

Pelikan Model Club

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MAY 2004

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Reminders:

- Submit ideas for Theme of the Month
- Florida West Coast Model Expo 2004 Pensacola May 29th
<http://members.tripod.com/pcolamodelers>
- New web site for Manatee <http://journals.aol.com/lockerlad/manateescalemodelers>

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

For many people finding time to build anything at all is a challenge. Since I just recently finished my Masters program, I have found that I have a lot of time for working on models. Much to my surprise, I actually found myself feel a little bogged down with a model I was working on. I could not really remember a time when this was the case so I found myself wondering what was going on. I know that I enjoy building just about anything so I decided to try working on something completely different than my normal fair of military vehicles. Instead of breaking into one of my 1/32th scale aircraft kits (mostly because I am afraid I would make a mess of it), I went back to something I started over a year ago. My victim is a 1/100th scale ship.

This kit is one of the old Heller kits and is a far cry from the precise fit of recent Tamiya kits that I have been spoiled with. Working on this project is a trip back to modeling 101. I have found that it is as much a challenge to get one of these older kits to look nice as it is to super detail one of the more recent kits. All in all, working on something so different that requires so much in the way of basic modeling skills has solved my modeling dilemma.

The ship project is interesting and the change of pace has been nice. I know that I will have a much greater appreciation for the fine Tamiya and DML kits I usually work on. We often get into a groove of only building in one particular area of interest, but if you ever start to feel a little bogged down with what you usually build, try something different!

THE PASSING OF LTG MOORE'S WIFE FROM HANK KRAMER

For those of you who saw the Mel Gibson movie "We were Soldiers Once—and Young," or read the book of the same title by Hal Moore and Joe Galloway, this will have a lot of meaning.

By Joseph L. Galloway

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON---There is mourning in a number of small corners of the country this week. With a dozen new American soldier and Marine deaths in Iraq over the weekend there are shattered lives in a dozen new towns. And at Fort Benning, Georgia, this week we are laying to rest one of the finest Army wives who ever walked. Julia Compton (Julie) Moore, 75, was an Army daughter, an Army wife and an Army mother. In the dark days of November, 1965, she did the hardest duty of all: She visited the small bungalows and trailer houses around Columbus, Georgia, to offer her sympathy and support to new widows whose husbands had died in action in the Ia Drang Valley of South Vietnam.

In those early days of the war the Army was overwhelmed by hundreds of death notices for unsuspecting families. It had forgotten how to do this right, so the Western Union telegrams were handed over to taxi drivers.

Julie Moore was horrified when one taxi driver pulled up to the small house where she and the five young children of Lt. Col. Hal Moore, commander of the 1st Battalion 7th Cavalry in Vietnam, were living. It took her a long, long time to answer the doorbell, a lifetime really, and then the driver apologized, said he was lost and asked her where he could find this address.

Mrs. Moore followed in the wake of that taxi and others to comfort the new widows and orphans of a war that would, itself, ultimately be orphaned and abandoned. She also raised unshirted Hell with the Pentagon about so callous a method of notifying the families. Within two weeks the policy was changed and a new one instituted, requiring that an officer and a chaplain personally deliver the sad news. It was also a small beginning of a concern for Army families that has grown into a major program throughout the Army.

Mrs. Moore was a true hero in the book her husband and I wrote about that time in Vietnam and in America, *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young* and the movie based on that book, *We Were Soldiers*. Madeline Stowe played the role of Julie Moore on the silver screen, and Mel Gibson portrayed Hal Moore.

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THE PASSING OF LTG MOORE'S WIFE CONTINUED

The love story on film couldn't hold a candle to the real love story behind this story. How the dashing West Point graduate swept the lovely college coed off her feet, and married her beneath an archway of drawn sabers. How she brought forth five children, and raised them largely without a husband who was away following wars or rumors of wars. He fought in Korea; commanded two Infantry companies on places like Pork Chop Hill and Old Baldy. He fought in Vietnam, commanding first a battalion in the Ia Drang Valley, then a Cavalry brigade all over the central part of South Vietnam.

Julie Moore was an Army brat herself, born at Fort Sill, Okla., only child of Col. And Mrs. Louis J. Compton. She would see two of her three sons follow their father to West Point and the Army, and one of them fight in Panama and the Persian Gulf War with the 82nd Airborne.

In January of 1991 I phoned the Moore home to give Hal Moore the news that I was leaving early the next morning on a military flight to Saudi Arabia to get in place for the coming ground war. Miss Julie said, "Joe, I am so very upset and worried about this thing. My son Davy is over there now." I expressed surprise that the normally unflappable Mrs. Moore was upset. "Julie, you sent your husband off to two wars, so why worry now?" She responded: "Joe Gallo-way, you don't understand a thing. You can replace a husband. You can never replace a son."

Julia Compton Moore died last Sunday, in the early afternoon, surrounded by her grieving husband and her two daughters and three sons. I said my goodbyes at her bedside the day before. Her eyes lit up and she whispered: "Oh, Joe, we have come so very far together, and we still have so far to go..."

This week we are burying Julie Moore in the Fort Benning Cemetery, near her mother and father, and in the middle of the 7th Cavalry troopers whose wives she comforted and whose funerals she attended in 1965. Her grave is beside that of Sgt. Jack E. Gell of Alpha Company 1st Battalion 7th Cavalry. She will rest in the arms of the Army she loved so long and served so well.

GarryOwen, Miss Julie. Godspeed.

Below is the website for an entire article from the New Yorker magazine. As you might expect, it is rather lengthy. However, the "hero" that is described in it is a man named Rick Rescorla, who was deeply involved in the actual fight for the Ia Drang Valley, which is the battle described in the movie. Rescorla survived that nightmare, but died 36 years later trying to save lives in WTC Tower 2 on 9/11. http://www.newyorker.com/fact/content/?020211fa_FACT1

PICTURES FROM THE BRADBURY MUSEUM IN LOS ALAMOS

FROM HANK KRAMER

My brother, who lives in LA, is on a vacation trip out to Santa Fe, NM, and I suggested that he should visit Los Alamos while he was out there. Here are three photos taken at the Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos.



Fat Man



A white B-63 nuc on the left, a black Mk12 re-entry vehicle for a single W-62 nuc warhead for a Minuteman ICBM, and a white B-61 tactical nuc on the right.

DAVE'S MUSEAM REVIEW

EINDOVEN WINGS OF LIBERATION MUSEAM

After visiting Overloon, I went west to view the city and bridges in the Eindhoven area. As I was driving north from the city on the road to Nijmegen, I noticed a C-47 on the left and realized this was a museum. The museum "Bevrijdende Vleugels" (Wings of Liberation) was founded in 1984 in honor of those Americans who fought for the Liberation of the Netherlands. Mr. Jan Driessen privately owns and operates the Museum which is located in Best, the Netherlands, near Eindhoven I had no idea this museum even existed. It is housed in a former Dutch military facility that was used until the early 1980s as a reserve camp. A wide variety of mostly US equipment is located outside with one building housing a few vehicles and dioramas. The date of my visit was late October, 1999. I would have liked more information about the museum, the vehicles and the grounds but there was almost nobody around! It was a neat experience to be able to view the items with nobody in the way. <http://aztec.asu.edu/dakota/wol.html>

Outside

C-47, apparently flyable	2 ½ ton truck as comms van or workshop
M-47 Patton	2 ½ ton truck as workshop with sides down and fully equipped interior
Leopard I	M7 Generator trailer
M-4 18 ton high-speed tractor with 203mm (8 inch) gun	Maintenance trailer
M4-A3 Sherman	2 ½ ton truck with ½ ton trailer
155mm Long Tom gun	2 ½ ton truck as fuel tanker
Another M4 18 ton high-speed tractor	2 ½ ton truck
M-32 ARV	2 ½ ton truck
2 ½ ton maintenance truck	2 ½ ton truck
2 ½ ton truck with ½ ton trailer	2 ½ ton truck
Radar on trailer for tracking aircraft along with 90mm AA gun	½ ton 2-axle low trailer
M-3 halftrack	2 ½ ton truck with fuel trailer
M-3 halftrack	600mm searchlight
	Crane on Bedford truck

Inside

Hetzer, Swiss G-75, as usual)	¼ ton trailer with comms gear
600mm searchlight	Medevac jeep
Russian Katyusha rocket launcher on truck	US 2 ½ ton truck as comms van or workshop
T-34/85 Russian Gaz truck	US 2 ½ ton truck as comms van or workshop
British 25lb howitzer	US 2 ½ ton truck as comms van or workshop
Russian 76.2mm field gun	Jeep with recoil-less rifle
210mm Nebelwerfer	M-2 staff jeep
British 6lb AT gun	1 ½ ton truck
Kubelwagen	M-8 armored car
Russian 85mm AA gun re-chambered as 88mm by Germans	

SHOW STUFF

There is not too much new going on with show planning right now, but here is a run down on current activities.

We have received \$200 from IPMS to help cover show expenses since we have Junior categories and offer IPMS member discounts.

We are still working on additional quotes for trophies. Our current quote puts the trophies at around \$1800, so we are still looking to see if we can come up with a lower price for the same package.

Jack Gardner has expressed an interest in coordinating a make and take at the show. This is always a great event for the kids, so it will make our show that much better. Jack is going to need some help, so think about helping out with this. Helping the kids build models is always a lot of fun.

I have listed our show on the Fine Scale Modeler web site and will be calling this within the next couple of weeks to get us listed in the magazine. We have also let IPMS know about the show, so it should be listed in the IPMS Journal as well.

I will also be sending out trophy sponsorship requests to the Region 11 Chapters. If you know anyone who might want to sponsor a trophy package, the forms are on the web site. We can use all the help we can get and their name (or the name of their business) will appear on the trophies they sponsor.

**For contributions
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questions, or
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