

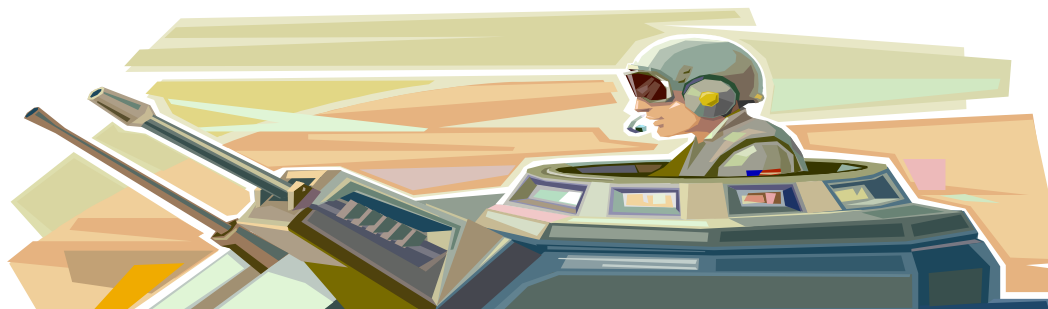


Sabot Away!



Newsletter of the Austin Armor Builders Society

January 2015
Volume 19, Issue 1



From the Turret

Happy New Year everyone! We ended 2014 for the club in a great Christmas party with a lot of good food and great company. Thanks everyone for attending. We wish you all the best for 2015 and hope we can all have an awesome modeling year!

Speaking of 2015 and modeling, remember what we have to look forward to with our show this fall and its Great War theme. I know I'm excited about seeing what people come up with to represent the club in early armor. So much great material exists from WWI for modeling subject matter, yet so little modeling



represents the era. It should be an awesome show.

Now to look back a little further in history on this day... One hundred years ago the 'Land Ship' was just a twinkle in Winston Churchill's eye, but seventy years ago this past New Year's eve, the German's launched all

(Continued on page 3)

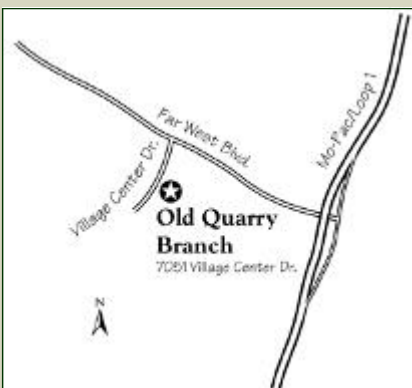
Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
UPCOMING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND NEWSLETTER ARTICLES	2
2015 CLUB DUES ARE DUE!	3
IMPERIAL MILITARY HEADWEAR FROM 1850 TO 1918	4
2014 XMAS PARTY	8
2015 LONE STAR FIGURE SHOW	9
2014 WHITE ELEPHANT CONTEST WINNERS	10
2015 AMPS INTERNATIONAL SHOW	11
JOIN AMPS TODAY	12
NEW ON THE BLOCK	13
BORESIGHT PREVIEW	13
ABOUT US	14
MEMBERS' GALLERY	14

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

January 7, 2015

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

- ♦ January 7 - AABS Club Meeting
- ♦ February 4 - AABS Club Meeting
- ♦ February 21 - Model Fiesta XXXIV San Antonio Event Center, San Antonio, TX
- ♦ March 4 - AABS Club Meeting
- ♦ March 12 to 14 - Lone Star Figure Show 2015 DFW Airport Marriott South, Fort Worth, TX



AABS Officers May 2014– Apr 2016

John Talley, President
(512) 388-3473, johnwtalley@hotmail.com

Greg Beckman, Vice-President
(512) 539-9018, pgb3476@yahoo.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

Roderick Bell, Webmaster
(512) 507-6104,
rbell3@austin.rr.com



Upcoming Program Presentations and Newsletter Articles

Month	Program Presentation	Newsletter Article
March, 2014	Ted Paone	Ted Paone
April	John Talley	Russ Holm
May	Pat Rourke	Pat Rourke
June	Eric Choy	Robert Mesch
July	Rod Bell	Rod Bell
August	Ted Andreas	Ted Andreas
September	Rick Herrington	Elliot Nowacky
October	Robert Mesch	Greg Beckman
November	Annual Kit Auction	John Hernandez
December	Bob Bethea	Bob Bethea
January, 2015	Tom Pachalos	Tom Pachalos
February	Dave Bourland	Dave Bourland
March	Jake McKee	Jake McKee

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/she wants anytime. 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. Ted Paone's article for March was due on the last Wednesday of February).

Editor



(Continued from page 1)

the armor they could muster in their final large scale offensive of WWII: *Operation Nordwind*.

Throughout January of 1945, the men of US VI Corps didn't feel as if the war were coming to an end as they bore the brunt of the German offensive in Alsace-Lorraine. Incredulously, Hitler's primary objective given to his commanders was "the destruction of the enemy forces". Considering the weight and ratio of forces against the Germans, winning a war of attrition at that point in time can only be seen as the ridiculous goal of a mad man. Nonetheless, the Germans did inflict heavy damage, as the US VI Corps alone suffered almost 15,000 casualties.

Along with the savage fighting, the bitter cold and snow in Europe that winter did provide us with many

memorable images which we as historians and modelers can appreciate.



I'm looking forward to seeing what you all have been up to over the holidays!

John Talley
President

2015 Club Dues are Due!

It is that time of the year again. Please have your club dues (\$12) ready at the January meeting. We accept cash, check or money order. For those who prefer to make a mail-in payment, our treasurer's address is:

Eric Choy
13213 Marrero Drive
Austin TX 78729

Please DO NOT send cash by mail. Be sure your check or money order is made payable to "AABS."

Some members may notice his dues are slightly higher than usual. That may be a result of the incurrence of the 2014 White Elephant (WE) contest penalty. As we all aware there is a \$10 mandatory "donation" to the club treasury if one fails to build his WE kit.

In case anyone needs a reminder, here is a pictorial evidence of your presence at the 2013 Xmas party:





Imperial Military Headwear From 1850 to 1918

by Tom Pachalos

(Editor: Tom sent us the following photos in place of an article to whet our appetite for his upcoming talk at the January meeting)

I. Field Service Caps



Prussian 17th Ulan enlisted man (Per 1900)



162nd (3rd Hanseatic Lübeck) Infantry (Per 1900)



Prussian Gardes du Corps enlisted man (Per 1900)



Prussian 16th Ulan enlisted man (Per 1900)



Prussian enlisted man (Per 1900)



Prussian 16th Hussars enlisted man (Per 1900)

II. Officer Field Service Visor Hats



Prussian generic officer (Post 1910)



Prussian generic NCO (Post 1910)



Prussian Jäger Battalion Nr.1 Officer (Post 1910)



Prussian Jäger zu Pferde Battalion officer (Post 1910)



Mecklenburg 18th Dragoon Regiment officer (Post 1910)



Prussian Leib Hussar Regiment Nr.1 (Per 1910)



Bavarian generic officer (Per 1910)



Prussian Leib Hussar Regiment Nr.2 Reserve Officer (Per 1910). The cross in the lower cockade denotes Reserve status.



Bavarian ader Corps officer (Per 1910)



Colonial: Schutztruppen German East Africa Officer (Per 1910)



III. Kaiserliche Marine (Imperial Germany Navy)



Artillery seaman's blue wool service cap (Per 1918)



Officer's fore and aft parade dress hat (Per 1918)



Seaman's white linen service cap from the Ship SMS Elsaß (Per 1918)



Interior monogram indicates royalty

Tom Pachalos



2014 Xmas Party

Although not as well attended as prior years' parties, we all had an excellent time at our annual holiday gathering. Food, fun, and friends (3 Fs) were abundant, and everyone received a nice White Elephant gift to work on for the contest to be held in December 2015. Here are some pix I managed to capture at the scene...



Yummy Grinch Ka-bobs. Courtesy of our first lady Cindy Talley.



Russ Holm's perfect attendance record in 2014 and his generous hosting of prior years' Xmas parties earned him the Member of the Year award.



Randy Bumgardner and his son Ziggy were our right honorable guests of the evening.



Another productive year for Bob Bethea. He was our Most Prolific Modeler, again!

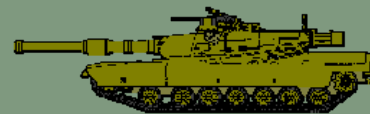


Here is a who-got-what for the 2015 White Elephant Contest.



**2015 Lone Star
Figure Show**
March 12 - 14, 2015

**DFW Airport Marriott
South
4151 Centreport Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas 76155**



2014 White Elephant Contest Winners



1st Place: Russ Holm - 1/35th CDL Lee Tank (Tamiya + Verlinden Conversion)



**2nd Place:
Bob Bethea**

1/35th Norwegian Army
NM-116 (AFV Club)



**3rd Place:
Pat Rourke**

1/35th Zombie KV-85
(Trumpeter)



and... 1st Place (Naked Category): Aaron Smischney

1/35th T26 Light Tank (Hobby Boss)



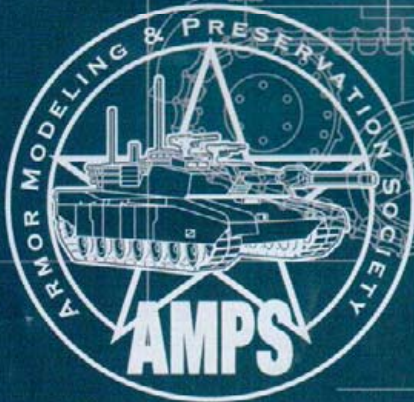
From the
drawing
board
to the
battlefield

There was always a first in line,
a MK.1, a Series A. We are celebrating
that innovative first model – the one
that led the way – with the
AMPS 2015 International Show theme:



Join us at the
WW2 Victory Museum
in Auburn, Indiana
from April 30 - May 2, 2015

Plan to be there!
More information to come at:
www.amps-armor.org





JOIN *AMPS* TODAY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

COUNTRY: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

☐ 1 Year US (\$30) ☐ 2 Year US (\$60) ☐ 3 Year US (\$90)

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



AMPS
MEMBERSHIP DEPT.
P.O. BOX 543
ELKTON, MD 21922



Membership Rates for a One-Year Period:
\$30.00 USA, \$35.00 Canada/Mexico, \$40.00 Rest of the World

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 and click on "join *amps*."

If paying by check or money order, send dues and completed form to the address on the form.

www.amps-armor.org



NEW ON THE BLOCK



Takom continues its WWI AFV series with a 1/35th Mark IV Tadpole.

JAGDPANZER IV /70(V) LANG (Sd.Kfz.162/1)



Tamiya's 1/35th Jagdpanzer IV/70 Lang features brand new tooling with nothing in common with its ancient 1970s release.



Škoda's M1916 Howitzer was used in both world wars. The Takom 1/35th kit is so nice (and cheap) that even Russ couldn't resist not getting one!

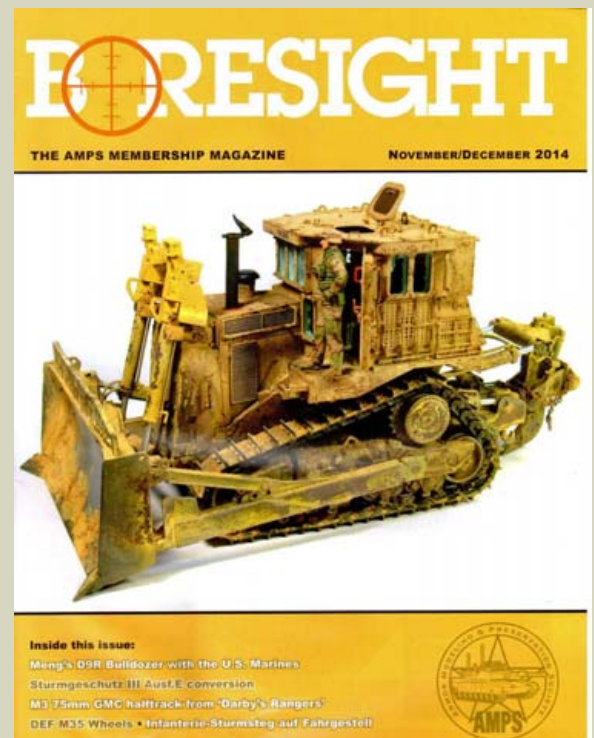


DML's 1/72nd M65 Atomic cannon should be in hobby shops any day now. The finished model is over 350mm (13¾") long, and it comes with two tractor units. If only Dragon would scale it up so we can finally retire the old Revell/Renwal kit...

AMPS Boresight (Volume 22, Issue 6)

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

- ♦ Dragon's M3 75mm GMC Halftrack by David Black Inspired by Darby's Rangers.
- ♦ Meng Caterpillar D9R by Bill Schmidt Expert at deconstruction.
- ♦ Sturmgeschütz III Ausf. E by John Robinson A mashup of Tamiya/Dragon kits to make this obscure variant.
- ♦ M35 Wheel Set by Glen Martin Improving the road performance of your truck.
- ♦ Infanterie-Sturmsteg by Wayne Wanner A conversion in 1:87 scale.
- ♦ AMPS Membership by Mark Corbett The news is good!
- ♦ AMPS Local Chapter News What's going on in the AMPS community.





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."



Since then AABS is the only modeling 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 model shows.

Every odd-numbered year AABS hosts the biggest armor model show in AMPS South Central Region (AMPS CENTEX). Known as Lone Star Armor &

Figure Expo, we attract some of the best armor modelers in Texas as well as in the neighboring states to come participate.

To find out more about AABS, you can visit our website or pick up a club flyer at your local hobby shop.

We are on the web @ AustinArmorBuilders.com

Ted Andreas, Jr. brought in his latest M4 Sherman last month. He built the Tamiya 1/35th kit straight out-of-the-box. Very nice paint job!

