



Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

August 2016



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Colors and Shapes

The Black & White Method Twisted

by Ian Cantler

I must preface this article with "I don't really know the full science behind this but maybe my experimentation will help."

Last year I was looking back through a digital copy of *Panzer Aces*, and I found an article on painting an M1A2 using the Zenithal (or Black and white) method. I thought it would be great to try it on my Italeri Crusader II since it was a desert vehicle used

in North Africa. My results at the first attempt were "eh" at best. It was pretty shabby looking and didn't have the depth that I had seen in the magazine.

Our fellow painting guru Bob (Bethea) suggested maybe next time I try browns and tans instead of black and white. And when you think about it, how does black and white really work? Well, they desaturate. Black makes things blacker, and white makes them whiter. Since I am a photographer and a filmmaker, I have a tiny bit of color theory knowledge, and I thought I would put it to the test. I've had some failures and some successes, and here are my findings.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **August 3 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **August 3 to 8 - IPMS-USA National Convention** The Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia, SC
- ◆ **September 7 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **September 10 - SuperCon 2016**, Bob Duncan Community Center, Arlington, TX
- ◆ **September 24 - ASMS Capital Classic 2016**, Norris Conference Centers, Austin, TX
- ◆ **October 5 - AABS Club Meeting**



AABS Officers May 2016 – Apr 2018

John Talley, President
(512) 388-3473, johnwtalley@hotmail.com

Ted Andreas, Jr., Vice-President
tedandreas1@yahoo.com

Eric Choy, Treasurer
(512) 554-9595, aabsco@gmail.com

Ted Paone, Secretary
(512) 635-9516, theopaone@att.net

Eric Choy, Newsletter Editor
(512) 554-9595, aabsco@gmail.com

Roderick Bell, Webmaster
(512) 507-6104
roderickobell@gmail.com



Upcoming Program Presentations and Newsletter Articles

Month	Program Presentation	Newsletter Article
January 2016	Ted Paone	Rick Herrington
February	Kevin Hutchison	Ted Paone
March*	David Davis (Guest)	Alex Gashev
April	Aaron Smischney	Rod Bell
May	Dave Bourland	Russ Holm
June*	Bob Bethea	Greg Beckman
July	Ted Andreas, Jr.	Eric Choy
August	Ian Candler	Ian Candler
September*	Rick Herrington	Ted Andreas, Jr.
October	Kit Auction	Joe Fisher
November	John Talley	Greg Beckman
December*	Eric Choy	Bill Menzie
January 2017	Worth Haggerton	John Talley

Here is a list of members who are responsible for providing articles for the newsletter and program presentation at our monthly meetings.

Please note any member may contribute as many articles as he wants any time. The purpose of this schedule is to ensure we have at least one article in the newsletter each month.

Prompt submission of your article is much appreciated. The deadline is always **11:59PM on the last Wednesday of the previous month** (e.g. Rick Herrington's article for January was due on the last Wednesday of December).

* Quarterly contest month



From the Turret

Time marches on, and we're well into the long Texas summer, so maybe it's time to take a break. My plan is to head north for a while and enjoy some cool night air. But if traveling isn't in your plans, you can get a good respite from the sun inside with your airbrush or favorite kit of the month. For that matter, a little research is all it takes to keep me inside the air conditioning lately.

Here are a few of the interesting tidbits I found this month while enjoying the AC and looking for inspiring subject matter for you.

Twenty-Five years ago this month, the Vice President of the Soviet Union and seven other hardliners lead an attempted coup to wrest control from President Gorbachev. Ironically, the failed coup resulted in the extremely rapid Dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Seventy-Five years ago this month, the Germans pocketed another 300,000 Red Army troops at Smolensk. This put the Germans well on their way to



Russian civilians resisting the 1991 coup, supported by a strong military presence.

Moscow, while also closing in on Leningrad and taking Orel. It was at this point that Hitler went against his military advisers and diverted resources from the drive on Moscow toward the Leningrad and southern offensives. Many argue that this was a war-changing decision, although no one really knows what the results of taking Moscow would have been.

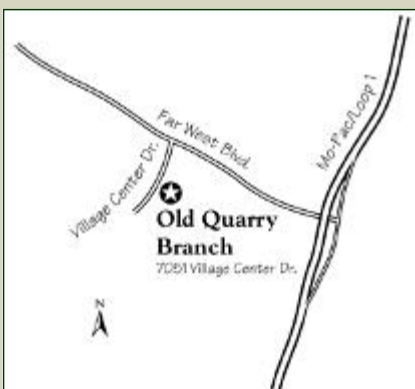
Several of us will be missing from the meeting this month, including myself, but I am sure you all will enjoy yourselves and have a great time catching up on other members' progress with their projects.

John Talley
President

Austin Armor Builders Society (AABS) meets at 7PM each month at the **Austin Public Library Old Quarry Branch**. Our next meeting is on

August 3, 2016

Annual dues for full membership are USD **\$12** to be collected at each January meeting. Upon receipt of payment, a membership card will be issued. This card is valid for one year, and it entitles holder to discounts at various local hobby shops in the Central Texas and San Antonio areas.



Sabot Away! is the official newsletter of AABS and is published twelve times a year on/before each monthly meeting. Any inquiry on subscription issues or assistance on article contribution please contact editor Eric Choy via email aabsco@gmail.com.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of AABS.



(Continued from page 1)

The first success is the DML 1/35th Orange Box LVT-4 (reboxed Italeri kit). I wanted to depict a British LVT crossing the River Rhine. The markings posed no trouble as they were already included in the box, but the kit was not the most enjoyable build I have experienced. So I decided to turn it into a bench mule and experiment with the Black-Blue painting method.



During the painting process, I kinda held back and played safe. In hindsight I probably should have taken it a bit more extreme as I have learned time and time again. It is better to exaggerate your effects. The results didn't officially start taking shape until the weathering started. I used some of Vallejo's acrylic washes, then used Winsor & Newton Artist Oils to render the streaking and grime.

The LVT is not as drab as I would have liked it, but the depth within the green is fantastic. The blue really mix with the drab and push out the greens. So



while this model was not my best build, it ended up being something I don't mind sitting on my shelf.

Skip a few months and I wanted to return to this method again on Tamiya's 1/35th StuG.III Ausf.B. Man, I had a blast with this kit. What it may lack in details, it makes up for with engineering and fit.

Some will argue that Panzer Gray did not have any blue in the gray. To which I respond: who cares! I like it, and in the name of science I wanted to test my theory.

I primed the vehicle black first. Then I started using Hull Red, Orange, and Iraqi Sand worked my way from the bottom to the top of the vehicle.



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The final highlights were straight Iraqi Sand added onto the highest points of the vehicle.

Since I was out of Panzer Gray, I mixed my own with Tamiya Dark Gray and Field Blue with Buff added to lighten for scale. Then I thinned the mix with a



ratio of 9/1 (thinner to paint) and adjusted the pressure to about 10psi. While spraying, I had to exercise extreme patience because the paint was so thin. It did not seem to cover, but the idea was slowly building the color in

layers. I kept my airbrush angled and used wide side-to-side movement to ensure my layers were even. The results may not be apparent, but once I started weathering, all those layers started showing through. I ended up with a high contrast model.

The same effect can be achieved in other modulation methods. Whichever way you prefer, it's nice to have another technique to change up the usual painting routine.

Ian





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NEW ON THE BLOCK



Due any day now is Tamiya's new 1/48th JGSDF Type 10 MBT.



Ooh... Nazi wonder weapon from Bronco! The "Rhinebote" was a long-range unguided ballistic missile on a 88mm AA gun mount. Over 200 of them were fired at Antwerp in November 1944.



DML sure makes things easy for IDF modelers with their latest 1/35th 2-in-1 Magach MBT kit.



ZSU-57-2, a Soviet self-propelled AA gun based on the T-54 chassis.

Trumpeter and Meng are at each other's throat again! Both of their latest releases include 1/35th

AMPS Boresight (Volume 24, Issue 4)

The latest issue of *Boresight* is out. Here is a quick look inside:

- ◆ **Panzerkampfwagen III Ausf.D** by Peter Petkov
The latest group effort by AMPS Bulgaria.
- ◆ **2016 Winner's List Corrections** by the editor
- ◆ **State Memorial Museum of Leningrad Siege Defense & Blockade** Photos and text by Steven Andreano
- ◆ **Little Tank for Little Venice** by Bob Bethea
Building Takom's new 1/35th AMX-13/90.
- ◆ **Making A Scene** by Ashley Abernathy
A simple but great way to show off your model.
- ◆ **First In Line** by Tom Gannon
A brief history of MP Models' first plastic conversion kits.
- ◆ **Local Chapter News**
What's going on in the AMPS community.





About Us

The Austin Armor Builders Society (AABS) started in 1999 when Don Jones, a member of the local IPMS chapter, decided "what a good idea to get out two nights a month, and on at least one night talk tanks."



At each monthly meeting, we talk tanks, swap kits, and share our building techniques and tricks. We also hold regular in-house model contests and organize out-of-town field trips to museums and modeling events. Every odd-numbered year AABS hosts the biggest scale armor modeling show in Texas that attracts some of the best armor modelers in the Lone Star as well as neighboring states.

AABS is the only scale model club in Central Texas devoted solely to armor modeling. We don't build planes because they are just plain! Our passion is armored fighting vehicles and military figures. Subject of our interest ranges from WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Middle East, to the most recent Gulf War Conflicts.

Since inception AABS is a local chapter of Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS), a national organization dedicated to the promotion of scale modeling and armored vehicle preservation.

To find out more about AABS, please visit our website or pick up a club flyer at your local hobby shop.

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We are on the web @ AustinArmorBuilders.com

Check out Greg Beckman's 1/35th diorama: an Ukrainian UAZ-469 light truck towing a ZPU-4 in the Donbass area.

