



# THE PATRIOT

IPMS Patriot Chapter Newsletter  
Pip Moss, Editor

Billerica, MA  
www.ipmspatriot.org



December 2008

## Meeting Info

The next Patriot Chapter meeting will take place on Friday, December 5, 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 December meeting will be our annual holiday party. The club will provide food, and we'll have a Yankee Swap. There will also be a special Show and Tell display of this year's dual group theme builds: Mustangs and Messerschmitts (aka P-51s and Bf 109s).



Mike O'Keefe continues to impress with this 120 mm figure of a German machine gunner from Tamiya. Mike used acrylic paints augmented by artist's oil wash and pastels.

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## Minutes from the November Meeting

**C**HAPTER President Kurt Kunze called the meeting to order at 8:40 PM. About 15 members were present.

The first order of business was the chapter elections. Pip and Kurt reviewed the list of nominees. After some discussion, Dave Schmidt withdrew his nomination for Treasurer and President, opting to stay in the running for 1st VP). After this discussion, nominations were closed and we proceeded to the voting. Candidates stepped out of the room, and voting was conducted by a show of hands. The results were as follows:

John Touloupis, Treasurer (uncontested)  
Rick Lippincott, Secretary (uncontested)  
Mike O'Keefe, 2nd Vice President  
Dave Schmidt, 1st Vice President  
Kurt Kunze, President (uncontested)

Business then moved to the club's display table leg extenders. Patriot Chapter has been in an informal arrangement with Granite State, allowing them to borrow the leg extenders for their shows. Kurt said that he is in favor of the idea, but the club needs to decide a sale price. After some discussion, the club consensus was to pursue the idea, but to table the matter until the next month's meeting.

There was a brief discussion regarding member admission rules. John Walker made a motion that Kurt check the chapter by-laws for details on member admission and requirements. The motion was seconded and passed by majority vote.

The next topic of discussion was business cards. There was no new information, and the issue was tabled again.

The final business item was planning for the December meeting and Christmas party. The members voted for a menu combination of pizza with Chinese appetizers. There will be a Yankee Swap, and the member build is Bf 109s and P-51s.

The business portion of the ended, and the meeting moved directly into Show and Tell. Following Show and Tell, there was a brief break. After the break, the club held the monthly raffle, and following the raffle the meeting broke up for the night.

—Rick Lippincott, Secretary

## Show and Tell

Robert Butler..... Fossil castings  
Kurt Kunze..... 1/144 F/A-18F Super Hornet (DML)  
Rick Lippincott ..... 1/1000? Klingon Cruiser (AMT)  
Pip Moss..... 1/48 Ta 152H-0 (Trimaster)  
Mike OfKeefe..... 120mm German machine gunner (Tamiya)

## December Meeting Reminders

As mentioned on the cover page, we'll be holding our annual **Yankee Swap** at next week's party/meeting. If you've never participated in one before, all you need to know for now is to bring a **wrapped present**. Price and desirability are totally up to you. We'll explain the swap procedures at the meeting.

### ALSO

Bill Michaels would like you to know that he plans to bring his Wings of War equipment to the meeting and to hold another game session, time permitting, to give members a chance to try it who weren't able to take part in October.

## IPMS Region 1 Update

Greetings everyone.

Time for another update, so lets get right to it.

There's some really good news to pass along to start this one. I'm very happy to introduce Region 1's newest chapter. Please assist me in welcoming IPMS Northeast Military Modelers Association to the IPMS family. You may be wondering who these guys are, and at last the truth be known, they're also known as AMPS CT. The officer corps includes Matt Toms as President and John Gazzola as Vice President. Secretary Tom Ivancso and Treasurer Bill Schmidt round out the e-board. Doc Wiseman is the chapter contact, and everyone should have his contact info listed as part of IPMS Mid Hudson. They meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month, at 7 p.m., at 68 Morris Street, Naugatuck, CT. This brings the number of Region 1 chapters to 23 and makes us one of the larger regions within IPMS/USA. Of course I'm biased, but I'll go out on a limb here and say it's one of the best regions. Maybe some of my brother RC's might disagree, but they'll have a hard time proving it to me!

I can't believe how cold it's been lately. I've already had ice in one of my marinas! I know many areas of the region have seen snow and much colder temps than I've seen here, and you have my deepest condolences on an early winter. Maybe this will mean an early spring, and we can be done with it all quick and easy! Yeah right!

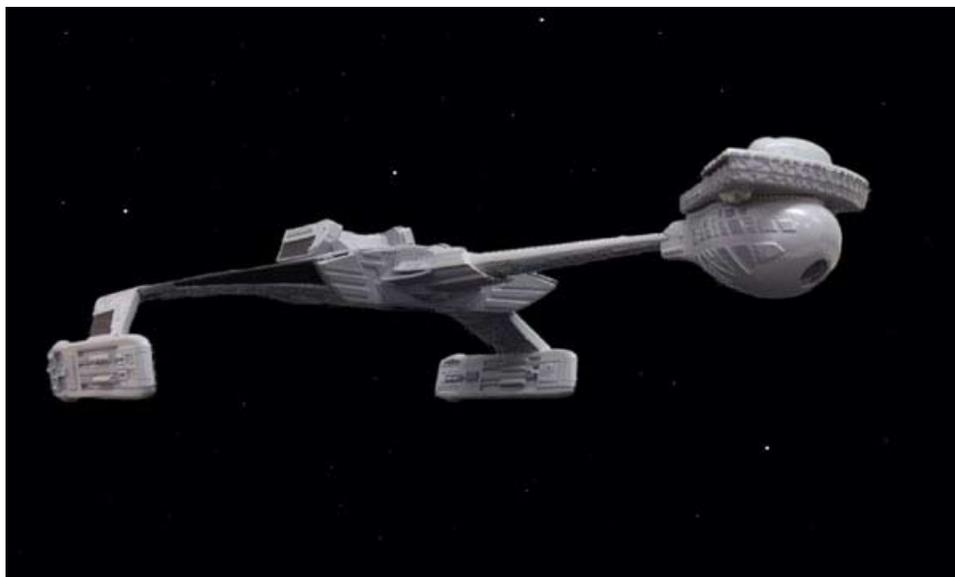
One final thing I'll mention is to check out the NoreastCon 2009 site at <http://www.noreastcon2009.com> for all the latest info regarding the show. I won't hawk sponsorships this time, but I know there are some available. Our hosts, Niagara Frontier, have put on some of the best NoreastCons I've attended, and you won't want to miss this one. As for the 2010 event, I'll offer this tease by saying I've been in frequent contact with our hosts, and a very unique event is being planned. More information will be made available later.

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving, and remember we all have much to be thankful for.

Semper Fi  
Doug Hamilton, RC-1

## Show and Tell Gallery

Kurt Kunze's 1/144 scale F/A-18 Super Hornet in markings (kit decals) for VF-103 Jolly Rogers. Paint is Model Master enamels. Kurt altered the kit by folding the wings.



Rick Lippincott's 1/1000 scale (approx.) Klingon D-7 Cruiser. This Motion Picture version, based on the first Star Trek movie, dates from 1979. It has more detail than the 1960s vintage TV kits.

Pip Moss's 1/48 scale Ta 152H-0 in markings of Stab/JG 301. The model is pretty much OOB since Trimaster provided wire, tubing, photo-etch and white metal detail parts in the kit. The paint scheme is the late-war arrangement of RLM 82 (light green) and RLM 83 (dark green) over RLM 76. Paints used are Pactra Non-Specular Green, Model Master British Dark Green, and Floquil Military Colors RLM 76 respectively. The spinner spiral was masked with a curved piece of Tamiya tape. The kit decals were only used for the plane and werk numbers, the rest coming from various SuperScale and Aeromaster sheets.



## Let's Talk About Rust!

*[Here's another set of postings to rec.models.scale that I collected and saved a few years ago. The pictures were found via Google Images, except for the ones in Bill Shatzer's post, which he cited. —ed.]*

Rust on military vehicles is not much different from rust on any other iron or steel object. There is no one paint color for rust, despite what Testors and other model paint manufacturers want you to believe. In my experience, rust comes in many colors. It is not necessary to view a military vehicle to see this. A good source for military vehicle rust color is right under your car. If your car is more than a few years old, check the tailpipe, muffler, and frame for rust, and these are not moving parts. Check the suspension. Find any orange? In the back of my yard, which borders a large wooded area, there is a piece of farm equipment that is half buried in the dirt. It looks like something that was towed behind a tractor and is constructed of various sizes of angle iron. It has been there for the 22 years that I have lived here and has been subjected to rain, snow, and drought for those 22 years. It is not orange, even though it has never moved. It is a very dark brown, almost black. There are also pieces of steel fencing that were used to keep cows from wandering. These are brown in color. My point is, I see a lot of tank models with orange rust on the treads. These treads are moving and subject to abrasion, dings, water, mud, snow, and other things that wipe away dry rust, leaving a very dark brown rust where parts are not subject to contact with others, and these parts are shiny where two parts rub together as in drive and bogie wheels on a tank tread, whether or not they have rubber treads. I'm not disparaging any models showing orange rust, I just want to help others apply realistic weathering. Does anyone have any different experiences or opinions? —Bill In Hamptonburgh



You are very observant and I agree with your analysis. As a result, the best weathering materials are the various powders (such as the new Magic Dust) that can be mixed to create the entire range or rust tones. And let's not forget that you can also mix larger amounts of weathering powders into water or clear coat to create a slurry that ranges from thin to thick. This approach can be used to replicate everything from rust to mud. Hope this helps.

—Richard Marmo

Not different. I agree with everything that you have said. I would also point out that rust has a texture. Try mixing your rust paint colour with talcum powder to provide that bubbled texture.

Where the rust has been breaking through paint, use a salt mask: Get some ordinary table salt and dissolve it in water to provide a saturated solution. Dab the salt on the areas that will be uncovered. Let the salt solution dry. Then, spray the main coat of paint over the top. Once the paint has dried, rinse the model in warm water so that the salt dissolves away. This will leave a random pattern of rust showing through the paintwork. —Enzo Matrix



Ditto, except that my preferred texturing matter for both rust and non-skid is baking soda. It's fine enough that you can control the "grit" of it with the amount you use. —Rufus



*(continued on Page 5)*

## Rust (continued)

I've heard of (but not tried) painting the model with actual rust. According to the tip that I saw, rust out a steel screw or nail in some vinegar for a few days or weeks until you get a **lot** of rust in suspension. Brush this on the model in the area where rust would be expected to be seen and let dry. Later, spray of light coat of clear flat over the rust to fix it in place. I'm told that real rust will have a shade and patina that paints can't quite match. —The Old Man



Steel wool in a jar of vinegar is quicker than a nail; steel wool in a jar with water also works well. I just leave it until the steel wool rusts away and then grind the rust in a mortar and pestle to a fine powder. Steel wool and vinegar leaves a black colored residue, but turns brownish when used. I also have an old, cast iron Dutch oven which is out in the garden and gets water in it from the sprinkler. It makes really decent rust powder when dried out. —Kevin

Actually, orange is the color of fresh rust and tank treads that move and abrade away the old rust to show bright metal DO turn orange first. —Ron Smith



Rust comes in all sorts of color flavors. But orange-red or orange-brown is not uncommon. Check out the following:

<http://www.keaggy.com/rust/>



In fact, that last photo kinda shows the range of colors rust can exhibit.

Fresh rust is orange-ish. It tends to darken towards a brown or reddish brown as it ages. But presumably any rust on an operational vehicle or ship (as opposed to a derelict) would be fresh. Ordinarily, rust would be removed or repainted before it had time to darken appreciably. — Bill Shatzer

There is a model railway product available in the UK that actually **is** rust. You paint on the base coat and then apply a solution that causes the base coat to oxidise and become real rust. —Enzo



## Question of the Month

### Tell us about a modeling product you've discovered in the past year that you think others should know about.

Wire. A need for door handles had me looking at wire for a source. A fine strand of picture hanging wire gave me a soft, curve-able wire that produced a nice handle. I also have an assortment of wire, .015 inches and up, to use for reivforcing parts, axles, propeller shafts, etc.

—Tony D'Anjou

Engines and Things is a company from Canada. They produce 1/72 and 1/48 engines of about any type and make you can think of. They are generally much better, with finer detail, than those that come with the average kit. The line is carried by both Great Models and Roll Models, or you can buy direct by snail- or e-mail:

P.O. Box 48013  
St. Albert, AB  
T8N 5V9 Canada  
[engthg@telusplanet.net](mailto:engthg@telusplanet.net)  
website: <http://www.telusplanet.net/public/engthg/>

—Bob Hale

The Ott-Lite, 13/W Jupiter Table Lamp, with true color bulb, 16-inch arm, 5-inch magnifying glass with dust cover, purchased at Michael's craft supply store. Don't pay full price—wait for a sale; in these difficult economic times, we've got the power! While you're there check out the Compass Cutter which cuts circles from 10 mm to 150 mm, if you want to spray on cocades.

—Dave Hamel

This product is probably no news to most folks, but I only discovered this recently: Mr. Surfacer is a filler or putty that comes in a jar in liquid form and can be painted on. It has an amazing ability to fill very fine cracks and other surface problems. I have started using it after filling gaps with Squadron's Green Putty. Mr. Surfacer comes in different "grits." I have used #500, which is like a thick paint; after it has dried (which it does very fast), it can be sanded easily. A small jar (about twice the size of a regular paint jar) cost me \$7.25 at Hobby Emporium.

—Ora Lassila

[The finer grits, #1000 and #1200, can be thinned and sprayed, either for no-sand fills of very fine gaps and abrasions, or as a primer for natural metal finishes. #1000 is glossy; #1200 is satin. Spare Time also stocks them. —ed.]

While I can't think of an actual modeling product, I do have something close. Several months ago, I bought a nice ultrasonic cleaner—it cost me about \$40 on ebay. I bought it to use in cleaning my airbrush—and it works great. I only use acrylics, and they really like to stick to metal airbrush parts. I use a solution of (cheap grocery store) ammonia and water—it really takes the dried paint off. I don't use it all the time, but for those times when the brush is in need of a good, thorough cleaning, it makes the job so easy!

—Bill Michaels

This is actually more of a re-discovery. At the last meeting I described my difficulties with Polly Scale Flat, which had been my absolute first choice for flatcoating. As I had read some time ago on the internet, Testors has apparently changed the formula- tion; as predicted, I had great difficulty avoiding chalkiness in the finish. Back at Spare Time Shop a week or so later, my eye fell on a product I had once used, but had abandoned in favor of Polly Scale: Micro Flat from Microscale. I bought a bottle (plastic), and was pleased to find that it behaved very well indeed. It doesn't match the dead flat that Polly Scale provides, but it does yield a pleasing matte finish with no hint of chalkiness. I found that one can achieve a somewhat flatter finish by misting on a further coat with the airbrush a little further away from the model.

If I really need a total, dead flat, I can still use Future combined with Tamiya Flat Base. Nevertheless, Micro Flat provides a very satisfactory alternative.

—Pip Moss

Over the past three months I have been developing an electric- powered scribe, the PowerScriber Modeling Tool and Detailer. I cannot give any details right now, as I have a patent application pending on this tool, but I can tell you that it is like going from a paintbrush to an airbrush. I hope to see it in commercial produc- tion in the coming year. I have been modeling now for more than 60 years, and I have never seen anything like it!

—Art Silen