



P29 A SWAMP POLICE BOAT

Many years ago I was given an old dilapidated model boat to be used yet again in my explosive displays. I put it away for use in the future, however I finally gave up doing the displays and it remained under my bench for at least twenty years in its terrible scrappy state, as it was not very well made. Having become fed up with it taking up space I decided to take it to the SWMEE in 2015 and try to have it identified. This turned out to be successful after many modellers gave their opinions as to what it was. Turned out to be an Aero Kit called Scout, from around the 1968 era.

I decided to refurbish the craft as a boat for my grandchildren, that's my excuse anyway. The construction of the craft was very rough and rugged so the only thing I could do was to sand it all down and then cover all the internals with one-sixty-fourth plywood then varnish it all. At the same time I had to make a motor mount and platform to facilitate the new motor and coupling assembly for the propeller shaft. The next task was to revamp the outer structure and also fit running streaks along the hull, this gives the boat something to bite on at speed during fast turns that the three blade brass propeller was likely to give. Then decide on a paint job, after consulting with the grandchildren it was done in Blue & White, the best colours for a Police Boat we all agreed.

Installed the windows in the cabin using Green polycarbonate from an industrial face mask, having first painted the area with white paint. Then set about installing the Motor, I used a new Speed 600 BB SP 7.2 Volts which had been in my model box for some time, made a place to accept a three cell lipo battery. Fitted a Fusion 128 amp speed controller which again was in my box as a spare and finally used a 6 channel Futaba 40 Meg receiver which was also hanging around doing nothing, along with a new, but spare transmitter. So costing was zero to fit it out. The Ariel is unique, used an old pair of metal framed sunglasses, so it folds down when not in use.

Deciding on a name was put to my grandsons, I suggested River police, the eldest of the two Francis, demanded it be called a Swamp Police Boat, so you can see who won, and before you criticise, there must be some clear water in a swamp area I suppose!

All the signs are made by my local industrial signs friend in quality vinyl so will last for many years. I also had to live up to my name and ensure the craft had a Guy with a machine gun on it along with a couple of mates with guns.

Working features to date are just a Flashing Police light Bar fixed on top of the cabin.

To my knowledge she is one of a kind in this livery.

Hope you enjoy our combined efforts.



Stan, Francis & Edward Robinson.