

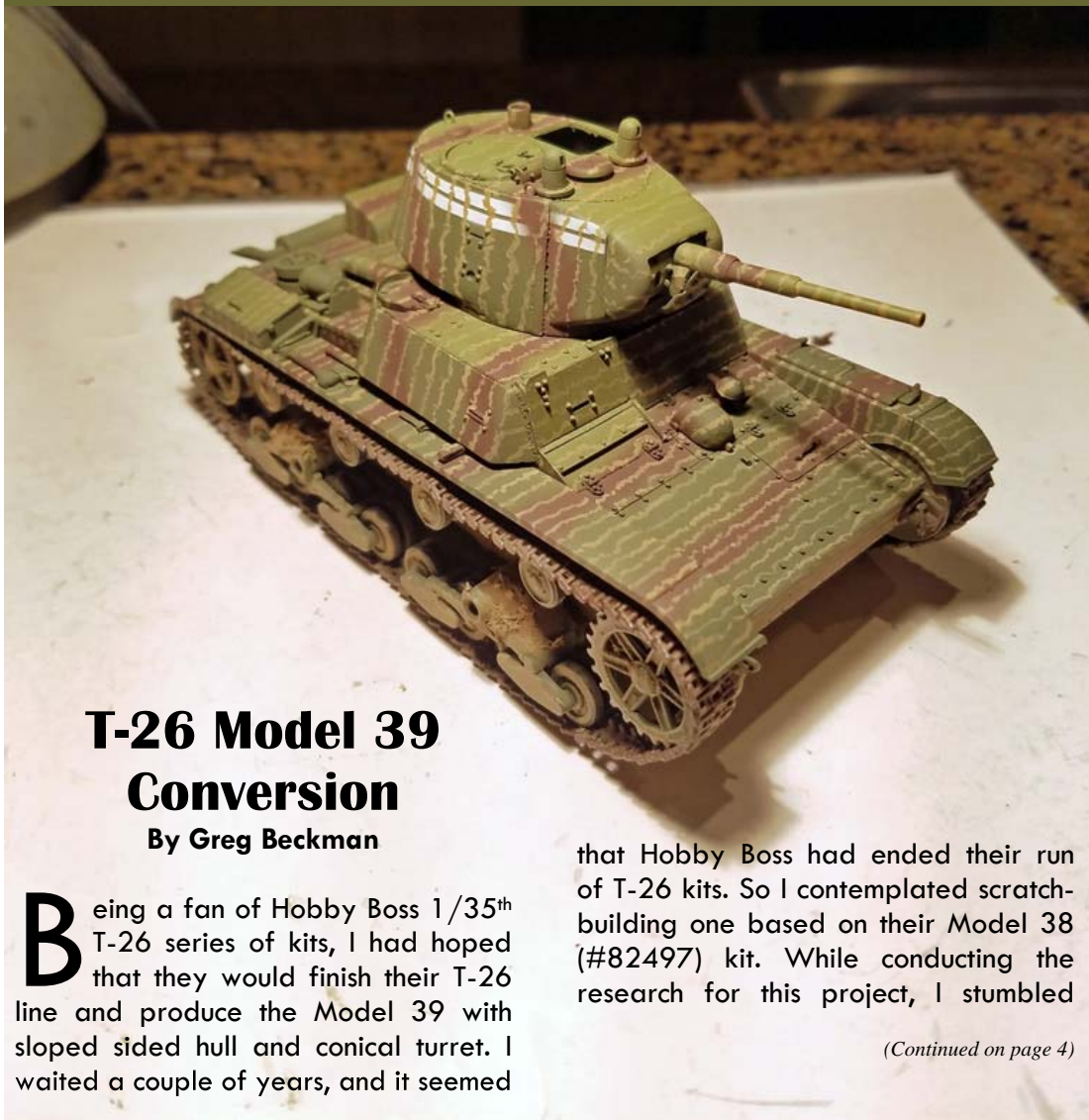


Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

May 2019



T-26 Model 39 Conversion

By Greg Beckman

Being a fan of Hobby Boss 1/35th T-26 series of kits, I had hoped that they would finish their T-26 line and produce the Model 39 with sloped sided hull and conical turret. I waited a couple of years, and it seemed

that Hobby Boss had ended their run of T-26 kits. So I contemplated scratch-building one based on their Model 38 (#82497) kit. While conducting the research for this project, I stumbled

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
UPCOMING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	2
FROM THE TURRET	3
AABS TURNS 20!	5
2019 AMPS CENTEX ARMOR EXPO	6
2019 AMPS INT'L CONVENTION	7
JOIN AMPS TODAY	8
NEW ON THE BLOCK	9
BORESIGHT PREVIEW	9
ABOUT US	10
MEMBERS GALLERY	10

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

May 1, 2019

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

- ◆ **May 1 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **May 9 to 11 - 2019 AMPS International Convention**,
The Buffalo Grand Hotel (formerly Adams's Mark),
Buffalo, NY
- ◆ **May 11 - LSMMS Modeling Day** Shady Hollow
Community Center, Austin, TX
- ◆ **June 5 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **June 8 - 2009 SoonerCon** Council Road Baptist Church,
Bethany, OK
- ◆ **September 14 - AMPS Centex Armor Expo**
Georgetown Community Center, Georgetown, TX
- ◆ **July 3 - AABS Club Meeting**



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Schedule of Upcoming Program Presentations and Newsletter Articles

Month	Program Presentation	Newsletter Article
January 2019	Mike Lamm	Greg Beckman
February	Ian Candler	Mike Lamm
March*	Eric Choy	Eric Choy
April	Bob Bethea	Bob Bethea
May	Ted Paone	Greg Beckman
June*	Chris Chany	Ted Paone
July	Ted Andreas, Jr	Ted Andreas, Jr
August	Rick Herrington	Rick Herrington
September*	AMPS Judging Review	Chris Chany
October	Kit Auction	Bob Bethea
November	Aaron Smischney	Greg Beckman
December*	Alex Gashev	Russ Holm
January 2020	Mike Maloney	Kevin Hutchison

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. Greg Beckman's article for January 2019 was due on the last Wednesday of December).

* Quarterly contest month



From the Turret

Greetings! By the time this newsletter goes into print, the 2019 Houston show will be in the books. Eric will have, if all goes according to plan, entered the AABS Sherman collection into that contest. As I am writing this, I wish us all success in the competition. Yet, win or lose, it was a worthy project and a tribute to the tank that helped the Allies win World War II.

We have some rain in the forecast so I hope that does not adversely affect the Houston show. My first time at that show it rained hard during the awards presentation. Susan and I thought we might have to find out if we were still good swimmers.

As I wrote last month the fighting in Italy had turned into stalemate. In May, however, that began to change. The II Polish Corps under General Anders, assaulted the German lines in what would be known as the fourth and final battle of Monte Cassino.



The first effort was repulsed by the Germans. Then the situation changed dramatically after Moroccan Goumiers outflanked the defensive line by advancing through terrain the Germans thought was impossible to traverse. From the newly acquired positions, the Goumiers, reinforced by other Moroccan and Algerian troops, were able to support British forces that were now threatening to cut the German supply and communication lines.



Moroccan Goumier

The Poles again pressed towards the now destroyed Abbey. In spite of intense mortar fires that inflicted heavy casualties, the Poles prevailed. The Abbey was taken as was the high ground around Monte Cassino. The Germans fell back to a new defensive position (the Hitler Line).



German Mortar Crew

The Poles had succeeded where allies from several other national combat formations had failed. But of course, the cost had been very high.

As the fight for Monte Cassino was ending, allied forces began breaking out of the Anzio beachhead. It was the plan of Field Marshall Alexander that the allies would now be able to surround and trap the main German forces in Italy. American General Mark Clark, however, had his own plans that we will mention next month.

Best wishes to all and remember to keep building and painting.

Ted Andreas, Jr.
President

(Continued from page 1)

across a resin conversion by the Russian company **Komplekt Zip** that was available via Hobby Easy (hobbyeasy.com). I immediately placed an order of the sloped hull and a forged turret.

Construction

When the package arrived, I started test fitting the resin hull top onto the lower hull parts of a Hobby Boss T-26. The parts did not align very well at all, and I figured the conversion parts must have been based on an older T-26 kit. I happened to have a partially assembled/abandoned build of an old Italeri/Zvezda T-26. Parts alignment with the Italeri kit was much better, so I decided to use that kit as the base for the conversion.

Once I had trimmed down the top of the Italeri hull sides, the resin hull top was an easy fit. The lower hull top fit was not too bad; I just needed to add a plastic strip at the front of the hull, and I was good to go. The resin turret assembly was very straight forward. It consisted of just gluing parts together. I did opt for a turned 45mm barrel over the resin one provided by Komplekt Zip.



To finish the build, I had to raid my spare parts box for some old T-26 parts. I added a saw, armored head light cover, horn, and a few other minor items.

Painting

My inspiration was based on three color profiles and two real pictures of a unique camouflage scheme used by a Soviet armored unit that participated in the joint British-Soviet invasion of Persia (Iran) that occurred in 1941.



I started by spraying a base coat of Tamiya XF-64 Field Grey (represents 4B0). Then I masked and sprayed unit identification stripes in Tamiya XF-2 Flat White on the turret top. Next, I sprayed AK Realcolors 6K Dark Brown in medium wavy stripes across the hull. Then I finished up with some hand painted thin wavy stripes in AK Realcolors 7K Sand.

I am happy with how this project turned out.

Greg





20 years

In case you haven't noticed, AABS turned 20 this year on the 24th of April!

Since our club's inception in 1999, AABS sailed through six presidents (Don Jones, Rod Bell, Eric Choy, Bob Bethea, John Talley, and Ted Andreas, Jr.) and nine biennial shows in the last two decades. We grew from a small local AMPS chapter to one of the power houses in the Central Region. Along the way we lost some friends (Karl Leidy, Rod Bell, Pat Rourke), but we also gained many enthusiastic (and younger!) new members.

With a healthy coffer and sturdy membership, I can't wait to see what the next 20 years bring us!

Editor





2019 AMPS CENTEX Armor Expo

September 14th, 2019

An AMPS Regional Show



Show Theme "Artillery - King of the Battlefield"

Any towed, emplaced, or self propelled weapon that lays **INDIRECT FIRE** (i.e. shell, rocket(s), or missile(s) delivered at a target which cannot be seen by the aimer) is eligible for the show theme award.

AMPS International Convention

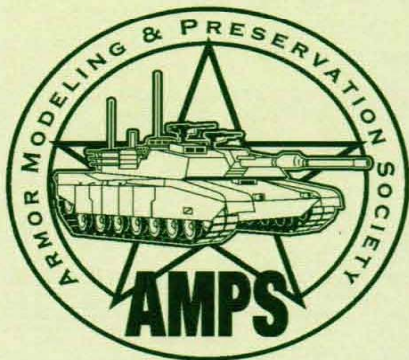
May 9-11

Adam's Mark Hotel
120 Church St
Buffalo, NY 14202

Brought to you by
AMPS Niagara Frontier
& AMPS Canada



SNOW



Our convention theme this year is "Snow." Join us in Buffalo for the biggest and best armor modeling event in the U.S. Enjoy vendors, seminars and a huge raffle. The display room is well-lit for viewing the models.

The outstanding venue is located on the shores of Lake Erie, adjacent to the Erie County Naval and Serviceman's Park with indoor parking and easy vendor access. The hotel is a full service facility.

Downtown Buffalo affords easy access to I-90, the Peace Bridge from the QEW/Canada, the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport and Amtrak.

Get the latest event, registration and schedule information at amps-armor.org

JOIN *AMPS* TODAY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____

ZIP CODE: _____ **COUNTRY:** _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPES	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Regular U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$55)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$80)
Regular Canada/Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$35)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$95)
Regular Rest of the World	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$40)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$75)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$110)
Junior (17 or under)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$15)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$45)
Family Member*	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$ 5)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$10)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$15)

*For anyone living at the same address with a regular active member. Family member DOES NOT receive an individual copy of *Boresight* but enjoy vendor discounts, website access, and can enter in the national competition as long as he/she is accompanied by the regular active member.



IF PAYING BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES AND COMPLETED FORM TO:

AMPS
ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DEPT.
P.O. BOX 227, FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719
U.S.A.



All payments must be made in U.S. funds. **AMPS** accepts payments by check and money order, as well as PayPal. To join using PayPal, just visit the **AMPS** website:

www.amps-armor.org

NEW ON THE BLOCK



Working in conjunction with Das-Werk, Amusing Hobby's latest is the E-5 "Rutscher" paper panzer.



Known for their braille scale (1/72nd) products, Modelcollect surprises us all with a new Panther II E-50 in 1/35th scale.



Also new from Modelcollect is their 1/72nd R17 "Scud-B" ballistic missile on a 9P117M1 Launcher.



There's a new 1/35th Leopard in town, and it's Meng's A7+.

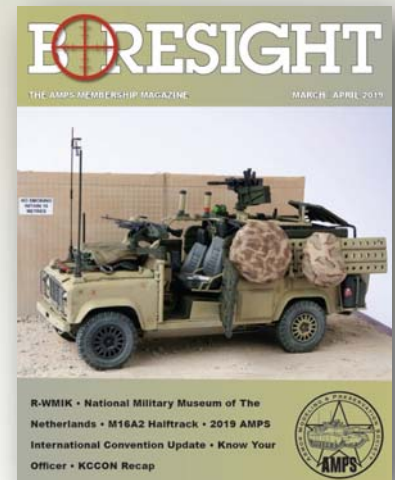


After completing the M47 series, Takom now releases the Korean War era M46 Patton.

AMPS Boresight (Volume 27, Issue 2)

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

- ♦ R-WMIK by John Tapsell
- ♦ National Military Museum of The Netherlands by Chuck Aleshire
- ♦ M16A2 Half-Track by John Kirkpatrick
- ♦ KCCON Recap by Damon Cook
- ♦ 2019 AMPS International Convention Update
- ♦ Know Your Officer
- ♦ Local Chapter News



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 least one night talk tanks.”



AABS is the first 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.

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.

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 @ austinamps.org



Mike Maloney built this very fine looking M4E1 for our Sherman display. Based on the M4A4 turret and chassis, the M4E1 utilized a radial multi-fuel engine.

Mike's model was one of the prototypes armed with a T1 76mm gun sent to Ft Knox for evaluation in 1943.