



[www.novaipms.org](http://www.novaipms.org)

## *March 2022 Newsletter*

*Editor: Tom Henderson*

The IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers Monthly meeting took place on 1 February with 35 people in attendance.

President Tim Barb's opening comments included a reminder to purchase raffle tickets to support the club and maybe even win something. Tim and Contest Director Walter Schlueter talked about the 2022 Build the Same Subject (BTSS) contest. Subjects are the Supermarine Spitfire, M1 Abrams, USS Enterprise ("Captain, all I can give ya is warp 1!"), and stock cars (racing type). So as not to cause confusion by the quote, any Enterprise starship is OK. The club is not going to purchase kits for BTSS this year to save a little bit of money, and we figure anyone interested in those subjects already has the kits on the shelf. The BTSS subjects are posted in the Program/Contest link of the chapter web page ([www.novaipms.org](http://www.novaipms.org)).

During a Model Classic update, Tim advised the membership to be prepared for all show attendees except vendors being required to consume food in a specific eating area to comply with COVID-19 school regulations. Understanding the need for vendors to remain with their merchandise and funds, roll around carts are planned to serve them.

Walter Schlueter announced that John Lingwood of our UK sister chapter, IPMS Staffordshire Moorlands, has become our newest Master Modeler in ships. Walter has already placed John's award in the post.

Comments from the membership:

Bill Strandberg explained the IPMS National Convention registration system in detail for those planning to attend the Omaha convention this year.

Bruce Bulin reminded the membership that volunteers are still needed for Model Classic. Details of the needs were discussed. Sign-up sheets will be on the front table at the March meeting. Please sign up for one or more of the areas that need membership help. Without your help the show will be a guaranteed bust.

The end of the business meeting signaled the break before the presentation. During this time we hit the restrooms, purchased raffle tickets, and voted for the contest models. Once we settled down, Tim Barb delivered a first rate presentation on the incredible combat performance of "his namesake" WWII Gato class submarine, the USS Barb (SS-220) under its Medal of Honor winning skipper.

The title of Tim's presentation was "The Sub that Sank a Train, the USS Barb." Well OK, the train was actually blown up on land. Sailors from the innovative crew took a boat to shore where they used an unconventional method to blow up a train moving along its track. This was the highlight of an intense combat tour during which its aggressive captain used up virtually all of the munitions on board; torpedoes, deck gun ammo, everything. You have heard of submarines being rammed by surface vessels (future President Kennedy, Robert Mitchum). The Gato

came upon a Japanese trawler while on the way home from their eventful cruise. With no ammo left, CDR Fluckey decided to ram it, which sunk the vessel. Tim recommended an excellent book about the Gato titled “Thunder Below” by her skipper Admiral Eugene B. Fluckey. The book won the “Best Naval Literature” award when published in 1993.

### USS Barb SS-220

- Gato Class Submarine
  - Named after the barbus, a kingfish of the Atlantic coast
  - Commissioned 8 July 1942
  - Completed 12 war patrols during WWII
    - 1-5 European Theater
    - 6-12 Pacific Theater
  - Patrols 11 earned it's skipper, CDR Eugene Fluckey, the Medal of Honor and the boat a Presidential Unit Citation
  - Patrol 12 – subject of this talk



### USS Barb Battle Flag

Top row  
23 Silver Stars  
Presidential Unit Citation for patrols 8-11  
Medal Of Honor  
6 Navy Crosses  
23 Bronze Stars  
Merchant ships: White flag w red star  
Hollow center – damaged  
Rising Sun flag – UN ships,  
Large flag – Carrier Unyo, 22,500 CVE  
Nazi flag – European tanker while in Atlantic  
White flag w/14 crosses – Australian and Brits POWs rescued  
White flag, red star with 7 – 7 vessels sunk under 500 tons  
Gun symbols – significant shore bombardments  
Rockets symbols – attacks on factories & air base  
Train- this briefing



*Clockwise from top left: Summary of the Barb's history, SS-220 USS Barb, ramming the trawler, the scoreboard.*

Following our normal format, Walter announced the contest winners upon conclusion of the presentation. Twenty-one models attended the meeting. The average for February is 27. Curtis and Shirley Clinton closed the evening with the raffle drawing.

Our monthly Tips and Share meeting took place on 16 February via Zoom. We exchanged information about kits, tools, and techniques. For those who were not able to make the monthly meeting, Tim gave a repeat of the USS Barb story, which made me happy because I missed the meeting.

Meeting pics are next, followed by a new look at Dick Hague's modeling adventures as he once again passes on another suite of modeling lessons learned. Floyd Werner steps in after Dick's Corner with a look at the new Detail and Scale volume on the F-14 to wrap up this issue. See you at our next monthly meeting on 2 March. Please sign up for a couple of hours to help make Model Classic a great show. We need you. For those of you who plan to attend the Richmond show, see you there.

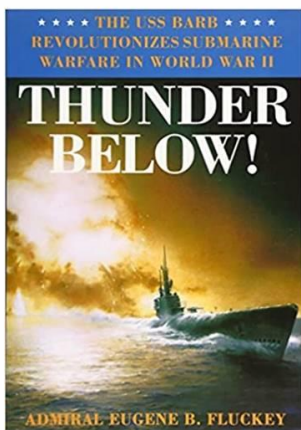
## Epilog

- 1951 – Modernized, streamlined, added snorkel
- 1953 – Given to Italy, rechristened Enrique Tazzoli
- 1972 – Sold for scrap, \$100,000



## Epilog

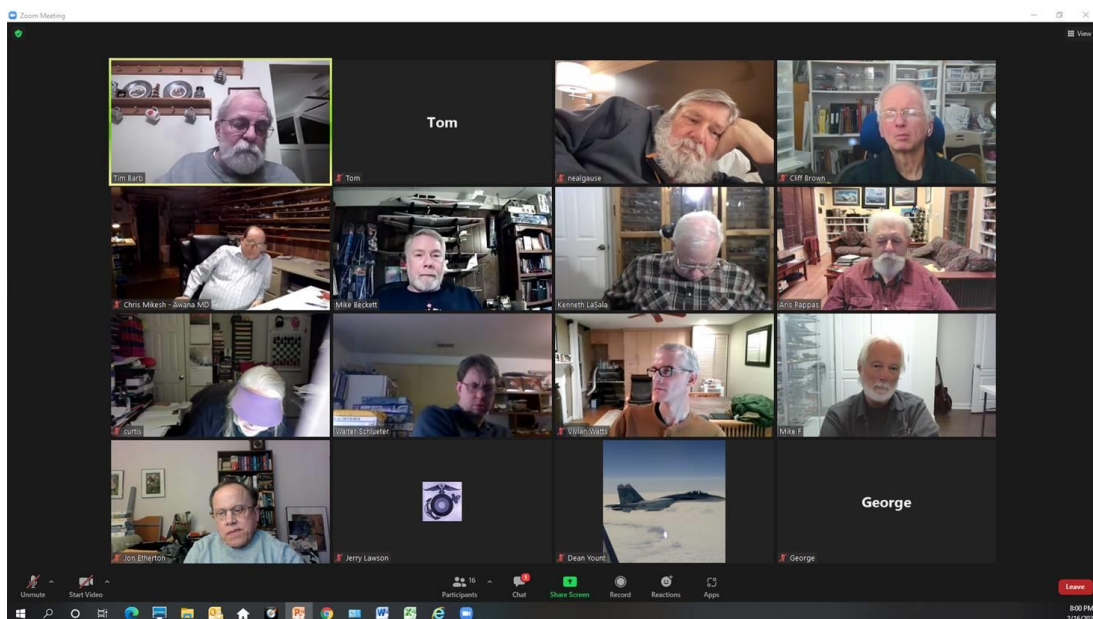
- Next USS Barb, Virginia class SSN 804, ordered 13 October 2020
  - First VA class submarine named after an aquatic animal
  - First submarine named after an aquatic animal since USS Seawolf, SSN 21, after 20 years



You Tube 1950s TV "The Silent Service"  
 USS Barb – The Final Patrol  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywf8iwmCyMQ>

Won the Samuel Eliot Morison prize for Best Naval Literature in 1993

*More from Tim's Gato presentation*



*February Tips and Share meeting*



## Contest Winners February 2021



*Aircraft 1/72, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Bf-109E1 by Leighton Greenstreet*



*Aircraft 1/72, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
P-47M by Greg Richard*



*Aircraft 1/48, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
P-26 by Leighton Greenstreet*



*Aircraft 1/48, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Spitfire Mk V by Jon DeSalva*



*AFV 1/72, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
T-34/76 by Leighton Greenstreet*



*AFV 1/72, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
FV-107 by Greg Richard*

# Contest Winners February 2021



*Sci-Fi, 1<sup>st</sup> Place*  
*Battlestar Galactica by Leighton Greenstreet*



*Figures, 1<sup>st</sup> Place*  
*AoS Gortrek by Jon DeSalva*



*Masters, 1<sup>st</sup> Place*  
*Sherman Tank by Nelson Kee*



*Masters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place*  
*P-15 Two Seat Mustang by Scott Bricker*



*Special, 1<sup>st</sup> Place*  
*AP-2H by Jim Rotramel*



*Special, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place*  
*M-113A1 by Tom Dunbar*



## Rest of the Models 2021



*Bf-109E*



*AC-47*



*Corsair*



*H-75*



*Lansen*



*MS-406*



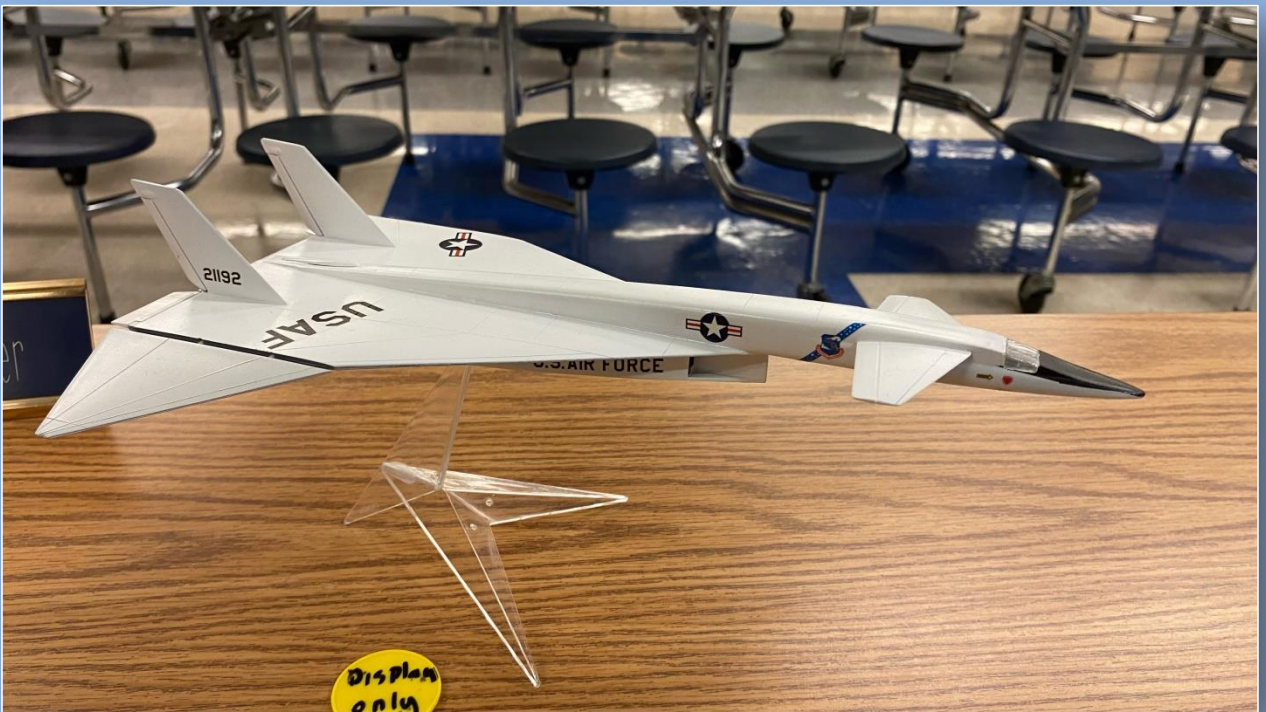
## Rest of the Models 2021



*Bf-109*



*Russian Plane - Sorry don't recognize*



*XB-70*

**Best out of the Box  
Spitfire Mk. V by Jon Desalva**



**Best of Show  
F-14A by Haagen Klaus**





# Celebrating Black History Monty

## by Dick Hague

*Editor's note: Dick shares a unique running text and visual diary of his modeling adventures which includes triumphs, defeats, lessons learned and tips. It is too tall of an order to pull together one complete build from the various messages, so what you are seeing in these articles is a moving "window" of Dick's modeling adventures over time. Nevertheless, we are getting a host of tips and lessons learned suitable for beginners and experienced modelers alike.*

Famous Tuskegee Airman Brigadier General Charles McGee recently passed leaving precious few veterans of the WWII era still around. As I also consider my models as 3D memorials to these veterans here is what I have built to help remember them.



Airfix released a 1/72 P-51D kit a few years back. One boxing featured Archer's aircraft (Figures 1 through 3).



Figure 1

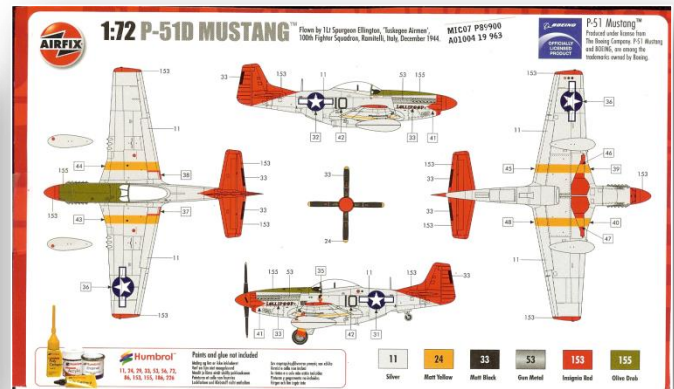


Figure 2



Figure 3

Pegasus had previously released a 1/48 scale P-51B with another Tuskegee Airman's markings (Figures 4 through 11 starting with the next page). While marketed as a 'snap-together' kit, it is quite well detailed. The only things added were seat belts and an antenna line. Of course I didn't snap it together but glued everything. The aluminum color is not painted. It is polished plastic with trim colors added. I built two of these at the same time and gave one to a friend.

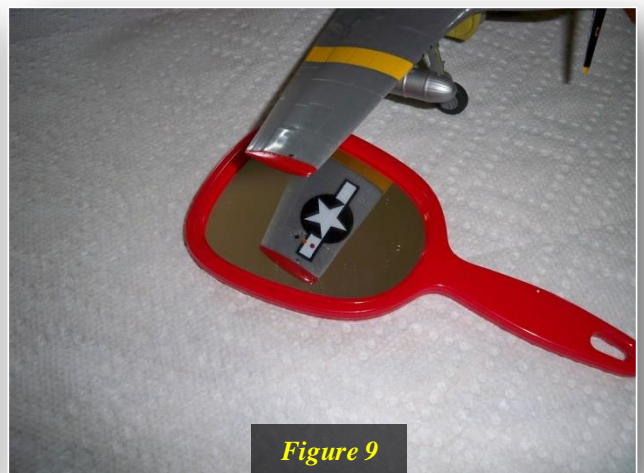
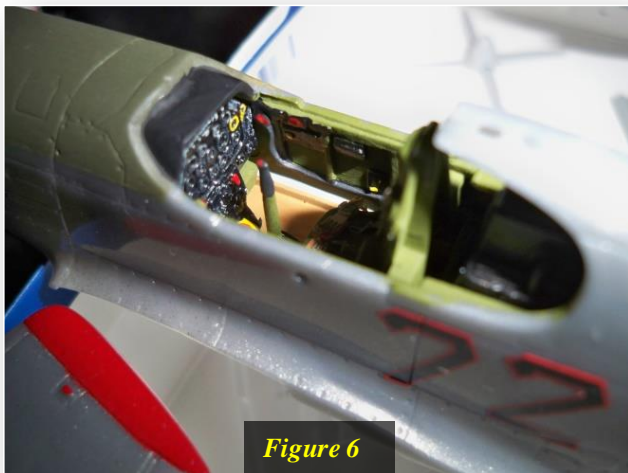
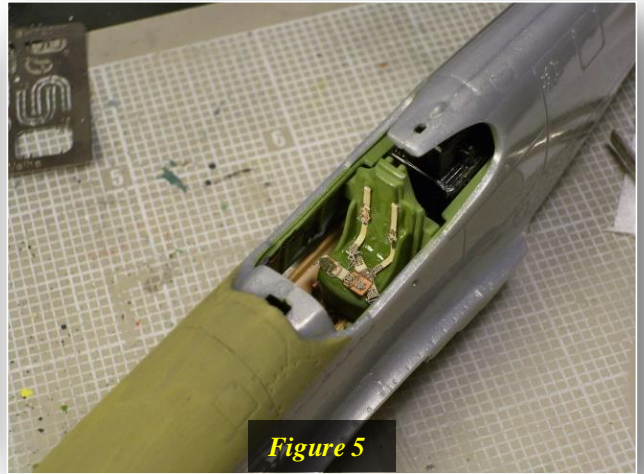
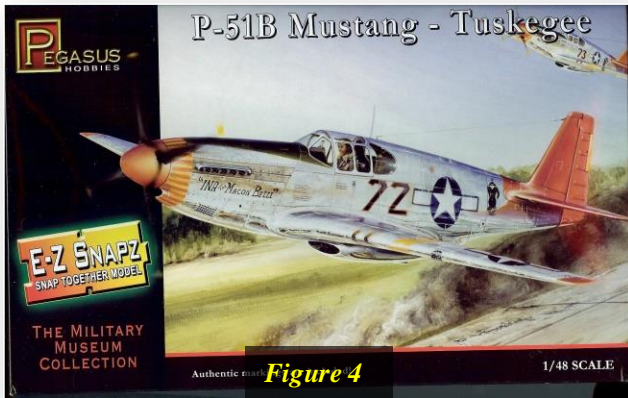






Figure 10



Figure 11

Time passes so fast and I can't believe that it was March of 2012 when I had both of them at the NOVA IPMS Club's meeting, shown on the table in Figure 4. I also can't remember if this was the plane of pilot Lee Archer but if not, here he is standing with one marked like the models (Figure 12).

There is at least one aftermarket decal sheet containing markings for other aircraft types flown by the Tuskegee Airmen. (Editor's note: There are a lot: Warbird, AeroMaster, Microscale, SuperScale, Three Guys, EagleCals, and probably more. Scales are from 1/24 down to 1/72. Some are out of production but may be found at a vendor's table.

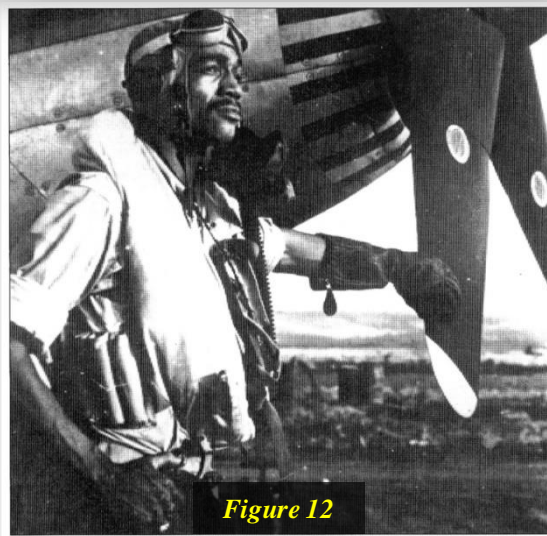


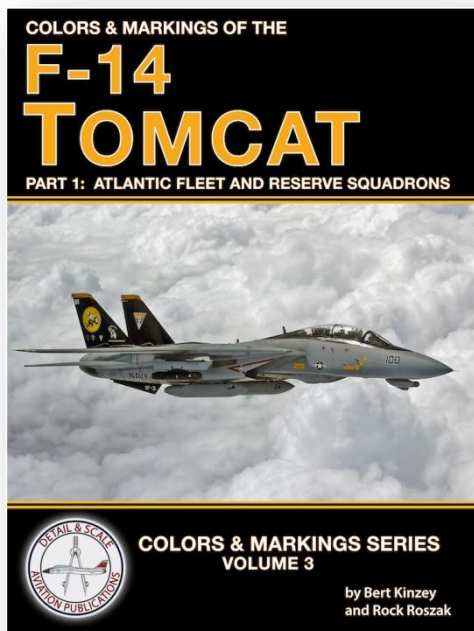
Figure 12

Back in my IBM days I met one of the Tuskegee Airmen. He was working in an Army lab where I was taking some service. We got to talking about airplanes for some reason and then I found out his story. He washed out of that organization when he had to bail out of a plane that he had gotten into an unrecoverable spin. He laughed it off and said that he never did like the way the BT-13's spun! Standards were so high for the Tuskegee Airmen that no mistakes were allowed!

There is a real red tail Mustang on the warbird airshow circuit today. It is operated by an organization called the 'Commemorative Air Force' which is somewhat ironic in that its former name was the 'Confederate Air Force'!

# F-14 Tomcat- Part 1: Atlantic Fleet and Reserve Squadrons

## Review by Floyd Werner



Authors: Bert Kinzey and Rock Roszak

Publisher: Detail and Scale

Price: \$23.99 (paperback), \$14.99 (digital)

Top Gun! Whether it is the movie or the real thing what do you think of? The F-14 Tomcat. Whether it is splashing Zeros in "The Final Countdown" or MiG-28s in "Top Gun" the Tomcat is a favorite among movie goers, modelers and the pilots that flew it. It became the iconic naval fighter of the 1980-90s.

This latest softbound book by Detail & Scale is the first in a series of books covering the F-14. This book covers the Atlantic Fleet and its Reserve squadrons. This is not your old 1986 Detail & Scale book on the

F-14. It is the first of three books on the color and markings of the Tomcat. The aircraft has so many color schemes it needs that many volumes.

Printed on demand at Amazon, this book features 127 high quality pages in full color. Besides the 302 clear and colorful photos, as is common in D&S books, you also get twenty-four high quality color profiles done by Rock Roszak. These will be instrumental in inspiring you and decal manufacturers.

This book covers the fifteen active duty and two naval reserve squadrons in the Atlantic fleet between 1974 and 2006. If your tail code begins with "A" it is from one of the Atlantic squadrons. The units are broken down in numerical order. Since this covers the entire time from 1974 onwards, you are treated to Atlantic based Tomcats from the F-14A through to the F-14D. All of the US F-14 MiG killers are in here.

A brief history of each unit helps you establish a timeline for the paint schemes. Any notable events for that squadron, such as shoot downs, are included to add to the reader's experience.

If you can't find a Tomcat in there to paint your AMK or Tamiya Tomcat you aren't looking, or it doesn't exist. The US markings alone vary in size,

### VF-31 "TOMCATTERS"



VF-31's CAG F-14D was photographed shortly after it returned to NAS Oceana, Virginia, following the Tomcat's last carrier deployment in March 2006. In the few months the "Tomcatters" remained operational with the F-14D, markings representing several awards the squadron won were added to the vertical tails. Some of these are illustrated in photographs later in this section. VF-31 expressed their pride in their historic Felix the Cat insignia by painting it on the parking apron with "FELIX RULES" in the black background. (Rivera)



VF-31 traces its lineage back to July 1, 1935, making it second only to VF-14 as the oldest continuously operational squadron in the Navy. During most of its service, the squadron's aircraft have carried the distinctive Felix the Cat emblem. In 1981, after a number of years flying the McDonnell F3H Demon and F-4 Phantom, the "Tomcatters" returned to flying a Grumman product when they transitioned to the F-14A Tomcat. Felix was originally featured on each side of the forward fuselage, but he would soon be moved to a much more prominent location on the vertical tails where he would remain for the rest of the time the unit flew Tomcats. VF-31's initial carrier assignment was aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY, CV-67, as part of Carrier Air Wing THREE, and four cruises were made aboard JFK between 1981 and 1985. In 1985, VF-31, along with its sister fighter squadron, VF-11, was reassigned to Carrier Air Wing SIX aboard USS FORRESTAL, CV-59, and that would remain the "Tomcatter's" carrier assignment until 1992. Cruises were made aboard FORRESTAL to the Mediterranean, the North Atlantic, and the Indian Ocean. That year, both VF-31 and VF-11 would move to NAS Miramar, California, and transition to the F-14D version of the Tomcat. Both squadrons were assigned to the Pacific Fleet, and they would remain Pacific Fleet assets until 2004. VF-31's markings while assigned to the Pacific Fleet will be covered in *Colors & Markings of the F-14 Tomcat, Part 2: Pacific Fleet and Reserve Squadrons*. In December 2004, VF-31 was reassigned to the Atlantic Fleet, becoming part of Carrier Air Wing EIGHT aboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, CVN-71. It had the distinction of making the Tomcat's final carrier deployment. During that

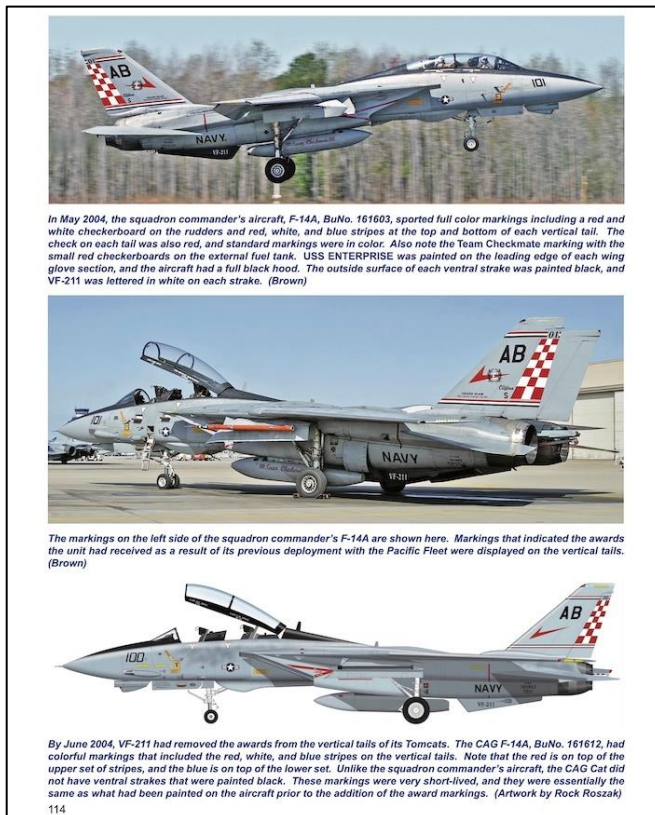
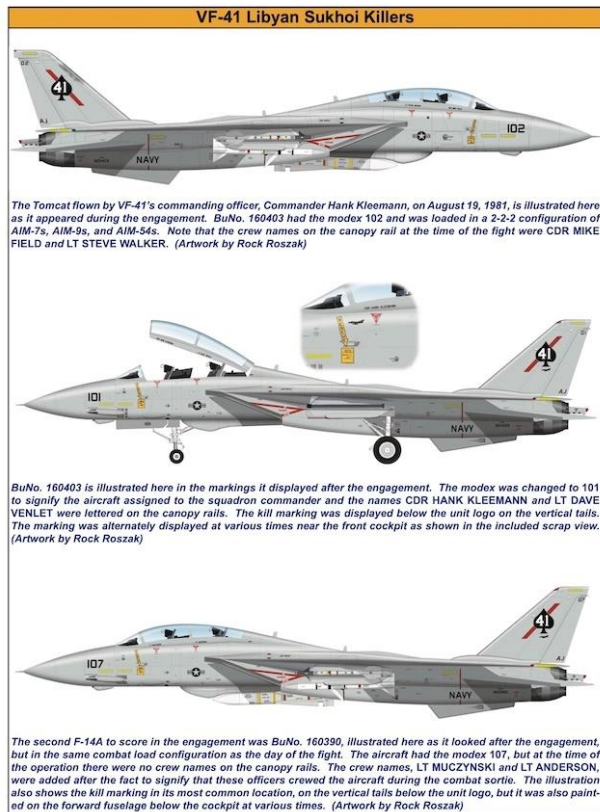
cruise, which began in September 2005, the "Tomcatters" operated in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and they were credited with having dropped the last bomb from a Tomcat in combat. On March 10, 2006, they conducted the Tomcat's last fly-in when they launched from TFA and flew to NAS Oceana. The "Tomcatter's" would remain operational with the F-14D for a few more months until their last Tomcat took off from NAS Oceana on October 4, 2006. Bureau number 164603 would be the last Tomcat to fly with the U. S. Navy. During its final months in Tomcats, VF-31 painted several of its aircraft in special markings and retro paint schemes to commemorate the operational service of Grumman's outstanding wing wing fighter. With the last F-14 in the fleet retired, VF-31 began its transition to the F/A-18E Super Hornet and was redesignated VFA-31, but the famous Felix the Cat insignia lived on. VF-31 did not transition to the Tomcat until 1981, and by then, Tomcats were being delivered in the overall Light Gray scheme. However, this did not deter the "Tomcatters" from using a considerable amount of color for their squadron markings. They did so at a time when almost every other Tomcat squadron in the Navy was making significant reductions in the amount of color used on their aircraft. VF-31 chose to paint the radomes on their aircraft black, and this "pencil scheme," although used by some other squadrons on early Tomcats, was particularly associated with the "Tomcatters."

Broad red bands were painted on both outside and inside surfaces of the vertical tails, and a red stripe was added above and below the bands. The AC tail code was located in the center of the broad band on the outside surface of each tail, and the black letters were shadowed in white. The vertical stripes were also painted red, and VF-31 was lettered in black with white shadowing.

Of course the most important of all of VF-31's markings was the historic and famous Felix the Cat insignia, and it was



color and placement. The tail fin flash, whether it is the CAG bird or a fleet bird, add that dash of pizzazz that Navy fighters have. It could be white and gull grey, full on color, or greyed out camouflage. There is something here for everyone.



Of course, no book about the Atlantic Squadrons would be complete without the famous "Jolly Rogers" of VF-84. These have to be the most modeled F-14s there are, and for good reason. Great paint schemes and featured in the movie "The Final Countdown."

With over 302 pictures of seventeen squadrons from 1974-2006 there has to be something in here for everyone. This is exactly what I expect from a Detail & Scale Colors and Markings book, high quality photos of beautiful airplanes in a variety of paint schemes. If you even remotely like the F-14 then I'd say you NEED this book. I cannot wait for the other two books to come out. Highly recommended

You can obtain your copy by visiting their website at [www.detailandscale.com](http://www.detailandscale.com). If you order the printed copy, you will be redirected to the Amazon page to purchase it. The book is also available in Apple books and Kindle format at the same place with even more pages and photos.

## March Meeting Program and Contest Theme

**Program:** *Know Your Kaiju - Japanese Movie Monsters past and present. Presented by Tim Hosek*

**Contest:** Japanese Movie Monsters

Visit the club website at [www.novaipms.org](http://www.novaipms.org) and join the club Google group at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/northernvirginiamodelers>

Both locations will allow you to access the monthly Contest/Program Schedule as well as information about IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers.

We're also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northern-Virginia-IPMS>

### IPMS NoVA Executive Board and Chapter Volunteers

#### IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers Chapter Officers

**President:**

Tim Barb

**Vice President**

Scott Bricker

**Treasurer:**

Jon Etherton

**Secretary/Historian:**

Cliff Brown

**Chapter Contact:**

Tom Henderson

#### IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers Chapter Volunteers

**Contest Coordinator:**

Walter Schlueter

**Webmaster:**

Mike Fleckenstein

*IPMS USA Webpage of the Year for 2021*

**Newsletter Editor:**

Tom Henderson

*IPMS R2 2020 Newsletter of the Year*  
[tomhenderson51@verizon.net](mailto:tomhenderson51@verizon.net)

**Raffle Coordinators:**

Curtis and Shirley Clinton

**Program Coordinator:**

Vacant, volunteer needed

**Make and Take Coordinator**

William "Chinxy" Jenks

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# Upcoming Events

2 March 2022

IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers Monthly Meeting  
Fairfax High School  
3501 Lion Run, Fairfax VA 22030  
Start time 7:00 pm

5 March 2022

Washington Armor Club Meeting  
King's Park Community Library  
9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke VA  
10:00am - 1:00pm

15 March 2022

IPMS DC Meeting  
Nancy H. Dacek North Potomac Community Rec Ctr  
13850 Travilah Rd. Rockville, MD 20850  
7:30-9:00pm

16 March 2022

IPMS Northern Virginia Tips and Share Zoom Meeting  
Begins at 6:30pm

23 March 2022

NCMSS Monthly Meeting  
Thomas Edison High School  
5801 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310

26 February 2022

Old Dominion Open  
Richmond Raceway Complex  
600 East Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA

7-9 April 2022

AMPS 2022 International Convention  
Marriott at City Center, Newport News, VA

16 April 2022

IPMS Northern Virginia Modelers Model Classic  
Fairfax High School  
3501 Lion Run  
Fairfax VA 22030

20-23 July 2022

IPMS USA National Convention  
LaVista Conference Center  
LaVista, Nebraska

## IPMS RICHMOND

### OLD DOMINION OPEN

#### SCALE MODEL SHOW & CONTEST

#### FEBRUARY 26, 2022

#### RICHMOND RACEWAY COMPLEX

**Henrico Hall**  
**600 E. Laburnum Ave.**  
**Richmond, VA 23222**

**Doors Open at 8:30 am**  
**Registration Closes at 12:00 pm Noon**

**Over 70 Model Categories**  
**Hobby Vendors**  
**Huge Kit Drawing**

Follow IPMS Richmond for updated information on:  
<http://ipmsrichmond.blogspot.com> or [www.facebook.com/IPMSRichmond](http://www.facebook.com/IPMSRichmond)



2021 GDF Best in Show Winner



### Northern Virginia Modelers

## Model Classic 2022

### THE KOREAN CONFLICT

### 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**Saturday, April 16, 2022 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**Fairfax High School**  
**3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030**

**Walk-in Admission**  
\$8.00 Single Adults (18 and older)  
\$10.00 Family

**Contestants**  
\$10.00  
Unlimited number of models

**Juniors**  
(17 & under)  
and  
**Active Duty Military**  
(with ID)  
**FREE!**

**Super Raffle**

**Award Sponsorships**  
\$30.00

**Vendor Tables**  
\$30.00 per table

**Make & Take FREE for the Kids!**  
(17 & under)

**On Site Food Concession!**

**Model Contest**  
Over 90 Categories



Tam Henderson  
12401 Shenfield Rd.  
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(703) 680-9394  
tamhenderson@novaipms.org

For Information Contact:  
Don Efferman  
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don.efferman@novaipms.org

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## Upcoming Events





Join us in Virginia for the 26th AMPS convention! Scale modelers are invited to bring their creative work for display and plug into the friendly and instructional atmosphere.

The convention theme is **Move It!** Build a subject that hauls, moves, or transports supplies, vehicles or people and you could receive a theme special award.

Many of the best armor modeling product vendors will be with us to help you find great deals on new and old kits, tools, books and accessories.

Seminars from inspiring hobbyists and historians will teach you new techniques. Come early and visit the many museums and military collections in the region.

**AMPS-2022**

**7-9 APRIL**

**CONTEST/DISPLAYS · AWARDS · VENDORS  
SEMINARS · PRODUCT DEMOS · RAFFLE**

**THE MARRIOTT AT CITY CENTER  
740 TOWN CENTER DRIVE · NEWPORT NEWS, VA**



Visit the AMPS website for all the details: [AMPS-Armor.org](http://AMPS-Armor.org)

## IPMS USA National Convention

July 20-23, 2022



Pre-registration (until 15 June)	\$55
Registration after 15 June	\$65
Proxy	\$35
Junior	\$25
Walk-in/day	\$15
Trophy Pkg	\$90

**La Vista Conference Center Omaha,  
Nebraska**

Registration opens 1 Feb 2022

[www.ipmsusa2022.com](http://www.ipmsusa2022.com).

Facebook **2022 IPMS Nationals Omaha**  
Contest Chairman [scott.hackney@cox.net](mailto:scott.hackney@cox.net)