sources:

<https://www.scalemates.com/kits/> for kit/box art info
[Warship 2009](#) for information on the loss of Mutsu

Rick Jackson

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OHMS EVENT CALENDAR

2018

July

- 6 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 20 OHMS Meeting.–Program night. Build Night.
- 21 HAMS 12th Annual Model Car Show and Contest. Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Annex Building Gym, 6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring TX. IPMS Houston Automotive Modelers Society (HAMS)

August

- 1-4 **2018 IPMS/USA National Convention & Contest Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3rd St, Phoenix, AZ <http://www.ipmsusnationals2018.com/>**
- 3 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 17 OHMS Meeting. Program night. DC-3 History.

September

- 3 Cajun Modelfest XXXI at LSU MiniFarm 4-H Building BLDG 338, Baton Rouge Scale Modelers
- 7 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest. Budget Build contest. **OFFICER ELECTIONS.**
- 8 **SuperCon 2018**, Bob Duncan Community Center - Vandergriff Park, 2800 S. Center Street, Arlington TX, IPMS - Fort Worth Scale Modelers, Dave Hibscher hurricaneyankee52@yahoo.com
- 21 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.

October

- 6 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 16 Austin Scale Modelers Society hosts the ASMS Capitol Classic at the Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Lane, Austin, TX. Ian Latham - graphicsdog@gmail.com
- 20 OHMS Meeting. – Program night. Build Night.

November

- 2 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
- 16 OHMS Meeting. Annual Club Auction

December

- 1 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest. Budget Build contest.
- 15 OHMS Meeting. Christmas Party

2019

January

- 5 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest.
- 19 OHMS Meeting. Program Night. Build Night
- 28 CALMEX 32, IPMS/SWAMP, Lake Charles Civic Center, 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA [Robert Leishman](mailto:Robert.Leishman) 337-589-4614

February

- 2 OHMS Meeting. MOM contest
- 16 OHMS Meeting. Program Night.