



ARMOR BITS

January 2023

Newsletter of the ChicagoLand Armor Builders Society



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Well, we are at another new beginning, 2023. Happy New Year!

I hope you all were able to celebrate Christmas with family and friends and that Santa was very good to you!

I like to think of New Years as that new model box you crack open and the possibilities seem endless.... Way before the reality of a kit with 1000 parts, mostly individual track links sinks in! But still it's the anticipation of a new beginning.

Its also a time for resolutions. What's yours? Mine is to just build more kits and put a real dent in the stash. No extra resin or PE. Only what's in the box or what I can add by fabbing myself or from the spares box!

In several recent builds, I've found that a great deal can be done with paint, accentuating what's already there and suggesting what may not.

You can be surprised by how much

mileage you can achieve with simple techniques. It can be very rewarding. The internet really helps with that as well.

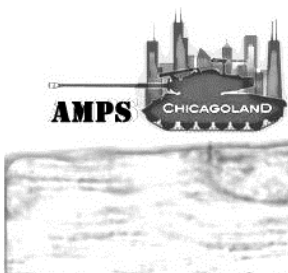
On another note, one of the founding fathers of the club will be leaving us in February. John Wendt will be moving to Colorado! He is an integral part of the club and will be sorely missed, although he's promised (threatened) to show up from time to time! We wish you the best of luck John, and hope at the least, to see you at conventions in the future!

In China a common parting phrase is "Tsai Chien" which means "Till we meet again". Please try to make the January meeting to wish John "Tsai Chien!"

Cheers and I hope to see you all in January!

Stan

Our next meeting is scheduled for 10am January 14th @ AGWS, 4450 Weaver Parkway, Warrenville, IL 60555 thanks to John Wendt!



DEC. MEETING NOTES

- Welcome –
- The Treasurer's report :
 - After a small a small expense for the club kitty stands at \$746.
- Chuck Aleshire visited the So Bend venue for 2024. The show will be on the main entry level, large hall of 25k sqft. Lighting looks good. Still negotiating for extra tables. John Charvat will complete the formal bid to the eboard for approval in order to sign the contract, but for all intents and purposes we will be hosting the 2024 AMPS International in South Bend Indiana, the first week in April 2024.
- We will have a Christmas luncheon at Rock Bottom after the meeting.
- Last year we had a grab bag. This year we will have a White Elephant exchange (bad kits). Members picked gifts according to the numbers they drew. Subsequent people could choose among previous kits drawn or elect to unwrap a new one. I think I can say that it will be a lot of fun!
- Next month's January meeting will be held at John Wendts company location in Warrenville. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Details in the next newsletter.
- We won't find out next years meeting locations for meetings until sometime in January.
- Any other news?
- Ihor brought in a small paint set (Russian colors) to raffle off.
- **SHOW & Tell**



TRACK LINKS

Here are 2 videos from Ukraine, of General “Mud” waiting for General “Winter”. Change out the uniforms and tank and you can imagine what the WW2 Russian front or even WW1 France must have been like!

(BTW, if you don't do Facebook and want to see these, drop me a line and I can provide the videos.. Stan)

<https://www.facebook.com/slava.trudu.790/videos/935512270746755>

<https://www.facebook.com/slava.trudu.790/videos/1569393916818109>



TRACK LINKS

Join Curator David Willey at Home, as he talks you through the history of the Jerry Can.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgsRHBREJYE>

His story about unloading a shipload of “flimsy's” is worth watching the entire video! There is also a discussion about the term “Jerry Can”, how it began,



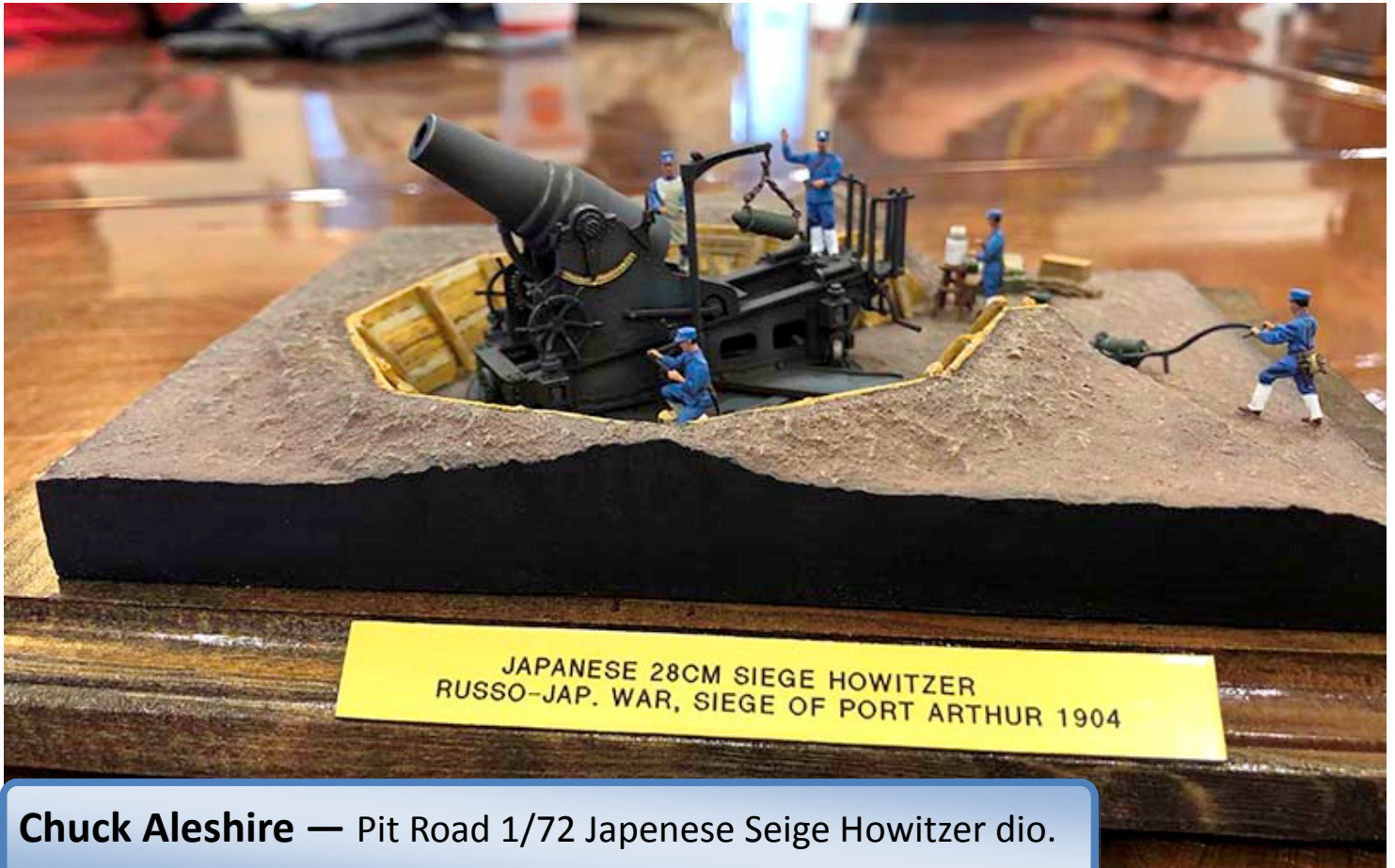
as well as the use of these cans across all theatres of the war, and onwards through the years.

Another link to the restoration of a Tiger 1 tank. Some really good interior photos.

<https://www.facebook.com/patrick.sommerhalter.7/posts/>



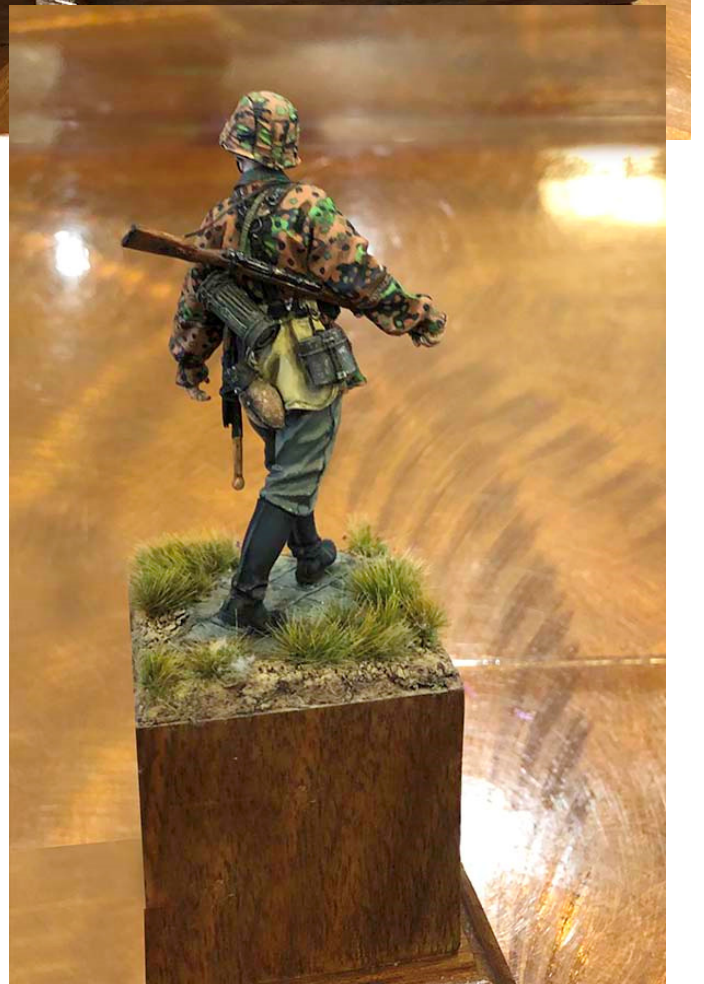
DEC. SHOW AND TELL



Chuck Aleshire — Pit Road 1/72 Japanese Seige Howitzer dio.



**Bob Kita – Dragon Sherman 76mm; British Sherman; 75mm
Sabath Miniatures 1940 German**





Bob Kita





Scott — Tamiya 1/35 Leopard 2A5—Trumpeter
T72A OOB



John Wendt — Meng 1/72 Leopard 2A7



Dan Tisonick - Stalingrad 1/35 Air War Diorama



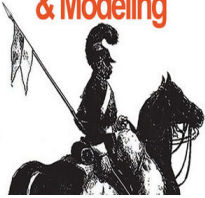




The Last Round



**small
SUBJECTS**
Big Ideas About Miniatures
& Modeling



Small Subjects is a podcast devoted to discussing big topics in the worlds of scale modeling, diorama-building, and sculpting and painting miniature figures, as well as presenting interviews with some of the top artists in the field, including every era, and ranging from historical to fantasy subjects.

The latest episode features Greg Cihlar

<http://www.boxdioramas.com/smallsubjects>

Some very good oral histories that you may find interesting.

<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/oral-histories/wwii.html>





Naval History and Heritage Command



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**WWII**



World War I

Oral Histories of World War II
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The Last Round



Don't forget about the **Zoom call reminiscence** up on the club web page in 3 parts for ease of viewing; <http://www.amps-chicago.org/PhotosMeetings.htm>

For a meeting by meeting description go here:

<http://www.amps-chicago.org/News.htm>

For a simple list of photos try this:

<http://www.amps-chicago.org/PhotosMeetings.htm>

Here are a some pictures of presents delivered by Santa to good little boys in the club.

Paul LaRock— Here are my four new models from Santa and my workbench.

My dog Jasper always likes to be included





The Last Round



Lee Lygiros— I got this to add to my assembly line of 4 rhombus tanks. Difference between this one and the rest is that it's a Mk V and it has a full interior.



The Last Round



Mike Oberholtzer — *It ain't armor, but it made me a very happy modeler to get this!*



Chuck Aleshire — *I had a terrific Christmas, I hope you and your family did as well!*





The Last Round





The Last Round



Stan — I can cut not only painting masks, camo nets, etc., but sheet plastic for scratch building as well.

Final Thoughts

Its been a great year. We have been able to get together regularly. The meetings have been full of laughs and attendance has been up each month along with a large number of models in show & tell.

In 2023 we will face challenges, both old and new. Covid is still with us, and we need to improve the programs during the meetings. Members travel from across a large area and we need to insure that our meetings are worth attending.

In 2024 we will be hosting a national convention! I would like us to be able help provide some extra content to make this convention really special. That will take some extra effort on the clubs part but I think we are up to it. I'm looking forward to it and the convention as I hope all of you are as well. You don't often get something so special in your back yard!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From the Kitmaker web page, an announcement about the 2023 AMPS Convention

AMPS 2023 Show Announcement - Sunglasses, suntan lotion and a beach chair

With the holidays fast approaching, 2022 will soon be in the rearview mirror. It's not too early to start looking ahead to the AMPS International Convention, May 4 - 6, 2023, at the Penn Harris Hotel, in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

In addition to the usual categories, the AMPS 2023 show theme "The Pacific" is open to any model, figure, vignette or diorama that fought in a Pacific campaign from 1940 to 2022. For the purposes of this theme, we will define "The Pacific" as any theater of conflict from Burma in the west, to Hawaii and the US west coast in the east, and from Australia and New Zealand in the south to the Aleutian Islands in the north. Examples of conflicts are the entire Pacific Theater, Burma or China in WW2, Korean War, Vietnam, the Cold War in Korea, or other documented conflicts in that region (i.e., the UN peacekeeping action in East Timor from 1999 to 2005 and the brief civil wars in Fiji during 1994, 2000, and 2006).

Vendor coordinators, seminar coordinators, show sponsors and many other AMPS members are working behind the scenes to put together a fantastic show this year. Although we are a little more than 20 weeks out from the big show, don't let that time slip away on getting those builds done and please note the following:

Seminar Topic Voting: AMPS conventions always have a variety of excellent seminars led by knowledgeable presenters. For the 2023 show, AMPS is planning to conduct several hands-on "How to" seminars wherein materials for the participants will be provided free of charge though seating will be limited. Several seminar topics are listed for consideration for AMPS members to vote on their choice of what seminars will be presented. Voting can only be done on the AMPS homepage by AMPS members with active memberships. So, go to the AMPS homepage ([amps-armor.org 1](https://amps-armor.org)), sign in and scroll down the page to "Seminar Voting" and follow the instructions. Voting is open until December 31, 2022. Results will be announced in early January 2023.

Hotel Reservations: The AMPS special hotel room rate is \$128.00 per night. While no complimentary breakfast is included, the hotel restaurant is offering a 20% discount. WiFi and parking are included in the room rate. Visit the AMPS homepage at [amps-armor.org 1](https://amps-armor.org) and check out how easy it is to register for a room on-line. Don't forget: When you call, be sure to include the AMPS group code **050323AMP** block so you get the discounted AMPS rate. The hotel will accept room reservations by telephone, by calling 717-763-7117 and quote group code **050323AMP**. The cut-off date for getting the AMPS special rate is April 12, 2023.

Pre-registration: AMPS 2023 show pre-registration opens on January 1, 2023. Pre-registration is a great way to get all the paperwork done beforehand. There is no model limit for this show, so finish up those partial builds and shelf queens and get ready for a great convention weekend.

Call for Judges: AMPS is always looking for more judges to help spread the work around and allow more modelers to enjoy the show. Sharing in the judging duties helps others who might be otherwise working

several judging shifts to enjoy the show. AMPS has judges' training on-line for those who would like to get involved in serving as well as for those who would like a refresher course.

Donations: One of the memorable events at the AMPS convention is the ever popular, always fantastic raffle. Our Raffle Coordinator, Frank Ciccarella reminds AMPS members that donations are always welcome and will only help to make the raffle that much more enticing. Contact Frank on the AMPS homepage ("The Society" link) if you have anything you would like to donate to this year's raffle. New or very good condition items such as kits, tools, reference material, aftermarket sets, etc., would be most welcome.

Membership Note: If you have not renewed your membership, now would be a great time so you don't miss any Boresight issues or access to the product reviews put together by the AMPS Review Crew. Visit the AMPS homepage (amps-armor.org) for news and updates on the 2022 show and other news happening around the AMPS community.

Attendance Note: Non-AMPS members are welcome and encouraged to attend the AMPS International Convention. By paying the show entrance fee, non-AMPS members can access the model display room, attend the various seminars, take a chance at the ever-popular AMPS raffle, shop at the many vendors, attend judging certification classes and even participate as a judge.

Till the next AMPS 2023 show announcement,

Model on...

chuck

AMPS ChicagoLand

On September 8, 2007, 11 people met for the first time in Pat Keenan's living room, creating AMPS-ChicagoLand. Since that day, AMPS ChicagoLand has been an active chapter in the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS) with members from Southern Wisconsin, throughout Illinois to Northwest Indiana. We specialize in all eras, scales and aspects of building military ground vehicle models.



These subjects include tracked vehicles, wheeled vehicles, artillery and figures. Our members consist of novice to master level, so all are welcome in our fun and inviting environment.

The AMPS – ChicagoLand Chapter's philosophy is that having a good time and enjoying oneself while engaging in the military modeling hobby is of paramount importance. This means we do NOT take the hobby or ourselves too seriously and its members are expected to "play nice with others". There's just no drama.

For more information about AMPS ChicagoLand, please visit our website at www.amps-chicago.org

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.



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AMPS
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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

THE END

