



Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

February 2023



Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
UPCOMING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	2
FROM THE TURRET	3
AMPS BORESIGHT PREVIEW	5
KC CON 2023	5
JOIN AMPS TODAY	6
NEW ON THE BLOCK	7
ABOUT US	7

TANK PAINTING 101

by The Editor

Here's no brainer question for you all: what's there to do on a rainy January Saturday afternoon with no lawn to mow and no holiday to celebrate? Go learn how to paint tanks with **Bob Bethea**, of course!

Our tank painting course blasted off on January 28 at the new hobby store "The Hobby Shop" at Leander. We had five students (**Marty Hebda, Kevin Hutchison, Rick Herrington, Ted Paone, and Craig Bland**), one observer (Vince Hutson), and one teaching assistant (yours truly).

After a short introduction, we dived in and got our hands dirty. In our first class, we learned from Bob how to use modulation (sometimes refer to as "Zenithal Light") technique to apply Olive Drab on a 1/35th scale Sherman tank. The idea is to accentuate highlights and shadows on scale models so they look like the real thing when viewed in regular 1:1 light.

Bob has performed a demo at one of our shows and written an article (you can download it from our club's

(Continued on page 4)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ February 1 - AABS Club Meeting
- ◆ February 4 - Sherman Painting Class Session #2, The Hobby Shop, Leander
- ◆ February 11 - Modelfiesta 41, New Braunfels Civic Center, New Braunfels
- ◆ February 12 - Sherman Painting Class Session #3, The Hobby Shop, Leander
- ◆ March 1 - AABS Club Meeting
- ◆ March 11 - KC CON, First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City, MO
- ◆ April 5 - AABS Club Meeting



AABS Officers Feb 2023 – Jan 2025

Chris Chany, President
christopherchany@gmail.com

Bob Bethea, Vice-President
bobbethea@sbcglobal.net

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 2023	Officer Election	Mike Maloney
February	2023 Winterblitz Pix	Eric Choy
March*	TBA	TBA
April	TBA	TBA
May	TBA	TBA
June*	TBA	TBA
July	* KIT AUCTION *	TBA
August	TBA	TBA
September*	AMPS Judging Review	TBA
October	TBA	TBA
November	TBA	TBA
December*	TBA	TBA
January 2024	TBA	TBA

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. Mike Maloney's article for January is due on the last Wednesday of December).

* Quarterly contest month



From the Turret

I am honored that you have put your trust in me to run this organization. Thank you!

At this month's meeting, we will be asking for volunteers to write monthly articles for the newsletter and give monthly program demonstrations. If you have a technique you would like to demonstrate or write about, please volunteer before you get "voluntold." Additionally, if there is a skill or technique you would like to learn, please let us know so that we can possibly get it scheduled as a program at an upcoming meeting. We will also have a brief discussion on how the Sherman painting class is coming along.

The program for this month will be two-fold. First, we will have a photographic wrap-up of 2023 Winterblitz from College Station. Then we will have

some WWII slides that have been only seen by a very small number of people.

Just a quick autobiography about me, Chris Chany. I was born and raised in Manhattan, NYC on the upper East Side and have lived in Texas for almost ten years now. Growing up, my dad (a WWII Veteran) and I built a few models together but no armor. In sixth grade, I was given a Monogram 1/48th scale Grumman Wildcat which started me on my "kit building" journey. After running out of airspace by having over 125 airplanes hanging from the ceiling over my bunk bed, I started building Tamiya armor.

The first Tamiya kit I remember building was the BMW motorcycle with sidecar and two marching Germans. The *Kubelwagen* quickly followed. I have built most of the original Tamiya 1/35th scale German and American WWII armor, and the 1/25th scale Tiger and *Jagdpanther*. Growing up in NYC, you would never know where you would run into model kits for sale. There was a newsstand/cigar/stationary store up the block where we would pick up the Sunday paper. It had a small selection of Airfix kits, and I got a Ju.52 from there. Down the block the other way was another newsstand where I got my Tamiya SdKfz.251. Later on, it became more

(Continued on page 4)



It is club dues time again. At our December meeting last year, the membership voted in favor of raising our annual dues slightly to counter recent inflation. Dues is now **\$15** (instead of \$12).

Due to the library's "no money exchange hands" policy, please send your dues by **PayPal** to **payaabs@gmail.com**. Be sure to use the "Send Money to Friends/Family option" to avoid PayPal surcharge (or add a \$1 processing fee if you can't find that option.)

For those who prefer to make a mail-in payment, our treasurer's address is:

Eric Choy
13213 Marrero Drive, Austin TX 78729

Please make your payment payable to "**AABS**." DO NOT send cash by mail!



Sabot Away! The Newsletter of The Austin Armor Builders

February 2023 Page 4

(Continued from page 3)

conventional, and most of my models were purchased at Jan's Hobby Shop on York Avenue and 77th Street and still later at Gateway Hobbies in the Garment District.

In New York I was a member of the Hudson Valley Historical Miniatures' Guild (HVHMG) but never joined AMPS. When I arrived in Texas, April 14,

2013, I saw that there was a model club that met the third Thursday of the month which I quickly joined. From there it took little convincing by some of the members of that club to join AABS.

See you at the meeting!

Chris Chany
President

(Continued from page 1)

website www.austinamps.org. Go to the Newsletter Archive page and click on the October 2019 link). We were very fortunate to have him giving each of us an one-on-one lesson on his techniques.

Our tank painting course will continue next weekend (**Feb 4 Saturday**) on decaling and filtering with artist oils. Then we conclude on the weekend after next (**Feb 12 Sunday**) with pin-washing and highlighting techniques.

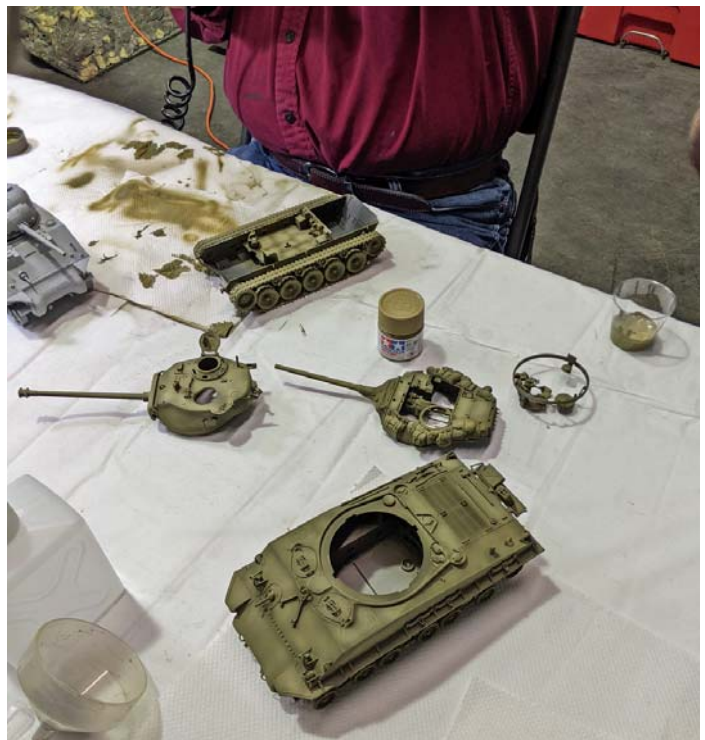
It's not too late if you want to join us. Just let me know you're coming and pay the small "tuition" (\$10) to cover the costs of the course supplies. Sorry there is a class size limit of ten, so sign up ASAP!

Many thanks to **The Hobby Shop** in Leander for letting us hold the class on its premises.

Editor



With all the students operating their airbrushes at full throttle, it took no time at all to fill the room we were in with paint fume. In fact after stepping out for a short bathroom break, I returned to find the room in a misty haze of Tamiya acrylics and thinner! Fortunately, the staff of The Hobby Shop opened the overhead door to let fresh air in. Otherwise, we would be very much "elevated" for the rest of the afternoon!





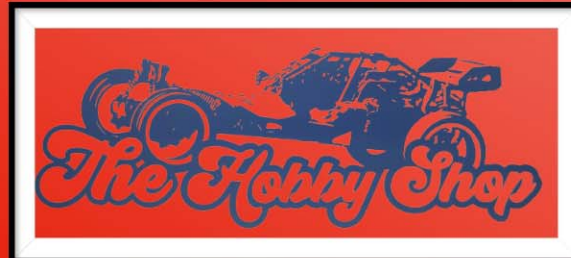
Address

900 Lacy Drive, Leander, TX 78641

Contact

(512) 528-4226

info@thehobbyshoptx.com



Find all of your modeling needs in Leander!



Opening Hours

Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday: 11:00am - 4:00pm

AMPS Boresight (Volume 31, Issue 1)

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

- ♦ **Winterjagd** by Vince Barrale
- ♦ **AMPS 2023 International Convention Update** by Peter Espada
- ♦ **M16B The Wasp** by John Kirkpatrick
- ♦ **Merkava: The Beginning** by Tom Gannon
- ♦ **Know Your Officer**
- ♦ **AMPS Local Chapter News & Upcoming Shows**



KC CON 2023

Saturday, March 11, 2023

First Church of the Nazarene

11811 State Line Rd., Kansas City, MO 64114

Registration 9:00am-noon, Hall closes at 5:00pm

All Armor entries will be judged using AMPS rules
All other entries will be judged using IPMS rules

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)

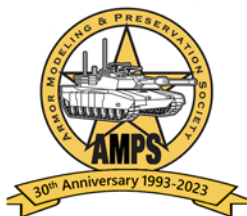
*For anyone living at the same address with a regular active member. Family member DOES NOT receive an individual copy of *Boresight* but enjoy vendor discounts, website access, and can enter in the national competition as long as he/she is accompanied by the regular active member.

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

AMPS

ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DEPT.

**P.O. BOX 807, 1140 THORN RUN ROAD
MOON TOWNSHIP, PA 15108-9998**



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



Border Models' new 1/35th Kodiak can dig, bulldoze, breach minefield, and demo/erect obstacles. Its launch customer was Switzerland. That might explain why it's a Swiss Army knife vehicle!



It's been a while since Dragon's last release, so the new 1/35th T-34 747(r) w/ 88mm FlaK 36/37 is most welcomed.



Deemed obsolete after the UK's exit from Afghanistan in 2020, Mastiff 2, an upgraded 6x6 protected patrol vehicle based on the Cougar MRAP, is now heading to Ukraine! Meng's 1/35th rendition of it will no doubt excite those who model the current war between Russia and Ukraine.



Another excellent choice of 1/48th release from Tamiya: M8 Howitzer Motor Carriage. TOTS rules!

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. We also hold regular in-house model contests and organize out-of-town trips to museums and modeling events. Every odd-numbered year AABS hosts the biggest armor modeling show 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.

For more info, please visit www.austinamps.org