



Long Island Scale Modelers Society

April 2024 Newsletter

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From the Driver's Seat - Jim Boulukos



Hi all! It is hard to believe that it is Mid-April. Our NoreastCon 52 show, MosquitoCon 32 and the AMPS Nationals are all behind us. The date of our show had a heck of a lot of rain, to the tune of 2 ½ plus inches in the tri-state area, which kind of dampened the attendance for both spectators and modelers. Despite the inclement weather conditions, we ended up with 84 modelers and 304 models entered in the contest. A big thanks to all our club members who

assisted during our show, without you guys the show would never have run as smoothly as it did. Also, congratulations to the club on winning the IPMS Region 1 club trophy. The woodwork on the trophy was in rather poor condition so Joe Haberkorn is in the process of refurbishing and making it new again.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 15, 2024, at the Levittown Public Library in meeting room A, at 7:30 PM. There will be a debrief of the show and what needs to be done going forward for next year's ReplIcon 32 show.

Also, the next club contest will be on April 15, 2024, meeting. The theme is anything with an animal/fish name. This covers several modeling categories to give you a wide choice of subject matters.

For me, now it's time to go back to TurboTax and complete my tax returns due on April 15th.

Best regards

Jim Boulukos

News Flash on the IPMS Nationals



2024 IPMS/USA National Convention

When: 07/17/2024-07/20/2024

Where: Monona Terrace Convention Center

Registration is now open for the 2024 IPMS National Convention!

Greetings fellow IPMS/USA members. We are about 3 months away from the 2024 IPMS/USA National Convention in Madison, Wisconsin. Pre-registration along with several other items are now on sale in the IPMS/USA online convention registration web site.

Details can be found on our website: Nats2024.com When visiting the website click on the Registration option on the main page and you will be taken to IPMS/USA's convention registration page.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact Nancy Kennedy-Hackney at member.event.admin@ipmsusa.org. If you have questions about the convention, you can contact our public affairs coordinator Alan Zais at nats.publicaffairs2024@gmail.com

Best Regards,

Jeff Herne

Chair, IPMS/USA National Convention 2024

Lou Conter, last survivor of USS Arizona from Pearl Harbor attack, dies at 102

Story by AUDREY McAvoy, Associated Press

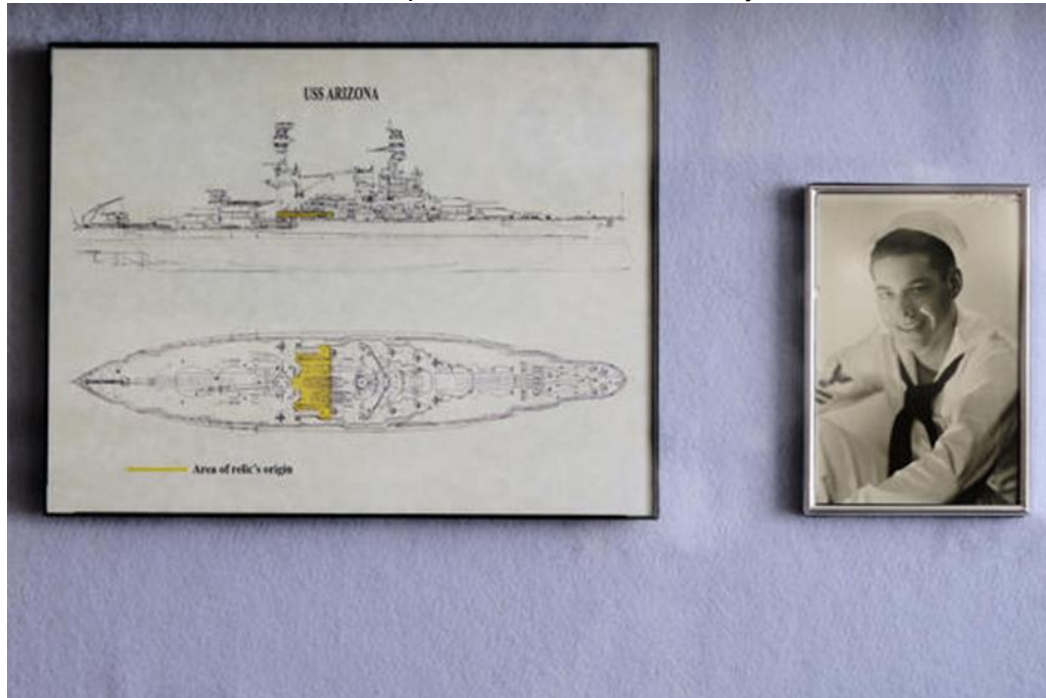
HONOLULU (AP) — Lou Conter, the last living survivor of the USS Arizona battleship that exploded and sank during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, has died. He was 102.

Conter passed away on Monday at his home in Grass Valley, California, following congestive heart failure, his daughter, Louann Daley said, adding she was beside him along with two of her brothers, James, and Jeff.



Pearl Harbor survivor Lou Conter, 101, is seen at his home in Grass Valley, Calif., Nov. 18, 2022. Conter, the last living survivor of the USS Arizona battleship that exploded and sank during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, died on Monday, April 1, 2024, following congestive heart failure, his daughter said. He was 102. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli, File) © Provided by The Associated Press

The Arizona lost 1,177 sailors and Marines in the 1941 attack that launched the United States into World War II. The battleship's dead account for nearly half of those killed in the attack.



A photo of Pearl Harbor survivor Lou Conter, 101, as seen as a young sailor, is displayed at his home in Grass Valley, Calif., Nov. 18, 2022. Conter, the last living survivor of the USS Arizona battleship that exploded and sank during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, died on Monday, April 1, 2024, following congestive heart failure, his daughter said. He was 102. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli, File) © Provided by The Associated Press

Conter was a quartermaster, standing on the main deck of the Arizona as Japanese planes flew overhead at 7:55 a.m. on Dec. 7 that year. Sailors were just beginning to hoist colors or raise the flag when the assault began.

Conter recalled how one bomb penetrated steel decks 13 minutes into the battle and set off more than 1 million pounds (450,000 kilograms) of gunpowder stored below.

The explosion lifted the battleship 30 to 40 feet (9 to 12 meters) out of the water, he said during a 2008 oral history interview stored at the Library of Congress. Everything was on fire from the mainmast forward, he said.

“Guys were running out of the fire and trying to jump over the sides,” Conter said. “Oil all over the sea was burning.”

His autobiography “The Lou Conter Story” recounts how he joined other survivors in tending to the injured, many of them blinded and badly burned. The sailors only abandoned ship when their senior surviving officer was sure they had rescued all those still alive.

The rusting wreckage of the Arizona still lies where it sank. More than 900 sailors and Marines remain entombed inside. Only 335 Arizona crew members survived.

Conter went to flight school after Pearl Harbor, earning his wings to fly PBY patrol bombers, which the Navy used to look for submarines and bomb enemy targets. He flew 200 combat missions in the Pacific with a “Black Cats” squadron, which conducted dive bombing at night in planes painted black.



Marine Cpl. Zachariah Jeavons, of Binghamton, N.Y., meets Pearl Harbor survivor Lou Conter, 98, who was aboard the USS Arizona when the Japanese attacked in 1941, Dec. 7, 2019, at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on the 78th anniversary of the attack. Conter, the last living survivor of the USS Arizona battleship that exploded and sank during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, died on Monday, April 1, 2024, following congestive heart failure, his daughter said. He was 102. (AP Photo/Caleb Jones, File) © Provided by The Associated Press

In 1943, he and his crew were shot down in waters near New Guinea and had to avoid sharks. A sailor expressed doubt they would survive, to which Conter replied, “baloney.”

“Don’t ever panic in any situation. Survive is the first thing you tell them. Don’t panic or you’re dead,” he said. They were quiet and treaded water until another plane came hours later and dropped them a lifeboat.

In the late 1950s, he was made the Navy’s first SERE officer — an acronym for survival, evasion, resistance and escape. He spent the next decade training Navy pilots and crew on how to survive if they’re shot down in the jungle and captured as a prisoner of war. Some of his pupils used his lessons as POWs in Vietnam.

Conter retired in 1967 after 28 years in the Navy.

Conter was born in Ojibwa, Wisconsin, on Sept. 13, 1921. His family later moved to Colorado where he walked five miles (eight kilometers) one way to school outside Denver.

He enlisted in the Navy after he turned 18, getting \$17 a month and a hammock for his bunk at boot camp.

Conter had been getting weaker and weaker in recent months and was hospitalized for 10 days in February, his daughter said. He had been in hospice since returning home.

He told his family he loved them, thanked them for being with him and taking care of him at home.

“I’m glad he’s at peace. I’m glad he didn’t suffer. I know when he transitioned over, he had so many people there waiting for him - his wife Val, who he loved dearly,” Daley said.

Conter is also survived by another son, Tony, and a stepson Ron Fudge, and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements were pending. The family plans to bury him in Grass Valley, next to his late wife Valerie, who died in 2016 after they had been married for 45 years.

With Conter’s death, there are now 19 survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack still living, according to Kathleen Farley, the California state chair of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors. About 87,000 military personnel were on Oahu on Dec. 7, according to a rough estimate compiled by military historian J. Michael Wenger.

In his later years, Conter became a fixture at annual remembrance ceremonies in Pearl Harbor that the Navy and the National Park Service jointly hosted on the anniversaries of the 1941 attack. When he lacked the strength to attend in person, he recorded video messages for those who gathered and watched remotely from his home in California.

In 2019, when he was 98, he said he liked going to remember those who lost their lives.

“It’s always good to come back and pay respect to them and give them the top honors that they deserve,” he said.

Though many treated the shrinking group of Pearl Harbor survivors as heroes, Conter refused the label.

“The 2,403 men that died are the heroes. And we’ve got to honor them ahead of everybody else. And I’ve said that every time, and I think it should be stressed,” Conter told The Associated Press in a 2022 interview at his California home.

From Military Historia

Click here for the link to: [Military Historia](#)

Now this is Special: we recently visited this beauty, the S-130. It is a German Schnellboote, a type of rapid torpedo boat developed in the 1930s from a civilian yacht and used to devastating effect throughout WWII.

S-130 is very special as it is the last one of its type remaining in the world today. Not only is it totally unique, it also has an incredible history.

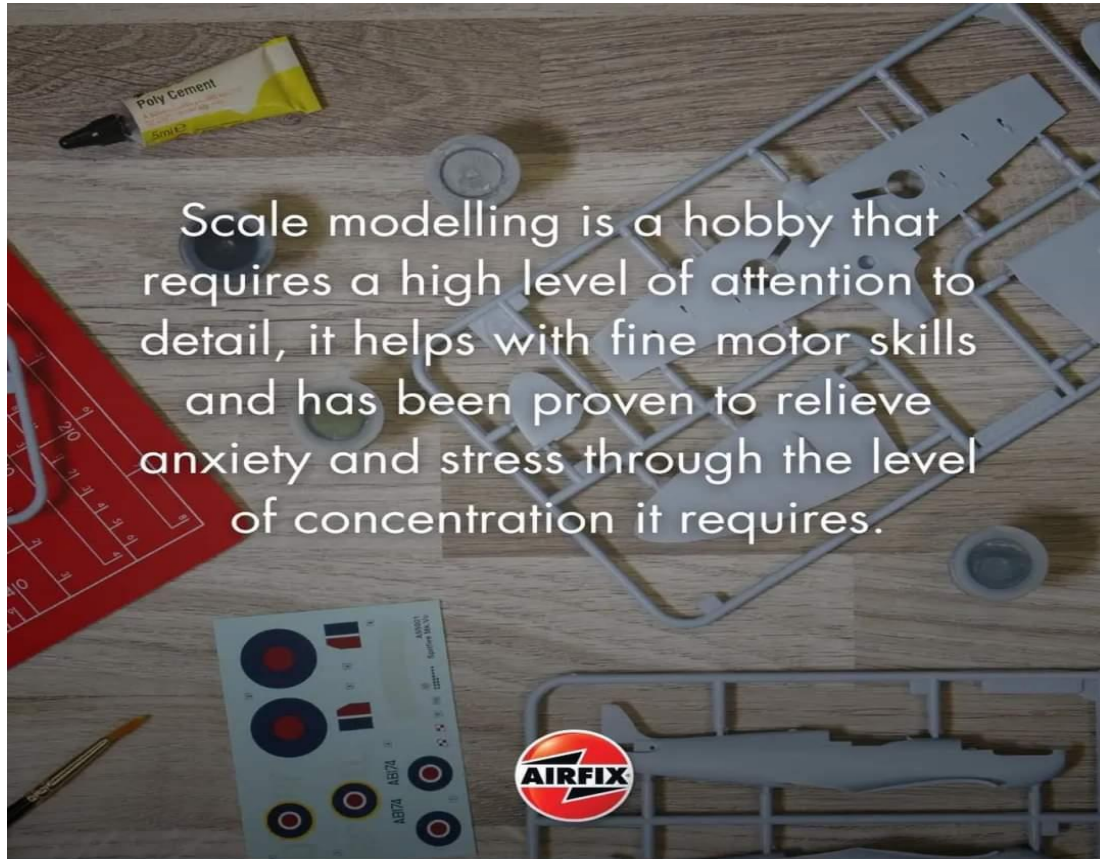
This boat participated in the attacks on Exercise Tiger, a large-scale rehearsal of the D-Day landings on the UK's south coast in 1944. S-130 and its fellow torpedo boats (known to the Allies as E-Boats) sunk and damaged several ships resulting in a similar death toll to US troops on D-Day itself. After the war, S-130 served with Britain and became an important tool used by MI6 to drop off assets in Europe.

She eventually joined The Wheatcroft Collection, where work began to restore her back to running condition, powered by original MB 501 diesel engines. Hand-built from wood on an aluminum frame, it is a beautiful vessel, and mind-bogglingly large in real life. Despite her size, she could reach 43 knots.

Lots more to come. BTW -Several Model companies make this kit from 1/32 to 1/72 scale.



March's Modeling Humor - Okay are we having fun yet?



LISMS Meeting Dates for 2024

April 15, 2024 - Levittown Public Library meeting room A (Contest Meeting)

May 20, 2024 - Levittown Public Library meeting room A

June 17, 2024 - Levittown Public Library meeting room A

July to December TBA

2024 IPMS Show Dates

July 17-20, 2024, IMPS/USA National Convention at Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center
Madison, WI.

The Final Word

We would like to encourage club members to join the national IPMS. Help support the hobby on a national level. IPMS provides the insurance that allows us to have our RepLIcon events, and membership includes a Bi-monthly IPMS Journal magazine. Join IPMS/USA just click the link: <https://ipmsusa.org/> and just click the blue tab section "Join IPMS/USA."

Please support our local Hobby Shops.

Atlantis Toys & Hobbies – Deer Park (Online order store)

Bay Shore Hobbies and Toys - Bayshore

Baseline Hobbies - West Babylon

Men at Arms – Middle Island

Nassau Hobby Center – Freeport

Willis Hobbies – Mineola

Our own LISMS club member Gary Weickart

BTW – I need articles, kit reviews, pictures, model show information, and stories from the club for the monthly newsletter. It can be anything hobby related. All submissions to the Long Island Scale Modelers Society Newsletter must be received by the Monday of the week before our scheduled meeting night.

Email your articles and/or pictures to www.jnboul19@yahoo.com

Jim Boulukos, LISMS President