



Sabot Away!



BUSINESS NAME

Volume 17, Issue 7

July 3, 2013

From the Turret



Summer is a hard time to get modelling done. The heat, the vacations, the yard work,

the kids out of school, etc. We know its harder to get substantial time together

for a long "sit down" session.

Continued on Page 2

Austin Armor Builders Society Membership Dues

Dues are collected in January. This will make it easier for us to track and easier to maintain the membership cards.

As always, membership is \$12.00 USD per year. The membership cards will be presented to members at the February meeting.

The card will be valid for one year and a new card will be created each year as long as your club membership is in good standing.

New members will be given a card after they pay their dues. Dues will be prorated based on the month they join.



Special points of interest:

- ◆ CLUB MEETING PLACE
- ◆ UPCOMING PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
- ◆ 2013 CLUB CARDS AND MEETING SCHEDULE
- ◆ CRUSADER 155MM SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER, FORT SILL
- ◆ AMPS CENTEX 2013 SHOW SITE
- ◆ WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT CONTEST WINNERS
- ◆ BORESIGHT VOLUME 21 No. 3
- ◆ AMPS 2014 CONVENTION

Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
CLUB MEETING PLACE	3
UPCOMING PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	3
CRUSADER 155MM SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER, FORT SILL	4
AMPS CENTEX 2013 SHOW SITE	10
WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT CONTEST WINNERS	12
BORESIGHT VOLUME 21 No. 3	14
AMPS 2014 CONVENTION	15
JOIN AMPS	16
NEW KITS	17

Sabot Away!

From the Turret - Continued

However, it is perfect for those research projects, reading by the pool or beach is easy.

Stealing enough time for photo etch is difficult, but time for a few pages in the book "that you always planned to read" is a lot easier. Its also great for planning and ideas for future projects. I use the time to reorganize my hobby space, as it always needs it after a winter of intense efforts. That can be good in that you always find those parts you lost and thought were gone forever.

All in all, summer is a good time for a hiatus from modeling but keep your hands in so you can jump back in when the hectic summer activities



When you are on vacation, take a trip and photograph all the Armor you can. This Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer was photographed by **Roderick Bell**.

start to fade. Now go and cut some plastic, put on some paint or at least read about the hobby.

Bob Bethea

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **July 3, 2013** - Club Meeting; Program by **Aaron Smischney**
- ◆ **August 7, 2013** - Club Meeting; **Annual Club Auction**
- ◆ **September 4, 2013** - Club Meeting; AMPS Judging Seminar
- ◆ **September 14, 2013** - **AMPS Centex 2013** - This will be our 7th biennial Show. **Georgetown, Texas**.
- ◆ **October 2, 2013** - Club Meeting; Program by **Bill Menzie**
- ◆ **October 5, 2013** - **ASMS 2013 IPMS Region VI Contest**. Norris Conference Center, Austin, Texas.
- ◆ **November 6, 2013** - Club Meeting; Program by **Rick Herrington**
- ◆ **December 4, 2013** - Club Meeting; **Quarterly Contest**; Program by **Roderick Bell**
- ◆ **December 7, 2013** - Club **Christmas** Party and White Elephant Exchange, Wells Branch Library.
- ◆ **January TBD, 2014**—Club Meeting, Program by **Ted Paone**.
- ◆ **April 3-5, 2014** - **AMPS 2014 International Convention, Fredericksburg, Virginia**. Theme: **Hollywood Tanks**.

Club Meeting Place

By Roderick Bell

We meet at the **Austin Public Library - Old Quarry Branch**.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Old Quarry Branch Library on 7051 Village Center Dr.

The meeting time is still 7PM on the first Wednesday of

the month (See **Calendar of Events** for schedule) I hope to see you all there!

Roderick Bell



Upcoming Programs / Presentations and Newsletter Articles

By Roderick Bell

Month	Program / Presentation	Newsletter Article
2013 - July	Aaron Smischney	Roderick Bell
2013 - August	Club Auction	Russ Holm
2013 - September	Judging Seminar	Bill Menzie
2013 - October	Bill Menzie	Jorge Aduna
2013 - November	Rick Herrington	Ted Paone
2013 - December	Roderick Bell	Jeff Forster
2014 - January	Ted Paone	TBD
2014 - February	TBD	TBD
2014 - March	TBD	TBD
2014 - April	TBD	TBD
2014 - May	TBD	TBD
2014 - June	TBD	TBD
2014 - July	TBD	TBD
2014 - August	TBD	TBD
2014 - September	TBD	TBD

Here is a list of members who are responsible to provide a article for the newsletter and to perform a program / presentation. Please note that you may contribute as many articles as you want anytime. This schedule is to insure that we have at least one article in the newsletter per month.

Please make sure you get the newsletter editor the article as soon as possible. He must have it the Friday before the meeting.

Roderick Bell

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Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill

“THE ARTILLERY MUSEUM AT FORT SILL IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT THE UNITED STATES ARMY USES IT TO EDUCATE NEW RECRUITS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF ARTILLERY AND ITS USE BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY.”



By Roderick Bell

Eric Choy and I took a road trip to the Sooner AMPS 2013 on June 14-15, 2013. We decided to take a small detour to the Artillery Museum at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. We left on Friday morning and arrived at Fort Sill around 2PM. The Artillery Museum at Fort Sill is open to the public but the United States Army uses it to educate new recruits about the History of Artillery and its use by the United States Army. We saw several groups of soldiers come through the museum on a guided tour. The Museum is divided into three galleries (Central, South, and North) as well as an Artillery park outside of the museum. **Eric Choy** will be showing his photographs at a future meeting. I highly recommend this trip (I know some of you have already been). We might be taking another trip in November. So if you are interested talk to Eric or myself.

Crusader Self-propelled Howitzer XM2001

One of the pieces in the artillery park really caught my eye. It was the XM2001 Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer! This vehicle is a beauty. The XM2001 Crusader self-propelled howitzer was being developed for the US Army as a replacement for the M-109 Paladin and the US Army requirement was expected to be for over 800 vehicles.

The Crusader's 155mm self-propelled howitzer, XM2001, has fully automated ammunition handling and firing that allowed firing of the 48 on-board rounds at rates of up to ten rounds a minute to ranges in excess of 40km. The first rounds of a mission can be fired in 15 to 30 seconds. Crusader also had the capability to fire multiple rounds to achieve simultaneous impact on target (MRSI). One Crusader vehicle can fire up to eight rounds to strike a single target at the same time. The digital fire control system calculated separate firing solutions for each of the eight projectiles fired.

XM2002 Ammunition Resupply Vehicle

Due to the Crusaders rapid fire and ammunition expenditure it needed a tandem vehicle, the XM2002 Ammunition Resupply Vehicle. The XM2002 was built on the same chassis as the

Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill - Continued



XM2002 Crusader Ammunition Resupply Vehicle. Photograph from **United Defense**.

XM2001 Crusader. The XM2002 was equipped with a fully automated ammunition handling subsystem. This allowed its three-man resupply crew to automatically transfer, under armor, up to 48 rounds of ammunition and fuel to the howitzer in less than 12 minutes. Resupply can be carried out in a contaminated environment. The resupply vehicle itself can be fully loaded with fuel and 110 rounds of ammunition in less than 60 minutes.

Photographs of the XM2001 Crusader follow:



XM2001 Crusader. Photograph by **Roderick Bell**.

Sabot Away!

Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill - Continued

"IN MAY 2002, THE CRUSADER PROGRAM WAS OFFICIALLY TERMINATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BECAUSE IT WAS NOT CONSIDERED SUFFICIENTLY MOBILE OR PRECISE FOR THE EVOLVING SECURITY NEEDS OF THE 21ST CENTURY."



The Crusader is a huge and impressive vehicle. Photograph by **Roderick Bell**.



A front view of the XM2001 Crusader Self-propelled Howitzer. Next to it is the MLRS. Photograph by **Roderick Bell**.

In May 2002, the Crusader program was officially terminated by the Department of Defense because it was not considered sufficiently mobile or precise for the evolving security needs of the 21st century. This is a shame. It is an impressive weapons system.

Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill - Continued



A couple of more views of the XM2001 Crusader Self-propelled Howitzer. Photograph by **Roderick Bell**.

Sabot Away!

Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill - Continued



THE XM2001
CRUSADER SELF-
PROPELLED
HOWITZER IS AN
VERY IMPRESSIVE
WEAPONS
SYSTEM. IT IS
TOO BAD THAT IT
WAS CANCELLED.



Two rear views of the XM2001 Crusader Self-propelled Howitzer. On the opposite page the running gear of the XM2001 is shown. Photograph by **Roderick Bell**.

Editor's Note: All photographs were taken by **Roderick Bell** unless otherwise stated.

Roderick Bell

Crusader 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Fort Sill - Continued



Sabot Away!

AMPS Centex 2013 Show Site

By Aaron Smischney

Greetings members!
Eric Choy and myself went to inspect the site of our new show location, and let me say its going to be a **GREAT** show!

The building is very new and well laid out, and the grounds are very nice. parking should not be an issue. The entrance has a nice little enclosed booth that we can use for registration, and some space for us to set up tables for filling out forms.

See Picture 1, as you can see its very open and spacious! the lighting is pretty good as

well. We plan on splitting this space in half: one part for models and the other for our vendors. There is even a loading door! I am sure some of our vendors will like this feature (**See Picture 2**).

Eric also had a great idea, the space has a pass through to the kitchen. the kitchen is set up to be a perfect spot for judging! There is lots of good light, we just need to make sure no one puts the models on the oven! 😊

We have enough room to get 5 teams working in here. The pass through will allow us to set up the pre-judged models so people can view them. The way this is set up we can also

keep handling to a minimum (reducing the chance a model gets dropped)

This space has a lot of positives going for it, but we need to address some of the negatives. It is a little bit out of the way, we will need to post some signs to help our entrants find the place. also it is not within walking distance of any food choices, so we may want to print out directions to hang on the wall directing people to food choices nearby.

All in all the positives outweigh the negatives, I am looking forward to this show more and more!

“THE BUILDING IS
VERY NEW AND
WELL LAID OUT,
AND THE
GROUNDS ARE
VERY NICE.
PARKING
SHOULD NOT BE
AN ISSUE.”



Picture 1: Main Hall. Plenty of room for vendor tables and display tables for the models. Photograph by **Aaron Smischney**.

AMPS Centex 2013 Show Site - Continued



Picture 2: Vendor Loading dock. Vendors will be able to bring their wares into the venue via this loading dock. Photograph by **Aaron Smischney**.



Picture 3: Kitchen - A.K.A. Judging room. Photograph by **Aaron Smischney**.

See y'all at the meeting!

Aaron Smischney

Sabot Away!

White Elephant Gift Contest Winners

By Roderick Bell

I want to thank everyone one who participated in the Contest by building their gift. For those individuals who didn't build their White Elephant gift there is a \$10.00 penalty fee. Our rec-



Zach Talley (L) won First Place in the “Built but not painted (Naked)” Category and was presented his prize by **Roderick Bell**. Photograph by **Eric Choy**.

“FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO DIDN'T BUILD THEIR WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT THERE IS A \$10.00 PENALTY FEE. OUR RECORDS SHOW ALL BUT ONE PERSON HAS PAID THEIR FEE.”



Aaron Smischney (R) won Third Place in the Built and Painted Category and was presented his prize by **Roderick Bell (L)**. Photograph by **Eric Choy**.

ords show that all but one person has paid their fee.

Winners

Congratulations to **Zach Talley** for winning the “Built but Not Painted (Naked)” Category with his Academy M4A2 Russian Sherman.

Our 3rd Place Winner is **Aaron Smischney** with his Tri-Star German Panzer 38(t).

Our 2nd Place Winner is **Robert Bethea** with his DML German StuG F8.

And our 1st Place Winner is Oscar Perez for his Maquette German Panzer 38(t).

White Elephant Gift Contest Winners - Continued



Robert Bethea (R) won Second Place in the Built and Painted Category and was presented his prize by **Roderick Bell (L)**. Photograph by **Eric Choy**.



Again, I want to thank everyone who participated in the contest and congratulations to Oscar, Bob, Aaron, and Zach!

there!

Roderick Bell

This year's Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 7th, 2013. It will be held at the same place as last year (the Wells Branch Library).

We hope to see everyone



Sabot Away!

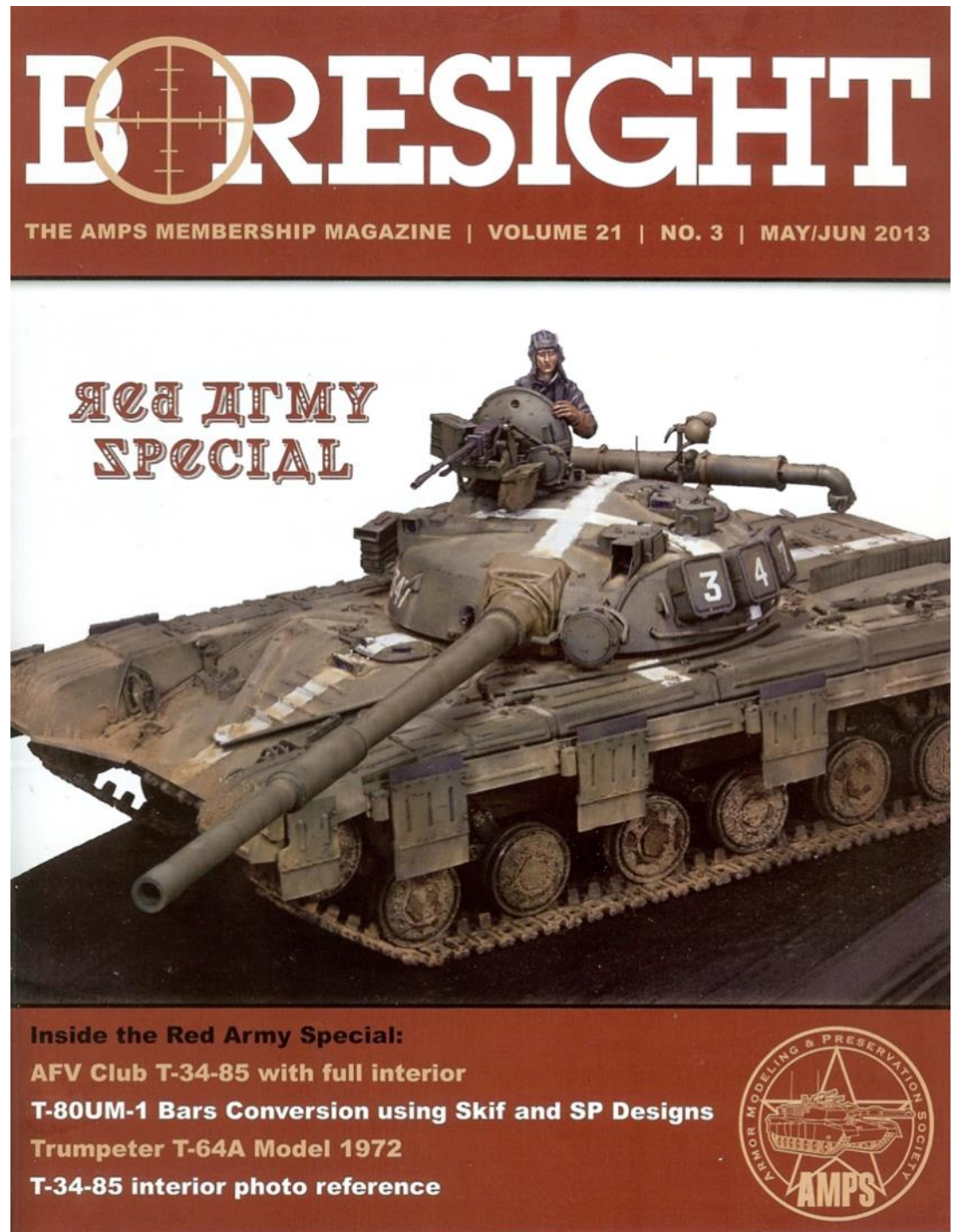
Boresight Volume 21 No. 3

BORESIGHT

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 3:

IS THE THRID ISSUE
FOR VOLUME 21.

SEVERAL NICE
ARTICLES ARE IN THIS
ISSUE. THIS ISSUE IS
THE RED ARMY
SPECIAL.



The cover of Boresight magazine features a large, detailed model of a T-34-85 tank. The tank is painted in a dark green and brown camouflage scheme with white markings, including the numbers '3' and '4' on the turret. A crew member figure is visible in the turret. The background is a solid dark red color. The title 'BORESIGHT' is printed in large, white, bold letters at the top, with a gold-colored reticle graphic over the 'O'. Below the title, the text 'THE AMPS MEMBERSHIP MAGAZINE | VOLUME 21 | NO. 3 | MAY/JUN 2013' is printed in a smaller, gold-colored font. The central text 'RED ARMY SPECIAL' is written in a stylized, red, outlined font. At the bottom, a list of featured articles is provided in white text, and the AMPS logo is in the bottom right corner.

RED ARMY SPECIAL

Inside the Red Army Special:
AFV Club T-34-85 with full interior
T-80UM-1 Bars Conversion using Skif and SP Designs
Trumpeter T-64A Model 1972
T-34-85 interior photo reference

AMPS
ARMOR MODELING & PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Boresight Volume 21, Issue 3 is the third issue of Volume 21. This issue contains four articles. It is the Red Army Issue. If you have not joined **AMPS**, please do. It is a small expense and you get a great newsletter and are part of a growing international organization dedicated to building model tanks and restoring real tanks.

Volume 17, Issue 7

Boresight Volume 21 No. 3 - Continued

By Roderick Bell

The latest issue of the **AMPS Boresight** is out. It is the Red Army Special. Here is what is inside the Volume **21**, Issue No. **3**:

- ♦ **Editor Notes** by John Robinson
- ♦ **AMPS Review Crew News** by Chuck Aleshire, **AMPS 1st Vice President and Review Coordinator**
- ♦ **T-34-85 with interior: AFV Club's see-through tank** by Danny Egan
- ♦ **T-64A Model 1972L Trumpeter's light heavyweight** by Sean Lynch
- ♦ **T-80UM-1 Bars: Skif + SP Designs = Snow Leopard** by Jim Wechsler
- ♦ **Photo Reference: Go inside the T-34** by John Robinson, **Boresight Editor**

Roderick Bell

AMPS International Convention 2014

By Roderick Bell

The 20th **AMPS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** will be held in Fredericksburg, Virginia from Thursday April 3, 2014 through Saturday April 5, 2014. The convention will be held at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House. More show information can be found at:

<http://www.amps-armor.org/ampssite/default.aspx>

The 2014 theme is "Hollywood Tanks" - Tanks or military vehicles used in movies or TV shows. More information will follow once the show team is ready to start communicating. A preliminary logo is ready and should appear in the next Sabot Away!

Roderick Bell

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New Kits

By Roderick Bell

First off, we have the **Meng** French Renault FT-17 Light Tank in 1:35th scale. It includes the cast turret with the 37mm gun. The kit also includes a full interior as well. This kit is from the Tyrannosaurus Series and the Kit Number: TS-008.

Bronco Models has released a British Infantry Tank Mk. III "Valentine" Mk. IX tank. Kit Number: CB35144.



Meng Models is releasing a World War I Renault French FT-17 with a cast turret and the 37mm cannon. It will also have a complete interior. 1:35th scale. Kit number: TS-008.



AFV Club is releasing a Royal Norwegian Army NM 116 (post-war M-24 Chaffee) in 1:35th scale. Kit Number: AF35S82.



Business Tagline or Motto

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The Austin Armor Builders Society is an organization where members gather and share information on building scale armor and figure kits. The Austin Armor Builders Society was founded in April 1997 and has about 30 active members. The Austin Armor Builders Society is the local chapter for the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS). Every two years the organization host an AMPS Regional show known as AMPS Centex. This show attracts armor and figure modelers from around the state of Texas and is one of the Premier AMPS Regional shows.

We are on the web: AustinArmorBuilders.com

Support our Troops



Gettysburg Battlefield where CSA General Pickett's Charge took place 150 years ago today. The Union was saved. Photograph by **Microsoft Bing**.