



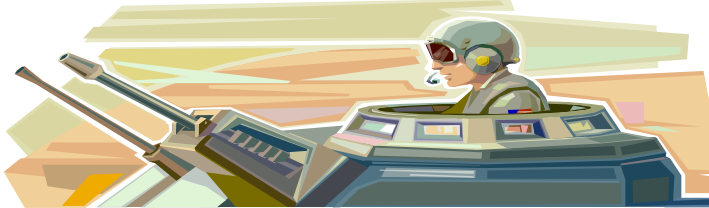
Sabot Away!



AUSTIN ARMOR BUILDERS SOCIETY

Volume 15, Issue 6

June 1, 2011



From the Turret



Here is the venue of Scalefest 2011 in Mesquite, Texas.

Two weeks ago **Rod Bell, Pat Rourke, Russ Holm, Rick Herrington**, and I took a trip north to attend *IPMS/NCT's* annual *Scalefest*. We had a good time, bought some models, and scored a few medals. Best of all we sur-

vived the rapture that was erroneously predicted. I take it as a sign from the high authority that we should model on (at the very least till the "revised" rapture date of October 21, one day before our show this

fall). Let's hope we'll be all judged by AMPS standards when the world ends. I can finally put all my documentations to good use for that 0.5 research bonus point!

June is finally here. It's White Elephant contest time. Bring your finished model or \$10! Actually we prefer to see your model, but if you haven't even glued the parts together in the last five and a half months, a tenner to the club's coffer is entirely justifiable, don't you think?

See you all at the meeting.

Von Erich
(Eric Choy)

Special points of interest:

- ◆ CLUB PLACE
- ◆ UPCOMING PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
- ◆ FAMILY HISTORIES: WHAT'S IN YOUR PAST?
- ◆ BORESIGHT VOLUME 18 NO. 6
- ◆ AMPS 2011 CONVENTION

Austin Armor Builders Society Membership Dues

Dues are 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.



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From the Turret - Continued

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **June 1, 2011** - Club Meeting; Quarterly Contest - White Elephant build; Program by **Karl Leidy**
- ◆ **July 6, 2011** - Club Meeting; Program by **Pat Rourke**.
- ◆ **August 3, 2011** - Club Meeting, Program by **Dave Bourland**.
- ◆ **September 7, 2011** - Club Meeting; Quarterly Contest
- ◆ **October 5, 2011** - Club Meeting; Program by **Aaron Smischney**
- ◆ **October 22, 2011** - **AMPS Centex Show**, Norwood Conference Center, Austin Texas
- ◆ **November 2, 2011** - Club Meeting; Program by **Roy**
- ◆ **December 7, 2010** - Club Meeting: Pearl Harbor Day; Program by **Bob Bethea**

Club Meeting Place

By Roderick Bell

Starting with our January 2011 meeting (January 5, 2011) we will be meeting at the **Austin Public Library - Old Quarry Branch**.

This is a change of venue but there is not much we could do about it. We are looking forward to the new year at

the Old Quarry Branch Library on 7051 Village Center Dr.

The meeting time is still 7PM. I hope to see you all there!

Roderick Bell



Upcoming Programs / Presentations and Newsletter Articles

By Roderick Bell

Month	Program / Presentation	Newsletter Article
2011 - June	Karl Leidy	Dave Bourland
2011 - July	Pat Rourke	Roderick Bell
2011 - August	Dave Bourland	Greg Beckman
2011 - September	Club Auction	Marc Hobbs
2011 - October	AMPS Judging Seminar	Eric Choy
2011 - November	Aaron Smischney	Bill Menzies
2011 - December	Roy Ott	Oscar Perez
2012 - January	Bob Bethea	Bill Johnson
2012 - February	Russ Holm	Roy Ott
2012 - March	Greg Beckman	Bob Bethea
2012 - April	Eric Choy	Thomas Pachalos
2012 - May	Worth Haggerton	Ted Paone
2012 - June	Roderick Bell	Karl Leidy
2012 - July	Bill Menzies	TBD
2012 - August	TBD	TBD

Here is a list of members who are responsible to provide a article for the newsletter and to perform a program / presentation. Please note that you may contribute as many articles as you want anytime. This schedule is to insure that we have at least one article in the newsletter per month.

Please make sure you get the newsletter editor the article as soon as possible. He must have it the Friday before the meeting.

Roderick Bell

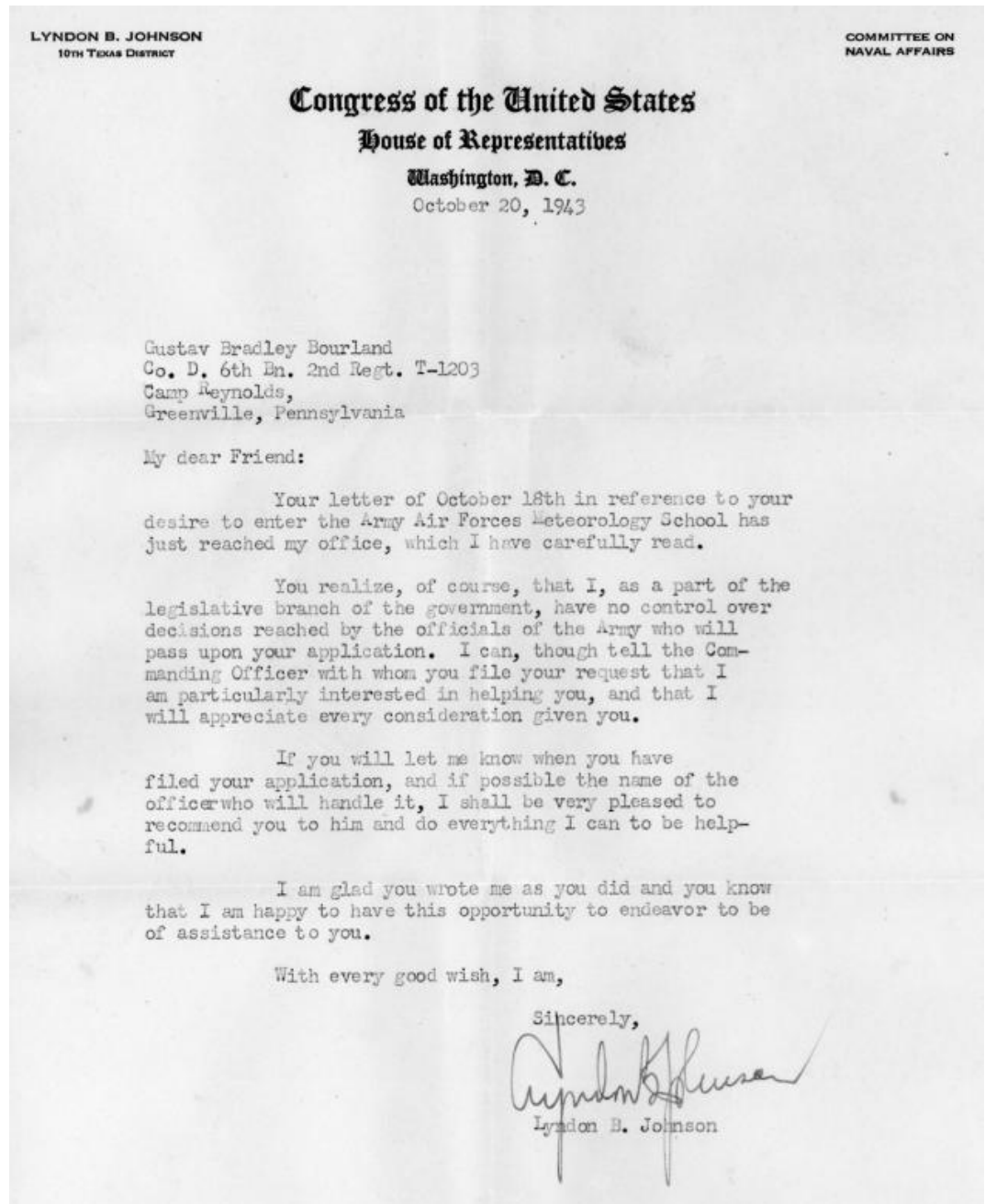
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Family Histories: What's in your past?

By Dave Bourland

In the last few years I have used my home scanner to capture and preserve many family photos and papers. Among all these papers I have found some information related to the military service of my ancestors. This process is like finding the pieces of a puzzle. Sometimes you find enough pieces to make a picture but sometimes you are just left with information out of context.

I have been lucky in that my Dad admired his Uncles that had served in WW1 and being a child of the depression he kept things many people would have thrown away.

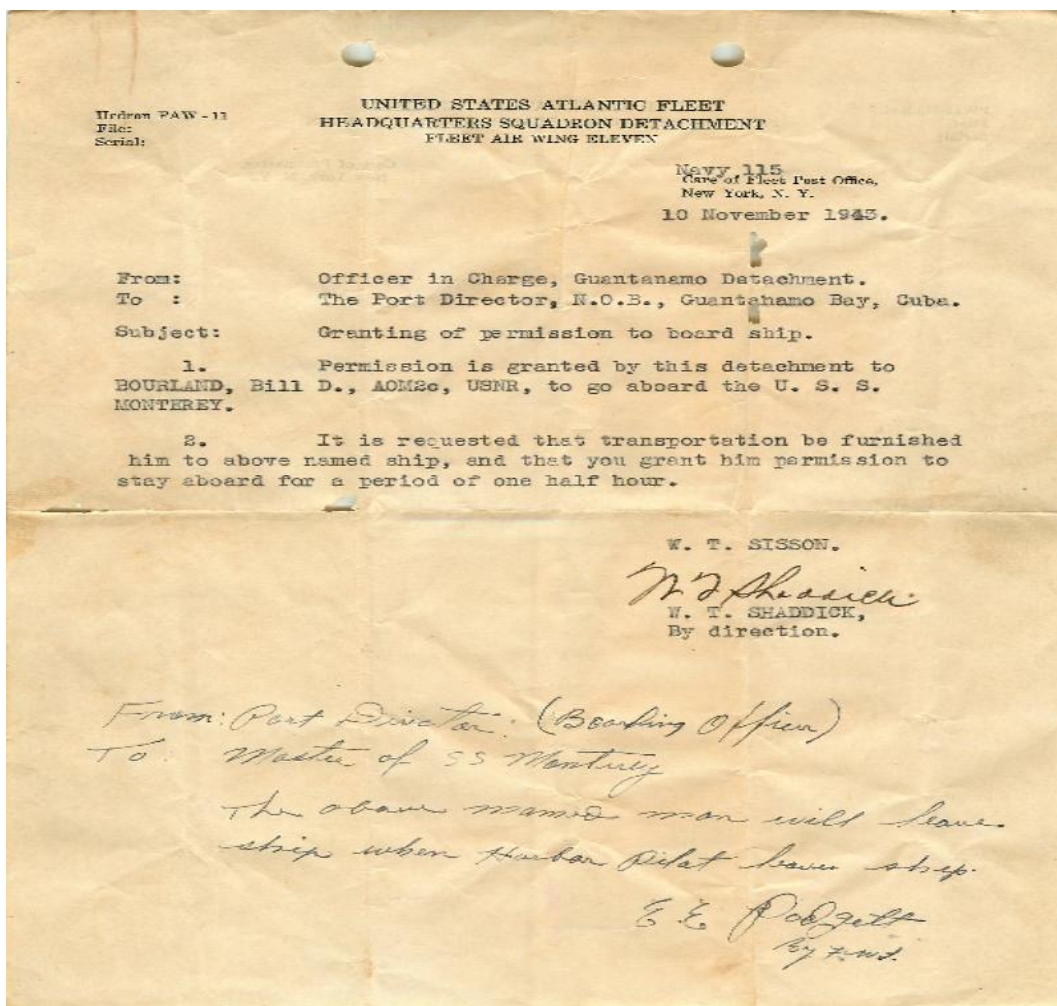


Family Histories: What's in your past? - Continued

I found one letter in my Grandmother's cedar chest. I think my Dad sent it to her to keep and that no one had looked at it for 62 years when I picked it up. In October 1943 Dad had written his Congressman about transferring from quartermaster to Air Corp. The Congressman's assistant, future President Lyndon Baines Johnson replied and signed the letter.

One artifact is a small card about as big as a credit card. It was a two day pass to the recreation center in Coblenz issued by VII Army Corps. It was from March of 1919, signed by the commander of the 360th infantry machine gun company and the back has barrack names and reporting instructions. That is a lot of information packed into a very small item. At first I thought this might be the infamous concentration camp location but that was in Poland. I believe this is the city on the Rhine near the Moselle.

Newspapers covered what we would consider very small incidents. I have two separate clippings one marked my Dad visiting his mom and my Uncle completing his training. Both have a picture, complete rank, base and unit information. The article on my Dad was just 11 lines but it contained a lot of information. He was a Pvt., stationed at Fort Francis E. Warren WY., in the Quartermaster Corps and was visiting his mom. Gave her address. Said he was a Grad of the Masonic Home and UT and his brother is a second class petty officer overseas. Any bit of information can lead to a trail of investigation. Based on that I found a Wikipedia article about Fort



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Family Histories: What's in your past? - Continued

Francis. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort D.A. Russell \(Wyoming\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_D.A._Russell_(Wyoming))). The article on my Uncle sites him as an aviation ordinance mate and about to finish training Dahlgren, VA naval proving grounds.

Using this website of Military Medals I was able to find the citation for my Great Uncle. (<http://www.militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/search.php?medal=2>) My Dad had read me this when I was a small boy but I had not been able to find it or any other description as an adult. The site gives a good amount of detail:

*BOURLAND, WILLIAM P.

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

Company C, 1st Engineers, 1st Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: October 8 - 9, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to William P. Bourland, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Verdun, France, October 8 - 9, 1918. On October 8, leading his company to the assault of a hill, First Lieutenant Bourland captured many prisoners and machine guns. On October 9, while defending the hill, the enemy launched a counterattack of greatly superior numbers, but, in the face of great danger, Lieutenant Bourland proceeded to an outpost, and by skillful direction he contributed greatly to the successful defense of the hill. He was killed while in command at this outpost.

General Orders No. 27, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Rock Springs, TX

Newspapers wrote differently too. My great Uncle was killed in Action, the first sentence of that clipping reads, "The grim destroyer War has claimed another former Llano boy."

I have my Grandmother's sugar rationing coupon from 1942. It is often easy to overlook the home front.

I have my Uncle's driver permit issues in April 1944. It confirms he was still based at the Naval base at Guantanamo, Cuba. My Uncle never spoke about his time in the service. He never said so much as, "Boy, Cuba was hot." He was so silent that his wife made up stories to explain his reticence; they were all crap.

Of all the things I found my favorite is a simple one page set of orders. My Dad had always told me the story of how he got to see my Uncle on this way to Trinidad. He had gotten a letter from him before they started using the APO system so he knew Uncle Bill was stationed in Guantanamo Bay. Dad told me he asked the Chaplain on ship to radio the base and make ask permission as soon as he learned they would stop there. I found the orders that gave my Uncle permission to board the ship. That one item told me Uncle Bill's unit was the Fleet Air Wing 11 Flying PBY's and Dad's ship taking him to Trinidad was the Light Carrier USS Monterey on its shakedown cruise.

Dave Bourland

Family Histories: What's in your past? - Continued

KILLED IN ACTION

The grim destroyer War has claimed another former Llano boy. Mrs. Jessie Newsom of Rock Springs received a message last week telling of the death of her son, Lieut. W. F. Bourland which occurred on October 9th while in action.

Lieut. Bourland was 27 or 28 years of age. He graduated from the Llano High School with the Class of 1910, following which he went to A. & M. College and completed the course in engineering.

When it appeared that his Nation was on the verge of war, young Bourland volunteered and afterwards entered the officers' training camp at Leon Springs where he was commissioned. He soon went to France where he served faithfully until the time of his death.

Lieut. Bourland was reared in the Valley Spring neighborhood. He was a nephew of our fellow townsman M. B. Dabbs. He was one of those fellows whose ambition carried him on to greater things. He was not satisfied with anything but the best. His constant aim was to equip himself for a life of usefulness.

His friends who speak of him say he was one of the finest of fellows. He was a true friend and a devoted son. He was considerate of his widowed mother and endeavored always to bring to her life those things which contributed to her comfort and pleasure.

But the demon War has claimed its toll again. The grief-stricken mother has been called upon to make the sacrifice. In her affliction the sympathy of our people go to her with the fervent prayer that a Divine Providence will watch over and sustain her in this sad hour.

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Boresight Volume 18 No. 6



The Membership Magazine of the Armor Modeling & Preservation Society

BORESIGHT \$6.00 USD

Volume 18 No.6

tasca
M4A3E8 SHERMAN



INSIDE: Challenger II • Tasca M4A3E8 Sherman
M1059 Smoke Carrier • M2A4 Light Tank

PUBLICATION

Volume 15, Issue 6

Boresight Volume 18 No. 6 - Continued

By Roderick Bell

The latest issue of the *AMPS Boresight* is out. Here is what is inside the Volume 18, Issue No. 6:

- ◆ **AMPS Review Crew News** by **Chuck Aleshire, Review Coordinator**
- ◆ **M1059 Smoke Carrier** by **Mark Corbett**
- ◆ **Tamiya Challenger II Desertised: Building an OIF Desert Rat** by **Tony Higgs.**
- ◆ **Tasca M4A3E8 Sherman: Tasca makes it easy with this review** by **John Robinson**
- ◆ **M2A4 Light Tank: Converting Academy M3 Stuart** by **Dave Manter**

Roderick Bell

AMPS International Convention 2012

By Roderick Bell

The 18th AMPS International Convention will be held at the WW2 Victory Museum in Auburn Indiana from Thursday April 26, 2011 to Saturday April 28, 2012. This show theme is "Anti-Aircraft". More information about the show in the next issue.

Roderick Bell

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JOIN *AMPS* TODAY

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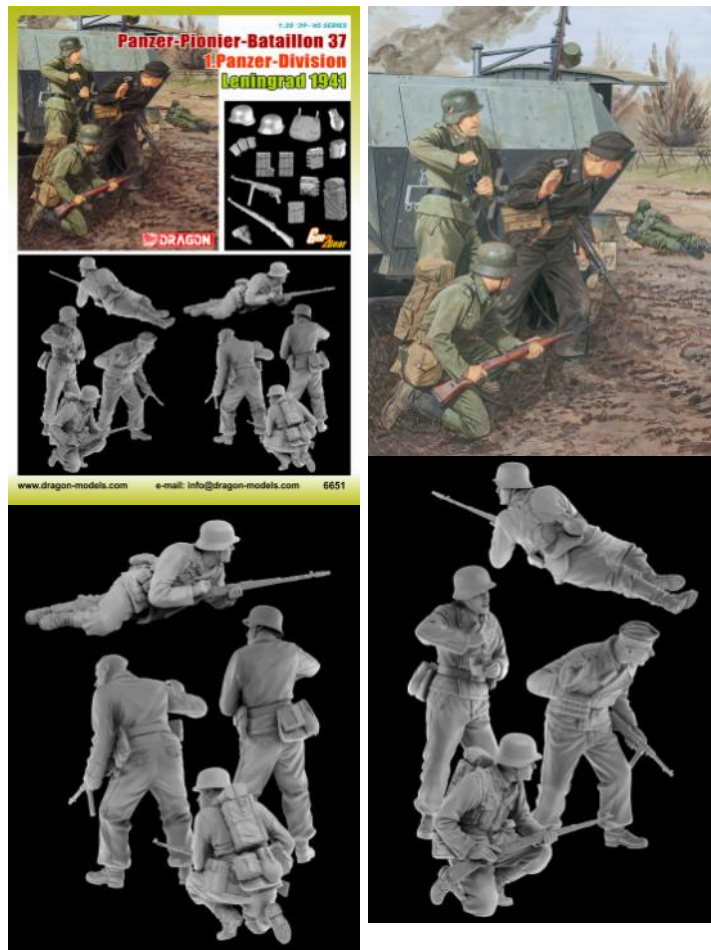
WWW.AMPS-ARMOR.ORG

New Kits

By Roderick Bell

Dragon Models has a nice release of German Panzer-Pioneer Battalion 37 of the 1st Panzer Division during the Leningrad 1941 campaign. The kit comes with 4 figures. Kit No: 6651.

Roderick Bell





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 30 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

Support our Troops



The United States Marines deployed 14 M1A1 tanks to Afghanistan in December 2010 making them the first US tanks in the region. Denmark and Canada have sent Leopard 2A6 tanks to Afghanistan. Photograph by **Lance Cpl. Andrew D. Thorburn / Marine Corps.**