

# Ground Power

Central VA Chapter, Armor Modeling & Preservation Society | John Robinson, Editor | Volume 28 No. 5

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#### **UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS**

MAY 26	Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: Making welds with Slater's rod by Scott Bregi
JUN 17	Saturday am/pm MODEL BUILDING DAY 9:00 am - 6:00 pm VFW Post 10657
JUN 23	Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: Products from VMS by Tabb Tharrington
JUL 28	Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: TBD
JUN 17	Saturday am/pm MODEL BUILDING DAY 9:00 am - 6:00 pm VFW Post 10657
AUG 18	Friday pm MEETING: VFW Post 10657 DEMO: TBD

## **MEETING AGENDA**

(segments vary in length)

6:30 OPENING REMARKS, BUSINESS DEMONSTRATION (-30 min.)
PASS IN REVIEW (-90 min.)

#### LOCATION

VFW Post 10657 11568 Cedar Lane Ashland, VA 23005

#### PRE-MEETING DINNER



Casa Grande at 5:15 p.m. 10120 Brook Rd Glen Allen, VA 23059

## Demonstration from the April meeting

The demo at the April meeting was a slide show on Desert Terrain Bases by Frank Blanton. You can download the presentation here.



### **2023 AMPS International Convention**

AMPS-CV members that brought home awards:

Chip Heusinger, Basic Gold and graduation to Intermediate Steve Fitton, Intermediate Gold and graduation to Advanced Ashley Abernathy, Advanced Gold (3)

Frank Blanton, Advanced Silver (1) & Gold (2)

Joe Koenig, Advanced Silver (1) & Gold (4)

Clint Mills Advanced Silver (3)

Mike Petty, Advanced Silver (3) & Gold (2)

John Robinson, Advanced Gold (2)

Kip Rudge, Advanced Silver (3) & Gold (2)

Tabb Tharrington, Advanced Gold (4) & Best Small Army

Scott Bregi, Master Gold (2)

Next year's convention is April 11-13, 2024 at South Bend, IN.

# **AMPS-CV Model Building Days**

There's no maintenance being requested in June, so the 17th will be converted into a model building day. The next model building day on the schedule is Saturday, July 29. Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Location is VFW Post 10657.

# **Americans in Wartime Experience**

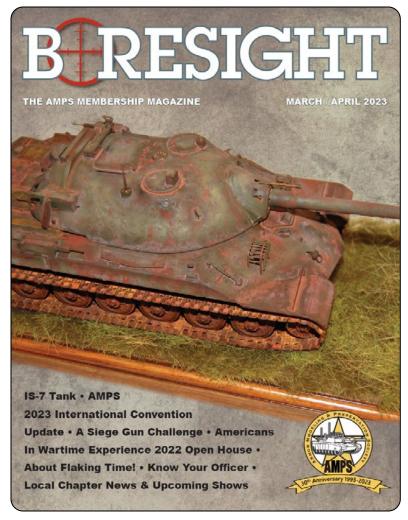
The 2023 Open House is August 26 & 27. Find out more here.

#### Insider access to Fort Lee's Ordnance School

Spencer Van Gils is a volunteer at Fort Lee in Petersburg, VA. If you want to access to the research library there, contact Spencer by finding him on the AMPS-CV Facebook page or by email. If you don't have a military ID you will have to submit to a security check before you arrive. It is best to visit on weekdays and buddying up a few in one car makes it easier to access the base.







Membership includes the society's Boresight magazine that is published six times per year. In it are exclusive articles about armor research and modeling.

#### Boresight March/April 2023

IS-7 Tank by Eric Reinert:

Trumpeter's 1/35th IS-7 rusting in peace

AMPS 2023 International Convention Updates by Peter Espada

A Siege Gun Challenge by Bob Bethea:

The challenge of an all-resin 1/72nd WWI field howitzer

Americans in Wartime Experience 2022 Open House by Thomas Dinackus

About Flaking Time! by The Editor: Building Tamiya classic Gepard kit

Book Review: Weathering Pencil Techniques

by The Editor

Local Chapter News & Upcoming Shows

by The Editor: What's going on in the AMPS community

Know Your AMPS Officer: Paul Miles

	1 year	2 years	3 years
USA	\$30	\$55	\$80
Canada/Mexico	\$35	\$65	\$95
International	\$40	\$75	\$110
Junior*	\$15	\$30	\$45
Family**	\$15	\$10	\$15
Digital***	\$25	\$45	\$65

<sup>\*</sup> Juniors: members aged 17 years or younger.

# Renew or start your AMPS membership online at: www.amps-armor.org

To pay by check or money order Name:

To pay by check or money order, enter your delivery information at right and mail it with your payment to:

Name:

Address:

AMPS Membership PO Box 807

PayPal, Visa and MasterCard accepted

Thorn Run Rd. Moon Township, PA 15108-9998 USA City:

Zip Code:

State:

Country:

Email:





<sup>\*\*</sup> Family: active regular members living at the same address.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Available to International members living outside North America.



# Friday and Saturday October 13th and 14th, 2023

Wyndham Southbury, 1284 Strongtown Rd., Southbury CT 06488 \$129 discount room rates available. Please call 203-653-8179 and ask for the Armorcon room block. Make reservations by 9/7/23.

WINNING MODELS FROM AMPS CAN BE ENTERED AT ARMORCON!

80 VENDOR TABLES!

AMPS OPEN JUDGING SYSTEM! HUGE RAFFLE WITH GREAT PRIZES!
RESEARCH, MODELING, AND WORKSHOP SEMINARS!

18 ENTRY CATEGORIES! 20 SPECIAL AWARDS!

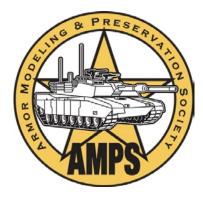
Friday 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**OUR 23nd YEAR!** 

SHOW THEME - Lend-Lease

Check our website for registration forms, schedule times, seminar times and other information, www.nemilmod.org

Brought to you by the Northeast Military Modelers Association
An AMPS Regional Show





#### **For Vendor Table Reservation**

Matt Toms 68 Morris Street Naugatuck, CT 06770 203 729-3218 vendors@mail.nemilmod.org

#### **For More Information**

www.facebook.com/armorcon

www.nemilmod.org





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Italeri British Staghound I in 1:35 scale by Alex Valz

"Italeri has really stepped up its game on this one and it's almost a shake and bake worthy of Tamiya. This kit goes together really well. There is a small fret of photoetch that is easy to attach and looks good. I added two figures from Alpine and Resicast. The groundwork was done with Clayshay mixed with railroad ballast, gravel, and paint. Liquitex coarse texture mixed with pigment was stippled on top to give it more of a dirt like appearance. Silflor grass tufts were used for vegetation."





Airfix British Cromwell Mk.IV in 1:35 scale by Alex Valz

"This is a new release from Airfix in 1/35 scale. The hull and turret sides are all separate and have to be built up so no short cuts here. All parts fit well and require little if any fill. The tracks are link and length and fit well around the road

wheels and sprockets. I painted the tank Tamiya khaki drab and weathered it with artist oil washes and pigments. This is a good start for Airfix and I look forward to building more armor from them."





Flyhawk German Panzer II Ausf.L Luchs in 1:72 scale by Ashley Abernathy There are lots of detail for the scale, including photo-etched brass lifting hooks and engine grill mesh. Fit was good except for the tracks, where the guide teeth did not fit the wheels. Ashley had to clip off the inner run to allow the installation of

the wheels. The gun barrel had too many molding scars to repair and was replaced with two pieces of hypodermic needle. The model was camouflaged with an airbrush and the exhaust was painted by dabbing on colors from the Lifecolor Rust set.





Bronco German Beute-Panzer A13 744(e) in 1:35 scale by Frank Blanton The figure uniform insignias are by Archer Fine Transfers.





AFV Club US M88A1 in 1:35 scale by Frank Blanton

This kit has origins to the early 1990s but still holds up pretty well today. Frank substituted AFV Club separate link tracks (1.5 sets) and 3D printed light cages. The rungs on the lift boom were replaced with brass wire. The MERDC camouflage was painted by hand.





Tamiya US M18 Hellcat in 1:35 scale by Frank Blanton

The M18 was added to a bridge made from plaster and with supporting groundwork made of XPS insulating foam board.





Trumpeter German Beute-Panzer Panzer KV-1B 756(r)

in 1:35 scale

by Ron Craig

Ron added the rack on the engine deck but otherwise it is straight from the box.





Tamiya Soviet BT-7 in 1:35 scale by Scott Bregi

Scott turned the front wheel by taking out a segment of the tie rod and placed the tracks on the fender to depict traveling mode. The paints are by AK-Interactive and Mission Models. Weathering is done using

dark washes, MIG Productions' Subtle Dirt Filter and some dry pigments. Streaking grime was applied to the wheel hubs. The markings are from Echelon.





Dragon Tiger I in 1:35 scale by Scott Holtz What you see is straight from the box. Dragon includes molded-on Zimmerit, photo-etched brass and a metal tow cable. The brass strip on the bow plate is to repair a spot where the Zimmerit texture was not represented on the kit's part. Scott filled in one of the gunsight apertures to make it

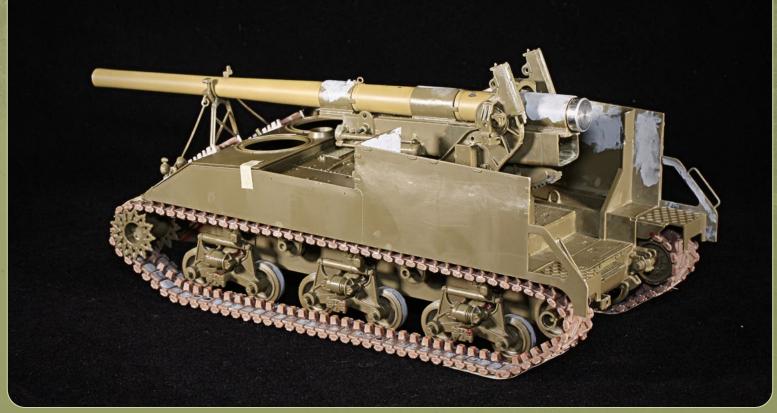
accurate for this version. The arrangement of the exhaust pipe bolt pattern was adjusted to be accurate. Interior radiator parts are included but if installed they are not visible and also interfere with the hatch grates closing.





Tamiya US M40 in 1:35 scale by Spencer Van Gils The aftermarket separate link tracks were assembled but shrunk after drying, leaving a gap at the connecting joint. Spencer wanted to leave the hatches open to match the period references he found, but he

could not find a basic interior that would fit the driver's compartment. Instead, the interior will be painted black. A spare track rack was added to the glacis plate. The metal barrel is also from Tamiya.





Ukraine Diorama with RPG Models T80U, Academy M1151 & Meng Pickup in 1:35 scale

by Tabb Tharrington

The T80U includes photo-etched brass parts and lots of detail but has some annoying location pip fit issues, especially on the

turret. The tracks are working, individual links. The track skirts are rubber and the barrel is both plastic and metal. Tabb built a stowage bin from brass and added Aber mesh to the wading snorkel. It was painted with Gunze Sangyo lacquers. The pickup has a Trumpeter generator in the bed and the wheels will be replaced with a set from DEF

Models. The M115 has a new gun turret from Legend, which had panels that had to be sandwiched and soldered together. It was painted with Tamiya NATO acrylic colors. The base foundation is 3/4" plywood and poplar. The groundwork is XPS insulation foam baord with AK-Interactive Dark Earth paste and VMS Smart Mud.





# **AMPS-CV Quartermaster**

This page is dedicated to memberrecommended products and places to purchase hobby products. If you have a company you want to add to this list, contact your editor <u>via the chapter website</u>.

#### **Product Manufacturers**

Abteilung 502

**AK-Interactive** 

**Alliance ModelWorks** 

**AMMO of Mig Jimenez** 

**Archer Fine Transfers** 

Armand Bayardi

**Badger Airbrush** 

**Bolddivision** 

Copper State Models

**D-Day Miniature Studio** 

**DN Models** 

**Echalon Fine Details** 

**Elefant Corporation** 

Eureka XXL

**GasPatch Models** 

Hauler

**Heavy Hobby** 

Live Resin

**Maus Werx** 

Mission Models Paints

**MJ Miniatures** 

Modern Masters Metal Effects

Monroe Perdu Studios

Panzer Art

Paracel Miniatures

Precision Ice and Snow

**RB Model** 

<u>ResinScales</u>

Roch Model

**Scenic Express** 

**Squadron Hobbies** 

**Star Decals** 

Syren Ship Model

Track48

Valkyrie Miniature

**Woodland Scenics** 

#### Miscellaneous

paintRack (mobile app for Android)

Scale Mates

#### **Hobby Vendors**

**Barrel Store** 

**BNA Model World** 

**Central Tools** 

**Dick Blick Art Materials** 

Frontline Model Kits & Hobbies

**Gundam Planet** 

**Hobby Easy** 

**Hobby Search** 

HobbyLink Japan

HobbyWorld-USA

Last Cavalry

Lots of Models

Lucky Model

MicroWorld Games, LLC

MMC Design-Shapeways

**Shapeways 3D Parts** 

Sprue Brothers Models

