



# THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter  
Pip Moss, Editor

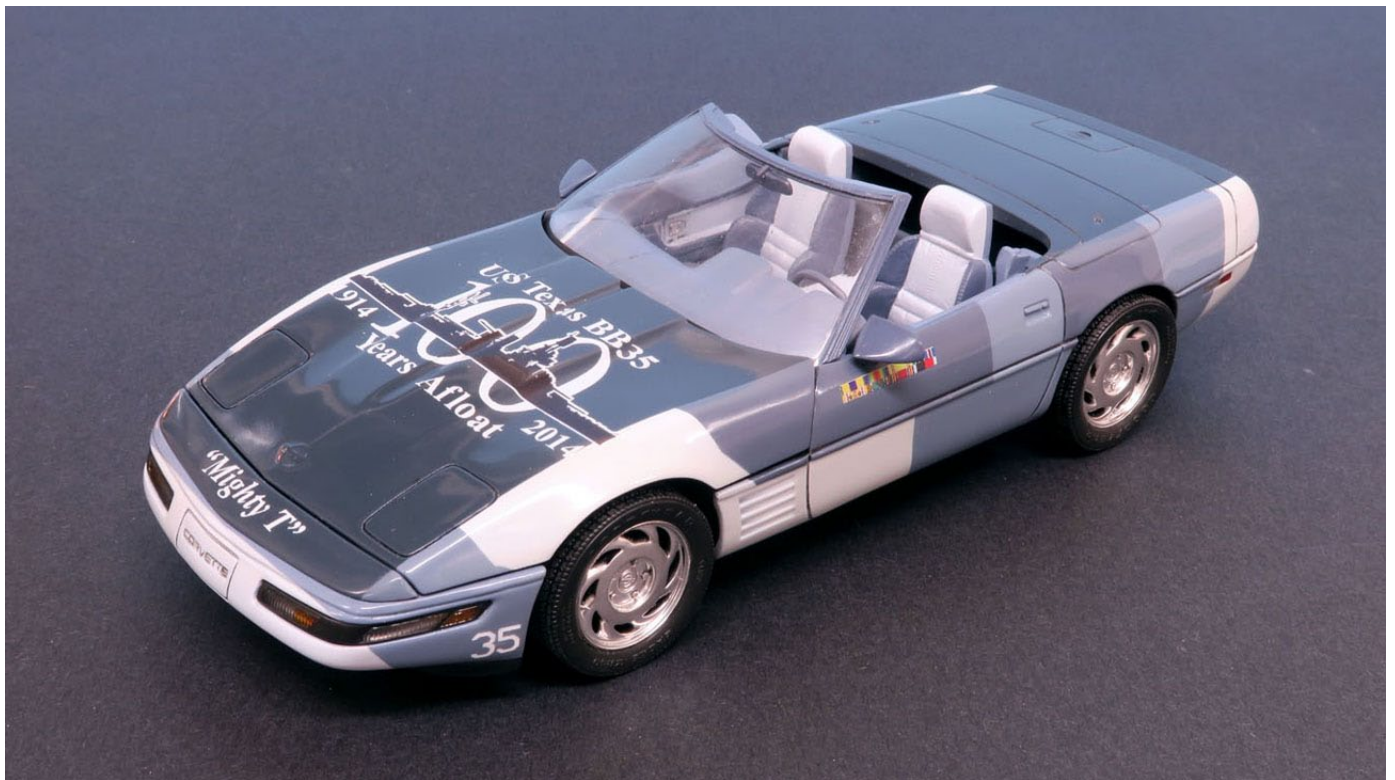
Billerica, MA  
www.ipmspatriot.org



February 2018

## Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, February 2, 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 February meeting will be a build session with a business meeting, Show-and-Tell, and a raffle.



This one-off, what-if, 1:24 scale '93 Corvette (Revell) was built by Richard Price, who usually dazzles with his ship models. According to Richard, Roy Medina challenged him to build a car model while they were judging together at Patcon 17 last September. In order to sweeten the challenge, Richard decided to paint the model (inside and out) in the Naval Measure 31a-8B camouflage colors used on the USS Texas as it appeared in November 1944. Richard also designed, and had professionally printed, decals for the speculative centennial markings on the bonnet (Richard hails from the UK). The Texas license plate reads 'BB35,' the Mighty T's registration number.

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## Minutes from the January Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Bill Michaels in the absence of Club President Dave Schmidt.

1) Club expenditures and receipts were read out by John Touloupis, Treasurer.

Motion from the floor to accept report as read and passed by floor vote'

2) General business

- 2018 club Group Build

- Suggestion to start thinking about a theme
- Look to brainstorm suggestions at February meeting and finalize choice at March meeting
- A list of the previous 8–10 themes to be published in newsletter circulated prior to February meeting
- Possible themes put forward at the meeting:
  - D-Day
  - Last opportunity for a WWI centenary build
  - Vietnam war

3) Club clothing: no updates at this time

4) Patcon update from Dave Schmidt (via John Touloupis): Dave wants to arrange a meeting with Kimberly (Event Organizer for the Elks club):

- to finalize a date for the show, the desired date for the show being September 16th.
- to seek clarification on the exact responsibilities of Patriot Chapter: in order to avoid the issues raised by the Elks after the previous two shows, we would like a specific written list of responsibilities from the Elks

5) Dave Schmidt (via John Touloupis) suggests that we look into organizing a summer family picnic for the club's members to make use of the club's current high level of funds. The target date should be the start of summer to provide ample time separation from the Patcon show.

6) Following on from 5) a motion for a future discussion on how we make use of our funds has been tabled.

7) The club thanked Alan Beeber for his work as secretary and recognizes Richard Price as the new secretary starting from this meeting.

8) A potential new member, Matt Glare, attended the meeting as a walk-in. He found the club through a web search prompted by being informed of the club discount at local hobby stores.

9) A few kits and tools from a previous estate clearance were made available to club members FoC.

10) The meeting concluded with the usual Show-and-Tell and the club raffle.

—Richard Price, Secretary

## Show-and-Tell

Dan Costa ..... 1:144 Gundam Zeta (Bandai)  
Lars Knowles ..... 1:100 Gundam Exia (Bandai)  
1:100 Gundam EZ8 (Bandai)  
Jamie Michaels ..... The Heretic & Battle Group (Privateer)  
Frank Moore ..... 1:12 & 1:29 soft plastic toy soldiers (Marx)  
1:32 soft plastic toy soldiers (Billy V)  
Pip Moss ..... 1:48 Curtiss Kittyhawk Mk. Ia (AMT)  
Richard Price ..... 1:24 1993 Corvette (Revell)  
John Walker ..... 1:35 Panther Ausf. D (Tamiya)  
1:35 Sturmpanzer Brummbär (Tamiya)

## Raffle Report

### January winners:

Richard Price, Airfix 1:48 Battle of Britain set  
Lars Knowles, Bandai 1:100 Z'Gok Mobile Fighting Suit  
John Walker, Takom 1:35 M3 Lee  
Alan Beeber, Revell 1:144 HMCS Snowberry

In last month's newsletter, I asked for feedback from the membership on ways to improve the monthly raffle. Here is a summary of the responses I received: <crickets> Apparently, the membership is either happy with how the raffle is run or not reading the raffle report (ROTFL).

Final note: I won't be at the February meeting, so I'll make arrangements for someone else to bring the kits.

—Bill Michaels, Vice President

Here's the list of Group Build themes going back to 2001:  
2017: Just Deserts  
2016: The Sexy 60s  
2015: If It Floats  
2014: Between the Wars  
2013: Evolutionary variants  
2012: As Seen on TV (or movies)  
2011: Double Plays/USN Aviation  
2010: Crossdressers  
2009: TIGER  
2008: P-51/Bf 109  
2007: SdKfz. 251/figure models  
2006: MiG-21/C-130  
2005: PT Boat  
2004: Anything Civilian  
2003: If It floats  
2002: Helicopters  
2001: NASCAR Taurus





John Walker's 1:35 scale Panther Ausf. D (Tamiya), built mainly OOB, painted with Tamiya acrylics, and weathered with AKI brown wash, pastels, weathering powders and pencil. John added tow cables made from solder embossed with a file. The figures, from the kit, were painted with Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for Panzer Regiment "Grossdeutschland," Kursk, August 1943.

First introduced in 1943, the Panther was intended to counter the Soviet T-34 tank and to replace the Panzer III and Panzer IV. Nevertheless, it served alongside the Panzer IV and the heavier Tiger I until the end of the war. It is considered one of the best tanks of World War II for its excellent firepower and protection, although its reliability was less impressive. While having essentially the same engine as the Tiger I, the Panther had more efficient frontal hull armor, better gun penetration, was lighter and faster, and could traverse rough terrain better. The trade-off was weaker side armor, which made it vulnerable to flanking fire. The Panther proved effective in open country and long range engagements, but did not provide enough high explosive firepower against infantry.





## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Frank Moore's 1:12 scale soft plastic Marine figures (Marx). Frank added after-market rifle slings and camouflaged helmet covers. Paints are Vallejo acrylics.



Frank Moore's group of 60 mm. (1:29 scale) GIs (Marx Recast), built OOB and painted with Vallejo and Tamiya acrylics.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Dan Costa's 1:144 scale Zeta Gundam (Bandai), built OOB. Markings are from the kit. MSZ-116 was featured in the 1985 Japanese anime television series, *Mobile Suit Zeta Gundam*, the first sequel to the original *Mobile Suit Gundam*.



## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Pip Moss's 1:48 scale Curtiss Kittyhawk Mk. Ia (AMT). Mods to the kit include scratchbuilt replacement pilot's head cushion, gun sight and canopy rails, added antenna mounting bracket on fin, and transverse landing gear struts and inner gear door actuators. After-market items include Ultracast resin seat, exhausts and wheels, Squadron vacuform sliding canopy, Eduard/Brassin British 500 lb. bomb, and Master Model ring and bead sight. Decals are from Tally Ho, Eagle Strike and Aeromaster, the latter providing the individual plane markings. They got the color of the map wrong (orange instead of red), so the decals were scanned, everything besides the orange deleted, the orange changed to red, and inkjet decals were printed to overlay the Aeromaster decals. Markings are for a Kittyhawk Ia from the very last batch of export P-40Es: it has several features that would become standard on the P-40K including the enlarged fin and the flared exhausts. The model replicates the personal mount of South African pilot DB Hauptfleisch, CO of No. 2 Squadron SAAF, North Africa, 1942.



## Show-and-Tell Gallery



Another of Jamie Michaels' groups of figures from the Caen/Iron Kingdoms fantasy universe (Privateer Press). All were assembled OOB and painted with Vallejo and Polly Scale acrylics, Citadel Metallics, and Vallejo washes. Top left: The Heretic, one of the five Defiers; top right: Skin and Moans (Grymkin); bottom left/right: Rattler and Frightmare (Grymkins).



## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



John Walker's 1:35 scale Sturmpanzer IV "Brumbär" (late) (Tamiya), built OOB, painted with Tamiya acrylics, and weathered with AKI brown wash, pastels, weathering powders and pencil lead. Figures are from the kit and were painted with Vallejo acrylics. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the 219th Assault Tank Battalion, Eastern Front, Spring 1945.

Introduced into service in 1943, the Sturmpanzer was a development of the Panzer IV tank designed to provide direct infantry fire support, especially in urban areas. It used a Panzer IV chassis with the upper hull and turret replaced by a new casemate-style armored superstructure housing a new gun, the 15 cm. Sturmhaubitze 43 L/12 developed by Skoda. Thirty-eight rounds, with separate propellant cartridges, could be carried. The combined weight of shell and cartridge was nearly 100 lbs, which made the work of the loader arduous, especially if the gun was elevated to a high angle. The Sturmpanzer was nicknamed "Brumbär" (German for "grouch") by Allied intelligence, but the Germans didn't use the name, instead referring to it casually as "Stupa," a contraction of Sturmpanzer.



## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Two 1:100 scale Gundam figures (Bandai) built by Lars Knowles. Left: Gundam Ez8 , a custom variant of the original RX-79[G] Gundam Ground Type, one of the signature mobile suits in the 12-episode anime OVA series *Mobile Suit Gundam: The 08th MS Team*. Right: Gundam Exia, the close combat Gundam-type mobile suit featured in both seasons of *Mobile Suit Gundam 00*.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (concluded)



Frank Moore's 54 mm WW2 Allied troops figures. US Infantry, US Paratroopers and British troops are from Billy V. Australians and Gurkhas are from Airfix. Frank added extramarket personal weapons; he painted the figures with Vallejo and Tamiya acrylics.



## Question of the Month

### A. What modeling projects are you currently working on, and how are they going? B. What are your modeling plans/pipe dreams for 2018?

A: Several active projects:

- Heinkel He 112 B-1/U2, Hungarian Air Force 1941 (Heller 1:72)
- Curtiss F11C-2 Goshawk, US Navy VF-1B onboard USS Saratoga 1934 (Monogram 1:72)
- Focke-Wulf Fw 190 F-8, Luftwaffe's "Gruppe Kuhlmei", Finland 1944 (Hasegawa 1:72)
- Focke-Wulf Fw 190 D-9, Luftwaffe JV44, 1945 (Tamiya 1:72)

The Heinkel and the Curtiss should be ready very soon.

- My daughter Lauren and I are converting the Airfix 1:6 scale human skeleton into a ballerina, posed in 2nd arabesque. This literally required breaking the skeleton's back as well as some other modifications. (We are also doing a write-up of the project, with pictures.)

B: I'd like to bring a new model to every meeting this year. This might be possible since I have several projects close to completion.

—Ora Lassila

A. I'm currently working on a 1:48 Italeri F-16C. I purchased the kit and a set of aftermarket decals from two different fellow members at a meeting last year, so it's kind of unique in that aspect. It's going well and I am entering the painting phase today. I'm hoping to complete it before our February meeting.

B. In 2018, I would like to build a 1:144 Revell Apollo Saturn V sitting on my shelf, settle on & find a 1:48 Sikorsky HH-60 Jayhawk Coast Guard helicopter (Italeri? Skunk Model?) and also add a couple more current naval aircraft to the completed list, like the 1:48 Kitty Hawk F-35C Lightning II (also on my shelf).

—Dan Costa

A. Right now I'm finishing a Revell 1:32 P-40E I plan to bring to the next meeting. I am also working on a 1:48 Airfix Bf 109 E-4/Trop (in the paint shop), an Ark Models 1:48 Hawker Hurricane, (in the paint shop), an ICM 1:48 P-51B (almost ready to be painted), an Airfix 1:144 scale Boeing 314 Clipper diorama (working on base), a 1964 Dodge street Super Stock in a "little old lady from Pasadena" diorama, and last but not least, a Roden 1:72 Curtis H-16 float plane (still being rigged).

B. ... to finish the above in-process kits, and then start on a Wingnut kit and either a ship or armor vehicle.

—Dave Schmidt

A. It has been mighty cold recently in my basement workshop, so I haven't been doing a lot. My big project (at the 2.5 year mark now) is my 1:144 scale USS Guadalcanal, the WW2

Escort Carrier. It is an RC boat project, about 42 inches LOA. The hull is fiberglassed balsa, but the flight deck and galleries are scratchbuilt from styrene. I've really enjoyed the scratch-building process-- all the gun tubs, walkways, island structure, and other parts. I am also intermittently working on the air group-- (8) Minicraft Avengers, and (10) Sweet FM-2 Wildcats. The planes will all be in the gray/white Atlantic camouflage. The part I am NOT looking forward to is painting all those canopy frames on the Avengers!

B. My first goal for 2018 is to build Kaja a sailboat. She wants a big wooden sailboat for the living room, and I have a kit for a 1:16 scale model of a 26-ft. Cape Cod Catboat. (Maybe I should lobby for "Fabulous Felines" for the 2018 Group build!) My second goal is to return to writing and get at least one article published in a commercial hobby magazine. (My last "pro" article appeared in Seaways Ships in Scale in 2009.) That is going to bump the Carrier to the back burner some, but I still aim to complete it this year.

—Bill Michaels

A. Trying to do new projects to learn new stuff and make different things: 1) finished my first tank: A7V; 2) finishing Sikorsky CH--53G; 3) working on a diorama using old Citadel lead kit; 4) still doing toy soldiers; 5) just started on Trumpeter 1:700 model of HMS Dreadnaught; 6) making very slow progress on wooden whaling ship, Kate Cory; working on learning airbrush skills and using decals.

B. Duplicating my miracle year at Patcon 2017 (one first place and a third).

—David Zucker

It's been a few years since I taught my last painting seminar at the IPMS Nationals, and I'd like to get back to one when my busy work and family schedule allow for it. I worked with a team on dioramas for the Anderson County Historical Museum in S. Carolina and would like to do more museum work when the opportunity presents itself again. Two works-in-progress: one, a civil war era battle where a rebel troop train crossing a trestle came under fire by Union troops at night; the other, a ferry crossing the Savanna River in S. Carolina circa 1920s. Working from period photographs, I used a sepia toned background in order to create an authentic, vintage aspect.

—Robert Butler

I am currently working on the 1:35 Meng D9R armored bulldozer. It's going slow, very slow. My plans for 2018 would be to be able to sit down at my desk and get more kits done than the one or two I got done in 2017.

(continued on Page 7) —Mike O'Keefe

## Question of the Month (continued)

A. Currently, I just finished the Master Grade 1:100 Shin Musha Gundam: The colors were pretty gnarly out of the box—totally not quite what was pictured on the cover—so a repaint was totally in order. Then a matte coat to do some detail-work, such as panel-lining and decals, and then a glossy top-coat to finish it off. I'm either going to start with the 1:100 Sinanju (OVA version) or 1:100 00 Raiser next.

B. My modeling pipe dream is to build the Perfect Grade 1:60 Banshee Norn. It's a massive kit and has LEDs to boot, which will make it a bit trickier to put together. I want to get the rest of my backlog sorted out and built, before starting on that monster of a kit-but I'm definitely looking forward to it!

—**Matthew Blair**

Right now I'm working on building a 4x6 foot game board for flames of war set in the Ardennes forest during the winter of 1944-45. I've been building modular scatter terrain for the board. I posted a few pictures on the Facebook group, and I can bring in some of the stuff next month. It's hard to find the right balance between playability and appearance when snow effects are already so fickle and fragile.

After that, I have 8 Panthers in 15mm from Battlefront. 2 ersatz, an Ausf A, and 5 Ausf Gs. I'm planning to paint them in a non-historical scheme. Thinking of doing black or grey with a weathered whitewash over the top ... though I also kind of want to do a 1980s retrofuturistic neon scheme. But I might save that for a different project.

After my Panthers, I have a company of volksgrenadiers to paint, also in 15mm. Then I have to track down or scratch build some models of the 30cm nebelwerfer. We'll see what happens!

Got a full bench and hardly any space to build or paint, but I'm keeping busy!

—**Jeff Brown**

I've started the year by completely re-arranging my modelling workspace and parking all ongoing builds in favor of two FB group builds that started with the year and are both limited to 90 days for completion. They are

1) White Ensign Models (WEM) 1:350 HMS Muskateer OOB. In the last 20 years I've never built a ship OOB and I've never even come close to 90 days (or less). It's a resin kit with an extensive PE set (wouldn't have bothered otherwise) and white metal fittings. I'm using True North Paint's newly released RN (enamel) colors on it. So far it's been all about clean up and squaring off skewed castings. The lower hull has been painted red along with some discoloration (weathering) effects, and I've just started painting individual parts/small assemblies before main construction. It's got a three color camouflage scheme that carries across the sub-assemblies and two deck colors which makes it more complex.

2) Hasegawa 1:72 AV-8B Harrier 2. Completely the opposite to the ship I've been after-marketing like crazy on this with Aires cockpit set, Aires wheel-bay set, Quickboost airbrake set and Attack Armor (?) wheel set. On top of that I'm tweaking select kit parts to improve the look; so far the jet intakes have been given a severe restyling and the jet exhausts have been hollowed out. Most of it's assembled and I'm working on filling where required and restoring panel lines in those areas. Should be painting soon.

Once these are done I'd like to think that I'll be able to go back to my 1:350 HMS Barham (now in it's 3rd year) and some of the aircraft I have already started ... but there's that Airfix Walrus ... Hmmmmmmmmm. Personally I'm hoping there are no new kit releases of interest to me as they are becoming terrible distractions.

—**Richard Price**

My current build is the Zvezda Bf 109 F-4. After twenty-plus recent paint sessions, the camouflage and theatre markings are very close to what I think I see in the relevant photos of W.Nr. 7555.

Recently I have become interested in the recon missions flown by Germany in the stratosphere with the Ju 86 P and realize this could be my kit project for 2018.

—**David Hamel**

A. Typically, I work on a number of projects at once, over a range of subjects, spending a tiny amount of time per day on what is at hand.

B. My pipe dream is to actually finish one of those projects. Most get stalled sometime during painting.

—**Alan Beeber**

I am currently working on HPH Helldiver, a very challenging multimedia kit. One of the best kits I have attempted. For this new year, I have 2 jets, a Do 335B and a Stuka to build.

—**Mike Rumrill**

Presently I'm not getting a lot of hobby time in, but there are a few projects I'm working on, when I do get time in:

I have a small Zaku vignette I've been working on, the robot on some scenery. I originally did most of the project work last March, for Anime Boston. It's still not quite done, it needs some weathering and other finishing work. I'm a bit stuck in part because I'm not very confident when it comes to weathering techniques. I haven't done a lot of projects with scenery, but I'm trying to include it in more projects because it provides valuable context and a sense of scale for the fantastical subjects I build.

*(continued on Page 8)*



## Question of the Month (concluded)

I've begun a new build, one of Kotobukiya's "Armored Core" kits. These kits have a rich aesthetic and intricacy to their design unmatched by the Gundam line I usually favor.

I'm also working on a couple small figure kits. I haven't done a lot of scale figures, but my goal is to learn so I can build better dioramas as well as some stand-alone figures. So every now and then I take a 1:35 scale figure from the stash or a gaming mini from a local shop and paint it to practice flesh-tones and shading.

The figure work will come in handy when I resume work on another of my builds, Plum's "Leynos" kit. Much like the Armored Core kit, this kit has an aesthetic that really appeals to me. The model itself is mostly ready for paint but I've been trying to plan out a diorama around it.

I've signed up to run an instructional panel on model making at this year's Anime Boston. I have about 9 weeks left to prepare my presentation, so I am starting to worry.

As always there are a number of projects I want to get done, some more ambitious than others. At present I'm struggling to maintain hope that I can actually make these things happen, after so much recent experience has seemingly taught me otherwise.

One of the projects I most want to complete is a fully scratch-built Zaku. While most of the kits I buy and build are Bandai's Gundam products, I've never been entirely satisfied with the kits they make. They re-design their subjects each time they make new kits of them. To me the original designs are usually more appealing. With that in mind, I drew up the design plans for this build about 11 years ago and began building parts, but haven't got a lot done on it in recent years as I've focused on less-ambitious projects instead. But for me personally, this project practically defines what I want to achieve in the hobby. I've also been building my own 3-D printer, which I hope to use to make models and model parts. However I'm having some

mechanical difficulties with it that I have not yet resolved, so the project has dragged on for some time. Buying a machine would have been much more practical, but I wanted this to be a learning experience as well.

I also want to make a series of modeling videos. But apart from the fact that I haven't made a serious attempt to build "for the camera" before, right now I'm also facing the reality that I just don't get enough model projects done in a year to sustain a project like that (to say nothing of the added burden of videography). So until I can change that, the video series remains a pipe dream.

—George Caswell

A. As always, I've got dozens started. Too many to list (or want to list). Some have been partly finished for decades.

Currently fixing a Monogram 1:48 Typhoon that I build decades ago. Also getting close to finishing a 1:48 Monogram Ju 87D Stuka. Next I think I'll finish a Williams Bros. 1:72 C-46 and a 1:72 Italeri AC-47. All have had the basic paint work done for a long (looong) time except for repair of shelf rash (my favorite form of weathering). Oh, and I think I'd like to finally finish up some 1:48 Bandai WWII German & U.S. armor. No masterworks, just nice-looking shelf models built to my usual standards (or lack thereof, LOL).

B. Pipedreams? Mainly to finish a large number of started models and build a few more new ones And sell some more of the kits I've had a while (I have a "few" extras, LOL) to finance buying some of the new 1:72 & 1:48 releases.

—Jim Qualey

I'm currently working on a Moebius Models 1/128 SSRN Seaview I picked up at the Spare Time Shop. It's a big one at 38.5 inches. I'm detailing the control room before airbrushing the exterior and putting everything together. I'm taking it slow with this one because it will be my first time airbrushing so I'm a little nervous. Well, that's it for now.

—Anthony McComas

## Upcoming Events

- March 25 ..... **Valleycon 27**, IPMS Wings & Wheels, Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road, Chicopee, MA.  
Contact Al LaFleche: [ajlafleche@comcast.net](mailto:ajlafleche@comcast.net) or 413-306-1270.
- April 7 ..... **MosquitoCon 27**, IPMS New Jersey, Wayne PAL, Wayne, NJ  
Contact Bill Schwarz: [whsch@optimum.net](mailto:whsch@optimum.net)
- April 8 ..... **Downeastcon 2018**, IPMS Southern Maine, Thornton Academy/Linnell Gymnasium, 438 Main St., Saco, ME.  
Contact George Bangs: [brokenyokefarm@gmail.com](mailto:brokenyokefarm@gmail.com) or 207-625-8007
- April 8 ..... **BuffCon 35**, IPMS Niagara Frontier, Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Road at William St., Cheektowaga, NY.  
Contact John Zaranek: [buffalomodeler@outlook.com](mailto:buffalomodeler@outlook.com)
- April 21 ..... **Can/Am Con '18**, IPMS Champlain Valley, Plattsburgh Holiday Inn, Plattsburgh, NY.  
Contact Frank Baehre: [frankandsandyb@verizon.net](mailto:frankandsandyb@verizon.net) or 518-561-4265, or go to [www.ipmscv.com](http://www.ipmscv.com).
- April 27 ..... **NoreastCon 47**, Museum of American Armor, 1303 Round Swamp Road, Old Bethpage, NY.  
Contact Robert DeMaio: [taurleo@optonline.net](mailto:taurleo@optonline.net) or 631-707-3442.
- August 1-4 ..... **IPMS National Convention/Contest**, Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AR.  
Log on to <http://www.ipmsusanationals2018.org/>
- September 16 ..... **Patcon 2018**, IPMS Patriot Chapter, Hudson Elks Lodge, 99 Park Street, Hudson, MA  
Log on to <http://www.ipmspatriot.org>
- October 21 ..... **GraniteCon XXVI**, Granite State Modelers, The Falls Event Center, Manchester, NH.  
Contact Rodney Carrier: [nickmatt2@roadrunner.com](mailto:nickmatt2@roadrunner.com).

## IPMS/USA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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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? \_\_\_\_\_  
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