



# THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter  
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA  
www.ipmspatriot.org



January 2019

## Meeting Info

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



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## December Meeting Report

To paraphrase Julius Caesar, we came; we ate; we partied. There was a fine turnout for the December meeting and lots of good stuff to eat thanks to Alan Beeber's provisioning efforts. Aside from Treasurer John Touloupis's financial report, no business was discussed; but there was plenty of good modeling conversation and a lot of interesting things to look

at on the display table, which boasted no less than 19 models and figures. Many were built to the December theme of the Vietnam War. After a lengthy Show-and-Tell, the monthly raffle yielded six lucky winners. Finally, around 20 members participated in the annual Yankee Swap. All in all, it was a fun evening, and that's the story.

—Pip Moss

## Raffle Report

We had a great turnout at the holiday party and lots of winners:  
Richard Price, Airfix 1:72 B-25C/D Mitchell  
Dan Costa, HobbyBoss 1:48 A-4 Skyhawk  
Ken Fields, Tamiya 1:35 M-3 Stuart  
Dave Schmidt, Hasegawa 1:72 B-26B Marauder  
Jim Qualey, Airfix 1:72 C-47 with Jeep  
Ruane Crummett, Tamiya 1:48 T-34 tank

This closes out the 2018 Club Raffle. Over the course of 2018, we gave away 42 prizes with an average cost of \$29 each, and only spent a total of \$233 above what we took in for ticket sales.

Note: I think 2019 is going to be my last year as Raffle coordinator. I took the job from Mike O'Keefe in November of 2009, so I think 2019 will be a good time to hand it off. While it is fun to go shopping for new kits using other people's money, I think I'm approaching burnout and need to pass the job on to someone else for while. I am bringing this up early so that anyone interested in taking over will have time to talk to me about it how easy and fun it can be ...

—Bill Michaels, Vice President

## Show-and-Tell

Matt Blair ..... 1:100 MS-14 Gundam WIP (Bandai)  
Jeff Brown ..... Christmas ornaments (3D Printed)  
Mike Hirsch ..... 1:72 H-21 Shawnee (Italeri)  
Ora Lassila ..... 1:72 B-57B Canberra (Italeri)  
Bill Michaels ..... 1:302 USCGC Duane (Revell)  
Jamie Michaels ..... Tabbybrook Mage (Soda Pop)  
D & D miniatures (Wiz Kids)  
Rémi Moretti ..... 1:48 T-41B Mescalero (Minicraft)  
Pip Moss ..... 1:48 F-105F Wild Weasel (Monovell)  
Jim Qualey ..... 1:72 A-4C (Fujimi)  
1:72 A-4E (Fujimi)  
1:72 AC-47 (Italeri)  
1:72 A-1E (Monogram)  
Richard Price ..... 1:600 HMS Devonshire WIP (Airfix)  
John Walker ..... 1:72 F-4D (Monogram)  
1:72 F-4J (Monogram)  
28mm Pvt. Newfoundland Rgt. (Perry)  
28mm Grenadier Soissonois Rgt. (Warlord)

## November Show-and-Tell Redux



Here are two figures that John Walker brought to the November meeting, but which I neglected to photograph. Both are 28mm Hessian American Revolutionary soldiers from Warlord Miniatures; both were painted with Vallejo and other craft acrylics. On the left, a grenadier of the regiment commanded by Johann von Rall. On the right, an officer of the Brunswick regiment commanded by Johann von Specht.



Jim Qualey's 1:72 scale A-4E Skyhawk (Fujimi). Jim added chaff dispensers under the rear fuselage and various antennas and probes. Ordnance came from a Hasegawa weapons set. Paints are Model Master enamels. Decals are from SuperScale, MicroScale and ScaleMaster. Markings are for Marine attack squadron VMA-311, the "Tomcats." In May 1965 the squadron deployed to Chu Lai Air Base in the Republic of Vietnam, and on June 2 they conducted their first combat mission of the Vietnam War. In August 1965, VMA-311 supported the 7th Marine Regiment in Operation Starlite—the first major American operation of the war. After almost eight years of operations in Vietnam, VMA-311 totaled 54,625 combat sorties before leaving in January 1973.

The Douglas AD4 (later A-4) Skyhawk was designed by Ed Heinemann to replace the propeller-driven AD Skyraider attack plane. Heinemann opted to minimize its size, weight and complexity. The result was an aircraft that weighed only half of the Navy's weight specification, with a wing so compact that it did not need to be folded for carrier stowage. Nevertheless, the Skyhawk, with its five hard points, could carry an ordnance load equal in weight to the bomb load of a World War 2 B-17. Due to its size and agility, the Skyhawk received a number of nicknames including Scooter, Kiddiecar, Bantam Bomber, Tinker Toy Bomber, and Heinemann's Hot-Rod. The Skyhawk was also flown by the Navy's Blue Angels display team from 1973 to 1986.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Ora Lassila's 1:72 scale Martin B-57B Canberra (Italeri), built mostly OOB but with some scratchbuilt details added. Paints are Tamiya acrylics and Model Master enamels with Testors clearcoats. Ora did some light weathering using AV washes and Tamiya weathering sets. Decals are from the kit. Markings are for the USAF 8th Bomber Squadron based at Phan Rang, Vietnam circa 1966-67.

The B-57 was a license-built version of the British designed English Electric Canberra manufactured by the Glenn L. Martin Co. The adoption of a foreign design stemmed from the USAF's dire need for an all-weather interdiction aircraft at the beginning of the Korean Conflict. The Canberra became the USAF's first jet-powered bomber and was the first American jet plane to drop bombs in combat. During the Vietnam War, B-57s served in several roles including reconnaissance, tactical bombing and night interdiction. The type suffered heavy losses during the war: of the 94 B-57Bs deployed to Southeast Asia, 51 were lost in combat and seven were lost to other causes.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Rémi Moretti's 1:48 scale Cessna T-41B Mesquero (Minicraft), built mostly OOB but with some added scratchbuilt details. The T-41 was a military trainer version of the immensely popular Cessna C172 civilian general aviation plane. It was used by the US Army for training and liaison during the Vietnam War. Rémi wrote the following about the build:

"Most Cessnas, including the T-41A used by the USAF, have a fixed pitch propeller and a 180 HP engine. The T-41B used by the Army was powered by a 210 HP Continental engine driving a constant speed propeller. 255 were built.

"The cockpit parts were not very detailed. I scribed the 'fabric panel' lines, removed seat head rests and added some arm rests and seat belts. I left in the third row of seats although I think it's not realistic. I put fishing weights behind the instrument panel and under the engine cowling so that the plane would sit on the tricycle gear. Unfortunately, the weight was not enough, so I decided to create a base and glue the plane to it. I scratchbuilt a new propeller spinner and assembly, taking the blades from the kit part. The real prop should be bigger, as it was designed to take advantage of the larger engine. I primed the model with Vallejo acrylic primer and painted it with Model Master and other acrylics. I used Tamiya acrylic silver for chipping/streaking. The gloss finish is Alclad Aqua Gloss. Weathering was applied with AK Interactive dark gray wash and Tamiya weathering master sets. The final flat coat is AK Interactive acrylic matte varnish."

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



John Walker's 1:72 scale F-4J Phantom II (Monogram), built OOB and painted with Gunze Sangyo acrylics. Decals are partly from the kit and partly cobbled together from other sheets. Markings are for VF-96 aboard the USS Constellation, May 10, 1972, Vietnam.

US Navy fighter squadron VF-96 embarked aboard the USS Constellation (CV-64) for a deployment to Vietnam from 1 October 1971 to 1 July 1972. During this deployment, on May 10, Lieutenant Duke Cunningham and Lieutenant j.g. William P. Driscoll scored their aerial victories becoming the only US Navy aces of the war. Three more VPAF MiG-17s were downed by two other VF-96 crews that same day, two by Lieutenant Michael J. Connelly and Lieutenant Thomas J. Blonski and one by Lieutenant Steven C. Shoemaker and Lieutenant j.g. Keith V. Crenshaw.

The McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II is a tandem two-seat, twin-engine, all-weather, long-range, supersonic jet interceptor and fighter-bomber originally developed for the United States Navy by McDonnell Aircraft. It first entered service in 1960 with the US Navy. Proving highly adaptable, it was also adopted by the US Marine Corps and the US Air Force, and by the mid-1960s had become a major part of their air arms. It was one of a very small number of aircraft types to be used by all three service branches in the same conflict. It served initially as the principal air superiority fighter, but became important in the ground-attack and aerial reconnaissance roles late in the war.



## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Mike Hirsch's 1:72 scale Piasecki CH-21C Shawnee (Italeri), built OOB but with fabric seat belts from Eduard. Paints are Model Master enamels. Decals for individual aircraft markings are from a Print Scale set, stencils are from the kit. Markings are for the 121st Aviation Company, Soc Trang, Vietnam, 1963.

The H-21 Workhorse/Shawnee was the fourth of a line of tandem rotor helicopters designed and built by Piasecki Helicopter (later Boeing Vertol). Commonly called "the flying banana", it was a multi-mission helicopter, utilizing wheels, skis, or floats. Originally developed by Piasecki as an Arctic rescue helicopter, the H-21 had winterization features permitting operation at temperatures as low as  $-65^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The USAF was the first military operator, adopting the H-21A and the more powerful H-21B Workhorse in the early 1950s. The H-21C, based on the H-21B and renamed the Shawnee, became the version employed by the US Army. It was redesignated CH-21C in 1962. During the Vietnam War, the Shawnee was used mainly for troop transport. Designed for cold weather operations, it performed poorly in the hot weather of Vietnam: despite being capable of carrying 20 passengers, it carried only nine when operating in Vietnam. Nevertheless, the Shawnee continued in service as the US Army's helicopter workhorse in Vietnam until 1964 when it was replaced by the Bell UH-1 Huey.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Bill Michaels's 1:302 scale USCGC *Duane* (Revell). Bill added Gold Medal Models photo-etch railings and other details as well as a number of scratchbuilt parts. Paints are Tamiya and Model Master acrylics. Decals are from a Model Alliance sheet of USCG markings. The stern name decal is from Pip Moss Enterprises. The model was converted to the 1968-vintage USCGC *Duane* from Revell's kit of the early 1950s USCGC Roger B. Taney.

The keel of the US Coast Guard Cutter *Duane* (originally named the *William J. Duane*, was laid on May 1, 1935 at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. She was launched on June 3, 1936 as a search and rescue and law enforcement vessel.

The "Treasury" class Coast Guard cutters (sometimes referred to as the "Secretary" or 327-foot class) were all named for former Secretaries of the Treasury Department. The cutter *Duane* was named for William John Duane, who served as the third Secretary of the Treasury under President Andrew Jackson.

After starting her career with ocean patrols in the Pacific and the Bering Sea, *Duane* undertook weather patrols and convoy escort missions in the Atlantic during World War 2. She also took part in the amphibious invasion of Southern France in 1944. Following the war, she was assigned duty as an ocean weather station. In December 1967 *Duane* was assigned to Coast Guard Squadron 3 off the coast of Vietnam, where she served as the squadron flagship. She permanently departed Vietnamese waters on July 28, 1968. *Duane* was decommissioned in 1985 and laid up in Boston for two years. In 1987, she was deliberately sunk off Key West, FL to create an artificial reef. Her final location is now on the U.S. Register of Historic Places.





## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Pip Moss's 1:48 scale F-105F Thunderchief Wild Weasel. The model was built mostly OOB and mostly from the old Monogram F-105F kit. However, that kit didn't contain the pylons or ordnance for the Wild Weasel version, so a Revell F-105G kit (largely the same plastic) was used for those parts. The kit ejection seats were replaced with resin items from KMC, and the ALQ-87 ECM pod carried on the outer starboard pylon came from a Hasegawa weapons set. The starboard wing fuel tank is from the Monogram kit; the centerline tank and both port wing missiles (AGM-45 Shrike and AGM-78 STARM) are from the Revell kit. Paints are primarily Model Master enamels, but Mr. Color acrylic lacquer was used for the FS 34102, the lighter of the two greens. Metallics for the centerline tank, exhaust and other details are all Alclad. Individual plane decals are from an ancient and decrepit SuperScale sheet, while national insignia and the copious stencils are from the excellent Revell kit sheet. Markings are for "Crown Seven," flown by Maj. John Revak and Stan Goldstein of the 44th TFS based at Korat, Thailand in 1968.

Although originally designed as a supersonic nuclear attacker, the F-105, especially the single-seat F-105D, became the USAF's quintessential fighter bomber during the Vietnam War. In addition, many of the twin-seat F-105Fs, originally developed as trainers, were used for the highly dangerous Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses, commonly known as Wild Weasel, mission. Armed with anti-radiation missiles (initially the AGM-45 Shrike and later supplemented by the AGM-78 Standard), these planes would deliberately fly toward enemy surface-to-air missile sites, homing in on their radar and then destroying the sites with missiles and bombs. These attacks became so effective that SAM sites would turn off their radar when any F-105 approached, thus neutralizing themselves anyway.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jim Qualey's 1:72 scale A-4C Skyhawk (Fujimi). Jim added a number of items to the kit including a scratchbuilt windshield wiper, chaff dispensers under the rear fuselage, and various antennas and probes. The ordnance came from a Hasegawa weapons set. Paints are Model Master enamels. Decals are from SuperScale and ScaleMaster. Markings are for a plane from VA-112 "Broncos," which served aboard the USS Ticonderoga from February to September 1969. Most of those months were spent flying interdiction missions against Communist supply lines and other positions. However, the tour of duty off Vietnam was interrupted on April 16 when Ticonderoga was shifted north to the Sea of Japan due to the shooting down of a US Navy reconnaissance plane by North Korea. The carrier resumed her station off Vietnam for her last line period of the deployment on June 26 and there followed 37 more days of highly successful air sorties against enemy targets. Following that tour, she joined TF-71 in the Sea of Japan for the remainder of the deployment when she left Subic Bay on September 4.

The color scheme depicted on this model and other aircraft in this Gallery was the standard Navy and Marine camouflage of Gull Gray upper surfaces, with white lower surfaces and control surfaces both top and bottom. This scheme went into effect in the mid-1950s and remained in use well into the 1970s. Navy and Marine planes in Vietnam did the bulk of their flying over water since they were generally stationed off the North Vietnam coast, closer to the conflict than Air Force planes, which were often based in Laos. In addition, it was considered desirable to have Navy/Marine and Air Force planes clearly distinct from each other to avoid confusion in the air.



## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



John Walker's 1:72 scale F-4D Phantom II (Monogram), built OOB and painted with Gunze Sangyo acrylics. Decals are from the kit sheet supplemented with others from the spares box. Markings are for the USAF 555th Tactical Fighter Squadron, "Triple Nickel," Vietnam, August 28, 1972. The model depicts the plane, serial number 66-7463, in which Weapons Systems Officer (WSO) Capt. Chuck DeBellevue scored his first and fourth MiG-21 kills with pilot Capt. Richard Ritchie during Operation Linebacker, a coordinated Navy and Air Force bombing campaign against the North Vietnamese heartland. The DeBellevue's fourth MiG kill occurred on August 28; he went on to score two MiG-19 kills on September 9 with pilot Capt. John Madden, thus becoming one of only five Americans, and the only WSO, to achieve ace status during the Vietnam War.

The F-4D was one of three Phantom versions (the others being the -C and -E) flown by the USAF in Vietnam. Nearly all wore the standard Southeast Asia (SEA) camouflage scheme shown here and on a number of other pages in this Gallery. The scheme consisted of tan, medium green and dark green in a disruptive pattern for the upper surfaces, and a very light gray for the lower surfaces. The primary rationale for the SEA scheme was that Air Force planes generally had to fly over land for many miles to reach their combat objectives and thus needed visual concealment from above.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jim Qualey's 1:72 A-1E Skyraider WIP (Monogram). Jim scratchbuilt and/or modified various details, and he added struts to the main landing gear. Paints are Model Master enamels. Decals are a mix of kit, Expert's Choice (insignia), ScaleMaster and Wolfpack. Markings are for USAF serial number 52-132649 flying with the 14th Air Commando Wing, 1st Air Commando Squadron, Vietnam, 1966.

Designed during World War 2, the venerable A-1 Skyraider was still the US Navy's primary attack aircraft at the beginning of the Vietnam War, and it was also used by USAF Special Operations Command for search and rescue air cover. On March 22, 1966, a Civilian Irregular Defense Group/US Army Special Forces camp in the A Chau valley near the Laos border was in danger of being overrun by 2000 North Vietnam troops. Maj. Bernard "Bernie" Fisher was flying close support in this plane and observed a fellow Skyraider pilot crash land on the steel plank airstrip that was being raked by ground fire from the surrounding hills. Fearing for the other pilot's safety, and knowing that rescue helicopters were at least 30 minutes away, Fisher landed his plane on the runway, effected a successful rescue of the downed pilot, and was able to get his plane back in the air although it had been hit by nineteen bullets. For his heroic action, Fisher was awarded the Medal of Honor, becoming the first living Air Force recipient of that award during the Vietnam War. Fisher's plane is now on display at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jim Qualey's 1:72 scale AC-47 Spooky gunship (Italeri). Jim added numerous scratchbuilt antennas and also added brake lines to the main landing gear. Paints are Model Master enamels and Polly-S acrylics. Decals, by Scale-Master, are from the kit.

The AC-47 was based on the C-47, the military version of the legendary Douglas DC-3 that saw its first action in World War 2. Its mission was to provide support and protection to troops on the ground. The gunship modification involved mounting three 7.62 mm General Electric miniguns to fire through two or three rear window openings and the side cargo door, all on the port side of the aircraft. The guns were actuated by a control on the pilot's yoke and could be fired either individually or together, although gunners were also among the crew to assist with gun failures and similar issues. The Spooky could orbit a target for hours, providing suppressing fire over an elliptical area approximately 52 yards in diameter, placing a round every 2.4 yards during a three-second burst. The aircraft also carried flares that could be dropped to illuminate the battleground. The AC-47 was the first gunship used by the USAF in the Vietnam War. Its success led to similar modifications to other aircraft including the C-119 Flying Boxcar and the C-130 Hercules. Larger and more heavily armed, these planes supplanted the Spooky as the war continued.

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Richard Price's 1:600 scale HMS Devonshire WIP (Airfix) in her current state of completion. Richard writes, "Many mods to add finesse to a pretty rough (1963 vintage) kit. Main problem overcome so far: superstructure moved scale 18 feet forward and adjusted to compensate. Also, complete new bow carved from styrene to give sleek shape and unusual anchor recesses; main mast moved from rear to forward superstructure; large vents in funnels using stacked paper with offset edges to simulate a grill; group vertical structure aft of rear funnel from single pieces of photo-etch grill with holes filled. Basically, anything not painted gray has been added!"

## Show-and-Tell Gallery (continued)



Jamie Michaels's collection of fantasy gaming figures, all painted primarily with Vallejo acrylics. Top left: Tabbybrook Mage from the Super Dungeon Explore board game (Soda Pop Miniatures). Clockwise from top right: three Dungeons & Dragons figures from Wiz Kids: Rust Monster, Displacer Beast, and Remorhaz. Rust Monster seeks out and eats metal, so it is a dangerous foe to characters wearing armor. Displacer Beast, a sentient, magical cat that hates other creatures and kills them for pleasure, can create the illusion of being several feet away from its actual location. Remorhaz is a segmented creature somewhat like a giant centipede. The red knobs along its back generate intense heat.

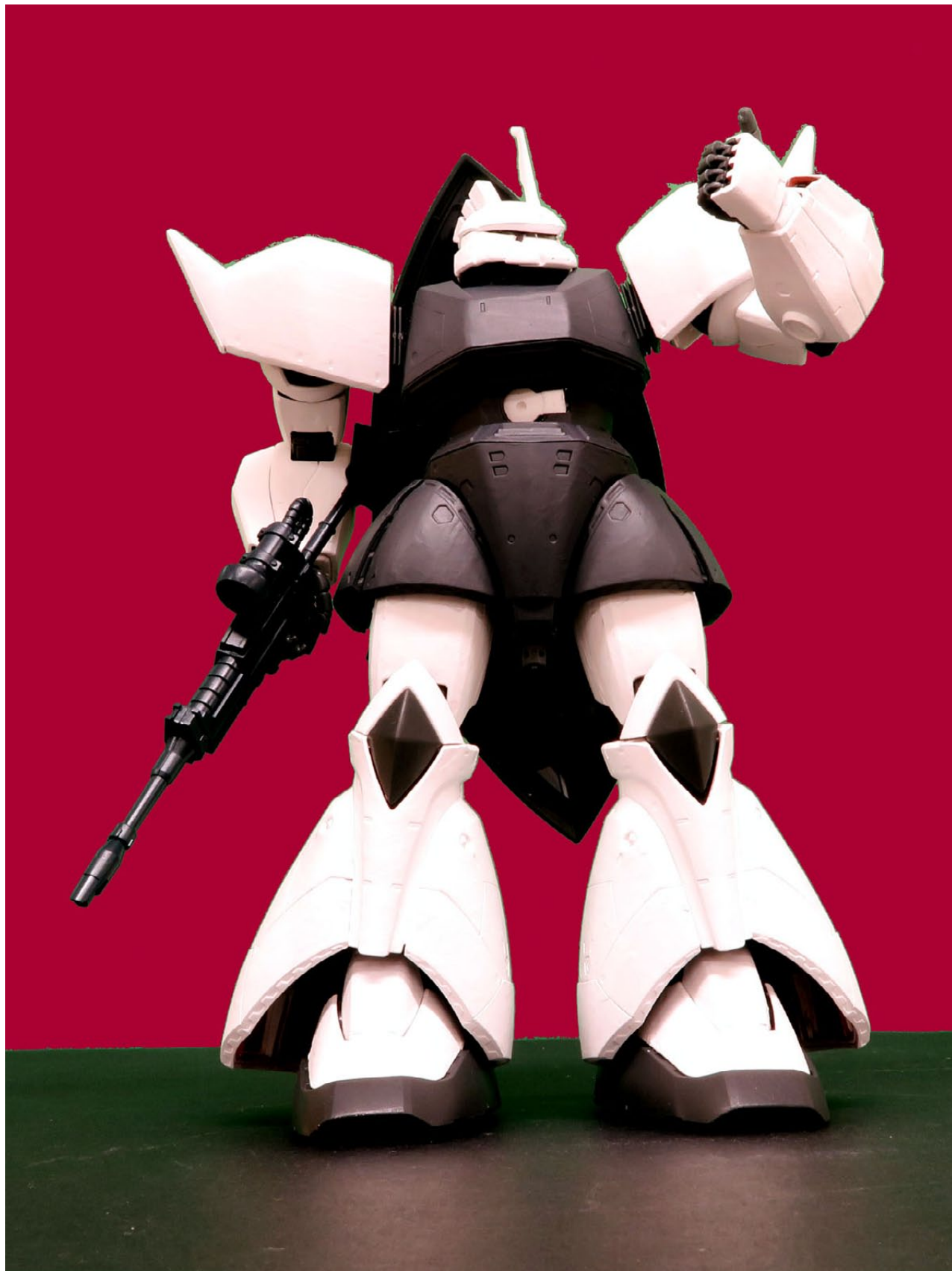


John Walker's 28 mm American Revolution wargaming figures.

Left: a private from the Newfoundland Regiment (Perry Miniatures) that fought on the British side in the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina. The battle was a turning point in the Continental Army's effort to re-conquer South Carolina from the British. John modified the helmet from a Light Infantryman's cap using styrene sprue and filler.

Right: a grenadier from the French Soissonois Regiment (Warlord Miniatures) that fought alongside the Continentals in the Battle of Yorktown, the last major battle of the American Revolution and a decisive victory for the Americans. John modified the figure from that of a Hessian grenadier.





Matt Blair's 1:100 scale MS-14 Gelgoog Gundam (Bandai). The figure was painted with Mr. Color acrylic lacquers and finished off with Testors spray Dullcote. Matt writes, "The Gelgoog was developed from the Zaku and was mostly used by Zeon in the One Year War, at the Battle of A Baoa Qu, where many of the mobile suits deployed by Zeon were destroyed or captured."



Jeff Brown's homemade Christmas tree ornament. Jeff writes: "I 3-D printed it based on a design I found online. I then painted it with some Citadel and Vallejo paints. I did a wet blend of the pink and orange with a brush to create a sunset type effect, and I flicked white paint with a toothbrush to make the stars. I made the ornament for my roommate, who got a cat recently. The cat was in the hospital not too long ago: She ended up all right, but might have a long term illness. We'll see how it plays out."

## Upcoming Events

- March 29,.....**Valleycon 29**, 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.....**BuffCon 3 I**, IPMS Niagara Frontier, Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Road at William St., Cheektowaga, NY.  
Contact Richard Bernecki: [berneckir@gmail.com](mailto:berneckir@gmail.com)
- April 12.....**NoreastCon2019 , Latham, NY**  
Contact Nick Filippone: [bpbittern@frontiernet.net](mailto:bpbittern@frontiernet.net)
- April 27.....**Can/Am Con '17**, IPMS Champlain Valley, National Guard Armory, Winooski, VT.  
Contact Chris Graeter [cgrae49006@aol.com](mailto:cgrae49006@aol.com) or go to [www.ipmscv.com](http://www.ipmscv.com)
- September 15.....**Patcon 2019**, Hudson Elks Lodge, 99 Park St., Hudson, MA.  
For info go to [www.ipmspatriot.org](http://www.ipmspatriot.org)
- October 20.....**GraniteCon XXV**, Granite State Modelers, The Falls Event Center, Manchester, NH.  
Contact Rodney Currier: [nickmatt2@roadrunner.com](mailto:nickmatt2@roadrunner.com)

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