



THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA
www.ipmspatriot.org



April 2025

Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, April 4, 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 April meeting will be a build session with a business meeting, Show-and-Tell, and a raffle. One agenda item will be a final vote to determine this year's group build theme. See item 6 in the March minutes on Page 3 for more details.



I was shocked to discover that we've never featured any of Jamie Michaels's fantasy wargaming figures on the cover, so here are two views of one of the pieces he brought to the March meeting. This is a 28mm Skylla, the Abyssal Fury (Steamforged Games), a heavy warbeast body from the Khymaera faction Shadowflame Shard army as found in the Warmachine tabletop wargame. Jamie built the figure OOB and painted it primarily with Vallejo acrylics. The base was embellished with leaves he purchased from Amazon.

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Holy crowd control, Batman! Anyone else blown away by the number of people who attended our latest in-person meeting on March 7? I counted 37 members including four new members. That's the largest Friday night group we've had in the five-plus years I've been with Patriot, and not by a small margin. It was wild to walk through the packed room saying Hi to as many people as I could, introducing myself to the newbies and catching up with those I haven't talked with since last month.

Also, are our meetings going much longer? Immediately pre- and post-COVID, it was common to open doors around 7:30, meet-and-greet until around 8:00, discuss business for about a half hour, run Show-and-Tell and the raffle until 9:00, and then be homeward bound by 9:30. Now members are starting to show up between 6:30 and 7:00, the meet-and-greet is an hour and a half long, and after all the festivities, we're leaving as late as 11:00 p.m. A quick note of thanks to stalwart Patriot member Alan Beeber for always being there to open and close the church for us.

I have a good theory as to why this is the case: we genuinely like and appreciate being together. One only need listen to the hobby-related and personal conversations between friends and colleagues, see the way we engage with guests and new members, making sure they are welcome, and see the respect we give to all modelers no matter their skill level or genre of choice. We're brothers and sisters in arms in the great army of scale modelers!

Or better yet, we're family.

Each of us has played a part in the past and continuing success of IPMS Patriot Scale Modelers. Will we always have 37 or more members attend a meeting, grow by four new members per month, and spend even more time together on the first Friday of each month? Maybe, maybe not. But I do believe that as more and more people discover our group, see the cool stuff we do and what a friendly and inviting bunch of model nerds we are, these will not be surprising outliers but the norm.

Happy modeling,
George

Minutes from the March Meeting

This was an extremely well attended meeting, possibly our largest attendance ever.

1. More kits from the Kirk collection were made available for members to take. As ever, we'd like to see these built out of respect for the generous donation (don't just grow the stash, BUILD!). With most boxes containing multiple kits, how about we recirculate the leftovers?

2. Dues are due. This meeting is the last opportunity to get 2025 membership at \$15 (instead of the regular \$20). Members were encouraged to pay up at the meeting to cut down on the extra effort of chasing them down later.

3. The Wings & Wheels show (ValleyCon) is at the end of the month. DownEastCon should also be coming up as part of the spring show season.

4. There was a brief discussion on how to manage the length of Show-and-Tell. We have an extended the social period at the start of the meeting, so if we don't watch our presentations, things run long. Suggestions included only bringing one model to a meeting, or if bringing multiple, only talking in detail about one. Consider what talking points to use, but avoid being draconian about suppressing what may be people's only opportunity to talk to other modelers about their builds.

5. New members were given around-the-room intros.

6. Members may not be aware of this, but our very own George Lellios (President) does a live stream modeling-themed event almost every morning. It's currently on Instagram, but will be moving to YouTube.

6. Choosing the theme build subject continued, with another call for suggestions being put to the floor. This produced a few new topics:

Duo: a collaborative single build by two modelers (also referred to as 'Thunderdome'—two modelers enter, one model leaves)

Weather Events: builds related to weather themes or terminology

Animal Kingdom: this has been merged with the creature suggestion from last time.

Everyone builds the same kit

In motion: builds depicting objects on the move

The subjects listed at the last meeting were read out again and a vote taken to find the five most popular subjects, with each member being given opportunity to vote for three. The final five to be voted down to 1 next meeting:

Myths & Legends: build can be related to mythical subjects

Color: similar to last years "Blue" theme, but a new color to be chosen

Metallica: natural metal finish a principal part of the build

Redo: build a kit you have built before, only better

Animal Kingdom: build related to animals, critters etc.

—Richard Price, Secretary

Show-and-Tell

Austin Clark..... 1/48 P-51 Mustang (Accurate Miniatures)
Mason Fitch 1/144 RGM-79 Powered GM (Bandai)
Peter Foti 1/35 Hitachi Construction Mech (kitbash)
Cade Harris..... 1/144 Airbus A340-300 (Revell)
Daniel Lovering ... 1/12 Honda RC166 motorcycle (Tamiya)
Jamie Michaels 28mm Assassin (Steamforged Games)
28mm Shadowflame Shard Skilla (S.G.)
28mm Shadowflame Shard Shadowmancers (S.G.)
Pip Moss 1/48 Hawker Hurricane Mk. I (Airfix)
Bart Navarro 1/24 1963 Ford Galaxie 500XL (AMT)
1/24 "T" Street Rod (Revell)
1/72 F-86 Sabre (Academy)
Rich Petrie 1/144 Doug Schneider's Efreet (Bandai)
Richard Price 1/48 Cessna O-2A (ICM)
Tim Sistare..... 1/35 Panzer II (Tamiya)
Dean Strom..... 1/35 Type 95 Ha-Go tank (Fine Molds)
Spencer Talmage 1/144 AH-64D Apache (Revell)
John Walker 1/72 Bf 109 G-14 (Heller)
1/72 P-40D (Hasegawa)
1/72 P-40E-1 (Hasegawa)
1/72 Kittyhawk Mk. I (Hasegawa)
1/72 Kittyhawk Mk. Ia (Kovozavody Semily)

Raffle Report

March winners:

Andres Thalheimer, Bandai 1/144 NRX-044 Asshimar
Bill Michaels, Tamiya 1/48 Bf 109 package
Cade Harris, Tamiya 1/48 A6M5 package
Linda Crummett, Tamiya 1/4 Honda 6B750F
George Lellios, Hasegawa and LEGO 1/24 VW Bus
Stan Phillips, Salvino JR 1/25 Petty Dodge Charger
Brad Harris, Bandai 1/144 MS-06R-1A Zaku II
Mike Hirsch, AK Interactive paint sets
Daniel Lovering, Revell 1/24 VW "Samba Bus"



Austin Clark: 1/48 P-51 Mustang (Accurate Miniatures)

Austin built the kit mostly OOB, but added copper wire around the canon barrels to simulate lightning. Paints are Vallejo and Tamiya acrylics. The fanciful, "girl-pleasing" paint scheme was designed for Austin's daughter.



Mason Fitch: 1/144 RGM-79 Powered GM (Bandai)

Mason built the Gundam OOB and painted it with Mr. Color and Vallejo Mecha Color with a Mr. Color flat top coat. He used metallic green to paint the head and gun sights, topped with clear coat to simulate glass. For weathering he used AK weathering pencils. Decals are water slides. The RGM-79 Powered GM is a test use mobile suit introduced in the OVA *Mobile Suit Gundam 0083: Stardust Memory*. Known pilots include Dick Allen.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Peter Foti: 1/35 Hitachi Construction Mech (Hasegawa, Bandai and others)

Peter produced this sci-fi "vehicle" by kitbashing a Hasegawa excavator kit with parts from a few Gundam robots and numerous scratchbuilt elements. He painted the model with Mission Model Acrylics and weathered it with Wilder Earth Effects, AK Interactive enamels, and oil paints.

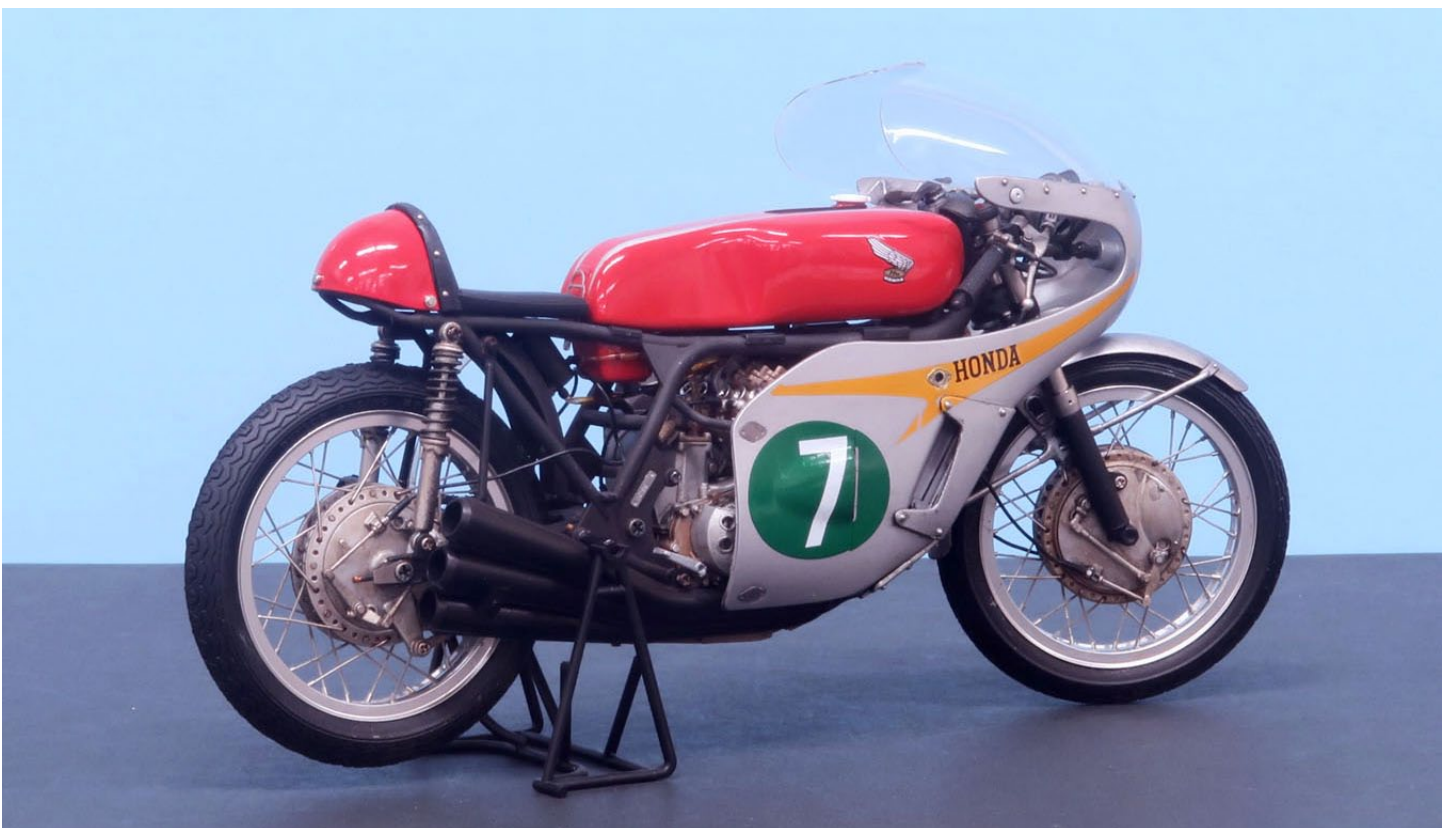
Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Cade Harris: 1/144 Airbus A340-300 (Revell)

Cade built the kit OOB and painted it with Tamiya laquers and Panel Line Accent. Decals are from the kit; markings are current Lufthansa livery.

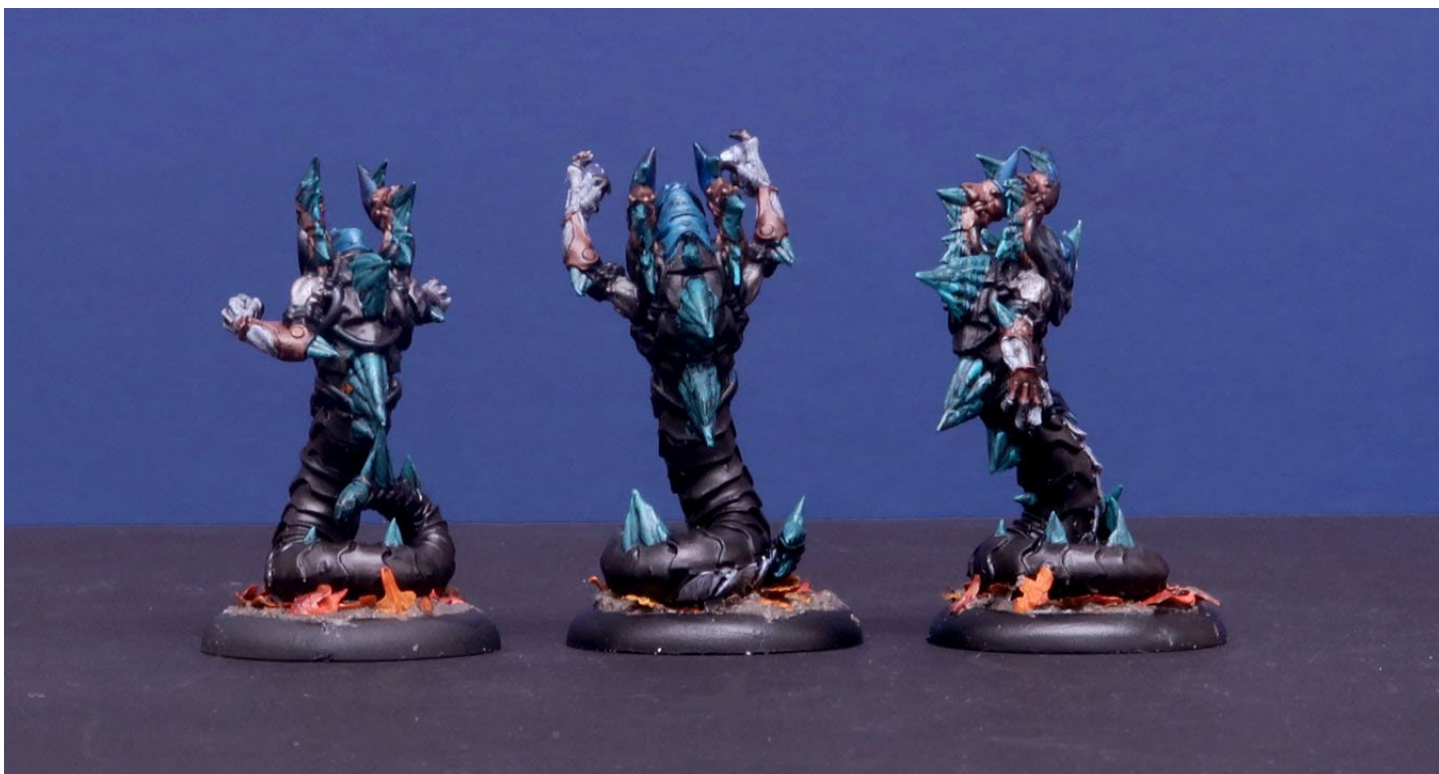
Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Daniel Lovering: 1/12 Honda RC166 GP Racer (Tamiya)

Daniel used several Tamiya "Detail Up" sets for the chain, wheels, front suspension, clutch, etc. Paints are Tamiya lacquers and acrylics with Mr. Weathering washes (Multi-black, Ground Brown, etc.). Decals are from the kit, "regrettably." Daniel adds, "This was the most difficult kit I've ever built. Assembling the chain, link by link, from tiny photo-etch parts was particularly challenging."

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jamie Michaels: 28mm Shadowflame Shard Shadowmancers (Steamforged Games)

Jamie built the figures OOB and painted them primarily with Vallejo acrylics. The bases were embellished with leaves he purchased from Amazon.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jamie Michaels: 28mm Warmachine Ghosts of los Mage Hunter Assassin (Steamforged Games)

Jamie built the figure OOB and painted it with Vallejo colors and Turbo Dork Metallic White, with a white-gray wash.

Led by Morayne, the Blade of Twilight, the Ghosts of los are a ragtag band of refugee Mage hunters who have devoted themselves to the protection of all living losans. Ranging between the refugee camps of Llael and Rhul and the former Skorne territories in the Bloodstone Marches, the Ghosts operate at the fringes of the Empire of Eternal Dusk.



Pip Moss
1/48 Hawker Hurricane Mk. I
(Airfix)

Aftermarket items include a CMK "Quick and Easy" resin seat with molded seat belts, and Eduard Brassin resin exhaust manifolds. The Airfix kit doesn't supply a pilot's mirror, but the reference photo I have clearly shows one in place. I used the mirror from a Tamiya Spitfire Mk. V kit with a small piece of sheet styrene for the mount. Paints are Mr. Color for the Interior Grey-Green and under surface Sky, AK Real Colors for the Dark Earth, and MRP for the Dark Green. I used dark gray pastel dust and Tamiya Panel Line Accent for light weathering. Decals are from an Xtradecals Battle of Britain sheet. The serials provided are incorrect for this plane, so I pieced together the numbers and letters from an Aeromaster sheet. Final clear coat is Mr. Color GX114 Smooth Flat mixed 4 or 5 to 1 with Mr. Color GX100 Gloss.

The model depicts the plane flown by the legendary Douglas Bader, Squadron Leader of 242 Sqn., based at RAF Coltishall, Norfolk, during July 1940. It was Bader's first Hurricane assignment after flying Spitfires over Dunkirk. Bader had lost the lower parts of both his legs after crashing his Bristol Bulldog biplane while attempting some (forbidden) low-altitude aerobatics in 1931. He re-learned walking and flying and passed his flight checks, but was retired on medical grounds. When WW2 broke out in 1939, Bader was accepted back into RAF service. By March 1941 he had been promoted to Wing Leader in charge of three squadrons based at Tangmere and flying Spitfires. In early August 1941 he was shot down over France and became a prisoner of war until his liberation in April 1945.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro

1/24 1963 Ford Galaxie 500 XL (AMT)

Bart built the kit OOB and painted it with Mr. Color Red acrylic lacquer.

The Ford Galaxie 500 XL was a full-size car available in two-door and convertible configurations. The XL model featured bucket seats and console – Ford promotional literature stated that XL stood for “Xtra Lively.” While the 223 cubic inch 6-cylinder was the base engine, other engine options were available, including the 390 cubic inch V-8.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bart Navarro: 1/24 Ford "T" Street Rod (Revell)

Bart built the model mostly OOB, but added spark plug wires. He used craft acrylic paints with clear acrylic floor polish. Decals are from the kit.



Rich Petrie: 1/144 MS-08TX Efreet (Bandai)

Rich built the Gundam OOB and painted it with Vallejo Mecha Color acrylics: Orange, Off-White and Phantom Grey. Decals are from Snow Flame.

The MS-08TX Efreet is a Principality of Zeon mobile suit first featured in the video game *Mobile Suit Gundam: Cross Dimension 0079*. It was most famously piloted by Doug Schneid, sole survivor of his MS unit at the onset of the One Year War (also known as the Zeonic War for Independence), who subsequently served as an MS pilot instructor, then commander of the newly-formed Marchosias MS regiment, and was responsible in guiding this group of budding pilots throughout the One Year War.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Richard Price

1/48 Cessna O-2A (ICM)

Richard added a Russian-made PE set, and he 3D printed the wheel chocks, needed to stop the landing gear struts from flexing under the weight of the model. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for one of six planes transferred from the USAF to the Navy, serving as range controllers with Strike Fighter Squadron VFA-125 based in Nevada.

Richard writes, "This was supposed to be my 'Blue' theme build for 2024, but due to a canopy mishap necessitating a replacement clearsprue from ICM (GREAT service), it wasn't finished in time."

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Tim Sistare: 1/35 Panzer II Ausf. F/G (Tamiya)

Tim built the kit mostly OOB, but with additional stowage. Paints are mostly Tamiya acrylics. Tim writes: "I used AK enamel products and pigments to simulate sand. The major technique I used was utilizing AK chipping fluid to expose Panzer Grey base coat under Afrika Korps Yellow. This was done by applying the fluid via airbrush in two-to-three coats. Once dry (four-plus hours) I applied the topcoat. AK recommends only one layer of paint on top but I did three of the yellow to ensure full paint coverage. I brushed water onto the areas I wanted to chip and let it sit for 5 minutes, and then by brushing vigorously with a stiff brush the chipping magic occurred. In some places I used a toothpick to scratch an opening in the paint and then proceeded to brush where I had a heavy application of the top coat. After that I added some additional chipping using paint and a fine brush.

"The model represents a fictional unit of the German Afrika Korps using a mix of decals from the kit and some I had lying around. The paint scheme is meant to represent a vehicle that arrived in early 1942 when the DAK was initially deployed to North Africa. Due to the ad-hoc nature of its deployment, many of the initial DAK vehicles were Panzer Gray and then camouflaged in theater. Some such as this one masked off unit and identification markings before applying the camouflage. I took Inspiration from AK's DAK profile guide book, which is an excellent resource."

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Dean Strom: 1/35 IJA Type 95 Light Tank Ha-Go (Fine Molds)

Dean built the model OOB and painted it with Vallejo primer and paints with weathering using AK products. Decals are from the kit.

Designed and initially produced in 1935 by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, the Type 95 Ha-Go (Third Model) was used by the Empire of Japan during the Second Sino-Japanese War, at the Battles of Khalkhin Gol against the Soviet Union, and in the Second World War. It proved sufficient against infantry but was not effective against other tanks. Approximately 2,300 were produced, making it the most numerous Japanese armored fighting vehicle of WW2.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Spencer Talmage: 1/144 AH-64D Apache Longbow (Revell)

Spencer built the kit mostly OOB with some minor scratchbuilding. He painted the model primarily with Vallejo Air and some Tamiya acrylics with post-shading with lightened tones to give the impression of paint fading. Additional weathering included Tamiya Panel Line Accent and Winsor & Newton oils applied to give a sandy, dirty look. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the 2nd Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), US Army, Tell 'Afar Airbase, Iraq, 2003. The unit's home base was Fort Campbell, KY, USA.

Spencer writes, "My first helicopter and first build in 1/144 scale. I was impressed by the quality and detail in this little Revell kit. Fit was good except perhaps for the canopy, which required finagling to get under a lip on the fuselage. Beware of the kit instructions as they are riddled with errors and lack of detail."



John Walker
1/72 Kittyhawk Mk. IA
(Hasegawa)

John built the kit from the Kirk collection OOB and painted it with Vallejo (Middle Stone and Dark Earth) and Polly Scale (Azure Blue) acrylics. He used pastels for weathering. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the RAF Desert Air Force, No. 239 Wing No. 250 Sqn. piloted by Sqn Leader M. T. Judd, North Africa, 1942.

The Kittyhawk Mk. IA was equivalent to the USAAF P-40E. More than 1000 were supplied to the British and other Commonwealth forces. In North Africa, the plane gave good service, first in the air superiority role and later ground attack, a mission for which it was found to be ideally suited.

Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



John Walker: 1/72 Kittyhawk Mk. IA (Kovozavody Semily)

John built the model OOB, but added a drop tank from a Hasegawa kit. Paints are Vallejo (Dark Earth) and Polly Scale (Middle Stone and Azure Blue) acrylics. Decals are from a Sword kit of the short tail Kittyhawk Mk. III. Markings are for RSAF No. 2 Sqn. (Flying Cheetah), North Africa, 1942. Although the plane closely resembles the Kittyhawk Mk. III (P-40K) with its enlarged vertical tail, it was actually from the last batch of Mk. 1A's, some of which incorporated features of later variants. John writes, "This is an old kit that required some TLC, but it looks like a Kittyhawk when finished."



John Walker

1/72 P-40D (Hasegawa)

John backdated the Hasegawa P-40E kit to a P-40D by removing one gun/breech from each wing. He painted it with Vallejo Air acrylics and weathered it with pastels. Decals came from an Airfix P-40B kit.

John writes, "Only about 50 aircraft of this variant were produced. The model is based on an in-flight photo: no unit, date, or serial number."



Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



John Waler: 1/72 P-40E-1 (Hasegawa)

This kit is from the Kirk collection. John built it almost OOB, but with the enlarged tail commonly associated with the P-40K. The serial number identifies it as a P-40E-1. Paints are Vallejo Air acrylics with pastels for weathering. Decals are from various spares and aftermarket. Markings are for an unknown USAAF unit.



John Walker: 1/72 Bf 109 G-14 (Heller)

John writes, "This kit is from the Kirk collection. It's a Heller kit released in 1977 as a Bf 109 K, but it's not even close to a K. It can be built as a late G-6 or as a G-14, which is what I did. The wheel bulges on the wings are about twice the size they should be, so I carved and sanded them down. They're still a bit too big, but they are smaller and symmetrical. I added the drop tank and mount from a spare. The MG bulges on the engine cowl are from an Academy kit. The CF loop is scratchbuilt from Evergreen and aluminum." John painted the model with Polly Scale, Aeromaster and Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from a Hobby Boss Bf 109 G-10 kit. Markings are for 2. Zrakoplovna Ljupka, Croatian Air Force, Lesi Airfield, Italy, April 1945.

Upcoming Events

- March 15 **Model Sale & Swap/Build Day**, IPMS Central CT, Buckingham Church, 16 Cricket Land, Glastonbury, CT.
Contact Boyd Brown III: bbrowniii0369@yahoo.com or 860-942-4231.
- March 22 **RepLICon 32**, IPMS Long Island, Freeport Recreation Center, 130 E. Merrick Road, Freeport, NY.
Contact James Boulukos: jnboul19@yahoo.com or 516-316-4895
- March 30 **Valleycon 34**, IPMS Wings & Wheels, Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road, Chicopee, MA.
Contact Al LaFleche: wings.wheels.modelers@gmail.com or 413-306-1270.
- April 5 **MosquitoCon 33**, IPMS New Jersey, Wayne PAL, Wayne, NJ
Contact Bill Schwarz: bigbillschwarz53@gmail.com or <http://njipms.org/>
- April 6 **BuffCon 40**, IPMS Niagara Frontier, Justin & Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Road, Cheektowaga, NY.
Contact Mike Butry: falcon42177@yahoo.com or 716-940-5624
- April 6 **Downeastcon 2024**, IPMS Southern Maine, Sanford Memorial Gym, 863 Main St., Sanford, ME.
Contact Grace Leavitt: graceee1222@aol.com or 207-252-8566
- April 12 **Can/Am Con '24**, IPMS Champlain Valley, National Guard Armory, Winooski, VT.
Contact Ron Hogue: badchek75@hotmail.com or 802-399-8866.
- July 26–29 **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: _____

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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

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