



THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA
www.ipmspatriot.org



June 2025

Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, June 6, 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 June meeting will be a build session with a business meeting, Show-and-Tell, and a raffle.



Can a tank be described as cute? Well yes, if it's pink! **Austin Clark** built this 1/35 scale M5A1 Stuart from the Tamiya kit and painted it with Vallejo acrylics and oil paint filters. Hull and turret stowage is from a Tamiya set. Decals are from the box; markings are for E Company, 83rd Armored Recon Battalion, 3rd Armored Division, Europe 1944. Austin writes, "My daughter asked why there aren't any girl tanks, so I built her this one."

In This Issue

From the President	2
May Meeting Minutes	3
Show-and-Tell Lists & Raffle Report.....	3
Special Event: American Heritage Museum	4
Show-and-Tell Gallery	5
Upcoming Events	26
IPMS/USA Membership Form.....	26

From the President

At a recent IPMS chapter's annual show, Patriot member Austin Clark competed in the 1/35 armor category with his salmon-colored M5A1 Stuart [just seen on Page 1]. Though medaling in the open-judging competition, his entry form had the following judge's comment:

"Please provide a source when using an unusual color."

Confused by that sole note, Austin wondered if that was the reason for the level of medal he received and if color accuracy mattered. Having the comment brought to my attention, I talked to the head judge and voiced Austin's and my concerns. The short answer was that judges have wide latitude in what criteria they use to judge. Though by no means a confrontational conversation (I have tremendous respect for this head judge and the chapter), it was one which bothered me and left me flat.

My long-held assumption has been that IPMS judging was based on "construction and finish first." How well is the model built, cleaned up, aligned, posed, etc? How well are aftermarket or scratchbuilt parts integrated? How well are paint, weathering, decals, and top coat laid down? The benefit of "construction and finish first" judging is that a model can be judged objectively, or as close to objectively as humans are capable. The model is either made well or it has flaws in how it was put together. As a judge at many local shows, this objectivity has been what I key in on when reviewing a model. It was the foundational lesson taught to me by my excellent and experienced local judging mentors.

But it appears my assumption was incorrect. Perhaps I should have understood that "first" part better ...

According to IPMS/USA's "Guide to IPMS Contests" (<https://ipmsusa.org/about/competition-information/ipmsusa-competition-handbook-2024>), the "detailing" and particularly the "details" sections under each Class specify many items for improving accuracy. Examples include thinning parts such as armor fenders to bring into scale, replacing missing details that have been removed during sanding and filing, and adding weld marks, wires, and even tire valves. As to finish and paint, most sections state

"color shade should not be used to determine a model's accuracy. Models with unusual colors or color schemes should be accompanied by documentation." Under "Class VI: Space and Science Fiction", we have "except for gross inaccuracies such as a black Space Shuttle Columbia, color shades should not be used to determine the accuracy of a model that represents an actual spacecraft or a specific TV or movie science fiction vehicle".

Using IPMS/USA's judging criteria, one can argue that Austin's tank "failed" at being accurate and "justifying" his color choice is a requirement. The same criteria would therefore apply to Eric Xu's manga-inspired 1/700 ARP Asahi ship model (which won best Junior model at the same show Austin attended), Cade Harris's 1/48 VPAF Su-30SM "what if" jet, my own blue 1/72 PLA ZTQ-15 "alien camo," Richard Price's customized 1/144 Kampfer Gundam model, most of Tom Warchal's custom-painted 1/100 Gundam Zakus, and anyone painting a Warhammer Space Marine that isn't blue. If the last three don't seem to fit in, think about it; though they are not based in reality, they are founded on properties that do have canon looks and colors referenced to source materials and published documentation. Each would and should fail the test of accuracy under current rules and, as applied during the competition Austin and I attended, be penalized.

Am I suggesting that accuracy be removed as criteria used for judging? Absolutely not. I appreciate that there are many modelers who enjoy finishing their projects to closely reflect their source subjects. I'm one of them. But I am suggesting, **STRONGLY**, that accuracy should not be wielded as a possible weapon to knock down someone's work. Let's err on the side of how good someone's model is completed, and if accuracy adds to the presentation, use that in the competitor's favor, but do not knock them down for not having the right rivet count or accurate color.

I'm sure this won't be the last time we discuss this issue as there's a lot more nuance than I can include in just a few paragraphs. If you have thoughts, fire them my way — glad to hear them.

Happy modeling,
George

Minutes from the May Meeting

1. The American Heritage Museum will be holding a Tank demo day on the weekend of May 24-25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Details on their website. We have an opportunity to man a club table to generate interest. Models can be brought with a preference for armor (or car) subjects, particularly those that match actual vehicles at the museum. Be aware that the crowd is generic and will have children, so only bring models if comfortable doing so.
2. Spencer has resolved the various treasurer issues he has been addressing since taking over and now has all club funds under his management.
3. A member suggested a possible catering alternative to food trucks for Patcon, but details were not captured.
4. Chris Kizik presented more information on “get-togethers” at breweries with a couple of options in Chelmsford and Nashua. Rooms are free (with expected consumption of brewery product) and available in two-hour slots throughout the afternoon from midday onwards. There are more possibilities in Tyngsboro and Marlboro. There is no definitive timing for doing these meetings yet; the third weekend of the month was suggested. Could we consider inviting members from other clubs?
5. New members in attendance were given around-the-room intros.

Show-and-Tell

Steve Cardoos 1/72 P-51B-1 (Academy)
Austin Clark.....1/35 pink Stuart tank (Tamiya)
 1/35 rainbow Wiesel (Revell)
Ken Fields DnD “Spider Attack” (WizKids)
Phil Maiewski..... 1/100 Gundam Heavyarms EW (Bandai)
Jamie Michaels 28 mm Wyvern (Steamforged Games)
 28 mm Khymaera-Lylytu (Steamforged Games)
 28 mm Tri khymaerax (Steamforged Games)
Pip Moss 1/48 F4F-4 Wildcat (Academy)
Bart Navarro 1/72 MS 500 Criquet (Academy)
 1/72 Arsenal VG-39 (Azure)
 1/25 1957 Covette (AMT)
 1/25 1937 Chevy Coupe Gasser (AMT)
Richard Price 1/48 B5N2 “Kate” (Hasegawa)
Miguel Villega 1/48 MiG-29 (Monogram)
 1/48 Su-34 (Italeri)
 132 Ki-43 Hayabusa (Hasegawa)
 1/32 A6M5c Zero (Arii)
John Walker 1/35 Panzer IV G (Border)
 1/72 P-51B (Academy)
 1/72 Bf 109 G-2 (Academy)
 1/72 Bf 109 G-4 (Academy)
 1/72 Bf 109 G-6 (Academy)

6. It's time to form the Patcon 2025 committee. Volunteers should let themselves be known.
7. The church has now confirmed that the first Friday is available to us for the entire year except for July 4th, so the July meeting will take place on the 11th.

—Richard Price, Secretary

Raffle Report

May winners:

Alan Beeber, Tamiya 1/48 P-51D package
Ruane Crummett, Tamiya 1/47 P-47D Bubbletop
Ken Fields, Bandai 1/144 Wing Gundam Zero EW
Mike Hirsch, Airfix 1/48 Bristol Bulldog Mk. II
Kurt Kunze, Italeri, 1/48 Bell OH-13 Sioux
Bill Michaels, Airfix 1/35 M36B1 Tank Destroyer
Bart Navarro, Moebius 1/25 1965 Mercury Comet
Declan Petrosky, Tamiya 1/35 M26 Pershing
Lucas Petrosky, Bandai 1/144 EZ-SR
Tim Sistare, RFM 1/35 Sd. Kfz. 234/2 Puma
Miguel Villega, Academy 1/48 B-25 + Pad
John Walker, Eduard L.E. 1/48 A6M3 Type 22

Oldest Model Show-and-Tell

Steve Cardoos	1/72 P-51B-1 (Monogram)
Austin Clark.....	1/72 Spitfire Mk. I (Airfix)
Ken Fields	1/144 AT-ST (Bandai) (WizKids)
Mason Fitch	Gaiking (Bandai)
Mike Hirsch	1/48 Hawker Typhoon (Monogram)
Kurt Kunze	1/72 F-16A (Esci)
	1/72 Sea Fury FB.11 (Pioneer)
	1/72 MiG-17F (Hasegawa/Aeroclub)
George Lellios.....	1/426 USS Arizona (Revell)
	1/48 Moon Landing (Monogram)
Daniel Lovering	two Zeros and Me 262 (various)
Phil Maiewski.....	1/144 Heavyarms Custom (Bandai)
Jamie Michaels	28 mm Ashlynn d'Elyse (Privateer Press)
Bill Michaels ..	1/35 Dodge WC56 weapons carrier (Testors)
Pip Moss	1/48 Ryan PT-20 (Testors/Hawk)
Bart Navarro	1/48 Zero (Tamiya)
Rich Petrie	Shin Matsunaga Zaku II (Bandai)
Stan Phillips	1/35 Panzer II F (Tamiya)
Richard Price	28 mm DnD figures (?)
Tim Sistare	Wooden tank (Granpy)
Andres Thalheimer	1/144 Chai's Zaku (Bandai)
Miguel Villega	1/32 A6M5c Zero (Arii)
John Walker	1/35 Lorraine Schlepper (scratchbuilt)
Elise Williamson.....	1/144 GoGG (Bandai)

Patriot Scale Modelers at the American Heritage Museum

On Sunday, May 25, members of our club set up some tables at the American Heritage Museum during their Tank Demonstration Weekend. We garnered the attention of over 500 visitors, sparking interest in the modeling hobby for people from all around New England!

—Eric Xu





Stephen Cardoos
1/72 P-51B-1-NA Mustang
(Academy)

Steve built the model OOB and painted it with ("probably") Tamiya acrylics. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for "Rebel Queen" flown by F/O Fred Glover, 336th FS, 4th FG, England, April 1944.



Austin Clark: 1/35 "Rainbow Wiesel) (Revell)

Austin built the kit OOB and painted it with Pro Acryl with oil paint dust effects as well as dust pigment and oil paint mix behind the wheels. Decals are from the kit. Austin writes, "I built this in response to a note left on my pink tank [see Page 1] at a recent contest which called into question my choice of color. I have little interest in historical accuracy and want my art to speak for itself, and I don't want to be judged on having the correct shade of olive drab."

At the risk of getting a little historical, the Wiesel was developed for the West German army to meet a requirement for an air-transportable, light weight, armored vehicle for use by its airborne troops to better equip them against enemy main battle tanks in the 1970s. After somewhat protracted development, the Bundeswehr eventually ordered 343 of the vehicles in 1985 with deliveries beginning in the late 1980s. The vehicle was named Wiesel ("weasel") because of its small size and agility, which make it very difficult to detect on the battlefield. Production of the Wiesel 1 ended in 1993. A relatively small number of Wiesels have been seen painted in rainbow colors.



Ken Fields: 28mm DnD "Spider Attack" (WizKids)



Phil Maiewski: 1/100 Gundam Heavyarms Custom EW (Bandai)

Phil did a complete airbrush repaint including candy coat metallic blue. He employed pre-shade weathering and added waterslide decals from Holo. The figure took 3rd place in the 1/100 Gundam category at Patcon 2022.

The XXXG-01H2 Gundam Heavyarms Custom (aka Heavyarms Kai or Gundam Zero-Three) is the upgraded form of the XXG-01H Gundam Heavyarms introduced in the OVA (original video animation) and movie "New Mobile Report Gundam Wing: Endless Waltz." It is piloted by a young man operating under the pseudonym Trowa Barton.



Jamie Michaels
28mm Warmachine
Lylyth the Raven Vengeance
(Steamforged Games)

Jamie built this figure and the ones shown on the next two pages OOB. For paints he used Vallejo metals and Turbo Dork Metallic Blue, with Arcane Blue for spines and gloves. Basing was made with Vallejo muds and pre-fabricated leaves.





Jamie Michaels: 28mm Warmachine Trikhymaerax (Steamforged Games)



Jamie Michaels: 28mm Warmachine Wyvern (Steamforged Games)



Pip Moss

1/48 F4F-4 Wildcat (Academy)

The model was built OOB. The kit provides PE seat belts and die-cut masks for canopy and wheels. The cockpit Bronze Green cockpit is from AK Real Colors. The early-war camouflage colors of Blue-Gray and Light Gray (M-485 standard) are from MRP; the Blue-Gray was faded by applying misted blotches of Mr. Color Blue-Gray, which is somewhat lighter and a bit greener. Decals for insignia and stencils are from the kit. Based on past experience with Academy decals, their flawless behavior was a pleasant surprise. Individual plane markings are from Wolfpack. The model depicts BuNo. 5032, White 18 flown by AP/1c Howard Stanton Packard, VF-6, USS Enterprise, August 1942.



Bart Navarro: 1/25 1957 Corvette (AMT)

Bart built the model OOB. He used Mr. Surfacer 1000 as a base primer, then Testors Extreme Lacquer (rattle can) color coat, and finally a top coat of Extreme Lacquer Clear, which was then buffed and polished.



Bart Navarro: 1/25 1937 Chevy Coupe, Stovebolt Gasser (AMT)

Bart built the model mostly OOB, but added sparkplug wires. He used Mr. Surfacer 1000 as a base primer, then Testors Extreme Lacquer (rattle can) color coat, which was then buffed and polished. No clear coat was used. Decals are from Gofer since they were missing from the kit.



Bart Navarro
1/72 Morane-Saulnier
MS 500 Criqueet (Academy)

Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the French Armée de l'Air in 1947.

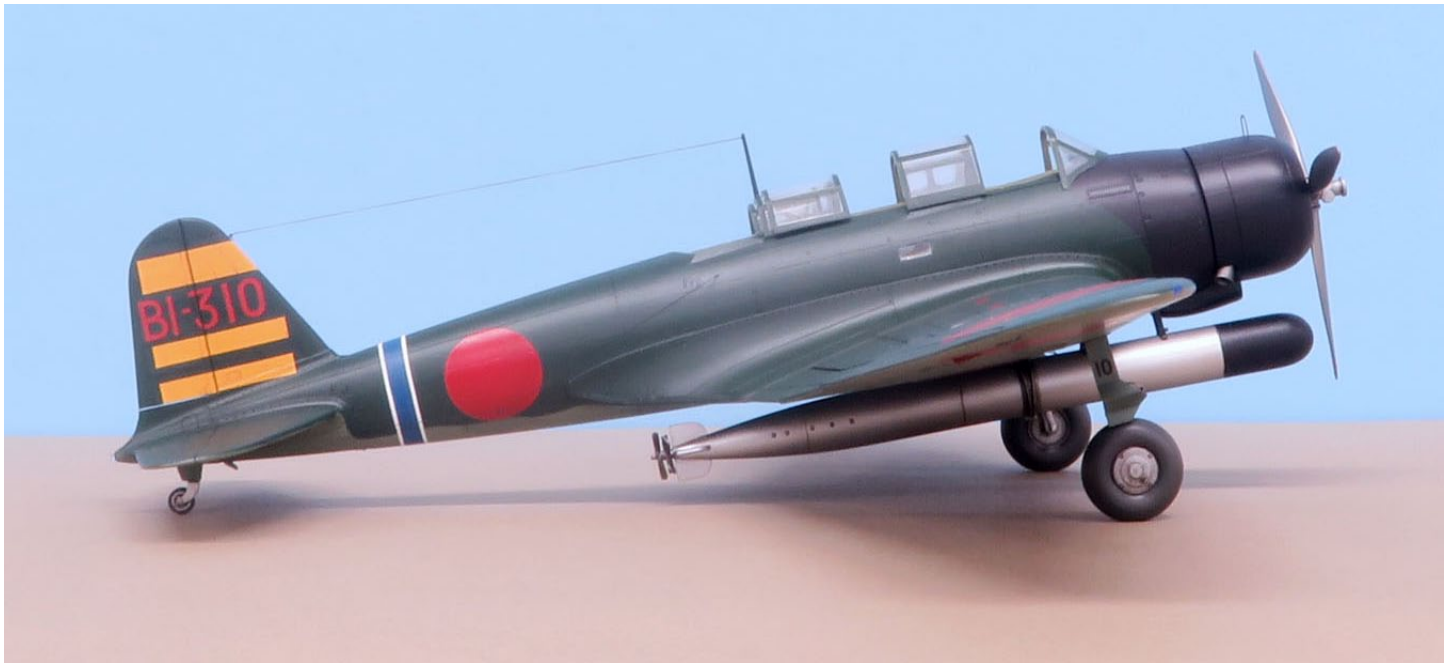
The Morane-Saulnier MS 500 and 502 were French-built versions of the German Fiesler Fi 156 Storch in French service following WW2. The MS 500 used the same Argus inverted V8 as the Fi 156, while the MS 502 mounted a Salmson nine-cylinder radial engine. Both were used in the liaison role.



Bart Navarro: 1/72 Arsenal VG-39 (Azure)

Bart built the model OOB and painted it with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers over a Mr. Surfacer 1000 primer coat. The camouflage was hand painted. A dark wash and final dull coat were applied after the decals, which are from the kit.

Existing as a prototype only, the Arsenal VG-39 was an improved version of the VG-33, one of a series of fast French light fighter aircraft under development at the start of WW2, but which matured too late to see extensive service in the French Armée de l'Air during the Battle of France. All of the VG line were constructed of wood. Development, which began in 1936, was delayed due to difficulties finding suitable engines. Because of this, the VG-33 didn't fly until 1939. Of the 200 units ordered, 160 were completed by the time of the German invasion in 1940. Except for ten which escaped to the south of France, all of them were either destroyed or seized. The prototype VG-39 was being flight tested just prior to the surrender. It mounted a 1250 hp engine with a top speed of 388 mph even with an engine-mounted 20 mm canon and six wing-mounted machine guns.



Richard Price

**1/48 Nakajima B5N2 "Kate"
(Hasegawa)**

Richard added Eduard PE sets and brass tubing for the pitot tube. Paints are mostly Mr. Color acrylic lacquers. All markings are painted except the numbers, which are decals. The model depicts a plane piloted by Joichi Tomonaga off the IJN Carrier Hiryu during the Battle of Midway, June 1942. Richard writes, "Bought from a vendor with wrong instructions, so there's some guesswork on colors/markings. For some reason, I really like this aircraft and may well build the Border 1/35 and Airfix 1/72 (to go with the Takom Akagi flight deck and island kit)."



Miguel Villega: 1/48 MiG-29 (Monogram)

Miguel built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from Monokio. Markings are for the 1st Air Combat Division, 55th Air Regiment, Sunchon Airbase, North Korea.



Miguel Villega: 1/48 Su-34 (Italeri)

Miguel built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics.



Miguel Villega: 1/32 Nakajima Ki-43 Hayabusa

Miguel built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics.



John Walker: 1/35 7.5 cm L/43 Panzer IV G mid-production (Border)

John built the model OOB, but added a tow cable fashioned from embossed solder. The figure was modified from Tamiya. Paints are Tamiya acrylics with weathering using powders, pastels and pencil lead. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the 1st SS Leibstandarte "Adolf Hitler," Kharkov, March 1943.



John Walker: 1/72 P-51B-15 NA Mustang (Academy)

John built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from the kit; markings are for the well known "Old Crow" piloted by ace Clarence E. Anderson, 363rd FS, 357th FG, England, June 1944. The kit came from the Kirk collection.



John Walker

1/72 Bf 109 G-2 (Academy)

John backdated the model from a Bf 109 G-6 to a G-2 by leaving off the cowling MG bulges and sanding down their locating marks. He also sanded off the wing wheel bulges, carved out the tail wheel opening, and removed the tail wheel boot. Paints are Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from InScale 72 (Finnish company) sheet AC001. Markings are for Maj. Eino Luukkanen of the Finnish Air Force Squadron 34, Finland 1943. The kit came from the Kirk collection.



John Walker: 1/72 Bf 109 G-6 (Academy)

John built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from InScale 72 sheet AC002. Markings are for Sgt. Hemmo Leino of 1/HLeLv 34, Finnish Air Force, Finland, 1943. The kit, from the Kirk collection, was actually a Bf 109 G-14, but no modifications were required to build it as a late G-6 since all the differences are internal.



John Walker: 1/72 Bf 109 G-4 (Academy)

John backdated the model from a Bf 109 G-6 to a G-4 by leaving off the cowling MG bulges and sanding down their locating marks. He also sanded off the wing bulges. The 20 mm under-wing gondolas are from Hasegawa. Paints are Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from Eduard's kit of the Bf 109 G-2/G-4. Markings are for the 150° Gruppo Autonomo, Italian Regia Aeronautica, Sicily, 1943. The kit came from the Kirk collection.

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.

IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM			
IPMS No.:	Name: _____		
Address: _____	<small>If Renewing</small>	<small>First</small>	<small>Middle</small> <small>Last</small>
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	E-mail: _____		
Signature (required by P.O.) _____			
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	
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order			
Chapter Affiliation, (if any): _____			
If Recommended by an IPMS Member, Please List His / Her Name and Member Number:			
Name: _____		IPMS No.: _____	
IPMS/USA		P. O. Box 45235	
Join or Renew Online at: www.ipmsusa.org		Omaha, Nebraska 68145-0235	
		Email: manager@ipmsusa.org	