



THE DISPATCH

June 2021, Vol. 60,
Issue 6

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MEETING NOTICE

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak the NCMSS is currently holding meetings online. Check your E-mail inbox for the next meeting date & time.



COMMANDER'S CALL

Greetings to the NCMSS and our extended team!

Hope everyone is having a great summer thus far. Our 60th Annual Washington Show is quickly approaching and it is shaping up to be a great one. We will need volunteers to help out, such as the admissions desk, exhibitor assistance, judging, etc...so please show up and help out where you can. Let Dave or Darci Hoffman know soonest how you can assist. Thanks to everyone involved in the planning and preparation for the show.

A few updates:

- * We are promoting the Artist Preservation Group

(APG) figure exhibition at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philly next June. APG is sponsoring a Best American Revolutionary War figure for our show, thanks APG

- * NOVA IPMS is sponsoring our Ordnance and Dioramas categories along with a generous donation
- * Our show theme award is Allied Victory in WWII
- * One more virtual monthly meeting before our show

We are also getting caught up, slowly but surely, on our monthly *Dispatch* newsletter. Thanks again to Dave and Darci for all of their

hard work on the *Dispatch* and to all those providing content.

I look forward to seeing everyone in person at the show, especially all of our new members. It will be great to see the great work you all have done over the past year.

Until then - *Paint On!*



Burt
The Commander

WASHINGTON SHOW NEWS!

The NCMSS will be hosting our LIVE IN-PERSON 60th ANNUAL WASHINGTON SHOW at the Springfield Hilton on September 24th & 25th!

Once again we'll be featuring an impressive awards table with lots of what Burt refers to as "Bling!" Nick Strocchia of [Macho Modelz](#) will once again be hosting Gundam build tables! Our fellow hobby and gaming clubs will be there to participate. A photographer will be on site to capture images of your work free of charge.

This year we're featuring EARLY SET-UP for exhibitors and vendors on the 24th! If you're a vendor and want to purchase tables, contact one of our show team members and we'll make room for you. The Hilton will be giving special room rates for show attendees. Details are now available on our [website](#). We look forward to seeing you all at the show!

David Hoffman
NCMSS Adjutant
bpchasseur@comcast.net



June MOTM

“Mug-of-the-Month”



Owain Glyndŵr

Celebrating his victory in *The Battle of Bryn Glas, June 1402* in honor of our beloved Welsh NCMSS Members

CLUB NEWS

MEETING MINUTES — June 23, 2021

Pre-meeting chat [19:19-19:39]

Brian mentioned that he attended Wonderfest, June 5-6. It was well attended. He also mentioned he had recently acquired a couple vintage Aurora kits including George Washington Crossing the Delaware.

Mike Dutcher mentioned he might be able to get a guest speaker who had hosted the *Brush Beast* competition. **Mike** said the level of work in the competition was “insane!”

Call to Order & Club Business [19:39-19:54]

Dave officially started the meeting. **Burt** could not attend because of a prior engagement.

1.) **Dave** talked about the June 22 show meeting. The show will be advertised on Facebook. There will be early vendor and exhibitor setup on September 24th at 1:00pm.

2.) Springfield Hilton is giving us a show discount. When you reserve your hotel room men-

tion the show for the reduced rate.

3.) **Grant Berry** is point of contact for vendors. His email is Granthberry@aol.com.

4.) **Dave** gave kudos to **Bob Prokop** for his great job getting sponsors and to **Nick S.** for setting up the Kanban board to help manage tasks.

5.) **Dave** is reserving meeting space with Fairfax County Schools. Tentatively our first live in-person meeting will be in October! Stay tuned.

6.) **Peter Espada** said the Central Pennsylvania IPMS chapter will be holding [PennCon 2021](#) in Gettysburg on September 11. It’s going to be a great show! Click the link for details!

7.) We were sad to learn that Neal Das of Sentinel Miniatures had passed away earlier this year. Our sincere condolences to his family. Also, well-known artist Fletcher Clement passed away in May.

8.) **Mike Dutcher** will be sponsoring a 2-day workshop in



October with artist Erik Swinson in Fredericksburg. People will paint a 75mm figure in two days. Mike will keep us posted!

Parade Ground [19:54-20:31]

Dave shared the Parade Ground PowerPoint.

Conclusion [21:15]

Mike Dutcher mentioned that he enjoys seeing everyone’s work and the skill levels just keep getting better. (The feeling was mutual!) **Dave** closed out the meeting after thanking everyone for attending.

Attendees

Robert Huettner, Brian Nicklas, Mike Thomas, Jim Richey, Dick Perry, Nick Denardi, Gerard Joria, Nick Strocchia, Zacharia Becker, Mike Rumsey, Mike Dutcher, Peter Espada, Bob Prokop, Tom Bragg, Brian Ford, Darla & Warren Yaun, David & Darci Hoffman

APG to Sponsor Miniatures Exhibit

Last January **Mike Stelzel** of the Artist Preservation Group (and supporter of the NCMSS) was approached by The Museum of the American Revolution (MoAR) to discuss the APG's possible involvement at the MoAR. The APG committed to an event on **June 18 & 19, 2022** at the museum. The event will coincide with a year-long exhibit of original work by Don Troiani.

Mike wrote, “Although really more of an exhibition, this event will also be very much like a show. We will have at least twelve special awards and due to space limitations just few vendors. Our goal is to have a mini-

Museum of the American Revolution
Miniatures Exhibition
 June 18-19, 2022

Sponsored by
The Artist Preservation Group
 ArtistPreservationGroup.com

The Happy Modeler Today is the Modeler at Play

National Capital Model Soldier Society
 International Non-Profit Group of Artist Historians

JOIN THE CLUB NOW

Honoring History through Art since 1961

Sign up today on our website at NCMSSClub.org

CLUB NEWS *(Continued...)*



mum of 300 pieces on display focusing on the American Revolution. However, there is a very good chance we will open it up to American History as we determine space availability. The mission of this event is to display our interpretation of our history through the art of miniatures and give more exposure of our hobby to the public. And what better place to do that than one of the premiere museums in the country, if not the world.

Everyone is invited to attend and exhibit. There will be no charge to display your work (but donations will be gladly accepted). Because of management issues we are requiring everyone to pre-register their work. Each registered exhibitor will be provided with a tent card that we will prepare with your name and home town. You will also be provided a designated space to display your work. More info on that will follow in future months. (Because of the venue, we must also reserve the right to deny display of anything not appropriate or desirable for the event.)

The museum has also agreed to host a painting class by Julio Cabos courtesy of Scale 75. The class will

take place at the museum on Thursday and Friday June 16, and 17, 2022. There will be a fee for the class. Scale 75 will be managing the class and we will post more info in the future.

Finally, the APG will use this event to raise funds for the museum. We are planning a special Oneida Indian relief by Gary Dombrowski, another limited edition figure, (a 75mm Officer of the Light Infantry Company of the 10th

Foot by Scale 75), and an auction of figures donated to the APG by some of our most renowned miniaturists.

I hope to draw as many people as possible to participate in the exhibit and/or as a spectator.”

Check out the [APG website](#) for additional information and updates. NCMSS should be well represented, so get to work on those Revolutionary War figures!





National Capital Model Soldier Society

Member benefits include:

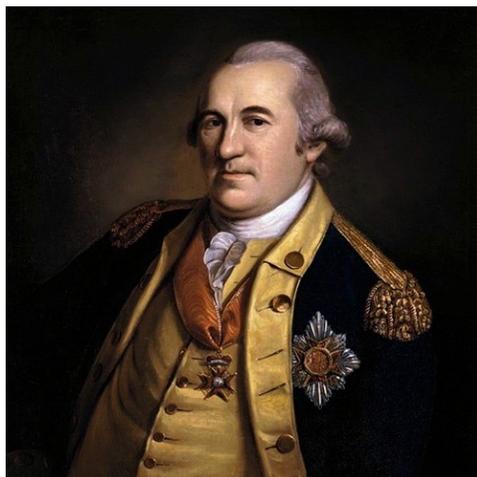
- * Friendly monthly meetings where we share our knowledge of history, painting, and modeling techniques
- * Monthly guest speakers
- * Monthly *Dispatch* newsletter
- * The NCMSS Washington Show
- * Affordable dues

What are you waiting for?

Welcome to the club!



EVENTS AND PLACES



The Valley Forge Winter: Remembering the Man Who Made a Difference
 Sponsored by the Smithsonian Associates
 Monday, August 16, 6:30pm—8:00pm (Online Event)
 During the harsh winter of 1777 when the Continental

Army was camped at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Gen. George Washington initiated a new set of drills and regimental regulations that helped to turn a rag-tag collection of enlistees into a professional fighting force. Historian Richard Bell tells the Valley Forge story through

the perspective of Baron Friedrich von Steuben, an immigrant who trained the troops as he dealt with anti-German sentiments and rumors about his sexuality.

Registration is required. Visit the [Smithsonian Associates](https://www.smithsonian.org/associates) website for more information.

From Gettysburg to Little Bighorn: 2021 Symposium
 National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
 Saturday, August 14, 2021

The symposium schedule includes:

- James A. Hessler “Ten Roads to the Little Bighorn,”
- Christopher J. Army “The Boy from County Carlow: Myles Keogh in the American Wars,”
- Show and Tell: artifacts in the collections of the museum
- Paul Andrew Hutton “Custer: Man and Myth”
- Robert F O’Neill, Jr “I have No Doubt He will Prove Himself an Able Commander”
- Jeffry D. Wert “George Custer and the 1864 Shenandoah Campaign”
[Click HERE for info](#)

Liberty: Don Troiani’s Paintings of the Revolutionary War
 Museum of the American Revolution
 October 16, 2021 through September 5, 2022

Without the benefit of photography, the Revolutionary War can be difficult to envision. Using a masterful combination of “artistry and accuracy” (New York Times), nationally renowned historical artist Don Troiani has dedicated much of his career to transforming the modern understanding of what the Revolutionary War truly looked like. His research-based paintings capture the reality and drama of crucial moments such as the 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill, General Washington’s daring 1776 attack on Trenton, and the American and French victory at Yorktown in 1781.

Liberty: Don Troiani’s Paintings of the Revolutionary

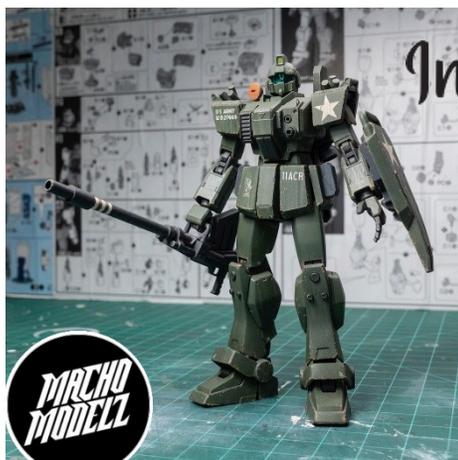


War will plunge visitors into some of the most pivotal events of America’s fight for independence and reveal Troiani’s research-based artistic process. For the first time in a museum, this special exhibition will bring together over 40 of Troiani’s original Revolutionary War paintings and pair them with 40 artifacts from his personal collection, that of the Museum, and several private collectors.

The exhibit will also unveil Troiani’s latest canvas, a

painting of the young African American sailor and Philadelphian James Forten witnessing Black and Native American troops in the ranks of the Continental Army as they march past Independence Hall on their way to Yorktown, Virginia. The painting was commissioned in 2019 by the Museum with funding provided by the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail of the National Park Service.

EVENTS AND PLACES (Continued...)



Instagram

207 posts 1,780 followers
Product/Service
Custom models and figures,
Washington DC
Member of [@teamheliosmodels](#)



HGUC (1/144) GM Ground Type

HGUC (1/144) GM Ground Type, complete! I really dig the "presence" of this build and am happy with how these photos came out. In addition to the kit bash, I also pushed the amount of smaller details after getting a lot of great feedback from the community on my last backpack. Namely, be sure to check out what replaced the collapsible cannon.... 🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟!!

Join the **Macho Modelz** community: [Patreon](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), & [Youtube](#)



Sponsored by:



Listening to Paint Dry with Mike & Dan Podcast



Episode 28: The Way of the Brush-stache with Kris Bel-leau

"We're excited to bring you our conversation with Kris Belleau of *The Way of the Brush*. Thank you so much Kris for sharing your hobby journey with us as well as some invaluable painting tips. You can follow Kris on [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) at *Way of the Brush*." —MD

Follow us on: [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Youtube](#), and [Twitter](#)



Drop us an email at: listeningtopaintdry@gmail.com
We would love to hear from you.

"If you're going to fail, fail fantastically on your way to become a Better, Braver, Happier Painter." —Mike D.

HOBBY CALENDAR 2021

- AUG**
 - August 7 — [Model Con 2021 Aboard the Battleship](#), Philadelphia Ship Model Society, PA
 - Aug 18-21 — [2021 IPMS NATIONAL CONVENTION](#), Las Vegas, NV
- SEP**
 - Sep 2-5 — [ReaperCon 2021](#), Denton Texas
 - Sep 11 — [PENNCON 2021](#), Central PA IPMS, Gettysburg, PA
 - Sep 18 — [MFCA Virtual Show 2021](#), Miniature Figure Collectors of America
 - Sep 25 — [NCMSS 60th Annual Washington Show](#), Springfield, VA
- OCT**
 - Oct 1-2 — [ARMORCON 2021](#), Northeast Military Modelers Assoc., Danbury, CT
 - Oct 22-23 — [MMSI Chicago Show](#), Military Miniature Society of Illinois, Chicago, IL
- NOV**
 - Nov 10-14 — [Historicon 2021](#), Historical Miniatures Gaming Society, King of Prussia, PA
 - Nov 19-20 — [Long Island Miniature Model Show](#), Freeport, NY
- DEC**
 - TBD — [NCMSS Christmas Party LIVE!](#)

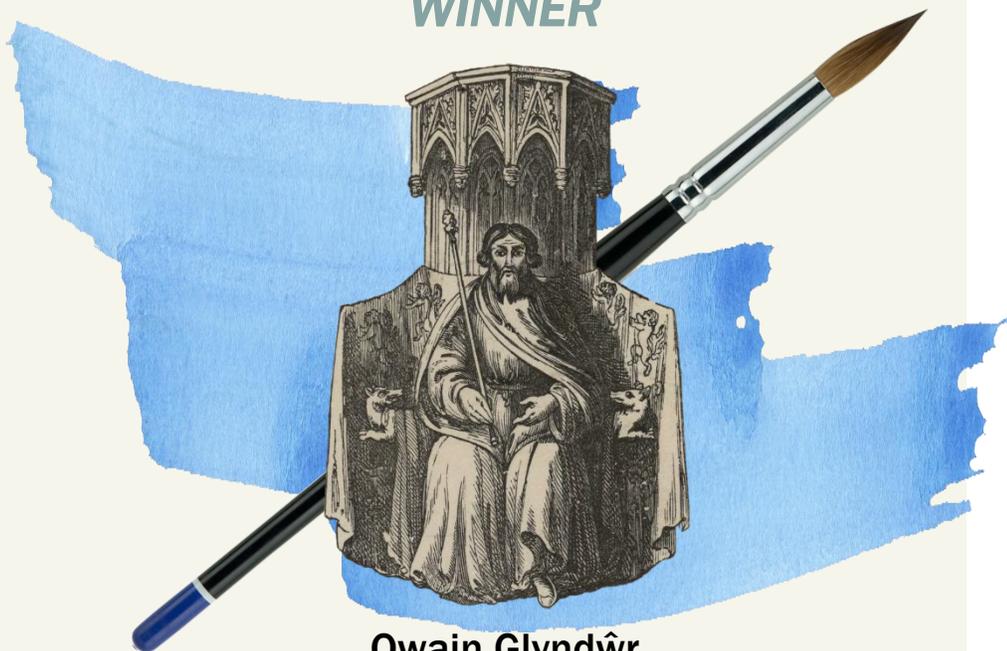
If you know of any upcoming events that you would like people to know about, please contact Adjutant David Hoffman at bpchasseur@comcast.net and we'll add the date to our calendar.

☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆
VIRTUAL STAY-AT-HOME EDITION



June "Mug-of-the-Month"

WINNER



June 2021
Parade Ground Participants

Mike Dutcher,
Peter Espada, Michael Pierce,
Mike Thomas, Michel Brasseur,
Robert Huettner,
David Hoffman

Owain Glyndŵr

In Appreciation of our Welsh Members

The **Battle of Bryn Glas**, (sometimes referred to in English accounts as the Battle of Pilleth, although Bryn Glas translates as blue hill) was fought on **22 June 1402**, near the towns of Knighton and Presteigne in Powys. It was a great victory for the Welsh under Owain Glyndŵr, and it resulted in the prolongation of the Welsh war of independence and the destabilization of English politics for several years afterward. —Wikipedia



OWEN GLYNDWR, Prince of Wales. XIV c.

Manufacturer: Pegaso Models
SKU#: 54-514
Scale: 54mm
Sculpted by: Andrea Jula
Material: white metal
Pieces: 27
Box Art: painted by Diego Ruina
Price: Out of stock at Pegaso, but can be found through other sellers



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MIKE DUTCHER

Magnus the Red, Games Workshop

This is another commission. Mike noted the size of the piece saying he is, "very big and very red." Mike put a 28mm gaming piece next to Magnus to show the scale difference.

To the right of Magnus we have **Mortarion**, another kit from **Games Workshop**. Also a commission piece.



Be'Lakor, Games Workshop

Work in progress and another commission. Mike said, "It kind of looks like a flying purple people eater right now." The finished figure will have a light blue skin with dark purple shadows per the client's request.

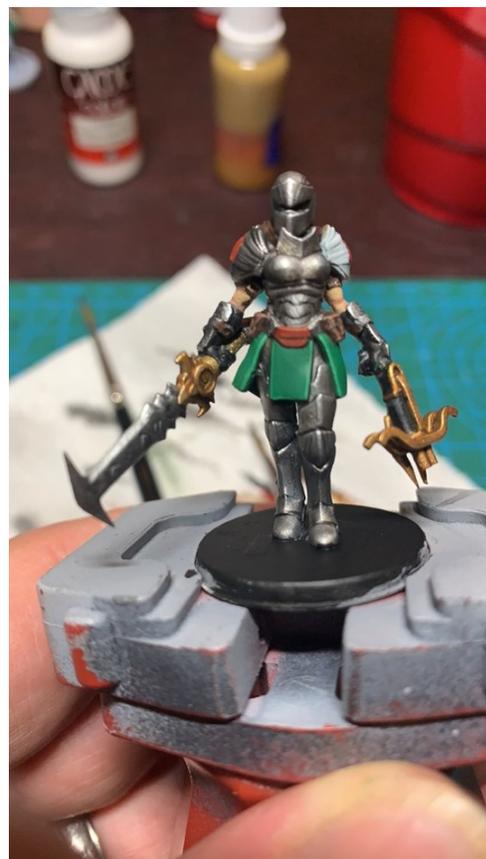
Lower left are some "bits and pieces" that go with Magnus, painted separately

☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MIKE DUTCHER (CONTINUED)

3D Printed Dungeons and Dragons Minis

A neighbor asked Mike for a repaint of about 20 figures. Mike said he had about two days to complete these, including paint removal and repairs. To the right is an example of one of the pieces, before and after. The finished product looks like a big improvement! I am sure his neighbor was very pleased.



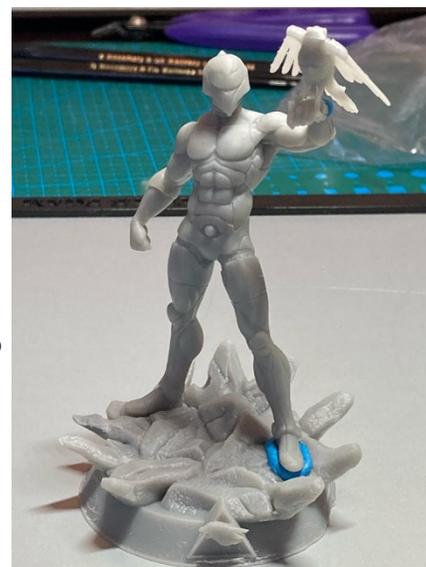
Léa — bust from **Ouroboros Miniatures** (part of the “Exquis” project line on Kickstarter).

Mike got a little “artsy” with this one, deciding to paint it to emulate the illustration rather than in a traditional natural tone format. He said it was his first time using a white primer instead of gray. He studied the illustration very closely to better emulate the artwork, using only inks, mostly Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black and White. He used very thin coats, gradually adding volume and contrast.

Quicksilver — CYG PYRO Designs (3D printed mini, 75mm)

Mike said this was “a childhood dream come to life.” One of his favorite shows growing up was *Silverhawks*. Mike found out his neighbor had a 3D printer so he obtained the 3D file and the neighbor printed it up for free. He will be doing two, one with non-metallic paints (NMM) and one with metallics (TMM). First will be to paint one with a Molotov Chrome Marker and do a light study to model for the NMM version.

As a 3D printed piece there were a few issues to clean up. He had to do some “layer line” work. Since the piece was scaled down from the original file size there were some areas that required filling. Mike said he’s having a lot of fun working on this piece.



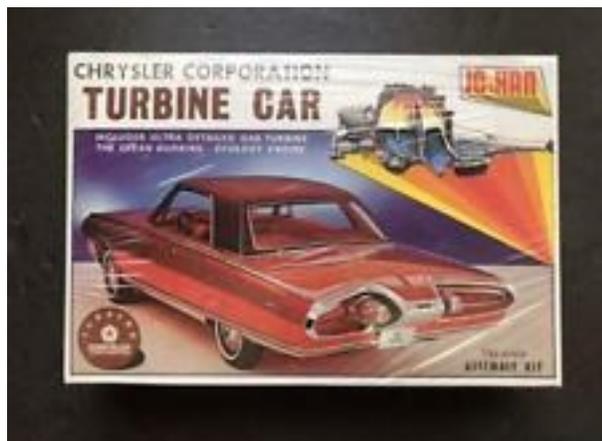
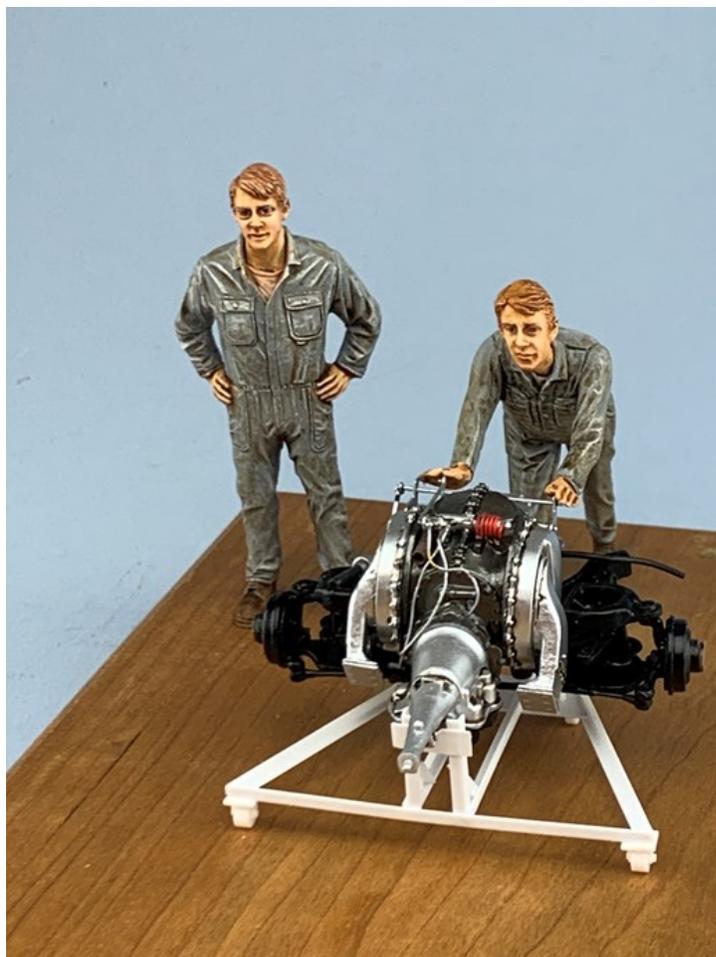
☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

PETER ESPADA

Work in progress

The figures are two mechanics in 1/24 scale installing a turbine engine in a Chrysler Turbine Car. The car itself is in the process of being completed and will be displayed on a lift, with hood, trunk, and door open to display the interiors and underside. The car model, made with very expensive tooling and now harder to find, was a promotion for the actual car, which was never mass produced for various reasons including cost. The car body was made in Italy and the turbine was made in the U.S.

The figures are from the American Diorama series of automotive figures and came pre-painted, but Peter stripped and re-painted them. The engine itself is sitting on a scratch-built cradle (done from photos, not painted yet) and will have the front wheel-and-tire combinations installed when the whole is completed. He hopes to take it to the IPMS Nationals if logistics of travel allow it.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MICHAEL PIERCE



The figure to the left is a Rubin Squadron Napoleonic Lancer that is about 54mm in scale. Mike said he modified it with Historex parts. He used putty for a new plume, new arms, braiding, piping, and a new face. This is the first time he has attempted a complete sculpt. When finished the figure will be holding a lance and sword.

The second figure (below) is of unknown origin, Mike said he is converting it to be a member of Butler's Rangers, a Loyalist Group in the American Revolution. The head is from Historex and the figure is holding a Tamiya rabbit.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MIKE THOMAS



Roman Cavalry Officer 180 AD by Young Miniatures in 1/10 scale.

Mike reviewed this figure in last month's issue. Here are some additional pictures of the kit. Mike mentioned that while this was a very nice kit and fun to paint, with the elaborate attic style helmet it is not actually a cavalryman, but more likely a Prefect or wealthy legionary Tribune.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MICHEL BRASSEUR

This delightful work in progress flat was developed by the British Flat Figures Society as a gift to their members in 2019, for the anniversary of the Forum. It's called "Tea Time" and the size is 54mm (70mm total).

Drawing by Sascha Lunyakow, engraving by Daniel Lepeltier, edited by BFFS via Benedict Widmann.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MICHEL BRASSEUR

Asterix on bulwark worn by Obelix

Private engraving and casting offered for personal painting and private collection. 2-13/32" total height. Asterix or *The Adventures of Asterix* (French: Astérix or Astérix le Gaulois) is a French comic book series about Gaulish warriors, who have adventures and fight the Roman Republic during the era of Julius Caesar. The series first appeared in the Franco-Belgian comic magazine *Pilote* in 1959, written by René Goscinny and illustrated by Albert Uderzo until Goscinny's death in 1977. Uderzo then took over the writing until 2009, when he sold the rights to publishing company Hachette; he died in 2020. In 2013, a new team consisting of Jean-Yves Ferri (script) and Didier Conrad (artwork) took over. As of 2019, 38 volumes have been released, with the most recent released in October 2019.



Officer and Soldier of the Loyal Queen's Militia (1780)

Regimental order of February 7, 1780: Colonel Hamilton desires that the officers of the Regiment of Loyal Queens County will provide themselves immediately each with a uniform or regimentals. It has to be scarlet, faced with blue, with white lining, white waistcoat and breeches, and silver buttons, with a silver epaulet, a well-cocked hat with silver buttons and loops and a silver hat band.

Nothing was said about men's clothing, except that it should be clean. The sergeant is shown with improvised uniform coat and a home-made halberd. The weapons and equipment seem to have been whatever could be spared.

They are oil painted, undercoated with white acrylic. Total painting time was 17 hours.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MICHEL BRASSEUR *(CONTINUED)*

Townsmen in the 13th century pointing a vouge to a cavalryman

Edited by Mueller-Erfurt MR45 and engraved by Ludwig Frank, 30mm size. He wears a broigne probably of leather to which are attached metal shanks, plates or rings of protection against blows of sword or pole weapon on the chest. Under his helmet, called brains, he wears a camail.



Townsmen in the 14th century fighting with a hook

Edited by Mueller-Erfurt MR45 and engraved by Ludwig Frank 30mm size. The hook ('l'anicroche' in French) or billhook is a European pole weapon, composed of a billhook mounted on a long shaft. It is related to the gisarme which is distinguished by the addition of a spear point allowing to allow a thrust. The hook also made it possible to cut the hocks of the horses or to "bone" a knight by tearing off his pieces of armor. It is therefore very effective for capturing the enemy knight in order to obtain ransom.

☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

ROBERT HUETTNER

Max Wunsche- Dog Tag models

This is limited to production of 50 and took a long time to get, as Bob ordered this in September but recently arrived. He said this is a great model with fine detail, and came in a nifty box as well. It has an accurate early Tiger I commander's cupola. You have to spend time fitting his arms to sit correctly with the hatch and cupola lip. Wires not supplied with kit. Thoroughly enjoyed it. Used the "hairspray" technique for chipping. Painted it as the real vehicle- iron oxide, panzer gray, dunkkegelb, white wash- with hairspray between each coat and chipped before adding next color. Graphite used to show worn areas.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

DAVID HOFFMAN

Young Miniatures Roman cavalryman, 3rd Century CE along with Nuts Planet Hannibal Barca, Second Punic War

I did these at the same time as they both had similar characteristics (bronze armor, leopard and fox pelts, etc.). Painted in oils with the armor done in alcohol based Vallejo liquid gold. Both are beautiful sculpts and a pleasure to paint.

As always, the bases from Birchtree (John Jeffries) are great.



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

DAVID HOFFMAN (CONTINUED)

More pictures of Hannibal. All of this is speculation and perhaps fantasy, but the attic Helmet and Cuirass are appropriate for the time frame. I loved the elephant on the Cuirass as a nice relevant touch!



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

DAVID HOFFMAN (CONTINUED)

Poste Militaire Cheyenne Wolf Scout, 90mm
by Julian Hullis.

Hullis based the figure on the Bama illustration to the right. This is a figure that I have wanted to do for a long time and bought when it first came out. It was very popular at shows at the time and was somewhat intimidated. Finally started it, casting was impeccable with minimal cleanup. A filler review is below.



DISPATCHES FROM ACROSS THE POND

Courtesy of Robin J. Howard

Built to impress

What are the places we most cherish that are especially English? What could we not bear to lose, if it disappeared? In *The Real Crown Jewels of England*, **Clive Aslet** explores 100 places, landscapes, buildings and special aspects of nature – each one a winner. Here are our picks of the architectural gems...

Hadrian's Wall

When the wall was built, the Roman Empire covered most of the known world, stretching from the North of England to what is today Iraq. The imperial challenge was to organise and consolidate within its borders. Hadrian's Wall was an emphatic full stop; on one side lay the organisation and prosperity of the Empire, on the other side Barbarian chaos. As a feat of construction it was - and remains - awesome.

It has decayed, of course; there are now only a couple of hundred yards, at Housesteads in Northumberland, that you can actually walk along.

The appearance of imperturbable massiveness masks a complex, delicate hidden life. The most astonishing finds are a few dozen little slivers of smooth wood, used in the manner of papyrus. They still bear traces of the original ink.

Tablets, first excavated in the early 1970s at Vindolanda, a fort originally used during the conquest of Britain and whose earliest phases pre-date Hadrian's Wall, reveal many details of ordinary life, including the previously unknown fact that the soldiers wore underpants.

What more secrets does the wall have to reveal?



GODDARDS, SURREY

Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens was one of the greatest British architects, building country houses, memorials, the Cenotaph, as well as a palace for the Viceroy of India at New Delhi.

He opened his first office at 19, and was practically a child prodigy. As a result, he produced an amazing volume of work of all kinds. No British architect can boast such variety.

Goddards, at Abinger Common, is

one of the country houses from his early career. Everything Lutyens and his mentor Gertrude Jekyll, who designed the gardens, loved can be seen. Goddards is owned by the Lutyens Trust and it is leased by the Landmark Trust, meaning people can stay there.

Lutyens was originally approached in 1898 by Sir Frederick Mirrielees to build a holiday home for a charity providing holidays for "nurses from hospitals, ladies of small means, East End workers



Goddards was built by Edwin Lutyens in 1898-1900 and enlarged by him in 1910. One of his most important early houses designed in the traditional Surrey style

DISPATCHES (CONTINUED)

exhausted by care for others". In 1910, it became a weekend home for Sir Frederick's son, Donald, and his American wife.



The Banqueting House on Whitehall is the 'greatest surviving work of Inigo Jones' (Image: Getty)

THE BANQUETING HOUSE

The Banqueting House on Whitehall is the greatest surviving work of Inigo Jones, drenched in memories of the Stuart court of the early 17th century. The Stuarts were not distinguished for their administrative competence but Charles I loved the arts, particularly the esoteric theatrical genre known as the masque.

The Banqueting House, replacing another that had burned down in 1619, was constructed for the staging of masques. Jones created a festive structure and Charles I commissioned a ceiling for the main space from Rubens.

The King's hopes of rebuilding Whitehall Palace completely were dashed by the chaotic finances of his regime, but the fragment of his vision that we have in the Banqueting House is a marvel.

The object of the masque was to demonstrate the virtues of the monarch. With its arcane symbolism, it reflected the court's growing insularity. Symbolism would also lie heavy over the Banqueting House when, in 1649, Charles I was marched there to kneel before the executioner's block. It took only one blow for the axe to do its job.

THE RADCLIFFE CAMERA, OXFORD

Seat of learning, boom town in our knowledge-based economy, focus of intellectual debate during the Victorian period, place



Evening view of Radcliffe Camera in Oxford University, England, UK

of dreaming spires so freighted with fictional depictions - many Oxford buildings are first-rate and primus inter pares is the Radcliffe Camera.

This grand building, primarily a dome on a circular base of coupled columns, a reinterpretation on a bigger scale of Donato Bramante's Tempietto in Rome, can be seen from practically everywhere in the city.

The rotunda deserves the prominence it commands, for it is a masterpiece, entirely suited to its location, a library both magisterial and magnificent. Architect James Gibbs's friend Handel wrote music for the opening in 1749.

Dr John Radcliffe, who left money for the building in his will, had a chequered relationship with the university. Expelled from his fellowship, he became a physician. As doctor to the Royal Family, he famously told William III: "I would not have your Majesty's legs for three kingdoms!"



Holkham Hall is an 18th-century country house standing by the village of Holkham in Norfolk. It belongs to the Earl of Leicester.

HOLKHAM HALL, NORFOLK

A supreme example of the English Palladian style, Holkham Hall is more palace than country house. It was designed by the First Earl of Leicester in partnership with architect William Kent and local man Matthew Brettingham the Elder as executive architect.

Faced in yellow brick, Holkham takes the form of a central block, surrounded at each corner by pavilions. The Marble Hall (actually alabaster) is entered at a level lower than the colonnade. Overhead curves a coffered ceiling; even today the effect is sensational: immense and imposing but also flamboyant and festive.

A well was sunk and a horse walked around a circular track to operate the pump that drew water for the many water closets and bathrooms. The family wing's bathroom had a mahogany bath tub.

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM

Architect Sir John Soane turned his house into a museum, to be preserved under the trust he created exactly as it was after his death in 1837. The house is not merely a showcase for paintings, sculptures and antiq-



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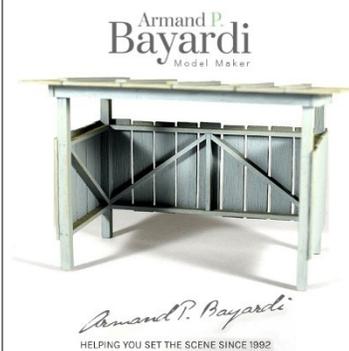
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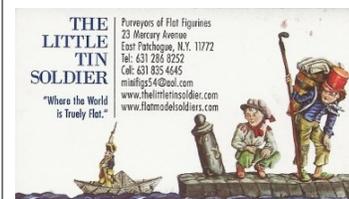
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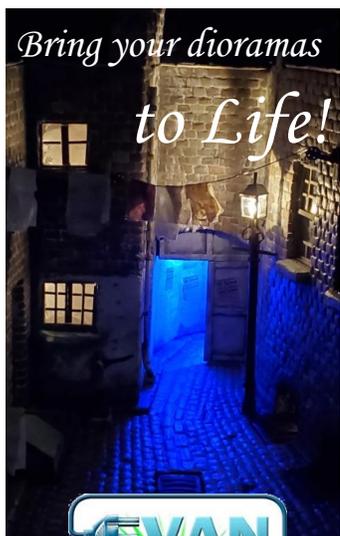
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DISPATCHES (CONTINUED)



Architect Sir John Soane transformed his house into a museum
(Image: Getty)

uities but for Soane's imagination. It is a world of architectural drama, where the relatively confined space provided by two adjacent London houses was fretted over and obsessively altered by Soane to create extraordinary spatial effects: grand, astounding, even vertiginous, despite their small scale.

Among the artworks he bought were Hogarth's series *A Rake's Progress* and *An Election*. But perhaps his greatest coup was the acquisition of the newly discovered sarcophagus of Seti I, rejected by the British Museum because the € 2,200 price was too high.

SOMERSET HOUSE

Named after the Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector of England, who ran the country from 1547 to 1549 for the boy king Edward VI, his house on the Thames was one of a string of palaces, built originally by bishops.

By the mid-18th century, Somerset House had become a place of ghosts, so Sir William Chambers was commissioned to convert the site into a different kind of palace, for civil servants.

Among the occupants was The Navy Office - it was here, to the Seamen's Hall, that

the officers of Nelson's Navy came to discover which ships had been assigned to them.

On the Strand, the narrow facade was inspired by the Hotel des Monnaies in Paris - people entered, as they still do, beneath a supremely elegant vestibule of paired columns and vaults.

Eventually a time came when the civil servants were expelled. In place of cars came cafes, fountains, a winter skating rink for Somerset House is now run as a trust for the working arts - home not only to The Courtauld Institute of Art and its Gallery but to artists, creative organisations and the British Fashion Council.



The courtyard of Somerset House, from the North Wing entrance

Article originally printed in the **Sunday Mirror** on October 18, 2020
Edited by Nigel Thompson, Extracted by Marjorie Yue from "The Real Crown Jewels of England - 100 Places That Made Us Great" by Clive Aslet, Little, Brown Book Group



Robin is Curious about ...

Steampunk!



Steampunk in Miniature by Julio Cabos, Rafael Milla, and Mario Milla, 184 pp, Scale Editions (Scale 75), Madrid, Spain, 2016

Softcover, a complete step-by-step guide of the techniques of painting the key aspects of Steampunk miniatures with more than 450 pictures. Includes chapters on prepping figures and primers, painting with acrylics, brush techniques, non-metallic metal, metallics, glass, airbrushing, the Smog Riders, and constructing & painting a Steampunk scenario.



Painted by Peter De Hann from Nederland



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WORTHY READS

Book review by Dr. Mike Thomas

Caesar's Legion
The Epic Saga of Julius Caesar's Elite Tenth Legion and the Armies of Rome
 by **Stephen Dando-Collins**
 320 pp, John Wiley Inc, New York, 2002

I don't normally review books, as I don't consider myself to be much of a literary critic. However, I felt that I had to do so with this one, not because it's a good book but because it is an appalling one. I almost feel that it is my duty to warn people about it.

The work purports to be a history of Caesar's famed '10th Legion'.

Much of what Dando-Collins has written is, in fact, a cob- bled together tale from Caesar's own works (Gallic War, Civil War and the African and Spanish Wars, the latter two being written by someone else), Suetonius' 'Twelve Caesars', and various works by Tacitus, Dio Cassius and Josephus Flavius amongst others. This, however, is not what

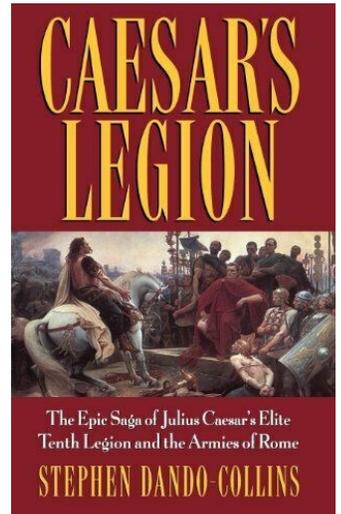
bothers me. I don't mind a tale masquerading as history, so long as this is made absolutely clear. No, what bothers me here is the sheer volume of inaccurate information that is foisted upon one by Mr. Dando-Collins.

He is of the opinion, for example, that the Imperial legions were enlisted compulsorily, i.e. by conscription. Not true, this was rarely done and only in times of dire national emergency. He also thinks that the legionaries served for 16 years. Again, not true, the period of service was 25 years; he is either confusing

service in the legions with that for the Praetorian Guard or the service period that was used much later than the reign of Augustus. He also

thinks that the legions were discharged en mass (like Zulu impis). If what he suggests is true, a considerable portion of the Roman army would have had to be replaced every quarter century, since the majority of the legions were

"I almost feel that it is my duty to warn people..."



embodied at roughly the same time. Also, according to him, the legions were not reinforced so that after a long period or as a result of losses on campaign, there might only be a few hundred of them left. One wonders, then, why legions found it necessary to build fortifications for 6,000 men?

There are also errors of fact in other directions. He states that lorica segmentata armour 'was introduced at around AD 30'. Pure fiction,



Vercingétorix devant César by Lionel Royer, 1899, oil on canvas

WORTHY READS (CONTINUED)

the earliest finds are from Dangstetten, known to have been occupied between 15 and 9 BC. He persists in saying that there were 60 centurions to each legion (there were only 59 – he seems unaware that the 1st cohort had only five centuries, albeit of double strength). He has a peculiar view that it is possible to equate Roman army ranks with those of modern armies. Thus, centurions are supposed to be lieutenants or captains and tribunes are colonels. A consul is given the modern rank of Lieutenant-General, showing he is unaware that the Consul of a province had civilian as well as military duties, which would certainly not be the case for an officer of this grade in a modern army.

His worst collection of fiction, however, appears in some of the appendices, and particularly the one concerned with the origins of the various legions. Virtually every one of the statements he makes here is wrong. To give you a flavour of the thing, he

claims that the numbers of the three legions lost under Varus were 24, 25 and 26 (not, as we know for certain, 17, 18 and 19). In fact, the numbers 23 to 29 inclusive were never used for legions of this period at all – nevertheless, he finds names for them! Because Trajan formed the legions XXX Ulpia and II Traiana, Dando-Collins thinks he must have also created XXIX Ulpia and I Traiana (no he didn't, the 30th was formed because there were already 29 others, and the 2nd Traiana was the second legion he had raised after the 30th!) Other legions such as I Minervia, I Germanica, III Cyrenaica and V Alaudae are not even mentioned. I could go on, but you get the picture. In this one appendix alone, I counted more than 20 factual errors.

His bibliography of sources is hopeless. Most of what is there consists of books that are secondary sources. Some of these are of very dubious worth and are concerned with the Second

World War, while some are even more modern (Schwartzkopf's memoirs?) Nowhere does he quote primary sources or academic papers. There is, for example, no mention of Jan le Bohec's monumental work on the legio III Augusta, or Lawrence Keppie's "The Making of the Roman Army". Even a cursory glance at the latter would have led to him avoiding some of the howlers perpetrated in the above-mentioned appendix.

Works by people like Dando-Collins are a menace. They pretend to be authoritative but do not even approximate to what would be required. I very much doubt that anyone of any competence read through this before it was accepted for publication. The jacket 'blurb' says that the author has spent 'three decades gathering information on the legions of Caesar and the Empire'. Would that he had! Don't waste your money on this one, folks.

—MDT

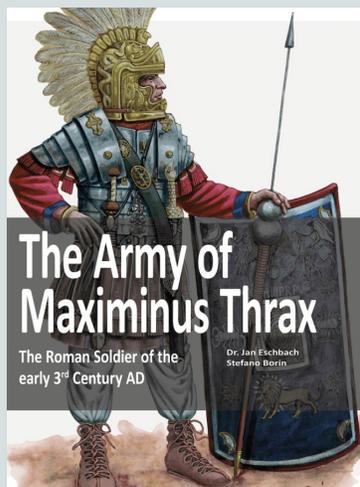


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New on the Shelf

The Army of Maximinus Thrax
The Roman Soldier of the early 3rd Century AD
by Jan Eschbach with illustrations by Stefano Borin 156 pp, Zeughaus Verlag GmbH, Berlin, Germany, 2020

The early 3rd century AD saw the Roman Empire confronted with an increasing number of problems: the northern frontiers shattered under the impact of attacks at the hands of Germanic and Sarmatian tribes, while the Persians ravaged the Eastern provinces almost with impunity. Economic crisis, the effects of the Antonine Plague, endless usurpations and climate change brought the Roman Empire to the verge of collapse. In the year 238 AD, the Emperor



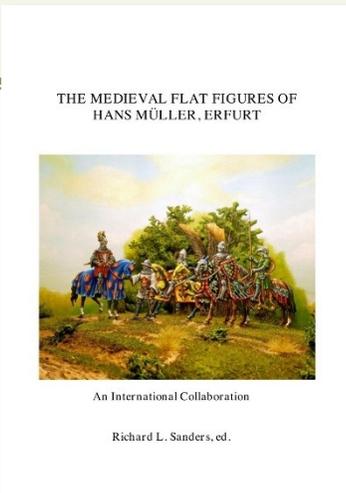
Alexander Severus was murdered at Mainz by his own troops. The accession of his successor Gaius Iulius Verus Maximinus ushered in five decades of inner unrest and enemy incursions, in which emperors in quick succession constantly fought among themselves while desperately trying to stabilize the tottering Empire. The fateful era of the Soldier Emperors had begun. This book seeks to provide a concise overview over organisation, tactics, and equipment of the Roman army at the beginning of this era, and also sheds light on Maximinus' German campaign, in which Rome's army once more ventured deep into unconquered German territory. The discovery of the Harzhorn battlefield has enabled archaeologists and historians to reconstruct a dramatic episode from this dramatic time.

Now in English and Hardcover!
“The Medieval Flat Figures of Hans Müller, Erfurt”

by Richard L. Sanders, et al.

This updated, expanded and hardcover book, now in English, on Hans Mueller’s medieval and Saracen/Ottoman flat figures is expected to be published in July 2021. People who pre-order it can have it mailed once printed or can pick it up at the Saturday 4 September 2021 Zinnfigurentag in Schmalkalden, if the event is held. Due to the high printing and mailing costs, the quantity of books published will be limited and scaled to the number of pre-orders.

Unfortunately the publisher cannot offer a discount for pre-ordering. The limited numbers being printed, maximum of 50 copies, and the hardcover binding necessitate a higher price than for the softcover earlier German edition. Furthermore, anticipated increases in postage rates in June from Germany to the USA and Canada increase the cost for shipping to those countries.



The book will be approximately 180 pages, DIN A4 (8¼ x 11¾ in.), hardcover format, and contain over 600 illustrations including colour photos of all of Hans Mueller’s medieval, Saracen and Ottoman figures that have been painted by 38 collectors from Germany, other European countries and the U.S. It also contains all of the additional, attachable flags for the 1410 Battle of Tannenberg/Grünwald that Mueller produced. All 460-plus figures are presented in their original 30mm scale or larger, many depicting both sides.

Additionally, the photo montages depicting all of the unpainted figures and the tables describing them, which appeared in the Nov 2019-Jun 2020 articles in the Die Zinnfigur magazine and in the German book have been updated and are now in English and contain other additional information. Many new photos of figures and images of the drawings that inspired them have been added.

The publication also has chapters written by Gernot Schlager, Henry Schmidt und Hans Schwahn – experts on the development of medieval armour and the Mueller figures. This book is a valuable reference work for every collector and provides a unique view of some of the most beautiful flats ever produced, and then painted by impressive artists.



Knight painted by Walter Fischer (†)



“Saladin” painted by Henry Schmidt

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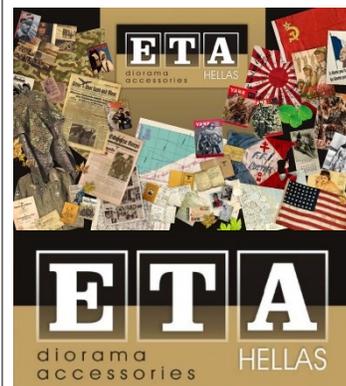
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by David Hoffman



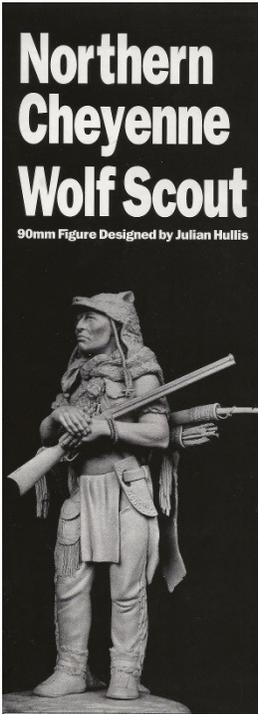
Northern Cheyenne Wolf Scout

Manufacturer: Poste Militaire
Order code: JH90/5
Scale/Size: 90mm
Material: white metal
Designer: Julian Hullis

This is a classic figure by Julian Hullis that I had wanted to do for a very long time. I purchased it about the same time it came out, around the mid-1990s. A favorite that I saw at some national shows, I set it aside initially as I had already seen so many great examples.

This figure was inspired by a painting by the artist James Bama and depicts a Cheyenne scout of the 1870s, contemporary to the time of Custer's "Centennial Campaign" of 1876. A position of high honor appointed by a chief, Wolf Scouts ranged for days at a time looking for buffalo, horse herds, and of course, U.S. troops. Usually, three scouts would travel together so one could always be on watch at night, and if needed one could be sent back to camp with news. When the news was important, the scout would howl like a wolf to alert the camp as he approached.

His headdress and armbands, made of wolf hide, were to give him the power and stealth of the wolf. He wears a necklace of



Northern Cheyenne Wolf Scout

90mm Figure Designed by Julian Hullis

Painting Guide

BODY PAINT: Face, arms and chest white clay, blackened eyes and hands, Red Face, head, nose, cheeks, mouth and chin (see illustration below).

BLACK **RED**
WHITE CLAY

HAIR BRIDS: With silver or brass bells and horn or bone toggles.

LEGGINGS: Natural buckskin - inside of two piece flap at the top of the leggings - coloured red or orange.

SHEATH CUT: Medial horn or diamond cut.

MOCCASINS: Natural buckskin with bead decoration (see 'Beadwork') Heavy felt or fall of wolfskin.

ARMBANDS: Wolfskin.

BELT: Leather.

PLATED LARIAT: Brown/black rawhide.

DEWCLAW NECKLACE: Leather.

SCALP LOCK: Stretched over circular wooden frame with leather thongs and see 'BEADWORK'.

SCALP LOCKS: Glass beads, red/white/blue - alternate or solid colour.

KNIFE: Carved antler handle, red rawhide sheath with brass studs.

MEDICINE BAG: Natural - rawhide with brass studs with bead decoration. See illustration.

(A)

RIFLE: Barrel, hammer, trigger and trigger guard - black steel. Frame and stock end - brass. Wooden stock (can be decorated with brass studs).

SEE ILLUSTRATION (B)

BOW CASE AND QUIVER: Natural buckskin with bead decoration. See illustration (B).

BOW: Wood.

ARROWS: Wooden shaft with flights of hawk feather and iron arrowheads. (Arrowheads should be removed to figure).

BEADWORK: The most common technique used by the Plains Indians, is known as 'beadwork'. Beads were either sewn onto skin strips, which in turn were sewn onto the garment or applied directly. Designs most common to the Cheyenne included right angled triangles or triangles, standing on or hanging from a horizontal bar. Also used were squares and stripes. See illustration (B).

Colours typically used in Cheyenne beadwork were - red, yellow, green, pink, pale blue, dark blue and black. White beads were predominantly used as background colour.

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buffalo teeth and around his torso is the rawhide lariat for catching wild horses. Hanging down from his waist is hair from a scalp that he carries with him so that the scalped person will be unable to kill him in the afterlife. He has blackened eyes and hands to represent the claws and eyes of a wolf. On his face, arms, and chest, he first smeared buffa-



KIT INSPECTION (CONTINUED ...)



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lo or deer fat, then white clay from the riverbanks to represent the white underbelly of the wolf.

As usual for Poste Militaire, the casting and fit was impeccable and true to the painting. Seam lines were minimal and at times hard to detect. The texture on the wolf pelt was nicely done, and the casting of the Henry Rifle was superb, to include the octagonal barrel. A shame that much of the receiver and action are covered by the figure's hands. This one was a lot of fun to paint and research. It contains some of my favorite elements for painting in oils, such as animal skins and lots of leather.

The instructions are informative and well laid out, including placement of the "war paint" and some suggested patterns for the beadwork. There are plenty of resources on the internet for studying wolf skins. There are also many examples of authentic plains tribe beadwork, quivers, bows, and other artifacts which can be found online.

After applying an acrylic basecoat, I painted the rest of the figure in oils. On the figure's exposed skin I painted rudimentary flesh tones with shadow and highlights, knowing this would be mostly covered later. After this dried, I used Winsor Newton Flake White for the face and body, as I thought this gave a good representation of the white clay that was used as war paint. Flake White is a "stiff" somewhat transparent paint, and you can add texture with it. It also dries matte. Early European masters used it as a foundation before Titanium White came along, which I



normally use for its stronger opacity. Flake White, as a lead-based paint, is toxic. W&N does carry a Flake White Hue paint without lead which is safe to work with.

Although the rifle was amazingly detailed, it had no brass tacks on the stock, so not quite true to the original painting and some surviving examples and pictures. After trying various ideas with no success, I simply applied some "tacks" with drops of Jo Sonja's Gold Gouache. Settling the rifle in a comfortable, balanced grip with the hands was a challenge but it fits easily even after assembling the arms and was easy to adjust. The kit came with individual arrows to paint which you had to snip off the arrow heads before putting them in the quiver. The wolf skin I painted in several stages, first doing the basic coat, adding the darker portions working inwards. After drying I applied a dark sepia wash and did some highlighting. I have to say that the sharp relief detail was murder on my brushes. The beadwork patterns were drawn from some examples on the internet, I then again used a wash to better define the individual beads present in the sculpting.

Finally, I used a very nice base from John Jefferies of Birch Tree Enterprises that matched the terrain and complemented the figure. —DH



PRIVATE JOSEPH PLUMB MARTIN

By Kevin Bukowski

(from [Buk's Historical Ad Hockery](#), June 29, 2021)

A special thanks to **Bob Huettner** for suggesting we feature his friend Kevin Bukowski, who has graciously allowed us to reprint his writings.

Please note: The following text is reprinted here in full with no additions (unless noted) or corrections. Any questions or comments should be directed to Mr. Bukowski on his blog [Buk's Historical Ad Hockery](#).

Photos were added by The Dispatch and not included in the original article.

Joseph Plumb Martin was the son of a Massachusetts reverend and was sent to live with his grandparents in Connecticut after the Battles of Lexington and Concord. In June 1776, he threatened to join the crew of a American privateer out of Hartford if his grandparents didn't allow him to join the Continental Army which just arrived in New York to defend against the inevitable British invasion there. His grandparents relented and on 29 June 1776, the 16 year old joined the Connecticut State Troops, and almost immediately was recruited into the 8th Connecticut Continental Line. He



Grave monument of Joseph Plumb Martin, Sandy Point Cemetery, Sandy Point, Maine. Photo by Robert Carver Brooks

wouldn't see his grandparents again until 1783.

Pvt Martin fought in every major battle from Long Island to Yorktown. He crossed the Delaware and surprised the Hessians at Trenton and was promoted to

corporal in early 1777. He froze his ass off at Valley Forge and after MG Sullivan's Iroquois campaign in 1779 was promoted to sergeant. He stayed a sergeant for the rest of the war and was present when LTG Washington disbanded the Continental Army in 1783.

What set Martin apart from the thousands of other Continental Army soldiers was that he kept a diary nearly every day of the war. Many officers at the time kept journals but few soldiers could read and write. Martin's journal provides a nearly unique view into a soldier's life in the Continental Army and its operations. He rarely mentions any officers above his company commander and mentions George Washington only once: when Washington once returned his salute while on guard duty.

The diary is a nearly unique look into the daily life of an American soldier in the Continental Line. Martin's diary is definitive proof that some things never change and Joe will be Joe no matter the time period.



Joseph Plumb Martin and wife, Lucy Clewley Martin, later in life in 19th century portrait painting, date unknown (from [Wikipedia](#))



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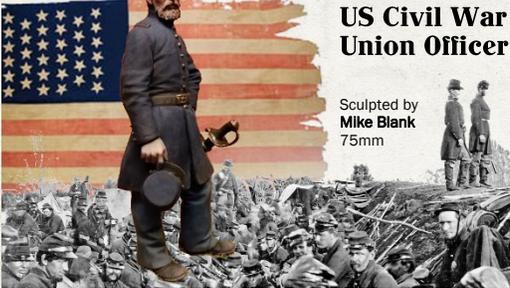
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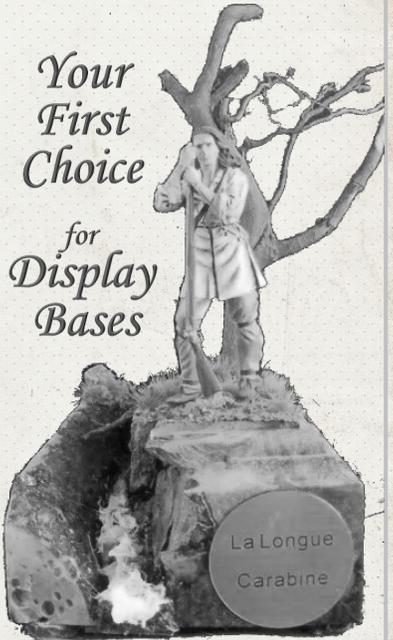
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[NCMSS](https://www.facebook.com/NCMSS)



Counterpane Gallery of Toys

B. Graver
www.counterpanegallery.com
countRpane@aol.com

Buy & Sell Old Toys, Trains & Toy Soldiers
P.O. Box 6323 / Store: 250 W. Broad St. Shop: 703-241-9642
Falls Church, VA 22046 V/Fax: 703-536-3064

S&J Hobbies

ebagnoli@aol.com

Advertising Policy

The Dispatch does not accept paid advertising; but will accept, without obligation and on a "first come-first served" + space available contingency, business cards or ads for miniature, toy soldier, plastic model and similar shows submitted by **NCMSS** members of other clubs, associations, or businesses that the **NCMSS** has an association with.

Ads for shows must be submitted by the 15th of the month for a show scheduled for the following month. Business cards may be submitted for continuous running, subject to space availability. Members may also submit sale/want ads as desired. Ads or business cards in compliance with this policy and printed in *The Dispatch* do not represent an official endorsement by the **NCMSS**; nor does **NCMSS** endorse specific shows or vendors.

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National Capital Model Soldier Society (NCMSS)

2021 Membership Application / Renewal

Please PRINT Information Legibly & Clearly

If **renewing** membership and there is **NO CHANGE** in information from the previous year, simply print your "**NAME**" on the **Name** line and print "**SAME**" on the **Address** line of this form.

Date: _____ New Member: _____ -or- Renewal: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (C) _____ (W) _____

Email _____

NOTE: Newsletter will be provided **ONLY** in electronic digital format as an attachment via email

Figure Modeling Interests: (tell us what historical era -or- special genre you particularly enjoy modeling or collecting)

Annual dues of \$20 are payable to **NCMSS**. Send check or money order and this form to:
Darci Dickens-Hoffman (Paymaster), 17720 Mill Creek Dr. Derwood, MD 20855

NOTE: information on this form will be included in the **2021 NCMSS Membership Roster**

For internal paymaster's use only:
Payment rec'd by: _____ Date payment rec'd: _____ cash: ___ (or) check #: _____