



# THE DISPATCH

April 2020, Vol. 59, Issue 4

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## MEETING NOTICE

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak the NCMSS is currently exploring online methods of holding our next meeting.

Check your e-mail inbox for details soon!



## COMMANDER'S CALL

### Greetings Team NCMSS!

Hope everyone is staying healthy and leveraging the lock down time to get some building and painting done. Sometimes I feel like I am working longer hours from home than I did going in to work everyday. Oh well, we'll all have to figure out this new normal soon enough.

A quick review of the calendar shows that we are a little over four months out from what will be an epic 59th Annual show. At the rate we are going our show will be one of the first and few in 2020. I am going to work with Dave on a key milestone and task list and then schedule a series of Zoom planning meetings so we can start knocking down targets. More to follow, stay tuned!

I don't know about you all, but I was really looking

forward to the **Arsenal of Democracy Flyover** that was scheduled for 8 May 2020 over DC. It was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. This years flyover was to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (V-E) Day (May 8, 1945). Great way to honor this historic anniversary and pay homage to those who served on the frontlines and on the home front during World War II. The [Arsenal of Democracy site](#) is worth checking out. There are a number of videos on you tube from previous fly overs. Also, if you haven't seen it, watch [Winston Churchill announce the end of WWII](#).

I really encourage you all to participate in our virtual monthly meetings we had a blast during last months Zoom meeting. Glad to see that you all are staying busy

and getting art work done, thanks for sharing them during the virtual parade ground. Also feel free to invite potential members to the Zoom meeting, a great way to recruit new teammates.

Please continue to stay in touch with each other and do morale checks with those you have not talked to in a while.

Hope to see you all at the next Virtual Club Meeting.



Stay healthy and PAINT ON!  
**Burt**

## SHOW UPDATE!

You've probably noticed all of the cancelled and rescheduled hobby events since the beginning of the current pandemic. As of the date of this publication the NCMSS 59th Annual Washington Show is still scheduled for September 26, 2020.

For current show news, you can visit our club website at [NCMSSClub.org](http://NCMSSClub.org). We will also post updates to our [Facebook page](#). We're working hard to make each year's show better than the last. If you would like to be part of one of the premier figure shows on the east coast, get in touch with us! We look forward to working with you as a member of the team.

David Hoffman  
NCMSS Adjutant



**March/April  
MOTM  
“Mug-of-the-Month”**



**COVID-19**  
by National Institutes  
of Health



**CLUB NEWS**  
**MEETING MINUTES — April 22, 2020**



The NCMSS had its first “Virtual” Club Meeting on April 22. Owing to the fact that our regular “in person” meetings are on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions, Nick Strocchia obtained the Zoom hosting application to give the club a virtual meeting place. (Thank you Nick!) Stay tuned for further information on how Zoom works. Zoom meetings are popular right now and easy to use. **Join us on May 27 at our next one!**

**Call to Order**  
[19:50]

The meeting started a little later as members were gradually admitted to the group and chatted amongst themselves. The meeting had no real structured agenda, with no old/new business discussed other than saying hello to everyone. The meeting was very informal in nature and a few toasts were shared, as no one needed to drive anywhere! Participation was great and on par with our normal meetings, not to mention that we had some of our more remote members that can’t normally attend join us. This included members from southern Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and the United Kingdom!

Although there may have been a couple glitches here and there, I think everyone had a good time and hope to see more at our next one, which will be on our usual fourth Wednesday, May 27. We will send a link as the date gets closer and really appreciate Nick facilitating this.

There was some discussion of the recent Red Lancer Auction, as many members won bids on a lot of fine figure kits, (including your humble *Dispatch* editor). James Pratt made the trip up to Pennsylvania and came away with some nice painted figures from Chuck Robinson’s large collection as well. James noted there will be a second auction with Chuck’s display cases and additional lots in the future. We all miss Chuck and wish his family the best. The family appreciated everyone’s support and posted a nice thank you on the MFCA Facebook page.

**Parade Ground**  
[2000-2015]

David Hoffman presented a Parade Ground Powerpoint based on the many submissions sent to him via e mail and posted on the NCMSS Facebook Page. Participants included Jim Richey,



Mike Thomas, Zacharia Becker, Jim Evans, Michael Pierce, Scotte Turner, Nick Strocchia, David Hoffman, Darci Hoffman, Burt Thompson, Robert Huettner, and Rick Sanders

Directly after the Parade Ground Presentation members showed some views of their home work areas and gave updates on current projects. Another advantage of the new medium, as all were invited into the homes and work areas of their friends. This is something we can continue in future meetings!

**Monthly Presentation**  
[20:15-21:00]

Nick Strocchia gave an excellent presentation on Air Brushing and offered to provide more information, both individually and to the club as a whole. It certainly inspired me!

**Conclusion**  
[21:15]

After more informal conversation, including commentary on Norb’s hat, the meeting adjourned.

**Attendees**

Norb Lustine, Robert Prokop, Nick Strocchia, Rick Sanders, Zacharia Becker, Darla Yaun, Warren Yaun, David Hoffman, Darci Hoffman, Peter Espada, Burt Thompson, James Richey, Tim Stormer, Mike Thomas, Gerard Joria, Scotte Turner, David Luff, James Pratt, Brian Ford.

Submitted by David Hoffman,  
NCMSS Adjutant  
<[bpchasseur@comcast.net](mailto:bpchasseur@comcast.net)>  
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## The National Capital Model Soldier Society

Member benefits include:

- \* Friendly monthly meetings where we share our knowledge of history, painting, and modeling
- \* Monthly guest speakers
- \* Painter's Club—An opportunity to get together with other painters to share tips and techniques
- \* Monthly *Dispatch* newsletter
- \* The NCMSS Washington Show
- \* Affordable dues

What are you waiting for?

**Welcome to the club!**



# EVENTS AND PLACES



## Grant Three-Night Miniseries Event Premieres **May 25, Memorial Day**, at 9:00pm Eastern time on the History Channel.

About the Series  
At the time of his death, Ulysses S. Grant was the most famous man in the world and stood alongside men like George Washington and Abraham Lincoln in the pantheon of American heroes. However, today Ulysses S. Grant is largely forgotten, his rightful legacy tarnished by a fog of myth, rumor and falsehood.

Grant tells the remarkable and quintessentially American story of a humble man who overcomes incredible

obstacles, rises to the highest ranks of power and saves the nation not once, but twice. With a seamless blend of dramatic scenes, expert commentary and beautifully enhanced archival imagery, this three-part miniseries uncovers the true legacy of the unlikely hero who led the nation during its greatest tests: the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Born into a humble family of abolitionists, Ulysses S. Grant was never destined for greatness. At a time when the nation is being ripped apart over the issue of slavery, Grant marries into a slave-holding family and is forced to confront his own feelings

about equality. As the country falls apart around him, Grant bounces from job to job, at one point selling firewood on the streets to buy food for his family. Just a few years later, this quiet, unassuming man is in command of a million men, and it is his ingenious strategy and bulldog determination that wins the Civil War, reunifies the Nation and helps bring freedom to 4 million former slaves.

Widely regarded as the greatest general of his generation, Grant is called to duty again to serve as president. In the face of huge obstacles, Grant reunifies a fractured nation, battles the KKK and emerges as a champion of civil rights and equality for all Americans. Grant's meteoric rise is one of the unlikely stories in American history, but it wasn't luck, it didn't just happen by accident and it wasn't easy. With gritty depictions of brutal battles, risky gambles, crushing setbacks and triumphant victories, Grant will take the viewer inside the moments that defined Grant and forever changed our nation.

## The Joy of Painting The Official Youtube Channel of Bob Ross

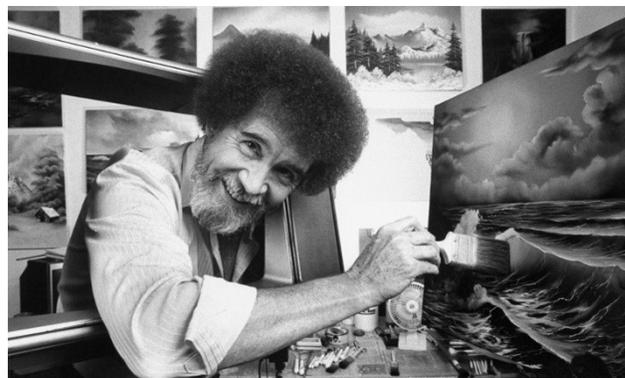
All 31 seasons are currently **FREE online HERE!**

You've see Bob Ross before. He is the soft-spoken guy painting happy clouds, mountains, and trees in about 26 television minutes, using big house painting-type brushes and encouraging audiences with his gentle reminder, "you can do it." The Joy of Painting is a half-hour instructional television show hosted by painter Bob Ross which ran from January 11, 1983, until May 17, 1994. In each episode, Ross taught techniques for landscape oil painting, completing a painting in each session.

The Joy of Painting has been a cult-favourite since its origins. Despite passing away nearly two-decades ago, the demigod of pop-culture's popularity seems to only be increasing over the years.

If you're stuck at home, what better time to indulge in

the Joy of Painting than now? You can grab your brushes and let Bob smoothly guide you through one of his stunning scenic works, or you can just pop in your headphones and do some light meditation while listening his dulcet tones.



# EVENTS AND PLACES (Continued...)

## Bridging the Gundam Community Within IPMS—ODO Wrap Up

“Please join me as I talk about how we’re making great Gundam inroads with the IPMS crowd through one of

the biggest hobby competitions on the East Coast, The

Old Dominion Open hosted by the IPMS Rich-



mond chapter.”—Nick S.

Click the link to check out Nick’s [Macho Modelz Youtube Channel](#) for more great content.

## Listening to Paint Dry with Mike and Dan Podcast

NCMSS member Mike Dutcher is not only an accomplished painter, he’s producing his own fun & informative modeling podcast! Click the episode title to listen.



## EPISODE 2: What has changed

“This week we talk about what has

changed in the hobby over the course of the past 20 plus years. We also have an excellent interview with none other than Uncle Atom from Tabletop Minions. You can find him on YouTube, Instagram and Facebook at Tabletop Minions.”—Mike D.

LEAS CLIFF HALL FOLKESTONE  
SEPTEMBER 19TH-20TH 2020

Keep in touch with all news leading up to the show on our Facebook page

# HOBBY CALENDAR 2020

- MAY**
  - May 1-2 — [NorEastCon49 IPMS, Latham, NY](#) — **POSTPONED until Oct 2-3**
  - May 2-3 — [Great Scale Model Train & RR Collectors Show Timonium, MD](#) \***CANCELLED**
  - May 7-9 — [AMPS 2020 Intl. Convention Camp Hill, PA](#) - **POSTPONED until Sept 24-26**
  - May 9 — [The Mid-Atlantic NNL Model Car Show MAMA, \\*CANCELLED](#)
  - May 16-17 — [Maritime Model Expo W. Ship Model Soc, St. Michaels, MD](#) \***CANCELLED**
  - May 30-31 — [WonderFest 2020 Louisville, KY](#) - **POSTPONED until Oct 24-25**
- JUN**
  - Jun 6 — [MarauderCon2020 IPMS Balt/Wash, MD](#) — **POSTPONED until Oct 3**
  - Jun 12-13 — [StellaCon 2020 Michigan Toy Soldier Co., Royal Oak, MI](#)
  - Jun 13 — [ScottCon 2020 IPMS Gen. Robert L Scott, Robins AFB, GA](#) \***CANCELLED**
- JUL**
  - Jul 3-5 — [World Model Expo 2020 Veldhoven, The Netherlands](#) \***CANCELLED**
  - Jul 8-12 — [HMGS Historicon National War Gaming Show Lancaster, PA](#) \***CANCELLED**
  - Jul 29-Aug 1 — [IPMS National Convention San Marcos, TX](#)
- AUG**
  - Aug 4-6 — [HobbyTown National Convention 2020 Lincoln, NE](#)
  - Aug 22 — [MosquitoCon 29 New Jersey IPMS, Wayne, NJ](#) \***NEW DATE**
- SEPT**
  - Sept 2-6 — [NOVA Open 2020 Tabletop Wargaming Convention, Crystal City, VA](#)
  - Sept 11-13 — [JerseyFest Model Kit & Statue Fair Newark, NJ](#)
  - Sept 19-20 — [Euro Miniature Expo 2020 Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, Kent, UK](#)
  - Sept 24-26 — [AMPS 2020 Intl. Convention Camp Hill, PA](#) - \***NEW DATE**
  - Sept 26 — [NCMSS 59th Annual Washington Show Alexandria, VA](#)
- OCT**
  - Oct 2-3 — [NorEastCon49 IPMS Niagara Frontier, Latham, NY](#) — \***NEW DATE**
  - Oct 3 — [MarauderCon2020 IPMS Baltimore/Washington, MD](#) — \***NEW DATE**
  - Oct 9-10 — [MMSI Chicago Show Military Miniature Society of Illinois, Chicago, IL](#)
  - Oct 24-25 — [Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show Timonium, MD](#)
  - Oct 24-25 — [WonderFest 2020 Louisville, KY](#) \***NEW DATE**
- NOV**
  - Nov 6-7 — [23rd International Paper Modelers Convention Sterling, VA](#)
  - (TBD) Nov — [LIMMS Long Island Miniature Collectors Society, Freeport, NY](#)

**National Capital Model Soldier Society**  
**59th ANNUAL SHOW**

**NEW DATE!**  
SAME GREAT PLACE  
SPRINGFIELD HILTON  
6390 Leisdale Rd, Springfield, VA

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020  
Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE**

- Hobby Vendors
- Raffles
- Gundam Build Tables!
- Trophies and sponsored awards
- FREE Professional Photography
- Hobby Club Exhibits!

For details visit [www.NCMSSclub.org](#)



**WORLD MODEL EXPO 2020**

3-4-5  
**JULY 2020**

AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF MODEL BUILDERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD  
THE NETHERLANDS

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

# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## VIRTUAL STAY-AT-HOME EDITION



**April 2020**

### Parade Ground Participants

Jim Richey, Mike Thomas,  
Zacharia Becker, Jim Evans,  
Michael Pierce, Scotte Turner,  
Nick Strocchia, David Hoffman,  
Darci Hoffman, Burt  
Thompson, Robert Huettner,  
Rick Sanders

### April “Mug-of-the-Month”

### WINNER



“COVID-19”

by National Institutes of Health

Due to current circumstances with the Corona Virus, the club decided to have a “virtual” Parade Ground where members could submit their current projects via e mail to myself at [bpchasseur@comcast.net](mailto:bpchasseur@comcast.net) or post on the NCMSS Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NCMSSclub.org>

The response was great and we were able to present these in a PowerPoint during our Zoom meeting April 24. Each participant was able to describe their work in detail, including from some of our remote members that can’t always attend.

One disadvantage was that I was not able to take copious notes during the meeting so I am dependent on your written input to submit here. Looking forward to doing it again in May, Keep your contributions coming!

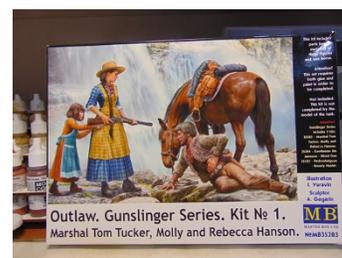
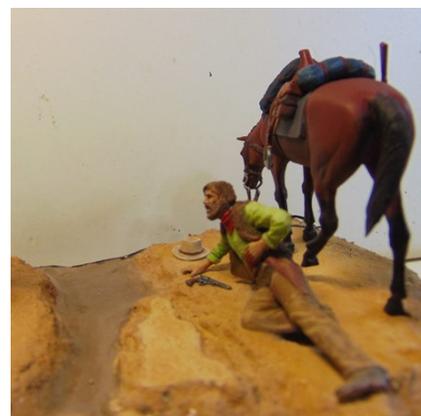


# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## JIM RICHEY

Jim posted a series of photos on the NCMSS Facebook Page of his progress on his Legends & Lore's General Buford of Gettysburg and Indian Wars fame. One can hear the signature growl of Sam Elliott talking about the "high ground" looking at this fine rendition. As usual for Jim painted in acrylics.

Jim also completed another MB Models kit, in this case from their Outlaw and Gunslinger Series. Marshal Tom Tucker lays on the ground gravely wounded while Molly and Rebecca Hanson look over him. It begs the question, did she shoot him? If so, why?



☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

MIKE THOMAS



The Emperor Constantine the Great



This chap is Caracalla, somewhat of a thug. He murdered his brother, for starters.

It was a real pleasure to have our long-time member and contributor from Wales join us Mike has been busy catching up on the 'personality' figures from Alexandros. These particular ones are of Nero, Augustus, Constantine, Gaius Pompeius Magnus & Caracalla.

A message Mike posted on FB:

“Greetings from Wales! Just gone through 3 weeks of isolation - OK so far, if somewhat bored. I'm taking this opportunity to send my best wishes and greetings to all of you. I've painted more figures in the last two weeks than I've managed in the past two years - so silver lining there somewhere. As soon as I can get around to taking some photos, I'll paste them up here. Meanwhile - stay safe and keep those brushes wet.”

—Mike T.



Gaius Pompeius Magnus - "Pompey the Great". Consul of Rome and victor over the Mediterranean pirates.



Princeps Augustus. This figure is modelled on a real statue, known as the Prima Porta. The ornate cuirass depicts the return of the eagles lost under Crassus in his Parthian campaign.



The Emperor Nero. And yes, he was blonde. His last words are reported to have been "What an artist the world is losing in me!"

# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## MIKE THOMAS (CONTINUED...)

“Here’s my take on the Onager kit, initially assembled and undercoated and then almost finished. I still have to add one or two bits and pieces and then some ‘weathering.’

This is the finished contraption. I decided to paint one of the timbers as though it was new and had been replaced, just for a bit more visual interest. The terracotta jar is not a part of the kit but came from the spares box.” —MT



“This is a group of four figures that I have been working on for a few weeks. They are all by Laruccia and depict the soldiers of the Marcomannic Wars during the reign of Marcus Aurelius (161-180 AD).”

“I love the detail that Laruccia gets into his figures. Look how the bottom of the guy’s tunic is ragged! That’s quality modelling.” —MT



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## ZACH BECKER



"Working on bunches of stuff. Here is latest Konflikt '47 diorama I just completed...more to come."



"My latest...still in progress. Using a combo of oils and acrylic. Haven't touched oils in years...feels weird."



"Picked this up already assembled at the New York show. I believe it's an Andrea figure but could be wrong. Painted this one with acrylics."

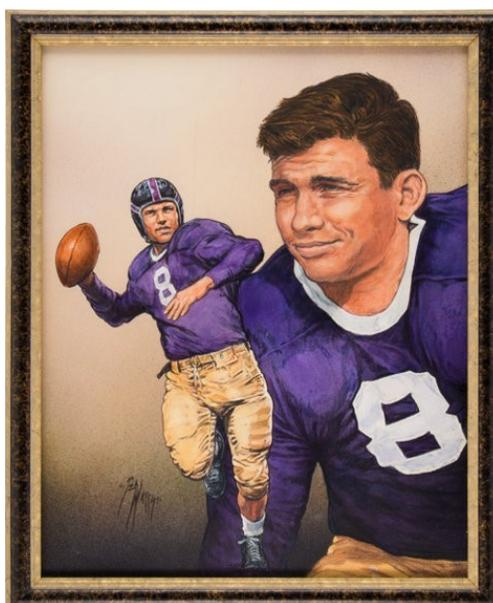
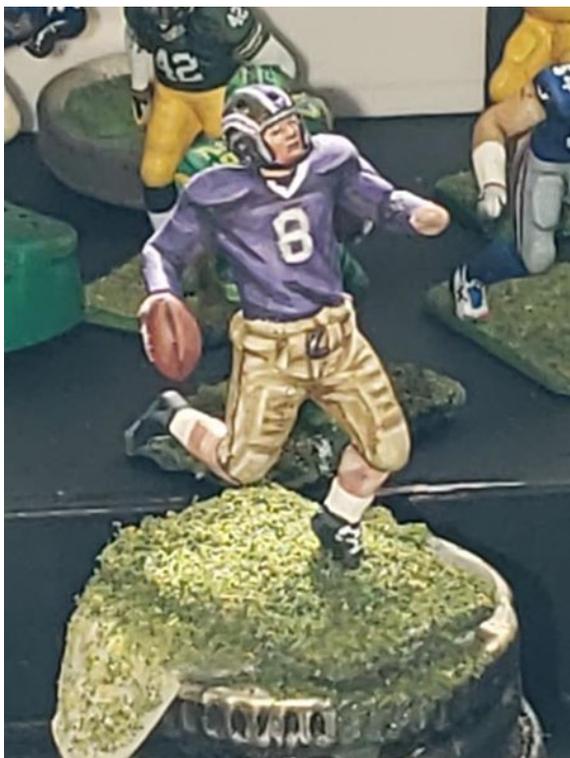


"Finished this #wyrminiatures "Marlena Webster". Used all acrylics and acrylic gloss to make the drool."

# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## SCOTTE TURNER

Scotte has been working on some commissions lately. This one of Davey O'Brien, the 1938 winner of the Heisman Trophy, is his most recent. .  
As always, great conversion work and painting!



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## JIM EVANS

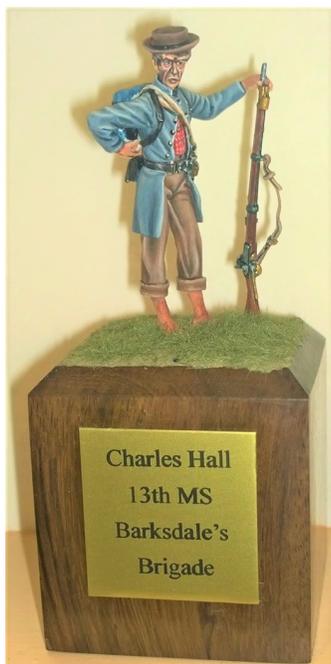
Jim, who doesn't often get the chance to attend meetings, submitted two nicely done pieces: "Warlord Kong" from Scalebro Miniatures in 40mm, painted in acrylics and Wehrmacht Machine Gunner, 1941 by Young Miniatures.



## MICHAEL PIERCE

Mike submitted a Michael Roberts figure sculpted many years ago by Gary Dombrowski. Nicely painted with Vallejo Acrylics.

The figure is a gift to Bud Hall, who has done much to preserve historical sites locally (Culpepper, Virginia) and nationally. The figure represents Charles Hall, Bud's relative who fought in the Civil War.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## NICK STROCCHIA

“Just a WIP, it's a total mess right now and I'll have to do a ton of weathering to make this look decent. Regardless, I'm having fun and experimenting with new stuff!” —Nick S.



*Note: This piece has since been completed since our meeting, stay tuned or visit [MachoModels](#) on Facebook to check it out.*

## DARCI HOFFMAN

Work in progress of Pegasus's Dragonslayer kit in 1/32 Scale (dry fit of the dragon).

“This will some day be a shadowbox cave scene with a dragon and two characters: an archer and a female warrior. I am replacing the kit figure and designed a new warrior character using HeroForge. With the dragon in front of her, she's looking backward at her archer. The archer character was also designed with HeroForge. He'll be positioned in the foreground of the vignette.” — Darci H.



## ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## DAVID HOFFMAN

“My Roman Decurion, 3rd Century is finished. It is a Pegaso 90mm figure sculpted by Viktor Konnov, one of my favorites for sculpting beautiful horses and interesting figures.

It is painted in oils with GS Mr. Metal and Vallejo for the armor, etc. I painted the shield from a template I made with tracing paper. The groundcover is AK Interactive Dusty Earth and has a Bayardi log, along with assorted shrubs, etc.”—David H.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## BURT THOMPSON

“Desert SAS scene. SAS in North Africa, 1/35 scale - this is a work in progress where I focused on water, vegetation and date palm trees that are all scratch! Also focused on sand and sand colors tones and shades! More work to do to include loading up the jeep with stuff and hope to get it done soon!”—Burt T.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## BURT THOMPSON (CONTINUED...)



Burt described this work in progress as a “Huge bust of a Cornicen de la IV Legion!” Editor’s Note: This was a limited edition bust of which only 50 were made. What a great find!

“A little fun in the jungle! Still working on my jungle dio in 1:35th scale.”

—Burt T.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## ROBERT HUETTNER

Templar Sergeant at Arms Bust, in acrylics. It's a 1/10 scale resin and white metal bust from Andrea *After the Battle*, c1250. Bob says he picked it up at the Richmond show. Great work as usual! The realistic detailing on the leather is particularly impressive.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## RICK SANDERS

"I recently completed this diorama which I guess I'd call "The 1st Crusade." I purchased most of the figures in August 1981! And now, 29 years later, I have finally gotten around to painting them and getting them into a diorama. The figures are 30mm flats by Fritz Menz in a series called "Leitersturm" meaning 'storming on ladders', and it included both the crusaders and the Saracens. I think the figures were originally produced in the 1960s. The castle/fort and the groundwork are made of Celluclay, painted with acrylics. The figures are all done in oils.

The diorama box itself was originally intended for just these figures and is made of 3/4" wood with a masonite back, glass pane and opaque plastic top. The interior measures 16" wide, 6 1/2" deep and 8" high. It wound up being much heavier than I'd intended, so as time went by, I decided to make it "multi-purpose." The base the figures and structure are attached to is a thin piece of masonite and it is not affixed to the "box" but can be slid out when the screws holding the upper front cross bar and glass are removed. Instead of nails or glue, I used a system of screws that can be removed to accomplish that as well as being able to switch out the back which is obviously just painted sky blue. I gessoed and painted the inside bottom of the box in a color that matches the color I use for the bases of my flats, so I can remove the Crusader scene and either insert another masonite-mounted diorama or just temporarily put other flats in it to display them."

—Rick S.

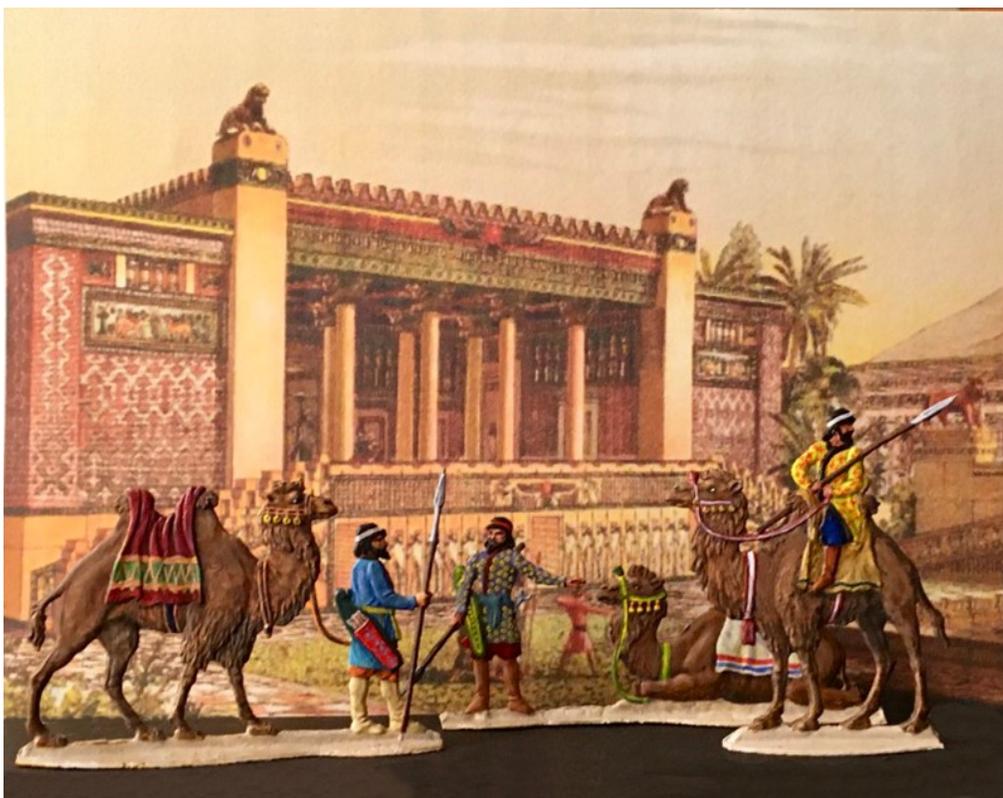


# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

## RICK SANDERS (CONTINUED...)

“Persian camel cavalry from the Sake tribes of eastern Persia, 600-300 BC. These 30mm flats were produced in the 1950s by Alfred Retter based on drawings from Ludwig Madlener and the slate moulds were engraved by Ludwig Frank. The latter two men were, and by some collectors are still, considered to be among if not the best illustrator and engraver to have lived.

I got the figures many years ago from a good friend, Dr. Wolfgang Weiss, who for many years was the president of the national-level German flat figure club KLIO. Dr. Weiss is known for his collection of beautifully painted ancients. I've had these figures in the works literally for years and felt compelled to finish them. They were done with oils and will go into a shadow box with the background from Babylon; I could not find a suitable illustration of Persepolis, but would welcome one if anyone can find one for me.”—Rick S.



# ☆☆☆ PARADE GROUND ☆☆☆

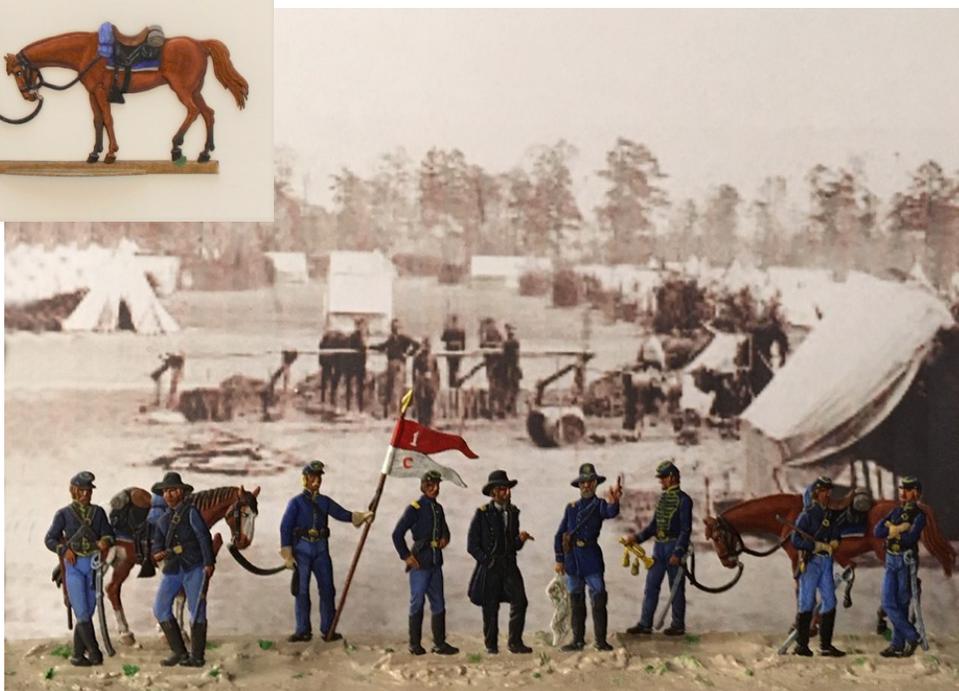
## RICK SANDERS (CONTINUED...)



“The Union staff with U.S. Grant and cavalry figures is by the producer Zinnfiguren Wolfgang Bock, who has an extensive selection of American Civil War figures. The web site is <http://www.zinnfiguren-bock.de> and is available in English.

I build the figures into a shadowbox as a gift for one of my sisters who is very interested in the Civil War. They are 30mm flats, painted by me with oils.”

—Rick S.



# THE 100-YEAR-OLD WHO RAISED \$40 MILLION FOR U.K. HEALTH WORKERS

A special thank you to U.K. member **Robin J. Howard** for suggesting we spotlight Captain Tom in this issue of *The Dispatch*.

You know you've arrived when you finally get your own [Wikipedia entry](#) and land on the pages of the New York Times.

Thomas Moore (born 30 April 1920), popularly known as Captain Tom, is a former British Army officer known for his achievements raising money for walking laps around his garden to raise money for first responders of the COVID-19 pandemic at 100 years of age.

According to the story in the [New York Times](#), Tom Moore is a decorated British Army officer from World War II, who is "charming, droll and confoundingly energetic." At 99 he was mowing the lawn, tending a greenhouse and driving his own car. "When he fell and broke his hip 18 months ago, he bought a treadmill to speed up the rehabilitation."

In an effort to help motivate him to stay active, Moore's daughter Hannah and son-in-law Colin gave him a challenge. Colin pledged a pound per lap if Moore completed 100 laps of his garden before his birthday. The family set up a page with the Just-Giving online charity service,



Captain Thomas Moore from his "Justgiving.com" page on April 17, 2020 as he makes the final lap around his garden to raise funds for U.K. health workers fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

in an effort to help raise some extra funds for the National Health Service, which was then girding itself for an influx of coronavirus patients.

The NYT story goes on to say, 'By the time the BBC, CNN, NBC and Al Jazeera had finished broadcasting pictures of Mr. Moore ambling up and down next to his garden — hands gripping his walker, military medals gleaming on his natty blue blazer — his campaign had raised £32.8 million, or \$40 million, for the N.H.S. Prince William, who kicked in his own unspecified donation, called him a "one-man fund-raising machine."'

BBC News posted a [recap of Moore's birthday celebration](#), which included

"flypasts" by the Royal Air Force, a message from the Prime Minister, and Moore's promotion to honorary colonel. According to the BBC article, the Chief of the General Staff who made the appointment, said Captain Tom's "mature wisdom, no-nonsense attitude and humour in adversity make him an inspirational role model to generations". Moore said he was "very moved" by the honour. Said Moore, "I'm still Captain Tom, that's who I really am but if people choose to call me colonel, well, thank you very much." Moore was also presented with a replacement World War Two Defence Medal ahead of next week's VE Day celebrations. —DH



Screen shot from the BBC video of a Spitfire and Hurricane from the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, based at RAF Coningsby, which made three passes of his house, marking Captain Tom Moore's 100th birthday.



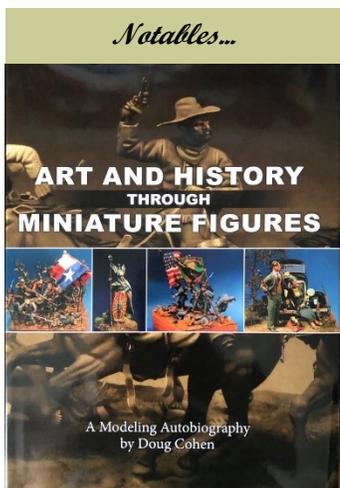
Picture from the Daily Mirror UK article "[The Heroic True Story of Captain Tom Moore](#)".



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Written by **Doug Cohen**  
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# WORTHY READS

FROM THE HOFFMAN FAMILY LIBRARY

## Napoleon's Army 1790-1815

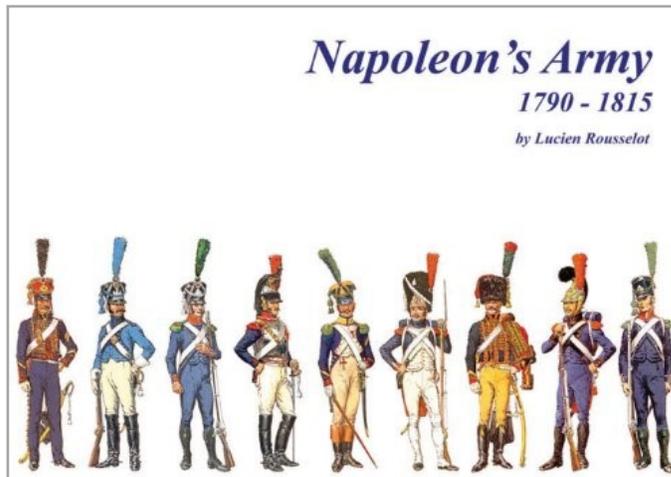
By **Lucien Rousselot**, 389pps, Andrea Press, Madrid, Spain 2012, Hardcover (translated from the original French)



**Lucien Rousselot (1900-1992)**  
Appointed Painter for the French Army in 1960

In the Prologue of this deluxe English edition (which includes two classy ribbon bookmarks) General (2s) Michel Hanotaux says of the book, "*Oh no, not another book about Napoleon's army!*" *This is what, at first sight, anybody browsing through the pages of this book with a view of purchasing it might say. There is today, without doubt, a consensus of opinion that nothing is more superfluous than the release of yet another book about Napoleon's army. However, for any connoisseur of the genre, just the author's name leaves little doubt about the subject's relevance. This particular tome is a study of the army of the first French emperor, covering the splendid uniforms and the equipment and accessories. All are fully dissected and finally presented by an illustrator, artist and author who stands head and shoulders above all others, Lucien Rousselot...*"

The publisher describes Lucien Rousselot as "one of the world's most important military artists as he played a foremost role in establishing uniformology as a true science." Rousselot was born May 4, 1900 in Saint-Germain-sous-Doue, France. The 1871 military defeat by Prussia was still very present



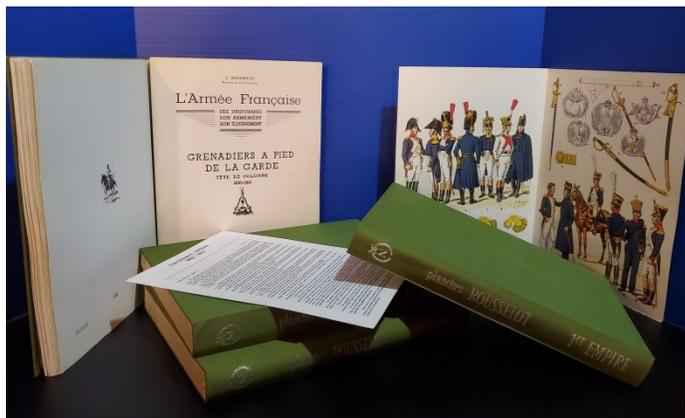
in the psyche of the French people at the time. The publisher notes, "After all, it had not been so long since the French army under Napoleon I had not only enthralled and amazed the world but also

*"Oh no, not another book about Napoleon's army!"*

stood astride the whole of Europe. Indeed, triumphant armies marched down the avenues of Paris to the delight of enormous crowds." Obviously, Rousselot was inspired as an artist to document France's martial past.

Rousselot received artistic training at the renowned School of Decorative Arts in Paris while plunging at the same time into the study of the classic military illustrators. "Rousselot's immense talent," notes the publisher, "was equaled only by his innate modesty and intense dedication to his work that was developed in the most difficult times until it crystallized in the marvelous watercolours and the exacting narrative presented in this publication."

I originally got into the figure painting world with a focus on the Napoleonic period, working first with 54mm Historex and later on the larger Almond and Poste Militaire figures. Due to the complexity



My incomplete collection of Rousselot plates. The decorative boxes were purchased separately.

# WORTHY READS - NAPOLEON'S ARMY (CONT...)



On the left, a loose-leaf Rousselot plate from my collection compared to the same subject (including descriptive text) in the new bound edition.

and variety of Napoleonic uniforms, good references are a must. Consequently, over the past 35 years I've been collecting Rousselot plates, which are still one of the best and most complete references available. While I've been able to obtain many of his plates, I've never been able to put together a complete set, which this book delivers in full color.

While I've kept my collection of individual plates well organized, they are cumbersome to use since I do not have my collection indexed. While I'm very familiar with French uniform terms, much of my plate collection is in French, which I can neither speak nor write. It's gratifying for me to have all of Rousselot's artwork on the subject complete with all his notes in one handy easy-to-access translated volume. The book even comes with a one-page comprehensive chart of French uniform col-

ors. In my opinion *Napoleon's Army 1790-1815* is indispensable for any serious student of the arms, equipment, and uniforms of Napoleon's *Grande Armée*.

—David H.



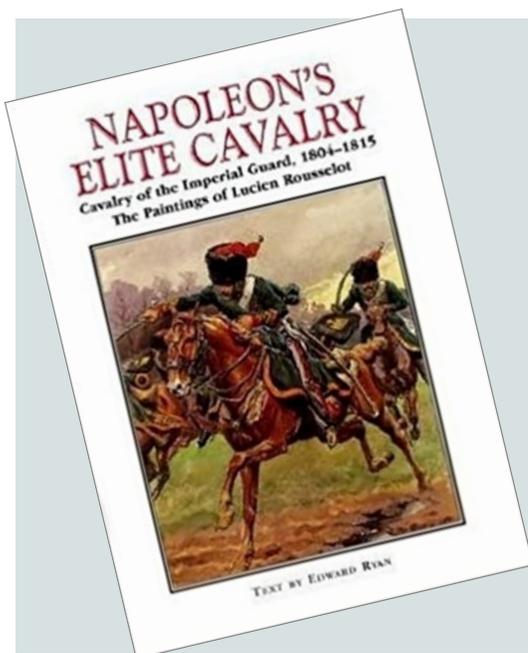
## More Rousselot

### Napoleon's Elite Cavalry: Cavalry of the Imperial Guard, 1804-1815: The Paintings of Lucien Rousselot

Text by Edward Ryan, 208pps, Greenhill Books, London, 1999

This book brings together ninety-one color plates by Rousselot from the [Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection](#). The publisher notes the plates illustrate Napoleon's key Guard cavalry units: the Dragoons (25 plates), a regiment established in 1806; the Chasseurs (27 plates), formed from Napoleon's own personal bodyguard of *Guides*; the Polish Light Horse (25 plates), the first foreign regiment to be part of the Imperial Guard; and the Grenadiers (13 plates), the most feared of all the French army's regiments. In addition there is one vivid picture of Napoleon, wearing his favorite uniform—that of the Chasseurs.

Along with his famous uniform plates, I am a great fan of his paintings as well. This volume is a great compendium of some of my favorites. As a companion volume to *Napoleon's Army 1790-1815* (reviewed above) *Napoleon's Elite Cavalry* makes an excellent addition to any library. —DH



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## KIT REVIEW by David Hoffman



### WW2 Red Army Female Sniper

**Manufacturer: Life Miniatures**  
**Item Code: LM-B024**  
**Scale: 1/10**  
**Materials: Resin**  
**Pieces: 17 parts**  
**Sculptor: Sang Eon Lee**

*Limited to 300 copies. Each kit has its own copy number signed by the artist. Currently 52 copies remaining!*

After seeing some beautifully rendered examples of this bust on the internet, I felt this was a project that I would love to do. Being a relatively



new kit, I found it easily online and ordered one from the Michigan Toy Soldier Company. The bust is produced by Life Miniatures, based out of Korea. They have come up with some very nice busts in the past. I still have their great General Von Hindenburg in my "Gray Army" awaiting painting.

The kit is resin and well cast with very little cleanup required, except for some removal of casting "plugs" that will require a razor saw and Dremel and/or file. The fit was excellent with very little filler required.

This kit is labeled as a limited edition 129 of 300 with a thank you autograph on the back of the box by the sculptor.

As you can see from my photo of the kit, there are quite a few pieces (17), nicely and carefully packaged. Most of the smaller pieces belong to the Mosin-Nagant Model 1891/30 sniper rifle rendered with superb detail. The rifle includes a separate receiver, bolt and bolt carrier, magazine, scope, and slings, etc.. Sometimes small resin parts like these can suffer from warpage, but these are in very good shape.

The sculpting of the uniform and face are great. The detail of the Order of Glory medal on her chest is crisp. I am not sure if the sculpt depicts a particular person, but certainly it could be either Roza Shanina, responsible for 59-confirmed kills, or Lyuba Makarova, with 84. In any case, I have seen some very nicely painted renditions of this particular bust and there are many fine photographs of these Soviet heroes, including some in color to go by. Really looking forward to doing this one! —David H.

### The Colorized Photographs of Olga Shirnina, from Moscow

Olga Shirnina (who works under the name Color By Klimbim) uses Photoshop to breathe new life into black-and-white photos from Russian history. According to a Radio Free Europe article, Olga works as a Russian-German translator from her home in Moscow. She told RFE/RL she colorizes photos purely "for pleasure." The most thrilling part of the coloring process, says Shirnina, is "when suddenly the person looks back at you as if he's alive."

You can browse all of Olga's 3,364 photographs on her [Flickr "Klimbim" page](#) which includes a number of Russian female soldiers, medics, pilots, and snipers.



# MEDIEVAL FLATS - ZINNFIGUREN — MADE BY HANS MÜLLER OF ERFURT

By Richard Sanders

Among the most popular medieval and 30 Years War “flat figures”, or “flats” (in German: *Zinnfiguren*), still today are those produced by Hans Müller (1885-1968) from Erfurt which during his lifetime was in the German Empire (Reich) and then the former German Democratic Republic (GDR). Müller, or Mueller, produced flats from 1927 to 1957. He specialized in the Thirty Years War (1618-48), “Turkish Wars” (15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Centuries) and the Middle Ages (12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Centuries), as well as doing a tangent to produce some figures addressing Mexican guerrillas in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century.

This article deals almost exclusively with his figures from the Middle Ages. He produced approximately 470 unique medieval figures, which were mostly drawn by top artist Ludwig Madlener (1903-1976) and engraved by Ludwig Frank (1870-1957), who is considered by many to be the finest ever engraver of flats. Especially noteworthy among the medieval figures are those for the Crusades, the 1386 Battle of Crecy and the 1410 Battle of Tannenberg/Grunwald, as well as the 14<sup>th</sup> Century tournament series.

For many collectors, Müller’s castings are considered to be the most beautiful figures for this period, having employed top-notch artists and engravers.

Unfortunately, when he ceased production, the molds were sold to a number of other producers and it became very daunting to determine from whom the figures could be purchased. Happily, one can now identify the producers of the vast majority of the medieval figures if you have access to an article in the German national figure club, KLIO magazine *Die Zinnfigur*, run in four parts in the November/December 2019 to April/May 2020 issues. Of course that producer listing will become outdated if any of the molds change hands.

Starting in 1954, Müller’s figures were available through the Cultural Union of the GDR (*Kulturbund der DDR*), which was the Communist government’s

ing dioramas about the Thirty Years War (which was having its tricentennial) and displayed them at major *Zinnfiguren* events, such as the national exhibitions in 1929, 1930 (in Leipzig), 1931 (in Hamburg) etc.. He also sold his figures in large quantities, with a special price for “50” of the same figure (dioramas were big in the 1930s).

It appears Müller had already ceased producing and selling figures by 1957, or at least had less to do with them. From that period on until his death on 26 June 1968, his molds were acquired by others, probably starting in 1957. Some stayed in what was then the GDR, while others were acquired by producers in the West. They were taken over by H. G. Ellfeldt, (Stuttgart, West Germany), Matthias Frenzel (Meissen, GDR), Heinz Tetzl (Magdeburg, GDR), Heinz Bittner (Halle, GDR), Erwin Ortmann (Weimar, GDR), F.C. Neckel (then in Wendlingen/Neckar, West Germany), Dr. Curt Kollbrunner (Zöllikon, Switzerland), Dr. Horst Neumeister (Merbitz bei Nauendorf, GDR), and above all, Fritz Menz (Burg, GDR).

Because the figures from the molds that remained in the GDR could only be obtained through the official “Kulturbund” exchange system, it made it very challenging to obtain them in the West. Later, most of the molds for the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century, Gothic and Saracen/Turkish medieval figures were acquired by Fritz Menz, then passed to his daughter Irene Menz-Wille (in Iserlohn), who later sold them to Frau Kirsten Howey (Burg bei Magdeburg). The 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century figures made their way in part to Heinz Neumeister (Magdeburg, GDR) and the majority passed through Erwin Ortmann and several other producers to Hans Schwahn (Dessau and Russia) who eventually obtained the molds for the 15<sup>th</sup> century “Arkeley-Büchse” (culverin artillery) and its crew. Additionally, Wolfgang Friedrich had some of the figures in his offerings. The forms for the Thirty Years War were taken over by Richard Wünsch (Halle), and then by Herr Werner Fechner in 2017 (see <http://www.fechner-zinnfiguren.de/frames.php>).

The Müller figures can be challenging to identify although they almost always feature a diamond-shaped base,

*For many collectors,  
Müller’s castings are  
considered to be  
the most beautiful figures  
for this period...*

approved group that could trade figures within the GDR and also exchange figures for ones from the West, but on a basis far more lucrative for the East. In Hans Müller’s obituary in a 1968 edition of the *Die Zinnfigur* magazine, it stated that “for obvious reasons, after the war, he had to struggle with numerous difficulties, so that the focus of his work shifted from figures to the study of castles and he developed a comprehensive database on castles.”

It’s also noteworthy that Hans Müller was not just a producer or ‘editor’ of figures, but he was a very active collector, painter, diorama builder and subject matter expert. He started writing articles for German figure magazines in the 1920s, focusing on the Thirty Years War. (Yes, *Die Zinnfigur* has been published since at least 1920, with a brief hiatus during WWII!) Starting in the early 1930s, Müller began adding the Middle Ages to his offerings. He did detailed research for his figures and was highly regarded for their authenticity and artistic quality. He was often noted for build-



## MEDIEVAL FLATS BY HANS MÜLLER (CONT...)

and generally include Ludwig Frank's "LFrk" initials (if he was the engraver) and an identifying figure number. The initials or marking of the illustrator, generally Ludwig Madlener, are not provided. The figures for the Middle Ages are grouped and marked on their bases as follows:

- Ma-Mw** = Special Figures (General) (*Sonderfiguren allgemein*) (primarily medieval, i.e., 13 of these 19 figures)
- MP** = Medieval Portrait (*Sonderfiguren Mittelalter - Portrait*) - 111 figures
- MR** = Knights (*Ritter*) (about 300 figures, but some appear with the code "MF")
- MT** = Medieval Turks (*Türken*) (35 figures; Saracens including for the late Middle Ages)

The Thirty Years War appear with "M" and "MB" markings, while a series on Mexico are marked as "MSo" for "Mexico Sonora".

As one can imagine, the markings on the old castings are often barely recognizable, or even unrecognizable, or are completely missing.

As mentioned above, the Müller-Erfurt figures only bear the initials or marking of the engraver, e.g., for Ludwig Frank, Joachim Emmerling, or Franz Karl Mohr (1896-1970). However, the initials of the artists who drew the figures essentially do not appear, most noteworthy, the absence of those of Ludwig Madlener who designed the vast majority of the figures. For the early figures, produced from 1927 to 1938-39, Ludwig Frank also personally prepared some of the drawings. The drawing of Sultan Saladin was based on the plate by Doré, the illustrations

for the individual Ottoman Turks were derived from Richard Knötel's uniform plates in the *Uniformenkunde* series, while some of the figures of medieval Russians were copied from or based on the plates by the Russian artist A.V. Viskovatov, published around 1899.<sup>1</sup>

For those who have Michael Taylor's book "The Art of the Flat in Figure," you can find photos of some of Hans Müller's figures, including some painted by the renowned flats painter Walter Fischer. But note that he attributes them to Irene Menz-Wille, who took over the molds.<sup>2</sup> Erwin Ortmann's "The Collector's Guide to Model Tin Figures" also features his figures, but he cites the artist Ludwig Madlener and engraver Ludwig Frank rather than the producer, Hans Müller.<sup>3</sup>

*"...you can find photos of some of Hans Müller's figures, including some painted by the renowned flats painter Walter Fischer."*

The Müller figures are currently available from the following producers, but one must consult their catalogues - if they have one - to determine which figures they sell. It should be mentioned that many of the figures are available from the Berliner Zinnfiguren company in Berlin, but only as sets. Most of the vendors' web sites - if they have one - are viewable in English.

**Zinnfiguren "Fritz Menz" Burg** (Fr. Kirsten Howey) - [www.zinnfigurenfreunde-burg.de/images/offizin/menzkat.htm](http://www.zinnfigurenfreunde-burg.de/images/offizin/menzkat.htm) - these are primarily figures from the

12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries (early crusades)

**Hans Schwahn** - no link - Kreisstrasse 9c, -06844 Dessau (Anhalt) - mostly 14<sup>th</sup> century knights (100 Years War), 1410 Battle of Tannenberg/Grunwald (Teutonic Order, Poles, Lithuanians, Russians, etc.), bombard and crew, and Gothic (15<sup>th</sup> C.) figures.

**Schmalkalder Zinnfiguren** (Dittmar) - [www.schmalkalder-zinnfiguren.de](http://www.schmalkalder-zinnfiguren.de) - about a dozen Gothic period knights.

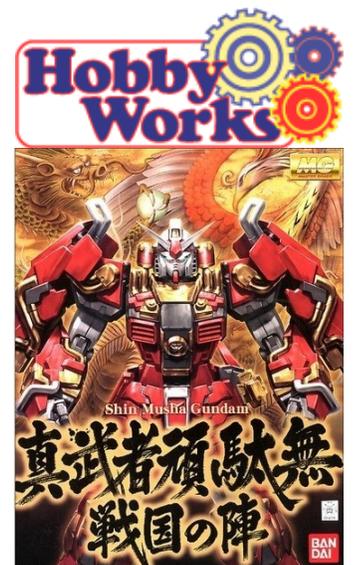
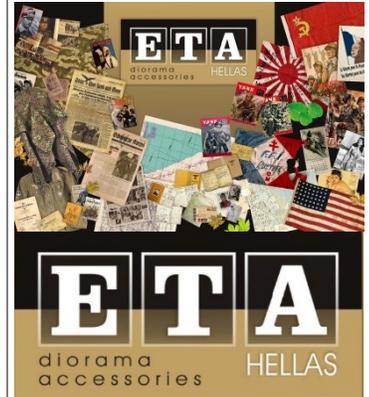
**Wolfgang Friedrich** - [www.zinnfigurenfreunde-leipzig.de/her/wf.htm](http://www.zinnfigurenfreunde-leipzig.de/her/wf.htm) - see "ehem.Müller" (<http://www.zinnfigurenfreunde-leipzig.de/her/wf/wk-29.jpg>) for nine various mounted knights.

**Magdeburger Zinnfiguren** - no link - Heinz Dieter Tetzl, Wespenstieg 2, 39120 Magdeburg, Germany - Tournament ca. 1450 with jousting knights, spectators, civilians celebrating, courtly nobles, artisans and armorers (see Ortmann, pp. 101-105 for examples), but this vendor is generally unwilling to sell to anyone he doesn't already know!

**Wolfgang Unger** - no link - Feuerbachstr. 21, D-04105 Leipzig, Germany - only one or two figures and no catalogue.

**Berliner Zinnfiguren** (for sale of Müller's figures in sets only) - [www.zinnfigur.com](http://www.zinnfigur.com)

For those interested in more information about the Müller (Erfurt) medieval figures, there is a publication in the works which should be available in August 2021. It should include a listing and

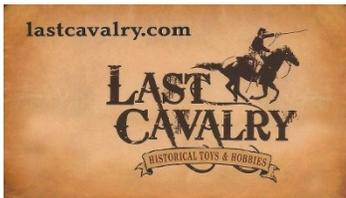


1. Viskovatov, A. V., "Istoricheskoye opisaniye Odeschdi i Voorrusheniya Rossiyskikh Voisk" (St. Petersburg: V. S. Balashev & Co., 1899).

2. Taylor, Michael, *The Art of the Flat Tin Figure* (London: Windrow & Greene, 1995), pp. 6, 13, 67, 83, 92, 114, 119.

3. Ortmann, Erwin, *The Collector's Guide to Model Tin Figures* (New York: Putnam & Sons, 1974), pp.97, 101-105, 114, 180.

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**MEDIEVAL FLATS BY HANS MÜLLER (CONT...)**

photos of all the figures with information on the timeframe, country/group represented, engraver, vendor and remarks. It will also feature color photos of Müller figures painted by eight or more collectors including a number who are master painters. The work will be a softcover edition and is planned to go on sale at the 2021 Kulmbach figure festival. It will be in German, but it may also in-

clude an English synopsis.

The pictures in this article are primarily from the author's collection, including figures by former NCMSS (then NCMC) member Tom Yuskiw (1941-1989) who did his figures using printer's inks (!) rather than oils or acrylics. Also included are some figures painted and generously provided by Herb Kuehlwein, formerly of Newport News and now of Tucson, AZ.

This article was based on the earlier work of and information provided by Frau/Mrs. Kirsten Howey and Herren/Misters Rüdiger Engel, Henry Schmidt, Hans Schwahn, and Hardy Howey, to whom I owe thanks. I am grateful to them as well as to Alexander Baden, Christian Otto and especially to Karl-Werner Rieger and Manfred Levec for their assistance.

—R.S.



Crusader MR 21 by Tom Yuskiw

Crusader MR 26 by Tom Yuskiw

Crusader MR 32 by Tom Yuskiw



Crusader MR 33 by Tom Yuskiw



Crusader MR 39 by Tom Yuskiw



Duke of Bavaria (MP 59) by Rick Sanders

# MEDIEVAL FLATS BY HANS MÜLLER (CONT...)



Blind King John of Bohemia (MP20), by Rick Sanders



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# MEDIEVAL FLATS BY HANS MÜLLER (CONTINUED...)



1410 Russian warrior (MR 149) by Rick Sanders



Gothic Knight (MR 301) by Rick Sanders



Halberdier, ca. 1450 (MR 329) by Rick Sanders



15th C. musician (MP71) by Herb Kuehlwein



15th C. juggler musician (MP108) by Herb Kuehlwein



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## Ford **NEEDED!** Ferrari

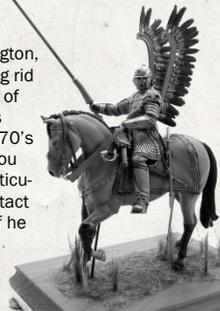
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**Mike Pierce** is also looking for Micro-Detailer bits. It is a small handheld device, looks like a small Dremel drill that is powered by a couple AA batteries. He is looking for new bits or even a used micro-detailer, he would be glad to purchase. Email: [mpiercep@comcast.net](mailto:mpiercep@comcast.net)

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**Brian Ford** in Wilmington, N.C. has been getting rid of some of his stash of kits. He says he has plenty from the mid 70's to the late 90's. If you are looking for a particular kit[s], please contact Brian and he'll see if he has it.



Brian has Bartons, Almonds, Poste Militaire, Series 77, Ceremonial, and many others. Contact him at: [aford1@ec.rr.com](mailto:aford1@ec.rr.com)

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## 2020 NCMSS Officers

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### National Capital Model Soldier Society (NCMSS) 2020 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 **2020 NCMSS Membership Roster**

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