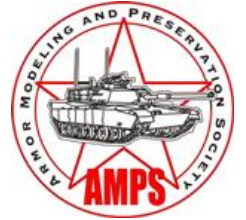




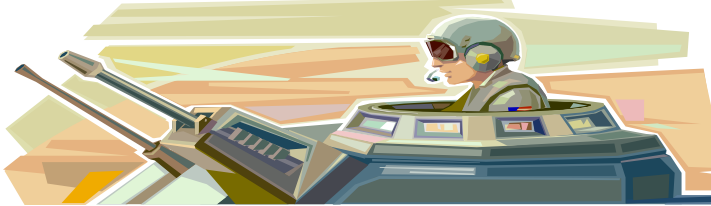
# Sabot Away!



AUSTIN ARMOR BUILDERS SOCIETY

Volume 12, Issue 5

May 31, 2008



## From the Turret



Here is Greg Beckman's 1:35<sup>th</sup> Iraqi SAM-2 by Trumpeter. This was taken at the May Club meeting. Photograph by Roderick Bell.

I hope you all have been working hard on the White Elephant Gift (WEG) you received at the Christmas Party last year because our program for June will be the

WEG contest. For you information, our VP Russ Holm has prepared a set of "Penal Code" to deal with anyone who shows up empty-handed. So if you haven't

touched yours since Christmas, I suggest you get to it now or you'll have to face the wrath of our Veep!

In our last meeting I mentioned we are giving out two awards to encourage members' participation and individual's model output. Please allow me to reiterate and clarify the rules here to avoid any dispute that may arise in the future. The two awards are:

### Member of the Year Award

to be given to the member who contributes (or sacrifices) the most for AABS from now till the day of our December meeting.

*Continued on Page 2*

### Special points of interest:

- BRING IN YOUR KITS TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED FOR THE WEBSITE - PART II.
- A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM COALITION FORCES
- MODEL BUILDING DAY - JUNE 14, 2008
- REALISTIC ARMOR FINISHING TECHNIQUES

### Inside this issue:

MODEL PHOTOGRAPHY PART II	2
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM COALITION FORCES	3
AMPS GEAR	3
MODEL BUILDING DAY - JUNE 14, 2008	4
NEW KITS	5
NEW KITS	9

## Austin Armor Builders Society Membership Dues

Dues will now be collected in January. This will make it easier for us to track and easier to maintain the membership cards.

As always, membership is \$12.00 USD per year. The membership cards will be presented to members at the January meeting.

The card will be valid for one year and a new card will be created each year as long as your club membership is in good standing.

New members will be given a card after they pay their dues. Dues will be prorated based on the month they join.



# Sabot Away!

## Model Photography at the next Club Meeting Part II



Here is Bob Bethea's E-10 with 88mm gun. Photograph provided by Roderick Bell.

up on the club website as well as given to you for your own use. Please provide a brief description of the subject so we can have specifics about the model for the website.

So if you want some personal photographs please bring in your own camera or ask for digital copies of the photos shot at the club meeting.

Again, please don't forget to bring in your models to be photographed.

**Roderick Bell**

“PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR COMPLETED MODELS, DIORAMAS, FIGURES, ETC... TO THE CLUB MEETING. WE WILL HAVE SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHERS WORKING TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOUR EXCELLENT WORK.”

Eric Choy will be photographing models again at the June Meeting. Please don't forget to bring your completed models, dioramas, figures, etc... to the club

meeting. We will have several photographers working to take pictures of your excellent work.

The digital images will be put

## From the Turret - Continued

By contribution I'm referring to a single or combination of gracious acts of donating money/kits to the club, conducting seminars/clinics, hosting party, or simply helping out in club functions. To ensure fairness, all AABS officials are NOT eligible for this award.

and the model must be completed in 2008. All AABS members are eligible for this award.

Both winners will be awarded with trophy and gift certificate to be given out at our Christmas Party in December.

**Most Prolific Modeler of the Year Award** to be given to the member who finishes the most models from January 1<sup>st</sup> till the day of our December meeting. To qualify for this award, you must bring your completed model(s) to the monthly meetings to register as proof. You must be the actual builder of your model,

The clock is ticking, and as of now we're keeping score\*. So let's get busy, guys.

**von Erich (Eric Choy)**

\* From the 1986 movie *Top Gun*.

## Calendar of Events

- ◆ **June 4, 2008** - Club Meeting; Quarterly Contest - **Christmas White Elephant Build Contest**
- ◆ **June 14, 2008** - Model Building Day event.
- ◆ **July 2, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **Bill Johnson**
- ◆ **August 6, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **Karl Leidy**
- ◆ **September 3, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **John Hernandez**; Annual Club Auction.
- ◆ **September 27, 2008** - Austin Scale Modelers Society Show
- ◆ **October 1, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **Worth Haggerton**
- ◆ **November 5, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **Ted Paone**
- ◆ **December 3, 2008** - Club Meeting; Seminar: **Bob Bethea** / **Quarterly Contest (TBD)**
- ◆ **December 6, 2008** - Club Christmas Party

## A Special request from Coalition Forces

By **Roderick Bell**

A special request from our Coalition Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan: M1 Tank kits and modeling supplies.

The AMPS organization has sent over 1500 model kits to the coalition forces serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some of you have already donated kits to this cause and we thank you.

This is the first time the Soldiers and Marines have asked us for kits and supplies. They are looking for M1 Abrams kits, sanding sticks, paint brushes, cement, and acrylic paint, and M1 Abrams tank kits. ☺

You can send the kits to the following AMPS representative (2009 show chair):

John Gazzola

188 Laurel Point Road  
Dayville, CT 06241-1522  
(860) 617-1413  
Jgazzola12@aol.com

Or you could bring the kits to the club meetings and I can send them to John. Again, M1 Abrams kits are wanted.

**Roderick Bell**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President AMPS, US Central Region

“DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR JUNE 14TH MODEL BUILDING DAY EVENT BEING HELD AT BOB BETHEA'S COMMUNITY CENTER.”

## AMPS Gear

We still have AMPS Mugs and AMPS Caps available for sale.

The mugs are \$8.00 a piece and the caps are \$12.00 a piece. There will be a limited number of each (two dozen each).

If you sign up for an AMPS membership you will get to select a cap or mug for free.



Here is the front of the AMPS Mug. It has the AMPS logo on the front and the web address on the back.



Here is a front side shot of the AMPS Cap. Looks nice.

# Sabot Away!

## Model Building Day set for June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008



Here is closer look at Greg Beckman's Trumpeter Iraqi SAM-2 Launcher cab in 1:35<sup>th</sup> scale. Photograph by Roderick Bell.

“THIS WILL BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH SOME OF THE BEST ARMOR AND FIGURE MODELERS IN THE COUNTRY.”

### By Roderick Bell

Bob Bethea has been able to obtain a room at his apartment community center for our Model Building day. Bob says we have the room from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, June 14, 2008.

This will be a great opportunity to work with some of the best Armor and Figure modelers in the country.

Here are some things you might want to bring:

- **Yourselves** (This is the most important item... all others are optional)
- As many models / projects you want to work on
- Newspaper or whatever you use to cover your work area at home
- Any tools / supplies / equipment you might need during the day
- A Notebook and Pen or

Pencil to take notes on tips and techniques you might see

- Overhead Lamp (may not be needed)
- Magnified Visor (for us feeble eyed modelers)
- Bring Your Own Beverages (Adult Beverages are allowed ... not sure how well that will work with X-Acto knives being in the room)

Tables and Chairs will be provided by the community center. Austin Armor Builders Society will provide lunch (Pizza or BBQ - decision has not been made yet).

Directions to the Community Center:

From Mopac: Go south on Mopac (Loop 1) to the traffic light at SLAUGHTER LANE and turn LEFT (East) on Slaughter for about a mile and a half until you reach the traffic signal on BRODIE

LANE. Then turn RIGHT (South) on Brodie and go approximately 1/2 mile to DOE RUN. Turn LEFT on Doe Run and go about two blocks and the COMMUNITY CENTER will be on the right. Park in the lot on its east side.

From I-35: Go South on I-35 and exit at SLAUGHTER LANE. Turn Right on Slaughter lane going West. Stay on Slaughter for about 4 miles until you reach the traffic signal on BROADIE LANE. Then turn LEFT (south) on Brodie and go approximately 1/2 mile to DOE RUN. Turn LEFT on Doe Run and go about two blocks and the COMMUNITY CENTER will be on the right. Park in the lot on its east side.

We hope to see you all there.

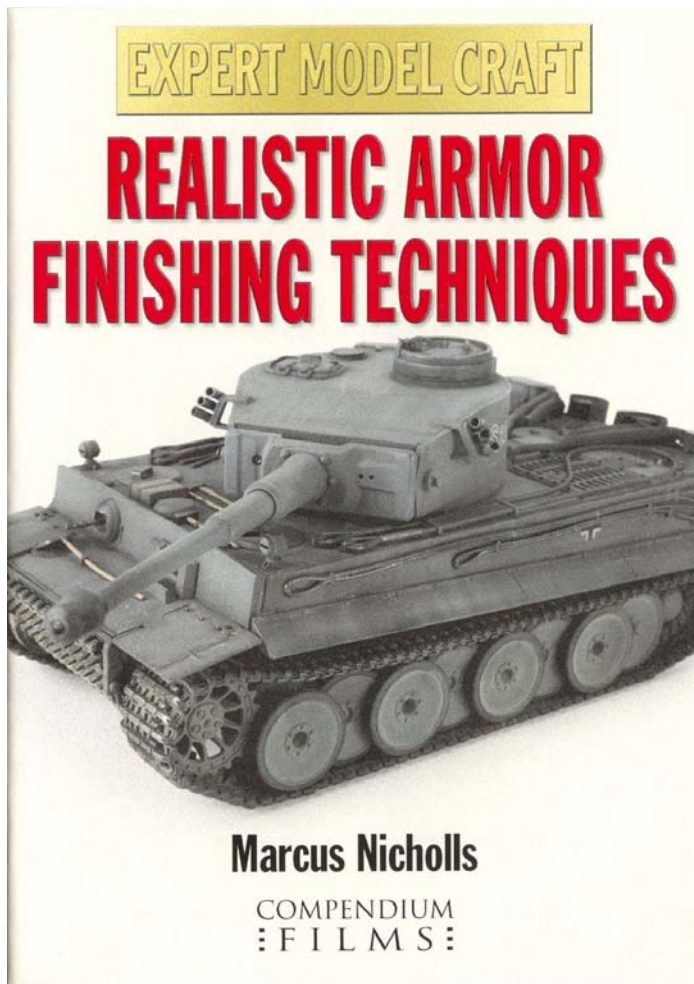
### Roderick Bell



Here is one Russ Holm's figures. A medieval knight. Learning to paint figures will be one of the things you can learn at the Model Building day. Photograph by Roderick Bell.



## DVD Review: Realistic Armor Finishing Techniques by Marcus Nicholls



**REALISTIC ARMOR FINISHING TECHNIQUES**

Thousands of modelers aspire to recreate perfect AFVs complete with those magical final details that exactly replicate the true weathered appearance of the vehicles in active condition.

In **Realistic Armor Finishing Techniques** world famous modeler and editor of Tamiya Model Magazine International Marcus Nicholls shows us many of his award-winning techniques including paint chipping and bruising, German Panzer grey coloring, rust, dust, track finishing, the 'hairspray technique' and much more.

A highly detailed menu lists each topic for quick and easy navigation whilst the DVD pause facility allows you to stop the action at any time to appreciate in close detail each step and the finished astonishing models.

Cover photographs: Marcus Nicholls

Main program approx. 58 minutes

**PLUS - these great DVD Extras:**

- Alternative techniques
- Correcting common mistakes
- Profile of Marcus Nicholls
- List of products used or recommended

Total running time: approx. 95 minutes

**E** Exempt From Classification  
Running Time: 95 minutes approx

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**DVD VIDEO**

ALL

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Visit our website at [www.compendiumfilms.com](http://www.compendiumfilms.com)

### By Roderick Bell

This DVD is produced by Compendium Films and is a very good asset for beginner or intermediate armor modelers. Marcus Nicholls does an excellent job in show the viewer how to master his finishing techniques.

The DVD is broken into the three following sections:

1. Main Program (57 minutes)
2. Index
3. DVD Extras

The Main Program has six chapters:

1. Color Wash
2. Paint Chipping
3. Rust and Staining
4. Burnished Metal
5. On-vehicle Tools
6. German Panzer Gray

The index contains links to every chapter and extras on the DVD.

DVD Extras contains the following:

1. Additional Techniques
2. Correcting Common Mistakes
3. Profile of Marcus Nicholls
4. Model Panorama
5. Recommended Products

### Main Program

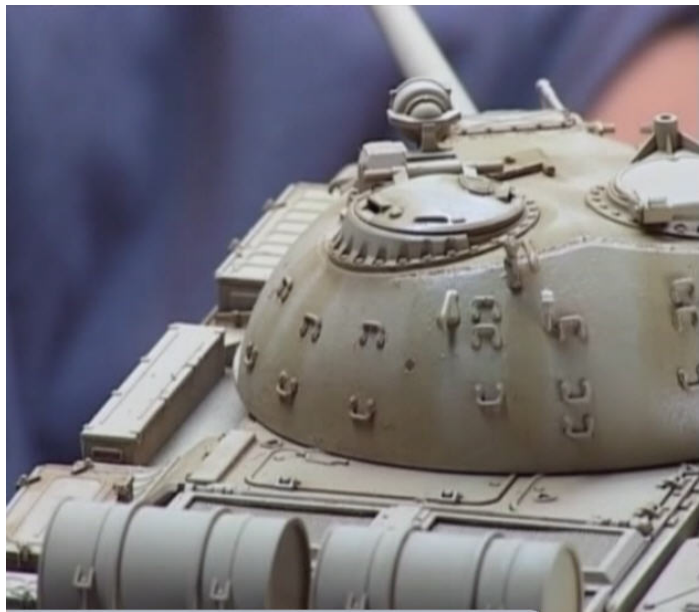
The first chapter Color Wash Marcus explains how to apply a color wash on a Tamiya T-55 with Artist Oils and Mineral spirits. He demonstrates this technique step by step.

He starts out by putting a layer of Mineral Spirits over

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## DVD Review: Realistic Armor Finishing Techniques by Marcus Nicholls

“MARCUS USES VALLEJO PAINTS FOR HIS PAINT CHIPPING TECHNIQUE. HE MIXES SEVERAL DIFFERENT COLORS TO GET THE EFFECT HE IS AFTER. THIS IS A SLOW AND TEDIOUS PROCESS BUT IT IS WORTH THE EFFORT.”



Here is a close up of the T-55 after applying the wash to simulate rain streaks. Please note the wash is still wet and the effect is much lighter when dry.

the area he will be applying the color wash. He then applies the color wash. He alternates this technique until vehicle is completed. This is what he calls the base wash.

He uses tissue paper to mop off excess mineral spirits and wash. Marcus now comes back with the same wash and highlights areas that stand out on the vehicle. He demonstrates how to simulate rain streaks on the vehicle.

His next step was to apply a dark green camouflage scheme on top of the T-55. He then applies a small amount of Future or Johnson Floor wax on top of the vehicle. This causes a satin finish to the vehicle .

### **Paint Chipping**

Marcus uses Vallejo paints for

his paint chipping technique. He mixes several different colors to get the effect he is after. This is a slow and tedious process but it is worth the effort.

He also simulates the wearing of the green paint applied above with a sand color simi-

lar to the base coat. This simulates the wear of the green paint down to the next layer of paint which is the sand base color.

To simulate the wearing of the sand or base color down to the primer he uses Vallejo German Camouflage Brown.

### **Rust and Staining**

To simulate this he uses wash brown, black, and mineral spirits in a thin mixture. After mixing the wash he begins applying another layer of mineral spirits on the area he wants to create oil or fuel stains. He dabs the wash mixture on the areas. Again, he uses tissue paper to remove excess wash. When this dries it creates a very realistic oil stain.

He uses Tensocrom paint to create additional stains that are darker (Rust 2 and Smoke). He uses Tensocrom Fuel to simulate the fuel stain. This is a pinkish color that



These Tensocrom paints are used by the author to simulate darker fuelstains on his Tamiya T-55.

DVD Review: Realistic Armor Finishing Techniques by Marcus Nicholls



The author is now applying rust streaks to the vehicle using his TENSOCROM paint mixture.

simulates the fuel spill.

**Burnished Metal**

To represent exposed metal the author uses a graphite pencil and a polishes it with his motor tool.

He also uses the tip of the graphite pencil to create a metal finish on the gun barrel and polished it up with the motor tool.

**On-vehicle Tools**

Tools on AFV are either wood or painted the base color. The author uses Vallejo paints to simulate wood. He paints the tools on the vehicle. He uses a base sand color and then comes back with a brown



The author is now painting On-vehicle tools on the vehicle..

to simulate the wood. He then uses the graphite pencil to apply the metal finish to the tools as needed.

**German Panzer Gray**

Marcus shows us two ways to create Panzer Gray. **Panel Fading:** The first way is to spray paint Tamiya XF-63 on the vehicle. Then apply shad-

ing with XF-63 Gray and XF-15 Flat Flesh. The flat flesh is a great color to lighten colors.

XF-1 Black and XF-63 Gray will make a darker version of the Panzer gray. Apply this to the recessed areas of the model.

Now he dry brushes the raised details on the model with a light gray paint. He continues

“EVERYTHING WENT TOGETHER NICE AND NEAT WITH NO SURPRISES AT ALL. I SPRAYED THE RSO WITH TAMIYA PAINTS, AND THE CAMOUFLAGE WAS DONE FREE-HANDED.”



# Sabot Away!

## DVD Review: Realistic Armor Finishing Techniques by Marcus Nicholls

to add rust to the vehicle similar to what he has done previously on the T-55. The second way to apply Panzer Gray is what he calls **Extreme Weathering**.

In this style he applies XF-63 Gray base coat. He then applies XF-52 Flat Earth is applied over the XF-63 in the recesses of the vehicle. This has a reverse shading effect. He now adds a second layer of dust with MiG pigments to create a streaky rain soaked effect on the Panzer Gray.

### **DVD Extras**

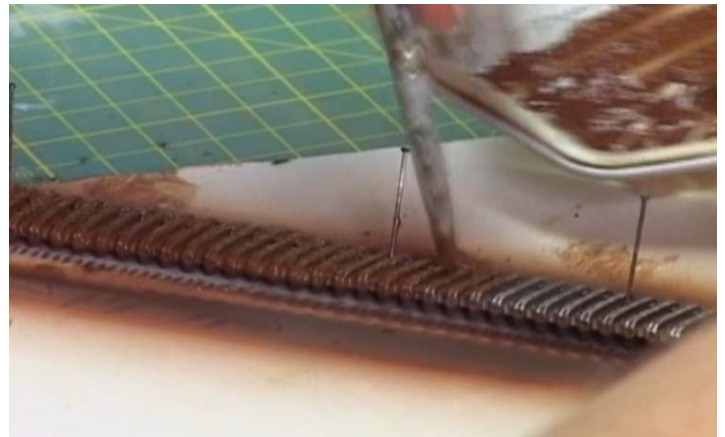
***How to simulate cloth.*** He uses XF-62 Olive drab, XF-57 Buff, and X-6 Orange to produce a Khaki color. He then adds thinner. And sprays it onto the area. He then uses MiG pig-

ments wash to simulate the dust.

### ***Tracks***

He uses a dark brown to color the tracks. He uses brush

paste out MiG pigments and applies this to both sides of the tracks. When this dries it produces a very nice dusty look.



cleaner with a Q-Tip to remove the paint from the top of the track.

He then creates a muddy

### **Conclusion**

For the beginner to intermediate modeler this is a very good DVD to have in your library.

I have to say that most of the techniques in the DVD have been demonstrated at our club meetings by some of our more experienced modelers. The benefit of having a DVD is that you can always go back and checkout the technique to make sure you are doing it right. I really enjoyed this DVD and ***highly recommend*** it to beginners and intermediate modelers.

**Roderick Bell**

“FOR THE  
BEGINNER TO  
INTERMEDIATE  
MODELER THIS IS  
A VERY GOOD  
DVD TO HAVE IN  
YOUR LIBRARY. ”



The author removes the painted mixture with brush cleaner using a Q-Tip. This exposes the bare metal again.



## New Kits

By Roderick Bell

Here are four new kits that have recently arrived or will arrive later this summer.



Tamiya has released 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale French Infantry set (1940).



Dragon's 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale US Army Infantry Tank Riders are Gen2 figures and will go well with any American World War II medium tank.

1:35 '39-'45 SERIES

# EL ALAMEIN SHERMAN

Smart Kit

The Allies' major tank in the fierce Battle of El Alamein

www.dragon-models.com e-mail: info@dragon-models.com

DRAGON 6447

Dragon's El Alamein Sherman will be a Smart Kit model in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale. This has been on my list for years. Now it is on its way.



Here is Plus Models M422 Mighty Mite in USMC markings. This is a very nice representation in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale.



**Seek, Strike, and Destroy**

AUSTIN ARMOR BUILDERS SOCIETY

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*The Austin Armor Builders Society is an organization where members gather and share information on building scale armor and figure kits. The Austin Armor Builders Society was founded in 1997 and has about 25 active members. The Austin Armor Builders Society is the local chapter for the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS). Every two years the organization host an AMPS Regional show known as AMPS Centex. This show attracts armor and figure modelers from around the state of Texas and is one of the Premier AMPS Regional shows.*

**We are on the web: [AustinArmorBuilders.com](http://AustinArmorBuilders.com)**

**Support our Troops**



An M1A2 Abrams tank crew prepares for a mission at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Heider in Rabi'ah, Iraq, on June 26, 2005. The soldiers are attached to Bandit Troop, Tiger Squadron, 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, conducting border security operations along the Iraq and Syria border. DoD photo by Photographer's Mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Robert M Schalk, U.S. Navy.