

Tactical Notes

May 2024

So many kits... So little time...



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Editor's Notes

MMCL Members,

Summer is coming and does that mean more time at the bench for you? or like me it may mean traveling with the family like Clark Griswold (see my picture below). I have been working on a 1/72 Airfix Stuka I won at one of our raffles and have enjoyed it very much. I have also been reading a book by Alex Clark titled "Small-Scale Armour Modelling (Osprey Modeling Masterclass)" and it has made me purchase some 1/72 modern armor kits by Vespider, Meng and Revell. (I must really hate myself to try something like that). I hope to have a review of the book and the Airfix kit in the next TN. I also plan on going to Wonderfest and I know I will see some of you folks there too.

I also thank Dennis Sparks for a great article on his build of the Boulton Paul Defiant.

Take care and happy modeling/traveling .
Jason



Cover image

Defiant N1671, RAF Museum Cosford 2023
By Oren Rozen - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=135422400>
31 Dec 41 N1671 flew its only operational sortie with No.153 Squadron - a 1 hour 10 minute flight, with no interceptions made. Pilot Sgt Luxford. This concluded N1671's operational flying - a total of 13 hours 35 minutes in 15 sorties.

Don't Forget to join us on our Saturday Morning Workshops. The Workshop is open most Saturdays from 6 AM to Noon.



Membership Renewal: Please renew as soon as you can. You can renew online (PayPal), in person at the Saturday Workshop or at a Monthly Meeting, or at Scale Reproductions (Please, NO debit or credit cards).

President's Page

“So many kits... So little time...”

Hello MMCL Members,

Our next meeting will be this Thursday, May 16, 2024. We will have a full agenda with some business items, Show-N-Tell, and our monthly raffle. Bring a kit or two and receive a free raffle ticket for each item you donate. An agenda will be sent out before the meeting.

I will be asking club members about their interest in ordering more MMCL hats and t-shirts. In particular, a t-shirt design that Tom Romanowski initiated in 2004. An MMCL shirt that states “So many kits... So little time.” It was a big success then, and I think it’s time to have more of these shirts produced. We have several members that were not around to get these MMCL shirts. I definitely need to order a few for myself. By the way, this original Tom Romanowski (and maybe other MMCL members at the workshop) phrase will be on the Business Cards that I will be presenting at the May meeting.

I want to take a moment to discuss model contests. Why do you go to a model contest? Is it for the vendors, to enter to display your latest projects or to win awards. There is no doubt about it, I think we all like to shop the vendors for deals and grow our stash. I can’t pass up a good deal, even if I already have the kit. Several modelers go for the aftermarket items that are hard to find or not easily accessible from your local hobby store or Internet site. Why do you enter contests? I like to enter to display my models and see how my models stack up against others in the hobby. Terry Hill said that I would carpet bomb when I entered. I wouldn’t enter three models in the same category to make sure I scored. I would enter sometimes 10-12 categories because I build an array of genres. If I was lucky enough to win an award, that was always extra. I’ve been to contests where I have done well and others where I did not win a thing. That’s ok. It’s about displaying, talking with other modelers, and seeing what other fantastic models are out there. Whenever I go to a contest, especially an IPMS National or AMPS show, I get inspired. We have a tremendous amount of talented modelers throughout our region (especially our club). If you enter contests to only win awards and you expect to win, you might find it frustrating. We all know the inconsistency in judging. That’s a given. In my opinion, you should build what you want and enter contests if you want. Don’t try to build what the judges want. Build what makes you happy and enjoy sharing your creations with others in the hobby. Don’t become one of those modelers that gripe about the judging and blame them for why you didn’t win an award. Guess what, other models may be better than yours or more appealing to the judges.. I know there are better modelers than I am and I enjoy seeing their projects. Judging is hard and I am grateful for those that volunteer to judge. Remember that when you are waiting around, not judging yourself, for the judging to be finished.

REMINDER:

* We still have several members who have not renewed their membership. So, please Renew your club membership for 2024.

As always, relieve your stress level and build a model!

Rich

Boulton Paul Defiant Mk. I Squadron Code PS-V s/n L7026

In the mid-1930s, Britain's Air Ministry became concerned about the viability and utility of the new monoplane fighters such as the Hurricane and Spitfire that were just then in the early stages of their development and that had all of their guns fixed to fire forward. The Ministry decided to hedge their bets by requesting a new type of fighter with a radically different armament scheme.

Specification E9/35 was duly issued for a single-engine day or night fighter that was to instead have all of its guns located in a powered turret that would be operated by a second crewman, which in theory would allow the aircraft to attack enemy bombers while flying either below or alongside.

Boulton Paul, Hawker, Bristol and Armstrong Whitworth all submitted design proposals, resulting in orders in the autumn of 1935 for one prototype each from the only first two contenders. Boulton Paul's chief engineer John North had recently learned of a power turret that had been developed by a French firm and was able to secure a license to produce it for their new turret fighter design.

An initial order for 87 aircraft, now named Defiant, had already been placed on 28 April 1937, several months prior to the first flight of the turret-less prototype on 11 August. As is often the case, flight testing suggested that several design improvements were needed, which included changes to the canopy and landing gear, enlarging the rudder and adding extra fuel tanks in the wings. The choice of engine was changed from the original 1030 hp. Merlin I to the improved Merlin II before being altered once again to the Merlin III.

All of this served to push back the first flight of the second prototype until 18 May 1939, followed by the maiden flight of the first production at the end of July, only a month before the start of the war in Europe. Several additional production orders for the Defiant had already been placed in the first half of 1938 which increased the total to 513, with about half of these being delivered before the end of 1939.

The RAF's No.264 Squadron had been formed near the end of the First World War, but was deactivated soon after the Armistice. It was reconstituted on 30 October 1939 to introduce the Defiant into service and went operational in March 1940 as they began patrolling shipping convoys.

The squadron claimed their first aerial victory on 12 May, shooting down a Ju 88 that was attacking a destroyer. Two weeks later they achieved at least some moderate success while defending the evacuation at Dunkirk before the Luftwaffe fighter pilots became more familiar with the Defiant's unusual armament scheme.

As losses mounted, the squadron was withdrawn from ops in May 1940 and began training as a Defiant night fighter squadron. But at the height of the Battle of Britain day fighter squadrons were desperately needed that they recalled to action. After losing 16 Defiants in August alone, they were once again returned to the night fighter role on 01 September 1940.

[This model was built from Airfix kit A05128 \(released in 2016\)](#) and used one of the kit's two decal options. L7026 served with the RAF's No. 264 Squadron before being shot down over Thanet on 28 August 1940, crashing in flames at Sillibourne Farm, Hinxhill, Kent.

The pilot was P.O. Peter Lewis Kenner, age 21, who had joined the squadron only about two weeks earlier. The gunner was Charles Edward Johnson, age 35, who had joined the squadron at about the same time as Kenner.

Kenner's older brother Flight Sargent John Waverly Kenner was also KIA, in Egypt on 29 May 1941 in a collision of two Wellington bombers that were taking off at Shallufa, Suez.



Throwbacks



June 28th 2014



July 4th 2013

Upcoming Nearby Model Shows

Smoky Mtn Model-Con

May 25th, 2024 9 AM to 3:30 PM

Knoxville Catholic High School

9245 Fox Lonas Rd. NW

Knoxville, TN 37923

WonderFest

June 1st and 2nd

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Louisville KY

Tickets at the door only \$36 for 1 day or \$50 for both days

Huntsville Plastic Modelers Society 47th Model Contest

August 24th, 2024 8 AM to 5 PM CDT

Huntsville Jaycees Community Building

Military Modeling Club

Of Louisville

MMCL

April

2024

PNC Bank

Starting Cash Balance:

\$9,234.88

Cash Receipts		Date	Check Receipts		Date
Workshop		\$240.00	Item		\$0.00
			Item		\$0.00
			Item		\$0.00
			Item		\$0.00
			Item		\$0.00
			Item		\$0.00
Item			Item		\$0.00
Item			Item		\$0.00
Item			Item		\$0.00
Item			Item		\$0.00
Total Cash Receipts		\$240.00	Total Reimbursements		\$0.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$240.00		
Cash Or Debit Expenses:		Date	Cash Or Debit Expenses:		Date
Kyana March		4/10/24	225.00	Item	
Jet's Pizza - FNF			322.01	Item	
Kroger - Softdrinks			50.94		0.00
Scale Reproductions (Smackdown Gift Cards)			50.00	Item	0.00
Crown Trophy - Smackdown Plaque			34.93	Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
				Item	0.00
Total Cash Expenses:				(\$682.88)	
Reimbursable Expenses:		Date	Reimbursable Expenses:		Date
Item			0.00	Item	0.00
Total Reimbursements:				0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES			(\$682.88)		
NET Monthly Increase(Decrease):					
ENDING CASH BALANCE:		April	2024	\$8,792.00	
				(\$442.88)	

2024 Military Modelers Club of Louisville IPMS Invitational Contest

New location

**Paroquet Springs Convention Center
395 Paroquet Springs Drive,
Shepherdsville, KY, 40165**

Saturday Sept. 28th 9:00 AM - 3:30PM

SHOW THEME:

Models of subjects from the 80's



**FOOD
CONCESSIONS
ON SITE**

Show Contact :

Joe Betz

jbetz2970@gmail.com

Vendor Contact:

Dave Crouch

dcrou@bellsouth.net

Website: MMCL.org

**Largest
Raffle
In Region 4**

IPMS Guideline:

"In light of the current pandemic situation, please be aware that neither IPMS/USA nor its Chapters (Military Modelers Club Of Louisville) are liable for any potential transmission of illnesses.

Those planning to attend events do so at your own risk and should

(A) follow existing safe social distancing and mask use recommendations and

(B) abide by any local or state regulations regarding gatherings."

General Admission: \$5.00

Contest Entry Fee: \$10 (\$8 for IPMS Members)

**Includes First two Models, \$1 per additional model,
Juniors (Under 18) \$5 unlimited entries**

See MMCL.org for

Contest Entry Forms and Categories

