



THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA
www.ipmspatriot.org



May 2026

Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Parish Unitarian Church in Billerica, MA. The church is located on Concord Road, just as it meets Route 3A (Boston Road) at the Billerica Town Common. The May meeting will be a build session with a business meeting, Show-and-Tell, and a raffle.



Pip Moss built this 1/48 McDonnell Douglas F-4B Phantom from the superlative Tamiya kit. The model depicts a plane from VF-92 "Silver Kings" aboard the USS Enterprise off Vietnam in 1967. For more photos and build description, see page 9.

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Last weekend, following a late concert, one of my older daughter's close friends spent the night at our home. The next morning during breakfast, we had an enjoyable time catching up, including conversation that turned to their day job, working at a collectibles shop. In short order, they brought up some of the regulars who stop in ... and their general unpleasantness towards the sole female at the shop. They described how often these men would seek other men for stock availability, or gaming advice, or simply to chat. My daughter's friend was looked upon as not really being serious enough in whatever hobby they were into, judged strictly by her gender.

I don't want to conflate this singular experience with that of every woman's experience in a hobby (gaming, collecting, role playing, and yes scale modeling) but let's be real: this is not a unique story, not by a long mile. Years ago, an Australian friend walked into a model store to buy a Gundam model for herself only to be asked condescendingly by the store owner if she was buying it for her boyfriend ... and he was surprised when she said no. I've been to shows where derogatory statements have been made about women contestants, that "girls" just can't compete at the same level. Even my daughter, a scale modeler in her own right, was asked at an event we went to together if she was there to "hold dad's wallet" and "keep him company."

These incidents diminish the scale modeling hobby. Not only because they send a message to half the population that they are "less than" or not wanted, but we men miss out on their incredible creativity. I've had the pleasure of seeing some fabulous, well-crafted models over the last near decade, in person and on social media. And while I truly enjoy and appreciate the level of craftsmanship, detail, and accuracy many talented male modelers bring, I've found that the modelers who've really rocked my world the most have been women. Female model builders have brought a level of artistic creativity that I don't see as often by men. They have originality and imaginativeness that is not as often found in the finish work of their male counterparts.

I'm very happy that we have an open and accepting community at Patriot Scale Modelers, one that embraces everyone, member and guest, no matter who they are and what they build. Can we do better? I think so, and as president of the chapter I'll do my damndest to further that inclusivity and will encourage others to do the same. Little would please me more than to grow our chapter with modelers who show me something I've never seen before. I look forward to meeting those women!

Happy modeling,
George

Minutes from the April Meeting

The meeting was chaired by club president George Lellios.

1. The next brewery meet will be at the Epigram brewery on April 18, 12–2 p.m.. \$5 attendance to be used as staff tips and gets you a raffle ticket. The May meeting will be at the Treehouse in Tewkesbury on May 16, 12–2 p.m.

2. A few club members attended Valleycon and reported back that it was a good show.

3. It's time for the Patcon Committee to start up. Those interested in joining should speak to the committee chair Bill Michaels.

4. The financial report was delivered in the treasurer's absence. Club finances are healthy.

5. Reminder to all that Hobby Emporium offers a 10% discount to club members on presentation of their membership card.

6. For those of us using lacquer-based paints, there are reports (unconfirmed) that GSI Creos (Mr Hobby) are cutting back their production due to material supply issues.

7. Upcoming events include DowneastCon on April 12, and the CanAm show is coming up soon. Please let the George Lellios know if there are other events that club members should know about.

8. Pip Moss, the editor of the club newsletter, is offering to send members copies of the images he takes for use in the newsletter. If interested contact him directly. The president is also going to be posting some on social media to promote the club and its members.

9. June has been set as the date when all members that have built models from the Kirk collection should bring all those builds in for a feature photo session.

The business meeting then adjourned and was followed by Show-and-Tell and the monthly raffle.

—Minutes reported by Richard Price

Show-and-Tell

David Hamel.....1:72 DFS 230 A (Huma)
Cade Harris..... 1/1000 CR-90 Corvette (Bandai)
Kurt Kunze 1/48 BAC Lightning F.6 (Airfix)
1/48 O-2A Skymaster (ICM)
George Lellios..... 1/72 Mitsubishi J8M1 (MPM)
Pip Moss 1/48 F-4B Phantom (Tamiya)
Bart Navarro 1/35 1949 Mercury Coupe (AMT)
Richard Price 1/72 Yak-1b (Arma Hobby)
John Walker 1/72 Bf 109 K-4 (Airfix)

Raffle Report

September winners:

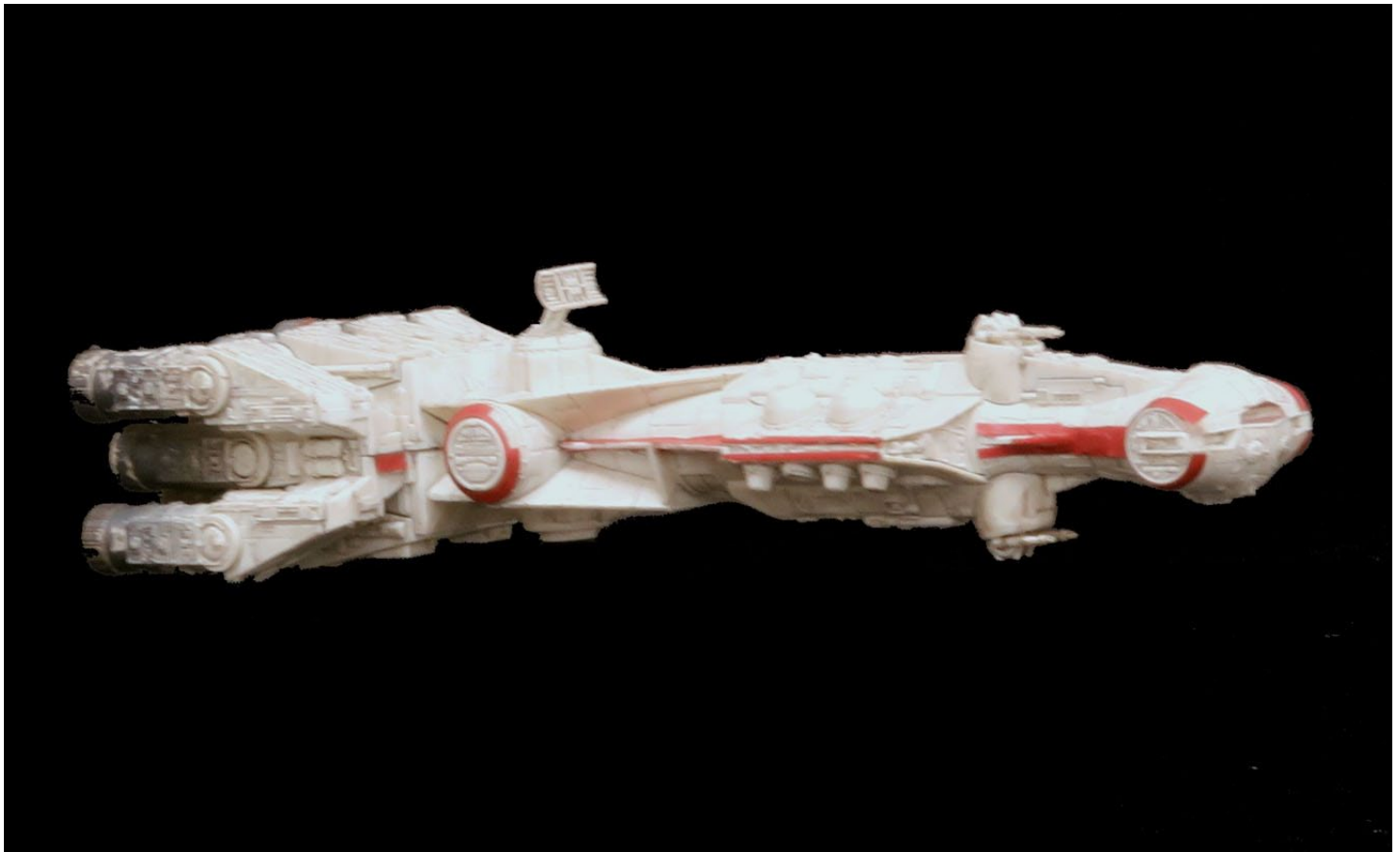
Bill Michaels, Revell 1/32 P-51D-15-NA
Richard Price, Academy 1/72 SR-71
Mick Hirsch, Hasegawa 1/48 AH-64 Longbow Apache
Dean Strom, Tamiya 1/48 A6M5/A Zero
Cade Harris, Tamiya 1/35 KV-1 model 1941



David Hamel: 1/72 DFS 230 A (Huma)

David made numerous modifications to the Huma kit: added seat belts, modified the rear of the canopy, added four windows, added rear floor section, added bench seating, added internal tubing, cut out side door, added foot step and pitot tube, wrapped "barbed wire" (metallic thread) on skid, added wing tip hand holds, rub blocks and lights.

Developed in 1933 by the Deutsche Forschungsanstalt für Segelflug (German Research Institute for Sailplane Flight), the DFS 230 glider was intended for airborne assault operations. In addition to the pilot, it had room for nine men who sat close together on a narrow bench located in the middle of the fuselage (five facing forward and four backward). Access to the cramped interior was by a single side door. The front passenger could operate its only armament, a machine gun. It was designed to land directly on top of its target, so it was equipped with a parachute brake. This allowed the glider to approach its target in a dive at an angle of 80 degrees and land within 60 feet of its target. It could carry up to 2,600 lb. of cargo. The DFS 230 played significant roles in the operations at Fort Eben-Emael, the Battle of Crete, and in the rescue of Benito Mussolini. It was also used in North Africa and saw extensive service supplying encircled forces on the Eastern Front.



Cade Harris: 1/1000 *Star Wars* CR90 Corvette (Bandai)

Cade built the kit OOB and painted it with Vallejo Air acrylics with Tamiya Panel Line Accent. The model depicts the *Tantive IV*, an iconic CR90 Corvette, primarily known as Princess Leia Organa's consular ship and the first vessel seen in *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977). Owned by the House of Organa, this heavily modified Alderaanian blockade runner was crucial for transporting stolen Death Star plans, later playing a key role in the battle of Exegol before its destruction.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Kurt Kunze: 1/48 English Electric (BAC) Lightning F.6 (Airfix)

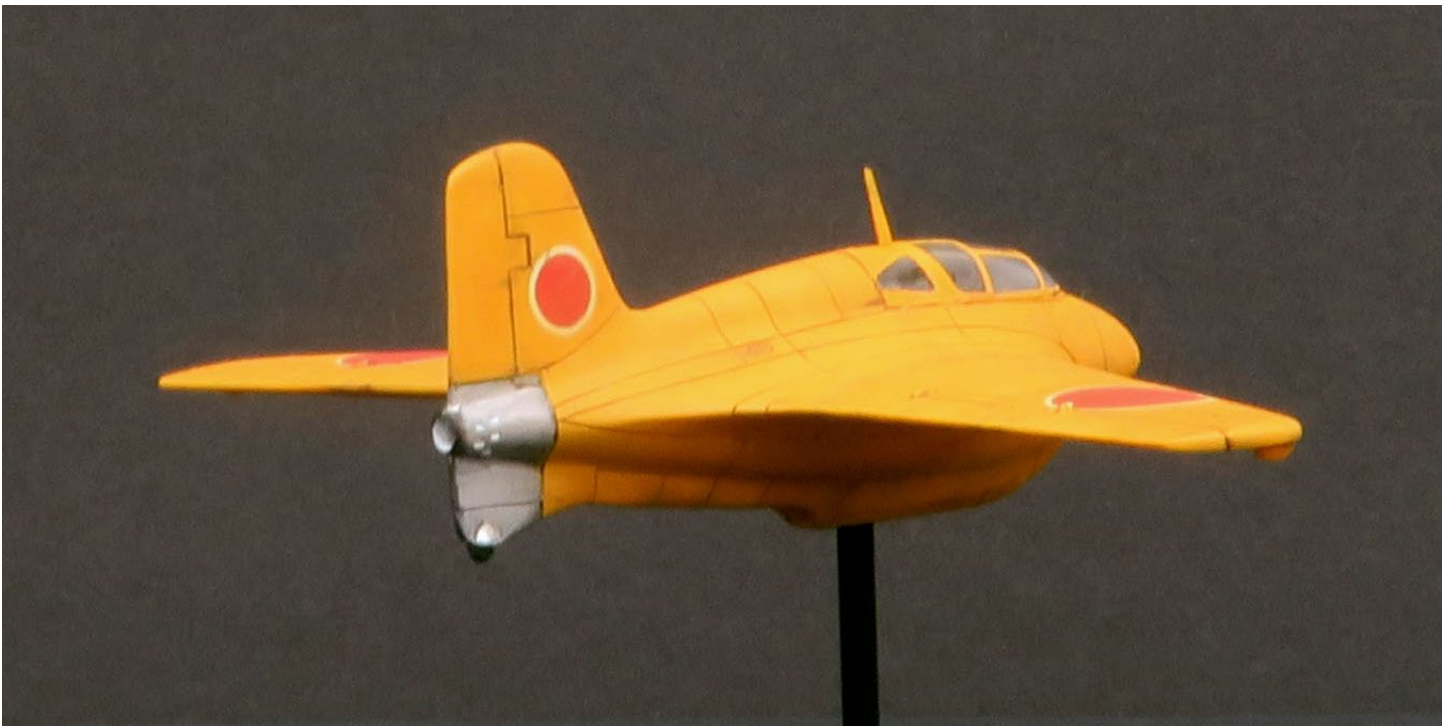
Kurt added a resin cockpit set from KMC. Paints are Gunze; decals are from the kit. Markings are for RAF no. 5 Squadron, RAF Binbrook, 1984. Kurt writes, "The kit decals silvered quite a bit, and I had to brushpaint over the clear film to get rid of it."

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Kurt Kunze: 1/48 O-2A Skymaster (ICM)

Kurt built the kit OOB with the exception of photo-etched seat belts from True Details. Paints are Tamiya acrylics; decals are from the kit. Kurt writes, "I had to look up the tail number as the kit provided no information on the decal options. What I found for AF 68-10868 is that it served with the 4410th Combat Screw Training Wing, and that it's currently owned by East Coast Aero Tech and based at Hanscom AFB."



George Lellios: 1/72 Mitsubishi J8M1 (MPM)

George added a resin pilot from AliExpress and detailed/repainted the cockpit with Evergreen styrene, ASK lead wire and aftermarket photo-etch for tanks, sticks, wiring and other bits. Paints are Mr. Color and AK Xtreme Metal lacquer paints airbrushed, and Vallejo and AK 3rd Gen acrylics hand brushed. George weathered the model with Tamiya Panel Line Accent, Winsor & Newton oils, and AK Weathering Pencil (thruster exhaust). Markings are for one of seven unarmed prototypes based on online photos.

George writes, "The J8M1 was based on the German Me 163 Komet, A weak kit overall with some poor detail and rough fitment, but a fun build. The base is a piece of sample counter stone and brass rod, painted black."

This kit came from the **Kirk Collection**.



Pip Moss
1/48 McDonnell Douglas
F-4B Phantom
(Tamiya)

This is another spectacular Tamiya kit, but not perfect. The one trouble area I encountered was the recesses in the upper wings for the angled segments of the folded wing assembly: they were too wide and left large gaps that had to be filled. The attachment of the open canopies was also very fiddly.

Lots of aftermarket items: Quinta Studio 3D cockpit decals, Hypersonic resin ejection seats (drop fits with two different seat belt arrangements and 3D printed ejection handles), CMK resin wheels, Eduard Brassin early fin cap (didn't fit very well), and a bunch of beautiful 3D printed resin from Ukrainian ResKit: exhausts, triple ejection racks (TERs), Mk. 82 500 lb. bombs, and AIM-7E Sparrows.

Primary paints are AK Real Colors Insignia White and Tru-Color Light Gull Gray. Cockpit color is Model Master Neutral Gray 36270; everything else is Mr. Color and several shades of Alclad metallics.

Decals for individual plane markings are from a Furball sheet. The stencils are from a superb Fundekals set (beautifully organized and printed by Cartograf). I used ResKit's decals for the missiles and bombs, and kit decals for the national insignia. I estimate there are something over 400 decals on the model.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro: 1/25 1949 Mercury Coupe (AMT)

Bart added custom parts provided by the kit. Lowered front and back wheels. Open trunk with spare tire. Rolled front and rear pans. Bart added the skirts. Custom wheels are from the parts box. The model was painted with Kaleido water base paint and clear varnish.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Richard Price: 1/72 Yak-1B (Arma Hobby)

Richard built the kit OOB and painted it with Vallejo Air acrylics. Decals are from the kit; markings are for a plane from the 73 GIAP (Guards Fighter Aviation Regiment) piloted by Senior Lieutenant Lydia Krasyl Luch, July 1943. GIAPs were elite, specially designated units honored for exceptional courage and high combat performance. Richard writes, "Speed build – five days from start to finish. Beautiful kit in all regards."

This kit came from the **Kirk Collection**.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (concluded)



John Walker: 1/72 Messerschmitt Bf 109 K-4 (Airfix)

John added a True Details cockpit set, brake lines, rudder trim tab linkage, IFF antenna, Morane mast, outer landing gear doors, and enclosed gear bays. He also re-scribed panel lines and reshaped the aileron balance weights. Paints are Vallejo Model Air acrylics with tube water color and powders for weathering. Decals are from Aeromaster; markings are for III/JG 27, late war.

This old kit (1980) came from the **Kirk Collection**.

Upcoming Events

- June 13.....**NoreastCon 53**, The Dome Arena, 2695 East Henrietta Rd, Henrietta, NY
Log on to <https://ipmsrochester.org/noreastcon-53>
- August 5–8.....**IPMS National Convention**, Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Log on to <https://ipmsnationals.org/>
- September 27.....**Patcon 2026**, IPMS Patriot Scale Modelers, American Heritage Museum, Hudson/Stow, MA
Go to ipmspatriot.org
- October 2.....**Armorcon**, Northeast Military Modelers Asso., Wyndham Southbury Hotel, Southbury, CT.
Contact Matt Toms: ssgtoms@sbcglobal.net
- October 18.....**GraniteCon 33**, Granite State Modelers, Weare Middle School, Weare, NH.
Contact Rodney Currier: nickmatt2@roadrunner.com or 603-726-3876

IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

IPMS No.: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____
If Renewing First Middle Last

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Signature (required by P.O.) _____

Type of Membership Adult, 1 Year: \$30 Adult, 2 Years: \$58 Adult, 3 Years: \$86

Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____

Canada & Mexico: \$35 Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order

Payment Method: Check Money Order

Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____

If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:

Name: _____ IPMS No.: _____

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P. O. Box 45235

Omaha, Nebraska 68145-0235

Email: manager@ipmsusa.org