



THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA
www.ipmspatriot.org



July 2025

Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, July 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Parish Unitarian Church in Billerica, MA. Please note this is the second Friday of the month due to the Independence Day holiday. The church is located on Concord Road, just as it meets Route 3A (Boston Road) at the Billerica Town Common. Besides its normal format of build session with a business meeting, Show-and-Tell, and a raffle, the July meeting will be our annual Ice Cream Social (ice cream provided by the club) and ALSO Group Build Amnesty for previous years. If you didn't get it finished for a past December meeting, bring it along to this one.



It's been great having long-time Patriot member Steve Cardoos showing up at more meetings lately and bringing some very nice models for Show-and-Tell. A case in point is this 1/72 Macchi C.200 Saetta, built from the 1985 Revell kit (originally dating from 1966) and painted with Life Color acrylics. The model carries markings, using the kit decals, for 385 Squadriglio (Squadron), 154 Gruppo Autonomo (Autonomous Ground Fighter Group), Regia Aeronautica (Royal Italian Air Force), southern Italy, 1942-43.

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I'm writing this month's FtP during the obscene end-of-June heat wave we're experiencing. Generally I'm good with heat, and don't mind a bit of humidity either, but what we've been going through has been straight-up oppressive. Even sitting at the model bench in the basement, normally a comfortable spot in the summer, has been a challenge. Every morning between 6 and 7, I hit the bench to work on a model while live streaming on my YouTube channel. This week my "followers" are also enjoying watching me sweating bullets. I should probably get a desk fan ...

Speaking of the bench ... after a miserable time assembling a Special Hobby 1/72 Airacomet, a Kirk collection kit I finally gave up on at the proverbial 1-yard line, I built a Bandai no-grade 1/144 Char's Custom Zaku. Now we're talking! This old model from 1980, one of the first Gundams produced, was a peach to work on. Unlike a modern Bandai kit, it has few parts, many seams, and requires glue. However, it fits together very well for a product of its time, certainly more so than the 2004 tooling Airacomet. While the Zaku had minor alignment issues which were easily taken care of via CA glue and some extra sanding, the Airacomet required gobs of putty between wings/stabilizers and the fuselage as well as around the air intakes, exhaust, and canopy. It just goes to show that a thoughtfully designed and engineered model is timeless while one poorly conceived ... is straight crap.

After wrapping up the Zaku, I returned to a project that's been sitting on the shelf of doom for many years: the "Freebie Gundam." The kit was a free "make and take" model given out by Bandai during shows like Anime NYC which I attended in 2019. It's a simple kit to which I applied significant modifications such as bulking up and detailing the shield and support arm, kitbashing and modifying a rifle and the shoulders, and scribing tons of new panel lines throughout. What remains is painting, adding battle damage, creating a small base, and greebling some more. Returning to this model reminds me how much I enjoy taking a stock model and modifying it to make it my own. Customizing is my happy place.

So what's the moral of this month's story? Don't waste your time on a bad kit, search out and focus on those techniques and effects in scale modeling that bring you joy, and stay cool during summer heat waves!

Happy modeling,
George

Minutes from the June Meeting

The meeting was chaired by club VP Bill Michaels.

1. Treasurer's Report: Expenditures over the last month significantly outweighed income as we have paid for the church room use for the remainder of the year, purchased an ad for Patcon at the IPMS Nationals, and have made good on various reimbursements.

2. The July meeting will take place on the second Friday,

3. Alan Beeber will not be available to open the room for the August meeting and requested someone cover for him. John Walker volunteered to do so.

4. We're changing the order of events of this meeting so that the raffle can take place by 9 p.m. for those who have to leave before the end of Show-and-Tell, which has seen a rapid growth in subjects. This may become the new format for all meetings.

5. The Patcon committee is still forming and looking for volunteers. Activities will commence soon.

6. Chris Kizik reported on the first "brewery gathering" he has organized: an informal get-together of club members outside of the regular meetings. It will take place at the Navigation Brewery in Chelmsford on June 21 (Saturday) between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m. Members can come and go as they please and are welcome to bring non-club members along. There is space for about 20 people. There won't be food directly available, but we are considering supplying pizza from a nearby outlet. We are also looking to ask for a \$5 door fee to cover costs. This could come with a ticket for a door raffle with a single draw of a choice of prize. Be aware that venue parking is limited, but there is other parking available nearby. We can bring models to build, but make sure a mat or board is used to protect table surfaces. As the first of these events, the exact details will evolve. July and August events are also being organized.

7. Hogsheaven Hobby is closing their retail store, and the business is up for sale. They will be continuing their online store for the time being.

8. The July meeting is also the Ice Cream Social as well as the Group Build Amnesty for previous years. If you didn't get it finished for the relevant December meeting, bring it along to this one.

—Richard Price, Secretary

Show-and-Tell

Steve Cardoos 1/72 F4U-1D (Minicraft)
1/72 Macchi C.200 Saeta (Revell)
Austin Clark.....1/35 Jeep (Tamiya)
1/25 1966 Corvette (AMT)
Mason Fitch 1/144 Razor Crest (Bandai)
Kurt Kunze1/72 F6F-5 hellcat (Academy)
1/72 Hellcat Mk. II (Academy)
Daniel Lovering 1/12 Ducati 900SS (Tamiya)
Bill Michaels 1/35 LCM-3 (Trumpeter)
Pip Moss 1/48 F3F-2 (Accurate Miniatures)
Bart Navarro 1/72 F-104S (Hasegawa)
Three 1/72 P-47 Thunderbolts (Jo-Han)
Declan Petrosky 1/35 German Infantryman (Tamiya)
Stan Phillips 1/35 M-50 Sherman (Multiple)
Richard Price 1/45 Maudsley's Steam Engine (Airfix)
Tim Sistare..... 1/700 USS *New Orleans* (Trumpeter)
Miguel Villega 1/72 Canberra (Airfix)
1/48 IA-58A Pucará (Dukel Hobbies)
1/48 Sea Harrier (Tamiya)
John Walker 1/72 Bf 109 E-3 Slovak (Hasegawa)
1/72 Bf 109 E-3 (Airfix)

Raffle Report

June winners:

Austin Clark, Dragon 1/35 SdKfz. 251/22
Linda Crummett, Dragon 1/35 Nashorn
Tim Sistare, Tamiya 1/35 M48A3 Patton
Dean Strom, italeri 1/35 M4A3E8 package
Miguel Villega, 1/48 Bf 109 package
Bart Navarro, Moebius 1/25 1954 Hudson Hornet
John Walker, Eduard 1/72 P-51 Aces of the Eighth
Ruane Crummett, hasegawa 1/24 Lamborghini
Tom Warshal, Tamiya 1/12 Honda CB750F cycle
Jerry Kuzlotsky, Tamiya 1/35 Panther G
Daniel Lovering, Revell 1/24 1965 Mustang 2 + 2



Steve Cardoos: 1/72 F4U-1D Corsair (Minicraft/Hasegawa)

Steve built the kit OOB and painted it with Model Master enamel Gloss Sea Blue with MM gloss clear coat. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for US Marines VMF-312, Okinawa, April 1945.



Austin Clark/Ruane Crummett: 1/25 1966 Corvette (AMT)

Austin writes, "My dad sold his '66 Corvette two years ago. Very few kits were produced of the '66 Corvette. I found this one at ValleyCon after three years of searching. It had been partially built with some painting. I've never done a car, so I asked Rue if he could finish it for me."



Austin Clark: 1/35 Jeep (Tamiya)

Austin built the kit nearly OOB, but added the tarp roll from a Tamiya accessory set. Paints are Tamiya acrylics with an oil dot filter and oil wash. Decals are from the kit. Austin writes, "At one point I threw this Jeep away out of frustration. Wanting another model for ValleyCon, I remembered it was still in the recycle bin. The windshield was destroyed, and I couldn't find the side mirror. It still won a bronze medal at ValleyCon."



Mason Fitch: 1/144 Razor Crest (Bandai)

Mason built this pre-painted model OOB and applied Mr. Weathering Multi-Black. Decals are from the kit.

Razor Crest is the personal ship of Din Djarin (The Mandalorian). It appears in the Disney+ series "The Mandalorian," specifically in the first two seasons. While Din Djarin is alive and active during the "Star Wars" era, neither he nor the Razor Crest appear in any of the "Star Wars" movies.



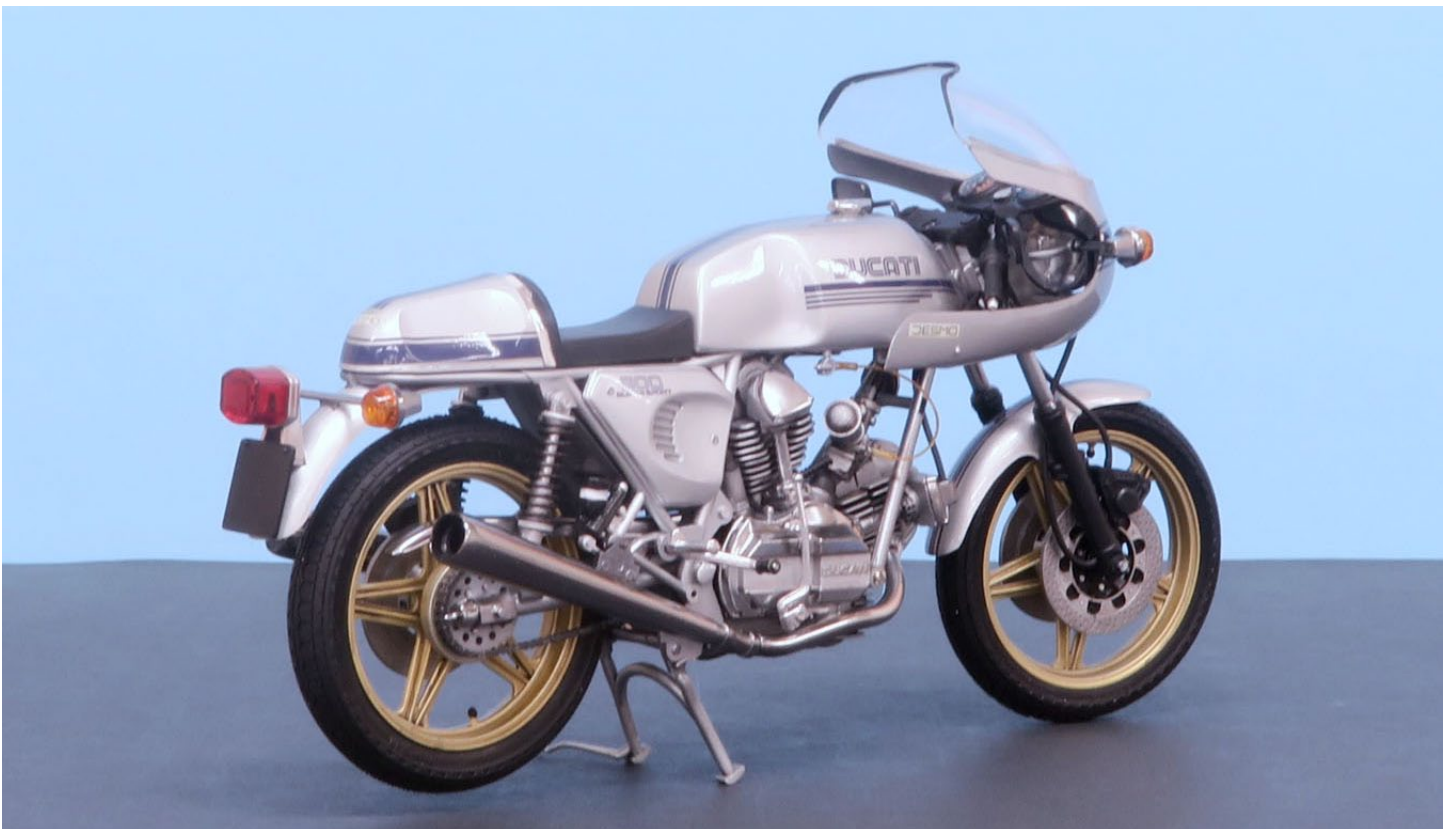
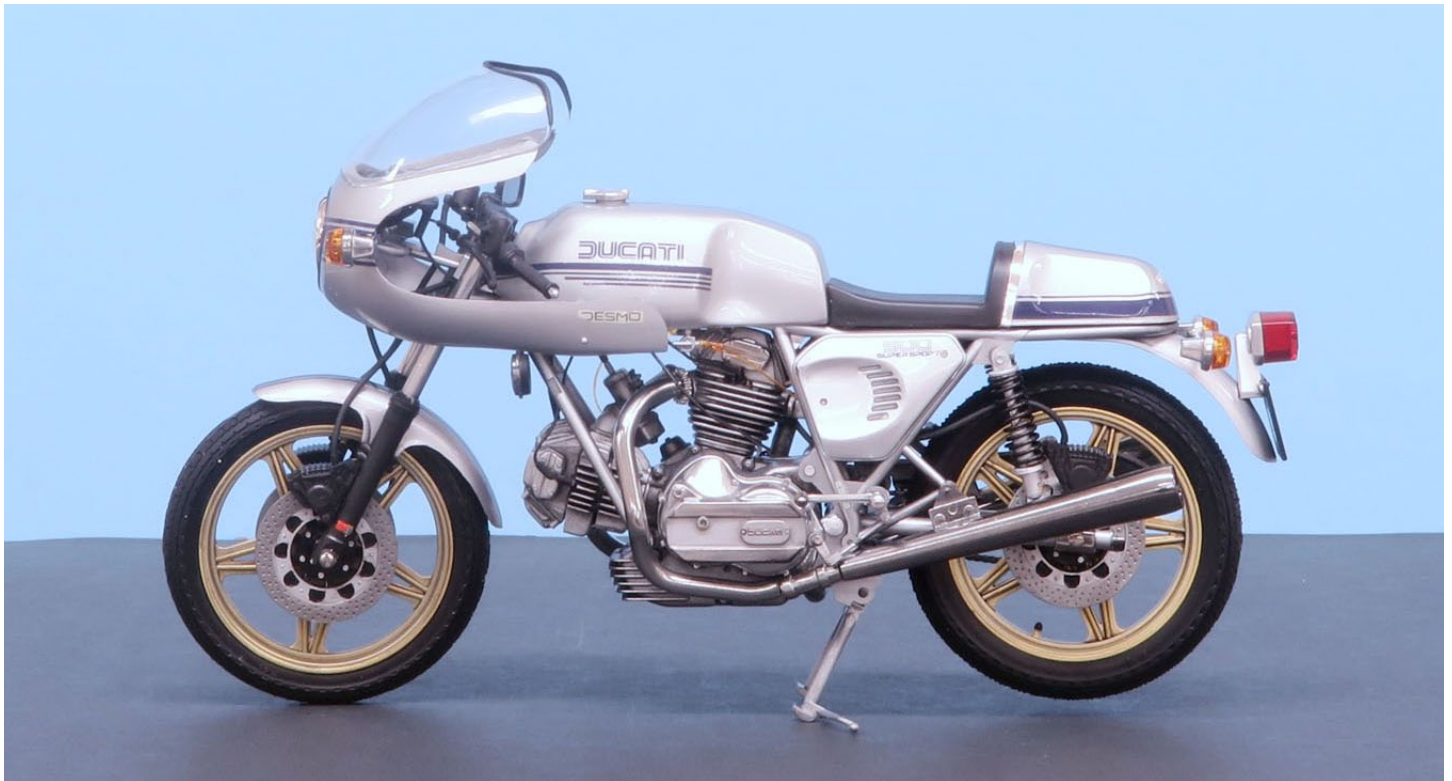
Kurt Kunze: 1/72 Hellcat Mk. II (Academy)

Kurt built the kit OOB and painted it with mostly Tamiya and some Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from Tally Ho!; markings are for 1844 NAS, Fleet Air Arm aboard HMS Indomitable, Okinawa campaign, 1945. This kit came from the Kirk collection.



Kurt Kunze: 1/72 F6F-5 Hellcat (Academy)

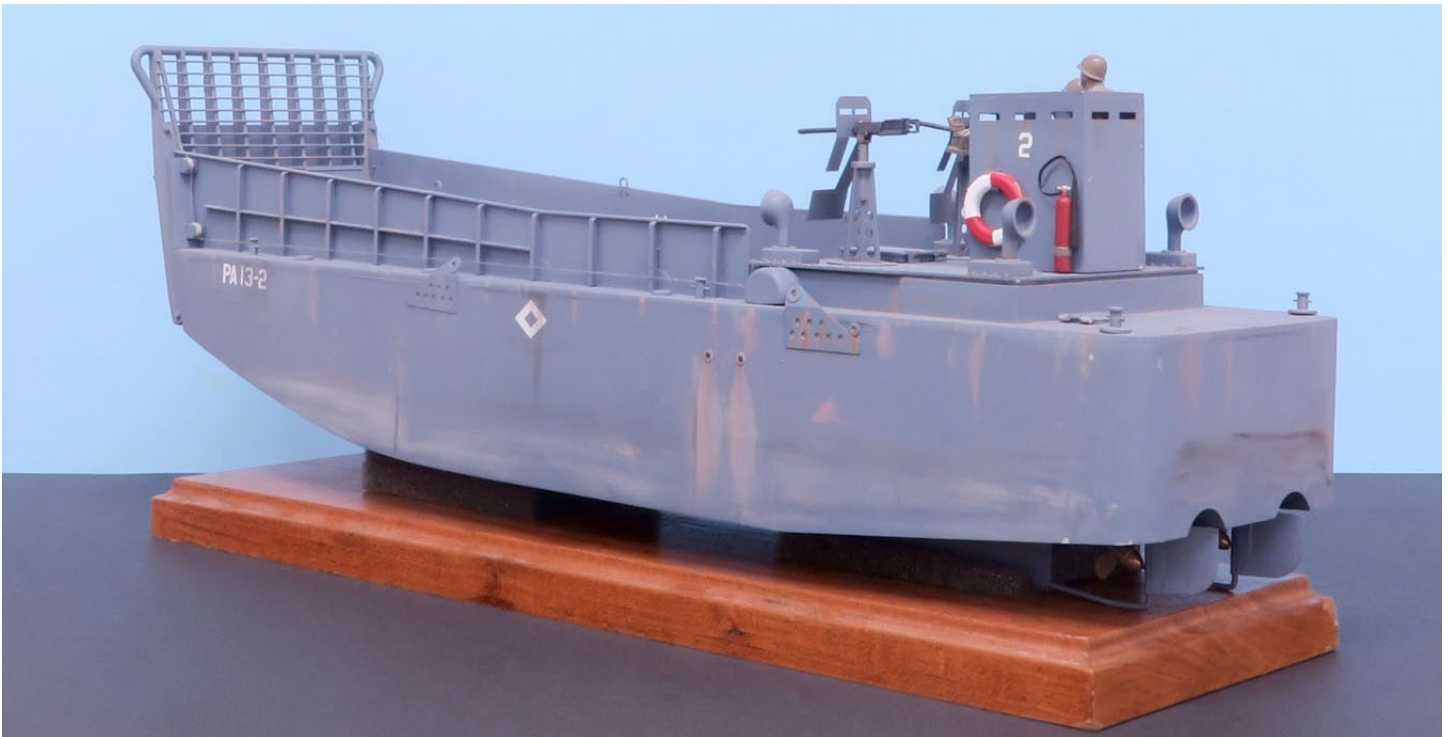
Kurt built the kit OOB. Paints are mostly Tamiya and some Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for VF-17 "Jolly Rogers" aboard USS Hornet. This kit came from the Kirk collection.



Daniel Lovering: 1/12 Ducati 900SS (Tamiya)

Daniel writes, "This model depicts a 1978 Ducati 900SS, an exotic Italian sport bike. It was built from a 1983 kit that first appeared in the late 1970s and was discontinued in the mid-1980s. The parts were generally well formed, but had lots of ejection pin marks, some of which I neglected to remove. I added a 3D-printed chain from Falcon Scale Models (Poland), Tamiya 1/12 scale wire for many of the hoses and cables, and 20 lb. fishing line for the fuel lines. Paints are Mr. Surfacer 1500, Tamiya LP series lacquers and acrylics, and Spaz Stix Ultimate Mirror Chrome, with Tamiya Panel Line Accent on the engine and other parts."

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bill Michaels: 1/35 LCM-3 (Trumpeter)

Bill writes, "I built this kit right after it was first released in 2004, converting it to an RC model. It has been a reliable performer and is still in service. Italeri and Trumpeter both released 1/35 scale LCM-3 kits that same summer. The hull on the Trumpeter kit is about a quarter of an inch too deep. I picked it to build/convert because I needed that extra bit of space to fit the RC batteries under the deck."

"The model depicts an LCM-3 attached to the USS *Joseph T. Dickman*, a US Coast Guard-manned attack transport, June 6, 1944 (D-Day), Utah Beach. The ship was named for Major General Joseph Theodore Dickman (1857-1928), who commanded the Third Army from November 15, 1918 to April 19, 1919. He was a veteran of many campaigns including the 1885-86 Apache War, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion, and World War I.

"One of several attack transports manned by the USCG in WW2, the *Joseph T. Dickman* participated in the landings in North Africa, Sicily, Salerno, Normandy, Southern France, and Okinawa. She received six battle stars for WW2 service."



Pip Moss: 1/48 Grumman F3F-2 (Accurate Miniatures)

The kit was built mostly OOB. A.M. supplies photo-etch seat belts, radio antenna masts, rigging wires and engine electrical harness. The latter item was fragile, ill-fitting and inaccurate, so I scratchbuilt a harness using thin styrene rod bent and glued around the crankcase cover for the base circle and 28 gauge copper wire for the individual ignition wires. These were lightly painted with Model Master Mid Stone to bring down the shine. Thin copper wire was also used for the pitot tube attached to the starboard interplane strut.

The fuselage was painted with Alclad Aluminum and received a light coat of Mr. Color GX clear flat after decals had been applied. The lower wings and bottom of the upper wing received a base coat of Alclad RAF High Speed Silver followed by a top coat of Alclad Polished Aluminum. Paints used for the other areas are Mr. Color Red and Flat Black, and MRP True Blue and USN Orange Yellow. All stripes, including the black piping and propeller tips, were masked and painted. Decals for the individual plane markings and stencils came from the kit; national insignia came from a Yellow Wings Decals sheet. Markings are for the section 1 leader and squadron leader of VF-6 aboard USS Enterprise in 1939. This was the only USN unit to employ the F3F-2.

This is the second A.M. F3F I've built. I'm happy with the way it came out, but it was not an easy build. In particular the two-piece front cowling required several bouts of filling and smoothing, and the PE rigging was a real pain to get installed without bends.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro: 1/72 F-104S (Hasegawa)

Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers. Decals are from a special Aeromaster sheet supplied in this boxing of the kit. Markings are for an Italian Air Force plane celebrating the 50th anniversary of NATO in 1999. The F-104S was license built by the Aeritalia, an Italy-based aerospace engineering corporation formed from the merger of Fiat Aviazione and Aerfer in 1969.



Bart Navarro: 1/72 P-47 (Jo-Han)

Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Testors Metallizer Aluminum. Decals are from the kit; markings are for the 362nd FG, 379th FS, 9th AF, France 1944. This kit came from the Kirk collection.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro: 1/72 P-47 (Jo-Han)

Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers. Decals are from the kit; markings are for the 362nd FG, 377th FS, 9th AF, France, 1944. This kit came from the Kirk collection.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro: 1/72 P-47 (Jo-Han)

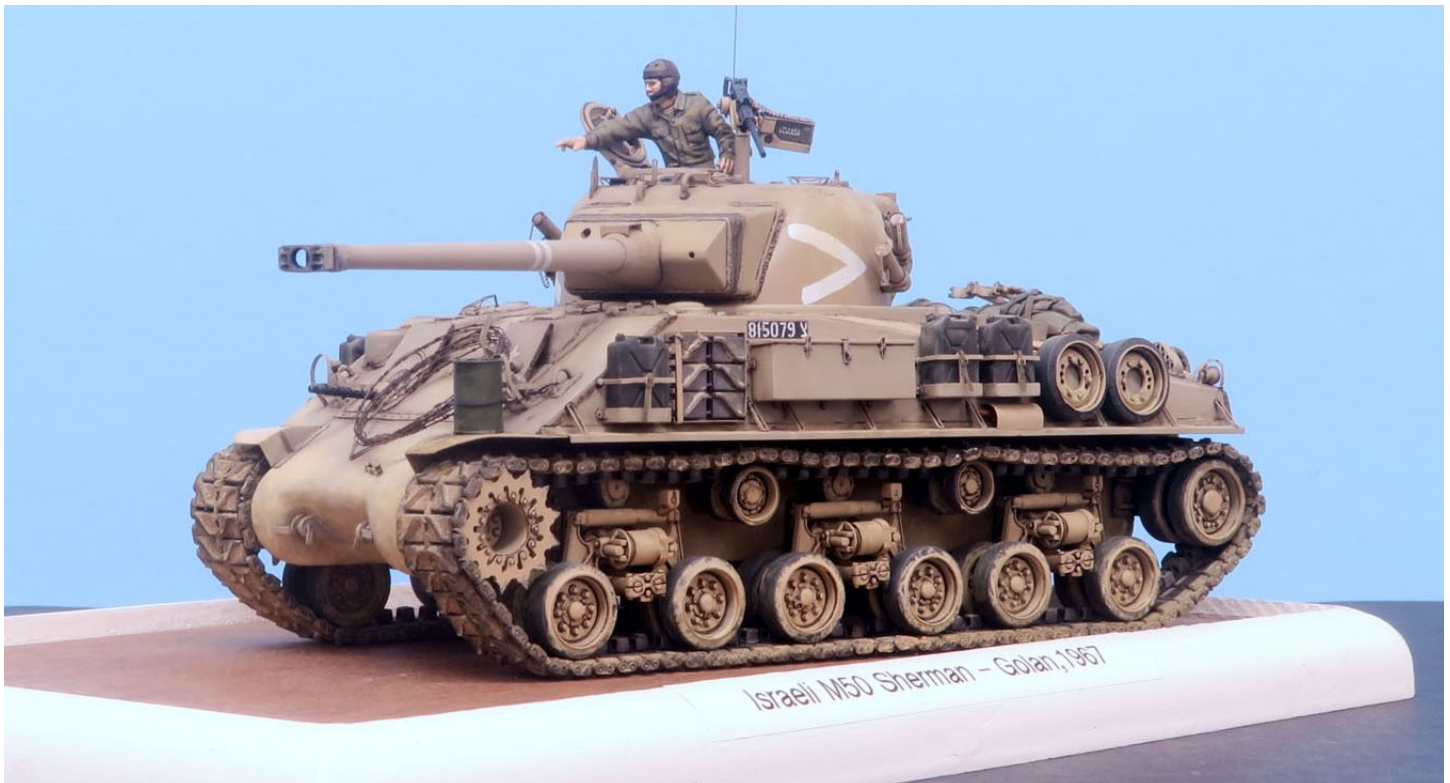
Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers. Decals are from the kit; markings are for the 56th FG, 63rd FS, 8th AF, UK 1943. This kit came from the Kirk collection.



Declan Petrosky
1/35 German Infantryman
(Tamiya)



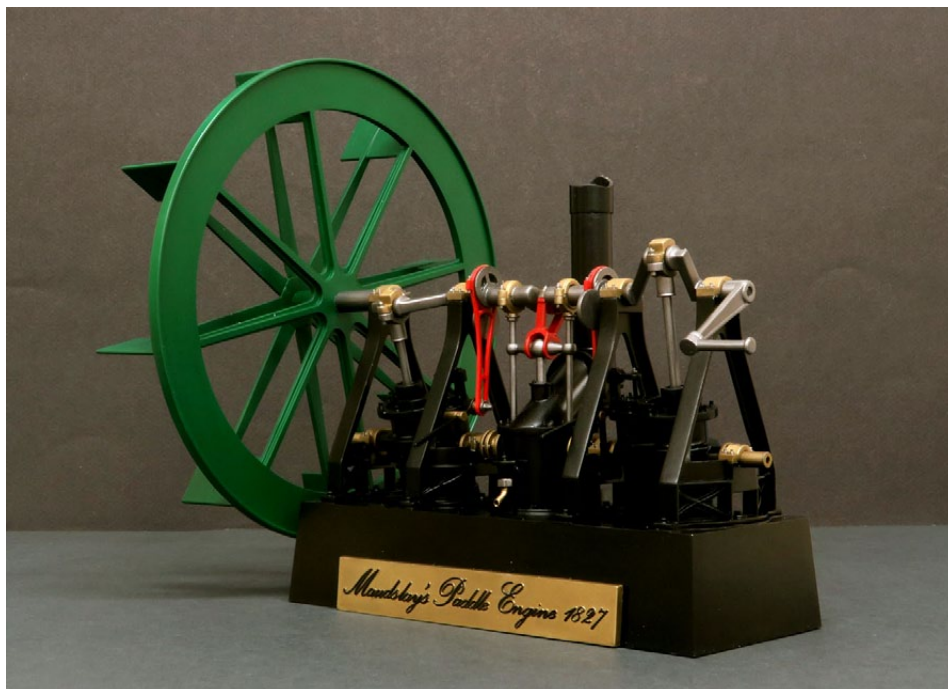
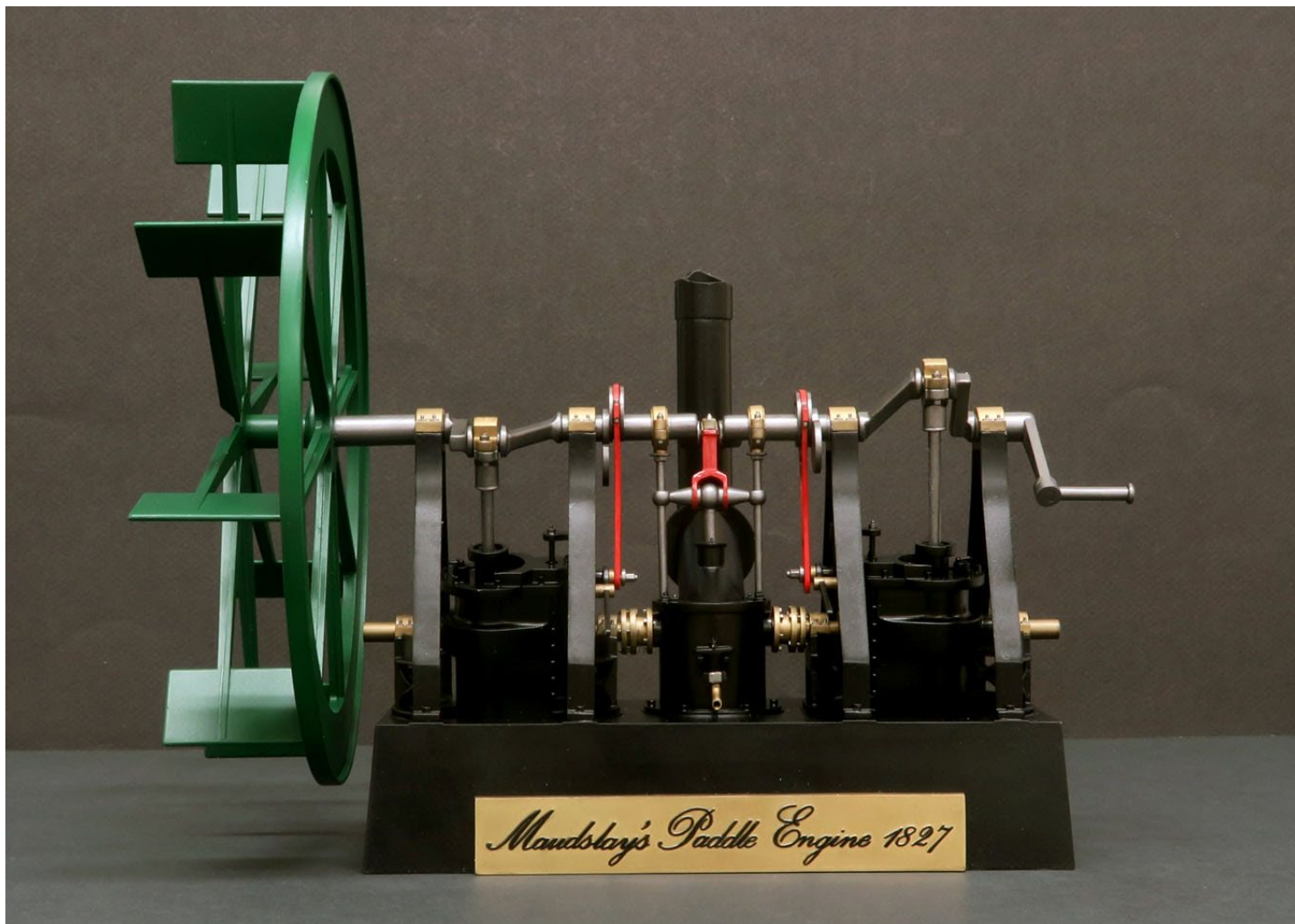
Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Stan Phillips: 1/35 M-50 Sherman (Multiple)

Stan frankensteined* this model as follows: The turret is from MP Models with a Shapeways 3D-printed mantlet and bustle and a DEF aluminum barrel. The hull is from MP Models with a DML transmission housing. A Voyager M-51 photo-etch set was adapted to fit (track fenders, footman loops, jerry can racks, etc.). Stowage is from Value Gear; barbed wire is from Minor Models; suspension is AFV Club HVSS with RFM workable tracks. For paints Stan used Mr. Color acrylic lacquers weathered with Mr. Color washes, VMS pigments and pigment fixer. Decals are from Star Decals. Markings are for an Israeli tank brigade, Golan, 1967.

(* It's been an actual verb since about 1820.)

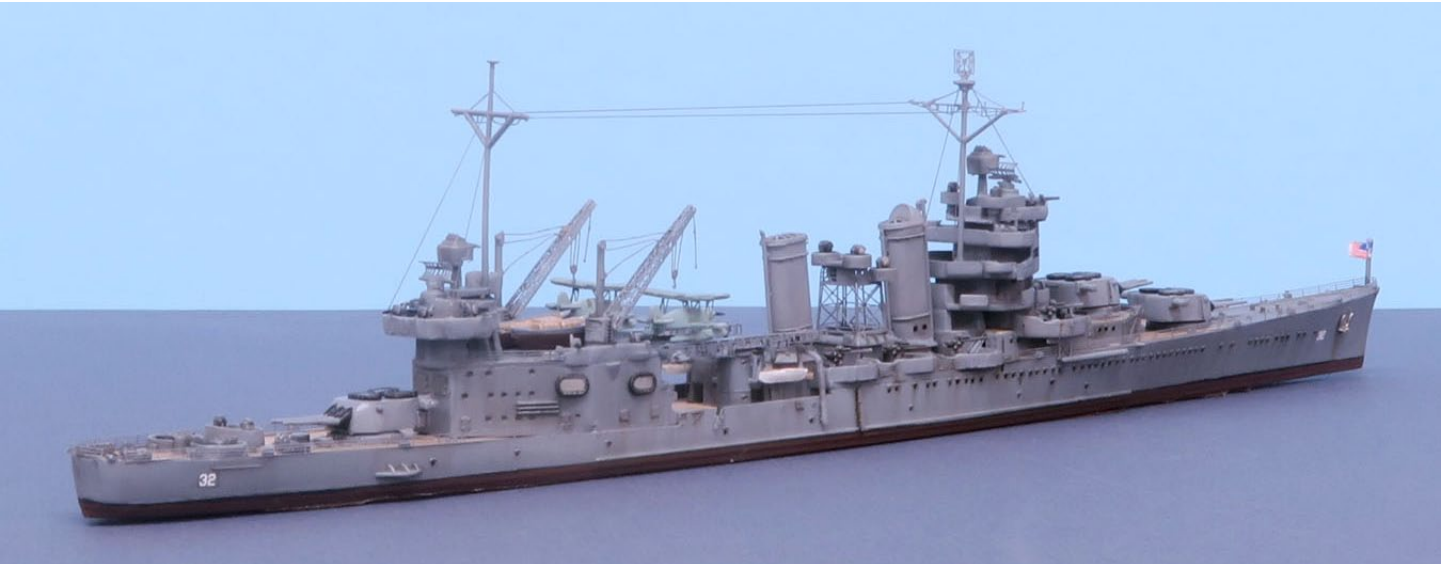
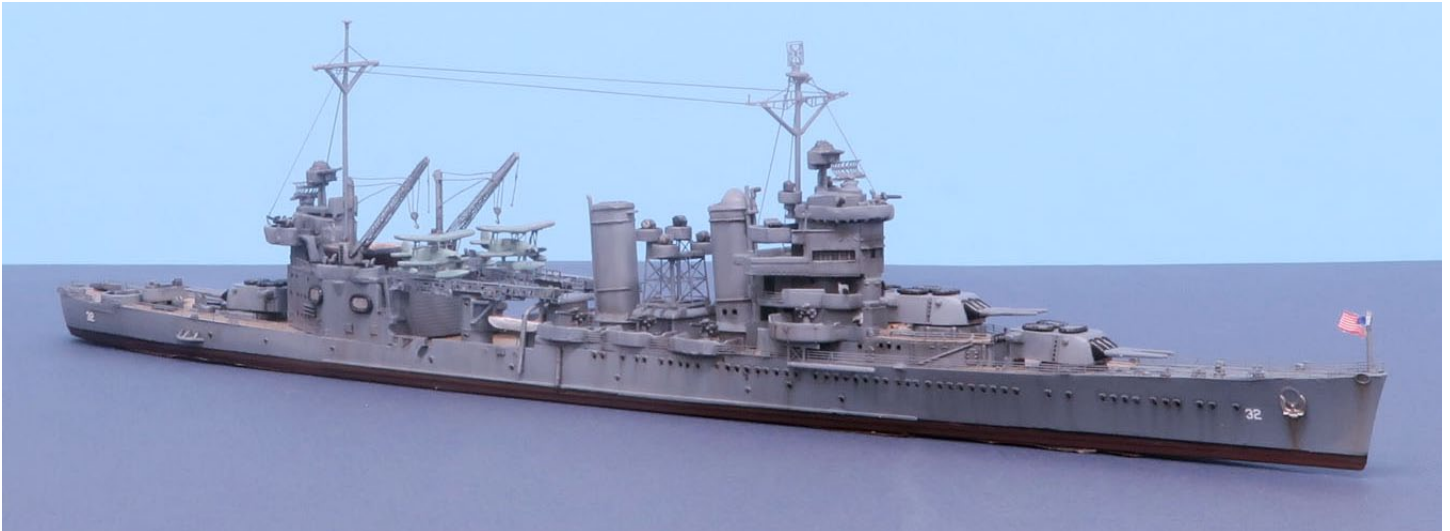


Richard Price

**1/45 Maudsley's 1827
Paddle Wheel Steam Engine
(Airfix)**

Richard built the model OOB and painted it with Tamiya Black, Airfix Brunswick Green, Vallejo Metallic Steel, Alclad Brass, and Mr. Color Red. He writes, "I first built this (very badly) about 45 years ago. Always wanted to try again so that it was actually functional. And it is!!"

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Tim Sistare: 1/700 USS *New Orleans* (Trumpeter)

Tim used an aftermarket PE detail set, PE railings and ladders and some pieces from a pewter and resin kit as well as EZ line for rigging. Paints are Tamiya acrylics weathered with an enamel wash and some AK enamel streaking effects. Tim writes, "This model is a mix of aftermarket parts and two kits found in one of Mr. Kirk's boxes. The ship is nominally in the configuration of the 1942 version of the USS *New Orleans*, with some liberties taken to make the model more visually appealing. With so many PE, pewter and resin parts in such a small scale, I primarily used super glue and accelerator for the project, making the build extremely finicky and a new experience for me. The Trumpeter kit also had some fit issues and inaccuracies that I addressed the best I could. I definitely learned a lot, but would like to stick to larger scales and my Tamiya Extra Thin for a while."



Miguel Villega: 1/72 English Electric Canberra B.62 (Airfix)

Miguel built the model mostly OOB, but added aftermarket instrument panels. Paints are from a MIG Jimenez Air set. Markings are for the 2nd Bombing Sqn. of the Argentine Air Force during the Falklands War (*Guerra de las Malvinas*). The ten Canberra B.62s were refurbished B.2s sold to Argentina. A plane from the same squadron, B-108, was the last Argentinian aircraft shot down by the British before Argentina surrendered.



Miguel Villega: 1/48 FMA IA-58A Pucará (Dukel Hobbies)

Miguel built this resin cast kit OOB and painted it with his own mixes of Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from the box; markings are for the Argentine Air Force No. 3 Attack Group, April-June 1982.

The FMA IA 58 Pucará (Fortress) is an Argentine ground-attack and counter-insurgency aircraft manufactured by the Fábrica Militar de Aviones. It is a low-wing twin-turboprop monoplane capable of operating from unprepared airstrips when operationally required. During the Falklands War Pucarás were used in the reconnaissance and light-attack roles.



Miguel Villega: 1/48 Sea Harrier FRS.1 (Tamiya)

Miguel built the model OOB and painted it with MIG Jimenez acrylics from a UK aircraft set. He used a dark wash for weathering. Decals are from the kit; markings are for Royal Navy FAA No. 800 NAS aboard HMS Hermes, April-June 1982. This and Miguel's other two models featured in this issue are part of his collection of over fifteen subjects connected with the Falklands War.



John Walker: 1/72 Bf 109 E-3 (Hasegawa)

John built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics. For weathering he used water color, pastels and pencil lead. Decals are from Blue Rider; markings are for the Slovakian 12th Fighter Squadron, Eastern Front, 1943.



John Walker: 1/72 Bf 109 E-3 (Airfix)

John built the model OOB and painted it with AK Interactive and Vallejo acrylics. For weathering he used water color, pastels and pencil lead. Decals are from Ministry of Small Aircraft Production (Canada); markings are for a plane flown by Erich Mummert, 4./JG 52, Battle of Britain, 1940.

Upcoming Events

- August 6–9.....**IPMS National Convention**, Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA
Log on to <https://ipmsnationals.org/>
- September 28.....**Patcon 2025**, IPMS Patriot Scale Modelers, American Heritage Museum, Hudson/Stow, MA
Go to ipmspatriot.org
- October 19.....**GraniteCon 32**, Granite State Modelers, Weare Middle School, Weare, NH.
Contact Rodney Currier: nickmatt2@roadrunner.com or 603-726-3876
- October 25.....**HVSM Show 2025**, IPMS Hudson Valley Scale Modelers, Elks Club, Lodge Overocker Road, Poughkeepsie, NY.
Contact John Gallagher: ggallagherjoh@gmail.com or 845-462-4740.

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Type of Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 1 Year: \$30 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 2 Years: \$58 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 3 Years: \$86 <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17 <input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Canada & Mexico: \$35 <input type="checkbox"/> Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order		
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