



Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

October 2019



Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
UPCOMING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	2
FROM THE TURRET	3
2019 ARMOR EXPO SHOW REPORT	8
JOIN AMPS TODAY	11
NEW ON THE BLOCK	12
BORESIGHT PREVIEW	12
ABOUT US	13
MEMBERS' GALLERY	13

Color Modulation for Armored Vehicles

By **Bob Bethea**

We modelers are used to the scaling down of details and shapes by the kit manufacturers to show a great replica of an armored vehicle. However, that's just the beginning of making a scale model

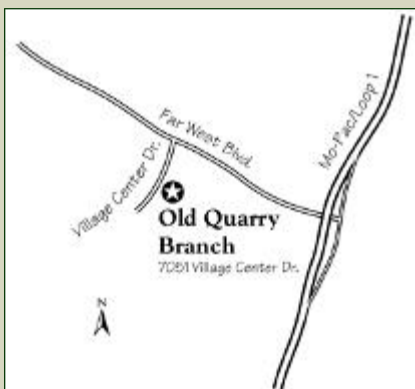
look like the real thing. Attention must be made to scale down the paint job to take into effect of the difference in lighting between 1:1 and 1:35 (or 1:72). Just as figure modelers discovered, we must accentuate highlights and shadows on the smaller versions so they look like the real thing when viewed in regular 1:1 light. The process of breaking up a single color

(Continued on page 6)

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

October 2, 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

- ◆ **October 2 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **October 5 - ASMS 2019 Capital Classic** Travis County Expo Center, Austin TX
- ◆ **November 6 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **December 4 - AABS Club Meeting**
- ◆ **December 7 - AABS Christmas Party** - Rattan Creek Community Center, Austin TX



AABS Officers May 2018 – Apr 2020

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

Ian Candler, Vice-President
iancandlermedia@gmail.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

Joe Fisher, Webmaster
(512) 350-6936,
fisherjoe2014@gmail.com



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*	Rick Herrington	Ted Paone
July	Ted Andreas, Jr	Ted Andreas, Jr
August	Chris Chany	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! Our show is over, and we have about two years before the next one. Thanks to all members who helped out. I am sure Eric will have a wrap-up report for us.

At this time, I do believe our show went well. Some of the changes made seemed to payoff as the judging was accomplished on schedule. Giving out the medals all at one time for each person who won them was also a great idea.

Before I forget, this next meeting is our auction. Bring kits to sell or bring money! Or both!

Back to our history. A great number of battles around the globe happened this month seventy-five years ago. Here are some of the major ones:

In October 1944, the Germans saw another former ally defect. This time it was the Finns. Ironically, the Finns had been well armed by the Germans and were now fighting to force the German army out of Finland.



Finnish Troops now fighting against Germany

October saw the demise of one of Germany's most celebrated Field Marshals. Irwin Rommel would be persuaded to commit suicide rather than face trial as a conspirator in the attempted assassination of Adolf

(Continued on page 4)



Annual Kit Auction

The annual kit auction will be held at our next (October) meeting. 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!

Hitler. Rommel would be given an elaborate state funeral, and the official version stated he had died from injuries suffered in Normandy.



Rommel in North Africa

In October, the Canadians would take German strongholds in Calais while the Americans would attack the defenses of Aachen. Aachen would fall to the allies before October ended. It was the first large German city to be taken.



American Infantrymen in Aachen

Meanwhile in occupied Poland, the Germans finally crushed the Warsaw Uprising that first started in the summer of 1944. The Polish underground resistance fought for 63 days with little outside support. It would seem that nearby Russian forces had been instructed to stand down and not interfere. It is believed that Joseph Stalin, the Russian leader, had a long-range vision for Poland that did not include those who would resist oppression.

(Continued on page 5)



If you haven't started the White Elephant kit you received from last year, I say you are way behind schedule! Here's the photo taken at the 2018 Xmas party to remind you what you got.



Polish resistance in a captured German halftrack



Leyte Gulf ended in an American victory over the Japanese Imperial Navy.

Keep building and painting! Thanks to all members of AABS for making this organization one of the very best!

Ted Andreas, Jr.
President

In the Pacific Theater, MacArthur made good his promise to return to the Philippines. The Battle of

Austin Scale Modelers Society



Presents
The



2019 CAPITOL CLASSIC

Show
Theme

SUMMER OF LOVE

Anything manufactured or in use during 1967.

Saturday, October 5th 2019

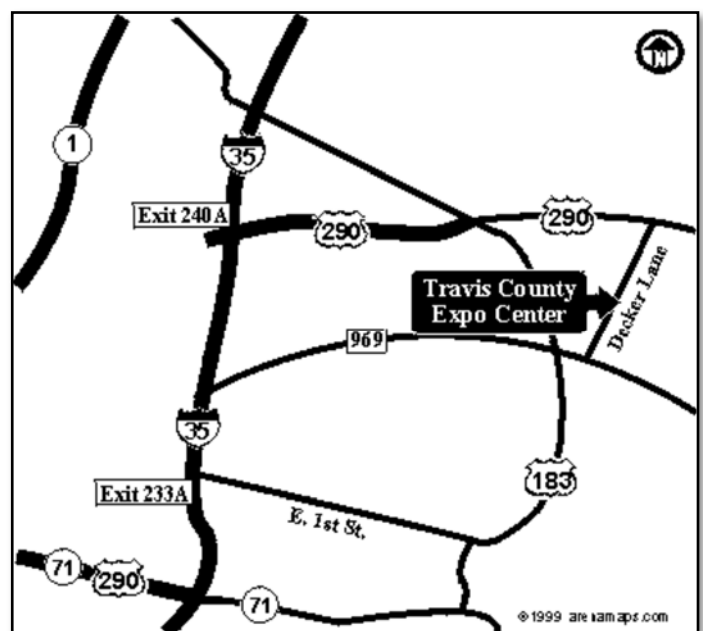
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Travis County Expo Center

7311 Decker Ln, Austin, TX 78724

🌸 IPMS Model Contest 🌸
75 Vendor Tables 🌸 Food
Make 'N' Take 🌸 Door Prizes

www.austinsms.org



(Continued from page 1)

paint job into a multicolor simulation of reality is called **modulation**.

Some modelers cling to the "paint chip" concept of matching model paint precisely to a known color of a 1:1 object. Unfortunately, the end product can be blah, too dark, and toy-like. The more you scale down a model, the lighter its paint job should be.

Also, the color seen by the viewer depends on the angle of the plate to the sun. For example, the top of the model is lighter where the sun hits directly; the sides are darker where the light hits obliquely; and the lower shaded areas are much darker than everywhere else.

Lately some modelers have been priming their models in black to represent the ultimate shadow. I don't do that as black dulls any color painted over the model, and it needs too much additional paint to cover it. I prefer to paint in my shadow areas with a darker version of the ultimate color as it enriches the palette of the end product.

Take Olive Drab (OD) as an example. Tamiya is my airbrush paint of choice, and I usually start with their Olive Drab (XF-62) which matches the real thing exactly. While it is too dark for a scale model, it is a perfect shadow color.



After a smooth coat of OD is applied, I add a significant amount (about 25%) of Tamiya Dark Yellow (XF-60) as the first highlight. The Dark Yellow

was a component in real life (during WWII, US Army used Ocher and Black paints to make OD), and the yellow richens the OD. Do not use white as it changes the color value and bleaches the paint.

Apply the OD-Dark Yellow mix generously to the top of the model and less to the upper sides, leaving the lower areas such as the wheels and lower glacis plates in original OD (shadow).



Next I add more Dark Yellow to the mix for the second and final highlight and hit the center of upper panels of the model to accentuate the reflection of natural light from above. Now you will have a single color model consisting of three complementary colors which accentuate the shapes of the model.



Here are some more examples of modulation. The first one is the hull of a Tamiya's 1:35 M10 Tank Destroyer I'm currently working on:



Next we have Mike Maloney's M4E1 he built for our club's Sherman collection:



Finally, we have our editor Eric Choy's Trumpeter 1:35 BTR-50PK APC. Russian 4BO is used instead of OD, but the concept is the same.



On sharp edges, light strengthens. Look at a table and you can see the edges sharply as the light passes over and bends, making it show up on the edges. You too can do that with your model to enhance its realism and accentuate sharp edges for the viewer. Using a soft brush and a complementary oil or acrylic paint that is relatively dry, I drag the brush along the edge perpendicularly in a controlled drybrushing. You'll be surprised at the striking effect.



When you're done with these painting stages, coat the model in Future Floor Wax and apply your decals. Next I add another coat of Future, and I'm ready to weather my model for a superior result.

Bob

2019 Armor Expo Show Report

By Eric Choy

Ladies and Gentlemen, please form a circle and give each other a good pat on our back. We did a fantastic job hosting the AMPS Centex Armor Expo at the Georgetown Community Center this year.

Because of a date conflict with IPMS/Fort Worth's SuperCon, we lost some of our contestants (see table below), but we still managed to pull the average number of entries. Most, if not all, serious armor modelers in the state were all here at our show, plus a few newcomers from Louisiana. Here's the geographical breakdown of the contestants and entries compared to the 2017 show:

Entry Breakdown	2019	2017	2015	2013	2011	Avg
Contestants	43	54	42	31	36	41.2
Entries	189	230	208	159	140	185.2

Contestant Breakdown	2019	2017
Capital Metro area (Travis, Williamson, Hays)	14	16
Houston area	7	13
San Antonio area	9	10
Dallas/Fort Worth area	3	5
Killeen/Waco area	4	4
Other parts of Texas	2	1
Out of State	4	5
TOTAL:	43	54

Category Breakdown	2019	2017
1. Closed Top - Origin to 1934	8	8
2. Closed Top - Axis 1935-45	22	33
3. Closed Top - Allied 1935-45	21	30
4. Closed Top - Post 1945	30	28

Category Breakdown (Cont'd)	2019	2017
5. Open Top/Hatch Vehicle	18	17
6. Wheeled Vehicle	20	33
7. Ordnance	11	12
8. Major Conversion & Scratchbuild	7	9
9. Military Figure	12	22
10. Diorama	7	14
11. Vignette	7	-
12. Fictional & Proposed Vehicles	7	10
13. Mobile & Armored Suits	11	-
14. Junior	1	2
15. Master	0	0
16. Tank Buster Challenge (Fixed)	5	7
17. Tank Buster Challenge (Rotary)	2	5
TOTAL:	189	230

	2019	2017	2015
Walk-In Traffic	65	75	47

This year instead of having all of our judging done on the day of show, we decided to hold pre-show judging nights to ease the load. It was a big help. We knocked out almost 30 entries (15.87% of total) on two nights with two teams on Thursday and one on Friday. Everyone who came over to *mi casa* to judge had a blast! We had pizzas, pastas, ice cream, and *baklava* to eat, beer and soda to eat, and some very nice models to "evaluate." What more can any modeler ask for?

We had two seminars on the day of the show: a color modulation painting demo in the morning and a basic weathering technique how-to in the afternoon. Both sessions were well attended, and many show attendees were happy to learn a few things or two on how to improve their models. Unfortunately the seminars went a bit too long, and they ended up cutting into our presenters' judging time. But this can



Sabot Away! The Newsletter of The Austin Armor Builders

October 2019 Page 9

be easily remedied next time with a simple egg-timer. I believe we should keep doing it at our next show.

Our door prize table made a record sale this year. The pick-your-prize way of raffling was a huge success. Everyone got what he/she wanted and went home happy.

As far as complaints, I have only heard two: there was a lack of ATM machine nearby and contestants asking if plastic is accepted when registering their model entries. While there is nothing we can do about getting an ATM machine inside the building, the club might want to invest in a card reader (e.g. Square) to accept debit/credit card payments. I know many of us (myself included!) will roll our eyes and ask: what is wrong with carrying good old U.S. Treasury issued greenbacks? The truth is more and more of our vendors are now taking plastic payments, and according to a recent study published by Pew Research Center, roughly 3 out of 10 adults make no purchase with cash in a typical week! Time has changed, and we need to keep up or risk losing sales.

So did the club make a profit from the show? The answer is a definite yes (I'll go over the finances with the membership at the October meeting). However, this might be the last show we are able to do so as the rental fee of the Georgetown Community Center has gone up by 25% recently! Now the only way we can get a discount on the venue rental is to apply for nonprofit status with the IRS, something we have talked about doing for a while. It looks like the club doesn't have a choice of not doing it anymore.

All in all, a jolly good time we all had. Many thanks to Pat Rourke ex-wife, **Donna Weinberger-Rourke**, for providing refreshment so no one passed out from thirst and hunger. Kudos to Ian Candler's wife **Ashley** who helped out at the door prize table. I owe both **Randy Bumgardner** and **Scott Conner** (AMPS 2nd VP Central Region) a huge debt of gratitude for coming all the way from California and Kansas to have fun with us.

Above all, I offer my sincere thanks to every AABS member who sacrificed his/her time to tackle various tasks and chores before, during, and after the show. You guys are the real heroes of our 2019 Armor Expo!

Eric





Best Soviet/Russian: BA-6 by Ed Rains



Best Commonwealth and Show Theme Award: Bishop SPG by Paul Howard



Best Detailed Armor: Winter StuG.III by Scott Conner



Best Fictional: Panzer Faust by Vince Barrale



Best Diorama: Fortress Casino 1944 by Robert Hallack



Best Small Army: Pavesi P4/100 by Paul Howard



Best Figure: Soviet Female Tanker by Ian Candler

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



What's the deal with the popularity of the Russian 96K6 Pantsir-S1 anti-aircraft weapon system? There are at least three 1/35th kits out already! The top one on the left is by MENG, and the bottom two came from Trumpeter.

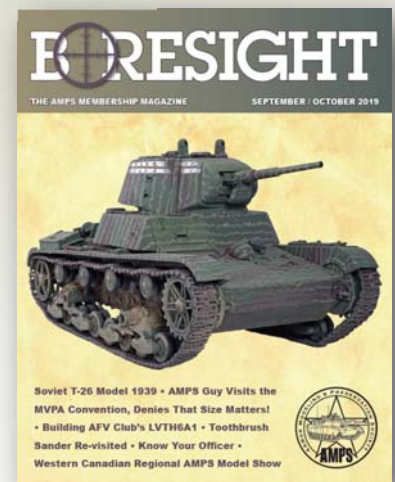


There has been a lot of 1/35th releases from Ryefield Model lately, including Gulf War M551A1 Sheridan (top) and a Syrian T-34/D30 122mm SPG (bottom).

AMPS Boresight (Volume 27, Issue 5)

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

- ◆ Soviet T-26 Model 39 by Greg Beckman
- ◆ AMPS Guy Visits MVPA Convention, Denies That Size Matters! by Chuck Aleshire
- ◆ Western Canadian Regional AMPS Model Show by Anthony Swards
- ◆ Building AFV Club's LVTH6A1 by Henry Milton
- ◆ Toothbrush Sander Re-visited by Ed Ingersoll
- ◆ Know Your Officer
- ◆ Local Chapter News and Upcoming Shows



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.”



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.

19990424

We are on the web @ austinamps.org



The 2019 AMPS Centex Armor Expo Best of Show award went to **Lonnie McIntosh's** 1/48th scale SdKfz.251/20 "Uhu" halftrack. Check out his beautifully scratchbuilt searchlight.