



Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

October 2016

My Homemade Paint Booth – Revisited Part I

by Joe Fisher

More than a year ago we presented (well, mostly presented) an AABS meeting program on homemade paint booths. I say “mostly” because the prototype paint booth didn't quite get finished in time for the meeting. The trouble was with our wire-bending capability, but that's another story.

But a question or two came up at that meeting about the material that we used for the “filter and fan box” and “hood” of the paint booth: Coroplast®. That's the stuff used for temporary signs that we see around town for election candidates and other individual advertising. It's durable and cheap.

It's against state law to erect a sign on public road right-of-way other than

those authorized by municipal or county government. Thus, we consider those signs that have been left derelict to be fair game for re-use. With the upcoming elections the signs should be plentiful very soon!

Now with a plant in Dallas, the Coroplast® company's website (<http://www.coroplast.com>) claims it's the leading supplier of corrugated plastic sheets. Complete technical specs for Coroplast® can be found there. There are “knock-off” materials available as well.

My Experiments

The first question was whether the material could be glued, to itself or to other materials. At the time we did the program, we did not know. Coroplast® is made of polypropylene which, like polyethylene, is very difficult to glue. The company's website recommends 3M Scotch-Weld adhesive, a two-part, industrial type glue. A check with a local distributor, the R.S. Hughes Co., showed that system to be quite expensive and requiring special

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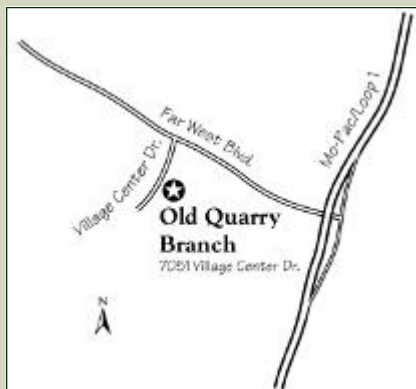
Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
UPCOMING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	2
FROM THE TURRET	3
ANNUAL KIT AUCTION	4
2016 THIRD QUARTERLY CONTEST WINNERS	6
JOIN AMPS TODAY	7
NEW ON THE BLOCK	8
BORESIGHT PREVIEW	8
ABOUT US	9
MEMBERS' GALLERY	9

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

October 5, 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.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ October 5 - AABS Club Meeting
- ◆ November 2 - AABS Club Meeting
- ◆ November 12 - Lone Star Military Miniature Society
Modeling Day Shady Hollow Community Center, Austin, TX
- ◆ December 3 - ڭڭڭ **AABS Christmas Party** ???
- ◆ December 7 - AABS Club Meeting



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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

It was nice getting back into the swing of things last month after missing a club meeting for the first time in more than three years. I was glad to hear that the club continued with other members filling in for missing officers. I don't think I'll be missing a meeting again any time soon, but it's nice to know we've got backup.

This month's inspirational history focused on events of sixty years ago in The Suez Crisis and the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

The Suez Crisis is a lesson in international relations and diplomacy gone crazy. It's a fascinating story of politics and military action. The military action involved the likes of Britain, France, Egypt, and Israel. The variety of equipment that the Egyptians alone had was an interesting study, being supplied by both the post-World War II west and the Soviets. The Israelis also built their forces with anything they could get at the time, buying armor and vehicles from



An Egyptian Sherman and other vehicles destroyed in the Sinai.

multiple western nations. Even the British and French were using a mix of new and hold-out WWII equipment.

The Hungarian Revolution saw a strange conflict between forces both equipped with Soviet weapons, although the Soviets had kept their newer, better equipment for themselves. A wise move from the Soviet point of view.

Many dramatic scenes have been recorded with civilians, militia, Hungarian Army forces, and Russian military forces all placed in a unbelievable situation. In the end, the Soviets crushed the Hungarian Revolution, and we have been left with images of a devastating conflict. Anyone interested in Soviet armor should be able to find project inspiration here.



A Hungarian Army T-34 destroyed by intervening Soviet forces in the 1956 revolution.

I hope you've all had a good month of progress on your projects. I'm looking forward seeing you all at the meeting!

John Talley
President



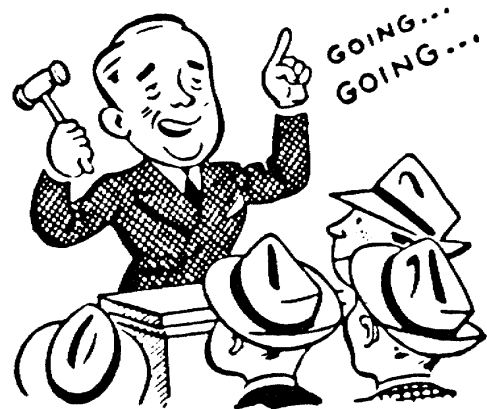
Annual Kit Auction

Our annual kit auction will be held at our October meeting this year. This auction is our club's only fund raising activity. All monies collected go straight into the treasury for our biennial show and other club activities.

To participate in this auction, please bring:

- A few unwanted kits in your collection that are complete and haven't been started.
- Your cash-filled wallet (or your checkbook).

Remember, your friends and fellow modelers will be bidding on these items. Be considerate and don't bring a kit that has missing parts or has been partially glued/painted!



(Continued from page 1)

application tools. They recommended an aerosol spray contact adhesive, 3M #20 Heavy Duty Spray Adhesive.

Heat welding is a possibility for joining Coroplast®, but some special tools and techniques would likely be needed. Again, another project for a later time. Of course, simple bolting with washers and nuts works, and the paint booth project has some of those too.



3M #20 is designed primarily for use with high pressure laminates, e.g. Formica®. It costs about \$10 for a 13.75 oz can at R.S. Hughes, so we bought one to give it a try. The instructions are simple but detailed and, like all contact cements, quick setting. So far the results have been excellent. Other contact adhesives may work well too.

Heretofore we'd used duct tape to join Coroplast® with less than satisfactory results. The main complaint is that the adhesive on duct tapes tends to slide or "ooze" over time if it's under the strain of base materials that have been bent to form shapes. On cheap duct tapes the adhesive dries out and the tape just plain falls off!

We have a "pigeon hole" type box for metal rods

and tubes for modeling that I made from Coroplast® long ago. It has been re-taped every few years to keep it together. Not good. It will be redone with 3M #20 as time permits.

Working with Coroplast®

A regular utility knife is all that's needed to cut the stuff. Figure 1 shows a typical "tab fold" type of joint. Just set the utility knife to cut part way through and then bend the tab to a right angle.

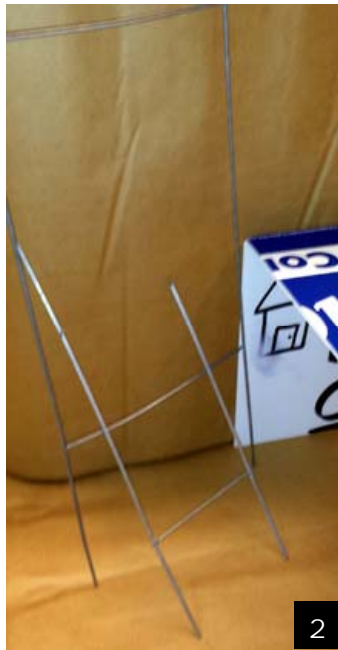
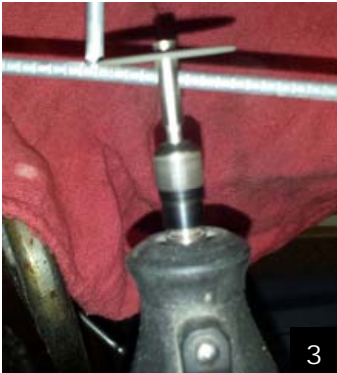


We used a 150 grit sandpaper to roughen the mating surfaces before spraying on the #20. Let dry 3+ minutes until "tacky" dry, then carefully place the two parts together. A misaligned joint can be taken apart, but it's not easy! So far the joints have help up well.



A New Design

The welded wire frames (Fig. 2) were cut apart with a motor tool and cutoff wheel (Fig. 3) and used as “stiffeners” for the plastic sheet parts.



In our original design we tried to insert the wire through the corrugations and then make “captive” bends. It was not a good idea as the bends were too hard to control. We came to realize merely inserting the wires into the corrugations is plenty sufficient.

“Eyes” were bent at the ends of the rods, which were then bent at a right angle forming mounting feet. The “knock-off” wire and strip bender (Fig. 4) made short work of that.



For this design we used a 12” x 12” A/C filter (\$4.47) from Home Depot. We cut it in half (Fig. 5). The filter is by far the biggest expense, but it’s necessary to protect the fan.

This 120mm square fan was from a long ago abandoned PC. Old PCs and other cast off computer electronics with fans can sometimes be picked up for

nothing. This fan (Fig. 6) is a little noisy but very robust at moving air.

Part II

We’ll finish up next with the fab of the fan box, mounting the fan and wiring the power supply. This fan requires 12 volts DC at 1.2 Amps. As fans go that’s a lot of power. But like fans, power supplies for laptops, printers, scanners and such that have “quit” are sometimes just thrown out - good for us.



Mounting the whole thing on a 20” x 24” piece of scrap 1/2” plywood completed the project. That’s a little large, but I may build a wider hood and fan box to accommodate larger models and electronic panels that I build and paint.

And we’ll do an air flow test with smoke to see how effective our booth is. I’d enjoy comparing my home made version with a commercial version.

To be continued...

Joe





2016 Third Quarterly Contest Winners



1st Place:

Ian Candler

1/35th WWI Mk.IV Male Tank



2nd Place:

Greg Beckman

1/35th MT-LB with
ZPU-2 Diorama



3rd Place:

Russ Holm

1/35th 88mm PaK43
Anti-tank Gun





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NEW ON THE BLOCK



Unlike other Panther “paper panzer” projects, the Ausf.D V2 did exist but was used for training only.



The first of the three new 1/35th King Tiger from Takom is here. This kit has full interior, engine, individual link tracks, and zimmerit... everything you ever need to build a King Tiger is in the box.



The 9K330 TOR is a short-range SAM developed by the Soviets in the 1980s. The 1/35th Panda kit features a big sheet of PE fret that includes many details like radar array and engine intake screens.



Taliban anyone? Stalingrad has just released a five-figure set of 1/35th Afghan rebels. Each figure is also sold separately.

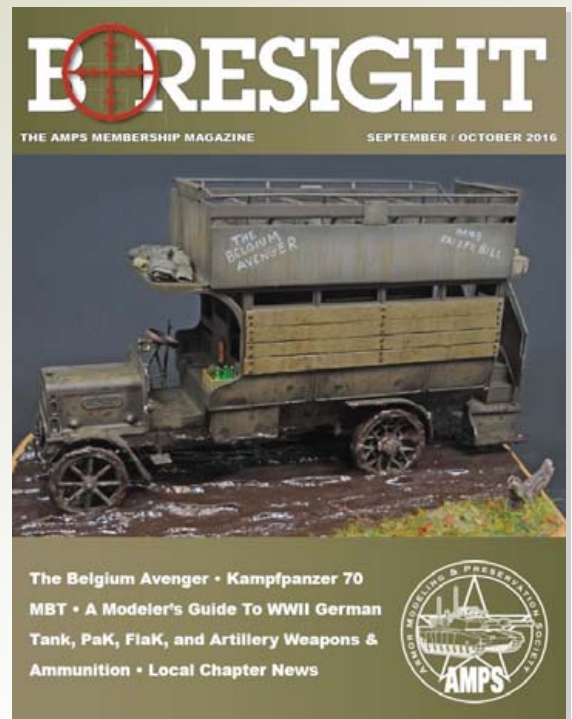


New from MB is this set of WWII Italian “Military Men.” The Autoblinda is NOT included, of course!

AMPS Boresight (Volume 24, Issue 5)

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

- ◆ **The Belgium Avenger** by Chuck Aleshire
Making the best out of an ancient kit.
- ◆ **Kampfpanzer 70 MBT** by John Robinson
The MBT that never was.
- ◆ **A Modeler's Guide To WWII German Tank, PaK, FlaK, Artillery Weapons & Ammunition** by Dan Mouritzen
- ◆ **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

*Our esteemed veep Ted Andres, Jr. latest work:
1/35th Academy Achilles built straight
out-of-the box.*

